



Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

Historic Dixie Highway Scenic Byway

Program Overview

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Division of Planning

Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

- Established under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA).
- Allows State DOT's to designate corridors as official Scenic Byways to protect and preserve "intrinsic qualities" of roadway corridor.
- GDOT's Scenic Byway Program has been active since 1992
- Currently Georgia has 14 Byways (588 miles)

Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

- Process is driven by Local Sponsors.
- Sponsor works with GDOT Scenic Byway Coordinator to ensure the byway follows the official GDOT designation process
- Only regulation is no new billboards can be added along the corridor once designated
- Each designated Georgia Scenic Byway must exhibit at least one of six intrinsic qualities.

Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

Intrinsic Qualities

- Intrinsic Qualities are assets or resources considered to unique, irreplaceable, or distinctively characteristic of an area:
- Intrinsic Qualities
 - Scenic
 - Historic
 - Recreational
 - Cultural
 - Archeological
 - Natural

Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

Designation Process

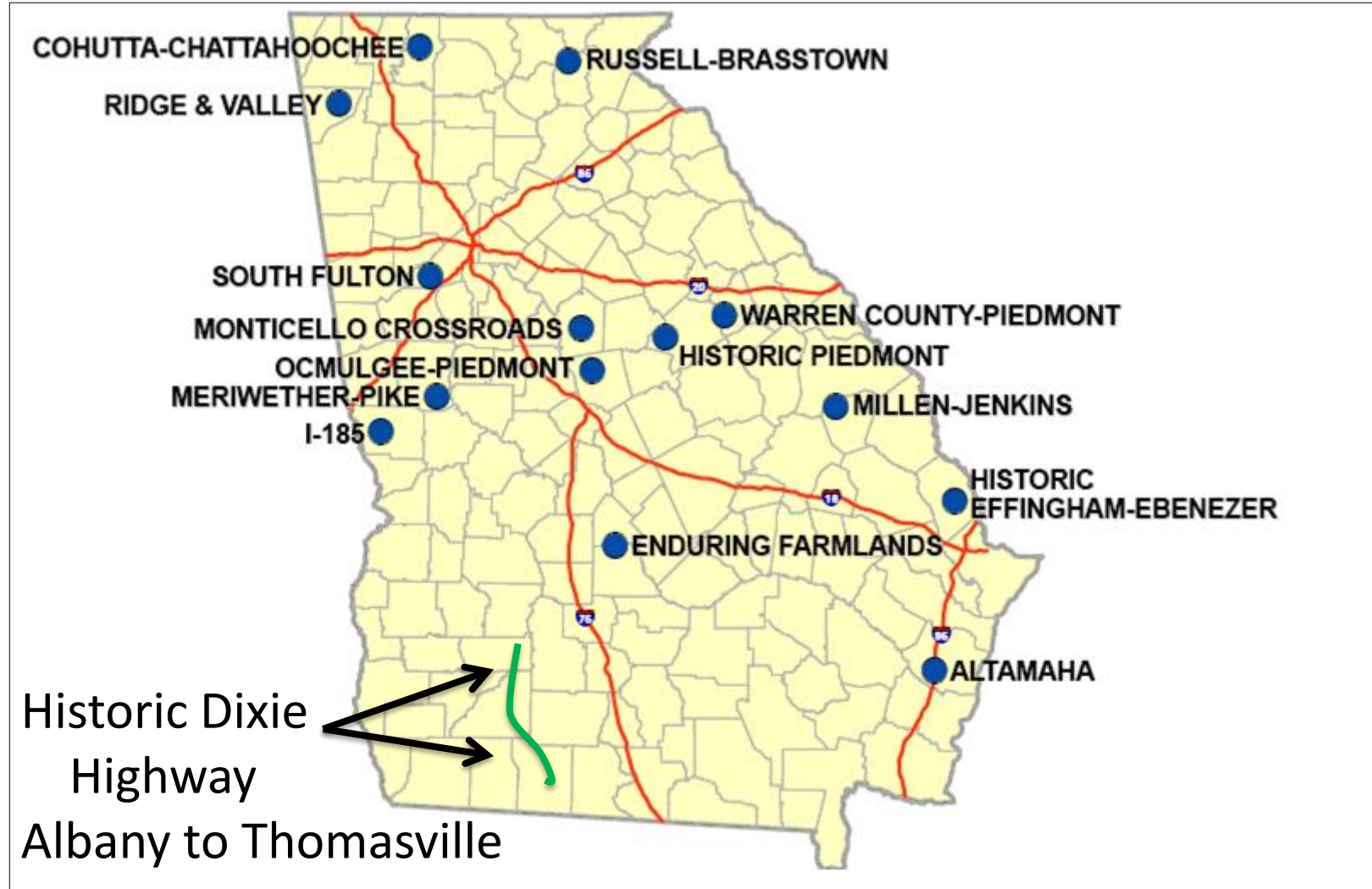
- Local Sponsor follows multi-stage process:
 1. Sponsor identifies route
 2. Submits initial eligibility application
 3. Develop Corridor Management Plan (CMP)
 4. Receive recommendation from the
 - GDOT Office of Planning
 - Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
 - Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
 5. Final designation comes from the GDOT State Transportation Board

