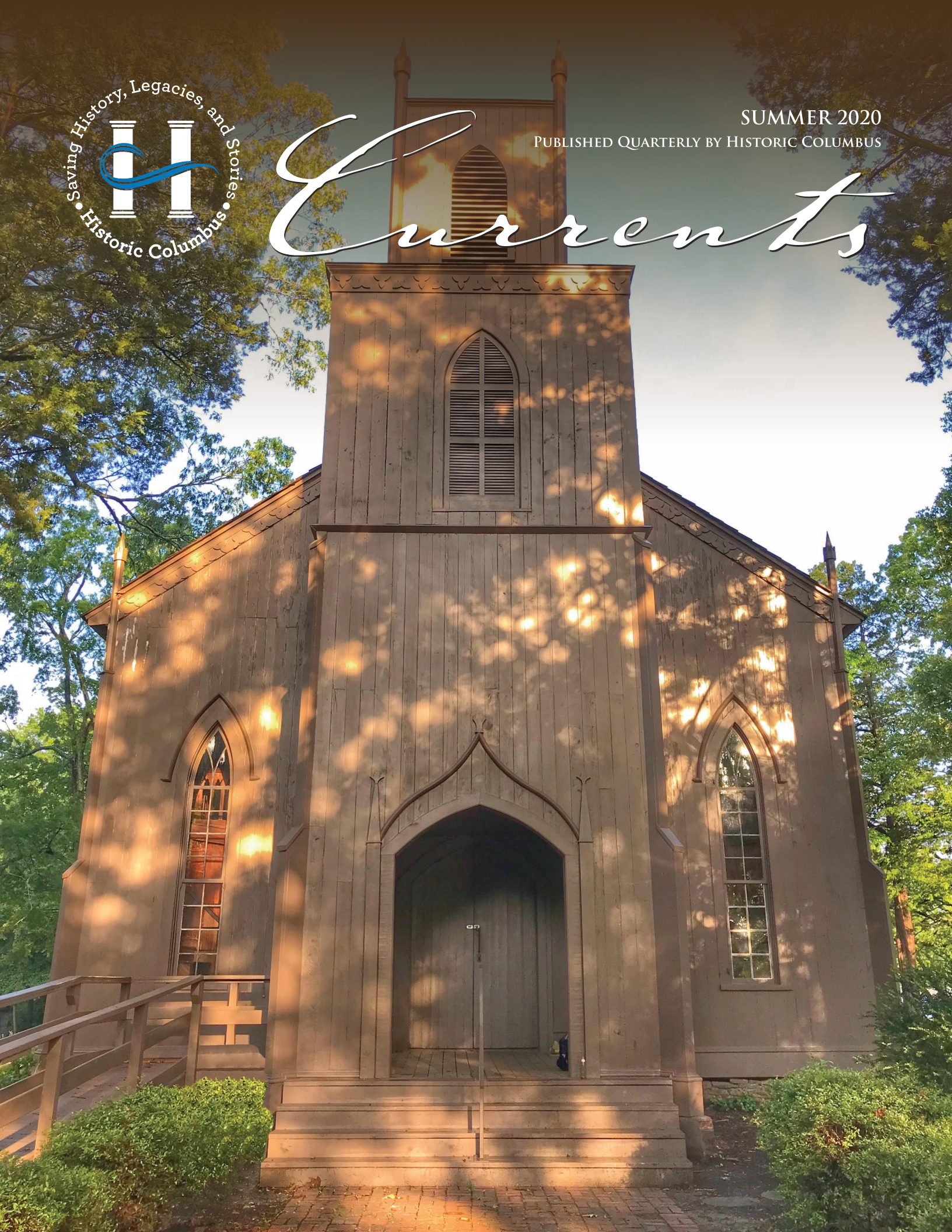




SUMMER 2020
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY HISTORIC COLUMBUS

Currents



DEAR HCF MEMBERS,



We hope you and your families are safe and well. This has obviously been and is going to continue to be for a while an interesting moment in our history as a world and as an organization. But, be assured - the work you care so much about will continue.

Debbie Lipscomb (Director of Finance and Administration), myself, and Cal Evans (HCF Treasurer) have been keeping an eye on our financial situation, both cash and investments. We feel that it is important for you to know where we stand and that we feel good in our financial position.

We have prepared a worst case scenario in order to determine Historic Columbus' short-term operating viability during this uncertain time. HCF can maintain its current operation for another five months with the cash on hand in our bank accounts. There are also two restricted funds that can only be used to maintain our house museums (the Rankin House, the Log Cabin, and the Walker-Peters-Langdon House). Those funds can be used to pay bills for those properties, if needed.

Never forget, you are vital to the future of historic preservation. When you receive your membership renewal and if it is something you can do, we hope you will rejoin. Historic Columbus members (YOU) make it possible for all the projects and education programs to happen each year.

