Preservation Lyceum Series

Lyceum - (li-se-am), a place for public lectures, debates, classes, concerts and entertainment.

Join the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation for the 2015 season of the Preservation Lyceum Series, a set of weekend programs for preservation-minded individuals who want to know more about, and visit, historic preservation projects in Alabama.

The 19th century Lyceum Movement that flourished in America provided hundreds of informal gatherings for the purpose of improving the social and intellectual landscape of society. Characterized by lectures and public discourse on a variety of topics and musical and theatrical performances in a retreat environment, lyceums peaked during the Antebellum Era. With the exception of the New York Great Lake’s Chautauqua Institute, best known for the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, few remnants of this vibrant phenomenon remain on the national scene.

Drawing from the past, the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation offers the Preservation Lyceum series to travel the highways, byways and crossroads of Alabama exploring, experiencing and engaging in preservation.

SPRING 2015 PRESERVATION LYCEUM WEEKEND

Historic Union Springs, Bullock County

Friday, April 24 – Saturday, April 25

Join the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation to explore historic Union Springs. See the blending of old and new into the historic fabric of Bullock County from its pre-Civil War downtown, to its antebellum homes, to its 19th century churches, to its hunting fields and bird dog traditions.

Bullock County – the Amateur Bird Dog Field Trial Capitol of the World. Whether canine, horse or human, the Union Springs field trials are a special part of the local culture and history.

The National Register of Historic Places lists 47 homes and businesses that have been preserved as standing monuments to Union Springs’ illustrious past.

Cover photograph by Midge Putnam, Tourism Council of Bullock County.
SPRING PRESERVATION LYCEUM  
Historic Union Springs, Bullock County  
Sponsored by the 
The Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, Tourism Council of Bullock County, and the Bullock County Historical Society.

When  
Friday, April 24 – Saturday, April 25

Where  
Union Springs

PROGRAM

Friday Evening

4:00 – 6:00

CHECK-IN/RECEPTION

Penn & Seaborn, LLC Law Office  
110 Highway 53

Check-in for Lyceum participants. Along with a glass of wine, experience this historic-styled building that intentionally blends and complements the rural architecture of Bullock County. Enjoy a tour of the building from the owner and Bullock County native Myron Penn and the chance to peruse a family collection of historic Bullock County photographs.

Wine and cheese reception courtesy of Penn & Seaborn.

6:15 – 9:30

DINNER AND THEATRE

Enjoy dinner and theatre – a favorite weekend entertainment for Bullock County residents. A special, optional extra for Lyceum registrations. See registration form for dinner and theatre ticket cost.

6:15 – 7:00

DINNER

First United Methodist Church (1903-1904)  
101 South Powell Street

The original First United Methodist Church (1861) built on the site was replaced with the present-day Gothic Revival building that exhibits the finest example of German art-glass windows in the South.
The interior of the sanctuary is largely preserved as it appeared more than a century ago. BBQ dinner, Bullock County style, with homemade desserts by Union Springs' best bakers.

**THEATRE PERFORMANCE – CONECUH PEOPLE**

**Red Door Theatre**  
Corner of Prairie Street and Blackmon Avenue

Formerly Trinity Episcopal Church (1890-1920), the building was re-adapted as a community theatre in 2002. It retains the church's original German art-stained glass windows and Gothic architectural elements. *Conecuh People* is a collection of monologues compiled by Bullock County native Wade Hall and adapted for theatre.

**Saturday Morning**

**9:00 – 9:15**

**CHECK-IN AND WELCOME**

Red Door Theatre  
Corner of Prairie Street and Blackmon Avenue

**9:15 – 9:45**

**BACK THEN AND BACK STATE**


**10:00 – 11:30**

**WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN UNION SPRINGS**

Walk North Prairie Street, Union Spring’s historic downtown, with local historians. The street is part of the Bullock County Courthouse Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. Experience a snapshot of this historic southern town, once a commercial center for Alabama’s Wiregrass. Comfortable walking shoes recommended.

