

**THOMASVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
June 25, 2009**

The Thomasville Historic Preservation Commission met in a called meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Municipal Building Council Chambers. Commissioners present were Gina Shumake, Nancy Mills, Peggy Wood, Pat Glenn and John Hand. Also attending was Brent Runyon Consultant to the Commission, Lee Chastain City Planner and Margaret Bryant Recording Secretary to the Commission. Several Guest also attended the meeting from the Warren and Love Street District. (See sign in sheet in file)

I. **Call to Order**

Gina Shumake called the meeting to order.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Nancy Mills moved that the May 12, 2009 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by John Wood and passed unanimously.

III. **Old Business**

None

IV. **New Business**

**HPC-9-06-01-** Julia Morrell, owner for 201 S. Love Street, Thomasville, Georgia.

Ms. Shumake asked for the consultant to give his report to the Commission. Mr. Runyon presented his report to the Commission (see attached Consultant's report).

Ms. Shumake called for Julia Morrell to present her application to the Commission. Ms. Morrell stated that the house is of historic significance and every effort will be made to preserve the character and integrity of the house. Ms. Morrell stated that the existing front bedroom adjacent to the front porch lacks a closet. She stated that she would like to "bump out" the bedroom onto a portion of the existing porch to provide adequate space for a walk in closet. She noted that this would make a nice master bedroom for the house. The two windows at the front of the house would be reused in the same relative positions to the front of the house. The front steps would need to be moved over after the "bump out" and therefore she also requested to move the front steps to be in line with the front door.

Ms. Morrell listed several other changes and are as follows:

- ❖ Existing brick piers are crumbling and this is jeopardizing the integrity of the foundation and would like to replace them using a new brick made to look old
- ❖ Removing the Warren Avenue porch in order to create a gravel parking pad. Associated with this is changing the door there to a window

- ❖ Removing the right side, rear porch door and replacing it with a smaller window similar to that on the right side where a bathroom was and will be again. Replacing a window in the right rear room with a door onto the right rear porch
- ❖ Cutting the kitchen windows in half to allow counters and cabinets installation
- ❖ Rebuilding the porch rail when steps are moved
- ❖ Installing a brick knee wall adjacent to sidewalk on Warren Ave. wrapping around the oak tree at the corner of Love St. and extending across the front of the property on Love St. to the adjacent property line.
- ❖ Removing and rebuilding the right side, rear porch then wrapping it around the rear to join new porch and door, where there is currently a window

Several people from the Warren/Love Street Historic District spoke of their concerns in changing the outward appearance of the house. They expressed that the house could be designed for efficient use to meet the desire for space / closet while preserving the façade of the house. Greek architectural styling characterizes the front façade with four large columns creating symmetry beneath a very large gable. While there are other houses in the neighborhood exhibiting a “bump out” similar to the one proposed by Ms. Morrell, those “bump outs” were additions made to homes exhibiting a Queen Anne architectural style. Moreover, those “bump outs” were made many years ago and are not relatively new renovations.

Neighborhood residents in attendance did express their thankfulness that Ms. Morrell assumed the challenge of restoring this home.

Gina Shumake asked for a motion to approve the application as presented and it was decided that the motions would be voted on one at a time. Following are the requests presented in the application and the Commission’s decision:

- 1) Build out a portion of existing porch to provide for increased interior space for the master bedroom reinstalling existing windows and clapboard siding in same relative positions to the front of the house. **Vote – Denied Unanimously**
- 2) Replacement of existing brick pillars using new brick matching as best as possible existing color and texture. **Vote – Passed Unanimously**
- 3) Removing the Warren Avenue porch in order to create a parking pad. Associated with this is changing the door there to a window. **Vote – Passed unaniously**
- 4) Removing the right side, rear porch door and replacing it with a smaller window similar to that on the right side where a bathroom was and will be again. Replacing a window in the right rear room with a door onto the right rear porch. **Vote – Passed Unanimously**
- 5) Cutting the kitchen windows in half to allow counters and cabinet’s installation. **Vote – Passed with one member voicing a reluctant yes**
- 6) Moving the front steps over to align with the front door. **Vote – Denied Unanimously**
- 7) Rebuilding the porch rail. **Vote was yes, but applicant would need to come back before the Commission prior to constructing rail to have a material and design approval**
- 8) Installing a brick knee wall adjacent to the sidewalk on Warren Ave. wrapping around the oak tree at the corner of Love St. and extending across the front of the property on Love St. to the adjacent property line. **Vote was yes, but**

**applicant would need to come back before the Commission prior to construction to have a material and design approval**

**With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.**

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**Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission**