

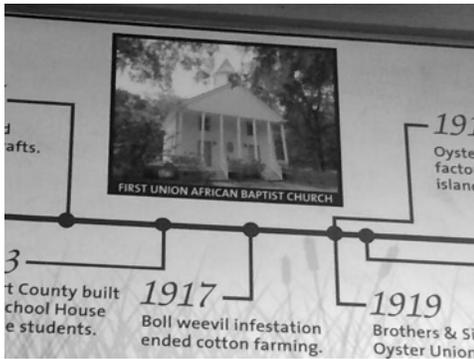


2014 Annual Newsletter

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Timeline Addition in Museum

A Daufuskie Island Timeline now graces the full length of a Billie Burn Museum wall. Created in memory of life member and former Foundation Treasurer, Betsy Slay, the timeline conveys the history of the island from 7,000 B.C. to the incorporation of the Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation in 2001. The display of a timeline in the Museum had been on the Foundation's wish list and generous donations in memory of our beloved Betsy and donations from the Haig Point Art Show allowed the creation of this important addition to the Museum.



A small portion of the new timeline on the museum wall

We are delighted to report that we continue to welcome a great number of guests to the Museum Complex. This year our wonderful volunteers welcomed guests from 44 different states and 3 foreign countries.

Children's Exhibit

A wonderful and educational experience for children at the Janie Hamilton School included exposure to the Gullah culture with a model bateau, as well as cast and crab nets. The hands on discovery of Daufuskie's land and history included an interactive 'seaside mystery box' filled with beach and sea life wonders, a scavenger hunt created by the children at the Daufuskie Island Elementary School, and a knot tying display and learning center. A fun and unique encounter for youth to become acquainted with our island and its history filled the museum.



Touch table for the children's exhibit

Museum Retail

The museum retail area is the perfect place to find an array of wonderful gift items! Our shop offers a variety of Lowcountry products including: books by local authors, cookbooks, artist prints, puzzles, cd's, notecards, puppets, children's books and Spartina items. You will find items that are certain to please any age. Make sure to stop by and check out our newest offerings which include Dawfoskee Island Map Reproductions, Daufuskie Peach Soaps, DIHF Canvas Totes, Ecco-Coasters and Sea Glass Necklaces. They are all a must see!



Stewardship Award

The Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation was awarded the "South Carolina Historic Preservation 2014 Stewardship Award" for 'preserving historic sites, records, and oral histories of Daufuskie Island'. This prestigious award was conferred by the Governor's Office, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, and the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation. Presentation of the award was made by Governor Haley to DIHF Executive Director, Nancy Ludtke, at the South Carolina State Capitol Building on June 11, with proud members of the DIHF board in attendance.



Fred Ludtke, Eileen Pojednic, Nancy Ludtke, Governor Nikki Haley, Sara Deitch, Milton Deitch, Leanne Coulter

Tabby Ruins Sleep-In

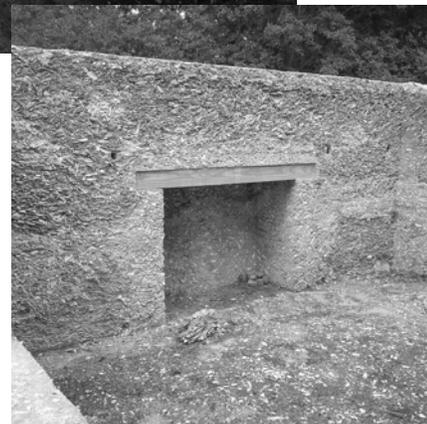


Last winter the Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation collaborated with Haig Point on the Tabby Ruins Restoration Project. In celebration of this project, Joe McGill (left), founder of the Slave Dwelling Project was invited to visit the weekend of June 6-7. DIHF members enjoyed dinner and a presentation by

McGill on Friday evening. His subsequent sleep-in at the Haig Point tabby slave quarter ruins that night was a huge success. Island resident, Yvonne Wilson, descendent of Haig Point slaves, along with three of her grandchildren and island residents Leanne Coulter and Janet Adams, spent the night in the tabby ruins along with McGill. The Slave Dwelling Project's mission is to identify and preserve extant slave dwellings, and, through education and collaboration to organize resources to save these important structures and the era they represent.



