

**MINUTES ADOPTED BY THE GREENVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION**

May19, 2016

The Greenville Historic Preservation Commission held a Special Meeting for the Historic Preservation Award Ceremony on the above date at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall located at 200 West Fifth Street.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

JEREMY JORDAN-CHAIR	ALICE ARNOLD
DAVID HURSH	KERRY CARLIN
ELIZABETH WOOTEN	JAKE POSTMA

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** COLLETTE KINANE, PLANNER II; THOMAS WEITNAUER, CHIEF PLANNER and AMY NUNEZ, SECRETARY

**OTHERS PRESENT:** RICK SMILEY, COUNCIL MEMBER AND KELVIN THOMAS, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS AND RECIPIENTS**

<i>Sallie Southall Cotten Award</i>	<i>Mrs. Joanne Honeycutt</i>
<i>Robert Lee Humber Award</i>	<i>Mr. Holton Wilkerson and Mr. Don Edwards</i>
<i>Architectural Award for Restoration Excellence</i>	<i>Mr. Michael Butler</i>
<i>Stewardship Award for Preservation Commitment</i>	<i>A&amp;B Auto Service</i>

**PRESENTATION**

Mr. Jake Postma presented The **Sallie Southall Cotten Award** which is conferred on women who have made important contributions to historic preservation in Greenville. Born in Virginia in 1846, Sallie Southall Cotten was educated in North Carolina and lived most of her life in the Greenville area. A leader in the women's movement, Mrs. Cotten

helped found the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs; was a participant in the National Congress of Mothers; and in 1899 founded Greenville's End of the Century Club.

This year's award goes to Mrs. Joanne Honeycutt. Mrs. Honeycutt is a vital member and President of the Board of Trustees for the Eastern Carolina Village and Farm Museum. The mission of the Village and Farm Museum is to preserve and interpret architectural and agricultural life in Pitt County from 1840-1940. Not only does the Village intend to preserve the past, but to also give the people of Greenville and Pitt county a new sense of ownership of the land and culture of their ancestors. Since its initial opening at the Bicentennial celebration at the Pitt County Fair, the Village and Farm Museum has grown from a small exhibit of local farm tools to a 5.6 acre exhibit with hundreds of local farm artifacts and many old farm structures. A little over six years ago, the former Village of Yesteryear was moved from its home on the Pitt County fairgrounds to the site of the former Pitt County Home farm on County Home Road. The process of this relocation was daunting, but the appeal and popularity of the Village has only increased. In addition to hosting school children and other groups for educational tours, the Village schedules several events throughout the year, including a History Speaks series an annual Family Fun Day. By continuing to lead the charge that was begun in 1976 by Lester Turnage and her father, Connor Eagles, under Mrs. Honeycutt's leadership the Village has the potential to continue to grow even more as a leading learning facility and community venue.

Mr. Hursh presented a plaque to Mrs. Honeycutt.

Chairman Jordan presented The **Robert Lee Humber Award** which is conferred on professionals or organizations that have contributed to historic preservation in Greenville.

A renowned scholar, Dr. Humber held degrees from Wake Forest College and Harvard University and was a Rhodes Scholar. After spending much of his adult life in Paris, Dr. Humber returned to Greenville in 1940, where he established the Movement for World Federation and the State Museum of Art. Active in historic preservation, Dr. Humber was a charter member of the North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities, first life member of the North Carolina Literary & Historical Association, and President (1964-68) of the Pitt County Historical Association.

This year we are awarding two Humber Awards.

The first goes to Mr. Holton Wilkerson and his firm CommunitySmith. Mr. Wilkerson has more than a decade's worth of experience in commercial real estate development with an emphasis on historic redevelopment and preservation. In their own words,

CommunitySmith encourages "a distinctive, collaborative approach to achieving downtown revitalization and Historic tax credit redevelopment via the preservation of some of North Carolina's most important historic artifacts." With the Superblock project as the start of Mr. Wilkerson & CommunitySmith's work here in Greenville, we can add the rehabilitation of several storefronts on Dickinson Avenue, and, upcoming in the future, the rehabilitation of our historic White Theater. These project have increased and attracted daytime traffic in the historic core of Greenville, an area previously only known for its nightlife, added diversity and have added stability to a rapidly changing uptown. This start will continue to spur redevelopment and adaptive reuse of the historic structures in Greenville.

Mr. Hursh presented a plaque to Mr. Wilkerson.

Chairman Jordon continued with the second Humber Award goes to Mr. Don Edwards and his LLC, No Quarter. Fittingly, Mr. Edwards received one of the first Humber awards at the HPC's first awards ceremony almost 20 years ago. Over the past 20 years, Mr. Edwards' dedication to Uptown has never ceased. He is a vital component of many of the rehabilitation efforts, programs, and organizations that are active in the historic core of Greenville. In many articles written over the years, Mr. Edwards is referred to as "uptown's ambitious pioneer." It was this pioneering spirit that led to the creation of No Quarter, LLC - a group of investors that made the Superblock project possible. Comprised of David Womack, Danny Kadis, Holton Wilkerson, Don Parrott, Elizabeth Wooten, Cindy Wooten, Judy Edwards, Mark Barger, Kathy Barger, and Lamont Wooten -each of these investors were crucial to the success of the project and share in this award. Their efforts and support created a Public-Private Partnership that enabled the successful rehabilitation of a 20,000 square foot, multi-building project that now houses seven businesses, increases daytime traffic, and provides employment for many residents.

Mr. Hursh presented a plaque to Mr. Edwards.

Chairman Jordan presented The **Architectural Award for Restoration Excellence** which is awarded to individuals, organizations, or companies responsible for the significant restoration of a residential or commercial building. The City of Greenville owes a debt of gratitude to those who have expended the money, effort, and perseverance to refurbish the city's architectural gems.

This year's Architectural Award goes to Mr. Michael Butler. In April of 2015, Mr. Butler purchased the Glenn-Pender-Moore House, a local landmark on West Fourth Street that sat vacant for many years. The Glenn-Pender-Moore House is one of the oldest residential structures in Greenville. Built in the 1880s, for Edwin C. and Mary Cherry

Glenn, this house was one of the first to be built in a new subdivision platted by Harry Skinner west of the (then) corporate limits of Greenville. In 1890, the Glens sold the house to the Pender family, whose daughter Nellie married into the Moore family and resided with her husband in the house until 1963. Nellie Pender-Moore made the only alterations to the home, which included the addition of a kitchen, adding three bathrooms, and enclosing the breezeway between the kitchen and main house. The house was then owned by Jack and Mary Edwards, who encouraged the house's designation as a Local Landmark in 1991. After Mrs. Edwards' death, the house changed owners several times and was left vacant for almost a decade. One of the first times we met Mr. Butler, he stated that after living many places, he wanted to retire in Greenville and live among the community he had served. Mr. Butler's dedication, preparedness, and tireless effort since purchasing the property has significantly restored the house, breathed new life back into the Skinnerville neighborhood, and has substantially benefited and served the community.

Mr. Hursh presented a plaque to Mr. Butler.

Ms. Wooten presented The **Stewardship Award for Preservation Commitment** which is awarded to individuals, organizations, or companies that have made a commitment to maintaining the long-term vitality and architectural character of historic buildings in the City of Greenville. This Award is in recognition of those quiet, steady stewards who look after Greenville's precious historic resources on a yearly basis.

This year's award goes to A & B Auto Services. A & B Auto is located on Evans Street in the historic Pure Oil Station. Beginning in the early 1930s, the Pure Oil Company built cottage, "home-like" gas stations all across the United States. The company hired architect Carl Peterson to design a standard oil station that would domesticate their brand. Peterson thought the English Cottage would be the style most accepted by residents of America's suburban neighborhoods. Therefore, the English Cottage style was the prototype for the gas station that was built on the corner of West Ninth and Evans Street in downtown Greenville, North Carolina in 1941. These early 20th century Pure Oil Stations are recognized by their cultural value across the United States. They represent the rise and dependency on the automobile in the 20s and 30s, as well as the growing trend of marketing and branding within the corporate world. Our station remains a perfect example of the materials and feelings of the "home-like" gas station the Pure Oil Company sought in the 20s. Although a service garage was added later, the original brick work, blue tile, and cottage-like shutters all remain intact. Not only is our station one of very few that maintains its original appearance, but our station also is one of the even rarer Pure Oil Stations that remain in service in the automobile industry - many others have been demolished, converted to restaurants or shops, or otherwise substantially altered. We are continually impressed, surprised, and delighted that A & B

Auto Service has continued to preserve the historic appearance of this building. They are truly committed stewards and well deserving of this award.

Ms. Wooten stated that the owners of A&B Auto were not present but Staff would make sure they received their award.

Chairman Jordan invited those in attendance for a light reception after the ceremony.

**With there being no further discussion, Mr. Postma made the motion to adjourn, Ms. Wooten seconded it and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6.45 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Collette Kinane, Planner II