

Media Release



bluffton
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

May 3, 2017

For more information:

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Historic Preservation Symposium Celebrates Bluffton's Past, Present & Future

The Town of Bluffton is hosting its second annual historic preservation symposium, Thursday, May 25 at 5: 30 p.m. at Town Hall. The symposium, "The Bluffton Historic District: Past · Present · Future," will bring together historic preservation organizations, residents, students, business owners and Town leaders to discuss the importance of preservation.

This symposium also celebrates the 21st anniversary of the designation of the Bluffton Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

The symposium, featuring regional historic preservation experts, will provide an overview of historic preservation, benefits for town businesses and residents and educational/volunteer opportunities for those who wish to be more involved in local preservation.

"In many ways, the more Bluffton changes, the more we stay the same," Mayor Lisa Sulka said. "Our collective identity as a beautiful coastal village town is one which has attracted people here for nearly two hundred years. The more we honor who we were, the more we know who we are today and who we will be in the future. Bluffton's preservation projects are crucial assets to our culture and character as well as an economic opportunity in terms of tourism and business development."

The event is free and all are welcome to attend.

"This event is a wonderful way for newer residents to get acquainted with the Town's historic assets and for all, this symposium may deepen people's understanding of how Bluffton's historic sites work together to tell our collective story," Heather Colin, director of the town's growth management department, said.

The symposium will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a Meet & Greet of local historic preservation organizations including the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society, A Call to Action, Celebrate Bluffton, Bluffton Township Black History Historical Preservation Society, Palmetto Bluff Conservancy, the Cultural District and Savannah Technical College.

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A moderated panel will speak and take questions beginning at 6 p.m. Scheduled panel members are:

- Mayor Lisa Sulka
- Erin Schumacher, Bluffton's Senior Planner/Historic Preservation and Urban Design
- Emmett McCracken, former Mayor and Bluffton Resident Emeritus
- Melanie Beal Marks, Founder and Principal Researcher/Connecticut House Histories, LLC, Palmetto Bluff Resident, Researcher/The Garvin House
- Michael Bedenbaugh, Executive Director/Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation

Please RSVP to Marcia Hunter via (email: mhunter@townofbluffton.com).