

"THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AS A TEACHING RESOURCE"\*

Deborah Russell, Moderator  
Lee County High School  
Albany, Georgia

"The Atlanta Historical Society Experience"

Panel: Judson Ward, Director  
Richard Eltzroth, Archivist  
Madeline Reamy, Educational Coordinator  
Ann Woodall, Editor

Dr. Judson Ward, Jr. began the panel with an introduction to the Atlanta Historical Society. As Director, Dr. Ward explained the function of the society in stimulating history at the local level. He encouraged the audience to get acquainted with their local historical societies and to avail themselves of the services provided.

Richard Eltzroth, Archivist for the Society, gave information concerning the collections available. The categories in the Archives include the Official Records of the City of Atlanta and of Fulton County; Private Collections; Records of Organizations, Clubs and Societies; Newspapers and Periodicals; Maps; Visual Arts; Subject Files; Personality Files and Genealogy. The tax assessment collection is the most popular area, Eltzroth pointed out, and the Organization, Clubs and Societies collection one of the most neglected and one of the most interesting.

Ms. Madeline Reamy, Educational Coordinator, spoke of the Society as a teaching resource. Interesting exhibits are displayed in Cox Gallery, such as the current "Atlanta Women from Myth to Modern Times," and films corresponding to the exhibits are shown by appointment. Tours are also offered of the Tullie Smith House, an 1840's plantation home, and the Swan House, a 1928 Palladian style mansion.

Ann Woodall, Editor, described the publications of the Society and the benefits they provide to both teacher and historian. The Atlanta Historical Journal is the Society's major publication. It includes book reviews, articles with Atlanta-related themes, and often articles concerning Georgia History. There is also a bi-monthly newsletter mailed to members of the Society.

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\*Synopsis of session provided by Deborah Russell