



# THE LANDMARKER

A PUBLICATION BY COBB LANDMARKS AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

December 2009

Marietta, Georgia

## *Cobb Landmarks Welcomes Nancy Gadberry as New Executive Director*

Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society is pleased to announce the selection of Nancy Gadberry as our new Executive Director. Nancy comes to us from a business and financial background, with a love for history, a passion for preservation, and a desire to bring all these talents and interests into a new career in historic preservation.

The search for a replacement for our longtime, much respected Executive Director, Daryl Barksdale, who left CLHS in July for a full-time job in the grant-writing field, brought us into contact with many highly competent and qualified applicants. In choosing Nancy, the Board felt that we had found just the right combination of business and marketing expertise, supervisory experience, educational background, passion for history and historic preservation, and personality to represent Cobb Landmarks going forward. As Jim Morris, a member of the search committee, stated: "Nancy is the face of Cobb Landmarks."

Nancy chose finance as a career at a relatively young age, and she recently retired from AT&T after many years, most recently as Executive Director of Trust Asset Management. Soon after leaving AT&T, she served as Chief Financial Officer of Zion Farms Equestrian Estate, an events facility. But she says that historic preservation was always her passion. As a young girl growing up in Jefferson, Texas, she loved history and old houses. She served as a junior docent at the Carnegie Library and at the Jay Gould Railroad Car, and she was a charter member of the Junior Historical Society of Jefferson. "Preservation is in my blood," she explains. She is an avid gardener, and her first preservation love is historic gardens and landscapes. "I am always for the underdog," she says. "Georgia's historic gardens so often get overlooked." Nancy is excited at the prospect of helping to promote our own historic garden and of getting more of the community involved. She has many great ideas for fund raising and program opportunities that will reach out into all parts of Cobb County.



A graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana, Nancy has almost completed her Masters of Heritage Preservation from Georgia State. She lives with her 16-year-old daughter, Storie, in Rome, where they enjoy the countryside and horseback riding. Another interest that she shares with Storie is travel, especially in Italy, "where things are really old!"

Nancy sums up her enthusiasm for her new responsibilities thus: "We have a great organization with great people. I want it to be the premier preservation organization in the state."

Please plan to come to the Annual Membership Meeting on January 28, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art to meet Nancy Gadberry, Cobb Landmarks' new face. Nancy and the members of the Board hope to see you there!

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mitment.**

## Landmarker Editors

Cathy Brown \* Jim Corley \* Abbie Parks

***Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society's 2010 Annual Membership Meeting  
Set for January 28 at Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art***

All members of CLHS: Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting of the Society, to be held on Thursday, January 28, at the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art at 30 Atlanta Street, just off the square in downtown Marietta. You do not want to miss this meeting! Here's why:

- It's your chance to meet our new Executive Director, Nancy Gadberry, and our other new staff members, Program Coordinator Jenny Goldemund and Staff Docent Katie Odom. Nancy, Jenny, and Katie are all excited at the prospect of meeting many of the members of CLHS. Come share your ideas with them, and hear about theirs!
- It's the time when we elect new members of the Board of Trustees. These Trustees are your representatives, and they are elected by you, the membership.
- The various committees of Cobb Landmarks have been hard at work this past year, and this is your chance to hear about all the exciting programs and activities that have gone on this past year, and about the equally exciting ones planned for next year.
- The new leadership team will be taking office at this meeting. This is your chance to say thanks to those who have led our organization over the past year, and to greet those about to begin their new jobs.
- Information will be shared about all aspects of Cobb Landmarks, including its financial status.
- Awards will be presented to those who have accomplished great things in the areas of preservation and education. Come help us pay tribute to those who have done so much to improve the life of our community.
- This is the time when members have the opportunity to meet other members and to enjoy what is always a wonderful social occasion.
- The food is always great!
- And, last but not least, the lovely venue provides everyone attending with the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful collection of the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art in the context of a beautiful and historic architectural setting. (For more information on the Museum, see the front page article of the December 2008 issue of *The Landmarker*.)

Please join us, the Board and Staff of YOUR Society, at this most important meeting on Thursday, January 28. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

***City Council Approves Kennesaw Avenue Design Guidelines***

*Reported by Chris Brown*

On November 9, the Marietta City Council took an important step toward historic preservation by unanimously approving a set of design guidelines for the Kennesaw Avenue Historic District. Design guidelines are one of two prerequisites for fully enabling the historic preservation ordinance adopted by the City Council in 2005.

