

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT**

**GEORGETOWN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

*ADOPTED BY COUNTY COUNCIL APRIL 13, 2010*

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

Section 1	Introduction	1
Section 2	History of Georgetown County	1
Section 3	Historic Sites	9
Section 4	Historic Districts	33
Section 5	Historic House Tours	35
Section 6	Major Events	37
Section 7	Concerts, Classes and Lecture Series	41
Section 8	Art	44
Section 9	Theaters	47
Section 10	Nature Interpretation	48
Section 11	Organizations/Programs	55
Section 12	Planned Projects	61
Section 13	Needs, Goals, and Strategies with Timelines	62

*"The river flows through landscape lost; By storied ruins of the past,  
The river finds the ancient coast, The rolling surge, the ocean vast;  
There where the craggy cedars mark Through vistas, opening on the foam,  
The floodtide flowing full and dark, The pacing of the ebb tide home."*

*Archibald Rutledge, South Carolina*

## **Introduction**

Cultural resources include both tangible and intangible assets especially those that emphasize culture specific to the local region. Tangible resources may be paintings, sculptures, or plantation houses. Intangible resources involve interpretative arts such as storytelling and drama. Georgetown County is rich in cultural resources based upon the history of the county. There are a number of major events celebrating history, art, and nature of the region as well as the opportunity to attend lectures, concerts and classes.

## **History of Georgetown County**

*"There was a railroad at Pawleys that ran four miles to the river and a ferry down the peaceful river to Georgetown. With the highway, there's 12 miles of uninterrupted forest and wildflowers that passes by the Hobcaw Barony, where Presidents enjoyed solitude and nature. There are 17,500 acres of forest and wetlands set aside from intrusion for all to enjoy".*

The history of Georgetown County provides an understanding to the modern-day Georgetown County and its cultural resources.

### First Inhabitants

Native Americans were the first inhabitants of Georgetown County. They were nomadic family groups with names including Pee Dee (coming and going), Wee Nee (black water or dark water people) Waccamaw, Winyah, and Santee. They fished from the ocean and rivers, hunted game in the forest-land, and picked berries and fruits. The first Europeans came in 1526; under the Spanish leadership of Lucas Vesquez de Ayllon, who settled on the banks of the Winyah Bay.

By the mid-1600's, English and French outposts sprang up, and trade was established with the natives. The swamps and rivers were home to alligators, poisonous snakes, mosquitoes, and bordered with an impregnable growth of vines and cane. These tidelands were eventually tamed and the rivers served as highways for trade. The Native Americans were eventually conquered and vanished from the area. Artifacts of pottery, arrow points and crude tools made from seashells have been recovered as well as oral legends of the tribes.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

### Seaport

Georgetown was a busy seaport for imports and exports by 1729. The citizens of the Georgetown District petitioned the King of England to have a port, which was officially granted in 1732 with the arrival of the King's 'Collector of Customs'. The slow and heavily laden merchant ships navigated close to the shoreline to avoid pirates hidden in the barrier islands.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

## The Revolution

By the middle of the 18th century, Georgetown County was a dominant indigo and rice planting region, with a well-developed class of prominent and influential planter families. They prided themselves in being highly literate and kept up with current events. They began to resent the burden of taxation placed on their imports and exports by England.

Notable planters who were essential to the fight for independence from England in the Revolution included Christopher Gadsden of Beneventum Plantation who is remembered for the flag he designed: "Don't Tread on Me!"; Francis Marion, the legendary "Swamp Fox", who almost single-handedly defeated the British in this area; and Thomas Lynch, Jr., who was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence.

During the Revolution in 1781 Lord Cornwallis chose his headquarters Brookgreen Plantation, Waccamaw, owned and occupied by the widow of Captain William Allston of the Continental Army. Planters on Waccamaw contributed men, money, and materials toward building defenses to guard Winyah Bay. Defenses were on North and South Islands, Fort Randall at the entrance to Little River and Foil Ward, which may have been Murrell's Inlet.

On December 14, 1782 the British evacuated Charleston. The end of the war began a reformation of society in Georgetown. Wealth would now be controlled by the people of Georgetown rather than England.

Sources: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

George C. Rogers, Jr. The History of Georgetown County South Carolina. The Reprint Company, Spartanburg, SC 1990.

## Civil War

The wealth of the plantations was possible because of the accepted system of slavery. The cultivation of rice required an extraordinary amount of hard human labor, as did the upkeep of the plantation house and grounds. Some of the largest slave-holding plantations in the South were along the Waccamaw River, averaging 200 to 500 slaves each. The largest plantation in the area had 1,121 slaves. With the Emancipation Proclamation and the ending of the Civil War, slavery was abolished. There were no major battles recorded in Georgetown, however, the Port of Georgetown was blocked by Union Forces. The Belle Isle Battery, which protected the mouth of Winyah Bay, can still be viewed today.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history/](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history/)

## Crops

### *Indigo*

Indigo is the rarest of dyes because blue is the most difficult color to produce. Indigo production gave Georgetown County its first real economic wealth. This crop created an aristocratic society of planters called the "Winyah Indigo Society" and provided financial independence from England. Indigo plants grew wild all along the coastal plains so it was a natural transition for the cleared land to be used for cultivating.

The trade created fortunes that rivaled the wealth of European royalty because it was in high demand. By the end of the 18th century, however, India and the East Indies began producing indigo. Prices fell and Georgetown planters began turning to rice cultivation. Wild, perennial indigo plants can still be seen in the spring along the roadsides of Georgetown County.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

The indigo culture in the Carolina colony was made possible by an “expert Negro dye maker” who taught Eliza Lucas Pickney how to process Indigo. The rice culture was made possible by African slaves as well. Historians agree that European settlers did not know how to cultivate rice like the slaves who had cultivated rice in West Africa and in the New World prior to the settlement of the Carolina colony. The work done by enslaved Africans for indigo and rice cultivation generated the economic success and wealth in Georgetown County, South Carolina, and British Colonial America.

Source: Harriot Horry Ravenel’s *Eliza Pickney* (1896 p. 105)

### *Rice*

By 1840, Georgetown was the leader in the United States for rice growing producing almost half of the country’s crop. The tide-controlled fresh water rivers and rich, loamy, marshy areas made ideal conditions for planting rice. The original rice seeds were brought in from Madagascar to the port of Charleston around 1680. By the late 1700s, over 40,000 acres were cleared and 780 miles of canals were dug to create the second largest rice culture the world has ever known.

Through the years, the planting and growing of rice was experimented with and perfected, until by the 19th century, an average of 32,000,000 bushels of rice was being exported from this region, with the best year producing 56,000,000 bushels. Grocers in England praised the singular quality of “Carolina Gold” rice above all other rice. For over a century a single agricultural crop sustained the economy of Georgetown. The county prospered and plantation mansions were hallmarks of southern aristocracy.

The cultivation of rice required an extraordinary amount of hard human labor, as did the upkeep of the plantation house and grounds. Slaves were used for this labor. After the Emancipation Proclamation abolished slavery, a few rice producing plantations continued to operate but were destroyed by hurricanes. The last commercial rice harvest in Georgetown County was in 1919.

Sources: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

George C. Rogers, Jr. *The History of Georgetown County South Carolina*. The Reprint Company, Spartanburg, SC 1990.

### *Salt*

By 1780, enough salt was being processed on the islands, and stored in the Salt House in Georgetown or in storehouses on plantations, to be of importance in the American Revolution. Eighty years later, salt from the beaches was used to supply the Confederate soldiers. Pawleys Island had several active salt vats until 1863 when the Civil War closed them down. According

to recorded accounts from Robert F.W. Allston in 1864, the sales of salt, from August through October of that one year, amounted to \$8,501.48.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

### *Mills and Timber*

As Georgetown moved into the 20th century, timbering the forest land became a source of wealth. The lumber business flourished because the port city was linked to the world by the river. Mills sprang up on account of the railway and the river system. The Atlantic Coast Lumber Company was the largest in the world. Other goods included turpentine, pine rosin, shingles, furniture, DuPont wood alcohol and dynamite mill.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

In 1936, International Paper's Southern Kraft Corporation started construction of Georgetown, South Carolina Kraft mill. Today they are responsible for the majority of the County's agricultural forest land and raising a renewable resource.

Source: [www.internationalpaper.com](http://www.internationalpaper.com)

### Hot and Hot Fish Club

The Hot and Hot Fish Club was an association of planters, doctors and men of note in the All Saints Parrish. The social club formed in 1812 and met every Friday afternoon from June through October at their clubhouse at Midway Seashore, behind the northern end of Pawley's. Members of the club described their past time spent on the island as the "happiest hours" of their lives.

The original "Hot and Hot Fish Club" was probably the first dining establishment in Murrells Inlet. The first of five recorded clubhouses was said to be on Drunken Jack Island, located just a few miles south of the present-day Hot Fish Club Restaurant, near what is now Huntington Beach State Park. The Civil War brought an end to the club and it was destroyed in 1865. The shifting sand bar off the coast of Huntington Beach State Park is now all that remains of the original site of that Hot and Hot Fish Club. The historical marker for the site was erected by the Georgetown County Historical Society in 1978.

Sources: [www.waymarking.com](http://www.waymarking.com) and [www.hotfishclub.com](http://www.hotfishclub.com)

### Islands and Inlets

#### *Murrells Inlet*

*"Coming into Murrells Inlet, the visitor found a rambling village with sections named Sunnyside, Cedar Hill and a small island called Drunken Jack's, plus a lodge or two to feed the fishermen and the few vacationing families, and a small fishing fleet. Who would have dreamed that it would grow into the Seafood Capital that it is today?"*

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

People who summered in Murrells Inlet in the 1800s generally traveled to Conway or Georgetown by train and picked up a steamboat that docked at the Wachesaw River landing. A horse and buggy or oxen cart carried travelers and their belongings to their cottages. The river steamboats were known for serving excellent food. Many of the steamboats' cooks settled in Murrells Inlet and opened their own restaurants, giving the area a reputation for savory cuisine long ago. Also in the 1800s, pirates sailed the coastline and hid in the Inlet's winding creeks.

The Civil War came to Murrells Inlet's shores in 1863. Union warships attacked the Confederacy's blockade-runners that used the Inlet as a port to sneak cotton and other products to England in exchange for war materials, food and medicine. The war caused the decline of the rice culture. By then, commercial fishing was a popular industry with catches shipped north on schooners. Recreational fishing also became part of the landscape and in 1914, captain-led fishing excursions out of the Inlet on 20-foot skiffs cost \$5 per person for a day trip.

Murrells Inlet became the official name of the village by the post office in 1931. The origin of the name is unknown. More restaurants, marinas and private homes have emerged in the village, however, a variety of local tours provide a link to the history of the area.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com/history](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com/history)

### *Sandy Island*

Sandy Island is a private river island community that was home to 1,100 acres of plantations along the Waccamaw River in the 1800's. The island is located between the Waccamaw and Great Pee Dee Rivers and represents the largest undeveloped tract remaining in the Waccamaw Neck. The plantations ceased to operate after the Civil War. At the height of the Great Depression, Archer Milton Huntington from New York built a church, medical clinic and community center for the residents of Sandy Island community. Today, a few structures used for rice culture are still intact.

About 1878, Phillip Washington, who was a former slave and had worked as a manager on Thomas Petigru's Pipe Down plantation, bought land on Mount Arena, and initialized purchase of land for a church, New Bethel Baptist. This started the first wave of land ownership for black Sandy Islanders. In 1882, Washington, purchased 320 acres at Mt. Arena. He is believed to have rented the land and worked it for several years before purchasing it. Washington's production matched or exceeded that of other farms in the county.

There are approximately 120 residents on Sandy Island and the vast majority is African-America. The majority of the island is now owned by the State of South Carolina and protected from development.

Sources: [www.theharborwalk.com/Harborwalk\\_Jul08\\_2\\_Harborwalk](http://www.theharborwalk.com/Harborwalk_Jul08_2_Harborwalk);

[www.toursdesandyisland.com/history](http://www.toursdesandyisland.com/history); <http://diachronic.us/content/Sandy%20Island%20Booklet>

[www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina/preserves/art1635.html](http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina/preserves/art1635.html)

### *Waccamaw Neck*

Waccamaw Neck is the area of Georgetown County about thirty miles in length and two to three miles in width, lying between the Atlantic Ocean and the Waccamaw River, and between the Horry County line and the City of Georgetown. The earliest settlers of this area were members of the All Saints Episcopal Church, which was established by an act of the Colonial Assembly of South Carolina on May 23, 1767. George Pawley II gave the land to the church to build the first chapel. Today the "Neck" is the primary tourist destination for the County.

### *Magnolia Beach*

Magnolia Beach, most of which is now Litchfield Beach, was hit by a hurricane called the "Great Storm" on October 13, 1893. Every house but one was destroyed (Mrs. L.C. Hasell's house). A portion of the original beach has become part of Huntington Beach State Park.

Sources: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

Charlotte Kaminski Prevost and Effie Leland Wilder. Pawley's Island...a living legend: By The State Printing Company, Columbia, SC, Copyright 1972.

### *McKenzie Beach*

Frank McKenzie and Mrs. Lillian Pyatt were black natives of Pawleys Island. In the 1930's, they purchased land that extended from Highway 17 to the Atlantic Ocean. The area became known as McKenzie Beach and had numerous summer homes and a small motel built between the creek and the highway. The beach was visited annually by black tourists from South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina. Caravans of buses passing through Georgetown, Andrews, and Conway on the way to McKenzie Beach was a common sight. When hurricane Hazel hit in 1954, much of McKenzie Beach, including the bridge that crossed the creek to the beach, was destroyed. The bridge was not rebuilt due to federal regulations.

### *Pawleys Island*

Pawleys Island has been a destination for visitors since the late 1700's. It is one of the oldest beach resorts on the Eastern coast. The island was named for three brothers named George, Anthony, and Percival Pawley. Descendants from the Pawley family married into prominent Waccamaw rice-planting families including Morrall, Vaux, Allston, LaBruce, Nesbit, and Waring. The plantation families were the ones who first began using Pawley's and neighboring islands for summer living because of the "summer fever" or "country fever" that occurred on Waccamaw plantations from May to November. In 1845, Robert F. W. Allston built a causeway called "Allston's Bank" from the mainland to the island. This causeway is now paved and used today.

Many of the original houses were destroyed by the Great Hurricane of 1822. Most of the old homes now standing on Pawley's Island can be traced to the 1858 plat that represents the land grant of 366 acres to Col. Peter W. Fraser. He was granted this land "on Pawley's Island waters of the Atlantic Ocean, bounding North by an Inlet, East by the Ocean, South by Col. T.P. Alston, and West by a creek" on February 22, 1842. The southern section, owned by Col. Thomas Pinckney Alston in 1842, and known as "The Bird Nest", was sold by him in 1859 to Plowden C. J. Weston. This property, changing in acreage over the years as the sea shifted the inlet, is now the southernmost point of Pawley's Island.

In 1954, Hurricane Hazel caused severe destruction on the South Carolina Coast. Hurricane Hugo also caused severe destruction when it hit in 1989.

Source: Charlotte Kaminski Prevost and Effie Leland Wilder. Pawley's Island...a living legend: By The State Printing Company, Columbia, SC, Copyright 1972.

### *DeBordieu Colony*

The island south of Pawley's was called Yahany as was also the lower inlet. Now known as DeBordieu Colony, it is one of the oldest coastal communities on the East Coast. Rice plantation owners built a colony of homes at DeBordieu. After the Civil War, businessmen from the North bought the land and built winter homes and hunting retreats. Dr. Isaac Emerson, the "Bromo-Seltzer King" purchased many of the plantations, which eventually were inherited by his grandson, George Vanderbilt. They remained in the family until 1970 when Lucille Vanderbilt sold a portion to Wallace F. Pate who began developing the property. DeBordieu still has only 1,250 home sites on 2,700 acres and hundreds of undeveloped acres that have been established as wildlife preserve in perpetuity.

