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A BRIEF SUMMARY OF FLOYD COUNTY'S HISTORICAL SITES



THE SHAW HOME

A Victorian monument, the house was built prior to 1888 by Col. Hamilton Yancey and is thought to be one of the first five homes constructed in East Rome.

This lovely example of Victorian architecture stands at 906
East Second Avenue, set far back from the busy street beneath huge
live oak trees, most likely those that shaded the house in the 1800's.

Named "Claremont" by its first owners, the house is embellished by a Gothic arch over the doorway, a shallow bay window, a cupola and turret which combine to give it the tastefully quaint and aristocratic look strived for by middle Victorian architects.

The columned veranda is typically Victorian and extends the full length of the house.

The home stayed in the Yancey family for many years, but was sold in 1967 to Mrs. Shaw who found it in very good shape as far as its structural soundness, windows, screens, and woodwork were concerned. But, as anyone knows who has restored old houses, there was a lot in store for the new owners.

The Shaws painted the house in 1970, and later learned that its last coat of paint had been applied some 22 years before. To cover the massive structure, it took 105 gallons of paint and a pitched battle with pigeons nesting in the white gingerbread ornamenting the home.

The house required painting once again in May, 1976, and once again the painters made war against the birds, seemingly enjoying the sport, according to Mrs. Shaw.

There were other more major problems to be solved. The old house had only one furnace, located in the basement, to heat 5 bedrooms, lots of sitting rooms, two kitchens, halls and baths. Since then, the Shaws have added five other furnaces and are able to use the 11 fireplaces when they want heat that is pretty.

The present modern kitchen was the original breezeway (really, a narrow hall with one table and a very large, low sink). Another room was located behind the kitchen—a large area containing only a wood stove with a connecting hot water tank. The new kitchen and breakfast room were built in this area.

Like all old houses, the Shaw home is full of pleasant surprises. "This house has a very large safe in the entrance hall," Mrs. Shaw said, "not a dime in it, nor will there ever be."

The original woodwork remains in good condition, having never been painted. All interior walls were painted by the Shaws, and some are ready for re-painting.

"We love this old house, we must to stay," Mrs. Shaw commented,
"but this is a lifetime project. I think we have done well in 10 years."

ROME CIVIC CENTER

The Rome Civic Center, where registration is held for these meetings, stands on the site of the Lewis D. Burwell house. Many Romans will remember the ruins of this once fine plantation house, which in its day dominated fields extending over all the Celanese area. This home of Judge and Mrs. Burwell was used from May to November of 1864 as a Civil War hospital for Union troops. The Burwells remained in their home during its occupation as a Union hospital and managed to keep most of their possessions. Mrs. Burwell was sent to Virginia to stay with relatives. It was while Judge Burwell was living alone in the house that he was "strung up" by a band of outlaws until he gave up a considerable sum of gold entrusted to him by a merchant of the firm of Magnus and Wise. He had entrusted \$500.00 in gold to Mrs. Robert Battey who put it in her stockings so when the outlaws came to her house the same night they stole other things. They did not find the money.

RICHARD BOSWELL CABIN

Across from the entrance to the Civic Center stands the Richard Boswell cabin, similar to the one built at Chieftains. The Boswell cabin was originally located on the Calhoun Road about a mile south of the county line. It was built by Richard Boswell who with his wife, Rhoda, came to Floyd County from Franklin County about 1850 and built the cabin on a farm of 160 acres. They were parents of 7 sons and 3 daughters, whose descendants today live in the Plainville area and in Texas. This pioneer couple is buried in the Rush Chapel Church cemetery in unmarked graves. The structure of this cabin in its sturdy simplicity typifies the homes built by the pioneer families who settled on small farms of Floyd County between the years of 1830 and 1850. This cabin was purchased from James D. Wright, Sr. in December, 1973 by the Rome Area Historical Foundation, Inc. and placed on this site for preservation.

NOBLE MACHINE SHOP LATHE

Next to the Boswell cabin stands the Noble Machine Shop Lathe built in 1847. It was made in Nashua, New Hampshire and was shipped to Rome shortly after the Nobles opened their iron works at the present site of Southeastern Mills in 1855. It was too massive to ship by rail so was transported by sea to Mobile, Alabama, barged up the Alabama and Coosa Rivers to shoal waters and hauled piecemeal by oxcart from there to Rome. Its massive bulk saved it from destruction at the hands of Union troops who burned the iron works during the evacuation of Rome November 1864. Its great face plate still bears sledge hammer marks. Many steam boat engines, furnaces and locomotives were made with the help of this giant machine shop lathe. It was used to turn out cannon for the Confederate army during the Civil War. Later it saw long service at the Davis Foundry and Machine Works on the present site of the Floyd County Courthouse Annex. It was used by the Brewer and Taylor Foundry from 1963 until this firm was closed recently.

REEVES TRAIN STATION

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The third building of interest in the Civic Center Square is the old fashioned train station which for many years served the inhabitants of Reeves Station south of Calhoun. An anonymous donor presented this train station to the City of Rome and it will serve as headquarters for the Rome Tourist and Convention Commission.

ROME'S CITY HALL AND AUDITORIUM

Designed by noted architect A. Ten Eyck who the year before had built Rome's General Forrest Hotel, the municipal building was constructed from the proceeds of two bond issues (the second hotly but unsuccessfully disputed) totaling \$140,000.00. It was planned for the seating of nearly 2,000 persons, and provided office space for all of the day's city government functions as well as a central fire hall, police headquarters and cell block for prisoners.

In great demand from its dedication day of June 27, 1916, the building has been used for every type of public function from Anti-Saloon League rallies and Ku Klux Klan meetings to Chautaugua lectures and concerts by Sousa'a band.

It replaced an older and far smaller city hall on West Fourth Avenue which stood on the site of today's Greyhound Bus Station. Currently the auditorium building is under renovation to provide expansion of office space through removal to another location of the fire department and by the installation of efficient air conditioning equipment. The renovation in 1973 included new upholstered chairs, carpeting for the aisles, a new curtain for the stage, and a baby grand piano with a small room adjacent to the stage where the piano can be stored and locked. A new addition at the back of the auditorium provides commodious dressing rooms and rest rooms. Air conditioning, already installed in the city offices, was now added to the auditorium.

CAPITOLINE WOLF

The statue of Romulus and Remus, which is located at the approach of the entrance of the Municipal Building of the City of Rome, Georgia, was an official gift from the Roman Governor, by order of the Italian Dictator, Benito Mussolini, and was presented when Chatillion Corporation (Silk Mill), now Celanese Corporation of America, was brought here in 1929 with Mr. Ugo Mancini, as Italian manager. This presentation from ancient Rome to modern Rome was made on July 20, 1929, by Dr. Marco Biroli of La Soie De Chatillion, Milan, Italy.

We do not have the name of the sculptor of the statue, but the original, an example of Etruscan art, of which this statue is an exact replica, stands in the Palazzo dei Conservatori on Capitoline Hill in Rome, Italy.

The bronze plate on the marble base of the statue bears an inscription in Latin which translates: "This statue of the Capitoline Wolf, as a forecast of prosperity and glory, has been sent from Ancient Rome to New Rome, during the consulship of Benito Mussolini, in the year 1929."

In 1933 one of the twins--no one ever knew whether it was Romulus or Remus--was kidnapped from the pedestal. Neither the kidnapper nor the twin was ever found, but through the efforts of the Rome Rotary Club and the International Rotary Club, another twin was sent from Italy to replace the missing one.

War left its mark on the Capitoline Wolf and her adopted human babies. When Italy declared war on the Allies in 1940,

threats to dynamite and destroy the statue became so numerous that the Rome City Commission ordered the statue removed and stored for safety.

THE DOCTOR ROBERT BATTEY MONUMENT

Stressing the four attributes of Originality, Modesty, Courage, and Fidelity, this commemorative stone honors Rome's foremost citizen and the South's greatest surgeon. It was unveiled on the Rome City Auditorium lawn by the Medical Association of Georgia on May 5, 1921. The reputation of the man in whose memory it was erected, perpetuated by the standard surgical techniques which still bear his name, may last as long as the monument itself.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Next to the Auditorium is an outgrowth of the Young Men's Library Association formed February 10, 1879. Until 1886 it had been the policy of this association to employ only male librarians but that policy was changed and Miss Hallie Alexander was elected librarian. She soon increased the circulation of books and demonstrated that a librarian is not a mere "keeper of books" but is largely instrumental in stimulating and directing the mental activities of a community.

Unfortunately the Young Men's Library Association failed in its efforts to maintain a public library and the books were put in storage. However, in December 1909 a letter arrived from the secretary of the Carnegie Fund stating that Rome was eligible for the sum of \$15,000.00 for a library if the city would agree to keep it up. The gift was accepted and the present building was opened to the public on May 2, 1911. The old books were brought out of storage, and a librarian hired for the salary of \$40.00 per month. Some of these original books can be found in the library today.

THE CHIAHA GUILD

OF

ARTS AND CRAFTS

The Chiaha Guild was organized in 1965 by a group of Rome men and women who recognized the potential for a strong community endeavor in the arts and crafts.

The name of the organization was taken from the Cherokee Indian word which describes the Rome area. "Chiaha" means "the meeting of hills and water". The Chiaha emblem was adapted from a Cherokee design by charter member Mrs. Rorie W. (Chick) Smith.

An ever-increasing community response to crafts and fine arts is the Chiaha goal.

Some of the many activities sponsored by the Chiaha Arts and Crafts Guild are:

- Cooperative receptions with the Rome Little Theatre, Rome Music Lovers Club, Community Concert Association, and the Rome Symphony Association
- · Membership reception
- · Children's art classes
- Continual art show changing monthly with formal gallery openings
- · Adult art and crafts classes
- · Chiaha Annual Art Show--Hosted by N.C.B.
- · Harvest Fair
- · Annual photography show
- . Senior Citizens show art

(COFFEE WILL BE SERVED IN THE CHIAHA GALLERY FRIDAY MORNING.)

CHIEFTAINS : HOME OF MAJOR RIDGE

Major Ridge, a Cherokee chief, was born at Hiwassee about 1771. Like many Cherokees, he fought with Andrew Jackson against the Creeks in the War of 1812, earning the rank of major at Horse Shoe Bend.

The Cherokees then lived in a primitive hunter-warrior fashion. But missionaries, arriving in 1810, introduced to the Indians not only Christianity, but education and the superior agricultural and household skills of the whites. The Cherokees in a relatively short time achieved a degree of civilization not attained by any other tribe. Ridge in particular was quick to realize the value of education and to adopt the life-style of a southern planter.

Chieftains, begun in 1794, first consisted of two log rooms connected by an open-ended dogtrot. Soon two log rooms were added upstairs and the dogtrot was enclosed. In 1828 Ridge made a two story addition and added porches on two sides of the house.

Major Ridge developed an extensive farm and owned a toll ferry across the river. He was also a silent partner in a lucrative trading post near Chieftains. He enjoyed a carriage and used English china.

Increasing pressure by white Georgians for the United States to remove the Cherokees west culminated in the Cherokee Land Lottery in 1832. There then arose a bitter division between Cherokees, led by John Ross, who wished to remain and litigate for their lands, and others, under Ridge, who thought it wiser to accept compensation from the government and move west. In 1835 Ridge signed the Treaty of New Echota, ceding Cherokee land to Georgia, and in 1837 moved west with his family and faction. In 1839 Ross and his followers were driven by federal troops over the tragic Trail of Tears, enduring great suffering and loss. Ridge, his son and his nephew were subsequently murdered for signing the treaty.

Chieftains, continuously occupied until 1969, was most recently owned by Celanese Fibers Company. In 1969, Celanese asked the Junior Service League of Rome to research the history of Chieftains. When the need for archaeological study was indicated, Celanese financed a three week trial dig conducted by Patrick Garrow, which revealed the enormous archaeological potential of the site. The League then conducted two extensive excavations, directed by Mr. Garrow, in 1970 and 1971. These

yielded a wealth of artifacts dating from prehistoric times to the present day, including large quantities of china, glass, bones and cutlery from Ridge's period.

In December of 1969 Celanese gave Chieftains to the League, with a grant for its preservation. The house is now a museum of the history of Rome and Floyd County, with particular emphasis on Cherokee history. Artifacts from the digs are displayed throughout the house.

In 1971 Cheiftains was placed on the National Register of Historic places, and in 1975 the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior designated it as a National Historic Landmark. The museum is open from February through October on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Special tours at other times may be arranged and are welcomed.

FLOYD COUNTY

In December of 1832, the Georgia Legislature passed an act providing for a division of Cherokee Georgia, sometimes called Cherokee Territory, into 10 counties. One of these was to be Floyd, named for the Indian fighter, General John Floyd, a native of South Carolina. During the War of 1812, the Creek Indians were allies of the British and launched a bloody and unprovoked attack upon frontier settlements of Georgia and Alabama. General Floyd completely defeated the Creeks in three battles so that they were no longer dangerous along the border. Now the peaceful settlement of Northwest Georgia became possible. A plaque honoring General Floyd may be found at the entrance of the Floyd County Courthouse. It should also be noted that his portrait hangs in Cheiftains Museum, once the home of Major Ridge and his family.

In 1832, the Cherokee Territory was subdivided into ten counties, which presently make up the Coosa Valley Area. These counties were then surveyed and further subdivided into "gold lots", forty acres each and "land lots" one hundred and sixty acres each. Then in 1833, a land lottery was held to disperse this property to private citizens. By 1834 white settlers were moving into the new territory to establish permanent homesteads. As more and more whites moved into this wilderness, the Cherokees' right diminished.

The first two treaties drawn by the government were found to be unacceptable by the Indians. A third and final treaty was

drawn at New Echota, the Cherokee Nation's capitol, near present-day Calhoun. By this treaty the Cherokees agreed to give up all of their lands for the sum of \$5,000,000.00 and to migrate to the land beyond the Mississippi. The final episode of this saga became known as "the trail of tears".

By a legislative act the little community of Livingston was chosen the county seat of the new county of Floyd on December 21, 1833. However, the next year on December 20, 1834, another act was passed, moving the county seat to Rome.

THE ETOWAH RIVER VALLEY HISTORICAL DISTRICT

We are now entering the Etowah River Valley district which we understand is the largest district to be placed on the Naional Register of Historical Places. It encompasses an area of 37 river miles and includes 40,202 acres. We will be stopping at several of the pre-Civil War houses and viewing many more. Please follow your script as we travel, for in some places your guide may not have time to brief you, but in your hand will be place-descriptions you will need. Some last minute changes may affect the order of travel. We appreciate very much the cooperation of the Etowah River Valley Historical Association in the planning for this tour.

THE SKINNER PLACE

(or Margaretta Hall or The Branson House or The Bass House)

These are the names of the same house--names of three former owners. Margarretta Hall, located near the Etowah River, was built in 1840 by J.J. Skinner of Augusta who received the property in the land grants issued after the Indian evacuation. One night during the War Between the States, Mrs. Skinner, whose name was Margaretta, kept a vigil on the widow's walk atop their house waving a lantern throughout the night, warning their neighbors that Rome was burning, set fire by the Yankees. The widow's walk has long since disappeared. A few days later the Yankee General Corpe ordered the furnishings of the house burned and cut the Persian rugs into strips for horse blankets. The house itself was spared due to the fact that Margaretta had nursed back to health a Union soldier, cousin of General Sherman, who had wandered there dazed and wounded. The stately Greek revival mansion exemplifies the architectural feats of our forebears and once was the center of a vast estate of 2,800 acres. The boxwood walk is one of the priceless treasures of the old nob Dulany place.

OAKDALE

One of the showplaces of Floyd County, Oakdale was built by Colonel John A. Johnson and completed in 1853 or 1854. It is located in Floyd County near the banks of the muddy Etowah River just a few miles from Rome. The house was once the main dwelling on a large plantation. Like many plantation houses of the period, it was built in grand style. Social life in the South influenced the disign of the homes. As the houses were farther apart, visits were longer and more formal than those in New England. Entertaining was on a grand scale, making large houses necessary. This property was a Cherokee Land Grant. The lottery was drawn by Sarah F. Hubbard, an orphan. It was Land Lot 303, 23rd District, 3rd Section, granted before 1838. It was purchased in 1846 by John A. Johnson, Sr. of Pine Log, Georgia. The house was built from bricks made on the property by his slaves, and has remained structually sound since 1942. When the Clarence Iveys bought the property in 1972, they did extensive renovation including: replacing 400 window panes, adding a new roof, and vacating pigeons from the second floor. They did necessary plaster work, installed wiring and plumbing, installed hydronic heating system and added two "necessary rooms". Mr. and Mrs. Ivey did most of this work themselves, assisted by their children and calling in professional help a few times. Over 1,000 visitors flocked to this antebellum residence for the Community Open House during the "Christmas in Rome" celebration sponsored by the Rome Chamber of Commerce in December, 1975.

There was an established Indian Trail from Pine Log (home of Col. Johnson's father, Lindsey Johnson) through the present site of Oakdale to the settlement at Coosa where John Ross lived in a fine house near the head of the Coosa River, this according to an old map of Northwest Georgia-Indian Country 1800-1840. We can assume that the Johnsons were familiar with this area before the purchase of this property by Col. Johnson because of this established trail. Remember, during this period beginning with the discovery of gold in Georgia in 1829, the gold diggers were coming into this section and the gravels of Cherokee country were proving profitable. At Oakdale there was an intersection of trails, one to Coosa and one leading north to the Cherokee capital at New Echota. These Indian trails were the forerunners of stage coach roads. Today at Oakdale can be seen remains of the foundation of the stage coach station.

BARTOW COUNTY (formerly Cass)

Cass County was created in 1832 by a legislative act and was named for General Lewis Cass, born in Exter, New Hampshire. Admitted to the bar in 1802, he was made Secretary of War in 1831 by President Jackson and a Commissioner to Paris; in 1845 he was elected to the United States Senate; in 1848, nominated for presidency, but was defeated. Cassville was the name given to the county seat which was laid out in July, 1833. A brick courthouse and jail were erected in 1837 and the town was built around the courthouse square. By 1849 Cassville was the largest and most prosperous town in Cherokee Georgia.

January, 1854, the Cassville Female College was incorporated with power to confer degrees. The college was to be under the Georgia conference of the Methodist Church. Rev. Churchwell A. Crowell was the first President and Sarah Joyce Hooper, daughter of Judge Hooper, was the first graduate.