Tour includes the following sites, among others:

**First Baptist Church**

105 North Prairie Street

The 1903 brick facade covers the original wood frame structure built in 1859. A slave gallery remains as a reminder of the past. During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, the church was a main headquarters for voter registration and the site of many mass meetings.
**Pauly Jail Museum**  
Located behind the Courthouse building.

The 1897 building retains its gallows and trap door.

**Bullock County Courthouse**  
217 North Prairie Street

One of two Second-Empire styled courthouses (1871-72) in Alabama, the building predates the Pauly Jail. The courthouse was patterned after the U.S. Executive Building (the old State, War and Navy Building) in Washington, D.C. (1871-1888) commissioned by President U.S. Grant.

**Jinks, Crow and Dickson Law Office**  
291 North Prairie Street

Formerly the Bullock County Bank Building (1887), it was restored and re-adapted for the firm’s law office. Lynn Jinks acquired the first building in 1979. Since then, five separate, major renovation projects have been completed to place the buildings in their current condition.

Originally three separate structures, the buildings were constructed in approximately 1887 after a fire destroyed this block of North Prairie Street. The buildings had many uses, including a bank, funeral home, telegraph and later telephone office, dress shop, beauty shop and hardware store.

**Masonic Lodge Building**  
303 North Prairie Street

The Masonic Lodge building (1888), formerly the Union Springs City Hall, now serves as the City Police Station. Historically, the lodge was housed on the third floor; while the first floor provided shelter for the City’s fire engines.

**Main’s Pharmacy**  
302 N. Prairie Street

Main Drug Store (1867) was opened by Gordon A. Main (better known as Pete) in 1944. It remains a family-owned pharmacy serving generations of Bullock County residents. The building was the first brick building on Prairie Street and operated as a mercantile store with a saloon in the basement. Rather than locally made moonshine, today free coffee is offered to visitors.

**Old Eley Opera House**  
212 North Prairie Street

The historic opera house (1896) hosted theatrical performances on the second floor. The building was remodeled in 1966 to become the First National Bank building and in 2003 became the Union Springs City Hall.
The Old Josephine Hotel
130 North Prairie Street

Notice the metal door threshold that reads “Josephine 1880” in honor of the builder R.A. Fleming’s wife. Later called the Drummer’s, Central and Commercial Hotel, the building has a long history of hospitality. During the mid-20th century, the tradition of the Bird Supper was an annual event for quail hunters and guests. The old hotel is undergoing re-adaptive renovations for a cultural arts center.

Old City Cemetery/Log Cabin Museum

The Old City Cemetery is the final resting place for some of Bullock County’s earliest settlers. The Confederate Monument, formerly located where the Bird Dog Monument is located, stands guard over Union and Confederate dead interred in the cemetery grounds.

11:45 – 12:15
Return to car for travel to Sedgefield Plantation lunch and tour with stops at the following historic churches of Union Springs:

First Missionary Baptist Church
108 Holcombe Avenue

The original church, a frame building (1891), was destroyed by a storm. The brick building that replaced it retains the style of the original building. Immediately behind the church is the coal chute (1925) on the old Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad.

Wayman Chapel African Methodist Episcopal
107 Cooper Street

Stop and tour the Gothic Revival in style, the church was built in 1882 and modeled after its mother Pennsylvania mother church.

Presbyterian Church
203 East Hardaway Avenue

Designed by a Philadelphia architect and modeled after a Pennsylvania Congregational Church, the Union Spring’s Presbyterian Church (1883) has a steeply pitched roof and exceptional fine stained glass windows.

Saturday Afternoon

12:30 – 1:15

LUNCH

Field Trial Headquarters Building
**Sedgefield Plantation**  
22377 Highway 29, Union Springs

**National Amateur Free-for-All Bird Dog Field Trials**  
Site of the National Amateur field trials held annually in February, the plantation’s 14,000 acres were formerly a part of the Maytag Estate. Lewis B. Maytag, known for his patented washing machine, developed Sedgefield Plantation in the 1930s and established the National Amateur Shooting Dog Championships, which drew Hollywood stars and U.S. business leaders, among others.

