



# THE LANDMARKER

A PUBLICATION BY COBB LANDMARKS AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

April 2011 Marietta, Georgia

## ***CLHS Welcomes Spring With Our Annual Spring Events Weekend: Tradition, New Ideas, and Inspiration***

Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society is pleased to announce our annual Spring Events weekend, which will take place this year Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30. After an unusually cold and snowy winter, the gardeners of Cobb County are welcoming the coming sunshine and warmer temperatures, bringing with them the opportunity to dig in the dirt. The beauty of Cobb County when the dogwoods and azaleas begin to bloom is hard to beat and is a source of great inspiration to gardeners throughout our area. CLHS's Spring Events weekend is sure to add to the inspiration already provided by the beautiful gardens of Marietta and Cobb County. This year we are offering a unique educational program with one of the area's best-known gardening experts, while also continuing the tradition of offering beautiful heirloom plants at hard-to-beat prices in the historic garden of our Root House Museum.

CLHS's annual Root House Plant Sale, hosted by the Root House Garden Committee and the Cobb County Master Gardeners, is truly a Marietta spring tradition. The Plant Sale will be held on Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. both days. Gardeners in search of inspiration and great values will find:

- old-fashioned perennials
- new and unusual varieties of plants from top nurseries
- heirloom tomatoes and vegetables
- "pass-along" plants from the finest gardens in town
- a rummage sale of garden items.

As always, the Master Gardeners will be on site to offer expert consultation, advice, and assistance. Proceeds from the Garden Sale directly benefit the Root House Museum and Garden, Cobb Landmarks' flagship preservation property.

On Saturday, April 30, at noon, Cobb Landmarks will proudly host a very special Lunch and Learn program, featuring guest speaker Walter Reeves. Mr. Reeves is well-known as "The Georgia Gardener," providing tips and insights to gardeners throughout the state through his radio and television shows, his weekly column in *The Atlanta Journal*, and his many books. This chance to learn from and be inspired by a gardening expert of his renown is truly a unique opportunity. The Lunch and Learn event will be held at St. James' Episcopal Church, across Polk Street from the Root House Museum. A delicious catered lunch will be provided by Carole Parks Catering. The cost is \$50 per person, \$400 for a table of eight. Tables are limited for this event, so please reserve your table today by mailing a check payable to CLHS to Allison Gruehn, 506 Saint Teresa Terrace, Marietta, GA 30064. If you have any questions about the event, please email Allison at [allison-gruehn@comcast.net](mailto:allison-gruehn@comcast.net).



*The Georgia Gardener, Walter Reeves*

Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society would like to thank our Corporate Sponsors for this special event: First Landmark Bank; and Haynie, Litchfield & Crane.

Join us April 29 and 30 for traditional plants, new ideas, and a weekend of gardening inspiration!

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### *Support Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society*

*with your memberships and donations via our website: [www.cobblandmarks.com](http://www.cobblandmarks.com).*

**It's easy and fast to join Cobb Landmarks or renew your membership via our web page!**

**Just access our web page at [www.cobblandmarks.com](http://www.cobblandmarks.com).**

**Click on *Membership and Donations*,**

**then select your membership level from the drop down box, then click *Add to Cart*.**

**Please consider upgrading your membership in 2011.**

## *Co-Chairs' Message*

*by Jennifer and Mark McMahon*

The first few months of each year typically bring a flurry of activity to Cobb Landmarks, and this year is no exception, with several organizational and event-focused endeavors recently completed or on tap.

The board completed a new-format Development Session in March, which included a presentation by Ms. Glenda Hicks, a consultant from the Georgia Center for Nonprofits. As Cobb Landmarks works towards implementation of a new three-year Strategic Plan and a focus on long-term financial sustainability, we are addressing some organizational housekeeping issues. As a result of this session your board is better prepared to manage the governance of the organization and to work more effectively with our Executive Director.

Our accounting firm is currently in the process of reviewing all accounting and financial policies to ensure continued compliance with all state and federal laws which apply to Cobb Landmarks' nonprofit status so that we are well positioned to attempt to secure grants which can support our mission. All Trustees recently signed the first written Trustee Letter of Understanding – a document which is considered standard in today's nonprofit environment.

