

Nov. 15, 2018

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Color photographs of historical Gilmer County buildings now freely available in the Digital Library of Georgia

ELLIJAY, Ga. -- A collection of nearly 200 color slides from an architectural survey of historical homes in Gilmer County, Georgia, are now freely available in the [Digital Library of Georgia](#). The images reflect housing traditions among the county's early settlers, giving insight into cultural evolutions and land use. Funding for this project was provided by Georgia HomePLACE, the digitization unit of the Georgia Public Library Service, in partnership with the Sequoyah Regional Library System.

The photos document 155 unique sites around Gilmer County and were part of a larger regional survey of old homes completed in September 1975 by Dr. Richard R. Pillsbury, then-Associate Professor of Geography at Georgia State University. The survey was conducted for the historical preservation section of the Department of Natural Resources, predecessor to the Historic Preservation Division.

Anita Summers, Director of the Sequoyah Regional Library System states, "These photos are a treasure trove of Gilmer County and North Georgia history. So many of these structures are long since gone, but now they are preserved in digital format online. Sequoyah Regional Library is delighted that Georgia HomePLACE is able to make these photos easily accessible for the first time since they were taken. Anyone interested in the architectural and cultural history of the area--now and in generations to follow--will find this to be an invaluable resource."

Of particular note in the collection are photographs of Cherokee Indian White Path's log cabin house, built in the late 18th century. White Path vociferously opposed the influence of white settlers and the ceding of native lands, but ultimately died along the Trail of Tears. The photos show the neglected historic home overrun by kudzu prior to preservation efforts to relocate and restore the structure during the expansion of Interstate 575. In 1995, the cabin was established at its current site in Gainesville under the direction of Counte Cooley, a descendent of White Path.

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