

GEORGIA HISTORY | TODAY

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SUMMER/FALL 2008 VOLUME 2 NUMBERS 3&4



Perspectives

To Understand Caesar, Not to Praise Him
by W. Todd Groce, Ph.D.

"HOW DISGRACEFUL FOR A SOUTHERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY to be praising/having a conference on Lincoln."

This one-line email landed in my inbox a few weeks ago from someone in Atlanta who's clearly unhappy about our upcoming *Profiles in Leadership* program on Abraham Lincoln. Although I generally don't respond to messages of this tone and nature, there is a common misperception here about the role of history and historical societies that needs to be addressed.

It's not the antipathy for the man who preserved the United States during its greatest crisis and in the process freed four million Southerners from slavery that got my attention. I've heard that before; it's not unusual to be told there's a party line that Southerners have to follow. What I found troubling is the notion that the Georgia Historical Society holds programs about historical figures so we can praise or condemn them.

This is not the first time that someone has expressed displeasure over what they perceive as an attempt by GHS to build up or tear down historical figures. A few years ago we examined Washington's and Jefferson's relationship with their slaves and were also criticized in advance for "bashing the founders." Conversely, I'm sure many people attended last year's lecture and exhibit on Robert E. Lee because they thought we were celebrating him; others no doubt stayed away for the very same reason.

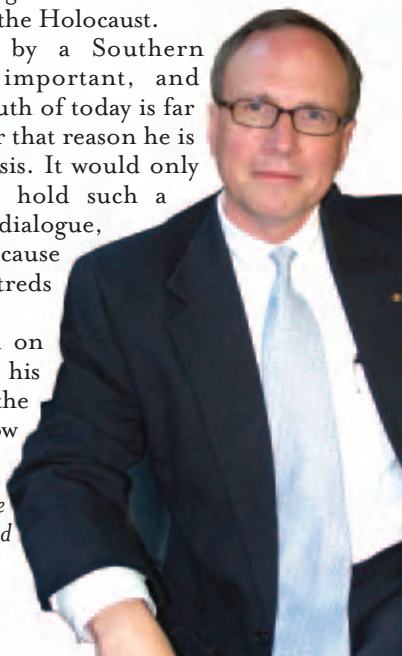
The Lincoln program, like that on Lee before it, is not designed as a tribute. Instead, as the nation approaches the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth GHS will offer a balanced analysis of his place in American history. The purpose of this program, like all our others, is neither to applaud nor to condemn, but to understand. To paraphrase Shakespeare's Mark Antony, we come to understand Lincoln, not to praise him.

In order to comprehend the past we must acknowledge it—all of it. We must present the entire picture and tell the whole story, the good, the bad, and the ugly. How can we ever grow in our understanding if we restrict our discussion to people we personally admire, or only to topics that make us feel good, or to subjects that someone tells us are regionally appropriate? If we did there would never be another book published about Hitler or a program held on the rise of Communism, the slave trade, or the Holocaust.

A program on Lincoln by a Southern historical society is timely, important, and pertinent. Like it or not, the South of today is far different because of him, and for that reason he is worthy of exploration and analysis. It would only be disgraceful if we failed to hold such a program because we fear honest dialogue, refuse to open our minds, or because we let old animosities and hatreds guide our thinking.

So please join us in Atlanta on October 10 as we explore Lincoln, his leadership, and his legacy, and in the words of Thomas Jefferson, "follow truth wherever it may lead."

W. Todd Groce is President and CEO of the Georgia Historical Society. He can be reached at wgroce@georgiahistory.com.



GEORGIA HISTORY TODAY

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The mission of the Georgia Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and share Georgia and American history.

