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From the Editor...Elise Stephens

The *Quarterly* adds its congratulations to Harrison Brothers for its 100 years on the Square. This is a preservation success story that matches our feats in space and missilery. Tenacity, teamwork, guardianship and salesmanship have proven that the decision made by the Foundation to purchase the store and preserve it was indeed as wise as it was brave. The future success of the store and of the Foundation's preservation mission in Huntsville and Madison County will depend on these same characteristics.

This issue has a dual focus: Harrison Brothers on the Square and Downtown Huntsville. The health of one promotes the longevity of the other. Initiatives are underway to revitalize downtown. The lead-in photo-essay by John De Meo sets a nostalgic mood by a young man who wants to see the downtown come alive with art and music, antiques and fine food, and vigorous personalities—some of whom actually will live down there.

Linda Allen, stalwart of the Foundation, and urban planner for the city presents a plea and a plan for loft-living downtown. Eleanor Hutchens' evocative essay about growing up in a not-so sleepy Huntsville suggests that the values of yesteryear would sustain our spirits, much as John's photographs of Harrison Brothers subtly intimate the same. Lauren B. Martinson's informative study of the Public Inn shows how one of our earlier structures has been saved and converted to apartment/office use.

One cannot celebrate an anniversary without looking back; hence the issue concludes with various links to the Square and downtown Huntsville. Albert Lane's early 1940s photographs of downtown were graciously developed by Southerland's Photo.