



.2022 impact report



GRAVATT CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

greetings

from Executive Director & Board of Trustees Chair

Through much of the first half of the year, conferences and ropes groups remained at a halt due to the rise of yet another Omicron subvariant. Staff pivoted to address capital improvement projects and repairs.

We were fortunate to be able to address much-needed maintenance and improve our facilities and infrastructure to enhance both the visitor and camper experiences. Having a plan to address cyclical maintenance and capital improvements is critical for our continued success. We strive to be responsible fiscal stewards of Gravatt Camp and Conference Center as demonstrated by our employing staff and volunteers to address almost all projects, maintenance, and repairs on the property. Unless projects require a licensed professional such as an electrician, the work is done by staff and volunteers, stretching the impact of your donations.

Summer camp attendance soared to a record 1,254 campers. The previous record was 1,107 campers. We attribute this increase to our caring and dynamic staff and our campers who, because of Covid-related constraints, seem eager to reconnect with nature. With donor support, 71 youth received full and partial scholarships through our Mac Westmoreland Scholarship fund. A recent camper sums up the experience as "Everyone at Camp Gravatt makes you feel like you are meant to be there no matter who you are. When you are at camp it almost feels like you are in a different world."

The second half of the year brought an abundance of new conference guests and steady day-group business. Despite our ongoing investments in facility and room upgrades, we remain a modest conference and camp facility. It is evident that Gravatt's affordability, superior service, home-style meal service, and hospitality are what keep guests and campers returning each year. Competitive camp and retreat fees cover operating expenses.

As with any other business and non-profit, we contend with continued increases in operating costs. For instance, our camp and conference food costs rose 11%. While this has been Gravatt's strongest financial year to date and that we are operating from a position of strength, as a non-profit the need for support is still great.

Clearly, Gravatt's success would not be possible without the support of our generous donors and volunteers. Every dollar donated, unless otherwise specified, goes to camper scholarships and facility improvements. We remain committed to serving all members of our community. We are grateful for your continued commitment and appreciate all you do!

2023 brings some exciting plans as we begin planning for our 75th anniversary in 2024. We have plenty of opportunities for those of all ages to get involved. Please contact a staff member if you are interested in learning more about volunteer and donor opportunities. We hope you are inspired by this glimpse into everything that is happening at Gravatt. If you are not already following us via social media, please consider following Gravatt's social media channels listed on the back page.

Shalom,



Scott McNeely
Executive Director



Heath Stewart
Board of Trustees, Chair



mission

Gravatt is a sanctuary for the ministry of faith formation, hospitality, leadership development, and environmental stewardship.



funding

Expenses:

SUMMER CAMP \$394,894 (28%)

CONFERENCE CENTER \$448,317 (32%)

ADMINISTRATIVE \$564,599 (40%)

Total \$1,407,810

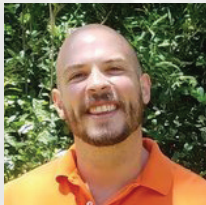
Revenue:

Total \$1,417,253



board & staff

Staff



Scott McNeely
Executive
Director



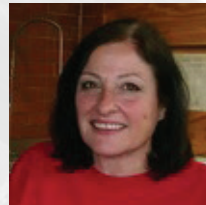
Thomas Coleman
Director of Facilities
and Environmental
Stewardship



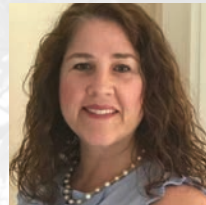
Christine Koutrakos
Director of Events
and Image Marketing