Source: [www.debordieu.com/about/history](http://www.debordieu.com/about/history)

## Transportation

### *Ferry*

Ferries were controlled by the Commons House of Assembly as a public service, with the governor appointing commissioners from each Parrish as supervisors. These men had the power to levy and collect taxes for the establishing of ferries and building of roads.

The earliest ferry, commonly called Wasso Ferry, was started in 1731 and carried freight from Waccamaw Neck to Georgetown. Two more ferries were added in 1756, one across the Waccamaw and the other across the Pee Dee. Travelers going to Georgetown still had to cross the Black River so in 1771 a ferry was set up from John Cogdill's plantation on Waccamaw to Georgetown. In 1791 a ferry was established from Hobcaw Point to Georgetown.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history)

### *Bridge*

In 1935 the Lafayette Bridge was built and this put an end to ferrying. Today, the remaining portion of the severed old Lafayette Bridge is called the Winyah Bay Fishing and Observation Pier. It is open daily for residents and visitors to fish for free. In 1966, the Harold Siau Bridge was built and is still used today.

Source: [www.georgetowncountysc.org](http://www.georgetowncountysc.org)

### *Railroad*

In 1899, Atlantic Coast Lumber Company was the low-country's greatest industry and was the largest lumber operation east of the Mississippi. According to a New York Times article dated January 30, 1900, the syndicate that controlled Atlantic Coast Lumber Company purchased the Georgetown & Western Railroad. About 1902 the Atlantic Coast Lumber Company built a

railroad from the Hagley Landing to Pawleys Island. The tracks and causeway were badly damaged in a hurricane in 1906 and the rail was discontinued and never rebuilt.

Source: [http://members.tripod.com/~andrews\\_sc](http://members.tripod.com/~andrews_sc) (Andrews Old Town Hall Museum)

## Historic Sites

*Tangible remains of Georgetown County's rich history exist today at a number of historic sites.  
A number of these are open to visitors.*

### National Register of Historic Homes

The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Source: [www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com](http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com)

#### *Historical Markers*

Historical markers are located at a number of locations along the public rights-of-way in the county. The largest concentration of markers occurs in the Georgetown Historic District.

#### *Georgetown County Sites in the National Register of Historic Places*

- All Saints' Episcopal Church, Waccamaw (added 1991 - District - #91000232)  
SC 255 .2 miles North of junction with SC 46, Pawleys Island  
Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Gravely, R.L.  
Architectural Style: Classical Revival  
Area of Significance: Social History, Architecture  
Period of Significance: 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924, 1925-1949  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Funerary, Religion  
Historic Sub-function: Cemetery, Church Related Residence, Religious Structure  
Current Function: Funerary, Religion  
Current Sub-function: Cemetery, Church Related Residence, Religious Structure
  
- Annandale Plantation (added 1973 - Building - #73001709)  
About 14 miles South of Georgetown between SC 30 and SC 18, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Johnstone, Andrew  
Architectural Style: Greek Revival  
Historic Person: Trenholm, George Alfred  
Significant Year: 1833  
Area of Significance: Agriculture, Architecture, Politics/Government  
Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic  
Current Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling

- Arcadia Plantation (added 1978 - Building - #78002509)

Also known as Prospect Hill Plantation

5 miles (8km) East of Georgetown off U.S. 17, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architectural Style: Architectural Style

Area of Significance: Agriculture, Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Politics/Government

Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Atalaya (added 1984 - Building - #84002045)

Also known as Atalaya Castle; Atalaya and Brookgreen Gardens

Off US 17, Murrells Inlet

Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Thompson, William, Huntington, Archer Milton

Architectural Style: Other

Historic Person: Huntington, Anna Hyatt

Significant Year: 1933, 1931

Area of Significance: Architecture, Art

Period of Significance: 1925-1949, 1950-1974

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic, Recreation and Culture

Historic Sub-function: Camp, Single Dwelling, Work of Art (Sculpture, Carving, Rock Art)

Current Function: Recreation and Culture

Current Sub-function: Museum, Outdoor Recreation, Work of Art (Sculpture, Carving, Rock Art)

- Battery White (added 1977 - Structure - #77001222)

South of Georgetown on Belle Isle Road, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Information Potential

Area of Significance: Historic - Non-Aboriginal, Military

Cultural Affiliation: American

Period of Significance: 1850-1874

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Defense

Historic Sub-function: Fortification

Current Function: Landscape

Current Sub-function: Park

- Belle Isle Rice Mill Chimney (added 1988 - District - #88000525)

Also known as Black Out Plantation

Cat Island, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Area of Significance: Agriculture, Engineering, Industry

Period of Significance: 1825-1849, 1850-1874

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing  
Current Function: Vacant/Not In Use

- Beneventum Plantation House (added 1988 - Building - #88000526)

Off CR 431, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Person, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: Colonial, Other

Historic Person: Gadsen, Christopher

Area of Significance: Architecture, Social History

Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Black River Plantation House (added 1994 - Building - #94000062)

Also known as Rice Hope; International Paper Company House

SW side SC 51, 0.5 miles NW of Peters Creek, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Waddell, Charles L.

Architectural Style: Classical Revival

Area of Significance: Architecture

Period of Significance: 1900-1924, 1925-1949

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic, Recreation and Culture

Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Brookgreen Gardens (added 1978 - District - #780025 10)

18 miles (28.8 km) NE of Georgetown on U.S. 17, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architect, builder, or engineer: Huntington, Anna Hyatt

Historic Person: Allston, William, et al.

Area of Significance: Military, Art, Invention, Agriculture, Landscape Architecture, Literature, Politics/Government, Social History

Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Landscape, Recreation and Culture

Historic Sub-function: Forest, Museum, Work of Art (Sculpture, Carving, Rock Art)

Current Function: Landscape, Recreation and Culture

Current Sub-function: Forest, Museum, Work of Art (Sculpture, Carving, Rock Art)

- Cedar Grove Plantation Chapel (added 1991 - Building - #91000231)

Also known as Summer Chapel, All Saints' Episcopal Church, Waccamaw

SC 255 .2 miles N of junction with SC 46, Pawleys Island

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: Social History, Architecture, Black

Area of Significance: Social History, Architecture, Black  
Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924, 1925-1949  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Religion  
Historic Sub-function: Religious Structure  
Current Function: Religion  
Current Sub-function: Religious Structure

• Chicora Wood Plantation (added 1973 - Building - #73001710)

Also known as Mantanzas  
12 miles NE of Georgetown on CR 52, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architectural Style: Greek Revival  
Historic Person: Allston, Robert F.W.  
Significant Year: 1819  
Area of Significance: Military, Agriculture, Architecture, Industry, Literature, Education, Social History, Politics/Government  
Period of Significance: 1800-1824  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Domestic  
Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

• China Grove (added 2000- Building - #8200385 1)

SC 521, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown  
Architectural Style: No Style Listed  
Area of Significance: Architecture  
Period of Significance: 1825-1849  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Domestic  
Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

• Fairfield Rice Mill Chimney (added 1988 - Structure - #88000527)

Off US 17, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown  
Area of Significance: Engineering, Industry, Agriculture  
Period of Significance: 1825-1849, 1850-1874  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence  
Historic Sub-function: Processing  
Current Function: Vacant/Not In Use

• Friendfield Plantation (added 1996 - District - #96000409)

Also known as Mount Pleasant; Silver Hill; Slave Street  
Roughly bounded by US 521--17A, the Sampit River, Whites Circle, and Creek Road, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Meigs, Arthur I., Mellor, Walter (Mellor & Meigs)  
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival  
Area of Significance: Landscape Architecture, Black, Entertainment/Recreation, Engineering, Agriculture, Industry, Maritime History, Social History, Transportation, Architecture  
Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924, 1925-1949  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic, Funerary, Industry/Processing/Extraction, Recreation and Culture  
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Cemetery, Irrigation Facility, Processing Site, Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic, Funerary, Industry/Processing/Extraction, Recreation and Culture  
Current Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Cemetery, Irrigation Facility, Processing Site, Single Dwelling

- Georgetown Historic District (added 1971 - District - #71000781)

Also known as See also: Old Market Building  
Along N side of Sampit River, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architectural Style: Colonial  
Area of Significance: Military, Commerce, Architecture, Education  
Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924  
Owner: Private, Local Government  
Historic Function: Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Commerce/Trade, Domestic  
Current Sub-function: Business, Single Dwelling

- Georgetown Lighthouse (added 1974 - Structure - #74001857)

Also known as Georgetown Light  
On North Island, about 12 miles SE of Georgetown, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Event  
Area of Significance: Military, Transportation  
Period of Significance: 1800-1824  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Defense, Transportation  
Historic Sub-function: Coast Guard Facility, Water-Related  
Current Function: Defense, Transportation  
Current Sub-function: Coast Guard Facility, Water-Related

- Hobcaw Barony (added 1994- District - #94001236)

Also known as Bellefield Plantation  
Roughly bounded by US 17, Winyah and Mud Bays and Jones Cr., Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Person, Event, Architecture/Engineering  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Murgatroyd and Ogden, Lafaye and Lafaye  
Architectural style: Colonial Revival  
Historic Person: Baruch, Bernard Mannes  
Area of significance: Transportation, Social History, Landscape Architecture, Entertainment/ Recreation, Engineering, Architecture, Agriculture  
Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-

1924, 1925-1949

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic, Funerary, Recreation and Culture, Religion

- Hopsewee (added 1971 - Building - #7 1000782)

Also known as Thomas Lynch, Jr., Birthplace; Hopsewee-on-the-Santee

2 miles S of Georgetown on U.S. 17, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: Other

Historic Person: Lynch, Thomas, Jr.

Significant Year: 1763, 1749

Area of Significance: Architecture, Politics/Government

Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Secondary Structure, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Recreation and Culture

Current Sub-function: Museum

- Keithfield Plantation (added 1988 - District - #88000529)

Off CR 52, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: Other

Area of Significance: Agriculture, Social History, Black, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Irrigation Facility, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Vacant/Not in Use

Current Sub-function: Storage

- Mansfield Plantation (added 1977 - Building - #77001223)

5 miles N of Georgetown off U.S. 701, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Historic Person: Parker, Francis S.

Area of Significance: Agriculture, Architecture, Politics/Government

Period of Significance: 1700-1749, 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Milldam Rice Mill and Rice Barn (added 1988 - District - #88000530)

Off CR 30, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Area of Significance: Industry, Architecture, Agriculture  
Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence  
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Irrigation Facility, Processing  
Current Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Vacant/Not in Use  
Current Sub-function: Storage

• Minim Island Shell Midden (38GE4 (added 1982 - Site - #82003 852)

Also known as Indian Mound  
Address Restricted, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Information Potential  
Area of Significance: Historic - Non-Aboriginal, Prehistoric  
Cultural Affiliation: Late Archaic, Early Woodland  
Period of Significance: 2500-2999 BC  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Unknown  
Current Function: Unknown

• Murrells Inlet Historic District (added 1980 - District - #80003670)

Also known as Murrells Inlet  
Off U.S. 17, Murrells Inlet  
Historic Significance: Person, Architecture/Engineering, Event  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown  
Architectural Style: Greek Revival  
Historic Person: Peterkin, Julia  
Area of Significance: Agriculture, Architecture, Literature, Social History  
Period of Significance: 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Commerce/Trade, Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Restaurant, Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Commerce/Trade, Domestic  
Current Sub-function: Restaurant, Single Dwelling

• Nightingale Hall Rice Mill Chimney (added 1988 - Structure - #8800053 1)

Also known as Nightingale Plantation  
Off CR 52, Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering  
Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown  
Area of Significance: Agriculture, Engineering, Industry  
Period of Significance: 1825-1849, 1850-1874  
Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence  
Historic Sub-function: Processing  
Current Function: Vacant/Not In Use

• Old Market Building (added 1969 - Building - #69000166)

Also known as Georgetown County Rice Museum  
Front and Screven Sts., Georgetown  
Historic Significance: Event  
Area of Significance: Agriculture, Commerce, Industry, Education, Communications,

Politics/Government

Period of Significance: 1825-1849

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Commerce/Trade, Government

Historic Sub-function: Business, City Hall, Correctional Facility

Current Function: Recreation and Culture

Current Sub-function: Museum

• Pawleys Island Historic District (added 1972 - District - #72001211)

West side of Pawleys Island, Pawleys Island

Historic Significance: Person, Event

Historic Person: Allston, R.F.W.

Area of Significance: Military, Education, Social History

Period of Significance: 1750-1799, 1800-1824, 1825-1849

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling

• Pee Dee River Rice Planters Historic District (added 1988 - District - #88000532)

See Also: Chicora Wood Plantation

Along the Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Person, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: No Style Listed, Other

Historic Person: Allston, Robert F.W.

Area of Significance: Black, Engineering, Agriculture, Industry, Social History, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Irrigation Facility, Processing, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic, Vacant/Not in Use

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

• Pleasant Hill Consolidated School (added 1998 - Building - #98000421)

Also known as Pleasant Hill Middle School

11957 Pleasant Hill Dr., Hemingway

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering

Architectural Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Area of Significance: Architecture

Period of Significance: 1925-1949

Owner: Local Government

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Education

Historic Sub-function: Processing, School

Current Function: Education

Current Sub-function: School

• Prince Frederick's Chapel Ruins (added 1974 - Site - #74001858)

Also known as Prince Frederick's Chapel, Old Gunns Church

SE of Plantersville on Route 52, Plantersville

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event

Area of Significance: Architecture, Religion

Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Religion

Historic Sub-function: Religious Structure

Current Function: Vacant/Not In Use

- Prince George Winyah Church (Episcopal) and Cemetery (added 1971 - Building - #7 1000783)

Corner of Broad and Highmarket Streets, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Area of Significance: Military, Architecture, Religion

Period of Significance: 1750-1799

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Religion

Historic Sub-function: Religious Structure

Current Function: Religion

Current Sub-function: Religious Structure

- Rainey, Joseph H., House (added 1984 - Building - #84003877)

Also known as Rainey-Camlin House

909 Prince St., Georgetown

Historic Significance: Person

Historic Person: Rainey, Joseph H.