In addition to the aforementioned "business news," Cobb Landmarks has many other activities on the calendar which serve to meet our mandate to Preserve, Protect, and Promote the irreplaceable historic places and cultural heritage unique to Cobb County. Much of this activity is a result of the hard and generous work of our committees and focuses on educational events, infrastructure repair and maintenance, membership development, and social events.

Please take a moment to learn all that is happening in the next few months and consider where and how you can get more involved. Cobb Landmarks can benefit from your support in many different areas over the next few months, including: filling the tables at an important fundraising event on April 30, Lunch and Learn with Walter Reeves; donating and/or purchasing heirloom plants at our annual Root House Heirloom Plant Sale on April 29 and 30; painting the Root House fence; and planning and conducting our first Preservation Festival and Semiannual Meeting on June 11.

Finally, after more than a year of work negotiating and finalizing a publishing agreement with the author and all of the details involved in publishing and printing a book, led by past chairs Cathy and Chris Brown, the book *Marietta, the Gem City of Georgia: A Celebration of Its Homes – A Portrait of Its People*, written by local author and historian Douglas Frey and published by Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society, is expected to arrive from the printer in May. If you have already purchased a copy, details will be announced soon on picking up your copy; however, if you have not yet reserved your copy, there is still time. To view a promotional video about the book and to order your copy, please visit the Cobb Landmarks website at <http://www.cobblandmarks.com>.

We hope you are enjoying the wonderful spring weather, and we look forward to seeing you at one of our Spring Events.

*Jennifer and Mark*

### ***To the CLHS Membership: Save the Date, June 11, 2011***

As part of our Strategic Planning process in 2010, Cobb Landmarks' leadership decided to hold membership meetings twice a year, rather than once a year, as formerly. As a result, we are happy to announce our mid-year membership meeting, scheduled for Saturday, June 11, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., at the Root House Museum. The purpose of this meeting is to get a mid-year update on the activities of the various committees of CLHS. The theme of this meeting will be "Passport to Preservation," and each person whose "passport" is stamped by representatives of each committee will be entered into a drawing for a very special prize. Root House tours will be available, and CLHS's new book, *Marietta, the Gem City of Georgia*, will be available for purchase. Please put this date on your calendar; it's your chance to find out first hand what exciting things are going on at Cobb Landmarks!

## *Notes from Nancy*

*by Nancy Gadberry, Executive Director*

May is National Preservation Month, and this year's theme is "Celebrating America's Treasures." Since 1971, when The National Trust for Historic Preservation designated one week in May to highlight grassroots preservation efforts, this initiative has grown to an annual monthlong spotlight of events promoting preservation in local communities across the nation.

Spring has sprung in North Georgia, and Cobb Landmarks is offering its own Preamble to Preservation Month. We will begin our celebration this month with several events that both raise funds for our organization and encourage our local community to get involved in preservation. Our surroundings are quite beautiful this time of year, and we gardeners all get anxious to dig in the dirt and add to our collections. On April 29 and 30, the annual Root House Heirloom Plant Sale and Rummage Sale will be held – rain or shine. This wonderful event, put on through the generous donation of time from the Master Gardeners of Cobb County, both highlights one of our local treasures, the Root House, and raises funds to support its mission. Come early for the best selection!

CLHS is also sponsoring a Lunch and Learn with Walter Reeves on Saturday, April 30, at the St. James' Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Come dine and dish on the latest in garden advice as this renowned radio and television host shares his expertise. A short walk from this venue is the Root House, and, if you haven't recently taken a tour, please come by after lunch to visit our house and garden.

In honor of Preservation Month, Cobb Landmarks is pleased to announce its list of Preservation Priorities for 2011. (See side box.) This list highlights our local treasures that are endangered. By promoting attention to these properties, it is our sincere desire to motivate, energize, and inspire our members and the community at large to get involved in preserving these and other buildings in our community. Elsewhere in this issue, you may read an in-depth story on one of the properties from our list – the Cheney-Newcomer House. Preservation not only protects our treasured places but also can create jobs and contribute to economic development. Our members can help save these and other properties by becoming involved in the local dialogue on preservation issues and voicing your passion for preservation. Please check the Preservation tab on [www.cobblandmarks.com](http://www.cobblandmarks.com) for more information on our Preservation Priorities.