January, 1854 the Cherokee Baptist College was incorporated in Cassville. The college was located on Chapman Hill, on the road between Cassville and Kingston. Wylie M. Dyer of LaFayette was the first graduate. Rev. Joseph Walker, Editor of the Christian Index, preached the first Commencement sermon.

In 1859 we find the last writeup of the college. Addresses were delivered by Headden, Tippin, Carswell, Saffold and Tarver. The first three received diplomas as graduates. Rev. C. W. Howard delivered the address. These colleges were the first attempt in Cherokee Georgia and though the Federal Army destroyed them, their record is an accomplishment of the patriotic and devoted men who made the attempt.

The early settlers who came to Cass were not men of means. Some came in search of gold, some because they drew land in the lotteries of 1832-33, some came from the seacoast to spend their summers in a higher and healthier climate. After 1840 an influx of wealty men came from South Carolina attracted by the fertility of soil and the salubrious climate. The pioneers not only established log cabin homes, but soon a camp-ground, a log church or school was built in a neighborhood.

In the November 1861 session of the House of Representatives a bill to change the name of the county was introduced--"Whereas, the County of Cass...was named in memory of Lewis Cass of Michigan; and the said Lewis Cass having recently shown himself inimical to the South...be it enacted that...the name of the county of Cass is hereby changed to the name of Bartow, in honor of the

late Colonel Francis S. Bartow of Chatham County of this state who fell at the Battle of Manassas Plains, and that the name of Cassville, the present county seat be changed to the name of Manassas signed...Joseph E. Brown, Governor.

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Of the ten counties in the United States named for Gen. Cass, Cass County, Georgia was the only one to change. During the war, the courthouse, jail and all records were burned, and since the citizens of Cassville were unable financially to rebuild, and since a site was preferable on the railroad, it was voted to move the county seat to Cartersville. Citizens of Cartersville had given ample means to build a courthouse superior in every respect to the old courthouse at Cassville.

In the Cassville Standard in May, 1852, is a reprint of a table prepared for Hunt's Merchant's Magazine by David M. Balfour of Massachusetts stating that on the first of January, 1852, of the number of railroads in each state, that in Georgia there were 11 railroads covering 804 miles. Until 1837, Georgia had only one road, 7 miles long and now was the fifth state in the Union in respect to her railroads. Another statement in the September, 1852 Standard, "Passenger trains began to run Sunday, same as other days in July, 1852".

Cartersville, the county seat of Bartow County, was named for Farish Carter, perhaps the wealthiest landowner in the state during the antebellum period. The town was incorporated by an act approved February 5, 1850.

KINGSTON

Kingston was named in honor of Judge John Pendleton King of Augusta, a noted lawyer, a personal friend of LaFayette, US Senator and a railroad financier. December, 1849, the Memphis Branch railroad from Kingston to Rome was opened for business. This made Kingston an important point as distributor on the W & A and in connection on the Coosa River. Kingston was a cotton market and summer resort, there were 40 business houses, four churches, four hotels. (One was owned and managed by the widow of Dr. Mark Johnson who was born in 1801 and died in 1851; one by Thomas R. Couche who was born 1827 and died 1873; one by Mrs. Millie Huson and one by Mr. McCrary.) The population in 1849 was 100. During the Civil War, Kingston was a supply and hospital center, due to its location on the railroad. It was headquarters for the Federal Army from May to November, 1864. Most of the houses were destroyed during this time. It was

incorporated in 1869 with a Town Council. Kingston has honored the past and proudly claims over 250 unknown soldiers buried in the town cemetery.

KINGSTON'S MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES

Each spring in the little town of Kingston, Bartow County, Georgia, interested citizens continue a practice which began in 1856--the observance of Memorial Day on April 26 or the weekend nearest that date.

Tradition has it, that in the spring of the year, while the Federal troops occupied Kingston and raw earth on Cemetery Hill gave evidence of many fallen soldiers, both Southern and Federal, the ladies of the town had a desire to use the profusion of spring flowers to decorate the soldiers' graves. Of course, no such activity could be carried out without the consent of the military. So, ladies approached the Commanding Officer and he gave consent, with one stipulation, that they decorate all graves, Southern and Federal alike. This they did, and this practice too, has continued through the years.

A Ladies Memorial Association was formed to sustain interest in the observances and to assume the responsibility for their continuation. At the time Kingston's Woman's History Club was organized (1900) many of its members also belonged to the Memorial Association. The time when the Ladies Memorial Association ceased to exist is not known, but the continuity of the service has not lapsed.

Through the years, the Kingston Woman's History Club has worked with various organizations, as well as individuals to continue the practice of the annual Memorial Day in Kingston. In 1964 this club voted to assume the responsibility for continuing the Memorial Day services, with the stated plan that the mayor of the town and ministers of the churches be asked to serve with a committee from the club. So this was the plan whereby the practice which began in 1865 is carried on.

After the years of conflict, most of the Federal soldiers were moved to their home soil, representing every state of the Union. By family request, a few still remain. In 1874 the Ladies Memorial Association erected a monument to the memory of the 250 Confederate soldiers buried in Kingston. This was one of the first such monuments in the South and utilized materials at hand, field stone held together by cement manufactured less than 2 miles away. Marble markers for the individual graves

were placed by the club in 1908, with assistance from the UDC, Atlanta Memorial Association and private contributions. All records of these graves were lost through fire.

In the early years the entire program of Memorial Day was conducted in the cemetery. In recent years, the program has been planned in two parts: The program of speeches and music in one of the churches and the military salute and grave decoration in the cemetery. The Kingston Memorial Day service continues to provide an occasion for all who will to come and pay homage to all of those, wherever they may rest, who even today give their lives in support of a cause for which their country calls them.

The Kingston Woman's History Club for 76 years has served as the instigator for community activities in the town of Kingston. It was organized in response to a need for social and cultural activities felt by the ladies of the town. Since its early days, this club has nurtured a dream of some day having a museum to house their records which go back to 1910, and today they have realized that dream — their own building erected in the Town Park on land made available for this purpose some years ago, and named the Confederate Memorial Museum.

THE MCCRAVEY-JOHNSON HOUSE

It is said that the McCravey-Johnson house, facing the street which once carried the name MAIN STREET, served as the headquarters from which large numbers of Confederate soldiers received the "Prisoner Parole" which served as their discharge from their service to the fallen cause of the Confederacy. This house was used to issue supplies and provisions to the returning soldiers and surrounding citizenry. A Georgia Historical marker stands in the yard. At the end of the war, 30,000 soldiers were mustered out at Kingston.

THE DESOTO HOTEL

The Desoto Hotel stands as a reminder of the past when four hotels flourished in the important railroad junction of Kingston. It has been restored by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ayers and today is operated as an 18th century antique shop. Because it was the only brick building in Kingston, it survived the fire of 1911 when most of the town was destroyed. At one time there was a windmill in the back which pumped water from the well into a

tank and supplied the hotel. There were two comfort stations in the rear plainly marked "LADIES" and "GENTLEMEN". Pink and red hollyhocks were the ever present summer decorations in this area. Later the Desoto became a popular "Sunday Dinner" restaurant attracting Atlantans who appreciated good food and liked a drive in the country. Even today each room is still furnished with gas jet fixtures. Kingston was a railooad town. The old Western and Atlantic was state owned and one of very few state owned railroads in the country and the only one in Georgia. It was built by the state to connect Chattanooga with Terminus (Atlanta) and thus served as a link between the central part of the country and the southeastern coastal region. During the Civil War, the failure of Andrews raid during the capture of the engine "The General" was due to the delay at Kingston where a long wait was necessary because of extra cars being added for additional supplies for Federal troops. During the war, Kingston was an important link connecting with the Rome branch road to move soldiers and supplies to and from Birmingham and Mobile.

GOULDING HOUSE

Near Kingston is Goulding House, the home of the Rev. Francis Goulding, inventor of the sewing machine, educator and novelist of ante-bellum days. The Young Marooners was one of his most popular novels. Mrs. G. C. Phillips is the present owner of Goulding House.

THE BRICK or THE REYNOLDS HOUSE

Benjamin Reynolds was born in 1792 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was the oldest son of Larken and Elizabeth Arnold Reynolds. As a young man, he went to Habersham County (Clarkes-ville, Georgia) where he was one of the lucky ones to find gold and eventually owned his own gold mine. In 1846 he came with his wife, Deadama Proctor to Cass (Bartow) County where he bought 4,000 acres of land along the Etowah River near Kingston. He built a 14-room house constructed of handmade brick with 13 inch walls. It has the dignity of line and tall chimneys typical of Mr. Reynolds' native Virginia. The spindle balustrade of the hanging balcony is topped by a decorative wheat-sheaf railing. A detached kitchen and dining room is connected to the main house

by a long covered passage-way. This house was used as a hospital during the War Between the States. Many original pieces of solid walnut handmade furniture furnish the house today. The house was called "The Brick" by the servants because it was the only brick house in that section of the county. Now it is owned by Mrs. B. B. Branson, widow of a descendant of the builder. It is occupied by a nephew of Mrs. Branson, Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Jolly and their three children.

