A Walk to Freedom salutes the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth and the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, those who stood up for their rights until rights were won for all through the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Society's 1998 publication tells the story from the Movement perspective, through the eyes of the strong network of Christian churchgoers who banded together throughout the city to stage a God-filled, non-violent confrontation to banish segregation.

A Walk to Freedom is available at the Main Library, area bookstores, city branches of AmSouth bank and the Society. Our Web site will soon feature it and our other activities. Below left, Trustee Carolanne Roberts reviews publication images at Duncan House.

Special Events celebrating the book’s release included an Old Fashioned Mass Meeting at the Bethel Baptist Church, Collegeville. Pictured are the Reverends Ed Gardner and Fred Shuttlesworth with the Movement Choir under the direction of Carlton Reese, left, at the organ.

Birmingham Public Library hosted an exhibit of publication photographs and an autograph party. Pictured, below left, are Lola Hendricks, ACMHR Secretary and publication adviser; the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth (also shown right), publication editor Marjorie White and Trustees Carole Sanders and Stewart Dansby.

Alabama Humanities Foundation cosponsored the exhibit and a gathering of Civil Rights scholars at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Pictured, below right, are Dr. Glenn Eskew, Dr. Wilson Fallin, Jr., Rev./Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, Marjorie White, Dr. Aldon Morris and Dr. Andrew Manis. Mercer University Press will publish their reflections.
Meetings, Tours & Lectures

Birmingham Historical Society feted recently constructed, low-rise buildings, well-designed to fit into the historic context of our city center with an exhibit and lecture at the Birmingham Museum of Art. Low Virtues-The Human Scale of Architecture, curated by Philip Morris included photographs by John O’Hagan (pictured above right with his wife Mary) and a scale model of the city center by Auburn University architectural students under the direction of Cheryl Morgan and Franklin Setzer. Pictured, above left, are Society Officers Philip Morris, Steve Yoder and Sara Ruiz de Molina and our speaker, Michael Dennis (an architect with strong urban design sensitivities), at the museum. AmSouth’s 20th Street Entrance to the Harbert Tower, right, was hailed as “vitus.”

Heritage Society members gathered at the Symer Residence on Shades Mountain, the mountaintop estate that hosts Terry and Jennifer Slaughter have lovingly restored. Pictured, above, are Sid Smyer, Katherine Parker, Terry Slaughter and Jim Emison.

At the 1,500-seat Ensley Baptist Church, art historian Dr. John Schnorrenberg addresses participants in the 14th Annual Tour of Sacred Places which visited Ensley gems.

Annual Preservation Awardees gathered in Corbin and Dody Day’s exciting studio and gallery, the award-winning 1814 Building (below). Here, the Society recognized preservation heroes including the Birmingham Waterworks for the Cahaba Pumping Station, Auburn University’s Birmingham Center for Architecture and Urban Design for community service, St. Paul’s Catholic Cathedral for its stained glass restoration, Third Presbyterian Church for the restoration of its sanctuary, the City of Birmingham’s Department of Urban Forestry for restoration of historic landscapes and the 1814 Building.

Elma Bell, left, was honored for telling preservation success stories to decades of Birmingham News readers.
Birmingham Historical Society programs introduced thousands to our city’s special places. Society volunteers and staff led 60 Discovery Tours for third through fifth graders in city and suburban schools and conducted building days in City of Birmingham schools.

BHS staff and volunteers including Auburn University architectural student “Buddies” met students after the Discovery Tours to sketch “adopted” buildings and later helped them transform the sketches into cardboard replicas and models carried and worn in the annual Preservation Week Parade.

Price Elementary third graders (above) built Linn Park and the municipal buildings.

Whatley students paraded as vertical shotguns with pyramidal roofs, an innovative house type conceived to flatter the third grade figure.

Mr. Ward’s Avondale third graders built the Omnimax Theater at the McWane Center.

Barrett School fifth graders studied housing types in their recently registered East Lake Historic District. They pose with their Auburn Buddy and Classical Revival and Victorian Cottage renditions.

Mrs. Milner’s Christian Elementary students sketch First Avenue lofts for the 1999 parade. Their versions will include restored interiors.

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