

Gwinnett Historical Restoration & Preservation Board**Monday, September 19, 2022 – 6:00pm**

Lawrenceville Female Seminary, 455 South Perry St, Lawrenceville GA 30046

Present: Ann Bender, Demetrios Lambros, Sara Howe-Silvers, Justin Walsh, Marlene Taylor-Crawford

Absent: County Historian (vacant)

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome/Opening Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda:
{Action: Approved; Motion: Taylor-Crawford; Second: Walsh; Vote: (5-0) Bender-Yes; Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Walsh-Yes; Taylor-Crawford-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2022
 - a. The Board made a motion to add verbiage (document attached) under 8. Project Updates, iii. Promised Land House Restoration
{Action: Approved; Motion: Howe-Silvers; Second: Walsh; Vote: (5-0) Bender-Yes; Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Walsh-Yes; Taylor-Crawford-Yes}
 - b. Approval of Minutes with addition of verbiage under 8. Project Updates, iii. Promised Land House Restoration
{Action: Approved; Motion: Howe-Silvers; Second: Walsh; Vote: (5-0) Bender-Yes; Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Walsh-Yes; Taylor-Crawford-Yes}
5. Announcements (Board Members)
 - a. Artifact Day
 - i. Board Member Taylor-Crawford reported on the Hooper-Renwick Artifact Day that took place on September 17, 2022 at the Lawrenceville City Hall
 - ii. Chairwoman Bender reported on the passing of Marvin Nash Worthy, County Historian. Chairwoman Bender encouraged board members to reach out to their respective commissioners to request a proclamation be made honoring Marvin Nash Worthy for his service.
6. Old Business
 - a. Preservation Award Updates
 - i. Introduction of Review Group
 1. Chairwoman Bender stated the following individuals will be reviewing the Preservation Award Nomination Forms: Dr. Paul Grant from Georgia Gwinnett College, Dr. Michael Gagnon from Georgia Gwinnett College, Diane McCormick from the Gwinnett Historical Society, Gregory Bailey the Historian at Salem Missionary Baptist Church, and Grace Rietta, long time resident of Gwinnett County currently residing in Duluth.

- ii. Update on Number of Nominations Received
 - 1. Staff member Cammie Fulmer reported 11 nominations have been received to date. Fulmer clarified the nomination form stated nomination had to be received by email or postmarked by September 19, 2022, so some additional mail application may be received over the next few days.
- iii. Timeline of Review Process
 - 1. Chairwoman Bender stated nomination forms will be passed on to Review Group by September 21, 2022. The group will have until October 10, 2022 to each recommend 3 nominations to the board. The board will then select from those recommendations.
- iv. Preservation Award Ceremony
 - 1. The Board made a motion to proceed with Thursday, December 15, 2022, 6:30pm at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse for the Preservation Award Ceremony.
{Action: Approved; Motion: Howe-Silvers; Second: Taylor-Crawford; Vote: (5-0) Bender-Yes; Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Walsh-Yes; Taylor-Crawford-Yes}

7. New Business

- a. Promised Land History and Legacy Presentation – Theresa Livsey Lemons, Guest Speaker (document attached)

8. Project Updates

- a. Staff member Cammie Fulmer presented on the following
 - i. Hudson-Nash House renovation
 - ii. Gwinnett Historic Courthouse slate roof replacement
 - iii. Promised Land House restoration
 - iv. Hooper-Renwick Library exhibit

9. Program Updates

- a. Staff members Jason West and Wendy Seigler presented on the following
 - i. Community Services Historical and Cultural Programming: September – November 2022 Calendar (Document Attached)

10. Exhibit/Artifact Updates

- a. Staff member Brian Boggs presented on the following
 - i. Exhibit and Artifact Updates: August - September 2022 (Document Attached)

11. Comments from Audience

12. Adjournment at 7:37pm

{Action: Approved; Motion: Lambros; Second: Walsh; Vote: (5-0) Bender-Yes; Lambros-Yes; Howe-Silvers-Yes; Walsh-Yes; Taylor-Crawford-Yes}

