

DATE: July 23, 2009

\$15,000 Grant Awarded to Preservation of Wilson

The Marion Stedman Covington Foundation has awarded Preservation of Wilson a \$15,000 grant to use in the Old Wilson Mile – a pilot area to gain better understanding of how to promote an economically strong residential historic district. The money will be used for marketing and real estate activities.

The largest portion of the money will be set aside for a Revolving Fund, a tool used to preserve historic properties through direct involvement in the real estate process. The grant will help cover some of the costs associated with accepting property donations, placing options, and securing and stabilizing endangered structures.

A custom lettered plaque program will be created to identify the original name of the house and year built to help “Tell the Old Wilson Story” with self-guided walking tours. Funds will also be used for marketing.

Preservation will take into consideration the results of the recent design charrette focusing on the Old Wilson Mile as well as other areas of the City. This “Mile” is a neighborhood concept plan that will be transferrable to the other existing historic neighborhoods as part of the City’s 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

In the fall Preservation of Wilson received a grant from the NC Community Foundation which was used for the construction of an architectural model of the Old Wilson Mile. It is now being used to help explain and understand the area’s economic conditions and historic preservation process.

Preservation of Wilson is a nonprofit corporation that 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.