



PRESERVATION
Lyceum
SERIES

2013

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 second season of the Preservation Lyceum Series, a set of quarterly 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. The spring 2013 Lyceum Weekend, April 5 -6, explores Alabama's Wiregrass and takes a look at the re-adaptive use of historic buildings into cultural arts and commercial venues for the 21st century.

From the late 1700s into the 1800s, horse and ox-drawn covered wagons from the coastal cities of Charleston, Savannah and Jacksonville, creaked and groaned across the south as pioneers searched for a place to start a new life. These early settlers passed through the vast pine forests in the southeast corner of what would become the state of Alabama. Some stopped to rest at Poplar Head, where a spring of cool water welled from the ground. Some stayed, some moved on.

Poplar Head, named for the poplar trees that encircled the glade where the head of the spring was located, was also where ancient Indian trails met, crossed and then continued. By 1885, the hamlet of Poplar Head had grown into a village and in 1885 into the incorporated town of Dothan.

From the days of Alabama's early agrarian settlers, to the Peanut Capitol of the world, Dothan in the 21st century is at an intersection of its past with its future. Join the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation for this Preservation Lyceum Weekend in the heart of Alabama's Wiregrass.

Photograph courtesy of Nick Stakelum



SPRING PRESERVATION LYCEUM

Sponsored by the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, Dothan Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, Cultural Arts Center and Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Commission.

When

Friday, April 5 – Saturday, April 6, 2013

Where

Dothan

PROGRAM

FRIDAY EVENING

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Cocktails & the Cultural Arts

909 S St. Andrews Street

Enjoy cocktails and hors d'œuvres in Dothan's historic Cultural Arts Center building, the 1900's Southside Elementary School, re-adapted in 2002 as a space for arts and service organizations. The Center is an active venue for artists to gather and perform. Theatre, dance and jazz are a few of the notes gracing those who work and visit the old school. Tour the Center and learn more about promoting the arts and historic preservation from Ann Cotton, executive director. To complement the evening, enjoy the little taste of the local arts with selected performances by members of the Tri-State Community Orchestra, Wiregrass Youth Symphony, Southeast Alabama Community Theatre and more.

Dining About Town

Explore the cultural and historic heart of Dothan. Choose from a number of restaurants in the historic district for dinner. See listing of restaurants at end of program.

SATURDAY MORNING

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration/Check-In

Landmark Park Visitors Center

430 Landmark Drive

off of U.S. Hwy 431, 2.7 miles north of Ross Clark Circle



9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

INTERPRETING THE PAST IN THE PRESENT

Landmark Park

Designated as Alabama's official museum of agriculture, Landmark Park interprets the historical heritage and natural history of the Wiregrass region. Examine the challenges and solutions of managing a historic museum. Begin the day with a guided tour of the Park. Hear from park officials the behind-the-scenes stories of historic site management and programs, while learning about the history of the region. Tour includes visits to a 1890's living history farm, one-room school house and late 19th century church.

LUNCH

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.

THE BASKETCASE CAFÉ

228 Oates Street

Lunch includes remarks and overview of the preservation and redevelopment of Dothan's historic downtown commercial district by Jansen Tidmore, executive director, Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

HISTORY AND CULTURE – OLD AND NEW – MAKING IT HAPPEN

Guided walking tour of Dothan's historic downtown district with visits to selected historic buildings re-adapted for commercial and culture venues. Meet the people who make it happen and learn what can be preserved and used in Alabama's towns and cities. (Comfortable walking shoes recommended.)