EUHARLEE GEORGIA

This little village was first called Burge's Mill. Several grain mills had been built on the creek on the south of the village as early as 1844. Because of the fertility of the soil, many farmers settled in and around Euharlee. The picturesque Indian name for the small town, "Laugh when you run" is located on the banks of Euharlee Creek and just over the hill from the old covered bridge. In 1852, it was incorporated as Euharley-ville.

In 1870, it was incorporated with the new name Euharlee, the academy being in the center. The town has never grown to any size. Most of the community life revolves around the school and church activities. There are Presbyterian and Baptist churches.

The Euharlee Baptist Church was incorporated by an act of the legislature in 1852. It was once known as "Mt. Paran". Unfortunately the records were lost and little information is known concerning its history before 1870.

The Euharlee Presbyterian Church was organized December 17, 1853 with 16 members, and made up of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who moved from South Carolina.

In July 1896, a charter was granted to the Euharlee Presbyterian Institute in the town of Euharlee, to be under the control of the Cherokee Presbytery.

The schools of this period were called Academies, Institutes and Seminaries, with boys and girls in separate departments. There were schools for colored children under the African ME conference in Cartersville.

At the turn of the century, Euharlee was known as the educational center of Bartow County and the surrounding counties. Euharlee is in the famous valley of Etowah, 2 miles from Stilesboro, Georgia on the E & W Railroad, nine miles west of Cartersville, and 6 miles from Kingston. This section is known for its fertility and healthfulness.

From the school bulletin: "The location for the Euharlee Institute is ideal in many respects, it is accessible from all points, semi-daily mail; telegraphy connections, a line constructed for the special benefit of the Institution so that patrons and friends at a distant can be in instant touch with their sons and daughters. The location of the Institute in this village, removed from large towns insures the quiet so essential to the student life, minimizes temptation to the lowest degree and necessarily lessens expenses.

The main building is a model school building, 2 stories, 60 X 80 ft. with all modern conveniences. The buildings occupy a commanding site on the crest of a ridge and affords a magnificent view of the surrounding country. Each room scientifically arranged for the comfort of the student."

The Euharlee Institute served its purpose. In 1910 the Elders of the Euharlee Presbyterian Church were asked to serve as Trustees when the building was turned over to the Bartow County system.

Later the old building was demolished and a nice brick (1955) school was built on the property and was used as a Bartow County school.

Until recently, there was a small, tumbled-down courthouse standing by the side of the main road, but it is no longer tumbled down, for the Etowah Valley Historical Society has restored this courthouse for old times sake. The land on which the courthouse stands belonged to Dan Lowry, who gave the town permission to erect the courthouse here, but when and if the courthouse was not in use, the land would return to the Lowry estate. Misses Annie Lou and Lorene Lowry, the remaining descendants, died recently and willed the property to the Berry Schools. Now the privilege of restoring the building has been granted by Berry and the college is in hearty cooperation with the project. Grounds around the building have been cleared and the structure straightened up. One of the committee members, Miss Mittie Taylor summed it up thus, "It was just a little building leaning against a tree, with another tree growing up in the middle of the room". Some of the original seats are still in the building but many items have been removed down through the years. Plans are for the old well nearby to be restored, for it was a favorite stopping place for travelers and residents of the community to enjoy a drink of the cool well-water. A blacksmith shop owned by Jim Lowry is high on the priority list for restoration.

COVERED BRIDGES and THE LOWERY COVERED BRIDGE (1890)

Covered bridges intrigue and interest a greater cross section of people than almost any other structure. The peace-seeking fisherman, the city dweller, the lad in blue jeans with cane fishing pole, the bird watcher and the nature lover--all of these have their place in the lore surrounding the covered bridge.

Georgia has 22 covered bridges remaining from the 250 or more that served traffic in horse-and-buggy days. Residents of the Euharlee bridge area enjoy retelling the story of the early farmer. His oxcart piled high with new-mown hay, he arrived at the new bridge for the first time. He peered quizzically into the dark funnel-like interior and said, "I can git in, but how'll I git my ox and hay out that little hole at the fu'ther end?" turning his slow team (ox), he headed back home, the unsold hay piled high in his cart.

Of the many whimsical terms applied to covered bridges, perhaps the most popular is "Kissin' Bridges", dating from horse and buggy days. Boom to many a bashful beau, the old covered bridge with its secluded darkness offered a place of privacy and security when riding with his equally reticent lady friend in his buggy.

Although regarded as an American landmark, the covered bridge is, nevertheless, not an American invention. The first patent (American) for a covered bridge was issued in 1897. Over 1,100 covered bridges survive throughout the world, including the 'Kapellbrucke', a painted covered bridge which spans the Reuss River at Lucern, Switzerland. This bridge predates American bridges by over 450 years.

Thus, not only have covered bridges bridged the gap between the day of the horse and buggy and the automobile and spanned the void between a beau and belle; they have formed a link between continents as well.

PLANT BOWEN

Georgia Power's Plant Bowen dominates the Etowah Valley. For all relative purposes, the Valley is an area with scenic, rolling hills and structures dating from the 19th century. However, several industrial complexes, new residential subdivisions and mobile home parks have spread through the area. The most outstanding intrusion is the Georgia Power Bowen Electrical

Plant northwest of Stilesboro. The plant is of considerable height can be viewed from most parts of the valley area. The smoke stack resembles a tall, slim cylinder with strobe lights serving as a warning to aircraft in this area.

ETOWAH VALLEY DISTRICT

The Etowah Valley District lies along the Etowah River, in the vicinity of Cartersville and Rome, in the counties of Bartow and Floyd. This valley region in northwest Georgia contains a well-defined record of life, spanning the archaic period of prehistoric into the twentieth century, which is rich in environmental, cultural, and historical resources. In this fertile valley, touching the forest of the Piedmont, man has prospered for thousands of years. The distance from Cartersville to Rome is 28 miles; the Etowah River loops and bends for 41 miles from Cartersville to Rome. From the dam east of Cartersville to the west side of Reynolds Bend is a distance of about 37 river miles. This is the length covered by the National Register nomination. Most of it is in Bartow County. Between the major cities of Rome and Cartersville are several small communities and towns including Stilesboro, Euharlee, Kingston, Atco and Emerson.

The archeological sites are the most important part of the Etowah Valley District. The features which were nominated to the National Register are structures and communities specifically named, archeological sites which were specifically named, and the land area which has the potential for containing archaeological sites. The District consists of 40,202 acres. This is believed to be the largest area ever nominated to the National Register and accepted.

The Etowah Mound site dominates the archaeology of the valley and is only part of the long story of prehistory here. This site includes 3 major mounds and 4 small ones enclosed by a moat, within 52 acres. This area was used from 800 A.D. until the mid 1500's then abandoned and reoccupied again during the historic period. This site was placed on the National Register earlier and is a National Landmark. It is on the north side of the Etowah River, and about 3 miles below Cartersville. It is state-owned with a small but nice museum which is closed on Mondays.

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ROSE COTTAGE

Rose Cottage was built by Mrs. Rebecca Caldwell Sproull 6½ miles west of Cartersville ten years after her son, James, had moved to Georgia and built Valley View. She was widowed now, so she pulled stakes, rose bushes and boxwood cuttings and joined him in the Etowah Valley. She acquired a plantation of 560 acres two miles from him and engaged architects Glazner and Clayton of Euharlee to build her house. This was completed in 1854, a story and a half Greek Revival cottage with a portico across the front, supported by four columns and two double stacked brick chimneys. It was necessary for Mrs. Sproull to return to South Carolina before her new home "Rose Cottage" was finished, and on her return, she found that the carpenters had built the two stacked chimneys up through the upstairs room. She cried and said, "Sacred to the memory of....."

Mrs. Sproull successfully managed the plantation for ten years. At her death it was purchased by Mr. J.H. McCormick, a distant relative and father of Miss Doris McCormick, who, since birth, has called "Rose Cottage" home. She shares its management with her two sisters, Mrs. Frank Beazley and Mrs. Thomas Mann.

The pride of "Rose Cottage" is its boxwood garden. The garden's blueprint, known as a maze, was drawn up by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington. The pattern is the same as the one at George Washington's home at Mount Vernon. Miss McCormick, to perpetuate the maze, has rooted 200 boxwoods from the parent stock and added to the maze. Today there are only three boxwood gardens in the valley: the intricate medallian pattern at Barnesley; the wheel design at Valley View; and the maze at "Rose Cottage". Boxwoods are remarkable plants. Those at Rose Cottage are now in their second century. Their charm comes from having accumulated the association of years of memories and traditions, to quote Miss McCormick, "They afford a living, connecting link with the history and tradition of the estate". Other than the boxwood plants and the moss roses brought from South Carolina, there are thrifty beds of Penny Royal growing at the present time. Mrs. Sproull would sprinkle bits of this plant over her rugs to perfume the house -- no such thing as air spray then.

The number of slaves is unknown, but there were two enrolled on the church books of the Cartersville Presbyterian Church in 1854 by the names of Jacob and Robin. Mrs. Sproull

was a leading spirit in this church and there was a saying that the church bells never rang for a service until Mrs. Sproull got there. Jacob and Robin were buried on a beautiful wooded knoll to the east of the house, as were the other slaves. The graves are still there covered with the evergreen gravevard vine, vinca, which she planted over them and they have never been disturbed. Rebecca's husband, James Sproull, was first buried at the plantation home, Mount Vernon, South Carolina just a few yards from the parlor window. Later his remains were moved to Rome and buried in Myrtle Hill, but they left his monument in South Carolina. An unheard of incident happened to the shafts at Mount Vernon. The family who first bought the plantation from the Sproulls did not want the burying ground on their lawn, so the dug holes in the ground and buried the monuments. The second owners (the present owners) thought this disrespectful, so they dug them up and put them back in place where they can be seen today.

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Uncle John Morgan was the last slave to live on the place. He had been given a house in the yard for his home. He was asked to what he attributed his long life and his reply was: "I praise by Lord every day, I chaws my food good, and I scrapes my tongue with my knife every morning".

Miss Doris McCormick is the granddaughter of Captain H. J. McCormick, Bartow County's original surveyor who was elected to this position in 1873 and held the job until 1892. She is also the fifth generation descendant of Charles Sproull, brotherin-law of Rebecca Sproull, and great-great-granddaughter of Nathaniel Burge, whose mill, Burge's Mill, was the first name given to the village, later to be named Euharlee.

MALBONE

Robert M. Stiles built Malbone in 1867. It is a large brick house with inset square-columned entrance and widearched bay windows on each side. Malbone faces a broad sweep of lawn with Stiles Mountain rising in the distance and is reached by an osage-lined driveway which leads left to Malbone and right to Etowah Cliffs, built by William Henry Stiles.

Another Stiles home was Summerland, built by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stiles for the Episcopal Rector of their Savannah church to be used by him in the summer to flee from the fever-laden climate of Savannah.

RYALS PRIVATE SCHOOL RYALS-DAVIS HOUSE

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The Reverend James G. Ryals was born in 1824 in South Georgia, a grandson of Reverend Wilson Connor of the Baptist ministry. He graduated from Mercer in 1852 and married Mary E. Janes, daughter of Colonel Absalom Janes in Pennville. They Penful moved to Cass County in 1853 and he practiced law in Cassville and Cartersville. He built a home south of the Etowah River on the Old Alabama Road. After the war, he entered the Baptist ministry and began teaching in the Stilesboro Academy, educating his own daughter and four sons. He served Raccoon Baptist Church from 1864 to 1883 and the Cartersville Church for many years. A trustee of Mercer from 1872 until 1883, he was elected to the chair of Theology at Mercer University, which position he held until his death in September, 1892.

Work started on the old Ryals-Davis home in 1853. It was constructed of bricks shaped and fired from local soil and of heart pine with stair rails of native walnut rising from ground floor of seven foot ceilings to upper rooms of 16 foot height-remaining today in nearly perfect preservation. Kept in the Ryals family for 98 years, it was bought by the late Mr. Gordon Keown of Rome in 1951. He transferred ownership to Judge Jefferson L. Davis with the understanding that the old house would be restored to its former stately condition. This restoration lasted over two years, with the present occupants taking up residence in January, 1968.

We are told by a descendant of a student who attended a private school taught by Rev. Ryals on the home-place, that classes were held in a small school building east of the big house, and that students occupied rooms in the house. It is assumed that this was after Rev. Ryals left the Stilesboro Academy.

STILESBORO ACADEMY

A new school building was built in 1859 at Stilesboro on land given by Russel H. Cannon. The architect was William Cunyus and it was built with public contributions. In 1892 it was incorporated with nine trustees. Over the door is painted "Deo ac Patrae MDCCCLIX" (To God and Country 1859). This schoolhouse is one of the landmarks of this county. It served the enemy in time of war and is in service today due to the preservation of the Stilesboro Improvement Club, an able and enter-

prising group of ladies who sponsor a chrysanthemum show and barbeque each fall for visitors interested in the history of the old school. The inscription over the stage in Latin is said to have deterred General Sherman from burning the school on his destructive march to the south.

VALLEY VIEW

Driving out from Rome on the Euharlee Road, field stone pillars mark the entrance to Valley View. The driveway leads through a deeply wooded area and eventually to the boxwood garden and house, which overlooks a broad valley. Built by slave labor from virgin timber, and bricks pressed from native clay, the old house was furnished by a German cabinet maker named Vitager. Approximately 20 pieces of this original furniture remain in the house, from dining room sideboard and parlor bookcase to two fourposter beds in upstairs bedrooms.

Free-standing Ionic columns guard a wide porch extending from the front around two sides of the house. The balcony is minus its originally planned decorative iron balustrade. The present bannister is a copy of the original bannister downstairs and is a recent addition. Prior to that, no bannister existed because the original casting of the New Orleans type grill work of the balustrade was destroyed by Sherman before it was put up. It was melted down at the Cooper Iron Works and made into cannon balls.

Mrs. Sproull Fouche, who lived at Valley View spent many years with her husband in Rumania where he was American Charge d' Affaires. An affectionately inscribed photograph of beautiful Queen Marie and other gifts from the Rumanian royal family are reminiscent of a storybook era which, like that of King Cotton, is gone forever. When Mr. Fouche's grandfather Colonel J. D. Sproull moved his family from Abbeville, South Carolina in 1849, he brought them in a stagecoach bought especially for the journey. Tied to the back of the coach were the root beginnings of the handsome boxwood and cherry laurel now so abundant at Valley View.

Federal troops occupied Valley View after the burning of Atlanta, when the Sproull family refugeed to Alabama, leaving Union officers to stable horses in the lower floor where they ripped out the keyboard and strings of Mrs. Fouche's rosewood piano and used the case as a trough to feed their horses. It was a time when the South was making the best of things, and

the best in this case was to salvage the piano by converting it into a desk.

Dr. Robert Norton of Rome represents the fourth generation of family ownership of this historic old house.

COLIGNI

The first white doctor to come into this area was Dr. Homer Virgil Milton Miller. His father and a close friend, both ardent students of classical literature decided that their sons should bear the same names and they selected the names of three great poets: Homer, Virgil and Milton. The three sons of the friend bore these names, but General Miller (he gained the title of Major General from fighting the Indians) had only one son, so he bore the three names—Homer Virgil Milton Miller.

Dr. Miller began his career as friend, champion and physician to the Cherokees of North Georgia. He settled at Rome around 1850 at the age of 36 and built the historic old home known as "Coligni", named for the much admired French Huguenot leader. Later it was bought by Colonel L. A. Dean and still today (1976) remains in the Dean family. Coligni is treasured as one of the few remaining examples of mid-Victorian architecture in this section.

Dr. Miller served in the Civil War as surgeon and after the war he was the first U.S. Senator accepted from the South. He promoted the establishment of Myrtle Hill Cemetery and at his death in 1896, at the age of 82, was buried there.

Coligni, mid-Victorian in architecture, reflects French influence also, as a wrought iron lyre pattern balustrade outlines the second story porch. There are 14 rooms and the original Toile de Juoy paper is still on the walls. The downstairs windows are 12 feet high and 6 feet wide. The house contains many interesting family furnishings and antiques, one of which is a love seat where President Wilson reputedly sat when he proposed to his first wife, Ellen Lou Axson, in Rome. Another handsome antique is a fourposter bed sold with the house because it was "just too large to move". This interesting old house has been owned by the Dean family for 107 years. Present day Romans and their parents recall the hospitality of Colonel and Mrs. Linton A. Dean, who, with their children and grandchildren, dispensed true southern hospitality at Coligni.

BERRY SCHOOLS

Today our morning coffee will be served at Oak Hill, the ancestral home of Miss Martha Berry who lived here for 7½ decades. Her father, Captain Thomas Berry, was one of the early settlers of Rome. He was attracted to the fertile farm land surrounding Oak Hill and it was here that he brought his bride, Miss Frances Rhea of Alabama. They reared 8 children of their own, as well as 3 adopted children whose parents were lost in a yellow fever epidemic.

The history of the Berry Schools is the fascinating story of Martha Berry and the remarkable institution she built from a cabin to a college. The school was founded in 1902 and started with 12 students in a log cabin, for the education of deserving mountain children. Miss Berry soon attracted the attention of prominent benefactors like Theodore Roosevelt who entertained her at the White House and introduced her to many of his wealthy friends who helped her: Andrew Carnegie promised \$50,000 for endowment if she could match that amount, and she did; Henry Ford built the magnificent Gothic structures at Berry to house and educate the young women who had occupied log buildings until that time. The Girls Division had been added in 1909 and in recent years Berry Academy. Today Berry's forests, fields and campuses total more than 30,000 acres, making Berry's academic setting one of the largest in the world.

In recent years, many sizable gifts have been made to Berry. Grover M. Hermann gave a new administration building; Charles A. Dana challenged the Trustees to match his grant toward a new classroom building, which they did; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Krannert made gift of an urgently-needed student activities center; O. Wayne Rollins has given one million dollars for the improvement of agricultural projects through research and for further enhancement of Berry's outstanding environment.

Martha Berry died on February 27, 1942, and thousands across the nation mourned her passing.

By then, the original enrollment of a dozen pupils had grown to an average annual enrollment of 1,000 young men and women. Today at Berry, work opportunities are still available and a large percentage of students take advantage of these.

The Martha Berry Museum was opened on October 7, 1972, the 106th anniversary of the birthday of Miss Berry. This museum was a gift from Miss Mary Reynolds Morton, a long time friend of the Berry Schools.

