

Dunwoody Diorama Brochure Enhancements

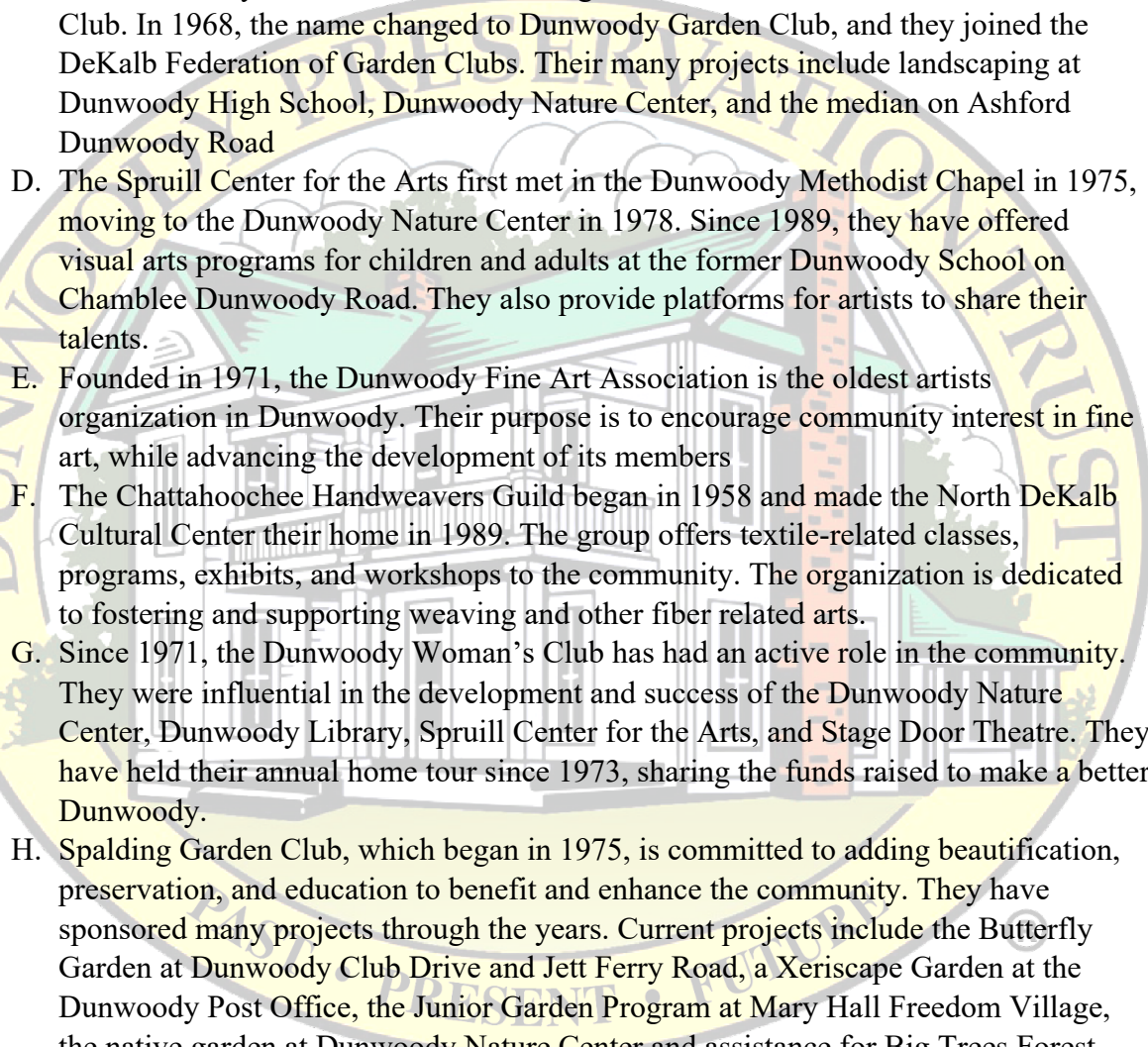
1. The indigenous people of this area during the Archaic period (8000 to 1000 BCE) used rock overhangs as shelters and homes. A fire was built for cooking under the shelter. Examples of these rock overhangs can be seen along the river at the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area Island Ford Park.
2. Large mounds were built in places such as Etowah, Georgia. 1,000 years ago, during the Mississippian era, people began building smaller mounds as the center of their village. These smaller mounds and villages were built along the Chattahoochee River.
3. The Cherokee and Creek Nations traded animal skins with European explorers and settlers. The Hightower Trail, which went from Augusta to the northwest mountains of Georgia and passed through parts of Dunwoody, Sandy Springs, and Roswell, was likely used by people of both the Creek and Cherokee Nation.
4. The Native Americans first made bowls from soapstone, which was easy to carve. Later, they used local clay to make pottery, which became more ornate and symbolic over time.
5. Members of Cherokee and Creek villages planted corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers. Before the 1750s, the Creek occupied all of Georgia. Following the Taliwa battle in 1755, the Creek lived south of the Chattahoochee and the Cherokee lived north.
6. The Creek Nation lived in villages with thatched huts, located near a water source. They were part of the Muscogee Nation, nicknamed Creek by the British because they built their homes near a creek or river.
7. In the 1700s and early 1800s, Cherokee and Creek built cabin type structures along the Chattahoochee River. When the Riverside Road Pump Station was planned, archeologists discovered fire cracked rock hearths which indicate the type of structure.
8. Although a few white settlers came to the area before the removal of the Native Americans, many obtained land through the Land Lottery and settled in the early 1830s. Each Land Lottery winner received 202 ½ acres of land which they could establish as a homestead or sell to another individual.
9. Ferries were used to cross the Chattahoochee River before there were bridges. Some of the early ferries included Jett Ferry, Nesbit Ferry, Martin's Ferry, Brooks Ferry, and Copeland's Ferry. Often a rope was strung across the water from bank to bank, pulled by hand or attached to a wheel turned by an operator which pulled the boat across the river.
10. The earliest churches were Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church in Sandy Springs and Providence Baptist Church near the intersection of Chamblee Dunwoody Road and Dunwoody Village Parkway. Other early churches include New Hope Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church of Dunwoody, and Dunwoody Methodist Church.
11. On July 17, 1864, twenty thousand Federal soldiers led by General McPherson marched from Roswell to present-day Chamblee Dunwoody Road. They followed the road until it forked at what is now Nandina Lane. The Federal 16th Army of the Tennessee moved towards Nancy's Creek in Cross Keys by way of present-day Ashford Dunwoody Road. The 15th and 17th Army Corps. continued along old Shallow Ford Road to Nancy's Creek.

