A New Look

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Lynn Jones

Spring Facelift

After twenty-five years with the same format, the award-winning Historic Huntsville Quarterly is sporting a new look. We hope you like it as much as we do.

With the objectives of a more attractive and inviting cover, better photograph reproduction, creative layout and enhanced readability, the editorial committee challenged Bruce Hiles of Designwise to come up with a conceptual design that reflected the scholarly nature of the Quarterly but also brought it into the 21st century. The Foundation board was delighted with the result of his work and has contracted with him to design and lay out the 2003 issues.

To ensure that the cost of this new professional design will not exceed the amount budgeted for Quarterly expenses Mr. Hiles agreed to a reduction in his hourly rate as a contribution to the Foundation. This generous contribution, plus the genuine interest he has shown in helping us improve the Quarterly, is deeply appreciated.

Preservation Primer a Special Issue

As noted by director Lynne Lowery, this is a special issue of the Quarterly in another way. It’s a preservation primer designed not just for our members’ information and enjoyment but also as a guide for anyone who is planning to restore, renovate or add on to an historic property, especially if the property is in an historic district, where such changes are governed by preservation guidelines. (Prospective buyers, for example, need to know before they purchase a property in a Huntsville or Madison historic district that guidelines must be followed and all exterior changes must be approved by these cities’ local preservation commissions.) We hope that architects, builders, craftsmen, real estate agents and homeowners find the information in this primer helpful whenever questions arise about the preservation of historic properties in historic districts and elsewhere.
Contributors

While the contributors to this issue are acknowledged where their articles appear in the publication, the editorial committee would especially like to recognize Donna Castellano for guiding and pulling this important issue together from its inception and for her excellent editorial work on all the articles.

The editorial committee for this issue of the Quarterly was Diane Ellis, Lynn Jones and Patricia Ryan.

Debra Brasher has lived in Five Points for ten years and was one of the leaders in the drive to create the historic district. She is the current president of the Five Points Historic Preservation District Association, the current chair of its Multi-Media Committee and a member of Historic Huntsville Foundation’s Preservation Committee.

Donna Castellano has a master’s degree in history and teaches at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She serves on the board of the Twickenham Historic Preservation District Association and on the Preservation Committee of Historic Huntsville Foundation.

Rusty George, a Huntsville native and Five Points resident, is a general contractor who specializes in the city’s older neighborhoods. He is a member of the Preservation Committee of Historic Huntsville Foundation.

Marc Goldmon has a bachelor’s degree in architecture from Mississippi State University and is presently serving as vice-president of the Alabama Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Goldmon is with the Bill Peters Architecture firm. He is a member of Historic Huntsville Foundation, where he serves on the Preservation Committee. He has been involved in numerous historic restoration projects in Huntsville, including the Harvie Jones Building and the Central YMCA.
Mike Holbrook, a former general contractor, has a master's degree in education and almost 20 years of construction and renovation experience. Mr. Holbrook is a Certified Graduate Remodelor and a Graduate Master Builder. Currently, he is construction administrator and director of quality control for Fuqua Osborn Architects PC. Mr. Holbrook is vice-chairman of Historic Huntsville Foundation, chairman of the Foundation's Preservation Committee, and a resident of Old Town.

Lynne Berry Lowery is executive director of Historic Huntsville Foundation. A graduate of Vanderbilt University, she has served as a staff member for both Congressman Bud Cramer and Senator Jeff Sessions. She is a member of the Governor's Commission on Constitution Reform and a board member of the Alabama Preservation Alliance, Leadership Alabama, and United Way.

David Nuttall trained as a cartographic draughtsman in England and currently works for Intergraph Public Safety, traveling to customers to teach computer mapping techniques. He is the current president of the Old Town Historic Preservation District Association, the chairman of Historic Huntsville Foundation's Awards Committee and a member of the Foundation's Preservation Committee.

Randall Rivers is the current president of Madison Station Preservation Society. His father-in-law, Jim Carter, was one of the founding members of the society. Mr. Rivers lives with his wife Lisa and three children in a 1910 Cape Cod house, originally restored by Mr. Carter and later expanded and updated by the Rivers family.

Robert Van Peursem is a local architect and partner in the firm of SKT Architects PC, which specializes in historic preservation. He is a past president of the Old Town Historic Preservation District Association and has chaired the Huntsville Historic Preservation Commission.