

Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 9:54 AM
To: 'lutherlyle@bellsouth.net'
Cc: Russell Price; Beth Hulse
Subject: Capital Project Sales Tax Commission - Presentation Invite

Good Morning,

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission at their meeting last night established a schedule to meet with entities regarding their proposed project in order to obtain additional information and have a Q&A session.

The Commission invites you to attend their January 30, 2014 meeting at 6:30 p.m. to present your project to the commission and the public. If you are unable to attend or do not wish to attend, please advise the staff liaison no later than twenty four hours prior to the meeting.

The Commission also established the following guidelines for presentations:

- 20 minute presentation maximum time + Q&A period
- Presentations will be scheduled 45 minutes apart to allow for a breaks and set time
- No more than two speakers will be permitted for the presentation and Q&A period
- Handouts for Commission:
 - Do not provide any material that was submitted with your original questionnaire – all Commission members received this material.
 - If you wish the staff liaison to provide copies to the Commission they must be provided via email no later than twenty four hours prior to the meeting.
 - If you wish to distribute material at the meeting you will be required to provide 7 copies of each handout and the handouts must be 3-hole punched.

If you have any questions/concerns, please feel free to contact the staff liaison [Beth Hulse, 718-1023, bhulse@oconeesc.com] who will be coordinating these presentations for the Commission.

Sincerely,
Russell Price
Capital Project Sales Tax Commission, Chairman

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to County Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
864-718-1023
864-718-1024 [fax]
bhulse@oconeesc.com
www.oconeesc.com/council

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Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 9:55 AM
To: Brett mc@a@hotmail.com
Cc: Russell Price; Beth Hulse
Subject: Capital Project Sales Tax Commission - Presentation

Good Morning,

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission at their meeting last night established a schedule to meet with entities regarding their proposed project in order to obtain additional information and have a Q&A session.

The Commission invites you to attend their **January 30, 2014 meeting at 7:15 p.m.** to present your project to the commission and the public. If you are unable to attend or do not wish to attend, please advise the staff liaison no later than twenty four hours prior to the meeting.

The Commission also established the following guidelines for presentations:

- 20 minute presentation maximum time -- Q&A period
- Presentations will be scheduled 45 minutes apart to allow for a breaks and set time
- No more than two speakers will be permitted for the presentation and Q&A period
- Handouts for Commission:
 - Do not provide any material that was submitted with your original questionnaire – all Commission members received this material.
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If you have any questions/concerns, please feel free to contact the staff liaison [Beth Hulse, 718-1023, bhulse@coconeesc.com] who will be coordinating these presentations for the Commission.

Sincerely,
Russell Price
Capital Project Sales Tax Commission, Chairman

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Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 9:57 AM
To: 'Oconee Heritage Center'
Cc: Russell Price; Beth Hulse
Subject: Capital Project Sales Tax Commission - Presentation

Good Morning:

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission at their meeting last night established a schedule to meet with entities regarding their proposed project in order to obtain additional information and have a Q&A session.

The Commission invites you to attend their **January 30, 2014 meeting at 8:00 p.m.** to present your project to the commission and the public. If you are unable to attend or do not wish to attend, please advise the staff liaison no later than twenty four hours prior to the meeting.

The Commission also established the following guidelines for presentations:

- 20 minute presentation maximum time + Q&A period
- Presentations will be scheduled 45 minutes apart to allow for a breaks and set time
- No more than two speakers will be permitted for the presentation and Q&A period
- Handouts for Commission:
 - Do not provide any material that was submitted with your original questionnaire – all Commission members received this material.
 - If you wish the staff liaison to provide copies to the Commission they must be provided via email no later than twenty four hours prior to the meeting
 - If you wish to distribute material at the meeting you will be required to provide 7 copies of each handout and the handouts must be 3-hole punched.

If you have any questions/concerns, please feel free to contact the staff liaison [Beth Hulse, 718-1023, bhulse@oconeesc.com] who will be coordinating these presentations for the Commission.

Sincerely,
Russell Price
Capital Project Sales Tax Commission, Chairman

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to County Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
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**OCONEE COUNTY
CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX COMMISSION**

Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

PROJECT SUBMITTAL FORM

Due no later than January 15, 2014

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission has established a minimum project value for submission in the amount of \$250,000.

1. **PROJECT NAME:** Annex to the Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina
2. **Entity Name:** Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina, Inc.
3. ****Project Description:** Acquisition and renovation of property adjoining the Museum of the Cherokee in S.C. to expand our museum and add exhibit space, classroom area, research room, storage, and office space.
4. **Estimated Project Cost:** \$300,000.00
5. **Funding for this project from other source[s]:** (\$10,000.00)
6. **Net Amount Applied For:** \$290,000.00
7. ****Benefits of Project:** By expanding our facility we will be able to offer more programs for visitors and will be able to attract more visitors to our area.
8. **Entity Contact Information:**
 Name: Luther Lyle
 Telephone Number[s]: 864-710-9210
 Email: lutherlyle@bellsouth.net
9. **Submitted by [name/title]:** Luther Lyle- Museum Director/ Curator
10. **Other Comments/Notes:**

COMMISSION USE	
CPSATC ID#	2
Date Rec'd:	12-23-13
Recommended:	Y / N



Oconee County, South Carolina

Capital Project Sales Tax Commission Project Criteria Questionnaire

Project Name/Description: **Annex to the Museum of the Cherokee in S.C.**

The purpose of this document is to assist the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission (CPSTC) in understanding your proposed capital projects.

Please provide a brief summary of the overall project below:

The Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina, located at 70 Short Street in Walhalla, would like to acquire and renovate the property adjoining our museum in order to expand our programs to the public. We would construct additional exhibit space, classroom area, research room, storage, and office space. This would enable us to attract and accommodate more visitors to our facility.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather additional information regarding the project. Please provide as much information as you wish for each question. The Commission is not requesting that you provide any information not already in your possession regarding this project.

SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM:

Please return this form to the staff liaison either via email or USMail:

bhulse@oconcesc.com

Clerk to Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Please be advised that individual Commission members will not accept questionnaires.

1. Does the proposed project directly address a health and/or safety needs in Oconee County?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What is the need most directly addressed by the proposed project, and how will it address the issue?
- Are there other possible alternatives to proposed project?
- Have other solutions been proposed/attempted?
- What secondary benefits to health and safety will result from the proposed project?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

2. Does the proposed project address a federal/state mandate?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What agency is mandating the project (note specific section of law/regulation)?
- Has the project been reviewed by an attorney, and if so who?
- Are there other possible alternatives to the proposed project?
- Is there a deadline to meet the mandate, and is this a recurring requirement? If so, what is the anticipated length of time the proposed project will remain in compliance?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

3. Is the proposed project consistent with adopted strategic plans for either the county or one or more of the municipalities?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What strategic plans reference the proposed project (note any timelines, responsible parties, etc.)?
- What agency sponsored the strategic plan?
- How was the plan developed?
- Has the plan been adopted/endorsed by County Council, City Council or other governing bodies?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

4. Does the proposed project implement the recommendations of a previous study?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What agency sponsored the study (note the source of any funding)?
- What was the purpose of the study, and when was it performed?
- What factors considered in the study have changed since the work was done?
- Have the results of the study been presented to County Council?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

5. Has the proposed project been included in previous Capital Improvement Plans for the County or another organization?

YES _____ NO N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- When was the project first proposed?
- What was the original proposed date of construction/acquisition/implementation?
- Has any other agency also included the proposed project (or significant portion of) on their capital improvement plan?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed.

6. Will the proposed project result in the creation of (or retention of) jobs?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- How many jobs will be created?
- How many jobs will be retained that would otherwise be lost without the proposed project?
- What types of jobs?
- What is that anticipated pay range of the jobs?
- Are there other known job-related benefits associated with the proposed project?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

We expect to create 2-3 part-time Museum Assistant jobs at between \$15.-\$20.00/ hour.

7. Will the proposed project facilitate development that directly enhances revenues through taxes or fees?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What sources of increased revenues (taxes, fees, etc.) are anticipated to stem from the proposed project?
- What is the anticipated annual impact on each revenue source?
- Are there other possible enhancements to revenues that may be associated with the proposed project?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

Additional visitors will spend additional money locally.

8. Will the proposed project enhance the County's image, thereby attracting potential investors?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- How will the proposed project be viewed by the 'average' citizen?
- How 'visible' will the proposed project (or its benefits) be?
- What type(s) of, and how much, private investment is the proposed project anticipated to attract?
- What level and type of promoting will be necessary to achieve the proposed project's maximum potential in attracting investment?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

The Museum has already enhanced the County's image by being the home of the only Native American museum in the state of South Carolina. This fact has already had a positive reflection for on a regional and national level.

9. Will the proposed project help prevent the loss of jobs and/or revenue (other than any discussed above in this section) from Oconee County?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below:

- What types of jobs/revenue are subject to loss without the proposed project?
- Has a project similar to the one proposed been completed in the county/jurisdiction to which the jobs/revenue will potentially be lost? If so, describe.
- Are there known alternatives to the proposed project that may effectively save the jobs/revenue?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

10. Will the proposed project facilitate acquisition of grants and/or other outside funding?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below:

- What types of grants and/or other outside funding sources are expected to be made available by construction/acquisition of the proposed project?
- Have other jurisdictions successfully leveraged such funds with similar projects? If so, provide a brief overview.

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

There are many organizations and foundations whose purpose is to support heritage-related programs such as ours.

Examples: South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, South Carolina Humanities Council, The Graham Foundation, and the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation.

11. Will the project be economically sustainable?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What resources (staffing, maintenance, upgrades, etc.) are anticipated to be required to operate and maintain the proposed project?
- How will the proposed project offset the cost of operation and maintenance?
- Are there additional potential sources of economic benefit available?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

12. Is the proposed project supported by available or previously designated funding?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below:

- What funding sources are designated for the proposed project?
- If the construction/acquisition of the proposed project is to be phased or otherwise completed over a period of 2 or more fiscal years, are the designated funds available for each fiscal year?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

13. Will construction/acquisition of the proposed project now result in significant savings or economies of scale?

YES _____ NO _____ N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What are the anticipated costs to delaying the project?
- Are there factors other than inflation that may result in additional costs?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

14. Will the proposed project improve the efficiency of existing operations?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What existing services will be impacted by the proposed project?
- In what way will the proposed project improve existing services?
- Are there options to the proposed project to gain similar improvements in efficiency?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

The expansion of our museum facility will allow more available space for exhibits, classroom space, storage and offices.

15. Will the proposed project require additional resources (staff, funding, etc.) to support its operation after completion?

YES _____ NO N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What additional resources will be required?
- Can some resources be 'shared' with other assets?
- Are there options available that will limit need for additional resources?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

16. Will the proposed project improve levels of service provided?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What other asset or function will be enhanced by the proposed project?
- How will levels of service be enhanced?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

We will use the additional space for exhibits, classroom space, storage, and offices.

17. Does the proposed project coordinate well with other ongoing or planned projects?

YES



NO

N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- What other projects may be impacted by the decision to construct/acquire the proposed project at this time?
- Are there any special concerns that need to be addressed to ensure the development of the proposed project does not negatively impact other projects?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

We have already developed plans to enlarge our facility and offer more services to the public. The acquisition and renovation of this property will positively impact our long range plans.

18. Does the proposed project address needs or otherwise benefit other jurisdictions?

YES

NO

N/A



If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below:

- What jurisdiction(s) will benefit from the proposed project?
- What are the potential benefits?
- Is there a potential for partnership with the jurisdiction?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

19. Will the project create any disruption or inconvenience to the public?

YES _____ NO N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What are the potential sources of disruption or inconvenience to the public?
- b. What steps can be taken to mitigate the problems?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:



**OCONEE COUNTY
CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX COMMISSION**

Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

PROJECT SUBMITTAL FORM

Due no later than January 15, 2014

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission has established a minimum project value for submission in the amount of \$250,000.

1.	PROJECT NAME:	Oconee 9-11 Memorial
2.	Entity Name:	9/11 Memorial Oconee SC, Inc.
3.	**Project Description:	Through the use of symbolic materials from all three 9/11 event sites and modern technology, the committee's intent is to create a site that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * honor those who sacrificed their lives on 9/11; * educate generations of children about this life-changing moment in American history; * allow for each reflection on the sacrifice and service required of all Americans; * be a point of interest for visitors to our area.
4.	Estimated Project Cost:	\$700,000 (excluding project costs already incurred)
5.	Funding for this project from other source[s]:	(cash and in-kind donations/pledges for plan development and initial promotion - \$50,000 + projected of donations from local corporations, foundations, civic groups, and individuals - \$350,000)
6.	Net Amount Applied For:	\$420,000
7.	**Benefits of Project:	In a practical sense, the memorial will be an additional site for visitors, particularly first responders from throughout the Southeast. In that regard, it will enhance economic development. More intrinsically, however, the memorial will be a source of pride for every Oconee County resident who values patriotism and the sacrifice required to be an American.
8.	Entity Contact Information:	
	Name:	Brandon Shirley, chairman
	Telephone Number[s]:	864-985-2446
	Email:	brett_mcla@hotmail.com
9.	Submitted by [name/title]:	Brandon Shirley, President, 9/11 Memorial Oconee SC, Inc.
10.	Other Comments/Notes:	9/11 Memorial Oconee SC, Inc., 115 Maintenance Rd. Salem, 29676.

**You may provide supporting material with this form to include but not limited to plans, studies, maps, brochures, artist renderings, cost estimates, photographs, etc. Submitted material should not exceed 20 pages (in addition to this form).

Please be advised that the Commission may (at the Commission's discretion) schedule a meeting with the Entity submitting the project to obtain additional information.

Questions regarding this process and/or this form should be directed to shirley@oconeesc.com.

COMMISSION USE
CPSTC ID# 6
Date Rec'd: 1-13-2014
Recommended: Y / N



Oconee County, South Carolina

Capital Project Sales Tax Commission Project Criteria Questionnaire

Project Name/Description: Oconee 9-11 Memorial

The purpose of this document is to assist the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission (CPSTC) in understanding your proposed capital projects.

Please provide a brief summary of the overall project below:

The memorial will be located on approximately 1 acre fronting SC Highway 11, the historic SC Heritage Corridor. It will consist of three raised pedestals, marking the specific events at Ground Zero, the Pentagon and the crash of Flight 93 in Shanksville, PA. The story of the events at each site will be told in cement engravings circling each pedestal. The site will also feature areas for quiet reflection, as well as small speaker platforms and seating for groups. At the back of the memorial will be a natural amphitheater for use by large groups, including classrooms of students and groups of visiting first responders. There will be car and bus parking on site, walkways for those who wish to view the memorial on foot and a circular drive that will enable visitors to view the memorial without leaving their vehicles.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather additional information regarding the project. Please provide as much information as you wish for each question. The Commission is not requesting that you provide any information not already in your possession regarding this project.

SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM:

Please return this form to the staff liaison either via email or US Mail:

bhulse@oconeesc.com

Clerk to Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Please be advised that individual Commission members will not accept questionnaires.

1. Does the proposed project directly address a health and/or safety needs in Oconee County?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What is the need most directly addressed by the proposed project, and how will it address the issue?
- b. Are there other possible alternatives to proposed project?
- c. Have other solutions been proposed/attempted?
- d. What secondary benefits to health and safety will result from the proposed project?

a. Emergency response recruiting through recognition and inspiration

b. Not of this kind

c. N/A

d. Recognition/understanding of the importance of emergency response; recruitment of ER volunteers; inspiration to existing emergency responders.

2. Does the proposed project address a federal/state mandate?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What agency is mandating the project (note specific section of law/regulation)?
- b. Has the project been reviewed by an attorney, and if so who?
- c. Are there other possible alternatives to the proposed project?
- d. Is there a deadline to meet the mandate, and is this a recurring requirement? If so, what is the anticipated length of time the proposed project will remain in compliance?

3. Is the proposed project consistent with adopted strategic plans for either the county or one or more of the municipalities?

YES X NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What strategic plans reference the proposed project (note any timelines, responsible parties, etc.)?
- b. What agency sponsored the strategic plan?
- c. How was the plan developed?
- d. Has the plan been adopted/endorsed by County Council, City Council or other governing bodies?

We believe this project directly addresses the stated Oconee County Vision Statement, as adopted in March 2011; to wit: "A diverse, growing, safe, vibrant community guided by rural traditions and shaped by natural beauty; where employment, education and recreation offer a rich quality of life for all generations, both today and tomorrow."

The project would also contribute directly to the adopted mission statement of the School District of Oconee County; to wit: "The mission of the School District of Oconee County is to develop life-long learners by providing exemplary educational experiences for all students."

4. Does the proposed project implement the recommendations of a previous study?

YES X NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What agency sponsored the study (note the source of any funding)?
- b. What was the purpose of the study, and when was it performed?
- c. What factors considered in the study have changed since the work was done?
- d. Have the results of the study been presented to County Council?

This project addresses several aspects of the Oconee By Choice Vision 2008-2028 Plan as it was adopted by the Oconee County Council. Specifically:

1. The Plan preamble which states: "Oconee chooses smart growth and increased economic vitality with a plan that protects what is precious—a way of life, the bountiful resources of nature, and towns and a countryside full of inviting warmth. Oconee plans for a larger vision, one that stays true to the best of Oconee, one that responds to the character and economic desires of the county.
2. The educational component of the Vision Plan which states, in part: "...Oconee chooses learning for all, beyond traditional learning, extending and renewing resources beyond the usual concepts of time and place. While continuing to promote personal responsibility in school children, Oconee also proclaims that it is every citizen's right and responsibility to learn.
3. Item D2 of the Vision Plan's "Destination Choice" component, which states: "Continue partnering with a variety of arts/cultural/recreational organizations to provide mutually beneficial activities and events.

5. Has the proposed project been included in previous Capital Improvement Plans for the County or another organization?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. When was the project first proposed?
- b. What was the original proposed date of construction/acquisition/implementation?
- c. Has any other agency also included the proposed project (or significant portion of) on their capital improvement plan?

6. Will the proposed project result in the creation of (or retention of) jobs?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. How many jobs will be created?
- b. How many jobs will be retained that would otherwise be lost without the proposed project?
- c. What types of jobs?
- d. What is that anticipated pay range of the jobs?
- e. Are there other known job-related benefits associated with the proposed project?

The exact number of jobs is unknown. Jobs potentially impacted include the new Walhalla Hotel and other potential developments at the county's I-85 exits; also existing and new restaurants and retailers. Community-based initiatives to encourage new entrepreneurs will also be enhanced, as will Oconee County initiatives to attract visitors. Special events coordinated with the Mountain Lakes Convention and Visitors Bureau and local Chambers of Commerce will increase visitors, and efforts will be made to identify the 9/11 Memorial as a destination for Southeast U.S. emergency response organizations. All of these efforts will have a direct impact on tourism related service jobs in the county.

An additional, and perhaps more immediate, impact will be an increase in volunteer contributions to local community. As a majority of the emergency responders in the Southeast are volunteers, it is anticipated their services and, hence, their need for additional manpower, will be expanded at the very time that resources are becoming more strained. The memorial will serve to incentivize individuals to provide this important type of community service. The benefit to the Southeast region includes, but is not limited to, increased safety, reduced insurance rates, ability to promote economic development activity and strengthening communities, especially Oconee County.

7. Will the proposed project facilitate development that directly enhances revenues through taxes or fees?

YES X **NO** _____ **N/A** _____

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What sources of increased revenues (taxes, fees, etc.) are anticipated to stem from the proposed project?
- b. What is the anticipated annual impact on each revenue source?
- c. Are there other possible enhancements to revenues that may be associated with the proposed project?

a. Most, though not all, visitors to the Memorial will visit Oconee County for the first time. While the 9/11 Memorial will require little ongoing funding from Oconee County citizens, visitors for years to come will bring revenue to Oconee County and its communities as they prolong their visits to enjoy the other opportunities being promoted so diligently by the county.

Throughout the planning process the Committee has been astonished at the positive response to the idea. 9/11 was not a NYC event. It was a national event, of equal, if not greater, significance than Pearl Harbor. Incredible numbers of local citizens have come forward to offer their stories of friends and family members who lost their lives or contributed to the life-saving efforts on 9/11. Remarkable numbers of emergency responders have committed their efforts to support and incorporate their future activities to include visits to the Memorial.

b. It is difficult to quantify the economic impact, but it will be proportionate to the ability of the county, cities, and villages to partner with the 9/11 Memorial Committee to promote year-round events and market the Memorial to the vast numbers of citizens and emergency response volunteers in the Southeast U.S. This project has enormous potential.

c. Because of the uniqueness of the project it is anticipated it will become the best-known project of its kind in the Southeast. The cost of implementing the project has been substantially lowered by the willingness of the School District of Oconee County to provide property adjacent to the new Walhalla High School. In addition to substantially reducing costs, this places the Memorial on the state's premier tourist highway, the SC Heritage Corridor, adding to the probability of easy access and visibility.

9/11 is continually referenced by media, as international and national issues arise. Oconee County's 9/11 Memorial, by its unprecedented visibility, and its incomparable size and uniqueness will be a major participant in promoting a better future in Oconee County — educationally, financially by the broad support of all relevant organizations that will benefit from increased visitors to Oconee County, and individually by residents who are grateful and welcome the opportunity to recognize the volunteer services of our first responders.

8. Will the proposed project enhance the County's image, thereby attracting potential investors?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. How will the proposed project be viewed by the 'average' citizen?
- b. How 'visible' will the proposed project (or its benefits) be?
- c. What type(s) of, and how much, private investment is the proposed project anticipated to attract?
- d. What level and type of promoting will be necessary to achieve the proposed project's maximum potential in attracting investment?

The strong support of the school district to provide a site and to integrate the 9/11 Memorial into its curriculum, providing age-appropriate instruction designed to enhance awareness of the significance of 9/11. This means that virtually every Oconee County family will be involved in the 9/11 Memorial project.

In the planning process, the Committee has received uncounted reports of personal connections to the 9/11 events – Oconee County residents who lost family members, professional colleagues, and stories of people who were spared because of arbitrary circumstances or who traveled hundreds of miles to provide comfort and consolation to the survivors of the attack.

The bonds of the Emergency Responder community are truly that of "brothers and sisters." These bonds prevail in Oconee County, the Upstate Region, and across the nation. The Planning Committee has received an outpouring of interest throughout the region for this project. Inquirers ask how they can help to make it happen, and how they can program their own recognition activities at this site once it is operational.

Finally, virtually no adult today can forget where they were, how they learned of 9/11, and how their lives were ultimately, devastatingly changed.

We are a different nation since 9/11, in our security procedures, our vocabulary and our sense of the U.S. interaction with countries throughout the world. No US citizen, including Oconee County or South Carolina residents, is the same as we were before 9/11.

More than 3 million Americans have volunteered for military service since 9/11, the vast majority of them being actively involved in the war on terror that has its roots in 9/11.

Universally, during the planning process, every public and private group and individual who has heard of the proposed 9/11 Memorial has enthusiastically encouraged its creation.

There is no similar 9/11 memorial planned or in existence in the Southeast U.S. The ubiquity of the awareness of the importance of 9/11, the prevalence of personal connections, the historic importance of

the event virtually guarantee the Oconee County 9/11 Memorial will be among the most visible destinations in the region.

In the planning process the Planning Committee has already received almost \$50,000 in cash and in-kind professional contributions and pledges to promote the planning process (construction technology, engineering, land use, architecture, grading, commercial materials, legal and accounting expertise, public relations counsel, and on and on).

Based on the ease and willingness of providers to contribute to the planning process, and the universal encouragement of everyone who has heard about the Memorial, it is anticipated that the private funds needed to supplement the 1% tax initiative will enable the widest possible sense of local participation. Being included in the tax initiative will enable local citizens, who have expressed such strong interest in the Memorial project, to feel a special connection to the memorial, while also securing funds from visitors to help finance a "destination" project.

The 9/11 Planning Committee has contacted dozens of Oconee County residents/groups about the Memorial project. The task of the Committee will be to prioritize marketing efforts to bring the project to fruition as soon as possible so as to initiate programming at the earliest opportunity.

Based on the almost universal enthusiasm about the shared importance of 9/11, the uniqueness of the Memorial in our region, the professional distinction of the project planners, and the enthusiasm of educational, tourism, municipal, public service, and Oconee County residents, the task of the Planning Committee will be to prioritize time to bring the project to implementation as soon as possible.

9. Will the proposed project help prevent the loss of jobs and/or revenue (other than any discussed above in this section) from Oconee County?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What types of jobs/revenue are subject to loss without the proposed project?
- b. Has a project similar to the one proposed been completed in the county/jurisdiction to which the jobs/revenue will potentially be lost? If so, describe.
- c. Are there known alternatives to the proposed project that may effectively save the jobs/revenue?

a. The 9/11 Memorial will draw visitors from local, regional, and Southeast U.S. areas. It will be coordinated with, and supplement the efforts of, those jurisdictions with a mission to attract visitors to our county. This will be achieved with no administrative costs as the 9/11 memorial is exclusively a volunteer operation.

b. There is no comparable project in existence in the Southeast U.S. region.

c. No.

10. Will the proposed project facilitate acquisition of grants and/or other outside funding?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What types of grants and/or other outside funding sources are expected to be made available by construction/acquisition of the proposed project?
- b. Have other jurisdictions successfully leveraged such funds with similar projects? If so, provide a brief overview.

During the planning process the 9/11 Planning Committee has discussed funding opportunities with numerous funding providers. Virtually all of them have been positive.

We focus on the 1% tax initiative opportunity because it provides local residents an opportunity to feel personal participation in a remarkable project, while also securing funds from visitors to our area. Having Oconee County residents feel this is "their project" instills a pride of residence in Oconee County and an "ownership" in an almost unprecedented project.

There is no other project comparable to the Oconee County 9/11 Memorial.

11. Will the project be economically sustainable?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What resources (staffing, maintenance, upgrades, etc.) are anticipated to be required to operate and maintain the proposed project?
- b. How will the proposed project offset the cost of operation and maintenance?
- c. Are there additional potential sources of economic benefit available?

9/11 Memorial programming will be totally volunteer. The educational component for Oconee County students has been committed by the School District of Oconee County using existing professional staff with no expense increase.

Beautification (seasonal landscaping for example) will be accomplished by local organizations, such as garden clubs, who have been strongly supportive.

Blue Ridge Electric, while being strongly supportive (with a representative on the Planning Committee) has been gracious in minimizing ongoing utility costs.

Ongoing expenses (such as insurance, for example), will be minimal based on private conversations with area insurance professionals. Legal and accounting services will continue to be provided as a donation. Given the overwhelming interest of the professional and residential community it is the belief of the Planning Committee that the combination of minimal cost and huge public interest will make the 9/11 Memorial self-sustaining with minimal effort.

It is the experience of the Planning Committee that the more public and private groups and individuals that hear of the 9/11 Memorial the more enthusiasm and recognition there will be. During the years of the planning process, nothing suggests anything other than growth of visitors and success of the project measured by the number of visitors/groups willing to come to the Memorial for planned events and personal visits.

12. Is the proposed project supported by available or previously designated funding?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What funding sources are designated for the proposed project?
- b. If the construction/acquisition of the proposed project is to be phased or otherwise completed over a period of 2 or more fiscal years, are the designated funds available for each fiscal year?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

13. Will construction/acquisition of the proposed project now result in significant savings or economies of scale?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What are the anticipated costs to delaying the project?
- b. Are there factors other than inflation that may result in additional costs?

a. The sooner the 9/11 Memorial is operational, the sooner the myriad of tourist, retail, and other beneficiaries of increased visitors to Oconee County will benefit.

Each year, another grade of students, who was not born when 9/11 occurred comes into existence. We now have the opportunity to implement the 9/11 Memorial to "capture the understanding" of all students in Oconee County.

b. No.

14. Will the proposed project improve the efficiency of existing operations?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What existing services will be impacted by the proposed project?
- b. In what way will the proposed project improve existing services?
- c. Are there options to the proposed project to gain similar improvements in efficiency?

As previously stated, the Memorial will enhance existing efforts to attract visitors to Oconee County and will provide a lasting and meaningful "quality of life" component for those who live here.

15. Will the proposed project require additional resources (staff, funding, etc.) to support its operation after completion?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What additional resources will be required?
- b. Can some resources be 'shared' with other assets?
- c. Are there options available that will limit need for additional resources?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

16. Will the proposed project improve levels of service provided?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What other asset or function will be enhanced by the proposed project?
- b. How will levels of service be enhanced?

The 9/11 Memorial will benefit Oconee County students who were not yet born when the event occurred.

It will provide a venue to recognize the service and sacrifice of emergency responders, the majority of whom, in SC, are volunteers. These heroes face a constant challenge of trying to attract others to protect all of us. Every resident of Oconee County and most state residents are protected by emergency volunteers.

It will recognize the service and sacrifice of over 3.1 million Americans who have served our country militarily in the war on terror.

No adult who was alive on 9/11/2001 forgets where he/she was when they learned the news. During the planning process of the Committee has been astonished by the level of detail, sense of personal injury, and impact of the thousands of ways all our lives have been changed by 9/11.

This Memorial will offer a venue to recognize how all our lives have been changed, students, adults, emergency responders. It will provide an otherwise unavailable place of reverence, thanks for heroes, learning, and reflections on how quickly and remarkably life changes.

It is our expectation it will be "hallowed ground" full of emotion and reflection. It has been planned as a place of honor and thankfulness without peer in the Southeast region.

17. Does the proposed project coordinate well with other ongoing or planned projects?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What other projects may be impacted by the decision to construct/acquire the proposed project at this time?
- b. Are there any special concerns that need to be addressed to ensure the development of the proposed project does not negatively impact other projects?