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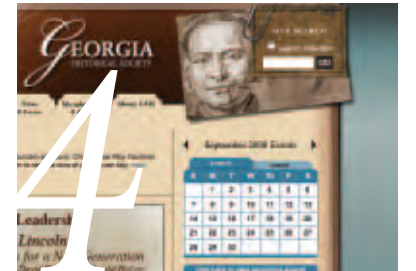
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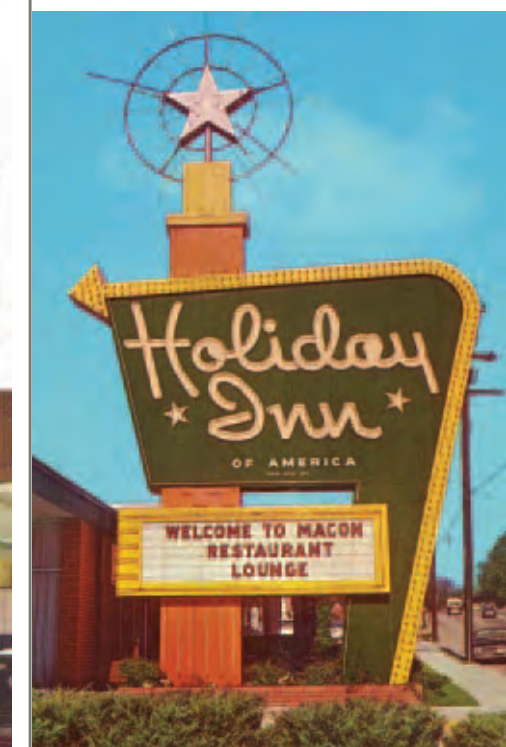


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A Message from the Editor
by Stan Deaton

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Upcoming Events and Activities



On the cover:
This Motel 6 ad from 1972 very effectively touted why tourists should stay at a motel, because everyone at a hotel had their hand out for a tip. See the Feature story on p. 6. Courtesy of Ed Jackson.



Clockwise from upper left: DeSoto Hotel, Savannah; Hotel Winecoff, Atlanta; Tybee Hotel; Tifton Motor Court; Indian Springs Hotel; Campers at Cave Springs, 1923.

Clockwise from upper left: Days Inn postcard; Holiday Inn, Macon; Motel swimming pool; Comfort Inn, Athens; Kimball House, Atlanta; Terminal Hotel, Atlanta.

All images courtesy of Ed Jackson.

FEATURE Whatever Happened to Georgia's Downtown Hotels? by Edwin L. Jackson

WITH SUMMER JUST PAST AND AUTUMN LEAVES FALLING, GEORGIANS are on the road. You don't have to drive far before you'll experience what is broadly termed Georgia's "hospitality industry"—a term that includes food, lodging, and tourism. The history of Georgia's hospitality industry is a story yet to be written.

Before the development of hotels and motels, inns were the most common form of overnight lodging. In the antebellum period, country inns were primitive wooden structures that offered warmed-over meals and cramped sleeping quarters. Customers had little privacy and often had to share a room—sometimes even a bed—with strangers.

In towns, hotels and boarding houses were popular forms of lodging. Savannah's busy port generated a growing market for overnight lodging. But more than ships, railroads were chiefly responsible for many of Georgia's early hotels. In 1846, for example, the Georgia Railroad built the Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta's first brick building, across from its passenger depot.

In the late nineteenth century, railroads expanded throughout Georgia. Small train stops became depots, leading in turn to neighboring houses and businesses. As a community grew in size, hotels often sprang up near the depot. By the early twentieth century, almost every town of any size had one or more hotels. A large hotel not

only promoted business travel but was a source of local pride. It was the social center of the community, with a lobby or mezzanine for conversation, plus street-level businesses such as a restaurant, coffee shop, barbershop, and drug store. Large hotels had dining and meeting rooms used by civic groups and other organizations.

Although not mutually exclusive, four main forms of hotels developed in Georgia. The most prevalent type was the downtown hotel intended as temporary lodging for salesmen and others traveling on business. Typically, the hotel offered a "sample room" for salesmen to display their wares. Downtown hotels also welcomed the traveling public, as well as customers who needed long-term lodging and preferred the privacy, freedom, and anonymity of the hotel over the shared quarters of the boarding house and the watchful eye of its matron. But the downtown hotel primarily served the commercial client.

The tourist hotel appeared in Georgia in the late 1800s. These establishments were located near popular tourist attractions, such as Indian Springs, Warm Springs, Radium Springs, and Tybee Island. Newlyweds came on honeymoons, while families enjoyed a week or two of vacation.

