
**Gwinnett Historical Restoration & Preservation Board
Monday, April 17, 2023 – 10:00 AM**

Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center, 2020 Clean Water Drive, Buford, GA 30519

Present: Sara Howe-Silvers, Ann Bender, Matt Butti, Amelia Porter

Absent: Demetrios Lambros

Via teleconference: Justin Walsh

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome/Opening Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda:
{Action: Approved; Motion: Bender; Second: Butti; Vote: (3-0) Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes; Butti-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes: February 27, 2023
{Action: Approved; Motion: Butti; Second: Bender; Vote: (3-0) Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes; Butti-Yes}
5. Announcements (Board Members)
6. Old Business
 - a. Meeting Dates – February 12, 2024 at Gwinnett Historic Courthouse
 - i. Approval to change February 19, 2024 meeting date to February 12, 2024
{Action: Approved; Motion: Bender; Second: Butti; Vote: (3-0) Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes; Butti-Yes}
7. New Business
 - a. Gold Mine Park Presentation – Board Member Ann Bender (presentation attached)
 - b. Poole Mountain – Lindsay Paul, Guest Speaker (presentation attached)
8. Project Updates
 - a. Staff member Cammie Mansfield presented on the following
 - i. Preservation Hall of Fame
 - b. Staff member Glenn Borman presented on the following
 - i. Livsey Family Big House at the Promised Land
9. Program Updates
 - a. Staff members Wendy Seigler and Jason West presented on the following
 - i. History and Cultural Programming: April – June 2023 (document attached)
 - ii. Summer camps with history themes
 - iii. Local History Teacher Immersion program

10. Exhibit/Artifact Updates

a. Staff member Brian Boggs presented on the following

i. Exhibit and Artifact Updates: April - June 2023 (document attached)

11. Comments from Audience

12. Adjournment at 11:29am

{Action: Approved; Motion: Butti; Second: Bender; Vote: (3-0) Howe-Silvers-Yes; Bender-Yes; Butti-Yes}



Gold Mine Park Sugar Hill

Ribbon Cutting March 20, 2023



Gold Mine Park which sits along Level Creek Road and serves as a trail head to the Sugar Hill Greenway.



SUGAR HILL HISTORY AND GOLD MINE PARK



Panning for gold in the Sugar Hill area goes back to the early days of settlement following the creation of Gwinnett County in 1818 from lands acquired from the Creek and Cherokee Nations.

Searching for gold drew settlers to Sugar Hill and boosted community growth and development. From the 1800s to the mid 1900s there were several gold mines in operation in Sugar Hill, notably around Richland Creek and Level Creek Road.

Deposits of gold in this area are found in igneous and metamorphic rock marked by clear veins of quartz. Unlike dirt mines in the western United States that are supported by wooden pillars, mines in Sugar Hill were carved into these quartz veins. Here you can see the opening of one of the mines once in operation in Sugar Hill.



Gold occurs scattered over Piedmont, Upland areas. These are metamorphic and Sugar Hill lies in the northeast line of the County to Rabun characterized by veins.

The Georgia Gold Williams, 1892



In Sugar Hill, some streets are named after the city's gold mining history. Those streets include:

- Gold Mine Drive
- Gold Nugget Way
- Simmons Mine Circle
- Gold Dust Trail

Edward and William Shelley were father and son. Both moved to the Level Creek area in the 1870s and began mining for James Simmons. William would later purchase a home and 249 acres near Level Creek in 1883. The Shelley Family would own gold mines up until about 1941, but stopped mining around 1913.





DID YOU KNOW THE

LARGEST

RESIDENTIAL REZONING IN THE
HISTORY OF GWINNETT COUNTY
IS CURRENTLY PENDING BESIDE
LITTLE MULBERRY PARK?





RANDY TRAVIS - FOX5

BACKGROUND...



