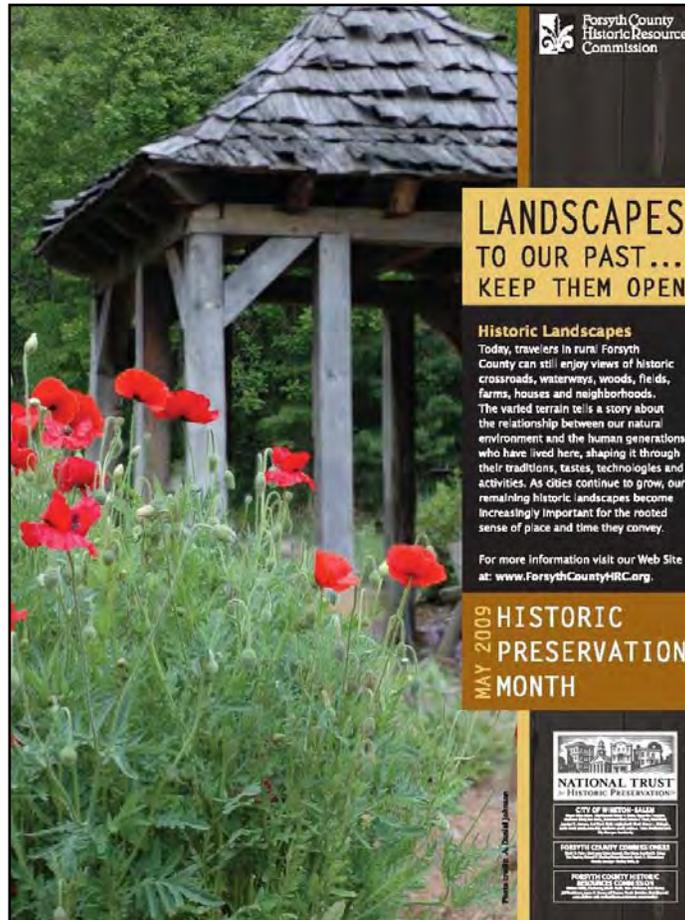


## May Is Historic Preservation Month

May has been designated Historic Preservation Month both nationally and locally. The theme for 2009 is “**This Place Matters.**” The idea of the *This Place Matters* campaign invites us to identify, evaluate and appreciate what makes our community unique, which helps us make a stronger case for preserving it.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation started the *This Place Matters* campaign in 2008. It is a photo sharing initiative. People post pictures of themselves holding a *This Place Matters* sign in front of places that matter to them. Sharing photos is a way to spread the word about preservation and get more people involved in the preservation movement. The Historic Resources Commission is also using this campaign to make sure our favorite local sites get their due. In Forsyth County, this is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our community’s rich and diverse history. Everyone can participate by helping to identify resources and evaluating what properties deserve attention and appreciation of our heritage. Instructions for submitting photos and the *This Place Matters* sign can be found and printed out from Planning’s web site ([www.cityofws.org/planning](http://www.cityofws.org/planning)) and posted on the City of Winston-Salem’s Facebook page.



Throughout the month of May many historic preservation related events are scheduled. Old Salem Museums and Gardens will be hosting the *Lunch and Learn Lecture Series* at St. Philip’s Church on Wednesdays at noon. The lecture themes include: “Restoring Mount Vernon;” “Rural Landscapes of Salem;” “Forsyth County’s Cultural Landscape;” and, “The African-American Experience at St. Philips.” There will also be an evening lecture series on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at The Children’s Home. These lecture themes include: “Historic Buildings: How they

Relate to Current Building Codes;” “100 Years of Historic Structures Meeting Today’s Challenges;” “Winston-Salem: Then and Now;” and, “Building a New Public Garden in Kernersville.”

