



May 2015

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## Alerts

### **Alabama Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Passes Alabama Legislature**

Alabama's historic tax credit legislation is up for renewal. House Bill 214 introduced by Representative Victor Gaston of Mobile was passed by the Alabama legislature. HB214, if approved by the Senate, will renew the 2013 Alabama Historic Tax Credit for seven more years. Approval of renewal must be voted on by the Senate within the remaining 45 days of the 2015 legislative session. To voice your support for historic tax credit legislation, contact your state senator. For more information about historic tax credit and other pending preservation legislation, visit [http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/SESSBillResult.ASPX?BILL=HB214&WIN\\_TYPE=BillResult](http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/SESSBillResult.ASPX?BILL=HB214&WIN_TYPE=BillResult).

### **Alabama Humanities Foundation Grant Requests - June 15 Deadline**

Funding for projects that serve a wide variety of audiences, grants are awarded solely for public humanities projects. For examples of funding categories, visit [www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/qualifications/](http://www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/qualifications/). For questions, contact Thomas Bryant at (205) 558-3997 or [tbryant@alabamahumanities.org](mailto:tbryant@alabamahumanities.org). Preliminary Proposal Deadline: May 16, 2015. Final Proposal Deadline: June 16, 2015. Website: [www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/](http://www.alabamahumanities.org/grants/).

### **Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation - Summer Board Meeting and Lyceum - July 10 - 11**

Board meetings of the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation directors are open to the Trust membership and the public at large. Summer Meeting: Friday, July 10, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Keep watching our website for further details.



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS

### **NEA Grant Request for Museums - July 23 Deadline**

The National Endowment for the Arts - The Museum grant program supports activity that reflects aesthetic investigation and meaningful community engagement. Specifically, grants assists museums through the support of exhibitions, care of collections, conservation, commissions, public art works, community engagement, education activities and other museum work. Museum projects funded demonstrate artistic excellence in and across a variety of mediums, movements, eras and cultures. For more information, visit <http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/art->

[works/museums#sthash.fvNOhveJ.dpuf](http://works/museums#sthash.fvNOhveJ.dpuf).

### NEH Grant Requests for Cultural Heritage Programs - June 25 Deadline

The National Endowment for the Humanities' Common Heritage grant program aims to capture the vitally important part of the nation's country's heritage and preserve it for future generations. Grants support both the digitization of cultural heritage materials and the organization of public programming at community events, which explore these materials as a window on a community's history and culture. For more information, visit <http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/common-heritage>.

### Register Now! Commission and Assistance Mentoring Program (CAMP) Coming May 2!

For Preservation Month, don't miss this opportunity. Hosted by the Mobile Historic Development Commission, with the assistance of the Alabama Historical Commission and through the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, CAMP will address current topics in preservation. Presentation by educator and preservationist Michelle Pearson, *Sustainability, Blight and Youth in Preservation*. CAMP is free and open to the public. Registration is required. For more information and/or to register, email [tammy.boyles@cityofmobile.org](mailto:tammy.boyles@cityofmobile.org) or call 251-208-7281.

### Summer Preservation Lyceum Weekend - Historic Tuscaloosa - July 10 - 11

Mark your calendars for the upcoming summer Preservation Lyceum Weekend exploring historic Tuscaloosa. Watch for posting of the Lyceum program and registration form in mid-June at [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info).

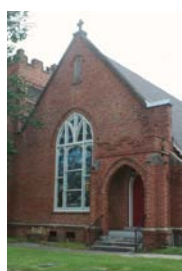
### Support the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation!

May is National Preservation Month! Celebrate with a gift to the Alabama Trust, the voice for Alabama's historic places. Make a difference with a gift to helping preserve Alabama's historic heritage. To donate, visit [www.alabamatrust.info](http://www.alabamatrust.info). Watch for the 2015 Places in Peril announcement at the end of May.