Georgia was also famous for the seasonal resort hotel. These were exclusive facilities catering to wealthy clients who often came for a month or longer. Hotels such as the Bon-Air and Partridge Inn in Augusta, Windsor in Americus, Oglethorpe in Brunswick, De Soto and General Oglethorpe in Savannah, Jekyll Island Club, and Cloister on Sea Island attracted wealthy families and popular personalities from the North and Midwest who could afford to escape the cold of winter. Augusta's resort hotels offered many amenities, including winter golf packages that contributed to the city's emergence as a golf mecca.

Large convention hotels could be found in Atlanta and Savannah. These sought business travelers and others, but it was the lucrative conference trade they were most interested in securing. Conventions meant not only lodging for thousands of delegates each year, but also rental of meeting rooms and exhibit areas, as well as meals, receptions, and hospitality suites. Atlanta's first national convention was held in 1909. Between 1912 and 1923, more than 2,400 conventions were held in Atlanta, which was soon being called "The Convention City of Dixie."

In a very short time, American lodging accommodations underwent a dramatic transformation.

In the 1920s and '30s, mom-and-pop motor courts and tourist cabins became popular. By the mid-1950s, however, higher quality motor hotels, or *motels*, began appearing. Many were associated with national chains (such as Holiday Inn and Howard Johnson). Rather than downtown, they typically were located on major highways at the outskirts of town or along Interstate highways.

The new generation of modern motels offered swimming pools, playgrounds, free local phone calls, and free ice. And most important for families with limited budgets, rooms cost as little as \$6-8. There was no tipping, children stayed free, and guests could park free directly in front of their room. The cost for a family to stay in a downtown hotel was often prohibitive, so motels quickly transformed the hospitality industry.

As fewer business travelers used the train, traditional hotels lost an

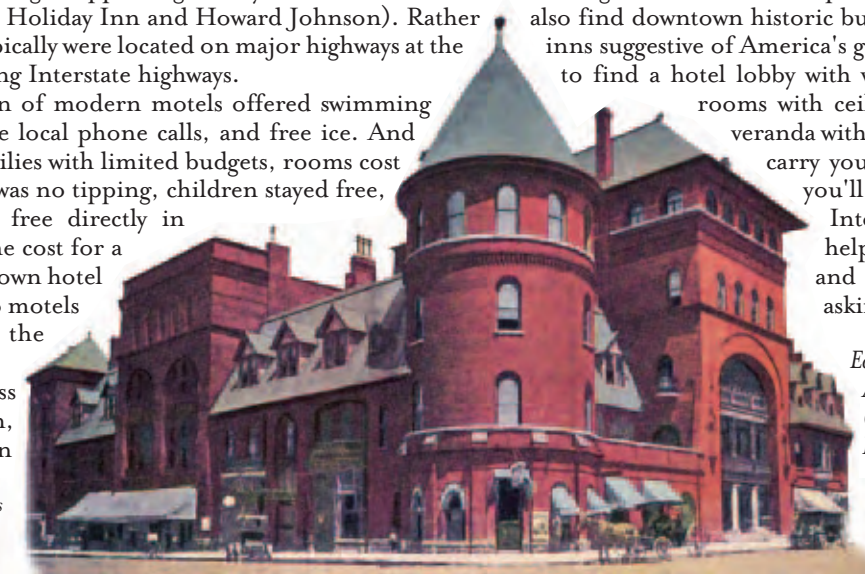
important source of revenue. The growing mobility of Americans and their movement to the suburbs led to the phenomenon of shopping centers beginning in the 1960s. As a result, many downtown businesses moved to suburban shopping complexes. Hotels did not have that option and began to close. Some were torn down, while others were converted to offices and apartments. Long-vacant hotel buildings are still a common site across Georgia. Saving these landmark structures and adapting them for alternative uses is a challenge facing city officials and downtown development authorities in hundreds of communities.

Life moves at a much faster pace today than a century ago. But if you enjoy nostalgia, take heart—a few of Georgia's classical hotels (such as the New Perry Hotel, Warm Springs Hotel, Windsor Hotel, and Partridge Inn) are still in operation. Particularly in Savannah you'll also find downtown historic buildings that have been converted into inns suggestive of America's golden age of hotels. It is still possible to find a hotel lobby with wooden paneling and marble floors,

rooms with ceiling fans, a mezzanine with a bar, a veranda with rocking chairs, and even a bellman to carry your luggage. To enjoy their ambiance, you'll have to be willing to get off the Interstate and slow down. It might also help if you left your BlackBerry, iPhone, and laptop at home—but that's probably asking too much. *E*

Edwin L. Jackson is the Senior Public Service Associate at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia in Athens. He can be reached at jackson@cviog.uga.edu.

