

Reflections



Georgia African American
Historic Preservation Network



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THE LEGACY OF HORACE KING

Horace King was born in bondage in Chesterfield District, South Carolina on September 8, 1807. At that time, remnants of the Catawba Indian tribe had intermarried with slaves of South Carolina planters. His dying father, Edmund King, and his mother, Susan, were slaves who shared mixed African, Catawba, and white ancestry. In 1830, King's master died, and Horace King and his mother were sold in the estate settlement to John Godwin.

John Godwin was a contractor who specialized in building houses and covered bridges. He was familiar with a bridge design developed by Ithiel Town, a Connecticut bridge builder. Town patented his design, known as Town Lattice Truss, in 1820. His design consisted of a truss constructed with crisscrossed sawmill lumber similar to a garden trellis, with wooden pegs reinforcing each intersection and horizontal chords at the top and bottom. Town's design concept was easily employed by carpenters to construct single-span bridges over creeks. Horace King and John Godwin successfully used the Town lattice truss design of a bridge that crossed the Pee Dee River. Recognizing King's talents, Godwin



*This circa 1850 photo of Horace King appeared on the cover of **Our Town, an Introduction to the History of Columbus, Georgia.** (Public Domain)*

In the early 1830s, Columbus was the largest border town on the Chattahoochee River. When the Creek Indians ceded land in the 1832 Treaty of Cusseta, Alabama was opened for further westward expansion, and settlers migrated to the region. On the Columbus side of the Chattahoochee, an investor established a ferry to cross the river, but soon Columbus recognized the need for a bridge to connect Georgia and Alabama. The city issued an ad for bids to construct the bridge, and John Godwin's proposal was accepted in 1832. Soon Godwin and Horace King moved to Girard, (presently Phenix City) Alabama to build the first public bridge connecting the states.

Godwin and King quickly began construction of the first bridge across the Chattahoochee River, guaranteeing their craftsmanship with a five-year warranty. The first bridge, spanning over 900 feet, was completed in 1833, and stood firm until 1838, when a flood washed it away. King rebuilt the bridge, and it stood until 1865, when it was destroyed during the Civil War. It was known as the City Bridge and later the Dillingham Street Bridge. With this accomplishment, Godwin's reputation as a contractor was established, and he and Horace, the construction foreman, continued their unique partnership, erecting bridges across the Chattahoochee River, and solidifying their reputation as master covered bridge builders.

Godwin and King built a 540-foot bridge south of Columbus at Irwinton (presently Eufaula, Alabama) for \$22,000. In 1838, Godwin and King built the first bridge across the Chattahoochee River at West Point. In the fall of 2002, an underwater archaeologist project team documented a surviving pier from this bridge. This training initiative was organized by Charles Kelly, historian for the Troup County Archives. Ronnie Rogers, staff archaeologist for the Historic Preservation Division, also participated in the dive.



*This rendering of the Pee Dee River bridge appeared in **Thomas and Edward French's Covered Bridges of Georgia.***

Photograph
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*Georgia African American
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Dillingham Street Bridge, circa 1870.*

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THE LEGACY OF HORACE KING

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John Godwin and Horace King also built houses and government buildings in Girard and Columbus from 1830-1840. Upon their arrival in Girard, Godwin built the first house constructed by a white man in that town. King was the construction foreman for City Mills in Columbus, and



The metal section in the center of City Mills was constructed by Horace King. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

worked on the Muscogee County Courthouse in Columbus, and the Russell County Courthouse in Crawford, Alabama. Throughout this decade, King continued to improve his Town truss bridge designs, perfecting his technique for spans assembled over water without power machinery.

Horace King married Frances Thomas in 1839.

Like King, she had mixed ancestry, and was the daughter of a free woman of color. The couple had four sons: Washington, Marshall Ney, John Thomas, and George, and one daughter, Annie Elizabeth. The King children were born free since Frances Thomas was a free black woman. King personally trained his sons to build covered bridges, and after the Civil War, they started the King Bridge Company. Annie Elizabeth also worked for the company.



The Red Oak Creek Covered Bridge was built by Horace King circa 1840. It is the oldest covered bridge in Georgia, and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on May 7, 1973. The bridge truss is constructed from heart of pine boards, and over 2,500 treenails, each approximately a foot long, hold it together. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

As Horace King's reputation as a builder spread, his skills came to the attention of other southern businessmen who partnered with Godwin on construction projects. Robert Jemison, a Tuscaloosa lawyer, Alabama legislator, and owner of a successful saw mill business and stagecoach line, coordinated a number of building contracts for Godwin with King as the construction foreman. Among their joint ventures were roads in Georgia, bridges spanning the Chattahoochee, and the reconstruction of the Alabama State Capitol in 1849 following a fire.

In spite of King's successes, John Godwin's financial fortunes declined. In 1846, Godwin was faced with financial ruin, and numerous businessmen were offering him as much as \$6,000 for Horace King. Godwin and King had developed a special friendship that transcended the master-slave relationship. Godwin, with the assistance of Robert Jemison, submitted a petition to the Alabama legislature to manumit (free) Horace King. Jemison's legal maneuver was successful, and Horace King became a free man by an act from the Alabama legislature on February 2, 1846. During this antebellum period in Alabama history, free blacks were required to leave the state. To circumvent this possibility for Horace King, the act stipulated a deposit of a \$1,000 surety bond with Russell County. King personally paid the bond, ensuring his movement freely between the two states on construction ventures.

In 1858, Nelson Tift, an Albany entrepreneur, developed a concept for a toll bridge across the Flint River. Tift failed in his attempts to convince city officials to build the bridge, and decided to implement the project himself, with Horace King as his construction foreman. At the time, King was scheduled to build a bridge across the Oconee River near Milledgeville. He had already cut timbers for the project when a dispute developed on the terms of the contract. When Tift contacted King, he shipped the timbers by rail to Albany for the house and tunnel that connected to the bridge.

Though Horace King was legally free, he continued to work on bridges and houses with John Godwin. In 1859, John Godwin died, leaving no estate for his wife and children. Horace King paid his burial expenses, and provided a residence for his widow and children. The Godwin family still owned a sawmill business in Girard, and Horace King and his sons continued operation of the business during the Civil War, while Godwin's son served as an artillery captain in the Confederate Army. Horace King erected a \$600 Masonic monument in honor of John Godwin in the family cemetery in Girard. The inscription reads "this stone was placed here by Horace King in last remembrance of the love and gratitude he felt for his lost friend and former master."



Horace King is credited with rebuilding this spiral staircase in the restored Alabama State Capitol.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque



The Bridge House in Albany, Dougherty County, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 19, 1974. A tunnel in the rear of the building connected the house to the Horace King bridge.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

After Godwin's death, Robert Jemison secured building contracts in Alabama for Horace King. Their largest venture was the construction of the (Bryce) Alabama Insane Hospital, built in Tuscaloosa in 1860. The hospital and the spiral staircase in the state capitol are the only existing historic resources built by Horace King in Alabama.



After the 1994 flood, a canoe paddled through the Red Oak Creek Covered Bridge. A plaque inside the bridge marks the water level.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

Horace King built numerous bridges for the Confederacy during the Civil War. In 1863, James H. Warner, chief engineer for the Confederate Navy, hired Horace King to build a rolling mill. King supplied logs, treenails (wooden pegs) and over 15,000 feet of lumber for the construction of the *Jackson*, an ironclad gunboat. The *Jackson* now resides at the Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Museum. During the war, King suffered both professional and personal losses. His wife died in 1864, and by the end of the Civil War he witnessed the burning of many of his bridges by the Union Army. Once union forces took two of his best mules, but when King displayed the Masonic sign to the union officers, the mules were returned with an apology.

After the war, Horace King and sons established the King Bridge Company, and helped to rebuild bridges and factories along the Chattahoochee River. They rebuilt the City Mill in Columbus and a railroad bridge for the Mobile and Girard Railroad. Horace King married Sarah Jane McManus in 1869, and gradually turned over the bridge business to his sons.

In 1867, Horace King was appointed as a registrar to enroll voters in Alabama's first post-war election in Russell County. Respected by both races, King was drafted to run for a seat in the legislature. Though he had not actively campaigned for public office, Horace King served two terms in the Alabama General Assembly, from 1868-1872.

At the end of his political career in Alabama, Horace King moved his family and business to LaGrange. Washington, Marshall, and George King constructed a chapel for the Southern Female College, LaGrange Academy, the city's first school for African Americans, and Warren



This art gallery on Lafayette Square in LaGrange, Troup County, was built by Horace King.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

Chapel Methodist Church. John Thomas King became a prominent Methodist minister in LaGrange, and Horace King lived with him until his death on May 28, 1885. Horace and Marshall King are buried near the Confederate Cemetery on Miller Street in LaGrange.