Following Preservation Month, Cobb Landmarks is planning a June membership meeting which will highlight what each of our committees has in the works for the coming fiscal year. This event will be a great opportunity for our members to have fellowship with like-minded preservationists, to find a place in CLHS to volunteer that best suits their passion, and to thank all our wonderful partners and sponsors for their financial support of our mission. Look for further details on our website in the near future.

I hope to see each of our members at one or more of our upcoming events. CLHS depends on your support to remain a viable and effective agent for change in the local preservation movement. This is an inspirational time of year to renew your commitment to our mission and our motto – Preserve, Promote, and Protect.

Happy Spring,  
*Nancy*

### Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society, Inc. Preservation Priorities – 2011

Acworth's Bethel AME Church  
Brushy Mountain Trenches  
Cheney-Newcomer House  
Hooper-Turner House  
Nesbitt/Union Chapel  
Old Methodist Church – Atlanta Street  
Power-Jackson Cabin  
Tapp House  
Wallis House

"Graduates" of our List  
Bostwick-Fraser House  
Acworth Rosenwald School  
Cowen Farmstead

**Landmarker Editors:  
Cathy Brown - Jim Corley - Abbie Parks**

## *The Cheney-Newcomer House: Threatened But Standing Tall*

*by Becky Paden*

Since the mid 1860s, one of Cobb County's historic gems has stood just a few miles west of Marietta on Powder Springs Road.

The house now known as the Cheney-Newcomer House was built about 1856 by Andrew Jackson Cheney (1815-1886), a Madison, Georgia, merchant who acquired property at the crossing of the Tennessee Wagon and Old Sandtown roads on a Cherokee Indian trail and settled there to farm. Family records state that the Cheneys moved to Cobb about 1857. The Greek Revival plantation house sheltered Cheney and his family, who offered food and lodging to travelers and allowed drovers to rest their livestock in the pasture and in the barn that was situated at one time across the road in front of the house. Tenant farmers probably cultivated much of the Cheney land later.

Features of the antebellum structure include four fluted Doric columns, a full raised masonry first level, and a wood-framed upper floor. The stately house has a well-defined entrance visible from the east, west, and south. The front door is shaded by a two-story portico supported by the columns. A trabeated transom and sidelights frame the four-panel front entrance door. Four six-over-six wood windows balance the front façade.

During the Civil War, Union Major General John M. Schofield, commanding the Army of the Ohio, set up headquarters in the house. From this point, in late June, 1864, General Schofield directed the flanking march of the right wing of General William T. Sherman's forces. General Sherman inspected the Kennesaw line's right wing at the Cheney place on June 23 and 24.



After Cheney's death in 1886, the property passed to his children, who later leased the place to tenants. The house fell into disrepair and was acquired by John Mozley during the Depression years. Mozley never resided in the house and sold it in 1953 to Kenneth Newcomer. In 1953, when the property was surveyed prior to its sale, the house and barn were located on 9.2 acres. The Newcomer family resided in the house until Newcomer's death in 1999. The Ambling Development Company purchased the property and began construction of Ashton Arbors Senior Community in 2002. The developer stabilized the historic structure as part of the zoning stipulation approved by the Cobb Board of Commissioners in 2002. Adjoining the property is the Cheney Family Cemetery.

The Ambling Company donated the historic Cheney-Newcomer House and .8 acre to Cobb Preservation Foundation in 2006. The property includes part of the Tennessee road bed in front of the house, located parallel to and about 100 feet south of the house.

The Foundation keeps up the house while seeking a buyer for the property. Members are dedicated to the preservation of one of the most significant structures in Cobb County.

*Editors' note: Three members of the CLHS Board of Trustees, Becky Paden, Ray Worden, and Jim Glover, are members of Cobb Preservation Foundation.*

## ***WHAT IS A FENCE?***

*by Maryellen Higginbotham, Root House Curator*

Mr. Noah Webster, LL. D., in his 1855 work, *An AMERICAN DICTIONARY of the ENGLISH LANGUAGE*, defined a fence as “a wall, hedge, ditch, bank, or line of post and rails, or of boards or pickets, intended to confine beasts from straying, and to guard a field from being entered by cattle, or from other encroachments.”

Today we think of a fence as far more than just a barricade. It is a cultural artifact. Fences define ownership, protect crops, keep livestock out and in, create garden zones, define the landscape, visually and physically provide a “skirt” connecting a dwelling to its setting, and create a wonderful backdrop for plants and people.