Windsor Hotel, Americus



Expanding Audiences for History: GHS Takes a Technological Plunge into the 21st Century

by Summer Teal Simpson



IT BEGAN IN JUNE 2006. THE TASK WAS GREAT: TO increase access to, and usership of, the Georgia Historical Society collection through a technological initiative called *Expanding Audiences for History: Access for a New Century*. Today, *Expanding Audiences* has succeeded in launching a new, comprehensive online public access catalogue (OPAC) and an interactive, user-friendly website. You can see for yourself at www.georgiahistory.com.

The dramatic upgrade is part of an extensive overhaul of GHS technological capabilities. What will conclude as a \$1.1 million, multi-phased endeavor began in October of last year with a web-based bang. In early 2007, GHS hired Smack Dab Studios, a Georgia-based web development firm, to create a website that would encompass their varied educational and outreach needs.

"GHS came to us with a vision for their site," says Hannah M. Byrne, Partner and Chief Creative Officer at Smack Dab. "They were clear in their goals for the site, and their active involvement made this a successful comprehensive development project."

"Because our catalogue was not online researchers didn't know what archival treasures we had in our building," explains Laura García-Culler, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer for GHS. It was García-Culler's impetus that started the ball rolling on the *Expanding Audiences* initiative. "Usership was down," she recalls. "Since our mission is to collect, preserve and share, we knew we had to improve access to these unique primary source materials."

Access has been significantly improved and usership has diversified, with the pages of Georgia's history now available to anyone with internet access. What was formerly stored in GHS's library card catalogue or in other paper-based guides is now just a click away. Where research used to require a trip to Whitaker Street, visitors can access finding aid and catalogue material from the comfort of their homes or offices. The ease of accessibility perhaps explains the tripling in GHS website and total materials usership since the launch of the new site.

In addition to the now online library and archives catalogue, users can explore and be engaged in Georgia's story through new online exhibits, daily facts on Georgia history, a virtual history education "resource center" for educators, an interactive historical marker tour, online articles and publications, archived issues of *Georgia History Today*, excerpts from GHS books on Georgia history, an online gift shop, and a calendar of GHS events. It is a web-based cache of the oldest primary source material on Georgia's history and a one-stop shop for all things related to the organization.

To be sure, the front-end improvement of georgiahistory.com is impressive. But it is the usability on the back-end that has streamlined and increased the efficiency and relevancy of this web tool. In layman's terms, the new technology makes updating the website as easy as using Microsoft Word. This allows volunteers, interns and students to help in addition to staff, thus assuring the most up-to-date news, events, and historical resources from GHS.

Set to be completed in Fall of 2009, Phase II will add downloadable digitized scanned documents for viewers as well as more multimedia features such as video streams and oral histories. The inventory of several hundred historical markers will expand to several thousand and appeal to the ever-growing heritage tourism industry with an enhanced interactive tour of markers and printable driving directions. And with over 200 GHS affiliate chapters statewide, GHS hopes to build web capacity for those groups and their members.

GHS President and CEO W. Todd Groce commends the support of the GHS Board and Chairman, Bill Jones III, in promoting the project and securing the financial resources for implementation. "Bill issued a challenge to the community at large to help us realize this vision," he explains. "Because of his efforts people stepped up from all over the state to support this enhancement of our technology."

"We had to have a portal to the catalogue that embodies what GHS is," Jones said. "We are a repository for Georgia records and private collections that need to be shared. As one example of our archives, we hold one of the handful of remaining drafts of the U.S. Constitution. We wanted people far and wide to know of the many manuscripts, artifacts, maps, books, architectural drawings, and images in the GHS archives."

Main funders for GHS's technological journey include The Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Broadfield Foundation, The Frances Wood Wilson Foundation, The Peyton Anderson Foundation and The Wormsloe Foundation.

Lastly, there is one newly added web feature that should not be overlooked: You can now make donations to GHS or become a member online. Be a part of keeping Georgia history alive by visiting www.georgiahistory.com.

