



April 2013

Volume 3 Number 4

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Alerts

Alabama Historic Tax Credit Bills Pending - Take Action Now

The Alabama Legislature is scheduled to vote on House Bill 140 (HB140) on April 2. Contact your legislator now to push for passage of this historic tax credit bill. HB140 and Senate Bill (SB123) offer incentives for the rehabilitation of historic homes and commercial buildings in Alabama.

With passage of these bills, state and federal Historic Tax Credits can be combined to further benefit the redevelopment of Alabama's historic properties and drive economic development within local communities. Email your representative to vote yes on HB140. To follow the status of the legislation and voice your support, visit the Legislature's website at <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLoginFire.asp> or Alabama Trust Advocacy website at <http://www.alabamatrust.info/public-policy-legislative-alert.php>.

Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation - Board Meeting Open to Members and the Public

The ATHP board of directors will meet on Friday, April 5 in Dothan from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Members and the public are invited to join the meeting to be held at the Grand on Foster, 170 North Foster Street, Dothan.

Alabama Trust's Spring Preservation Lyceum, April 5-6 - Register Now

Make your reservations now for the Spring Preservation Lyceum in Dothan, Friday, April 5 - Saturday, April 6. Visit the historic Wiregrass. Lyceum tour includes the city's Cultural Arts Center, the former 1900's Southwood Elementary School; 1915 Opera House; Landmark Park; St. Andrews Market, the former 1912 Malone Motor Company building; and the Wiregrass Museum, the former 1912-1913 Water and Electric building; and private homes in Dothan's historic Garden District. For program and registration information, visit <http://www.alabamatrust.info/pdf/2013/LYCEUMSERIESSPRING2013.pdf>. Deadline for group rate for the Marriott Courtyard is April 1.

Grant Funding for Historic Rosenwald Schools - Next Deadline April 15

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, through its Rosenwald Schools Initiative, has funding available for the preservation of Rosenwald School buildings as vital hubs of community activity and revitalization. For more information about the Rosenwald Schools grant programs, see NEWS section that follows. For questions, contact Dorothy Walker, Public Outreach Coordinator, Alabama Historical Commission, 334-230-2665.

Historic Stage Coach Inn Endangered - Alabama Historic Treasure Needs New Home

Robert (Bob) Gamble, Alabama Historical Commission's senior architectural historian, names this 19th century structure, which is located convenient to Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, as one of Alabama's buildings in the "too important to lose" category. Thanks to the work of David Schneider, ATHP's senior director for preservation services, with support from the Endangered Properties Trust, the owner of this two-story nineteenth stage coach inn, has agreed to hold off demolition for a short period of time in order to explore alternatives. Interested parties should contact Schneider directly dbschneider@bellsouth.net or call 256-310-6320. If interested, act now.

Events



BARBOUR COUNTY

Thursday, April 4 - Sunday, April 7 - 48th Eufaula Heritage Pilgrimage

Tour of historic Eufaula includes seven homes and four gardens. Sponsor: Eufaula Heritage Association. Location: Eufaula. Proceeds benefit Eufaula historic preservation. For details and ticket prices,

visit <http://www.eufaulapilgrimage.com/page14/page17/page17.html>.

Thursday, April 11, 6:00 p.m. - Saturday, April 13, 1:00 p.m. - Annual Meeting, Alabama Historical Association

Annual meeting begins with reception on Thursday night at Eufaula's historic Fendall Hall. Paper presentations begin Friday morning followed by tours of local historic sites Friday afternoon and banquet that night. Meeting closes on Saturday with paper sessions, lunch and the President's Address. Location: Eufaula. Sponsor: Alabama Historical Association. For more program information and/or to register, email Marty Olliff at molliff@troy.edu or call 334-938-6556, X-1327.

COLBERT COUNTY

Saturdays, April 6 - Saturday, April 27, 10:00 a.m. - Historic Tuscumbia Walking Tours

This spring, enjoy Saturday mornings exploring historic downtown Tuscumbia. Experienced guides inform and entertain with stories of the past while strolling the walkways of the city's earliest streets. For more information, visit www.cityoftuscumbia.org or call 256-383-0783.

