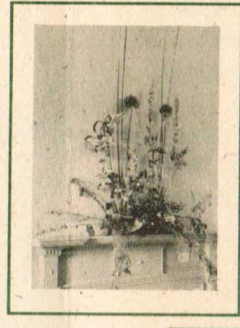


The Story of the Mallett-Rogers House

The Mallet-Rogers House, located on the southern edge of the Methodist College campus, serves as an art gallery and meeting place.

The restored 18th century structure opened to the public in May, 1988, following a two-year, \$150,000 renovation financed jointly by the college and the Florence Rogers Charitable Trust. In 1986, the trust donated the house to the college and had it moved to the campus from a site near Eutaw Shopping Center in Fayetteville. The house sat on a hilltop adjacent to the Fayetteville Museum of Art.

Local historians believe the house is the famous "Council Hall" built by James Council in 1735; this would make it the oldest house in Fayetteville. Council Hall was built on the west bank of the Cape Fear River near Campbellton (later to be known as Fayetteville). It was later moved to a site on Blount's Creek off South Gillespie Street. Experts from the N.C. Dept of Archives and History have found nails and pegged timbers in the house dating back to the 1700's. The structure has been described as a rare local example of the tradi-



tional North Carolina Coastal Plain cottage.

Land records indicate that Council Hall was sold to Daniel Mallett in 1778 and that Daniel sold it to his brother Peter in 1805. General Peter Mallett was Division Commissary in the Fourth Regiment of North Carolina troops during the Revolutionary

War.

In 1830, Peter's son, Charles Peter Mallett, had the house moved from Gillespie Street to Eutaw Springs to escape a "vaporious exhaust" from the adjacent Malett's Mill Pond

(and cotton factory). Charles Beatty Mallett, Peter's eldest son, became a wealthy businessman with interests in cotton manufacturing, railroads, coal mining, and iron works.

In 1857, Charles Beatty Mallett sold Council Hall to James Marley Smith. In 1919, Smith sold the house to Dr. James McGoughan, who used it for a summer home.

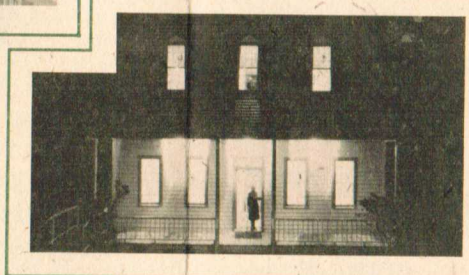
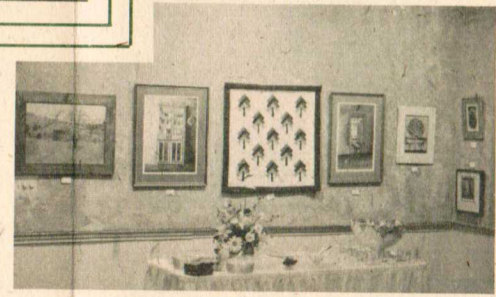
In 1923, Dr. McGoughan sold the house to Mrs. Florence Rogers who lived there until her death in

1961. In 1983, the house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1986, when it was learned that the house would have to be moved, the college offered the

Florence Rogers Charitable Trust a site for the house and proposed its renovation to serve as an art gallery. The trustees accepted the offer and in February, 1986, had the house moved to the campus.

The restored Mallett-Rogers House retains its full-width porches, four working fireplaces, hand-carved mantels, and heart pine flooring, but has been equipped with an electric



heat pump, a combination of brass candelabra and track lighting, and a security system. The restoration was designed for the display of paintings on the first floor and sculpture on the second. All student art shows and receptions are now held in the facility.

The house was left unfurnished to allow flexibility for a variety of uses. Receptions, luncheons, and small group meetings are occasionally held there.

The two-room cottage, located behind



the main house, houses the college news bureau. This cottage was formerly attached to the side of the main structure; it was separated so both structures

could be moved to the college campus.

Receptions or meetings in the Mallett-Rogers House can be arranged through Bill Lowdermilk, Vice President for Church and Community Relations. He can be reached by phone at 488-7110, Extension 240.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Florence Rogers Charitable Trust, N.C. Dept. of Archives & History, Ken Cooke of Fayetteville Publishing Co., Dr. Sue Kimball, Andreas Winston of Image Men.

Florence Lyon Rogers

Florence Lyon Rogers, the last person to live in the Mallett-Rogers House, was a generous and remarkably astute businesswoman. She was born July 6, 1880 in Edgecombe County, N.C. The widow of James M. Rogers co-founder of Rogers and Breece Funeral Home, she was one of the first graduates of the nursing school at Highsmith Memorial Hospital. She loved animals (cats in particular), children, and charitable causes.

In the 1940's and 50's, she amassed considerable wealth by donating land for Bragg Boulevard and forming partnerships to



develop her 290-acre farm at Eutaw into a residential area and shopping center. She made generous gifts to Lyon Memorial Methodist Church, Highsmith-Rainey Hospital, Methodist College, local orphanages, and other charitable causes.

In a 1961 will, Mrs. Rogers left her entire \$1.1 million estate to the Florence Rogers Charitable Trust, to be administered by J.O. Talley, Jr. and William Clark of Fayetteville. The trust, with current assets exceeding \$4 million, aids a select group of charities each year, using earnings from Mrs. Rogers' estate.

A Home for Art

THE MALLET-ROGERS HOUSE



Methodist College

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