



The Preservation Magazine of Greensboro

April 2023

Westerwood Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens - Tickets On Sale Now!

Scroll to *Preservation Events and Activities* for Tour Info



Thursday, April 20, 5:30pm, FREE **Sound Sculpture in Blandwood**

A house, no matter how grand or humble, tells a specific story. It reveals cultural values, societal norms, personal choices, and collective understandings. When we go back in time through the portal of architectural space, we are faced with the dilemma as to how to view the narrative with which we are confronted. Interestingly, our interpretations expose as much about our own values and influences as the things we are judging.

The walls of the Blandwood tell a story of brilliance and ignorance, clarity and incomprehension. There is an ever-present dichotomy that is revealed in the architectural styles and details of the space. These physical manifestations mirror the individual dualities exhibited by the persons who inhabited these rooms.

The exhibited sound sculpture is titled “*A Path to Redemption?*” It is a prompt to incite reflection and contemplation of not just what a viewer is seeing and hearing, but also an invitation to look within oneself to question


one's own values.

Visually, its most prominent feature is the exterior juxtaposition of Zebrawood, grown internationally in Central America, Africa, and Brazil with the more locally grown Walnut. Sonically, the interior of the sculpture creates bowed sounds reminiscent of breathing along with percussive impulses suggestive of the relentless beat of time.

Ultimately, it is a hopeful piece that creates space for questions, introspection, possibilities, and growth. Join us!

**RSVP Your
Attendance**

**INTRODUCING
"O. HENRY OAKS"**



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- FHA INSURED LOANS
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- DISPOSAL & KITCHEN EXHAUST FANS
- BUILT-IN OVEN & RANGE
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**MODEL HOMES FURNISHED BY
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PAINTS BY PEE GEE
FEATURING PEE GEE'S
NEW VINYL INTERIOR WALL
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COME OUT AND
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TO SEE THESE
EXTRAORDINARY HOME VALUES

OPENING SATURDAY—SEPTEMBER 3RD
OPEN FOR INSPECTION THIS
SATURDAY & SUNDAY FROM 2 TO 8 P.M.
AND MONDAY (LABOR DAY) FROM
10 A.M. TO 8 P.M. AND EACH DAY
FOR TWO WEEKS FROM 4 TO 8 P.M.

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Untold Stories by Eric Woodard **O. Henry Oaks—Embodying The Spirit Of A Writer**

I have spent many years researching, learning, and writing about different neighborhoods in Greensboro that are populated with stellar examples of mid-century modern architecture. Old Irving Park, Hamilton Lakes and now, the proposed historic district along South Benbow Road in east Greensboro, to name just a few.

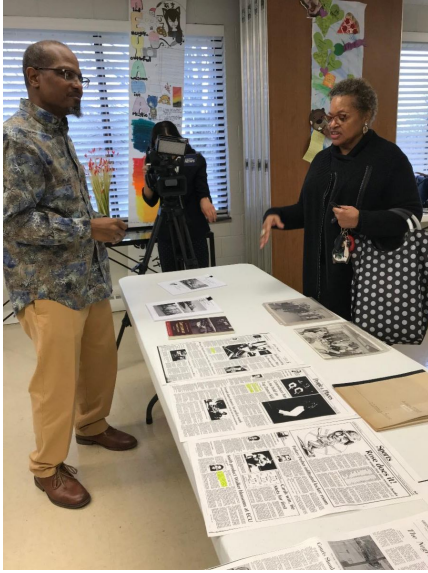
There is a saying, however, that sometimes we "can't see the forest for the trees". I realized that I was guilty of that when it came to recognizing prime examples of mid-century modern architecture in the neighborhood that I have called home for nearly a decade.

To remedy that glaring oversight, I would like to briefly introduce you to my neighborhood, O. Henry Oaks, in northeast Greensboro.

**Read
More**

**April 6 2-7 pm at Hayes-Taylor YMCA
2630 E. Florida Street**

Community Scanning Session



Help us document Greensboro history!

This project is part of the architectural and historical survey of neighborhoods in east and southeast Greensboro and the proposed listing of the South Benbow Road Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places. This area is especially significant because it was home to leaders of and participants in the Civil Rights Movement in Greensboro. And, some of North Carolina's first African American architects, trained at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, designed homes, churches, office and school buildings during this period.

Learn
More

Museum's New Interactive Tour Experience

Blandwood docents have been hard at work with our new interactive docent manual. The new manual will allow docents to provide highly specific, visitor-led tour experiences with unparalleled access to detailed scholarship about the social history and material culture of Blandwood.