Mr. Gordon Keown served as the resident trustee, and was on the Board of Trustees during the lifetime of Miss Berry. In her will, she named him to be Director. Dr. G. Leland Greene served as President of the college from 1920 until 1945 when he requested that the trustees choose another president so he could return to teaching. There followed a dedicated group of men who filled this office, and then in 1956, Dr. John Bertrand accepted the presidency. Under his leadership began the great new era many had dreamed about. Strengthening Berry in a special role are members of the Berry College Board of visitors who advise and assist the president in many ways.

THORNWOOD

As we return to the auditorium for our morning lecture, we will visit the Thornwood campus which was the home that Colonel Alfred Shorter built in 1848.

The Shorters were among the first settlers in Rome in 1837, and ten years later, Colonel Shorter, a trader in cotton, merchandise and real estate and the joint owner of two toll bridges crossing the Etowah and Oostanaula Rivers, was known as Rome's leading financier and business man. It was in that year that he built Thornwood, the Doric, two columned mansion. Thornwood was named for the hawthorn which grew thick on its grounds, and is a two story frame house put together entirely with wood wedges instead of nails.

The most striking feature of the Greek Revival house is a winding staircase which forms two parallel balustrade balconies at the first and second landings. The first balcony stair flight turns left and climbs to the front of the house, the other continues straight ahead to the second balcony at the back. The staircase then proceeds to the third floor from the second floor rear balcony. The staircase casement, along with Thornwood's walls and woodwork are hand-carved in graceful curliques and geometric patterns. Even the outside is trimmed with block-style wood carvings.

During the War Between the States, Thornwood was twice occupied by Federal troops: when scouts were sent ahead to Rome to destroy bridges, they took refuge at Thornwood; and next, when Sherman entered Rome in November, 1864, a company of officers made their home at Thornwood. (Colonel and Mrs. Shorter had refugeed to South Georgia.) It is a miracle that

the house escaped destruction when Rome was taken over by Yankee soldiers. They did take down the marble mantels and, according to a family descendant, "stomp them to dust".

The recovery of Rome's and Colonel Shorter's fortunes after the Civil War is most remarkable. Seven years after the war in 1873, Colonel Shorter and the Reverend Gwaltney founded Shorter College. By the time of his death in 1882, Colonel Shorter had donated a large amount of money to the establishment of Shorter College. The trustees placed the figure at \$180,000 and his will left a final amount of \$4,500 to Shorter.

Thornwood was sold to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. DuPre in 1944, who owned the house until it was sold to the Board of Trustees who established Thornwood School for Girls in 1958. In 1973-74, Thornwood joined forces with Darlington School, and is now the elementary school of Darlington.

MARSHALL FOREST

Down the road to the left is the Marshall Forest. The Marshall Forest has a significance beyond its beauty and scientific value: MacLean Marshall loved it, defended it, sacrificed for it, and before his recent death, gave it away.

The forest, located in Floyd County, is an anachronism, something out of its usual place in history. H. R. DeSelm, professor of botany at the University of Tennessee, said, "It is probably the only virgin forest in the Ridge and Valley Province which extends from Pennsylvania to Alabama." As virgin territory, it belongs to the era of Indians and the first white settlers and perhaps to an even earlier time when only birds and animals lived there, or nearby.

It is now an urban forest, surrounded by the City of Rome. To take it out of the anachronism category and make it conform to its contemporary setting, nearly all the trees would have to be cut and the land developed as a parking lot, a shopping center, an apartment complex, a subdivision or perhaps, a fourlane highway.

When MacLean Marshall developed cancer, he gave the 100-acre forest and 120 additional acres of fields and woods to the Nature Conservancy, a national organization dedicated to "preserving unique natural areas throughout the United States".

The Marshall Forest was Georgia's first National Natural Landmark, a designation given by the U.S. Department of the Interior to exceptional areas of national importance. It was

dedicated as a Natural Landmark on October 12, 1966.

Since Mr. Marshall inherited the forest, which had been in his family for approximately 100 years, he had defended it against a variety of threats, as did other Marshalls before him. And it was rather difficult to bow out of the fight.

The most important use of the forest in the future will be long-term research. It will continue to be available for study by schools, timber companies and other organizations and individuals.

Nature spent years creating the forest as it now exists and MacLean Marshall spent years fighting to save it. Now, heaven willing, the fight is over and Mac's forest will go on being what he wanted it to be.

THE HOYT HOUSE

The Hoyt House on West First Street named "Nemophila" from the Greek meaning "love of pastured woodlands", was a wedding gift from Colonel Wade S. Cothran to his daughter, Anna, upon her marriage to Robert Hoyt, then a rising young druggist, two years after the close of the Civil War. The old house has been the home of the Hoyt family since its building in 1867. It has appropriately been called the "Magnolia Home" because of the giant tree that dominates its terraced front yard. Planted during the same year of the house's construction, this great evergreen once stood at the rear of the house, which faced the Oostanaula River and the open country beyond. The house is now owned and occupied by Wade Hoyt, Jr., great-grandson of the builder, and his family.

THE NICHOLAS OMBERG HOME

Built before the War Between the States, this old house on West First Street has endured through the greater part of Rome's recorded history. Nicholas Omberg was an active member of the home guard of 42 Romans who refused to leave the city after its evacuation by Union troops early in November of 1864. He gave his life in protection of his neighbors. The wartime diary of Reuben S. Towers who lived across from Omberg on West Seventh Avenue records Omberg's tragic death at the hands of raiding "scouts"--renegades who plundered the countryside during these perilous days of the war--who shot him down within a stone's throw of his own home when he attempted to prevent the robbing

and hanging of his friend, William Quinn. The Rev. and Mrs. S. E. Axson, parents of the first Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, lived for a time in an apartment in the Omberg home. It's a recorded fact that famous Rome surgeon Dr. Robert Battey performed one of his first definitive operations on a kitchen table in the old Omberg home.

THE OLD SEVENTH AVENUE CEMETERY

(Known to some as "Oak Hill")

To your left on the hill behind the A & P store is the oldest cemetery in Rome. The first burials were those of James McEntee and Mrs. Rebecca Mann in 1837. The place was generally abandoned in 1857, when Myrtle Hill Cemetery was opened up by the city. Since then, all but perhaps about 100 of the deceased have been removed to the new burying place. Buried in the old cemetery is John H. Lumpkin, brother of Governor Wilson Lumpkin, who moved here to assist in the organization of the new town. This historic cemetery is marked with a handsome bronze marker placed by the Rome Area Heritage Foundation and its historical marker committee. A total of seven of the city's most historic spots have been marked; these, in addition to the two cemeteries. Seventh Avenue and Myrtle Hill, are First Presbyterian Church, Darlington's Home-on-the-Hill, Thornwood, home of Colonel Alfred Shorter, St. Paul A.M.E. Church and the Old clock Tower. These markers will be pointed out on the tours.

CITY OF ROME

In the spring of 1834, a chance meeting of two lawyers, traveling to Livingston, the county seat of the new county of Floyd, resulted in the founding of Rome. These two lawyers were Colonel Daniel Mitchell of Canton and Colonel Zachariah B. Hargrove, a Cassville attorney. They stopped at a small spring on the peninsula that separates the Etowah and Oostanaula Rivers at their junction to get a cool drink of water. A spring still runs under Broad Street to the southeast corner of Third Avenue. They both agreed this would be a splendid site for a town and during their conversation they were joined by a stranger who agreed with them and invited them to spend the night at his home two miles south of the spring. The stranger was Major Philip Walker Hemphill, whose invitation was accepted, and the three men went to Major Hemphill's

comfortable plantation home, today's "Home on the Hill" at Darlington. Following court session at Livingston the three men met again and were joined by Colonel William Smith of Cave Spring. The four men organized a Rome town company, surveyed the upper portion of the town and laid it off in town lots. Favorable propositions were made by the company to the county authorities and the county seat was moved to Rome by a legislative act on December 20, 1834.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This church was organized in 1833 at Livingston, Georgia and transferred to Rome in 1845. The present church was dedicated in 1849. The sanctuary dates from 1854. The brick used in the construction were made on the Bailey Farm on the Coosa River below Rome. In 1864, the building was taken over by the Union Army and used for food storage. The Rev. S. E. Axson, D.D. served from 1866 to 1883, covering an important period of history. One of his daughters, Ellen Louise, became the beloved wife of Woodrow Wilson, who later became President of the United States. Outstanding is the Reuter organ given in memory of Kathryn Henley Wyatt and a chapel made possible through a generous gift of the late Mr.and Mrs. Wilson Hardy.

(Note historic marker at location of one of the oldest churches in this area built near the spot where the founders of Rome met at the wilderness spring.)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church of Rome was established in 1835, the same year that Rome received its charter from the state. The first building was at the corner of Eighth Avenue and West First Street, but in 1855, the present site was purchased and a brick church was built, to be replaced by a larger one in 1883. The present sanctuary was dedicated in 1958.

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church was organized in 1844 and in 1853 a suitable building was erected and its first mission congregation was founded: the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cave Spring (no longer in existence). The Rodeph Sholom Congregation was formed as a congregation in 1871. The first

services were held in the Masonic Temple Annex. In 1938 the congregation dedicated the new Temple located on East First Street.

