

HISTORIC HENDERSONVILLE

A Newsletter Published by the
HENDERSONVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DENNIS DUNLAP, CHAIRMAN ■ RICHARD PARSONS ■ BETTE CARTER
RALPH FREEMAN ■ SCOTT BOLYARD ■ STACI BLATT ■ EDDIE WATKINS ■ JO TYLER ■ LARRY PHILLIPS

Vol. 7, Issue 1

Fall 2006

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES – Part One

The Spring Newsletter of 2006 explained and pictured six house styles seen around Hendersonville and across America: Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, Dutch Colonial, Four Square, bungalow and Minimal Traditional. Here are six more seen when driving through older neighborhoods.

With inspiration from early England, the term **TUDOR**



REVIVAL is usually applied to almost any front gabled house with a steeply pitched rooflines, prominent chimney, half-timbered boards and/or stucco. (1890-1930)



SPANISH ECLECTIC brings to mind several key architectural elements: smooth stucco exterior, tile roof and arches. Owning its prominence to the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in San Diego, its

popularity spread across the country until World War II. (1915 - 1940)



The **NEOCLASSICAL REVIVAL** style became wildly popular following the *White City* of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Its most

distinct feature would be the lavish use of columns often features with a classical pedimented entry. (1895-1950)

ITALIANATE houses draw their inspiration from villas in northern Italy. They are squarish in shape, have low-pitched hipped roofs, large windows and broad overhanging eaves.



Harking back to the original Georgian period, 1715 – 1789, the

GEORGIAN style was revitalized between 1880 – 1930. This revival showcased a substantial, symmetrical appearance with equal sized windows and a transom/fanlight over the door.



Beginning in the 50s, the classic **RANCH** spread across America incorporating aspects of the Prairie and Spanish ranchos of the west. Easy and fast to build, this home defined suburbia well into the mid 1960s. (1950-1965)



If you are curious as to the style of your home, you may visit the Historic Preservation Commission website to look up the National Register Report for your historic district. www.hendersonvillehpc.org

HOUSE MUSEUMS

Looking through books and magazines can offer a great deal of insight as to the decorations and living style of an older home. But to truly visualize the particular architectural or decorative style, a walk through the front door tour is necessary. While the Biltmore House draws the majority of house tour visitors for this area, several other house museums are available for the public.

For lovers of all things Victorian, look no further than the **Smith-McDowell House** in Asheville. Built in the 1840s, James Smith's "farmhouse" was constructed at a time when brick residences were almost unheard of in the mountains of North Carolina. The Federal style mansion has 6,700 square feet of space, four interior chimneys and brick walls 12 to 20 inches thick. This home was quite an upgrade from the log cabin in which Smith was born but fitting for a man who eventually owned one-third of Asheville, including much of the land on which the Biltmore Estate is now sited.

What was high style in New York in 1860 probably didn't reach Asheville or any of the other distant mountain communities until years later, owing to the time it took for materials to arrive and for people to travel to see and incorporate what was the latest fashion in more cosmopolitan areas. The downstairs rooms, parlor, dining room and front hall, reflect some of the later years of the Victorian furnishings and décor from the 1880s and 1890s. Upstairs the 1860s and 1870s décor takes over in rooms still containing the mantels and trims original to the house.

The house stayed in the Smith family until 1883. In 1898 Dr. Charles Van Bergen, the new owner, commissioned Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. to create a landscape based work done at the Biltmore House by his father, Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. The house was used as a boys dormitory for a Catholic school for 20 years prior to becoming part of the Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. The small school raised funds for its preservation and restoration, recognizing it as a major piece of history.

Located on Haywood Road just north of Hendersonville, another brick residence offers a different look at life in western North Carolina. Known now as **Historic Johnson Farm**, Oliver Moss of Spartanburg began the Italianate home in 1876 using local builder Riley Barnett. Mud was dredged from the French Broad River, brought by oxen to the site where it was baked in kilns. Unfortunately, the firing must not have been hot enough as the bricks became crumbly soon after. To handle this problem, a mixture of brick dust and lime dust, was spread over the brick then

painted and scored to look like brick. The house took four years to complete.

The Liverett Family owned the farm next and continued the farming of corn, wheat, flax and vegetables. Sallie Liverett Johnson bought the farm from her parents in 1913 and lived there with her sons, Vernon and Leander, through her life. During the early 20th century, Sallie and her sons went the way of other large homes in Hendersonville and Henderson County by supplementing their income by taking in summer boarders and tourists. Boarders could enjoy the lovely home and farm, be served three meals a day for \$5.00 per week. In the 1980s the Johnsons donated the house and grounds to the Henderson County Public School system to become a heritage education facility.

The interior of the house is decorated in typical country fashion. Few store bought pieces of furniture were purchased by families like the Johnson's so much of the décor consist of pieces passed from one generation to another and handmade items. Each room has at least one piece of furniture made by Vernon Johnson, an excellent woodworker.

Brevard offers a pioneer mountain home considered the oldest frame house in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Visiting the **Allison-Deaver House** is truly a step back in time as the home has never been extensively renovated for plumbing, heating or even closets. Began circa 1819, the house started out as a two-story federal-style, three-room plan for Benjamin Allison of Old Fort, a well established community east of Asheville. The Allison family eventually relocated to Jackson County and sold the home to William Deaver in 1830.