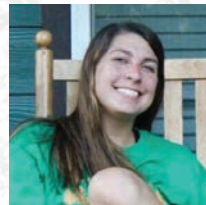
Evan Mikula
Director of
Programing



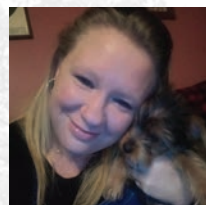
Pat Millette
Dining Services
Manager



Wendi Spratt
Development
Director



Danielle Steger
Camp Director



Lisa Carrier
Assistant Dining
Services Manager

2023 Board of Trustees

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environmental stewardship

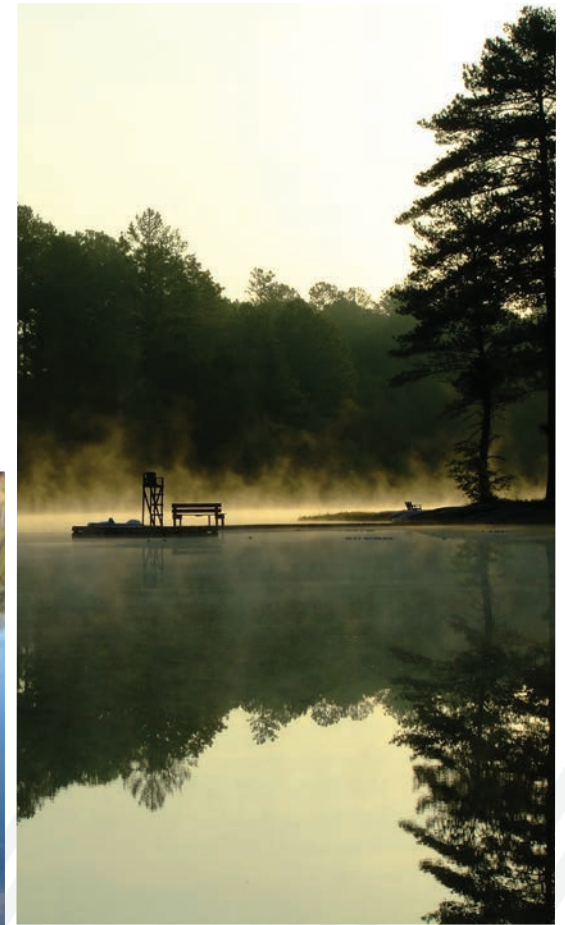
Improving grounds

This year we began work with a forestry consultant to update our forestry management plan. This is a long term plan that will guide our work over the next several years to manage and improve forest health and wildlife habitat at Gravatt.

A key technique used to manage our forest is prescribed fire. Prescribed fire reduces wildfire risk, promotes the growth of native trees and plants, and benefits wildlife habitats. Our goal is to use prescribed fire annually in different portions of our forest.

We also have been working to manage our aquatic plant population in Lake Henry with the introduction of 50 sterile grass carp. These carps will eat overgrown patches of aquatic plants and prevent us from having to use a chemical treatment.

The environmental stewardship work we do guides the Gravatt Environmental Education Program (GEEP) for our guests and campers. This ongoing stewardship is an investment in Gravatt's environmental future, enhances guest experiences, and builds more dynamic environmental education programs.



Grass carp (left) & prescribed fire (right) ^



facilities

Upgrades and infrastructure

2022 was a great year for maintaining and improving our facilities and infrastructure. Highlights of this year on camp side include new tents installed, road work, and the painting of the Holly Hut and Beckham.

We were just as busy on the conference side of the property including insulation of ductwork in Stewart Hall, new roofing on staff housing and roof repairs of Stewart Hall and the Chapel of Transfiguration, renovation of the office bathroom, and completion of the Grbic Gazebo.

Over the course of several months in early 2022, Gravatt invested in significant upgrades in the water system. Prior to these upgrades, Gravatt had been operating at about 50% water volume and 40% capacity. These upgrades are located in our water distribution center, "the pump house". Upgrades include the installation of two new pumps, new valves, several new gauges to monitor water and water output better, new emergency alert system for low water levels in our tank, and a new and improved electrical and computer system for more effective operations. Together, these improvements significantly enhance the quality of our system in daily operations, monitoring the system, maintenance

of our system and much easier and more effective operations for staff. Longtime volunteer and former Gravatt summer staff member, Brian Phillips was instrumental with the replacement and installation of this equipment and training staff to operate the new system. In 2023, our maintenance plans include roof work on the cabins at camp, new maintenance facilities for tools and equipment, and many more projects to come.



GEEP

Gravatt Environmental Education Program

This past year has been an excellent year for programming at Gravatt. On the ropes course we welcomed many new guests for team building experiences. We added some new elements such as the Spider's Web and The Acid River. Our high ropes course will only continue to grow as we look ahead to add new and exciting challenges to our course. On the environmental education side, we have been busy learning more about the native plants and animals that call Gravatt home. Currently, we have around 2.25 miles of trails with hopes to expand our trail network to encompass more of the Gravatt property.