Amendment to July 18, 2022 Minutes

8. Project Updates, iii. Promised Land House Restoration

Following Patterson's initial report, Board member Taylor-Crawford enquired about 2017 SPLOST monies spent on the project. Patterson discussed how SPLOST dollars are collected over multiple years and stated to date approximately \$630,000 of 2017 SPLOST money has been spent on the Promised Land Project. Chairwoman Bender enquired whether grant money had been applied for. Patterson stated grant monies have been applied for, but have not been granted to date. Board member Taylor-Crawford enquired what next step moving forward on this project are. Patterson's reported the final draft Request For Proposal (RFP) for the house is nearing completion. After RFP goes through bidding process, the project will then move into construction. Patterson stated this will be a multiyear project, currently projected for the house renovation to be completed during a three year period, but with contingencies including weather. Board member Taylor-Crawford asked about stakeholders involvement in the project. Patterson stated stakeholder involvement occurs during the phase after the RFP is awarded. Board member Taylor Crawford enquired on an update of Ruth Abram's consulting work. Patterson stated we are waiting on the final report for this project. Board member Taylor-Crawford asked where the status or timeline of the project can be viewed. Patterson responded this type of information will not be available until RFP process completed and construction contractor on board for this project. Board member Taylor Crawford asked who the project contact is for the Promised Land Project and Patterson responded himself and the Division Director for Project Administration, Glenn Borman. Vice-chair Lambros enquired how stakeholders are chosen. Patterson stated stakeholder are consulted in coordination with county staff and consulting firm and include a variety of residents with an interest in the project. Patterson explained park master planning consultation includes stakeholder engagement such as open public meeting, surveys and steering committees.

THE PROMISED LAND...



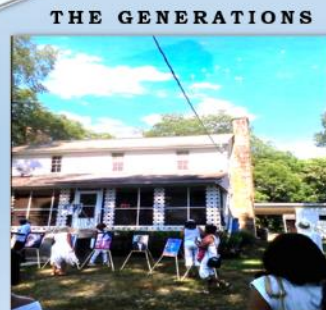
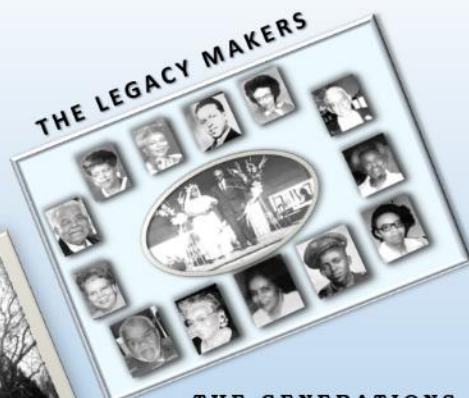
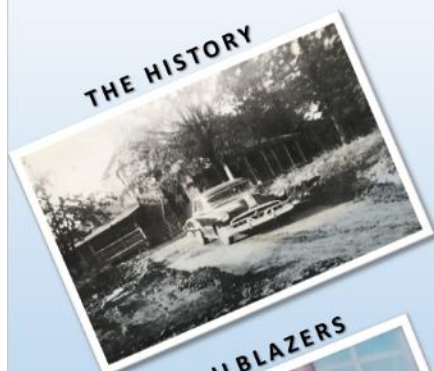
Generations of Families are like branches on a tree, although growing in different directions they remain "to be" forever connected are generations grown from the roots of the "same tree"...

A BEACON of HOPE

HOPE is Healing to Open minds of Possibilities; Enlightened with clarity and understanding; Encouraged by the supportive actions of others; Empowering growth and transformation to a people, community, county and state.

Dr. Theresa M. Livsey Lemons (3rdC)

THE PROMISED LAND...



A BEACON of HOPE

The Promised Land...



A BEACON of HOPE

In the early 1920's... mid 1930's

---From Horseshoe Bend to the Promised Land --- Robert and Morena Livsey brought to this land a desire to own their home, to provide and to raise their family--bringing new life and new meaning to the name "Promised Land"... this was a place of HOPE and Possibilities...

Truths of An Era

Truth #1 When you have something in mind keep in mind until its time...

Truth #2 The belief hard work, unwavering work ethics and discipline were necessary ...in spite of the hardship and man-made road blocks, they persevered... Robert and Morena created a legacy for their children and the generations that would follow...

Truth #3 Hold on to your land they aren't growing anymore...The Promised Land is ours and it represents HOPE for the Future...



The HISTORY...



A BEACON of HOPE

In the early 1940's and mid 1950's the school system was poor and almost none existence for the children in the Promised Land and the community at large...

Truth #4 An educated man will never be without the knowledge and skills and the means to take care of his family, you may take the land but you can't take the soul of the man...

In the 1930's The first of the Livsey children attended **Bethel School**...

In the 1940's The middle children and those who would go on to high school and graduate attended **Historic Bruce Street High** in Lithonia Ga...

In the 1950's The next generation of Livsey Children attended **Historic Hooper Renwick High** where they were bused along with their neighbors--- from then Lithonia (later Snellville GA) Centerville, Snellville, Grayson, out lining areas of Lawrenceville Ga...



The Trailblazers...Creating A Legacy Of Hope



Mr. & Mrs.
Robert Livsey

Truth #5 The love and bond of a family is strengthened when faced with opposition and oppression...



A BEACON of HOPE



Morena and Robert Livsey Sr.
Celebrate 1960's Renewal of Their Wedding Vow

The LEGACY...

In the early 1970's – 1990's

Now, you understand why this generation considered the Promised Land as a symbol of Hope ---A Beacon of HOPE... and what you do matters not only with the family but with our neighbors in the 3rd District Community.

This is where neighbors became family--- where the dinner table on Sunday was a gathering of people, to eat, to fellowship and where family friends and visitors came together in a safe place...

This was going on in homes across the Land and still is today... no one is turned away... in our community where families have lived all their lives and new neighbors are coming to experience the tranquility of the Promised Land

Now historically recognized, we want to ensure the lights continue to shine brightly as a **Beacon of Hope**



A BEACON of HOPE



The Legacy Makers...

New Bethel AME Church 120th Anniversary
March 19, 2011

Talk with the Elders at Yellow River
Ms. Jacqueline Scott Sims, Event Coordinator
Dr. Theresa M. Livsey Lemons, Moderator



New Bethel AME Church 120th Anniversary

Mr. Mr. Willie Anderson

Mr. Theodore Blackmon

Mr. Arthur Chaney

Mrs. Maggie (Minor) Echols

Mrs. Susie Hammond

Mrs. Edith Reid-Harvey

Mrs. Doretha Livsey

Mr. Thomas Livsey

Mr. Willie Bob Livsey

Mr. James Minor

Mrs. Christine (Scales) Scott

Mrs. Vivian (Anderson) Sherwood

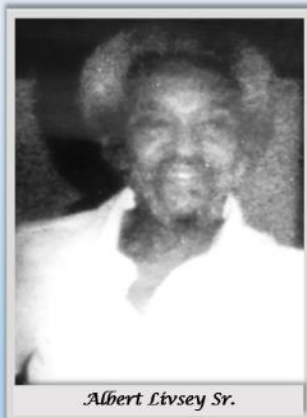
Mrs. Pecola Livsey Scott

Ms. Bernice Reid

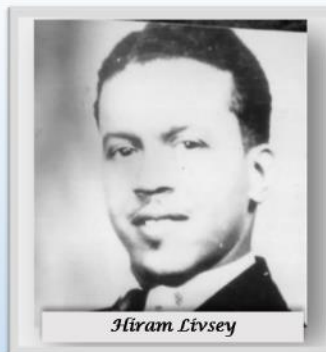


A BEACON of HOPE

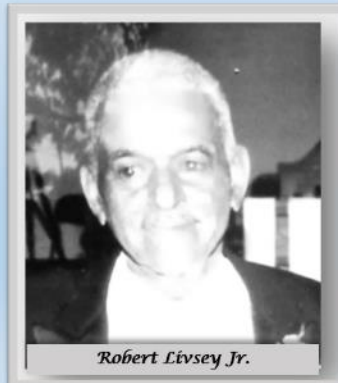
The Legacy Makers Footprints...



Albert Livsey Sr.



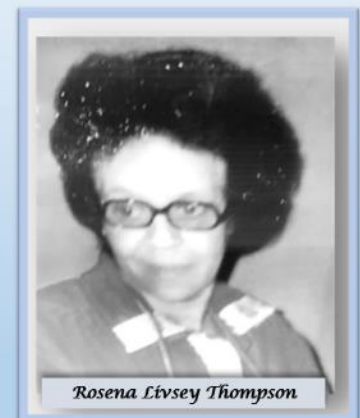
Hiram Livsey



Robert Livsey Jr.