The guidelines were drafted by a preservation planning class at Georgia State University in a process overseen by the seven member Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) appointed by the City Council. Cobb Landmarks board members Ray Worden and Becky Paden serve on the HPC. The guidelines assist property owners in making changes to property and structures in the historic district. Certain changes to property or structures must be granted a certificate of appropriateness by the HPC if the changes will be visible from a public street or walk.

The next step in implementing the historic preservation ordinance is designation of the specific geographic area on Kennesaw Avenue to be covered by the guidelines. This step will be the subject of a public hearing before the City Council on January 13, 2010. Cobb Landmarks members are encouraged to attend the hearing to show support for the adoption of the boundaries of the district. If approved by the City Council, the Kennesaw Avenue Historic District will be the first afforded protection under the city's historic preservation ordinance. The city has a number of other historic areas, some of which are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places, that also are potential candidates for local designation.

## *Christmas at the Root House: An 1850s-Style Celebration*



The photograph at top left shows Docents Jeanne Kuettel, Pam Cole, Katie Odom, and Nick Cole in 1850s attire as they gather around the tabletop tree and listen as Amber Kuettel reads the Christmas Story (*Luke 2*) from the family Bible. It was the custom in the mid 19th century for young girls to play the melodeon and other instruments while family members joined in singing Christmas carols, as seen in the photo on the right.



Mrs. T.J. Crowen's *American Lady's System of Cookery* (1850) describes "How to Arrange a Christmas Dinner...Place a high Pyramid of evergreens in the centre of the table..." as seen in the above left photo. The text also offered: "Let a roasted turkey of uncommon size occupy the middle or centre of one side of the table [on the right Nick Cole carves such a bird]; on one end let there be a cold boiled ham, and at the other, a fricasseed chicken or roast pig; with the turkey serve mashed potatoes and turnips, boiled onions and dressed celery or other salad with apple sauce – near the ham place fried or mashed potatoes and pickles or mangoes.... For dessert, there should be one or two very large and ornamental mince pies.... Ice creams and jellies and jams and ripe fruits and nuts, with sweet cider and syrup water of different sorts, or wines, complete the dessert. Biscuit and jelly sandwich may be served as dessert, or paste puffs, and charlotte de russe or blancmange with stands of jelly..." as shown above on the right.



*Katie and Amber are pictured on the right in the bedroom, decorated following an example from **Harpers Weekly Magazine** from 1858 that shows a bedstead with “Little Boys Britches” hung alongside the stockings...in hopes of Old St. Nick filling them with Christmas gifts and treats.*



*The photographs above show Katie and Amber in the Root House's 1850s kitchen, detached from the main house to protect it from fire and keep it cooler in the summer months. The girls are mixing the gingerbread, baking the gingerbread on the wood burning stove, and sampling the gingerbread.*

***Come visit the Root House Museum and Garden!  
We're open Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m.***

*The Marietta Pilgrimage Preview Party/175th Anniversary Gala:  
THE Party of the Year*

The evening of Friday, December 4th, saw hundreds of Mariettans and Cobb Countians, distinguished visitors, and supporters of Cobb Landmarks celebrating the holiday season, the Marietta Pilgrimage Tour of Homes, and the 175th birthday of the City of Marietta in true gala style. The theme of the event was “Living the Charmed Life in the Gem City,” and the attendees agreed that we do indeed have good fortune to live in or near such a charming city. There was a true Cinderella atmosphere inside the huge marquee, which covered North Park Square from the Strand to Root Street, and which was decorated in beautiful holiday lights and finery. It was THE place to meet local dignitaries, to visit with old friends, to eat the delicious food, to dance, and to enjoy being in Marietta! Three of the homes on the Marietta Pilgrimage Tour were open for viewing that evening, and the magnificent homes and the festive party put everyone in the holiday spirit.

The Pilgrimage Tour of Homes, which followed the Gala on Saturday and Sunday, the 5th and 6th of December, was very successful this year. This annual iconic Marietta event, sponsored by Cobb Landmarks and the Marietta Welcome Center and Visitors Bureau, featured homes in the Church/Cherokee Street Historic District. Final numbers are not yet in (they will be reported when available), but attendance was excellent, and it was generally agreed that 2009’s Pilgrimage was one of the best ever. We at Cobb Landmarks thank all who worked on the Gala and the Tour and all who supported these charmed events by their attendance.



*Steering Committee Co-Chairs Kim Gresh and Earl Reece and Preview Party Chair Mary Ansley Southerland*





*Pictured on the left are Alice Summerour of Marietta, West Cobb Commissioner Helen Goreham, and Marilyn Massey of Marietta*



*Above are Marietta City Councilman Jim King, Marietta Mayor-Elect Steve "Thunder" Tumlin, and Jean Alice Tumlin*

*Pictured above from left to right, are Middleton FitzSimons, Jr., Perk Lawrence, Lee and Teresa FitzSimons, and Jim and Gayle Gragg.*

*In the photograph on the right, are, from left, Marietta Mayor Bill Dunaway, Bob and Judi Snelson, Frank Meaders, Deborah Denson, and Dianne and Gene Weeks, all of Marietta.*



## *Power Family Resource Preserved*

*by Morning Washburn*

When I moved to the Power Cabin in 1971, I stepped into a flow of stories about the Hyde and Power families that dates back to 1825.\* These stories and a knowledgeable sense of place helped create a chimney rescue this year and preserve an old heart within the new City of Sandy Springs.

We've known that Isabella and Joseph Power with their daughters and sons had moved from South Carolina to the western frontier of Georgia by the mid 1820s and that Joseph had a ferry service across the Chattahoochee River in the area of the Mt. Bethel community. We also knew that one of their daughters, Mary Elizabeth, with her husband, Joseph Martin, and three of their sons, James Cooper Power with his wife, Rosa Dodds, George Abner Power with his wife, Winifred Copeland, and Pinkney Power with his wife, Lathia Manning, all had log cabin homeplaces on what is now Hyde Road. Not until this year did I learn that it was another son, William, with his wife, Sarah Martin, who lived in "Bill Power's place across the river."

The c. 1840s homeplace of Sarah Martin and William Power was built on an eastern bluff overlooking the Chattahoochee River just north of where Morgan Falls Dam would be built in the 1890s. Discovery of the stacked stone chimney of their house, long hidden in a thicket of bamboo and wisteria, and the realization of its significance, sparked a public citizens' demand for its preservation in situ. Power family members made special efforts to speak out on behalf of the chimney's place in history. Tommy Jones, an architectural historian with the National Park Service, located an affidavit signed by George Abner Power in 1911 attesting to his brother William's ownership since 1839 of the land where the chimney stands.



With city management plans in place to tear down the chimney to make a fire pit and bulldozers ready to grade away the homesite, Sandy Springs Councilwoman Karen Meinzen McEnery persuaded the Council to allow an archaeological assessment of the chimney and the site before construction continued. The Sandy Springs Conservancy, a local nonprofit group, volunteered to fund the historical documentation by Lord, Aeck & Sargent and the archaeological assessment by New South Associates. Both studies affirmed the historical significance of this pioneer family homeplace and ferry site to our region, as well as revealing the craftsmanship and structural integrity of the chimney. Their reports can be viewed on the website of The Sandy Springs Conservancy, <http://sandyspringsconservancy.org/riverpark-morganfalls>.

While paddling Bull Sluice Lake in November, I was heartened to see that the chimney has been secured with temporary supports and seems to be receiving careful treatment. I salute the decision of Sandy Springs to preserve this piece of our region's history and to make the Power Chimney a focal point of interest for their new city park. The city's revised plans can be accessed thru <http://sandyspringsconservancy.org>.

This fall I have enjoyed stepping out at night to see the evening's crescent moon and the seasonal meteor showers. With a fire warming my hearth, I can't help but have a sense of awe and kinship as I think of the stars Sarah Martin Power must have seen from her homeplace as she prepared the meals and raised her family across the river in the warmth from their beautiful and eloquent chimney.

\* "Nowhere" is my name for this living place of past/present/future, people, farm, woods, river, hills, cabin, watershed, and sky.

[More information on the Hyde and Power families is available online at [www.cobblandmarks.org](http://www.cobblandmarks.org) in the June 2008 issue of *The Landmarker*.]