In Georgia today, two of Horace King's bridges remain. The Meriwether County Historical Society is the steward for the Red Oak Creek Bridge. The bridge was restored by the Georgia Department of Transportation and is open to foot traffic. Located in a community known as Imlac near Woodbury, it is appropriately accessible off "Covered Bridge Road" and connects to Georgia state highway 85. In 1965, the Wehadkee Creek Bridge in Troup County was soon to be immersed in water with the construction of the West Point Dam, and county officials donated a 60th section to Callaway Gardens. The Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, a nonprofit organization, assumed stewardship of this historic resource. Though not currently available for public view, the foundation plans to incorporate the bridge as the gateway to a natural grass pasture reserve in its future development plans.



This section of the bridge that once spanned Wehadkee Creek in Troup County is preserved by stewards of the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

Horace King, master bridge and community builder, is remembered in Georgia and Alabama for his achievements in architecture and human relations. A permanent exhibit in the Columbus Museum features his building and rebuilding of the Dillingham Street Bridge. Signs and historical markers on both sides of the Chattahoochee River honor the places where his bridges once spanned the two states. The street where he lived in LaGrange is now appropriately named Horace King Street, and the Troup County Archives is a repository for family papers and research materials documenting his achievements.

In February 2003, Russell County loaned a portrait of Horace King to the Alabama State Capitol. The portrait was unveiled at a special tribute to Horace King, sponsored by the Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historical Commission. David King, great-great grandson of Horace King, attended the tribute. Columbus landscape architect Thomas L. French, Jr. spoke about his "tenacity and veracity" during both the high and low points of his life. Georgia Senator Ed Harbison, chairman of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, called Horace King a "coalition builder," a testimony to the man known as Horace, the master covered bridge builder.



Photograph Not Available

THE BRIDGES OF WASHINGTON W. KING

As a young man, Washington W. King (1843-1910) ran pole-boats along the Chattahoochee River until the Civil War. After the war, he worked for the King Brothers Bridge Company. Following the death of his father, Horace King, Washington W. King established a construction business in the Atlanta area. His daughter, Georgia taught classical languages at Clark College, while he taught his son Ernest the craft of bridge building. Some of his bridges remain in Georgia today.



*Washington W. King
(Public Domain)*

In 1885, King received a contract to build a bridge across the South Fork of the Broad River near the border of Madison and Oglethorpe Counties. He designed a Town lattice bridge that is 236 feet long. It provided transportation for workers to the nearby Watson gristmill, and sits above rocky shoals



*Watson Mill Bridge has the longest covered span of any existing wooden bridge in Georgia.
Photo by James R. Lockhart*

that form a fall. In 1973, the Georgia Department of Transportation restored this bridge. Today, it is the centerpiece of Watson Mill Bridge State Park, one of the most picturesque parks managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Park stewards carefully maintain over 1,000 acres of campgrounds, walking trails, and picnic shelters. Remnants of the mill remain at the site, and a historical marker acknowledges Washington W. King as its builder.



Euharlee Creek Bridge is the site of an annual covered bridge festival each Labor Day weekend.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

When you enter the town of Euharlee near Cartersville in Bartow County, signs welcome visitors to view their old covered bridge. Washington W. King built this 137th bridge across Euharlee Creek in 1886. It is located near the ruins of a mill that was owned by Daniel Lowry. Near the bridge, in a restored cowshed, visitors can view memorabilia about the bridge.

In 1891, Washington W. King built a bridge spanning the Oconee River near Athens in Clarke County. University of Georgia students called it Effie's Bridge, after a nearby bordello. In 1965, Stone Mountain Park acquired it for \$18,000 and moved it to the present site, providing access to the Indian Island picnic area at the park.

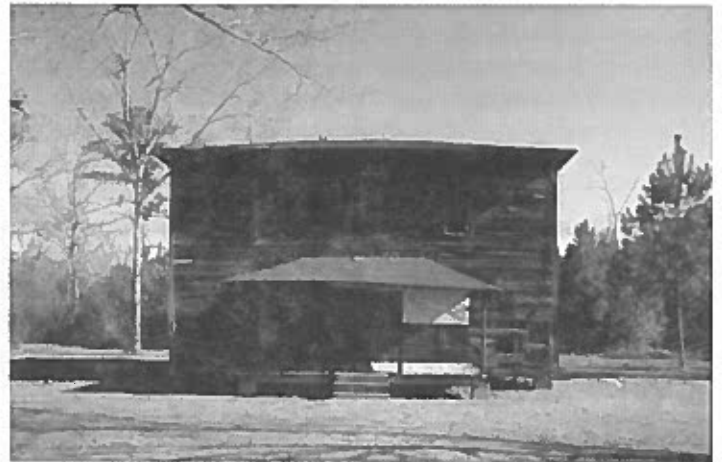


The Stone Mountain Park Bridge was once known as the College Avenue Bridge in Athens. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

