



The Front Porch

A Historic Charlotte, Inc. Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Actively Preserving</i> | 2 |
| <i>A Place for the Past</i> | 2 |
| <i>Learning Series</i> | 3 |
| <i>New Executive Director</i> | 3 |
| <i>Membership Thank Yous</i> | 4 |
| <i>Saving Some of the Old</i> | 4 |
| <i>Dear Aunt Charlotte</i> | 5 |
| <i>Let the Board Know</i> | 5 |
| <i>Blast for the Past</i> | 6-7 |
| <i>10 Things to Do</i> | 8 |
| <i>Book for Sale</i> | 8 |
| <i>Historic Charlotte News</i> | 9 |
| <i>Membership Form</i> | 9 |
| <i>"Own" a Piece of History</i> | 10 |
| <i>ASC Grant</i> | 11 |

Mission

The mission of Historic Charlotte, Inc. is to actively promote historic preservation and to encourage, support and coordinate the activities of history and heritage groups throughout the greater Charlotte region.



Preservation Advocacy: Important Work for Historic Charlotte

Historic Charlotte is continually involved in efforts to protect and preserve real property in the Charlotte region. The preservation advocacy ranges from capacity building consultations with organizations, such as the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden and the Carolina Theater, to joining with property owners to add restrictive covenants and easements that legally identify Historic Charlotte as the custodian of the easement in perpetuity, as with the Latta Arcade in uptown Charlotte.

Historic Charlotte also gets involved when discussions indicate that a historic property, such as the Hall House—the old Barringer Hotel on North Tryon, is threatened due to a change in ownership. In the case of Hall House, Historic Charlotte has requested status as a “Consulting Party” to the pending Section 106 review of the Charlotte Housing Authority’s request to dispose of the Barringer Hotel (today known as Hall House). This historic hotel is listed in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Historical Landmarks Commission’s “Survey of Historic Buildings and Structures in Center City Charlotte.”



As the survey states, “The 12-story William R. Barringer Hotel opened on December 15, 1940, and continued to house patrons until February 1975 when it closed under the name Cavalier Inn. The initial owner and operator of the Barringer was the Barringer Hotel Company, which was headed by Laurence S. Barringer as president. Despite his best efforts, however, Laurence Barringer could not overcome forces that were working against the success of center city hotels by the early 1960s, when wealthy patrons increasingly began to prefer motels or outlying hotels as places to stay. The Barringer Hotel Company sold the Barringer Hotel in November 1961. The City of Charlotte purchased the then-vacant building in June 1978, and it is now used as public housing for the elderly. The Barringer is the only extant building in uptown Charlotte that served as a hotel before World War Two”.

In the case of the Barringer Hotel, Historic Charlotte’s role in Preservation advocacy will be to work with the Charlotte Housing Authority (CHA), The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) during the Section 106 review to ensure that the best possible re-use of the building can be identified while hopefully preventing the demolition of the building, if at all possible.



Board of Directors

Tom O'Brien, President
 Emily A. Stephenson-Green, Vice President
 Cameron Blake Holtz, Secretary
 Bert Fox, Treasurer
 Amy Hockett, Immediate Past President
 Emily Barnes
 Al Brown
 Brian Clarke, Esq.
 Lenore Jones Deutsch
 Sarah Kennard
 Kevin Monroe
 Jennifer Murphy
 David Pitser
 Fitzhugh Stout
 Sally Van Allen
 David Wagner
 Melvin White

Staff

Diane Althouse
 Executive Director
 Historic Charlotte, Inc.
 P.O. Box 33113
 Charlotte, NC 28233
 V 704.375.6145
 Email: d.althouse@historiccharlotte.org



ACTIVELY PRESERVING...

BY DIANE ALTHOUSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In addition to our ongoing Learning Series and preparation for this year's Blast for the Past, Historic Charlotte has the leadership role in two very different historic preservation projects. The first is the creation of the Survey and Research report, with the help of the Historic Landmarks Commission, which is necessary for the designation of Wing Haven Gardens and Bird Sanctuary to become a Local Landmark. Surprisingly, this local treasure has never before been considered for this important City designation – the Survey and Research paperwork is currently with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and upon approval it will be up to the City Council to approve it as a Local Landmark. We have every reason to expect that this process will be completed sometime this fall. If you have never visited Wing Haven please do so at your earliest convenience. It is located at 248 Ridgewood Avenue in Myers Park. For more details and program information on Wing Haven please visit www.winghavengardens.com.