Significant Year: 1879, 1870

Area of Significance: Black, Politics/Government

Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Richmond Hill Plantation Archeological Sites (added 1988 - Site - #88000537)

Also known as 38GE256;38GE262;38GE266;38GE283;38GE306

Address Restricted, Murrell's Inlet

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Area of Significance: Black, Historic - Non-Aboriginal

Cultural Affiliation: Black slaves

Period of Significance: 1800-1824, 1825-1849, 1850-1874

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling

Current Function: Landscape

Current Sub-function: Unoccupied Land

- Rural Hall Plantation House (added 1988 - Building - #88000533)

Off CR 179, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Area of Significance: Architecture, Social History

Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Domestic

Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Summer Chapel Rectory, Prince Frederick's Episcopal Church (added 1988 - Building - #88000536)

CR 52, Plantersville

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Area of Significance: Architecture, Social History

Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Religion

Historic Sub-function: Church Related Residence

Current Function: Domestic

Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

- Summer Chapel, Prince Frederick's Episcopal Church (added 1988 - Building - #88000535)

CR 52, Plantersville

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder, or engineer: Unknown

Architectural Style: No Style Listed

Area of Significance: Architecture, Social History

Period of Significance: 1850-1874, 1875-1899, 1900-1924

Owner: Private

Historic Function: Religion

Historic Sub-function: Religious Structure

Current Function: Religion

Current Sub-function: Religious Structure

- Weehaw Rice Mill Chimney (added 1988 - Structure - #88000534)

Off CR 325, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Event, Architecture/Engineering

Architect, builder or engineer: Unknown

Area of Significance: Engineering, Industry, Agriculture

Period of Significance: 1825-1849, 1850-1874

Owner: Private, Local Government

Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence

Historic Sub-function: Processing

Current Function: Vacant/Not In Use

- Wicklow Hall Plantation (added 1978 - Building - #78002511)

South of Georgetown on SC 30, Georgetown

Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering, Event

Architectural Style: Greek Revival

Area of Significance: Agriculture, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1825-1849

Owner: Private  
Historic Function: Agriculture/Subsistence, Domestic  
Historic Sub-function: Agricultural Fields, Processing, Single Dwelling  
Current Function: Domestic

Source: [www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com](http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com)

### Historic Sites Open to the Public

#### *Atalaya Castle*

Atalaya Castle was a former residence of Archer and Anna Huntington. Construction of the home began in 1931 and it was built from memory after the Moorish architecture of the Spanish Mediterranean Coast. The house was named Atalaya which is a Spanish term for watchtower. Throughout the construction, Mr. Huntington utilized local labor to provide work opportunities for community residents during the Great Depression.

The living quarters consist of 30 rooms around three sides of the perimeter. Living facilities including the dining room, sunroom, library and bedrooms occupied the front portion of the house. The covered walkway of open brickwork is lined with archways and planters on both sides. The outer walls of the building form a square, 200 feet on each side, with the east side facing the ocean. Within the walled structure there is a large open inner court with a small entry court at the rear. The large one story building is dominated by a square tower that rises nearly 40 feet from a covered walkway that bisects the inner court.

Atalaya is open to the public year round. No fee is charged beyond the admission fee to Huntington Beach State Park. Day and night tours are offered.

Source: [www.huntingtonbeachstatepark.com/Atalaya](http://www.huntingtonbeachstatepark.com/Atalaya)

#### *Brookgreen Gardens*

Four former plantations make up the present-day Brookgreen Gardens. The Oaks, Brookgreen, Springfield, and Laurel Hill plantations established family dynasties and were leaders of the rice planting elite during the antebellum years. Archer and Anna Hyatt Huntington first visited the property in 1929. They were captivated by the Carolina Lowcountry and bought Brookgreen Plantation and the three adjoining properties, amassing 9,127 acres of forest, swamp, rice fields and beachfront. In 1931, Archer and Anna Hyatt Huntington established Brookgreen Gardens as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation to preserve the native flora and fauna and display objects of art within that natural setting.

Today, Brookgreen Gardens is a National Historic Landmark and a display garden with the most extensive collection of figurative sculpture in an outdoor setting by American artists in the world. Brookgreen has the only zoo accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums on the coast of the Carolinas. Brookgreen Gardens is open to the public year round and offers tours and programs.

Source: [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

### *Hobcaw Barony*

Hobcaw Barony is a 17,500 acre research reserve located across Winyah Bay from the City of Georgetown. It is a premier cultural resource in several ways, one of which is its importance as an historic site. Hobcaw Barony is one of the few undeveloped tracts on the Waccamaw Neck. The Native Americans called it "hobcaw," meaning between the waters. In 1718, the land became a colonial land grant, a barony. Sold and subdivided into plantations extending from the river to the sea, Hobcaw Barony was part of the great rice empire until the turn of the 20th century. Several historic homes as well as a preserved former slave village exist on the property.

Bernard M. Baruch purchased the property comprised of 11 former plantations in 1905 for use as winter hunting retreat. Hobcaw House was rebuilt in 1930 on a bluff overlooking Winyah Bay after the original house burned. Bellefield House and stables were built in 1936 for Bernard's daughter Belle W. Baruch. In 1955 he sold all the land to Belle. Upon her death, she created a foundation to manage the land as an outdoor laboratory for the colleges and universities in South Carolina. Swamps, abandoned rice fields, pine and hardwood forests, salt marsh and barrier island environments provide habitat for many native animals of the coastal plain. Although privately owned, Hobcaw Barony is now used as a research reserve by the colleges and universities of South Carolina. Hobcaw Barony is open to the public on a limited basis for guided tours and several programs are offered through the foundation and universities. The Visitor's Center is open to the public without reservations.

Source: [www.hobcawbarony.com](http://www.hobcawbarony.com)

### *Hopsewee Plantation*

Hopsewee Plantation is a South Carolina National Historic Landmark located along the North Santee River on the west side of US Highway 17 at the southern end of Georgetown County. It is the birthplace of Thomas Lynch, Jr., a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Both Thomas Lynch, Sr., and Thomas Jr. were distinguished political figures and were the only father and son serving in the Continental Congress. However, Thomas, Sr., suffered a stroke and could not sign the Declaration of Independence. There is a space left on the document for his signature.

The plantation was built almost 40 years before the Revolutionary War and has never been allowed to fall into decay. The house is still a private residence and has been owned by only five families. It is a typical low country rice plantation dwelling of the early eighteenth century with four rooms opening into a wide center hall on each floor, a full brick cellar and attic rooms. The house has a lovely staircase and there is hand carved molding in each room and random width heart pine floors are almost one and one half inches thick. Constructed on a brick foundation which is covered by scored tabby, the house is built of black cypress, which probably accounts for the fact that it is basically the same house the Lynches built almost 270 years ago.

There are two cypress shingled out-buildings that were kitchens. Each has a large fireplace on one side of the chimney and a double fireplace on the other. The division allowed for a hot fire and a simmering fire. The construction of these cabins mirrors the West Indies influence on the early colonists. The house, grounds, and wooded trails are open to the public.

Source: [www.hopsewee.com](http://www.hopsewee.com)

### *Kaminski House*

In 1796, a home overlooking the Sampit River at 1003 Front Street was built by Paul Trapier who was a leading merchant of South Carolina and sometimes known as “The King of Georgetown”. In 1931, after several owners, the home was purchased by Harold and Julia Kaminski. Harold was the son of one of Georgetown’s most prominent shipping, rice and timber, dry goods, groceries and hardware merchants during the latter part of the 1800s and Julia was the daughter of John Pyatt, a product of “old Southern aristocracy”.

Harold Kaminski served as Mayor of Georgetown and was instrumental in the development of the Coast Highway, improvements in the Inter-coastal Waterway and bringing inexpensive electricity to Georgetown. He also served as an officer in the US Navy during both World War I and World War II. During their ownership the home was extensively renovated, modernized and furnished with the unique English and American antique furniture and decorative arts.

Upon her death, Julia Kaminski bequeathed the grounds, the house and all the furnishings to the City of Georgetown in 1972. She suggested it become a museum in memory of her husband. The Kaminski House has become a significant tourist draw. The Kaminski House gift shop is open seven days a week with tours given on the hour.

Source: [www.kaminskihousemuseum.org](http://www.kaminskihousemuseum.org)

### *Robert Stewart House*

Next door to the Kaminski House is the Robert Stewart House. The house was built between 1740 and 1770 by Robert Stewart who was a planter and militia captain. In 1787, Daniel Tucker, acquired the home. The house was eventually owned by Benjamin Allston and remained in the family until 1979. The house is the only existing brick residence in Georgetown built before the American Revolution. The house is currently owned by a nonprofit foundation and is leased to the City of Georgetown. Tours are available in conjunction with Kaminski House Tours.

<http://www.hmdb.org/marker>.

### *The Rice Museum*

The Rice Museum is located at 633 Front Street, in the Old Market Building, at the intersection of Front and Screven Streets. The Old Market Building was built in 1842 and was the first Georgetown structure to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The tower was added around 1845 is known locally as the Town Clock because of the clock faces located on all four sides of its bell tower.

Georgetown was a society dependent on the rice crop. It was the center of rice production in the colony in 1750 and by 1840 Georgetown produced nearly one-half of the total rice crops in the United States. The museum features dioramas depicting the production of rice and indigo as well as artifacts from these operations, maps and other exhibits. The Rice Museum was dedicated in 1970 as part of the South Carolina Tricentennial Celebration.

It has been reputed that the Old Market Clock in Georgetown served as a slave market.

Sources: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history/historicgeorgetown](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history/historicgeorgetown)

[www.ricemuseum.com](http://www.ricemuseum.com)

### *Rainey House*

Joseph H. Rainey House, also known as Rainey-Camlin House, was the Georgetown home of the first black United States Congressman, Joseph H. Rainey, who was a former slave. After resigning from the State Senate in 1870, Rainey was elected as a Republican to the Forty-first Congress to fill the vacancy in the House of Representatives. Rainey was re-elected to the Forty-second and to the three succeeding Congresses. He served from December 12, 1870, to March 3, 1879. The Rainey House, which is individually on the National Register of Historic Places, is located at 909 Prince Street in Georgetown.

Source: [bioguide.congress.gov/](http://bioguide.congress.gov/)

## Historic Rice Plantations

*Historic Plantations are recorded throughout history. Some have been retained as private residences or open for guided tours, while others have been developed into residential communities.*

### *Arundel*

In 1827, the name Arundel first appears for a tract of land that was part of an 1806 division of 1025 acres by John Pringle sold to William Allston. The plantation was named after Arundel Castle on the Arundel River in Sussex, England. It was then purchased by Fredrick Shaffer in 1841 and he started to build the current house. Arundel was a successful rice plantation and produced 270,000 pounds of rice in 1850. Shaffer died in 1859 and his family did not wish to operate a rice plantation. They sold the property Charles Allston and then to Louis Lachicotte, who in turn deeded it to the Guendolas Rice Company which he owned with his brothers and Louis La Bruce. LaBruce eventually owned all of the property and completed the house. In 1971, the plantation (including the house) was purchased by Lucille Quattlebaum and operated as a family farm. They now live there permanently.

The original one-story front porch has been replaced by a portico with monumental columns. Original buildings on the grounds include a Gothic smokehouse, commissary, watchman's camp, and an overseer's house dating from the original building in 1790. An extensive garden is shaded by great oaks, and the main entrance is guarded by gateposts of original design, appropriately decorated with acorns. Arundel has been owned by a South Carolinian for three centuries.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History on, Inc., Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Beneventum*

Beneventum Plantation was built 1746 and was one of the first successful rice plantations in Georgetown. All the land was owned by Christopher Gadsden. Gadsden was a representative of the Carolina Colony and a revolutionist who was most noted for designing the famous "Don't Tread on Me" flag bearing a rattlesnake. The plantation had at least two other owners. The house underwent extensive renovation and additions in the early 1800's. The rim locks, H and L hinges and hand planned panels are all original to the older section. During recent repairs it was observed that the plaster laths were split, not sawn, and nailed in place with plantation-made rosebud nails. Objects owned by the previous owners were also discovered inside the walls. Also found were a locally manufactured copper dipper, an ivory toothbrush carved with an elephant

and inscribed in French, an 1822 newspaper, and a single well-worn wooden shoe. The original house is the oldest plantation home in Georgetown County that remains intact and is on the National Historic Registry.

In 2006, Miller-Few Investments LLC and the current plantation owner began a joint venture to develop the 190 acre tract into a private planned community along the Black River.

Source: [www.beneventumplantation.com/history](http://www.beneventumplantation.com/history)

#### *Chicora Wood*

The house at Chicora Wood, then called Mantanza, was built in 1819 by Benjamin and Charlotte Ann Allston. Charlotte Ann took over the management of the plantation of the Pee Dee plantation after Benjamin's death in 1809. Their son Robert Francis Withers Allston inherited the house. Allston and his wife Adele Petigru built the major front section of the house in 1838. Allston began to purchase more property in 1840 and ran his and his son's plantations during the Civil War. Mantanza was renamed Chicora Wood in 1853 by the Allston family. Allston died in 1864. Adele managed to hold on to the plantation despite the debts Allston had generated the previous decade. Elizabeth Allston Pringle was the next resident of Chicora Wood. Elizabeth succeeded as a rice planter and managed to keep the plantation even after the Civil War. She died in 1921. In 1984, after ownership changes, Jamie and Heather Constance purchased the plantation. The house was restored and additions were made. The land was placed in a perpetual easement. It is currently a working plantation for turf.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Dirleton Plantation*

Richland Plantation (original name of Dirleton) was a tract of land given to Sarah Smith, the daughter of one of the original partners that owned the land. Sarah's husband, Charles Brown, amassed such a large debt during their marriage that they had to foreclose on the property. In 1825, Benjamin Hunt purchased Richland, built a rice mill, and produced 420,000 pounds of rice. Richland went into foreclosure in 1854. Edward Heriot, of Scotland, purchased the plantation and changed the name to Dirleton to reflect his Scottish heritage. In 1856, James Sparkman (married to the daughter of Edward), inherited the plantation. The house was started in 1856 but was not finished until after the War and shows the influence of the 1900's. He planted extensive rice fields and was one of the first to try large scale rice production with contracted labor although he was not successful. Sparkman eventually went into bankruptcy but managed to prevent the house from foreclosure. In 1945, Thomas Sammworth purchased Dirleton. He donated the plantation to the State of South Carolina in 1961. The plantation is now a wildlife preserve consisting of 353 acres of rice land and 271 acres of upland, and managed by the Game Management Area with the Department of Natural Resources.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Exchange*

The Exchange has one of the oldest houses along the Pee Dee. In May of 1735, William Waites, Jr. obtained a grant for land. Davidson McDowell became owner of a tract of 200 acres of swamp and 200 acres called Asylum (former name of Exchange) in 1819. He was a planter and became part of Georgetown society. McDowell married in 1822 and his wife made many improvements to the home. In 1837 the house was sold and then sold once again in February of 1843 to Robert Allston. Allston added 117 acres of rice land and then sold the plantation to Cleland Huger in 1846. Robert Allston bought the Exchange back in 1853. The last purchase was made by Thomas S. Ragsdale. His grandsons, T. Smith and Charles S. currently own Exchange.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Mansfield Plantation*

Mansfield is thought to be the best preserved plantation in Georgetown County. John Green was given the earliest recorded land grant in 1718 for 500 acres along the Black River. By 1754, Susannah Man purchased the property and named the tract Mansfield. Susannah constructed the house on the successful rice plantation. In 1801, John Man Taylor, a grandchild of Susannah Man, inherited Mansfield. He was a successful planter, prevalent in the social life in Georgetown, and devoted to the land. In his will, he requested that debts be paid from resources other than the sale of the plantation. Taylor died at age 37, leaving his estate to his sister Mary. Mary later married Dr. Francis Parker who increased the rice production to 375,000 pounds in 1850 and 1,440,000 pounds in 1860. Parker was vocal about States Rights. He was signer of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the South Carolina Ordinance of Secession. Mary and Francis expanded the house as well as planted live oaks leading to the house. As with most plantations in the South, difficult years followed the Civil War. By 1912, the plantation was no longer producing rice. The Parker family heirs sold the plantation to Charles Tuttle of New York who made Mansfield his winter home and hunting ground. In 1931, the Plantation was sold again to Colonel Robert Montgomery and his wife who made extensive renovations and tried to produce rice once again. In 2004, Mansfield returned to the Parker family with the sale to John Rutledge (Francis Parker's great-great grandson) and Sallie Middleton Parker. Today, Mansfield Plantation is nearly 1,000 acres.

