



Enjoy the Hospitality
of Scotland County

Scotland County - The Soul of the Carolinas



UPCOMING
KEY EVENTS



John Charles McNeill
House



Temperance Hall



Spring Hill

We have the pleasure of introducing you to a unique historic area located right in Wagram. Its site contains two structures and housed a historic church and school. Although they are no longer standing, they are now commemorated by a new historic marker. It is located 1 ½ miles west of US 401, also known in Wagram as Main Street (about nine miles north of Laurinburg), off Old Wire Road near Spring Hill Cemetery. Be sure to note that the grounds are always open, but tours are only available by appointment.

The John Charles McNeill House

**The little loves and sorrows are my song:
The leafy lanes and birthsteads of my sires,
Where memory broods by winter's evening fires
O'er oft-told joys, and ghosts of ancient wrong**

Those four lines, written by North Carolina poet-laureate John Charles McNeill (1874-1907), are speculated to be about his home. He was a Scotland County native and a grandson of Scottish immigrants, which gave him more than enough to write about in his poems. The natural lore and imagery of his works still pertain to how it looks today, as the fields and woodlands around Wagram haven't changed much since John Charles roamed them as a small boy. Staying close to home, he attended Wake Forest College to study law, and his name became more well known. Unfortunately, only one volume of his work--Songs Happy and Sad--was published before his premature death at only 33 years old.

McNeill's magnificent restored home provides a fascinating inside look into his day-to-day life. It was moved to its current site in the year 1960. Additionally, McNeil was righteously awarded North Carolina's highest literary award, the Patterson Cup, presented by President Theodore Roosevelt himself. If you want to check out the John McNeill House, make an appointment today!



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Richmond Temperance and Literary Society Hall

The Richmond Temperance and Literary Society is believed to be the only structure that was built to house a temperance society. In its prime, it hosted lively debates, yet it is still used today for civic group meetings. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

The Society was founded in 1855 with the goal of elevating the moral and cultural life of its community. Because its construction coincided with the temperance movement, the charter members vowed to “neither make, sell, buy, nor use as a beverage any intoxicating drink whatever.” And, within a few years, the society was a small-one story, one-room hexagonal building with sixteen-foot sides. There, they congregated and coordinated their “uncompromising hostility to intemperance and untiring zeal for the advancement of literature.”

Located at the peak of the building’s roof by a wooden finial, the society’s twin aims are steeped in rich symbolism, as they represent an inverted wine goblet on top of a closed Bible. Not only that, but the blue ceiling inside is covered with a constellation of gold stars, each one representing a member of the society. If one member broke the vow of abstinence, the star would be painted black. Several stars alternate between black and gold, too. And if they died, the star was gilded in silver as a memorial.

Beautiful hand-molded local bricks make up the wall of the society’s hall, which is still standing to show just how successful the construction was back in 1860 by the skilled Scottish descendants. However, some parts of the building have not been so lucky--both pieces of the finial were shot down by Sherman’s troops as they made their way towards Fayetteville during his Carolinas Campaign. You can even see the bullet holes fired into the wall of the hall’s exterior if you search hard enough.



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Spring Hill Academy and Baptist Church

Constructed in 1820, this property is also the site of the original schoolhouse known as Spring Hill Academy. The proximity of the schoolhouse to Spring Hill Baptist Church and the Temperance Hall can be seen in the photo above. Alexander Graham, one of the school's finest teachers, was called away to join the Confederate forces but eventually made his way back to the schoolhouse in 1862. In 1967 his famous son, Frank Porter Graham, delivered an address to the last graduating class of Wagram School. He was also President of the University of North Carolina, staying true to his roots.

Thanks to the Scottish settlers' emphasis on intelligence and learning, Spring Hill Academy produced some of the sharpest minds in the South. Some of the first teachers at the academy such as Rev. McPherson were highly respected Princeton graduates. In addition, John Charles McNeill, whose birthplace was moved to these grounds for historical preservation, benefited heavily from his academic start that he became an aspiring lawyer, poet, a journalist for The Charlotte Observer, and a member of the North Carolina legislature. Lastly, Alexander Graham went on to become the Charlotte public school system's superintendent.

The Spring Hill Baptist Church, Spring Hill Academy, and the Richmond Temperance and Literary Society all work towards one goal of promoting literacy and education for all. The church encourages literacy so more citizens will read and understand the Bible, the academy pushes for academic excellence, and the Temperance and Literary Society of Richmond uses debate and literary scholarship to help those avoid the destructive lure of alcohol. All of these have formed a great synergy, which has enabled the area's early settlers and their descendants to become successful authors, doctors, lawyers, clergy, historians, poets, musicians, and legislators.

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Spring Hill

Laurinburg Welcomes Our Visitors

The City of Laurinburg and Scotland County look forward to welcoming you to our community and showing our Southern hospitality. For more information on where to stay, please visit the Scotland County Tourism Web site at www.visitnc-soul.com

Hotels

Comfort Inn	910-277-7788	Pine Acres Lodge	910-276-1531
Hampton Inn	910-277-1516	Scotland Inn	910-276-0632
Holiday Inn Express	910-291-3300	Oasis RV Park	910-266-8372
Quality Inn	910-277-0080		

Casual Dining

Captain Larry's Seafood House	910-276-1880
Fore's Family Restaurant	910-506-2112
Jerry's Deli and Grill	910-266-9020
Mi Casita Restaurante Mexicano	910-276-0032
Southernway Restaurant	910-607-4057
The Main Table	910-361-4273
Wooly McDuff's Neighborhood Grille	910-276-6632

Quick Serve Dining

Golden Corral	910-277-1620	Jin Jin Chinese Food	910-277-1616
Greek Village	910-277-7700	Little Fuji Grill	910-277-9922
Smithfield's Bar-B-Q	910-266-870	Miyako	910-506-4081
Zaxby's	910-266-8700	Taki Japanese Restaurant	910-291-9908
Huddle House	910-610-4100	Jesse's Pizza & Hot Sub	910-277-8538
Waffle House	910-277-9259	Pizza Inn	910-276-6565
China Garden	910-266-8885		
Golden Run	910-277-7734		
Great Wall Chinese Food	910-276-9199		