The second project includes the creation of an in perpetuity preservation easement on The Cedar Grove Plantation House and the surrounding one acre. As it does with five other properties in Charlotte, including the Latta Arcade, Historic Charlotte will hold this easement in order to ensure compliance of the preservation easement and protection of the property, should it ever change hands in the future. The documentation (pictures and architectural drawings) of the house, as required by the easement, will be completed by Historic Charlotte volunteer Emily Rupar, a second year UNC Charlotte Architecture student and white water raft guide at the Whitewater Rafting Center. This project is in conjunction with the Trust for Public Land – who have been working with Torrance Banks and his mother, Belle Banks, on a land easement for the adjoining 43 acres. This 43 acres is what is left in family hands of the original 1,400 acre family tract. For a complete history and description of Cedar Grove please visit the historic Landmarks Commissions' website www.cmhpf.org/surveys&rcedargrove.html.

Please contact us if you if you have questions about preservation easements, historic tax credits or even have an historic property you would like to donate. Have a great fall, I know we are all looking forward to cooler weather - hope to see you at one of our fall events.

A PLACE FOR THE PAST

BY TOM O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT OF BOARD

We in the Charlotte area sometimes lament the loss of so many things historic. Generally we are thinking of the buildings that have been torn down in the name of progress. There are of course many significant historic places, neighborhoods and buildings that we walk by, visit, tour. We take our visiting friends through Dilworth, by the Duke Mansion, Historic Rosedale. Dinner at one of the lovely restaurants in Plaza - Midwood after a gallery crawl in NoDa is a treat nearly unique to our home town. Waxhaw and Davidson define the term special. Historic Charlotte treats these places, neighborhoods and buildings as vitally important to the quality of life in the Charlotte region. Join us, get involved, stay informed, connect with other historic preservation advocates. Take advantage of Historic Charlotte's Learning Series. Ask an architect to address your neighborhood group about appropriate building scale and "teardowns" and McMansions. Historic preservation has documented economic advantages as well as aesthetic and cultural benefits. As our board member David Wagner said it is about "putting the past in our future". **This is Historic Charlotte. We welcome you as part of it.**

KEEP IT REAL – ATTEND THE LEARNING SERIES!

BY DAVID PITSER

Did you ever wonder why Charlotte has so many streets named “Sharon”? Or who’s buried in the Pinewood / Elmwood Cemetery near Fourth Ward? Why all the fuss about the Carolina Theater or Spirit Square? Or even why Charlotte was built where it is in the first place?

These are the kind of questions that are answered at Historic Charlotte’s Learning Series. Each year, Historic Charlotte sponsors a series of public presentations on topics that help preserve the knowledge of our City’s rich past. For 2007, we’ve chosen the theme “Keep It Real” and are focusing on real places and real people that helped make Charlotte what it is today. This past spring our series included presentations by historian Tom Hanchett of the Levine Museum of the New South, Charlie Clayton of the Carolina Theater Preservation Society, and Lynn Weiss of the Pinewood/Elmwood Preservation Society.



The **2007 Learning Series** continues in the fall with the following offerings. The events are free for members. Admission for non-members is \$5, payable at the event.

September 18 – Walking Tour of the Pinewood / Elmwood Cemetery (back by popular demand!) led by Lynn Weiss, President of the Pinewood / Elmwood Preservation Society. Meet at the gardener’s building at 5:30 for an informative tour of the history of cemetery and some of its notable “residents”, followed by a social gathering at Alexander Michael’s in Fourth Ward.

October 2 – “Spirit Square: Past, Present & Future”. Levine Museum of the New South Historian Tom Hanchett will speak on the history of one of Uptown’s most interesting buildings, followed by a brief tour of Spirit Square. Meet at the Dunhill Hotel at 5:30 for social gathering, with the presentation beginning at 6:00. Free Parking in the 201 North Tryon Street Parking deck (enter from 6th Street next to the Dunhill Hotel).

November 14 – “African American Heritage in Mecklenburg County”. A recently completed guide to sites of significance in Charlotte’s African American community will be presented by Leora Studholme, an historic preservation consultant. Meet at the Dunhill Hotel at 5:30 for social gathering, with the presentation beginning at 6:00. Free Parking in the 201 North Tryon Street Parking deck (enter from 6th Street next to the Dunhill Hotel).

Historic Charlotte would like to recognize the generosity of The Dunhill Hotel in making its meeting space available for our presentations and Lincoln Harris for providing parking for the event at the Dunhill!