For more information on Gravatt Environmental Education Programs, [click here](#).

Check out our blog, [Sparkleberry Press](#) to see all the natural wonder happening at Gravatt.

MORE ABOUT GEEP



explorers

Gravatt Explorers Program

This past summer we launched a new program available for summer campers, Gravatt Explorers.

The Explorers program is open to rising 10th graders through rising Freshmen in college. We embarked on two adventures, a hiking and camping trip to Pisgah National Forest and a canoe trip down the Broad River. It was a grand adventure into some truly wild spaces. In the summer of 2023, we will continue to explore and learn about the natural world around us.

GRAVATT EXPLORERS



summer camp

A traditional, co-ed, overnight camp



Camp Gravatt had an exceptional summer season this year. We welcomed an all-time high of over 1,200 campers during 11 sessions filled with incredible adventure, exploration, and fun.

Campers engaged in traditional activities such as archery, canoeing, and challenge courses. We welcomed new activities this year, such as Survivor Day, Banana Olympics, and a fun Despicable Me Night. Our religious education program, "Footprints," was centered around the theme of storytelling and provided activities such as writing a song or prayer and writing to community organizations such as Prisma Children's Hospital. The summer would not have been complete without our daily visits from Dr. Noid and gathering for Shalom each night.

Along with the exciting activities, the safety of our campers was a top priority. We had over 80 volunteers, and a staff of 40 members (including counselors, support staff, and program directors) ensuring everyone was in safe and fun environments. We provided campers with a unique experience that helped shape their understanding of themselves and how to show love to those around them.

We are thrilled that we have reached capacity for nearly all our sessions in 2023. We look forward to the new memories and experiences that we will create this coming summer and all of the wonderful things we can provide for our campers and community.



impact



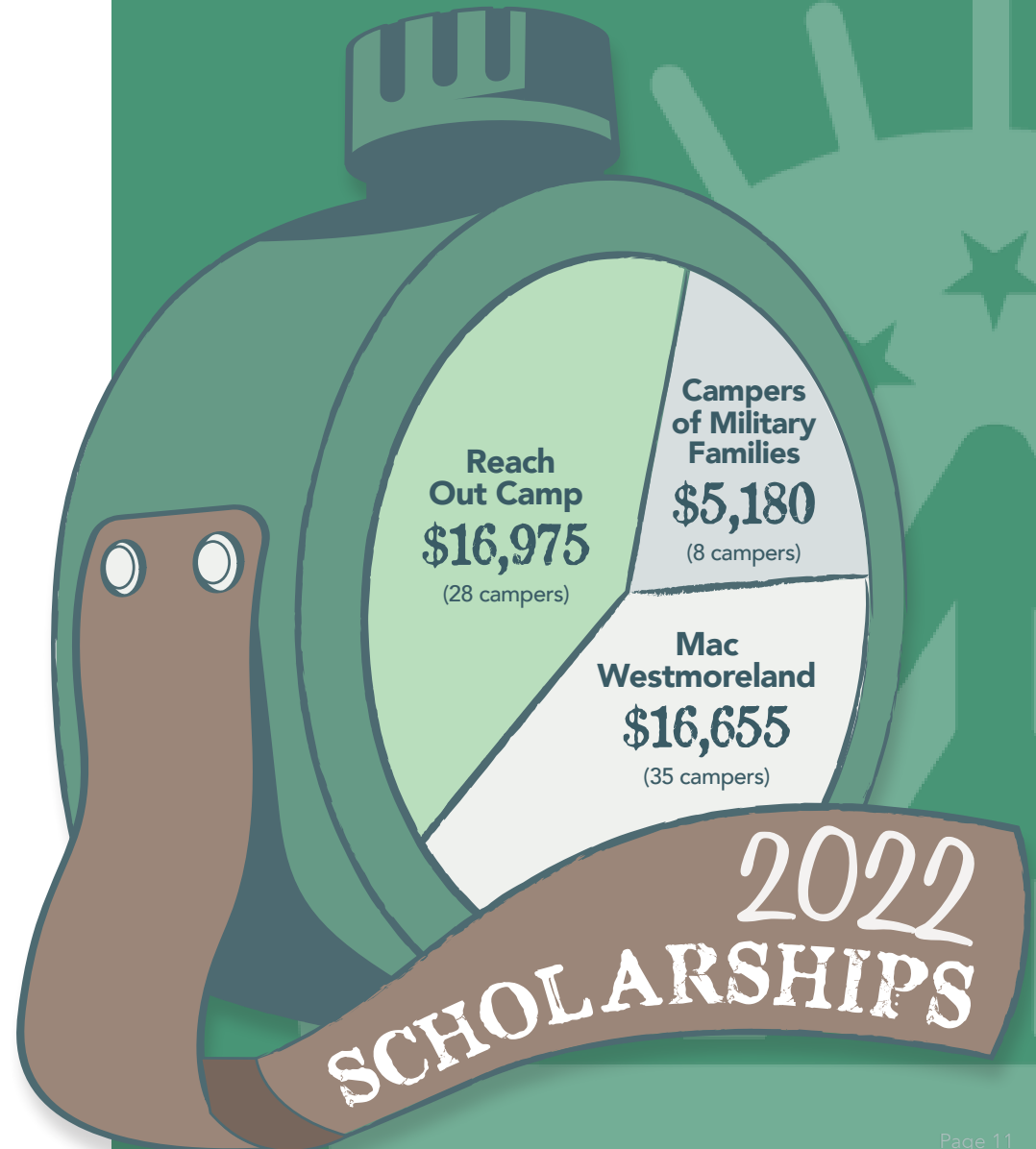
Want to help us make an impact?

