HISTORY MATTERS

Winter 2020

"WE WILL PROVE OURSELVES MEN"
Art at the center of Regimental Flag
127th United States Colored Troops, 1864

ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER

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Cover Artifact

This flag was the banner of the 127th United States Colored Troops (USCT). The USCT was a special branch of the U.S. Army formed after the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863. Nearly 180,000 African American men served in the USCT. Three-fourths of those soldiers had been enslaved at one time.

The USCT soldiers vowed to prove their worth by fighting for their lives and freedom. Beneath the motto "We Will Prove Ourselves Men," a USCT soldier is depicted marching off to war while waving to Columbia, who symbolizes the United States and liberty.

The 127th USCT flew this flag in combat in Virginia and also at the surrender of Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Courthouse.

The flag, painted by African American artist and philanthropist David Bustill Bowser, will be on display in the Atlanta showing of the traveling exhibition *Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow*, which opens January 18, 2020.

The United Stated Colored Troops 127th Regimental Flag is a collection acquisition with funds from the Sheffield-Harrold Charitable Trust.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR & CEO

Jocelyn Hunter
Chair, Board of Trustees

Sheffield Hale
President & CEO

As we move into a new decade, we wanted to briefly reflect on 2019. It would not be an understatement to call it a historic year for our institution.

Throughout 2019, we continued our efforts to ensure that through all of our programs, exhibitions, community engagement work, research, collection development, and educational school tours and outreach, we strive to connect people and stimulate thinking and dialogue about history and culture.

That truly means forging personal connections, as well as making connections between our shared history and culture. In all of this, we seek to use our reflections on the past to create a better Atlanta.

Over nine months after the grand opening of *Cyclorama: The Big Picture*, we are pleased to report that the new experience has spurred admission growth of 70% over the same time period last year. In addition, the interpretation of the painting as an artifact of historical memory has resonated with our visitors. Tens of thousands of people have experienced the restored painting and accompanying film and exhibition, and we are so grateful for the enormous show of support from our community.

However, we are still routinely asked: "When is the cyclorama going to be open?" Please tell everyone that it is here, ready, and waiting for exploration, at least until our license from the City of Atlanta expires in 2090, so don't miss out. With tours offered seven days a week, you have lots of opportunities to visit, bring your friends, and share your thoughts with us.

Many more exciting things are ahead for Atlanta History Center. As we move into the 2020s, we look towards our institution's 100th birthday in 2026. While approaching this milestone, we continue to think strategically about what we want to be the next 100 years. As an important part of this planning process, we developed Guiding Principles governing how we explore history and interact with audiences who walk onto our campuses or encounter us out in the community every day. Through our Guiding Principles, we seek to approach all subjects, particularly difficult ones, with empathy and humility. These principles are at the core of all our exhibitions and programs, such as the interpretation in *Cyclorama: The Big Picture*, and we pursue this approach elsewhere, such as our Confederate Monument Interpretation Guide.

Over 93 years of history-making does not happen without strong community support. We offer our most sincere gratitude to our members, donors, visitors, and friends for your commitment to our institution and mission.

CONFRONTING DIFFICULT HISTORY

BY F. SHEFFIELD HALE

At Atlanta History Center, we use our historical collections, knowledgeable staff with a rich and nuanced understanding of history, and passion for our mission to connect people, history, and culture to work towards our goal of building a shared understanding of our collective history. Confronting difficult moments in the past that continue to influence our world today is never easy, but it is a vital part of developing an accurate, meaningful, and useful historical understanding.

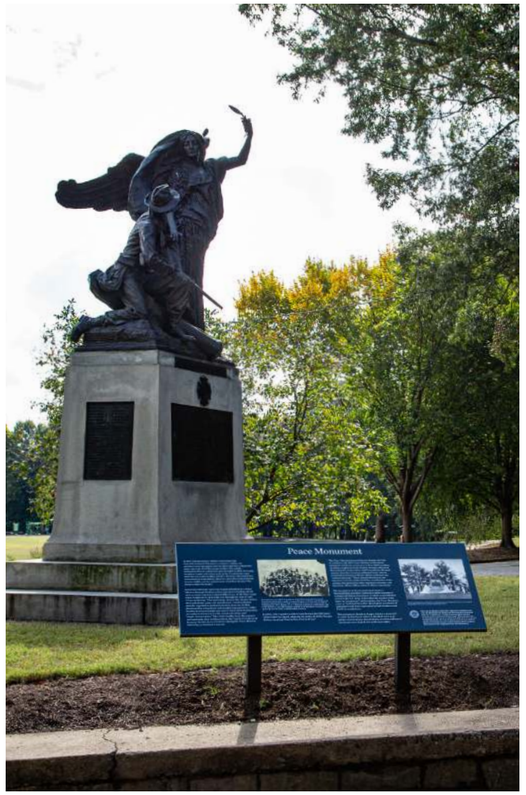
In 2015, when a mass murderer motivated by white supremacist ideals killed nine African American church congregants in Charleston, South Carolina, communities across the country were horrified. Photos of the killer posing with Confederate symbols emerged, launching an intense debate over Civil War history and its continuing influence on our lives. Confederate monuments and symbols are directly related to what historians call "historical memory"— the way we choose to remember the past. Historians at Atlanta History Center thought critically about the role of public history in this debate, recognizing its complexity.

After extensive internal discussion, we decided that Atlanta History Center has a responsibility to engage in this debate about the meaning and presentation of history. We created an online Confederate Monument Interpretation Guide to inform evidence-based discussions about monuments in local communities and how to approach this issue. Through this online toolkit, we offered a contextualization marker template, recommendations of quality scholarship, and latest updates from around the country. As the debate intensified, especially after the deadly rally in Charlottesville, Virginia in 2017, I was appointed by Atlanta's Mayor and City Council as the co-chair of Atlanta's advisory committee on Confederate monuments and street names. As an institution, we continued to hone our online toolkit, have conversations with communities around the country, and research case studies on this issue.