HISTORIC CHARLOTTE WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Diane C. Althouse joined Historic Charlotte, Inc. as Executive Director in April 2007. In addition to her Masters Certificate in Historic Preservation from UNC Greensboro, and an B.S in Marketing and Communications from Babson College, she has over 25 years of management and sales experience in the corporate arena, having worked at Microsoft Corporation for 14 years prior to attending UNCG. A transplant from New York City, she moved to Charlotte in 1994 with her husband Herb Althouse. She has volunteered for a number of not-for-profit Historic Preservation organizations including Preservation North Carolina, Historic Charlotte and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. She has also volunteered at The Landmark Group, in Winston-Salem, NC, a full-service historic preservation design, construction and property-management company. Her talents are many!! She is excited to officially join the Historic Charlotte organization having been a volunteer for Blast for the Past during the last four years. She can be reached at d.althouse@historiccharlotte.org.

Historic Charlotte Welcomes Our New and Renewing Members*

Thank you for supporting Historic Charlotte!

Craftsman

Crosland Inc.
Thomas O'Brien and Daphne Dwyer

Victorian

Diane & Herb Althouse

Mid Century Modern

Al and Nancy Brown
Brian Clarke
Ileese Cornwell
Lenore Jones and Lance Deutsch
Larry and Debbie Ferguson
David Furman Architecture
Cameron Blake Holtz
Sarah Kennard
Debbie and Roger Lovelett
David Pitser
Emily Stephenson-Green and Michael Green
Sally Van Allen
Wagner Murray

Georgian

John M. Belk
Lisa and Phil Cope
Sylvia Dalton
Sarah Belk Gambrell
Marianne and David Gertner
Nancy Howe
Tom Low
Lisa Lee Morgan
Christy and Roger Norris
Francis I. Parker
Rosalie Reynolds
Jeff and Missy Richardson
Richard Salisbury
Roy and Mary Smart

Tudor

W. Edward Hastings
Scott Howard
William Martin Ivey
Tim and Sarah Monnin
Mary Lynn Morrill
Bailey Patrick
Hugo Pearce
William and Sandra Rook

Colonial

Constance E. Blumenshine
Robert Douma
Krista Karlson
Edwin and Lucille Jones
Corey Lock
Tim Newman
Pauline Nilend
Diane and Thomas Petrosino
Tom Pruitt
Karen Puzio
Eli Baxter Springs
J Jeter Walker
E.F. and Joan Ward
Kathryn Wholey

* Since July 1, 2007

SAVING SOME OF THE OLD WHILE ACCOMMODATING THE NEW

By Gordon Q. Freeman

Teardowns and McMansions: a topic of concern everywhere these days, not just in Charlotte. Bring up the subject and you will probably lift the lid of Pandora's box. But it's a topic that needs to be addressed. And a group in Charlotte is forming to do just that. How do we help older neighborhoods retain their identifying characteristics and qualities while undergoing redevelopment at the same time?

Initially calling themselves "The Neighborhood Forum" and then "Save Old Charlotte," the group decided at their July meeting that "Save Our Older Neighborhoods" (SOON) might be a better description. The Steering Committee later voted to use this name. The group took steps to form a more cohesive organization by setting up a steering committee and a committee to explore holding a public forum involving political candidates in October. The forum will focus on policy issues, preservation, and conservation possibilities in older neighborhoods. They will also seek partnerships with other non-profits such as Historic Charlotte, Catawba Lands Conservancy, Preservation North Carolina, Carolinas Clean Air Coalition, and the Sierra Club.

The actual roots of this group go back about 50 years when the first "Save Old Charlotte" movement began. Since then, Charlotte has lost a very large percentage of its older structures, especially downtown. The trend toward teardowns and overly large houses, especially on small lots, is causing environmental concerns about increased runoff from the very large structures and paved areas, loss of tree canopy, and diminished open space. These lead to air quality as well as clean water problems. Then there is the additional pressure on the infrastructure to provide more water and electrical power. Not to mention the increase in solid waste disposal needs as teardowns continue. It is a multifaceted issue.

Other cities are or have begun addressing these problems. Hopefully, Charlotte will soon be among their ranks. If you are interested in joining the local group, please contact gordonqfreeman@aol.com or at 523-2238 or Jinny Sullivan at gsullivan@carolina.rr.com or at 704-335-0299. If you are interested in learning more, try "googling" the phrase "teardowns and McMansions." You will find lots of information.

Dear Aunt Charlotte,

What are some ways I can save money on preservation?

Most often when people think about restoring an older piece of property they immediately think of an old comedy, "The Money Pit." However historic preservation does not have to become a money pit if you take time to plan your project and know about resources that are available right here in Charlotte.