Your staff is also researching grants and creative ways of fundraising in this new environment. The offices of Historic Columbus are open in a limited manner to maintain staff safety, but you can reach us at anytime via email (hcfinc@historiccolumbus.com). If you have any questions or concerns, never hesitate to call me (706-332-3214 cell).

We will keep you all posted on what happens next. Thanks to you, there are great things happening in our community. I am grateful to each of you. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth B. Walden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Elizabeth B. Walden
Executive Director



Sharing stories that move us and make us

Funding has been provided by Georgia Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the CARES Act economic stabilization plan of 2020. For more information, please visit [www. GeorgiaHumanities.org](http://www.GeorgiaHumanities.org).



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ON THE COVER...

ZION CHURCH IN TALBOTTON, GEORGIA

DESIGNATED FUND DONOR OPPORTUNITIES YOU can designate your donation!

The **Patricia Jackson Howard Scholarship** is awarded annually to high school seniors in Muscogee County. The \$2,500 scholarship is to be used for college expenses.

The **Virginia T. Peebles Historic Preservation Grant** was created to facilitate projects to renovate, stabilize or plan for the protection of non-residential historic structures and sites. The grants can range from \$3,000 - \$6,000 depending on funding and applications.

For more information please contact Historic Columbus.

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RESTORING ZION

Since receiving \$100,000 from Historic Columbus' 2019 Public Participation Grant, good things continue to happen for the 1848 Zion Episcopal Church and the Friends of Zion Church Restoration in Talbotton, Georgia. Most recently, Zion Church Restoration, Inc. received two grants – \$90,000 from the Merrell and Constance Calhoun Foundation and \$5,000.00 from Flint Energy. These funds will help continue the work taking place at the site.

Restoration work at the church is currently focusing on window restoration and the further stabilization of the exterior. As Caudill Construction continues forward, the Board for Zion Church Restoration is continuing to develop a plan for the site once work is complete. David Johnson, a longtime supporter of the restoration effort and Board member states, "We see Zion Church as a vehicle for incubating music programs along with cultural events throughout the wider Talbotton community. Programming would not only

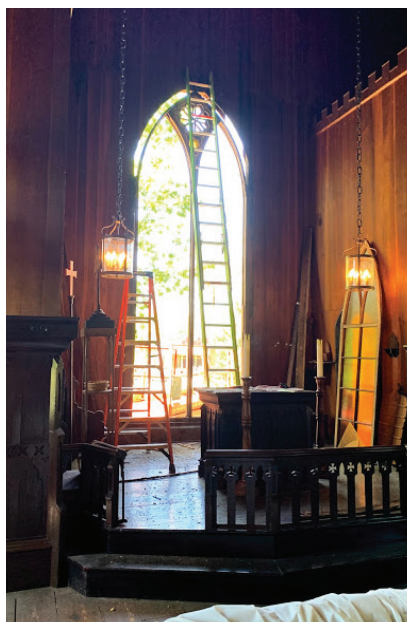
include adults, but also a focus on youth and children."

Many are looking to the restoration of the church as a way to breathe new life into Talbotton and as a way to drive more community involvement along with new business and economic development. These are just some of the ways historic preservation can become a trigger for stabilizing and helping move communities forward.

If you are interested in supporting this work or simply following the progress of the restoration, be sure to follow the Zion Church Restoration Facebook page. Historic Columbus' Facebook page will also be sharing their news as well.

As the project continues and becomes a less hazardous construction site, Historic Columbus

hopes to organize some on-site tours to see the progress and talk about the importance and history of Zion Episcopal Church. We will also be looking into providing some virtual tours of the property until being together at the church is appropriate. Stay tuned!





Exterior of the Promenade House



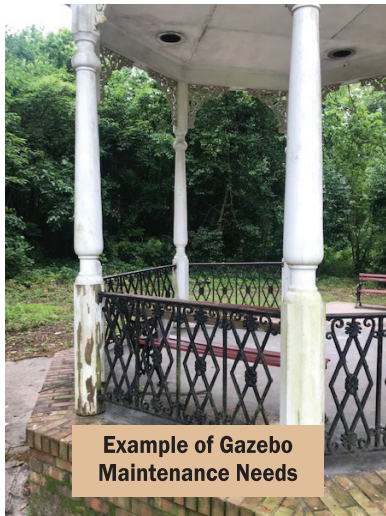
Renovated Interior of the Promenade House

CHATTAHOOCHEE PROMENADE UPDATE

Moved to its present location in 1976, the house at 685 Front Avenue was initially an effort of the Bicentennial celebration for the United States. It was to house a revolving exhibit that would feature history and informative displays detailing the history of Columbus and the United States. The Chattahoochee Promenade (the linear park along Front Ave and the river in the Historic District) was a part of that effort.

The use of the house as a history site quickly fled and it then became the headquarters for the Keep Columbus Beautiful organization. When KCB moved about eight years ago to the new recycling center offices, the city-owned house became vacant. As Historic Columbus was working to find ways to fund the restoration of Heritage Park, concern for the future of the house across the street grew.