Georgia's Scenic Byways Program

- Next Steps (once byway is designated)
 - GDOT:
 - Add Byway to State Highway Map
 - Featured Byway on GDOT website
 - Provides signage for byway
 - Local Sponsor
 - Install signage on local routes
 - Market & Promote the byway
 - Monitor and maintain the byway according to their Corridor Plan

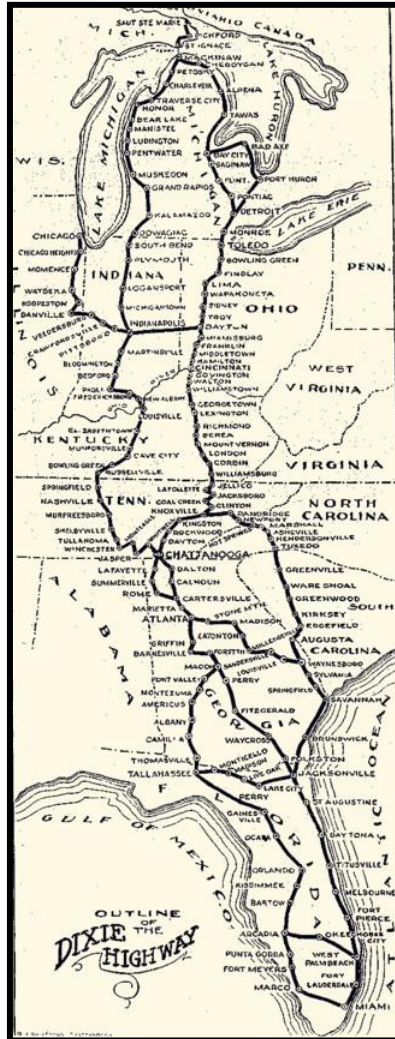


Georgia's Scenic Byway

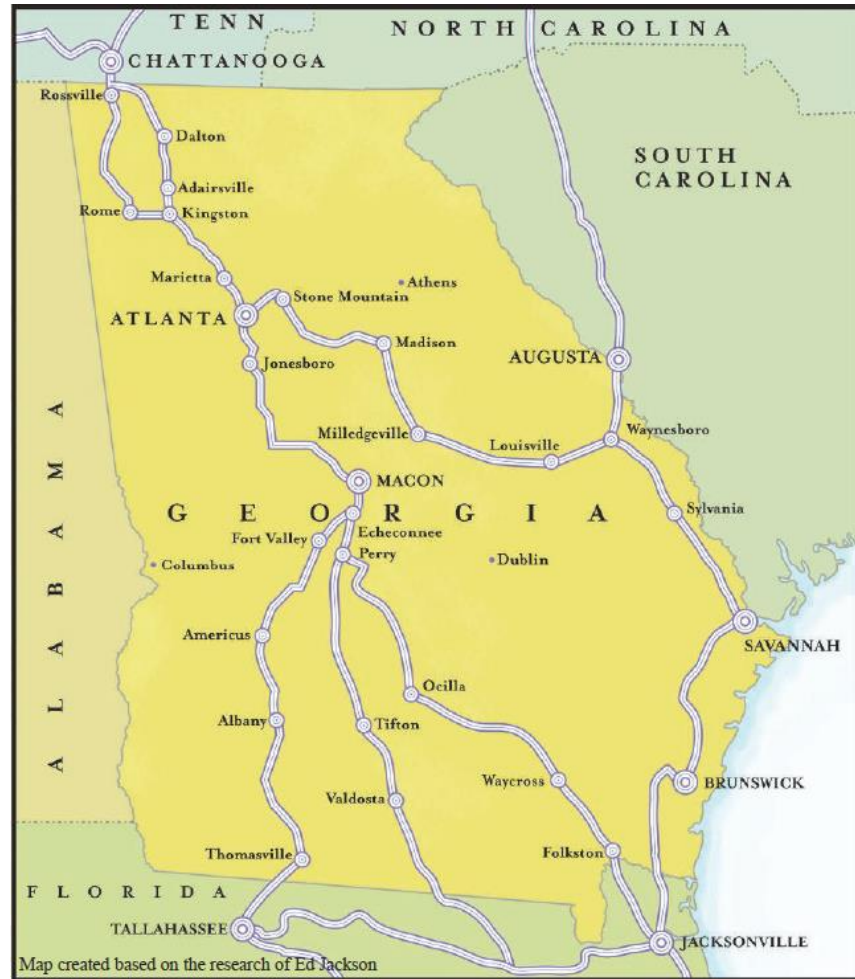


Dixie Highways Network

National Network



Georgia Portion (circa 1924)