The white picket fence at the Root House and Garden had become quite weathered and has carefully been removed and rebuilt by artisans Charles Gilchrist and Lee Mendelson from Mauldin and Cook Fence Company of Marietta. The new fence is made from pressure-treated pine and will not become white again until the wood has seasoned. The new fence was made possible by CLHS Board Trustee Larry Zenoni and his boiled peanut stand at the Marietta Farmers Market .

Stay tuned for information on the “Tom Sawyer” paint party.



Scenes from the annual Spring Plant Sale



*For Cobb Landmarks members,  
10% off entire purchase  
at annual Plant Sale*

**ROOT HOUSE HEIRLOOM PLANT SALE  
FRIDAY APRIL 29 AND  
SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011  
10 A.M.-5:30 P.M.**

- . OLD FASHIONED PERENNIALS
- . HEIRLOOM PLANTS
- . PASS ALONG PLANTS
- . GARDEN ITEM RUMMAGE SALE

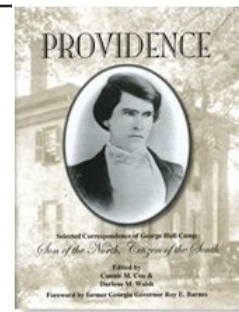


# Mr. Root's Store Spring Catalog

## *Providence*

Connie Cox and Darlene Walsh

This book presents over 400 letters from George Hull Camp's life. Camp was president of Roswell Mills. His wife died during childbirth, and after Reconstruction, Camp and his new wife Jane Atwood purchased Tranquilla, an antebellum Greek Revival house on Kennesaw Avenue. *Providence*, published in 2008, provides insights into daily life in Cobb County around the time of the Civil War. \$52.75 (tax included)



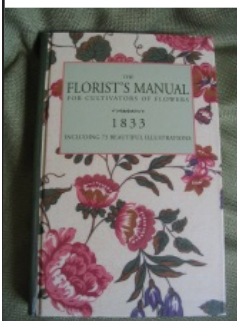
## *Ladies' Southern Florist*

Mary C. Rion

This facsimile edition of the first book written for southern gardeners offers a historical perspective of gardening and serves as a wonderful resource in garden history, period gardens, and heirloom plants. \$21 (tax included)

## *The Florist's Manual*

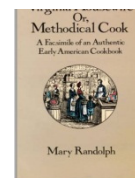
Originally published in 1833, this comprehensive description of flowers, their cultivation, and their interpretation is one of the first American botanical encyclopedias. \$13.50 (tax included)



## *The American Frugal Housewife*

Lydia Maria Child

This useful book includes interesting recipes, remedies, advice on parenting, and tips for housekeepers. From 1832 to 1845, this popular book went through 32 editions. \$8.25 (tax included)



## *The Virginia Housewife or Methodical Cook: A Facsimile of an Authentic Early American Cookbook*

Mary Randolph

Originally published in 1824, this classic guide by a noted Virginia hostess is widely regarded as the first truly Southern cookbook. \$8.25 (tax included)

## *Mrs. Hill's New Cookbook*

Annabella P. Hill

Mrs. Hill was born in Georgia in 1810. Her book on recipes, cooking advice, and household hints was first published in 1867. This is considered one of the most influential books of the post-Civil War South. This is a facsimile of the 1867 edition. \$15.75 (tax included)

## *Mrs. Hill's Southern Practical Cookery*

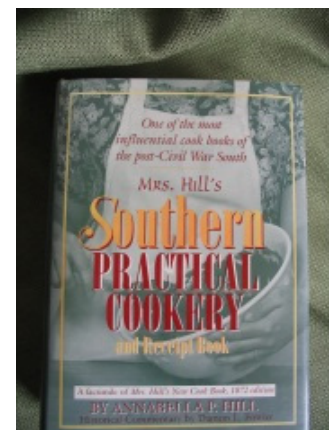
Annabella P. Hill

This is a facsimile of *Mrs. Hill's New Cook Book*, 1872 edition, with a biographical sketch of the author and historical notes by Damon L. Fowler. \$31.75 (tax included)

