

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



OUR STORY: CELEBRATING ATLANTA'S LGBTQ+ HISTORY | A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Historic Preservation Presentation

February 28, 2023



Department of CITY PLANNING

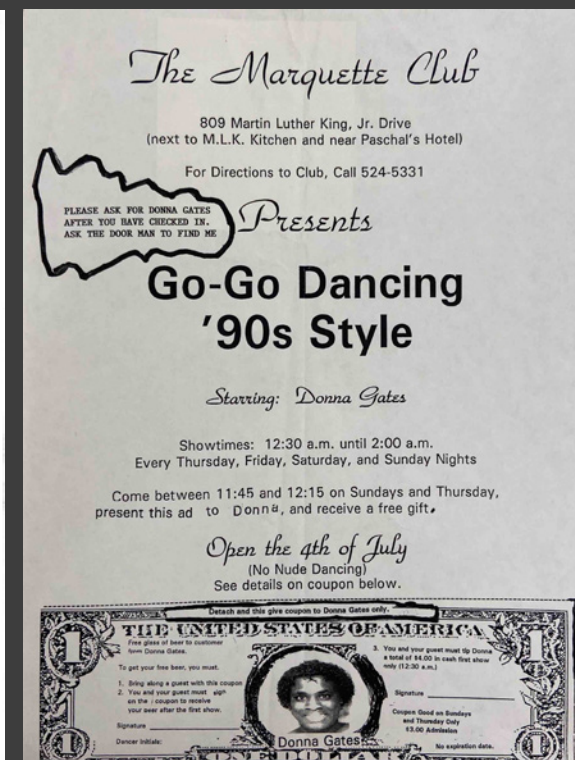
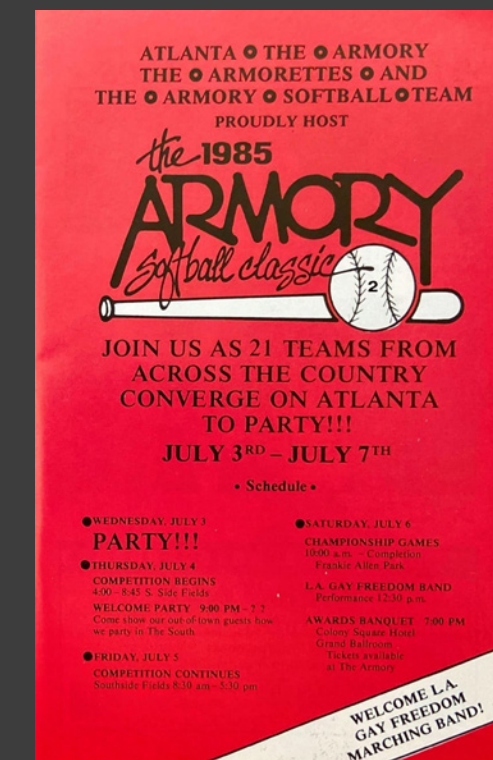
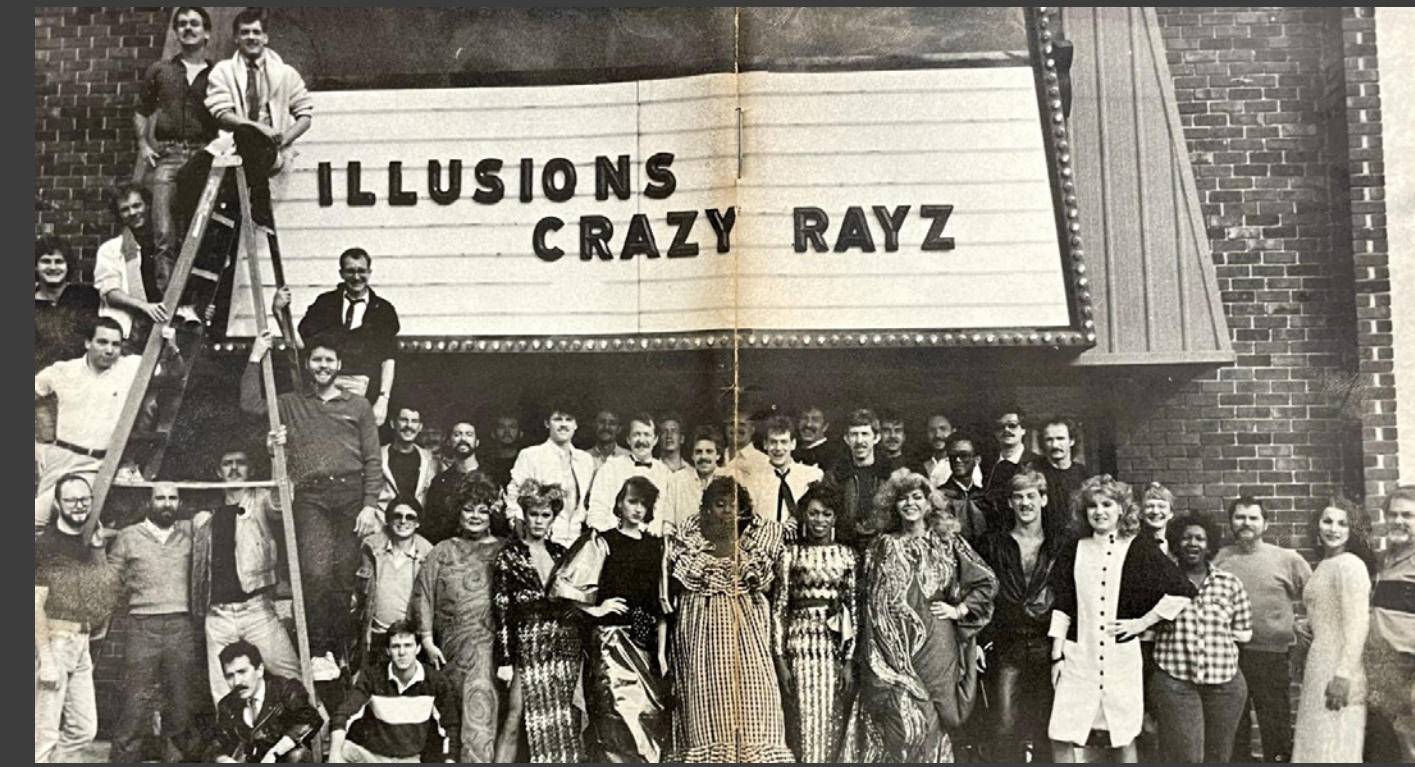


