# Preservation of Historic Winchester, Inc.

PHW

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## CONTACT

*Phone* (540) 667-3577

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# HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR ARRIVES IN THE HEART OF OLD TOWN

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Holiday House Tour with the special theme "Yesteryear & Beyond." Homes, businesses, and sacred sites will be featured with history stretching back to the earliest days of Winchester and looking forward to many more years of making history. Seven sites will be featured in this year's tour:



## 324 West Boscawen Street, The Cabell House

The Late Federal-style dwelling was built for Mrs. Elizabeth W. Cabell around 1843. The clean lines of the facade are accented with rosetted corner blocks on the window lintels. Delicate fluted columns surround the entrance. The Greek-wave step ends and balusters in the central stairway are original to the house. The stately symmetry of the exterior is seen in the two parlor rooms flanking the entry hall. Winchester knife-

shelf mantels, one with a carved classical urn panel and the other with American eagle in profile grace the fireplaces.



## 302 West Boscawen Street

The professional office of J. Douglas McCarthy & Associates is constructed in the Queen Anne style with Eastlake influences. Below the spired slate roof and ornamented eaves, a porch supported by chamfered posts leads to the double-leaf front door. Guests are greeted in the entry hall by a classic gilded female figure atop a tall oak newel post. The parlor and dining room are highlighted by a grand mantles and beveled mirrors.



## 106 North Washington Street

Constructed in stages from the early 19th century on, the present house is the home of Harry and Debbie Smith. Its external appearance is typical of late 19th c. Victorian remodeling with German wood siding, a center gable highlighted with fish scale wood shingles and a half-hipped porch roof supported by fluted Tuscan wood columns. The entry hall opens to the living room to the north and family/sitting room to the south. The dining room is the

site of the original small stone dwelling built in the early 1800s. The stairways, mantles and pine flooring are original elements from the 19th century enlargement.

## **HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR, CONT.**



### 109 Amherst Street

This charming office was once part of the Federal-style dwelling facing North Braddock Street, erected circa 1820 by Samuel Brown. From 1856 until the Civil War, the building was home to a school for girls was run by Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Powell. The ell containing 109 Amherst Street was later converted to a single-family dwelling. The whimsical asymmetry of the façade draws the eye to the single-leaf, paneled wood door flanked by five-light sidelights.



## 142 West Boscawen Street, Christ Episcopal Church

Christ Episcopal Church has been in continuous use as a sacred site in Winchester since its construction in 1828. The Gothic Revival-style building is dominated by the three-story bell tower crowned with finials and quatrefoil balustrades. A pointed -arch accented with a flower motif surrounds the double-leaf paneled wood doors. Of particular interest and beauty are the stained glass windows, installed in the late 19th century by the Gernhart Company of Baltimore.



## 126 South Loudoun Street, Hill's Keep

This vernacular limestone dwelling was constructed circa 1810. The deeply recessed wood door is flanked by 6/6, double-hung, wood-sash windows with wood sills and board-and-batten wood shutters typical of the period. The building, originally part of the Red Lion Tavern, has served as an ice cream factory, dwelling, printing shop, and the office of Preservation of Historic Winchester. It is currently the office of Winchester Storm. It was moved from its original location at 8 East Cork Street in 2004.



## 204 South Loudoun Street, The Red Lion Tavern

The Georgian-style limestone tavern known as the Red Lion was constructed circa 1783 by Peter Lauck, a member of Morgan's Riflemen. The property was purchased from the Lauck heirs by John Fagan in 1842. Fagan founded the first marble yard in the Valley here; five generations of his descendants continued the business. The building retains a remarkable level of interior integrity, including the wide plank floors, the enormous kitchen fireplace, a moveable interior wall in the second-story ballroom, paneled mantles, early decorative hinges and pintles, and unique flying buttresses.

