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## WORTH SAVING

*The Newsletter of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office*

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August 2012, Issue 10



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### Events and Awards

For statewide event lists, visit the [HPO Facebook event list](#), [Preservation North Carolina event list](#), or a [June-August 2012 calendar of events](#) courtesy of the [Federation of NC Historical Societies](#).

**August 8-10** - HPO and our south Atlantic regional Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) are co-hosting the southeast regional SHPO meeting in Asheville.

**August 10** - The Western Regional Archives (WRA) will open to the public. It will be a resource for those researching western North Carolina history and properties located in western North Carolina. WRA's collection currently is limited, including primarily the records of Black Mountain College, some records for the Blue Ridge Parkway, and a couple other smaller collections, but will expand over the next several years. Click [here](#) to view a list, organized by county, of the microfilm reels that the archives now has in its collection.

The WRA, a branch of the State Archives, which is headquartered in Raleigh, is located on the third floor of the Oteen Building at 176 Riceville Road, Asheville. For more information, contact Archivist Heather South at 828.296.7230 x240.

**August 17** - The four-state Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission will hold its third 2012 quarterly meeting in Wilmington, NC. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at International Longshoremens's Association 1426 Hall, 1305 South 5th Street. The public is invited. Click [here](#) for more information.

**September 10** - Tips for Caring for Your Historic Structure AND Your Collections will feature Reid Thomas, Preservation Specialist with the State Historic Preservation Office, Adrienne Berney, C2C Collections Care Trainer, and Matthew Hunter, C2C Disaster Preparedness Coordinator in a joint workshop to assist institutions that operate in historic structures. Exhibiting and storing collections in historic structures lead to extra headaches when your largest artifact is your structure! Learn techniques to balance the needs of your building and the needs of your collections. Topics will include environmental controls, exhibition issues, pest management, disaster planning, and storage concerns. For more information, contact LeRae Umfleet, Connecting to Collections (C2C) Project Director, at 919-807-7289 or [lerae.umfleet@ncdcr.gov](mailto:lerae.umfleet@ncdcr.gov). The workshop will be held in Edenton at the Chowan County Courthouse and costs \$20 (includes workshop, lunch, and snacks). To register click [here](#).

**September 15** - Preservation Durham and Triangle Modernist Houses are co-hosting a modernist house tour in the Duke Forest neighborhood of Durham. Click [here](#) for more information.

The [Green Park Inn](#) was recently accepted as a member of Historic Hotels of America, a project of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for hotels that have "faithfully maintained their historic integrity, architecture and ambiance." Click [here](#) for more information.

N.C. Department of Commerce has chosen Cherryville, Elizabethtown, Richlands, Saluda and Spencer to participate in the Office of Urban Development's 2012 Small Town Main Street program. Click [here](#) for more information.

UNESCO announces [2012 sites](#) inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The National Park Service recently expanded the Cultural Resources Programs [website](#) and forum created in support of [A Call to Action: Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement](#), the NPS' plan for its next hundred years. The website is intended to be a central clearinghouse and comment board for the seven main initiatives the NPS will be undertaking as part of the plan.

### Recent National Register Nominations

[Scott and Roberts Dry Cleaning Plant, Office, and Store](#) (Durham County), prepared by C. de Miranda, listed 6/20/12

The 1947 Scott and Roberts Dry Cleaning Plant, Office, and Store is one of Durham's best surviving examples of the Streamline Moderne architectural style. The building expresses the style in the rounded corners of its slightly projecting center bay, highlighted with curved plate-glass windows, header-bond brick, and cast-stone banding above and below the fenestration; glass block and expansive windows also transmit the machine-age energy of the building.

### Rehabilitation and Tax Credit Project Highlights

The one-story [W. L. Robison Building](#) in Winston-Salem (Forsyth County) was rehabilitated for office and commercial use with a construction cost of \$137,000.

[325-329 North Lee Street](#) in Salisbury (Rowan County) was rehabilitated for commercial use with a construction cost of \$103,000.

