

Travel Georgia's Modern Byways

April 17 tour of Modern Architecture in Thomson and Augusta

ATLANTA (April 9, 2010) - The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources will co-sponsor a tour of Modern architecture in Thomson and Augusta entitled **Travel Georgia's Modern Byways** on **April 17**.

The tour will visit important Modern sites in Thomson and Augusta that are rarely open to the public, including a 1937 International Style home in Thomson based on a design by Edward Durell Stone and a number of I.M. Pei designs in Augusta. In addition, Augusta's Art Deco, International Style, and Art Moderne buildings will be highlighted on a walking tour. The tour includes presentations about Stone, I.M. Pei, and Thomson and Augusta's Modern history by a variety of historians and architects.

HPD's Historic Resources Section Chief Dr. Richard Cloues and Architectural Historian Steven Moffson, will attend and participate in the event. HPD encourages the preservation of Georgia's mid-20th-century resources. According to Mr. Moffson, "For over 200 years, classicism was the official language of governmental, church, and commercial architecture in Georgia. Modernism, with its emphasis on new building materials and technology, simple geometric forms, and lack of traditional ornament was a departure from anything that existed in the landscape. Mid-20th-century buildings were the height of style when built and embraced by the public in the popular culture of magazines, newspapers, and TV shows. Modern buildings represent the confidence, enthusiasm, and optimism of post-World War II Georgia and are extant representations of the state's mid-20th-century history."

Co-sponsors of the tour include DOCOMOMO/US Georgia Chapter, Historic Augusta Inc., and the Central Savannah River Regional Commission, with special thanks to the Watson Brown Foundation.

The tour will begin at 10:00 am at Hickory Hill, 502 Hickory Hill Drive, Thomson, Georgia. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for DOCOMOMO/Historic Augusta members and students and are available at the tour start or online at www.docomomoga.org. For more information, email info@docomomoga.org

do.co.mo.mo_|US

DOCOMOMO US, Georgia Chapter, Inc. is a regional society promoting research, scholarship, and education concerning the Modern Movement, and the conservation of the buildings, landscape, and built environment of the Modern Movement.



The mission of Historic Augusta, Inc. is to preserve historically or architecturally significant sites and structures in Augusta and Richmond County, Georgia.



The mission of the Central Savannah River Area Regional Commission is to provide planning, management and information services to our members in a professional, ethical, cost effective and efficient manner; and to serve as a forum for addressing local government and its citizens' needs.



The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources serves as Georgia's state historic preservation office. Their mission is to promote the preservation and use of historic places for a better Georgia. HPD's programs include archaeology protection and education, environmental review, grants, historic resource surveys, tax incentives, the National Register of Historic Places, community planning and technical assistance.

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources is to sustain, enhance, protect and conserve Georgia's natural, historic and cultural resources for present and future generations, while recognizing the importance of promoting the development of commerce and industry that utilize sound environmental practices.

#

Contact: Helen Talley-McRae with HPD at 404-651-5268 or helen.talley-mcrae@dnr.state.ga.us