Sources: [www.mansfieldplantation.com](http://www.mansfieldplantation.com)

Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Millbrook (Annandale)*

Millbrook Plantation was part of a tract granted to the first Thomas Lynch in 1731 and was acquired by Andrew Johnson shortly after the Revolution. Jonathan Lucas built the first tide-operated rice mill there for Johnson who passed it on to his son William. Andrew changed the name to Annandale and built the house in the 1833. During the Civil War Millbrook was sold to George Alfred Trenholm, who became the Confederate Secretary of Treasury. During the 1850s, Annandale was among the most prosperous of the rice plantations producing 900,000 pounds of

rice. The property was later acquired by the Santee Rice Company. At the turn of the century when rice planting ended, the property became a well-known hunting area for duck.

The present home is minus the usual basement, and a rear addition was built in the 1880's. The massive columns on the front portico are almost too grand for the structure. Inside are attenuated columns of the well-preserved mantels and molded window frames with carved acanthus leaves. Pine Grove, the Physician's House of Millbrook, is said to have been built in 1834. The house sits behind the Millbrook house and is an early example of the Gothic Revival. The central section of the building is original.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Prince Fredrick's Church Ruins*

Prince Frederick's Church (also known as Old Gunn Church) was built in 1859 as part of the Prince George Parish. It was established as a separate parish church in 1734. The congregation first met in an existing building on the Black River, but in 1835 Rev. Hugh Fraser donated the present site near the Pee Dee. Prince Fredrick's received Joseph Hunter, a new rector, in 1846. He was so popular that by 1859 it became apparent that a new church was necessary to accommodate the increasing number of communicants.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid in 1859 with Governor Robert F. W. Allston delivering the address. The Union blockade slowed the construction process and when Gunn (the church is also known as Gunn Church), the contractor was killed the work stopped altogether. The unfinished church was damaged in the War and it was not until 1876 that a generous gift made the completion possible. With the decline of the rice economy, parishioners migrated to the more densely populated urban areas and the church suffered from lack of maintenance. The church was burned and abandoned. The ruins of the chapel are all that remain of what once was a striking example of Gothic Revival. Adjacent to the church is the old graveyard that has confederate soldiers graves. By the 1950's the church was in such disrepair that church officials had the grounds cleared and fenced. All but the bell tower was demolished.

Source: William Baldwin. Plantations of the Low Country, South Carolina 1697-1865. Legacy Publications, Greensboro, NC, 1985.

Source: [www.nationalregister.sc.gov/georgetown](http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/georgetown)

#### Plantations of Hobcaw Barony

*Hobcaw Barony was one of the 10 original baronies colonized in Georgetown County. The barony contained 119,000 acres and before 1736 the property was sold to three London merchants. During 1766 and 1767, several tracts within the barony were sold by these merchants. The following plantations were created:*

#### *Alderly*

Alderly was Robert Heriot's main home on the Waccamaw River. There is an old Heriot graveyard still located on the property. Benjamin Huger, Jr. bought the property from the Heriot family in 1802. The property was purchased in 1848 by Colonel Joshua John Ward. Ward

willed Alderley to his son Mayham. The Civil War severely diminished the estate and during the War Mayham died. With no heir to the remaining estate, Alderley was divided equally among all of Joshual Ward's heirs. Alderley was purchased by Samuel Mortimer Ward in 1906, however, he moved from the home on Alderly to his home in Georgetown. Shortly after he moved the house at Alderley burned. Bernard Baruch bought the property in 1906 and it is now the northernmost portion of Hobcaw Barony. The LaFayette Bridge that tied Waccamaw Neck to Georgetown is at Alderley.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Bellefield*

Bellefield is 870 acres of land that was part of the Henry James Daubuz tract and was sold to Thomas Young in 1794. A large house was started on the property either by Daubuz or Young but never completed. On March 8, 1808, the executors of Thomas Young's estate sold the property to William Alston of Clifton, where it most likely used as an outpost. By 1839, Charles Alston owned Bellefield. Barnard M. Baruch purchased the property in 1906 and gave the property to his daughter, Belle Baruch. Belle built a large colonial house on the property in 1937 and used it as her winter home. When her French estate was taken over by the Germans during the war she made Bellefield her year-round residence. The property is still part of Hobcaw Barony.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Calais*

Calais is the point of the original Hobcaw Barony where the Waccamaw River and Winyah Bay meet. This portion of the Barony was purchased by Samuel Clegg in 1767. It was here that Kings Highway crossed the Winyah Bay by ferry. In 1796 Samuel Clegg divided his tract into two parts by a line running north and south from the boundary. The western fronted on the Bay and the Waccamaw River and called the Calais portion. He sold it to Reverend Hugh Fraser, who at the time was the Rector of All Saints Parish. The peninsula is called "Fraser's Point". By 1860, Calais was purchased by William Algernon Alston. How long before this date he held possession is unknown. Bernard M. Baruch purchased the property in 1906 and it is part of Hobcaw Barony.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Clifton*

Captain William Alston purchased this property on March 9, 1785 and named the property Clifton. Alston built his home there and was the first in his family to drop the double L in Allston to distinguish between himself and William Allston of Brook Green, both Captains in Marion's Command. He married Mary Ashe of North Carolina. After her death he married again in 1791 to Mary Motte. The house at Clifton burned down in 1793. Alston moved his family to one of their other estates and never rebuilt the mansion at Clifton. In 1909, Dr. Isaac Emerson purchased the Clifton property which was adjacent to his home Prospect Hill and built a mansion to equal the Alston home. The home remained in the family home until Mr. Vanderbilt, who

inherited the property, died and the house closed. Clifton is now part of Arcadia. The property is sometimes opened for tours.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Forlorn Hope*

Forlorn Hope is the southern 793 acres of the 1206 acres sold Captain John Allston on March 4, 1786. Captain Allston served in the Revolutionary War, known as “Captain Jack of the Raccoon Guard” and sometimes as the “Foot Rangers” to his comrades. The name Forlorn Hope was given by him after the sudden death of his only son. Allston remained at plantation until his death. He left Forlorn Hope to his only daughter Mary, who married Thomas Allston of Prospect Hill and after his death, Benjamin Huger, Jr. When Mary died, Benjamin Huger, Jr. sold it to William Algernon Alston who then sold it to Dr. Isaac E. Emerson of Baltimore. The property is now part of Arcadia.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Friendfield*

Friendfield was the upper portion of the tract purchased on 1767 by Benjamin Trapier. He sold it to William Burnette in July of 1784 and the next owner mentioned is Edward Martin. It was sold at some later point to Dr. Joseph Blyth. It is documented that Dr. Blyth owned it in 1812 and that there was a house located where the present Hobcaw Barony house is now. His wife was Frances Elizabeth Allston Blyth. When Dr. Blyth died, she took over management of Friendfield and all of their other properties. Frances left Friendfield to her nephew Robert Francis Withers Allston in her will. She died in 1840. William Algernon Alston bought Friendfield from Robert Francis in 1843 and it remained in his family for years. The second house built there burned in the 1920's, and it was replaced by a larger Colonial home. Friendfield is now part of the Baruch property.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Marietta*

Marietta was first settled by Hemy James Daubuz. He sold the 1066 acre tract to his neighbor Peter Secare in 1767. According to historical documents, the plantation was called Pleasant Fields in 1791. Elizabeth Calhoun inherited the property in 1798. By the 1820's, the plantation was known as Marietta. William Algernon Alston purchased the plantation in 1847 and it remained in his family until 1889 when Eliza Donaldson bought it from the Alston family. In 1905, it was bought by Bernard Baruch and incorporated into Hobcaw Barony.

Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Michau Place*

Michau Place is the 285 acre eastern tract of Hobcaw Barony. Paul Michau purchased the property in 1796. A home had been built on the property prior to 1772. When Michau died, his estate was intended to be divided among heirs, however, it was a complicated division due to mortgages and debt. In 1843, Robert F. W. Allston purchased the note on the property. In that same year, he sold the property to William Algernon Allston. In 1874, the estate was sold to Hardy Solomon of North Carolina. Just one year later, the property was sold to Elizabeth Donaldson. Elizabeth purchased property that included Michau Place. The Donaldson family called the entire property Friendfield. In 1905, Barnard Baruch purchased the property and it is now part of Hobcaw Barony.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Oryzantia*

Oryzantia was named in honor of the rice plant that brought so much wealth to the plantation. The tract was originally part of the Heriot Estate. It was called Armordle because of the pieces of old Spanish armor found on the land. It was sold by Roger Heriot executors to Thomas Young who changed the name from Armordle to Orzantia. In 1808, Young's executors divided and sold the tract to Benjamin Allston and Col. William Alston. Ownership of the tract between 1813 and 1845 is unclear. It is believed, however, to have stayed in the Alston and Allston families until 1845 when mention of Col. Joshua John Ward appears on historical records. Some years later it was sold to Baruch and is now part of Hobcaw Barony. One of the slave cabins remains on the grounds.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Strawberry Hill*

Strawberry Hill was 768 ½ acres of highland, swamp, and salt water. The swamp was dammed to create a reservoir for rice. Thomas Alston came into ownership, but had no interest in planting and accumulated significant debts. He sold the plantation to John Ashe Alston. In 1851, the John Alston sold the plantation to his nephew, William Algernon Alston. When Alston returned from his military tour in 1866, his land had been confiscated. He applied to restore his land and eventually regained his property. Alston died soon after and his land was divided into five plantations. Strawberry Hill was sold to Bernard Baruch in 1905.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Youngville*

Youngville was the lower 780 acres of Roger Heriot's Waccamaw estate. In June of 1794, Thomas Young purchased the property from the executors of Heriot's will. After Young's death, 296 acres of Youngville was sold to Benjamin Allston, Sr. and the remainder, 460 acres to Col. William Alston on March 8, 1808. Col. Alston's portion was annexed into his Crab Hill tract and later acquired Youngville. The plantation had a rice mill and boasted a dammed river that

created a 52 acre reservoir. The rice may have had a wheel and pond system of operation. The property was eventually sold to Benard Baruch and is now part of Hobcaw Barony.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### Plantations Of Arcadia

*In 1906, Dr. Isaac Emerson began buying rice plantations on the Waccamaw Neck. He called his property Arcadia. Arcadia was never a plantation.*

#### *Bannockburn*

Thomas Butler owned land on the Waccamaw Neck north of Oak Hill. It is not clear how or when he came to own this land. In 1765, Butler added 624 acres from his neighbor's estate. He eventually owned over 1,700 acres of land in the area. Thomas Butler sold a portion of his property (536 acres) to James Mackie in 1777. The remaining land remained in the family John Ashe Alston became the owner of Bannockburn. It is not clear when or from whom he bought the property. He never lived at Bannockburn, however, he bought the 536 acres that had been sold to the Mackie family, to return Bannockburn to its original acreage. In 1831, Alston died and his property was sold to his son-in-law, John Izard Middleton and his wife Sarah. He called the plantation Crowfield after the Middleton's ancestral estate in England. In 1875, the property was in foreclosure and Janet McFarlane bought the property. After additional ownership changes, Dr. Isaac Emerson bought Bannockburn in 1925. Lucille Pate purchased the property in 2006 and formed the northern boundary of her Arcadia estate.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Fairfield*

Fairfield was purchased by Joseph Allston of "the Oaks" in 1769 and willed to his son, William Allston of Clifton. Allston and his family moved to their home at Fairfield after their home at Clifton burned in 1793. The cottage was added, furniture saved from the house at Clifton was moved to the Fairfield house and eighteen rooms were added. Fairfield remained in the family until 1936 when Elizabeth Deas Allston sold the plantation to George Vanderbilt. The rice mill at Fairfield was one of the last plantations to be occupied by its Ante-Belle owners. Mrs. Allston sold the mill to Henry Ford who moved it to his museum in Dearborn, Michigan. Fairfield is now a portion of the Arcadia Estates.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

#### *Oak Hill*

In 1744, Joseph LaBruce purchased three tracts of land on the Waccamaw Neck totaling approximately 2,500 acres and made them into a plantation. The plantation remained in the family. In 1814, Oak Hill was divided between Joseph Percival LaBruce and his sister Mary Ann LaBruce. His sister's portion was named Grove Hill. Joseph died in 1827 and his widow, Catharine Ward LaBruce, at some point acquired the Grove Hill tract making Oak Hill whole again. Her sons, John and Joshua continued to plant. John owned Oak Hill in the 1880's. The

property remained in the family when J.B. Steele acquired all three tracts and sold them to Patrick and George Doyle who formed Oak Hill Lumber Company. Dr. Isaac Emerson bought the property in 1906. Lucille Pate purchased Oak Hill in 2006 and it is part of Arcadia.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Prospect Hill*

In 1769, Joseph Allston purchased a tract of land from Anthony and George Pawley and named the southern portion Prospect Hill. His son Thomas inherited the property and began construction of the house by 1794. Thomas died prior to finishing the house. The house was completed in 1799 by her second husband Benjamin Huger. Mary Alston dies soon after Huger's death and left one of the largest estates in South Carolina. Prospect Hill was sold to Joshua Ward. The Ward family sold the plantation to Dr. Isaac Emerson in 1906 and it is now part of Arcadia. The property still contains the main portion of the house that was built in 1794. Several additions have been made to the building during this century and the terraced grounds have been refurbished. The plantation house from Prospect Hill is where the current owners live.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Rose Hill*

Rose Hill was originally the northernmost plantation of Hobcaw Barony. Major Benjamin Huger purchased the 1,711 acres and then sold the property to Robert Heriot, his neighbor, on January 15, 1772. Heriot combined the property with his bringing his total lands to 3,888 acres of land. There may have been a family home on the property due to presence of a small family cemetery and a large slave graveyard. The property remained in the family until January 1, 1802, when Mary Heriot sold it to Colonel William Alston. Alston purchased the property for his son William Algernon Alston. In January of 1803, Alston built a mansion for him and his wife, Mary Allston Young and her daughter Eliza. Shortly after the wedding, the second floor of the house burned. During the Civil War the family relocated to Greenville and left of the property in the care of the servants. Anna Alston was the last of the Alston family to live in the house. Anna died in 1905 and the following winter the house was destroyed in a fire. In 1909, the family sold the plantation to Doctor Isaac E. Emerson of Baltimore, Maryland. Rose Hill became part of Arcadia.

Source: Suzanne Linder and Marta Thacker. Historical Atlas of the Rice Plantations of Georgetown County and the Santee. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC, 2001.

### *Woodville*

Woodville was a small plantation (300 acres) lying between several large estates. It was originally part of the large grant to Anthony Shorey and was probably the main holding left to his grandson, Anthony Pawley. On an old map of Woodville there is a small strip labeled Washington's Valley. It is assumed that it was in this vicinity that the old Pawley house stood which was spoken of in Washington's diary. Later an Academy for Boys was located there as documented in letters to the Allston family.

## Beaches

### *DeBordieu Colony*

DeBordieu Colony was one of the first of the summer seashore retreats for the rice planters. Strips from several of the lower plantations ran to the seashore, through the long flat stand called DeBordieu by the first settlers. Rice planters moved their families and many of their belongings from the plantation to their home in DeBordieu in the spring of each year, where they remained until the first frost in fall. During the Civil War, DeBordieu was the site of a skirmish between Confederate Cavalry (the 21st Georgia) and United States seamen from Federal warships sent to destroy the steamer Dan, a Southern blockade runner which had beached on DeBordieu while under pursuit by the warships.

In 1906, Dr. Isaac Emerson purchased the property from the Allston and Ward families. The house for his plantation overseer was originally the only house on the beach. George Vanderbilt, Emerson's grandson, inherited the property in 1936 and it remained in the family until 1970 when a portion of the property was sold to Wallace F. Pate. Mr. Pate began developing the property into what exists today. There are only 1,250 home sites on 2,700 acres and hundreds of undeveloped acres that have been established as wildlife preserve in perpetuity.

