



2015 Most Threatened Historic Places List


Group	Site Name	Site Address	Description	Status
<p align="center">Historic Cemeteries</p>	<p align="center">Flemmington-Oak Grove Cemetery</p>	<p align="center">612 Sampson St, Wilmington, NC 28401</p>	<p>The Flemmington-Oak Grove Cemetery was established in 1961 when the county closed the Oak Grove Cemetery. Tombstones from Oak Grove were moved to the new site between 1961 and 1974. Headstones in Flemmington-Oak Grove date back to the early 1900s. At least two Civil War veterans, several freed African American slaves, and many other military veterans are buried there. Many of the older headstones are hand carved. The site was closed for burials in 1992. The site is threatened by flooding, abandonment, vandalism, and apathy.</p>	<p align="center">Threatened</p>
				


Historic Cemeteries	Ferrell Coleman Cemetery	On private property in Ash, NC	<p>The Ferrell Coleman Cemetery is a family cemetery for the Ferrell, Coleman, and Milliken families located in Brunswick County. It is overgrown with large pine trees growing out of many of the graves. Of the total forty graves, approximately twenty-five graves are overgrown. At least one World War I veteran is buried here. There are several deteriorating cedar grave markers. No one has been buried there for several decades; as a result, the site suffers from neglect and lack of maintenance.</p>	Watch List
				


Historic Cemeteries	Joseph Hewett, Sr. Cemetery	1193 Kinston St. SW, Holden Beach NC	Joseph Hewett, Sr. was the first Hewett to arrive in Brunswick County. In the time since his arrival the Hewett clan has grown, and together they have applied for help and support to protect the grave of their patriarch. Joseph Hewett, Sr.'s grave has deteriorated through the years due to plant growth around it, and it has been the victim of vandalism. Recently, the Hewett descendants have been in contact with the property owner in talks of preserving the family cemetery and locating some of the lost grave sites, bringing hope for the future.	Watch List
				


Historic Cemeteries	Wooden Cemetery Markers	Brunswick County, NC	Some of Brunswick County's cemeteries are graced by rare, wood grave markers. These extant examples of a regional mourning tradition are threatened by neglect and lack of proper attention. These vanishing markers need to be documented for future generations to appreciate this form of funerary art.	Threatened
				


<p>Churches in Brunswick County</p>	<p>St. Mark's AME Zion Church</p>	<p>755 Village Point Road, SW, Shalotte, NC 28470</p>	<p>St. Mark's is one of Brunswick County's least altered historic structures. The cornerstone notes that the church was dedicated on August 26, 1917, during the pastorate of Rev. A.J. Hooper. The church was used continuously until very recently. The building is now up for sale. The site still has several "box-faced" pine trees from the days of turpentine collection, serving as a reminder of a former industry in the region.</p>	<p>Watch List</p>
				

Churches in Brunswick County	Reaves Chapel	P.O. Box 7253 Navassa, NC	Built between 1880 and 1900, Reaves Chapel is the oldest AME church in the area and was established by descendants of former slaves. It is believed that the building was relocated to its current site in the early 1900s via the use of oxen and logs. The church has been abandoned for several years, and if it is not stabilized and rehabilitated soon, it will be lost. A local group has incorporated as a nonprofit and is working to save the building for a community center	Threatened
				

Historic Immigrant Communities	Leimone Homestead	2802 US Highway 117 S, Burgaw, NC	Sometimes called the "Saint Helena Home," this structure is one of a few houses still standing that were sold to Italian immigrants moving to St. Helena, a MacRae colony located near Burgaw in Pender County, in the early 1900's. Threatened with demolition, the house has been damaged by years of unchecked vegetation growth around it. The owners of the home have offered to donate it to the Village of St. Helena if they could find a suitable place for its relocation.	Threatened
				


Historic Immigrant Communities	St. Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Church	Pender County, NC	Built in 1932 to serve a community of Russian Orthodox immigrants in Pender County, this church with its picturesque golden onion dome has long been threatened by a shrinking congregation. Members of the church are concerned about preserving this community structure into the future.	Threatened
				


