



The West Ender

By and for the West End Neighborhood

historicwestend.org

February 2017

Replace the Grace Court Wall ?

by Cyndy Lively

Grace Court – named for the daughter of William A. Whitaker, president of the West End Hotel and Land Company – was originally located at a strategic position in front of the Zinzendorf Hotel. The small park remains a lovely focal point for our historic neighborhood, thanks to Barbara Smitherman who raised over \$50,000 for the renovation and restoration of Grace Court in the early 1980s.

As reported in July 2016 in *The West Ender*, the city decided that the wall separating Grace Court from the driveway connecting 4th and 5th Streets had deteriorated to the point that a replacement was needed. In 2012, two alternative plans were proposed, but the cost of both plans far exceeded the amount available in the Grace Court Trust. The trust, administered by the Winston Salem Foundation, was established by Mr. W.A. Armfield, Sr. in memory of his wife for the renovation and care of Grace Court. Initial plans were to begin work in 2013.



A City of Winston-Salem Recreation and Parks work crew removing the deteriorated brick wall on the north side of Grace Court, 2/9/2017. photos by M. Lively

On February 9th, the city proceeded with the demolition phase of the project, citing the dangerous condition of the wall. At this point, no plan for replacement has been developed and options will be considered by the city and the West End neighborhood.



The most expensive option would be replacement with a wall whose design would be approved by the Historic Resource Commission and the city council. Construction costs would be paid from the city budget. A much less expensive option would be to replace the hedge that originally occupied the space, without a wall. Even if a hedge is chosen, there will still be a need for curbing alongside the driveway.

Councilmember Jeff MacIntosh is seeking input from the neighborhood. This is the opportunity for residents of West End to participate from the initial planning stage in determining the future appearance of one of the most important outdoor spaces in our neighborhood. **Attend our next meeting or send your comments and suggestions to thewestender@yahoo.com.** (More photos on next page -->)

UPCOMING EVENTS

West End Association Meetings

4th Tuesdays at 6:00PM
Next Feb. 28, 2017

West End Room
William G. White YMCA
775 W End Blvd,
Winston-Salem, NC

Historic Resources Commission Meetings

1st Wednesdays at 4:00 PM

March 1
April 5

Historic Resources Commission Meetings
Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building
Room 530
Winston-Salem, NC

Certificate of Appropriateness Applications

Submittal deadline 5:00PM no later than the 2nd Wednesday of the month before the next HRC meeting.

West End Collections

Garbage & Yard Waste
Thursdays, weekly

Recycling (Blue bins)
Every other week:
February 13 & 27
March 13 & 27

Planning Renovations or Tree Work?

Consult the West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Guide. Call the staff of the Historic Resources Commission for advice: (336) 747-7054

Renew your West End Association Membership 2017
Details on the back page.



West End Association Board Election February 28

by Mark Lively

The West End Association will elect new officers and board members at the February 28 meeting. WEA officers and board members are elected from our membership to serve two-year terms. There are four officers, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and seven board members. Board members may serve three consecutive terms. Officers and board members must be members of the WEA. A list of the current board members is published on page 3 of this issue along with their current terms of office.

Three board member positions are open for the 2017 election as well as the president, vice president and secretary officers positions. We are requesting nominations of neighbors willing to serve as board members and officers. Self-nominations are welcomed. Nominations should be submitted to George Bryan (bryandoherty2@yahoo.com). You must be a member of the WEA to serve on the board and to vote in the election. If your membership is not current, just renew it and submit your nomination (details on the back page of this issue).

The WEA needs your help to remain strong and to increase its activities on behalf of the historic neighborhood. We encourage the participation of neighbors who live in the West End area south of 1st Street and in the area east of Broad street including West End Blvd., and Spring St. The new board will reinvigorate the activities of our committees. We need volunteers to help with the following committees: Social Activities (4th of July, Easter Egg Hunt, and other events); Communications (newsletter, website, social media); Zoning and Historic Resources; and beautification (parks and gardens).

Mark Lively (president) and Stan Hill (vice president) have served three consecutive terms thus are ineligible to serve another term. **Anyone with a recommendation for WEA president should contact George Bryan.**