One special event will be the unveiling of a new city historic marker on Sunday, May 17. The marker will recognize the Happy Hill neighborhood, which is in southeast Winston-Salem. This neighborhood has played a prominent role in the life of Winston-Salem’s African-American community since the early 19th century. Initially it was home to slaves on a farm serving the Moravian town of Salem. Many African-Americans on the farm were sold lots by the Moravians. By 1874, the name Happy Hill was used for the neighborhood, which grew steadily until 1920. The city’s first public housing

development began in Happy Hill during the 1950s. About half of the houses were demolished at that time. The majority of the remainder of homes have since been lost. This neighborhood’s history is significant, and placing a marker here will be a reminder of its historic importance in our community.

Go to [www.cityofws.org/planning](http://www.cityofws.org/planning) and click the Historic Preservation icon for more events and information about Historic Preservation in Forsyth County.

# Planning Board Recommends Changes to NCO District

The Planning Board and the Winston-Salem City Council recently adopted revisions to the Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NCO) District. NCOs are intended to preserve the special character of certain older neighborhoods by creating standards for new infill development and expansion of existing structures. Several changes have been made to the NCO District. Neighborhoods seeking an NCO must consult with Planning staff prior to district application to determine if other tools, such as rezoning to a more restrictive zoning district, are better suited to their needs. The residential infill standards, which regulate front building setbacks, garage placement, orientation of buildings on narrow lots, and subdivi-

sion of property, may also reduce the desire of many neighborhoods to request an NCO. The minimum age of a neighborhood requesting an NCO has also been increased to 40 years. The current minimum amount of neighborhood property owner support for an NCO has been increased to 65%, except where neighborhoods are located within Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas, where this requirement has been reduced to 25%. The expansion of structures made nonconforming through NCO adoption has also been addressed. These changes create a more focused process for establishing NCO Districts while allowing for increased flexibility in non-conforming situations.

## Want more information?

Contact the City-County Planning Board Office  
 Bryce A. Stuart Municipal Building  
 100 East First Street · Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
 Telephone: 336-727-8000 · Fax: 336-748-3163  
 Web site: [www.cityofws.org/planning](http://www.cityofws.org/planning)  
[GLYNISJ@cityofws.org](mailto:GLYNISJ@cityofws.org)

The Planning Board is funded jointly by the Winston-Salem City Council and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

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 Walter Marshall; Gloria D. Whisenhunt  
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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address <http://www.cityofws.org/Home/Departments/Planning/Forms/GetNewsByE-mail>. The page title is "Winston-Salem North Carolina and Forsyth County". The main heading is "Planning Information E-mail Notification". Below the heading, it states: "The City-County Planning Department offers citizens and organizations the ability to sign up for planning-related updates via e-mail." There is a list of topics with checkboxes:
 

- Planning Board Agenda
- Historic Resources Commission (Agenda/Special Events/Updates)
- Environmental Issues
- Community Appearance Commission (Agenda/Special Events/Updates)
- Transportation
- Proposed UDO text amendment updates
- Notice of upcoming Area Plan meetings/updates
- Planning Department Newsletter
- Growth Management Plan updates
- Changes/updates to the development review process

 Below the list, it says "Please fill in the following contact information:". There are two input fields: "\*E-mail Address:" and "\*Name (first and last):". A legend indicates "\* Denotes REQUIRED information." On the left side of the page, there is a navigation menu with items like "Area Plans", "Boards&Commissions", "Get News by E-mail", "Legacy", "Plans & Maps", "Staff", "Zoning&Subdivision", "What's New", "Director's Welcome", "Planning Positions Available", "Sustainability", and "Calendar". The "Calendar" section shows "SESAP CAC Meeting 4/16/2009" and "Reynolda Gardens Tuesday Gardening Series 4/21/2009".

## Planning Email Notification

The Planning Department now offers citizens the ability to receive information and updates via email. When visiting the Department's website, click on the "Get News by Email" link on the left side of the page. This will display the various topics for which you can sign up to receive updates through email. As information becomes available on the listed topics, Planning staff will provide updates on the topics you have selected.