



**29th Annual  
*Romance of the Home and Garden Tour*  
Hickory, North Carolina**

**Saturday, May 18, 2024  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Featuring Self-Guided tours of 7 properties, including homes,  
gardens, an event space, a business,  
and a restaurant open (2pm -4pm only) for your enjoyment.**

**Cost:  
\$35.00 per person in advance (includes tour and signature cocktail).  
\$40 day of event.**

Tickets Are on Sale Now @ [www.hickorylandmarks.org](http://www.hickorylandmarks.org)

**Other Tickets Sales Locations:**

\*Jenny's Gifts & Accessories  
436 Main Ave., NW

\*Bottega  
262 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., NW

\*Lowe's Foods – Viewmont  
260 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE

\*Adrienne's – Viewmont  
1001 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE

\*Bumblebees Interiors  
2945 North Center Street

\*The Jewelry Exchange  
2611 N. Center Street

**Same Day Tour Tickets:** \$40.00 per person all day. Available at any Tour Site location.

## The Sites:

### 1. Berry-Hammond House (1927)

504 Third Ave NE

Owners: Lance and Autumn Hight



Set back from the street and approached by a brick sidewalk, this two-story brick, eclectic Period Revival-style house features an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof, brick end chimneys, and a dominant façade pavilion. A one-story screened porch extends from the northwest side of the house. A two-story ell is located at the rear of the house.

This lot was purchased by Mrs. Eloise Scaife Robert Berry on March 30, 1926. The house was built during 1927 by her husband Albert Leland Berry, a contractor. By March 30, 1928, the Hickory Daily Record reported that Mrs. Berry was entertaining Circle #2 of the Women's Auxiliary from First Presbyterian Church "at her lovely new home." Numerous accounts of social events followed, with references to the "handsome new home" with a "spacious living room." In October 1931 the house was decorated with "gorgeous dahlias which were culled from the hostess' garden." In November 1940 a permit was obtained to build a poultry house in the back yard. A "three room heated apartment, furnished or unfurnished in a good residential section" was offered for rent by Mrs. Berry in 1942. Perhaps this was part of the two-story ell. Another building permit was granted for a one room addition in February 1949. The estimated cost of the addition was to be \$1000 using day labor. By 1951, Mr. and Mrs. Berry had moved to South Carolina. Their eldest son, Scaife, was working with his father to develop a resort between Spartanburg and Greenville on land inherited by Albert. One of their investors was Grady Miller of Hickory. In July 1956 the house was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Berry's son Richard and his wife Joyce. Starting in 1959 a succession of families lived here for relatively brief periods. Robert and Marcia Hammond bought the house in 1989 and made it their home until 2021. The Hammonds created the downstairs master suite.

Lance and Autumn Hight bought the property in May 2021 and have been working to create a comfortable home for their family while keeping its historic feel. Original features include a unique built-in cubby hole for mail delivery just to the left of the entry door. In the dining room a built-in cupboard occupies space that is adjacent to the exterior chimney. Was this once a fireplace? A wall was removed between the dining room and kitchen to open the space while the wainscoting was replicated by Lance to blend seamlessly with the older finishes. New flooring and an island were also added. Toward the rear of the house are the downstairs master suite and an enclosed porch. Lance paneled the walls and installed a bank of windows that can disappear into their base leaving screens to enjoy the fresh air. The windows overlook a fireplace and seating. In the process a tiled over window into the downstairs bathroom was revealed. The bathroom has been updated and during the renovation an original tile floor was uncovered and restored. Back toward the front of the house you encounter an office and the spacious living room, both with functional and attractive shelving added by Lance. The screened porch at the northwest side of the house provides another seating area where one can enjoy nature.

