



Reflections

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FREEMANTOWN, FLOYD COUNTY: A LEGACY OF LIBERTY REMEMBERED

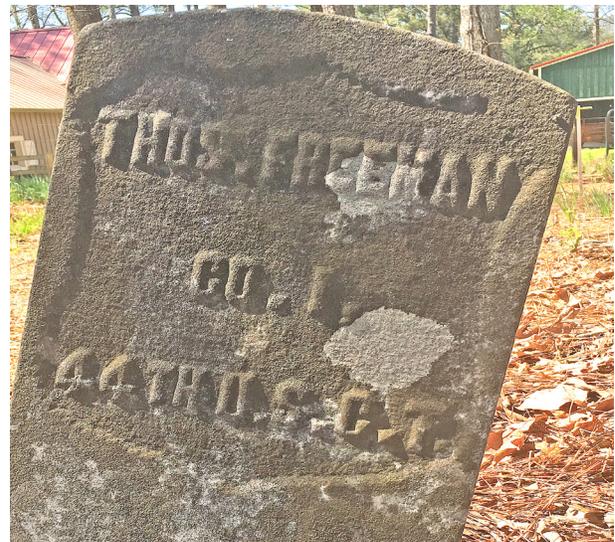
*Special Contributor MeShawn Freeman Foster
Chief Operating Officer, The Freemantown Historical Society*



*Sanford Freeman's sons at the Rome Clock Tower, circa 1900
Courtesy of Freeman Town Society/Cheryl Freeman Snipes*

Freeman) circa 1871.¹ William Thomas Freeman was married to Henrietta Freeman, and together they had twelve children. His father, Mead Freeman, along with some of William's siblings also purchased land and invited four other families to inhabit this land during the initial establishing of Freemantown. The other four families' surnames are Sandford, Rogers, Montgomery, and Jones. They are affectionately referred to as the Original Freemantown Families. Everyone had unique trades and farming abilities. William Thomas Freeman was the community blacksmith and he passed down this skill to his male descendants.

As a child, Cheryl Freeman Snipes remembers her grandfather sharing stories of her ancestors and the land they once owned and occupied in Rome, Georgia. He lovingly shared about their brilliance, talents, and trades while fondly recalling his childhood in what he would always refer to as 'home.' While his other grandchildren dismissed these stories as make-believe, Cheryl held them in her heart and believed that one day she would visit the land that her grandfather loved. On a visit to relatives in Rome in 2010, Cheryl came across a local article seeking descendants of Freemantown. It was at that moment, her grandfather's stories rushed to her mind. The term "Freemantown" was not new to her. She had heard the name of the town her entire childhood. Not only was she a descendant, but her third great-grandfather was the brother of the founder of the town. Cheryl responded to the article and a new legacy began.



Thomas Freeman served in Company I, 44th Infantry Regiment of the US Colored Troops in the Civil War. Photo Credit: Melissa Jest/HPD

Freemantown was an all African-American community founded by William Thomas Freeman (also referred to as Thomas

¹ "Thomas Freeman and Freemantown", Freemantown Research Guide, accessed 4/14/2018, <https://libguides.berry.edu/freemantown>

WEST GEORGIA FARMERS' COOPERATIVE: 50+ YEARS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE

John Zippert and Collie Graddick, Jr., Special Contributors with
Introduction by Dr. Veronica L. Womack

The Black Belt of the American South stretches across the Southern region as a crescent-shaped cluster of counties. These counties were shaped by a distinct social and political hierarchy driven by race and created by a race-based plantation society that remained for several generations. The Black Belt region, once a region of great wealth and the location of cotton, tobacco and sugar empires, has economically diminished. Yet, the remarkable strength and ingenuity of the African American residents to survive has endured over time. More than a century later, the region still contains a substantial African American population, with some counties ranging from 30 percent to 70 percent Black population. This is astounding as the Black population is actually less than 13 percent of the national population. This legacy includes significant racial disparities in economic opportunities. Due to the exclusivity of prosperity, there were few traditional wealth building opportunities afforded to Black people residing in the Black Belt region. As a result, they were forced to develop innovative and situational wealth-building strategies based on their unique circumstances, such as communal and heir property and cooperative economic approaches.

For the most part, land has historically been a major criteria for participation in the agricultural sector. Communal landownership, heirs land holdings and cooperative economic models were employed by African Americans to participate in a very exclusive agricultural economy. The basic premise of these economic activities was a member-ownership model that satisfied a socioeconomic need in the face of racial discrimination or market failure or exclusion.

