

Historic Savannah



Savannah Historic Sites

Wide streets and shady parks hearken to General James Oglethorpe’s original 1733 vision for Savannah. An early preservation ethic helped maintain the historic feel of America’s first planned city. Today the National Park Service supports local preservation efforts that help you experience historic Savannah.



Juliette Gordon Low House honors the legacy of founder of the Girl Scouts of America. In 1912, before women even had the right to vote, Juliette, known as “Daisy,” created a movement that continues to inspire girls today. Learn more about this National Historic Landmark at www.juliettegordonlowbirthplace.org/



The Central of Georgia Railroad Shops and Terminals is an early example of a multi-use facility—combining terminals, shops and offices in one complex. Today this National Historic Landmark features a railroad museum with a working turntable. www.chsgeorgia.org/grsm.



Charity Hospital was the first hospital in Savannah to train African American doctors and nurses. Established in 1896, the original five-room hospital was replaced in 1931 after a fund-raising campaign led by a local Rabbi. This National Historic Register property is not open to the public.



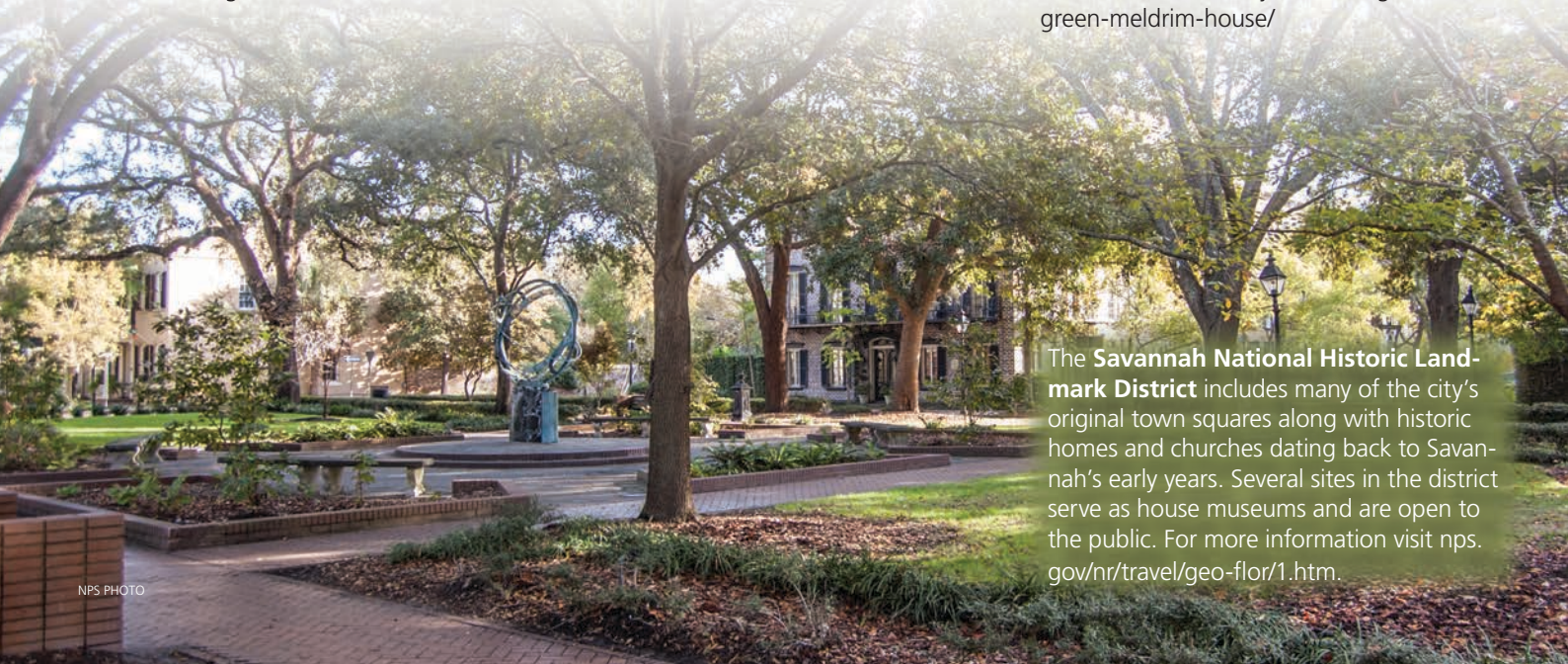
Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences, built in 1818, was designed by William Jay, one of the first professionally trained architects working in the US. Originally a private residence, this National Historic Landmark was given to the Georgia Historical Society for a public museum in 1875. www.telfair.org/visit/telfair/.



Laurel Grove Cemetery South was set aside in 1853 for the burial of “free persons of color and slaves.” Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it is a significant record of African Americans who died in the 19th and 20th centuries. The cemetery is open daily from dawn to dusk.