As previously indicated, it will enhance efforts by the county and local communities to attract visitors and tourists, with the resulting economic stimulus to local retail efforts; it will also improve our quality of life attraction for potential industrial and commercial developers.

18. Does the proposed project address needs or otherwise benefit other jurisdictions?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What jurisdiction(s) will benefit from the proposed project?
- b. What are the potential benefits?
- c. Is there a potential for partnership with the jurisdiction?

See previous answers regarding volunteer recruitment.

19. Will the project create any disruption or inconvenience to the public?

YES _____ **NO** **N/A** _____

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What are the potential sources of disruption or inconvenience to the public?
- b. What steps can be taken to mitigate the problems?

Click on gray area to insert response - box will expand as needed:



OCONEE COUNTY
CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX COMMISSION
 Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices
 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

PROJECT SUBMITTAL FORM

Due no later than January 15, 2014

The Capital Project Sales Tax Commission has established a minimum project value for submission in the amount of \$250,000.

1.	PROJECT NAME:	Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. Multi-Site Renovations
2.	Entity Name:	Oconee Heritage Center, Inc.
3.	**Project Description:	See attached page
4.	Estimated Project Cost:	\$425,000
5.	Funding for this project from other source[s]:	(possible \$20,000 unrestricted OHC funds; \$16,000 restricted OHC funds)
6.	Net Amount Applied For:	\$425,000
7.	**Benefits of Project:	See attached page
8.	Entity Contact Information:	Oconee Heritage Center, Inc.
	Name:	Jonathan Fritz, President
	Telephone Number[s]:	864-638-2224
	Email:	info@oconeeheritagecenter.org
9.	Submitted by [name/title]:	Leslie White, Director/Curator
10.	Other Comments/Notes:	

** You may provide supporting material with this form to include but not limited to plans, studies, maps, brochures, artist renderings, cost estimates, photographs, etc. Submitted material should not exceed 20 pages (in addition to this form).

Please be advised that the Commission may (at the Commission's discretion) schedule a meeting with the Entity submitting the project to obtain additional information.

Questions regarding this process and/or this form should be directed to dhulac@oconesco.com.

COMMISSION USE
CPSIC ID# 8
Date Rec'd: 01-14-2014
Recommended: Y / N



Oconee County, South Carolina

**Capital Project Sales Tax Commission
Project Criteria Questionnaire**

Project Name/Description: Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. Multi-Site Renovations

The purpose of this document is to assist the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission (CPSTC) in understanding your proposed capital projects.

Please provide a brief summary of the overall project below:

Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization managed by an independent board of directors. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. manages 3 sites in Oconee County: The Oconee Heritage Center main museum, artifact storage facilities, and meeting space in downtown Walhalla; the General Store Museum in downtown Westminster; and Center Church historic site in Oakway. This project would fulfill renovation goals at these 3 sites. Renovations will make these sites more marketable to potential visitors, while enabling Oconee Heritage Center staff and volunteers to use best practices in the field of public history and historic preservation for the benefit of Oconee County residents relying on the organization to preserve donated artifacts and historic sites.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather additional information regarding the project. Please provide as much information as you wish for each question. The Commission is not requesting that you provide any information not already in your possession regarding this project.

SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM:

Please return this form to the staff liaison either via email or US Mail:

hhulse@oconeesc.com

Clerk to Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Please be advised that individual Commission members will not accept questionnaires.

1. Does the proposed project directly address a health and/or safety needs in Oconee County?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What is the need most directly addressed by the proposed project, and how will it address the issue?
- b. Are there other possible alternatives to proposed project?
- c. Have other solutions been proposed/attempted?
- d. What secondary benefits to health and safety will result from the proposed project?

2. Does the proposed project address a federal/state mandate?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What agency is mandating the project (note specific section of law/regulation)?
- b. Has the project been reviewed by an attorney, and if so who?
- c. Are there other possible alternatives to the proposed project?
- d. Is there a deadline to meet the mandate, and is this a recurring requirement? If so, what is the anticipated length of time the proposed project will remain in compliance?

3. Is the proposed project consistent with adopted strategic plans for either the county or one or more of the municipalities?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What strategic plans reference the proposed project (note any timelines, responsible parties, etc.)?
- b. What agency sponsored the strategic plan?
- c. How was the plan developed?
- d. Has the plan been adopted/endorsed by County Council, City Council or other governing bodies?

4. Does the proposed project implement the recommendations of a previous study?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What agency sponsored the study (note the source of any funding)?
- b. What was the purpose of the study, and when was it performed?
- c. What factors considered in the study have changed since the work was done?
- d. Have the results of the study been presented to County Council?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. participated in the 2012 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP), funded at the national level by Heritage Preservation and the Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS).
- b. The study was performed between April 30 – May 1, 2012. The purpose of the study was to assess our historic structures, as well as to determine whether or not our facilities provide an adequate display and storage environments for our numerous collections.
- c. Since the study was conducted, Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. has prioritized many of the issues identified by the CAP study and has begun working through those that can be done with current financial resources and manpower (examples: ongoing cleanout of basement storage facility, installation of LED lighting in exhibit hall, repairs to HVAC). However, many of these efforts have been stop-gap measures and need to be revisited when more financial resources become available to Oconee Heritage Center, Inc.
- d. The results of the study have not been formally presented to council. Oconee Heritage Center Inc. presented a general update to council regarding our progress and plans in March 2013, at which time the study was included briefly.

5. Has the proposed project been included in previous Capital Improvement Plans for the County or another organization?

YES _____ NO X _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below,

- a. When was the project first proposed?
- b. What was the original proposed date of construction/acquisition/implementation?
- c. Has any other agency also included the proposed project (or significant portion of) on their capital improvement plan?

6. Will the proposed project result in the creation of (or retention of) jobs?

YES X _____ NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below,

- a. How many jobs will be created?
- b. How many jobs will be retained that would otherwise be lost without the proposed project?
- c. What types of jobs?
- d. What is that anticipated pay range of the jobs?
- e. Are there other known job-related benefits associated with the proposed project?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

This project will create several work opportunities for outside professionals. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. always prioritizes in-county companies and workers over out-of-county business. Oconee Heritage Center's 1 full-time staff and 1 part-time staff members will also conduct and oversee many aspects of the project alongside volunteers. Once complete, if funding can be secured, Oconee Heritage Center Inc. would add at least 1 full-time staff position to expand the public hours of our locations.

7. Will the proposed project facilitate development that directly enhances revenues through taxes or fees?

YES NO N/A

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What sources of increased revenues (taxes, fees, etc.) are anticipated to stem from the proposed project?
- b. What is the anticipated annual impact on each revenue source?
- c. Are there other possible enhancements to revenues that may be associated with the proposed project?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Capital renovations to the Oconee Heritage Center (Walhalla), General Store Museum (Westminster), and historic site Center Church (Oakwoy) will stimulate more heritage tourism and overnight stays to Oconee County, thereby increasing Accommodations Tax (ATAX) revenue to Oconee County. Our 2 public locations, the OHC in Walhalla and the General Store Museum in Westminster already see a combined visitation of over 3,000 visitors, of which approximately 25-30% are tourists. With renovations and enhancements that make our sites more marketable to potential heritage tourists, we can expect a very significant increase in visitation, based on comparable sites in the area. (Ex. Pickens County Museum sees 10,000 visitors annually).

8. Will the proposed project enhance the County's image, thereby attracting potential investors?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. How will the proposed project be viewed by the 'average' citizen?
- b. How 'visible' will the proposed project (or its benefits) be?
- c. What type(s) of, and how much, private investment is the proposed project anticipated to attract?
- d. What level and type of promoting will be necessary to achieve the proposed project's maximum potential in attracting investment?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

Oconee County is ripe for a heritage tourism industry, as outlined by the 2010 Oconee County Tourism Action Plan. Oconee has numerous historic sites, museums, and genealogical resources that could make Oconee County a preeminent heritage tourism destination. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. has the knowledge base, brand recognition, and established credibility and visibility to be at the center of this blossoming industry. Renovations to the Oconee Heritage Center (Walhalla), the General Store Museum (Westminster), and Center Church (Oakway), would show Oconee's commitment to fulfilling the county's potential in the heritage tourism industry. Additionally, our 2 museum locations are within the downtown areas of Walhalla and Westminster, both of which are working towards downtown revitalization goals.

- a. The proposed project would be very well-received by the average citizen. Oconee Heritage Center preserves and displays the history and heritage of all Oconee citizens and their feedback shows an appreciation for our efforts and that they feel our efforts are vital to preserving their culture and interpreting it to visitors with dignity and respect.
- b. The proposed project will be very visible. Public updates tracking the project's progress will be circulated regularly throughout news outlets and social media. The completed project will make our sites more marketable through traditional marketing methods (TV, internet, radio, magazines, etc) and will allow us to expand our visiting hours and visitors services (historical research and educational programs and events).
- c. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. is currently marketing the proposed project as part of our 2014 Capital Campaign, which has a fundraising goal of \$250,000.
- d. In order to reach this fundraising goal we will have to market the project with our core membership, local corporations, grant foundations, and through event fundraisers such as our annual dinner gala.

9. Will the proposed project help prevent the loss of jobs and/or revenue (other than any discussed above in this section) from Oconee County?

YES _____ NO X N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What types of jobs/revenue are subject to loss without the proposed project?
- b. Has a project similar to the one proposed been completed in the county/jurisdiction to which the jobs/revenue will potentially be lost? If so, describe.
- c. Are there known alternatives to the proposed project that may effectively save the jobs/revenue?

10. Will the proposed project facilitate acquisition of grants and/or other outside funding?

YES X NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What types of grants and/or other outside funding sources are expected to be made available by construction/acquisition of the proposed project?
- b. Have other jurisdictions successfully leveraged such funds with similar projects? If so, provide a brief overview.

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Many grants for improved artifact conservation are available through the Institute of Museum and Library Services. These grants do not cover capital costs. Once capital renovations are complete, these grants would provide funding for storage materials, artifact conservation treatments, archival supplies and museum-quality display materials. Numerous other grants for educational programming are available through organizations like the South Carolina Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and National Endowment for the Arts, and so forth. Once our facilities are renovated to expand visitor service, we can apply for more educational programming grants.

11. Will the project be economically sustainable?

YES **NO** **N/A**

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What resources (staffing, maintenance, upgrades, etc.) are anticipated to be required to operate and maintain the proposed project?
- b. How will the proposed project offset the cost of operation and maintenance?
- c. Are there additional potential sources of economic benefit available?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. will always operate within the limitations of our resources.

- a. The proposed renovations will not REQUIRE additional staff at any site. We will continue to supplement staff with unpaid volunteers. Fundraising campaigns will continue in order to raise funds necessary for future maintenance and upgrades beyond project completion. Fundraising will continue to address operational and staff costs.
- b. Renovations will be completed to museum standards, building code compliance, and ADA compliance. Operational and maintenance costs will decrease when improved systems are in place, such as HVAC expansions and improved insulation.

12. Is the proposed project supported by available or previously designated funding?

YES **NO** **N/A**

If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What funding sources are designated for the proposed project?
- b. If the construction/acquisition of the proposed project is to be phased or otherwise completed over a period of 2 or more fiscal years, are the designated funds available for each fiscal year?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. has up to \$20,000 of undesignated funding available to put toward the project. An additional \$16,000 is available for components of the renovation that can be shown to benefit the display, preservation, or interpretation of Oconee County's textile production history. All funding generated by the OHIC 2014 Capital Campaign will be designated toward the renovation project as well.
- b. Funding will be allocated and spent according to project goals.

13. Will construction/acquisition of the proposed project now result in significant savings or economies of scale?

YES _____ NO N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What are the anticipated costs to delaying the project?
- b. Are there factors other than inflation that may result in additional costs?

14. Will the proposed project improve the efficiency of existing operations?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What existing services will be impacted by the proposed project?
- b. In what way will the proposed project improve existing services?
- c. Are there options to the proposed project to gain similar improvements in efficiency?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Existing services will not be impacted by renovations. We will continue to operate with current hours. For areas of the facilities currently open to visitors (exhibit hall), we will conduct renovations in small areas at a time, so as to only impede minimally. If absolutely necessary, we may close for a very brief duration to complete larger scale project.
- b. The proposed project will be visible and renovated areas, when complete, will be immediately available to visitors. Therefore, priority areas will be made available first.

15. Will the proposed project require additional resources (staff, funding, etc.) to support its operation after completion?

YES _____ NO N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What additional resources will be required?
- b. Can some resources be 'shared' with other assets?
- c. Are there options available that will limit need for additional resources?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

16. Will the proposed project improve levels of service provided?

YES NO _____ N/A _____

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What other asset or function will be enhanced by the proposed project?
- b. How will levels of service be enhanced?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Once completed, the proposed project will allow us to expand our visiting hours and offer more research opportunities, tours, educational programming, and special events and all locations.

17. Does the proposed project coordinate well with other ongoing or planned projects?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What other projects may be impacted by the decision to construct/acquire the proposed project at this time?
- b. Are there any special concerns that need to be addressed to ensure the development of the proposed project does not negatively impact other projects?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Renovations to our sites coordinate well with the Oconee County Tourism Action Plan, as well as the city of Walhalla's streetscape, and Walhalla and Westminster's downtown revitalization plans. Historic Center Church is located along one of the SC National Heritage Corridor discovery routes and could be an official destination.

18. Does the proposed project address needs or otherwise benefit other jurisdictions?

YES NO N/A

If YES provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What jurisdiction(s) will benefit from the proposed project?
- b. What are the potential benefits?
- c. Is there a potential for partnership with the jurisdiction?

Click on gray area to insert response -box will expand as needed:

- a. Oconee Heritage Center has locations in Walhalla, Westminster, and Oakway. Our collections and interpretive displays represent all of Oconee County. We also offer staff that are available to give guided tours of historic sites throughout Oconee County.
- b. Our Walhalla and Westminster locations have the potential to be downtown attractions and to also serve as informal visitors centers.
- c. Represented jurisdictions could be potential partners.