A key tool to bringing this interactive experience to life is a tablet, which will give docents the ability to access limitless amounts of research, high-resolution photographs, video, audio, and other resources right at their fingertips. It will also allow them the ability to cater tours more directly to visitor-specific interests.

The manual is a living document that will continue to be expanded by collaborative research from outside institutions, scholars, students, and PGI staff as new research is developed. Like our [blog](#), research and historical interpretation from the docent manual is also publicly accessible for free through our [website](#).

To date, we have raised 45% of our goal of \$1,500! These funds will cover the cost of the tablet and accessories needed to allow for the interactive docent manual to be easily accessed on tours and for docents to finally have their own office computers for furthering their research projects. Joining our local crowd-sourcing campaign to help fund this innovative project is easy. Go to our PGI [Donate Page](#) then scroll down to click on *Interactive Tour Experience*.

Please
Donate



Latinx Heritage in Greensboro

Although Greensboro was not historically a city with the Latinx history of Miami, San Antonio, or Los Angeles...the Gate City has grown and evolved to embrace a population that is 8% Latinx, including representation from Central America, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Colombia.

Touchstones of Latinx contributions to Greensboro's architecture might date to the 1920s, when builders constructed imaginative Spanish-style houses with low roof-lines and stucco walls in neighborhoods such as Lake Daniel, Sunset Hills, and Fisher Park (*Casa Sevilla* is pictured). Our Government Plaza was designed in the late 1960s by Eduardo Fernando Catalano, a native Argentinian architect who was a member of faculty at the NCSU School of Design and designed the US embassies in Argentina and South Africa. Many Spanish-style homes and the Government Plaza have been listed to the National Register of Historic Places.

Latinos in Heritage Conservation is a national organization dedicated to promoting Latinx leadership and engagement in historic preservation. The organization's mission is to build a movement that affirms Latinx heritage through education, conservation, and leadership development. Learn more by following the link.

[Latino Heritage](#)

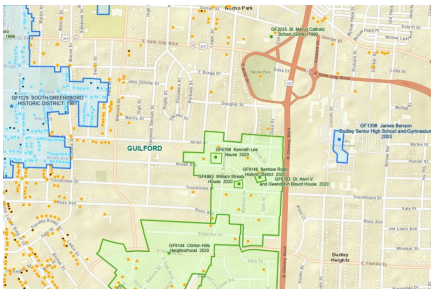


Quaker House Reveals Architecture and History

Constructed in 1826, the Elizabeth and Mark Iddings House in Jamestown stands among a small group of three-room "Quaker Plan" houses remaining in the central Piedmont of North Carolina. In the nineteenth century, these Quaker Plan houses were primarily erected by individuals of status and leadership within the Quakers community.

Architecturally, the Iddings House demonstrates what architectural historian Thomas Tileston Waterman considered “a Quaker house with unusual style characteristics,” including lozenge-shaped door details that were uncommon in Quaker architecture in the region. Historically, the house represents a touchstone to a Quaker family that, in time, followed a path away from the precepts of the religion.

[Read More](#)



Did You Know?

Have you ever wondered about historic district boundaries? Have you been curious about nearby historic places?

A *geodatabase* application was created by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office as an aid for planning and research. Site locations and boundaries are drawn from georeferenced scans of National Register and historic property survey maps supplemented with aerial photography, county tax parcel layers, and other resources. Data layers in this map are updated *daily* from the current HPO geodatabase.

The site displays the location over 120,000 of our state's historic resources, including nearly 3,000 entries in the National Register (including over 550 historic districts), over 1,500 places determined eligible for the Register, over 4,000 places on the state's Study List for potential nomination to the Register, and 1,300 locally designated landmarks and districts.

[NC's Preservation Geodatabase](#)

Preservation Events & Activities

Join us on one of our interesting programs that reveal the architecture and history of our city. Explore *Sound Sculpture* inside **Blandwood Museum**, examine our preservation **Blog**, or plan to participate in May's **Tour of Historic Homes**.



September 2-11

The Architecture of England

A few seats remain to see monumental museums, captivating cathedrals, and magnificent manors of England!

Our tour partner, Studio Traveler, has a few positions open for the tour of England planned for September 2nd through 11th, 2023. Join us as we seek out intriguing examples of English architecture from London to Oxford and the Cotswolds. Follow the link below to learn more.