The mid-20th century Black Cooperative Movement within the Black Belt region developed symbiotically and co-existed with the modern Civil Rights Movement among rural, Black communities. African Americans utilized cooperative economics as a way to combat a hostile socioeconomic and political environment and to capitalize on the economic power created by a collective approach to capital, landownership, and good and service production.

One such organization assisted by the work of these civil rights organizations was the Harris County Farmers Cooperative, which would eventually become the West Georgia Farmers Cooperative (WGFC) and part of a regional effort named the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC). WGFC continues its work of providing local economic opportunities through collaborative economic approaches. The focus on building a local economic infrastructure that supports local business and locally produced food is key to their cooperative economic model. WGFC has grown their membership from Harris County to include members, not just in other West Georgia counties, but also as far south as Columbus and as far north as Newnan. They have even expanded into East Alabama to serve local farmers.



Richard Copeland, Collie Graddick and other WGFC members at their headquarters in Hamilton. Courtesy of John Zippert

When we, the authors, began writing this article, we decided to interview some of the remaining African-American farmers and their surviving family members, who helped to organize and develop the West Georgia Farmers Cooperative (WGFC) in Harris and Talbot counties in Georgia, over 52 years ago.

We started with Richard Copeland, a long-time member and board leader of WGFC who lives near Hamilton, Georgia. When we met Mr. Copeland, he was constructing a raised bed to grow seedlings for this year's garden. Copeland celebrated his 86th birthday this May, making him the longest living member of WGFC.

We conducted the interview at the kitchen table in Copeland's home where he "raised ten children and too many grandchildren and great-grands to count." After pushing aside several large print Bibles that were opened to various underlined scriptural passages, he started to recount the history of the organization and his role in its development. Copeland recalled that the co-op has a direct financial impact, helping to raise farmers' incomes and their awareness of the importance of owning and holding onto family land as a resource for future generations.

"The co-op helped us to live for today but it also showed a way to plan and live for the future," said Copeland.

The cooperative was originally organized in 1966 as the Harris County Farmers Cooperative by the local Community Action Agency, a component of President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty." The development of the cooperative occurred during the agency's early days when its mission was clear and focused. Tom McBride, head of the anti-poverty agency, was instrumental in the development of the co-op by supporting local organizers and providing some financial assistance during its first three years.

Copeland said it was Harrison Miller, the African-American Extension Agent, who came up with the idea for the cooperative and began talking with Black farmers about it in the mid-1960's. Graduates of 1890 historically black Land Grant colleges became a courageous set of local extension agents serving African-American farmers, in the tradition of George Washington Carver of Tuskegee University (formerly Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute). They were particularly effective in counties in the rural Black Belt South with its high concentrations of African-American farmers. It took another decade and a half--after protests, lawsuits and the passage of the 1965 Civil Rights Act--to fully integrate the USDA Extension Service.

Copeland explained that the Harris County Farmers Cooperative changed its name and its membership scope in 1969. The Harris County Cooperative became the West Georgia Farmers Cooperative, with a mission "to help farmers get a better price for their produce and livestock, by pooling together, to have a large volume to get better prices for the farmers." The cooperative was truly a model in cooperative economics. Copeland served as Board President, and he and Eddie Williams instilled the collective model in the group. Today Darrell Copeland serves as WGFC President.

The cooperative members grew purple hull peas, turnip and collard greens, okra, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, and other vegetable crops to sell. The WGFC sold products in Columbus, Georgia, in farmers markets in the West Georgia area and to the McKenzie Frozen Food processor in Montezuma, Georgia. Copeland remembers driving a truck with members' produce to the markets and to the processing plant in Montezuma. He said he assisted Collie Graddick, another founding WGFC board member, in driving truckloads of feeder pigs to the livestock market in Eastman, Georgia. Copeland recalled the high quality



Collie Graddick, Jr. (seated) with his youngest brother James plowed fields for co-op members who didn't have tractors. Courtesy Collie Graddick Jr.

of the pigs produced by the cooperative and recollected a buyer from Tennessee at a sale, who would not let anyone outbid him for the WGFC pigs because of their uniformity and quality. The swine and pork industry in this country has moved on from

relying on small farmers to produce "feeder-pigs" to much larger self-contained Concentrated Agricultural Feeding Operations (CAFOs) which do very little for local economic development or sustainability and come with greater economic and environmental risks

