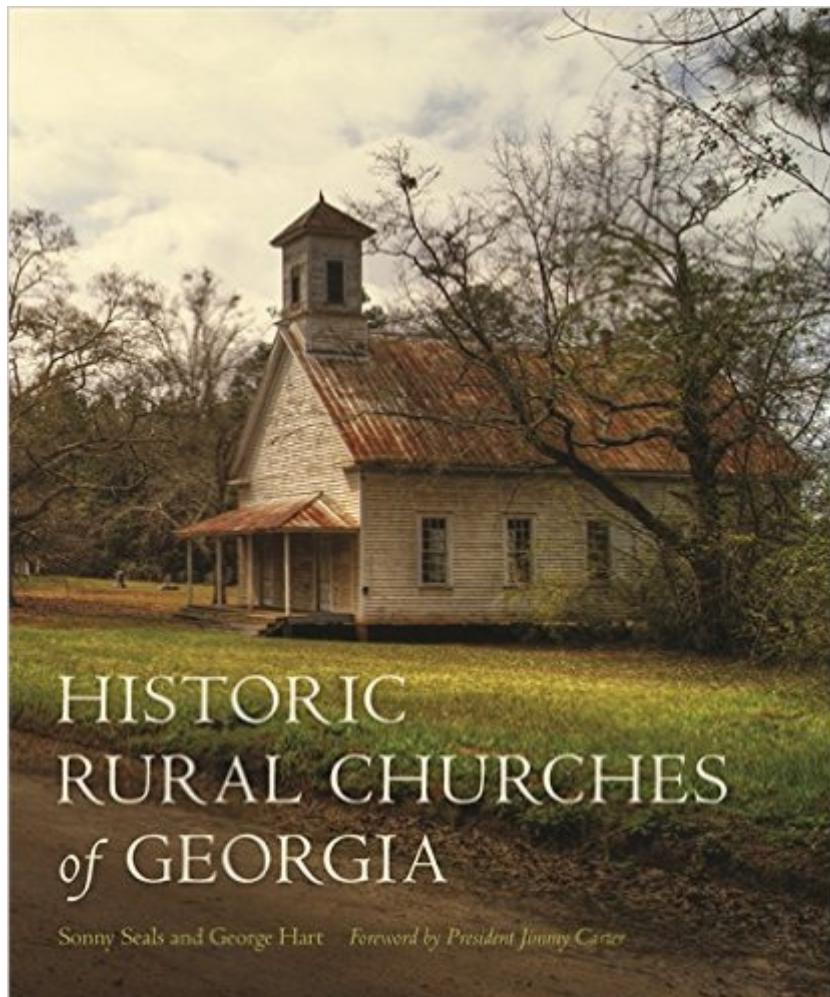


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# Historic Rural Churches Of Georgia



## **Synopsis**

Aspects of Georgia's unique history can only be told through its extant rural churches. As the Georgia backcountry rapidly expanded in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the churches erected on this newly parceled land became the center of community life. These early structures ranged from primitive outbuildings to those with more elaborate designs and were constructed with local, hand-hewn materials to serve the residents who lived nearby. From these rural communities sprang the villages, towns, counties, and cities that informed the way Georgia was organized and governed and that continue to influence the way we live today. Historic Rural Churches of Georgia presents forty-seven early houses of worship from all areas of the state. Nearly three hundred stunning color photographs capture the simple elegance of these sanctuaries and their surrounding grounds and cemeteries. Of the historic churches that have survived, many are now in various states of distress and neglect and require restoration to ensure that they will continue to stand. This book is a project of the Historic Rural Churches of Georgia organization, whose mission is the preservation of historic rural churches across the state and the documentation of their history since their founding. If proper care is taken, these endangered and important landmarks can continue to represent the state's earliest examples of rural sacred architecture and the communities and traditions they housed.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is a well written and beautifully illustrated book which will be an interesting and important

addition to any collection of Georgia or Southern history. Our annual Christmas shopping dilemma is now solved because many of our friends will be receiving this book -- some might even be receiving "Christmas in September" gifts. Well done !

I started reading through this book at noon today-- it's now 6:00 p.m. and I'm still reading (and learning). We plan to visit a couple of these beautiful churches this weekend. I hope a second volume is on the way because we seem to have a lot of these important buildings all across Georgia. I haven't had a chance to look at the website yet but plan to do so right away. Thank you!

With this handsome book Sonny Seals, George Hart, and the long list of photographers make a significant contribution to our understanding the background of rural Georgia. Before there were court houses, city recreational facilities, chambers of commerce, and other gathering places the churches of Georgia's rural areas served as cultural lynchpins in much more than religious matters. In educating us to the architecture and history of these churches Seals and Hart have done great service.

Not only is this grand book filled with beautiful photographs of old Georgia churches, it is filled with a plethora of honorable, well written history of these churches! This gorgeous book would make a wonderful gift for a wedding or house warming gift and is priced so reasonable you can purchase one for yourself as well!

I had heard about this book and eagerly awaited its release. I was not disappointed. From the beautiful front cover and throughout the pages of this book the spectacular photography and written word of the history of each church was so intriguing that I was reminded of the great importance these structures held for us who grew up in the south. They were not only houses of worship, but served as meeting halls and social gatherings for the community. I started out picking my favorites but gave up because they all became favorites. Thank you to Sonny Seals and George Hart for this lovely labor of love, to be enjoyed by generations to come. Ruth Garland

A fantastic book filled with eye catching photos and a great short history on these churches. Sonny and George have done a great job documenting this crucial part of Georgia's history. This book would make a great gift for anyone you know that has an interest in early Georgia's history or who loves historical photography.

This is a big book full of beautiful photos and well documented history. A joy to look at and read.

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