A BEACON of HOPE



Rosena Livsey Thompson

**The Legacy Makers
Footprints...**



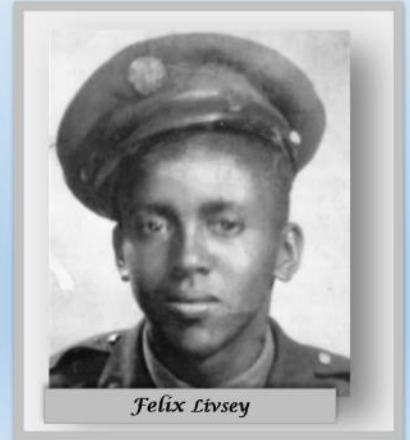
A BEACON of HOPE



Gordie Mae Livsey Gaither



Amelia Livsey Scales



Felix Livsey

**The Legacy Makers
Footprints...**



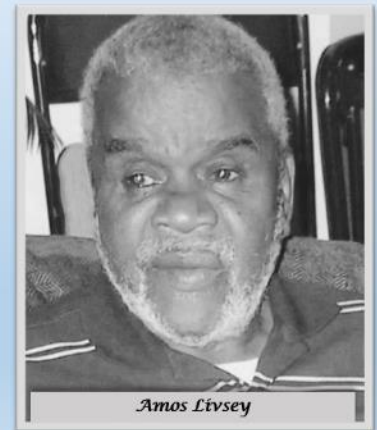
A BEACON of HOPE



Pecola Livsey Scott



Lillie Mae Livsey Lyons



Amos Livsey

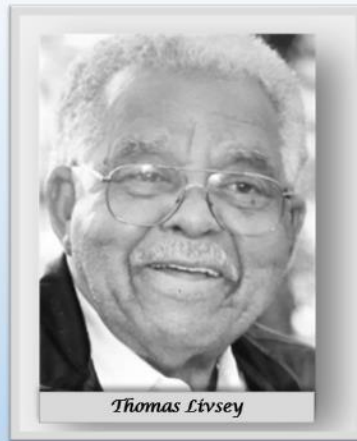
The Legacy Makers Footprints...



A BEACON of HOPE



Sally Maude Livsey Battle



Thomas Livsey



Sarah Marie Livsey Lumpkin

The Promised Land... A BEACON of HOPE



Generations of Families are like branches on a tree, although growing in different directions they remain "to be" forever connected are generations grown from the roots of the "same tree"...