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

The first Catholic Church in Rome, named Saint Mary's, was built in 1868 on Court Street (now East First Street) where today the Jewish Temple stands. The present Saint Mary's Church, built in 1930, stands on the crest of a hill on North Broad Street and reflects the medieval Gothic era. In 1540, Ferdinand DeSoto visited Rome, and as his party included several priests, quite probably Mass was offered in Rome at that early date.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

The original charter for the First Church of Christ, Scientist, was obtained in 1904 from the Mother Church in Boston, Massachusetts. The present building was purchased in 1921. In 1962, a combination Reading and Sunday School building was erected.

THE OLD TOWN CLOCK

Situated on Tower Hill, one of the seven hills of Rome, the old City Clock stands in the center of the city atop the first water reservoir. This reservoir was designed by Mr. John Noble to serve the new water system installed in 1871. The picturesque clock was made by the E. Howard Clock Company of Waltham, Massachusetts, and was shipped to Rome on October 7, 1872. It can be seen for miles around and has been keeping time for Romans for a century.

BAYARD HOUSE

One of Rome's oldest residences to survive without extensive remodeling, the Bayard house was built late in 1869, by Colonel N. J. Bayard, antedating the appearance of Shorter College by nearly four years.

The house was bought in 1889 by Shorter College and remodeled to some extent in 1902 to serve as a home for the college president, who prior to that thme had lived in an apartment set aside in the college building itself.

In 1911, after the removal of Shorter College to its present site in West Rome, the house was sold to the City of Rome.

OLD SHORTER COLLEGE

Founded as a gift to his community by wealthy businessman Alfred Shorter, Shorter College since 1877 has represented one of Rome's chief educational assets.

An earlier school, the Cherokee Female Baptist College, was razed on the location for the building of Shorter's college, the hilltop leveled to make room for five large buildings of which the principal unit--Pennington Hall--alone cost \$100,000. Dormitories occupied its second and third floor, while its first held sitting rooms and apartments for the college president and other essential staff members.

Other buildings housed lecture rooms, laboratories and auditorium, while additional living quarters were provided by "Bellevue", a two-story brick house erected earlier and described as "a popular gathering place for the college family". Two other former residences were used as dormitories for students and faculty, and an academy for children was operated by the college at a site directly across on East Third Avenue.

Shorter College had emerged in 1877 but by 1910 expansion was necessary and a new site had to be chosen. Honorable J. L. Bass offered his home "Maplehurst" and 155 acres of land to Shorter College which was accepted by the Board of Trustees. The first section in the new building opened in October, 1911 with all rooms filled.

Dr. Randall Minor has served as President of Shorter College since 1958 and during this time has carried out a building program, as well as one of renovation and redecorating of all original buildings, in addition to the purchase of a very handsome president's home and the purchase of the Greystone Hotel for the men's dormitories.

The new Livingston Library was completed and occupied in June, 1976. The architect's plans have been approved for a new Fine Arts Building and an enrollment of 800 is anticipated for this fall.

The old Shorter College buildings were purchased by the City of Rome for use as Rome High School. Later with the addition of new high school buildings, these buildings became administration headquarters for the Rome City School System.

This spring, these headquarters moved into the restored Central primary building and plans have been started for an Art Center in the old Shorter buildings.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

As early as 1825, John B. McFerrin was sent as a Methodist missionary to the Cherokees in this area and converted the Indian Chief John Ross, who spread Methodism among his tribesmen. In 1840, a wooden structure was built on a corner lot at 511 East Second Street which was donated by Colonel D. R. Mitchell with the stipulation that the property would always be used for a church building. It was replaced by a brick building in 1852 which was used as the Methodist Church of Rome. When the congregation moved to its present location on Third Avenue, the earlier church was sold to the newly organized Saint Paul African Methodist Church in 1884, in which the St. Paul African Methodist Church still worships. In 1976 this church was redecorated. To the left of the entrance is a bronze plaque to mark this historic building. The Third Avenue Church was completely remodeled except for the sanctuary retaining the original Gothic style of architecture. The new facilities were consecrated May 9, 1965.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S ROME HEADQUARTERS

General William T. Sherman, commander of the Union Army of the Tennessee, made his base of operations during his two brief visits to Rome at the home of Major Charles H. (Bill Arp) Smith at 312 East Fourth Avenue.

Union General Jefferson C. Davis and his field officers already had preempted the spacious Smith home, which was occupied almost continuously by Federal officers from May to November of 1864; known then as "Rose Hill" because of Major Smith's extensive gardens, the estate included all frontage of that block of Fourth Avenue and its intersecting streets on either side back to the alley that later separated the property from old Shorter College.

General Sherman's initial stay began on October 12, 1864, according to Battey's History of Rome and Floyd County, when he began his futile pursuit of the elusive Confederate General Hood. His second stay, during which he and his staff directed all Union Army operations from the Smith home, lasted from October 28, 1864 to November 2.

Returning home after the war's end, Major Smith found Rose Hill unburned but stripped of every portable possession. He continued to occupy the old house as long as he lived in Rome; it was razed later to make way for the impressive white-columned brick home that now stands in its place.

This house was built by Mrs. Charles Hight, mother of the late Gordon Lee Hight and is a replica of the Gordon Lee house in Chickamauga. Mrs. Hight was a Lee. Dr. Crawford Brock is the present owner.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

To your right in the second block (as you cross Second Avenue) stands the First Christian Church which was organized in 1896 with 12 charter members. In 1901 a wooden sanctuary was built and replaced in 1912 with the present building. The marble in this building was a gift from Mr. Sam Tate, Sr., of Tate, Georgia, and the N.C. and St. L. Raiload transported it free of charge.

THE MCWILLIAMS HOUSE

This is an excellent example of Victorian architecture on your left.

DR. ROBERT BATTEY

Rome's greatest surgeon and a nationally acclaimed medical authority was Dr. Robert Battey, who was born in Augusta on November 26, 1828. His homeplace was on First Avenue, near the Etowah River. Today it can be seen at the corner of East Second Avenue and East Eighth Street. It was moved to this location from the original site on Sunday, November 24, 1974. Saving this historic house was a joint project of the Rome Area Heritage Foundation and the Medical Society of Floyd, Polk and Chattooga counties, and its auxiliary. Plans are for the restoration of the house and the inclusion of a medical museum. Mrs. John Conn, owner of the Second Avenue property, furnished the site for the house.

Dr. Battey operated a medical building at Broad Street and Third Avenue and also a structure at Broad and Second Avenue. In 1869 he performed what was to be called "Battey's Operation", Ovariotomy, one of the first if not the first. He operated in

the kitchen of the Omberg house on West First Street.

Rome became the Medical center for Northwest Georgia when Dr. Battey opened his clinic in a complex of converted residences in the 300 block of East First Avenue. (To your right) Some of these are still standing and being used. This was after he had given up the drug store, established his medical practice, studied and practiced abroad, served as surgeon during the War Between the States, then devoted his time and talents to his medical practice.

He was not only a learned physician and skilled surgeon, but he was also a botanist who took much interest in the flora of his home section, being an authority on Cherokee herbs and their uses.

Dr. Battey died at his summer home, Callier Springs (also known as Battey Heights) November 6, 1895 after a long illness. His funeral was held November 10 at the First Methodist Church which he helped to build. The service was conducted by Bishop Warren Candler, then president of Emory College, Oxford, Georgia of which Dr. Battey was a trustee.

DARLINGTON SCHOOL

Darlington School is a coeducational, college preparatory school for boarding and day students. John Paul and Alice Allgood Cooper, assisted by a group of Rome business and professional men who had studied under Joseph James Darlington, founded the school in 1905 as a day school for boys. In 1923 the boarding department was added and the school was moved to the present location. Today Darlington occupies slightly more than 400 acres and also the former Thornwood campus and school housed in the historic home of Colonel Alfred Shorter. It now enrolls both girls and boys, 182 boarding and 689 day students. Much of the history of Rome and Floyd County began on the hill overlooking the lake at Darlington for Major Philip Walker Hemphill, one of the founders of Rome, lived on this hill. He purchased this tract of land in the heart of the Cherokee nation in 1832, and on the crest of a hill, built his plantation home and named it "Alhambra". Today it is known as "The Home on the Hill", home of Darlington's presidents. West of this house is a small family cemetery where Mrs. Hemphill is buried, and also their two daughters.

(Note historic marker placed at entrance by Rome Heritage Foundation.)

MYRTLE HILL

Myrtle Hill, one of Rome's seven original hills has often been termed the most beautiful of all. It was opened as a cemetery in 1857, and many prominent Romans, with their descendants, as well as soldiers of The War Between the States sleep here.

The hill is gracefully terraced for the graves and roads wind all the way to the top, affording a panoramic view not only of the city, but of the surrounding country. The mountains of Georgia and Alabama crown the scene, while the city of Rome with its three winding rivers, its busy streets, its industry, shopping center, tall church spires, and residences all are evidences of a well rounded community—a good place to live as well as a pleasant place to visit. Stately magnolia trees with banks of flowering shrubs line the emerald—carpeted terraces of the hill.

In the portion of the cemetery reserved for the deceased of The War Between the States, there are 377 graves, including 81 Confederate unknown and two Federal unknown soldiers. The dead soldiers sleep with heads pointed to the wide Coosa Valley and their feet pointed northeastward toward the city, which many died defending. The graves are marked with simple gray marble slabs, some twenty inches high. In the list of honored dead from southern states is one Spanish-American War veteran with the marking, "E. L. Ellis of the Company D 3rd Georgia United States Volunteers".