The tools on our website help explain the development of Civil War historical memory and how that process affects our present moment. After the conclusion of the war, faced with defeat and massive loss of life, many white Southerners sought to redefine the meaning of the war through a strain of historical memory referred to as the Lost Cause. The historical evidence is clear: slavery was the primary cause of secession and the Civil War. The Lost Cause instead posits that the Confederate states seceded because of their commitment to states' rights only—omitting slavery from the narrative. This highly influential but largely inaccurate historical memory spread throughout the South and the rest of the country. At the same time, Jim Crow segregation laws were implemented nationwide.

Confederate monuments are tangible representations of this process. Many monuments to mourn the dead were erected immediately following the Civil War. The obelisk in Oakland Cemetery is one example. Yet most Confederate monuments were actually erected during the Jim Crow era. Legalized segregation was implemented in a series of court battles, including the Supreme Court ruling in *Plessy vs. Ferguson* in 1896 that legalized "separate but equal" accommodations based on race. During this time, monuments of triumphant Confederate generals astride horses and soldiers elevated on pedestals were erected in places of power and centers of community such as courthouses, state capitols, and town squares in hundreds of cities and towns across the United States.

Decades later, another spike in Confederate monument-building occurred during the Massive Resistance era following the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision outlawing school segregation. The largest Confederate monument ever is an example of a Massive Resistance monument. Two months after the landmark ruling, Georgia gubernatorial candidate Marvin Griffin made a campaign promise to purchase Stone Mountain and restart the Confederate memorial carving. In 1916, the Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial Association, a group with many ties to the Ku Klux Klan, commissioned a carving of Confederate leaders on the side of the mountain. That effort was abandoned in the late 1920s. Following Griffin's election, in 1956 the state flag was altered to include the Confederate battle flag. In 1958, Stone Mountain was purchased by the state of Georgia. The carving was restarted in 1964 and completed in 1972.



In broad discussions about race and civil rights in America, we tend to talk about the Civil War and then jump 100 years to the Civil Rights movement. The Jim Crow and Massive Resistance eras have had long lasting impacts on our country today and were central to the creation of Confederate monuments. Without a full understanding of this time period, we cannot understand how and why Confederate monuments are problematic. If left unchallenged and not put into context, monuments can continue to promote inaccurate historical narratives, especially that of the Lost Cause. We take the position that providing evidence-based history to contextualize these monuments must be done, but we leave it up to local communities to determine the best solution through an intentional, community-driven process. In some cases, that solution might be large exhibition panels, like we did in Atlanta. In others, the solution might look like moving the monument to a more appropriate location or removing it altogether.

History belongs to everyone. Through constructive dialogue and civil, fact-based engagement together we can all explore historical truth, but this exploration must include both pleasant and unpleasant history in order to understand what made our country today. Confederate monuments might provide one such topic for this exploration—using the online toolkit and scholarship, we at Atlanta History Center encourage thoughtful, inclusive, and historically grounded community discussions.

Through such community discussions and action, we can create trust, understanding, and the ability to work across differences.

IMAGES *Atlanta History Center advised the City of Atlanta in the creation of exhibition panels placed near the Peace Monument in Piedmont Park (left) and the monument on Peachtree Battle Avenue (right). The fabrication and installation of these panels was made possible by a donor contribution to Atlanta History Center. These panels were the result of a 2017 City Advisory Committee, which made recommendations on these and other street names and monuments. Since Georgia state law prohibits monument removal, these monuments were contextualized with exhibition panels. Atlanta became the first city in a state that prohibits removal to contextualize Confederate monuments. Since the placement of the panels in August 2019, Decatur, Georgia and Franklin, Tennessee have placed contextualization markers near their Confederate monuments.*

ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Atlanta History Center strives to be a gathering place for conservatives and progressives, Democrats and Republicans, Libertarians, Tories, Whigs, Greens, and all other self-identified variants willing to engage in civil discussion to explore and better understand our shared history. Through our mission to connect people, history, and culture, we strive to create a better Atlanta community for all. As we begin the process of building on our current Strategic Plan and creating a new one to carry us through our institution's 100th birthday in 2026, we developed Guiding Principles to inform the process of writing our new Strategic Plan, Interpretive Plan, and developing our programs and exhibitions. We welcome feedback on these principles, which can be directed to Sheffield Hale, President & CEO, at shale@atlantahistorycenter.com.

Atlanta History Center Guiding Principles

A strong tendency to avoid opposing views while displaying righteousness about individual perspectives characterizes a growing part of today's culture. Atlanta History Center, as a cultural institution, is trying to create a space for visitors to engage with ideas and people who think differently from themselves and to provide an opportunity to confront their own blind spots.

Today, it often feels like we, as a society, are more polarized than ever before. While there have always been strongly held opposing viewpoints and vocal disagreements, more people today have access to public platforms to express these opinions. This new reality means we have access to so much overwhelming information that it can be easier to retreat into the comforting echo chamber of those who agree with us while achieving immediate gratification by lashing out at those who do not.

Atlanta History Center believes that history is an effective medium for bridging these chasms; artfully told and grounded in evidence, it can bring us together. History is also messy. Whether realized or not, it continuously influences our world by shaping our viewpoints and experiences. These qualities make history a touchstone for stimulating hard conversations, and make cultural institutions, places that still retain a high degree of public trust, an ideal place for doing it. We are living in a time of anger and flux; rather than shy away, Atlanta History Center wants to seize the opportunity for change.

Today, when visitors enter interpretive spaces at the Atlanta History Center, we encourage them to bring with them their own experiences, identities, and thoughts about the past. We invite them to join us in engaging with hard topics and perhaps walking away with a more empathetic and broader understanding of our collective past.

Atlanta History Center believes in clear, thoughtful communication that will stimulate curiosity while being straightforward on the facts. We will not be neutral regarding well-documented historical conclusions that might be considered controversial in the public sphere. Through our presentation of difficult history, we do not seek to shame, label, or discourage visitors; rather, we seek to engage with them through exhibitions, programming, and outreach that encourage discussions that are empathetic, historically-informed, and inclusive of all members of the community.

ADOPTED: JUNE 4, 2019, BY ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LEFT *Patrons of BRASH coffee share coffee and conversation in the café space at Atlanta History Center.*

A THIRD PLACE FOR ATLANTA

First Place: Home

Second Place: Work

Third Place: A gathering place for sharing conversations and ideas, and for building community

In 1926, a group of 14 Atlantans dedicated preserving the history of their city founded the Atlanta Historical Society, now known as Atlanta History Center.

Today, in a world defined by change, Atlanta History Center provides evidence-based history along with new ways for people to connect with history, and with each other. Through this work, we hope to create a better community for all Atlantans.

When you visit Atlanta History Center today, you will find offerings available to you without the purchase of a ticket, with the express purpose of creating a third place. The café space houses the Buckhead locations of both Souper Jenny café and BRASH Coffee. Free WiFi and spacious seating accompanies both of these offerings, creating a much-needed space in Buckhead for meetings, a quick lunch, or a comfortable spot to knock out a work or school assignment. Guests can also find a carefully curated selection of thoughtful Atlanta-centered gifts and books to inform their conversations or curiosities, complete with recommendations from Atlanta History Center staff, in the Museum Shop adjacent to the café.

McElreath Hall at Atlanta History Center also contains several offerings free and available to the public, including a Fulton County 4-H Extension Office, StoryCorps Atlanta, Kenan Research Center, and the archives gallery exhibition space.

Kenan Research Center contains a comprehensive collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, Cherokee Garden Library, and more about Atlanta and Southeastern history. The recording studio in McElreath Hall functions as the home base of StoryCorps Atlanta as well as all of Atlanta History Center's oral history projects, including the Veterans History Project. Capturing stories in the person's own words is essential in documenting our past.

Atlanta History Center Midtown, the campus at the corner of Peachtree and 10th street that includes the Margaret Mitchell House, also serves as a third place. Conveniently located near MARTA, the campus includes both an event space and lawn that is a site for activations that bring together the Atlanta community, such as during the Pride Parade and the Peachtree Road Race.

All of these activities and free features on our campuses show that we strive to expand the definition of what a museum can and should do. Atlanta History Center is a community resource and connector where people can meet and exchange ideas, all the while being surrounded by, and encouraged and connected by, our shared history.

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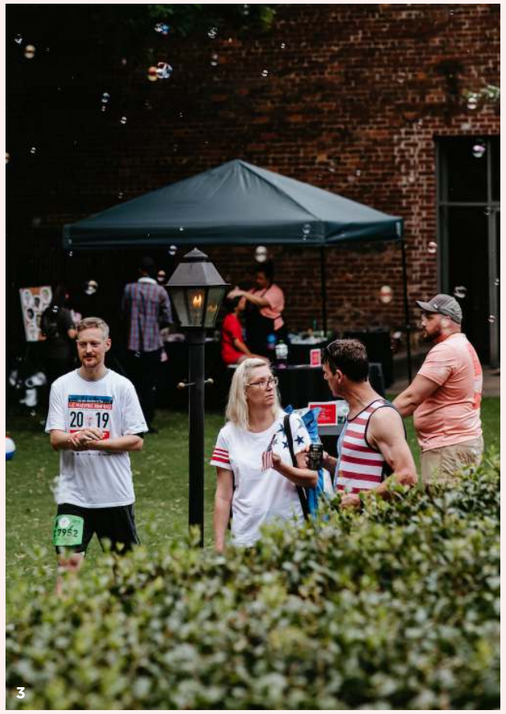

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(1-2) *Atlanta History Center staff join in cheering on Peachtree Road Race runners on July 4, 2019.* **(3)** *Visitors and runners enjoy lawn games and libations on the lawn of Atlanta History Center Midtown.*

PARTY ON PEACHTREE

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Atlanta's favorite Fourth of July celebration, Atlanta History Center hosted a Peachtree Road Race party at our Midtown campus. Complete with custom swag, including posters, stickers, and signs for cheering on the runners, guests were invited to get their faces painted, grab a drink, and enjoy the race.

SWAN HOUSE'S NEW DRIVE

At the crest of a hill visible from Andrews Drive stands one of the most iconic features of the Atlanta History Center: Swan House. Built in 1928 and designed by famed Atlanta architect Philip Trammell Shutze, the house forms the core of the large estate that became the property of the Atlanta Historical Society. The house was built for Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Emily Inman and featured gardens also designed by Shutze.

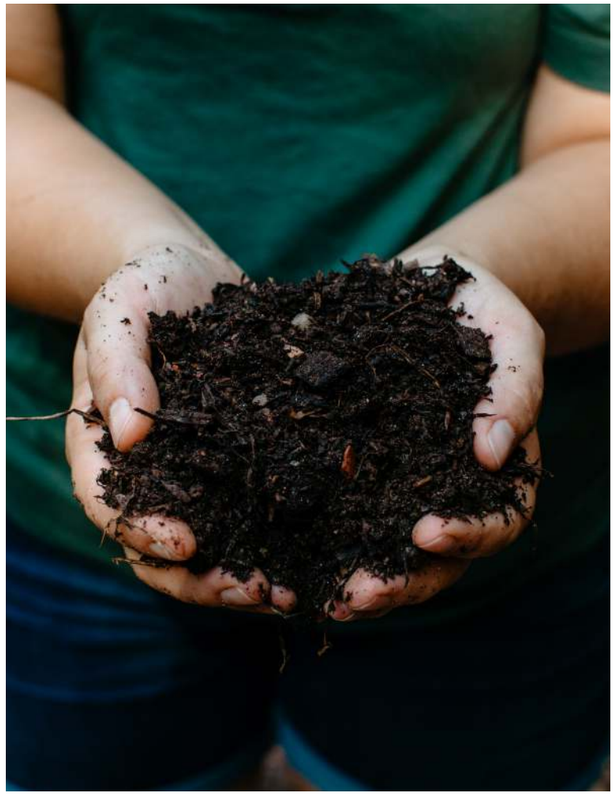
In 1966, when the property was acquired by the Historical Society, the granite fines driveway in front of the house was replaced with asphalt. While granite fines were aesthetically pleasing, guests would track the material into the house on their shoes. Over time, this material worked its way into the soft marble flooring and damaged it. Thus, asphalt was installed as a solution to spare the historic flooring further harsh treatment.