### **Grady Miller House (1930)**

**751 Second St NE**

**Owners: Eddie Beard and Larry Johnson**



The large two-story, Tudor Revival-style brick house occupies a corner lot and presents finished elevations to both Second Street and Eighth Avenue. The complex roof line is dominated by a front gable over the facade, with two gabled bays on the north and a gabled bay on the rear (west). A projecting one-story, gable-roof entrance bay overlooks Second Street. A two-story polygonal bay projects from the south side of the house. A two-story porch is located at the northeast corner of the house. A large metal fire stair has been added to the northwest corner of the house serving a second-story entrance. One cutaway corner of the projecting two story rear bay is supported on a triangular bracket. The inset corner allowed for two garage bays to be located in the basement of the house.

Both garage bays retain original double-leaf glazed and paneled wood doors.

On July 8, 1930, the Hickory Daily Record reported a building permit was issued for the construction of a twelve-room residence for Grady and Anna Miller at an estimated cost of \$11,000. The Millers founded/owned Hickory Winding and Dyeing, now known as Hickory Yarns. The house was the third largest building project in Hickory in 1930, having been designed by local architect Martin L. Hampton prior to the crash of 1929 and constructed by a predecessor to Moss-Marlow Construction beginning in 1930. It is similar in style and design to the Moss Apartments, on the Southeast corner of Center Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, having been designed and built by the same people at approximately the same time.

Mrs. Miller's original notes regarding construction and design, including books on details such as hardware, draperies, floor coverings, etc. were transferred with the sale of the house to Beard/Johnson. Notes indicate that Mrs. Miller acted as her own general contractor for the house and was very concerned with reducing costs after the onset of the Great Depression. As a result, light fixtures were primarily just a bare bulb in the center of the room, electrical outlets were the minimum required by code (usually one per room), decorative crown moldings were omitted, and the tile roof intended for the house was changed to composite shingles.

It has long been rumored that the house was converted to apartments. This is incorrect. It was originally built with a one-bedroom apartment on the second floor, with the main entrance facing 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. It is also accessed by a metal staircase on the west side of the house, which was added in the early 1960's, replacing the original wooden stairs.

An elevator was added in the 1970's as the Millers began to age. It allows access to both the house and the apartment from the basement, in space that was originally the garage. The landscaping was reconfigured by the current owners and the garage space is no longer accessible to automobiles.

The house was purchased from the Miller Estate by Larry Johnson and Eddie Beard in 1999, after having been empty for several years. They have carried out renovations in keeping with the planned design, including restoring a porch on the second story that faces the intersection. This was originally enclosed in 1933, but was subject to poorly constructed repairs which lost much of the architectural charm of the addition sometime in the 1980's. When the repairs began to deteriorate, the current owners had the porch removed and restored to the original specifications. The house has not otherwise been modified except for the kitchen, which was converted from three rooms (a butler pantry, kitchen, and breakfast room) to a single room on the west side of the house. Cosmetic modifications that have been made have duplicated that originally specified if possible, and if not, the changes have been consistent with the period and character of the house. The interior décor is classic and neutral with pops of color and many of the furnishings are locally manufactured.

On the west side of the building the asphalt drive was replaced with attractive

hardscaping that blends with the raised garden to the rear. Covered entertainment space borders the original garage doors and around the corner there is a water feature with a small pond. More seating space is under the pergola on the south side of the house. Containers of colorful plants dot the area.

**3. Zagaroli Home (1925-26)**  
**1425 6<sup>th</sup> Street Circle NW**  
**Owners: Charlie and Tish Zagaroli**



The beautiful Modernist house before you began life as a Spanish Colonial Revival style with a tiled roof, recessed entry, arches and ironwork, finished in stucco. It was also originally entered from the east-facing side which explains the out of order numerical address.

In February 1925 Mr. Paul Allred married Miss Anne Fraley of Statesville. Before the end of the year, they had purchased a lot in the Hickory suburb of Forest Park near the home of his parents. Mr. Allred worked with his father in the wholesale grocery business. In May 1926 Mrs. Allred was entertaining in their new home. The same year, they obtained a Deed of Trust with First National Bank. At the end of 1930, Allred Grocery Company was in receivership and in May 1931 the younger Allreds defaulted on their loan. The property was auctioned on the courthouse steps on July 8, 1931, and purchased by First National Bank of Durham. A few months later it was sold to Realty Sales Corporation who assigned its bid to North Carolina Mortgage Corporation.