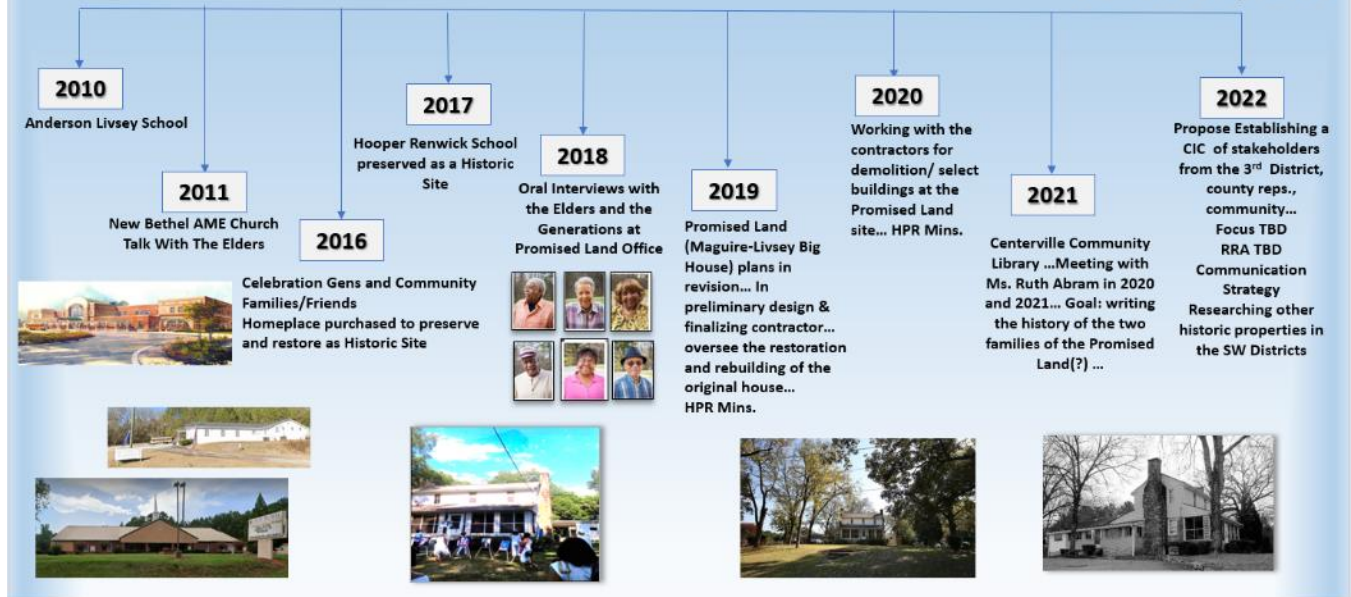
THE GENERATIONS



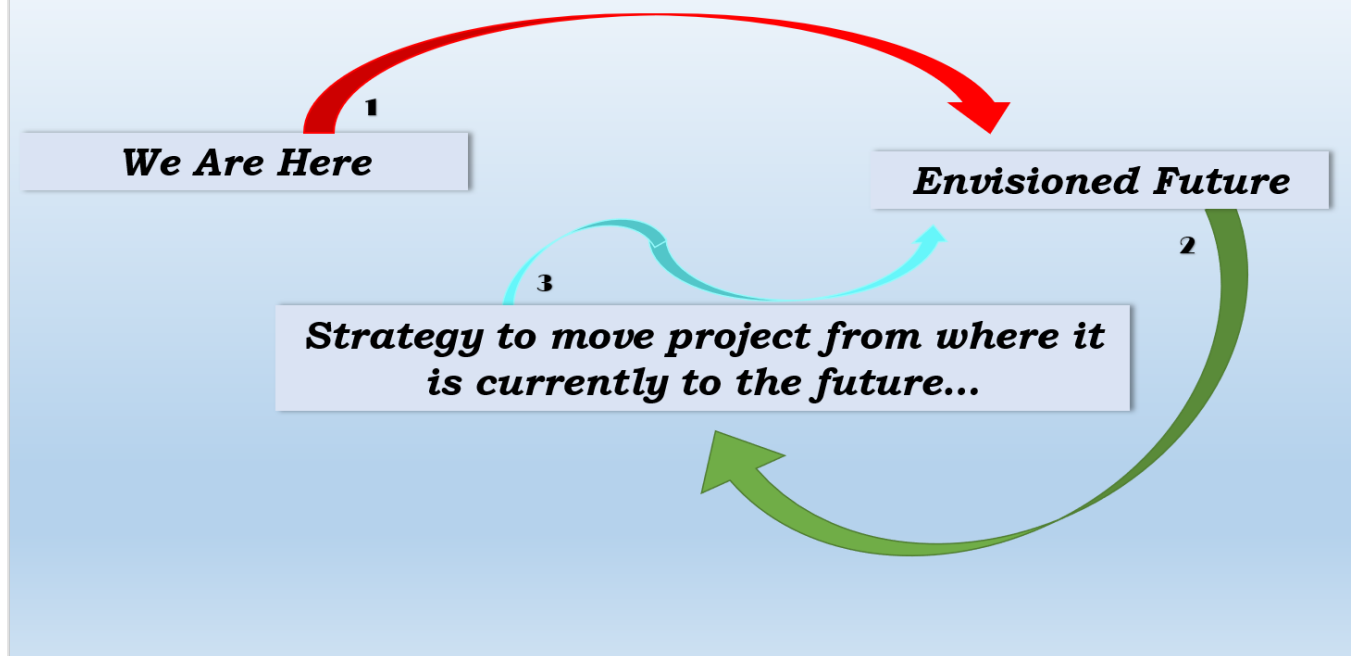
A Legacy's Envisioned Future



A BEACON of HOPE



Where Do We Go From Here...



LIVSEY FAMILY PORTRAIT



Historical and Cultural Programming Community Services September – November 2022

Guided Tours

[Chesser-Williams House Guided Tours](#)

Monday - Saturday 10am – 4pm

2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Step back in time as you explore one of Gwinnett's oldest remaining homes treasured for its beautiful examples of original folk art.

[Yellow River Post Office Historical Site Guided Tours](#)

First and Second Saturdays of each month 9am – 12pm

519 Five Forks-Trickum Road, Lilburn

Experience Gwinnett's newest historical site as you travel back in time to the 1800's. Our interpreters will share with you the historical significance of this newly restored site.

[Freeman's Mill Guided Tours](#)

Third and Fourth Saturdays of each month 9am – 12pm

1401 Alcovy Road, Lawrenceville

Gather at the mill to discover how this historic site impacted and provided for the local community. Our Educational interpreters will lead guided tours of the historic mill and property.

[Lawrenceville Female Seminary Guided Tours](#)

Monday - Saturday 10am – 4pm

455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Tour Gwinnett County's History Museum that once served as the leading women's educational institution starting in 1850s.

[McDaniel Farm Guided Tours](#)

Friday- Saturday 10am – 4pm

3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Explore what farm life was like in Gwinnett in the 1930s as our educational interpreter shares with you the historical farmhouse, blacksmith shed, barn and more.

Public Programs

Artist Reception – City Lights

September 15th 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Chris Anderson's "City Lights" exhibition brings the captured magic of several beloved cities to the walls of the Gwinnett Historical Courthouse for others to enjoy the printed images. Meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments at our artist reception.

Museum Day

September 24th 10:00am – 2:00pm

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Come visit the Gwinnett History Museum for National Museum Day. We will be giving tours of the museum, the Isaac Adair House, the Lawrenceville Female Seminary and much more.