The 7600 square foot Boyden-Overman Co. Cotton Warehouse in Salisbury (Rowan County) was rehabilitated for commercial use with a construction cost of \$36,000.

The [Cowper House](#) in the Blount Street Historic District in Raleigh (Wake County) was rehabilitated for office use with a construction cost of \$301,000.

### HPO Staff in the Field

**July 6** - Paul Fomberg visited the Wingate Historic District in Union County to provide [restoration](#) guidance.

**July 20** - Reid Thomas made a site visit to a Pasquotank County house thought to date to the 1820s with mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival-style alterations. The owner is interested in [National Register](#) listing and [tax credits](#) for the rehabilitation of the property.

**July 10-13** - Restoration Branch staff members attended the National Park Service Tax Credit Workshop in Baltimore.

**July 18** - Reid Thomas visited the C. S. Brown School in Winton, Hertford County, and spoke at the Calvin Scott Brown Regional Cultural Arts Center & Museum board meeting, held at the school that evening, regarding their success in rescuing the school in the 1980s and their current restoration needs.

**July 18-22** - Ramona Bartos, Rob Crawford, and Jannette Coleridge-Taylor attended the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions bi-annual forum in Norfolk, VA.

**July 28** - Ramona Bartos attended the Preservation North Carolina board meeting in Gastonia and made site visits with the PNC board to the Marietta Street/Armstrong Apartments, now being rehabilitated, and Loray Mill..

**July 31** - Renee Gledhill-Earley and Justin Kockritz visited Winston-Salem for an [Environmental Review](#) project consultation.

### Partnership Possibilities

The NC Arts Council has a smART Initiative program in place to encourage the use of the arts as an economic development tool. As part of this initiative, they are identifying potential Cultural Districts. Click [here](#) to learn more

about their initiative and how it might benefit your community.

## National Park Service - State Historic Preservation Offices Meeting Sets Record

by Tim Simmons

Eighty staff members from 46 State Historic Preservation Offices participated in the National Park Service Federal Tax Incentives Workshop for State Reviewers on July 11-13, 2012, in Baltimore, Maryland, making this the best attended such workshop to date. Thanks to a National Park Service scholarship and friends of staff members opening up their homes in the Washington, D. C. area, North Carolina was able to send five staff members from the Restoration Services Branch, the largest contingent participating in this national biennial training workshop, which was last held in Raleigh. The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers also co-sponsored the workshop.

In addition to sessions on various topics related to the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program, attendees toured rehabilitation projects that used the tax incentives. The former National Bohemian and Gunther Breweries and American Can Company complex were converted to offices, apartments, self-storage units and restaurants. This project incorporated sustainable design features, including a vegetative roof, and achieved a LEED Silver rating.

Round-table discussions featured two historic rehabilitation tax credit projects, including the Enfield Graded School in Halifax County, North Carolina. This \$4.9 million rehabilitation project, completed in December 2010, converted the former school into 34 much needed affordable apartments for the Town of Enfield.

The Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program fosters private sector investment in the rehabilitation and re-use of historic buildings. It creates jobs and is one of the nation's most successful and cost-effective community revitalization programs. It has leveraged over \$62 billion nationwide in private investment to preserve 38,000 historic properties since 1976. The National Park Service of the US Department of the Interior and the Internal Revenue Service administer the federal program in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Offices. North Carolina consistently ranks in the top five most active states in the number of federal historic rehabilitation tax credit projects.



*Reviewers from 46 State Historic Preservation Offices tour the Gunther Brewery historic tax credit project in Baltimore.*



*Interior of one area of the National Bohemian Brewery historic tax credit project in Baltimore, now utilized by a design firm.*

## Grants, Donations, and In-kind Support Received by NC Underwater Archaeology Branch

by Chris Southerly

June 1862, the blockade runner *Modern Greece* runs aground near Fort Fisher. June 1962, U.S. Navy divers in conjunction with the State of North Carolina salvage artifacts from *Modern Greece* recently exposed by a storm. June 2012, *Modern Greece* is remembered and recognized for its significance in the Civil War and for its role in establishing the NC Underwater Archaeology Branch (UAB).

