

Fall 1996  
Volume 1, Number 3  
Quarterly Newsletter

9-1-96

# Reflections

## Speakers Planned

Be sure to mark your calendar for some exciting speakers. Wayne County Historical Association is bringing to the community this year. All talks will be at the Wayne County Library's Well Auditorium.

On Tuesday night, September 17 at 7:00 Penne Smith, the architect who has been conducting an architectural survey of Wayne County, will show slides and highlights of her findings. Penne is an exceptional speaker, and has discovered many interesting buildings hidden away in our area.

On Tuesday, October 29 at 7:00 Jeff Adolphson from the NC State Department of Historical Preservation will come to us and tell us "How to Restore Old Buildings." Specifically, this "How-To" talk will address the best ways to restore general millwork and masonry. Jeff is a restoration specialist. His talk should be helpful and interesting to anyone living in or contemplating purchase of an older house -- or to those interested in historic preservation.

On Sunday, January 12 at 2 PM, Father Andrew Davis of the Raleigh-Durham area will talk to us about "Russian and Greek Icons." This talk will cover the history and authentication of icons. Father Davis will bring several of his own icons to illustrate this talk.

## Homes Tour

The Revolving Fund of Wayne County Historical Association and the Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation are working together and planning a tour of homes on Saturday & Sunday, March 7 and 8.

## Dates to Remember

- September 17 - Penne Smith talks on our historical structures at Library at 7PM
- September 26 - Luncheon/fashion show at the Museum
- October 29 - Jeff Adolphson speaks at Library on restoration, 7PM
- December 7 - Christmas at Old Waynesborough Park, 1-5 PM
- January 12 - Father Andrew Davis discusses icons at 2PM.

## Fremont Historic District

The town of Fremont has organized a Downtown Historic District Commission. The town Board of Aldermen named the members for the first commission this past February. These members (meeting monthly) have been charged with seeing to the preservation of historic buildings in Fremont. The focus right now is on the downtown buildings and the school buildings.

## Umbrella Organization

Wayne County Historical Association is a non-profit, tax free entity made up of five groups with an interest in history. These are the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society, the Revolving Fund, the Wayne County Museum, the Town Meeting Hall, and The Waynesborough Commission. A joint membership is solicited in the spring to benefit all groups. As the parent group, WCHA meets with the components, supports them with funds and ideas, publishes a quarterly newsletter which is sent to members of every group, and provides speakers for the general membership to enjoy.

## New Board Members

New board members were elected by the Wayne Co. Museum Board of Directors. A warm welcome to: Velda Faye Howell, Robert B. Stevenson, Michael Hoff, Terah Archie, Elizabeth Parker, Kirk Keller, and Dorothy Coates.

## Cemetery Study

Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society members are carrying out a study to develop and compile an updated version of a Survey of Wayne County Cemeteries. These volunteers are locating and describing tombstone inscriptions from every cemetery in Wayne County. Plans are to publish the information in several volumes. The first volume will be of the Great Swamp area of NW Wayne County. Elliott Futrell is coordinating this effort. It is estimated that this inventory will take several years, but it will provide invaluable information for genealogists and others interested in local history. It will preserve for posterity information which might otherwise be lost forever. Several cemeteries previously surveyed have now been destroyed.

## Inventory Progress

Penne Smith, the architectural historian employed by WCHA to complete an architectural survey of Wayne County, is working diligently on her task. She should be through with her field work in late winter or early spring. As part of her work, she will recommend some structures be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Her findings will give us all a better understanding of the historic structures still remaining in our county.

## Volunteers Wanted

Both the Wayne Co. Museum and Waynesborough Park need volunteers to operate at peak efficiency. Call Jewel Sauls at 734-5023 for the Museum, or Gerrit Borgman in Mt. Olive at 658-5726 for the park

## Old Dobbs

Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society continues to grow in membership. In June we mailed 268 copies of the newsletters to members not only in NC but in most of the states including Alaska and Hawaii. Other members live in Canada and Saudi Arabia. We continue to work on the Wayne Co. Cemetery survey. At present Elliott Futrell is incorporating data from Elmwood Cemetery in Fremont, into the lap-top computer which we bought for this fieldwork. When completed we will have a survey of all known cemeteries in Wayne County.