February 1931 saw the Allens move out of the house and Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Owens move in. Mr. Owens was a Vice President, Treasurer and Director of North Carolina Mortgage Corporation. The Owens lived in the house until 1937 when their own home was completed in the same area. Mrs. Virginia Kennedy and Mr. John B. Leonard of Kenworth married in May 1937, purchased the house from North Carolina Mortgage Corporation and moved in. Mr. Leonard had a piano sales business with Albert Johnson. Once again there was a default on the mortgage. In 1939 the property was to be auctioned

but somehow the Leonards held on. The Hickory Daily Record for October 6, 1941, reported that Mr. Leonard had returned from a funeral in Durham to his house called “Castlewood” in Forest Park.

The Zagarolis now possess photos of the original house and undated plans for a room addition to the house in the same Spanish style by Hickory architect Q.E. Herman. This room is now the “man cave” or rec room, maintaining the finishes in the plan. It seems likely that this room may have been added by the Allens very early on. The Owen’s never actually owned the house. Photos also in the archival collection of the Zagarolis show a large collection of antiques throughout the house including in the rec room. Advertisements of antiques for sale at the house appear in the newspapers of December 1939, dating the room to pre-1939.

The children of John Leonard and Virginia Kennedy Leonard were owners of the house by the 1950’s and eventually it was owned solely by Dorothy Leonard Pickett Ramsour. Dorothy Pickett was a lyric soprano with an impressive resume. She had a radio show on WHKY called “Dot’s Spot” in which she shared her musical talent. In 1965 architects Harrell and Clark designed an expansion of the house that enclosed the former front of the house and added a number of rooms including a very elaborate music room.

In 2012 the house was purchased by Phil and Candace Payne. They continued the progression of the house to Modernist style, working on designs with Charlie Zagaroli. They added a master suite to the house and created a pass through to the bedrooms. Outside they added the pool and the cabana with cooking/entertaining area along with bathrooms and shower.

When the Paynes decided to sell they approached the Zagarolis, knowing their appreciation for the house and its architecture. Charlie and Tish bought the property in September 2021 and have created the wonderful family home you see today. The furnishings are vintage or designed by Charlie. The neutral walls and natural wood finishes showcase carefully curated artwork and family treasures. A bank of rolling wooden doors that can be used to close off Tish’s office were built by Charlie’s brother Pete. Outside by the cabana is a birdhouse replica of the house that was created by Charlie’s father Dave as a gift. In the “man cave” you see the most original part of the house and the continuation of a tradition of music in the house with Charlie’s collection.

**4. Gilleland/Jones Garden**  
**662 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. Place NW**  
**Owners; Gary Gilleland and Wayne Jones**



Gary and Wayne both studied horticulture at NC State and lived in Atlanta before settling in Gary's hometown of Hickory. Moving into a brand-new house in a brand-new development in April 2017 gave two avid gardeners a blank slate in which to design their ideal garden. In the seven years since they have created an impactful garden filled with color and texture, shape and smell that provides year-round visual interest.

Taking pride of place in the front yard is an eye-catching Carolina Sweetheart Redbud tree. The tri-color varietal was developed in the breeding program of NC State's horticulture program. It stands near a Carolina Sapphire Cypress, a quick growing evergreen. Indian Hawthorne shrubs interspersed with dwarf Stella de Oro daylilies and ground cover edge the walk to the entry and container plants grace the porch.

Past the garage to the left is the pathway leading to the garden, again edged with shrubs with a variety of color and texture. On the western side are Sweet Bay Magnolias planted to block the sun and provide a lovely lemon scent.