The known soldier of World War I also sleeps in Myrtle Hill.

From the top of the hill one views resting places of many prominent Romans. Among them, the Battey Vault; tomb of Benjamin C. Yancey, U.S. Minister to Argentine; and the grave of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson.

Two founders of Rome are buried in Myrtle Hill Cemetery-Daniel R. Mitchell of Canton and Colonel Zachariah B. Hargrove of Cassville. Major Philip Walker Hemphill moved to Mississippi after the deaths of his wife and two daughters who are buried north of the Hemphill home in a private family cemetery. Colonel William Smith, a founder, is buried in Cave Spring and John H. Lumpkin is buried in the old West Seventh Avenue Cemetery, the city's first official cemetery, opened in 1837 and used until 1857.

Two handsome monuments were moved from Broad Street to the lower level of Myrtle Hill Cemetery and commemorate the Women of the Confederacy and General Nathan Bedford Forrest. In 1975,

The Rome Heritage Foundation placed an historic marker at the top of Myrtle Hill Cemetery, founded on one of the seven hills of Rome. Other markers were placed at the First Presbyterian Church, Darlington's Home on the Hill, Thornwood, Saint Paul A.M.E. Church, Oak Hill Cemetery, the City Clock Tower.

One of Rome's most famous daughters was Ellen Louise Axson Wilson who was born in Savannah in 1860 and first came to Rome with her family in 1866 when her father, the Reverend Samuel Edward Axson took the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church here. It was in Rome in 1882 that Ellen met the young lawyer Woodrow Wilson who was on a visit to relatives. Ellen moved to Savannah and it was there on June 24, 1885 that the two were married at the home of the bride's grandparents.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Wilson never lost touch with her girlhood friends, many of them her classmates at the old Rome Female College on West Eight Avenue, during her youth. She planned to return for a gala homecoming celebration at Rome in October of 1914, but died in August.

Her funeral was held at Rome's First Presbyterian Church on August 11, 1914 and she was buried in Myrtle Hill Cemetery in the Axson family plot.

A handsome oil portrait of Mrs. Wilson hangs in the Rome Carnegie Library. It was a gift to the Rome Library from Miss Martha Berry in 1921. After being restored, the portrait was unveiled September 29, 1972.

THE ALLEN HOUSE

The pre-Civil War "Allen House" located originally on the Kingston Road, near Mill Creek, was built by Bryan Allen, an Englishman approximately 20 years prior to the Civil War. Mr. Allen died in 1851 and is buried across the road from the house on the property of Mrs. John Blackstock who once lived in the Allen House. This house has long been noted for the delicate fan light treatment of door and windows. It has a full above-ground basement which is separated into 3 rooms, each with a mantel.

In recent years, Clarence Kerce sold the Allen House to the Stone Mountain Association and is was moved to the Stone Mountain Confederate Park for preservation as a representative pre-1861 dwelling of this section. It may be seen today at the memorial park. (1976)

BARNSLEY GARDENS

Near Kingston, Georgia

The once magnificent estate, named "Woodlands" by its master Godfrey Barnsley, is in ruins except the kitchen wing which is still in good condition. Godfrey Barnsley came from Savannah to Cass County in the late 1830's on a horseback vacation jaunt with three friends, and returned to build a mansion. The ruins of that estate began in the style of Italian villas and was called "Woodlands", known to later generations as Barnsley Gardens. The house was erected on a haunted hill shunned by Indians who warned him to choose a less unlucky site. The ruins still stand near Hall's Station. southwest of Adairsville. and about 12 miles from Rome. The fortunes of Godfrey Barnsley so promising in the early years that made him one of the South's wealthiest men, bore out his Indian neighbors' dark prophecies of disaster. Death took his infant son and his young wife before the mansion he planned for them was well begun. Another daughter died in the house in 1858, his oldest son was killed by Chinese pirates in 1862 while searching the Orient for exotic shrubs to complete his father's gardens. The two remaining sons, rather than swear allegiance to a nation which they had fought so bitterly, emigrated to Brazil, leaving him at 60 with a palatial home still uncompleted and all but ruined and a cotton buying business destroyed by the advent of the transatlantic cable. Originally, Barnsley came to Cass County with three friends to escape the heat of Savannah and the pressure of his many enterprises.

Barnsley chose to construct a house on the first lot he purchased, lot number 96, just to the side of Thomas Creek. This first structure was built of logs and was quite crude. From this cabin, he supervised the construction of a much larger frame house, known at the time as "New House", which later became a wing of his mansion. Even in those early years at "Woodlands", his plans for formal gardens were in his mind. Some of his expenses are listed below:

Log House	\$500.00
Spring House	250.00
Outhouses and Corn Cribs	500.00
Clearing 60 acres	480.00
New House	800.00
Terrace and Gardens	540.00
	\$3.070.00

The War's end brought little relief. Barnsley, in an attempt to recoup lost fortunes, moved to New Orleans where he died of tuberculosis in 1873 and his daughter Julia returned his body to "Woodlands" for burial. Tragedy persisted. Julia's daughter Adelaide grew up to marry A. A. Saylor who died while their sons were quite young. Tragedy struck again in 1935. During an argument over property items, Preston Saylor killed his brother Harry and was sent to prison. At Mrs. Saylor's death in 1942, the estate, including furnishings and art objects, was sold at auction. At the present time, Barnsley Gardens is owned by Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McClesky.

The story of Godfrey Barnsley and the mansion he built to his wife's memory leads to speculation as to what life for Barnsley and his descendants might have been if he had heeded his Indian neighbors' advice and built his mansion at some other spot instead of on that unlucky acorn shaped hill.

A modern link with the dashing young Englishman, Godfrey Barnsley, and the beautiful Julia Scarbrough whom he married, is the restoration in Savannah of the home of William Scarbrough, father of Julia. He built the Savannah, the first steamship to cross the Atlantic Ocean in 1819, the year his home was finished. Today this house serves as headquarters for the Historic Savannah Foundation, Inc.

Hoffman, Jr., Nelson Miles 1920-Godfrey Barnsley, 1805-1873 British Cotton Factor in the South. U. of Kansas, Ph. D., 1964.

THE GORDON-LEE HOUSE 1847

The two bloodiest days in American history occurred in Georgia. After the holocaust of Chickamauga, 37,000 Civil War troops were casualties. As the smoke cleared, one could walk for several acres on bodies without touching the ground, and Chickamauga Creek flowed red with blood.

The only structure surviving intact from this battle is the Gordon-Lee Plantation House. It was used as General William Rosecrans' headquarters prior to the battle and as the main Union hospital during the battle. James Garfield, who later became the 20th President of the United States, was stationed in the house as Rosecrans' chief-of-staff.

James Gordon came to Walker County in 1836 and settled on lands from the Cherokee land lotteries. He began his large brick home on a beautiful setting above the Crawfish Spring but it was not completed until 1847. The Gordon grist mill prospered, a sawmill was added, and the large land holdings produced bountiful crops of corn, wheat, barley and sugar cane. The agricultural census before the war indicated large herds of sheep, cattle and horses with about 30 slaves to work the fields.

The house remained in the family with Elizabeth Gordon Lee as its mistress. Her famous son, Congressman Gordon Lee, served with distinction, representing the 7th District in Washington for nearly a quarter of a century. At the time of his marriage to the lovely Olive Berry of Newman, the Congressman made some changes to the exterior of the house. These were done in good taste under the direction of I. L. Alsup, an architect from Chattanooga.

In March of 1974, the house was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Frank A. Green of Chattanooga who now have made it their home. Extensive restoration has been affected with the help of Dr. Stephen Dennis, now with the National Trust, Mr. Paul Muldawer, architect from Atlanta, and Dr. Jeffrey Brown, archeologist from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and, as an agreement of its purchase, is open to the public a portion of each year.

CHICKAMAUGA

While visiting the Gordon-Lee House, you. will not want to miss the picturesque village that surrounds it. The town of Chickamauga sprang from the grain fields of the plantation. During the post war years, a land company headed by Mr. James Lee laid out a town with streets named for the Civil War generals who fought there. By the end of the century, the place marked on the war maps as Crawfish Springs was a thriving and prosperous town. It boasted of modern coke ovens, a depot and rail facilities, a cotton mill, and a beautiful 3-story Victorian hotel. This was a vacation spa and the waters of Crawfish Springs were reported to be most beneficial for any "misery" of which one could complain. The fairgrounds and race track beckoned many visitors to gala outings.

Suddenly, as if someone stopped the clock, the town's activities ground to a halt. The hotel burned, the fires in the coke ovens went out, the horses at the race track stopped, and there was no more laughter at the fairgrounds...Chickamauga went into hibernation, and even today its hurried activity seems masked by a yesteryear facade.

About 3 years ago, the local garden club sparked the restoration of the town. They began with the railroad station and stimulated the merchants to follow suit. Today there are attractive store fronts that vary from the log cabin frontier type to the elegant Victorian.

You will want to see the Bicentennial Amphitheater at Crawfish Springs, the old and the new churches, the quaint restaurants and shops, the depot and the coke oven ruins. A short drive will take you through the Chickamauga National Park (don't forget the Lee and Gordon Mill): then complete your outing with an ice cream cone at the quaint "Sweet Tooth".