- Living in North Carolina is an advantage because of the incentive packages the state offers for preserving our architectural and cultural history. Incentives are tied to both federal and state income taxes. For "income producing" properties the federal 20% income tax credit and the state's 20% tax matching credit can provide investors with a combined 40% credit against eligible project costs. "Non-income" producing historic properties, such as private homes, are eligible for a 30% credit for rehabilitation. Go to the state website for more information about tax credits. www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us/tchome.htm
- Spread the word about your plans and share your ideas. Often you can learn from other's mistakes and experiences, and they will help you identify sources for materials, quality trades people or even have a great solution for a tricky problem.
- Donate a preservation easement. When an owner donated an easement to a charitable organization like Historic Charlotte, he or she can claim a charitable deduction at the value of the easement. You retain private ownership of the property while obtaining a potential financial benefit and the easement binds future owners which insures that the property is maintained and preserved for the future.
- Maybe your property will meet the requirements to qualify for exempt or deferred property taxes. Owners of designated local historical landmarks may qualify for a 50% property tax deferral.
- Lastly, in restoration, less is more. In most cases leaving architectural details and fixtures intact is better and cheaper to gutting an entire house. Also consider reusing existing materials that do need to be torn out.

Let the Board Know What You Are Thinking!!

Please take a moment to let the Board hear from you. You can complete the form below or email your comments to info@HistoricCharlotte.org. Also consider volunteering to be on one of the HCI Board committees or helping in the office. If you want to receive periodic emails from the Board about the work of HCI and other issues, please include your email address below. Your name is not required to let the board know what you think.



Summer 2007 Issue

Historic Charlotte, Inc.
P.O. Box 33113
Charlotte, NC 28233

I would like to serve on the following Board Committee (Circle your choice):

Program Committee

Development Committee

Marketing and Public Relations

I would like to volunteer to help out in the Historic Charlotte Office with (Circle your choice):

Membership

Special Events

Mailing and Other Communication

General Office Duties

Name(s): _____

Member of HCI?

Address: _____

___ yes ___ no

I want to join the HCI?

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

___ Included are my dues

Email Address: _____

BLAST FOR THE PAST AWARD WINNERS 2006

October 6, 2006 the Charlotte Community gathered at the Historic Charlotte Cotton Mill to honor three outstanding commercial buildings for their preservation efforts. Preservation Award were presented to the following.

Ovens Auditorium

Ovens Auditorium is owned by the City of Charlotte and operated by Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority (CRVA). Architect: for the preservation effort was RdM Architecture, P.A. And the contractor: was Welch & Associates. Originally Ovens designed by Odell and Associates and was completed in 1955. Ovens Auditorium has stood as a cultural landmark in Charlotte for over 50 years. Along with its neighbor, Cricket Arena, Ovens Auditorium is one of the last remaining examples of landmark civic architecture from that period in the Carolinas. Named after David Ovens, a Charlotte businessman and philanthropist, the Auditorium was built at a cost of \$4.6 million and was designed to serve as the finest location for entertainment in the City. Since its opening, Ovens Auditorium has served as host to a variety of events, including popular Broadway musicals such as *Cats* and *Les Miserables*, and famous performers such as David Copperfield, Johnny Mathis, Liza Minnelli and Bruce Springsteen. The expansion and interior renovation, provided as part of a \$5 million rehabilitation loan from the City, respects the original architecture, updating both its functions and aesthetics. Contributing to the success of the project, plans were reviewed and permitted under the new alternative building code for historic buildings, the NC Rehab Code.



Grinnell Water Works Building

Grinnell Water Works is owned by McCoy Holdings, LLC. McClure Nicholson Montgomery served as the architects and Edifice was the contractor. The Grinnell Waterworks Building was originally built in 1929 as the Grinnell/General Fire Extinguisher Company in what was a growing heavy industrial and manufacturing section of the city of Charlotte along Morehead Street. The property is a locally designated Charlotte Mecklenburg Historic Landmark. Historic and architectural features that were retained and accented in the rehab are the unobstructed main space, its unique steel "butterfly" shaped roof trusses with heart pine decking, two full-length banks of steel framed clerestory windows with translucent mottled glass, and the original steel

framed windows on every façade. The former "rail spur" was redesigned as a "rail walk" with benches and landscaping to be used by the building tenants. The Owner hopes this "rail walk" idea will be further continued by neighboring projects and eventually provide a connected pedestrian walkway through the redeveloped area.

