The first historic marker unveiled and placed during 2013 recognized Winston-Salem’s centennial; three additional historic marker unveilings were held during the year. In July, a marker commemorating Pythian Hall was unveiled. Pythian Hall was constructed at the northwest corner of East Seventh and North Chestnut Streets in 1902 in a prominent African-American community. The three-story brick building housed the Prince Hall Masons and the Knights of Pythias on the second and third floors. These fraternal organizations helped incoming African-Americans find jobs and housing. Among commercial enterprises on the first floor were a newspaper press and the Fraternal Funeral Home, established in 1928 by the Prince Hall Masons, and later managed and acquired by local business leader Clark S. Brown. Brown was instrumental in the success of the Prince Hall Masons, serving as the African-American order’s Most Worshipful Grand Master of North Carolina from 1959 to 1974. Pythian Hall was destroyed by fire in 1994.

In September, a marker recognizing Calvin H. Wiley School was unveiled. Calvin Henderson Wiley (1819-1887) was a lawyer, author, legislator, minister, and champion of public education. Wiley became North Carolina’s first Superintendent of Common Schools in 1853 and remained in that position until 1865. In 1869, he moved to Winston and was instrumental in developing Winston and Salem’s public school system. Wiley served as the chairman of Winston’s first school board from 1883 to 1887. Completed in 1925, Calvin H. Wiley School was designed by Charles

Michael Ryden, Chairman
Barton Keen, architect of Reynolda House and nearby R.J. Reynolds High School and Memorial Auditorium. Built on land donated by Pleasant Henderson Hanes, the columned façade of the Colonial Revival-style school overlooks Hanes Park.

Finally, in October, the first official Forsyth County historic marker was unveiled for Memorial Industrial School. Memorial Industrial School began as the Colored Baptist Orphanage Home for African-American children, located in the Belview neighborhood of Winston-Salem’s Southside area. In 1928, it moved eight miles north of the city’s downtown, and is located near today’s Horizons Park, in the northern portion of Forsyth County. The architectural firm of Northup and O’Brien designed the overall site plan and the administration building, dormitories, and power plant. Contributions from The Duke Endowment and local philanthropists, including the Reynolds and Gray families, subsidized construction and operation of the campus. The curriculum included academic, agricultural, and domestic training. Memorial Industrial School closed in 1971 after operating for 48 years as one of only two black orphanages in North Carolina and the only such institution to serve a single county.

Two additional historic markers funded by other entities were placed during the year recognizing the Ogburn Station area and Thomas J. Wilson.

In addition, the property owner may apply to the Forsyth County Tax Office for a 50% property tax deferral, which runs with the property in perpetuity (unless designation is revoked). During 2013, the following properties were designated by ordinance as Forsyth County Local Historic Landmarks:

**Forsyth County Courthouse**

The Forsyth County Courthouse is the third courthouse to stand on the site at 11 West Third Street (the courthouse square), from the time of Forsyth County’s creation in 1849. Since the colonial period, North Carolina’s counties have served as the base of political power and law; the county courthouse is the single
2013 was an extremely special year for the Historic Resources Commission and the Education Committee as the City of Winston-Salem celebrated the 100th anniversary of the consolidation of Winston and Salem. Historically, May 9, 1913 marked a new era for Winston-Salem; a new city was born. It was 5.35 square miles with an estimated population of 18,700. Oscar B. Eaton was elected as Winston-Salem’s first mayor.

The Commission and the Education Committee worked with the City’s Centennial Committee to prepare for a May weekend full of activities and events to honor and celebrate Winston-Salem’s anniversary. The HRC was charged with the kick-off on May 9, 2013. The program began outside City Hall with preliminary festivities including a show of antique cars, free Krispy Kreme doughnuts, and circus-type performers from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. The formal ceremony included remarks by local, state, and congressional elected officials and representatives, assistance from the Boy Scouts, musical and dramatic performances, and essay contest award recipients. The program concluded with the unveiling of a historic marker that was installed on West First Street near the Strollway and Corpening Plaza.

Following the program, City Hall was opened for a reception. The building had been decorated with panels depicting each of the ten decades of Winston-Salem’s past 100 years. Refreshments were provided by local companies and served by local college students; a string ensemble provided music. The festivities on the evening of May 9, 2013 also included three premiere showings of the centennial documentary, Merger: Making the Twin City, hosted at a/pererture cinema downtown.
The centennial celebrations continued until Sunday, May 12, 2013. On Friday, a centenarian luncheon was held for those 100 years and older. Over fifty people were identified, with the oldest being 111! That evening, a special downtown Gallery Hop was held, where a large crowd joined in on the community toast of Foothills Brewery’s special “Centennial Brew” or Primo Water’s “Centennial Water.”

Saturday events included Community Days at Old Salem Museums and Gardens, a centennial parade, a centennial scavenger hunt, and a party in Corpening Plaza. Food, beverages, vendors, and music were all on hand.

On Sunday, the Winston-Salem Symphony performed the world premiere of “Hail the Coming Day,” a musical piece commissioned to commemorate the centennial anniversary. To complete the festivities, a multi-faith worship service was held at the May Dell at Salem Academy and College.
most significant governmental building in each of North Carolina’s 100 counties. The Forsyth County Courthouse is associated with the important functions of county administration as the local seat of government and center of law. Besides the usual court functions, including courtrooms, judge’s chambers, and records retention, the courthouse also contained offices for other county governmental agencies. Additionally, the Forsyth County Courthouse is significant for its design by the local architectural firm of Northup & O’Brien. While a prominent architectural firm known for its public buildings, the Forsyth County Courthouse is the only courthouse that the firm ever designed.

**Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) Administration Building**

Located at 1201 Glade Street, the former YWCA Administration Building was completed in 1942. In 1908, the first efforts to establish a YWCA were undertaken by wives and daughters of the city’s wealthy businessmen and industrialists. Winston and Salem were experiencing a boom period, and the YWCA assisted young women in finding local jobs. Over time, the YWCA’s membership grew and in 1938, the Gray family donated land in the West End neighborhood for a new facility. Harold Macklin was selected as the architect for the facility. The building, designed in the Colonial Revival style and constructed with noted African-American brickmaker George Black’s bricks, opened in March 1942.

**Chatham Manufacturing Company**

Located at 800 Chatham Road, the Chatham Manufacturing Company/Western Electric Company was initially constructed in 1907. For over 30 years beginning in the early 20th century, Chatham dominated the state’s woolen industry and became one of the largest wool weavers in the United States. After Chatham consolidated operations in Elkin in 1940, the United States government leased and then purchased the facility. From 1943-1945, the National Carbon Company added several large additions to the site where it facilitated submarine battery and underwater detonator manufacture for the United States Navy. Western Electric occupied the plant from 1946 until 1966, initially producing military communications equipment and gradually transitioning to the fabrication of switches and circuits for national telephone networks.
During 2013, the Commission reviewed the nomination of the Forsyth County Courthouse to the National Register of Historic Places. In Forsyth County, both the Commission and the elected bodies are charged with reviewing and commenting on all nominations prepared for properties in the community. In April, the Courthouse was listed on the National Register.

**Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update**
During 2013, manuscript preparation for Winston-Salem’s architectural survey book continued. The publication will be printed in 2015 and available for sale. The next phase of work on the architectural survey project will be to complete research and draft the manuscript for a second publication focusing on the architectural resources of Forsyth County and its small towns.

**Statistics (FY 2012-2013)**

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**For more information contact:**
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