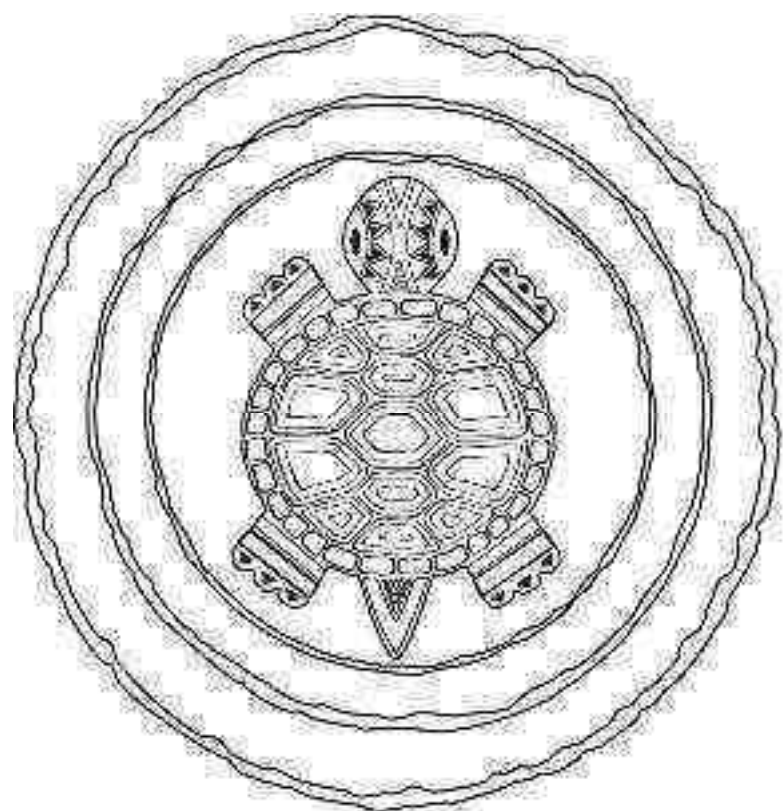
19. Will the project create any disruption or inconvenience to the public?

YES _____ **NO** **X** _____ **N/A** _____

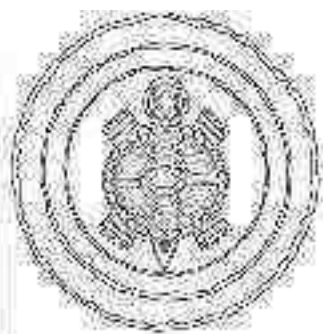
If **YES** provide the following information in the space indicated below.

- a. What are the potential sources of disruption or inconvenience to the public?
- b. What steps can be taken to mitigate the problems?

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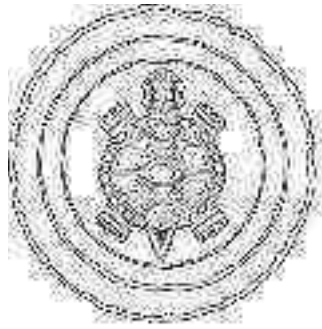


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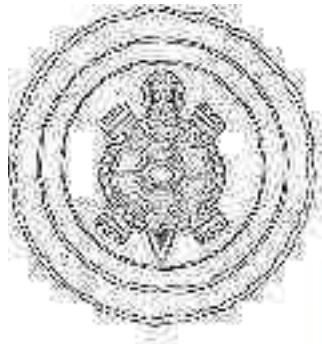
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**The only
Native American museum
in South Carolina.**



MUSEUM OF THE
CHEROKEE
IN SOUTH CAROLINA





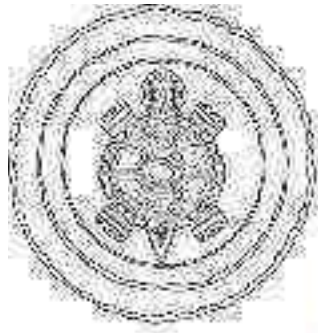
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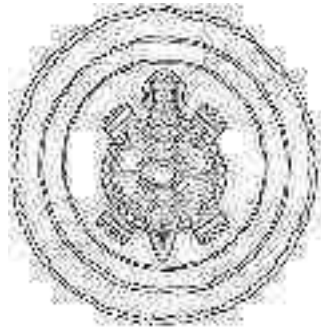
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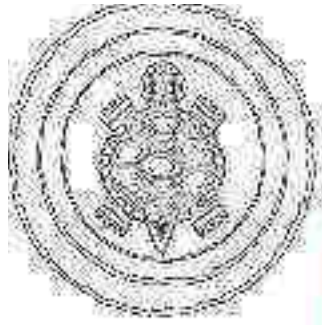
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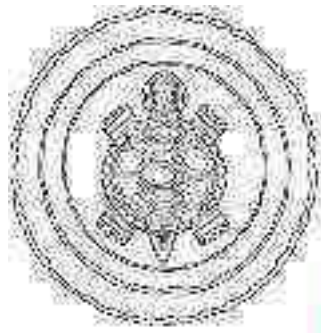
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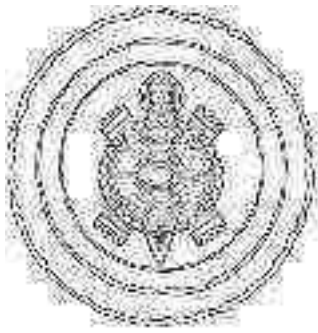
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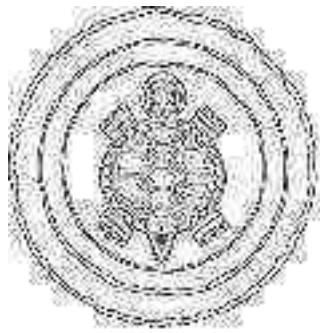
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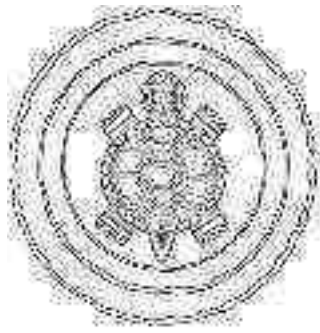
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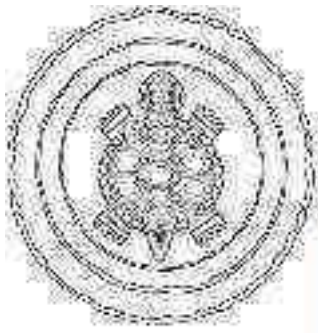
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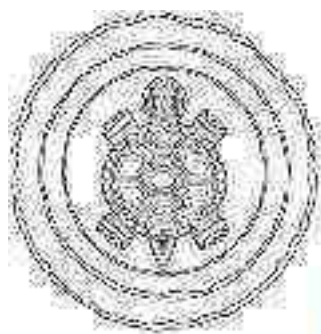
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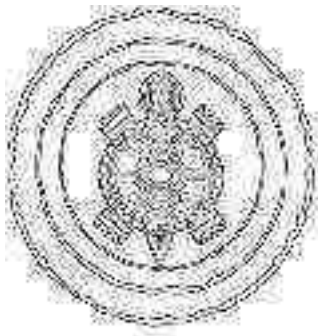
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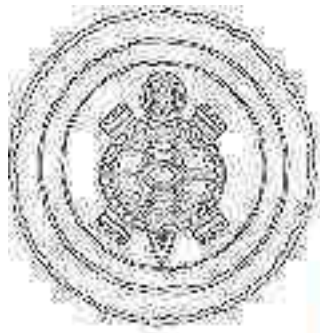
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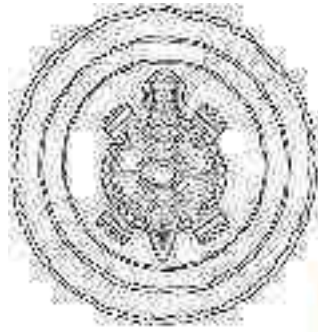
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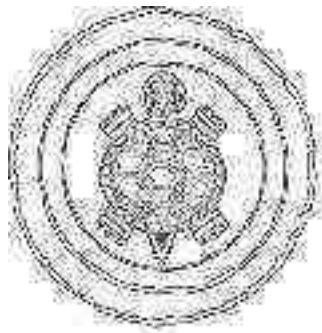
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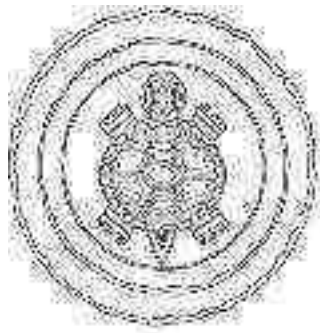
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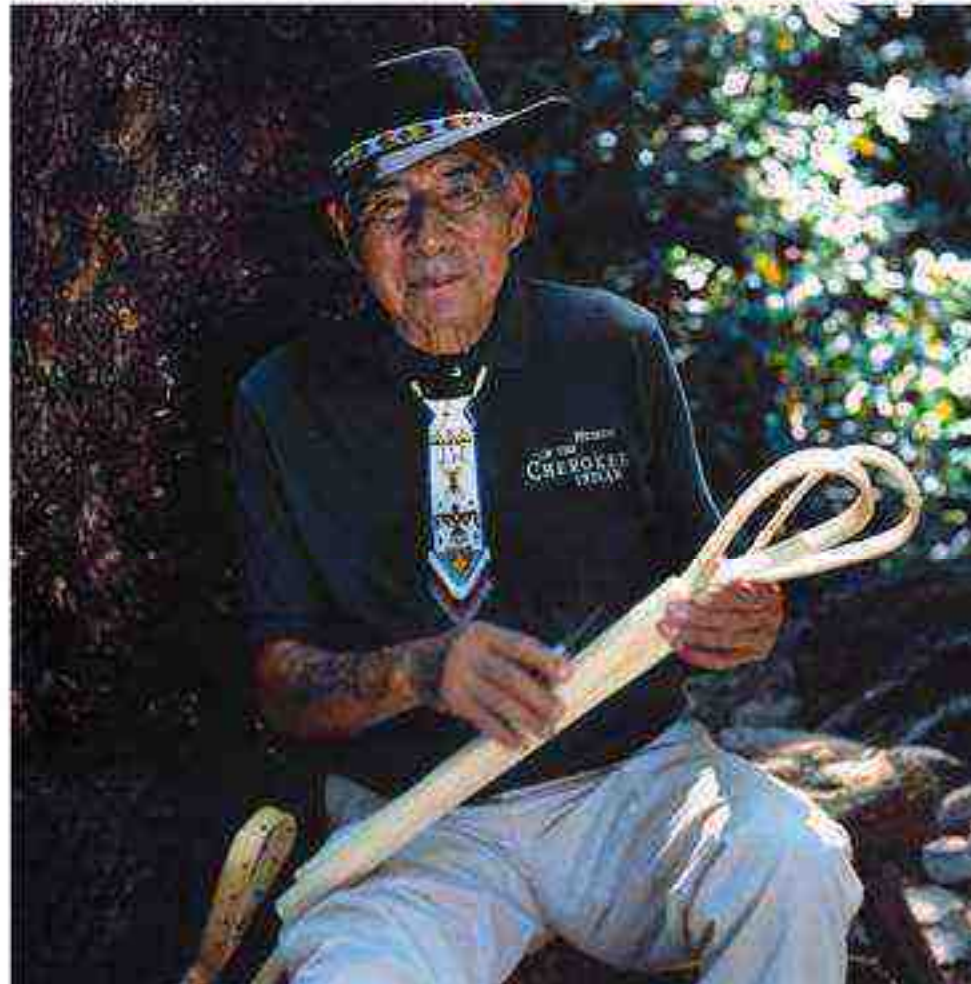


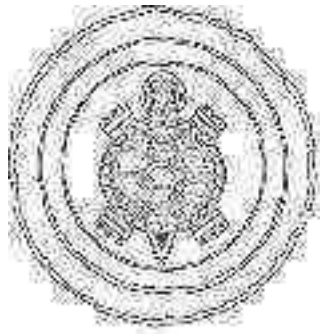
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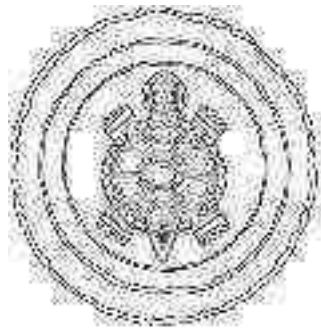
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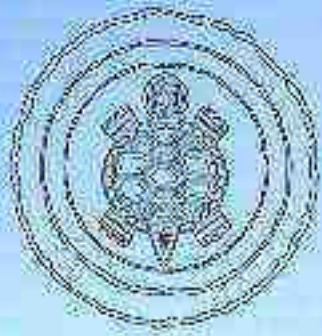
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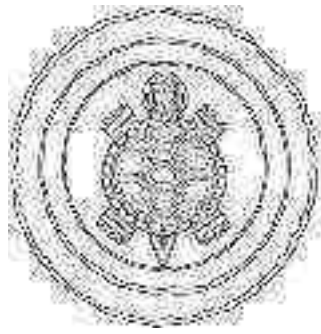
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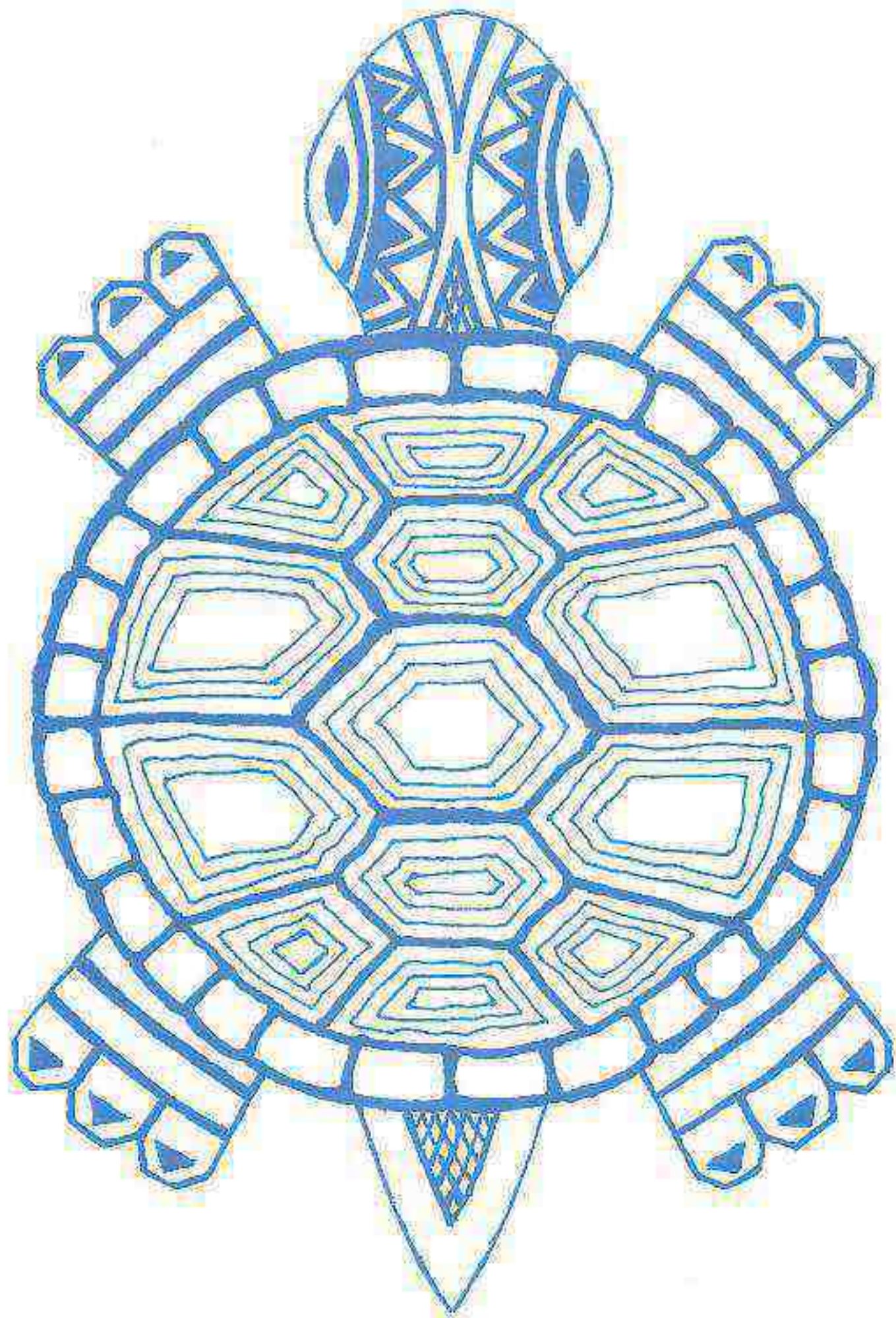
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IN SOUTH CAROLINA





MUSEUM OF THE
CHEROKEE
IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Questions



The Story of the Turtle Calendar

Many, many moons ago before Creator put humans on the earth, the creatures of the animal kingdom could talk and communicate with one another just as humans did much later.