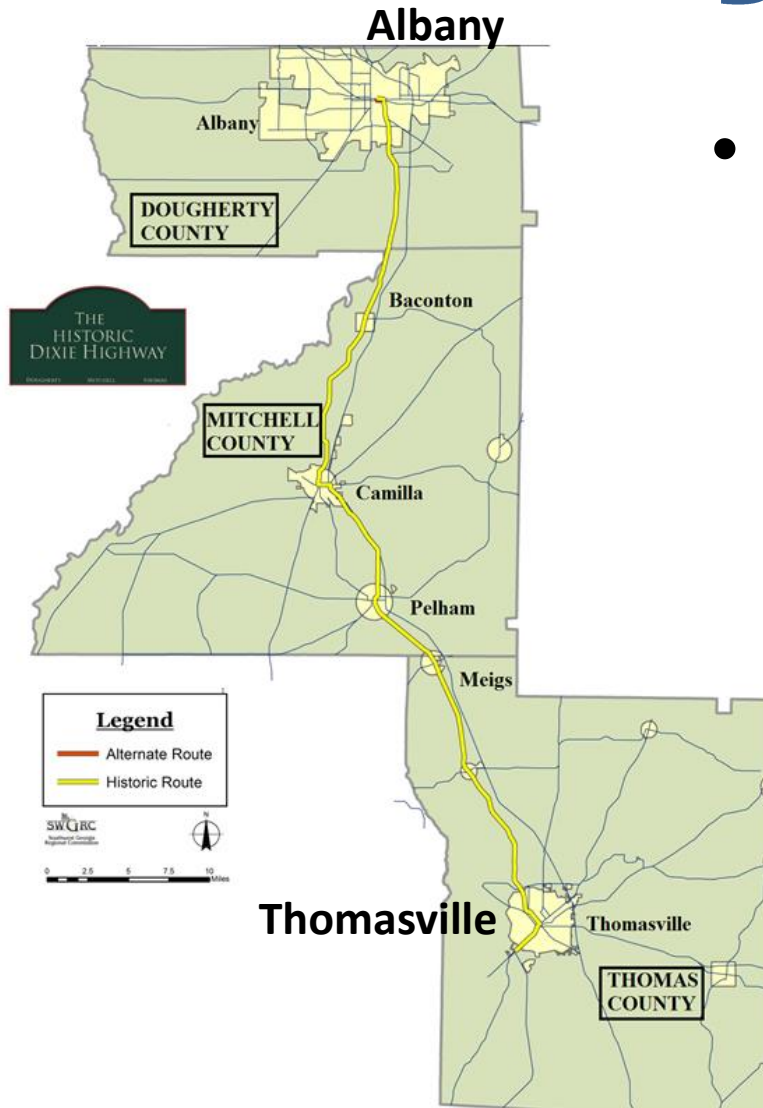


Courtesy Ed Jackson (University of Georgia)

Historic Dixie Highway Scenic Byway

• Byway Information

- Local Sponsor = City of Pelham (Mr. Ernest Barfield)
- Corridor Length = 62 miles
- Intrinsic Qualities met = Scenic, Natural, Historic, Cultural, and Recreational



Historic Dixie Highway Scenic Byway



Mitchell County

Thomasville



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**River Bend Park
(Outpost & Campsite)**

**Flint River Aquarium
(Albany)**



Historic Dixie Highway Scenic Byway



McRee Hall (Camilla)

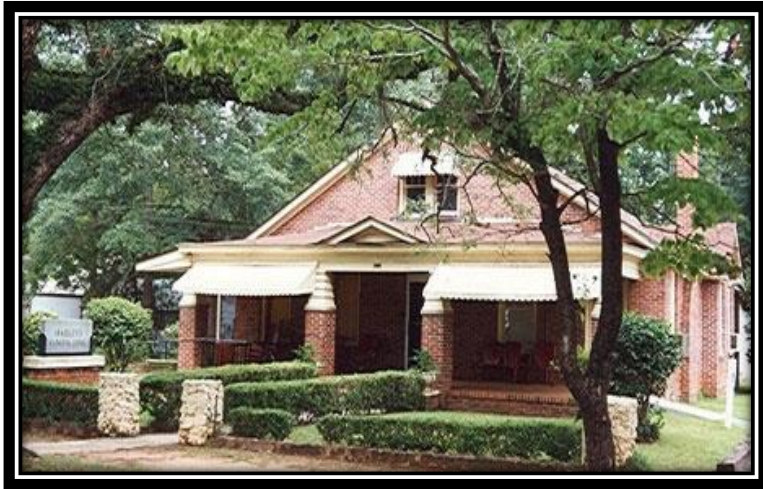
