



### 1. Furman Schoolhouse

This school was built in the 1920s and served the Furman and Snow Hill areas as an elementary and junior high school into the 1950s. It was deeded to the Furman Civic Club in 1961 and has served as a community center ever since.

### 4. Palmer-Barlow-Britt Home - (see photograph on cover)

This “coastal cottage” was built in 1833 by Stephen and Juliet Palmer and modified by Dabney Palmer around 1860. It is believed to be the first wood frame home built in Furman and is a classic 1 ½ story “Carolina” Cottage. The house features a central passage with two rooms on each side, including a unique prayer room with gothic arched windows and original hand-gouged mantle. The front porch is an integral recessed porch constructed on brick bases connected directly to the earth in the Carolina Porch Style. One of the two large bedrooms upstairs features its original heart pine floor, walls, and ceiling, none of which have ever been painted. The house was purchased in 1992 by Mitchell and Jennifer Britt of Huntsville who spent the next 20 years restoring it.



### 5. Bethsaida Baptist Church

Bethsaida Baptist Church was founded in 1831 at a site very close to the present building. Elder Hawthorne was the first pastor, and some of the founding families were the Albrittons, Lees, Purefoys (Purifoy), McCondichies, and Fowlers. Mr. A. Scarbrough sold the property to Edward Hobby and Dr. William Gulley, who then donated the property to the Baptist Church. It was on this site that the present building was erected between 1858 and 1860. There were many “bondsmen” who worshiped in the upstairs galleries. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, the membership approached 150 members. In 1920, Furman was a bustling community featuring several doctors and numerous businesses. The 2017 church roster consists of 21 members! Don Bell is the current pastor.



### 9. Powell-Grimes Home - “Greenleaves”

This one story hipped roof Greek Revival home was built in 1854 by Augustus Powell and purchased by Letitia Roberts Grimes, widow of Wiley Grimes, in 1869. In 1893 the home was remodeled to include two front room additions, three gables, and gingerbread trim on all three porches. The double front doors feature side lights and transom. The home was renovated in 2004 by James and Martha Grimes Lampkin.



### 11. Adams—Stone Home - “Thirty Columns”

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Adams built this two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne Style home in 1900. The home features multiple gables, wraparound porch on paired Tuscan columns, polygonal projecting bay, and portico or “buggy way”. Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Stone purchased the home in 1963. It contains the original millwork, seven tiled fireplaces, 13 leaded stained glass windows, and original lighting fixtures. The central foyer features a massive balustraded staircase. It is known as “Thirty Columns” because that is the number of columns supporting the upper story.



### 13. Roberts Cabin—Pine Apple Town Park

In the early 1860’s Thomas Henry Roberts began the construction of this log cabin from yellow pine logs felled on his property in Mount Hope. The logs are hand-hewn, dovetailed and double mortised, and the corners reinforced with wooden pegs. The front porch completed the construction of the cabin. It became the gathering place for the children to play and the adults to gather and visit. The Town of Pine Apple agreed to accept the cabin donated by the Roberts Family in May 2007, and it was relocated to the Pine Apple Town Park.



### 2. Wakefield

This beautiful antebellum home is built in a one-of-a-kind Steamboat Gothic style. The nearly 6,000 sq. ft. of living area consists of 12 rooms and 12 fireplaces, and unique porches on all sides. It was named “Wakefield” by the Gulley family which owned the home from its construction in the 1840s until it was sold to Dr. E.G. Burson in 1943. John Gulley started construction around 1840 and depleted his financial resources by the time it was completed 7 years later. The construction cost was \$12,000. John Gulley then sold the home to his brother Henry Gulley, who bequeathed it to his daughter Laura Gulley. She left it to her half sisters who sold to Dr. Elkanah G. Burson. Don and Katrina Bell restored the home in the late 1990’s. The home is now owned by Dr. Sylvia Burson Rushing, granddaughter of Dr. Elkanah G. Burson, and her husband Tom Rushing. They are only the fourth family to own this home, which is featured in the historic book “**Silent in the Land**”.



### 6. Perdue-Williams-Estes Home

This home was built around 1895 by a lumber entrepreneur named Perdue. Its conservative building style belies the construction date, as it would appear that it should have been constructed much earlier. The home is a two-story frame end gabled central passage house two piles in depth, featuring a two-tiered wrap-around porch on all four sides. It also features four brick exterior chimneys, flush board siding, balustered railing and jigsaw work brackets on the upper porch tier, decorative latticework arches on the first floor elevation, double front and rear doors with sidelights and transoms on both stories, with a one room kitchen wing which abuts the rear porch. The home was owned by the Williams family for many years, and is now owned by Dan and Betty Estes.



