



### About Preservation Warrenton

Preservation Warrenton was first formed in 1997. A group of men and women who were interested in the preservation of Warren County worked hard to form the organization into a non-profit corporation under the laws of North Carolina. On May 1, 1998, Preservation Warrenton became a charitable corporation under sections 501 c(3) and 170 c(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. Briefly stated, the purpose of the corporation is:

- To promote the restoration and preservation of historically significant buildings, grounds, gardens, and open spaces in Warrenton and Warren County.
- To assist the town and county in the preservation and restoration of historically and aesthetically significant sites, and
- To increase knowledge about, and appreciation of such places.

Preservation Warrenton has a set of Bylaws which specifies that the affairs of the organization are to be managed by a Board of Directors and officers elected from the Board. This group actively plans projects and activities to promote the mission: "PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE." In 2007, to celebrate the 10th year of the organization, the Directors formed "Partners in Preservation," an initiative to provide broader interest and participation from the citizens of the community in the effort to preserve our historic county. This program will be continued every year. Each year the "Partners" will be invited to a special event sponsored by the Directors that will promote the preservation of Historic Warren County. Learn more about how you can become a "Partner in Preservation" at [www.PreservationWarrenton.com](http://www.PreservationWarrenton.com)

#### How we have served our mission:

- Sponsor an annual Merit Scholarship to a local highschool senior
- Funded the Memorial Garden on S Main and Franklin Street.
- \$6000 contribution to the Town of Warrenton to purchase benches, waste receptacles and planters
- Contributions to the restoration of the Hendricks House
- Contributions to the repair and upkeep of the Jacob Holt House
- Published "Warrenton, NC Walking Tour" and "Driving Tour of Warren County"
- Signage throughout Warren County identifying historical sites
- Published the DVD "Warren County, The first Three Centuries."
- Contributions to purchase historical district street sign toppers
- Town entrance signs "Warrenton"
- "Talk About Town" Educational Lecture Series

Celebrating 20 years

Preservation Warrenton Presents:

## *Come Home To Christmas*



## *A Tour of Historic Warrenton*

December 2nd 10am -5pm

December 3rd 1-5pm

2017

"Preserving the Past For the Future"

# Happy Holidays and Welcome to Warrenton!

We are so happy to have you tour our special town we are so proud of!

Southern hospitality is still a way of life here so please make yourselves at home and enjoy your visit. We have great restaurants and retail shops for you to enjoy while you are here.

We want to acknowledge the generous property owners and organizations. Without their participation, we would not be able to raise funds to support our mission. Many hours go into preparing properties to tour especially during the holiday season and we want to extend our gratitude to the following:

The Jacob Holt Foundation, Tommy & Anne Satterwhite, Margaret & Ted Echols, David & Evelyn Woodson, Audrey & Bobby Tippet. Matt and Megan Shepardson, Susan Blaylock, Warren County Community Center, Heritage Quilters, Frank & Brook Holt, Craig & Donna Hahn and Ben & Meredith Hunter.

This Program is your ticket to gain access to the 10 properties on tour. Please be prepared to show this program to the docent at each property. Enjoy!