THE PROBLEM

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
THERE ARE NO CEMETERIES OR ARCHITECTURAL OR ARCHEOLOGICAL LANDMARKS ON THE PROPERTY

PORTIONS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY ARE LOCATED WITHIN A DESIGNATED FLOOD HAZARD AREA PER GWINNETT COUNTY F.I.R.M. PANEL NO. 30 of 154, DATED 3/12/2013

LAND LOTS 2, 3 & 4, DUNCANS G M D 1748 & ROCKY CREEK G M D 1587, 2nd & 3rd DISTRICT, GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA

WATER AND SEWER SERVICE PROVIDED BY GWINNETT COUNTY

A 50' UNDISTURBED VEGETATIVE BUFFER ADJACENT TO ALL RUNNING STREAMS AND CREEKS WILL BE LEFT AND MAINTAINED

ST. BOURKE
Land Planning Development
Asset Management
1123 Zenothe Road, NE Suite 30
Atlanta, GA 30306
878 853 2530 | stbourke.com

drapac
capital partners

*PROVIDED BY DRAPAC /ST. BOURKE TO GWINNETT COUNTY
IN THR DRI APPLICATION SUBMITTED 10/6/22

THE GOAL

We want to come up with a viable solution to protect this historical asset within Gwinnett County for our Community.



BUT FIRST, THE RESEARCH

FORT DANIEL

THE OLDEST SITE IN GWINNETT COUNTY, WAS A FORT IN THE WAR OF 1812 AND WAS CONSTRUCTED AS A REPLACEMENT OF A LATE 18TH TO EARLY 19TH CENTURY FRONTIER FORT AT THE HOG MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY.

ELISHA WINN HOUSE

THE SOCIETY ALSO OPERATES THE 19.2-ACRE HISTORICAL ELISHA WINN PROPERTY IN DACULA (BUILT ABOUT 1812), WHICH BECAME PART OF GWINNETT COUNTY ON DECEMBER 15, 1818, WHEN THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE CREATED THE COUNTIES OF GWINNETT, WALTON, AND HALL.

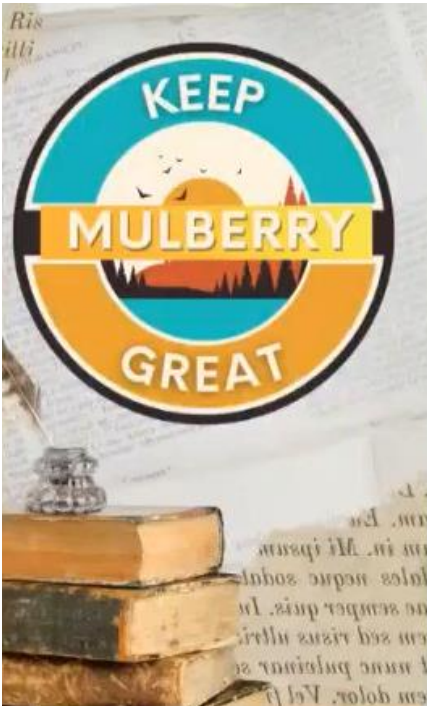


POOLE MOUNTAIN / PAUL FAMILY HOME

HAS FORMALLY BEEN ADDED AS AN ACTIVE SITE 4/14/2023 AND HAS GONE THROUGH THE FIRST PHASE.

LITTLE MULBERRY PARK

A SUBSET OF THE AREA, PART OF ITS EARLY IDENTIFICATION, WAS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AS THE PARKS-STRICKLAND ARCHEOLOGICAL COMPLEX. THERE CONTINUES TO BE SCHOLARLY DISPUTE OVER THE FUNCTION AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STRUCTURES,(3) ALTHOUGH NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES HISTORICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE REGION CLAIM THEM TO HAVE FUNERARY SIGNIFICANCE.(2)



DEVIL IN THE DETAILS..