### 8. Purifoy-Lee-McCoy Home

This splendid antebellum home, known as “Patience Plantation”, built in simple Federal style, with Greek Revival elements, encompasses around 4,000 square feet of living space. The usual Doric boxed columns are seen across the front, with the original double portico having been removed in the late 1960s during the restoration work done by George and Ruth Carlin who had purchased the home in 1966. Frank Purifoy, the fifth son of John Purifoy, chose this home site and began construction around 1841. He wed Nancy Thigpen in the Spring of 1841, and the newly married couple moved in just before the birth of their son John in 1842. Nancy gave birth to three more sons before her death in July 1846, with the youngest son being only a few months old. Frank married Penelope Moore a few months later, and they had four sons together. Frank died in 1858 at the age of 40 years. Penelope sold the home and 822 acres of land to Frank’s youngest sister Patience Caroline and her husband John Allen Lee in 1859. Reverend Lee, who pastored Bethsaida Baptist Church, died in 1863, and Patience and the 11 children continued to live in the house until she sold it and 160 acres to Lizzie Cox in 1887. Several families owned the home until the Carlins purchased it. The home is now owned by Bill McCoy.



### 12. Hawthorne-Childs Home

Colonel Joseph Richard Hawthorne built this two-and-a-half story frame end gabled central passage double pile house in 1852. It was the boyhood home of John H. Kelly when he came to Pine Apple to live with his grandmother Harriet Hawthorne. He became the youngest general in the Confederate Army and was the youngest general to die in the war. The home features elliptical fanlights over the first story front door, eight over eight sash windows on either side of the first story door, “wheat sheaf” railings, full pediment cornices in gable, and two-tiered pedimented portico with wooden piers. There are triple hung doors in front and rear of first story and on front of second story. Dr. and Mrs. Edward Childs have completely restored the home and it is one of the finest examples of antebellum architecture in Alabama.



### 14. Cotton Boll - Oak Hill

The “Cotton Boll” was originally a large store built by the Dale family in the late 1800s and was converted into a restaurant in the late 1900s by David and Mildred Watson. It operated as a very nice restaurant for several years and then became a hunting lodge for a short time. It has been maintained in excellent condition ever since. The heated and cooled area - provided by two heat pumps - consists of over 3,000 square feet. The building consists of a large kitchen area, display area, and separate rooms, along with several bathrooms. A beautiful outdoor garden patio lies outside the south entrance along with the many appurtenances. The building is currently being used as an antique shop by Brittany House Antiques.



### 3. Moore-Burson-Rushing Home

This one and one half story gabled central passage house is of the coastal cottage type, and is located across the street from “Wakefield”. It served as the home place of Dr. and Mrs. Elkanah G. Burson until they purchased “Wakefield” in 1943. It has remained in the Burson family and Tom and Dr. Sylvia Burson Rushing (current owners) have restored it. The builder of this home was Leonard Moore, circa 1885.



### 7. Furman Methodist Church

The original church building was constructed in 1857 on the present site of land donated by Mrs. Sarah Patton McCondichie. The current building was finished in 1882, and served the Furman area until it ceased to be an active church in 1998. There is an annual service each April with many of the descendants of the original founders coming back for this event.



### 10. Moore Academy

Moore Academy was founded in 1882 by John Trotwood Moore, who became a famous author, archeologist, and poet laureate of the State of Tennessee. The original two-story wood frame building served the Pine Apple area from 1882 until the present structure was completed in 1923. The style is eclectic and typical of early 20th century educational facilities with a T-shaped plan, central arched entrance, bracketed eaves, and decorative brickwork at each end of the facade. Moore Academy was widely acclaimed as one of the preeminent educational facilities in Alabama until its closing in 1989. The buildings and grounds were donated to the Moore Academy Alumni Association, Inc. in 1994, and restoration began in 1995. The historic marker is dedicated to those students, teachers, and administrators who have passed through these doors, and in the words of John Trotwood Moore, “**To him that will, faith finds a pathway home.**” Moore Academy was placed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage on June 30, 1995 and the historic marker was erected in 1996 by the Moore Academy Alumni Association, Inc. Moore Academy was the anchor site resulting in the town of Pine Apple being designated a National Historic District in 1999.



### 15. Bethel Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Although a few early Wilcox pioneers settled in the area known first as the ridge, it was in the mid-1840s before the population increased and Oak Hill was established. The ancestors of today’s Oak Hill residents were members of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church who migrated from Abbeville District, South Carolina to the Alabama frontier in the 1820s. They settled the Hamburg community a few miles northeast of Oak Hill, but after illness ravished the low-lying community in the early 1840s, its residents moved to the higher ground. At the center of life in Oak Hill is the Bethel Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, which is a continuation of the old Lebanon ARP Church established in the early 1820s near Hamburg. After the move of so many of its members to Oak Hill, Lebanon’s congregation divided and Bethel Church was organized in 1856. The present Bethel ARP Church building is the second to serve the congregation. It was built in 1894-1895, with the Dedication Service held on November 10, 1895.

In addition to the homes and sites featured in this brochure, please plan to take an **Audio Driving Tour** of the many other historical sites in Wilcox County. These are listed on a separate brochure. And don’t forget to tour the historic Snow Hill Institute. The brochure for this site is attached as an insert.

