



Reflections

Volume XI, No. 2

April 2013

PAINE COLLEGE: EDUCATING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS SINCE 1882

*Jeanne Cyriaque, African American Programs Coordinator
Historic Preservation Division*

Paine College is a private, liberal arts college located southwest of the central business district on Fifteenth Street in Augusta, Georgia. The college was founded in 1882 through a biracial partnership, as the institution emerged from the leadership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South (MEC-S) and the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (CME). Today, these churches are known as the United Methodist Church and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, respectively, but these nineteenth century founders were visionaries in creating an institution that would meet both the spiritual and educational needs of students not long removed from slavery.

Bishop Lucius Holsey of the CME Church conceived the idea for the college in 1869. He pitched his idea to leaders of the MEC-S, noting the need for preachers and teachers in the African American communities that were emerging in the South. The leaders agreed, and the initial Board of Trustees consisted of six members, with three each from the white and black churches. When they met in November 1882, they named the school Paine Institute in honor of Bishop Robert Paine of MEC-S. Bishop Paine was instrumental in establishing the CME Church. Within a month they selected Dr. Morgan Callaway as the first

president of Paine Institute. They also expanded the board to include 19 members so they could recruit outside of Georgia to raise additional funds for the college. Subsequently, Bishop Holsey expanded his fundraising throughout the southeast, collecting small amounts to support the school. Paine's first significant gift was from Reverend Atticus Haygood of the MEC-S. Haygood donated \$2,000 to support President Callaway during his first year.



Bishop Lucius Holsey



The Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel is one of Paine College's iconic buildings on the west campus. The chapel was designed by Kuhlke and Wade architects of Augusta.

Photo by Charlie Miller

Paine Institute was incorporated in 1883, and the trustees elected Dr. George Williams Walker as its first teacher. He would become the second president of the institution, a post he held until his death in 1910. Paine Institute held its first classes in 1884 in rented space on Broad Street in downtown Augusta, and moved to its present site on Fifteenth Street in 1886. Paine Institute received a generous \$25,000 donation in 1888 from Reverend Moses U. Payne

continued on page 2

PAINE COLLEGE: EDUCATING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS SINCE 1882

Jeanne Cyriaque, continued from page 1



The Class of 1901

Source: www.paine.edu

of MEC-S. John Wesley Gilbert, Paine's first student and graduate, became the first African American faculty member that same year. At first Paine Institute started with a high school department that was active until 1945. By 1903, sufficient college-level classes justified its name change to Paine College.

The initial land for the campus totaled a 9.9 acre tract, although the campus now occupies 37 acres. Some of Paine College's first buildings were an 1850 Gothic Revival house that was renamed Holsley Hall, the 1899 Haygood Hall that was the college's first academic and administration

building, and the 1899 President's House. Haygood Hall was lost due to a fire in 1968, and the other buildings have not survived.

The oldest building on the campus today is Epworth Hall. It is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style brick dormitory. Epworth Hall was designed by Tisdale, Stone and Pinson of Nashville, Tennessee. The dormitory faces the north-south quadrangle on the campus. Funding for the building was provided by the Epworth League of MEC-S, at a total cost of \$55,000 in 1925. Defining features of the dormitory are six-over-six sash windows.



Epworth Hall, built in 1925, is the oldest extant building on the Paine College campus. Photo by Charlie Miller

In 1926, Mary Helm Hall, the home economics building was constructed. Tisdale, Stone and Pinson also designed this Colonial Revival-style building that looks south onto the quadrangle. It is a two-story, brick building with a basement. The Women's Domestic Missionary Council of MEC-S funded the building's construction.



