

**Media Release**  
**January 23, 2013**

**Tour Rarely Seen Gaineswood Spaces**  
**Saturday, February 2**

The “Up, Down, and All Around” tour gives visitors a chance to glimpse special areas not usually seen. From the “Ring”— the circular observatory crowning the top of the house—tourists enjoy panoramic views of Demopolis. Imagine what it was like when the Whitfield family took their musical instruments up to the Ring and entertained on summer evenings.

Gaineswood also has an “English basement,” windows at ground level that provide light and ventilation to the basement area. This area is a favorite of tourists, especially those who are fans of folklore. The basement plays a role in “The Unquiet Ghost of Gaineswood,” a story collected by Katherine Tucker Windham in her famous book *Thirteen Alabama Ghosts and Jeffery*. While touring the basement, visitors can learn the facts behind the ‘ghost story’.

“This tour is an opportunity for people to see beyond first and second floors of Gaineswood, which are the only spaces open to the public during a regular tour,” says Site Director Eleanor Cunningham. “Visitors often request to see the basement or observatory, but it isn’t possible for us to open those areas regularly.”

This special opening is Saturday, February 2 from 10am to 2pm. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$5 for students ages 6-18. This tour is not recommended for children under age 6. Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes. For more information about the tour, contact Gaineswood at 334-289-4846.

Gaineswood is a historic site of the Alabama Historical Commission. Located at 805 South Cedar Avenue, the house museum is a National Historic Landmark noted for its architecture and furnishings.

*The Alabama Historical Commission **protects, preserves, and interprets Alabama’s historic places** and is the State Historic Preservation Office.*

[www.preserveala.org](http://www.preserveala.org)



#####