Built in 1906, restored in 2003 and is now a historical bed and breakfast.

Mitchell County Courthouse (Camilla)

William J.J. Chase designed this Art Deco *courthouse* built in 1936



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Hadley Funeral Home (Thomasville)

One the oldest African-American owned funereal homes in Southwest Georgia.

Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper Memorial Park and Gravesite

Lieutenant Flipper became the first African-American to graduate from West Point in 1877.



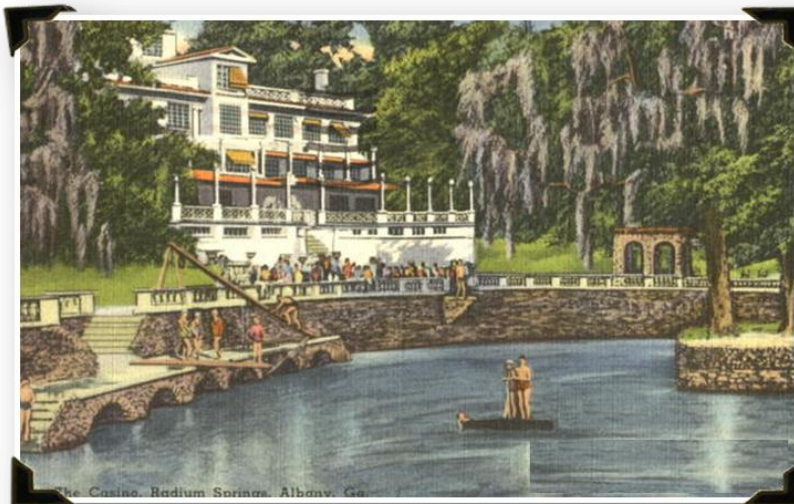
Courtesy Jack Hadley (Thomasville, GA)