Summer Teal Simpson is a freelance contributor who may be reached at sumrteal@gmail.com.

Georgia Gems

By Bill Markley

IN THIS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR, WE ARE REMINDED OF THE POWER OF THE SPOKEN WORD TO stir minds and hearts. In the late spring of 1847—in anticipation of the presidential contest of 1848—Daniel Webster, one of the greatest orators in American history, came to Georgia as part of a southern tour.

During the antebellum period, Webster was one-third of the Great Triumvirate (along with John C. Calhoun & Henry Clay), and his famous "Reply to Hayne" in the U.S. Senate during the nullification crisis in 1830 ("Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!") is still considered one of the most stirring speeches in history. He had served in the U.S. House & Senate, and had twice been Secretary of State, under Presidents Harrison and Fillmore. Webster had unsuccessfully sought the Whig nomination for president in 1836 and had his eye on the contest of 1848 when he visited Savannah.

GHS holds in its archival collection a letter and a set of resolutions made by a group of Savannah citizens inviting Webster to visit the city during his tour of the South in 1847 (MS 848). These documents recall an era when the stars of the legislative branch outshone the presidents, and people from all walks of life thronged to hear famous speakers such as Webster. The Resolutions mention that "the Citizens of Savannah without distinction of party, met at the Exchange at 12 o'clock yesterday for the purpose of proposing a reception for the Hon'l Dan'l Webster.... In appreciation of [Webster's] talents as a Statesman and a Jurist, which at home and abroad have illustrated the American name, and vindicated National Rights."

Webster accepted the invitation and was warmly welcomed by Savannahians May 25-28. His visit brought a great outpouring of citizens, and at the public reception Webster delighted the crowd with a speech about the merits of the U.S. Constitution, the Union, and technological development. He received, according to the *Savannah Georgian* newspaper, "tumultuous applause."

Though Webster did not get the Whig nomination in 1848—it went to war-hero and eventual winner Zachary Taylor instead—he worked to secure the Compromise of 1850 as the growing sectional crisis threatened the country and unsuccessfully sought his party's presidential nomination again in 1852. He died shortly thereafter.

Webster's words weren't enough to hold the Union together. The sectional harmony that characterized his visit would not last. Many of the Georgians who signed the invitation to Webster in a few short years experienced the horrors of Civil War. Businessman Edward Padelford, who offered up the 1847 resolutions in honor of Webster, lost a son in the fighting and suffered heavy financial losses. James Moore Wayne, a U.S. Supreme Court justice and president of GHS, would remain loyal to the United States and suffer ostracism at home as a consequence. Robert Habersham, perhaps the city's wealthiest merchant, would have two teenage grandsons killed in the Battle of Atlanta. And Dr. Richard D. Arnold, a founder of GHS, served as wartime mayor of Savannah and had the difficult duty of surrendering the city to Sherman's advancing army. *G*

Bill Markley is Special Collections Reference Librarian. He can be reached at bmarkley@georgiahistory.com

Savannah (Ga). May 4th 1847

Hon^{ble} Daniel Webster

Sir

It gives us pleasure to inform to you resolutions passed by the citizens of Savannah in anticipation of your arrival here on your Southern tour.

Be kind enough to inform us if it will suit your convenience to accept the hospitalities of our City and to partake of a public dinner. We shall be glad to know also on that day we may expect you.

Yr. auth friend
Yr. obedient Servant

James M. Wayne

Wm. Thorne William

Wm. B. Proctor
J. Locke

R. R. Bayler

J. B. Cumming

J. W. Anderson

William Law

M. R. Donnell

R. D. Arnold

Edw. Padelford

B. S. S. S.

Robt Habersham



Profiles

VINCE DOOLEY: "Making Time For History"

By Jim Battin

There is perhaps no one person more singularly identified with the University of Georgia than Vince Dooley, the architect of the athletic program's modern-day explosive growth and the shepherd of all things "dawg." – Chris Starrs, The New Georgia Encyclopedia.

FOR MANY GEORGIANS – AND CERTAINLY MOST NON-Georgians – that probably sums up what they know about Georgia's legendary football coach and athletic director. With good reason.

