

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission



Annual Report

2010

Chairman's Message

On behalf of the Historic Resources Commission, I am pleased to present the Commission's Annual Report for 2010. As you will read, the Commission managed a number of exciting projects and events. In addition to handling the usual busy caseload of Certificate of Appropriateness applications from local historic districts and landmark properties, the Commission was happy to have two properties designated as Forsyth County Local Historic Landmarks. As usual, the Commission hosted a number of activities and events for Historic Preservation Month. The Commission began Phase IV of the Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update Project, continued work on revisions to the Old Salem and Bethabara Design Review Guidelines, and sponsored three historic marker unveilings. We hope you enjoy reading about the Commission's work over the past year. Thank you for your continued support of our community's rich historical and architectural legacy.

Mark Maxwell, Chairman, Effective 2011

Major Projects

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Education Committee

Historic Preservation Month Activities

This year, the Commission once again celebrated the month of May throughout Forsyth County as Historic Preservation Month. Historic Preservation Month is nationally celebrated and serves as a showcase for the country's diverse and unique heritage. Across the United States, thousands of community groups honor their histories through various activities and bring historic preservation to the forefront of Americans' daily lives by emphasizing the importance of protecting the nation's past. The 2010 local theme for Historic Preservation Month was "Silent Legacies," to honor the cemeteries, graveyards, and burial grounds in Forsyth County. Activities during the month included the following:

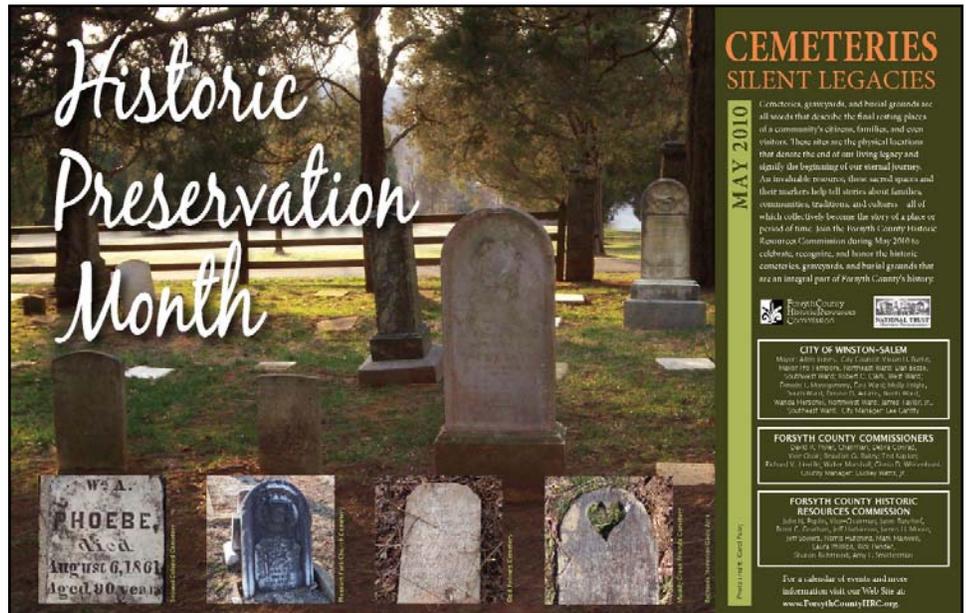
Historic Preservation Month Resolutions

Resolutions supporting Historic Preservation Month were adopted by the Winston-Salem City Council, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, the Kernersville Board of Aldermen, and the Clemmons Village Council.

Historic Preservation Month Poster

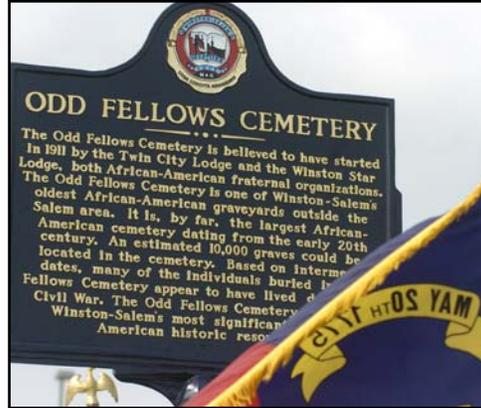
The Commission published its sixth annual Historic Preservation Month

poster, calling attention to the local theme of "Silent Legacies." As the final resting places of our community's citizens, families, and even visitors, those resources help tell stories about families, communities, traditions, and cultures – all of which collectively become the story of a place or period of time. The poster was distributed throughout Forsyth County and once again provided a high degree of visibility for the Commission and local preservation concerns.



