

The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

JULY 1998

EDITOR NOTES

Summertime is officially here with sweltering heat, 13 hour daylight days and home improvement projects. While walking through the neighborhood, I've talked several residents working on their homes or thinking about starting a project and asked them about the Historic Preservation Tax Credit. Most did not know about it and had questions about the program. I figured this would be a good topic for this issue of the West Ender, since any work done on a home increases the property values of the entire West End neighborhood as well.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JUNE MEETING

Twenty-two people attended the June meeting. It was great to see several new faces in the crowd. West End Association meetings are open to anyone interested in the neighborhood, so come on out and see what makes West End a great place to work and live.

Helene Cannon Tyson presented an update on the Holiday Home Tour. Here are the facts:

About the tour: The tour, held every two years by the West End Association, shows seven to eight beautiful, seasonally decorated homes throughout the neighborhood. Homes of different styles and sizes are included to give visitors a taste of the unique mix of the West End. Visitors can walk from house to house for most of the tour, or take advantage of the transportation included in the price of the ticket. The tour generates great publicity for the neighborhood, and shows the constant improvement happening from year to year. Proceeds from the tour help underwrite Association projects.

Date: This year's tour will be on Sunday, Dec 6, 1998 from Noon - 5:00 pm.

What can I do? Several tour veterans have already signed up, but we always need fresh blood. The time commitment varies from "day of" to "advanced planning." Volunteers will be needed for the following areas: - Fundraising - Publicity - House Captains - House Volunteers - House Decorations - House Operations - Music - Advance Ticket Sales - Day of Ticket Sales - Reception. Volunteers (both those who are already helping and those who are planning to help) should plan to meet briefly immediately following the **July 7** West End Association meeting. **Decorations** are done either by the owner or with the help of the committee.

How are the houses selected? Houses are selected based on recommendations from board members, committee members and neighbors. House selection is done as early as possible to allow homeowners plenty of time to prepare. The process has started but we still need suggestions (and house volunteers). Please call Helene Cannon Tyson at 722-9804 with either.

<p>Jerry Grindstaff Wanda Grindstaff</p>  <p>Corner of the Orient SPECIALIZING IN FINE FURNITURE PORCELAIN AND GIFTS</p> <p>858 W. 4th St. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 www.theorient.com</p> <p>910-724-1234 1-800-992-9715</p>	<p>THE CABINET STUDIO</p> <p>1033 Burke Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101 (336)-724-1754 Fax (336)724-1755</p> <p>Bruce R. Holliday, CKD President</p>	<p><i>Price-Danae</i> FLORIST</p> <p>1102 BURKE ST. WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27102 910-724-2270 FAX 910-722-0927</p>	 <p>EXTRAORDINARY GOODS ANTIQUES & FINE CONSIGNMENTS</p> <p>MONDAY - FRIDAY 10 - 5:30 • SATURDAY 10 - 5 1000 BROOKTOWN AVENUE • WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101 (910) 773-1220</p>
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The Annual West End Fourth of July Celebration is on Saturday, July 4th at Grace Court Park, from Noon until 3:00 PM. Please bring lawn chairs and a side dish to show off your hidden culinary skills. Hot dogs, ice cream and cold drinks will be provided. Fun for all ages!

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Standing Committee Report - the report will be presented at the July meeting. The committees are : *Zoning Monitoring Committee, Government Board Committee, West End Economic Development Committee, Parks and Recreation Committee, West End Traffic Committee, Signage/Neighborhood identification Committee.* They meet on the second Tuesday of each month at Grace Court Park. All committees still need more participants - volunteer some time to help out. Call Eric Elliot at 724-4913 for more information.

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Some West Enders have asked use to remind everyone about leash laws and poop scoopers - enough said.

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Summit Street has a parking problem - Wachovia employees taking up the spaces in front of homes. If you live on Summit, you should talk to your neighbors and call the City Dept. of Transportation at 727-2707

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The Winston-Salem School Board is trying to gain some authority in City Parks and Recreation - specifically the Board is looking to make some changes at the Hanes Park baseball facility used by Reynolds High School. This may include permanent stands, a concession/restroom structure and a lighted scoreboard. Many at the June meeting felt this would negatively impact the West End. A petition is being drafted to address this issue. Come to the July meeting for more information.

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WEST END HAPPENINGS

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The next West End Association meeting will be **on Tuesday, July 7 at Grace Court Park Gazebo from 7:00 to 8:45 PM.** All meetings are open to everyone - come on out and get involved in the West End community.

There is now a phone number available to residents of the West End to help us in fighting crime in our neighborhood. The program is called CrimeTIP (Crime Telephone Information Partnership) and has been established with the help of the Winston-Salem Police Department. Here's how it works: each week a report from the police department's crime computer is delivered to our neighborhood's CrimeTIP coordinator. The information is specific to our neighborhood and is recorded on a voice mail system. By phoning the number below, you can hear each week's CrimeTip message and obtain information on the types and locations of crime in our neighborhood and the description of criminals or vehicles that the Police Department may be looking for. CrimeTIP is intended to make all of us more aware of criminal activity and give us another tool to fight back. Please phone the number below each week to stay informed.

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On the subject of crime, there has been a transient disturbing some residents in the neighborhood. He is knocking on doors late at night or will walk up during the day and ask to do yard work or clean the gutters. Do not give this person money or work - he is unstable and possibly dangerous. If you would like a description of this individual, call the Winston-Salem Police Department and speak to **Officer JW Robertson**.

The Women's Club located across the street from Grace Court Park on 4th Street, is holding a benefit dinner on July 16. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and profits will go towards painting the building. Only 100 tickets are available. Please help support the renovation this West End landmark. Call 722-0533 for more information.

Several people have inquired about contributing financially to several of the projects suggested by the Long Range Planning Committee. The committee will make a formal presentation at the September meeting and address this issue. Call Eric Elliot at 724-4913 for more information.

WEST END RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

The following is a continuation of the series started in March on longtime West End resident Jacqueline Dorminy of Dorminy Dance Studios on 4th St. She recently celebrated her 92nd birthday.

LONDON & BEYOND

Cordell Hull, Head of the Department of Interior, sent young Jacqueline to London, England as the sole representative of the United States to a conference to establish what dances belonged to which countries - a world library of dance. The event was held in Prince Albert Hall - a unique structure with a self-supporting circular roof. This design was later used in Texas to build a football stadium. On the second morning of the meeting, master of ceremonies Professor Meyers from Stratford-On-Avon started his introduction with the following inflammatory remarks, "We invited the United States to enter this discussion and to send a representative who would claim the dance that the United States owns. We did not ask for a demonstration because the dances would likely belong to England anyway. Since they sent this black-haired petite dancer to tell what America has - she will now speak."

Miss Dorminy stepped up to the podium and addressed the audience, "It is wonderful to cross the Atlantic to see the other great mysteries created by man. I have to correct the most erroneous statement I have ever heard. America boasts some of the greatest folklore of any country in the world. The Blackfoot Indians have 72 separate dances - up to now the greatest number of folk dances have been from Spain and Italy. So if we consider the Cherokee, Iroquois and many of the other Indian tribes, the number of dances belonging to America is enormous. However, it gives me great pleasure to tell