FAR TOP *The new Swan House driveway is made from a special concrete mix containing granite fines.* **TOP** *Asphalt installed in the 1960s needed to be replaced.*

That asphalt remained for the next half century as the Atlanta Historical Society grew and gradually became the Atlanta History Center. During that time, Swan House became the centerpiece of the Swan House Ball, a crucial benefit event.

At the 34th annual Swan House Ball in April 2019, Event Chair Jenny Pruitt, a longtime supporter and former Trustee of Atlanta History Center, made it her personal mission to surpass all previous fundraising goals set for the Ball. The Ball honored the Rollins Family, themselves dedicated supporters of the institution in many ways, including the restoration of the Tullie Smith House and *The Battle of Atlanta* cyclorama, and the Rollins Gallery housing the *Texas* locomotive. The Ball indeed was record-breaking, including the fact that because of its success, the driveway would finally be replaced.

The material chosen for the new driveway is a special exposed aggregate concrete that uses granite fines. The result is a driveway closer to the style of the original without the damaging side effects of loose gravel. Now when visitors approach Swan House, they are greeted by an aesthetically appropriate driveway. It is a literal concrete representation of the importance of maintaining and preserving the character of Atlanta's historic homes, and the direct result of philanthropy.



CREATING A GREEN CAMPUS

As stewards of historical artifacts and landscapes, it's vital that Atlanta History Center be environmentally conscious to preserve Living Collections and our Atlanta environs for the future.

Additionally, efficiency in power and water usage enables the institution to spend less paying bills and more preserving history.

There are numerous ways that Atlanta History Center works to create an environmentally sustainable campus, but here are a few highlights of ongoing efforts.

GOIZUETA GARDENS
& CAMPUS UPDATES

Reducing Waste

Not only does the food and drink from Souper Jenny and BRASH Coffee taste delicious, but food waste also provides a valuable source of nutrients for compost created and used at Atlanta History Center. Food waste is combined with straw and hay from Smith Family Farm and is carefully managed through daily processes to create the most effective compost possible. Using compost in the gardens builds healthy soil and grows strong, resilient plants that require fewer chemicals, resulting in healthier ecosystems.

In addition to food waste being kept out of landfills, bottles, cans, plastic cups, and office supplies are all recycled.

Water Management

Excessive runoff from storms and heavy rainfall can be damaging to local environments. The solutions we implement include both green infrastructure and planting. Recent examples include replacing asphalt parking at McElreath Hall with porous brick paving with an underground stormwater detention system, and replacing expanses of gravel or wood chips around our historic houses with native meadows and wetland areas that capture water. We also work to improve or maintain areas damaged by runoff. During summer 2019, the stream bank behind McElreath Hall was carefully restored. These varied approaches slow water movement to reduce erosion both on our property and downstream, and contribute to healthier streams and waterways that create a better habitat for plants and animals throughout the entirety of the water system.

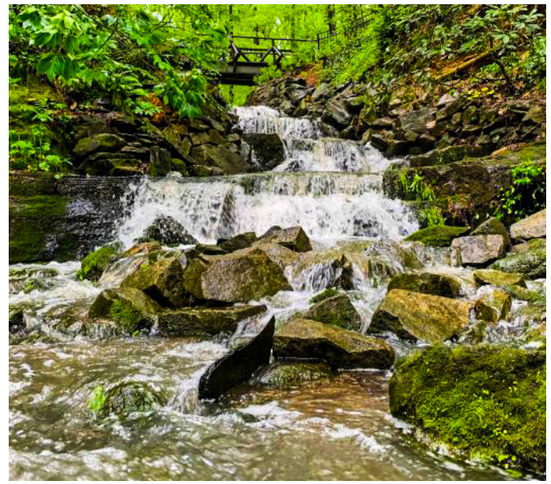
Supporting wildlife

Goizueta Gardens is an oasis in an urban area, providing refuge for people and wildlife alike. The largest of the living collections is the Georgia Native Plant Collection, housed primarily in Quarry Garden and Swan Woods, though native trees enhance much of the campus. We have accessioned and tagged 2,410 trees so far, with many acres left to inventory. There are also tens of thousands of native perennial and annual plants thriving in meadows and woodland, visited by our own honeybees and other pollinators.

The diverse range of habitats, species, water sources, and ecologically minded stewardship creates a thriving ecosystem. Birds are indicators of a healthy environment, and more than 60 species have been spotted on our campus, in addition to salamanders, lizards, turtles, toads, and frogs. Atlanta History Center is officially recognized as an Atlanta Audubon Certified Wildlife Habitat.

Creating better buildings

Energy usage is a challenge due to strict climate control needed to preserve artifacts in a museum and archives setting. To maximize efficiency, Atlanta History Center joined the Better Buildings Challenge and pledged to reduce energy usage. Through this program and our partnership with Southface's Grants to Green/Gooduse programs, we have made great strides. For example, Swan House was recognized for excellence in energy and water conservation, proving that preserving historic buildings and having green infrastructure are not mutually exclusive goals. Thanks to lighting upgrades, more efficient air conditioning, and other key improvements, energy usage in McElreath Hall declined by 12 percent, Swan House declined 19 percent, and the parking deck declined 45 percent. The parking deck was also awarded for its efficiency. While Atlanta History Museum energy usage increased 10.9 percent, there is also a good story to tell in our largest building. During the same period, the square footage of the building increased by 25 percent due to the expansion of Allen Atrium and the construction of the Lloyd and Mary Ann Whitaker Cyclorama Building.



