

---

DUNWOODY  
PRESERVATION  
TRUST

# DUNWOODY PRESERVATION TRUST'S ORIGINS

Dunwoody Preservation Trust was founded in 1995 when Joyce Amacher and Lynne Byrd, two longtime Dunwoody residents, awoke one morning to find that two of three 1880 railroad section houses had been demolished (the remaining one still stands in Dunwoody Village today) and developers were closing in on a more significant property – the 1906 Cheek-Spruill Farmhouse. Both women, experienced historic preservationists, founded Dunwoody Preservation Trust (DPT), a 501(c)(3), with seed money from the Dunwoody Homeowners Association.



# DUNWOODY PRESERVATION TRUST'S ORIGINS



- Our first order of business was to “Save the Farmhouse” (the Cheek-Spruill Farmhouse). We were successful with that goal and today this central property serves as the unofficial symbol of Dunwoody appearing in the City’s Seal and in Dunwoody Preservation Trust’s logo.
- The farmhouse was painstakingly rehabilitated and is the site of community gatherings including the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Light Up Dunwoody.



CHEEK-SPRUILL  
FARMHOUSE

OFTEN REFERRED  
TO AS THE  
DUNWOODY  
FARMHOUSE



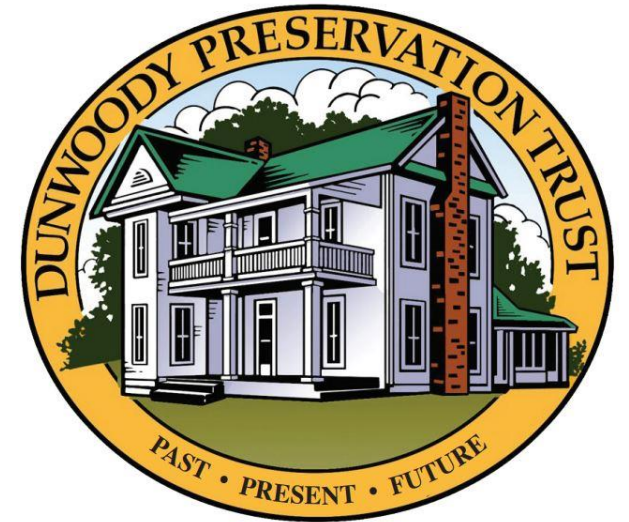
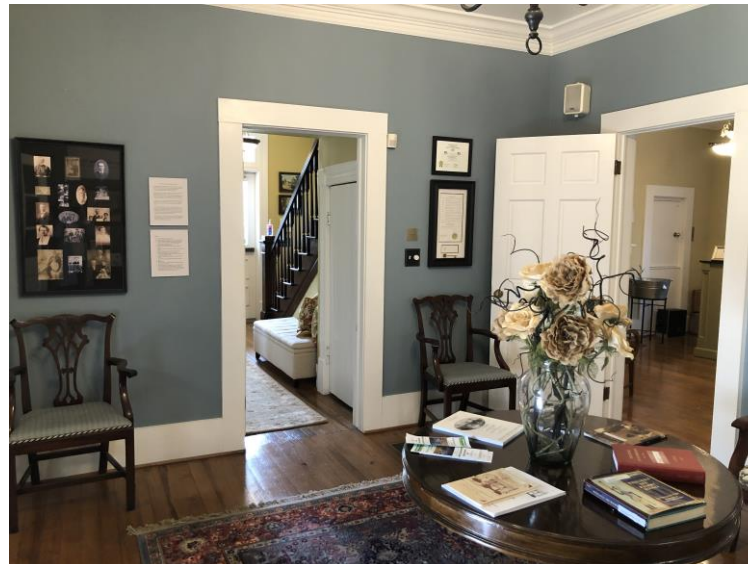
# CHEEK-SPRUILL FARMHOUSE (THE DUNWOODY FARMHOUSE)



A History Room with tea service is located inside the Cheek-Spruill House and open to the public



City's Seal  
And  
DPT's Logo





---

## ADDITIONAL DUNWOODY PRESERVATION TRUST CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DUNWOODY COMMUNITY INCLUDE:

- Added both the Cheek-Spruill Farmhouse and the Donaldson-Bannister Farm to the Georgia AND National Register of Historic Places.
- Maintaining the historic New Hope and Stephen Martin family cemeteries.
- Partnering with the City of Dunwoody to rehabilitate the circa 1870 Donaldson-Bannister Farm. The property is open to the public, hosts community events and can be booked for private events as well.
- Hosting Lemonade Days – It started as a fundraiser to help re-plant trees after the 1998 tornado and has turned into Dunwoody's premier community event and our major fundraiser.
- Hosting educational events for all ages – Camp Flashback summer camp, school and scout fieldtrips and our History Alive educational programs for adults.
- Hosting additional community events including Flick N Chick, Apple Cider Days and Farm to Table Dinner in the fall, High Tea in the spring and more!