In this long ago time, Turtle was making his way through the leaves on the forest floor when Raven landed on a tree close by. "Hello, friend Turtle," said Raven. "How are you today?" "Fine," said Turtle, "But I wish I could see the world from above as you do. All I ever see is what is right in front of me." "Clamp your mouth onto one end of that broken twig on the ground, and I will hold the other end in my talons and carry you into the sky. Turtle did as Raven said and they went up above the treetops and over the rivers and hills. After a while Raven said, "Well, Turtle, how do you like the view from up here?" When Turtle opened his mouth to speak, he let go of the twig and fell back to earth, shattering his smooth shell into many pieces. Raven was horrified at what had happened to his friend.

Creator saw everything that had happened and took pity on Turtle. "Turtle," Creator said. "I didn't make you to fly in the sky. I made you to crawl slowly on the earth. This will be a lesson to you. I will put your broken shell back together, but from now on your shell will have a new purpose. You will have thirteen spaces on your back for the thirteen moons in a year and twenty-eight spaces around you shell for the number of days in a moon. You will also be the Keeper of Knowledge, and you will live a longer life than all the other forest creatures."

The calendar on Turtle's back equals 364 days. The Cherokee and many other tribes have 365 days in their year. The extra day is the Green Corn day which is usually in midsummer when the corn crop is new and holds the promise of a good harvest. On this day, all offenses are forgiven, and great feasts are prepared and eaten. This is the day that everything starts anew.

So when you see brother Turtle crossing your path, remember his story and, if you can, give him a little help on his way.

Visit the GENERAL STORE MUSEUM



The OCH General Store Museum displays a vast collection of original artifacts from the historic England's General Merchandise store of Westminster, SC. The general store had everything you might ever need or want. Come take a step back in time with the "Flymo" hovering lawnmower, Blue Horse notebook, paper, saddle shoes, and much much more. The General Store Museum also features exhibits on the history of the greater Westminster area.

126 East Main Street, Westminster, SC 29693
Hours: Friday & Saturday 10 am-1 pm
& by special appointment



BECOME A MEMBER

Oconee Heritage Center members enjoy discounted rates to special events, classes, and workshops. Annual membership rates vary by level.

For more information email us at:
info@oconeeheritagecenter.org

Speakers and Educational Opportunities:

The OCH is happy to provide guest speakers for civic organizations or clubs of all ages. Speakers may present about the OCH or special historic topics by request. Traveling trunks are available to educators wishing to enhance their classroom experience with hands-on learning.

Plan a visit:

Hours of Operation:
Thursday & Friday 12- 6pm
Saturday 10am- 3pm
& by special appointment



www.oconeeheritagecenter.org



Find us on
Facebook

Pinterest



Funding provided by Oconee County AFAC Committee through
the Oconee County Council

For more area information visit:
www.semountainlakes.com

Oconee HERITAGE CENTER



More than a museum...



Oconee Heritage Center
123 Browns Square Drive
Walhalla, SC 29691
(864) 638-2224

www.oconeeheritagecenter.org

Oconee HERITAGE CENTER



Our Mission: The Oconee Heritage Center actively preserves and promotes the history and cultural heritage of Oconee County, SC through its museums, programs and historic sites.

Explore...

The Exhibit Hall



Textile loom from Cherokee Mills

Jake Sluder Heritage Park



Heirloom vegetable garden



The OHC exhibit hall



Take a stroll through the park at the Oconee Heritage Center in Walhalla. Follow the ever-growing memorial brick walkway through the heirloom vegetable plot and into the native plant garden. On display in the park are the Hardie-Lynes steam engine, the Manty Portable Jail, and the Verner Well House.



Memorial brick walkway

Where Appalachia meets the Deep South

Our Background:

The Oconee Heritage Center began as an idea in 1999 when a group of concerned citizens saw a need for the preservation and interpretation of Oconee County's heritage. Renovations to the old Tobacco Factory (c. 1892) were completed in 2004, and the Oconee Heritage Center opened to the public in the fall. Each year thousands of visitors enjoy the OHC's spacious exhibit hall and vast collection of artifacts that illustrate the diverse history and heritage of Oconee County.



250-year-old dugout canoe from the Cluttorney River

Louise Russell Alexander Children's Corner

Our nature-themed children's area provides a fun environment for young children to play, learn, and discover the history and heritage of Oconee County.

Visit the
**GENERAL STORE
MUSEUM**



Oconee
HERITAGE
CENTER



More than a museum...

Explore...

The OHC General Store Museum displays a vast collection of original artifacts from the historic England's General Merchandise store of Westminster, SC. The general store had everything you might ever need or want. Take a step back in time with the "Flymo" lawnmower, Blue Horse notebook paper, saddle shoes, and much more. The General Store Museum also features exhibits specific to the history of the greater Westminster, SC area.

Plan a Visit:

Hours of Operation:

Friday & Saturday 10am-1pm
& by special appointment

Admission is free but a \$3 per person donation is encouraged. The Oconee Heritage Center (OHC) works in partnership with the Westminster Area Historic Preservation Society (WAHPS) to staff and raise funds for this branch museum location. Both OHC and WAHPS are 501(c)3 non-profit organizations.

www.oconeeheritagecenter.org



126 E. Main Street
Westminster, SC 29693
864-698-2224

info@oconeeheritagecenter.org



Visit the
**OCONEE
HERITAGE CENTER**



Oconee
HERITAGE
CENTER



More than a museum...

Explore...

The OHC is located in the old Tobacco Factory (c.1892) in downtown Walthalla, SC. Come see the 250-year-old preserved dugout canoes and more artifacts of Oconee County's rich history and cultural heritage. From textile mills to nuclear energy and everything in between, the Oconee Heritage Center is enjoyed by visitors of all ages.

Plan a Visit:

Hours of Operation:
Thursday & Friday 12- 6pm
Saturday 10am- 3pm
& by special appointment

Admission is free, but a \$3 per person donation is encouraged. The Oconee Heritage Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

www.oconeeheritagecenter.org



123 Brown's Square Drive
Walthalla, SC 29691
864-638-2224

info@oconeeheritagecenter.org

Oconee
HERITAGE
CENTER





Oconee HERITAGE CENTER

Walhalla, South Carolina
oconeeheritagecenter.org

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Oconee Heritage Center (Walhalla location)

The Walhalla location at 123 Brown's Square Drive would receive the main focus as it is the main location, featuring Oconee County history museum, artifact storage, meeting space available for rent, and lobby/informal visitor's center.

Work would include the creation of an artifact conservation lab in the basement of the facility for use in preserving the Keowee Canoe and other important Oconee County artifacts. Later, after preservation is complete, this room will be used for public research, such as genealogy and material culture topics, as well as use for public programming, such as the Young Appalachian Musician music lesson program and workshops for traditional crafts or skills.

Additionally, the remaining space in the basement will be renovated to meet museum industry standards for long-term artifact storage. This will be done in an effort to accommodate the large influx of artifacts donated by Oconee County residents who expect long-term preservation and possible display of artifacts that are significant to the history and heritage of Oconee County residents.

Furthermore, the main exhibit hall in the museum will be completely renovated to meet museum best practice standards for displays and exhibits. Exhibits will accurately and tastefully interpret the history and heritage of all Oconee County residents, while meeting expectations for visitor safety as well as artifact security, safety, and preservation.

Renovations to the lobby and meeting room space will be included in order to add value to the facility and increase use as an informal Oconee County visitor's center and rental facility for public/private meetings and events.

All renovations will also meet new fire, safety, and building codes in place since original renovations were completed in 2004.

Cost estimates:

HVAC upgrades in exhibit hall, lobby, meeting space, and basement: \$75,000

Displays and exhibit hall renovations: \$40,000

Lobby renovations: \$10,000

Basement storage renovations: \$50,000

Conservation Lab (future research/program space) construction: \$75,000

Oconee Heritage Center (Walhalla location) budget maximum: \$250,000



Walhalla, South Carolina
oconeeheritagecenter.org

General Store Museum (Westminster location)

The General Store Museum is a branch museum managed by Oconee Heritage Center, Inc., in co-operation with the Westminster Area Historic Preservation Society. The museum is located in downtown Westminster at 126 E. Main Street. It is a re-creation of a 20th century rural general store, thus interpreting Oconee County's economic development and social history. Renovations to the facility will include the addition of a permanent exhibit dedicated to the history of Westminster and surrounding communities, featuring donated artifacts displayed in accordance with best practices for museum safety, security, and preservation. Additionally, renovations will increase handicap access to the permanent exhibit space.

Cost estimates:

Handicap renovations: \$10,000

Exhibit and display construction: \$15,000

General Store Museum (Westminster) budget maximum: \$25,000



Oconee HERITAGE CENTER

Walhalla, South Carolina
oconeeheritagecenter.org

Center Church historic site (Oakway)

Center Church is an historic property featuring a former church structure and cemetery in the Oakway community along Highway 24. The church structure dates to the 1870s and is in good condition. The building has been unused, but cared for by concerned citizens, since the 1950s. In 2009 Oconee Heritage Center, Inc. acquired the property through quit-claim deed from the South Carolina Methodist Convention. The purpose of the acquisition was to not only preserve the historic property, but to also renovate it and use it for programming to interpret Oconee County's religious history and heritage, and possibly as a source of revenue via rental fees for weddings. The site is easily accessible from Highway 24 and could be interpreted with exterior signage, to better facilitate use during unattended hours. The cemetery is also frequently visited by out-of-town genealogists and historians.

Renovations will include the restoration of the historic church structure. Vinyl siding must be removed to return the structure to its original lap board siding. Metal roofing must be removed to reveal and restore the original shake roofing. To make the site usable as a space for public programming, landscaping will be required to facilitate parking. Exterior interpretive signage will be added, as well as a small restroom facility for public use during programs. In an effort to keep the interior of the church as original as possible, little needs to be done to the interior. Renovations to facilitate access for the disabled will be made as well.

Cost estimates:

Landscaping: \$20,000

Exterior signage: \$10,000

Exterior restoration and ADA access: \$75,000

Restroom construction: \$45,000

Center Church (Oakway) budget maximum: \$150,000

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET for 3 sites: \$425,000



Oconee HERITAGE CENTER

Walhalla, South Carolina
oconeeheritagecenter.org

BENEFITS OF PROJECT

This project will benefit not only the potential heritage tourism industry of Oconee County, but the individual residents of Oconee County who want to see their history, heritage, and culture preserved for generations to come. With the appropriate capital funding for necessary renovations, Oconee Heritage Center Inc. is poised to be Oconee County's leader in local heritage tourism industry. Renovations will make our sites more unified as a museum/historic site system, yet distinct enough in character to attract many different types of visitors. Ultimately, this will make our sites more marketable to a broader audience. Visitation and tourism to our locations will increase significantly. Oconee County has the history and heritage resources available to grow a heritage tourism industry all its own that could one day rival Charleston, SC.

Locally, heritage tourism relies on the support of the people whose heritage is interpreted. Local residents donate historic artifacts and resources to the Oconee Heritage Center because of our credibility, reach, and sensitivity to their desire to see their culture and cultural relics preserved. Not all artifacts can be displayed due to their own fragility, but are nonetheless necessary to preserve and make available to historic researchers, who represent a segment of the heritage tourism audience. This project will also address the needs and desires of those locals who wish to preserve their history and heritage for study by future generations.

Oconee 9/11 Memorial Committee

Brandon Shirley Chairman
Assistant Chief, Keowee Fire Department

Don Brink, Treasurer
CPA

Brett McLaughlin Secretary
Publisher/Editor

Jim Alexander
SC Certified Economic Developer/U.S. Air Force (ret)

Sammy Dickson
Director Governmental and Community Relations, Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative

Carl Halvorsen
Salon Lions Club Representative

Josh Holliday
School District of Oconee County appointee/Wahalla City Council

Phil Shirley
Director, Oconee County Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Advisory Board Members

George Clauer
Attorney at Law

Rich Simington
Community Relations Manager

Christine Tedesco
Owner/Architect, RSCY architecture + design

J. Neal Workman Jr.
Chairman of the Board, Tishel Corporation

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **MAR 24 2013**

9-11 MEMORIAL OCONNOR SC INC
115 MAINTENANCE RD
SALEM, OH 44676

Employer Identification Number:
45-3819221
DIN:
17053017352023
Contact Person:
NICHOLAS R HINDS ID# 31662
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
November 1, 2011
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4231-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 947 (DO/CS)

9/11 Memorial



Never Forget

September 11, 2001

- ▣ 2977 killed
- ▣ 6000 injured
- ▣ 4 airliners high-jacked
 - 246 passengers died
- ▣ 55 died at the Pentagon

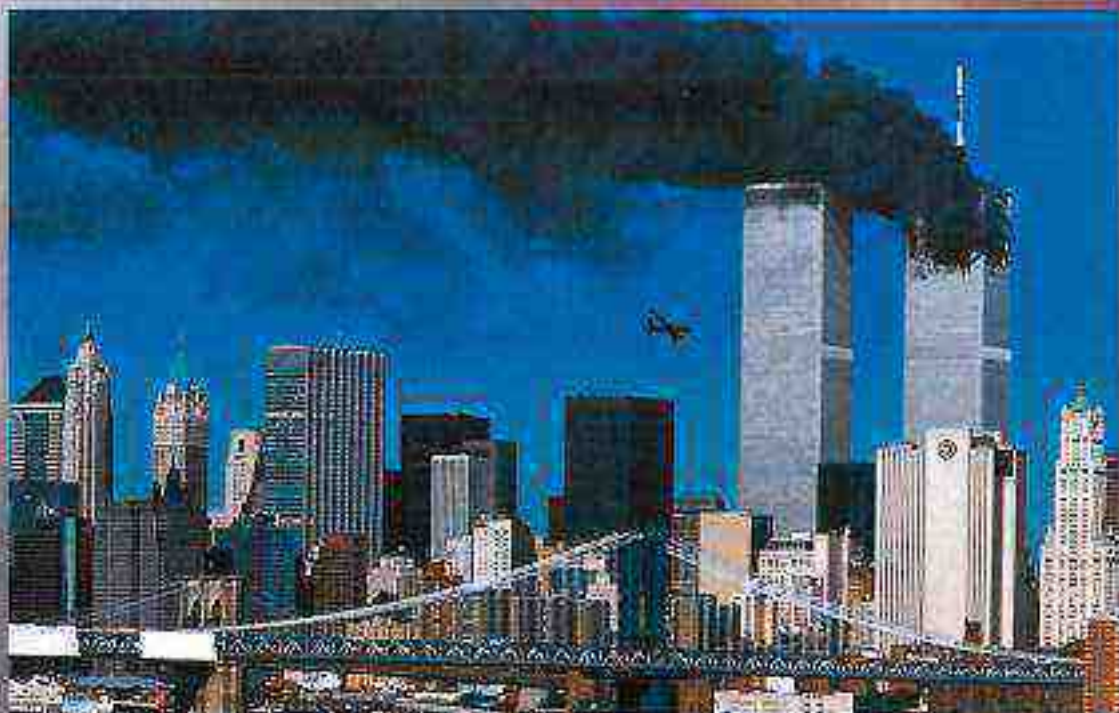


2,606 died from Towers disaster-

411 were Emergency Services Professionals



In our
suffering
we found
strength &
resolve



America responds

In the hours, days and weeks that followed the attacks the nation mourned, but Americans also began to commemorate the victims and demonstrate their patriotism.

