

THE BURDINE LODGE RESTORATION

*A Fundraising Project of
The South Carolina Conference Historical Society
of the United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 21305
Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1305*

Methodists have been offered a significant opportunity to share in celebrating the influential role of early Methodism in South Carolina and to honor the work of Francis Asbury, the pioneering bishop of American Methodism. The Pickens County Cultural Commission has acquired by donation for reconstruction and restoration a two story log house known as “The Burdine Lodge”.



Built in the 1760's, the house was moved in the 1790's to Old Vinland School Road in the Dacusville Community of what was known as the Pendleton District. In 1796 the house became home to Samuel Burdine, an early Methodist in the area, and a lodging place for Bishop Francis Asbury when traveling from North Carolina into South Carolina through the Saluda Pass. In his journal Asbury documented visits with Samuel Burdine in November, 1800, accompanied by Bishop Richard Whatcoat, and again in November, 1802. The Burdine home also became a meeting place for a Methodist Society.

The Pickens County Cultural Commission has plans to add The Burdine Lodge to other historical structures at the Hagood Mill Historic Site as a tribute to the pioneering work of Bishop Francis Asbury and the influence of early Methodism in South Carolina. The Lodge has been professionally “deconstructed”, labeled and stored in a county warehouse awaiting restoration when funds permit.

In recent years, from twelve to thirteen thousand people have annually visited the Hagood Mill Historic Site. Those totals are expected to increase to from fifty to sixty thousand annually with the recent opening of the South Carolina Rock Art Center at Hagood Mill. The Rock Art Center celebrates the 2003 discovery of Native American petroglyphs (rock carvings) on a large thirty foot long rock near the Hagood Mill. The seventeen human “stick men” on the Hagood Mill rock are thought to be between 1,000 and 2,000 years old. The South Carolina Rock Art Center at Hagood Mill has been constructed to protect and exhibit the petroglyphs and to feature related exhibits. It is expected that this discovery and exhibition will draw people from all over the United States and beyond.

The reconstructed and restored Burdine Lodge and accompanying Methodist exhibits will join other exhibits at the Hagood Mill Historic Site in bearing witness specifically to the work of early Methodism in upper South Carolina. The cost of this reconstruction and restoration project is estimated to be eighty thousand dollars. As with the deconstruction of the house, the reconstruction and restoration will be done by professionals.

At its meeting on November 9, 2013, the South Carolina Conference Historical Society endorsed The Burdine Lodge as a fundraising project and authorized its officers to seek financial contributions. The Society hopes that you will want to join in supporting this effort through a contribution. It is the Society's hope that Methodists working together will be able to make a significant financial contribution towards this project. You may make your gift payable to The South Carolina Conference Historical Society and send it to the Society's Secretary-Treasurer at P. O. Box 21305, Columbia, South Carolina 29221-1305. Mark your check for “The Burdine Lodge”.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, INC.
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