HISTORIC HOWELL SCHOOL

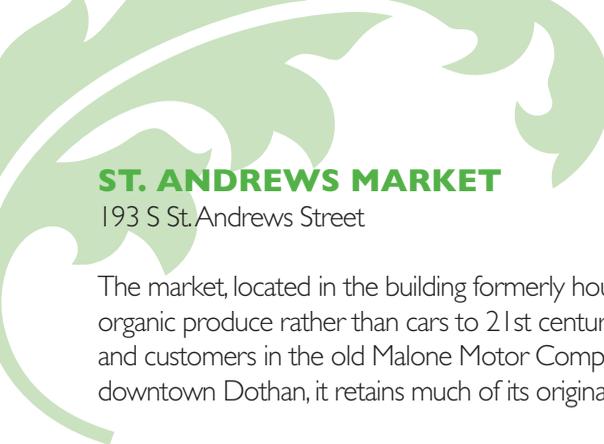
Corner of Burdeshaw and Cherry Streets

Named to the 2012 Alabama Places in Peril listing by the Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation, the Howell School (circa 1902) is a Dothan architectural landmark. Until 1942, Howell was the city's main grammar school. The Downtown Dothan Redevelopment Authority working with historic developers will preserve the building as re-adaptive space for senior living.

WIREGRASS MUSEUM OF ART

126 Museum Avenue

The Museum is housed in Dothan's former Water and Electric Building (circa 1912-1913). Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the former W&E building became Dothan's art museum in 1988. Today, the Wiregrass Museum of Art is one of the foremost cultural institutions in the region.



ST. ANDREWS MARKET

193 S St. Andrews Street

The market, located in the building formerly housing the first Ford dealership in Dothan, moves fresh organic produce rather than cars to 21st century buyers. Farmers, artists and craftsmen mingle with visitors and customers in the old Malone Motor Company (circa 1912). One of the oldest historic buildings in downtown Dothan, it retains much of its original architecture.

HISTORIC DOTHAN OPERA HOUSE

126 N St. Andrews Street

When the city fathers built the Dothan Opera House (circa 1915), the acoustics of this early 20th century structure were so good that the Atlanta Symphony chose it as the place to record their records. Recently renovated, the Victorian- styled venue is on the National Register of Historic Buildings. Performances at the Opera House have been entertaining audiences for 98 years.

HISTORIC FOSTER STREET

The Forster Street tour will begin at the Howell School. Corner of Burdeshaw and Cherrt Streets.

One of the oldest sections of historic Dothan's commercial center, Foster Street retains its historic flavor, while adding zest to downtown commerce. It is now the downtown home to a bakery, coffee shop and other interesting venues.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

COCKTAILS IN THE GARDEN DISTRICT

1110 Laurel Avenue

End the weekend with cocktails and conviviality with progressive visits (and drinks) to historic homes in Dothan's Garden District. The Garden District, which dates from 1928, is one of the earliest planned residential neighborhoods in the city. Adjacent to the Dothan Country Club, constructed during the same era, the historic district is characterized by homes of differing architectural styles furnished with Dothan memorabilia and historical artifacts..

SATURDAY EVENING

7:00 p.m.

DINING AROUND THE WIREGRASS

Enjoy the culinary experience of the Dothan from a choice of cuisines. Choose your favorite culinary flavor and enjoy a leisurely dining experience in the Wiregrass on an early spring evening in south Alabama. See listing on the next page.



DINING IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DOTHAN

Mia Bella's

111 West Troy Street
(334) 699-3449

Nektar Café and Wine Bar

161 E Main Street
(334) 677-7727

The District Ultra Lounge

158 N Foster Street
(334) 673-2623

The River Nile Trading Co.

151 N Foster Street
(334) 792-6465

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Courtyard by Marriott

3040 Ross Clark Circle, Dothan

For Reservations:

For hotel reservations, call (334) 671-3000.

Request rate for the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation or the Preservation Lyceum Weekend.

Group Rate: \$84 per night plus tax for King or Double-Bed accommodations.

Deadline for Group Rate: Monday, April 1st.

PRESERVATION LYCEUM REGISTRATION

Spring, 2013 – Dothan

Lyceum Weekend packets with tour information will be available for pick-up on Friday evening at the Cultural Arts Center event.

For ATHP Members

\$50 per person

Includes Friday and Saturday cocktail parties and Saturday lunch.

For Non-Members

\$75 per person

Includes Friday and Saturday cocktail parties and Saturday lunch and one year membership.