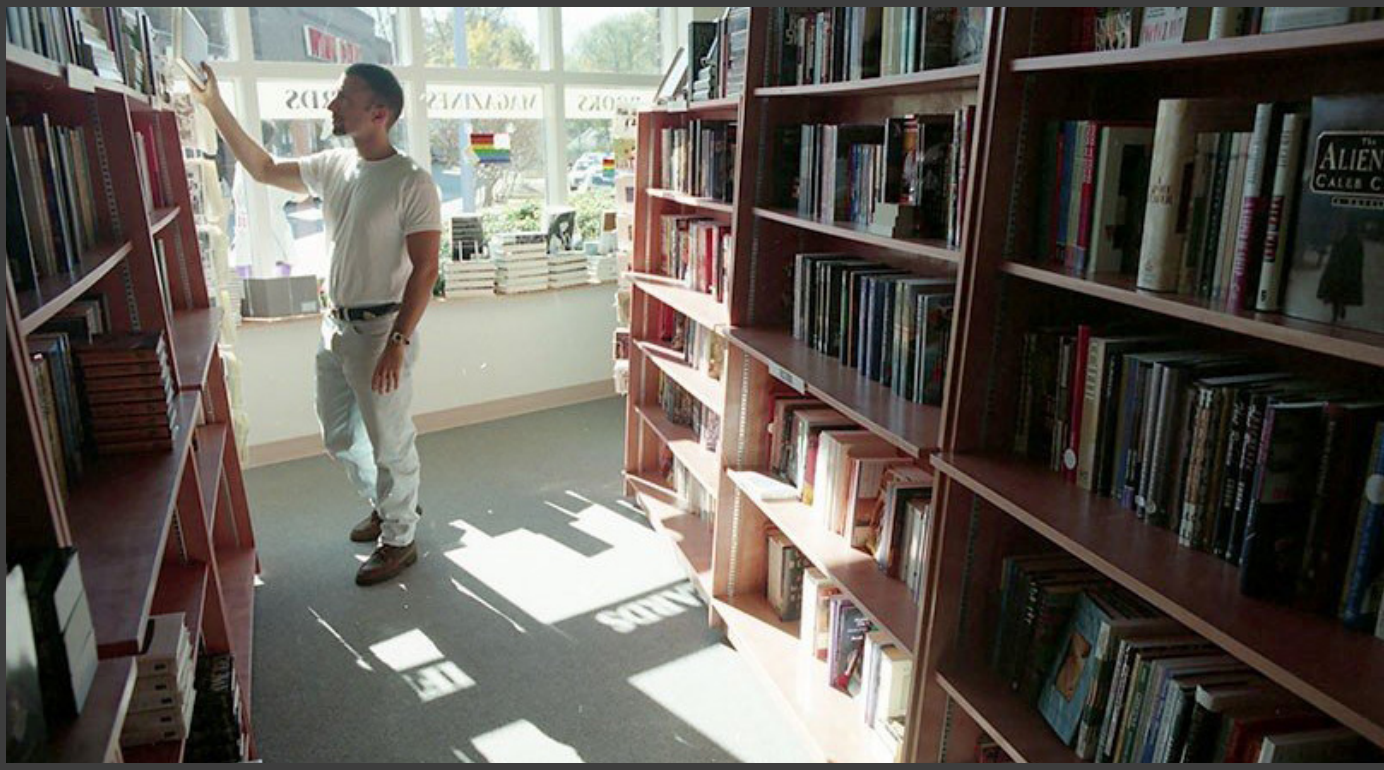
The City of Atlanta's Future Places Project is an initiative to ensure that Atlanta retains its historic identity as the city moves forward.