12. The home of Obediah and Salina Copeland, at the present site of Dunwoody Springs Elementary School, was a popular place for travelers to stop for a drink of water from the well. History tells us that Native American people, settlers, and Union and Confederate soldiers drank from the well.
13. Dunwoody has three major historic cemeteries and additional small family cemeteries. Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery is located on Roberts Drive, on the border between Dunwoody and Sandy Springs. New Hope Cemetery on Chamblee Dunwoody Road was originally located next to New Hope Church. Stephen Martin Cemetery located between I-285, Ashford Dunwoody Road and Hammond Drive includes three cairn gravesites.
14. The tree at the center of the diorama depicts the 100-year-old red oak tree that died and had to be cut down at Donaldson-Bannister Farm. Slabs were cut from the tree to be used for this carving. Native birds of Georgia, including the red tail hawk, cardinal, and Georgia state bird brown thrasher can be found in the tree.
15. Dinkey and later, Buck, were the engines of the Roswell Railroad which operated from 1881 until 1921. The railroad went from Chamblee through Dunwoody to the Roswell Depot, which was just south of the Chattahoochee River. Isaac Roberts was the engineer for the entire forty years the railroad was operational.
16. Thompson's Store was in the former Dunwoody Depot building, which was rolled up Chamblee Dunwoody Road on logs to the southwest corner intersection with Mount Vernon Road in the 1920s. The building was used as a post office, store, and gas station, first known as Nash's Store and later Thompson's.
17. There were three railroad section houses located along Chamblee Dunwoody Road, built in the 1880s as housing for railroad workers. In 1994, two were razed. The loss of the section houses inspired members of the Dunwoody Homeowner's Association to start Dunwoody Preservation Trust. The one remaining station house is one of the few reminders of the Roswell Railroad.
18. The first Dunwoody School began in the 1890s and was a one room wooden school. The next school, constructed in the 1920s was a white frame building. A brick building was constructed in the 1930s. The 1920s and 1930s schools included an ell for a bell brought over from Roswell in the late 1800s. The bell is on display in front of the former school site on Chamblee Dunwoody Road.
19. The Cheek-Spruill House was built by Joberry Cheek in 1906 as a one-story home, but the home was later lifted, and a second story built below. Other families who lived in the home were the Church and Spruill families. The home and property are owned and maintained by Dunwoody Preservation Trust.