His teams won 201 games, a national championship and six SEC Championships in his 24 seasons as coach. He took the Bulldogs to 20 bowl games, was named NCAA National Coach of the Year in 1980 and 1982, and SEC Coach of the Year seven times. He is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame, the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, The Sun Bowl Hall of Fame, and was inducted into UGA's Circle of Honor, the highest recognition the school can bestow on its former athletes and coaches. An Alabama native, he is also a member of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

His accomplishments over 25 years as athletic director are as impressive, if not as storied, as his coaching achievements. During that time Georgia teams won 20 national and 75 SEC championships, fundraising grew dramatically, facilities expanded, and recruitment increased, propelling the school to heightened athletic prominence. For those achievements Vince was honored in 2004 with the U.S. Sports Academy's Carl Maddox Sport Management Award and the James Corbett Memorial Award, the highest honor given to athletic administrators by the National Association of Athletic Directors.

His contributions to coaching and athletic administration are significantly defined by his place as the only person ever to hold the presidency of both the American Football Coaches Association and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

Simply put, Vince Dooley is an important part of popular American history. Dig deeper, though, beyond his big-time college athletics career, and American history is also an important part of Vince Dooley.

For him, the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor started more than America's involvement in the Second World War; it ignited a personal interest in history that burns as brightly today as it did in December 1941.

Raised in Mobile, Coach Dooley's early years were shaped by cardboard-stuffed shoes and other remnants of the Great Depression. *National Geographic* magazine provided glimpses of a wider, but seemingly unreachable, world. Then came Pearl Harbor.

"I was fascinated with the war as a young boy," he says. "I remember sitting in a crowded drug store near downtown Mobile where we all listened to hours and hours of radio reports about what was happening. World events came to Mobile."

Following high school, where he excelled at sports, Vince left Mobile to play basketball and football at Auburn University. He earned a business degree, but found history courses far more satisfying than his classes in economics, marketing, and management.

After two years in the Marine Corps, he returned to Auburn to coach and to pursue a Master's Degree in

business economics, with a minor in history.

"Once again I enjoyed my history courses more than the business courses, so I switched to a history program" he says, "even though it required completion of 25 hours of additional undergraduate work and would take a lot longer to finish."

"It was tricky. For five years I worked to get what was essentially another undergraduate degree, in history, while working on my graduate degree as well. Since I was coaching, I could only take five hours in winter and spring, and double up in six-week summer sessions. Then it took about a year and half to complete my thesis about Senator James 'Cotton Tom' Heflin, an Alabama Democrat whose colorful political career began in the early 1900s."

All that extra work for the love of history set a pattern, and Vince has been shoehorning scholarly pursuits into his extraordinarily busy coaching and administrative schedules ever since.

"I've audited history classes for years, and still do,"

he says. "I go in, sit down, listen to the lectures, and take notes. At exam time I get up, wish everyone good luck, and leave. It's great. I just enjoy going to school and there is a definite joy in learning. Since I don't play golf one could say that my pursuit of history and horticulture is my golf."

Vince's historical interests are wide-ranging. His early studies concentrated on southern political history, especially southern demagogues like "Cotton Tom," and he maintains an interest in military history, especially the Civil War era. He is member of the Civil War Round Table of Atlanta, the National Civil War Preservation Trust, the Georgia Battle Field Association, and is well on his way to visiting every major Civil War battlefield.

He has historical soft spots for Savannah and the Georgia Historical Society, too.

"I've always liked Savannah because of its similarities to Mobile," he says, "And the Society is a fascinating place, doing a wonderful job preserving Georgia's history and presenting educational programs across the state. I've followed it for years, and recently become more involved. I also made use of the library and archives to prepare for a talk I gave to Savannah's Clan Na Erin Society on St. Patrick's Day."

Noting Vince's growing involvement in the organization, GHS President and CEO Dr. W. Todd Groce credits board member Shell Knox of Augusta with introducing him to Vince. The coach subsequently accepted an invitation to speak at the 2007 Georgia Days luncheon.

"It was a great event, and a great way for Vince to get involved," says Todd. "Three months later, Coach Dooley was elected to the GHS Board of Curators."

"There is a lot of good news about the Society these days, and we need to spread that news around," Vince says. "I hope I'm contributing to the Society in some small way."

Somehow he is making time to do just that. 

