

“Everybody Loved Out West”

A Brief History of the Westend Neighborhood of Sumter

A community is more than just homes, businesses, streets, churches, and schools. These are things that a community needs, but what a community is, is less tangible. A community is the people whose lives are lived and stories are written within those buildings and on those streets. When a community’s buildings begin to crumble and its streets become dead ends, those lives and stories are gradually forgotten, no matter how important they may have been. The best way to preserve and protect a community from both this architectural and social decay is by designating it as a local historic district. A local historic district is an area or group of historic structures that has been “deemed significant to the city's cultural fabric that are protected by public review” and can include everything from a commercial to a residential district.¹ The Westend Neighborhood of Sumter is one such area deserving of local historic district designation. The goal of this designation is to protect the vulnerable social and historic fabric of the Westend from unregulated and vulgar changes to its architecture, streets and sidewalks, landscaping and guard against urban decay. Local historic district designation would allow the neighborhood association in conjunction with the City of Sumter to more easily enforce building codes, facilitate the removal of derelict structures, and entice homeownership in the district.

In the historic resources survey conducted by WLA Studio the history and significance of the physical Westend Neighborhood was well documented. From early settlement of the area in the late 1910s to the formal sale of parcels of land by the John Clack Reality Co beginning in

¹ Rocchi, Julia, *10 Steps to Establish a Local Historic District*, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, February 9th, 2016.

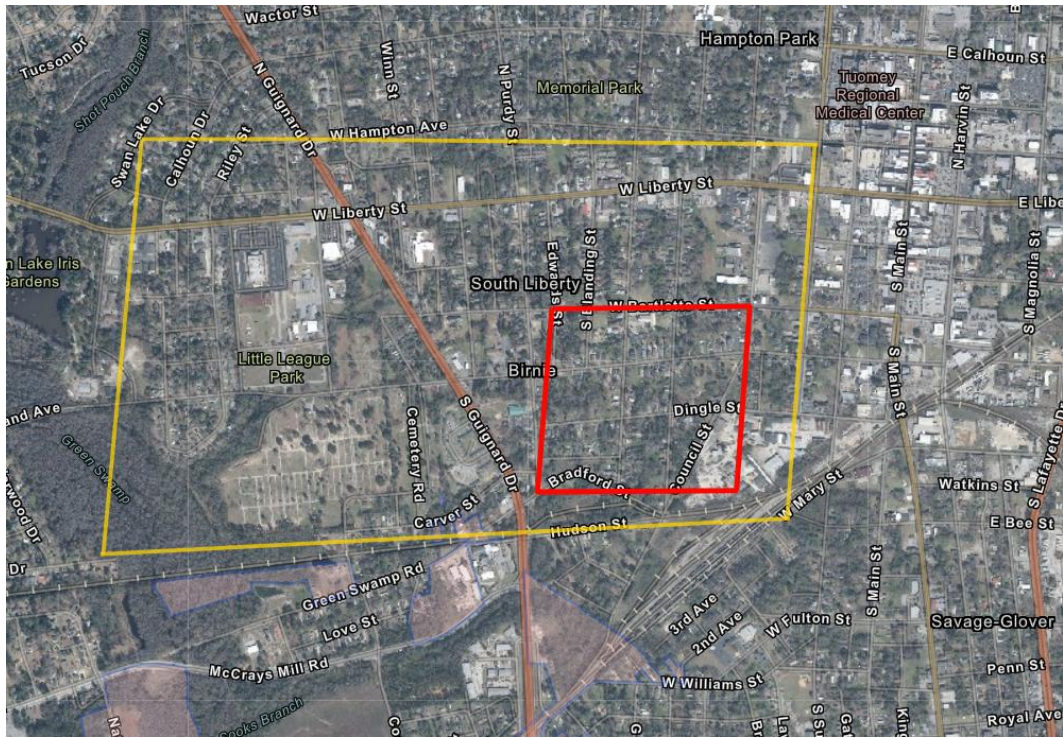
1920 and onward through the Civil Rights Era.² Where the historic resources survey fails however, is in the description of the people who lived there, and what life in the Westend was like for them. This project aims to put into context the historic resource survey with an oral history survey conducted by the residents of the Westend with assistance from the Sumter Museum. When the historic resource survey and this short history are analyzed together, an extremely compelling case for local historic district designation is made. This project is the result of testimony by more than half a dozen current and former Westend residents, as well as their personal photographs and family histories. The primary source materials used in this project, and therefore the presented narratives, relate overwhelmingly to the 1950s through 1970. This period is generally recognized by residents as the height of the Westend's prosperity, and all information contained within this project should be considered relevant to this 20-year period unless otherwise mentioned.