*Participants from a **This Place Matters** conference visited Paine College and Mary Helm Hall on a community tour in 2011. Each year Historic Augusta and the Lucy Craft Laney Museum sponsors the conference to raise awareness of Augusta's African American cultural resources.*

The Warren A. Candler Memorial Library, designed by William N. Parsons, an architect of Augusta, was Paine College's first freestanding library. Prior to its construction, the library was located in Haygood Hall. Completed in 1947, striking features of the Classical Revival-style building include Ionic columns on the second floor atop the first floor entrance arcade. Building materials consist of stucco on the main floor and Flemish-bond brick on the second floor. The library was located on the second floor while administrative offices were located on the first floor. The building is named in honor of one of Paine's co-founders, Bishop Warren A. Candler of MEC-S. The building was used as a library until Collins-Calloway Library was constructed in 1991. The Candler building is used today for administrative offices and special events.



The Warren A. Candler Memorial Library was completed in 1947. The building was repurposed for use as administrative offices and special events in 1991. Photo by Charlie Miller

The Augusta architectural firm of Kuhlke and Wade designed the 1956 Walker Science Hall. This building is used for classrooms and office space. It has elements of the Colonial Revival-style. The United Negro College Fund provided \$300,000 towards

its construction. The building is named in honor of George Williams Walker, a founder and president of Paine College from 1884-1911.



*The Walker Science Hall was constructed in 1956 through the Capital Funds Program of the United Negro College Fund.
Photo by Charlie Miller*

Kuhlke and Wade also designed dormitories for Paine College. In 1962, they constructed Gray and Belle Bennett Hall(s) that are two-story brick buildings located adjacent to Epworth Hall. The Division of National Ministries MEC-S was a major contributor for both dormitories and the Georgia Railroad Bank financed loans for the buildings.



*Many of the buildings on the Paine College campus were designed by the Augusta firm of Kuhlke and Wade. Graham Hall is an International Style dormitory with a flat roof and steel-framed glass window panels.
Photo by Charlie Miller*

Hollis Hall, a dormitory, was built in 1967. The dormitory was designed by V.M. Piland of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Another 1967 dormitory is Ervin Hall. C.I.T. Corporation designed and built the dormitory with a flat roof and entrances at each end of the building. Wheeler C. Ervin was the business manager for Paine College. He also served on the Richmond County Board of Education from 1953-1956.

By 1967, the west campus became home to the Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel and Music Building. Kuhlke, Wade and Gauger designed this iconic building on Druid Park Avenue. The brick chapel is a Colonial Revival-style building. The central tower supports a tall steeple. The chapel is named in honor of Dr. John Wesley Gilbert and Bishop Walter Russell Lambuth. Gilbert was

Paine's first African American faculty member who graduated in 1886 while Lambuth was a physician and trustee of the college.

The International Style Peters Campus Center was built in 1969. Tinted windows and a flat roof are defining elements of the design by Edmund Kuhlke. A separate block with exterior walls of glass houses the cafeteria. The campus center is named for Edmund Peters, Paine College President from 1929-1956 and his wife, Ethel, who was the college physician.



*The Peters Campus Center was constructed in 1969. It is an International Style building designed by Edmund Kuhlke with large expanses of tinted glass.
Photo by Charlie Miller*

Dr. Lucius Holsey Pitts became the first African American president of Paine College in 1971. When he died in 1974 he was buried on campus next to Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel. Dr. Julius S. Scott continued Pitts' vision of rebuilding Haygood Hall, which was completed in 1978. During Scott's second term, the Collins-Calloway Library was constructed. Dr. Shirley A.R. Lewis was Paine's first female president. Dr. Lewis served from 1994-2007. Dr. George C. Bradley succeeded her in January 2008, and is Paine College's current president. Dr. Bradley is implementing a new campus master plan.



Dr. George C. Bradley

Paine College Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 26, 2012. The period of significance dates from 1919 when Lion Field was established as an athletic field, to 1971, when Graham Hall was completed. Graham Hall is an International Style brick dormitory with steel-framed, glass window panels. It was designed by Kuhlke, Wade, Gauger and Slaton of Augusta on an L-shaped plan with a connecting one-story entrance and lobby area.

The contributing buildings in the historic district were built from 1925-1971. These buildings represent the campus landscape and transition from classical design to modernism. Three campus buildings were completed after 1971 and are considered noncontributing because of their age. These include the 1977 Haygood-Holsey Hall, the 1987 Berry-Gomillion Hall, and the 2002 Campus Security Building.