For information about giving to the Society, please call Laura Garcia-Culler at 912-651-2125 ext. 36.



THE STATE OF HISTORY

The Georgia Archives: Georgia's Virtual Vault

By David W. Carmichael

VAULT (VÔLT) N. A ROOM OR COMPARTMENT, OFTEN BUILT OF steel, for the safekeeping of valuables.

While most vaults are designed to keep people out, the Virtual Vault is designed to do just the opposite: provide ready access to students, teachers, academic researchers, genealogists, and people who just want to browse through exciting historical treasures. Georgia's Virtual Vault is the online portal of the Georgia Archives, providing access to some of the state's richest historical records.

The Georgia Archives is the official archives of the state government of Georgia. Its collections span the history of colonial and state government and include Governors' records, the Acts of the General Assembly, the state's extant constitutions, and millions of other historical documents. One of the Archives' greatest challenges is to make these records available to researchers from around the world. The Virtual Vault is key to that effort.

The Virtual Vault was first launched by the Georgia Archives in 2005 as a way to give students and teachers easy access to images of historic maps, photographs, and other education-related documents. Since then the Vault has expanded until today it is the portal to over 400,000 online images. The Virtual Vault still contains links to the state education curriculum standards, but it has grown to include a rich variety of maps, photographs, and collections of other documents. These include:

Confederate Pension Applications (1879-1960) The State of Georgia first began giving pensions in 1877 to Confederate soldiers who had lost a limb. The law was gradually broadened to include soldiers who were disabled due to their military service and to indigent soldiers. Indigent widows of Confederate soldiers who died in service or as a result of their service began receiving pensions in 1890. Pension funds also paid medical expenses for final illnesses and funeral expenses for indigent soldiers and widows. Images in the Virtual Vault include applications, supporting documentation, and correspondence for pensioners and, beyond their immense genealogical value, reveal a great deal about living conditions in Georgia during the period.

Georgia Death Certificates (1919-1927) The State of Georgia

passed legislation to provide for the registration of births and deaths by the State Board of Health in 1914, but uniform statewide registration did not begin until 1919. Prior to that time the documentation of deaths in the state depended largely on local laws and usage.

Georgia Power Photograph Collection (ca. 1930-1945) In an effort to persuade businesses that dramatic lighting could increase sales, the Georgia Power Company photographed various business displays before and after lighting installations, often for publication in the company magazine, *Bright Spots*. In so doing, the company accidentally captured a snapshot of Georgia business interiors and exteriors during the 1930s and 1940s that today provides a rare resource for historical researchers.

Touring Georgia (ca. 1970-2000) As part of its mission to "create jobs, and therefore economic well-being, through the promotion of Georgia as a business location or a tourist destination," the Georgia Department of Economic Development has produced many high-quality photographs and slides for use in publications, brochures, and multimedia presentations. Approximately 50,000 of these slides were transferred to the Georgia Archives for permanent preservation in 2005. The images in *Touring Georgia* Collection are a representative sample of the slides now in the archives.

Among the thirteen other collections in the Virtual Vault are images of the Leo Frank Clemency Application, Historic Postcards, Colonial Wills, and many county records, including the earliest deed books from Chatham County. The Vault also includes an "Ad Hoc Collection" that includes images scanned for Archives patrons or exhibits. These random images, though not part of the Archives' regular scanning program, are of great interest to researchers, so they too find a home in the Virtual Vault.

Users may see the Virtual Vault by visiting www.GeorgiaArchives.org and clicking on the Virtual Vault logo. 

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GIVING

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MILESTONES



ANNUAL MEETING: GHS IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE FOLLOWING NEW OFFICERS WERE ELECTED AT THE 169th Annual Meeting on April 17: (above, left to right) Bill Jones III of Sea Island, Chairman; Robert L. Brown of Decatur, Vice Chairman; John C. Helmken II of Savannah, Treasurer; Shell Knox of Augusta, Secretary.



Newly elected to the Board of Curators: (above, left to right) Chris Humes, Savannah, Mark Smith, Savannah, and Michael Thurmond, Atlanta.



Re-elected for a second term: (above, left to right) James Blanchard of Columbus, Phil Jacobs of Atlanta, and John Wallace of Atlanta.



