



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julia Jackson
Historic Augusta, Inc.
706-724-0436
julia@historicaugusta.org

Historic Augusta Presents Seven Awards, Wins Two Awards

Historic Augusta, Inc. is pleased to announce the recipients of seven Preservation Awards given at its Annual Meeting held on November 16, 2009 at the Supreme Court Justice Joseph R. Lamar Boyhood Home. Historic Augusta recognizes outstanding historic preservation projects each year throughout the city.

The 2009 recipients are as follows:

- 728 Milledge Road, the **John Forsyth House** located in the Summerville Historic District. The main house, a Sand Hills cottage, was built in 1857. Rehabilitation began in late 2007 and completed Thanksgiving 2008. Preservation Certificate presented to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Smith.
- **420 ½ Eighth Street** – Cheatham, Fletcher, Scott Architects office, located in the Augusta Downtown Historic District, purchased in 1985 by the firm. Recent rehabilitation completed in the last two years to reveal details on the cast iron storefront. Preservation Certificate presented to Cheatham, Fletcher, Scott Architects.
- 609 Telfair Street, the **Hugh Dempsey House**, built c. 1870 who established the Southern Express Company, precursor to the United Parcel Service. It is located in the Augusta Downtown Historic District and was purchased in March 2007 with work completed in April 2008. Preservation Award presented to Mr. and Mrs. Matt Aitken.
- 2200 Broad Street, the **Julian Smith Casino** was built in 1936 as a Works Progress Administration Project on Lake Olmstead. Preservation Award presented to the Recreation Department of Augusta-Richmond County, Mr. Tom Beck Jr.
- 1005 Milledge Road, the **William B. White House** is located in the Summerville Historic District and built in 1911. Purchased in 1950 to serve as the Augusta Women's Club. The home was purchased in 2004 and rehabilitation was completed in early 2009. Preservation Award presented to Mr. and Mrs. Greg Boulus.
- The **Stovall-Barnes House**, 1211 Greene Street is located in the Augusta Downtown Historic District and was built c. 1860 as a single family residence. Recently rehabilitated beginning in 2007 has resulted in four luxury apartments in the main house and two in the separate kitchen building. Preservation Awards presented to Paul King, Tom Robertson, and Tennent Houston.
- **Union Baptist Church**, 1102 Greene Street is located in the Downtown Augusta Historic District. Built c. 1851 with the current façade and towers built in 1888. Recent restoration has been given several awards including the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's Marguerite Williams Award. Preservation Award presented to Tennent Houston and Rev. William Wright.

Also at Historic Augusta's Annual Meeting, the preservation organization was presented with two 2009 Roger K. Warlick Local History Achievement Awards from the Georgia Historical Society. The Warlick awards recognize the efforts of historical organizations across the state to collect, preserve, and share the history of Georgia with the general public in six categories: Affiliate of the Year, Archival Excellence, Exhibits, Media Project, Programs, and Preservation Project. Dr. Todd Groce, Georgia Historical Society President, presented awards to Historic Augusta in the **Programs category for "Walk with the Spirits" and in the Preservation Project category for the restoration of Union Baptist Church.**

As the winner of the 2009 Roger K. Warlick Local History Achievement Award for Programs, Historic Augusta, Inc. is being recognized for their continuing efforts to preserve, and promote the history of the state of Georgia and Augusta through inventive educational programs. Historic Augusta's "Walk with the Spirits," program introduced Georgians to noted Augusta residents interred at the historic Magnolia Cemetery. The program featured a guided tour of the cemetery which highlighted the history of the site itself and discussion of gravestone iconography, as well as costumed reenactors portraying many of Magnolia Cemetery's most illustrious deceased citizens.

The 2009 Roger K. Warlick Local History Achievement Award for Preservation Project recognizes the completion of Historic Augusta's nearly 15-year efforts to restore the Union Baptist Church. The church restoration began in the mid 1990s with a \$39,000 grant to refurbish the roof, and since 2004 over \$500,000 has been raised through donation and grant funding to continue the effort. The site has a rich history stretching back to the founding of a mission church for Augusta textile mill workers in 1851 and its use by Rev. Joseph Ruggles Wilson (father of future president Woodrow Wilson) as a Sunday school for African-Americans during the Civil War.

For more information, contact Historic Augusta at (706) 724-0436.