AMY LOTSON ROBERTS RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD

*Jeanne Cyriaque, African American Programs Coordinator
Historic Preservation Division*

It is no surprise that Amy Lotson Roberts is a 2012 recipient of the Governor's Awards in the Arts & Humanities. She joined nine other individuals and two organizations that were nominated by their communities to receive the prestigious award at the state capitol last fall, with Governor Nathan Deal and First Lady Sandra Deal presiding. The Georgia Humanities Council, the Georgia Council for the Arts and the Georgia Department of Economic Development were partners in honoring these individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to Georgia's civic and cultural heritage through service to the humanities or excellence in the arts. Each 2012 Governor's Award was hand crafted by Atlanta artist Matt Moulthrop. He created a signature piece for each recipient crafted in wood, a skill he has mastered as a third generation wood turner.



Governor Nathan Deal congratulates Amy Lotson Roberts at the awards ceremony in the State Capitol rotunda.

Amy Lotson Roberts is a native of St. Simons Island. She is the executive director of the St. Simons African American Heritage Coalition. Every year, she and members of the coalition celebrate the island's cultural and musical heritage by hosting the Georgia Sea Island Festival. Amy is also engaged in other activities to



The Harrington Graded School is one of Amy Lotson Robert's humanities initiatives. She and the Friends of the Harrington School are raising funds for its preservation as a community center. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

showcase the island's Gullah Geechee heritage by conducting tours of St. Simons cultural resources associated with African American heritage and culture. She is a champion and leader in efforts to save the Harrington Graded School, the island's historic schoolhouse built for African Americans during segregation.

Amy Lotson Roberts is one of the island alumni who attended the Harrington Graded School. For years it was the only African American school on St. Simons Island, as many students who lived in Jewtown, South End and the Harrington communities went to school there from 1925 when the schoolhouse was constructed until 1954-55 when integration came. In the 1970s the schoolhouse began to deteriorate just as the island demographics began changing from 75% African American to 10% today.

Amy and other residents founded the St. Simons African American Heritage Coalition to preserve the heritage and culture of the island. Isadora Hunter donated her portion of the land where the school is located to the St. Simons Land Trust in 2004. More recently, in 2011 the Land Trust and Glynn County provided a 99-year lease to the coalition to preserve the building. Faced with possible demolition, the school was listed in the Georgia Trust *Places in Peril*, and this garnered additional support for the structure, and led to the formation of *Friends of the Harrington School*, the nonprofit who is leading its preservation.



Amy Roberts (center) and Patty Carter Deveau (left standing), president of Friends of the Harrington School, celebrate the new roof with supporters of the schoolhouse at the January 2013 annual meeting. Photo by Danielle Ross

When she is not busy with fundraising for the Harrington School, Amy Lotson Roberts conducts guided tours of African American historic sites on the island, including the tabby cabins from Hamilton Plantation, sacred places, and community landmarks like the schoolhouse. She and members of the coalition are planning the annual Georgia Sea Island Festival at Gascoigne Park-Epworth on June 1 and 2, 2013. For more information, visit their website, www.ssiheritagecoalition.org or call the festival committee at 912.634.0330.

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON DEDICATES BLACK PATRIOTS MONUMENT

Jeanne Cyriaque, African American Programs Coordinator
Historic Preservation Division

On August 11, 2012 the City of Washington dedicated a monument on the town square to the black patriots who fought in the Revolutionary War. Washington has long recognized the importance of their town in the Revolutionary War. Founded in 1780, Washington is believed to be one of the first towns in the United States to be named in honor of George Washington.



Mayor Ames Barnett, former Mayor Willie E. Burns and the City Council of Washington unveil the Black Patriots Monument on the town square.

Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

During the American Revolution, the Battle of Kettle Creek took place just outside of Washington in Wilkes County on February 14, 1779. Colonel John Boyd led a force of 600 British Loyalists or Tories to a camp around Kettle Creek. Simultaneously, 340 South Carolinian and Georgia militiamen, led by Colonel Andrew Pickens of South Carolina, Colonel John Dooly and Lieutenant Colonel Elijah Clarke of Georgia, intercepted their troops. Colonel Boyd was killed in the skirmish, and the Loyalists were driven across the creek. The Battle of Kettle Creek was a victory for the rebel patriots, who demonstrated that support for the British cause in the Georgia backcountry was not as strong as believed, as Wilkes County remained under control of the Continental Army.

One ploy that the Loyalists used was to offer freedom to enslaved men in exchange for their military service. Most of the 5,000-8,000 African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War were from the north because of southern opposition to arming enslaved men. Austin Dabney of Wilkes County was an exception to this rule. Dabney lived from ca. 1765-1830. He was born in North Carolina and moved with his master, Richard Aycock, to Wilkes County in the late 1770s. When Aycock was conscripted for the Georgia militia, Dabney went in his place because Aycock alleged that he was a free man. Dabney fought with Elijah Clarke's troops in the Battle of Kettle Creek. During the battle, a rifle ball struck Dabney in his thigh, severely wounding and crippling him. Giles Harris, a white soldier, saved Dabney's life and took him home. Dabney remembered this act of kindness and worked for the Harris family the rest of his life.

In 1786, Austin Dabney was awarded 500 acres of land by the Georgia legislature for his military service during the American Revolution, as well as his emancipation from Richard Aycock. Dabney continued to work for the Harris family, and financially assisted his son, William through his studies at Franklin College (later the University of Georgia).

During the land lotteries in the 1800s, Dabney was denied land due to his race, but Harris and fellow attorney Stephen Upson sponsored a resolution to provide him with land. In 1821, Dabney received 112 acres in Walton County. He also received \$60 annually for his invalid pension and an increase in 1816 to \$96 for the wound he endured at Kettle Creek.

Austin Dabney continued his relationship with the Harris family, and followed them to Walton and Pike Counties. In 1835, William Harris named his son Austin Dabney Harris. Austin Dabney left his fortune upon his death in 1830 to the Harris family, and is buried at the family plot in Zebulon, Pike County. In 2010 the Sons of the American Revolution held a patriot grave marking ceremony at Austin Dabney's burial site with the Harris family descendants.

The Washington Black Patriots monument was erected to recognize Austin Dabney and other black patriots who fought during the American Revolution. The three-piece granite and bronze monument was designed by sculptor Kinzey Branham, a UGA instructor. He found an image of James Armistead Lafayette to use as inspiration for the bust. Armistead, like Dabney, was an American Revolution hero who served as a "double agent" while serving under General Marquis de Lafayette. His intelligence reports were instrumental in defeating the British during the Battle of Yorktown. ■



Flags and the SAR symbol were placed at the grave of Austin Dabney in Pike County. Source: www.sar.org



Sculptor Kinzey Branham was inspired by portraits of James Armistead Lafayette and used those images to create the bronze bust that is the centerpiece of the Black Patriots Monument. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

VIENNA HIGH AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

*Danielle Ross, African American Programs Assistant
Historic Preservation Division*

Georgia Equalization schools were a result of a program implemented by Governor Herman Talmadge. The *Minimum Foundation Program for Education* allowed for the construction of modern schools for African-American communities across the state. By 1955, Georgia spent approximately \$275 million dollars on public schools. By 1962, the state built 700 schools for whites and 500 schools for blacks.



Vienna High and Industrial School was one of 500 African American schools in Georgia that were constructed as a response to Brown vs. Board. It served as Dooly County's African American high school until integration.

Photo by James R. Lockhart

In the 1958 Department of Education *Annual Report of Georgia Schools*, the status of facility improvements and program evaluations for African-American schools were discussed as being substantially improved. "During 1957-58, the Division of Negro Education stepped-up its emphasis on the accreditation of Negro schools to make available to Negro children and youth good education." The improvements ranged from schools being staffed with trained black teachers who taught an improved academic curriculum to better classrooms, libraries, and science labs. In addition to its improved facilities, the school's students put on various programs such as plays and pageants. The program enacted by the governor replaced over 3,000 small, poorly built black schools with the modern, international schools that we see remnants of today. Vienna High and Industrial School served as the equalization high school for Dooly County and was completed in 1959.