OPPOSITE PAGE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT *Leftover produce and food waste from Souper Jenny and BRASH Coffee is transformed into rich compost used throughout the 33-acre campus.* **TOP** *Bee hives in the meadow adjacent to Wood Family Cabin contribute to the growth of pollinators around campus.* **BOTTOM** *A waterfall helps slow waterflow as the stream enters the Quarry Garden and continues off Atlanta History Center's property.*

FROM CONSTRUCTION SITE TO NEW GARDEN: WHY SOIL MATTERS

Healthy soil is full of life. In one teaspoon of soil,there are more than 1 billion bacteria alone. There are also fungi, nematodes, protozoa, and earthworms, all of which perform an incredible range of activities that make plant life, and therefore human life, possible. Rejuvenating soil cannot be solved with fertilizers; it requires a biological approach.

This is soil science.

Since the announcement in July 2014 that Atlanta History Center would serve as the new home for *The Battle of Atlanta* cyclorama, plans began for the construction of the Lloyd and Mary Ann Whitaker Cyclorama Building. This complex construction project involved digging the equivalent of several stories into the ground, hauling out 3,300 truckloads of subsoil, and many months of heavy machinery traversing the surrounding landscape. Protection measures safeguarded critical areas, but significant soil compaction occurred where access was required for heavy machinery.

Careful selection and management of the cover crops has allowed us to complete thousands of years of soil evolution in a 2-year period.

LEFT AND TOP *Cover crops were planted along the front of the Atlanta History Musuem accompanied by signage explaining the process to guests.*

When soil gets compacted, all the small pockets of air and water between soil particles are eliminated, and the soil becomes a hard, solid mass, impenetrable by roots or water. Much of the microbial life in soil is also snuffed out, unable to survive in that environment.

Goizueta Gardens staff continue to address the compacted soil with a historic practice called cover cropping. A cover crop is a specific plant that is grown for the benefit of the soil rather than the crop yield. Eighteen species were selected for use in the former construction site.

Each species selected performs a different service to the soil and all reduce erosion. Some plants send down long, thin roots several feet deep to hunt for nutrients and bring them to the surface, while others have a fat, carrot-like taproot that drill through the hard soil. Some create a huge amount of leafy biomass that can be tilled under to fluff the soil and add organic matter. As microorganisms break down the organic matter, nutrients are released into soil for uptake by plants. Roots of these short-lived species decompose and create channels for the movement of water, a head start for the next generation's plant roots, and pathways for microorganisms.

From fall 2019 through spring 2020, this enriched soil will be planted following a modern design concept based on the New Perennial Movement—a sweeping matrix of grasses and flowering perennials that seeks to redefine traditional aesthetics of a garden and reestablish a human connection to nature.

A key piece of the new garden will be a gathering space for all—a common table to share conversations. What was once a dying oak on campus is in the process of being transformed into a sixty-foot-long artistic table in the shape of the tree's original form.

The new garden will serve as the first visitor experience of Atlanta History Center—a testament to the importance of Goizueta Gardens Living Collections and gardens in learning our history.

A TOUR OF ANY GREAT CHANGE

In the new exhibition *Any Great Change: The Centennial of the 19th Amendment*, Atlanta History Center explores the women's suffrage movement through the people, stories, and strategies of the movement.

Featuring artifacts, historic images, and voting activities, the exhibition asks visitors to consider the women's suffrage movement as one of the many voting rights struggles in our nation's history.

Continuing through January 2021, the exhibition also highlights the impact of women on the political system after the passage of the 19th Amendment, including how they continued to work for equal access to the voting booth during the Civil Rights Movement, election to office, and community activism.

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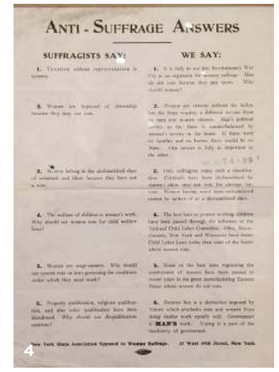

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(1) *Along with other Atlanta women, Emily C. MacDougald, mother of Swan House owner Emily Inman, broke from a more traditional suffrage group to form the Equal Suffrage Party of Georgia. As its first president, she urged Georgia suffragists to take a more active role throughout the state. After passage of the 19th Amendment, MacDougald became the first president of the newly formed League of Women Voters of Georgia.* **(2)** *Georgia Women's Policy Institute members were photographed while visiting* Any Great Change. **(3)** *Visitors can examine the long struggle for access to the ballot box on the Voting Rights Timeline. The timeline demonstrates the evolution of citizenship and the importance of the vote as a responsibility of citizenship.* **(4)** *Opposition to women's suffrage was strong across the country—and those opposed had different reasons why they did not support equality for women. This Anti-Suffrage Answers flyer provided the opposition with rebuttals to a list of reasons to support women's suffrage.* **(5)** The Dunbar Speaker and Entertainer, Alice Moore Dunbar-Nelson, 1920, Kenan Research Center at Atlanta History Center *Celebrated poet, journalist, and women's rights activist Alice Dunbar Nelson conducted much of her activism in Delaware. She was a field organizer for the Mid-Atlantic states during the suffrage movement.* **(6)** *Political and cause buttons demonstrate the continued advocacy and activism of women, whether they chose to run for office or march in the streets.*

ANY GREAT CHANGE **IS GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY EMILY BOURNE GRIGSBY**

BLACK CITIZENSHIP IN THE AGE OF JIM CROW

January 18, 2020–
June 30, 2020

Many people know about African American efforts to end Jim Crow segregation in the 1950s and 1960s. That struggle began as soon as racially discriminatory laws were enacted after emancipation. African Americans and allies fought for full American citizenship from 1865 onward using a variety of strategies—in the courts, in the streets, in the press, through the arts, and more.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow explores the origins and effects of legalized segregation, as well as African Americans' fight for full citizenship rights between 1865 and 1929.

Developed by the New-York Historical Society, the traveling exhibition includes artifacts and archival material that make these stories tangible from New-York Historical Society, Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and National Museum of African American History and Culture. The exhibition provides a rare opportunity for Atlantans and others to see these powerful objects and images.

