



Erica England
Communications Specialist
The Jekyll Island Authority
Office: 912.635.4046
eengland@jekyllisland.com

Jekyll Island's Moss Cottage Historic Landscape Restoration Coordinated with Revitalization

Garden Club of Georgia's Historic Grant Committee Awards \$3,000 To Project

JEKYLL ISLAND, GA. May 12, 2011-The revitalization of Jekyll Island has many different components. It involves the construction and development of new infrastructure as well as the restoration of beloved Jekyll Island landmarks. Most recently a landscape restoration project is turning back the clock for one of the most well- known aspects of the Jekyll Island Club Historic District, Moss Cottage.

Located along Riverview Drive amid the live oak trees, Moss Cottage was built by the Struthers family in 1896 and is one of 33 historic structures within the Jekyll Island Club Historic District. With funding assistance from the Jekyll Island Foundation and the Jekyll Island Garden Club, the grounds of Moss Cottage is being restored to its original appearance.

“As the rapid development and completion of the Jekyll Island Authority’s revitalization projects continues , it’s the goal of the Foundation to motivate guests of the island to also become acquainted with Jekyll’s rich history of preservation and conservation through the enhancement of the island’s historical assets,” stated Mac DeVaughn the Executive Director of the Jekyll Island Foundation.

The Jekyll Island Foundation, a public non-profit organization which operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to support the work of the Jekyll Island Authority by assisting in the preservation, conservation, and appreciation of the island, recently received a \$3,000 grant from the Garden Club of Georgia’s Historic Grant Committee, to provide funding assistance to the project. The Moss Cottage landscape project was selected to receive funds from the 2011 Historic Landscape and Garden Grant program. Other support for the project includes funding from the Jekyll Island Garden Club.

“We are thrilled to have such tremendous support from the Foundation and Garden Clubs on another Cottage enhancement project,” stated John Hunter the Jekyll Island Authority Director of Historic Resources. “It’s because of continuous support from these groups and groups like them throughout Georgia, that the Jekyll Island Authority has been able to accomplish eight landscape restoration projects in the Historic District.”

The grounds at Moss Cottage will return to the way they looked 100 years ago when William and Savannah Struthers were the owners. Photographic and documentary research assisted in the re-creation of site plans for the century-old landscape. Vegetation to be planted includes cabbage palms, date palms, kumquat trees, red cedars, yuccas, emerald green boxwood hedges, and annuals.

“Historic landscapes, like historic buildings and structures, are windows into an era’s development,” stated Cliff Gawron, the Jekyll Island Authority’s Director of Landscape and Planning. “It’s critical for us as stewards of preservation, to maintain that gateway into Jekyll Island’s past.”

Other properties located within the Historic District have also been renewed with landscapes in the spirit of their original design. These rehabilitated landscapes include the Jekyll Island Club Hotel, Crane Cottage, Cherokee, Sans Souci, all the shops along Pier Road, the Island Sweets Shoppe, Villa Ospo, Villa Marianna, Furness Cottage, the power plant (now the Georgia Sea Turtle Center), and the Morgan Center.

For more information on Jekyll Island’s revitalization, the Jekyll Island Authority and the Jekyll Island Foundation visit, www.jekyllisland.com.

###