<http://www.ncdcr.gov/ModernGreece.aspx>

In recent years, much of the media, grants, and outside donations for the UAB have come as a result of the *Queen Anne's Revenge (QAR)* shipwreck project. While the QAR project is still going strong, the UAB comes full circle in 2012. Retiring Deputy State Archaeologist Mark Wilde-Ramsing wanted to return to the roots in Civil War shipwrecks. Over \$83,000 will be available in 2012-13 for exactly that purpose.

<http://nccultureblogger.wordpress.com/2012/06/20/explore-ncs-underwater-archaeology-history-at-kure-beach/>



*Visitors at the Modern Greece open house viewing recovered artifacts*

The UAB has received contributions from organizations and individuals for the *Modern Greece* initiative totaling \$14,282.50. Organizational donors contributed over \$9,000 while individual donors made up over \$5,000. Funds have already been used for myriad related goals: to create more secure and stable storage for unconserved *Modern Greece* artifacts; to support graduate student volunteers in the documentation and transfer of the artifacts; to employ a temporary graduate student conservator to assist Assistant State Archaeologist/Conservator [Nathan Henry](#); to create an interpretive panel at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site overlooking the wreck site of *Modern Greece*; to host an evening symposium presenting four preeminent scholars on Civil War blockade running; and to have an open house at the UAB so the public could see the recovered artifacts and experience their North Carolina maritime heritage first-hand.

<http://news.ncdcr.gov/2012/03/02/spring-break-treasure-hunt-with-artifacts-from-modern-greece-shipwreck/>

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/03/08/1913723/reburied-treasure.html>

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/06/24/v-print/2155352/historians-seek-answers-from-a.html>

While much emphasis was placed on *Modern Greece*, it was only one of many blockade runners. The location and state of preservation for approximately 75% of Civil War shipwreck losses in the Cape Fear region is still unknown. Over the decades, budget limitations have only allowed for inconsistent and infrequent investigations of the known shipwrecks. Knowing this and with the rekindled interest in *Modern Greece*, blockade running, and Civil War sesquicentennial events, Assistant State Archaeologist [Chris Southerly](#) wrote and submitted a grant application to the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). UAB was notified early July that the proposal was approved. UAB will receive the \$50,004 grant in October to work on establishing a definitive archaeological inventory of Civil War wrecks in the Cape Fear Region to be used for preservation and interpretation of both the wrecks and the associated battles. The ABPP grant is applied for annually, but can be continued for up to three years.

<http://www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/grants/battlefieldgrants/2012grantawards.htm>

Collaborative work with an East Carolina University Coastal Resources Management doctoral candidate has also yielded a significant in-kind donation of data. The directed study project of GIS mapping of underwater cultural heritage sites in North Carolina resulted in the donation of \$19,000 worth of high resolution satellite imagery of the Cape Fear region from GeoEye, Inc. These images and data will greatly enhance the ability to conduct the ABPP grant field research and improve the overall quality of the final report to be submitted to the National Park Service.

<http://www.geoeye.com/CorpSite/>

## Is This North Carolina's Oldest Known House?

by Reid Thomas

Historic preservation and history enthusiasts Steve and Linda Lane of Edenton recently acquired a small one-and-a-half-story house at 304 East Queen Street in Edenton, for use as a rental property. At the time of purchase, the Lanes thought the house dated to the turn of the twentieth century. It was Listed as a contributing building in the expanded Edenton National Register Historic District nomination, which dated the house to ca. 1900. Carpenters hired by the Lanes uncovered what appeared to be eighteenth-century building fabric. Upon further exploration, they learned that the large ceiling joists were previously exposed and limewashed with a robust ogee-molded base. The Lanes requested the technical guidance of the Eastern Office of the HPO in helping to determine the construction history, age, and architectural and historical significance that this building might have at local and statewide levels.