## *Early American Cookery, "The Good Housekeeper," 1841*

Sarah Josepha Hale

This delightful early Victorian cookbook was designed to "promote the health, comfort and prosperity" of American families. \$7.25 (tax included)





***Miss Beecher's Domestic Receipt Book***

Catharine E. Beecher

Catharine Beecher (sister of Harriet Beecher Stowe) was a pioneer in the women's education movement. She established home economics as a discipline with this very popular book on cookery and household management. *\$12.50 (tax included)*



***Lady's Brooch***

Flowers have long been inspiration for wallpaper and jewelry designs. The 1850s floral wallpaper found in the parlor of the Root House Museum was the inspiration for this oval pin. *\$10 (tax included)*

***Tussie Mussie Holder***

(flowers not included)

Speaking with flowers became especially popular in America during the 1800s. A Tussie Mussie is a "talking bouquet" that carries a message of love, friendship, condolence, or other sentiment, using the Language of Flowers. *\$11.00 (tax included)*

***Peg Lamp***

Peg Lamps first came into being as households moved from candles as a primary source of light to oil burning lamps. The Peg Lamp is designed with a peg on the bottom so it will fit into your existing candlestick. *\$10 (tax included)*

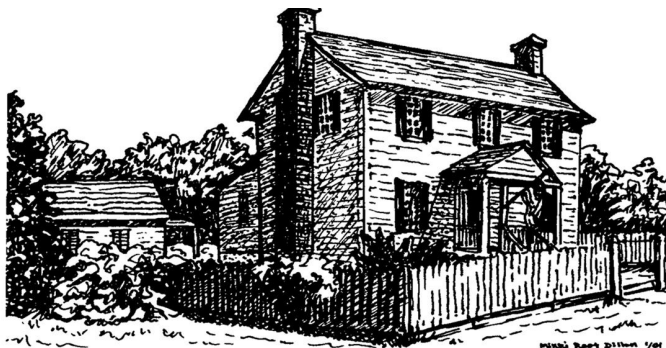
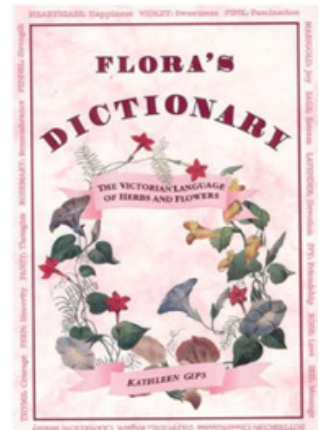
***Note Cards***

Mr. Root's Store carries an assortment of beautiful note cards featuring The Root House Museum and Garden.

***Flora's Dictionary***

Kathleen Gips

Kathleen Gips is a leading American authority on the traditional meanings of plants. Her decades of exhaustive research make *Flora's Dictionary* the most authentic and authoritative reference available on the meanings assigned to herbs and flowers during the Victorian era. This book is described as a complete floral thesaurus. Beautifully written and illustrated. *\$17 (tax included)*



***The Root House Museum and Garden***

***Corner of North Marietta Loop & Polk Street  
Marietta, Georgia  
770-426-4982***

***Open Wednesday thru Saturday  
11am to 4pm***

***Many other books and gift items are available at Mr. Root's Store.  
Come visit us today!  
Cobb Landmarks members receive 20% discount with membership card!***

July 4, 2011  6:00 pm

# July 4th Celebration

Reserve a table at The Root House for the Marietta Square Fireworks

**\$120 per table of 8**

Bring your own picnic, beverages & decorations

Reserve via Paypal at [www.CobbLandmarks.com](http://www.CobbLandmarks.com) or mail a check to:  
Cobb Landmarks, 30 Atlanta Street, Marietta, GA 30060

[www.CobbLandmarks.com](http://www.CobbLandmarks.com)

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THE GEM CITY OF GEORGIA  
A CELEBRATION OF ITS HISTORY • A DISTANT OFFICE RECALL

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This and printed courtesy of Piedmont Graphics

### We're getting close!

The editing and fine-tuning is done, and *Marietta, the Gem City of Georgia* is now being printed! Our printing company, RR Donnelly, tells us that the printing and binding will be accomplished in a timely manner, and then follows the transportation from China. After the editing and preparation, this is the most time-consuming part of the process. But we are confident that our wonderful book will arrive in the spring, and hopeful that it will be here before the end of May.