WHAT IS THE "WESTEND" AND WHERE IS IT?

As described in the historical resource survey, the Westend was first formally mentioned in the 1920s as a neighborhood bound by Bartlette Street to the north, Bradford Avenue to the south, Purdy Street to the west, and Council Street to the East. By the mid-20th century however, the Westend or "Out West" as it was popularly known, was much larger. Boundaries of the neighborhood had expanded as far north as Hampton Street, as far south as the train tracks cutting across Council Street, east to Sumter Street, and West to Swan Lake.³

² HWA Studio, *Developmental History of Sumter, South Carolina*, Pg. 35-46.

³ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, August 27th, 2025.



The red outline represents the boundaries of the neighborhood as it was shown by the Sanborn Map Company in 1923.⁴ The yellow outline represents the neighborhood's boundaries by the 1950s.

While it is not known for certain if the Westend was devised as an all-African American neighborhood or it became one over time, the oldest living residents of the Westend do not remember a time prior to social integration when white people lived there in any large number. The name “Westend” has an equally unclear origin, though residents say 3 names over the years have been used most frequently: Out West, West Side, and Westend. The “Out West” name is the oldest and is favored by the older residents of the neighborhood.⁵ Part of the origin of this name is the neighborhoods relationship to the other neighborhoods of Sumter like the South Side which was colloquially known as “Cross the Tracks”. The South Side was a more loosely defined

⁴ HWA Studio, Developmental History of Sumter, South Carolina, Pg. 62.

⁵ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, August 27th, 2025.

area south of the Seaboard System Railroad that was an important commercial and business district for African Americans in Sumter. The eastern portion of Sumter heading towards Darlington was referred to as the “Grass Street Area”, and the north was simply referred to as “Out North”.⁶

WHAT DID THE WESTEND LOOK LIKE?

Despite de facto segregation keeping the Westend an overwhelmingly African American neighborhood, and many of the surrounding neighborhoods white, in some places the two races still lived close enough to see each other from their front yards. Residential housing in the Westend existed with some pockets of white families housing on blocks that divided Black residential housing into basically two sections. The blocks of housing on Bartlette Street from Wright Street to Sumter Street was where more economically fortunate African American families lived in the Westend. These wealthier blocks of housing were separated from other African American families by a few white families living on West Bartlette Street from Wright Street westward to Blanding Street, where the paved streets ended and economically less fortunate Black residential housing began.⁷ This close proximity of white and African American residents was not a source of consternation or ill-will, but part of the normal social fabric of pre-integration Sumter. Even during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, residents described only a “sleepy tension” between white and African American neighbors that did not escalate to physical violence. This peace was maintained by what one resident said was a keen sense of

⁶ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, July 31st, 2025.

⁷ Ibid.

“knowing where we should go, and where we shouldn’t go.”⁸ This close proximity between more economically fortunate African Americans and whites was mimicked by the residents living along Artillery Drive on the property that is today the Sumter County Civic Center. This area was mixed race, albeit in a more intimate way than the people of West Bartlette and West Oakland Street. This section of the Westend had some working class white and African American families living as actual next-door neighbors. This area, like everywhere west of Blanding Street, had dirt roads and no sidewalks. Despite 75% of the neighborhood being unpaved through at least the 1960s, this was not a source of embarrassment for residents, because they were able to make it their own. The phrase “All dirt. All black.” was said frequently with an air of pride by one resident because it wasn’t the roads that mattered, it was the people that lived around them and the community they created despite this inequality.⁹

While most of the residents in the Westend would be considered economically stable or working class, there were still those who were economically less fortunate. The block between Council Street and Washington Street on the side where Trinity Methodist Church sits today was a more economically depressed part of the neighborhood.¹⁰ Tightly packed shotgun style houses populated this section of the Westend that was just one block east from where the most economically fortunate residents resided on Wright Street. These residents frequently worked as domestic and day laborers, farm laborers, or other blue-collar jobs. Ironically, it was these residents along with the more well-off residents along Bartlette and up Wright Street that had immediate access to the neighborhood’s paved roads and sidewalks.