View our Amazon Gravatt Supplies Wishlist by clicking below.

[PURCHASE SUPPLIES](#)



Over \$40K Awarded!



summer camp 2022



conference

A year round retreat center for meetings, lodging, community building, worship, recreation, relaxation, and dining



GRAVATT
**CONFERENCE
CENTER**

As we reflect on 2022 conference bookings, we gained momentum following a very quiet first quarter due to the continued effects of COVID.

Business included conferences/retreats, events, team building, and the Gravatt Environmental

Education Program bookings which accounted for 28% of the annual revenue. Gravatt served 63 groups which accounted for nearly 2,000 guests and 94 nights of overnight stays including eight Episcopal church groups and 12 Diocesan groups.



One Loose Thread quilting group has quarterly retreats at Gravatt ^



Many groups participate in team building on the low ropes course ^



celebrate

Proud of our past, excited for our future

Looking forward to our 75th anniversary!

Gravatt Camp and Conference Center is approaching our 75th anniversary in 2024. The Gravatt staff is making plans to commemorate this milestone anniversary.

There will be a variety of opportunities for Gravatt alumni, current staff, campers, and supporters to get involved and celebrate Gravatt. Please contact Christine at christine@campgravatt.org for more information.



^ John and Mollie Reddic (top)
& The Reddic Family at Gravatt (bottom)

alumni

Spotlight - Dr. John Reddic

John Reddic, like so many, grew up at Gravatt. He first came to Gravatt as a camper in 1983. As a teenager and young adult, he worked in many roles at camp from 1987 to 1994. John was a leader on the summer staff and often was tasked with the most challenging situations. After college and graduate school, John returned to camp as the summer camp director for 2004. John is now married to his lovely wife, Mollie, and has two children. He and Mollie are great supporters of Gravatt and often attend events at Gravatt. Most recently they brought their children to family camp in the summer of 2022. John is a chemist and works as an Informatics Specialist at Abbott. He lives in Columbia, South Carolina with his family where Mollie is the pastor at Trenholm Road United Methodist Church.

"I am blessed by and grateful for the place and the people that are Gravatt. The fundamental impact that Gravatt had on who I am cannot be measured." — John



events

So many ways to connect, relax, and enjoy friends and family at Gravatt



The Gravatt Military Retreat was a huge success. A visit

from Santa and Mrs. Claus, gingerbread house making, scavenger hunt, and much more made for a wonderful weekend for our guests and staff.

