

Borough of Chatham

Annual Report

2008

Historic Preservation Commission

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Members of the Commission who served in 2008 were:

Janet Siegel, Architect	Patty Gavalakis
Eleanor Smith, Secretary	Colleen Foley
Lee Nordholm	Isobel Mitchell
Mindy Pitonyak	

The Commission also benefited from the attendance of Bruce Harris, Council Liaison, and Sally Deatly, Historical Society Liaison.

Our 2008 agenda included the following:

- 1. 407 Main Street:** The Commission continued to work with HSBC Bank to finalize numerous design details of the bank building and the drive-up kiosk. The Commission recommended lighting changes and evaluated various finish materials to be used on the building including exterior brick samples, paint colors, window trim, roof finishes and exterior siding. The building is presently under construction.
- 2. Garden Terrace Nursing Home:** The Commission reviewed and approved plans for an addition to the Garden Terrace Nursing Home. Concern was voiced regarding the large elevator shaft needed to accommodate a gurney that is planned for the South East elevation, as well as with the flat roof and decorative railing. It was suggested that a peaked roof would be a more harmonious solution; however, the owners of the facility were unwilling to make this change. The main entrance of the facility will be moved to the East elevation. New windows will be more decorative with divided lights 6/1. The exterior material will match the old building.
- 3. Main Street Historic District Walk-Through:** Members of the Commission conducted a comprehensive review of the exterior condition of buildings along the Main Street Historic District. Structures in need of repairs or maintenance were identified. Results of the survey were communicated to both the Zoning and Public Works departments for further follow-up with individual property owners. The Commission considers this an important effort to insure historic structures are appropriately maintained and do not fall into disrepair. Patty Gavalakis and Mindy Pitonyak were instrumental in completing this effort.
- 4. Sign Committee:** Members of the Commission participated in Borough Sign Committee meetings to represent the concerns of the Commission when applications for signage approval in the Historic District were under consideration by the Sign Committee.
- 5. Review Guidelines:** The Commission began working on producing a brochure to provide guidance to individuals seeking to present projects to the Commission for consideration. Among the issues to be addressed in the brochure are the types of projects

to be reviewed by the Commission, when in the project development process projects should be reviewed by the Commission, and the types of information that should be submitted by applicants to enable an effective review by the Commission. The Commission is hopeful that the brochure can reinforce the need to seek Commission review of projects located in the Historic District prior to demolition or other alternation of structures in the Historic District.

6. **Jan Westfall Preservation Flag Award:** Commission members identified and discussed several candidates for the Flag Award which recognizes efforts to preserve older structures in the Borough. The 2008 Flag Award was presented to the McCabe home located at 48 Kings Road.