Before and after restoration of fireplace in one of the tabby houses at Haig Point



*Front row: Yvonne Wilson and 3 grandchildren,
Back row: Leanne Coulter, Janet Adams, Prinny Anderson*

Rebecca Starr Visit

Rebecca Starr was welcomed to Daufuskie in May of 2014 and all island residents were invited to Marshside Mama's to hear her story. In 1981, the South Carolina Coastal Council hired Rebecca to research and record Daufuskie's history for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. She came to the island and met Billie Burn. They became lifelong friends and Rebecca helped Billie with the research for her book, An Island Named Daufuskie.

Realizing how much she had enjoyed her work on the National Register nomination, Rebecca decided to return to school for a Masters in History at the University of South Carolina. Her Master's thesis entitled "A Place Called Daufuskie: Island Bridge to Georgia 1520-1830" addressed Daufuskie's role in the Revolutionary War. A copy of this paper is located in the DIHF Archive collection. Rebecca went on to Oxford University in England for her doctorate and spent her career teaching Early American History at the University of Gloucestershire.

Rebecca enjoyed her return to Daufuskie. Seeing Emily and Lancy Burn and meeting the relatives of people she had known when she first visited the island brought back many happy memories. We thank her for her time and efforts recording Daufuskie's history.

Haig Point History Celebration

Our collaboration continued on Haig Point History Day, Saturday, June 7th following the Tabby Ruin sleep-in. 200 visitors came by Haig Point ferry for a self-guided walking tour of the Haig Point tabby ruins, The Haig Point lighthouse, the old Haig Point Cemetery and the Strachan Mansion. The HP staff, DIHF volunteers and fabulous weather made for a most successful event.



Oral History

Work continues on acquiring, digitizing and editing oral histories of Daufuskie relevance. Oral histories of island residents paint a word picture of past life on the island. Other oral histories inform about the interaction of non-residents with the island. Oral histories “tell the story” and are an invaluable resource for researchers and a treasure for those tracking family history. In 2014 two oral histories were recorded and twenty-two tapes, some more than thirty years old, were transferred to digital format. Plans for 2015 include continuing to pursue candidates for oral histories. In addition, the current collection will be edited, integrated into the archives database and made ready for public usage. At that time you will be informed as to where and how the collection may be accessed.

Member Day Adventures in 2014

We had two great off island trips in 2014. In the spring we offered a Hilton Head Gullah bus tour and we were all fascinated by the areas of Hilton Head that are off the usual path as well as getting to visit the Mitchellville site. This tour was followed by a delicious lunch at Red Stripes Restaurant in Bluffton, Caribbean cuisine with a Daufuskie flair. In the fall, we were treated to a wonderful tour of the historic Heyward House Historic Center, home of the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, and a walking tour of Bluffton’s very lovely and historical downtown. That tour was followed by lunch at The Cottage. These tours proved successful and you will find information about our 2015 tours elsewhere in this newsletter. We hope you join us for these informative and fun days!

Relationship with Palmetto Trust continues to grow . . .

Working through their Endangered Places Program, the Palmetto Trust For Historic Preservation completed the restoration of the Frances Jones home (now available for rent) and began the restoration of the Hinson White home. The preservation of our historical structures has long been a priority with DIHF and through working with the Palmetto Trust our efforts are multiplied.

In November, Mike Bedenbaugh, Executive Director of the Palmetto Trust, reached out to the Foundation for help in bringing forty participants in the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference in Savannah to Daufuskie. Both Jo Hill and Nancy Ludtke spoke to the group. Over twenty DIHF volunteers hosted small groups of participants and gave them their insights into island history and culture, as well as providing ground transportation. Feedback received from our guests showed meeting and talking with our volunteers was a terrific experience. Great exposure for Daufuskie Island and the Foundation’s work!