Deaver first visited the Davidson River community with his grandfather, Andrew Miller, to lay out the road from Mills River. After purchasing the home he added a 2200 sq.ft. addition in the Greek Revival style and the double-engaged porches. He owned several slaves and eventually had over 1,000 acres under cultivation at different locations in western North Carolina. One house legend has Davy Crockett visiting the home. As he and William Deaver both married Patton women, it may well be true.

In 1987, the Transylvania County Historical Society saved the property from demolition by purchasing the house and 3.7 acres. The home is listed as an architectural treasure on the National Register of Historic Places. The home has been virtually unaltered with working fireplaces, original paneling and no closets. The interior contains surviving early paint finishes, hardware and intact original molding and trim.

The story of the Carl Sandburg Home, **Connemara**, began in the early 19th century when Christopher G. Memminger, noted lawyer and first secretary of the Confederate treasury, built Rock Hill as his summer home. After his death the home purchased by William Gregg, Jr., and then Ellison Adger Smyth, both textile giants. Mr. Smyth renamed it Connemara for the part of Ireland his family immigrated from. In 1945, the Sandburg's purchased the property and lived there for 22 years. Connemara is a National Historic Site and run by the National Park Service. Visitors may tour the home, for a fee, or simply roam the hiking trails and barns areas.

Local House Museums

The Smith-McDowell House

283 Victoria Road
Asheville, NC 28801
828-253-9231
Hours – Tuesday – Saturday
10:00 – 4:00
Sunday
1:00 – 4:00
Pop Culture Christmas begins 11.15

Historic Johnson Farm

3346 Haywood Road
Hendersonville, NC 28791
828-891-6585
Hours – Tuesday thru Friday
9:00 – 2:30

Allison-Deaver House

Highway 280
Pisgah Forest
828-884-5137
Call for hours of operation

Connemara

81 Carl Sandburg Lane
Flat Rock, NC 28731
828-693-4178
Hours – 9:00 – 5:00

HOLIDAY TOUR OF HISTORIC HOMES

Sunday December 10, 2006

1 pm – 5 pm

Tickets are \$15 and available at the Visitor's Center, Mountain Lore Bookstore and Foxfire Gallery. The day of the tour tickets may be purchased at each house.

William M. Sherard House

1110 Fourth Avenue West
West Side Historic District
Built 1925 Tudor Revival Style



Curtis-Burckmyer House

731 4th Avenue West
West Side Historic District
1903 Classical Revival Style

Inn On Church

201 3rd Avenue West
Main Street Historic District
ca. 1930 Classical Revival
Style



Thomas Harrison House

1205 Hyman Avenue
Hyman Heights Historic District
1925 Craftsman Bungalow Style

Lampley House

1134 Highland Avenue
Hyman Heights Historic District
1939 Minimal Traditional Style



Fred M. Allen Jr. House

1408 Oakland Street
Hyman Heights Historic District
ca. 1926 Colonial Revival

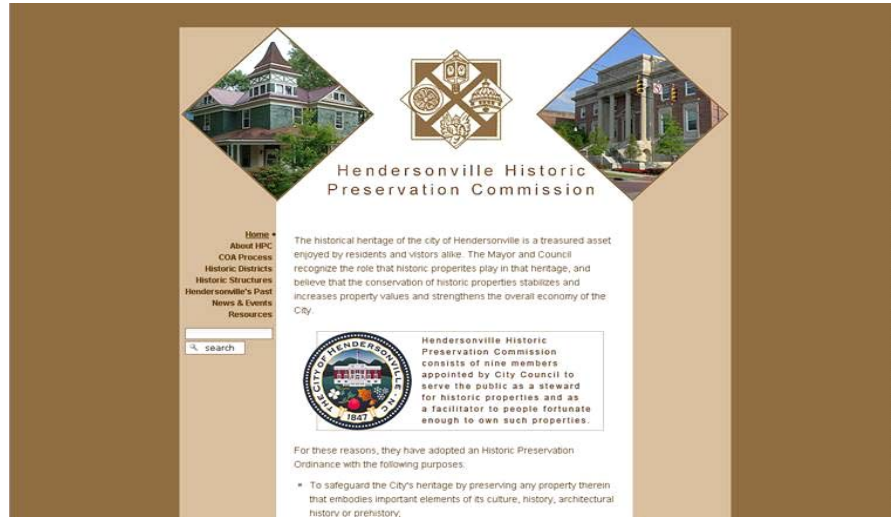
PRESS RELEASE:

Date: November 2, 2006
Contact: Lu Ann Welter

The Hendersonville Historic Preservation Commission is pleased to announce their website is completed and ready for viewing. The site is dedicated as a resource for those looking for general history on Hendersonville and for those seeking information about the Commission, historic buildings & neighborhoods.

Pages of detailed information, maps, history and photographs are now available on the new website in the following categories: *About HPC, the Certificate of Appropriateness Process, Historic Districts, Historic Structures, Hendersonville's Past and News & Events.*

You may access the site via the City of Hendersonville website, www.cityofhendersonville.org or directly at www.hendersonvillehpc.org.



♻️ Printed on Recycled Paper

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
"The City of Four Seasons"
145 Fifth Avenue East
Hendersonville, NC 28792