

## Historic Preservation Commission 2011 Annual Report

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### Members of the Commission who served in 2011 were:

Colleen Foley, Chair  
Patty Gavalakis  
Lee Nordholm  
Mindy Pitonyak  
Eleanor Smith  
Bill Tackaberry  
Laura Fields  
Jim Greener

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

### Our 2011 agenda included the following:

1. **Applications:** In 2011, the Commission began its review of an application to make significant changes to the former Parrot Mill Inn. The Parrot Mill Inn is located at the eastern gateway to the Historic District, and is considered by the Commission to be a significant contributing resource to the District. The applicants seek to demolish various “new” additions to the structure and restore the remainder of the Parrot Mill Inn to its late 1700s form. The applicants also propose to construct a new Kindercare facility at the rear of the lot.

The Commission has meet with the applicants and provided guidance on numerous aspects of the application. The applicants have addressed some, but not all, of the Commission’s concerns. Chief among the remaining problems identified by the Commission is parking. Specifically, the Commission is concerned about the amount and location of parking proposed for the site. In particular, the Commission is concerned about front yard parking (on the Main Street side of the lot), as well as parking immediately behind the Parrot Mill structure. The Commission anticipates continuing to work with the applicants to fine tune the project, and address the Commission’s concerns.

2. **Signage:** The Commission reviewed and commented on numerous applications seeking approval for signage in the Historic District.
3. **Historic District Markers:** The Commission participated in an effort to minimize the number and location of street signs and markers along Main Street. The Commission also provided input on the location of wayfarer signs that have been installed, along with sign “toppers” indicating the Historic District.

4. **Jan Westfall Preservation Flag Award:** The 2010 Flag Award was presented in January, 2011, 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. Regrettably, Supper has since closed but a new business "Bloomers" is locating in the diner. The Commission has worked with the owners of Bloomers to ensure that awnings and signage are appropriate for the building and the Historic District.

Commission members also identified and discussed several candidates for the 2011 Flag Award which recognizes efforts to preserve older structures in the Borough, but no winners were determined.

5. **Membership:** Our dead friend, and long-time member, Lee Nordholm passed away in April, 2011. Lee was dedicated to Chatham, and was a strong proponent of preserving the architectural history, beauty and resources of the Borough. She is missed.