⁸ Bultman, Thomas, In-Person Interview, July 21st, 2025.

⁹ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, July 31st, 2025.

¹⁰ Ibid.

WORKING OUT WEST

The residents of the Westend held jobs in almost every field imaginable, from the aforementioned blue-collar professions, to doctors, teachers, and lawyers as well as salespeople and business owners. Many of the less economically fortunate residents worked at local factories like Williams Furniture Co. and on nearby farms picking cotton. It was not uncommon to see trucks come into the neighborhood from the farms to pick up workers. Workers were typically paid anywhere from \$1 to \$2.50 per 100 pounds of cotton they picked.¹¹ There were also African American farms located just outside and on the outskirts of the Westend behind Swan Lake. Many of the cotton farmers in the county would travel to the Westend in order to use the cotton gin on South Guignard Drive, which at the time was called Railroad Avenue.¹² In many cases the residents operated businesses within the Westend itself, like the premier African American photographer of Sumter, Mr. Edward Jones Jr. The studio Mr. Jones ran was located on Washington Street, just around the corner from Mt. Pisgah AME Church. Known for his portraits, Mr. Jones photographed people and events across the Westend.

¹¹ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, September 16th, 2025.

¹² Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, July 31st, 2025.



Mr. Jones the photographer poses for a photo in his studio.

Most African American-owned Westend businesses were concentrated along West Liberty Street, from the downtown area to Guignard Drive. Along West Liberty on one side was the African American-owned Lincoln Café, Clarence Vaughn's Café, and Silver Moon Café, along with the white-owned Brody's Department Store, McClellan's 5 & 10 Cent Store, and the Osteen-Davis office supply store.¹³ On the opposite side of West Liberty where Church Street and North Salem Avenue are, was the African American-owned Hudley Shoe Repair shop, 2 beauty salons owned by the Clyburns, and the dentist's office of Dr. Edmund McDonald. Dr. McDonald had strong ties to the family of Dr. Charles Birnie, the African American pharmacist in Sumter. Not only was Dr. McDonald the son-in-law of Dr. Birnie, but his office was located

¹³ Bultman, Thomas, Telephone Interview, September 17th, 2025.

on the same spot Dr. Birnie's wife, Dr. Ruth Birnie, operated Peoples Pharmacy in the early 1900s.¹⁴ Above the Silver Moon was the dentist's office of Dr. E.C. Jones. Dr. Jones was a World War I veteran, lifelong member of the NAACP, and father of photographer Edward Jones.¹⁵ After the death of his son in 1973, Dr. Jones moved his practice from West Liberty into the former studio his son used on South Washington Street. Dr. Jones provided dental services at much lower costs than any other dentist in Sumter, ensuring all residents had access to care. Also located on West Liberty was the law office of E.A. Parker, who was the first African American to practice law full time in the City of Sumter.¹⁶ Parker practiced law and owned a small farm in the Westend until his death in 1963. The first African American woman to practice law in Sumter County, Dorothy Sampson, lived on West Oakland Avenue and was a partner at the firm Sampson & Sampson. Ms. Sampson and her brother were prominent civil rights in South Carolina, and their mother was a teacher at Ebenezer High School in Dalzell. West Liberty Street was also home to Vaughn's Grocery Store, and Vaughn's Moving Company among other businesses.



Dr. E.C. Jones

¹⁴ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, October 13th, 2025.

¹⁵ Felder, James, In-person Interview, September 10th, 2025.

¹⁶ Ibid.

The Westend was home to a surprising amount of grocery stores for such a small area. In addition to Vaughn's on West Liberty there was Mr. Dick Moore's store on the corner of West Liberty Street, and the now closed Cherry Lane. Cherry Lane used to run right up to where Guignard Drive meets West Liberty. Dick Moore's was on the same side of West liberty as Vaughn's and Clyburn's Beauty Salon. There was also Charles Blanding's Store on West Bartlette Street, Mr. Rabbit Brown's store on the corner of Purdy and Oakland Street, and Burrell's Grocery Store on the corner of West Liberty and Walker Street.¹⁷ Further south on the corner of Bradford and Council Street, Mr. Richard Sumter had both a grocery store and business giving music lessons. Specialty stores like Blanding's Seafood brought variety to the neighborhood as well, all part of more than a dozen stores that existed in the Westend throughout the 1950s and 60s.¹⁸ There were plenty of amenities outside of grocery stores in the Westend as well. Only a half block apart were Rembert's and Boykin's Drycleaning shops on Purdy Street, along with a self-employed carpenter, brick mason, and electrician. On the corner of Wright and Bartlette Street, and a seamstress also on Bartlette Street. Across from Mt. Pisgah church on West Bartlette Street was Pilgrim Life Insurance, an important insurer and employer in the Westend along with North Carolina Mutual Insurance.¹⁹ Perhaps the one thing that the Westend did not have, was liquor stores. While there is no single reason for this, it is notable that many homes in the Westend sold and produced their own moonshine. Known by a variety of names like splo, rot gut, and corn liquor, it could often be bought for just 25 cents a shot.²⁰