Historic Marker Unveiling

During Historic Preservation Month, the Commission sponsored the unveiling of a historic marker for Winston-Salem's Odd Fellows Cemetery. The Odd Fellows Cemetery is believed to have been started in 1911 by the Twin City Lodge and the Winston Star Lodge, both African-American fraternal organizations. The Odd Fellows Cemetery is one of Winston-Salem's oldest African-American graveyards outside the Salem area. It is, by far, the largest African-American cemetery in Winston-Salem dating from the early 20th century. An estimated 10,000 graves could be located in the cemetery. Based on interment dates, many of the individuals buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery appear to have lived during the Civil War. The Odd Fellows Cemetery is one of Winston-Salem's most significant African-American historic resources.



Lecture Series

The Commission coordinated a series of talks, lectures, and hands-on experiences during Historic Preservation Month. These events covered a wide range of preservation-related subjects, including: a talk on African-American graves in Salem and Wachovia; a talk, demonstration, and hands-on instruction regarding hand-cut grave markers; an on-site workshop about how to document African-American cemeteries; and, a lecture on Winston-Salem's mid-20th century architecture. Well attended, these sessions were held at various historic venues throughout the community.



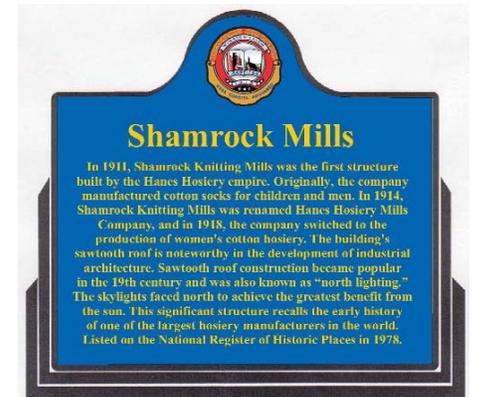
to hold an unveiling for the Carver High School marker as part of the school's Founder's Day program. Held in August, the unveiling was extremely well attended and recognized the school, which has long been a source of pride, accomplishment, and enthusiasm for Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. It was the first high school to serve African-American students outside the Winston-Salem city limits, who otherwise would have had to pay tuition to attend Atkins High School. The school opened near the present site in 1936, with Edward Everette Hill as principal. By the end of the 1936-1937 school year, it was named in honor of George Washington Carver. The first class of 18 students graduated in May 1939. During the 1940s, enrollment was high, and a larger facility was soon needed. Carver Consolidated School, a modern, well-equipped building serving all twelve grades, was constructed in 1951. The school became Carver High School in 1971.

was the first structure built by the Hanes Hosiery empire. Originally, the company manufactured cotton socks for children and men. In 1914, Shamrock Knitting Mills was renamed Hanes Hosiery Mills Company, and in 1918, the company switched to the production of women's cotton hosiery. The building's sawtooth roof is noteworthy in the development of industrial architecture. Sawtooth roof construction became popular in the 19th century and was also known as "north lighting." The skylights faced north to achieve the greatest benefit from the sun. This significant structure recalls the early history of one of the largest hosiery manufacturers in the world. Shamrock Mills was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Historic Marker Committee Historic Marker Program

During 2010, three historic markers were installed and marker unveiling ceremonies held. In addition to the Odd Fellows Cemetery marker unveiled during Historic Preservation Month, the Commission partnered with the Carver High School Alumni Association Inc.