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⁸⁸ **Radium** (226) Radium **Radium Springs**

The largest natural spring in Georgia contains trace sources of radium flows 70,000 gallons a minute into the Flint River



A *casino & spa* resort was built overlooking the springs in the 1920s.

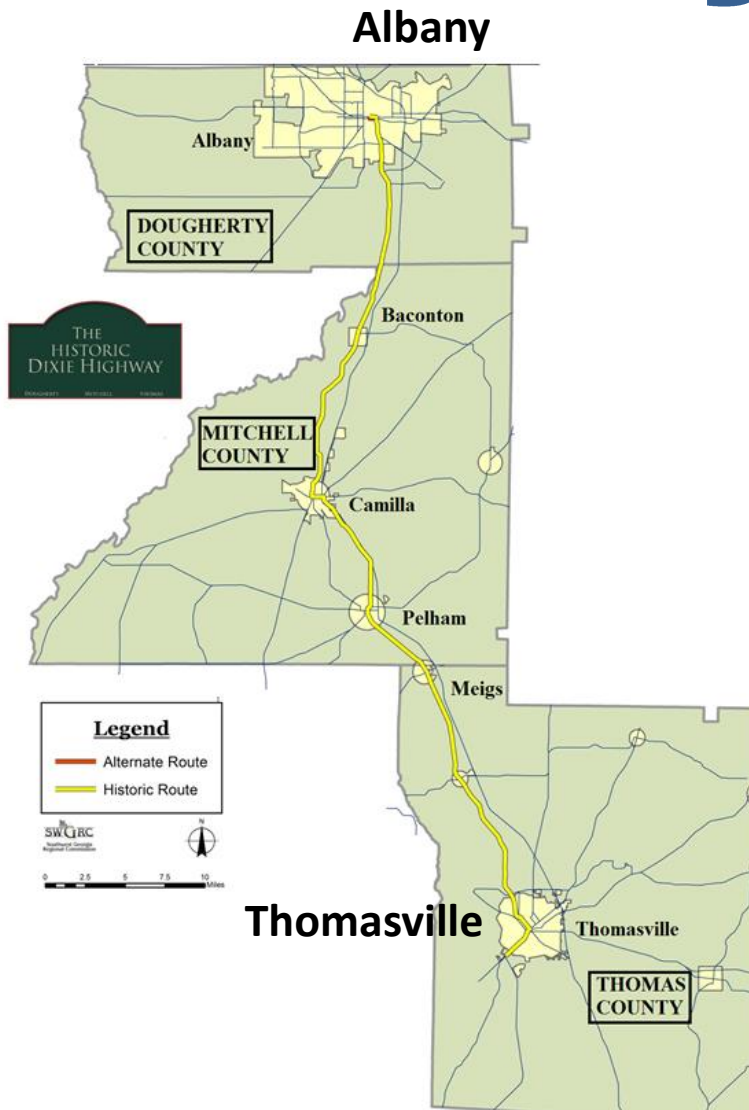
Historic Dixie Highway Scenic Byway

Down the Dixie Highway Video documentary

**Aired on Georgia Public Broadcasting
April 2015**

**Produced by
GDOT Office of Environmental Services**

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Current Status:

Pending State
Transportation Board
Approval

Questions

GDOT Scenic Byways website:

www.dot.ga.gov/DS/Travel/Scenic

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