As you enter the garden you see to the right the only alteration that Gary and Wayne have made to the house. The original patio was enclosed to provide a nice space to enjoy the garden and a second patio was added with room to entertain and to display container plants. Beds edge the patio and there is a soothing fountain. Venturing into the garden you find a pergola covered with Amethyst Falls Wisteria, a slow growing cultivar that can be kept in control. Color abounds, with Golden Cyprus, a Governor Mouton Camelia

and giant perennial hibiscus. Many of the shrubs have variegated leaves and Coral Bells fill in the beds. Plantings that draw your attention include a Chinese Dogwood, an evergreen with tiny white flowers, a Japanese Maple that made the move from Atlanta, and a Weeping Persimmon called Magic Fountain.

As a part of the plan of the development, the rear part of the lots are a conservancy. The property belongs to the homeowners, but the agreement is that there will be no structures in this space, only trees.

**5. A.A. Shuford II House**  
**534 Third Avenue, NW**  
**Owners: City of Hickory**



The 1904 Abel A. Shuford II House is a large and well-articulated Shingle-style composition that represents the finest existing example of the style in Hickory. Hallmarks of the style are evident in the irregular massing of the gambrel-roofed main block and fully wood-shingled exterior surface; the prevalent use of stone in the foundation, porch, and end chimney; and the early Colonial Revival details of the Tuscan porch columns and pseudo-Palladian window. A collection of bay windows and bands of twelve-over-one sash windows add to the stylishness of the house. A pair of two-story gabled wings project from the rear. The interior of the Shuford house displays oak door and window surrounds; boxed beams in the hall; a closed-string stair with paneled spandrel, string, and newel along with turned balusters; and a variety of mantels.

Abel Alexander Shuford II (1879-1932) was the son of Abel A. and Alda (Campbell) Shuford. His father was one of the most significant figures in Hickory's early history, having been involved in numerous industrial, commercial, and financial enterprises. The younger Shuford attended North Carolina State University in 1896 and 1897 but returned to Hickory in 1898 to work in the family hardware business. He married Maude Ferguson (1883-1962), a native of Waynesville, North Carolina. After his father's death in 1912, Shuford assumed management of Shuford Mills, and under his leadership the



company vastly expanded.

The original part of the Abel Alexander Shuford II house was built in 1904. Needing more room for a growing family, the Shufords added several rooms to the eastern side and the back of this house. These additions probably occurred sometime around December 20, 1910. The property stayed in the family until Hickory Senior Citizens, Inc., and the City of Hickory acquired partial interest in 1965 and 1966. The property was completely acquired by the city in 1971. On December 15, 1987, the Abel A. Shuford II house was designated as a local landmark by the City of Hickory. Currently, it is still owned by the city and used as a meeting space for various organizations and is available for rental. A restoration project is currently underway. Recent work on the building includes a new roof. The windows are to be reglazed, and the exterior painted. The property is bordered by the Shuford Memorial Gardens, a public park dedicated to the Shuford family. Please take the time to look around at the beautiful plantings.

## **6. Atriox Group Headquarters**

**703 Main Avenue, SW**  
**Owners: The Atriox Group**



The Atriox Group is a Design/Build firm with more than 20 years of experience. Atriox is a veteran-owned company, specializing in planning, design, construction and related services. Their offices have occupied two other historic buildings in Hickory, most recently a historic house in Third Avenue Commons. Expansion of the business and staff led to the need for a modernized building. Recognizing the value of historic preservation and sustainability, they chose the unlikely building at this site to completely reimagine.

Early Hickory grew up along railroad tracks dotted with Victorian houses that no longer

stand. In March 1900 a large tract of land, adjacent to the land of J. Summie Propst (builder of HLS's Propst House Historic Museum) was sold to E.G. Peeler. Sixty years later a widow named Mrs. Laura J. Peile sold part of that tract to Albert and Mary Allran. The 1931-1961 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Hickory shows a dwelling on the lot until at least 1961. The property was vacant in the 1963-64 City Directory. In 1966 the Allrans sold the property to Avalanche Corporation.

A series of City Directory's and newspaper articles trace a variety of owners and uses for the building. It was used by Hickory Springs and by Hickory Hall Furniture before 1973 when it was advertised for rent in the Hickory Daily Record as a "12,000 square foot warehouse with office space and a loading dock." In 1980 it was being used by Southwestern Hosiery as a plant for packaging and shipping. By 1990 it was the home of "The Company," a motorcycle shop and home of the annual "Rolling Thunder" ride. Tourmaster Horace Greene owned the building and led the rides.

The building was purchased in February 2020 by the Atriax Group with plans to completely reimagine the space as their new headquarters. The challenges of Covid added to the timeline, but by last Spring they were able to move into their state-of-the-art office building. Plans by Atriax staff architect Todd Beck and the Atriax interiors team transformed a non-descript commercial building into an award-winning corporate headquarters. As you will see on the tour, the new design opened up the space with clerestory windows that provide light inside and a sleek modernist look from the outside. The building retains the industrial feel and the original flooring and pays tribute to the motorcycle shop in the names of the rooms, such as the Ducati Conference Room and the Harley Kitchen.

## **From 2pm—4pm Only**

**Ticket holders can enjoy a complimentary  
Signature Cocktail at the Vintage House.**

**271 3rd Ave. NW**

**Owners: The Robert Lackey Family**



## **Sponsors:**

**Hickory Furniture Mart  
Robert Lackey Family  
Allegra Print Marketing and Mail  
Mosquito Authority  
Bumblebee Interiors  
Robin Creel, Realtor  
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McKinney-Graham Dental Arts  
Midway Carpet Distributor  
The Nesting Space  
Realty Executives, The Keever/Holtzman Team  
Zagaroli & Graham Interiors**

## **Suggested Driving Route**

**This suggested route to follow is included here for your convenience. You may choose to begin your tour at any home or garden at any time from 9-4. Yellow daffodil & tulip shaped directional signs are placed at selected points along the route.**

Begin your tour at (1) The Berry—Hammond House at 504 3rd Ave. NE. Third Avenue NE runs east to west (one way) in front of the SALT Block. Enter from Main Ave. NE. Parking is streetside.

Continue west on 3rd Ave. to the stoplight at 2nd St. NE and turn right. This street is also known as Hwy 127. (2) **The Grady Miller House, 751 2nd St. NE**, is on the corner of 2nd St. NE and 8th Ave. NE **There is no parking on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. or 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.**, so it is recommended that you continue on 2nd Street NE and turn left into the **parking lot at Morphis Law and Mediation** to park and walk back to the Miller House. There is also on street parking on First Ave. NE a block behind the house.

Leaving the Grady Miller House proceed west on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE which becomes 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Dr. NW. Bear to the left to continue on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW to 6<sup>th</sup> Street NW. Turn right onto 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW. Turn left onto 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW and take the first right onto 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Circle. You will pass what looks like the correct address for the next site. This is directly behind the house and the driveway is on the other side of the circle. Follow the circle around to park on the street in front of **3. The Zagaroli House, 1525 6th St. Cir. NW.**

Proceed back to 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW and turn left. At the stoplight, turn right onto 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW and take a right on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pl. NW. **4. The Gilleland/Jones Garden, 662 13th Ave. Pl. NW** is just ahead on the right. Parking is streetside.

Continue on 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pl. NW to 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. Turn left onto 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW and then right on 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW. **5. The A.A. Shuford House, 534 3rd Ave. NW** is ahead on the left. Turn into Shuford Memorial Park just before you reach 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NW. There is a parking lot behind the house and parking is also permitted on the east side of the street.

Leaving the A. A. Shuford House continue south on 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW and take a right on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NW. Turn right at the first cross street onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NW make a left onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Ct., NW and then a left onto 9<sup>th</sup> St. NW. Cross the railroad tracks and turn left onto Main Ave. SW. **6. The Atriax Group Headquarters, 703 Main Ave. SW** is ahead on the right. There is a parking lot and parking on the north side of the street.

For more information call (828)322-4731 or e-mail [info@hickorylandmarks.org](mailto:info@hickorylandmarks.org).

Hickory Landmarks Society is a funded affiliate of the United Arts Council of Catawba Valley.