Biddle Hall, Johnson C. Smith University

Johnson C. Smith University hired the architectural firm of Gantt Huberman Architects, PLLC to help it carry out a major restoration of Biddle Hall, a Charlotte icon. Contractor David Sidbury, Inc. was charged with carrying out the work. Biddle Hall was originally completed in 1884 as the centerpiece of the campus of Johnson C. Smith University, an historically black university in Charlotte. The building is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Mecklenburg County and serves as a fine example of institutional architecture of the Victorian Era. Built in the Romanesque Revival style, it originally consisted of administrative offices, classrooms, and an auditorium, and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. Biddle Hall had suffered from years of weathering, water damage, and incompatible remodeling over the years. The two-year rehabilitation resulted in modernization of the building's mechanical and electrical systems and incorporation of current technologies, while fully complying with the federal Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation and honoring the character and integrity of the original building. Windows were restored based on original wood profiles and paint color samplings and window configurations followed the patterns documented in archival photographs. Plaster moldings and floor tile patterns were recreated through research of similar buildings of the same period. Where possible, original pine floors were rehabbed. Structural repairs, brick and stone repointing and numerous exterior details helped to return the building to its original grandeur. An elevator and exit stair tower were added to address ADA requirements, but the addition blends with the overall building appearance, while being differentiated through the use of new brick and simplified details.



Join us for Historic Charlotte's Annual Gala and Preservation Celebration: Blast for the Past!

Historic Charlotte's 7th Annual Gala ~ ***Blast for the Past*** will be held on Thursday, October 11th at CenterStage@NoDa, an old Sears Roebuck warehouse in the North Davidson Historic District. CenterStage@NoDa, a fabulous party space, will provide a unique setting as Historic Charlotte honors this year's Preservation Award winners. Holding the event in the old warehouse has also sparked this year's theme,

“Cataloging The Past”

A tribute to Sears & Roebuck Kit Homes

Join us for the Silent Auction, Fabulous Food, Swing Music and a brief Preservation Awards Ceremony

Thursday, October 11, 2007 6:30p.m. until....



2315 N. Davidson St.

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails 6:30 p.m.

Awards Presentation 8:30 p.m.

Silent Auction 6:30—8:15 p.m.

Dancing 6:30 p.m. until....

Tickets: \$45 each | \$80 a pair

To purchase a ticket online go to www.HistoricCharlotte.org/Blast.html or contact Historic Charlotte at 704-375-

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESERVATION AWARDS SOUGHT

Each year, Historic Charlotte presents the **Blast for the Past Preservation Awards** to members of our community who have made significant contributions toward the preservation of historic assets in the greater Charlotte region. This year's **residential and commercial** winners will be honored at Historic Charlotte's annual preservation celebration, Blast for the Past, on October 11, 2007. Historic Charlotte is now seeking nominations for the 2007 Preservation Awards. Project must have been completed within the last two years and must exemplify aspects of effective preservation, historic renovation, adaptive reuse and/or new construction within a historic context. The nomination process is simple.

- Write up a brief description of the project and its merits including the project's consultants (including architect, owner, contractor, all engineers and specialty consultants).
- Include floor plans for the building or residence and several interior and exterior photographs.
- Mail or deliver submissions to David Wagner, Wagner Murray Architects, 1000 W Morehead Street, Suite 120, Charlotte, NC 28208.

The entry deadline is September 14, 2007. For more information email info@HistoricCharlotte.org

ENTER THE "SEARS MODERN HOMES" BIRDHOUSE COMPETITION

The Sears Modern Homes Birdhouse Competition is meant to honor the *spirit* of the "Sears Modern Homes" program. It is envisioned that area artists, architects and builders will design and build birdhouses that emulate the Modern Homes. Because many of the Modern Homes still resemble homes of today, local builders may choose to design and build a birdhouse of one of their own current market designs. Likewise artists and architects can employ creative license when designing and building a birdhouse. For more information on Sears Modern Homes, go to www.searsarchives.com/homes. 1) Birdhouse footprint should be no larger than 24" square, but can be as tall as feasible to ensure sound construction and stand-ability. (Birdhouses will be displayed as centerpieces on event tables.) 2) Birdhouses can be decorative or functional, but should be solidly constructed and outdoor and bird-friendly. 3) Birdhouses may prominently display the name of the artist, architect or builder, and the name of the home, if based on an actual Sears Home or builder model. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes given for Architectural Authenticity and Creativity. Winner receive 2 tickets to Blast 2008. **Birdhouses will be auctioned off the night of the event.** For more information:



www.historiccharlotte.org/images/Birdhousecompetition_3.pdf

10 THINGS TO DO TO CELEBRATE PRESERVATION IN CHARLOTTE

BY LENORE JONES DEUTSCH

Looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon? Historic Charlotte invites you to discover some of the wonderful preservation achievements in Charlotte.