*Join us for...*

## *Cobb Landmarks & Historical Society's Celebration of Spring's Arrival*

### **Root House Heirloom Plant Sale**

Friday, April 29th & Saturday, April 30th  
10:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

- Old Fashioned Perennials
- New & Unusual Varieties from top nurseries
- Heirloom Tomatoes & Veggies
- Pass along plants from the finest gardens in town
- Rummage Sale of Garden Items

### **Lunch and Learn**

#### **Featuring Walter Reeves**

Saturday, April 30th at 12:00 noon  
St. James Episcopal Church, Parish Hall

***Walter Reeves is a garden expert, writer,  
radio and television host.***

*Cobb Master Gardeners will be on site offering advice, consultation  
and expert assistance.*

Cobb Landmarks Welcomes New Members:

Alice Lyons  
Angela Brondos  
Barbara Wasco  
Bob and Katie Sanstead  
Charles and DeLinda Kilgore  
Dale and Shirley Pass  
David Williams  
Debora Maupin  
Debra Lewis  
Bill and Terri Home  
Jason Story  
Kimberly Gresh  
Leah Taylor  
Roger Buerki  
Cathy Moore  
Timothy and Melinda Day  
Timothy Rutz

*A Portrait of Preservation, 2009-2011*

*by Morning Washburn*

From an alert in February 2009 to the installation of interpretative panels in 2011, citizens and the City of Sandy Springs achieved something truly significant in preserving the Power Chimney above Bull Sluice Lake on the Chattahoochee River. Cobb Landmarks and I salute everyone for their vision and work in this accomplishment at Overlook Point!



**February 2009:**  
Discovery



**Spring 2009:**  
Call for preservation



**Fall 2009:**  
Protective scaffolding for the chimney

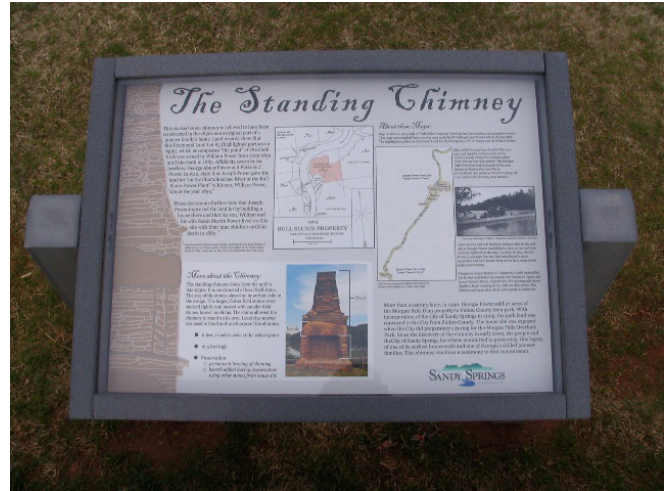
**Summer 2010:**  
Chimney with permanent preservation structure





**Winter: 2011**

Interpretive panels at Overlook Park in Sandy Springs include Power family history and images of their 1830s land lottery tickets.



*Editors' note: The Power family farmed on both the Cobb and Fulton sides of the Chattahoochee River throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Cobb Landmarks' own Power Cabin, where Morning lives, is part of this family's legacy. The images of the the Power family's land lottery tickets were taken from copies donated by Cobb Landmarks. More information on this historic chimney and the pioneer Power family is available online in the June 2008, December 2009, and December 2010 issues of **The Landmarker** and online at [www.cobblandmarks.org](http://www.cobblandmarks.org).*

Cobb Landmarks & Historical Society, Inc.

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*Chris Gruehn, Treasurer*

*Adrian Pressley, Secretary*

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Cathy and Chris Brown

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I/We would like to become members of Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society, Inc.

Annual (Family/Individual) . . . . . \$45

Student/Institutional..

(include student ID)... \$ 20

Patron.....\$100

Business.....\$150

#### Sponsorship Levels:

Bronze.....\$250

Silver ..... \$ 500

Gold.....\$1,000

Platinum.....\$2,500

Diamond..... \$5,000

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me, I am interested in volunteering for Cobb Landmarks!  
or renew on line at [www.cobblandmarks.com](http://www.cobblandmarks.com)