In Atlanta, the exhibition is enhanced with artifacts and archival materials demonstrating the key role that black Southerners played in the fight for equality. As part of this exploration, the exhibition will highlight efforts of students and faculty in the Atlanta University complex (later Atlanta University Center) who wrote, picketed, held office, created art, rendered military service, taught, and otherwise labored for black citizenship. Spelman College and Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library are working in partnership with Atlanta History Center in that effort. The exhibition will be accompanied by a range of programs, including featured speakers, performance programs, and community dialogue events. These are developed with local partners and will take place at locations around the city.

Immediately after the end of the Civil War, African Americans began exercising their rights guaranteed by the newly passed 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. African Americans enthusiastically cast ballots, ran for elected office, purchased property, pursued education, and, through marriage and massive missing persons searches, sought to solidify family bonds torn apart by enslavement.

With the end of federal Reconstruction in 1877, troops stationed in the South to protect these rights were removed. Following their withdrawal, black citizenship was harshly and violently contested. The pre-war racial order was reestablished through race-based violence, disenfranchisement, and Jim Crow segregation laws. As African Americans moved throughout the nation, resistance to their full inclusion was implemented in the North and West as well as the South. Despite this, activism to attain full citizenship rights continued.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow explores the many facets of both activism and segregation, including in education, military service, voting, and other political rights.

TOP *The Regimental Flag of the 127th USCT*
BOTTOM *Charles Gustrine,* True Sons of Freedom*, 1918. The Gildren Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09121*

Featured artifacts and archival materials include paintings and posters, documents, photographs, and rare historical objects.

Atlanta History Center is thrilled to showcase one of its newest acquisitions as part of this experience: the Regimental Flag of the 127th United States Colored Troops (USCT), a rare artifact used by black troops in the Civil War. Painted by African American artist and philanthropist David Bustill Bowser, the flag depicts an African American soldier bidding farewell to the figure Columbia, a symbol of liberty, beneath a banner reading, "We Will Prove Ourselves Men." During the Civil War, many men who escaped enslavement or were freed by the advancing U.S. Army, as well as free blacks in the North, fought for regiments of the USCT. These segregated units were created starting in 1863 and composed approximately 12% of the U.S. Army by the end of the war. Military service of African Americans continued to be an important motivation for the advancement of equal rights, a topic explored in the exhibition.

Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow is open to the public January 18–June 30, 2020.

Lead support for the exhibition provided by National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. Major support provided by the Ford Foundation and Crystal McCrary and Raymond J. McGuire. Local funding provided by The Rich Foundation, Victoria and Howard Palefsky, and The Thalia and Michael C. Carlos Foundation.

OLYMPIC GAMES EXHIBITION

Opens July 9, 2020

Next summer, the world looks to Tokyo for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. In conjunction with the Games, Atlanta History Center will open a new signature exhibition to examine Atlanta's time in the Olympic spotlight. More than 20 years later, the exhibition seeks to understand the impact of the 1996 Games on the city and our lives.

In summer 1996, Atlanta hosted the Centennial Olympic Games and 10th Paralympic Games. The new exhibition explores Atlanta's late-20th-century urban landscape and regional development, and places the Games in context with the city's history of growth initiatives. These include professional sports, community investment, and business incentives, stretching from the 1895 Cotton States & International Exposition all the way to the Beltline and Atlanta United team.

Exhibitions are built on research, community input, and creativity. Directing the development, curator Sarah Dylla is delving deep into 1990s Atlanta history. She has studied Olympic collections and identified the variety of perspectives Atlantans hold about the Games. The impact of the Games means something different to everyone. People interacted with the Olympic games in different ways, including playing a role in the bid process, building venues, living in impacted neighborhoods, serving as volunteers, or competing as athletes.

This exhibition is the next step in the Atlanta History Center's work with Atlanta's Olympic legacy. Designated as the repository for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) collections after the close of the Games, Atlanta History Center presented the Centennial Olympic Games Museum (2006-2016) and pursued partnerships on oral history projects.

Located in the Payne Gallery in Fentener van Vlissingen Family Wing, the exhibition will feature iconic and unexpected objects, photographs, and activities prompting visitors to think about the places we live and how we can change them.

Reflecting on the research, Dylla notes "Atlanta's Olympic story highlights connections between global events and local places. It is interesting to consider the lasting impact of changes to the city's image, infrastructure, and way of life."

Major support of this exhibition is generously provided by The James M. Cox Foundation, The Fentener van Vlissingen Family, Bank of America, The Coca-Cola Company, Mr. and Mrs. William P. Payne, the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, The UPS Foundation, and Dennis L. and Martie Edmunds Zakas.

RIGHT *Centennial Olympic Torch, 1996*
The Centennial Olympic Torch Relay spanned 84 days, culminating in Muhammad Ali lighting the Olympic cauldron in Atlanta.

TAMARA AND KEN BAZZLE

Curiosity drew Ken Bazzle to first visit the Atlanta Historical Society as it existed then in the late 1960s as a small research facility. He recalls seeing documents on display under glass and being intrigued by the stories held within. Atlanta History Center's Kenan Research Center remains a primary interest of both Ken and his wife, Tamara—and one that they believe is truly at the heart of the organization's mission.

Vice President of Development Cheri Snyder sat down with the Bazzles to discuss why they believe history matters now more than ever.

CS: You have watched the Atlanta History Center evolve from a small research facility to one of our region's largest history museums and archival repositories. Our organization does a lot—what do we offer that consistently keeps you coming back?

Ken: The author programs offered at the History Center are always engaging and provide such a wide variety of topics and viewpoints. And the Kenan Research Center is a treasure, an invaluable resource.

Tamara: There is so much. Goizueta Gardens is an urban greenspace unlike anything else in our city. The exhibits—we loved *Barbecue Nation* last year. The subject matter of the exhibits presented is such an engaging mix. And the Cyclorama's new presentation at the History Center is so well done.

