

DATE: April 14, 2009

Another Historic House Sold

The Old Wilson Historic District just landed another buyer which plans to restore the J. Will Gardner House at 201 Bragg Street and return it to a single family dwelling.

Paul & Andrea Grigas, a retired couple from Nashua, New Hampshire, has purchased the house. Their son, Mike, is in Wilson now and has begun the renovation process. The two-story bungalow will be converted from three rental units back to a single family dwelling. Paul is a retired contractor.

The Grigas family learned about Wilson as Paul and Andrea were traveling from a vacation in Venice, Florida driving north. Andrea is a quilter and while on trips they visit communities looking for quilt shops and to discover the downtowns. The day the Grigas' drove through Wilson was the first day the SOLD sign was posted in front of the Darden Douglas House which closed on March 11th.

Paul and Andrea contacted Preservation of Wilson to see if there were any other properties available. Executive Director, Kathy Bethune, showed them several properties. Lu-Ann Monson, City of Wilson Preservation Specialist, assisted in informing the couple on the features and requirements for renovation work on this contributing historic structure.

By the end of the day, Paul and Andrea were sitting in the office of First Wilson Properties Real Estate Agency with agent Kelly Vick writing an offer to purchase the J. Will Gardner House. The closing took place in less than 30 days and it all started with a SOLD Preservation of Wilson sign.

The county records show the house as 2,865 square feet and located on a .125 acre. Major features include Tuscan porch columns, a central six-over-one sash window that is flanked by four-over-four sash windows, and a hip roof with projecting rafters. The house is complete with interior wood flooring and a large front porch.

Preservation of Wilson is a nonprofit corporation that provides leadership in the revitalization efforts of Wilson County's unique architectural properties. It actively promotes historically, architecturally and culturally significant properties. For information about available properties or to become a restoration partner, call Kathy Bethune at (252) 234-7694.