Gwinnett Grows Native for Birds

September 30th 8:00am – 11:00am

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Interested in learning about our many bird species and what native plants help them thrive best? Join representatives from Parks & Recreation in partnership with the Georgia Audubon this September to celebrate Georgia Grows Native for Birds month. This event will include a guided hike at McDaniel Farm Park lead by naturalists from both Georgia Audubon and Parks & Recreation. We will be observing and recording species data from native birds and pollinator plants alike. After the conclusion of the hike, we will spend time planting pollinators that will help reinforce native wildlife habitat.

Tuesday Talks

October 4th 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Dr. Michael Gagnon will present a free lecture on his essay '*Putting Gwinnett County in Historical Perspective*', featured in the new book '*Gwinnett County, Georgia, and the Transformation of the American South, 1818-2018.*' Copies of the book will be available and coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Fall Hayride at the Farm

October 7th 10:00am – 12:00pm

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Enjoy the changing leaves, cool air, and relaxing atmosphere at McDaniel Farm as we explore the natural environment and the changes of the season on a relaxing hayride across the property.

Harvest Homecoming

October 15th 12:00pm – 4:00pm

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Take a special trip to the farm for ole time games, crafts, and fun farm tours! Enjoy a hayride, visit vendors, and sample some tasty s'mores!

[Walk Among the Stars](#)

October 20th 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center - 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Lights, camera, action! Travel to Hollywood and celebrate National Lights on Afterschool, the nation's biggest rally for out-of-school time! Come dressed as your favorite movie character and enjoy games, crafts, entertainment, community partners, and more! All ages

[Murder Mystery Lunch & Murder Mystery Dinner](#)

October 29th 12:00pm – 2:30pm & 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Test your sleuthing and investigative skills while dining in a fun-filled relaxing atmosphere.

[Tuesday Talks](#)

November 8th 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Richard Cook will present a free lecture on his essay '*Cherokee and Creek Agency: Gwinnett County before the Button*', featured in the new book '*Gwinnett County, Georgia, and the Transformation of the American South, 1818-2018*.' Copies of the book will be available and coffee and light refreshments will be served.

[History Bus Tour](#)

November 5th 11:00am – 4:00pm

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Learn about the history of Gwinnett County and the cities of Lawrenceville, Buford, Sugar Hill, & Lilburn. Tour will include stops at the Yellow River Post Office and Hudson- Nash House, Freeman's Mill, and Sugar Hill Museum

[Native American Tales](#)

November 22nd 10:00am – 2:00pm

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center - 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Experience some of the culture of Gwinnett's earliest inhabitants through stories and activities as we explore the rich and vibrantly connected lives of The Cherokee and Muskogee people.

[Lighting of the Tree](#)

November 24th 5:30pm – 8:00pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

The tradition continues as the Great Tree is lit on the lawn of the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse on Thanksgiving evening. Santa will light the tree and then will receive visitors in his living room inside the Courthouse. Visitors can enjoy historical guided tours of the beautifully decorated Courthouse. There will be kids' activities, s'mores, live entertainment, and more!

Homeschool Programs

Homeschool Afternoon – Animal Adaptations

October 13th 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Freeman's Mill - 1401 Alcovy Road, Lawrenceville

Discover some of the unique and diverse plants and animals that live in the Piedmont as we explore their habitats and extraordinary adaptations.

Homeschool Afternoon - Environmental Heroes

November 10th 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Explore some of the contributions of Theodore Roosevelt and George Washington Carver as we examine their lives and forward thinking that changed life in America and still influences us in the present.

Early Learning Programs

Toddler Trek Program – In a Nest

September 20th 10:30-11:30

Freeman's Mill - 1401 Alcovy Road, Lawrenceville

Peep, Peep, Peep listen to them calling from the nest. Join us beside the Alcovy River at Freeman's Mill listening for signs of Georgia's native birds as we enjoy stories, songs, and interactive hands-on activities.

Toddler Trek Program – Little Piggy

October 4th 10:30-11:30

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Lounging in the mud, snoozing in the sun pigs are a common site on a farm. This exciting, hands-on experience provides toddlers an opportunity to explore the Historic McDaniel Farm, enjoy stories and songs and participate in nature-based learning.

Playground Pals

October 7th 10:00am – noon

McDaniel Farm Park – 3020 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Join us for interactive games and activities to unleash knowledge and energy with your pal at the playground!

