



**The Georgia Trust
for Historic Preservation**
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For Immediate Release

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**Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's
Annual Meeting and Spring Ramble
Set for Augusta, May 15-17**

ATLANTA, April 8 – The rich historic culture of Augusta, Ga. will be showcased during The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's Annual Meeting & Spring Ramble which starts Friday, May 15 and concludes Sunday afternoon, May 17.

During these three days, Trust members, friends, and others interested in saving and preserving Georgia's historic places will visit more than 20 historic sites and private homes in the area and recognize top projects throughout the state with awards of excellence for preservation.

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 16, at 10 a.m. at Saint Paul's Church. Meeting attendees will hear an update on the State of Preservation in Georgia from Mark C. McDonald, president and CEO of The Georgia Trust, and Dr. Ray Luce, the state's deputy historic preservation officer. The Trust will also announce during the meeting its three scholarship winners and the recipient of the J. Neel Reid Prize, a \$4,000 fellowship for travel study given to an emerging Georgia architect. Following the Annual Meeting, Dr. Lee Ann Caldwell, Director of the Center for the Study of Georgia History at Augusta State University, will give a brief lecture about Augusta's colorful past.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Georgia Trust Ramblers will "ramble" through more than 20 historic sites and private residences in the area, many of which are not normally open to the public.

Friday's Ramble will feature the stately homes of Summerville. Ramblers will dine Friday evening at Sacred Heart Cultural Center, a turn-of-the-century Romanesque Revival style church, followed by the 31st Annual Preservation Awards ceremony, which salutes more than two dozen projects and individuals for exceptional work in the fields of restoration, rehabilitation and

preservation throughout the state. The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m., also at Sacred Heart Cultural Center.

On Saturday Ramblers will tour a wide variety of intown sites before enjoying dinner at Sutherland Mill.

The weekend ends with a brunch on Sunday from 9 to 11 a.m. at Julian Smith Barbeque Pavilion, followed by a “ramble” through McDuffie County.

Friday’s Ramble registration will be at the Joseph R. Lamar Boyhood Home, 415 Seventh Street, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday’s registration will be at Saint Paul’s Church Cemetery, 605 Reynolds Street, starting at 8:30 a.m. Interested Ramblers can also register before the event by calling (404) 885-7812.

The event is held in partnership with Historic Augusta, Inc. Sponsors include the Georgia Tourism Foundation, Brandon Wilde retirement community, R.W. Allen Foundation, Downtown Development Authority of Augusta, and Mr. and Mrs. Braye C. Boardman.

Founded in 1973, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation is one of the country’s largest statewide, nonprofit preservation organizations.

Committed to preserving and enhancing Georgia’s communities and their diverse historic resources for the education and enjoyment of all, the Trust generates community revitalization by finding buyers for endangered properties acquired by its Revolving Fund for endangered properties; provides design assistance to 102 Georgia Main Street cities and encourages neighborhood revitalization; trains Georgia’s teachers to engage students in 63 Georgia school systems to discover state and national history through their local historic resources; and advocates for funding, tax incentives and other laws aiding preservation efforts.

For more information on the Annual Meeting and Spring Ramble or to register, visit www.georgiitrust.org or call (404) 885-7812.

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Editor’s Note: The full schedule of activities is available at http://www.georgiitrust.org/historic_sites/SR09_augusta_events.htm.

For hi-res images, contact Traci Clark at tclark@georgiitrust.org.

Members of the working press are welcome. If meal service is included in an event you plan to cover, please contact Traci Clark, 404-885-7802, so arrangements can be made to have a meal available.

During the event, media contact can be reached by cell phone: Traci Clark, 706-318-1158.

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