Smithsonian National Museum Of African American History And Culture

The Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation has become a Charter Member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C. DIHF Executive Director, Nancy Ludtke, was honored to visit with Doctor Lonnie Bunch, the Executive Director of the NMAAHC, on his recent visit to Hilton Head. The Museum is currently under construction and is located on the Mall near the Washington Monument. If you are visiting Washington D.C., there are currently tours available of the Museum as it develops. The opening is scheduled in the spring of 2016. You can view information about this Museum at Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture on Facebook.

Rob Kennedy Trail

This project continues to be incredibly successful. In the year 2014, we distributed over 6,000 trail guides. The Foundation has just been notified that we have received an Accommodations Board Tax Grant in the amount of \$3,000 to defray expenses of printing the brochure. DIHF continues to apply for grants such as these to help with the expenses of our Mission.



Visitors at the Mary Dunn cemetery during the tour

Census Information

In 2014 we announced a project to collect census information for Daufuskie Island so that it would be available on the island for those wanting to research their ancestors as well as doing other census related research. We have acquired a CD with all the census information for Beaufort County from 1790-1850 and paper copies of the census information from 1860-1930 (except the 1890 census which was destroyed by fire in Washington). The variety of information provided by each census is very interesting – for example the 1920 census provides the following information: names of family members, relationship to head of household, sex, race, age, marital status, citizenship, education, homeowner or renter, occupation, place of birth, mother tongue, parents' place of birth and parents' mother tongue. We believe that this information will be some of the most researched information held in our Archives collection. Thank you to our members whose contributions made this possible.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Billie Burn Museum and Janie Hamilton School/Gullah Learning Center are the buildings located in our Museum Complex. With the support of dedicated volunteers we are currently open for visitors Tuesday through Saturday from 12:30 pm till 3:30 pm and by appointment. Our members' continued support assists in paying for the maintenance and operation of the Museum Complex, as well as the Little White Schoolhouse and Oyster Union Society Hall. Thank You, Volunteers!

Volunteers open the museum, greet visitors, and share information and stories about the island and the Historical Foundation. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Nancy Ludtke at (843) 384-6363.

DIHF Archive

An archive is a place where public records or historical documents are preserved. The Daufuskie Island Historical Foundation Archive was founded in 2010 after Lancy Burn donated over 35 boxes containing research materials for Billie Burn's book, An Island Named Daufuskie. Billie was a prodigious letter writer in those days before computers and she requested information from places near and far. Much of what we have is duplicated in other libraries but some of the most interesting papers are personal letters and pictures from people who grew up on Daufuskie. From an unknown source: "One time I met her in the road and she had the ends of these leaves sticking out all around the hat she had on her head and some sticking up around her neck from the neck of her dress. Said she was sweating away the fever." Apparently islanders would treat fevers with sassafras leaves.

We have many reports and surveys done on Daufuskie and newspaper articles dating back to the 60's. We would be happy to do research for you or an appointment can be made to meet at the Little White Schoolhouse where the Archive is housed. Contact Toni Ferguson at toniferg@hargray.com.

A LOOK AT 2015

Tabby Ruins Sleep-In & Haig Point History Walking Tour - part II

Joe McGill is scheduled to return the weekend of September 25-26, 2015 for History Day Celebration 2015, an event that will include a tabby ruins sleep-in on Friday night. A sleep-in at the newly restored Frances Jones House will occur on Saturday night in collaboration with Mike Bedenbaugh of The Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation and The Daufuskie Endangered Places. An expanded historic tour is planned for Saturday for visitors that will include additional historic sites throughout the Island. Please watch for more information as the event gets closer.