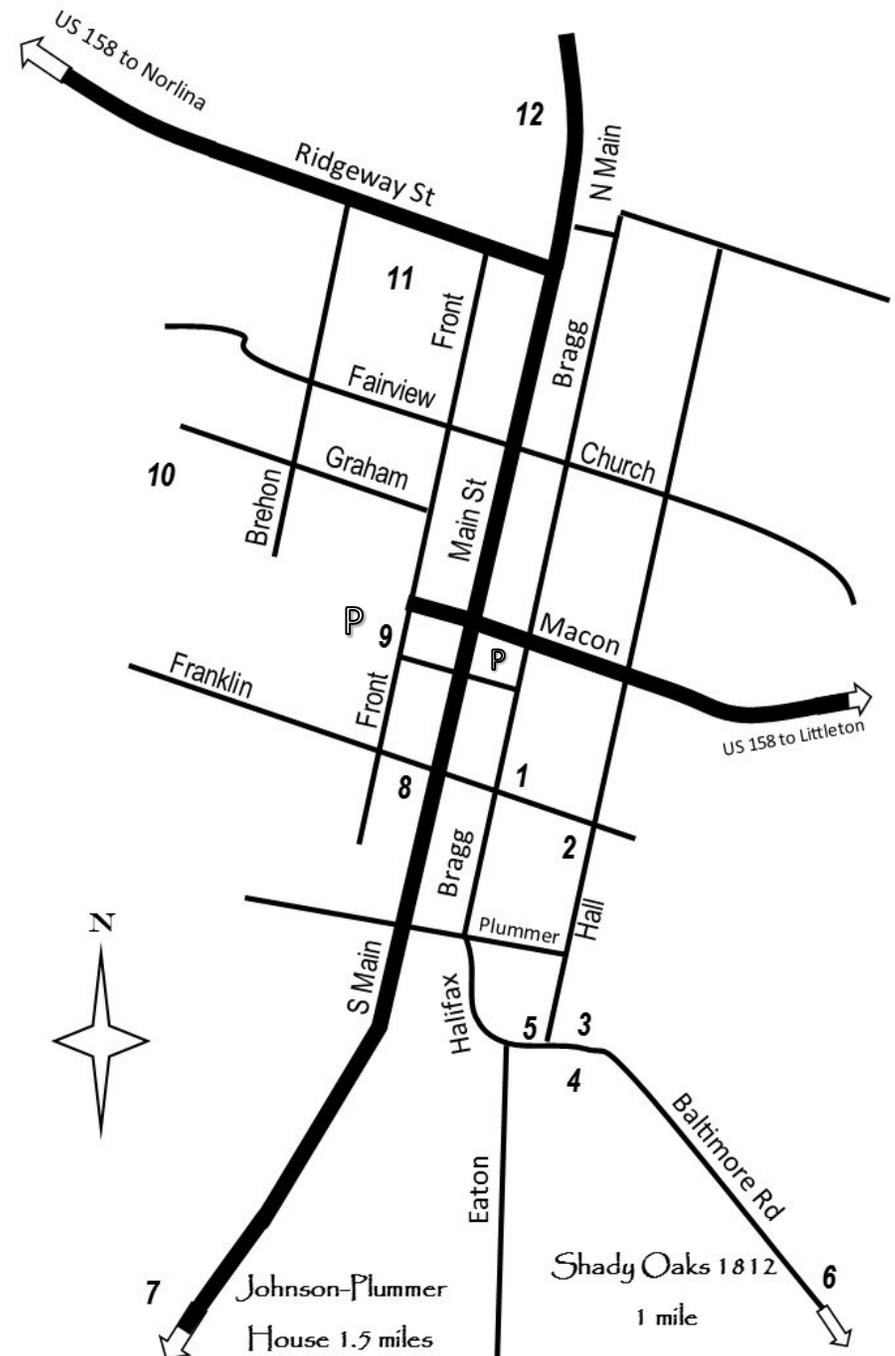
Sincerely,

*Preservation Warrenton Home Tours Committee*

## A Brief History of Warrenton

Warrenton, a National Register Historic District, was established in 1779 on 100 acres of land owned by Thomas Christmas. By the 1820s, Warrenton had become the center of a prosperous plantation region. Tradesmen, professionals and the wealthy planters gave the county seat sophistication, while the county's politically prominent lawyers lent it power. By the 1840s, and especially in the 1850s, it was a bustling trade center, thriving on the burgeoning wealth of the tobacco and cotton plantations of the Roanoke Valley. The 1860 National Census showed the town and surrounding Warren County to be the wealthiest in the state. The wealth of Warrenton's economy enabled individuals to express national architectural styles in formal and vernacular ways. Warren County has excellent examples of all architectural styles from the Georgian Period through the early Twentieth Century. Many of the properties on this year's tour are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## Map



# Map Key

1. Jacob Holt House -122 South Bragg Street\*
2. The Cotton Gin - 217 Franklin St\*
3. Arrington-Alston House -308 Halifax
4. Twice Welcome- 206 Halifax Street
5. Whitsome - 305 Halifax Street
6. Shady Oaks 1812-719 Baltimore Road
7. Johnson-Plummer House- 682 US Hwy 401 South
8. Warren County Community Center - 111 West Franklin Street\*
9. Hendrick House - 105 South Front Street
10. Thomas Holt House - 321 Graham Street
11. Bobbit-Pendleton-Arrington House - 109 West Ridgeway Street
12. Green-Parker-Tarwater House - 317 North Main Street

