



Preservation Zebulon, Inc.

Promoting historic preservation and appreciation of buildings in the Zebulon NC area.

Newsletter Spring 2019

PZ Hires Consultants to Produce National Register Nomination

Thanks to the generosity of many supporters in the last three months of 2018, Preservation Zebulon has hired a consulting firm to prepare a National Register Historic District nomination.

Firefly Preservation has been working in Zebulon to put together a nomination report of properties which were identified in the recently completed Zebulon survey as a concentrated set of residences and businesses that would qualify as a National Register Historic District.

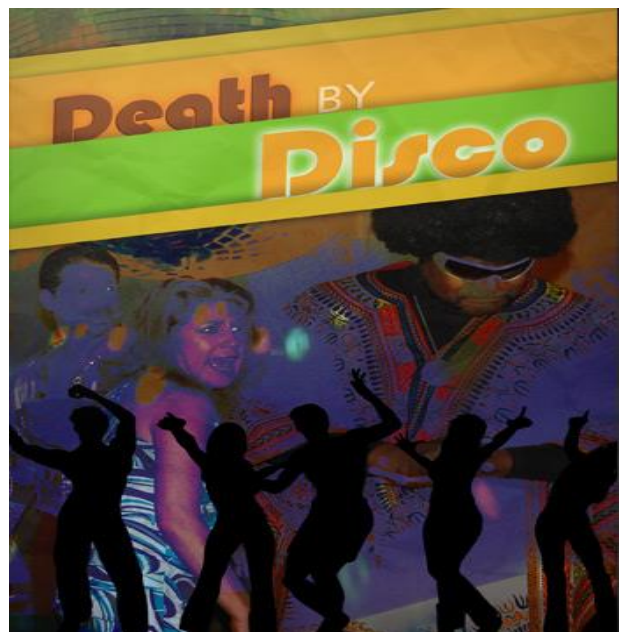
Cheri Szcodronski and Heather Slane, the consultants working on the nomination, have been doing field work in Zebulon these past few months, taking photos and writing descriptions of each property that will be within the district.

Working with some assistance with the NC State Historic Preservation Office, they will be writing architectural descriptions of each area and of the buildings that are contributing to the district.

A “contributing” property is any building or structure which adds to the historical integrity or architectural qualities that make the historic district significant. Owners of contributing properties will get a notice of this and a chance to attend a public hearing on the National Register application. We anticipate this hearing

will be in the Fall of 2019. Stay posted for details and check our website for updates.

“Death By Disco” Set for September 28



Our Fall Murder Mystery is set for Saturday, September 28 in the Lion’s Club building. Preservation Zebulon is seeking sponsors for this event. Tickets go on sale June 1.

This year’s theme is “Death by Disco” based in 1978, and it should be a night of disco, dancing and possibly death. Put on your platforms, unleash your leisure suite and hustle to the beat!

The Murder Mystery Committee is hard at work preparing for this year's event. If you'd like to be a part of this group, contact the Chair, Season Atkinson, at satkinson@tatumatkinson.com

Zebulon gains its first private home to become a Wake County Landmark.

The E.C. and Elvah Daniel house at 205 E. Sycamore Street was designated a local landmark by the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission (WCHPC) and Zebulon Commissioners voted to accept this designation at their March meeting after a brief public hearing.



E.C. Daniel, Edythe Tippett Collection, Olivia Raney Library

The house was “an intact and excellent example of a Craftsman Foursquare” so popular in Wake County during this time, according to the Wake County landmark report. Built in 1918, “The frame, two-story, square-plan house has a hipped roof with a gabled dormer at the façade

and a single story gabled wing at the rear. A full width front porch wraps to the east side and is balanced by a port cochere set back from the façade at the west elevation,” the report states.

“Interior architectural features include two substantial brick Craftsman fireplaces with thick, bracketed mantel shelves, four carved-wood Colonial Revival mantels, Craftsman wainscot with plate rail in the dining room, and a transverse front hall with L-shaped stair with squared balusters under a molded handrail,” it continues.



MaryBeth Carpenter 2018

E.C. and Elvah Daniel house at 205 E. Sycamore Street.

The house was built by E.C. Daniel, who started a grocery store and drug company in Wakefield in 1905, and moved it into downtown Zebulon in 1907 and re-named it the Zebulon Drug Company. He received his pharmaceutical training at Page's Pharmacy School in Greensboro. E.C. was a mayor of Zebulon, the first person in town to own a telephone, and later the head of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association. E.C. and Elvah raised one son in that house, E. Clifton Daniel.

E. Clifton Daniel grew up working in his father's drugstore and wrote for the Zebulon Record, News and Observer, and then later joined the

New York Times, eventually becoming its managing editor. He was known for his excellent writing and editing, designer suits and epicurean tastes.



Cover of LIFE Magazine, April 1956

E. Clifton Daniel met and married Margaret Truman, President Harry Truman's only child, in 1956. Their engagement news was splashed across newspapers and even made the cover of Life Magazine.

Margaret was a writer, and the couple's common interest in writing fueled their romance, according to newspaper accounts of the time. They became prominent socialites in New York, entertaining the jet set crowd.

Margaret went on to write a series of popular murder mysteries set in Washington D.C. She and E. Clifton had four sons.

E. Clifton occasionally came back to stay at the house on East Sycamore Street.

President Truman and his wife Bess made two trips to Zebulon after his presidency to visit his daughter and son-in-law and stayed in the house in 1958 and in 1960. They made addresses to the town and slept in twin beds still in the house.

After E. Clifton Daniel's father's death in 1968 and his mother Elva's death in 1971, E. Clifton sold the house he had inherited and all of its furnishings to Jamaria and Theo Ward.

They were diplomats who lived in Saudi Arabia and Japan and their furniture, collected from their travels, mixed with the traditional American furniture of the Daniels. A back porch was enclosed as a sunroom in 1971, to add room to the house, and the kitchen was modernized and enlarged by removing a wall between it and the pantry.



Harry Truman visited his daughter and son in law in Zebulon and slept at the house twice, in 1958 and 1960. Edythe Tippett Collection, Olivia Raney Library

In 1990, Jamaria sold the house to her daughter Jackie Strickland and her husband Curtis Strickland, the current owners. They converted

the garage into an apartment for Jamaria in the 1990s, updated a downstairs bathroom, and added a white picket fence but have otherwise left the house intact.

Curtis Strickland serves as a Zebulon Commissioner. Curtis and Jackie Strickland will receive their Wake County Landmark plaque for the house at the WCHPC Preservation Celebration on April 28 in Holly Springs.

Preservation Zebulon Board of Directors



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Our Mission

Preservation Zebulon advocates for the preservation of historic buildings and landscapes that embody important elements of the history and culture of Zebulon and promotes their conservation for the enrichment of residents and businesses.

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www.preservationzebulon.org

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