HALE/JEFFERSON COUNTY

Saturday, April 27, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Association for Gravestone Studies, Alabama Chapter

Activities include morning presentations on gravestones and other cemetery-related topics, lunch at the Pie Lab, and afternoon tours of local cemeteries. Location: Horseshoe Farm Community Clubhouse, Main Street, downtown Greensboro. For more information and/or to register, email Ashley Dumas, adumas@uwa.edu, if you are interested in giving a presentation or attending in the meeting.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Monday, April 1 - Saturday, November 30 - Marching On: The Children's Movement at Fifty

Exhibition telling the story of the 1963 Children's Crusade through the words of the foot soldiers who made it happen, the young people of that day now adults reflecting on the past. Location: Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, 520 16th Street North, Birmingham. Admission: Varies by age and exhibition. Sponsor: Southern Christian Leadership Conference. For more information, visit www.bcni.org or call 205-328-9696, x-234.

Thursday, April 25 - Saturday, April 27 - Lessons of the Birmingham Movement: A Symposium

on Youth Activism and the Struggle for Human Rights

Join the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute for a symposium featuring nationally known experts and speakers discussing the roles of youth in historic and contemporary human rights movements in the U.S. and around the world. Speakers include: Jose Antonio Vargas; Charlayne Hunter Gault; and Rhami Khouri. Admission: Free to events; Friday luncheon, \$25. Reservations for all events requested. For more information, schedule, event locations and/or to register, visit email 2013symposium@bcri.org or visit www.bcri.org/education_programs/symposium2013.html.

Friday, April 5 - Saturday, September 29 - A Place of Our Own: Birmingham's Fourth Avenue District

Exhibit illustrating how Birmingham's Fourth Avenue business and entertainment district served as a haven and gathering place during the early 1900's for local African-American entrepreneurs, A.G. Gaston and William Pettford, and other professional leaders. The district's entertainment venues brought wealthy and middle-class African Americans in contact with counterparts in the working class - a connection that would later prove crucial to the success of the Civil Rights Movement. Location: Vulcan Park and Museum, 1701 Valley View Drive, Birmingham. Admission: Varies by age. For more information, times and specifics, visit www.visitvulcan.com.

MOBILE COUNTY

Sunday, April 7, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Spring Settings at Oakleigh

Welcome the spring season with Just Desserts, the opening of the Spring Settings at Oakleigh series. Beautifully designed tablescapes will be on view throughout the historic Oakleigh Mansion. Enjoy a tour and dessert buffet. Spring Settings at Oakleigh will be on display throughout the month of April. Location: Oakleigh Historic Home, 350 Oakleigh Place, Mobile. Admission: \$10 per person. Sponsor: Historic Mobile Preservation Society (HMPS). Proceeds benefit the HMPS. For more information, email hmps@bellsouth.net or call 251-432-6161.

Thursday, April 18, 5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - An Evening In History

Featured speaker, author John Sledge will discuss Southern Writers and his new book Southern Bound: A Gulf Coast Journalist on Books, Writers, and Literary Pilgrimages of the Heart. A book signing will follow. Wine uncorked at 5:45 p.m.; lecture begins at 6:00 p.m. Location: Oakleigh Historic Mansion, 350 Oakleigh Place, Mobile. Admission: Free to HMPS members; \$10 for non-members and guests.

For more information, email hmps@bellsouth.net or call 251-432-6161.

Saturday, April 20, 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Historic Mobile Preservation Society (HMPS) Spring Ramble

Join members of the HMPS on their annual Spring Ramble. This year the ramble visits historic Selma to tour its private historic homes, churches, Old Live Oak Cemetery, and historic downtown. Lunch will be served at Arts Revive, a re-adapted historic structure along the river. Tour Start: Bus departures and returns from Oakleigh Historic Mansion, 350 Oakleigh Place, Mobile. Reservations: \$100 per person, includes transportation, a light breakfast, adult libations, lunch, and tour fees. Sponsor: Historic Mobile Preservation Society. For reservations, call 251-432-6161.

Tuesday, April 23, 6:30 p.m. - Inaugural Eugene Walter Lecture Series

The first annual Eugene Walter Lecture Series will host guest speaker John T. Edge, director of the Southern Foodway Alliance. Location: Oakleigh Historic Mansion, 350 Oakleigh Place, Mobile. Admission: Free; cash bar. Sponsors: Mobile Arts Council, Historic Mobile Preservation Society and Southern Literary Trail. For reservations, call 251-432-6161.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Monday, April 1 - Tuesday, April 30, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Against the Odds: The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen and Mildred Carter

Exhibition of photographs from the personal collection of Mildred and Colonel Herbert Carter provides a never published glimpse of the Tuskegee Airmen. Location: Rosa Parks Museum, 252 Montgomery Street, Montgomery. Admission: \$12 or younger \$5.50; 13 years or older, \$7.50; special rates for College or AAA I.D. Sponsor: Troy University, Montgomery. For more information, visit <http://trojan.troy.edu/community/rosa-parks-museum/> or call 334-241-8701.

Saturday, April 20, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - 8th Annual Alabama Book Festival

A day of literature in the historic setting of Old Alabama Town, thousands turn out to meet and hear readings by authors beloved by southern readers. This year's theme honoring the Year of Alabama Food appeals to the culinary flavors of the South's favorite pastimes. Whether eating, talking or reading about food, whether biography, fiction, memoirs, narrative, poetry or travel, southerners are fascinated with culinary traditions. The Alabama Book Festival is not to be missed. Location: Old Alabama Town, 301 Columbus Street, Montgomery. Admission: Free. Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama State Council on the Arts, Alabama Tourism Dept., Alabama Writers Forum, Capitol Book and News, City of Montgomery, Landmark Foundation of Montgomery, Montgomery City-County Library, Old Alabama Town and Troy University. For more information, email b.mclain@oldalabamatown or call 334-240-4617.

Thursday, April 18, Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Architreats: Food for Thought

Presentation Streight's Raid and the Making of a Confederate Heorine by Keith S. Hebert, Assist. Professor of History/Co-Director, Center for Public History, University of West Georgia. With the help of Etowah County school girl Emma Samson, Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest halted U.S. Colonel Abel Streight's raid through north Alabama. In so doing, a local girl became enshrined in Alabama's historical memory.

Location: Farley Auditorium, Alabama Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery. Admission: Free. Sponsors: Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Friends of the Alabama Archives.

For more information,

visit http://www.archives.alabama.gov/whatsnew/ATPR2013_04_18_Hebert.pdf

or call 334-353-4726.

SUMTER COUNTY



Saturday, April 20 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Annual Sucarnochee Folklife Festival

Now in its ninth year, the Festival is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the unique life ways of the Black Belt region. The festival features folksingers, traditional craftsmen at work, historical tours of local sites, folk foods, and storytelling. Blue Ribbon Contests are held in Quilt Making, Pie Baking, Cake Baking, Home Canning, BBQ Sauce, Cornbread Cook-off and the Black Belt Open, a sanctioned Wild Turkey Federation turkey calling contest! Visitors to the Sucarnochee Folklife

Festival are encouraged to bring a chair and blanket, relax, and enjoy the "state fair" fun filled atmosphere. Location: Courthouse Square, Livingston. Admission: Free. Sponsor: Center for the Study of the Black Belt, University of West Alabama. For more information, visit www.centerforblackbelt.org.

News

Funding for Rosenwald Schools

Rosenwald Schools represent an important chapter in the history of the United States. Originally begun through a partnership between Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee Institute and Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck & Company, the program for building rural African-American schools provided seed grants for the construction of more than 5,300 schools, shops, and teachers' homes across the South and Southwest. Today an estimated 15% or less of these buildings survive. The National Trust for Historic Preservation, through its Rosenwald Schools Initiative, is helping save Rosenwald Schools as vital hubs of community activity and revitalization. To date, the National Trust has provided a more than \$2M in grant funding to support the restoration of Rosenwald Schools. The following grant programs are available exclusively to nonprofit organizations or government agencies working to save a Rosenwald School in their community.

Rosenwald School Centennial Fund

Funding Type: Rehabilitation/ Restoration

Max. Grant: \$20,000

Deadline: April 15, 2013

Grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Rosenwald School Centennial Fund enable local groups to respond proactively to preservation challenges by providing grants for the physical restoration and rehabilitation of Rosenwald School buildings. Grants from the Rosenwald School Centennial Fund will be a maximum of \$20,000 and matching funds are required. Read more at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/rosenwald-grants/rosenwald-school-centennial.html#.UVnGpjk9W-I>.

Alice Rosenwald Flexible Fund

Funding Type: Preservation Planning, Education, Bricks and Mortar

Max. Grant: \$5,000

Next Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis

The Alice Rosenwald Flexible Fund is intended to advance ongoing Rosenwald School preservation activities. The fund supports, but is not limited to, such needs as preservation planning, engineering studies, architectural plans, rehabilitation, workshops and conferences, publications, films, oral history, scholarships, surveys, photography, archeology, and research. Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match. Read more at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/rosenwald-grants/alice-rosenwald-flexible.html#.UVnGlzk9W-I>.

Richard E. Deutsch Memorial Fund for Rosenwald Schools

Funding Type: Preservation Planning

Max. Grant: \$5,000

Next Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Richard E. Deutsch Memorial Fund for Rosenwald Schools are designed to advance ongoing Rosenwald School preservation planning activities. The fund supports, but is not limited to, projects such as preservation planning, engineering studies, architectural plans, archeology, and research that advance the preservation of Rosenwald School buildings. Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match. Note: Preference for applications to this grant program are given to projects related to Rosenwald Schools located in Tennessee. Read more at <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/rosenwald-grants/richard-e-deutsch-memorial.html#.UVnHATk9W-I>.

Why Historic Preservation Matters - Alabama's Cultural Landscape

March was a month of historic losses for preservation in Alabama. Opelika's West Point Pepperell Mill (circa 1850-1860) burned as did Anniston's old gas works structure, a National Register for Historic Places building. http://www.annistonstar.com/view/full_story/22031184/article-Burned-building-on-Noble-Street-was-home-to-industrial-city%E2%80%99s-first-power-supply?instance=1st_left. The loss of the mill was particularly sad for the City of Opelika, which was in negotiations with a commercial developer, who had stepped in to stop planned demolition with an offer to purchase and rehabilitate the mill.

In the meantime, advocates for the preservation of the B.B. Comer Bridge continue the battle to save the last of 15 original toll bridges built by the Alabama State Bridge Corporation in the late 1920s through the early 1930s. To learn more and support for the preservation of the historic B.B. Comer Bridge, visit www.facebook.com/groups/123231444445454/.

On the other end of the spectrum, a plus for preservation, was the Mobile County School Board's approval of a \$3.5M bond issue to stabilize, repair and restore the exterior of the historic Barton Academy and the adjacent Yerby School in order to open a World Studies School. Barton Academy (circa 1836-1939) is the oldest public school in Alabama. A note of historic irony, the Academy was constructed with lottery dollars. An estimated \$12M in additional funding will be needed to complete the project. For more information,

visit http://blog.al.com/live/2013/03/barton_academy_foundation_anno.html.

Help Preserve Alabama's Historic Treasures

Make a Gift to the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation

To make a contribution in support of preservation, call 205-652-3497 or donate online at <http://www.alabamatrust.info/>.

SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

To send EVENT information and NEWS stories for Preservation e-newsletter by March 20. Email alabamatrust@athp.org. Flag for Preservation E-News.

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