## *Guess Who Came to Lunch with the "Commish"...*

On Friday, the 13th of November, supporters of Cobb Landmarks gathered for a very special *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner...* event entitled "Lunch with the Commish." This was the last in our popular *Guess Who's...* series for 2009. The luncheon was very generously hosted by Cobb County Commission Chair Sam Olens, always an enthusiastic supporter of CLHS. The guests who attended the event had the rare opportunity to chat in an informal manner with the Commission Chair and the other guests while enjoying the delicious meal and the magnificent view of Cobb County from the Georgian Club restaurant. Those in attendance were: Barbara Hickey, Community Volunteer; Skip Harper, President of Southeastern Properties, Inc. and past Chair of Cobb Landmarks; Mazi Mazloom and Courtney Jantzer of Mazloom Law Firm; Rose Wing, CLHS board member; Steve "Thunder" Tumlin, Jr., Mayor-Elect of Marietta; Cathy Brown, Co-Vice Chair of Cobb Landmarks; John Renshaw, Interim Executive Director of Cobb Landmarks; Nancy Gadberry (now Executive Director of Cobb Landmarks); and Ron Sumpter, Director of Community Relations of Cobb EMC.

### *Cobb County Historic Marker Program: Main Confederate Battle Line*

*by Mandy Elliott*

The following is the text for the Main Confederate Battle Line historic marker. The marker is located on the east side of Frank Kirk Road, between Burnt Hickory Road and Kennesaw Due West Road. It is near the location of the Captain Peter Simonson marker.

#### **Main Confederate Battle Line June 1 - 17, 1864**

**About a hundred yards southeast of this marker is the remnant of a 15 mile line of Confederate fortifications. These infantry trenches were occupied until June 17th by the Army of Mississippi, a unit within the Confederate Army of Tennessee, Gen. Leonidas Polk commanding. An additional trace of these entrenchments may also be seen close to this marker, on the west side of the nearby road. On June 15th, Polk's left flank linked with Hardee's Confederate corps at today's junction of Hickory View Court and Kennesaw-Due West Road. By June 17th the Army of Mississippi had shifted east connecting with Hood's corps near New Salem Road.**

This particular text was written by Dr. Phil Secrist and documented by Ms. Barbara Flack, an intern from Kennesaw State University. In her research, Ms. Flack noted that the research differed on the length of the fortifications the Confederates built at this location. Various sources stated that the line could have run from 10 to 15 miles long.

The Cobb County Historic Marker Program was initiated by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners. The Historic Preservation Commission oversees the program and creates a list of sites that is approved by the Board of Commissioners. For more information on the program or existing markers, contact Mandy Elliott at 770-528-2010 or [mandy.elliott@cobbcounty.org](mailto:mandy.elliott@cobbcounty.org) or visit <http://comdev.cobbcountyga.gov/historic-markers/>.

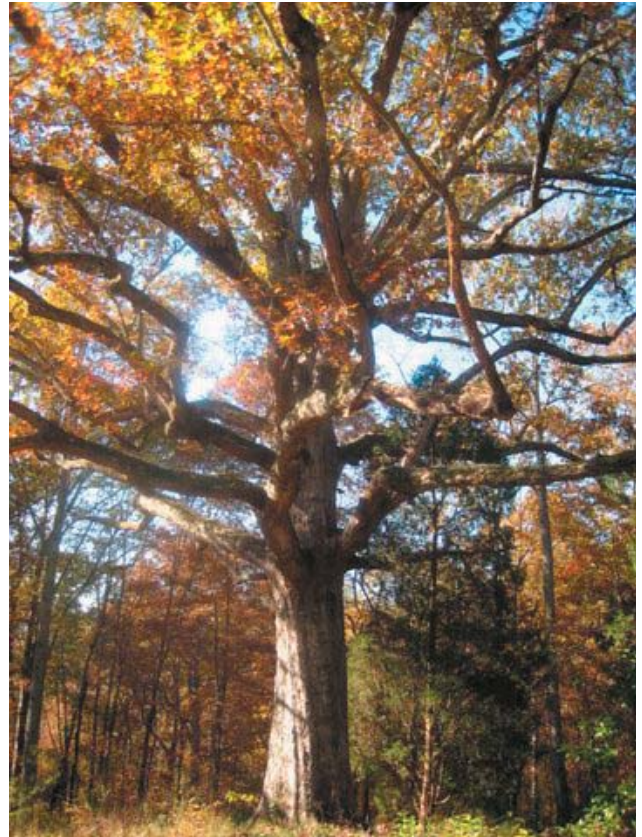
**A very special thanks to PIEDMONT GRAPHICS for printing The Landmarker!**

