

Sponsored Links

[Check ANYONE in Richardson](#)

Did you know that your record is Public? Search Anyone Instantly!
www.instantcheckmate.com

[360 Savings Account](#)

360 Savings. No fees. No minimums. Nothing standing in your...
www.capitalone360.com

[Buy a link here](#)

Buckhead

Nearby

[Get the daily newsletter](#) [Join](#) [Sign In](#)

- [Home](#)
- [News & Features](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Boards](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Businesses](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Jobs](#)

Adv on Patch

News | [Around Town](#)

Buckhead Heritage Society Dedicated to Protecting Historic Treasures

Recent victories include saving historic cemeteries and preserving real-life stories of early Buckhead through its Oral History Project.

Posted by [Lisa Frank](#), February 21, 2011 at 05:22 PM

6 Comments

[Recommend](#)

[Like](#) 0

[Tweet](#) 0



Have you ever wondered why that historic wooden church on Arden Road is the only building on the street that's not a multimillion dollar home?

In the late 1800s, James H. Smith, a farmer, one of Buckhead's largest landowners and former slave owner, deeded the 2-acre Arden Road site to be used in perpetuity "for a church of colored persons." [New Hope AME Church](#) still holds worship services there, some 135 years after Smith's death.

Popular Stories

- [Dante's Closes Doors after 43 Years: No More Jazz, No More...](#)
- [My Weapon of Choice is My Voice!](#)
- [Metro Atlanta Crime: What About When It's Not National...](#)

Boards [All Boards »](#)

Make an announcement, speak your mind, or sell something

[Post](#)

BBB Tips On Safe Back To School Driving

BBB and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provide the following tips on "shar..."



[Announcements](#) August 01, 2013 at 12:01 PM

[Dottie Callina](#)

Coldwell Banker®
where home begins.
[ColdwellBankerAtlanta.com](#)

Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC

ALLIANCE

Premiere Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Training Academy

1 Week Free With No Commitment
9,000 Square Feet Facility
[Click Here For More info!](#)

4630 N. Shallowford Rd Dunwoody, GA
770.458.9825

Dermatology Associates of Georgia

Dermatology Associates of Georgia
Announces the Opening of their newest office located at

2061 Peachtree Road, Suite 400, Atlanta, GA 30309

Call 404-554-0810 or Click Here for Info!

Stories like these are documented and preserved by the [Buckhead Heritage Society](#), a 400-member nonprofit dedicated to protecting Buckhead's historic sites and stories. Executive Director Erica Danylchak spoke with Patch about priority projects and why historic preservation matters.

One of the organization's signature projects is the three-year restoration of Harmony Grove Cemetery on West Paces Ferry at Chatham roads. Few people realize it's even there. The public is invited on Saturday, March 12, for free tours of the property, with background information on its rich history. The 1 p.m. tour will be led by Buckhead Heritage founder and President Wright Mitchell; the 3 p.m. tour will be led by Danylchak.

Though she regrets never meeting Atlanta's legendary historian and Buckhead resident Franklin Garrett (1906-2000), Danylchak knows his work well. Any research project starts with his massive book "Atlanta and Environs: A Chronicle of its People and Events." Several people have asked her if Garrett, a debonair walking encyclopedia of Atlanta history, full of passion and flair, can ever be replaced. So far, he appears to be irreplaceable. The other bible of Buckhead history is [Susan Kessler Barnard's](#) book "Buckhead: A Place for All Time." Yet beyond those two works, documentation of Buckhead history is relatively limited.

To fill the gaps, Buckhead Heritage launched an oral history project, spearheaded by board member Chad Wright. Ten oral histories have been recorded on video. Excerpts are available on the group's [YouTube channel](#). There's a long list of other elders to interview, with the oldest Buckhead natives taking precedence. Patch readers are welcome to submit suggestions of other good candidates to interview. By speaking with people who actually grew up here, their real-life stories and memories can be captured for future generations, Danylchak said.

After all, Buckhead has changed dramatically in the last 100 years, transforming from a distant place "out in the country," to a sleepy suburban community once the trolley started running from downtown north on Peachtree Street in 1907, to the cosmopolitan urban center it is today.

She smiles at the term "new urbanism," because it's not new at all. Those concepts of a mix of residential and commercial space are the same ones used to plan Atlanta's first neighborhoods in downtown, Midtown and Inman Park.

With so much information coming at us 24-7, a well-designed streetscape with historic architecture can be more soothing and centering than ever, she believes.

"We can be a resource for developers about the benefits of historic preservation and the financial incentives available at the state and federal level," Danylchak explains.