Toddler Trek Program – Wiggly Worms

October 18th 10:30-11:30

Lawrenceville Female Seminary - 455 South Perry Street, Lawrenceville

Wiggly, Waggly Wonderful Worms – they help our garden grow. Explore with us at the Lawrenceville Female Seminary as we look for earthworms and discover their important place in the environment.

Alphabet Lab

October 19th 10:00am – 11:30am

Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center – 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Learn your ABCs! Early learners and their caregivers will enjoy an alphabet-themed playroom to strengthen letter recognition and build early reading skills.

[Imagine That](#)

October 27th 10:00am – 11:30pam

Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center – 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Let your child's imagination run wild at this literacy-based program. Little learners will hear a short story and unleash knowledge with hands-on STEAM activities that build upon the story.

[Toddler Trek Program – Owl Prowl](#)

November 1st 10:30-11:30

Freeman's Mill - 1401 Alcovy Road, Lawrenceville

Who, Who is that in calling in the trees at night? Let's explore Freeman's Mill to learn about the owls of Georgia through interactive songs, stories, and hands-on learning activities.

[Toddler Trek Program – Rascally Raccoons](#)

November 8th 10:30-11:30

Yellow River Post Office Historical Site, 519 Five Forks-Trickum Road, Lilburn

They're called the bandits of the forest and are found abundantly in Georgia. Who are these masked forest friends and what are they doing in the cover of night? Join us at the Yellow River Post Office as we learn all about raccoons through stories, songs, and interactive hands-on activities.

[Imagine That](#)

November 16th 10:00am – 11:30pam

Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center – 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford

Let your child's imagination run wild at this literacy-based program. Little learners will hear a short story and unleash knowledge with hands-on STEAM activities that build upon the story.

Exhibit and Artifact Updates

Community Services

August – September 2022

Exhibits:

Best Friend Park Time Capsule Exhibit

Theme: During July's National Park and Recreation Month, Gwinnett Parks and Recreation recognized 25 Years of History by opening the Best Friend Park Time Capsule! Attendees took a trip back to 1997 as the Gwinnett Parks and Recreation team unveiled items stored in the capsule for over 2 decades. These items have been converted into a Travelling Exhibit that will tour around Gwinnett – don't miss your opportunity to view these cool pieces of the past!

On Display: Pinckneyville Park CRC: August 16 – October 17, 2022
George Pierce Park CRC: October 17 – December 12, 2022
Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center: December 12, 2022 – February 13, 2023
Rhodes Jordan Park CRC: February 13 – April 10, 2023
Bethesda Park Senior Center: April 10 – June 12, 2023



Soapstone and Hand tools Exhibit

Theme: Using artifacts found on Gwinnett County Park property, this exhibit focuses on the impact indigenous people have made on Gwinnett County through the use of hand tools and implements such as soapstone bowls.

On Display: Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center



Native Animals Skin, Skulls, Scat and Paws Interactive Exhibit:

Theme: Using replica skulls, scat, and paw prints, and animal pelts, this exhibit lets visitors learn more about animals they might see at their home or in parks by learning about the unique characteristics of the animals.

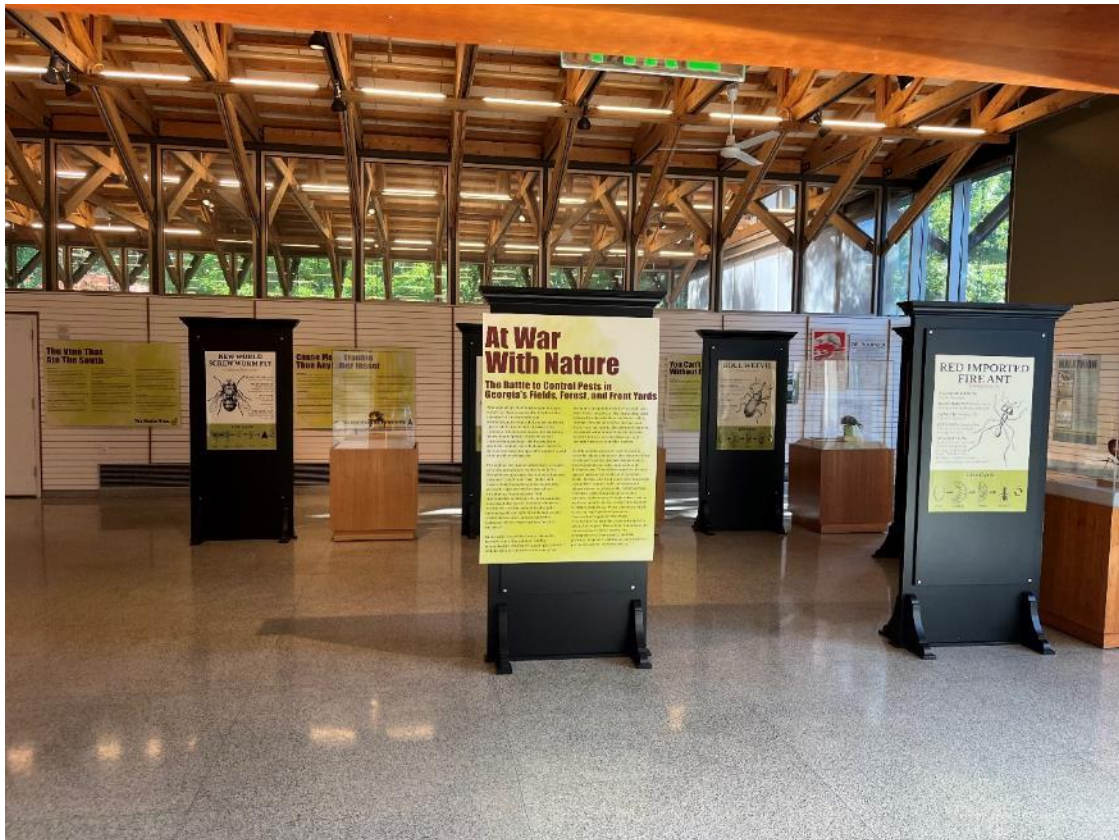
On Display: Lawrenceville Female Seminary