Sources: [www.debordieu.com](http://www.debordieu.com)

[www.debordieucandc.com](http://www.debordieucandc.com)

### *Pawley's Island*

Pawley's Island is one of the smallest coastal islands at four miles long and ¼ mile wide. The Island is also known as one of the oldest summer resorts on the East Coast. Twelve residences in the historic district date from the late 1700's to the mid 1800's. Rice and indigo planters moved their families, horses, cows, bedding, provisions and furniture from the plantation to the Island in May of each year, where they remained until the first frost in November. Most of the original houses were airy and faced south with long porches in front running from east to west. The high ceiling rooms were all plastered and with ample windows for circulation and ventilation making them comfortable in the hottest weather. The second floors usually had dormer windows facing south and windows on the east and west but none on the north. This was a safeguard against cold winds and storms.

Some notable houses on the Island include Nesbit House, built in 1780 by Dr. Robert Nesbit, because it is peculiar from the other island homes with dormers on the northeast side of the house. Lachicotte House differs from other Island homes by being narrower in body and the boards on the eaves are cut in scalloped patterns. Weston House (now known as The Pelican Inn), one of the largest of the Pawley's Island houses built in the 1840's, was designed and built by Charles J. Plowden Weston with influences in Gothic architecture. Pawley House is probably the oldest house on the Island and was built by Anthony Pawley. Ward House (known as Liberty Lodge since 1912) was moved to the island onto property that was owned by Joshua Ward in 1958 and now has several family cottages around the main house. LaBruce House was built on 10 acres of beach property in 1858 by the LaBruce family, and still stands with many of its outbuildings on the property.

All Saints Church had two notable houses on the island. All Saints Summer Parrish (also known as the Rectory) was built in 1838 at the foot of the sand dunes on the south of the Island to serve

as a summer parsonage for All Saints and site for summer picnics and gatherings. All Saints Academy Summer House was built between 1838 and 1848 for the summer residence of the headmaster and schoolteachers at the Academy on River Road.

The island is separated from the mainland by wide marshes and a creek teeming with fish and water fowl. Until the turn of the century the homes on Pawley's Island were those of the few planters' families. Now it is a modern beach resort with public utilities, nearby trading centers, large inns and boarding houses. Most of the commercial entities are on the mainland leaving the island a blend of past and present homes.

Sources: [www.hmdb.org/Marker](http://www.hmdb.org/Marker)

[www.townofpawleysisland.com/](http://www.townofpawleysisland.com/)

Blanch W. Floyd. Tales Along the King's Highway of South Carolina. Bandit Books, Winston-Salem, NC, 1999

### All Saints' Church

#### *All Saints' Church*

The present building is the fourth to stand on the site. The tract of land was given to the church by George Anthony Pawley whose family name is perpetuated in Pawley's Island. The parish was set off from that of Prince George by act of the Colonial Assembly in 1767. However, King George III voided the act since he didn't want the assembly enlarged by the creation of another parish. In 1778, after the King's authority could be safely ignored the state Legislature reenacted the charter.

#### *Cedar Grove Plantation Chapel*

Cedar Grove Plantation was on a small tract of land along the creek. A school was built on the plantation by the planters of Waccamaw and given to Dr. Andrew Hassell, a Scottish doctor, who was brought there to care for and train the slaves of the community. The young girls learned to be nurses, midwives, and house servants for the plantations. A hospital or "Sick House" was located there on the property. Young boys learned trades such as carpentry, wood working, and masonry at the school. Cedar Grove Plantation was eventually sold to Bernard Baruch who presented it as a gift to Jim Powell. Powell operated the house plantation as a Guest House.

In 1850, Dr. Hassell built a Chapel at Cedar Grove for the slaves. The Chapel was given to the All Saints Episcopal Church in 1898 and was moved off the plantation to the church grounds. The chapel was the Summer Chapel, All Saints' Episcopal Church, and still later the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist, All Saints' Episcopal Church. It is significant as an intact example of mid-nineteenth century vernacular church architecture.

Sources: [south-carolina-plantations.com/georgetown](http://south-carolina-plantations.com/georgetown)

[www.nationalregister.sc.gov/georgetown](http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/georgetown)

## **Historic Districts**

*There are three designated historic districts in Georgetown County.*

### Pawleys Island Historic District

South Carolina Lowcountry was home to the most affluent rice and indigo (used for a blue dye) crop planters on the continent. Plantation owners moved their families to cottages on Pawleys Island for the summer in order to escape the heat and malaria of their mainland plantations. Twelve of these cottages still exist and comprise the Pawleys Island 'Historic District'.

The Pelican Inn was the pre-Civil War summer residence of plantation owner Plowden Charles Jenrette Weston. It was constructed of numbered cypress planks brought from Hagley Plantation. The Ward House, also known as Liberty Lodge, has the original hand-hewn sills and joints.

Two of these homes belonged to All Saints' Episcopal Church, one was their summer parsonage where planters' evening summer services were held and one was the summer residence of their children's academy headmaster. There are homes on the rest of the narrow island but no stores. Many homes are used by summer vacationers.

Sources: [www.townofpawleysisland.com](http://www.townofpawleysisland.com).

[www.pawleysisland-sc.com](http://www.pawleysisland-sc.com)

### Murrells Inlet Historic District

The Murrells Inlet Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. It is essentially the Highway 17 Business Corridor. The area has functioned since the 1800's as a commerce and domestic hub with restaurants and single family dwellings prominent along the corridor.

### Georgetown Historic District

Georgetown dates back to 1729, which makes it the state's third oldest city in South Carolina. The town was laid out in a four-by-eight block grid by Elisha Screven. This area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This area is bordered by Wood, Church, Meeting and Front Streets, with Front Street running alongside the Sampit River. Georgetown was a bustling seaport in colonial time with trade between Europe and the Lowcountry. Indigo was a prominent trade in the mid 1700's and rice, cotton and lumber in later years.

Georgetown's Hebrew cemetery (circa 1772) was begun by South Carolina's second oldest Jewish community and is located at 400 Broad Street. The older graves in the center of the cemetery are turned toward the east so that those buried there would face Jerusalem. In later years graves were laid perpendicular to the cemetery's wrought iron boundaries due to lack of space.

The Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church was built circa 1750 with old brick from British ships' ballasts. The Church was twice held by enemy troops; British troops during the Revolutionary War and Union troops during the Civil War. Legend has it that horses were quartered in the stall-sized boxed pews of the church sanctuary during these wars. The Church altar was rebuilt after the Church was a damaged and pillaged during the Civil War. The new

alter was installed with English stained glass saved from a decimated plantation chapel. The churchyard of Prince George borders Broad, Duke and Highmarket Streets.

The town clock and clock tower bell is located at the intersection of Front and Screven Streets was built circa 1845. The Rice Museum is located in the Old Market Building (circa 1842), below the clock and bell tower.

Georgetown's former slaves founded Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church after the Civil War. The new denomination incorporated African tradition with Methodist and Episcopalian elements of the churches they had attended as slaves. The church became the hub of the post Civil War black community. The original 1866 building was replaced by the present church, located at 417 Broad Street, in 1882. The church is only open for services or guided tours with advanced reservations. Bethel AME Church is the oldest Black church in the City of Georgetown.

LaFayette Park is a garden of flowers, herbs and other greenery that surrounds the Rice Museum. The garden is kept up by a local garden club. Adjacent to the park is Harborwalk, a 12 foot wide boardwalk at waters edge. Interpretative signs have been installed along the Harborwalk that explain the history of Georgetown. Behind the Harborwalk are the back door entries and pastel awnings of the Front Street shops, restaurants and upstairs residences. The restaurants all have a harbor view, some open to sea breeze dining.

Shops, restaurants, homes and museums line lantern-lighted Front Street. An added attraction is the Strand Theater. This art-Deco building is in the League of Historic American Theater listings. The marquee is original, and the 40's-style box offices were built for the movie "Made in Heaven." A local theater group, The Swamp Fox Players, uses the Strand for performances.

The 220 acre historic district is off Front Street. The district is compact, and light blue markers identify the historic structures. Guided tours by tram or on foot are also available.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/history/district](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/history/district).

## **Historic House Tours**

*Visitors may join tours that encompass some of the county's historic houses at various times throughout the year.*

### Pawleys Island Tour of Homes

The Pawleys Island Tour of Homes offers visitors an opportunity to recapture a sense of the past in the island's historic homes. The tour features the "arrogantly shabby" homes. The island, one of the East Coast's oldest vacation resorts, has attracted generations of vacationers and nearly 100 year-round residents to its laid-back, relaxed lifestyle

Source: [www.habitatgeorgetown.com/pawleystour](http://www.habitatgeorgetown.com/pawleystour)

### Annual Tour of Plantations and Colonial Town Houses

The Annual Tour of Plantations and colonial town homes in and near Georgetown has been the premier springtime event for over 50 years. The majority of the plantations and homes are privately owned and graciously lent to the Women of Prince George Winyah Parish once a year. A different group of homes is on tour each day. Histories and maps showing the routes for the day are provided with the tickets. Hostesses are at each site to answer any questions. In addition to visits to pre-Revolutionary and antebellum churches and town houses, visitors are invited to the Winyah Indigo Society Hall.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com](http://www.georgetown-sc.com)

### Christmas Carol Candlelight Tour of Homes

Restored historic homes and Bed & Breakfasts dating back to the 18th century are decorated for Christmas with multiple trees, Santa collections, elaborate nativity scenes and swags and garlands bedecking the many grand staircases and antique mantles. Hosts and hostesses greet the visitors in costumes depicting the era. Madrigal singers also perform on the verandas. The house tour includes a museum and historic churches. Georgetown's restored Front Street located along the Sampit River is also decorated for Christmas.

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com](http://www.georgetown-sc.com)

### Commercial Tours

There are commercial tours of the Georgetown Historic District which operate on a regular basis. You may take a walking tour, tour by trolley, or a plantation river tour by boat. Tours include:

#### *Miss Nell's Tours*

A walking tour of Georgetown's historic district and downtown area.

Source: [www.discoversouthcarolina.com](http://www.discoversouthcarolina.com)

#### *Walking Shadows Ghost Tours*

Night tours offer a fun way to learn the legends and history of Georgetown. Each site visited has been declared haunted.

### *Ghost Tours of Georgetown*

Ghost tour exploring the darkened streets of historic seaport Georgetown by lantern light with re-enactor Bob Wolf and story teller Elizabeth Robertson Huntsinger Wolf; author of Ghosts of Georgetown, More Ghosts of Georgetown, and Georgetown Mysteries and Legends.

### *Swamp Fox Tours*

A tour that takes you on a tour of historic Georgetown, SC. Being the third oldest city in South Carolina, Georgetown has an abundance of historic tree-lined streets festooned with moss with historic homes dating back to the 1700s. Also, around the area, are historic churches, museums, and a beautiful waterfront.

### *Cap'n Rod's Lowcountry Plantation Tours*

A cruise of the Pee Dee Lowcountry to view Rice Plantations, trunk gates and slave cabins, and moss-laden oaks.

Source: <http://www.visitgeorgetowncountysc.com>

### *Captain Sandy's Tour*

Natural history explorations with Capt'n Sandy Vermont, storyteller and historian. Rivers, swamps, salt marsh, plantations, shell collection or campfire cooking on the river bank with ghost stories and a gator or two.

Source: [www.discoverouthcarolina.com](http://www.discoverouthcarolina.com)

### *Rover Tours*

The "Carolina Rover" offers an excursion to the Georgetown Lighthouse for shelling and bird watching. Passengers may see dolphins, sea turtles, and other sea creatures as professional naturalists guide the tour through the Bay. The "River Rover" explores Carolina's fragile wetlands through the back water creeks. Bird watching is popular on this excursion. The on-board naturalist offers information regarding the eco-system.

### *Sandy Island Tours*

Tours De Sandy Island offers island tours Saturdays and Sundays from April to November. The tour includes the boat ride to the island. Sites visited include the Afro-American community, old school house built in the 1930's by Mr. Archie Huntington, the old Mount Rena Cemetery, the School Boat, (a monument for Prince Washington), the Fire House, and New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, founded in 1880.

Source: [www.toursdesandyisland.com/](http://www.toursdesandyisland.com/)

### *Gullah Tours*

The Gullah O' Man tour on Pawleys Island  
Gullah Roots Tour in the City of Georgetown

## **Major Events**

*There are a number of major events with a cultural emphasis that occur in Georgetown County each year.*

### *Andrews*

#### Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting is held at the beginning of December at Town Hall in the Town of Andrews.

#### Annual Christmas Parade

The annual Christmas Parade is held in mid-December in the Town of Andrews

### *Georgetown*

#### Winyah Bay Heritage Festival

The Winyah Bay Heritage Festival is an annual event held in January to “promote, preserve, and perpetuate the heritage from the Winyah Bay area through the protection of its lands, waters and unique habitats” The Festival offers wildlife artists, exhibitors and collectors from the southeast, as well as admiring hunters, fisherman and their families. The weekend of events takes place in various locations throughout the City of Georgetown. Indoor exhibits feature collectable decoys, handcrafted duck and goose calls, original paintings, custom knives, custom wildlife jewelry, a host of educational and conservation exhibitors and featured artist and lecturers. Outdoor activities include the SC State Duck Call Championship, retriever training demonstrations, fly fishing and fly tying demonstrations, children’s interactive shooting and fishing booths, children’s decoy and fish painting, Santee Gun Club guides’ storytelling and many other activities.

Proceeds assist the Georgetown County Historical Society and Museum in expanding into a new facility to showcase its collection and portrayal of the hunting and fishing legacy of the Winyah Bay area.

#### Harborwalk Festival

The Harborwalk Festival offers over 125 booths of arts and crafts, food, three stages of entertainment, a kids' area, an antique car show, boat tours of the harbor and a boat show. The festival is held in June of each year.

Source: [www.discoversouthcarolina.com](http://www.discoversouthcarolina.com)

#### Plantersville Heritage Festival

The annual Plantersville Heritage Festival is held in June to celebrate local residents and descendants of slaves who played major roles in shaping Georgetown County and South Carolina. The event is held in the Plantersville Community and includes food, entertainment, games and prizes for children and adults, and an evening fireworks display.

Source: [www.gtowntimes.com](http://www.gtowntimes.com)

### Georgetown 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks

Each year on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, fireworks are shot off after dark over Winyah Bay in Georgetown.

### Georgetown Wooden Boat Exhibit

The Georgetown Wooden Boat Exhibit is an annual event held in October to “foster and promote the enjoyment of classic wooden boats”. The Georgetown Wooden Boat Exhibit brings together many vessels for display.

“Boats of all sizes will be featured in the water, along the boardwalk and on Front Street. Visitors will be able to meet and talk to wooden boat craftsmen, manufacturers, and owners about techniques and materials. Special maritime exhibits will also be presented to the public.”

“The events are presented by the Harbor Historical Association of Georgetown and the Downtown Business Association with the help of interested organizations and individuals.”

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/events/woodenboats](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/events/woodenboats)

### Holiday Festival Boat Parade

The annual Holiday Festival Boat Parade is held the first weekend of December along the Harborwalk in Georgetown.

Source: [www.georgetownchamber.com](http://www.georgetownchamber.com)

### A Charles Dickens Christmas Festival

The city of Georgetown and the surrounding celebrate the Christmas Spirit every year with a wonderful old-fashioned festival with a Charles Dickens theme in November.

A Christmas Carol Candlelight Tour of Homes is the week-long highlight. Beautifully restored homes and Bed & Breakfasts dating back to the 18th century are elegantly decorated for Christmas with multiple trees, Santa collections, elaborate nativity scenes and swags and garlands bedecking the many grand staircases and antique mantles. Hosts and hostesses cheerfully greet the visitors in costumes depicting the era - as do the madrigal singers performing on the verandas. The house tour includes a museum and historic churches.