While living in Boston where she earned a bachelor's of art in history at Boston University, she experienced a city that respects its history. "They're reaping tremendous benefits now with heritage tourism as one of their largest industries," she adds. Today, the former research manager of the Atlanta History Center's archives, who holds a master's in heritage preservation, lives in a 1924 apartment building in Midtown.

When Patch asked about a piece of Buckhead history most people don't know, Danylchak told us the story of Macedonia Park, a place "where history was erased," she explained. A once vibrant African-American community near Pharr Road and Piedmont with its own shops and restaurants, its residents were "forcibly removed in the 1940s" to build a public park, originally named Bagley Park for a Macedonia Park resident, then later renamed Frankie Allen Park to honor a beloved baseball umpire from Buckhead.

Buckhead Heritage successfully prevented a developer from paving over Mount Olive Cemetery, a historically significant site that is the only remaining visual evidence of Macedonia Park.

There were other all African-American communities in Buckhead and Brookhaven where workers lived near the wealthy families they served. Another was known as Johnson Town at Lenox Road

Austin Crute Shines at the National High School Musical...

Congratulations to Greater Atlanta Christian senior, Austin Crute, on recently adding a signif...



Announcements August 01, 2013 at 11:58 AM

Greater Atlanta Christian School

Slow Mac?



Make it >25% faster with an award-winning app MacKeeper
[Click here to Clean your Mac](#)

Buckhead's Sören Salon Named One of the Top 100 US Salons...

Atlanta's Sören Salon Named One of the Top 100 US Salons Three Years in a Row ATLANTA, August ...



Business Updates

August 01, 2013 at 11:52 AM

Nick Gold

Here's 35 Signs You Grew Up In The ATL - Sort Of

A list of 35 Signs You Grew Up In Atlanta was posted this week by Buzzfeed. It includes the us...



Opinion August 01, 2013 at 11:30 AM

Hunt Archbold (Editor)

and Oak Valley. Today, a Target, Staples and Filene's Basement have replaced the modest homes of Buckhead's former maids, butlers, field hands and caregivers.

6 Comments

Recommend

Like 0

Tweet 0

Related Stories



Law Enforcement Job Fair to Include Several Metro Atlanta Ag...



Author to Hold 'Fixer' Event During Book Club Conference



Buckhead Driver Injured by Flying Rock



Advocates Camp on Concrete to Protest Park Funding Cuts

From Propwash Junction Patch



Meet Rochelle: Fierce Female Flyer

An inspiration to young flyers everywhere, Rochelle sits down with Patch to tell us how she soars to the top.

From the Web

by Taboola



3 Ways For Guys To Drop 20lbs Quickly
Hot Topix



Top 10 Golf Swing Killers?
Revolution Golf



Stunning Pictures Of Kate Middleton
StyleBistro

More from Patch

- Buckhead Architect and Civil Rights Legend Cecil Alexander Di...
- Top 10: Bar Illegally Serves Alcohol; Sniderman Trial; Tucke...
- Police Officers Complete Year 1 of Buckhead Coalition Residency Pr...
- Body Found at Buckhead Bar Tuesday Morning

More from the Web

by Taboola

- Do You Need \$100,000 to Make a Living With Stocks? (The Life Wiki)
- Top 10 Driver Distance Killers (Revolution Golf)
- Top 10 Athletes Turned Actors of All Time (Rant Sports)
- Get the Email Address You've Always Wanted (Tumblr - Yahoo!)

Comments

+ Leave a Comment



Peter Polites February 21, 2011 at 03:10 PM

Very good article about The Buckhead Heritage Society, an organization I knew very little of. I particularly liked learning of the African-American community that once existed in Buckhead. Here's a story of the forgotten poor that adds a deeper richness to Buckhead community.

Recommend

Flag as Inappropriate



Wright Mitchell February 21, 2011 at 07:46 PM

Thanks to Lisa and the Patch for the feature on Buckhead Heritage! The Patch is a great addition to the Buckhead publication scene. Keep up the good work!

Recommend

Flag as Inappropriate

Hi there, Buckhead parents! Please take this quick survey.

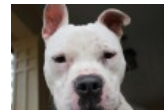
Thanks a bunch!
http://www.survey...

Announcements August 01, 2013 at 08:47 AM

Beets & Berries

Foster or Forever Home Needed for This Special Guy

If there was ever a dog that deserved a home more than any other, that dog is Jonas! Jonas is ...