Emily Graddick, wife of cofounder Graddick (and mother of the co-author of this article), also remembers the local efforts to organize the cooperative. She accompanied her husband on trips to Columbus to the produce market and the Montezuma processing plant. She said, "My husband was a school bus driver, so he knew a lot of the people in the county by driving the bus around. Tom McBride with the Community Action Agency hired him to help organize the co-op." Mrs. Graddick recalls bar-be-que dinners and fish fries to sell dinners as part of the local grassroots fundraising for the cooperative. These fundraisers helped them buy the land for the cooperative, build the cooperative's office, and support a feed mill and storage facility-- all on US Highway 27, outside of Hamilton, Georgia.

By 1969 the Harris County Farmers Cooperative had joined the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC), a regional cooperative development organization. The FSC sent Ralph Paige, a native of LaGrange, Georgia, to work with the WGFC. Copeland said he knew Paige when Paige was a college student serving as a lifeguard at the swimming pool at McMillan Park, an African-American recreation center in Harris County.

Ralph Paige set up his FSC field office in WGFC's facility and provided support and technical assistance to the fledgling co-op group under one of the Federation's support programs. FSC's early programs were funded directly from Washington D. C. and the headquarters of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). The OEO was the same anti-poverty agency that supported McBride's group in organizing the Harris County Farmers Cooperative. Paige also administered a \$10,000 grant to the cooperative from the Catholic Church's Campaign for Human Development. Livestock donations came from the Heifer Project International to support the cooperative's feeder pig and other projects.

Paige became the director of the FSC's National VISTA project under the Carter Administration and recruited, trained, and supervised over one hundred VISTA volunteers at cooperative locations across the South. As part of this effort, he placed several VISTA workers to work with the WGFC member-farmers.

Amy Murphy, a VISTA worker at WGFC from 1978-82, recalls "I learned a lot as a VISTA worker which carried over to my future work and career with Calloway Gardens and Everyday Farms (Tyson). Working with the co-op taught me how to meet and treat other people. We helped people to make a better living for themselves on the farm, in this rural area." Murphy said she also helped people to construct small greenhouses on the south side of their homes to save energy and to have a place to start plants early in the season. Mildred Crawl, another early co-op member, said that she still had her solar greenhouse. WGFC was an early leader in the environmental technologies of greenhouse production.

WEST GEORGIA FARMERS' COOPERATIVE: 50+ YEARS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE

John Zippert and Collie Graddick, Jr. continued from page 3

The Harris County Cooperative, now WGFC, joined with 22 other co-ops in April 1967, in a meeting at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) at Atlanta University to create the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC). All of the cooperatives represented at the ITC meeting were spurred by one of the major civil rights organizations – SNCC, SCLC, CORE and NAACP – in states across the South. The ITC meeting was convened by the Southern Regional Council (Al Ulmer, John Lewis and Vernon Jordan) and cooperative leaders from the Southern Consumers Cooperative and Education Foundation in Lafayette Louisiana (Ft. Albert J. McKnight) after a series of other exploratory meetings held across the South. These cooperatives and credit union groups hailed from Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, North and South Carolina.

The Harris County Cooperative was represented at this meeting and later on the steering committee by Collie Graddick and Tom McBride, who both signed the charter forming the FSC in May 1967. Attorney Howard Moore, General Counsel for SNCC and assisted by Attorney George Howell, incorporated the FSC as a “cooperative of cooperatives” in Washington, D.C.

Built on the foundation of the civil rights movement and the cooperative movement, the FSC continues to organize, build, and work with low-income, primarily African-American farmers, land-owners and other rural people in persistently poor and economically disadvantaged communities. In 1985 the FSC merged with the Emergency Land Fund, an organization focused on Black land loss, to form the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund (FSC/LAF).

From their origins, WGFC and the FSC were rooted in the importance of land ownership as a way to empower African-Americans in their economic and political future and the destiny of their communities. Civil rights organizations realized the value of Black farmers and landowners as leaders for change in rural communities across the South because land ownership gave people the necessary independence and vision to work for change.

The steering committee that organized the FSC received funding from the Cooperative League of the USA and the OEO to establish a regional office and employ an executive director in 1967. West Georgia Extension agent Harrison Miller was considered for the FSC executive directorship of FSC but the committee hired Charles O. Prejean, general manager of the Southern Consumer Cooperatives in Lafayette, Louisiana as the first Executive Director of FSC, also known as the Federation. Prejean opened the regional office at 52 Fairlie Street in Atlanta, then after two subsequent moves finally purchased an office building at 2769 Church Street, East Point, Georgia in 1996.