CS: The title of our publication is *History Matters*. Why do you think history matters so much for our community? What role do you think the Atlanta History Center can play in building a stronger community?

Tamara: The Atlanta History Center engages in important conversations—it is a safe space that offers wide perspectives. Cities and communities with a solid understanding of their own history are inherently stronger. There is a sense of shared experience that not only helps identify a city's unique character but it in turn provides something for newcomers to embrace as well.

TOP *Tamara and Ken Bazzle*

Ken: We have appreciated the History Center for many years, but what really got our attention was the literal—and symbolic—taking down of the fences around the museum property back in 2012. We really viewed that as a welcome mat for the community to come in and be involved and it has been exciting to see the museum become the vibrant gathering place it is now.

With over 30 years of support, the Bazzles are members of the Atlanta History Center's *1926 Circle* annual giving group as well as the Franklin Miller Garrett Society having included the organization in their estate plans with a special focus on the Kenan Research Center.

Planned gifts of all levels directly benefit the Atlanta History Center's endowment and provide annual support in perpetuity. To learn more about planned giving opportunities and the Franklin Miller Garrett Society, please contact Cheri Snyder at 404.814.4056 or csnyder@atlantahistorycenter.com.

AN INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR ERIC FONER

Atlanta History Center presents nearly 60 author talks annually, gatherings that explore a world of topics including food, fiction, history, and more. Here, we are pleased to present a Q&A with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Eric Foner. The Columbia University professor emeritus of history appeared October 15 to discuss *The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution.*

Q: Can you explain what the title of your new book references?

A: The phrase "Second Founding" was used during Reconstruction. It's meant to suggest that the constitutional amendments which I write about, the 13th, 14th, and 15th, were more than additions to a preexisting structure. They change the structure fundamentally. They created a new Constitution in which the rights of individual people, regardless of race, were now central to being an American, where the notion of equality for all was written into the Constitution for the first time. In other words, the Constitution we have today depends, to a large extent, on the Reconstruction Amendments. I use that title to indicate how important I think these amendments were in the history of the United States.

Q: Many believe the 13th Amendment was unnecessary since President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed the enslaved. What should Americans know about that amendment?

A: While the Emancipation Proclamation was a critical document to American history and changed the character of the Civil War, it did not free all the slaves. There were about 4 million slaves in 1860, and about three-quarters of a million of them were not affected by the Emancipation Proclamation. That still means 3 million were declared to be free, which is remarkable, but the slaves in border states Maryland, Missouri, Delaware, and Kentucky were not covered because they were still in the Union. The Emancipation Proclamation was a measure against the Confederacy.

Also, freeing individuals is not the same thing as destroying the institution of slavery. Slavery is created by state law, and states would have to repeal those laws or have a constitutional amendment overturn them to get rid of the institution all together. In fact, after the proclamation was issued, Lincoln kept pushing states to abolish slavery. So, the 13th Amendment was necessary to eradicate slavery in the entire United States, and that's what it did.

Q: Can you define Reconstruction, one of the most misunderstood time periods in Americans history, in a few sentences?

A: The term is used to describe a specific time period of American history—generally, the period immediately after the Civil War, thought to end in 1877. But now people talk about a long Reconstruction that may have extended to 1890.

Reconstruction is also a historical process by which the United States tried to come to terms with consequences of the Civil War — the two most important being the preservation of the nation state and the destruction of the institution of slavery. That process does not have a clear ending. In fact, you could say that Reconstruction never ended because we are still battling over issues unleashed by the end of slavery. Who should be a citizen? Who should have the right to vote? How do we deal with terrorism—from abroad and homegrown?

The people who wrote the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments understood Reconstruction as an ongoing project because each of those amendments ends with a section stating that Congress will have to enforce the amendment. That's recognition that this is a process with no end in sight.

Q: It's safe to say that your award-winning books would sell even without a book tour. Why do you feel it's important to do in-person events and to connect with readers?

A: Well, it's exactly that, connecting with readers. I am retired from teaching, but I had a long career and enjoyed teaching enormously, and I learned a lot from my students. This is a different audience, mostly a non-scholarly audience, but it's people who are interested in the subject. I'm always interested in what people think about history, the questions they ask.

LEFT *Eric Foner visits* The Battle of Atlanta *cyclorama prior to his talk at Atlanta History Center on October 15, 2019.*
TOP *Eric Foner discusses his newest book* The Second Founding *with author talk guests in Woodruff Auditorium in Atlanta History Center's McElreath Hall.*

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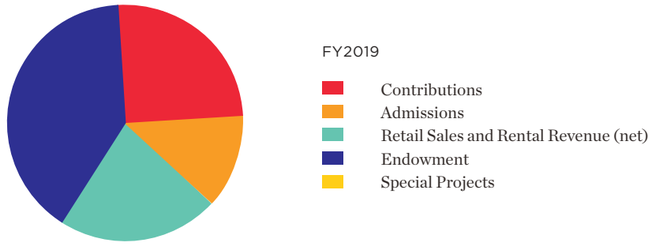
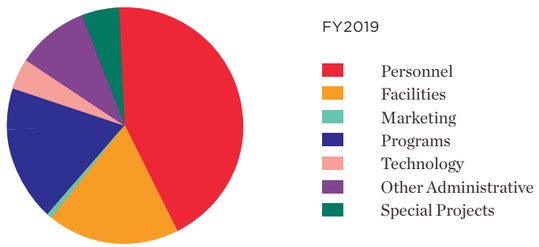
FY2019 Operating Revenue with 5 Year Data



	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017		FY2018		FY2019	
Contributions	$1,567,005	18%	$1,606,131	18%	$1,925,257	21%	$1,962,070	20%	$2 ,713,756	25%
Admissions	$1,309,581	15%	$1,211,669	14%	$1,281,910	14%	$1,442,890	15%	$1 ,833,332	17%
Retail Sales and Rental Revenue (Net)	$1,350,791	16%	$1,726,132	19%	$1,896,613	21%	$1,980,364	20%	$2 ,376,507	22%
Endowment	$3,687,437	43%	$3,859,390	43%	$3,855,959	43%	$4,059,771	41%	$4 ,105,301	37%
Special Projects	$669,844	8%	$490,150	6%	$14,498	0%	$385,731	4%	—	0%
Total Operating Revenue	$8,584,657	100%	$8,893,471	100%	$8,974,236	100%	$9,830,826	100%	$11,028,895	100%

