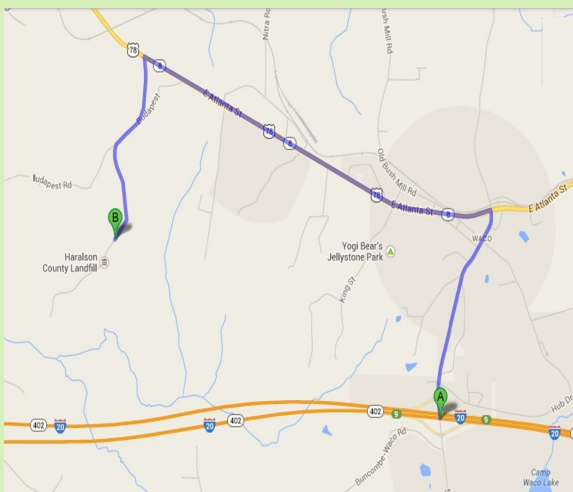


# Budapest, Georgia



In the late 1800's, three wine-making communities were founded in Haralson County . A local land developer, Ralph L. Spencer, invited about 200 Hungarian families to settle this region. They named their largest community Budapest, in honor of the capital of their homeland. The village of Tokaj recalled the famous wine-making region of Hungary and Nitra (mainly comprised of Slovaks) was named after an ancient fort in the northern region of the country. Homes, streets, shops, schools, churches, cemeteries and other municipal facilities were built. The wine industry flourished in this climate. In 1907, the passage of the Prohibition Act in Georgia spelled their doom. Most of the residents returned to the Pennsylvania coal mines they had left years before. The "Budapest" Cemetery and rectory ("Priest House") are among the few remnants. The pioneering Hungarians who became part of the Georgia soil lie in the Budapest cemetery, many of the graves marked with names which sound foreign to these parts.



The "Priest House" in 2010

## The Budapest Group

The Budapest Group is comprised of volunteers whose mission is to restore and maintain the historic Budapest Cemetery through fundraisers, grants and donations and to educate people about the Budapest, Nitra and Tokaj villages.

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Any donations are greatly appreciated!