At War with Nature Exhibit:

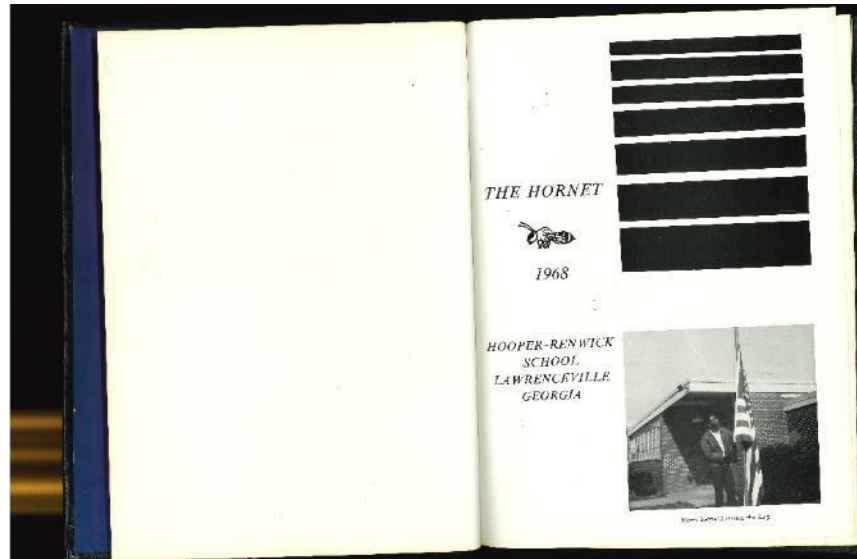
Theme: At War With Nature: The Battle to Control Pests in Georgia's Fields, Forests, and Front Yards. Since prehistory, humans have sought to control nature, especially plants and insects. Still, people have also introduced—intentionally and unintentionally—some of the most notorious “pests” of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This exhibit examines the war against nature as it played out in Georgia’s fields, forests, and front yards. Due to an often compulsive urge to eradicate insects and plants viewed as unfavorable, entomologists, chemists, agriculturalists, government officials, and everyday Georgians have contended with the unanticipated ecological and public health consequences. When chemicals failed to live up to their lofty promises, “quarantine” supplanted outright “eradication” both as the preferred approach and ultimate goal. The battle against the “gypsy moth” is one of the country’s earliest eradication campaigns, but the stories of the boll weevil and fire ant are probably more familiar to southerners as is kudzu—the most recent “invader.” The backstory behind the wars waged against these pests shed light on several complex stories. The use of science to battle nature, the consequences of that struggle, and the growing acceptance of different approaches to control and coexistence are all illuminated in this exhibit. "The At War with Nature exhibition has been adapted from a display originally produced by the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia."

On Display: Gwinnett Environment and Heritage Center September 12, 2022 through March 4, 2023.



Recently Donated/Loaned Artifacts:

Between July and September 2022, 31 items were donated by a former employee of Hooper Renwick and 12 items from a church linked to the Hooper Renwick Community.



Oral History Collection:

Between July and September 2022, 14 oral histories were collected, totaling to 829 minutes of audio recordings.