

Most Threatened Historic Places for 2006

DR. ELISHA PORTER PLANTATION, *Rocky Point*



The multiple buildings of this plantation complex and its surrounding thirteen acres have been in the hands of the same owners for decades, but will probably be transferred to new stewardship. It is located in an area of Pender County currently experiencing increased development.

Although the smoke house, tenant houses, sawmill, and owner's house speak eloquently of the area's agricultural heritage, this site may be razed before the next generation can experience them. Threatened by development pressures.

SINCLAIR SERVICE STATION, *1207 Market St., Wilmington*

This building is representative of the roadside architecture that developed in the twentieth century as America became a truly automotive society. Although once pervasive, this type of building has become rare as they are replaced by newer structures. This structure, located on Wilmington's most important thoroughfare, is threatened by neglect.



RURAL AND PRIVATE CEMETERIES

Tri-Counties (Pender, Brunswick, New Hanover)



As our population swells and becomes less tied to a particular location, cemeteries, held sacred by previous generations, become threatened by neglect, vandalism, and development. The Lillington Family Cemetery in Pender County represents this larger

problem. Although a Revolutionary War hero is buried within this tract, time and the elements have not been kind. Walls are crumbling and markers have been shattered.

H. JAFFE BUILDING

714 Castle St., Wilmington

This building tells two stories about Wilmington. Not only does it represent the city's commercial development and expansion in the beginning of the twentieth century, but it also played an important role in the events surrounding the racial desegregation of the city's schools in the 1970s. Endeavors to rehabilitate the structure may extend its existence. Threatened by deterioration and neglect.



WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Wrightsville Beach

The increase of land values and development pressure have placed at risk all of the city's structures built before 1950. The familiar landscape recorded by Claude Howell and beloved by many long-term residents is currently being systematically dismantled and replaced by a denser, more urban, multi-story cityscape.



ROSENWALD SCHOOLS, *Pender County*

When many Americans placed little emphasis upon the education of African-Americans, Julius Rosenwald, a Chicago philanthropist, with a Sears and Roebuck fortune, paid to have more than 5300 schools for black children built in fifteen states in the American South and Southwest, including along the Cape Fear Region. When schools were integrated, the Rosenwald Schools were often neglected. Today, this chapter in the story of African-American education is slowly disappearing through neglect.



FIFTH AVE. BAPTIST CHURCH



817 N. 5th Ave., Wilmington

This nineteenth century church building contributes to the special quality of North Fifth Avenue in Wilmington. Unfortunately, the cost of maintaining this historic structure has become burdensome to the small congregation that owns it. Unless another option can be found, the church will raze the structure and erect a modern structure.

Threatened by deterioration and neglect.

WILMINGTON'S PRE-1930 SMALL VERNACULAR HOUSES

Historic districts and neighborhoods, Wilmington

In the decades between the Civil War and the Great Depression, cottages, bungalows, and shotgun houses were built throughout the city to house working people. Unfortunately, many of these structures are being lost to neglect and deferred maintenance. The availability of workforce housing remains vitally important to the city's economic viability. Rehabilitating housing stock is an attractive alternative to building new affordable housing.



Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear Region's 2006 Watch List

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The Historic Wilmington Foundation believes that these places could be imperiled in the future and need to be monitored.

ST. PETER & PAUL RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Helena

The membership of this church is shrinking. Members are concerned that the church will close in the future, which would call into question the maintenance and ownership of the church structure.

TOWN OF POINT CASWELL, Atkinson

This historic town along the Cape Fear River boomed while steamboats navigated the waters. Today the town has largely been forgotten, and the community's structures have not been recognized for their historical significance.

HOUSES ON SUMMER REST ROAD, Wilmington

Like the buildings of Wrightsville Beach, these houses are threatened by coastal development.

MCCUMBER STATION, Wilmington

As the economy booms along Wrightsville Avenue, Military Cutoff, and Eastwood Road, the surroundings of McCumber Station, a historically African-American community, are being irreversibly changed.

GAS STATIONS FROM THE 1940's AND 1950's, Wilmington

The service economy that grew up around automobiles before and after World War II called for buildings of distinct architectural specifications. As the economics of the industry have shifted, these buildings which contribute to neighborhood identity have become threatened.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE BUILDING, Downtown Wilmington

The building housing the Wilmington Police Department is one of the last architectural vestiges of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, which once dominated downtown Wilmington. Many of the Railroad's buildings were lost to Urban Renewal decades ago. This one could be lost in the current reverberations of change downtown.

GAYLORD BUILDING, Downtown Wilmington

This structure on downtown's most important commercial street is empty and unused. This four story business block was important in the city's past, and its preservation and renewal will have a significant impact upon downtown's future vitality.