This retreat would not happen without the continued generous support of our sponsors and donors, especially the Presenting Sponsor for the weekend, Aiken - Augusta Wounded Warrior Charity Golf Classic, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, and The Women of Woodside were also generous donors.

We were well fed thanks to our meal sponsors, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields EYC, St. John's EYC, The 70's Alumni Group, The 90's Alumni Group, St Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church, and the Mikula Family. These donations, along with numerous private donors, help make this weekend special.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Military Retreat Families honored ^

Big Delicious Event

Our Big Delicious Event partnering with Juniper from Ridge Spring, never disappoints. This Fall we enjoyed amazing food and the wine selection was so good. We learned about local mushrooms - they were delicious! We are grateful for our wonderful vendors / partners / friends: Juniper, Advintage Distributing, and Circular Farm who made this event possible.

Big Delicious Event



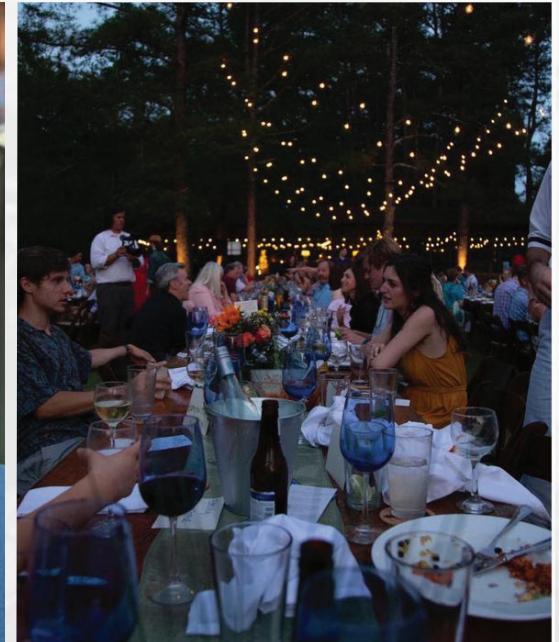
events

So many ways to connect, relax, and enjoy friends and family at Gravatt

Under the Tent

Under the Tent 2022 was our most successful! This wonderful event was successful because of so many people — volunteers, hosts, sponsors, donors, vendors, and staff. In 2022, we raised the most money Under the Tent has raised since it began in 2010 — sending young people to camp who would otherwise not be able to have this experience. Join us annually for Under the Tent in early May.

UNDER THE TENT



additions

New gathering places to explore at Gravatt

Grbic Gazebo (below)

Ellen Grbic has been a constant at Gravatt for 13 years. Bishop Richards blessed and Father Scotty Brock dedicated the Grbic Gazebo in honor of Ellen Grbic. Thank you to all the donors who honored Ellen by supporting the gazebo project. The Episcopal Church of the Advent Mission Team of Spartanburg, SC worked to make this new structure possible.

This is a place that welcomes people, a place people gather, a place of hospitality — just like Ellen.



The Grbic Gazebo is the latest addition to the conference side amenities ^



Rev. Nicolas Beasley leads the dedication of Rudy's Garden (left) Rudy Jones' family (right) ^

Rudy's Garden (above)

Rev. Nicholas Beasley, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, joined us to dedicate Rudy's Garden, a memorial garden at Gravatt given in memory of Edwin Rudolph Jones, Jr. by his family. Rudy's Garden is beautiful and will be a place of peace at Gravatt.

The cross in Rudy's garden is the cross of Cullum Hall Chapel that burned in 2002. It is the only surviving structure from the chapel and today stands in Rudy's Garden as a cross of remembrance. Contact [Scott McNeely](#) for more information about how you or a loved one can be remembered in Rudy's garden.



new camp pavilion

Investing in Gravatt's future

In 1967 additional land was purchased for a youth camp now known as the camp side-Camp Gravatt. Over the years buildings have been built, updated, repurposed to fit the needs of our growing summer camp community and the changing times.

Our most recent additions to the camp side were in 2016 with Byrd Health Lodge and Wood Chaplin's cabin in 2018. The camp side has two structures that hold the entire camp session of campers and staff - Collett Dining Hall and the pavilion. Collett Hall replaced the original camp dining hall in 2002 due to the need for increased functionality.