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you that last night, I saw a great musical in London. Eight girls entered the stage from left & right and did a strut from Charleston, South Carolina. This dance came from a tribe known as the Geeches. I don't know where the Geeches originated and history doesn't tell. But they had a language, customs and many dances. I am proud to know that the Geeches brought this to the world." The entire audience, representing 47 countries, erupted in a standing ovation. Once they settled down, the representative from Sweden spoke and said that the minuet, which England claimed as her own, originated in Sweden in the 13th century. It was originally a solo dance done by the shepherds in the time of Julius Caesar. On their nightly stops, the shepherds would take their meal, drink white oak acorn "wine" and dance around the fire in a circle. One person would go to the center - hence the minuet was born. Sweden had an official document from the 13th century to support their claim. Professor Meyer came back to the podium, subdued and said this was the very reason this conference needed to take place. He also asked Miss Dorminy to sit on the Board of Directors of English Dance in London. The world can now write to the Cecil Sharpe House in London and find the greatest knowledge of folklore in dance of any country in the world. She spent 3 years at the Sadler Wells College, now known as the Royal Ballet. Queen Elizabeth took dance lessons there as a child and remembered Jacqueline Dorminy. The night before her coronation, Queen Elizabeth sent her footman with a rare bottle of wine to Miss Dorminy's place in London and the card read "To Little America" NEXT MONTH - "BACK TO THE STATES"

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WEST END BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Deep End on 855 Reynolda Rd. is owned and operated by Moira Greene. Formerly a corporate interior designer, Moira decided to start this business 2 1/2 years ago after using a Softub portable spa at a vacation home on the East coast. The Deep End is the only Softub spa dealer in the area. Standard 110 volt power and light weight (34 to 80 lbs. depending on model) makes these spas portable enough to place anywhere, indoors or out, upstairs or downstairs. Softubs kept platform divers warm during the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and were also used in Kramer's apartment on television show "Seinfeld". Consumers Digest May/June 1998 issue rated Softubs a "Best Buy". Softubs are available in six models and a wide variety of colors. Drop by the Deep End and talk to Moira about a free demonstration.

THE WEST ENDER

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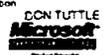
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WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT GUIDELINES AND THE STATE TAX CREDIT

This is a letter that **Ferrell Clay**, the Chairperson of the Historic District Commission, sent to all the realtors in Winston-Salem.

"As the 1998 chairperson of the Historic District Commission, it has come to my attention that several new owners of residences in either West End, Old Salem, or Bethabara seem to have been unaware that the property which they purchased was in a Historic District. Remember, certain restrictions are placed upon the property. Restrictions include any exterior changes, landscape changes, tree removal, roof replacement, deck alterations, etc. Such exterior changes must be presented to and approved by the Historic District Commission before any work can begin. This includes new construction on vacant lots and commercial properties. If a Certificate of Appropriateness is not issued and exterior work is under way, the work will be halted and restoration to the prior condition of the home/building may be required."

If you don't know what the regulations are, you can get a copy from **Robbie King** at the Historic District Commission. His phone number is 727-2087. The guidelines are also available on our web page at <http://www.slkp.com/westend>. (Submitted by **David Elam**)

The North Carolina General Assembly ratified and **Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.** signed into law new state tax credits effective January 1, 1998 that make rehabilitation of historic buildings in North Carolina more attractive than ever before. The law provides:

- An increase from **5% to 20%** in the existing state tax credit for rehabilitation of income-producing historic properties that also qualify for the 20% federal investment tax credit. In effect, the combined federal-state credits reduce the cost of a certified rehabilitation of an income-producing historic structure by 40%.
- A new state tax credit of **30%** for qualifying rehabilitation of **non income-producing** historic structures, including owner-occupied personal residences. There is no equivalent federal credit for such rehabilitation.

