



Saving Wilson's future
by preserving its past.

PRESERVATION OF WILSON

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1 • WINTER/SPRING 2012



Landmark Gold-Harrell House Sold

Circa 1884, the Queen Anne Wilson Landmark, Gold-Harrell House has been sold. It is located in the Old Wilson Historic District at 304 Vance Street.

The buyer, Ed Lackie, originally from Cape Cod, Massachusetts and recently living in Fountain Valley, California, plans to rehabilitate the house for his home. Lackie, a licensed contractor in California, is already hard at work. His construction knowledge and familiarity with the permitting process will serve him well as he transforms this dilapidated structure back to its former grander.

The June 2011 issue of *This Old House* magazine featured the house as an endangered property with a full page story. After seeing the article, Lackie visited the property during the summer months and closed on the house just six months after the article was published.



Ed Lackie is a preservationist at heart and welcomes the opportunity to restore just about anything. Before moving to Wilson, Ed restored several 356 Porsches. "Restoring an old Porsche and seeing the rust removed and the damage fade away, is something I enjoy. I like being able to bring it back to its original condition. Whether it's a car or a house, it is the joy of bringing something back to life that appeals to me." said Ed.

"There is a lot of damaged wood from the lack of gutters and roof maintenance" said Ed. "I had to remove part of the back of the house because the rotted wood was so bad." Fortunately for Ed, the house still retains its architectural integrity, with ornate spindle work, built-in cabinetry, and many original doors and windows.

This is the second house featured in *This Old House* magazine which has been sold by Preservation of Wilson. The March 2010 issue featured the Oettinger House, 219 Broad Street, which was sold to Kathy and Robert Ward from Indiana.



Visioning Committee Highlight

The Visioning Committee is made up of 10 members charged with the task of recommending short and long term goals for Preservation of Wilson. These folks are creative, resourceful and problem solvers. Today we introduce two of the 10 members - Verona True and Rev. Marty Stebbins. We also give special thanks to Bill Colon for the superb photography he provides to Preservation of Wilson.



Verona Barnes True has been a member of the Committee since June 2011 and is now on the Board of Trustees. She is one of five daughters born to the late Lossie and Clarence Barnes of Wilson, and the sister to Alice Freeman. Verona was married to the late Richard True and they had three children. She is the proud grandmother of Truman and Agustus King. Verona received her bachelor degree from Winston-Salem State University and earned a Master of Arts at NC A & T State University. Verona taught grade school in North Carolina, Washington DC and New York City. While in New York, Verona was an actress for several years, having worked with such stars as James Earl Jones, George C. Scott and Ted Dansen.

Rev. Marty Stebbins has been on the Committee since March 2011. She is the Rector of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in downtown Wilson. She is married with one grown step-daughter and three grandchildren. Before becoming an Episcopal priest, Rev. Marty was a professor of Epidemiology at the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University, of which she is also an alum. Rev. Marty's interest in preservation work stems from her experiences of living in Europe as a young child and visiting her grandmothers in their homes in the historic areas of Southern Pines, NC and Palo Alto, CA.



Visioning Committee Brown-Bag Lunch meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month.
Social time begins at noon and the business meeting starts at 12:30 pm
The meeting concludes by 1:30 pm

Committee Members

Lisa Anderson • Bill Andrews • Bill Colon • Susan Hudson • Ken Jones • Rev. Marty Stebbins
Verona True • Erin Vertin • Betty Lou Walston • Melanie Womble

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Subject to approval, your service may qualify as a contribution.**

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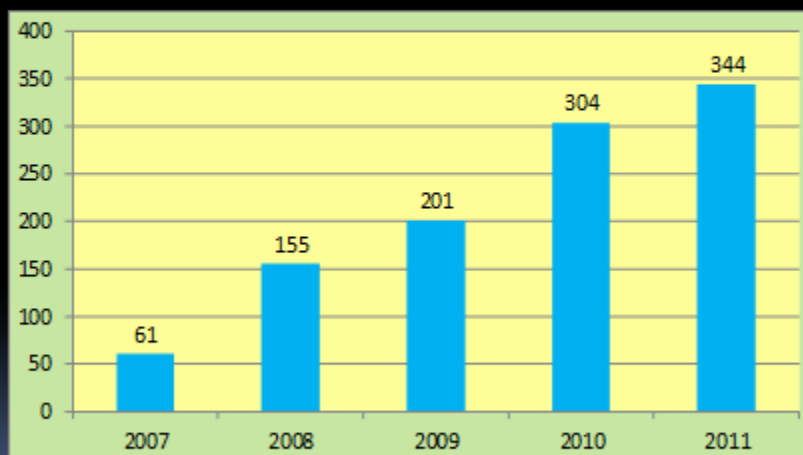
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 to become
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When we are unable to market a property, we will provide the owner with a list of "Restoration Partners" as a resource. All contributors that are active real estate agents are included in this list. To confirm contact information or to become a contributor call Kathy Bethune at 234-7694.