FOOTNOTES

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR
BY STAN DEATON

ASTUTE READERS OF THIS PUBLICATION have no doubt noted that more time than usual has elapsed since the last issue arrived in their mailbox. That is entirely due to the NEH workshops in July, which, while being one of the most professionally rewarding events we've ever held, nonetheless lobbed the proverbial hand grenade into our magazine production schedule. Not ones to be caught flat-footed, we've combined the Summer and Fall issues to help us get back on track. We appreciate your continued patience and support.

GHS Birthday Bash and Awards Gala: GHS is already ramping up in a big way to celebrate Georgia Days 2009 and the 276th anniversary of the founding of the colony. We'll mark the centennial of Johnny Mercer's birth by making him the historical focus of next year's event, culminating on February 14 with the Birthday Bash and Awards Gala. This year's keynote speakers, in keeping with the day, are Washington's best-loved couple, Mary Matalin and James Carville, who will speak on "All's Fair in Love, War, and Politics." Last year's event sold out, so call GHS today or go to www.georgiahistory.com to purchase your tickets.

Fall Lecture: Jacqueline Jones of the University of Texas will be in Savannah on October 23 as part of a national promotional tour to talk about her latest book, *Saving Savannah: The City and the Civil War*, to be published by Alfred. A. Knopf in October. Jones, formerly of Brandeis, is the award-winning author of the landmark study, *Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work, and the Family from Slavery to the Present*, which won the Bancroft Prize. Much of the research for her new book was done at GHS. Join us at Savannah's Wesley Monumental UMC on Calhoun Square at 7 p.m. on October 23. For more information visit our website at www.georgiahistory.com.

Cover to Cover: We hope you've been enjoying the GHS-Georgia Public Broadcasting collaboration on *Cover to Cover*, which airs every Sunday night on Georgia Public Radio. GHS provides history content, and if you missed any of the shows this summer, you can find links to archived broadcasts on www.georgiahistory.com. History interviews coming up: Annette Gordon-Reed on her new book, *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family*, Harold Holzer, *Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter, 1860-1861*, Jon Meacham, *American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House*, David Williams, *Bitterly Divided: The South's Inner Civil War*, Jackie Jones, *Saving Savannah: The City and the Civil War*, and Steven Gillon, *The Pact: Bill Clinton, Newt Gingrich, and the Rivalry that Defined a Generation*.

Latest Good Read: *The Great Upheaval: America and the Birth of the Modern World, 1788-1800* by Jay Winik; *American Creation: Triumphs and Tragedies at the Founding of the Republic* by Joseph J. Ellis; *President Lincoln: The Duty of a Statesman* by William Lee Miller—three good books that remind us during a presidential election season that the world has always been a dangerous and challenging place, that we've faced tremendous political and economic upheaval before, and that great leaders sometimes come from unexpected places. *G*

Stan Deaton is Senior Historian and the editor of *Georgia History Today*. He can be reached at sdeaton@georgiahistory.com.



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HAPPENINGS

OCTOBER 2008

PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Friday, October 10, 8 p.m.
Georgia Public Broadcasting
260 14th Street NW, Atlanta

HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION
Beach Institute
Thursday, October 16, 12 p.m.
502 East Harris Street, Savannah

HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION
St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church
Thursday, October 16, 2 p.m.
441 East Broad Street, Savannah

GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY LECTURE
"Saving Savannah: The City and the Civil War"
JACQUELINE JONES, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN
Thursday, October 23, 7 p.m.
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
429 Abercorn Street, Savannah

DECEMBER 2008

GHS WARLICK AWARD PRESENTATION TO COLUMBUS AFFILIATES
"Saving Private Ryan: WWII in History and Memory"
LECTURE BY W. TODD GROCE, GHS
Thursday, December 4, 12 p.m.
1775 Patriot Street, Columbus, GA

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY WORKSHOPS
In partnership with the Savannah Chatham-County Public School System

THE FOUNDERS AND THE ENLIGHTENMENT
Stan Deaton, Georgia Historical Society
October 17, 2008

THE GILDED AGE: AMERICA AND THE AMERICAN MOGUL
Christy Snider, Berry College
November 14, 2008

LABOR IN INDUSTRIAL AMERICA
Michelle Brattain, Georgia State University
December 12, 2008