FY2019 Operating Expenses with 5 Year Data



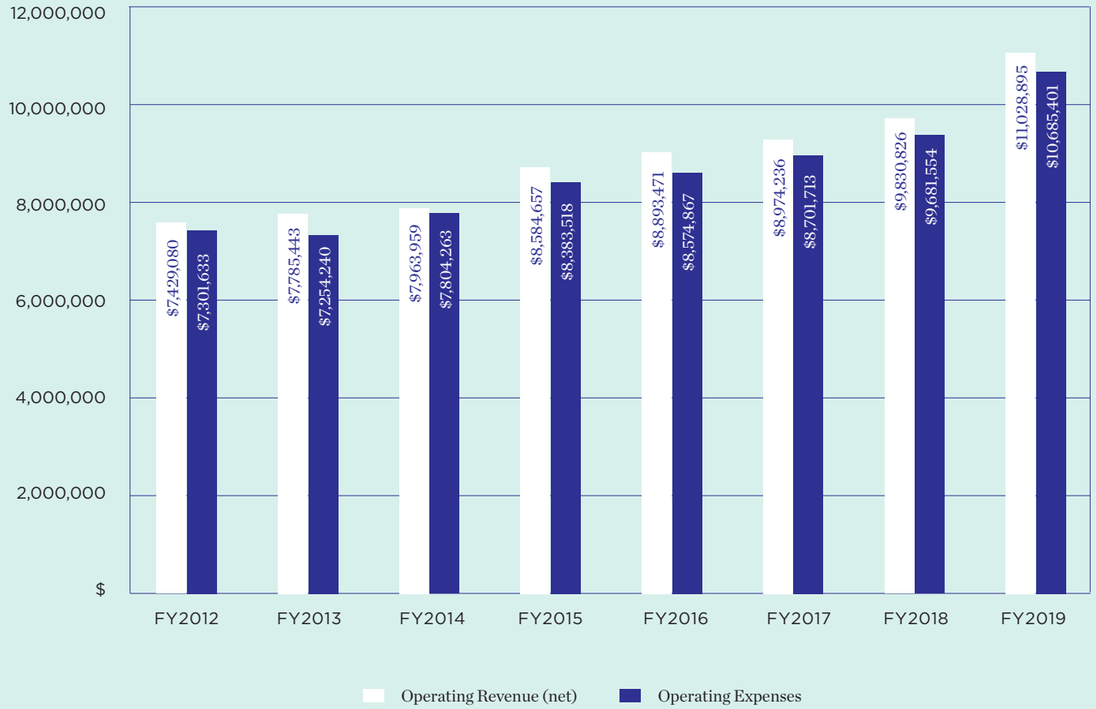
	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017		FY2018		FY2019	
Personnel	$3,384,301	40%	$3,474,388	41%	$3,586,660	41%	$3,903,575	40%	$4,356,845	41%
Facilities	$1,855,332	22%	$1,895,808	22%	$1,883,095	22%	$1,984,639	20%	$2,135,343	20%
Marketing	$256,354	3%	$175,412	2%	$228,321	3%	$176,092	2%	$185,038	2%
Programs	$1,903,473	23%	$1,782,319	21%	$1,679,593	19%	$2,088,525	22%	$1,986,877	19%
Technology	$299,702	4%	$355,017	4%	$359,166	4%	$384,167	4%	$485,423	5%
Other Administrative	$684,355	8%	$891,922	10%	$964,877	11%	$1,144,556	12%	$1,116, 926	10%
Special Projects	—	0%	—	0%	—	0%	—	0%	$418,950	4%
Total Operating Expenses	$8,383,518	100%	$8,574,867	100%	$8,701,713	100%	$9,681,554	100%	$10,685,401	100%

Atlanta History Center Endowment

Fiscal Year	FY2018	FY2019
Irrevocable Beneficial Trust	$8,182,901	$8,363,910
AHC Managed	$74,502,198	$74,025,971
Total	$82,685,099	$82,389,881

Atlanta History Center
Indebtedness
FY 19— $0.00

AHC Operating Revenue & Expenses



Complete Form 990s and audited financial statements can be found at www.atlantahistorycenter.com/about-us#governance

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS

What can Volunteers do?

Atlanta History Center relies on volunteer assistance in nearly every aspect of our operations. Many opportunities are available to adult volunteers, including: wayfinding and checking in guests during programs, gathering surveys from guests, historic house volunteering, administrative and behind-the-scenes tasks, managing craft stations during youth programs, assisting in the Kenan Research Center, and much more.

What are our Youth Volunteer Programs?

Youth Ambassadors

The Youth Ambassador Program is a unique education through service program for young people interested in helping Atlanta History Center and engaging their community. Youth Ambassadors gain experience in historic houses, administration, guest services, curation, public history programs, and much more, including two Community Outreach Days. The mission of the Youth Ambassadors is to connect people, culture, and history by expanding historical knowledge, promoting discussion, and engaging Atlanta's youth.

Junior Interpreters

Junior Interpreters assist with the implementation of living history interpretation and related activities during daily operations and programs at the historic houses. Throughout the year, Junior Interpreters spend time at the historic houses presenting informative content to varied audiences. Additionally, they also conduct research on a historical topic of their choice that is presented in May to staff, friends, and family.

Service Statistics from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Active Adult Volunteers
290

Active Youth Volunteers
36 (Junior Interpreters, 7;
Youth Ambassadors, 15;
Junior Camp Counselors, 14)

Interns Served
38

Volunteer Hours Served
6,859

Information and applications are available on Atlanta History Center's website for those interested in learning more about volunteering.

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