# THE DONALDSON- BANNISTER FARM





# THE DONALDSON-BANNISTER FARM

- A City of Dunwoody Park lovingly restored via a partnership between the City of Dunwoody and Dunwoody Preservation Trust.



- Dunwoody Preservation Trust has spent over \$910,000 of its own money over the past 10 years to help rehabilitate the property. (Master Plan drawings, three FIPP grants, landscaping and other projects)
- The 2.89-acre property opened to the public less than 3 years ago in May 2018.



---

# DONALDSON-BANNISTER FARM COMMUNITY EVENTS

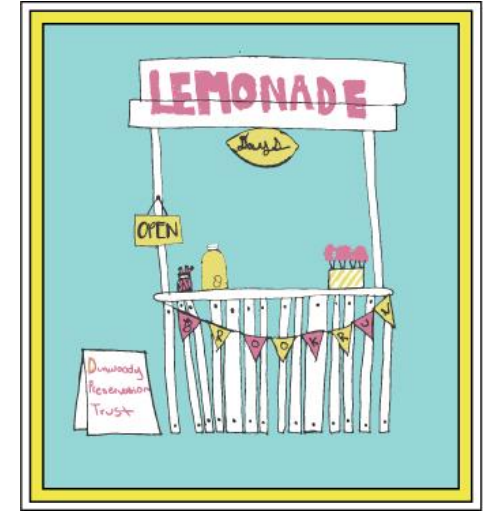
Since the property opened in May 2018, we have:

- Started Camp Flashback – 2021 will be our 4<sup>th</sup> year
- Re-started our adult education program - History Alive – 6x per year
- Started a yearly Farm to Table Dinner
- 2020 was the Sesquicentennial of the Donaldson-Bannister Farm. We had planned multiple celebratory events. We were able to host a Champagne Concert and a Tea before the COVID-19 shutdown.
- Hosted Apple Cider Days – 2020 was our 5<sup>th</sup> year
- Work with Scout troops and Home School groups for tours and education field trips
- Offer Fitness/Yoga Classes – 4x Weekly
- Hosted Flick N Chick (family movie night on the farm) and Painting with a Purpose (joint event with the Dunwoody Police Dept & Painting with a Twist for charity) 2x prior to 2020

# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT

## NEGATIVE EFFECTS

- The most significant impact to Dunwoody Preservation Trust was financially.
  - Loss of Lemonade Days – our primary and most significant fundraiser.
  - Loss of private events: weddings, family reunions, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs, meetings, graduation parties, fund raisers. (many of these events contribute to hotel occupancy)
  - The loss of both resulted in a 36% drop in revenue in 2020
- Unable to continue the Sesquicentennial celebration of the Donaldson-Bannister Farm and other previously planned Community events.
- Docent program and tours were put on hold.





# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT POSITIVE OUTCOMES:



- Dunwoody Preservation Trust's purchase of a 40'x40' tent covering the plaza area next to the barn in early February prior to the pandemic has turned out to be a blessing. The tent allowed us to host events in a covered space outside during warmer weather when the community started to re-open.
  - Allowed us to re-start our History Alive program. Of 6 planned programs, we were able to host 4 in 2020.
  - Allowed us to host a few smaller private events such as the Rotary Club and small weddings.
  - Provided covered space for Camp Flashback (though not during storms).
  - Provided cover for Apple Cider Days.
  - Provided back up cover for Farm to Table Dinner.

# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT

## POSITIVE OUTCOMES:



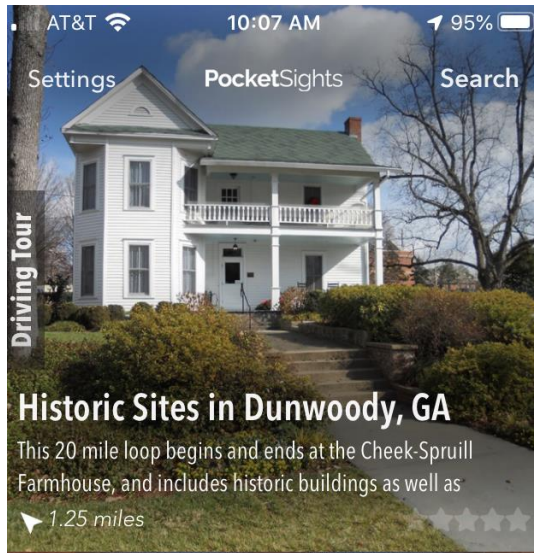
- We hosted 5 full weeks of Camp Flashback as originally planned with no COVID outbreaks – 125 campers (The # of campers we can host is limited by the inside (not tent) space should there be storms.)





# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- We were able to hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Farm to Table dinner with modifications.



- We started virtual programming options – online recipes, self-guided tours, App: PocketSights Historic Driving Tour.
- Facebook Live *Friday at the Farm* video series. Available to view on Dunwoody Preservation Trust's Facebook and YouTube channel. <https://www.facebook.com/DunwoodyPreservationTrust>

# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- We hosted our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Cider Days Festival with a modified format – 3 sessions limited to 100 attendees each spread across the 2.89 acres.
- Scarecrow Row – involved the community with individual, non-profit and business entries. Prizes were awarded for Best in Show, People's Choice, Scariest and Honorable Mention.





# 2020 – COVID-19 IMPACT POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- We were able to use the last of our capital funds to enclose the garage at the Donaldson-Bannister Farm.



- This space will allow us room for a few additional campers should it storm, exhibits such as January's History Alive program and our Artful Originals virtual auction last fall.

---

# PLANS FOR 2021

## CURRENTLY SCHEDULED COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Camp Flashback 2021 - 5-weeks - Registration is underway
- Hosted our first History Alive program of the year – an exhibit Saluting the Life of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the newly enclosed garage. Five more programs scheduled.
- Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> - Spring Fling since we cannot host Lemonade Days this April
- Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tea under the Tent
- August 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> - Lemonade Days at Brook Run Park
- Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Farm to Table Dinner
- Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Cider Days
- Plan to host an Open House at the Cheek-Spruill Farmhouse
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade 2021
- Light Up Dunwoody 2021



---

# PLANS FOR 2021

## NEW FACILITIES AND EVENTS

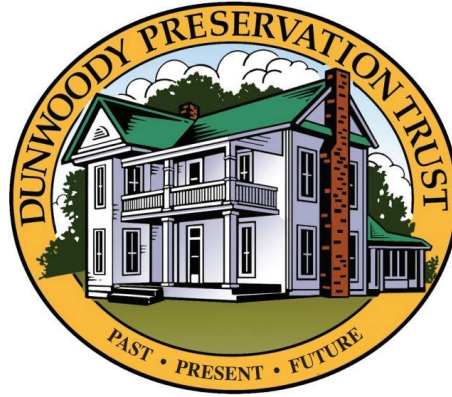
- Currently working to open a History Wing in the upstairs of the Donaldson-Bannister Farmhouse. Dunwoody Preservation Trust has a lot of historic artifacts, tools and photos that need to be displayed for the community and not stored away. We are applying for grants to allow us to finish the upstairs of the house to provide for this.
- Start a Docent Program at the Donaldson-Bannister Farm and host monthly tours of the house and property. This was put on hold in 2020 due to the pandemic.
- Host a tour of the New Hope Cemetery in the spring and the Stephen Martin Cemetery in the fall.
- Relief Carving depicting the history of Dunwoody. The wood for the carving is from the Oak tree that was lost during the renovation of the Donaldson-Bannister Farm.

---

# DUNWOODY PRESERVATION TRUST VOLUNTEERS & STAFF

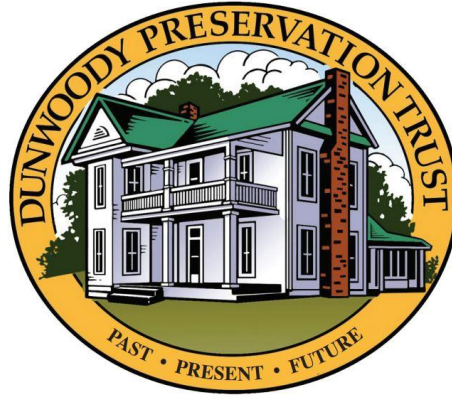
- All of this has been accomplished by primarily volunteers and a small paid staff.
- Dunwoody Preservation Trust's Board members regularly give thousands of hours of their time to promote our mission. In 2018, the Board alone donated 5388 hours of their time.
- Dunwoody Preservation Trust's staff is comprised of 1 full time Executive Director (Suzanne Huff) and 4 part time employees: Sam McEntyre – property manager, Rachel Sloan – administrative assistant, Dolores Lauderdale – private events manager and Hope Follmer – community events manager
- Apple Cider Days alone was staffed by over 180 hours of volunteer time. Many of these are students and scouts that earn their service hours by helping with these events.





## **Mission Statement**

Dunwoody Preservation Trust (DPT) is dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of Dunwoody. DPT will encourage and inspire the exploration of Dunwoody's history through educational programs, publications, collections and research. Our programs will celebrate the past, honor the present and build for the future to give Dunwoody a strong sense of historical place.



Dunwoody Preservation Trust appreciates our partnership with the City of Dunwoody. Together we have accomplished much, and we look forward to many more years of working together.