20. Carey and Florence Warnock Spruill were the last people to live in the Cheek-Spruill House. In the early 1970s, Carey could still be seen plowing his cornfields with the help of his mule Shorty. He would occasionally enter Mount Vernon Road among the cars to turn Shorty around.
21. Joberry Cheek built a cotton gin, flour mill and sawmill on the southeast corner of Mount Vernon Road and Chamblee Dunwoody Road. A deadly boiler explosion occurred at the mill in 1920, killing three men and injuring one other.
22. The historic chimney that is now part of Starbuck's on Ashford Dunwoody Road was once part of a Spruill tenant farmhouse. After the house burned, the chimney stood for many years visible from I-285. It was moved and preserved by Hines Development and later became part of a Starbucks location.
23. The home at Donaldson-Bannister Farm, a City of Dunwoody Park, was built in 1870 by William J. Donaldson. The barn and other outbuildings that stand today were built by Lois Pattillo Bannister in the 1930s. The land was previously owned by Jesse Adams, father of Donaldson's wife, Millie Adams Donaldson. Dunwoody Preservation Trust and the city of Dunwoody work together to manage and maintain the farm.
24. As development in Dunwoody took off in the 1960s one of the home styles often built was the "five, four, and a door." The name references the five windows across the top floor of the two-story home, four windows across the bottom and one door.
25. In 1998, a deadly tornado crossed Dunwoody leaving a path of destruction and killing one member of the community. 3,000 homes were damaged, 700 were destroyed. The roof of the Donaldson-Bannister House, then owned by David and Linda Chesnut, was damaged by a large oak that fell on the home.
26. Perimeter Mall, built in 1971, was constructed on land owned by Carey Spruill. When the mall opened on August 11 of that year, Rich's and J. C. Penney were the anchor stores.
27. State Farm Headquarters Dunwoody is located on 17 acres along Hammond Drive and on both sides of Perimeter Center Parkway.
28. Concourse office park includes two buildings often referred to as the "king and queen building," due to their distinctive roof architecture. The complex is located at Peachtree Dunwoody Road and Hammond Drive in the city of Sandy Springs.
29. In 2008, the citizens of Dunwoody voted "yes" to become a city. Almost 82% of Dunwoody citizens voted in favor of becoming a city in hopes of having more input and control over their community.

Dunwoody non-profit community organizations

- A. The Dunwoody Homeowner's Association has sought to protect property owners of Dunwoody since 1970, by organizing citizens with a united voice. The Dunwoody Homeowners Association plans the following community events: Fourth of July Parade, Dunwoody Farmer's Market, Food Truck Thursdays, and Light Up Dunwoody.

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- B. The Stage Door Theatre began as the Dunwoody Stage Door Players in 1973 when a group of community leaders, including the Dunwoody Woman's Club, wanted to create a theatre. The first performance space was in a local bank, followed by DeKalb Community College, Brook Run, and the Dunwoody Methodist and Dunwoody Baptist churches. When Dunwoody Elementary School closed in 1984, the theatre found its permanent home.
- C. The Dunwoody Garden Club was first organized in 1967 as the Four Seasons Garden Club. In 1968, the name changed to Dunwoody Garden Club, and they joined the DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs. Their many projects include landscaping at Dunwoody High School, Dunwoody Nature Center, and the median on Ashford Dunwoody Road
- D. The Spruill Center for the Arts first met in the Dunwoody Methodist Chapel in 1975, moving to the Dunwoody Nature Center in 1978. Since 1989, they have offered visual arts programs for children and adults at the former Dunwoody School on Chamblee Dunwoody Road. They also provide platforms for artists to share their talents.
- E. Founded in 1971, the Dunwoody Fine Art Association is the oldest artists organization in Dunwoody. Their purpose is to encourage community interest in fine art, while advancing the development of its members
- F. The Chattahoochee Handweavers Guild began in 1958 and made the North DeKalb Cultural Center their home in 1989. The group offers textile-related classes, programs, exhibits, and workshops to the community. The organization is dedicated to fostering and supporting weaving and other fiber related arts.
- G. Since 1971, the Dunwoody Woman's Club has had an active role in the community. They were influential in the development and success of the Dunwoody Nature Center, Dunwoody Library, Spruill Center for the Arts, and Stage Door Theatre. They have held their annual home tour since 1973, sharing the funds raised to make a better Dunwoody.
- H. Spalding Garden Club, which began in 1975, is committed to adding beautification, preservation, and education to benefit and enhance the community. They have sponsored many projects through the years. Current projects include the Butterfly Garden at Dunwoody Club Drive and Jett Ferry Road, a Xeriscape Garden at the Dunwoody Post Office, the Junior Garden Program at Mary Hall Freedom Village, the native garden at Dunwoody Nature Center and assistance for Big Trees Forest Preserve.
- I. The Dunwoody Nature Center began as Dunwoody Park in 1974. The mill stone and chimney are remnants of a home and mill that were once along Wildcat Creek. The mission of Dunwoody Nature Center is to inspire the love of nature by conserving the park and providing educational programs for children and adults.

- J. The Marcus Jewish Community Center provides programs and services to the community, including preschool, sports and fitness, camps, and cultural events. Originally founded in 1910 as the Jewish Educational Alliance, Zaban Park opened in 1961 in Dunwoody. Zaban Park later became the main campus and was renamed Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta.
- K. Dunwoody Senior baseball has been a tradition of the community since 1975, first on land adjacent to the Dunwoody Nature Center on Chamblee Dunwoody Road and later North Peachtree Road next to Peachtree Middle School. The organization provides a place for middle school and high school aged youth to play baseball.
- L. Dunwoody Preservation Trust began in 1994 when two historic Railroad Section Houses were demolished. DPT saved the Check-Spruill House from demolition in 1998 and rehabilitated the Donaldson-Bannister Farm along with the city. DPT is dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of Dunwoody through educational programs, publications, collections, and research. DPT's primary fundraiser is the annual Lemonade Days Festival.

