

City of Virginia Beach Plans Architectural Survey Update for Southern Virginia Beach

The Department of Planning and Community Development and the Historic Preservation Commission are planning to initiate a reconnaissance level architectural survey update for the southern half of Virginia Beach later this year. Mark Reed, Historic Preservation Planner, met with Barbara Henley's history group on March 27 to discuss the project.

Reed noted that the last broad surveys of architectural resources in the city were done in 1992 and 1993. He said that a survey update for the northern half was recently completed in 2018. The survey update of the southern half is expected to be completed in early 2020.

Reed said the focus areas for the survey will be:

- Address the list of *Identified Resources Not Surveyed* from the 1993 survey
- Survey residential resources in Sandbridge that date from the 1950s and 1960s
- Document some of the quickly disappearing historic agricultural support buildings, such as sweet potato houses
- Identify any potentially eligible National Register historic districts in the town areas, such as Creeds and Pungo, and in the rural areas

For more information about the planned survey or to provide information and ideas about resources to be included in the survey, contact Mark Reed at mreed@vb.gov or 757-385-8573. To see previous architectural surveys, go to www.vb.gov/historicpreservation and select the Certified Local Government tab. Links to the studies appear at the bottom of the page.

Greeting Cards

Did you know that the Senior Resource Center sends out a lot of sympathy and get well cards to our "members" and friends? You will usually find at least one group card on the table, awaiting signatures and well wishes. We welcome greeting cards as well as postage stamps. Lovely cards made by Hallmark are now available at Dollar Tree stores—either 2 for \$1.00 or \$1.00 each for the fancier line. Can't beat that price for a nice card. _

Virginia Livable Home Tax Credit Program



Did you know that the State of Virginia has a program that offers disabled residents/homeowners

tax relief? It can help offset the cost of either buying an accessible home or retrofitting your home to make it accessible. Retrofitting could include projects like installing a walk-in shower, widening doorways or building a ramp.

The Virginia Livable Home Tax Credit (LHTC) program is designed to improve accessibility and universal visitability in Virginia's residential units by providing state tax credits for the purchase of new units or the retrofitting of existing housing units. Tax credits are available for up to \$5,000 for the purchase/construction of a new accessible residence and up to 50 percent for the cost of retrofitting existing units, not to exceed \$5,000.

Individuals or licensed contractors filing Virginia income tax returns who have incurred costs for the purchase/construction of new residential units with accessibility or universal visitability features, or for the retrofitting of existing residential units with these features, on or after January 1, 2008 are eligible for the program.