***Guess Who Came to Breakfast...***  
***Landmarkers Visit Power Cabin and Hyde Farm***

*by Cathy Brown*

On the beautiful, clear, crisp fall morning of November 7th, about 30 hardy supporters of Cobb Landmarks met in the early morning on Hyde Road in East Cobb to participate in one of our *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner...* fundraising events. This time, though, it was not dinner, but breakfast, served al fresco at our own Power Cabin. But before enjoying the delicious meal provided by The Flying Biscuit, participants worked up an appetite by hiking through the Hyde Farm land owned by the Trust for Public Land (TPL), Cobb County, and the National Parks Service (NPS). Morning Washburn, who lives at the Power Cabin, and Daryl Barksdale, former CLHS Executive Director, hosted this event for Cobb Landmarks.

Morning and Marjorie Thomas of the NPS met us at the car park area just outside the gate of Hyde Farm at 7:30 in the morning (pretty early for this writer!) and led us off on our cold weather adventure. As we walked through the farm, we were struck by the beauty of the open fields and the trees in their fall finery. We observed various animals, and several of us commented on the colorful local flora. We hiked as far as the Chattahoochee River, near Morgan Falls Dam. By this time, it had begun to warm up a bit, and the sunshine was bright on the water. The sky was a bright blue backdrop to the site, which is beautiful naturally and interesting historically. Morning pointed out the Power property across the river, where the chimney of Sarah and Bill Power's place is located. This historic landmark has recently been saved (see the article elsewhere in this issue). Morning stressed the importance of controlling the access to the property in the context of the discussion about a pedestrian bridge, underscoring the need for a balance between allowing access to the historic and natural area to pedestrians while maintaining the delicate ecological balance of the area. The desire to maintain the natural beauty of the area was felt by all the assembled group as they marveled at the beauty of the moon set and sun rise in the peaceful setting by the river.