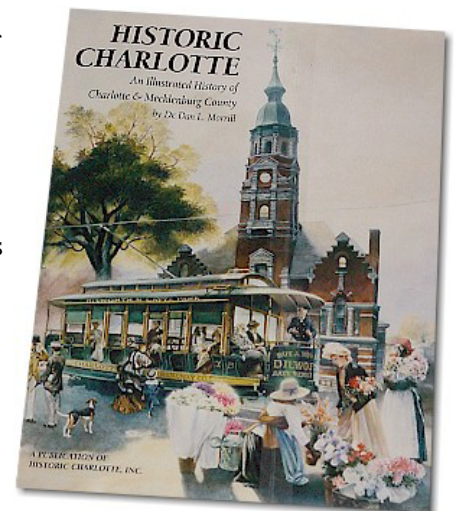
1. **Take a walk through the impressive Fourth Ward District.** You will admire dozens of charming Victorian homes, and can take a stroll through Fourth Ward Park, an oasis in the middle of the city. Finish your tour with lunch or dinner at Alexander Michael's Restaurant on West 9th Street, a neighborhood hangout.
2. **Explore Plaza Midwood,** especially Central Avenue, between Pecan and The Plaza. Be sure to visit Nova Bakery (have a scone), and check out the Pura Vida gallery for treasures from around the world. Then head over to Queens Gallery on the Plaza for their latest art exhibit.
3. **Check out NoDa (North Davidson Art area)** and have lunch at Cabo Fish Taco (in the Historic Landmark Hand's Pharmacy Bldg.) followed by coffee at the Smelly Cat Coffee Shop on 35th Street. Then stop and smell the roses at McGill Rose Garden on North Davidson Street. Perhaps in the evening you can catch a show at the Neighborhood Theater.
4. **Stroll through Dilworth,** Charlotte's first suburban neighborhood (established between 1900 and 1940). Dine at 300 East in an historic old home, and feast your eyes on the goodies at Paper Skyscraper. The housing stock in Dilworth is quite eclectic, with lots of bungalows, but some contemporary homes as well.
5. **Wander around Wesley Heights,** and check out the 1911 Wadsworth House, a former funeral home now a meeting and conference center beautifully restored by former Superior Court Judge, Shirley Fulton. Walk the greenway from Wesley Heights to uptown Charlotte.
6. **Walk down Hermitage Court** and see if you can figure out why it recently became Charlotte's latest Historic District. While you are in the neighborhood drive down the stately streets of Myers Park.
7. **Have lunch at NoFo,** and experience eclectic food and good adaptive reuse. This is in the neighborhood of Elizabeth. Then drive down Clement Avenue to see some of the beautifully restored homes in the Elizabeth neighborhood. For dinner, dine at The Fig Tree Restaurant at the Lucas House on East 7th Street. This bungalow-style house won the Historic Landmark Award presented by Historic Charlotte in 2005.
8. Say "thank you" to developer Tony Pressley who started the redevelopment and **revitalization of South End** and **check out the Historic Atherton Mill's** collection of interesting shops. **Visit the Charlotte Trolley museum** for an explanation of the role of electric streetcars in the development of Charlotte beyond the inner city at the turn of the 20th Century.
9. **See Johnson C. Smith University.** This historic campus was founded in Charlotte in 1867 for black students. Check out Biddle Hall, the fine Romanesque revival centerpiece of the campus built in 1895 and recently renovated by Gantt Huberman Architects. The two year rehabilitation of this building was one of the winners of Historic Charlotte's Blast for the Past awards program in 2006.
10. **Drive down to The Green on South Tryon** and stroll through this beautiful urban park to the historic Ratcliffe Flower Shop that's been transformed to "Ratcliffe on the Green" for a taste of Carolina Cuisine. Then, if you have never been to the Charlotte Museum of History, check out this interesting facility on Shamrock Drive. You can explore three centuries of regional heritage. Visit the Revolutionary War-era home of Hezekiah Alexander (circa 1774) while you're in the neighborhood.

Historic Charlotte: An Illustrated History

The publication of *Historic Charlotte, An Illustrated History of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County* written by Dr. Dan Morrill, longtime UNC-Charlotte history professor and Consulting Director of the Historic Landmarks Commission continues to be available for purchase through Historic Charlotte.

This beautifully illustrated coffee table book provides a succinct look at Charlotte from the 1700's to the present day. While not an encyclopedic account, the book chronicles the city and county struggles with growth and describes the consistent forces which have impacted the region's evolution from the beginning. Read about our earliest days when the Catawba Indians roamed the land, the Scots-Irish settlers who moved down from Philadelphia, the first gold rush in the country, the Revolutionary War battles and up to the economic boom of the 1990s. The book includes some photographs never before seen in print and will be a wonderful addition to your library as well as a wonderful gift.