American flags flew from front porches and car antennas. Sports teams postponed games. Celebrities organized benefit concerts. People attended impromptu candlelight vigils and participated in moments of silence.



Cities and towns sent firefighters and EMTs to Ground Zero and lines to donate blood at Red Cross offices and other blood banks were incredibly long. Military recruiters around the nation, watched in amazement as people who never would have thought of joining — or



rejoining — approached recruiters with the sole purpose of defending America. Since 9/11, more than 3,160,000 million Americans have entered military service, including — Oconee County men and women.



America was changed forever ...

This unprovoked attack prompted new and far-reaching laws aimed at securing the safety of American citizens and rooting out our terrorist enemies.

For more than a decade we would engage in an unfamiliar and agonizing form of war abroad and accept countless changes in the way we go about our everyday lives.



And, yet...

... just a dozen years after this attack, 9/11 has, unfortunately, become a moment in history, forgotten by some and unknown to far too many.

Forty-three million Americans were not born when 9/11 took place, including every school-age child below the seventh grade.

Lest we forget the human sacrifice, the life-altering changes America has endured and the lessons learned, a group of local citizens is working to establish a 9/11 Memorial in Oconee County.



9/11 was not a New York City event. **It was the "Pearl Harbor" of our time.** It was one of those tragic events for which we can remember precisely where we were when the attacks began.

Thousands of Upstate residents were personally impacted by the events of 9/11, whether on that day or in the ensuing weeks, months and years. The lives of friends, relatives and loved ones were forever changed.

9/11 touched our hearts, stirred our emotions and renewed our conviction in America's greatness.

As one of two 9/11 memorials in South Carolina, the Oconee memorial will not only be another reason for people to visit our area, but it will also be our lasting tribute to the victims and heroes of 9/11.

The memorial plan is unique and will distinguish itself among the most impressive remembrances of its kind.

Oconee 9/11 Memorial Purpose

- ❑ Commemorate the events of 9/11/2001
- ❑ Honor those who survived and those who sacrificed their lives
- ❑ Show our appreciation for and recognize the contributions of the emergency workers and first responders in our community
- ❑ Educate generations of children about this event
- ❑ Allow visitors to come together in a spirit of unity
- ❑ Be a point of interest for visitors to our area

Planning for the site is underway

- **Land** on Highway 11 near the new Walhalla High School has been **donated by the School District of Oconee County**
- Cement from the destroyed portion of the Pentagon, steel from the World Trade Center and soil from the site of the Flight 93 crash have been secured
- A preliminary design has been approved



Location

The site is located on the east end of the new Walhalla High School property on the north side of SC Highway 11. It is roughly 200 yards south of Pickett Post Road and directly across the highway from Falcons Lair Golf Club.



The site

George County, SC

911 Memorial

April 24, 2013



SITE PLAN - 1" = 60'-0"

12

trohel
CORPORATION

GEORGE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

RE
CT

The site will include ...

- ▣ Onsite parking for cars and buses
- ▣ Paved walkways through three distinct memorial areas
- ▣ A circular drive that will enable viewing without exiting one's vehicle
- ▣ Interactive options that will provide details about the events of 9/11
- ▣ Areas for quiet reflection

Concept Ideas





The Twin Towers Memorial



The Pentagon Memorial



The Flight 93 Memorial



Now, we need your help

We need people to ...

- ▣ Help us finish planning the memorial
- ▣ Make in-kind contributions of time and talent to its construction
- ▣ Help with fundraising efforts
- ▣ Donate

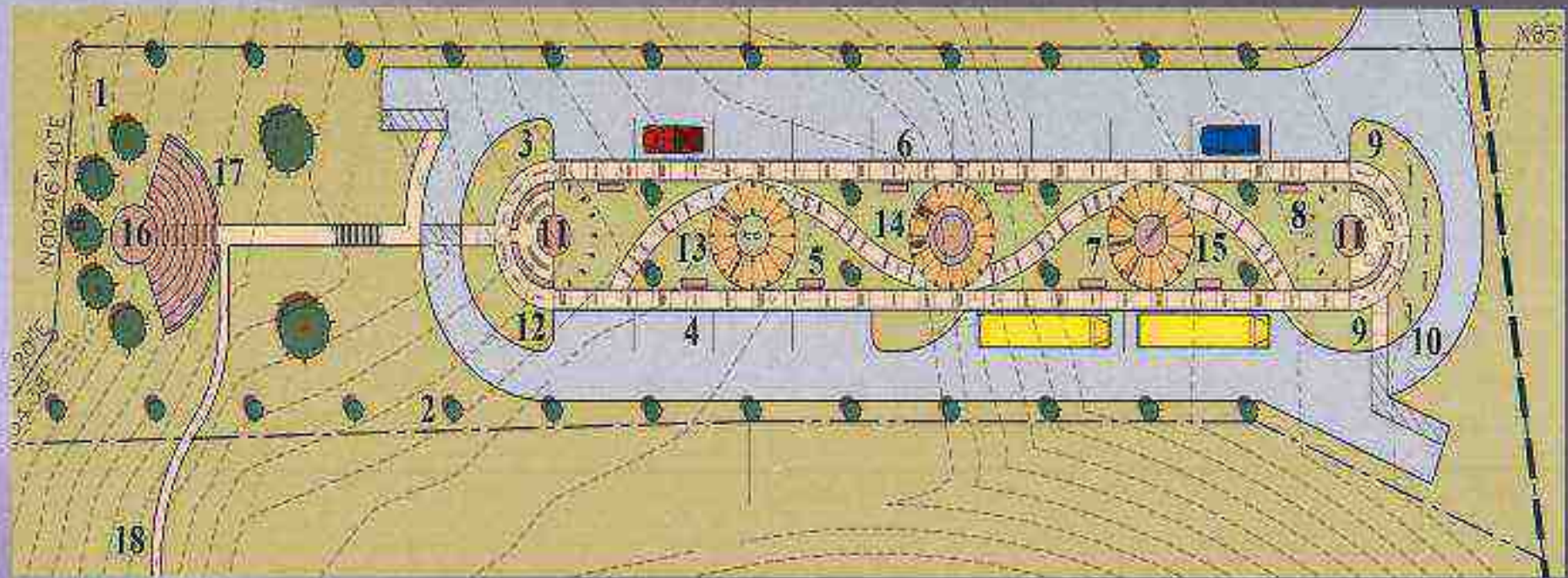
Giving Opportunities

Financial donations may take several forms:

- In-kind material or labor
- Undesignated financial contributions
- Naming opportunities
- Gifts to an endowment for ongoing operating costs



Naming Opportunities



1. Deciduous trees at amphitheatre
2. Conifer trees at perimeter of site
3. Constitutional engraving
4. Sidewalk quotations
5. Benches
6. Engraving of victims' names
11. Pedestal
12. Circular bench (2)

13. Pentagon pedestal
14. Shanksville pedestal
16. Amphitheatre stage
17. Amphitheatre seating
18. Walking path to high school



7. Memorial facts

8. Memorial stones

9. County and South Carolina seals

10. Flagpoles & Flags

11. Speaker pedestal

15. Twin Towers pedestal

The area around each speaker pedestal will be composed of engraved pavers honoring current or former first responders or simply members of one's family.

Donor Recognition

- ▣ Several levels of giving have been established. Contributors at the Donor level and above will have their names placed on a permanent bronze plaque at the site.
- ▣ All donors will receive confirmation of their gift for tax purposes.

Benefactor	\$10,000 & above
Patron	\$5,000 & above
Partner	\$2,500 & above
Sponsor	\$1,000 & above
Donor	\$500 & above
Engraved stone	\$50
Friend	\$25

You can notify us of your willingness to volunteer or make a direct contribution by contacting us:

By mail:

- ☐ 9/11 Memorial Committee
- ☐ 115 Maintenance Road, Salem, SC 29676

Through our website at:

- ☐ mountainlakes911memorial.com

By phone: 864-985-2446 or 886-1045

Checks may be made payable to:

9/11 Memorial Oconee SC, Inc.

a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. Donations are entirely tax-deductible.

On September 11, 2001 a total of 2,977 victims were killed and more than 8,000 injured in the deadliest terrorist attack ever on American soil. Today's fifth grade children were not alive when this event changed America forever. Many of them are unaware of the sacrifices made that day or how their daily lives have been changed as a result of this event.

Right now, a group of local citizens is working to create a 9/11 Memorial in Oconee County ... a memorial that will not only honor those who lost their lives that day — many of them first responders — but also will serve as an educational reminder to future generations of the heavy cost required to ensure the freedom we cherish. You can become part of the memorial project in a number of ways. Please take a few moments to scan this mailer. The 9/11 Memorial Committee hopes you will be moved to become involved or to contribute to this patriotic effort.



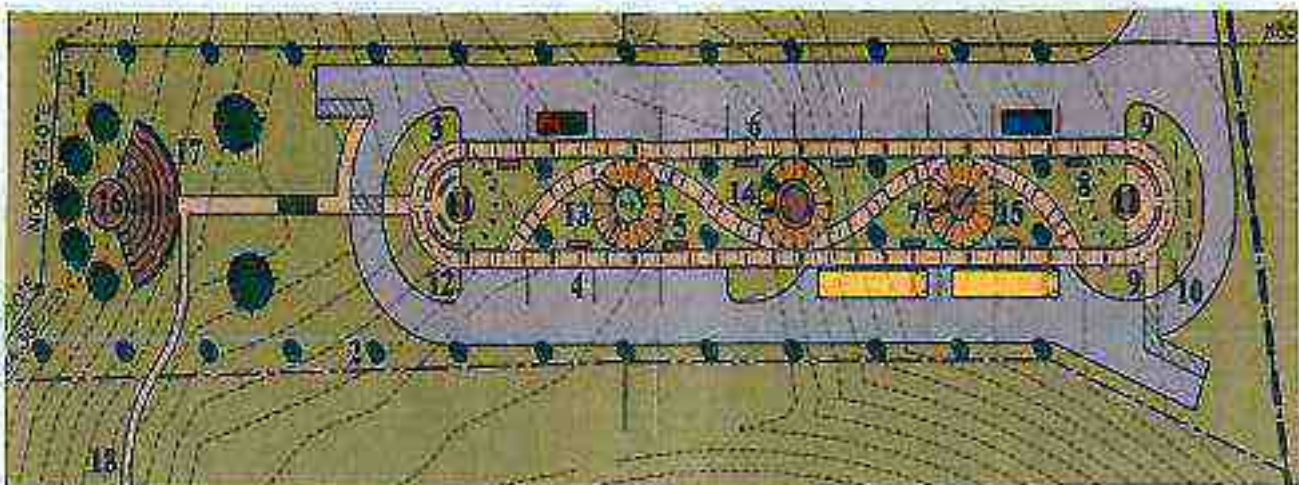
If you would consider contributing to the establishment of this lasting memorial, please fill out the form on the reverse side and mail it to: 115 Maintenance Road, Salem, SC 29678. Checks may be payable to: 9/11 Memorial Oconee SC, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All donations are entirely tax deductible.

Visit our website at mountainlakes911memorial.com

Never Forget



Naming Opportunities



1. Deciduous trees at amphitheater
2. Conifer trees at perimeter of site
3. Commemorative engraving
4. Sidewalk quotations
5. Benches
6. Engraving of victims' names
7. Memorial facts
8. Memorial stones
9. County and South Carolina seats
10. Banners & Flags
11. Speaker Pedestal
12. Circular bench (2)
13. Pentagon pedestal
14. Senecaville pedestal
15. Twin Towers pedestal
16. Amphitheatre stage
17. Amphitheatre seating



This site is located on SC Highway 11, east of Pickens Post Road, on the west edge of the new Wadholts High School site. The area around each speaker pedestal will be composed of engraved pavers honoring current or former first responders or simply members of one's family. Pavers can be purchased for a \$60 tax deductible contribution.

Several levels of giving have been established.

Contributors at the Donor level and above will have their names placed on a permanent marker at the site.

All donors will receive confirmation of their gift for tax purposes.

Dear Friend,

Please help make this remarkable area a healthy, honoring, America's heroes and providing an educational resource for future generations for whom this tragic, yet inspiring, event could become a forgotten piece of history.

Here is my gift:

- Friend \$25 Engraved stone \$50 Donor \$500 Sponsor \$1,000
 Partner \$2,500 Patron \$5,000 Benefactor \$10,000

Please provide your name and address and you will be contacted regarding the engraving of your stone.

