

Tarboro Historic District Walking Tour

(adapted from the work of Monika S. Fleming)

Introduction

Welcome to historic Tarboro, North Carolina. This walking tour will give you an inside look into the town's historic homes. It should take approximately one hour and thirty minutes.

A narrated version of this tour is available on your smartphone. Download "Echoes.xyz" or "GeoTourist" on your app store and look for the Tarboro Historic Homes Tour.

T Perry Jenkins House

402 E. Park Ave.



You can now see the T. Perry Jenkins House at 402 E. Park Avenue. Strong neo-classical details appeared on this 1910 house built for T. Jenkins. The gable dormer has a Palladian window and the wrap porch also has paired colonnettes. The house has an original ice box in the basement and still belongs to the Jenkins family.

L.D. Pender House

306 E. Park Ave.



At 306 E. Park Avenue sits the L. D. Pender House. Local builder Charlie Pulley built this house for Lorenzo Dow Pender, owner of the local hardware store. This house boasts the most elaborate bungalow style in town with oriental angular brackets sweeping to shelter the broad porch carried on huge pillars.

Brown Mobley House

300 E. Park Ave.



At 300 E. Park Avenue, you will find the Brown Mobley House. This was the home of the Rev. Bertram Brown, rector of Calvary Church in the early twentieth century. The unusual double gabled front of the Colonial Revival home originally had Tudor styling before it was remodeled. The wrap around porch has multiple colonnettes on massive brick pillars. There is a sundial monument to Brown on the Common across from the house.

James Pender House **110 E. Park Ave.**



Another work by Rocky Mount architect John C. Stout, the boxy two-story house has some Queen Anne features including a wraparound porch and paired pillars. The home, at 110 E. Park Avenue, was built around 1904.

Lawyer and Tarboro mayor James Pender lived here for many years with his family. His daughter Katherine Pender was a major contributor to the historical society and the Pender Museum is named in her honor.

Queen Anne Cottages **806-812 St. Andrew**



These three Queen Anne cottages, located from 806 to 812 St. Andrew Street, were all built between 1902 and 1904. They began with a central hall plan with front parlors. Over the years, each has been renovated with rear additions. Richard Davis, an early superintendent of schools, lived at the 810 address. The Dancy family built the 812 house and lived in it for over 80 years.

C. Johnston House **816 St. Andrew St.**



Located at 816 St. Andrew Street, this large Queen Anne has Neoclassical features including the corner pergola. The house was built between 1898 and 1900 by John C. Stout for Clarence Johnson who moved here from Norfolk as manager of the Royster Fertilizer company. Johnson was

quite active in community affairs in the early 20th century. Later the house was given to the Presbyterian Church.

F.H. Pender House **202 E. Baker St.** (green)



This richly decorated Queen Anne cottage may have been moved from the corner site. This house, located at 202 E. Baker Street, was built in the 1890s by Frank Pender and features an unusual corner bay and detailed porch

brackets. James E. Simmons moved this house from the corner lot in the 1920s. Simmons owned the Simmons furniture store which has been in business since the 1890s.

Original Presbyterian Manse 905 St. Andrew St.



At 905 St. Andrew Street, you will find the Original Presbyterian Manse. A large bungalow style home, this house was remodeled in the early 1920s by the Marrow family who owned the home for over 30 years. Before then it had served as the residence of the Presbyterian minister and was built by the ladies of the church in 1883. The house has a gable roof with a large central shed dormer.

Blount Bridgers House 300 Bridgers St.



Welcome to the Blount-Bridgers House, a time capsule holding some of the County's greatest historical facts. Originally called "The Grove", it was built in 1808 by Thomas Blount, an officer in the Continental Army during the Civil War. It was also owned by Col. Louis Wilson, a NC Senator, and later by Col. John Luther Bridgers, who was the Commandant of Fort Macon during the Civil War. There are many documents and pictures in the house that chronicle its history as well as the history of the County. This house is also an attraction to art lovers as it is the home to the permanent collection of Tarboro-born artist Hobson Pittman. Pittman's paintings, often embodying his lonely and confused life, are in many major museums in the United States, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, and the Ackland Art Museum in Chapel Hill. Over 2 million dollars' worth of art are stored in this house.

Everett-House – Pender Museum St. Andrew St.



Originally located in the Conetoe area, this late 18th century house is typical in size for farm houses of that era. This home features intricate cornice molding and tapered porch posts indicating a high quality of craftsmanship. The rear of the house has a shed room. The chimneys and foundation were rebuilt when the house was moved here in the 1960s. The hall-parlor plan contains an enclosed stair to the attic.

Weeks House 1111 St Andrew St.



At 1111 St. Andrew Street you will find the home of Dr. Weeks and wife Lena Pittman Weeks – author and sister



Built in 1885 by F.S. Royster, owner of the fertilizer company, this elaborate Queen Anne at 1210 Main Street has been restored to Victorian colors. It features decorative porch brackets and posts, scalloped shingles, and a bay window in the dining room with stained glass panes. A separate kitchen was joined to the house in the 1920s when the Bryan family owned it.

Bynum House

1209 Main St.



This notable two story Italianate house at 1209 Main Street was built in the 1890s. Its highlights include a projecting gabled central pavilion with rich pierced decorations and triangular arched labels at paired windows. The separate kitchen was also joined to the back of this house. It belonged to Bynum family for many years. Maud Bynum, the original owner, was a dressmaker in Tarboro.

Magnolia Hall - Phillips House 106 E. Phillips St.



This Greek Revival house at 106 E. Phillips Street was built in 1851 for Henry Hyman. His daughter Martha married Frederick Phillips, a Civil war veteran. It is an important antebellum house with a double pile plan and shallow hip roof characteristic of Tarboro in the period.