Collie Graddick served as the Georgia representative on the FSC's

Board of Directors from 1967 until the mid-1970s. Graddick offered great counsel and support to both Prejean and his successor Ralph Paige.

Prejean served as FSC executive director from 1967 to 1985; Paige, served from 1985 to 2015. On March 1, 2015, Cornelius Blanding was appointed as the third Executive Director. Blanding is a native of Montgomery, Alabama, and a graduate of Stillman College, in Tuscaloosa, and the University of Florida, in Gainesville, where he received an MBA. Blanding has an extraordinary history with the FSC, working with the organization for twenty years. Currently, he administers the FSC from its East Point, Georgia office.

The continued efforts of WGFC and the FSC serve as extraordinary examples of economic resilience and fortitude within the region. Through their focus on cooperative economics and collaborative approaches, these organizations continue to serve the people of the region and their quest for economic sustainability and autonomy. For more information on the work of the West Georgia Farmers Co-op and to contribute to and support its work, please go to the website: www.federation.coop.

John Zippert is a long-time staff member of the Federation (1970) based at the Federation's Rural Training and Research Center in Epes, Alabama. He and his wife, Carol Prejean Zippert, helped organize the cooperatives from Louisiana that attended the 1967 meeting at ITC in Atlanta, where the Federation was chartered. The Zipperts publish the Greene County Democrat weekly newspaper based in Eutaw, Alabama. John has a BA degree in History from the City College of New York (1966).

Collie Graddick Jr. grew up in the West Georgia Farmers Co-op and currently serves on its board. He has a degree in Agricultural Science from Tuskegee University. He has worked for the past twenty years in various capacities for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

*Veronica L. Womack, Ph.D. leads the Office of Inclusive Excellence and is a Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA. She received her BS in Communications, as well as, MPA and PhD in Political Science and Public Administration from the University of Alabama. Her research interests include the Southern Black Belt region, rural development, agricultural policy and persistent poverty. Her book, *Abandonment in Dixie Underdevelopment in the Black Belt* (2013), received a Georgia Author of the Year nomination. She is a founding board member of the Black Belt Justice Center which works with land retention and agricultural policy issues.*

In Memory of Ralph Paige, longtime leader and servant to the Federation and the Cooperative movement who passed away on June 28, 2018.

“100 ACRES AND A MUSEUM” PROJECT HONORS EARLY BLACK FARMERS OF SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Special Contributor Beverly Barlow-Williams
Founder and CEO of ROOTS Farm Institute

The ROOTS Farm Institute believes the “100 acres and a Museum” project fills the need for a farm museum in Albany to honor early African American farmers and their important contribution to agriculture here in Georgia and in the South. This farm museum will join other heritage sites such as the Albany Civil Rights Institute and its museum in commemorating the Civil Rights Movement in Albany during the 1960s or the Ray Charles plaza that memorialized the famous singer and Albany native at the city’s Riverfront Park along the Flint.

The city of Albany was founded by Nelson Tift as a transportation hub for slave traders and rich cotton plantation owners during the first half of the 19th century.¹ After Emancipation and during early Reconstruction, new labor laws gave newly freed Black men and women the ability to earn wages from their former enslavers. Freedmen were able to eke out a living under the planter-dominated sharecropping system.²

Landownership was the ultimate route of freedom and independence in the Deep South. One of the freed slaves who owned land in the 1800s was Titus Stephens (the author’s great great great grandfather). His farm has remained in the Stephens family for nearly 140 years, making it a rarity. In 2014 it was recognized as a Centennial Family Farm by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Lee W. Formwalt writes in his book, *Looking Back, Moving Forward: The Southwest Georgia Freedom Struggle, 1814-2014*, that in 1883, there were only 29 black farmland owners in the county—20 of whom were in east Dougherty. Titus Stephens was among this small number of land owners in east Dougherty. His name—Titus Stephens—is listed in the Dougherty County property tax digest (from 1879-1883) for paying taxes on 202 1/2 acres of land, valued at \$800.³

1 O’Donovan, Susan E. “Nelson Tift (1810-1891).” *New Georgia Encyclopedia*. 29 July 2013. Web. 01 March 2018

2 Ibid

3 Ancestry.com; Georgia Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892 [database on-line]. Provo, UT USA, 2011

Mr. Formwalt also writes that fifteen years later, the number of black land ownership had only increased to 51. This raises the question of how many of these farms are still held by their descendants today. With little formal education and facing discrimination and fraud, Black farmers and their heirs had a hard time keeping their land. Those that were able to keep their land defied the odds.