“Georgetown's charming, restored Front Street - on the water will be decorated for Christmas.”

Source: [www.georgetown-sc.com/events](http://www.georgetown-sc.com/events)

### *Waccamaw Neck*

#### Gullah/Geechee Rice Celebration and Festival

The annual Gullah/Geechee Rice Celebration and Festival is held in the spring and showcases the African history and heritage of South Carolina's Low Country Gullah culture. The annual event includes art and history exhibits including local choirs, jazz, storytelling, symphonic music, arts and crafts, and theater. Other annual events include lectures on the history of Gullah/Geechee people from Africa to Emancipation.

Source: [www.gullahfestival.org](http://www.gullahfestival.org)

### Pawleys Pavilion Reunion

The annual Pawleys Pavilion Reunion is held each spring on Pawleys Island at the site of the original pavilion. The Pawleys Island is believed to have been the last of four pavilions that provided beach-style entertainment to islanders and summer visitors dating back to the Prohibition era. The event offers beach music, a dance floor, shuttle service, and local food vendors. All proceeds benefit the South Carolina Environmental Law Project and the Pawley's Island Beautification Committee.

Source: [discoversouthcarolina.com](http://discoversouthcarolina.com)

### Pawleys Island 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

The Pawleys Island 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade is held on the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> each year on the Island.

### Atalaya Arts and Crafts Festival

The Atalaya Arts and Crafts Festival is a three day festival held in September at Atalaya Castle in Huntington Beach State Park. The festival features more than 100 of the finest artisans, crafts and Lowcountry food, along with the musical offerings including area musicians. Over 10,000 people will be browsing the eclectic display of hand blown glass, baskets, and other artifacts.

Source: [www.atalayafestival.com/](http://www.atalayafestival.com/)

### Pawleys Island Wine Festival

The Pawleys Island Wine Festival is held prior to the Pawleys Island Festival of Music & Art as a benefit. There are sample wines from over 60 renowned wineries.

Source: [www.winyahbayfestival.org](http://www.winyahbayfestival.org)

### Pawleys Island Festival of Music and Art

The Pawleys Island Festival of Music and Art is an annual event that is held in the fall. It has continued to grow each year and now includes events such as puppet shows, symphony performances, and vocalists that are spread out over one month.

### *Brookgreen Gardens*

#### Harvest Home Weekend

Harvest Home Weekend is a two-day annual fall event at Brookgreen Gardens. The festival is free with regular admission to the gardens and includes a scarecrow building contest, pumpkin painting, live entertainment, craft demonstrations, pumpkin patch, food, and an open-air farmer's market.

#### Nights of a Thousand Candles

Nights of a Thousand Candles is Brookgreen Garden's most popular annual holiday event. Thousands of lights sparkle from live oak trees and illuminate garden paths as musicians perform, carolers sing, and visitors experience the enchantment that only Nights of a Thousand Candles brings.

Source: [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

## *Murrells Inlet*

### Blessing of the Inlet

The annual Blessing of the Inlet is held at Belin Methodist Church in Murrells Inlet in the Spring. Inlet locals “gather beside the marsh creek and ask God’s blessing on the waters that have fed the areas history and heritage”. The day also includes entertainment, food sales, children’s games, and arts & crafts sales.

Source: 2009-2010 Living Here Community Source Guide

### Murrells Inlet 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade

The Boat Parade in Murrells Inlet is held at high tide on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Boats are decorated with a different theme each year and cruise down the creek in Murrells Inlet. Following the boat parade, fireworks are shot off over the Inlet waters.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com)

### Halloween on the Marshwalk

Children and Adults are invited to participate in the annual Halloween celebration on the Marshwalk in Murrells Inlet. The celebration includes earlier trick-or-treating fun, costume contests, and prizes.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com)

### Murrells Inlet Holiday Home Tour

Murrells Inlet “Christmas on the Creek” Holiday Home Tour is a one day annual event. The home tour includes stops at ten homes that vary in architectural style, age and size, and décor.

The Holiday event also features an Arts and Crafts Boutique at a local restaurant.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com)

### Murrells Inlet Christmas Parade

The annual community Christmas parade in Murrells Inlet has a different theme each year. The parade begins at Willcox Avenue and marches down Business 17. Immediately following the parade, the children are invited to Morse Landing Park to visit Santa. The Christmas tree lighting and bonfire are also in the park.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com)

## Concerts, Classes and Lecture Series

### Cool Summer Evenings

This summer concert series at Brookgreen Gardens is held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. "There is something for everyone during Cool Summer Evenings with cruises down the creek at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m., the Lowcountry Zoo open until 7 p.m., the new otter exhibit, new lighting in the gardens, live entertainment and cool summer suppers in the Pavilion Restaurant. Entertainment is free with garden admission. Creek excursions on pontoon boat are an additional fee. Picnics are allowed only in the designated picnic area located just south of the Jessamine Pond. Beverage carts with soft drinks, water, beer, and wine are available for purchase at the performance locations.

Source: [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

### Pawleys Island Concert Band

The Pawleys Island Concert Band is an all-volunteer, adult community band serving the Waccamaw Neck and Georgetown. They perform several free concerts each year and provide an array of traditional concert band music from big band, marches, jazz, and show tunes to light classical selections. They are dedicated to promoting musicianship, present high-quality enjoyable music, and to encourage young people to enjoy the lifelong excitement of the musical arts.

Source: [www.pawleysislandconcertband.org](http://www.pawleysislandconcertband.org)

### Moveable Feast Literary Luncheons

The Moveable Feast features literary luncheons with exciting authors at area restaurants on Fridays, 11 am-1 pm. Each Feast is followed by a signing at Litchfield Books from 2-4 pm.

Source: [classatpawleys.com/](http://classatpawleys.com/)

### Friends of the Waccamaw Library

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library conduct a regular program of lectures and other cultural events. They also have story time for children as well as fundraisers to financially support the Library.

Source: [www.gclibrary.org](http://www.gclibrary.org)

### The Friends of the Georgetown Library

*Promoting the use of the Library resources and services to the community*

*Encouraging all to come to the Library*

*Sponsoring programs of community interest*

*Providing funds for the Senior Scholars programs*

*Helping to support the children's activities including reading programs*

*Providing funds needed and not covered by the Library budget*

The Friends of Georgetown Library host summer reading programs for children, Senior Scholar lectures and classes, and fundraisers to provide financial support to the Library.

Source: [www.gclibrary.org](http://www.gclibrary.org)

### Gullah Week

Numerous special events, including Gullah Week and enrichment classes, are held throughout the year at Brookgreen Gardens for teachers and students alike.

Source: [www.brookgreen.org/programs-visit](http://www.brookgreen.org/programs-visit)

### CLASS: Community Learning About Special Subjects

CLASS provides adults with courses taught by talented instructors in a casual environment for the pure joy of learning. The program consists of a series of short courses taught at Art Works at the Litchfield Exchange. The course offerings change on a regular basis.

Source: <http://classatpawleys.com/>

### Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

The Division of Academic Outreach at Coastal Carolina University provides adult education to residents throughout the Grand Strand through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). These courses are designed to meet the needs and interests of community residents and are offered during day and evening hours. The Litchfield branch of Coastal Carolina University is located on Willbrook Blvd. and offers an extensive selection of classes ranging from one day to several weeks. OLLI members may also participate in history and nature excursions, as well as cultural events.

Source: [www.coastal.edu/olli/](http://www.coastal.edu/olli/)

### Sweetgrass Basket Classes

Sweetgrass basket classes are held at Hopsewee Plantation. Sweetgrass basket making was brought to the South Carolina lowcountry by slaves who came from West Africa and has been a traditional art form passed on from generation to generation from mother to daughter to granddaughter.

Source: [www.hopsewee.com/sweetgrass](http://www.hopsewee.com/sweetgrass)

### Kaminski House

*Made in the Shade Concert Series*

The Kaminski House Museum offers the summer concert series on the Kaminski House lawn.

*Evening with Kaminski Lectures*

*Dogs Days of Summer: Family Event including the dog*

*Holiday Open House: Tea is served with the tour of the House*

Source: [www.discoversouthcarolina.com](http://www.discoversouthcarolina.com)

## Chowder Talk

Chowder Talk is a biannual Community Update event held in Murrells Inlet. The event is an opportunity for area residents to hear various speakers address current community issues and engage in question & answer sessions.

Source: [www.murrellsinletsc.com](http://www.murrellsinletsc.com)

## Art

*Georgetown County is home to the largest collection of outdoor sculpture in the world as well as a number of private art galleries.*

### Brookgreen Sculpture Gardens (Outdoors)

“Brookgreen Gardens, the first public sculpture garden in America, has in its collection more than 1,200 works by 350 sculptors. The arts patron and scholar, Archer Milton Huntington (1870-1955), and his wife, renowned sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington (1876-1973), founded Brookgreen in 1931. Designed around the walkways laid out by Mrs. Huntington, the gardens have long been regarded as one of the nation’s most beautiful botanical displays. Exhibited within them is the largest and most comprehensive collection of American figurative sculpture in the country, by sculptors who worked from the early nineteenth century to the present. Brookgreen Gardens is a National Historical Landmark, and is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

“Brookgreen Gardens is the floral jewel of South Carolina’s coastal community. Situated south of Myrtle Beach and north of Georgetown, the land that comprises Brookgreen Gardens is a diverse mix of forested swamps, salt marsh, sandy ridges and fresh tidal swamps. The 9,200-acre property is a testament to the natural landscapes that surrounded this site in 1931, when Archer Milton Huntington and Anna Hyatt Huntington founded Brookgreen Gardens. Today, Brookgreen Gardens continues to preserve its natural heritage and at the same time has developed spectacular display gardens continuing the Huntington’s vision to the present.

Known as the Archer and Anna Hyatt Huntington Sculpture Garden, this garden was designed in 1931 by Anna Hyatt Huntington in the shape of a spread wing butterfly. On entering the Diana Garden, the breadth of this magnificent place stands before you. The Live Oak Allee garden is comprised of 250 year old live oaks trees that were planted in the early 1700s when Brookgreen Gardens was a thriving rice plantation. These inspiring matriarchs frame this garden space like a living cathedral.

“The four wings of the butterfly offer many horticultural surprises and delights as you move deeper into the Sculpture Garden. The most notable are the Dorothy P. Peace Garden Room for Children located in the lower right wing and the Kitchen Garden found in the lower left wing. The Brenda W. Rosen Carolina Terrace Garden has a spectacular array of perennials, roses, shrubs and mature trees.

“Three additional major gardens departed from the butterfly design with the focus on a formality not seen up to this point in the Gardens. The Dogwood Garden, originally laid out prior to WWII, was not completed until the war’s conclusion in 1945. The Palmetto Garden, named for the use of Sabal palmetto South Carolina’s state tree, was completed in 1950.

“One of the most recent gardens, is also the most whimsical. The Fountain of the Muses Garden, designed to display the sculpture of the same name, takes bold garden design to new heights.

“The Arboretum serves as the transition between the original sculpture gardens and the E. Craig Wall, Jr. Lowcountry Center in the distance. Through the years sculpture has been added to the Arboretum among gigantic specimen trees. “

“The Bennett A. and Mary Alice Brown Sculpture Court showcases more than 100 small sculptures by renowned artists such as Paul Manship, Abram Beiskie and Edith Howland. Formerly known as the Small Sculpture Gallery, this building was the first gallery in America specifically designed for the exhibition of sculpture.

Rainey Sculpture Pavilion at Brookgreen Gardens: “The Callie and John Rainey Sculpture Pavilion include the Noble and Jennewein Galleries. These state-of-the-art galleries are linked by a covered outdoor space and together create 6,000 square feet for changing sculpture exhibitions. Specially designed exhibits are featured in these extraordinary glass-walled spaces.”

Source: [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

### Dreamkeepers Community Arts Center

The Dreamkeepers Community Arts Center is also a museum. The Center is located at 1623 Gilbert Street in Georgetown.

“The Dreamkeepers Community Arts Center operates under the auspices of the Committee for African American History Observances founded in 1981 in Georgetown to present art and cultural programs designed to promote among all South Carolinians and visitors an appreciation for the contributions of local African Americans to the larger society.”

Source: The Times Extra, week of May 23, 2003

### Private Art Galleries

A number of private art galleries are located in Georgetown County. They are located in Pawleys Island and along Front Street in Georgetown.

#### *Pawleys Island*

- Art Works
- Blue Parrot Gallerie
- Calk Haven’s Gallery
- Cuz-I Gotta Have It
- Gallery 57
- Premiere’s
- The Art Box
- The Cheryl Newby Gallery
- The Gray Man Gallery
- The South Wind Gallery
- Three Feathers Gallery

#### *Georgetown*

- Boyle Gallery
- Georgetown Art Gallery
- Georgetown Heirloom
- Hole-In-The-Wall Frame Shop
- Outlaws Originals
- Prevost Gallery
- Prince George Framing Company

#### *Murrells Inlet*

- Ebb & Flow Art Co-op

*Gullah Museum and Gift Shop*

The Gullah Museum and Gift Shop is located at 421 Petigru Road in Pawleys Island. The Museum also provides and tours and offers classes that teach the history and contribution made by the Gullah people to Georgetown County, South Carolina, American and ante-bellum United States every day.

## **Theaters**

*There are three theaters located in Georgetown County.*

### Strand Theater

The Strand Theatre opened Monday, October 6, 1941. It is home to the Swamp Fox Players who perform in a number of productions each year. In addition, visiting repertory companies conduct performances at the theater on an occasional basis.

Source: [www.scmovietheatres.com](http://www.scmovietheatres.com)

### Murrells Inlet Community Theater

The Murrells Inlet Community Theatre is a nonprofit organization and produces a minimum of three plays each season, beginning with a fall production. MICT hosts, or participates in, projects including a Youth Theatre Workshop, Lowcountry Playwriting Competition, and acting and technical workshops.

Source: [www.mictheatre.com](http://www.mictheatre.com)

### Tara Theater

The Tara Theater at Litchfield Resort hosts ongoing variety shows, occasional productions and corporate fundraising events.

Source: [www.dinostvvarietyshow.com](http://www.dinostvvarietyshow.com)

## Nature Interpretation

*Georgetown County's coastal location and the confluence of five rivers into Winyah Bay make the area rich in natural resources. Interpretive activities are offered at a number of locations.*

### Brookgreen Gardens

#### *The E. Craig Wall, Jr. Lowcountry Center*

The E. Craig Wall, Jr. Lowcountry Center has an open-air Courtyard that contains wildlife sculpture and plants native to South Carolina. The replica of a rice field trunk dock that dominates the courtyard illustrates how these ingenious devices allowed water to flow in to and out of the fields. The Cultural Garden's complete seasonal heirloom plants display is a favorite place to visit. The plants are historically cultivated as cash or food crops. Depending on the season, you can see rice, cotton, indigo, tobacco, "heirloom" fruits and vegetables, and herbs that were used as seasoning and medicine.

Inside the center is the Exhibition Hall with a permanent indoor exhibit called the Lowcountry: Change and Continuity. This exhibit traces many of those changes and constants with unusual artifacts, interesting information and Tom Blagden's glorious nature photography. In the "At the Program Shed, trained interpreters will show you several of the native animals that live in the 9,000 acres of Lowcountry forests and wetlands, while telling you about their physical characteristics and behavior

#### *Rice Field Overlook*

The Rice Field Overlook is located behind the Lowcountry Center. You will walk along an elevated ramp through the cool shade of huge live oak trees to the Overlook and its vista across a reconstructed rice field. There are pictorial displays that help you understand the seasonal process of growing rice and a recorded message from Ben the Trunkminder, the slave who managed the field during plantation times.

