

Borough of Chatham

Annual Report

2010

Historic Preservation Commission

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Members of the Commission who served in 2010 were:

Colleen Foley, Chair
Patty Gavalakis
Isobel Mitchell
Lee Nordholm
Mindy Pitonyak
Eleanor Smith
Bill Tackaberry

The Commission also benefited from the participation of Len Resto, Council Liaison.

Our 2010 agenda included the following:

- 1. Applications:** In 2010, there were no applications for exterior alternations to structures located in the Historic District. This lack of activity was no doubt due to the general economic climate. In 2011, however, the Commission anticipates that it will again be called on to review applications in the Historic District. Of particular concern to the Commission are the number of properties located in the Historic District that are vacant or for sale. The Commission has contacted Borough officials to express its concern that demolition or other alteration of structures in the Historic District not be authorized until the Commission has reviewed and approved the proposed work. This is consistent with existing Borough Ordinances.
- 2. Signage:** The Commission reviewed and commented on numerous applications seeking approval for signage in the Historic District.
- 3. Outreach:** One of the goals of the Commission is to inform residents about the role of the Commission. To that end, the Commission participated in Fishawack for the first time in 2010. Members of the Commission distributed copies of maps of the Historic District, and design guideline brochures. Commission members had numerous discussions with residents about the Commission and the role of preservation in our community.
- 4. 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 2010 Flag Award was presented to the Hayes Family (and their restaurant Supper) for their efforts to maintain and restore the 1920's-era diner located at 221 Main Street.
- 5. Membership:** Isobel Mitchell resigned from the Commission in December, 2010 after many years of dedicated service. The members of the Commission wish to thank Isobel for her dedication, hard work and friendship.