No doubt, the forbearers of the Stephens Farm never had much wealth to begin with. They struggled through two World Wars and the Great Depression. Then came the Great Migration, when dissatisfied African American farm laborers boarded trains by the thousands, leaving Jim Crow and the fields of the South for the North. Through it all, men and women of color, of strong grit and character, weathered storms throughout generations. They embody the Stephens family motto to “never let go.”



The Stephens Family inspired the Roots Farm Institute project. Courtesy Beverly Barlow Williams

Titus Stephen’s story is among the collective stories of African American history that need to be preserved, honored and taught. Therefore, the 100 Acres and a Museum is underway by the ROOTS Farm Institute (RFI) to transition the Stephens Historic Farm into a living history museum.

Here, RFI will recreate the historic farm with interpreters to reenact life after the Civil War up to the 1960s and provide visitors with a glimpse into what life was like in the rural South before the mechanization of agriculture. An open

air layout will differentiate RFI from the traditional museum that use static displays and exhibits.

The 100 Acres and a Museum will include a working farm, planting corn, cotton and peanuts. New elements such as a fishing pond, walking trail, picnic area, amphitheater, miniature golf course, and bed and breakfast facilities are also planned within this agritourism project. Overall, our mission is to reach the young. Anyone living today can imagine how difficult that may become as traditions fade in the light of technological advancements. In this day and age of artificial intelligence, virtual reality and even the promise of self-driving vehicles, the work of preserving our history is great.

RFI invites those who understand the importance of preserving the history of African Americans in agriculture to be a part of this vital effort. Visit the RFI website at rootsfi.org.

FREEMANTOWN, FLOYD COUNTY: A LEGACY OF LIBERTY REMEMBERED

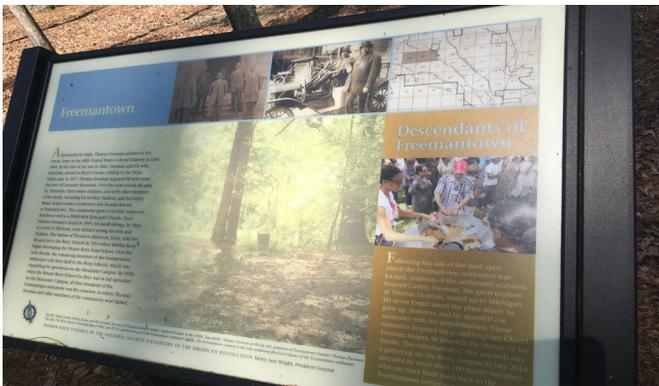
MeShawn Freeman Foster continued from page 1

In order to appreciate the significance of Freemantown in African American history, one must to understand the founder and his role in history. William Thomas Freeman was enslaved and escaped North to fight in the Civil War.² Having been wounded and reported as being in North Carolina, Freeman's former enslaver sent for him and granted him his freedom.

Upon his return to Rome, he used money received from the government for his service to purchase land. The exact acreage of land owned by William Thomas Freeman is not truly known, but estimates range around 550 acres or more. A businessman of his time, William Thomas Freeman had the forethought to lease portions of the land to his family members and other African American families.

A thriving and enterprising African American community, up until 1926, the land once owned by William Thomas Freeman is now occupied by Berry College. The only evidence of this history is the remnants of the cemetery with William Thomas Freeman's military headstone still intact. Cheryl Freeman Snipes's great grandmother, Susie Freeman (nee Cathey), was the last hold out for selling her land. Upon William Thomas Freeman's death in 1893, the land was divided out to his widow, his children, and his brother Sandford Freeman because there was no will.³

Mrs. Snipes, a direct descendant of Sandford Freeman, worked with Berry College, its researchers, and leadership to understand what happened to the Freeman descendants, as well as, the original four families who leased land at the inception of Freemantown. In 2013 Berry College hosted Freemantown descendants and community stakeholders to celebrate the legacy of the town that once occupied the land on which the esteemed college sits.