Doric porch columns and most detail are of Greek Revival character, but the double windows and bracket cornice reflect Italianate motifs. Originally this property extended from Main St. to Albemarle Ave, but 20th century buildings now block the view from Main St.

W.A. Hart House

1109 Main St.



This house exhibits a full-blown Neo-classical style rare in Tarboro. Located at 1109 Main Street, the house was completed ca. 1909 for William A. Hart. He was a highway commissioner for this region and a leading businessman. He established the William & Mary Hart Church in Leggett. The house features a full height portico with Corinthian columns with a one story flanking Ionic porch. Parts resemble the Frank Hart house near Battleboro community.

Hart Zander House

1103 Main St.



This home at 1103 Main Street was built in the 1890s by the Hart family. Several years after construction, the Harts traded homes with Zander, a prominent Jewish merchant in Tarboro. This small, richly detailed Queen Anne cottage exhibits decorative gables and a wrap-around Neo-Classical porch which may have been built by J.C. Stout of Rocky Mount. The Jewish Synagogue built in the 1890s occupied the empty lot next door.

Norfleet House

1100 Main St.



In 1858 Robert Norfleet built a one-story house based on his own plans with a 70-foot front and a foundation 7 foot off the ground. It remained in the Norfleet family for over 100 years and was renovated from its original Greek Revival cottage to a Neo-classical revival porch with Palladian windows. The interior includes rich molded and painted plaster ceilings attributed to fresco painter Edward Zoeller.

Pippen House

1003 Main St.



In 1870 William Pippen built this grand, beautifully sited high Victorian Italianate frame dwelling. Located at 1003 Main Street, it is one of few of era with a lawn which today encompasses half the block. Later owners included the Marrow family of Marrow-Pitt Hardware which was in business for almost 80 years. This house was extensively restored in the early 21st century. It has brackets cornices and side bay windows.

Pender-Lanier House

1004 Main St.



Perhaps the oldest house on the west side of Main St. this house was built around 1832 by Solomon Pender on land that had been part of the Blount estate. The simple Greek Revival home at 1004 Main Street has a shallow hip roof and entrance with sidelights. It also has its original cupola and seven fireplaces. Solomon Pender was an active business man and is buried near the Creek on what was the edge of the original property. His son Josiah was a recognized portrait painter and used the enclosed sunroom on the south side of the house as his studio.

Morris-Powell House 912 Main St.



In 1885 Henry Morris, merchant and mayor of Tarboro, built this two story frame house located at 912 Main Street. The home is Italianate in character with bracketed eaves, paired windows, a projecting front central bay, and bay windows. The Morris family lived here until the first decade of the 20th century when the W.H. Powell family purchased it. They likely added the Neo-Classical Porch design with Ionic columns and a round pergola on the south. Powell was the first president of Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company.

Deberry-Salle House 905 Main St.



Built for farmer George DeBerry in 1911, this large handsomely detailed Queen Anne house at 905 Main Street displays an irregular full-blown ornament with one of only two turrets in the historic district. The porch has paired Ionic colonnettes, and the house has notable interiors. It is still occupied by descendents of the original owner.

Lichenstein-Alley House 900 Main St.



Originally built in the 1890s for the Lichenstein family, German immigrants who were active in the business district, the house was sold to S.R. Alley, a local photographer by 1910. The two-story frame Victorian house located at 900 Main Street has a gable roof and a richly treated sawn and turned porch. The dramatic horseshoe shaped porch entry is one of the most interesting features. It also has a glass enclosed side porch.

David Pender House 807 Main St.



This house, found at 807 Main Street, was the first built north of the Common on Main St. Merchant David Pender completed this house just before the Civil War. E.G. Lind, an architect of Baltimore, designed this house along with some others in the county. The two-story frame Greek Revival house displays outstanding, sprightly sawn porch trim of Italianate inspiration. The home's simple interior finish is an important antebellum component of Main St.

Rosenbaum House**106 E. Park Ave.**

Julius Rosenbaum, a Jewish merchant built this house around 1902. Located at 106 E. Park Ave., the one-story Queen Anne cottage with gable decoration exhibits a high hip roof and wraparound porch similar to those on St. Andrew St. The home was altered in the late 1920s when brick was added and porch was fitted with unusually heavy Corinthian columns and Arts & Crafts style door.

Greene House**800 Main St.**

Built in 1905 by Rocky Mt. Architect John C. Stout, this tall 2-story home at 800 Main St. blends Queen Anne and Neo-Classical themes, with pedimented gables, a rounded 2-story corner bay, and a sweeping porch swelling out around corner bay. The home was used as a set for the 1987 film *Summer Heat* which featured Kathy Bates and Lori Singer, among others.

Cotton Press**Town Common**

Located at the west end of the Tarboro Town Common and the last of its kind in North Carolina, the 1860 Cotton Press employed mules and oxen to turn cotton into bales and crush fruit for cider and wine. The press, the last of its kind in North Carolina, was moved from an Edgecombe County farm to the Town Common in the early 20th century before being restored. On your screen, you can now see an image of the cotton press in its original location at Norfleet Farm, prior to restoration.

Barracks (Battle house)**1100 Albemarle Ave.**

At 1100 Albemarle Avenue you will find the Barracks. Designed by architect William Percival, the home was built in 1858 by William Smith Battle, owner of Rocky Mount Mills. Styled after an Italianate villa, the house was “the grandest and most boldly fashionable in Tarboro” at the beginning of the Civil War. Fluted columns on the portico lead to the entrance. The house has a dramatic interior including marble fireplaces, a skylit rotunda, and an elaborate staircase leading up to the cupola.