*Box lunch catered by Hilltop Grill.*

**1:30 – 2:30**  
**Bird Dog Kennels and Show Barn**  
Sedgefield Plantation  

Guided tour by Sedgefield Plantation’s estate manager, Jason Howard. Today, this national tradition has been revitalized by Kathryn and Raymond Harbert. The dog kennels and show barn are new buildings that illustrate the blending of 21st century architecture with that of past centuries.

*Courtesy of owners Kathryn and Raymond Harbert.*

**2:45 – 4:15**  
**HISTORIC HOMES TOUR**  

Enjoy a leisurely driving tour of Union Springs’ historic North Prairie Avenue-Chunnenugee Ridge neighborhoods. Three homes will be open for touring by Lyceum participants.

**Historic Pierce-Chancey-Jinks House**  
329 North Prairie Street  

The Pierce-Chancey-Jinks House (1931), with its two-storied columned portico, welcomes visitors to the historic North Prairie-Chunnenugee Ridge neighborhood. The original owner, E. J. Pierce, named the Classical Revival-styled house “Piercliff.” The current owners, Charlotte and Lynn Jinks, purchased the house in 1979. They are pleased to open their home to Lyceum participants.

*Tour of home courtesy of owners Charlotte and Lynn Jinks.*

**Cope-Parsley House**  
305 East Hardaway Avenue  

Built by E. H. Cope, the historic Queen Anne-styled house (1903) is noted for its turret finials and leaded-glass windows.

*Tour of home courtesy of owners Natalie and Mark Parsley.*
Laurel Hill Foster-Durr-Chapman House
201 Kennon Street

Built by Dr. Sterling Foster, the Greek Revival-style house (1852-1856) has an unusual Gothic-style trim on the front portico. It was the ancestral home of Virginia Foster Durr, a founding member, with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The house was listed on the National Register for Historic Places in 1998.

Courtesy of homeowners Martha and Richard Chapman.

CLOSE OF DAY – WINE AND CHEESE
18225 Highway 82 West, Union Springs

Gather together at the close of day to enjoy a little libation sipping at the home of Renita and Tommy Main. Enjoy the fellowship and experience of their home, a modified dog trot-styled house with its fireplaces and back porch for easy, casual living.

Courtesy of homeowners and hosts Renita and Tommy Main.

Saturday Evening

RED DOOR THEATRE AND DINNER (ON YOUR OWN)

Red Door Theatre
For those who missed Friday night’s dinner and theatre performance of Conecuh People at the Red Door Theatre, reservations are available for Saturday night. Call 334-738-8687.

Hilltop Grill
18627 Highway 82, Union Springs
Saturday hours, 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.
www.alabama.travel/places-to-go/hilltop-grill
334-738-3000

The Old Josephine Hotel
130 North Prairie Street
(334) 703-0098

82 West Pub and Grill
18502 US-82, Union Springs
334-738-8182

FRIDAY AND SUNDAY TOURING – SELF-GUIDED

Oak Hill Cemetery
North end of Kennon Street, Union Springs
Located on the rolling hills overlooking the city, Oak Hill Cemetery is the final resting place for approximately 150 Confederate soldiers.

**The Old Josephine Hotel**

130 North Prairie Street  
(334) 703-0098  
artatjosephine.com

Open from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. and perfect for a stroll down this main street of Union Springs. Stop and visit the nineteenth century Josephine Hotel. Step back in time to a by-gone era with an ice cream treat and even stay for dinner. Tour the hotel with proprietress Joyce Perrin. Browse the Josephine’s collection of archival photographs of Bullock County and learn more about the vision for the hotel as a Cultural Arts Center.

**Old Merritt School**

703 Old Troy Rd, Midway

A Rosenwald School, the 1922 white frame structure was a school for Black elementary-age children. The original two-acre property on which the school sits was sold for $5 by Midway resident, Elizabeth Merritt. Later, Frank and Mable Merritt deeded additional property for the expansion of the Midway Colored Public School.

The school was built with matching dollars from The Julius Rosenwald Fund and featured oak and pine construction. Two classrooms were divided by a partition. The Merrick School is one of very few surviving Rosenwald Schools, which numbered among 5,000 rural Black schools in the South. Today it is used as a community center:

The Merrick School was added to the *Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage* in 1990 and the *National Register of Historic Places* in 1998.