I would like to volunteer to: assist with fundraising work on the site

Please contact me about: giving volunteer opportunities arranging a group presentation

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Zip _____

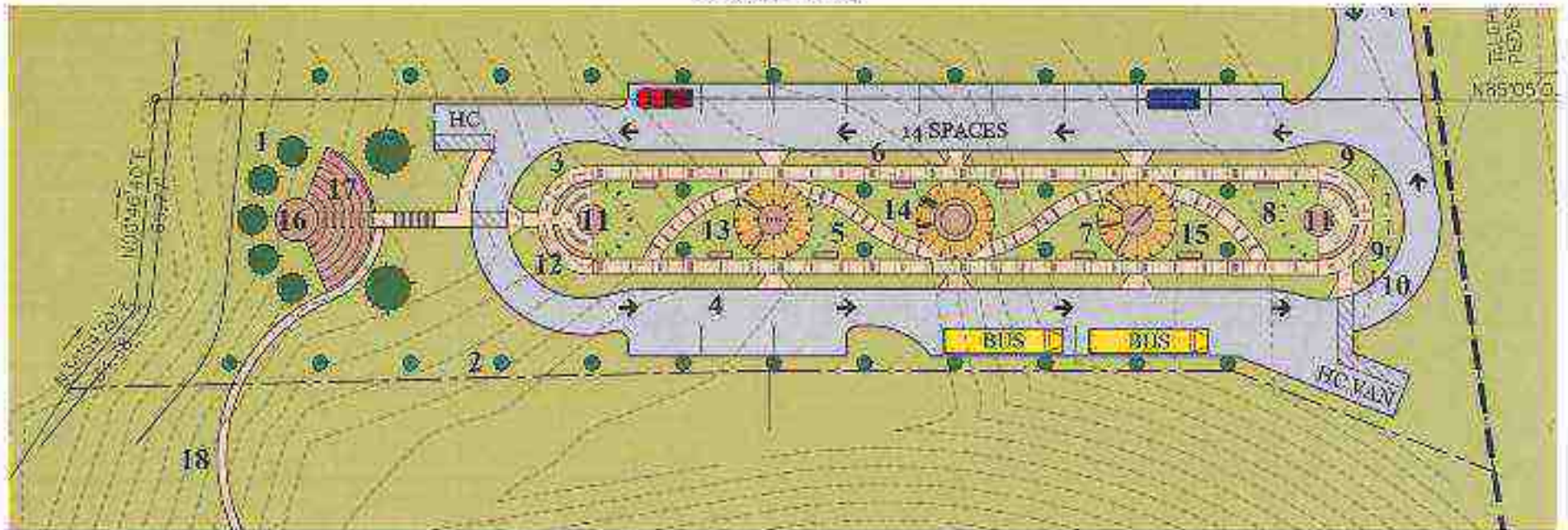
Email _____

Phone _____

All donations are 100% tax deductible and will be acknowledged. Makes checks payable to:
 911 Memorial Quotes SC, Inc. and mail to: 115 Maintenance Road, Salem, SC 29678.

Website: mountainlakes911memorial.com

9/11 Memorial Oconee County



NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

1. Deciduous trees at amphitheatre
2. Conifer trees at perimeter of site
3. Words from the Constitution of the United States
4. Quotations in sidewalk
5. Site furnishings - 8 benches
6. Names along sidewalk edge
7. Memorial facts on circular areas
8. Memorial stories on grass
9. County and South Carolina state seals

10. Flag Poles
 - USA
 - South Carolina
 - Oconee County
 - School District
 - Fire Fighters
 - First Responders
11. Pedestal
12. Circular bench

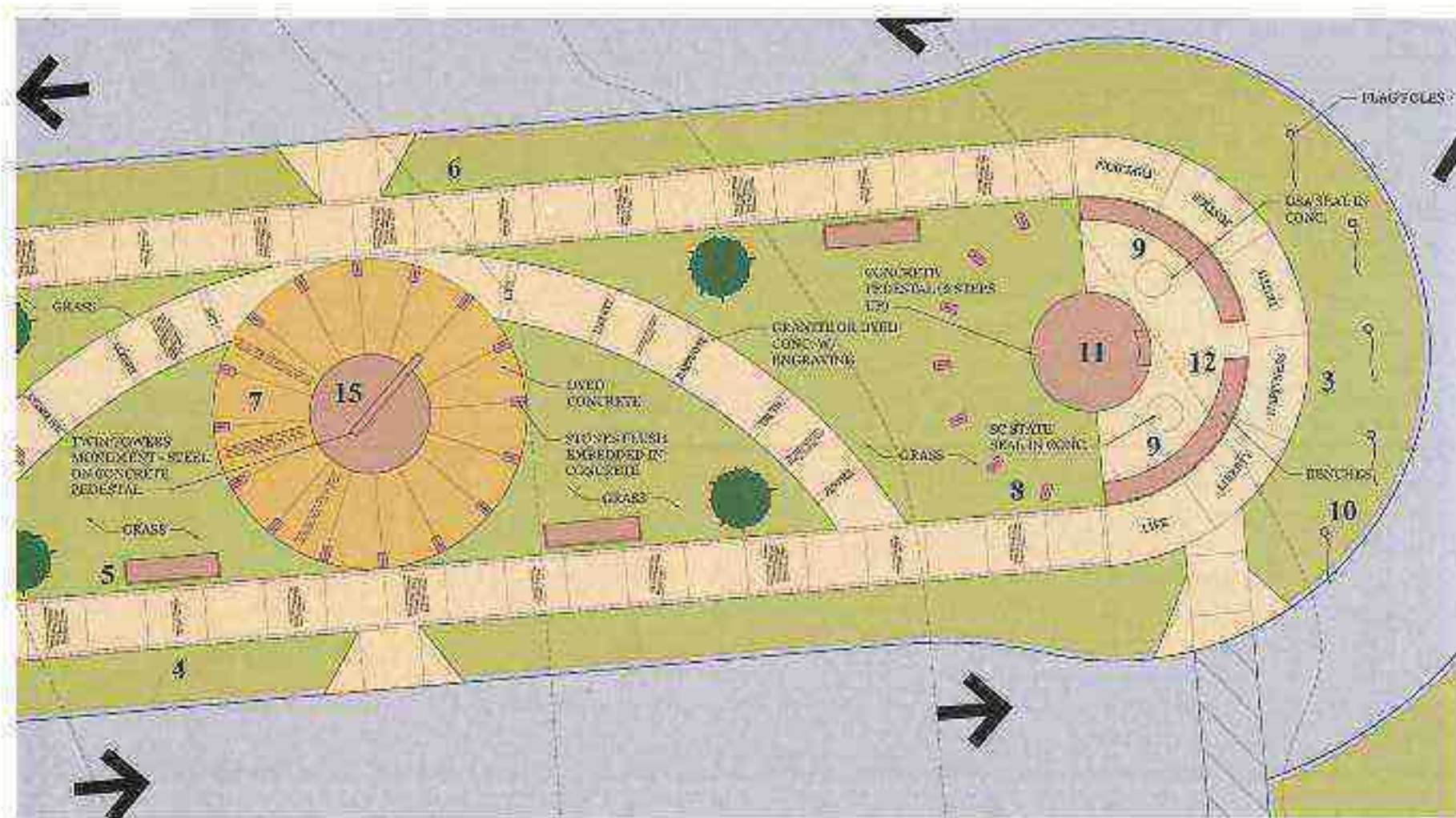
13. Pentagon pedestal
14. Shanksville, PA pedestal
15. Twin Towers pedestal
16. Amphitheater stage
17. Amphitheater seating
18. Walking path to Walhalla High School

DONOR RECOGNITION*

Benefactor.....	\$17,500.00
Patron.....	\$5,000.00
Partner.....	\$2,500.00
Sponsor.....	\$1,000.00
Donor.....	\$500.00
Friend.....	\$25.00

* A bronze plaque will be identifying donors by category.

9/11 Memorial
Oconee County



Why Oconee County?

Like Pearl Harbor before it, 9/11 was not a New York or Washington D.C. event. It was a national event, impacting every American regardless of where they live. Additionally, there is an incredible diversity of people in Oconee County, many who are native to South Carolina or thousands of others who have migrated here from other locales. However, they share a common thread of patriotism and commitment to the American way of life. Since the days of the Revolutionary War, Upstate South Carolina has epitomized America's zeal for rugged individualism and freedom in the face of tyranny and terror. What better place to have a memorial that recalls sacrifice and service to maintain those values.

What economic impact will the memorial have?

It is difficult to quantify the economic impact, but it will be proportionate to the ability of the county, cities, and villages to partner with the 9/11 Memorial Committee to promote year-round events and market the Memorial to the vast numbers of citizens and emergency response volunteers in the Southeast U.S.

How will the Memorial be funded?

In addition to expected contributions from corporate and business leaders, the committee has created an extensive list of "naming opportunities" expected to create support among civic and community groups. There will also be ample opportunities for individuals to donate to specific parts of the Memorial or to make undesignated gifts. The committee is also seeking inclusion in a sales tax referendum, which, if approved, would cover a good portion of the construction costs.

Where will the Memorial be located?

The School District of Oconee County, recognizing the educational importance of this project, has donated land on the South Carolina Heritage Corridor (SC Highway 11), near the new Walhalla High School. This land includes frontage on the highway, a prime location for visitors to Oconee County.

What ongoing costs will there be?

There will be little on-going cost associated with the memorial. The School District of Oconee County has indicated a willingness to help maintain the site, with the assistance of project volunteers. The Memorial is being designed for minimal maintenance, and it is expected that a small endowment will be created to provide the limited funding necessary to maintain the site.

Has any funding been obtained during the planning process?

The planning committee has already received almost \$50,000 in cash and in-kind professional contributions and pledges to promote the planning process. These contributions range from construction technology, to engineering, land use, architecture, grading, commercial materials and legal, accounting and public relations expertise and counseling.

If you have any additional question, please contact 864-905-2446 or 864-886-1045.

9/11 Memorial



Never Forget

9/11 Memorial Committee

- ❑ Brandon Shirley, Chairman
- ❑ Don Brink, Treasurer
- ❑ Brett McLaughlin, Secretary
- ❑ Jim Alexander
- ❑ Sam Dickson
- ❑ Carl Halvorsen
- ❑ Josh Holliday
- ❑ Phil Shirley

9/11 Memorial Advisors

- George Clatter
- Richard Cottingham
- Debbie Dubose
- John Powell
- Rich Simington
- Christine Tedesco
- Jimmy Watt
- Neal Workman

September 11, 2001

- 2977 killed
- 6000 injured
- 4 airliners high-jacked
 - 246 passengers died
- 55 died at the Pentagon



2,606 died from the Twin Towers disaster, 411 were Emergency Services Professionals



America was changed forever ...

This unprovoked attack prompted new and far-reaching laws aimed at securing the safety of American citizens and rooting out our terrorist enemies. For more than a decade we would engage in an unfamiliar and agonizing form of war abroad and accept countless changes in the way we go about our everyday lives.



• Cities and towns sent firefighters and EMTs to Ground Zero. Lines to donate blood were incredibly long. The Salvation Army supported the recovery efforts for months. Military recruiters watched in amazement as people who never would have thought of joining - or rejoining - approached recruiters with the sole purpose of defending America.



Since 9/11, more than 3,160,000 million Americans have entered military service.

In our suffering we found strength & resolve



And, yet...

... just a dozen years after this attack, 9/11 has, unfortunately, become a moment in history, forgotten by some and unknown to far too many.



Forty-three million Americans were not born when 9/11 took place, including every school-age child below the seventh grade.

Lest we forget the human sacrifice, the life-altering changes America has endured and the lessons learned, a group of local citizens is working to establish a 9/11 Memorial in Oconee County.

9/11 was not a New York City event. It was the "Pearl Harbor" of our time. It was one of those tragic events for which we can remember precisely where we were when the attacks began.

Thousands of Upstate residents were personally impacted by the events of 9/11, whether on that day or in the ensuing weeks, months and years. The lives of friends, relatives and loved ones were forever changed.

9/11 touched our hearts, stirred our emotions and renewed our conviction in America's greatness.

As one of two 9/11 memorials in South Carolina, the Oconee memorial will not only be another reason for people to visit our area, but it will also be our lasting tribute to the victims and heroes of 9/11.

The memorial plan is unique and will distinguish itself among the most impressive remembrances of its kind.

Memorial Purpose

- ❑ Commemorate the events of 9/11/2001
- ❑ Honor those who survived and those who sacrificed their lives
- ❑ Show our appreciation for and recognize the contributions of the emergency workers and first responders in our community
- ❑ Educate generations of children about this event

Memorial Purpose

- ❑ Honor the many veterans in our nation
- ❑ Honor those currently serving in our Armed Forces
- ❑ Allow visitors to come together in a spirit of unity and patriotism
- ❑ Be a point of interest for visitors to our area

Planning for the site is complete

- Land on Highway 11 near the new Walhalla High School has been donated by the School District of Oconee County
- Cement from the destroyed portion of the Pentagon, steel from the World Trade Center and soil from the site of the Flight 93 crash have been secured
- A preliminary design has been approved

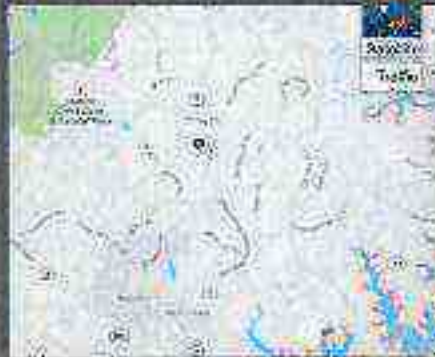


The site will include ...

- ❑ Onsite parking for cars and buses
- ❑ Paved walkways through three distinct memorial areas
- ❑ A circular drive that will enable viewing without exiting one's vehicle
- ❑ Interactive options that will provide details about the events of 9/11
- ❑ Areas for quiet reflection

Location

The site is located on the east end of the new Walhalla High School property on the north side of SA Highway 11. It is roughly 200 yards south of Picket Post Road and directly across the highway from Falcona Golf Club.



The Site



Concept Ideas



The Twin Towers Memorial



The Pentagon Memorial



The Flight 93 Memorial



Estimated Cost

□ Professional Services	\$80,000
□ Site Prep	\$90,000
□ Phase One Construction	\$300,000
▪ Twin Towers	
▪ The Pentagon	
▪ Flight 93	
▪ Roadway, stone work, landscaping	
□ Phase Two Construction	\$270,000
▪ Amphitheater	
□ Total	\$740,000

Currently Funded

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| □ Professional services | \$50,000 |
| □ New donations/pledges | \$30,000 |

Summary

- Oconee County will be a leader in preserving our national history and educating countless young people about that history, while honoring the brave men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation and community.

Our Request

- ▣ That the 9-11 Memorial be placed on the Oconee County Referendum this November
- ▣ We are requesting \$420,000 for the project
- ▣ By completing this project Oconee County will show our nation that Oconee County's citizens care about those who serve us in so many different ways.
- ▣ **Thank you for serving!**

Oconee Heritage Center

"More than a museum"



Multi-Site Renovations

Suzanne Earle – Board of Directors

Leslie White – Director/Curator

To Serve & Preserve



“ The past is not the property of historians; it is a public possession. It belongs to anyone who is aware of it, and it grows by being shared. It sustains the whole society, which always needs the identity that only the past can give.”