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## Events

### BULLOCK COUNTY



#### Saturday Evening, May 2 & Sunday Afternoon, May 3 - Theatre Performance *Conecuh People*

An original theatre production, the play tells the story of an Alabama's boy's life, his coming of age and mature reflections on the past, humorous and poignant. Location: Red Door Theatre (former Episcopal Church), Corner of North Prairie and Blackmon Streets, Union Springs. Admission: \$15 per dinner reservation; \$15 per theatre ticket. For more specific times and information, visit [www.reddoortheatre.org/2015-Season.html](http://www.reddoortheatre.org/2015-Season.html). For reservations, call 334-738-8687.

### MOBILE COUNTY

#### Wednesday, May 6, 5:30 p.m. - Barton Academy Town Hall Meeting

Learn more about the future of historic Barton Academy, Alabama's first public school? Representatives from the Mobile County Public School System and the Barton Academy Foundation will be at the Town Hall to brief those interested in the future of this historic building and the Barton Academy of Advanced World Studies, which will be housed in the building. Following the meeting, tours will be conducted at Barton Academy. Location: Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, 451 Government Street, Mobile. Admission: Free. For more information, visit [www.BartonAcademy.org](http://www.BartonAcademy.org).

#### Friday, May 22 - Sunday, May 24 - Thunder on the Bay: Battle of Mobile Bay

Historic Fort Gaines will celebrate the 151st anniversary of the Battle of Mobile Bay. See history come alive with battle reenactments and living history demonstrations. Anniversary events begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday and end at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Location: Fort Gaines, 51 Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island. Admission: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4. For more information, visit [www.dauphinisland.org](http://www.dauphinisland.org) or call 251-861-6992.

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

### **Sunday, May 3, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Walking Tour: Montgomery in the Civil War**

Join Mary Ann Neeley, noted historian and author, and Bob Bradley, chief curator for the Alabama Department of Archives and History, for a tour of Civil War sites in downtown Montgomery. Tour includes the Winter Building, the site from which the telegram to fire on Fort Sumter was sent, and the Capitol steps, where Jefferson Davis was sworn in as the president of the Confederacy. *Comfortable shoes and bottled water recommended.* Tour Start: Steps of the Alabama Capitol Building; Tour End: Riverfront Park, Montgomery. Admission: Montgomery Landmarks

Foundation, Free; Children Under 12, Free; Others, \$10. Sponsor: Old Alabama Town and Montgomery Landmarks Foundation. To registration, call 334-240-4500 or email [marketing@oldalabamatown.com](mailto:marketing@oldalabamatown.com).

### **Saturday, May 9, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 18th Annual Herb Day: Where The Wild Things Are!**

Learn where the wild herbs grow. Sample some wild game with Savory, the 2015 Herb of the Year. Enjoy a fun-filled public educational event for the family featuring children's activities and adult programs by herb experts as well as cooking-with-herbs demonstration. Location: Old Alabama Town, 301 Columbus Street, Montgomery. Sponsor: Old Alabama Town and Montgomery Landmarks Foundation. Admission: Free. For more information, visit <http://www.oldalabamatown.com/>.

### **Sundays, May 9 & 23, 9:00 a.m. - Noon - Jammers Pick n' Grin**

Open to all musicians and music lovers. Musicians bring your acoustic instruments. Music lovers bring your ears. The public is welcome. Location: Rose House Porch, Old Alabama Town, 301 Columbus Street, Montgomery. Admission: Free. For more information, visit <http://www.oldalabamatown.com/>.

### **Thursday, May 21, Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Architreats: Food for Thought Lunch Time Lecture**

Presentation *Makers of Sacred Harp* by David Warren Steele, associate professor of music and southern culture, University of Mississippi and co-author of *The Makers of the Sacred Harp: A Comprehensive Guide to the Texts and Tunes of an American Musical Tradition*, published by the University of Illinois Press. Location: Farley Auditorium, Alabama Dept. of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery. Admission: Free. *Sponsors: Friends of the Alabama Archives and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities.* For information, visit [www.archives.alabama.gov](http://www.archives.alabama.gov).

## **SUMTER COUNTY**



### **Saturday, May 9, 10:00 a.m. - Noon - Food Preservation Workshop**

Home preserved foods make great gifts and help prevent garden waste. The hands on workshop, held at one of on five historic double dog trot houses in the Alabama, will feature Orange Spice Jam. Discussions include canning basics, water bath canning and preserve canning.

Location: The Campbell Environmental Education Center, The University of West Alabama, Livingston. Admission: Free. Sponsors: Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities. To register call 205-652-5405.

## **TUSCALOOSA COUNTY**

### Thursday, May 14, 5:15 p.m. - Heritage Celebration Sundown Lecture Series

Presentation by Hallie O'Kelly "35 Years of Quilting." Refreshments served at 5:15 p.m. Lecture at 5:45 p.m. Location: Jemison-Van de Graaff Manison, 1305 Greensboro Avenue, Tuscaloosa. Admission: Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society members: Free; Non-members, \$5. Sponsor: Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society. For more information, email [preservetusinfo@att.net](mailto:preservetusinfo@att.net) or call 758-2238.



### Saturday, May 16, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Heritage Celebration Home and Garden Tours Block Party

A fun twist on the traditional home and garden tour. Enjoy live music, food, fun and friends! Location: College Park Neighborhood, (former location of the historic Tuscaloosa Female College), Tuscaloosa. Tickets: Adults, \$25; Ages 6 - 18, \$10; 5 Years and Younger, Free. Tickets also available at the event. Sponsor: Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society. For more information, email [preservetusinfo@att.net](mailto:preservetusinfo@att.net) or call 758-2238.

## News

### Alabama's Historic Towns Among Most Beautiful

Why preservation is important. Alabama boasts "some of the most picturesque towns in the South" writes *Helen Armitage of TheCultureTrip.com*. Among 10 of the state's prettiest towns are nine with deep historic roots: Fairhope, Mooresville, Mountain Brook, Tuscumbia, Eufaula, Fort Payne, Mentone, Monroeville and Magnolia Springs. To read more, visit, [http://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/alabama/articles/the-10-most-beautiful-towns-in-alabama/?utm\\_source=emails&utm\\_medium=featured&utm\\_campaign=050415alabamatravel](http://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/alabama/articles/the-10-most-beautiful-towns-in-alabama/?utm_source=emails&utm_medium=featured&utm_campaign=050415alabamatravel).

### Alabama's Heritage Farms - Historic Treasures of the Landscape

Last year, during the Alabama Preservation Conference held in the Shoals, preservationists were reminded of the importance of heritage farms. Conference attendees were guests at the O'Neal Farm, a historic multi-generation family farm with its 19th century log cabins. More recently, Historic Huntsville Foundation members and Madison County preservationists visited the historic McCrary Farm, which has been in that family since 1809. The farm is owned and operated by the family members of the original settlers. The McCrary farmhouse (circa 1824) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Important to the history of Alabama and its agricultural economy, historic farms dot the landscape of the state and remind us that these treasures of our past need to be protected. The Alabama Century and Heritage Farm program recognizes and honors those Alabama farms that have been in operation as a family farm over a long period of time and have played a significant role in Alabama's history. To learn more, visit <http://agi.alabama.gov/news-recalls/century-heritage-farm-program>.



### Alabama Trust Visits Historic Union Springs

Bullock County - the Amateur Bird Dog Field Trial Capitol of the World. Whether canine, horse or human, the Union Springs field trials are a special part of the local culture and history of Bullock County and Union Springs. The National Register of Historic Places lists 47 homes and businesses that have been preserved as standing monuments to Union Springs' illustrious past.

The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation explore this part of Alabama's history during its recent Preservation Lyceum Weekend. Once a thriving 19th century center of commerce, during the 20th century, the county drew avid bird hunters to its fields and woods. Industry giants, such as the Maytags, DuPonts and Blounts, among others, established private hunting plantations or homes in community. In the 21st century, a trip through Union Springs and Bullock County sees the blending of old and new structures into the community's historic fabric -



from its pre-Civil War downtown, to its antebellum homes, to its 19th century churches, to its hunting fields and bird dog traditions. Visit Union Springs with the Alabama Trust at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlabamaTrustForHistoricPreservation/>.

### **Birmingham's Historic Lyric Takes the Stage**

The story of the restoration of Birmingham's historic vaudeville theatre continues. Built in 1914 and located across the street from the historic Alabama Theatre, the Lyric Theatre was once and soon-to-be a vital part of the city's theatre district. A campaign goal to support the first phase to bring the Lyric back to life was successfully completed during 2014. To follow the restoration of this grand lady, its architecture and murals, visit <http://restorethelyric.com/home/>.



### **Historic Chattahoochee Commission Appoints New Board Chair**

Long-time Eufaula and Alabama preservation leader Doug Purcell executive director emeritus of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC), has been appointed chairman of the board of commissioners. Purcell served as executive director of the HCC for more than 38 years before retiring in 2011.

Also elected was Karan Pittman, of Cuthbert, Georgia, who will serve as vice chair of the HCC. The Chattahoochee Commission is a joint program of the

States of Alabama and Georgia. For more information about the HCC, visit

<http://test.chattahoocheetrace.com/>.

### **Historic Huntsville Foundation Reports on Survey of Historic Resources**

During 2013, grant monies from the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) and Historic Huntsville Foundation (HHF) funded a historic resources survey of unincorporated parts of the county. New South Associates conducted the three-week countywide survey, which included the 435 square miles and 256 residential, religious, agricultural, educational and funerary properties dating from the early 1800s to the mid-1900s. To learn more about the survey, read WHNT's interview with HHF's executive director Donna Castellano at <http://whnt.com/2015/04/23/log-cabins-to-bugalows-a-historic-resources-survey-of-madison-county/>. To download or purchase a copy of the survey, email [donna@historichuntsville.org](mailto:donna@historichuntsville.org) or call 256.508.5372.



### **Funding Needed for Restoration of Historic Ironwork - Mobile's Richards DAR House**

The Richards DAR House, an 1860 Italianate-period house museum in Mobile, is raising charitable contributions to restore the iconic cast iron facade of the house. Need to restore the cast iron façade is \$75,000. The ironwork features the four seasons depicted in panels, which grace the front of the

home. The Richards DAR House is managed by five chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Donations may be mailed to the Richards DAR House Restoration Fund, 256 N. Joachim Street, Mobile, AL 36603. For more information about the Richards DAR House Museum, visit <http://www.richardsdarhouse.com/>.

### **Historic Azalea Trail Revived**

If you've traveled through Mobile over that past few decades and missed that pretty pink line that used to weave through the city, guess what! It's back! During a press conference in April, Mayor Sandy Stimpson and Bob Haskins of Keep Mobile Beautiful announced the revived of the Azalea Trail, unveiled new Azalea Trail signs and reintroduced several routes that will take you through Mobile and past our blooming beauties. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/MobileAzaleaTrailMaids>.

### **Mobile's Historic Downtown Icon Welcomes New Tenants**

The Phelps Dunbar LLP has moved into its new home on the top floors of the Mobile's downtown RSA-Van Antwerp. The law firm and BBVA Compass will be anchor tenants in the historic 120-foot building currently being renovated. RSA purchased the Van Antwerp building in October 2012 for a reported \$1.65M. Built in 1907, the 58,300-square-foot building was the first skyscraper in the city and the first reinforced concrete skyscraper in the southeast. Of Beaux-Arts architecture, it was designed by architect George Bigelow Rogers for Garet Van Antwerp. To read more, visit [www.al.com/business/index.ssf/2015/04/phelps\\_dunbar\\_moves\\_into\\_the\\_r.html](http://www.al.com/business/index.ssf/2015/04/phelps_dunbar_moves_into_the_r.html).

# SHARE PRESERVATION NEWS AND STORIES STATEWIDE

## Send Event Information and News Stories to the ATHP

Email information for the June issue of the *Preservation e-Newsletter* by May 20 to [alabamatrust@athp.org](mailto:alabamatrust@athp.org). Please mark as Attention: E-News.



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