

MEDIA RELEASE

TO: Media

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Wilson Times' Gold-Harrell House featured in *This Old House Magazine*

The June 2011 issue of *This Old House Magazine* features the Gold-Harrell House as an endangered property. This conservative Queen Anne Wilson Landmark located at 304 Vance Street in the Old Wilson Historic District was built in the mid-1880s for Pleasant Daniel Gold, a prominent minister and publisher. Along with his son John (one of 11 Gold children raised here) he started what is now the Wilson Times. In 1922 the house was purchased by E.J. Harrell, owner of the Acme Candy Company, a Wilson institution for 51 years. The house is being marketed by Preservation of Wilson and is available for restoration.

Preservation of Wilson has been working with Keith Pandolfi from *This Old House Magazine* since 2009 when an article was underway on the Greek Revival Oettinger House. Pandolfi covers the monthly Save This Old House column and was introduced to Wilson when he was searching preservation websites and the Oettinger House caught his eye. The March 2010 issue featured the Oettinger House as an

architectural knockout. It has since been sold to Robert and Kathy Ward from Indiana. They are currently restoring the property.

In his travels, Pandolfi stopped by Wilson during the 2010 holiday season to see the town for himself. He met with Kathy Bethune, Executive Director of Preservation of Wilson, and got a quick tour of Wilson and an update on the latest preservation efforts. His visit also included meeting with Jim Scarborough, owner of the Jacob Tomlinson House at 407 Broad Street. He decided to include Wilson's Gold-Harrell House in the June edition of *Save this Old House*. The rest is history.

The City of Wilson's Preservation Planner, Lu-Ann Monson, states "The target market for older and historic properties, particularly those that need rehabilitation, is limited. Fortunately for Wilson, however, many people who are looking for an old house to love and restore, are looking in *This Old House Magazine* and other historically-focused websites. The visibility this exposure has provided, and the reasonable price for a fixer-upper with such amazing potential, has resulted in interest from across the country. People taking on such projects are willing to relocate for a house, as evidenced by new homeowners from places such as Indiana, Alaska and Illinois."

"The response has been unbelievable with calls from all over the nation. We have already shown the property to folks from North Carolina, Tennessee, New York, Florida, and Washington D.C. and have other appointments lined up. We have even received a call from one of the great-great grandchildren of Mr. Gold showing interest", according to Bethune.

Preservation of Wilson is a nonprofit corporation that markets properties and provides leadership in the revitalization efforts of Wilson County's unique architectural

properties. For information about available properties or to become a restoration partner, call Kathy Bethune at (252) 234-7694 or visit www.preservationofwilson.com.