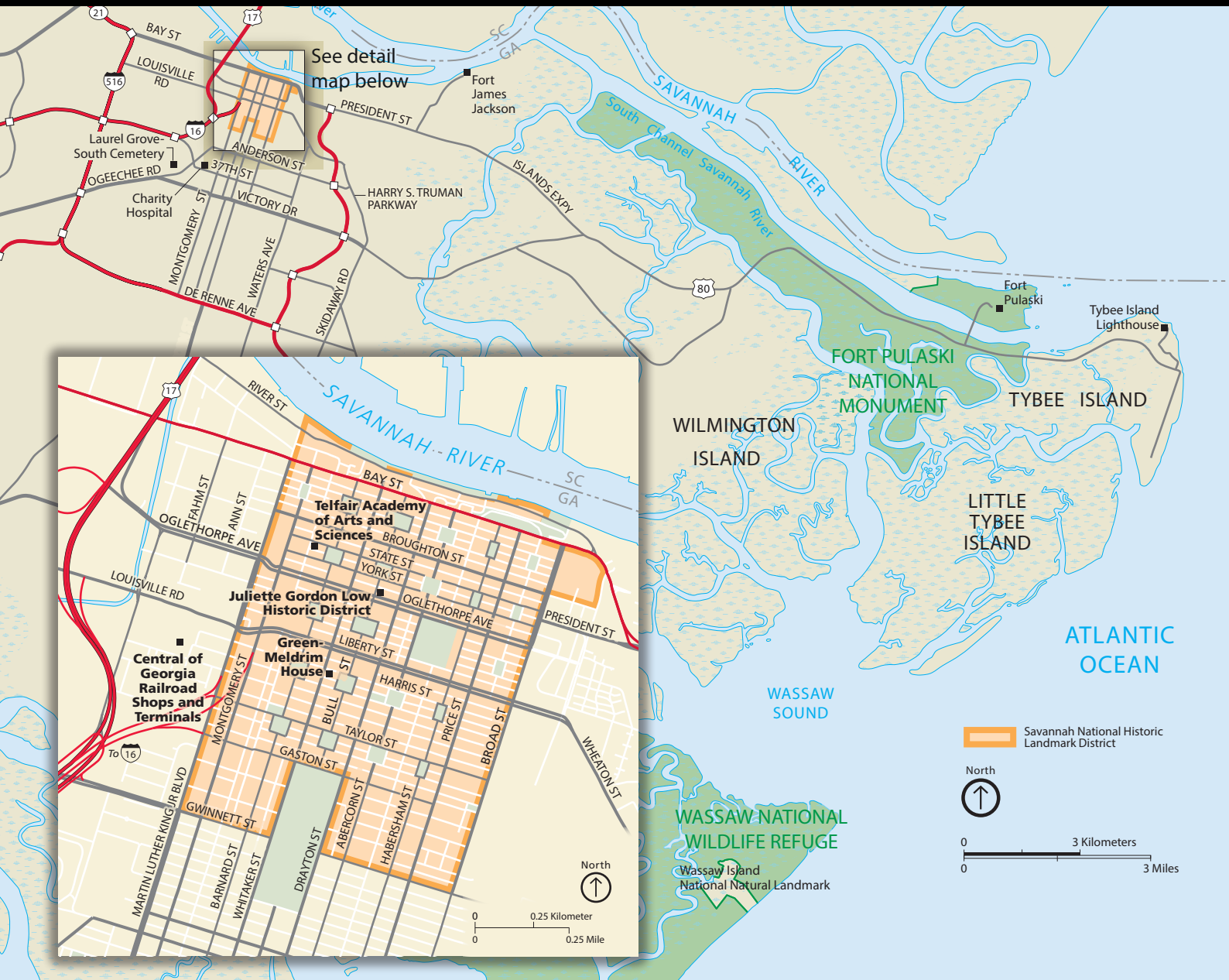


Green-Meldrim House, Savannah’s most expensive home when it was built, served as General Sherman’s headquarters during the Union Army’s occupation. Sherman spared the city, offering Savannah as a “Christmas present” to President Lincoln. Learn more about this National Historic Landmark at www.stjohnssav.org/tour-green-meldrim-house/



The **Savannah National Historic Landmark District** includes many of the city’s original town squares along with historic homes and churches dating back to Savannah’s early years. Several sites in the district serve as house museums and are open to the public. For more information visit nps.gov/nr/travel/geo-flor/1.htm.

Historic Savannah and Surrounding Communities



Partners for Preservation

The National Park Service works with communities throughout the country to help preserve natural, cultural and historic sites. With over 40 programs, from the National Register of Historic Places, to National Natural Landmarks, to Federal Tax Incentives, this work extends well beyond park boundaries. The Certified Local Government (CLG) program is one example that brings Federal and State funding, technical support, and other assistance to help local communities save historic places. In 2014, the City of Tybee Island became Georgia’s 88th CLG, helping preserve, protect, and increase awareness of another treasured part of our nation’s cultural heritage.



Nearby Areas of Interest



Once considered invincible, **Fort Pulaski** fell to Union forces in just two days. Shortly after, Union Maj. Gen. David Hunter issued an order freeing “All persons of color lately held in involuntary service by enemies of the United States...” turning the fort into one of the southernmost destinations of the Underground Railroad. Today this National Monument is a member of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. www.nps.gov/fopu



Fort James Jackson, was built in 1808 to defend the city of Savannah and harbor from foreign naval attack. This National Historic Landmark is one of the few preserved Second System Seacoast Fortifications in the US. The fort protected Savannah during the War of 1812 and served as headquarters for the Confederate defenses on the Savannah River during the Civil War. www.chsgeorgia.org/OFJ



Tybee Island Light Station has guided mariners on the Savannah River for over 270 years. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it is one of America’s most intact light stations. The site includes the lighthouse (rebuilt in 1866) and associated buildings. Site ownership was officially conveyed to the Tybee Island Historical Society in 2002 as part of the NPS National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act Program. www.tybeelighthouse.org/

Wassaw Island is one of few remaining sea island ecosystems largely untouched by human activity. This National Natural Landmark’s rolling dunes, woodlands, and vast salt marshes provide important wildlife habitat and lets you experience Georgia’s coast as it was in Oglethorpe’s day. www.fws.gov/refuge/wassaw