Two years ago, Historic Columbus entered into a long-term \$1/year lease with the City to repurpose and lease the property. After a long search for the right type of tenant, Historic Columbus leased the property to CSU to be used as a studio for Christopher Whittey. Mr. Whittey is the Alan F. Rothschild



Example of Gazebo Maintenance Needs

Distinguished Chair of Art at Columbus State University.

Historic Columbus has cleaned up the exterior of the house and hired Brock Jones, Inc. to transform the interior into a light-filled studio space. The proceeds from leasing the house will be used not only to preserve the structure, but also the Chattahoochee Promenade as a whole.

Many of the gazebos and markers along the park have deteriorated over time and are in need of maintenance. HCF also plans to partner with the Historic District Preservation Society (HDPS) in an effort to develop a plan to better maintain the space and establish priorities, the first of which may be Founder's Garden at Front Avenue and 5th Street.

Historic Columbus is excited to be able to partner with the City, CSU, and HDPS to find new and creative solutions for the preservation of the Chattahoochee Promenade and Heritage Park.



Christopher Whittey: Whittey's work has been showcased in numerous locations. He has received a New Jersey State Council of the Arts Fellowship, Van Lier Foundation Grant (awarded by the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program), Individual Artists Grant from New York's Artist Space, and a faculty development grant from MICA. Publications include The Detroit News, The New York Times, The Village Voice, Documents and World Art.

NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

February 16, 2020 – May 15, 2020

*In order to conserve publication costs,
we are only printing new and renewal
memberships made between
February 16, 2020 and May 15, 2020.*

*If you see an error or omission, please
contact the office (706) 322-0756.*

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February 16, 2020 – May 15, 2020

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Memorial Day Historic Marker

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*Patricia Jackson Howard
Scholarship Fund*
In memory of:
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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen M. Howard
*Patricia Jackson Howard
Scholarship Fund*
Knox Pest Control
Pull for Preservation, Sponsorship

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Lizzie Rutherford 60 Chapter, UDC
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United Daughters of the Confederacy,
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IN MEMORIAM

Ethel Chandler Williams Foley

June 25, 1929 – April 29, 2020

2003 Historic Columbus Honored Lady



Sally was the daughter of Charlie Frank Williams and Ethel George Chandler Williams Nordhausen. She graduated from Columbus High School before furthering her education at Ogontz College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She followed in her parents' footsteps and was committed to the betterment of the community. She was also widely regarded as a true Renaissance woman for her broad spectrum of interests and passions.

Sally Foley was a community servant. Her generosity of spirit and commitment to

our town and Historic Columbus was only surpassed by her love for her family and her award winning garden. Her list of accomplishments, awards, and contributions to this community were many. She was a major advocate for historic preservation, CSU, The Springer, The Columbus Museum, Uptown Columbus, the Columbus Symphony, Columbus Gateways, PAWS, and Port Columbus.

She served as a Director on the HCF Board for many years. Historic Columbus was also extremely pleased to recognize Sally as our Honored Lady in 2003. Sally was an incredible lady and civic leader in Columbus. She will be deeply missed.

IN MEMORIAM

(February 16, 2020 – May 15, 2020)

Margaret O'Neal Lewis

February 28, 2020

Ethel Chandler Williams Foley

April 29, 2020

Historic Columbus extends its deepest sympathies to the families of our members. If a member was not included, please contact the Historic Columbus office (706)322-0756 and the correction will be made in the following newsletter.



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Historic Columbus Names 2020 Patricia Jackson Howard Memorial Scholarship Recipient



The Patricia Jackson Howard Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Mrs. Howard, a long-time volunteer and the second Executive Director of the organization (1989-1992). It was her wish that a scholarship (\$2,500) be awarded to a graduating high school senior based on the student's merit and need. The scholarship is also provided

directly to the recipient for the use to purchase items associated with attending a university or college.

Miss Sherry Aschenbach of Hardaway High School was awarded the 27th Annual Patricia Jackson Howard Memorial Scholarship. Miss Aschenbach was selected from several applicants for her commitment to academics. Her excellence in academics has been recognized by her acceptance into the National Honor Society, the National English Honor Society, the Beta Club and as a Zell Miller Scholar.

While finishing her senior year at Hardaway, Miss Aschenbach also completed college courses at CSU. She will be attending Berry College in the fall and majoring in Exercise

Science. Along with being able to maintain her school work, she has worked for Cooper Creek and has been involved with countless clubs and honors societies. She volunteered with the Special Olympics, Britt David School, Feeding the Valley, Ad-In, Highlands Church Outreach, and "Tennis Works in the Park."

Miss Aschenbach is an exceptional young lady. Historic Columbus is proud to announce her as this year's recipient of the Patricia Jackson Howard Memorial Scholarship.



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CLAY**
tournament

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24**

\$125

Registration
includes Lunch

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