#### *The Lowcountry Trail*

"Domestic Animals of the Plantation" is located along the Lowcountry Trail, between the B. Craig Wall, Jr. Lowcountry Center and the existing native animal exhibits. It features what are now considered historic rare breed animals that were the domestic animals commonly seen on plantations and farms in the 18th and 19th centuries. These cows, sheep, horses, mules and chickens are in newly fenced pastures and help tell the story of life on Brookgreen Plantation.

#### Flora and Fauna

"The plant collection at Brookgreen includes approximately 2,000 species and subspecies of plants native and adapted to the Southeastern United States. Most of the plants on the grounds are labeled with botanical and common names.

#### Wildlife Sanctuary

"Brookgreen is also a wildlife sanctuary protected by the laws of South Carolina. The bird enthusiast may sight as many as 194 species. The variety is especially rich during the spring and fall migrations as many flocks travel along the Atlantic Flyway. The Lowcountry Trail offers visitors opportunities to observe native animals in their natural settings. The public areas of the Wildlife Trail cover nearly 50 acres

*. Animal Exhibits:*

Otter Pond: The Zoo's latest permanent exhibit is the River Basin Retreat. It is approximately 1,200 square feet in size features an 8,000 gallon above-ground pool made from clear acrylic panels. Inside the pool, replicas of river banks provide the otters with places to rest above the water and serve as "diving boards" when they jump into the pool.

Cypress Aviary: The Cypress Aviary is the only known aviary built over an existing cypress swamp. Herons, white ibises, black-crowned night herons, Northern shovelers and wood ducks nest, feed, and fly overhead in the half-acre blackwater swamp. The birds are impaired in some way and have been acquired through wildlife officials or veterinarians, as they could not survive in the wild.

Native Animals: These animals in this exhibit of the Lowcountry Zoo are of the native animals that live in the woods, swamps and waters of the Lowcountry. The animals are exhibited in their naturalistic habitats. All of these animals were either born in captivity in an AZA accredited zoo or have sustained an injury and would not survive in the wild. The animal exhibits include the Raptor Aviary which Houses Bald Eagles, Red-shoulder Hawks, and Red-tail Hawks, Barred Owls, Barn Owls, Great Horned Owls and Turkey Vultures; Alligator Swamp; Grey Foxes; Red Foxes; River Otters; White-Tailed Deer; and Wild Turkeys.

Domestic Animals of the Plantation: This animal exhibit provides an element of education not only for the Lowcountry Zoo but it connects the zoo to The Lowcountry Trail and Brookgreen's history. The animals in this exhibit are now considered "rare breeds" and are much more like animals of the 1800s than the highly specialized hybrid descendants of today. Animals in this exhibit include Dominique Chickens, Marsh Tacky Horses, Mule, Red Devon Cattle, and Tunis Sheep

Source: [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

## Hobcaw Barony

### *The Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center*

"The small interpretive museum features examples of different habitats from the 17,500 acre Hobcaw Barony and a timeline covering its rich past. Discover local sea life in a salt-water touch tank or watch young alligators swim in a freshwater aquarium. Visitors can explore many environments with various items on a touch table from a pine knot used as a torch during plantation days to whale vertebrae.

### *Guided Tours*

In addition to the visitor's center, Hobcaw Barony offers guided tours of the property at which one may see feral hogs, deer, wild turkeys and other wildlife. Of particular interest are the habitats of the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker which reside in the forests of Hobcaw.

### Birding on the Barony

An avian researcher takes birding enthusiasts from Hobcaw Barony's scenic salt marshes to red-cockaded woodpecker colonies, cypress swamps and loblolly lowlands to ancient sand dunes dominated by turkey oaks.

### Cemeteries of Hobcaw

Hobcaw Barony has five known cemeteries which reveal clues of past owners and staff members, as well as slaves and their African customs of grave decorations. Learn of rural burial grounds and how they differ from church plots and the customs unique to past centuries. Travel through the barony by van, stopping at various sites in the secluded woods of Hobcaw.

### Coastal Ecology Camp

Open to rising 2nd graders through rising 5th graders. Explore a different environment on each of three half day camps including forest, marsh and pond. Activities may include cane pole fishing, animal tracking and crabbing.

### Hobcaw Beach Tour

Walk the southern 2 miles of Hobcaw Barony's beach, part of the 17,500 acre research reserve. Plantation boundaries created in the early 18th century stretched from the river to the sea along the Waccamaw Neck and resulted in a portion of oceanfront land becoming part of 11 rice plantations.

### Hobcaw Fly Fishing Adventure

Wade or kayak, while fly fishing in pristine salt marsh creeks and flats for tailing redfish, locally called spot tail bass, with an experienced guide and fly fisherman. Enjoy the beauty of the flats and the salt marsh creeks with an experienced guide and fly fisherman, while seeing many local birds and other wildlife.

### Tours of Hobcaw Barony

This three hour van tour requires little walking but includes highlights of Hobcaw's history. In addition to Hobcaw House, tours include a drive by the home and stables of Bellefield Plantation, Friendfield Village, the last 19th century slave village on the Waccamaw Neck and travel a portion of the original King's Highway. Information on coastal ecology, wildlife and endangered species is shared throughout the tour.

### Trail Ride with Your Horse

Hobcaw Barony offers a rare opportunity for individuals to bring their own horse or horses and ride one of two designated trails.

Source: [www.hobcawbarony.com](http://www.hobcawbarony.com)

### *The North Inlet—Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*

The North Inlet—Winyah Bay Reserve is located at Hobcaw Barony. The Reserve “sponsors a variety of educational programs for all ages. These include informal seminars presented by Baruch scientists where citizens learn about current research activities, and short courses for families and children. Workshops on environmental topics for coastal decision-makers are also planned in cooperation with the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management and other partner agencies and organizations.

“Other education experiences for public audiences include seasonal explorations of the salt marsh; bird walks and open houses of the Baruch Marine Lab. Schedules of education activities

are produced three times a year and cover the periods: September- December, January-May and June-August.”

Source: [www.northinlet.sc.edu](http://www.northinlet.sc.edu)

## Huntington Beach State Park

### *Education Center*

The Education Center features a saltwater touch tank and a live baby alligator among its exhibits. The center was created to share with visitors the interdependence of human beings and the natural community, focusing on the intersection of land, marsh and sea that makes the Grand Strand such an attractive and critical environment. Sample programs include:

- Alligator Observation
- Atalaya Ghost Tour
- Behind the Scenes at Huntington
- Life of the Sea Turtle Snakes and Reptiles
- Spineless Sea Wonders
- Surf Seining
- Whales and Dolphins
- Secret Lives of Sea Shells

### *Coastal Exploration Programs*

- “Alligators: Learn about South Carolina’s largest reptile as well as the freshwater marsh they inhabit.
- “Beachcombing: Search for shells and fossils along the beach with a naturalist as a guide
- “Birding: Join us for an introductory look at wading birds, waterfowl, raptors and more
- “Causeway Wildlife: Observe alligators, birds and more while learning about this unique habitat.
- “Coastal Birding: Join experienced birders for a walk along the causeway in search of wading birds, waterfowl and more.
- “Sea Turtle Talk: Discover the life of the loggerhead sea turtle and why it’s our state reptile. This informative program is designed to make us better stewards of the environment.
- “Secrets of the Salt Marsh: Enjoy a unique look at one of the most productive ecosystems in the world and examine some of the inhabitants of the salt marsh
- “The Secret Lives of Seashells: Enjoy the interesting stories of how our native shells survive in the marine environment. Experience live examples from our Wet Lab aquariums.
- “Spineless Wonders: Come get acquainted with some of the weirdest animals in the ocean as we discover that there’s more to life than a backbone. A variety of live creatures will be on display in our new wet lab, so be prepared for a hands-on experience.
- “Strange Behavior: Join us at the Wet Lab as we explore the fascinating science of animal behavior. A variety of live sea creatures will be our subjects as we learn just why these creatures do the things they do.

### *Trails and Nature Study*

- “Sandpiper Pond Trail: This easy 2-mile out and back trail in Huntington Beach State Park meanders past one of the best-preserved beaches in South Carolina’s upper coastal plain. You will walk on a boardwalk which passes over spartina grass and black pluffmud, then through a

coastal forest of oaks, red cedars, and many creeping vines. You'll soon come to a saltwater pond, where observation towers allow you to view a wide array of birds including herons, egrets, and ospreys. Huntington Beach State Park is among the East Coast's premiere birding destinations, particularly during the winter migration period. If you're especially interested in birds, continue north along the beach (staying off the dunes) to Murrells Inlet Jetty. It is an additional round trip of six miles. Be aware this trail tends to get somewhat soggy after rains.

- "Kerrigan Trail: From the parking area in Huntington Beach State Park, it is an easy walk to a boardwalk, which extends onto a freshwater lagoon. From an observation area, you may see a wide variety of shore birds and wading birds. For those serious birdwatchers, some possible sightings may be sandhill cranes, rosette spoonbills, and swallow-tailed kites. The best time to see migratory songbirds is spring and fall. Migratory shorebirds are present during winter, spring, and fall. This is also home for a variety of animals including alligators and loggerhead turtles.

- "Boardwalk: From the parking area, you will walk on a boardwalk that extends into a saltwater marsh where you will pass over spartina grass and pluffmud laced with oysters. About midway is an observation area where you may see a wide variety of shore birds and wading birds. For those serious birdwatchers, some possible sightings may be sandhill cranes, rosette spoonbills, and swallow-tailed kites. The best time to see migratory songbirds is spring and fall. Migratory shorebirds are present during winter spring, and fall. This is also home for a variety of animals including alligators and loggerhead turtles. Be aware that it is illegal to feed alligators, or disturb turtle nests or hatchlings.

- "Significant Natural Features: Perhaps the best known "studiers" of wildlife at Huntington Beach State Park are the birders who for years have been coming to see some of the more than 300 species that have been recorded here, giving the park a reputation as a top spot on the East Coast.

- "In addition to three miles of beach, much of the park is salt marshes, one of the world's most productive eco-systems. Much of Huntington Beach's marsh is now registered under the South Carolina Heritage Trust Program to help preserve its unusually pristine nature. Further, the park contains a Nature Education Center with various displays including a touch tank, aquariums, live alligator, life-size sculpture of an adult loggerhead sea turtle and an "Animals of the Maritime Forest" exhibit.

Source: [www.huntingtonbeachsc.org](http://www.huntingtonbeachsc.org)

### Murrells Inlet Marsh Walk

The Marsh Walk in Murrells Inlet offers views of the saltwater marsh with its wildlife, birds and spectacular scenery. Along the marsh walk is dining, nightlife, fishing, boating, water sports, shopping and area events.

Source: [www.murrellsinletmarshwalk.com](http://www.murrellsinletmarshwalk.com)

### Sandy Island Preserve

"Sandy Island is a unique land form in South Carolina, supporting a diverse assemblage of natural communities. The island is located between the Waccamaw and Great Pee Dee Rivers and represents the largest undeveloped tract remaining in the Waccamaw Neck. The island is a complex of wetland and upland communities. The 1,100 acres of wetlands along the Waccamaw

River, on the east side of Sandy Island, were converted to rice plantations during the 1800s. A few remnant impoundments and water control structures used for rice culture are still intact.

“Sandy Island supports a large number of rare plant communities. The uplands cover about half of the island and exhibit many communities typical of the Sandhills Region, along with those more commonly found in the Outer Coastal Plain. Parts of the island have experienced wildfires at various times. The north end of the island (which burned most often) supports a longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) community with very little hardwoods under story. Mature longleaf pine in excess of 100 years old dominate the upland landscape. Fire is a natural component of such communities, preserving health, quality and diversity. Where fire was suppressed in the south end of the island, turkey oak dominates the upland landscape.

“Among the rare species existing in the pine forest is the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. These birds depend upon the mature, fire-resistant pine forest to provide forage and nesting sites. Black bears also use Sandy Island as a corridor for travel. The Sandy Island Preserve was purchased by the South Carolina Department of Transportation to preserve the natural communities of Sandy Island, and to provide for off-site impact of wetlands resulting from public projects in the Coastal Plain of South Carolina.

The Sandy Island Preserve is open to the public during daylight hours only.

Source: [www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina/preserves](http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/southcarolina/preserves)

### Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center

The Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center is located on Winyah Bay in the southern part of Georgetown County. Public access is limited to one guided tour each week. The 20,000 acres of land along the shoreline in Georgetown County was donated to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The center is widely considered among the greatest natural conservation grants in the United States. The marshes, marine wetlands, forests, and sandy beaches play host to hundreds of species of coastal wildlife and serve as an undisturbed habitat for migratory birds, eagles, alligators, and many other endangered species. Approximately 31 square miles of marsh, managed wetlands, forest openings, ocean beach, longleaf pine forest and maritime forest, is dedicated as a wildlife preserve, research area and waterfowl refuge.

Source: [www.yawkeyfoundation.org](http://www.yawkeyfoundation.org)

### Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge manages 22,931 acres with a headquarters on Highway 701 North in Georgetown. The refuge is part of a 55,000 acre tract that includes portions of Horry County, Georgetown County, and Marion County. The purpose of the refuge is to protect and manage diverse habitat components and to provide compatible wildlife-dependent recreational activities including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, and environmental education.

Source: [www.fws.gov/waccamaw/](http://www.fws.gov/waccamaw/)

### Waccamaw Neck Bikeway

Waccamaw Neck Bikeway is currently a 12 mile multipurpose path running north to south along the Waccamaw Neck. There are four miles of lanes through Murrells Inlet along Highway 17 Business from the Georgetown County Line at Carson Avenue to the south entrance of the Inlet; Bike Bridge connecting Murrells Inlet with Huntington Beach State Park; three miles of trails along the western border of Huntington Beach State Park paralleling Highway 17 Bypass; four miles of trails from the intersection of Lakeshore Drive and Boyle Drive in North Litchfield to the Reserve Club at the end of Willbrook Blvd.; and one mile of trail from the North Causeway to the South Causeway along the east side of Hwy 17. The remaining distance of 15 miles is planned for the future, on Kings River Rd., Waverly Rd. and south on U.S. Highway 17. These completed paths will extend 27 miles. The Waccamaw Neck Bikeway is part of the national East Coast Greenway project.

Source: [www.biketheneck.com](http://www.biketheneck.com)

Portions of the Waccamaw Neck Bikeway are being developed as nature trails. The Prince George Nature Trail is a three-mile, hard-packed path running west to east along the north border of the Prince George development over boardwalks and through pristine natural habitats.

Source: Lowcountry Companion, summer, 2003

### Commercial Tours

There are several commercial tours that offer nature interpretation. Two operators from Georgetown offer shelling cruises in Winyah Bay. A salt marsh tour is offered in Murrells Inlet. Kayaking expeditions are available to Sandy Island, salt marshes and other locations.

## **Organizations/Programs**

*In addition to those mentioned above, there are a number of other organizations and programs that are instrumental in creating and/or preserving the cultural resources of Georgetown County.*

### Cultural Council of Georgetown County

The Cultural Council of Georgetown County is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization devoted to Growing a Better Community Through the Arts. It was established in 1997 as an umbrella organization for the cultural activities, encompassing the performing, visual and literary arts, as well as the allied areas of architecture, historic preservation, landscape architecture, industrial design and production crafts. Its purpose is to provide educational opportunities, space for exhibitions and other art activities, and to encourage existing and fledgling cultural organizations to reach their potential.