THE DEVIL IS ALWAYS IN THE DETAILS, INCLUDING MISSING DETAILS. THERE IS A LOT WRONG WITH THE "SURVEY" LINKED ABOVE AND A LOT IS MISSING. THIS IS ALL A GAME OF PRETENDING. PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW THE RELEVANT LITERATURE AND FINDING EVERY POSSIBLE EXCUSE TO EXPLAIN AWAY THE OBVIOUS. THIS GAME IS CONSTANTLY PLAYED ACROSS A WIDE AREA OF THE EAST WHENEVER A PROPERTY IS PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT. THESE STACKED STONE FEATURES ARE FOUND FROM ALABAMA THROUGH MAINE, AND LOTS OF OTHER PARTS OF THE NATION AS WELL.

- THE ONLY STONE CAIRNS CURRENTLY LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES IN THE EAST ARE THE ONES IN LITTLE MULBERRY PARK.
- IS IT A COINCIDENCE THAT HUNDREDS OF ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES IMMEDIATELY TO THE EAST AT POOLE MOUNTAIN ARE RIGHT NEXT DOOR? IS THERE A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SETS OF CAIRNS? [OR] ARE THEY TWO PARTS OF THE SAME WHOLE?



Historical and Cultural Programming Community Services April – June 2023

Public Programs

[Artist Reception – Francoise](#)

April 20th 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 W. Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Francoise showcases the beauty of nature, flowers, colors, elegance, and beauty. An avid and passionate learner. Francoise loves to explore new techniques and mediums. Her medium of choice is acrylics, fluid acrylics and mixed media. Francoise often incorporates both texture and fluid work in one painting. Her art celebrates landscapes, seascapes, floral and abstract paintings.

[Neon Nights Homeschool Prom](#)

April 22nd 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 W. Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Light up your prom night at the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse. Begin the evening with hors d'oeuvres and mocktails in the Gallery Hall, followed by music and dancing in the Superior Court Ballroom.

[Earth Day at the Mill](#)

April 22nd, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Freeman's Mill Historic Site - 1401 Alcovy Road, Lawrenceville

Celebrate Planet Earth as we explore the importance of water at Gwinnett's Historic Gristmill. Visitors will enjoy stories, science investigation and create a small take home craft after touring this historic building.

[Earth Day Mushroom Hike](#)

April 22nd, 9:00am – 12:00pm

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

Fungi are an essential part of a healthy ecosystem and part of the newest Kingdom. Join Sam Landes, a member of the Mushroom Club of Georgia and North American Mycological Association at the Environmental & Heritage Center to learn more about these fascinating fungi. This hike will be an engaging and educational walk along some of the trails located on the EHC campus, followed by a discussion.

[Way Back Winn Festival](#)

April 23rd 2pm – 4pm

Elisha Winn House – 908 Dacula Road, Dacula

Stroll back in time and enjoy all the festivities of an old-fashioned picnic. Join us for music, outdoor games, refreshments, and fun. Featuring bluegrass music provided by Smokey's Farmland Band.

[Freedom Waltz](#)

May 1, 8, 15, 22 6:30pm – 8:15pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 W. Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

This introductory waltz class is for anyone interested in learning the basics of this classic dance style.

[Museum Day](#)

May 18th 10:00am – 4:00pm

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

International Museum Day 2023 will be observed on May 18th focusing on sustainability and well-being. Join us at the Environmental & Heritage Center for tours of Gwinnett's first LEED certified green building and learn about some of the building's environmental features. Tours of the Chesser-Williams Historic house and the newly renovated Blue Planet film will be available for public viewing.

[Jazz on the Lawn](#)

May 19th 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – 185 W. Crogan Street, Lawrenceville

Guests 21 and over will enjoy an evening of Jazz on the Gwinnett Historic Courthouse lawn. A delicious catered dinner and cocktails will be served, followed by romantic dancing under the stars.

[Train Day](#)

Saturday, May 20th 9:00am - Noon

Vines Park - 3500 Oak Grove Rd, Loganville,

Celebrate National Train Day with the Vines Garden Railroad as we celebrate its seasonal opening of the only public G scale garden railroad in the state of Georgia. Watch the model trains roll through the large outdoor track and interact with the expert railroad club members.