Some key points and cautionary reminders about the credits:

- The new credits will apply only to qualified expenditures made on or after January 1, 1998.
- Only certified historic structures will qualify for the credits. A "certified historic structure" is defined as a building that is listed in the **National Register of Historic Places**, either individually or as a contributing building in a National Register historic district, or as a contributing building within a local historic district that has been certified by the Department of the Interior. (There are only three of the latter in North Carolina. These are the Blount Street Historic District in Raleigh, the Goldsboro Historic District, and the Decatur-Hunter Historic District in Madison). Most homes in the West End already meet the criteria for "certified historic structures" and are listed in the National Register - if you need to verify this, call the Historic District Commission at 727-2087
- A non income-producing building must be a "certified historic structure" at the time the state credit is taken - that is, it must actually be listed in the National Register either individually or as part of a district or it will not qualify for the state credit. The federal tax credit for income-producing buildings provides for "preliminary certification" that enables an owner to take the credit for a qualifying rehabilitation even before the structure is actually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no such provisions for preliminary certification in the state law for non income-producing historic structures. An owner may begin a rehabilitation project on a non income-producing property following approval of rehabilitation plans by the State Historic Preservation Office but prior to the listing of the property in the National Register, with the intention of having it listed in the Register by the time the project is completed. However, because listing of a property by a desired deadline cannot be guaranteed, **owners are strongly advised to secure National Register listing of their non income producing property prior to beginning a certified rehabilitation.** A property is listed in **National Register of Historic Places** by a nomination, which is a research report prepared according to detailed state and federal guidelines. The final authority on National Register listing is the federal Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C. In its role as administrator of the

National Register program in North Carolina, the N.C. State Historic Preservation Office is charged with ensuring that nominations forwarded by the State Historic Preservation Officer to the Keeper are complete and correct. The State Historic Preservation Office provides direction to preparers but does not write nominations. Most nominations are prepared by private consultants hired by property owners, local governments, or private non-profit organizations. The nomination process typically takes a minimum of six months, and may take much longer.

- The rehabilitation of the historic structure must be substantial. For income-producing properties, the rehabilitation expense must exceed the greater of the "adjusted basis" of the building or \$5,000 within a 24 month period or a 60 month period for phased projects. For non income-producing properties, the rehabilitation expense must exceed \$25,000 within a 24 month period. Several projects can be combined to meet the \$25,000 minimum. The credit covers all costs and includes architect or designer fees.
- All rehabilitation work must meet **The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.** Applications for income-producing structures are subject to a joint review by the N.C. State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service, with final authority resting with the National Park Service. Applications for non income-producing historic structures are reviewed solely by the State Historic Preservation Office ***and must be approved prior to the commencement of work.*** Any conditions set by the local Historic District Commission will be taken into consideration during the approval process. Typical response time is 30 days or less. 2 sets of photos showing the condition prior to the work is advised. A sketch should be made if you are planning to move or demolish any interior walls.
- The credits cannot be claimed against the cost of acquisition, new additions, site work, or personal property. Only costs incurred in work upon or within a historic structure will qualify. Interior work such as HVAC work and kitchen and bathroom remodeling will qualify if the work meets "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation."
- ***Rehabilitation work on non income-producing historic structures must be approved by the State Historic Preservation Office prior to the commencement of the work!!*** Property owners of income-producing properties are ***strongly advised*** to consult with the State Historic Preservation Office ***before beginning a rehabilitation*** to resolve potential design and rehabilitation problems that could result in denial of the credits.

This information describes the federal and state historic preservation tax credit programs in very general terms only. Taxpayers should consult a professional tax advisor, the North Carolina Department of Revenue, or the Internal Revenue Service for help in determining the tax and other financial implications of any matter discussed here. For further information regarding the regulations governing the procedures for obtaining historic preservation certifications, contact:

Tim E. Simmons, AIA, Preservation Tax Credit Coordinator
Robin Stancil Walton, Tax Act Coordinator for Non-Income Producing Projects
Restoration Branch, N.C. State Historic Preservation Office
N.C. Division of Archives and History
109 E. Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27601-2807 Telephone 919/733-6547 Fax 919/715-4801

For information about the National Register of Historic Places and the procedures for listing, contact:

Claudia R. Brown, Branch Supervisor
Survey and Planning Branch, N.C. State Historic Preservation Office
N.C. Division of Archives and History
109 E. Jones St.
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