- Dr. Walter Havighurst

Our Mission



The Oconee Heritage Center actively *preserves and promotes* the history and cultural heritage of Oconee County, SC, through its museums, programs and historic sites.



Our Commitment



- ❧ The Oconee Heritage Center has taken the American Alliance of Museum's "Pledge of Excellence" that says,
 - ❧ "The Oconee Heritage Center pledges that, in fulfillment of our educational mission, we will strive to operate according to national standards and best practices to the best of our abilities and in accordance with our resources."

- ❧ Professional Affiliations:
 - ❧ American Alliance of Museums (AAM)
 - ❧ American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)
 - ❧ South Carolina Federation of Museums (SCFM)

Our History



❧ 1999 – 2004

❧ Organization founded by concerned citizens

❧ Saw a need for an educational museum closer than Greenville, Charlotte, or Atlanta

❧ Need for LOCAL history, not covered by standard SC curriculum

❧ 2004 – renovated former tobacco warehouse and opened museum in Walhalla

❧ 2011 – opened branch museum in Westminster

❧ 2014 – celebrating 10th anniversary with fundraising

Then & Now





Our Operations



- ❧ 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization governed by an independent Board of Directors
- ❧ 20-year lease on main facility from Oconee County
- ❧ Full-Time Director/Curator position is donated from Oconee County
- ❧ \$27,000 annual grant from Oconee County PRT
 - ❧ Used for operations and part-time staff
- ❧ Own General Store Museum facility
 - ❧ Manage in conjunction with Westminster Area Historic Preservation Society
- ❧ Own Center Church historic structure and cemetery

Come See Us



❧ Oconee Heritage Center – Walhalla

❧ Currently: Thursday, Friday 12-6 & Saturday 10-3

❧ General Store Museum – Westminster

❧ Currently: Friday-Saturday 10-1

❧ Center Church – undergoing renovations

Who We Serve



❧ Average Annual Visitor Count (2011-2013)

❧ Oconee Heritage Center: 2,736

❧ General Store Museum: 1500

❧ Special Christmas Eve Program at Center Church: 100

❧ Average Annual Tourist Percentage (2011-2013)

❧ Oconee Heritage Center: 33%

❧ General Store Museum: 45%

Source: Visitor log-in records with zip codes

Who We Serve



2013 Educational Field Trips & Outreach

- ❧ WHS Junior Leaders
- ❧ Westminster Elementary 4th Grade
- ❧ Tamassee-Salem 3rd grade & 4th Grade
- ❧ Walhalla Elementary 4th Grade
- ❧ Piedmont College (Georgia)
- ❧ St. John's Preschool
- ❧ James M. Brown Elementary 3rd grade
- ❧ WMS 7th grade
- ❧ Home School Tours
- ❧ Pickens Middle School
- ❧ Southside Christian School (Simpsonville) 1st grade
- ❧ Blue Ridge Elementary 2nd grade Seneca Walking Tour
- ❧ Northside Elementary 2nd grade virtual walking tour
- ❧ Code Academy
- ❧ Cub Scouts, church activities groups, local day care outings, etc...
- ❧ Numerous Career Days throughout the SDOC
- ❧ Traveling Trunk rental program for teachers

Who We Serve



Civic Groups

- ❧ Walhalla Garden Club
- ❧ Wizard of Tamassee
Chapter of DAR
- ❧ Leadership Oconee
County
- ❧ Retired SC State
Employees
- ❧ Upstate Master
Naturalists

Festival Involvement

- ❧ Apple Festival
- ❧ Mayberry Days
- ❧ National Hunting &
Fishing Day
- ❧ Oktoberfest
- ❧ Carolina Foothills
Heritage Fair
- ❧ Bell Fest

Community Programs



- ❧ Oconee Appalachian Kids
 - ❧ OAK Summer Camp
- ❧ Book Club
- ❧ Old-Time Music Day
- ❧ Trivia Night
- ❧ Crafternoons with Jennifer
- ❧ Beekeeping Lecture with Morris Warner
- ❧ Heritage Haunt
- ❧ Carolina Foothills Heritage Fair Canning Competition
- ❧ Temporary Exhibits
- ❧ Movie Nights
- ❧ Book signings
- ❧ Children's Tea Time
- ❧ Drop spindle spinning class
- ❧ Foothills Trail Seminar with Hayward Douglas
- ❧ Frosty and Friends Film Festival
- ❧ QuestMobile Scavenger Hunt (County-wide tour of historic sites)



Community Space



- ❧ Space available & equipped for formal and informal functions.
- ❧ Parties
- ❧ Receptions
- ❧ Business meetings
- ❧ Civic meetings
- ❧ Court preparations

Museums Matter



There are approximately 850 million visits each year to American museums, *more than the attendance for all major league sporting events and theme parks combined* (483 million in 2011).

- Americans view museums as one of the most important resources for *educating our children* and as one of the most *trustworthy* sources of objective information.
- Museums are considered a more *reliable* source of historical information than books, teachers or even personal accounts by relatives, according to a study by Indiana University.

Source: *American Alliance of Museums*

Economic Impact



❧ The activities of the arts and culture sector and local economic vitality are connected in many ways. Arts, culture, and creativity can:

- ❧ improve a community's competitive edge
- ❧ create a foundation for defining a sense of place
- ❧ attract new and visiting populations
- ❧ integrate the visions of community and business leaders
- ❧ contribute to the development of a skilled workforce

Source: American Planning Association

Economic Impact



- ❧ Museums directly contribute \$21 billion to the U.S. economy each year. They generate billions more through indirect spending by their visitors.
- ❧ 78% of all U.S. leisure travelers participate in cultural or heritage activities.*
- ❧ The nonprofit arts and culture industry annually generates over \$135 billion in economic activity, supports more than 4 million full-time jobs, and returns over \$22 billion in local, state, and federal tax revenues.
- ❧ Governments that support the arts see an average return on investment of over \$7 in taxes for every \$1 that the government appropriates.

*US Heritage & Tourism
Marketing Council

American Alliance of
Museums

What We Preserve



- ❧ Caring for over 3,000 artifacts of varying age, size, material, and condition.
- ❧ ALL artifacts have been DONATED by concerned residents or former residents, with an expectation of long-term care & access.
- ❧ Qualified staff
- ❧ Professional development & continuing education for staff
- ❧ Access = public display or visiting researchers.
- ❧ We can't and shouldn't display everything.

Artifact Preservation



- ❧ Artifacts are threatened by light, temperature, humidity, pollutants, pests, and improper handling.
- ❧ Museums must manage these factors to increase artifact lifespan
- ❧ Just the facts, ma'am:
 - ❧ 77°F and 45% humidity = 27 years
 - ❧ 68°F and 45% humidity = 50 years
- ❧ Metal rusts at 55% RH
- ❧ Mold grows at 70% RH
- ❧ Acid-free storage & display is crucial
- ❧ LED lighting reduces harmful UV rays

The Goods



Project Overview



☞ 3-sites to renovate

☞ Oconee Heritage Center – Walhalla (main)

☞ General Store Museum - Westminster (branch)

☞ Center Church – Oakway (historic site)

Project Goals



- ❧ Facility renovations will respond to the needs & desires of residents and visitors by:
 - ❧ Creating display and storage environments suitable for artifact preservation.
 - ❧ Creating exhibits relevant to the history and heritage of Oconee County that are accurate, attractive, and educational.
 - ❧ Preserving a historic landmark/cemetery in an underserved area of Oconee County.
 - ❧ Creating cohesive community centers and informal visitors centers for educational programming and local information.

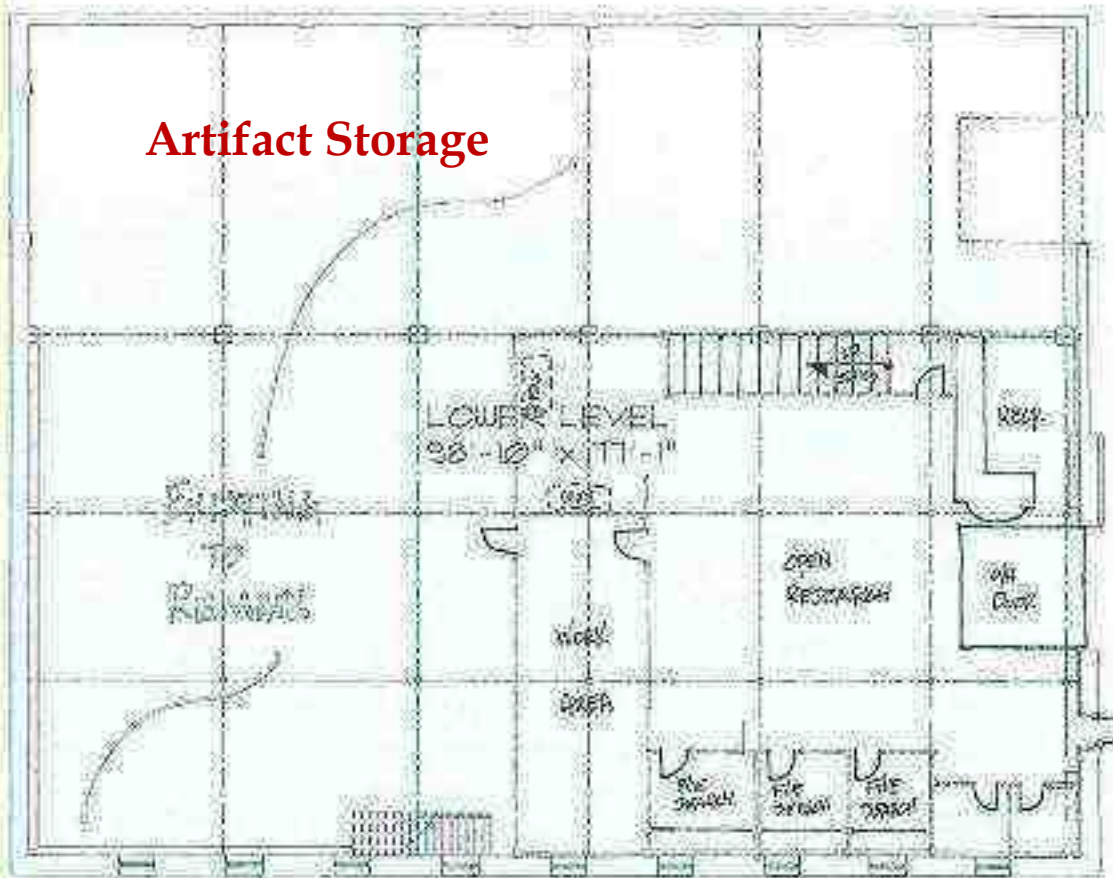
Oconee Heritage Center

Walhalla



- ❧ HVAC upgrades in exhibit hall, lobby, meeting space, and basement: \$75,000
- ❧ Displays and exhibit hall renovations: \$40,000
- ❧ Lobby renovations: \$10,000
- ❧ Basement storage renovations: \$50,000
- ❧ Conservation Lab (future research/program space) construction: \$75,000
- ❧ **Oconee Heritage Center (Walhalla) budget maximum: \$250,000**

Artifact Storage



Preservation/Future
Research Space

2 LOWER LEVEL - EXISTING CONDITIONS
38'-10" x 111'-1"
31000sf

GENERAL NOTES:
UPPER LEVEL - 7300sf
LOWER LEVEL - 31000sf
TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE: 38300sf
ARCHITECT: [unreadable]





General Store Museum

Westminster



- ⌘ Handicap renovations: \$10,000
- ⌘ Exhibit and display construction: \$15,000
- ⌘ **General Store Museum budget maximum: \$25,000**

Center Church

Oakway

- ⌘ Landscaping: \$20,000
- ⌘ Exterior signage: \$10,000
- ⌘ Exterior restoration and ADA access: \$75,000
- ⌘ Restroom construction: \$45,000
- ⌘ **Center Church budget maximum: \$150,000**

Historic Center Church



Current



Projected



Our Vision



- ☞ To utilize our credibility, cohesion, branding, and reach to be at the forefront of Oconee County's heritage tourism industry.

Oconee
HERITAGE
CENTER





Oconee County
Council Office

T. Scott Mosler
Administrator

Oconee County
Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864 718 1023
Fax: 864 718 1024

E-mail:
thosmos@occonee.com

Four Corners
Vice Chairman
District I

Wayne McCall
District II

Archie Barton
District III

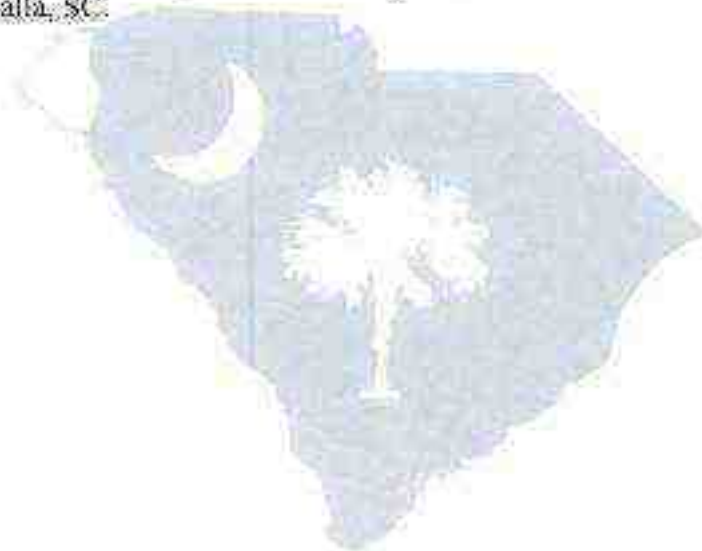
Jon Thrift
District IV
Chairman

Reginald T. Dexter
District V

.....LEGAL AD.....

**PLEASE ADVERTISE IN THE NEXT ISSUE
OF YOUR NEWSPAPER**

The Oconee County Capital Project Sales Tax Commission will hold meetings on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 and Thursday, January 30, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. and again on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. All meetings will be held in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC.



Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 10:01 AM
To: Beth Hulse; classadmgr@upstatetoday.com
Subject: CPSTC Jan-Feb 2014 Meetings
Attachments: 121613 - CPSTC meeting Jan-Feb-14.doc

Please run at your earliest convenience.
Thanks.

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to County Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
864-718-1023
864-718-1024 [fax]
bhulse@oconeesc.com
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Beth Hulse

From: Beth Hulse
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 10:03 AM
To: Beth Hulse; Carlos Galarza; Chad Dorsett, DJM News Editor, Greenville News (localnews@greenvillenews.com); Kevin Norman Cannada (kcannada@upstatetoday.com); Ray Chandler, Westminster News / Keweenaw Courier (westnews@bellsouth.net); WGOG (dickmangrum@wog.com); WSPA TV - Channel 7 (assignmentdesk@wspa.com); Brenda Davis; Don Fuller; Glen McPheeters; Mollie Smith; Russell Price; Thomas Miller
Subject: CPSTC January & February 2014 Meeting Schedule

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Elizabeth G. Hulse

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