Early Learning Programs

Animal Cookies @ The Farm

April 18th 10:30-12:00

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

It's National Animal Cracker Day and we're celebrating with stories, crafts, games and let's not forget about the animal crackers. Join us for a Hayride as we explore the trails and learn about some of the animals that called McDaniel Farm home over the years. This event has been developed with children ages 18 months to 5 years of age in mind.

Playground Pals

April 14th, 28th & May 12th, 26th 10:00-12:30

McDaniel Farm Park - 3251 McDaniel Road, Duluth

Playground Pals offers interactive games and activities to unleash knowledge with B2Anywhere and energy with Be Active Gwinnett at the playground! Programming is from 10:00 am-12:30 pm and is available for ages 2-12 and their caregivers.

Stories and STEM

April 22nd 10:00am – 11:00am

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

Fairy tales, folk tales, picture books and more! Celebrate Earth Day with literature-based science, technology, engineering, and math lessons will engage your child, spark their creativity, and encourage problem solving and critical thinking.

Toddler Trek Program – Rascally Rabbits

May 2nd 10:30-11:30

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

We know that they're cuddly and cute but how do rabbits spend their day and where can they be found. Spend some time exploring the secret lives of Georgia's rabbits through songs and interactive nature-based play.

Toddler Trek Program – Sassy Skunks

May 16th 10:30-11:30

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

Skunks are legendary for their powerful smelling spray but there's more to know about skunks than their unique smell. Join us as we sniff out some local skunks, enjoy hands on activities and sing some sweet-smelling songs.

K-12 Educational Programs

4th Grade Get In Gear: Simple Machines

Freeman's Mill

March 29th (135 students)

4th Grade S.T.E.A.M

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center

April 13th, 27th (380 students)

1st Grade Environmental Heroes: Roosevelt & Carver

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center

April 17th, 28th (160 students)

2nd Grade Georgia's Native People

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center

April 19th (130 students)

1st Grade Early American Heroes: Franklin & Jefferson

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center

April 26th (200 students)

Summer Camps

June

[History Travelers](#)

June 12-16, 9am – 3pm Ages 10-13

Locations include Freeman's Mill – Lawrenceville, Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center – Buford, McDaniel Farm Park – Duluth, Yellow River Post Office – Lilburn, Lawrenceville Female Seminary – Lawrenceville, Isaac Adair House – Lawrenceville, Elisha Winn House – Dacula, Fort Daniel – Buford, Gwinnett Historic Courthouse – Lawrenceville

Step back in time as we explore some of the historical sites across Gwinnett County. Campers will be transported back in time as they visit a different location each day to investigate the significance of these important landmarks. Please note that campers will be traveling to selected locations after beginning their day at the EHC.

Historical 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.

Exhibit and Artifact Updates Community Services March 2023 – April 2023

Exhibits:

Preserving Gwinnett

Visit this exhibit to learn about some of the sites Gwinnett County operates that preserve local history.

On Display: March- May 2023 at Bogan Park CRC



Railroads in Gwinnett

An exhibit focusing on how railroads shaped Gwinnett County in the mid-1900s. These items are on loan from Mr. Jim Baughman.

On Display: March- May 2023 at Dacula Activity Building



Time Capsule Tour

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 traveling exhibit that will tour around Gwinnett – don't miss your opportunity to view these cool pieces of the past!

On Display: April 10 – June 12, 2023 at Bethesda Park Senior Center



Recently Donated/Loaned Artifacts:

Between March and April 2023, 3 items from a former student of Hooper-Renwick High School.

Oral History Collection:

No update.

Other Updates:

A tour was given to 50 Georgia Gwinnett students at the Yellow River Post Office to coincide with their introduction to US-History class.

The Cultural and Historical Interpretation team will be participating at the in the Cross Cultural Street Fest and Multi-Cultural festival in an effort to get more oral histories in May.