The third marker was celebrated with a September unveiling, recognizing Shamrock Mills. Located at the corner of North Marshall and West Second Streets, Shamrock Knitting Mills, in 1911,



Additional Commission Activities

Local Historic Landmark Designations

Local historic landmark designation applies to individual properties in Forsyth County. This designation is an honor that recognizes a property's importance to the heritage and character of the community and that its protection enriches the community's residents. Types of local landmark properties can include buildings, structures, sites, or objects. Once a property has been designated a historic landmark, the ordinance designating the property provides controls on the appearance of the designated property and new construction on the property. 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 2010, the following properties were designated by ordinance as Forsyth County Local Historic Landmarks:

S.J. Nissen Building

The S.J. Nissen Building is strongly associated with events that have made a significant contribution to Winston-Salem's history. From the 1880s through the 1920s, industrial development in Winston-Salem grew at an extremely rapid pace. The production of wagons was an important early industry in Forsyth County, with three wagon works beginning in the 1830s in the Woughtown community. The most prominent of these were the wagon works operated by the Nissen family. Wagons were essential to agriculture during the 19th century, but the tobacco industry was entirely dependent on wagons. In 1895, Samuel Jacob Nissen completed the building, which was used as a wagon-making and repair shop and a carriage repository for over twenty years. Additionally, the S.J. Nissen Building is of outstanding individual architectural significance. The building is a brick industrial building composed of an original 1894-1895 primary structure



S.J. Nissen Building

with a 1953 south-side addition. The Romanesque Revival original three-story building is distinguished by two crenellated front towers and a strongly rhythmic use of round-arched windows. Overall, the S.J. Nissen Building exhibits the outstanding mill construction of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and is architecturally distinctive in Winston-Salem. Its noteworthy towers and arched windows give it the appearance of a medieval Romanesque fortress that make it stand out from all other industrial buildings in the city. Designation Date: October 4, 2010.

P.H. Hanes Knitting Company – Mill Building

The P.H. Hanes Knitting Company – Mill Building is also strongly associated with events that have made a significant contribution to Winston-Salem's history. The Mill Building represents one-third of the buildings that remain from the P.H. Hanes Knitting Company complex in downtown

Winston-Salem. Located in an area that was once home to many industrial buildings, the structure is symbolic of



P.H. Hanes Knitting Company – Mill Building

the significant industrial history of Winston-Salem. Additionally, the building illustrates the history of a company that grew to become a nationally recognized brand, "Hanes." The P.H. Hanes Knitting Company was begun in 1901 and the Mill Building was constructed in 1928. The other two remaining buildings were constructed in 1920 and 1940 during a period of textile expansion culminating in the explosive postwar growth of Hanes Knitting in the mid-20th century when the company merged with Hanes Hosiery to become Hanes Corporation. As such, the property is significant for its role in the industrial history of Winston-Salem and for its role in the history of a nationally prominent textile company. Designation Date: October 4, 2010.

Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update

In 2006, Forsyth County and the City of Winston-Salem were awarded a matching grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to begin an update of Forsyth County's comprehensive architectural survey. By the end of 2009, the first three phases of the project were complete. Phase IV began in late 2009 with a review and cleanup of the survey database. This included the completion of database forms for buildings demolished since the original 1979-1981 architectural survey. Phase IV also continued to examine Winston-Salem's built environment from the 1920s through the 1960s, for both individual properties and neighborhoods.

A major component of Phase IV was to begin to develop a countywide agricultural context. In an effort to determine agricultural trends, North Carolina Agricultural Census data from 1925, 1935, and 1945 was compiled and analyzed for selected townships. Comparison of this information with other historic documents, such as maps, has presented a general understanding of Forsyth County's agricultural development. The goal of this phase of work is to produce a countywide overview, which will provide general background information on Forsyth County's farming practices and their evolution, agricultural building and structure design, and agricultural landscapes. Overall, the architectural survey update project will support future

planning efforts throughout Forsyth County. Additionally, the project is planned to culminate with the publication of two new survey books, one for the City of Winston-Salem and a second that focuses on the county and small municipalities.



Historic Resources Commission

Julie Poplin, Chairman
Mark Maxwell, Vice-Chairman

Forsyth County Appointees

Brent Gearhart
Jeff Harbinson, AIA
David O'Brien
Julie Poplin
Amy Smitherman

Winston-Salem Appointees

Becky Gibson
Mark Maxwell
Langdon Oppermann
Rick Pender
Jeff Sowers

Kernersville Appointee

Sharon Richmond

Clemmons Appointee

Janet Banzhof

Former Commission Members

(members who served during 2010)