THE OLD COLORED SCHOOL

*Davia Brown, African American Programs Assistant
Historic Preservation Division*

From 1924 until 1953, the Alapaha Colored School served as the sole educational resource for African American children in the northern part of Berrien County. It is a rare African American schoolhouse, as few buildings of this type still remain in Georgia. The wood-framed building is two-story, with hipped metal roofing, an interior chimney, and paired double-hung windows. Built in 1924 with four classrooms, the Alapaha Colored School was larger than most schools, as only one out of every five rural schools for African Americans in Georgia had more than one classroom.



*The Alapaha Colored School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 11, 2002.
Photo by James R. Lockhart*

Inside the school the entrance foyer leads into two separate and equal-sized classrooms. Located by the foyer is an indoor restroom that previously had been the book room. There is a staircase in the foyer that leads to the second floor. Originally, the second level was split into a large classroom area and the lunchroom. On this level there was a pot-bellied stove and kerosene stove. Around 1945, an additional wood-framed, one-story building was connected to the rear of the original building. This helped to accommodate the growing student body by providing them with another classroom. The students, under supervision of the principal, built the new addition themselves. It was also the responsibility of students to keep the stoves fueled by bringing in coal. For a long time, the only



This view of the school shows the rear classroom addition.

Photo by James R. Lockhart

restrooms were outhouses located at the back of the schoolyard. There was one for the boys and one for the girls situated at opposite ends of the school property. The school utilized a well with a pitcher pump until 1947, when running water was added to the building. Eleven grades were held in the

four classrooms. Completely enclosed in these wooden rooms with a few windows, teachers taught with one blackboard and a light bulb that hung from a cloth cord from the ceiling. The outdoor playground area had a basketball court, softball field, and wooded area.

The Alapaha Colored School was closed in 1954 due to consolidation of African American schools into the Nashville High and Elementary School. The school board used the old Alapaha building as a site for summer GED classes for veterans of World War II who were unable to complete their education. Eventually, the property was bought by St. Mark Masons and used as their lodge and meeting hall. In 2001, the Historic Preservation Division awarded \$37,000 to the town of Alapaha through the Georgia Heritage grant program. The grant was used to stabilize and restore the building.

In November 2002, the Alapaha Library & Museum was dedicated. Laura Mae Lewis, now 85 years old, was the oldest former student at the ceremony. She joined alumni, teachers, and Mayor James Boone in the preservation celebration. Boone was a former student and currently works on the museum collection.

The Alapaha Library & Museum, staffed by community volunteers, is open each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Next time you're in Alapaha, be sure to visit the old colored school, a special place in Berrien County's African American past.

THE ALFRED AND JANE ABLES HOUSE

*Davia Brown, African American Programs Assistant
Historic Preservation Division*

At the time of his birth in 1863, Alfred Ables was a slave. By the late 1800's, he was considered to be one of the most successful African American businessmen of his era. Moving his family to Marion County in 1880, he was a foreman for the Georgia Central Railroad Company. The Ables family settled in an African American community east of Buena Vista. After leaving his position at the railroad, Ables managed a funeral home and opened a grocery store. He delivered goods by horse and buggy with his overnight delivery service before expanding into farming, real estate, and timber. Ables owned 26 farms operated by sharecroppers and his family. His real estate sales included over 20,000 acres in and around Marion County before his death in 1916. He sold timber to lumber companies, and invested the profits in stocks and bonds. He shared his wealth with the community by building housing for the poor. When Alfred Ables died in 1916, his will provided a college education for his children and 16 acres of land for an African American school. Today the school is the headquarters for the Marion County School Board and the Head Start program.



The Alfred and Jane Ables house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 9, 2002.

Photo by James R. Lockhart

In 1892, Alfred Ables built a one-story house with Folk Victorian details and a hipped roof for his wife, Jane, and their eight children. The Ables New South cottage is located alongside the Georgia Central Railroad line that links Columbus and Americus. Although this home style was typical for middle and upper-middle class white families, it was highly unusual for African Americans. Many of the original features of the house are still remaining, including four fireplace mantles, interior doors, and windows. An addition to the home is connected by a corridor, and includes a dining room and kitchen. The last family member lived in the house in 1978.



A wooden smokehouse is located about 15 feet from the rear of the house. Today it is used for storage.

Photo by James R. Lockhart

For 15 years the house stood vacant until Beverly Woods, a Buena Vista resident, and Bettye Lovejoy-Scott, the granddaughter of Alfred Ables, began the restoration in 1993. The restoration project had an unexpected setback with the 1994 flood that damaged two chimneys and the foundation. Beverly Woods and Bettye Lovejoy-Scott restored it with technical assistance from the Historic Preservation Division and a Georgia Flood Recovery grant. The grant provided funds to install a new metal roof and repair masonry. In 2001, the Middle Flint Regional Development Center nominated the Ables house for recognition by The Georgia Trust, and the Ables House received an Excellence in Restoration award.

THE EDDY SCHOOL AND SALLIE ELLIS DAVIS

When the Civil War ended, freedmen began to establish churches to meet both the spiritual and educational needs of communities throughout the south. Churches often became schools, where community residents would hear sermons by day and learn basic reading skills at night. Reverend Wilkes Flagg founded a church school in Milledgeville, Baldwin County. Flagg was born a slave in Virginia, and when he was transported to Georgia and purchased by a Milledgeville physician, he became a blacksmith, and learned to read and write. He eventually bought freedom for himself, his wife and son. Flagg built a blacksmith shop, family residence, and donated land to the Milledgeville free black and enslaved community to organize the Flagg Chapel Baptist Church. He was a minister during the Civil War, acquiring property valued at \$25,000. At the end of the Civil War, Flagg Chapel Baptist Church established a school for Milledgeville freedmen.

The educational accomplishments at Flagg Chapel soon came to the attention of Reverend Hiram Eddy of the American Missionary Association (AMA). This philanthropic society provided teachers and equipment for schools built by the Freedmen's Bureau. By 1868, Milledgeville was selected by the AMA and the Freedmen's Bureau as the site of the Eddy School. The AMA sent five white teachers to instruct 350 African American students until a school building was completed. In 1869, students moved from classes previously held at Flagg Chapel Baptist Church to the Eddy School, the only educational institution for African Americans in Milledgeville. From this modest beginning just a few years after emancipation, the Eddy School continued its legacy for African American education in Milledgeville into the 20th century.



Sallie Ellis Davis

(Public Domain)

Sallie Ellis Davis was born circa 1877 in Baldwin County. She was the mulatto daughter of Elizabeth Brunswick, an African American, and Josh Ellis, an Irishman. She attended the Eddy School and enrolled at Atlanta University. While Sallie was a brilliant student, she yearned to return to Milledgeville to teach at the Eddy School, since most of the faculty did not have a college education. After a few years at the Eddy School, she returned to Atlanta University, graduating with a normal (teaching) degree in 1899. Davis attended Atlanta University while W.E.B. DuBois and Adrienne Herndon, wife of Alonzo Herndon (founder of Atlanta Life Insurance Company) were faculty members. Inspired by these successful role models, Sallie Ellis Davis was determined to improve education for the African American community in Milledgeville. As she neared graduation, Sallie Ellis Davis secured a position at the Eddy School.

For more than 50 years, Sallie Ellis Davis served as a teacher and principal for the Eddy School. She was married to John Andrew Davis, a shoemaker. They adopted two girls, and often boarded rural female students whose families could not afford to pay them anything but groceries. Sallie Ellis Davis taught at a school that was overcrowded and understaffed. In 1925, the first Eddy School building burned, and skilled tradesmen from the African American community rebuilt the school while the Davis family contributed sweat equity and one year of her salary. Sallie Ellis Davis invested her time and talents in her students and was known for her compassion in the classroom and leadership in the community. Although she was a strict disciplinarian, Davis believed education was a crucial element for further economic advancement of African Americans.

In 1930, John Davis died, leaving Sallie Ellis Davis to care for their daughters. She continued to teach at the Eddy School until 1946, when arsonists destroyed the second school building. Her grief over the loss of the second Eddy School and failing health led to her retirement in 1949. Davis died the following year in her home.

In 1967, Baldwin County named the Sallie Ellis Davis Elementary School in her honor. By 1990, former students and Milledgeville residents formed the Sallie Ellis Davis Foundation, Inc. Georgia College & State University leased the Davis home to the foundation to develop an African American heritage museum and small meeting facility. In 1993, the nonprofit received a \$14,417 Historic Preservation Fund grant for exterior repairs on the roof and foundation of the Davis home. On March 31, 2000 Sallie Ellis Davis was inducted into the Georgia Women of Achievement. This posthumous recognition honored her pioneer accomplishments in educating African Americans in Milledgeville.