Vienna High and Industrial School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 19, 2012. The school is located between the Southern Railway line and Georgia Route 27 on the east side of Vienna, the Dooly County seat. Dooly County, founded in 1821, is one of the oldest counties in Georgia. Dooly County was created through the Georgia Land Lottery Act. Vienna High and Industrial is located adjacent to the community's Rosenwald School that was also named the Vienna High and Industrial School. The previous Rosenwald School was a single story, six-teacher, brick County Training School. Two classroom



Larger classrooms in the Vienna High and Industrial School had windows surrounded by an open courtyard.

Photo by Charlie Miller

buildings were added later. The Vienna County Training School served pre-kindergarten students once the county was integrated, and was continuously used as a school until 2004. Today, the old County Training School houses the Dooly County Family Connections program and community meetings. The Rosenwald School complex was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 7, 2010.



The 1926 Rosenwald School lies adjacent to the 1959 equalization school complex. This building is adaptively used today as a community center.

Photo by James R. Lockhart

Vienna's International Style school was designed by the Atlanta architectural firm of Stevens and Wilkinson. Stevens and Wilkinson designed over 150 equalization schools across the state of Georgia. The architecture firm was established in 1919 originally under the name Burge and Stevens until in 1947, Wilkinson was made partner. He formed the firm known today as Stevens and Wilkinson. Stevens and Wilkinson became known as one of the major leaders in the City of Atlanta for modern architecture. Their architecture was based on the functionalism and economy of design elements. Stevens and Wilkinson designed a number of buildings in

the Atlanta area that served as schools, department stores, hospitals, and corporate offices. Some of their most recognized projects include the Callaway Apartments on Georgia Institute of Technology's campus and the E. Rivers Elementary School, both in Atlanta.



Curtain windows designed by Stevens and Wilkinson are design elements that face an open courtyard at the East View Center in Americus. The building houses the Sumter County Crossroads Program and Head Start today. Photo by Jeanne Cyriaque

The International Style that Stevens and Wilkinson used for the Vienna High and Industrial School is a style of architecture that is rarely found in Georgia. The style was brought from Europe to the United States in the 1930s as a result of European architects wanting to break from historical precedent. International Style architecture consists of geometric shapes that reflect the structural



Stevens and Wilkinson also designed curtain windows in this interior hallway in the Vienna High and Industrial School. Photo by Charlie Miller

skeleton of the building. The roof on an International Style building is always flat, and the windows and doors are flush. In many instances the windows are grouped in bands and wrap around corners as seen on the Vienna school. The shape of most International Style buildings is asymmetrical. Vienna is a 29,000 square foot school and is one of the largest equalization schools in the State of Georgia. The school housed 23 classrooms for the 23 teachers that worked there. Vienna High and Industrial School

offered a mixture of elementary and high school classes; the elementary classes were for first through seventh grade and the remainder of the school served as a high school for grades 8-12.

In many cases during the process of integration, many African American principals and teachers were demoted or lost their jobs to existing administration from the local white schools.



The Vienna High and Industrial School consisted of separate wings for graded classes and an industrial shop. Photo by Charlie Miller

In the case of the Vienna High and Industrial, the principal of the Vienna High and Industrial School remained as the principal of the integrated Vienna High School. The principal, Napoleon Williams, served as a councilman for the City of Vienna and served as the administrator for his family's funeral home. The principal of the local white school partnered with Williams to facilitate an easy transition to integration. Dr. Williams served as a co-author of *Who's Who Among Negro Principals, Jeanes, Curriculum Directors, and State Instructional Consultants in Georgia: 1954-1964*. Williams served as the principal of the new high school for five years after integration. Dooly County recognized Dr. Williams by naming two schools in his honor: Napoleon Williams Elementary School and N. Williams Health and Physical Education Building.