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

When making hotel reservations, ask for the group rate for the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. Rates differ by accommodations.

**Great Southern Outdoors**

11440 Highway 82 W, Union Springs

Lyceum Rate: $85 per night for hotel rooms, sleeps two ea; $125 per night for cabins, sleeps 4 ea.  
Rates include continental breakfast.  
For reservations, call Ginger at 334-738-5066.

**Shanks-Nidds House (1860) - B&B**

117 Kennon Street, Union Springs

Lyceum Rate per night: $125 per bedroom,  
2 bedroom minimum reservation, sleeps two each;  
$50 for third bedroom  
For reservations, call Bullock County Tourism at (334) 738-8687 or email tourismbullockcounty@yahoo.com.

**Shenandoah Plantation**

1193 Wildlife Trail, Union Springs

Lyceum Rate per night: $125 for double room/$50 for 3rd. Rates include continental breakfast.  
For reservations, call Kellie Ezell at (334) 321-4992.
OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS
When making hotel reservations, ask for the group rate for the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. No group rate applies.

**Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center – Tuskegee University**
1 Booker T. Washington Blvd, Tuskegee
Rate: $99 per night
For reservations, call 334-727-3000
Distance: 20 – 22 miles from Union Springs

**Hampton Inn - Troy**
103 Troy Plaza Loop, Troy
Rate: $110 per night
For reservations, call 334-807-5900
Distance: 28 miles

**Courtyard by Troy - Marriott**
115 Plaza Loop, Troy
Rate: $139 per night
For reservations, call 334-566-0540
Distance: 28 miles

**Hampton Inn - Montgomery**
7651 Eastchase Parkway, Montgomery
(Near I-85, Exit 11 to Highway 110-S to Union Springs)
Rate: $126 per night
For reservations, call 334-277-1818
Distance: 30 miles

PRESERVATION LYCEUM REGISTRATION
**Spring, 2015 – Union Springs**
Lyceum Weekend packets with tour information will be available for pick-up on Friday afternoon during the Penn Seaborn Reception or Saturday morning Check-In at the Red Door Theatre.

**REGISTRATION FEE**
Registration fee includes Friday and Saturday receptions and Saturday lunch.

**For ATHP Members**
$50 per person

**For Non-Members**
$75 per person
Spring 2015 – Union Springs
REGISTRATION FORM

Union Springs

To make reservations by phone, call the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation at 205-652-3497.

Name(s)____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Daytime Phone________________________________________________________ E-mail ____________________________

ATHP Members   # Reservations ____ $____
$50 per reservation

Non-Members   # Reservations ____ $____
$75 per reservation
Fee includes one-year membership

EVENTS

Friday Night – Welcoming Reception   # Reservations ____ $____

Friday Night BBQ Dinner   (Dinner; $15 per reservation, not included in Lyceum registration fee.)
   # Reservations ____ $____

Friday Night Theatre Performance   (Tickets, $15 per person, not included in Lyceum registration fee.)
   # Reservations ____ $____

Saturday Lunch   (Included in Lyceum registration fee.)
   # Reservations ____ $____

Saturday Afternoon Wine and Cheese   (Included in Lyceum registration fee.)
   # Reservations ____ $____

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE(S) $____

CONTRIBUTIONS

Alabama Trust For Historic Preservation $____

Alice Bowsher Operating Reserve Fund $____

Endangered Properties Trust Fund $____

TOTAL $____

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
If paying by check, make check payable to the **Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation**. Mail to: ATHP, UWA Station 45, Livingston, AL 35470.

If Payment by **Credit Card**, mail to the ATHP, UWA Station 45, Livingston, AL 35470 or call 205-652-3497.

Master Card ____ Visa ____

Name on Card: ____________________________

Address on Card: ____________________________

Card Number: ____________________________ Date of Expiration: ________________

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________

**To make reservations by phone, call the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation at 205-652-3497.**

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The Red Door Theatre, Union Springs