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AUGUSTA**
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The Preservationist
an e-publication of Historic Augusta, Inc.

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Welcome to the December 2013 issue of The Preservationist, an e-publication of [Historic Augusta, Inc!](#) This newsletter contains information about upcoming programs and projects of Historic Augusta, Inc. and the Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson.

Historic Building Saved: New IT Building Design Approved at Historic Preservation Commission Meeting



Saved!! 527 Telfair Street, Antebellum Court House Annex

Historic Augusta, Inc. is pleased to announce that during the meeting of the Augusta Historic Preservation Commission on Thursday, December 19, 2013 an architectural design for a new Information Technology Building (IT Building) was presented and approved that is in keeping with the guidelines of the Downtown Augusta Historic District. At the same time, the last remaining 19th Century court building on the block will also be preserved. Plans were approved after two months of discussions and negotiations between city officials, Virgo Gambill Architects, the project designers, members of the Augusta Historic Preservation Commission and representatives of Historic Augusta, Inc.

Holiday Tours of the Wilson House December 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28.



Celebrate the holiday season with a tour of the Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson, a National Historic Landmark.

During the month of December, this Civil War era home is decorated with fresh evergreens.

Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students K-12, free for children under age 5. Groups of ten or more by reservation: \$3 per person. Location: 419 Seventh Street, Augusta, Georgia. For more information, contact the Wilson House at 706-722-9828.

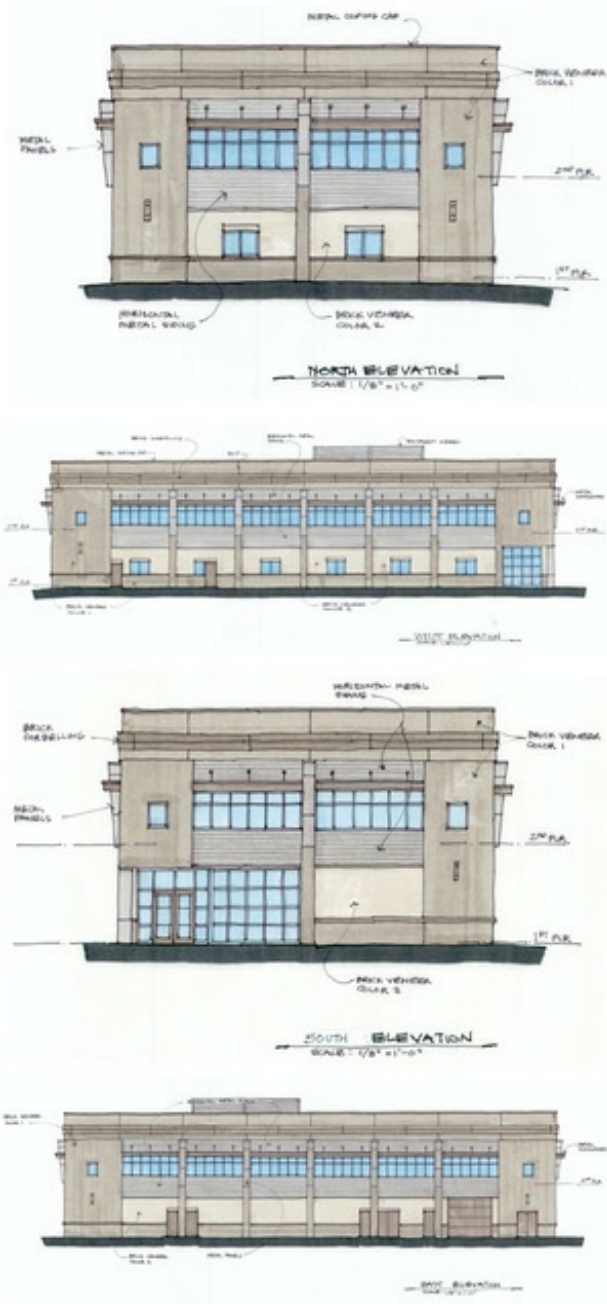
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Original proposal for new IT building

The two-story 20,000 square foot IT Building will be constructed on the east side of the present Municipal Building, near Greene Street, and will be a modern building with traditional characteristics. Its brick and metal surfaces will compliment the existing architecture that surrounds it, while providing all the needs of Augusta's important 21st Century IT Department.



Revised architectural renderings of the approved design

The IT Department is currently housed along with the city's print shop

in a building that began as county offices constructed in the mid-19th Century. This building has had several incongruous additions that obscure the original structure's Greek Revival simplicity. Once the IT Building is completed, it was agreed that the additions can be removed, leaving the original symmetrical one-story building intact for a future use that will be determined at a later time.

The adjacent building, currently housing the city's planning department, will also be preserved. Built in 1869, the Greek Revival Temple is the oldest existing building in Georgia constructed as a synagogue. Current plans call for the offices now located there to be relocated into the Municipal Building following its renovation.

Demolition of the synagogue building was never part of the IT Building plan that was presented, and it's future use will also be determined at a future time.

Historic Augusta worked with city officials to come up with a solution that was satisfactory to all, including former city administrator Fred Russell, assistant director of finance Tim Schroer, deputy administrator Tamika Allen, Heery project manager Forrest White and project architects Steve Virgo and Joe Gambill.

Augusta Historic Preservation Commissioners approved the final plan after their own representatives also participated in the negotiations for the design. Chairman Jimmy Anderson and incoming chairman Jimmy Garren were particularly helpful. Participating with the HPC were Paul DeCamp and Lois Schmidt, staff representatives with the Augusta Planning Commission.

Historic Augusta representatives participating in the negotiations for saving the historic building, and revising the design of the exterior of the IT Building were Tennent Houston, chairman of the Preservation Committee, Rob Mauldin, architect and member of the committee, and Erick Montgomery, Executive Director. Advice was also sought from Richard Fletcher, architect and chairman of Historic Augusta's Design Review committee.

**Mark Your Calendar for Historic Augusta's
House Fair: February 8, 2014**



The public is invited to attend Historic Augusta's House Fair on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 9 am-4 pm. This educational event will take place at the Supreme Court Justice Joseph R. Lamar Boyhood Home located at 415 Seventh Street in Augusta.

The House Fair will include vendor booths containing service providers with information about preserving and caring for your home. Vendors will be able to discuss roofing, energy efficiency, contractors, architects, landscaping, and many other topics of interest to people who are in the midst of a project or who are considering improvements to their home.

General admission tickets are \$10 and keynote lecture luncheon tickets are \$10 each. General admission for children age 18 and younger is free. Sponsorships of this event are still available.

For more information, contact Historic Augusta at 706-724-0436.

Historic Augusta, Inc.

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