Historic Schools	Rocky Point School Buildings	Rocky Point, NC	<p>The first of these two school buildings is a one-story brick building designed by Leslie N. Boney in 1925, it was originally a Rocky Point Elementary School erected for white students. The second School Building was built in 1917 when local African American families organized and raised funds in order to get a grant from the Rosenwald Fund. With the grant they constructed the first building of the nearby Pender County Training School campus in 1917. These properties exemplify a number of important developments in the educational history of Southeastern NC and are historic examples of the growing concern and need for education in our communities. The buildings are threatened by their poor physical condition, and they are also listed for sale. Potential redevelopment of this area should include these buildings because they provide a glimpse into the history of the people of this region.</p>	Threatened
				

Historic Schools	Rosenwald Schools	Pender County, NC	<p>Over the last several years public awareness of the region’s Rosenwald Schools has grown dramatically because of the hard work of Claudia Stack and other activists. However, these structures, built as forums for African American education at the beginning of the twentieth-century, continue to be threatened by neglect, deterioration, and expanding development. Unless dramatic action is taken, these important reminders of our state’s history of segregated and unequal educational opportunities will disappear. The rehabilitation of the Canetuck School into a senior center demonstrated that these sites have potential for new purposes. Other Rosenwald Schools are being stabilized too, so there is a reason for hope.</p>	Threatened
				

	Fowler House	226 South Front Street	<p>This former residence, most recently used as a restaurant and retail business, is threatened by neglect and severe deterioration. It is still stable and can be restored. The building is eligible for the federal preservation tax credits and this incentive—possibly combined with an easement donation—could make the rehabilitation practical. The building was originally listed in 2012, but removed in 2013 when a sale and rehabilitation appeared imminent; however, the sale fell through and the house has been in danger since 2014.</p>	Threatened
				

	Historic Wood Windows	Lower Cape Fear Region	<p>A building's character is often determined by its windows; however, historic windows are frequently improperly removed when a structure is repaired or rehabilitated and are then replaced with inappropriate modern glazing. In most cases, wood windows can be repaired and upgraded in an environmentally friendly manner while retaining historic integrity. Well-maintained wood windows will typically outperform new replacement windows.</p>	Threatened
				

H. Jaffe Building	714 Castle Street	<p>Built in 1920, the Jaffe building was occupied by the Castle Street Furniture Company, owned by Harry Jaffe and his wife Dora Wolff. It represents Wilmington's commercial development during the early 20th century. The building also was an important meeting place for black community members during the integration of Wilmington's schools and the Wilmington Ten trial in the early 1970s. Currently, the Jaffe Building is zoned for mixed use, but there are no plans to rehabilitate the site. The Historic Wilmington Foundation has spoken out for the protection and the rehabilitation of the Jaffe Building over the years, but its fate is still uncertain. Only a shell of the building remains; it has no roof or back wall, and the bricks have begun to deteriorate.</p>	Threatened
			

	<p>Brick Streets of Wilmington's Historic District</p>	<p>Primarily Downtown Areas of Wilmington, NC</p>	<p>Throughout downtown Wilmington we can see the historic streets made with brick and the ballast stones from shipping vessels of another era. Granite and slate curbs remain as well. However, today these elements of our historic landscape are often neglected, damaged, removed for new construction, or simply paved over and forgotten. The brick streets enrich the historic area's environment, adding more context to the historic houses and buildings. The city needs to broaden its focus in the brick street reclamation to include not only the local downtown district but the entire National Register Historic District. A broader area of historic brick streets would enhance the character of the historic district and enlarge its presence.</p>	<p>Watch List</p>
				

	Murchison Building	201 N Front St, Wilmington, NC	<p>This Wilmington landmark was recently sold on the auction block and the building came with many deferred maintenance issues. While it may not be in immediate jeopardy, this landmark defines our downtown skyline and the Front Street streetscape and must be protected. A new owner and creative uses could give it the energy it needs and help renew and recharge downtown Wilmington. This building is Wilmington's true American skyscraper. The use of the federal tax credits and an easement donation could help reduce costs and might encourage a more complete rehabilitation.</p>	Watch List
				