The **Finance Committee** takes the job of promoting Preservation of Wilson's financial security very seriously. By the looks of the numbers, they are doing an awesome job! Thanks to each and every one of you that has helped to grow this chart!

Contributors Growth Chart
Year-End Totals counted by households



Annual Meeting

New this year to Preservation of Wilson was an Annual Meeting held on February 16th which combined the Board of Trustees and committee members. This was an opportunity to announce our new Trustees, introduce our Officers and review the upcoming work plans. Most important, this meeting helped us to get to know each other better and develop stronger relationships as we work together.



Trustee Hal Tarleton with Committee member Margaret Marsden. Hal is a new Trustee and member of the Marketing Committee. Margaret is active with the Visual Improvement Committee and new to Wilson. Her husband John is the Provost at Barton College and they have a son, Will, a second grader at Greenfield School.

Student interns Luke Costanza and Brittany Mitchell are a very important component of the administration of Preservation of Wilson. Luke is a junior at Barton College majoring in Business. Brittany is in the Edgecombe Community College Historic Preservation Program and will be graduating in May.



Outgoing President, Garland Homes, Jr. and Executive Director Kathy Bethune. The Annual Meeting was an opportunity to congratulate and sincerely thank Garland for a "job well done."

Dedicated volunteers help lead the Preservation effort. Thank you Bowie Gray, Garland Homes, Perry Morrison, Frank Eagles, Bill Colon and Ed Etheridge.



President's Letter Spring 2012

When speaking of volunteerism, President George H.W. Bush used to compare those giving their time and effort for the betterment of their communities as "a thousand points of light." Surely two of those thousand points are Kathy Bethune and Garland Homes.

As our executive director, Kathy exerts 110% effort into her job every day keeping us moving in the right direction. She is a fountain of ideas with infinite enthusiasm for preservation. Just being around her, one cannot help but be inspired to support Preservation of Wilson. Garland Homes spent the last three years as our president turning this ragtag group of volunteers into a preservation army of nearly 350 member households. We'd have done well with only one of them, but as a team they've been beyond compare.



Preservation of Wilson has sold 13 properties in three years. Most of these properties had been vacant for as long as anyone could remember. We've brought new residents to Wilson from Belgium, New York, Chicago, Indiana, Alaska and California. There also seems to be a growing synergy among organizations in Wilson all aimed at preserving our old Wilson neighborhoods. The City Council has just adopted the Barton-Old Wilson Neighborhood Plan.

We've discovered that saving a few houses is just not enough. We need to save entire neighborhoods, and our Old Wilson Mile is a great place to start. Carry on people; carry on!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Perry Morrison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Committee News

Committee work is the heart-beat of Preservation of Wilson. We have hundreds of people working to help move the preservation mission forward. With quarterly Board of Trustee meetings and term limits for Trustees, offering ways for non-board members to get involved is an excellent way to grow and retain interested people. Committees meet monthly and members are encouraged to stay active on a continuing basis. To get involved contact Kathy Bethune at 252-234-7694 or kfb@preservationofwilson.com.

Marketing - 1st Thursday @ 5 p.m.

Ann Brice • Marshall Dildy • Sharron Dildy • Rob Keller • Hal Tarleton

Finance - Last Wednesday @ 7:45 a.m.

Doug Boone • Frank L. Eagles • Bowie Gray • Garland Homes, Jr. • Perry Morrison

Properties - Last Wednesday @ 4:30 p.m.

Randy Deans • Ed Etheridge • Don Franks • Sharyn Hardister • Lu-Ann Monson • Jim Scarborough
Gaynell Stallings • Donna Wells

Visual Improvement - 1st Monday @ 11 a.m.

Charles Barnes • Frances Boomer • Sue Dail • Robin Dubeau • Georgia Edson • Margaret Marsden
Holmes Smoot • Eliza Stephenson • Tony Thomas • Barton Chapter, Students in Free Enterprise

Special Projects

Cynthia Whalen, Spring Fine Art Show

The Mack Bass House 210 Moss Street

The Mack Bass House has a new amazing look! It is with great appreciation that we say thank you to Rosa and Jerome De Perlinghi for undertaking this huge project. We applaud all the folks that stood by and supported the family as they ventured into uncharted territory. A full rehab of an endangered property is worthy of grand celebration. With Jerome's photographic talents, he welcomes us all into his new home.



"We are delighted and very happy to share with you these images of our house. Less than a year after we bought it, we have a new home, not a house but a real home, cozy and comfortable. Not every day has been easy I will agree, and I was a little excited at times but what a splendid journey. Life is never boring as there is always something to do.

We would also like to thank the people all around us that made our life so bright by helping us around the clock, their efforts, support and kindness was beyond belief. Your spirits will shine in this house forever. And last but not least please share these pictures with as many people as you can. From a rundown abandoned house and with a little effort and imagination, you can still find Paradise."



Rosa and Jerome are originally, from Brussels, Belgium and resided in Chicago for 10 years before selecting Wilson as their home. Jerome's photography can be found, among other places, in the Library of Congress, La Bibliotheque Nationale de Paris and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. He recently held an exhibit at the Arts Council of Wilson showing his collection of portrait photographs including celebrities, Johnny Depp, Halle Berry and B.B. King.

"Mrs. Bass was born here inside the house on February 29, 1920. She drove by herself all the way from Virginia to spend the day with us. We still have a lot to learn from wise people like her. It was again a charming day in Wilson" said Jerome about their special guest.



A Message from the Director

Preservation of Wilson has made great strides in the last few years. We applaud the many folks that have helped us achieve our goals and to humbly make us smarter with each project. Our membership is increasing, our volunteer base is expanding, and our role in neighborhood revitalization is taking hold.

Our real estate activities are often complicated and unusual transactions. It is with great appreciation that I sincerely thank Ed Etheridge and Woody Harrison for serving as dedicated mentors to the Properties Committee and myself. Because of our hard work, we have three very special success stories to celebrate.

The Mack Bass House was doomed and then saved by the De Perlinghi light. *This Old House* magazine featured the Gold-Harrell and Oettinger Houses as endangered properties, both are now safely under the care of new ownership thanks to Ed Lackie and Kathy and Robert Ward.

Bobby Boykin led us as a preservationist forming the organizational structure and retaining our non-profit status. Garland Homes, Jr. led us as an analyst, with expert knowledge as he guided us through our Rules of Engagement building a creditable and focused organization. Our new President, Perry Morrison, will combine his legal knowledge and passion for partnerships, taking us yet to another level.

I am blessed to oversee the daily activities of this unbelievable gem of an organization. May we all work together with determination and delight as we embark in 2012.

Thank you.

Kathy Bethune

Call for Artists & Photographers

Spring Fine Art Show **Entry Deadline: May 1, 2012**

Call to Artists:

Preservation of Wilson invites all artists to enter the 3rd Annual Fine Art Show using inspiration drawn from historic places, architecture, interiors, events, cityscape and landscape similar to that of Eastern NC. There is no entry fee. Work must be completed by **May 6th** to be exhibited during the Spring Garden Party.

2013 Historic Porches Calendar **Entry Deadline: June 30, 2012**

Call to Photographers:

Preservation of Wilson invites all photographers to enter a photo contest aimed at selecting the top 12 photos to be included in the 2013 Preservation of Wilson Historic Porches Calendar. The photos must be taken of a porch which is located in any one of Wilson's historic districts. There is no entry fee.

For entry applications & additional information visit www.preservationofwilson.com

Mark your Calendar

April 29th

NC Museum of History Associates Event

Home of Gaynell Stallings
The H.D. Bateman House, circa 1913
200 Gray Street

Mingle with fellow history enthusiasts and learn about 19th century sterling silver from a curator of the museum. Admission free to members of the Associates. For membership information contact Perry Morrison at 243-1003 or pmorrison@nccomplaw.com.

May 6th

Spring Garden Party & Fine Art Show

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Home of Becky and Bill Andrews
2305 Canal Drive



This party is our way to say thank you to the many folks that support the preservation mission. Your only ticket is to be a contributor to Preservation of Wilson. This event is fast becoming a Wilson social highlight and a great after-party for the Barton College/Wilson Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert.

May 10th – 27th

Theater of the American South

NOLA in ENC. Even the magnolia is excited!

Along with great theater productions, check out these special events

Saturday, May 12th

Porches of Old Wilson Art Stroll • Broad-Kenan Historic District



Saturday, May 19th

Quilts of the American South
Barbecue Bash
Downtown Wilson

Sunday Mornings Gospel Services

May 12th – Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church
May 19th – Wilson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
May 27th – St. John AME Zion Church

Mission Statement

Preservation of Wilson provides leadership in the revitalization efforts of Wilson County's unique architectural heritage. As stewards of Wilson's historic buildings, we actively promote historic, architectural, and culturally significant properties. Our efforts are to ensure that revitalized properties will contribute in the aesthetics of the community, increase the value of surrounding properties, and create a safe and welcoming environment.

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