Historic Charlotte, An Illustrated History of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County can be ordered directly from Historic Charlotte at a cost of \$45.00 per copy including tax and shipping. Simply go to the website at www.historiccharlotte.org/merchandise.html. Or you can mail a check to Historic Charlotte, Inc., PO Box 33113, Charlotte, NC 28233 or call 704-375-6145. Also *Historic Charlotte* books are for sale at Paper Skyscraper on East Boulevard.



Two New Board Members Join Historic Charlotte

Emily Barnes is a native Charlottean – having grown up in the Matthews and Charlotte area. She attended UNC Charlotte and is now with Centralina Workforce Development Board, Inc. where she works as a Centralina WDB Program Assistant. She was introduced to Historic Charlotte during her participation in the Arts and Science Council’s Cultural Leadership Training Program. We are excited to have Emily on the board – her knowledge and perspective on Charlotte is a definite asset to HCI. Oh, and one more thing – she is getting married in October! Congratulations and Welcome Emily!

Brian Clarke, Esq. is a newcomer to Charlotte, but not to preservation. He served as Vice President of Preservation Greensboro until he moved to Charlotte this past spring with his wife, Chrissy, and three children. Brian is an attorney with Littler Mendelson, P.C., and an avid preservationist. Like many Charlotteans he attended Chapel Hill as an undergraduate, he majored in History. His law degree was earned at Washington & Lee University School of Law. Brian and his unique background is another welcome addition to our board. Furthermore, HCI looks forward to learning from his experience with Preservation Greensboro. Brian, Welcome to Historic Charlotte!

Historic Charlotte Seeks Part-Time Staff Member to Handle Marketing and Membership

Historic Charlotte is creating a part-time staff position that will work with our Learning Series Committee on marketing tasks (mailings, advertising, PR, event management) related to our fall and spring Learning Series. This person will also help with the coordination and support of our annual October Blast for the Past Auction and Awards Event as well as Preservation Month events. In addition, this staff member is responsible for managing our Membership database, renewal notices and thank you letter mailings. Hours for this paid position are flexible and vary between 8 hours to 16 hours per week. Some work can be done from home if desired. Knowledge of Microsoft Office a must and experience with QuickBooks a plus. Please contact Diane Althouse, Executive Director, Historic Charlotte for more information or if you have questions. She can be reached at 704-375-6145 or at d.althouse@historiccharlotte.org.

Volunteer to Help with Historic Charlotte’s Newsletter and Publicity

Come help us write, type, proof, create our Historic Charlotte newsletter, *The Front Porch*. Our goal is to produce the newsletter each quarter and this is a great opportunity to get more actively involved in the work of the organization right from your home computer. No special talents are needed. Since the newsletters are only published quarterly your time and effort will be needed for only about 8 hours every three months. Helping with the newsletter is a great way to get involved with Historic Charlotte when you do not have time to volunteer each week or even once a month. To find out more information about the tasks involved in publishing the newsletter or to volunteer to help, contact Emily Stephenson-Green, Vice President and editor of *The Front Porch*, at 704-687-8618 or easteph2@uncc.edu.

Join Historic Charlotte—Membership Form

To sign up for membership online go to www.HistoricCharlotte.org/member.html or complete the form below and mail it to the address below along with your check.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Place _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Contact me about volunteer opportunities, especially _____

My company’s matching donation form is enclosed

Membership Level _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Check made payable to “Historic Charlotte, Inc.”

Visa or MasterCard _____ Exp _____

Signature _____

- Craftsman**
Student or Senior
\$30/year
- Colonial**
Individual
\$40/year
- Tudor**
Family
\$60/year
- Georgian**
Supporters
\$100/year
- Mid-Century Modern**
Patrons
\$250/year
- Victorian**
Leadership
\$500/year
- Palladian**
Benefactor
\$1000+ /year

Historic Charlotte is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law. Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license to solicit are available from the State of North Carolina Solicitation Licensing Board at 919-807-2214.

Mail membership form and check to Historic Charlotte, Inc., PO Box 33113, Charlotte, NC 28233 or call 704-375-6145.

A PIECE OF HISTORY FOR YOUR "OWN"

HISTORIC PROPERTIES FOR SALE IN OUR AREA



White Oak Plantation. 7729 Hood Road

This is a unique property in move-in condition. The plantation house dates from the late 1700s. The 18 acres of land also contain two log cabins, one of which is ready to serve as a guest house. The property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is one of a kind! Asking price: \$1.4 million.

For information call Lexie Longstreet at (704)560-4604

Edward M. Rozzell House. 11647 Rozzelles Ferry Road.