What is a Historic Context Statement?

- A tool to help assess the historic significance of places that matter to the LGBTQ+ community for potential preservation efforts
- Being prepared by the City of Atlanta and Historic Atlanta, Inc. with additional support from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Historic Preservation Division
- Will identify and document Atlanta's LGBTQ+ spaces, many of which are in danger of being lost
- Will join other leading cities - including Los Angeles, San Francisco, and the District of Columbia - in proactively preserving LGBTQ+ sites





Research focus is on the LGBTQ+ rights movements since the mid-1900's including:

- Early development of the City's LGBTQ+ communities
- Founding of gay and lesbian rights organizations
- Police harassment, Social control, bar raids, and lawsuits
- Development of LGBTQ+ friendly communities throughout the city
- LGBTQ+ rights movement since the 1970s
- 1980s AIDS epidemic and
- Identification of historic site, both existing and lost



So far, nine themes about LGBTQ+ History in the City of Atlanta have emerged from the Project Team's research:

- LGBTQ+ Social Spaces
- LGBTQ+ Atlantans and Harassment: Laws and Policing
- Political Activism in Atlanta's LGBTQ+ Communities
- LGBTQ+ Community Organizations
- Healthcare and Advocacy
- LGBTQ+ Atlantans and Religion/Spirituality
- LGBTQ+ Media
- Arts and Culture
- Atlanta's LGBTQ+ Neighborhoods and Enclaves



Black LGBTQ+ History in Atlanta

- A crucial component to ensure we tell the full story of Atlanta's LGBTQ+ experience
- Exclusivity of early LGBTQ+ activism and organizations lead to the creation of new organizations aimed at serving and advancing the lives of the Black LGBTQ+ community
- Earliest Black LGBTQ+ social spaces in the late 1960's through the 70's largely centered around Downtown and the area surrounding the Atlanta University Center. Black LGBTQ+ community & spaces expanded into Midtown in the 1980's & 1990's



Next Steps in the LGBTQ+ Research Project and Historic Context Statement:

- Additional public input opportunities
- Conclusion of formal grant-related research and the Historic Context Statement - April 2023
- Community Engagement sessions - Spring 2023
An opportunity to share input, stories and perspectives on the history of the LGBTQ+ community in Atlanta
- Action by the City of Atlanta and Historic Atlanta in response to the Historic Context Statement, including additional research and adding to the story



Once completed, the LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement will:

- Enable formal recognition of LGBTQ+ historic places and spaces
- Open doors for property owners to Local, State, and Federal historic preservation tax and zoning incentives
- Provide the foundation for potential legal protection of LGBTQ+ places and spaces under the City of Atlanta's Historic Preservation Ordinance
- Serve as a springboard for other preservation-minded programs and research



LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement

Do you have a story to tell about Black LGBTQ+ Spaces?
A photograph or research to share? Want to know about
upcoming meetings and information sessions?

Get involved and contribute to the research effort:

lgbtqcontext@historicalatlanta.org

Visit the project website:

atlfutureplaces.com/lgbtq-grant