



Contact: Julia Jackson
Historic Augusta, Inc.
706-724-0436
julia@historicaugusta.org



Contact: Christine Miller-Betts
The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History
706-724-3576
cbetts@lucycraftlaneymuseum.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**This Place Matters:
Preserving Augusta's African American Communities
June 28-29, 2013**

The public is invited to experience first-hand why Augusta's historic African American communities matter. On June 28-29, 2013, Historic Augusta, Inc. and the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History will lead an examination of historically and architecturally significant resources in the Belair Hills Estates neighborhood and current issues that affect their preservation.

The two-day event will begin on Friday, June 28 at 6:30 pm at the Christian City of Praise, 1510 Halton Road. Alex Thomas, Vice-Chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Advisors, will deliver the keynote lecture. A reception will follow.

On Saturday, June 29, the event will continue with a ramble of Belair Hills Estates homes at 9:30 am. At 11:30 am participants will gather at the M.M. Scott Park at 1575 Flagler Road to hear a panel of residents share stories and history of the neighborhood. The event will conclude with a picnic luncheon.

The goal of "This Place Matters," now in its fourth year, is to protect Augusta's irreplaceable African American resources by increasing awareness of various preservation issues and considering solutions. This event is free and open to the public. The luncheon cost is \$10 per person. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Historic Augusta at 706-724-0436 or www.historicaugusta.org, or the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History at 706-724-3576 or www.lucycraftlaneymuseum.com.