This 19th century farmhouse could be used for offices or as a home. House completely restored on the exterior. It needs interior upfit. Property is 3.2 acres with a second rental house. The property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Asking price: \$325,000.

For information call Linda Kidd at (704) 892-6556



Sidney and Ethel Grier House. 4747 Grier Farm Ln.

This house has been restored and is in tip top shape. Built in 1916, it is located off Providence Rd. in southern Mecklenburg County. Public schools are excellent. The house and approximately 2 acres of land are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Asking price: \$375,000.

For information call Lexie Longstreet at (704)560-4604

Grier-Rea House -- Providence Road and Alexander Road.

The Grier-Rea House has been moved to this over 1-acre lot in one of the finest areas of Mecklenburg County. It has stunning early 1800s woodwork. Final upfit needed inside. The Grier-Rea House has completely new wiring and plumbing. Federal and State income tax credits are available to the buyer.

For information call Lexie Longstreet at (704)560-4604



Tharpe House, Dilworth, 329 E. Worthington Avenue

Price: \$425,000 REDUCED: \$410,000

Built ca. 1905, the house is a contributing structure in the Dilworth National Register District and local historic district; eligible for tax credits. Features a T-gable roof with façade gable "dormer", wraparound porch on replacement posts and piers, with entrances on either side of the porch, high ceilings, original mantels, hardwood floors, and original windows. Requires complete rehabilitation. Square Feet: 1,477 For more information call Ted Alexander, Regional Director, Preservation NC, Southwest Regional Office, 704-482-3531, talexander@presnc.org. Please include your name, mailing address, and the name of the property in the e-mail.

Dilworth, 1818 Euclid Avenue

Price: \$485,000 REDUCED: \$425,000

Built ca. 1915, the house is a contributing structure in the Dilworth National Register District and local historic district; eligible for tax credits. One story house approximately 1,744 square feet. Features a gable front with wraparound porch on replacement posts and lower side gable section. Interior has two original mantels and trim and original high plaster ceiling is mostly intact beneath dropped ceiling. Contact: Ted Alexander, Regional Director, Preservation NC, Southwest Regional Office, 704-482-3531, talexander@presnc.org. Please include your name, mailing address, and the name of the property in the e-mail.



HISTORIC CHARLOTTE THANKS 2006 BLAST SPONSORS

Preservation Resources

CHARLOTTE'S HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

Dilworth (DCDA)
<http://dilworth.org/neighborhoods.htm>

Myers Park
<http://www.mpha.com>

Plaza-Midwood
<http://www.plazamidwood.org>

Elizabeth
<http://www.elizabethcommunity.com>

North Davidson
<http://www.noda.org/index.cfm>

Fourth Ward (FoFW)
<http://www.fofw.intranets.com>

Hermitage Court—No website

LOCAL PRESERVATION RESOURCES

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission
<http://www.cmhpf.org>

Charlotte Historic District Commission
<http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/Planning/Historic-Districts/Home.htm>

STATE PRESERVATION RESOURCES

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (NC SHPO)
<http://www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us>

Preservation North Carolina
<http://www.presnc.org>

NATIONAL PRESERVATION RESOURCES

National Park Service (NPS)
<http://www.cr.nps.gov>

National Trust for Historic Preservation
<http://www.nationaltrust.org>

Preservation Action
<http://www.preservationaction.org>

INTERNATIONAL PRESERVATION RESOURCES

US International Council on Monuments and Sites (US ICOMOS)
<http://www.icomos.org/usicomos>

Arts and Science Council Awards HCI Grant

Historic Charlotte is pleased to announce that The Arts and Science Council Board of Directors has awarded Historic Charlotte an \$11,000 FY08 Annual Support Grant. Support Grants provide unrestricted support to arts, science, and history organizations for general administration, operations and programs. Grants are available to ASC Associate organizations that meet specific eligibility requirements. This program is supported through ASC's Annual Fund Drive.





Historic Charlotte, Inc.
P.O. Box 33113
Charlotte, NC 28233

Actively promoting preservation of historic architecture and historic sites in the Charlotte region and encouraging, supporting and coordinating the activities of history and heritage groups throughout the Charlotte region.

Visit our website: www.HistoricCharlotte.org



Summer 2007 Issue

The Front Porch

A Historic Charlotte, Inc. Newsletter

Historic Charlotte 's 7th Annual Gala ~ Blast for the Past

“Cataloging The Past”

Silent Auction, Food, Music and Preservation Awards Ceremony

CenterStage@NoDa

Thursday, October 11, 2007 6:30 p.m. until...

Be There !!

(See page 7 for more information.)