The camp pavilion has been expanded twice to increase capacity and again we find ourselves at full capacity.



Former summer staff member, loyal supporter, and talented artist, Wythe Collins' artistic rendering of the future campside pavilion



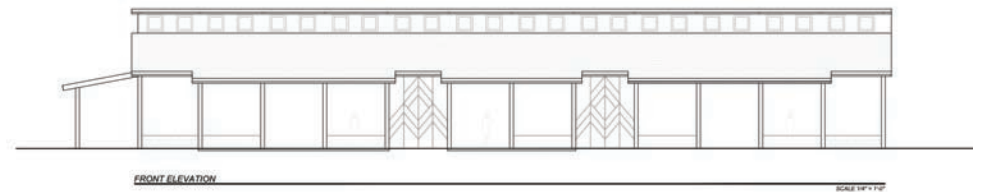
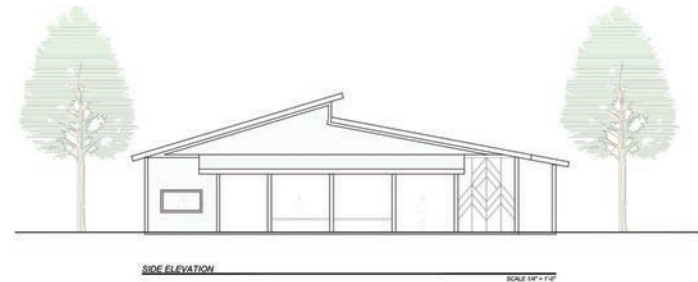
new camp pavilion

(continued)

To the right you will see plans for our new camp side pavilion with generous space for continued growth as well as technology that will enable year-round use to accommodate Gravatt's growing leadership and team building, environmental programs, and retreats business. Clint Burdett, long time Gravatt supporter and architect of Collett Hall, is graciously donating his talents to design our new camp side pavilion.

In addition to significantly more camper space, the pavilion will feature a retail store complete with mail room, a walk-up canteen, state of the art sound room, storage, and laundry facility. The pavilion will also include traditional camp games such as ping pong ball, foosball, and four square. Outdoor features will include a year round firepit and lots of covered outdoor areas to relax in a rocker to take in the view of the peaceful pines or visit with a friend.

For more information and opportunities to support this project contact Wendi Spratt, Development Director at wendi@campgravatt.org or 803.586.1004.



Architectural drawings by B Design LLC, Irmo, SC



annual fund support



Scholarship Support

Donations made to the 2023 annual fund support the Westmoreland Scholarship Fund with the goal of bringing the opportunity of camp to as many children as possible. With your support in 2022, Gravatt was able to award more than \$40,000 in camp scholarships. New to this year's annual fund, donations will also support the installation of a Leap of Faith and a Vertical Ascent Climbing element which will be enjoyed by both campers and group programs.

Whether you are creating your first will or making changes to a current estate plan, working with a professional ensures your will or trust legally provides for your beneficiaries in the manner you direct. Communicating with Gravatt staff to let them know your intentions to support Gravatt can ensure your gift is applied based on your wishes and creates the biggest impact from your support. Gravatt Camp and Conference Center can work with you to ensure your donations will be fulfilled while strategically benefiting Gravatt to achieve your long-term philanthropic goals. Gravatt Camp and Conference Center is a nonprofit, tax exempt charitable organization (tax identification number 57-1115861 under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.



Scheduled Giving

Supporters like you, have helped us to accomplish much of the programs and achievements that are highlighted in this impact report. Consider joining the ranks of our sustaining Gravatt supporters by choosing to give automatic, monthly, quarterly, or annual gifts. Monthly donations are an easy way to make a big impact at Gravatt.



Leaving a Legacy

A planned gift is one of the most impactful ways you can support Gravatt. Depending on your circumstances, you may be able to save on taxes, receive income for life, or experience other financial benefits. The amount of your gift does not need to be disclosed and estate gifts of any size are important.

SUPPORT GRAVATT

Requests for information or questions may be directed to Wendi Spratt, Development Director at wendi@campgravatt.org or 803.586.1004.





GRAVATT CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

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