Source: [www.culturalcouncil.info](http://www.culturalcouncil.info)

### South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

The South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) helps the state's citizens preserve their heritage. The SHPO was established in 1969 to implement the goals of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which extended federal support to state and local preservation efforts. The SHPO is a program of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. From the beginning, the SHPO has identified, recorded, and helped to preserve historic and prehistoric resources throughout the state. The SHPO has a regional representative system based in Columbia.

The State Historic Preservation Office encourages and helps the preservation efforts of local governments, private organizations, state and federal agencies, and private citizens through the following programs:

- Coordinating the Statewide Survey of Historic Properties, this records historic buildings, structures, and sites. Surveys help local governments and organizations, state and federal agencies, and the SHPO learn what properties are important and where they are located. The SHPO maintains this information in data layers in a Geographic Information System (GIS).
- Nominating properties with significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture to the National Register of Historic Places. Listing in the National Register alerts individuals and communities to the value of their resources.
- Providing matching grants for preservation projects when funds are available. Grants help finance "bricks and mortar" projects like the replacement of a roof and preservation planning and education projects.
- Encouraging the rehabilitation of historic buildings through state and federal tax incentive programs. The staff helps owners meet the standards required for rehabilitations under these programs.
- Encouraging the preservation of historic properties by reviewing and commenting on state and federally assisted projects. Federal and some state agencies must consult with the SHPO when planning projects that involve federal and certain state funds, licenses or permits.
- Assisting local governments with the design and implementation of local preservation

programs to safeguard their historic properties. Communities can choose to become Certified Local Governments (CLG) and participate in a federal-state-local partnership. These communities receive technical assistance and can apply for the preservation grant funds that the National Park Service sets aside annually for CLGs.

- Providing information, education, and training. The SHPO publishes a monthly email newsletter, serves as a clearing house for the distribution of literature on technical preservation issues, and sponsors an annual preservation conference. In addition, the staff advises property owners on the maintenance, rehabilitation, and reuse of historic buildings.

Source: <http://scdah.sc.gov>

### South Carolina Historical Marker Program

The South Carolina Historical Marker Program, originally the South Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program, was authorized by an act of the South Carolina General Assembly in 1905 creating the Historical Commission of South Carolina with authority “to have direction and control of the marking of historic sites, or houses, or localities,” but was not officially established until 1936 when a marker was erected near the site of the Long Cane Massacre near Troy, in McCormick County. More than 800 markers have been erected by the program in its first sixty years. Since 1954 the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, as the successor state agency to the Historical Commission of South Carolina, has been responsible for the program as part of the Historical Services Division. The enabling legislation creating the Department of Archives and History gave it the responsibility for “the approval of the inscriptions for all historical markers or other monuments erected on state highways or other state property.”

South Carolina Historical Markers mark and interpret places important to an understanding of South Carolina’s past, either as the sites of significant events, or at historic properties such as buildings, sites, structures, or other resources significant for their design, as examples of a type, or for their association with institutions or individuals significant in local, state, or national history. Historic properties individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places are ordinarily eligible for historical markers, as their status guarantees that a case has already been made for their significance. Many other places, however, either not eligible for listing in the National Register or not yet nominated through that program, are also eligible for historical markers. National or statewide significance is not a prerequisite, and many properties of primarily local significance have already been marked.

In the past, markers were placed along the nearest South Carolina state highway and contained references to the location of the place being marked, usually some distance away. More recently, markers have been erected at the historic site itself without restriction to state highways and on other public streets and county roads.

Source: <http://shpo.sc.gov/properties/markers/>

### Heritage Trust Program

“The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources’ Heritage Trust Program was created in 1976, the first such program in the nation. It was to preserve those natural features and cultural remains which are quickly disappearing as the state’s population increases in size. The program’s

purpose is to inventory, evaluate and protect the elements considered the most outstanding representatives of our state heritage.

“The Heritage Trust Program, part of the Wildlife Diversity Section, is funded by appropriations, the Endangered Wildlife Fund, the Endangered Species License Plate and by a small portion of revenue collected from the real estate documentary stamp tax. The income is deposited into the Heritage Land Trust Fund and used for acquisition of significant natural and cultural areas.

“Heritage Trust staff in concert with related agencies and personnel, search the state for rare plants, animals, birds, archaeological sites and other significant features of South Carolina’s heritage. The goal is to permanently protect the best examples of these features through a system of heritage preserves established for the benefit of present and future generations.

“The Program is overseen by the Heritage Trust Advisory Board, which was created by law to make recommendations concerning protection of land under the Heritage Trust.

No such protection can be initiated without the approval of the Advisory Board, Their expertise and broad representation assure that time and funds are devoted to the most urgent and worthy projects.

Source: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov>

### South Carolina Arts Commission

The South Carolina Arts Commission (SCAC) was established in 1967, as an agency of state government to develop and implement a comprehensive statewide program to advance the arts in South Carolina, and to assure their excellence. The Commission directs its resources toward making the arts a part of the life experience of every South Carolina citizen. The SCAC’s primary source of funding is state tax dollars appropriated by the South Carolina General Assembly. Grants from the federal government through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) comprise the Commission’s secondary source of funding. Additional support for Arts Commission projects is provided by private foundations and community sponsors. The Commission’s goals, responding programs and services are as follows:

#### *Arts Education*

Arts in the Basic Curriculum (ABC) - Provides grants and assistance designed to help quality, comprehensive education in the arts, including dance, drama, music, visual arts and creative writing, become a basic study in South Carolina schools.

Arts in Education (ATE) - Provides grants for residencies, performances, projects, planning and implementation of comprehensive arts education plans. Also provides a booking conference for education sponsors and Arts in Education Roster artists, and a profile directory of residency artists.

Arts in Education Roster of Approved Artists - Provides qualified artists in many disciplines for presenters or panels.

Media Arts Education - Initiates partnerships which provide workshops and teleconferences on media literacy and film/video/new technologies for teachers and students in the classroom.

*Community Arts*

American Masterpieces - Provide funding to South Carolina dance companies, college and university dance ensembles for the reconstruction or restaging of a historically and artistically significant dance work.

Art Accessibility (504) - Provides assistance through awareness training to artists and organizations in developing architectural, programmatic and attitudinal accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Art in Public Places - Provides technical assistance to organizations interested in art in public places.

Arts Daily - Broadcasts of segments of local and regional arts activities on SC Educational Radio. A companion web page is linked to the Arts Commission's website.

Cultural Visions - Provides funding and technical assistance to rural South Carolina communities to stimulate economic development through the use of existing cultural assets and by the formation of strong partnerships between cultural and economic development agencies at the local and state level.

Design Arts - Program supports the South Carolina Design Arts Partnership, a project of the Arts Commission, Clemson University College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service, and the South Carolina Downtown Development Association, which delivers broadly based design assistance to South Carolina communities.

Email Newsletter - A brief letter available by email with opportunities, deadlines, dates and internet resources of interest to artists and organizations.

Folklife and Traditional Arts - Provides technical assistance and grants to community organizations seeking to identify, document and present traditional art forms and their practitioners. Also provides technical assistance to traditional artists seeking to promote or sustain their art forms.

Percentage for Art (% for Art) - Encourages funds to be set aside by state entities to purchase art work for new and renovated state buildings.

*Artist Development*

Media Arts Center - Provides workshops, technical assistance, equipment access, studio access and film/video exhibitions in ten southeastern states.

Performing Arts - Provides opportunity for juried performing artists to perform for presenters through an event co-sponsored by SC Presenters Network and SC Arts Alliance and held in conjunction with the Arts in Education booking conference.

Subgranting/Project Support/Quarterly Grants - Provides matching funds to professional artists and arts organizations to promote quality arts projects and services.

Poetry Out Loud in South Carolina - The program seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry—recitation and performance.

Regional Media Arts Center- Provides film/video equipment awards and Southeastern Media Institute tuition assistance to regional media artists through a partnership with state arts councils.

South Carolina Fiction Project - Publishes works of short fiction through a partnership with The (Charleston) Post & Courier Newspaper.

SouthernArtistry.org - Online artist registry designed to showcase the South's artistic diversity and excellence by spotlighting outstanding artists of all disciplines that live and work in the region.

Southeastern Media Institute - A biennial event featuring intensive film/video/audio workshops and screenings.

Southern Circuit Film Tour- Tours six internationally-recognized independent film/video artists who screen and discuss their work in six (6) Southeastern cities.

State Art Collection - Builds and maintains a collection of work by contemporary South Carolina artists which is displayed in state buildings and loaned to arts organizations for special exhibitions, both in-state and out-of-state.

Toaster Film Festival-The film festival is open to any amateur, student, independent or professional filmmaker. All genres and subject matter are welcome (experimental, documentary, narrative, music, etc.). The only stipulations are that films must include a toaster and/or grits and be no longer than three minutes.

Visual Arts Exhibitions - Provides exhibitions of South Carolina artists' works.

#### *Honors and Awards*

Artist Fellowships - Recognizes the artistic achievements of artists who show significant quality in their work. Disciplines are rotated on a yearly basis.

Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Awards for the Arts - Presents annually the highest honor the state gives in the arts to South Carolina organizations, businesses and individuals participating in the growth and advancement of the arts in South Carolina.

Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Awards - One-time awards presented annually by the South Carolina General Assembly to practitioners of traditional arts significant to communities throughout the state. Up to four artists and one advocate may receive awards each year.

Source: [www.southcarolinaarts.com](http://www.southcarolinaarts.com)

### Georgetown Visitors Center

The Chamber of Commerce runs a visitors center located ~~next to the Kaminski House~~ at the corner of Front and Queen Street in downtown Georgetown. The Visitors Center provides information about the cultural resources of the county. It is manned, open regular hours and is a distribution point for brochures and other printed materials.

Source: [www.georgetownchamber.com](http://www.georgetownchamber.com)

### Georgetown Historical Society

The Historical Society operates to preserve and protect the historic sites and events of the County, centering mainly on the City of Georgetown.

### Georgetown Historical Commission

In 1970 the Georgetown County Historical Commission purchased the town clock from the City of Georgetown. The Commission restored the structure to house the Rice Museum. The Commission now oversees the operations of the Rice Museum.

Source: [www.sciway.net/](http://www.sciway.net/)

### Center for African American History Observances

The Center for African American History Observances (CAAHO) was founded in 1978, as part of the Georgetown Library System, when a group of Georgetown residents recognized that little was said about local black historical figures during Black History Month. After extensive research, CAAHO members recovered a significant amount of information. CAAHO sponsors programs and activities during the month of February in observance of Black History Month. CAAHO also sponsors local African-American activities and runs the Higher Education Learning Program. CAAHO operates the Dreamkeepers Museum and holds a parade to celebrate people who are "Dream Keepers" for the community. CAAHO became an official independent, non-profit, organization in 1981.

Source: Georgetown Times

### Accommodations Tax

South Carolina allows local jurisdictions to levy a 2% 3% accommodations tax for tourism-related purposes. In Georgetown County, some of this revenue is used to help support cultural activities such as the Pawleys Island Festival of Music and Art.

Source: <http://georgetowncountysc.org>

## **Planned Projects**

### Murrells Inlet Museum

Murrells Inlet 2007 has plans to develop a museum. A house has been donated for the project. The house is thought to date to the 1920's and must be moved. The group is looking at possibilities for a tract of land to place the house. One such parcel would be the Morse Landing Park. The group is forming a committee to initiate a search for state, federal, and private funds to put a museum together.

In January 2007, the Murrells Inlet 2020 Board of Directors set as a goal the renovation or rebuild of the local community center. The county has committed to launching a study of the existing community center to assess the site and facility, gather community input, render a recommendation on the restoration vs. build new decision and develop a design and cost estimate.

### Bike the Neck

*South Causeway to Hobcaw Barony:* A 50-foot wide easement secured by Santee Cooper and extending 10 miles from the South Causeway to Hobcaw Barony will be the last phase of construction.

*Prince George Nature Trail:* Three-mile, 80-foot wide easement for public access. The County will maintain a cleared right-of-way suitable for walking until such time as a trail network can be developed.

### Morgan Park

Morgan Park is a peninsula and two small islands dividing the Winyah Bay and Sampit River in Georgetown. The Master Plan for Morgan Park includes both immediate and long term plans that will create a safe environment for visitors to learn about the unique environment through educational signage, walk through gardens and paths, and provide an opportunity for community support and sponsorship. The Master Plan includes fishing/crabbing piers; improving existing boardwalk and updating structures; picnicking areas and benches; installing hard surface walking trails; observations point and trails; identify and protect fort site; and a maritime memorial element to increase park visibility from the water.

Source: Morgan Park, Georgetown, SC Master Plan

## Needs, Goals, and Strategies with Timelines

### Goal 1: Locate and identify buildings, structures, sites and other resources that contribute to the history of Georgetown County

Objectives	Strategies	Participants	Time Frame
Develop a method to add structures, sites, buildings, and other resources to the inventory of historically significant sites in Georgetown County	Establish criteria specific to Georgetown County	Planning Staff SCDAH. Historic National Register	2012 and Ongoing
Conduct a document- based inventory of historically significant sites in Georgetown County	1. Review existing Historic Register lists 2. Explore Archives at the federal, state and local levels 3. Conduct additional research	Planning Staff Georgetown Historic Society SCDAH Historic National Register	2012 and Ongoing
Transfer data to Geographic Information Systems to produce user friendly maps for the information collected.	Create GIS maps from data collected.	Planning Staff GIS Staff	2013

### Goal 2: Develop policies that encourage preservation of historic and scenic resources in Georgetown County.

Objectives	Strategies	Participants	Time Frame
Develop criteria to evaluate and designate historic and scenic resources as significant for preservation	To be completed in conjunction with the proposed ordinance using criteria for inventory as a guide.	Planning Staff Local Historic Agencies SCDAH.	2013
Develop a county ordinance that will protect historic and scenic resources and consider a Historical Overlay	1. Compile and review ordinances 2. Seek community input and support from Planning Commission and County Council	Planning Staff County residents Planning Commission County Council SCDAH	2013
Adopt a County Preservation Ordinance	Review and amend ordinance as necessary.	Planning Staff Planning Commission County Council SCDAH	2014
Develop policies that can offer incentives for preservation of historic and scenic resources	1. Research options used by other counties 2. Examine feasibility of implementation of state tax credit for historic preservation	Planning Staff SCDAH	2014

Goal 3: Enhance public awareness of Georgetown County's history through educational programs.

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Establish a method by which historical research can be encouraged and made available to the public,	1. Establish a document and maps the lists historical research resources 2. Work to form partnerships with area colleges.	Planning Staff County residents	2012
Establish ties with area schools to promote the inclusion of local history into the curriculum	Provide resources of local history to schools	County Council School District Planning Staff	2013
Promote awareness of the County's multi- racial heritage,	Establish ties with Cultural Council and minority communities on proposals	Cultural Council Minority communities	Ongoing
Promote Heritage Tourism in Georgetown County	Establish ties with preservation groups and County promotion agencies	Planning Staff Cultural Council Conservation Groups Chamber of Commerce	Ongoing
Achieve Certified Local Government Status	Establish ties with SCDAH (SHPO)	Planning Staff Historical Agencies Chamber of Commerce	2014

Goal 4: Promote the Multi-cultural Arts, Programs, and Arts-integrated instruction for residents and incorporate as a tool for attracting economic development

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
Increase awareness of the existing opportunities to enjoy arts exhibits, literature, performing arts, arts instruction, cultural celebrations and festivals	Advertising in public facilities and multimedia sources	Historical agencies Chamber of Commerce Local Arts Organizations	2011
Develop means to encourage and promote new cultural events and opportunities	Advertising in public facilities and multimedia sources	Historical agencies Chamber of Commerce Local Arts Organizations	Ongoing