

This Place Matters

An Essay by Russell Hudak

When my family and I first moved into the community we were unaware of the history of the mansion. After meeting our neighbors, we were invited to one of the functions held there. Not knowing what to expect, we were surprised by the turnout from within and outside of our community. Everyone that we met or were introduced to were very pleasant and explained the true history of the mansion. Following this, we volunteer every chance my family and I can to help promote our town's heritage. We have met many wonderful people and were made to feel very welcome while doing this. Moving here from Texas after getting out of the Army and coming from the surrounding area we knew nothing about the mansion and the history that it held until our frequent conversations with Elaine Jackson and the passion she shows when she talks about the mansion and its history.

The mansion is filled with true history involving trade, industrial and wartime significance. This means a lot to a veteran of two different conflicts and very much a history buff. By supporting the mansion I feel that my family and I can make a difference in helping preserve a great piece of history by promoting the vision of the Haldeman Mansion and continuing to support the events that take place. My family and I look forward to volunteering our time and hopefully becoming a part of a town that takes much pride in its heritage. It is exciting to see the community support in raising funds to restore a building back to its previous luster. Thank you again to the community and everyone that has made this a truly wonderful experience.