*Mark Wilde-Ramsing, retiring Deputy State Archaeologist - Underwater, speaks at the Modern Greece symposium*



*The unveiling of the interpretive panel for the Modern Greece wreck site*



*304 East Queen Street, Edenton, before rehabilitation work began*

In February 2011, a study visit was coordinated with HPO staff, architectural historians with Colonial Williamsburg, and local (Edenton) historians. Following the recommendations from participants in the visit, the Lanes had the remaining twentieth-century wall sheathing carefully removed to expose the early timber-frame structure. They also hired Michael Worthington, a dendrochronologist with [Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory](#), to date the building. Initial wood core samples have been taken and are currently being studied by Mr. Worthington.



*Early interior finishes*

A second, smaller-scale study visit took place on Friday, July 13. Dr. Edward (Ed) Chappell, Director of Architectural Research at Colonial Williamsburg, along with his colleagues Dr. Carl Lounsbury, Willie Graham, and Jeff Klee, drove down from Virginia for the day. Two student interns, Camila Quinteros Casaverde and Pam Kendrick, participated with the team from Williamsburg. Also attending were Don Jordan, master cabinetmaker and historian from Edenton, judge and historian Thomas Newbern, and Steve Lane.



*Early cornice, exposed rafters, and wood shingles protected under the current porch roof*

To date we have learned that the original hall/parlor plan house, measuring fifteen by twenty-five feet, was likely constructed in the first or second quarter of the eighteenth century. It appears to have had two large exterior end chimneys and a center staircase accessing a half-story during its first construction period. There is evidence of alterations later in the eighteenth century, including relocation of the stair, construction of a rear shed addition, and limewashing of the interior exposed framing.

Future articles and updates will be prepared as we learn more about this unique and rare-surviving early dwelling.

**Tax Credits at Work in Wilmington** HPO staff members Tim Simmons and Jeff Adolphsen have written an article reviewing the use of the rehabilitation tax credits in Wilmington. Click [here](#) to read the article.

**North Carolina's National Register Nominations are Available Online** Laurie Jackson, an HPO intern, has nearly finished scanning our National Register nominations statewide and almost everything is [online](#) and available for public use, although there are a few stragglers that are missing and clean-up of the .pdfs will continue for some time. Users are encouraged to [contact us](#) when they see something amiss.

**National Alliance of Preservation Commissions**, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting local historic preservation commissions and the resources they help protect, held their bi-annual forum in Norfolk, VA, the week of July 18-22. Session topics included what prompts a 106 review, in-fill in historic districts, archaeology, and community awareness. There were several "hands-on" workshops and tours to surrounding historic sites, including Jamestown, Yorktown and Williamsburg. Click [here](#) for more information about the NAPC.

HPO staff members Ramona Bartos, administrator, Rob Crawford, [preservation commission services/CLG coordinator](#), and Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, National Register assistant, attended the forum.

**Professional Development for Staff Members** In July, members of our Environmental Review Branch attended two webinar training sessions hosted by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), one on defining the area of potential effects for Section 106 projects and one on anticipatory demolition. The last webinar for the summer will be held on **August 16** and registration is open to all. For more information, visit the ACHP [webinar website](#).

Also in July, two Survey and National Register Branch members attended a webinar training session hosted by the National Park Service regarding the upcoming switch from the use of UTM's and paper USGS maps to latitude and longitude coordinates for National Register nominations. Webinars on several topics are available to the public. For more information, visit the NPS [webinar website](#).

**Historic Limewash Enjoyed Renewed Popularity** Restoration Specialist Reid Thomas has written an article about the use of limewash as a viable alternative to modern, high-VOC paints. Click [here](#) to read the article.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office  
 Division of Historical Resources  
 Office of Archives and History  
 North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources