

Melissa Jest African American Programs Coordinator Melissa.Jest@dca.ga.gov



Program Benefits

- Identifies cultural resources across the state
- Provides technical assistance to underserved communities
- Supports the Georgia African-American Heritage Preservation Network (GAAAHPN)
- Publishes *Reflections*, a newsletter covering African American heritage

Partners

- The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation
- The National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Saint Simon's African American Heritage Coalition and other local partners

Program Overview

Georgia's Historic Preservation Division (HPD) was the first state historic preservation office to establish an education and outreach program dedicated to African American historic assets. Working with non-governmental organizations across the state and nation, HPD's African American Program Coordinator and the Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network's (GAAHPN) Steering Committee plan and implement historic preservation projects that foster economic development and community revitalization. GAAHPN includes more than 3,000 people from across the state who have an interest in preservation. Working with HPD. members develop projects and are encouraged to offer ideas, comments and suggestions. The award-winning HPD newsletter *Reflections* is a primary communications tool for the GAAHPN membership.