Member Tours for 2015

DIHF has planned two off-island trips for 2015. In the spring (date yet to be determined) we will travel to Parris Island for a visit to the Parris Island Museum allowing us to explore the legacy of the US Marine Corp and the exciting history of the Port Royal region. While there we will also have an opportunity to visit the Charlesfort-Santa Elena archeological site which is the site of two settlements dating to the time of European colonization. Charlesfort was founded by the French in 1562 and Santa Elena was founded by the Spanish in 1566. Both settlements predate the English settlement of Jamestown.

In the fall (date yet to be determined), we will head to the Charleston area to visit two different plantation homes, Drayton Hall and Middleton Place. Drayton Hall, built in 1738, is the oldest preserved plantation home in America that is open to the public and is our nation's earliest example of Palladian architecture. Set on a vast acreage on the Ashley River, Drayton Hall's authentic preservation makes it a place where time seems to have stood still. After we complete our tour at Drayton Hall, we will travel down the road to Middleton Place where we will have lunch and explore this plantation. Middleton Place is both a National Historic Landmark and home to America's oldest landscaped gardens. During our visit, we will tour the Home Museum, which was built in 1755 and was the home of four generations of the Middleton family. Flanked by 65 acres of exquisite gardens, the home has been restored to its former grandeur. The plantation's rejuvenated stable yards with working artisans bring back the era of the former rice plantation. We will also see Eliza's House which was once occupied by former Middleton slaves. It will certainly prove to be a full but fun and informative day!

The Midwife's Carriage

The restoration of Sarah Grant's carriage has been designated as our major project for 2015. The carriage is presently on display next to the Billie Burn Museum but clearly needs attention. Billie Burn donated the carriage to the Museum in 2002 in its current condition. Mrs. Grant bought the one-seated buggy from the Jim Goodwin family in 1932 when they were living in Oakley Hall at Bloody Point. The Goodwins had arrived on Daufuskie in 1925, probably bringing the carriage with them.

Mrs. Grant would hitch her horse, Tillman, (named for the South Carolina governor) to the carriage, grab her black bag filled with a scale, soap, thread, scissors, gauze - whatever she needed - and drive to the expectant mother. Sarah Grant delivered her first baby in 1932 and the last in 1969; she delivered over 130 babies in 37 years.

Sarah Grant served the island in other capacities as well. She worked as an oyster shucker and was a member of the Oyster Union Society. She worked the polling station from 1960-1962 and served as the PTA president during the 1960's.

Joseph Grant, Sarah's husband, was an undertaker on the island. When he died in 1962, she took over for him which prompted one islander to remark, "Granny (Sarah) bring 'em 'n she take 'em away." Clearly, she was a great asset to the island!

The refurbished midwife's carriage will need a new structure to house it. The proposed initial design is for an open-sided pole barn on a concrete slab. It will have a pitched metal roof to match that of the Billie Burn Museum.



Display of midwife supplies in the museum



The entire project comprising the restoration of the carriage and the construction of the building is budgeted at slightly under \$19,000. This is an exciting project and we are delighted to announce that we have received a \$5,000 challenge grant from Terry and Frank Foster to start our fund raising campaign. They believe this is a most worthwhile project, and we hope many of you will as well. Please consider helping us meet this challenge! We believe that the very special story of Sarah Grant's life along with the ability to display and protect her restored carriage will speak to our visitors for years to come.

Annual Meeting and Dinner — SAVE THE DATE!!!

The Annual Dinner Meeting of the Foundation will be held on Tuesday evening, March 10, 2015 at 5:00 pm at the Haig Point Clubhouse. Our featured speaker for this event will be acclaimed historian, Richard Porcher, author of The Story of Sea Island Cotton. Mr. Porcher, a field botanist and ecologist, documented the cotton crop of the Sea Islands from the viewpoint of its growers, incorporating discussions of plant genetics, agricultural practices, processing and marketing. Mr. Porcher will focus his presentation to the Foundation on the cotton industry on Daufuskie Island.