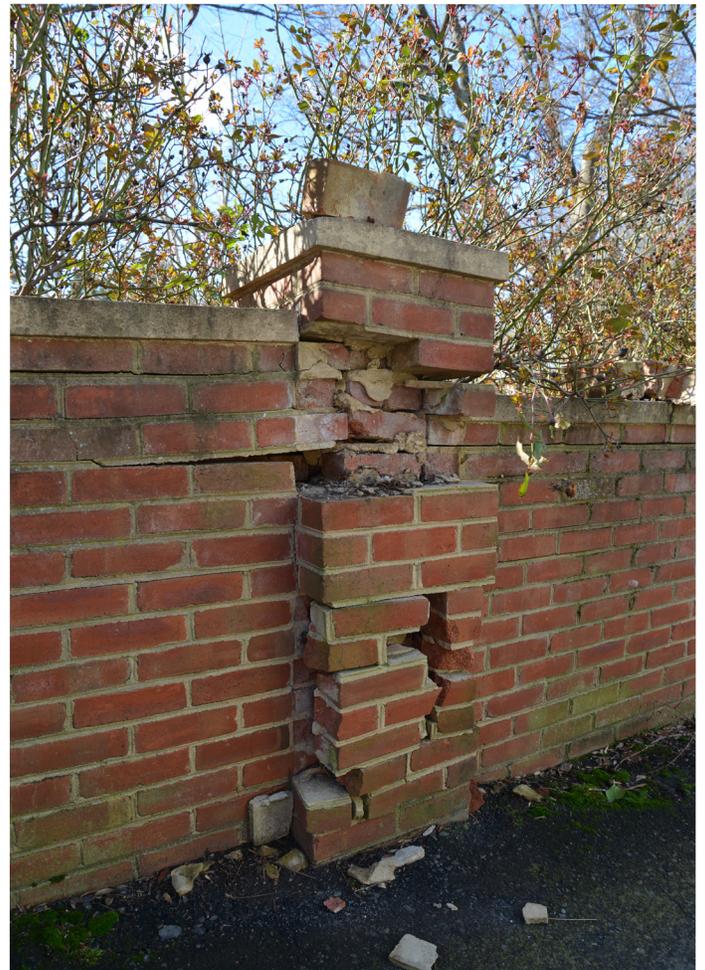
This commemorative plaque is on the base of the flag pole located near the Grace Court Gazebo. Two other plaques on the base read:

“In loving memory of Wyatt Albion Armfield”

“In loving memory of Lucy Follin Armfield”

The photo at right shows how badly one of the brick columns in the wall has deteriorated. This was its appearance BEFORE demolition began. The wall was constructed with brick pavers that were not the best choice for construction of the wall. The concrete caps on top of the wall did not include expansion joints and have cracked due to expansion and contraction over the years. With advice from the city Facility Maintenance engineers, the division of Risk Management concluded that the wall had deteriorated beyond repair and needed to be removed.

Photos by M. Lively





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West End Issues in Brief



Hanes Park plan before the HRC: The *Hanes Park Repair and Renovation Plan – Phase I* will be reviewed again by the Historic Resources Commission on March 1. Plan details will be posted here: www.cityofws.org/Portals/0/pdf/planning/hrc/COA_Cases/2017/Major-Works_COA_2017.pdf?ver=2016-12-23-132947-577. The WEA board will discuss the plan at our next meeting, February 28, and present our findings at the HRC meeting.

Spring Park erosion control: The City continues its efforts to repair a serious erosion problem between West 6th Street and West End Blvd. The drainage flows under the parking lot of a privately owned apartment complex. The erosion must be repaired because it is damaging the parking lot and Spring Park (details, historicwestend.org/wea-newsletters/2016/201608.pdf). On February 14, Keith Huff, city Director of Storm Water/Erosion, reported to Councilmember Jeff MacIntosh that an agreement with the owners of the apartment complex allowing work to begin may be reached soon. Once that agreement is signed, the project will be submitted to the city council for approval.

Brunson School replacement: The voters of Forsyth County approved a bond referendum in November 2016 that includes funds for purchasing land and construction of a new Brunson Elementary School. Details regarding the proposed new location are not yet known. Prioritization of scheduling of the many projects to be funded by these bonds will delay the start of construction until 2022 at the earliest, according to officials with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Business 40 reconstruction: The first phase of construction to improve the former Business 40, now to be known as Salem Parkway, is set to begin in fall 2017 with the replacement of the Peters Creek Parkway and West Fourth Street bridges over Business 40. Replacement of those two bridges must be completed BEFORE the two-year closure of the highway from west of Fourth St. to east of Church St. The first phase of the project should be completed by the fall of 2018. The WEA will invite representatives of the state Department of Transportation to attend one of our meetings in the spring or summer to present their plans. We will wait until the proposed detour routes have been proposed before scheduling the meeting so we will have a chance to review and discuss the routes in detail. Visit www.business40nc.com for more details.



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West End Association Board

Officers 2016

Mark Lively President (2015-2017) Stan Hill Vice-President (2015-2017)
George Bryan Treasurer (2016-2018) Jo Ann Mount Secretary (2015-2017)

Board Members 2016

David Elam (2015-2017), Clint Buss (2015-2017), David and Toni Phillips (2015-2017),
Kristin Haaf (2016-2018), Frank Johnson (2016-2018), John Merschel (2016-2018),
Dan Bradley (2016-2018)



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Renew Your West End Membership TODAY!

2017 West End Association Membership

Annual dues: \$20 per household and \$80 per business (includes newsletter ads).

ONLINE: <http://historicwestend.org/about-wea/join/> using PayPal

USPS: West End Association Membership, PO Box 21054, WS, NC 27120-1054

Your membership supports: Monthly newsletter, neighborhood List Serv; neighborhood social events; community engagement; Neighborhood preservation and beautification.

Anyone may join. Voting membership open to those who live in the West End and to anyone who owns, leases, rents or occupies property in the the West End neighborhood.

Contact us about business memberships includes advertising in newsletter and our web site.

2016 West End Association Membership

WEA Membership, PO Box 21054, WS, NC 27120-1054



Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Mail check to West End Assoc., PO Box 21054, Winston-Salem, NC 27120-1054

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thewestender@yahoo.com

The West End Association: historicwestend.org Facebook: West End Neighbors Association

West End Listserv Yahoo Group west_end_listserv-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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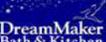
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