Our next meeting will be Saturday September 28 at Western Sizzlin at 11:30. All interested are invited. For information call Elizabeth Ellis, President, at 242-4772.

## Awards

Sarah Pope and Emily Weil, authors of the recent book, "Postcards of Old Wayne County" have been notified that they will receive awards from the American Assn of State & Local Historians.

The nomination of Charles B. Ellis to the Board of Governors of the NC Society of Historians has been announced by Elizabeth Sherrill, President. She has also hinted that the "Old Dobbs Trail" may receive a prestigious award soon.

## New In the Area

A new business, "Ancestral Journeys" has located in Goldsboro. It provides trip planning to battlefields, gravesites, homesteads, and other places that are important in the history of ones family, as well as research services. The owner, Kimberly Morris, who lives at 303 N. Pointe Dr. in Goldsboro (734-9549) recently relocated from Raleigh.

Wayne Co. Historical Association  
Post Office Box 665  
Goldsboro, NC 27533

## Revolving Fund

The Revolving Fund has one current property being marketed. This is the Crowe-Sammeth house located at 115 S. Virginia Street. The fund would be happy to show this home, and to help arrange a sale. Negotiations are underway for other homes to market in an effort to preserve properties in the historic district. Co-chairpersons of the Revolving Fund are Lelan Whitmire and Nancy Delia.

## WCHA Board Officers

1996-1997

WCHA Officers are: Emily Weil, President; Gary Parlin, Vice-pres.; Annie Sutton, Secretary; and Charles Royal, Treasurer. Wayne Co. Museum Officers are: Robert Stevenson, President; Grace Franklin, Vice-pres.; Carole Ray & Velda Faye Howell, Secretaries; and Randy Sauls, Treasurer. Waynesborough Park Officers are: Ed Kelly as President, Sadie Whitfield, Secretary; and Don Hatch, Treasurer. Old Dobbs Officers are: Elizabeth Ellis, President; Sadie Whitfield, Vice-pres; Corrine Britt & Margaret McClenny, Secretaries; and Georgia Futrell, Treasurer.

## Costume Exhibit

The current Museum exhibit "Costumes Through the Ages", provided by Wayne Community College, chronicles antique clothing from 1840-1950. As part of the "Grand Opening" the NC Museum of History Associates will sponsor a fashion show with local members wearing facsimile costumes from this period. This luncheon and fashion show will be held Thursday Sept. 26 in the Museum auditorium. Call 734-5023 for details.

## Videos Available

Video clips that have been aired on PACC 10 TV have been put together by Jim McKay for us and are now available. If you'd like to borrow these, please contact Emily Weil at 736-5011.

## Consultants Hired

Coastal Carolina Consultants has been hired by Wayne County Museum to help develop plans for its future. These experts will help develop exhibit guidelines, future exhibits, long-range goals, and marketing strategy. This firm is headed by Cliff Tyndall and Shawn Moore of the NC Historic Sites Section in the division of Archives & History. Both have several years of experience with museums, as well as master's level studies in Museum administration.

## Sesquicentennial Coming

The year 1997 marks the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the city of Goldsboro. In 1847 there were about 100 people, a hotel, and a handful of small business that made up the new town located at the railroad junction.

The city has appointed official committees to work on this celebration, and anyone interested is urged to get involved.. Call the Mayor's office at 580-4330 if you would like to be a part of this effort.

## Williams Resigns

Many thanks from all of us to Jim Williams, who has recently resigned as President of the Waynesborough Commission. Jim has worked countless hours as a volunteer, and his reasoned guidance will be greatly missed.

Ed Kelly is temporarily serving as President of the Commission. Ed is busily overseeing efforts to bring the Park into ADA compliance. This involves filming a video to show those unable to get into the houses, and making plans to build ramps. He is also planning for the Christmas in the Park activities to be Saturday, December 7 from 1 to 5 PM.

Nonprofit Bulk Rate US Postage PAID Permit No. 397 Goldsboro, NC
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------