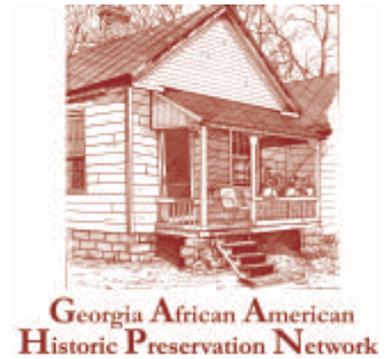
*This photo of Napoleon Williams appeared in *The Kingdom of Dooly*.*

Vienna High and Industrial School has a total of three contributing buildings in the National Register nomination. The three buildings consist of the main school building, industrial shop, and the cafeteria. Presently, a proposal has been made to reuse the school as a community center. The proposed center would serve as a fitness/wellness center, convention, dining and performance venue. The City of Vienna is planning to put a new roof on the building when environmental repairs are completed.

For more information on equalization schools, see the historic context by Steven Moffson, *Equalization Schools in Georgia's African -American Communities, 1951-1970* on the Historic Preservation Division website, historic resources, African American, at www.georgiashpo.org.

ABOUT REFLECTIONS

Since its first issue appeared in December 2000, *Reflections* has documented hundreds of Georgia's African American historic resources. Now all of these articles are available on the Historic Preservation Division website www.georgiashpo.org. Search for links to your topic by categories: cemeteries, churches, districts, farms, lodges, medical, people, places, schools, and theatres. You can now subscribe to *Reflections* from the homepage. *Reflections* is a recipient of a *Leadership in History Award* from the American Association for State and Local History



STEERING COMMITTEE



Isaac Johnson
Chairman

Isaac Johnson, Chair
706/738-1901
Velmon Allen, Vice-Chair
GAAHPN Network
912/261-1898

Lillian Davis
Dr. Gerald C. & Barbara Golden
Terry & Cynthia Hayes
Richard Laub
Kenneth Rollins

STAFF



Jeanne Cyriaque
African American
Programs Coordinator
Reflections Editor
Voice 404/656-4768
Fax 404/657-1368
jeanne.cyriaque@dnr.state.ga.us



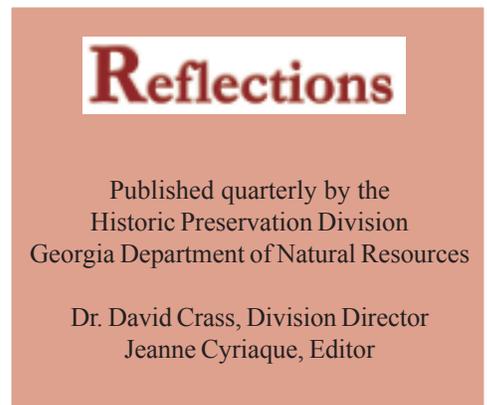
Danielle Ross
African American
Programs Assistant
Voice 404/657-1054
Fax 404/657-1368
danielle.ross@dnr.state.ga.us

ABOUT GAAHPN



The Georgia African American Historic Preservation Network (GAAHPN) was established in January 1989. It is composed of representatives from neighborhood organizations and preservation groups. GAAHPN was formed in response to a growing interest in preserving the cultural and built diversity of Georgia's African American heritage. This interest has translated into a number of efforts which emphasize greater recognition of African American culture and contributions to Georgia's history. The GAAHPN Steering Committee plans and implements ways to develop programs that will foster heritage education, neighborhood revitalization, and support community and economic development.

The Network is an informal group of over 3,000 people who have an interest in preservation. Members are briefed on the status of current and planned projects and are encouraged to offer ideas, comments and suggestions. The meetings provide an opportunity to share and learn from the preservation experience of others and to receive technical information through workshops. Members receive a newsletter, *Reflections*, produced by the Network. Visit the Historic Preservation Division website at www.georgiashpo.org. Preservation information and previous issues of *Reflections* are available online. Membership in the Network is free and open to all.



This publication has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, through the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products or consultants constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or disability in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire more information, write to: Office for Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.