PHW is also pleased to announce the Preview Party will be held in the conference room of the Lewis Jones Knitting Mill at 126 North Kent Street on Saturday, December 3 from 6-9 PM. Join us for the opening party in this beautiful location for good food, good friends, and convivial atmosphere to start the Holiday House Tour. (Cont. next page)



## 120-126 North Kent Street, Lewis Jones Knitting Mill Site of the Preview Party

The Lewis Jones Knitting Mill was constructed in 1895 for the production of cotton knit goods. Founded by Lewis Jones, Sr. of Philadelphia and Albert Baker of Winchester, it was the only cotton mill in Winchester. The rehabilitation of the Late Victorian-era brick building by Oakcrest was based around preserving the original brick and timber construction structure. All interior and exterior brick and wood

timbers were restored to their natural finish.



# 315 West Boscawen Street, Winchester Little Theater Site of the Bough and Dough Shop

To complete your tour experience, don't forget to stop in the Bough and Dough Shop at the Winchester Little Theater at 315 West Boscawen Street, open from noon-5 PM on Saturday and Sunday. The Shop offers fresh cut greenery—including boxwood, magnolia, and holly—for your holiday decorating. Baked goods and handcrafts from local artists are available for gift-

giving. Don't forget your complimentary hot chocolate and coffee!

To make your reservations for the Preview Party or Daylight Tour tickets, fill in the order blank on the back page of the newsletter. We hope to see you at the Holiday House Tour! ◆

## SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE HOUSE TOUR POSSIBLE

As always, PHW is greatly indebted to the sponsors for the event. At press time, PHW has received pledges and sponsorships from BB&T, Union First Market, United Bank, and printing support from The Final Yard. These sponsorships are vital contributions to the tour and to PHW. The contributions help to defray the event costs, leading to more revenue PHW can put toward its goals. In general, between the corporate sponsorships and ticket sales, PHW generates about one third of its yearly operating budget from this event.

We are also deeply grateful for the coverage from local media, especially our longstanding partnership with the Winchester Star for the lovely articles, before and after, of the event. Make sure you look for the pre-event article, which usually runs the week before the tour.

This being PHW's first year in the social media world of Facebook and Twitter, we would like to encourage our Facebook fans to share the word on this event to reach people who may not know about us and the great tours we host. We're still learning the ins and outs of the platform and how to best utilize it for our publicity, so an extra "like" or "share" from our friends is always appreciated and a quick way for anyone to help out.

The other key factor in making the tour happen each year is mustering sufficient manpower from volunteers. Approxi-

mately 120 volunteers contribute to the tour as decorators, docents, and house chairmen, as well as behind the scenes work writing house descriptions, researching for scripts, approaching sponsors, and formulating ideas. Without their manpower, the tour could not function.

This year marks the beginning of an excellent partnership in the Winchester Little Theater. Not only have they allowed us to hold the Bough and Dough Shop in their building, they are also organizing the musical entertainment this year. As you visit the sites, you will be serenaded by carolers in period costumes. Many thanks are due to the Winchester Little Theater in general, and Jim Carter specifically, for organizing this aspect of the tour.

But even more fundamentally, it is the owners of these historic sites who provide the crucial ingredient for a successful tour: the locations. Each year, much thought and planning goes into scouring our historic neighborhoods, looking for the right combination of unique houses, location, and owners willing to participate. While PHW can come up with the "dream list" of houses, it ultimately rests in the hands of the homeowners whether our plans bear fruit. Without the cooperation of the owners, there would not be a tour at all. Thank you, sponsors, volunteers, and owners, from all of us at PHW! •



Hexagon House ♦ 530 Amherst St. ♦ Winchester, VA 22601

# NEWS

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## **HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR: DECEMBER 3 AND 4**

Ticket Order and Reservation Form
Daylight Tour  Adult Advance Tickets x \$15  Child (12 and under) x \$6  Tickets the day of the tour are \$20 for adults.  Advance tickets are also sold at Kimberly's, The  Final Yard, Winchester Book Gallery, the Hexagon  House, and the Bough & Dough Shop at the Winchester Little Theater.
Preview Party & Candlelight Tour PHW Member x \$30 Non-Member x \$40 PHW members, please mail in or visit the PHW office to receive your discounted ticket price!  Total: \$
Name: Address:
Phone:  Return to: PHW, 530 Amherst St., Winchester, VA 22601

Preservation of Historic Winchester, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Winchester's architectural heritage. PHW depends on income from membership and contributions to achieve its goals.  All contributions above membership are tax deductible.
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