Educational signage stands at the entry road to Freemantown. The National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution sponsored these markers. Photo credit: Melissa Jest/HPD

² Severo Avila, *Freemantown: In Search of a Lost Community*, *Rome News Tribune*, 20 Feb 2011

³ "Thomas Freeman and Freemantown" Freemantown Research Guide, accessed 4/14/2018, <https://libguides.berry.edu/freemantown>

A marker was unveiled documenting the existence of this historical town and celebrating the families who once occupied the land.



Georgia HPD Staff Archaeologist Sarah Love uses ground penetrating radar (GPR) to survey the Freemantown cemetery. Photo credit: Melissa Jest/HPD

In 1926 Martha Berry sought to acquire the land owned by the Freemans. Records demonstrate that this is the year when Freemantown ceased to exist. While many of the descendants remained in Georgia, a great number traveled north. In fact, a good portion of the Freeman descendants call Michigan home. The history behind the migration and the selling of the land is unknown. Historical documents are sought to piece together this mystery.

Nonetheless, the work has begun to ignite a new legacy that honors the history while promoting family, connections, and heritage. Through the efforts of Berry College alumna Jennifer Dickey and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division, the Freemantown cemetery was surveyed in April. And in late May, several Berry college alumni and staff, area historians, and Freemantown family descendants began work to clean the cemetery.

On August 16, 2018, the Freemantown families will hold the first of many quinquennials commemorating the history of Freemantown. With the support of Berry College and the newly formed Freemantown Historical Society, the descendants will visit the Berry College Campus every five years to celebrate their ancestors and further their legacy. Once forgotten, Freemantown will now live on through its descendants and their ongoing commitment to preserving their history. ■

GAAHPN hosts Welcome Reception at 2018 Statewide Historic Preservation Conference September 12 through 14 in Macon

Be a part of this year's Historic Preservation Conference in Macon. GAAHPN Chair Isaac Johnson and other Board of Directors look forward to welcoming you to the two-and-half day convening at the Welcoming Reception on September 12. The 2018 Statewide Conference is presented by Georgia HPD and the Georgia Trust and offers mobile tours, educational sessions and ample networking opportunities for professionals and grassroots advocates alike.

For more information, contact Georgia HPD conference coordinators Allison Asbrock (Allison.Asbrock@dnr.ga.gov) and Sarah Love (Sarah.Love@dnr.ga.gov)

Georgia Historic Preservation Division

2610 Georgia Highway 155 SW
Stockbridge, Georgia 30281
www.georgiashpo.org | 770 389 7844

Image credit: Georgia HPD



Georgia African American
Historic Preservation Network

Historic Photos Sought for Exhibit featuring Georgia's Negro Parks of the 1950-60s

Calling all family historians and photo buffs: Share any pictures taken at Georgia's six segregated state parks in the 1960's.

These images could help with a new proposed exhibit.

All submissions will be scanned and returned. For details, please contact Judd Smith at Judd.Smith@dnr.ga.gov



Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites

2600 Highway 155 SW, Stockbridge, GA 30281
<https://gastateparks.org/> | 770-389-7286

Image credit: Melissa Jest/HPD

West Georgia Community Archives Project Helps Black Churches Preserve their Records



University of West Georgia's Ingram Library is offering **free** assistance to local congregations with historic records, photographs, and papers. Its Special Collections team is ready to help congregations to conserve and organize

these irreplaceable sources of knowledge. Please contact UWG Archivist Shanee' Yvette Murrain at 678-839-5350 or smurrain@westga.edu

University of West Georgia Ingram Library Special Collections

1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA
<https://www.westga.edu/library/communityarchives.php>

Image credit: Melissa Jest/HPD

ABOUT REFLECTIONS

Since its first issue appeared in December 2000, *Reflections* has documented hundreds of Georgia's African American historic resources. Now all of these articles are available on the Historic Preservation Division website www.georgiashpo.org. Search for links to your topic by categories: cemeteries, churches, districts, farms, lodges, medical, people, places, schools, and theatres. You can now subscribe to *Reflections* from the homepage. *Reflections* is a recipient of a *Leadership in History Award* from the American Association for State and Local History.



Georgia African American
Historic Preservation Network

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Melissa Jest
African American
Programs Coordinator
Reflections Editor
Voice 770/389-7870
Fax 770/389-7878
melissa.jest@dnr.ga.gov

ABOUT GAAHPN



Georgia African American
Historic Preservation Network

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 built 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 plans and implements 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 3,000 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.georgiashpo.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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