2018 BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The state of Alabama is celebrating its 200th anniversary as a state in 2018 & 2019. Since 2018 is the Year of People for the Bicentennial, the Furman Civic Club, the Town of Pine Apple, and the Town of Oak Hill in association with the Wilcox Historical Society, are sponsoring this special Spring Pilgrimage. Please join us and learn about the people of East Wilcox County by touring their homes, churches, schools, and other historic sites located in the towns of Furman, Snow Hill, Pine Apple, and Oak Hill on **March 24, 2018. Furman, Pine Apple, and Oak Hill were designated as National Historic Districts in 1999. The attached insert has details on the sites at Snow Hill Institute which is located about 4.5 miles west of Furman on County Road 26 (911 Address: 327 Edwards Drive, Pine Apple, AL 36768).**

Homes in Furman that will be featured include “Wakefield”, the classic steamboat gothic house featured in the book *Silent in the Land*, the Moore-Burson-Rushing Home, the Palmer-Barlow-Britt Home, the Perdue-Williams-Estes Home, Patience Plantation and the historic Furman School. **There will be period clothes and Mary Lee Simpson photograph displays at Furman School.** In addition, Bethsaida Baptist Church, Furman Methodist Church, Palmer Cemetery, and the sites at Snow Hill Institute are included.

Sites in Pine Apple include “Greenleaves”, the Hawthorne-Childs Home, “Thirty Columns”, Moore Academy, Roberts Log Cabin, and Friendship Cemetery (on Alabama Historic Cemetery Register), Adams Cemetery, and Methodist Cemetery.

The sites in Oak Hill include the Bethel ARP Church, the Cotton Boll, Bethel Cemetery, and Ebenezer Methodist Cemetery. **The Cotton Boll will have period antique furniture on display.**

Tour headquarters will be at the Furman School located on Highway 59. In addition, tickets and a box lunch may also be purchased at the Moore Academy gym in Pine Apple. There are historic displays at both of these sites so plan to spend some time at each. A special feature will be a collection of early American clothing by Jenny Britt at the Furman School.


Please contact us at the Wilcox Historical Society by mail or email for advance tickets.

Wilcox Historical Society  
P. O. Box 464  
Camden, AL 36726  
  
Return Service Requested

FURMAN, PINE APPLE, & OAK HILL SPRING PILGRAMAGE

National Register of Historic Places

MARCH 24, 2018



SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.


Tour Tickets:  
\$25 Adults  
\$10 All Students  
Children 6 and under free


Begin your tour  
at Furman School  
(8181 Highway 59, Pine Apple, AL)  
or Moore Academy in Pine Apple  
(16230 Highway 10 East)


Lunch Available from 11:00 to 2:00  
at Moore Academy


Wilcox Historical Society  
P.O. Box 464  
Camden, Alabama 36726

E-mail:  
wilcoxbicentennialsociety@gmail.com









# WELCOME TO FURMAN, PINE APPLE, & OAK HILL, ALABAMA

The map illustrates the Spring Pilgrimage route through Furman, Pine Apple, and Oak Hill, Alabama. Key locations and distances are marked:

- Furman:** Furman School (1), Furman Methodist (2), Bethsaida Baptist (3), Boggs Road (4), Patience Plantation (5), To Selma 32 miles (6), To Furman 50 miles (7), To Montgomery (8).
- Pine Apple:** Wakefield (9), Moore-Burson-Rushing (10), Palmer-Barlow-Britt (11), Greenleaves (12), Hawthorne-Childs (13), Thirty Columns (14), Roberts Cabin (15), Moore Academy (16), To Greenville (17), To Mount Moriah (18).
- Oak Hill:** Cotton Boll (19), Bethel ARP Church (20), Ebenezer Methodist (21), To Monroeville (22), To Camden (23), To Furman (24), To Pine Apple (25), To Oak Hill (26).

2018 BICENTENNIAL

SPRING PILGRIMAGE

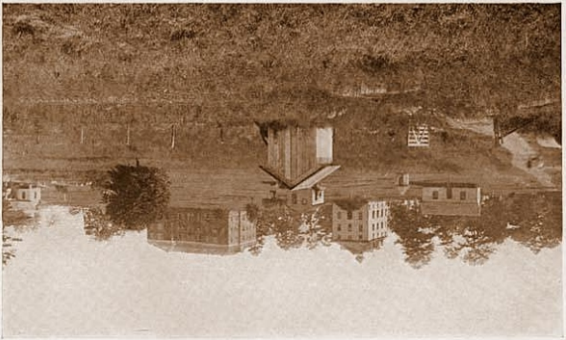
Headquarters at  
Furman School

MARCH 24, 2018  
9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sponsored by Wilcox Historical Society,  
Furman Civic Club, Town of Pine Apple,  
and Town of Oak Hill

Wilcox Historical Society  
P.O. Box 464  
Camden, AL 36726

Box Lunches will be served at  
Moore Academy in  
Pine Apple



PARTIAL VIEW OF SNOW HILL INSTITUTE