 Public Parking in addition to street parking

\*Public Restroom Facilities

\*Properties are listed for reference only. You may tour in any order you

## Thank You To Our Generous Local Sponsors

AKA Sorority, RTO Chapter	Magnolia Manor Bed & Breakfast
A&S Pest Control	Nationwide Insurance
Arcola Logging	Oakley Hall Antiques
Banzet Thompson & Styers	Owen Robertson & Associates
Benton Real Estate	Pete Smith Tire & Quick Lube
Burger Barn	Scarlett Rooster
Cast Stone Systems Inc	Tar Heel Tire
Citizens Insurance & Bonding	Vance Construction
Five Oaks Beef	Warrenton Ladies Golf Club
Keats Point Farm	Warrenton Golf Club
Kimberly Rae Harding	Warrenton Insurance Agency
King's Fitness	Warrenton Furniture Exchange
Lake O' The Woods Plantation	Warrenton Lions Club
The Little Garden Club of Warrenton	

## 1. Jacob Holt House c. 1855



Built in 1855 by noted builder Jacob Holt as his residence, the Italianate house was owned by businessman Jacob Parker and leased to Holt. It was the second house for Holt and the site contained his workshops, kiln, and lumberyard on the back portion of the property. The house is in the design of a Tuscan Villa, which was most unusual for Holt and was a vast departure from his square "boxy houses." The house was given to the Town of Warrenton in 1976 and subsequently in 1992, was given to the Jacob Holt House Foundation, INC., a non-profit group formed for its renovation and preservation. Today the Jacob Holt House is used as a visitor's center during the summer and as a meeting place for the community. Tickets for this year's tour are available for purchase here on the days of the event, and there are also public restroom facilities.

## 12 Green-Parker-Tarwater House

c.1850s



Built as a guest house to accommodate the company of Nathaniel Turner Green, who occupied the large brick house diagonally across Main Street, the house was built on a raised basement being only one room deep with interior chimneys. The simple Doric porch, second level door, typical entrance, standard stair with slim turned newel, and simple Greek mantles define the house's place in Warrenton architecture. The home was owned during much of the nineteenth century by the Jacob Parker family. Purchased and enlarged by the Tarwater family, the house was sold in 1996 through Preservation North Carolina. The house has been renovated back to its 1850s size. The Hunter family now resides at the Tarwater House.

## 11. Bobbit-Pendleton-Arrington House

c. 1850s



This is a mid-nineteenth century home of carriage maker William Bobbitt, and later the home of Victoria Louise Pendleton. It was then then the home of her daughter, Katherine P. Arrington, who, from 1926 to 1955, was president of the North Carolina Art Society and a prime force in organizing the North Carolina Museum of Art. The house was greatly remodeled by Arrington in the early twentieth century and is now home to Warren County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Craig Hahn and his wife Donna.

Photo: Kimberly Harding

## 2. Warren Cotton & Fertilizer Co.



The Warren Cotton & Fertilizer Co. operated between the late 1800s and mid 1900s. In 1946 a fire destroyed all except the “round house”. The destroyed structure was replaced on the original foundation, and it continued on in the same function. The cotton gin was located in the metal building where seeds were separated from the cotton fibers. In the wooden building, the seeds, which were used in many products, were stored for distribution. The many sided “round house” was used as additional seed storage. The earliest know pre-WWII owner was Clyde Rodwell. Thomas and Anne Satterwhite acquired the property in 2014 and have added modern amenities to create an event venue while maintaining many of the original features as possible.

### 3. Arrington-Alston House c.1851



Attributed to builder Jacob Holt, this house exemplifies the three bay, double pile dwelling form that was central to the county's upper-scale domestic construction during the years just prior to the Civil War. The Greek Revival house was built for Richard T. Arrington, a local cotton farmer and his wife, Bettie Plummer. The house contains all of its original mantels and woodwork and was inhabited most of the last century by the Alston family. The property changed hands in 1996, and the house and grounds underwent a complete restoration. A two-story addition on the north side of the house has an original Holt mantel and reproduction woodwork. The mantel in the front parlor exhibits a fine specimen of the two-column "Warrenton" mantel so often seen in Holt's houses. The Echols family now makes the Arrington-Alston House their home.

### 10. Thomas Holt House c 1951



The Holt House was built in 1951 for Dr. Thomas Holt and his family. Holt, a Warrenton native, was returning to his hometown of Warrenton from Rocky Mount, to begin his practice as an eye, ear, nose and throat doctor. The house was designed by his dear friend, Al Williams, and built by Ivy Bolton. The house was added on to in 1961. The living room was extended and a sunroom was added. Tom and Lela Holt raised five children here. After Dr. Holt passed in 2010, his youngest child, Frank, bought the house, and, with the help of Vance Construction, remodeled it. He and his wife, Brooke, moved in in May 2012. The Thomas Holt House is a fine example of the Post WWII ranch style of architecture. As with most of the United States, post WWII was a prosperous time for Warrenton and you will see many examples of this style home throughout town. The ranch style was made popular by Americans' ability to "spread out" due to this prosperity and generally featured a symmetrical, one-story shapes, low pitched roofs and a wide facade with modest bits of traditional detailing based on English and Spanish colonial structures.

## 9. Hendricks House c. 1870s



This three-bay, one-and-a-half story dwelling is typical of the buildings built by Jacob Holt after the Civil War. Bracketed front porch columns reflect the Italianate style. It was owned for the most part, by the Charles Fain family. Daughter Alice Fain married Aaron Hendrick who maintained a livery stable in the back yard. The Heritage Quilters presently occupies the house and uses it as a quilting center.

## 4. Whitsome c. 1820



Also known as the Coleman-White-Jones-Hunter House, this house was constructed by Dr. Littleton Coleman, an early Warrenton doctor, on what is supposedly the highest elevation in Warrenton. The house is an excellent example of the Federal style of architecture and the only house in Warrenton architecturally related to Montmorenci, the Federal house in the county that was dismantled with portions placed in the Dupont family museum, Winterthur, in Wilmington, Delaware. The arched decoration of the windows is unusual, as is the decorative plaster in the ceiling of the main parlor. David and Evelyn Woodson now make Whitsome their home.

## 5. Twice Welcome c. 1900



Previously known as Halifax House, Twice Welcome is an early Twentieth-Century vernacular home. The large house has a wide front-to-back center hall and is topped by a hip roof. The den features a late Eighteenth Century Federal mantle and woodwork rescued from the now demolished home of NC Supreme Court Justice John Hall. The restoration was completed in 2005 by previous owners, Judy and Charlie Edwards. Twice Welcome is now the home of Bobby and Audrey Tippett.

Photo: Kimberly Harding

## 8. Warren County Community Center

c.1934



The idea for the Warren County Community Center and Library came in 1933 from Mrs. Winnie Williams, the oldest public school teacher in Warren County at the time. Mrs. Williams kept talking about a reading room for teachers when they came to Warrenton. In plain language, she actually meant a resting room with lavatory facilities.

The Warren County Community Center and Library, Incorporated had its legal birth on August 24th 1934.

After a suitable site was purchased for the building, two kilns of brick were made from soil given by Mary G. Wortham. Necessary labor and wood were donated by citizens of Warren County. The center was erected to provide a public meeting place, library, toilet facilities and recreation rooms for Negroes of Warren County. It was built by contributions from the black community of Warren County, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and the county commissioners.

Today the Warren County Community Center remains vital to local citizens. It is a part of the county's rich African American heritage. It is still governed by a board of trustees and funded by its supporters.

## 7. Marmaduke Johnson-Plummer House

c. 1750s



The Marmaduke Johnson-Plummer House was built circa 1757. The original hall and parlor house stands to the rear of the present-day dwelling. It was built by Marmaduke Johnson, Clerk of County Court from 1792-1811. The front wing was built later in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Kemp Plummer, a friend of Johnson, was the second owner. The house was purchased by Patrick Hudgins immediately after the Civil War and has remained in the Hudgins family to the present. The original home and addition feature some of Warren County's best preserved Georgian woodwork, including beaded weatherboarding, HL hinges, six-panel doors and dormer windows. The cut stone chimney connects the house to other 18<sup>th</sup> century homes in both the town and county. The Johnson-Plummer House is currently owned by Ms. Susan Blaylock.

## 6. Shady Oaks c. 1812



Built by Robert Tines Cheek and his wife Mary Hinton Alston, Shady Oaks was once the seat of a 3000 acre plantation that spanned from Baltimore Road to what is now HWY 43. Robert Cheek was not only a planter but also an active business man, owning a tavern in Warrenton and serving as a county magistrate. Shady Oaks is built in a particular Federal style called a tripartite, consisting of a narrow, three story central block with a gabled end, flanked by two two-story wings. This style was popular in northeastern North Carolina. The main stair hall off the entry features a large half-sunburst, or "blind arch," over the doorway into the north wing. This feature is one of a kind and is featured in T.T. Waterman's Early Architecture of North Carolina. The main parlor contains the house's, and county's, most ornate woodwork, featuring a three-part vernacular Adamesque mantel with an astonishing array of carved ornaments not found in common pattern books of the time. Shady Oaks was occupied by Cheek descendants until the 1960s, extensively restored in the 1980s, had an addition built onto the north wing in 1996. It is now the home of Matt and Megan Shepardson. This property is on the Registry of Historic Places and is protected by Preservation North Carolina covenants.