**Explore
England!**



Architectural Salvage

1028-B Huffman Street in East Greensboro

The Architectural Salvage of Greensboro (ASG) showroom will be closed as a result of planned changes. The showroom experience will be redone and improved for our customers. This requires a comprehensive inventory and organization effort, so we're temporarily closing the showroom to make space for this work. We are planning a big reopening during May which is Preservation Month! Watch our social media channels for announcements.

As always, we welcome helpers! If you would like to be involved in salvages, programming, or retail, let us know by sending a quick note!

**Send a Quick
Note**



Save-The-Date May 20-21 **Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens**

Westerwood is the focus of Preservation Greensboro's Thirteenth Annual Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens! The event will be held in May during National Historic Preservation Month.

"This is a neighborhood that blends history with rejuvenation. The neighborhood is defined by Black history, Lake Daniel Park, a wonderful array of kit homes, and the new Westwoods Park on the Downtown Greenway with sculpture by artist Thomas Sayre," says Benjamin Briggs, executive director of Preservation Greensboro. "This community is home to professionals, professors, and creative entrepreneurs who enjoy the convenience of its location as well as its cozy Craftsman bungalows and tree-lined streets."

The tour is planned to be a classic pre-pandemic in-person tour, held on the weekend of May 20-21, 2023. Our tour will highlight the architecture and charms of this central neighborhood. Watch our website and social media outlets for more updates on our exciting Tour of Historic Homes & Gardens in Westerwood!

**Purchase Your
Ticket!**



Save-The-Date June 17th-18th **Moon Over Modernism GSO**

Moon Over Modernism® will celebrate Mid-Century Modern architecture in the Gate City! The celebration supports NC Modernist's mission of preserving and promoting residential modernist architecture across the state. Watch our socials and Landmarks newsletter for more details of this modernist event.

**NC
Modernist**

Connect With Us!



Volunteer Your Time

Consider making a donation of time to Preservation Greensboro! Are you a grand gardener? A savvy salvager? An endearing docent? If so, we need you!

Preservation Greensboro has many volunteer opportunities in a variety of roles and skill levels. Please look through our volunteer survey and check the volunteer role that makes the preservationist in your soul -- sing!

A NEW volunteer position is needed! Click the link below.

[Take Our Volunteer Survey](#)

Sustainer Membership

Hit the Easy Button! Make charitable giving as easy as possible by becoming a PGI Sustainer! Membership with Preservation Greensboro is easier than ever, thanks to our new monthly giving option. PGI Sustainers sign up to make monthly contributions to PGI through an automatic monthly charge to a credit card or draft from a bank account. Consider joining with this convenient membership tool. Sustainers spread their contributions throughout the year and provide PGI with a reliable source of funding. Simply click on the secure link below and enroll as a Sustainer Member to get the ball rolling.

[Sustainer](#)

Garden Volunteers Tend To History

447 West Washington Street in Downtown

Do you want a little fresh air with your volunteer work? Come help us tend the historic gardens at Blandwood! Helpers of all ages and skill range at all levels are welcome, and gentle direction will be provided as needed. Gardeners meet once weekly in the



morning, but work times may vary depending on the weather. Click below to add your name to the email notification list of garden volunteers!

[Add Me!](#)



Planned Giving for Preservation

Help make Preservation Greensboro and Blandwood Museum more stable organizations by considering a legacy gift. Many assume that our organization - with a 50-year timeline and an affiliation with the Morehead name - must be well-financed by a deep endowment or government support, but this is not accurate. A commitment to support preservation work in Greensboro is an investment that will remain here in the Gate City. A gift from your estate may bequeath a specific dollar amount or a percentage of value. Please contact us to make an investment in Greensboro's future through historic preservation!

Why Your Membership Is So Important

As a non-profit, our membership provides our most reliable revenue stream. We are constantly working to grow our membership base at all levels, and we depend on support from citizens and preservationists like you to accomplish our mission of saving our community's historic and architectural treasures. We do this by serving Greensboro as a key resource for community reinvestment strategies to leverage historic preservation. Your membership gift allows us to provide strategic planning and increased awareness of historic places.

[Contributions and Memberships](#)



We Take Your Trust Seriously

Preservation Greensboro Incorporated is committed to transparency through the *Candid* information service. *Candid* is committed to increasing transparency of nonprofit organizations by providing access to data with a goal of providing insights and analysis as well.

See Our Profile



PRESERVATION GREENSBORO

Saving Greensboro's Treasured Places

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