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Photograph Not Available

In 1869, the Eddy School and Flagg Chapel Baptist Church were community landmarks for African Americans in Milledgeville.

Photo courtesy of the Sallie Ellis Davis Foundation, Inc.



Georgia African American
Historic Preservation Network

African American craftsmen added an auditorium to the second Eddy School for assemblies and a public meeting place. Photo courtesy of the Sallie Ellis Davis Foundation, Inc.

THE GEORGIA TRUST VISITS MILLEDGEVILLE: THE OLD STATE CAPITAL

Milledgeville, Georgia's old capital, is celebrating its bicentennial this year. Visitors to Milledgeville are welcomed to sample Georgia's past in the restaurants and shops that occupy buildings in the historic downtown district, or the Old Statehouse and Old Governor's Mansion. The Georgia Trust will join this celebration on its 30th anniversary by hosting the annual meeting weekend, March 28-30.

On Friday, downtown sites will be featured, and tours are planned to see the restoration project of the Old Governor's Mansion that was the residence of nine governors from 1839 to 1868, and the refurbished Old Statehouse, recipient of a 2002 Excellence in Rehabilitation award from the Trust.

The Saturday schedule includes the annual meeting and breakfast at the Georgia College & State University Arts & Sciences Auditorium. Winners of the 2003 Preservation Awards and



John and Sallie Ellis Davis lived in this home constructed by Will Steele, an African American contractor. The home is located at 301 South Clarke Street in the Milledgeville Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 28, 1972. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

scholarships will be announced at the meeting. Following lunch, attendees will ramble historic sites, including the Sallie Ellis Davis house. Annual meeting activities conclude with Sunday brunch at Lockerly Hall and Arboretum. Visit the Trust's website for further information: www.georgiatrust.org or call 404/881-9980.

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MACON'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

Hay House, a National Historic Landmark, is hosting a March 8th seminar in Macon on preservation of African American history. Lorraine Johnson-Coleman, renowned storyteller, will be the keynote speaker at the seminar. Johnson-Coleman is the author of *Just Plain Folks*. She has keynoted at the 2000 National Trust for Historic Preservation and the 2002 Southeast Regional African American Preservation Alliance annual conferences.

Local organizations will discuss their efforts to preserve African American history and long-time area residents will share oral histories reflecting Macon's historic African American neighborhoods. Muriel Jackson, genealogy librarian at the Washington Memorial Library in Macon, will discuss the unique challenges that African Americans face in conducting genealogy research. Jeanne Cyriaque, African American Programs Coordinator, will discuss the Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network, a program of the Historic Preservation Division, highlighting Macon's contributions to Georgia's built resources and cultural heritage.

Hay House is developing a new tour about slaves and servants who worked at the landmark mansion. Research on *Invisible Hands: In Service at Hay House* will be shared, and seminar participants will receive complimentary passes to the tour, which will start Saturday, March 15. It will be offered the third weekend each month, Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 and reservations are required.

The March 8th seminar will be held at the historic Douglass Theatre, 355 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with sessions running from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For further information, visit the Hay House website at www.hayhouse.org or call 478/742-8155. The seminar is free and open to the public. Discover Macon's rich African American past and current preservation initiatives.



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Photograph Not Available

Lorraine Johnson-Coleman



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ABOUT GAAHPN



Georgia African American
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The Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network (GAAHPN) was established in January 1989. It is composed of representatives from neighborhood organizations and preservation groups. GAAHPN was formed in response to a growing interest in preserving the cultural and ethnic diversity of Georgia's African American heritage. This interest has translated into a number of efforts which emphasize greater recognition of African American culture and contributions to Georgia's history. The GAAHPN Steering Committee meets regularly to plan and implement ways to develop programs that will foster heritage education, neighborhood revitalization, and support community and economic development.

The Network is an informal group of over 1,400 people who have an interest in preservation. Members are briefed on the status of current and planned projects and are encouraged to offer ideas, comments and suggestions. The meetings provide an opportunity to share and learn from the preservation experience of others and to receive technical information through workshops. Members receive a newsletter, *Reflections*, produced by the Network. Visit the Historic Preservation Division website at www.gashpo.org. Preservation information and previous issues of *Reflections* are available online. Membership in the Network is free and open to all.

Reflections

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