Norris Hutchins
Jamie Moore
Laura Phillips

City of Winston-Salem

Allen Joines, Mayor

City Council

Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore,
Northeast Ward

Denise D. Adams, North Ward

Dan V. Besse, Southwest Ward

Robert C. Clark, West Ward

Molly Leight, South Ward

Wanda Merschel, Northwest Ward

Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward

James Taylor Jr., Southeast Ward

Lee Garrity, City Manager

Forsyth County Board of Commissioners

Richard V. Linville, Chairman

Debra Conrad, Vice Chair

Walter Marshall

David R. Plyler

Gloria D. Whisenhunt

Bill Whiteheart

Everette Witherspoon

Dudley Watts Jr., County Manager

Town of Kernersville

Dawn H. Morgan, Mayor

Board of Aldermen

Kevin Bugg, Mayor Pro Tempore

Dana Caudill Jones

Keith Mason

Bob Prescott

Tracey Shifflette

Curtis Swisher, Town Manager

Village of Clemmons

John R. Bost, Mayor

Village Council

Chris Jones, Mayor Pro Tempore

Mary L. Cameron

Nan Holland

Jack Ingle

Larry McClellan

Gary Lopper, Village Manager

For more information contact:

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Winston-Salem, NC 27102

(336) 727-8000

Web site: <http://www.ForsythCountyHRC.org>

Old Salem and Bethabara Historic Districts Design Review Guidelines Revision

Work continued on the revision of the Design Review Guidelines for the Old Salem and Bethabara Historic Districts. Since 2008, the revision process has included the dedicated involvement of a committee composed of representatives from both districts. In November 2010, the Commission held public meetings, one in Old Salem and one in Bethabara, regarding the proposed guidelines. The purpose of the meetings was to present the draft guidelines to stakeholders in the districts and to obtain feedback on the draft guidelines. In 2011, the Commission will hold public hearings on the new guidelines and consider adoption.

Statistics (FY 2009 - 2010)

Local Historic
Landmarks Designated: 0

National Register
of Historic Places Listings: 1

Certificates of Appropriateness: 69

	Approved	Denied	Other
Old Salem:	8	1	1
Bethabara:	2	0	0
West End:	45	4	0
Local Historic Landmarks:	8	0	0
Total:	63	5	1

Landmark Corner

Körner's Folly – An Extravagant Delight



Körner's Folly was the creation of Jule Gilmer Körner, who may have been the most famous resident of Kernersville.

Körner was a grandson of Joseph Körner, for whom the town was named. During the Civil War, Jule Körner was sent to school in Indiana, where he developed a talent and interest in art. He went on to Philadelphia to study art as well as "designing and the decorative arts." In 1875, he returned to Kernersville where he established himself as a photographer, sign painter, and portrait painter. He increased his wealth through successful real estate ventures. In 1878, he purchased a lot on what is today South Main Street in Kernersville, where he began construction of a building intended to be a combination of studio, office, reception halls, ballroom, carriage house, and stables. What he created was a unique architectural extravaganza, complete with a matching brick outhouse and garden portal. Körner, who devised the Bull Durham billboard campaign for the Dukes and American Tobacco Company in Durham, used the building as a showcase for his ability as an interior designer and builder. The massive four-story brick cross-gabled house contains 22

rooms on seven levels, 20 fireplaces, an attic theater, a third floor ballroom, and a massive entry hall. Some rooms feature 25-foot ceilings, while others barely allow room to stand. The house originally flanked a carriage way and stables, with studio space in addition to domestic spaces. When Körner married in 1886, he enclosed the massive carriageway through the center of the house to provide an elegant vestibule and hall, as well as dining and breakfast rooms. As work progressed on the house, family members and neighbors began calling the house "Körner's Folly." When Körner heard the name, he adopted it and had it inlaid in the tile of his front porch floor. Everything in the Folly is exaggerated, but it all adds up to a delightful example of extravagant Victorian architecture.

Körner's Folly, one of North Carolina's few spectacularly eccentric buildings, is a unique monument to one man's extraordinary imagination, combining a sense of fun and fancy with the ingenuity of the 19th century industrial tycoons. The site contributes greatly to the overall history of the community, particularly for Kernersville's heritage. It is one of our community's finest reminders of our history, and is a property of which Forsyth County should be proud. Körner's Folly was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, and was designated a Forsyth County Local Historic Landmark on September 3, 1985.