Announcements July 31, 2013 at 09:29 PM

Mary Helen Land
Schena

Frozen Pints Craft Beer Ice Cream Debuts in 15 Taco Macs

Satisfying the sweet tooth of beer aficionados and ice cream lovers, Frozen Pints craft beer i...



Announcements July 31, 2013 at 05:06 PM

Caren West Pr



elisa cousins February 21, 2011 at 09:18 PM

I wished it was possible to make more of these "histories" available for the public (mostly the transplants like me and younger generations). Socrates said "know thyself" and the best way to start understanding oneself is to understand where we come from. We are nothing without a collective memory and we are bound to repeat our mistakes over and over again if we forget our past. Thank You Elisa (from Modena Italy-2001)

Recommend

[Flag as Inappropriate](#)



Boyd Leake February 21, 2011 at 09:30 PM

Buckhead Heritage is doing a great job. Keep up the good work!

Recommend

[Flag as Inappropriate](#)



Erica Danylchak February 21, 2011 at 11:31 PM

Elisa, Buckhead Heritage wholeheartedly agrees! Part of our mission is to foster a conscious respect within the community for its rich and diverse history. We have begun sharing the most remarkable, poignant, or funny excerpts from our oral history interviews, for instance, on YouTube so that a wide audience can have access to these stories. We will also be sharing entire transcripts of these interviews on our website www.buckheadheritage.com in the coming weeks. In addition, we offer educational lectures and programs throughout the year that highlight the most interesting aspects of our community's history. We will continue to work diligently to foster a greater understanding of where we have come from. Erica

Recommend

[Flag as Inappropriate](#)



Pat Reynolds April 24, 2012 at 07:17 PM

Have just discovered your web sight and am so interested. I am a long time resident of the Buckhead area and love it's history. Thank you for working hard to preserve it. Pat Reynolds

Recommend

[Flag as Inappropriate](#)

Leave a comment

[Post comment](#)



2013 Healthy Lifestyle Showcase
Family Health Wellness & Beauty

Saturday September 14, 2013 • 10 AM-6 PM

Cobb Galleria
2 Galleria Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-989-5095

Gather your family and friends and treat yourselves to a day of fun

[Click Here for more info](#)

The Atlanta 2-Day Walk for Breast Cancer

October 5-6, 2013 The Atlanta 2-Day Walk for Breast Cancer is a 100% local organization that e...



Announcements July 31, 2013 at 03:37 PM

Becky Scott

Haikufest Comes to The Artmore

Southeast Haiku Society of America to Hold Haikufest

Atlanta, GA, August 1, 2013

Hai...

Announcements July 31, 2013 at 03:34 PM

Terri Hale French

Moe's Southwest Grill Atlanta Restaurants Raise More Than...

Moe's Southwest Grill, the restaurant franchise featuring fresh southwest fare, recently annou...



Announcements July 31, 2013 at 02:23 PM

Suzy Swindle

Upcoming Events

[See all »](#)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Central Michigan University
MPA Information S...
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM | 1 Bluegrass and BBQ
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM |
| 1 Bluegrass and BBQ
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM | 1 Bluegrass and BBQ
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM |
| 1 Bluegrass and BBQ
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM | 1 Central Michigan University
MPA Information S...
August 1, 2013, 6:00 PM |

[Post an event](#)

Orangetheory® Fitness Set to Revolutionize Atlanta Workouts

Orangetheory® Fitness
(<http://www.orangetheoryfitness.com>), the energizing group interval fit...

Announcements July 31, 2013 at 01:53 PM

Brave PR

Who's Blogging?



Nick Hersey, LAMFT, LAPC

Weekly posts from The Growing Parent...

[Read Nick Hersey, LAMFT, LAPC's blog »](#)

Become a blogger today!

Get started now

[Start blogging](#)

Engineering For Kids After-School Program Available in...

At Engineering for Kids we know how important Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM...



[More Boards »](#)

[Find your Patch](#) · [Start a Blog](#)



Buckhead Patch Editor

Kiri Walton

kiri.walton@patch.com

Connect with Patch

Get the Patch Newsletter
Follow us on Twitter
Like us on Facebook

Post Something

Post on the Boards
Post an Event
Write a Review
Start a Blog

Your Account

Sign In
Join Patch
Why Join?

Help

Solve a problem
Tips & Help
Contact us

Patch Info

About us
Jobs
Terms of Use
About our Ads
Privacy Policy
Patch Blog

Partner with Us

Advertise
Claim your listing
Add your business
PatchU
Volunteer

What do you think of
the New Patch?

Let us know.

Copyright ©2013 Patch. All rights reserved.