

**Post-Conference Savannah Tour
International Planning History Society Conference
July 24, 2014**

**Historic District Tour with entrances to the
Harper Fowlkes House, Massie Heritage Center, Davenport House Museum**

1:00 pm - Guide will meet the group at the Savannah Visitor's Center (back of parking lot near permit office)

Your private guide will welcome you aboard your air-conditioned mini bus for a guided tour of Historic Savannah. Let Savannah, the "Hostess City", open up and reveal surprises and long kept secrets. Learn what makes her so fascinating that people return, always to gain new insights into her charm and mystique. Within this 2.2 square mile area, beautiful streets and squares have a tale to tell at every corner...over 280 years of history are spoken eloquently in exquisite ironwork and ancient cobblestones, in splendid mansions and picturesque cottages. You will be introduced to America's finest living collection of 18th and 19th century buildings, located in Savannah's National Historic Landmark District.

We will ride down historic River Street waterfront as well as the Historic and Victorian districts where you will see restored warehouses and homes. Your tour will feature some of the most beautiful and historically significant private residences in a colonial city dating back to 1733.



View of Savannah's River Street

Your first stop will be the Massie Heritage Center, a Greek revival building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was begun in 1855 and opened in 1856. It is the only remaining original building of Georgia's oldest chartered school system.

The building was named for Peter Massie, a Scott who became a wealthy planter in Glynn County, Georgia. He bequeathed \$5,000.00 in 1841, "for the education of the poor children of

Savannah.”

After a long and illustrious history, Massie School closed its doors to regular classes at the end of the 1973-74 term.

Massie Heritage Center, whose beauty lies in its dignity and simplicity, retains its original brick wall, the old bell in the belfry, the twin curving stairs with their mahogany rails and spindles, the Grecian moldings, and the fluted columns. The mid-nineteenth century furnace is still in the basement and the “suitable yard rooms” still provide adequate outdoor plumbing facilities.

- **Massie Resource Center - featuring permanent exhibits:**
 - The Elements of Greek, Roman, and Gothic Architecture: Their Influence on Savannah’s Architectural Heritage
 - The Victorian Era exhibit illustrates the architectural styles of the time period as created by prominent architects for Savannah
 - Scale-model of General Oglethorpe’s original city plan



Massie Heritage Center

You will have a chance to visit the Harper Fowlkes House, Savannah’s outstanding example of the fully developed Greek revival style. This superb house is attributed to Irish architect Charles Blaney Cluskey. It was built in 1844 for Aaron Champion, bank president. During the Civil War, Champion hid his bank’s gold in a well at the rear of the garden. After the war, he went to the well and recovered all but one ten dollar gold piece!

Facing Orleans Square, it has a dramatic entrance formed by imposing iron gates, double curved sandstone steps and four Corinthian-type columns two stories high. The entrance hall, floored with black and white marble, has four square columns surrounding an oval rotunda through which a sky light is seen three stories above. Sophistication and monumentality pervade the interior.

In 1939 Alida Harper Fowlkes purchased the house and furnished it with priceless antiques. It was bequeathed in 1985 to the Society of Cincinnati in the State of Georgia.



Harper Fowlkes House
Orleans Square



Garden at Harper Fowlkes House

The last stop will include a presentation by a representative of Historic Savannah Foundation on the preservation efforts in Savannah at the Kennedy Pharmacy Building. You will have an exclusive guided tour of the Davenport House, Historic Savannah Foundation's first project. It was opened as a museum in 1963 and reflects the lifestyle of a middle-class family living in the early 1820's.

A Rhode Island master builder, who was trained as a ship builder, completed the Isaiah Davenport House in 1820. Isaiah Davenport came to Savannah in 1807, to participate in the building boom following the disastrous fire of 1796, and married Sarah Rosamond Clark in 1809. Isaiah prospered as a master builder, became a City Alderman, and died of yellow fever in 1827.

Using the knowledge he gained from his New England home and copying what he could find in current architectural texts, Davenport created this quintessential example of traditional Federal style architecture. He designed the house to meet his family's needs as well as to demonstrate his skill as a builder, featuring delicate plasterwork and a cantilevered staircase.

Experience the historic atmosphere of the Davenport House while learning about and tasting a unique and flavorful wine. Patrons are oriented to the long and rich tradition of Madeira (wine) as it relates to the history of Savannah and then they will participate in a Madeira party.



Davenport House Museum



Davenport House Museum Garden

Logistics and Cost:

The tour will depart from St. Augustine early AM (between 8:00 and 8:30) on July 24th. We will lunch in Savannah and join the tour at 1:00 PM. Following the tour, time permitting, we will have dinner in Savannah and then make the return trip to St. Augustine. For those who will be departing from the Jacksonville International Airport (JAX) on the 25th, we can drop you at your hotel. For those who want to stay over in Savannah for additional touring on their own, we recommend a hotel in the Savannah Historic District (the Staybridge Suites, 117 W. Perry St). These reservations will need to be made separately since we cannot reserve the room through the conference.

The cost for tour, all entrances, guides, transportation to and from Savannah, and lunch on Thursday July 24th, is \$140 per person. There is a minimum of 15 persons to make the tour possible. While you can pay for this at the IPHS conference registration, we will need to confirm the minimum number by no later than July 1, 2014 to ensure that the tour will take place. Email (silver2@ufl.edu) with your intention to participate (and how many people) and whether you will return with the group late on the 24th or stay on in Savannah on your own.