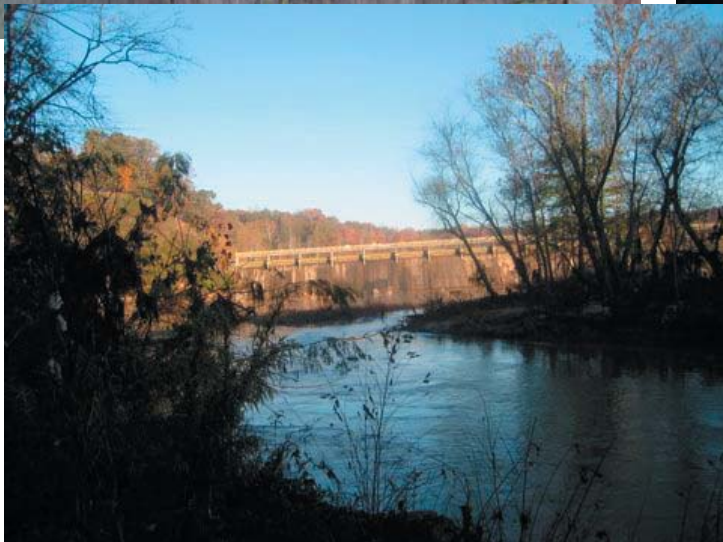
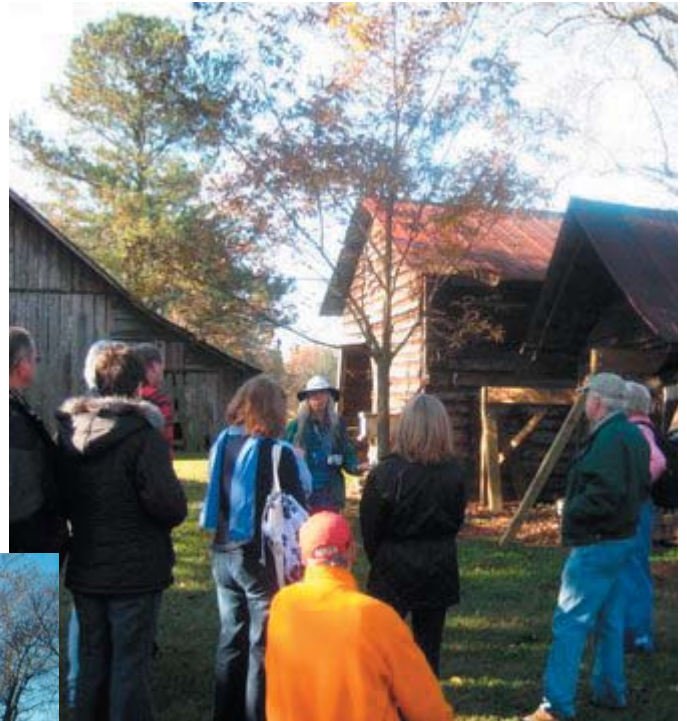
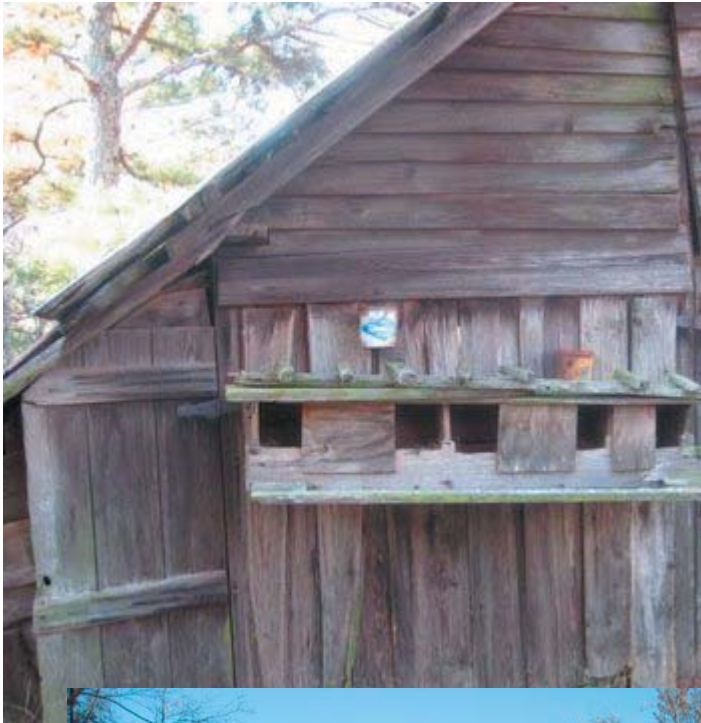


On our return up the river hill to Hyde Farm homestead, Morning and Marjorie pointed out the work done so far by Cobb County in the effort to stabilize the farm buildings while the process of saving them is taking place. Hikers enjoyed looking at the old structures, including the nesting box on the side of the barn and the still functioning well, and at the natural beauty of the fall trees, including the black walnuts, whose green hulls were everywhere in evidence. We then walked down the path to "Nowhere," Morning's home, our own Power Cabin, where we were met by Rusty Simpson, of the Cobb Parks and Recreation Department, and Daryl Barksdale, who had been organizing our breakfast. Morning invited us to walk through the cabin, and we all marveled at its snug and cozy simplicity on this chilly day. When the call came for breakfast, we were ready, and it was well worth the wait. The Flying Biscuit had provided us with pancakes, sausages, roasted potatoes, grits, and eggs, as well as delicious hot coffee and cider. We ate on the porch and in the yard in the now much warmer morning, and I think that everyone agreed that it had been a long time since breakfast had tasted so good.

The Power property hike and breakfast event was the first *Guess Who's...* event to sell out this year, an indication of the extent of the allure of this beautiful and historic property. What a treat to be able to walk in these almost untouched woods and imagine the life of the Power family a century and a half ago! And the pleasure was certainly enhanced by having a guide whose enthusiasm for the natural beauty of this place and the history of its former inhabitants is so infectious.

I would like to thank Morning and Daryl for organizing this magical event, and we all thank Marjorie Thomas and Rusty Simpson, as well as Debra Edelson of TPL, for making it possible.

*A hiker's views...*



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