Prior to the Civil Rights Movement, and even for a time after prior to widescale social integration, African Americans in Sumter needed their own doctors. The Westend was home to 3

¹⁷ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, October 13th, 2025.

¹⁸ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, July 31st, 2025.

¹⁹ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

²⁰ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, July 31st, 2025.

prominent African American doctors and their practices, all of whom saw white patients as well as African Americans. At 307 West Bartlette Street lived Dr. William F. Bultman, and only a block away on South Washington Street was Dr. Lee, and on West Oakland Avenue was Dr. Samuel J. McDonald Jr. Initially Dr. Bultman operated his practice out of his home, however in 1960 he moved his practice to an office on South Washington Street a block north. From this office Dr. Bultman treated dozens of Sumter residents daily, often arriving to his office with a line of patients already wrapping around the building waiting to see him.²¹ Highly respected and trusted within the community, Dr. Bultman would go on to become the first African American to be Chief of Staff at Tuomey Hospital in 1977. Dr. Samuel J. McDonald Jr. who practiced around the corner from Dr. Bultman, was the first African American man to practice medicine full time in the City of Sumter. Dr. McDonald's son, Raynard, was also a successful physician albeit in New York City. Dr. McDonald's brother Dr. Edmund McDonald was, along with Dr. E.C. Jones, one of the first African American dentists in Sumter. Dr. Edmund McDonald made his practice on West Liberty Street next door to the famed Lyric Theatre. Eventually his practice passed to his son, Edmund Jr. who continued the practice for over 25 years.²²

A PLACE WHERE LEADERS AND EDUCATORS FLOURISHED

Greatness and impact are not tied to wealth or location. While the North and West side of the block between Council Street and South Washington Street indeed held shotgun homes and the economically less fortunate, it also held Mt. Pisgah AME Church, an important church in the Sumter Civil Rights Movement. Many of the inhabitants of those shotgun homes formed not

²¹ Bultman, Thomas, In-person Interview, July 21st, 2025.

²² Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, October 13th, 2025.

only the backbone of Mt. Pisgah's congregation, but the backbone of the "Sumter Movement" as well. Due to the many schools in and around the Westend like Lincoln High School on Council Street, Liberty Street Elementary on School Street, and Savage-Glover Elementary, Stone Hill Elementary and Bates Junior High in the South Side, the Westend, and this block in particular became a popular place to live for educators. Perhaps the three most famous educators to live on this block were Mrs. Fannie Spotts Ivey, Ms. Agnes Hildebrand, and Mr. John H. Kilgo. Originally a Kentucky native, Mrs. Fannie Spotts Ivey made the Westend her home for over 30 years.²³ A brilliant, beloved, and devoted educator, Mrs. Ivey worked with students at every level in Sumter. From her time as a Morris College librarian, to teaching social studies and political science at Lincoln High School, she even taught children typewriting in the basement of her home after school. Among her pupils were future 17 term US Congressman James E. Clyburn, and 20 term State Representative J. David Weeks.²⁴ As the Principal of Lincoln High School from 1947 to 1966 John H. Kilgo oversaw dramatic improvements to the only public African American high school in the City of Sumter. During his tenure the school added 12th grade, 20 additional classrooms, a new cafeteria, band room, and gymnasium, and became one of a select few schools to be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.²⁵ Lincoln High students remember him as both a no-nonsense man, and someone who cared deeply for them. Affectionately known as "Madam" Hildebrand by her students, Ms. Agnes Hildebrand, later Agnes Wilson, taught French and journalism at Lincoln High School for over 15 years. After becoming the first African American to be named South Carolina Teacher of the Year in 1969, she was elected President of the newly integrated South Carolina Teacher's Association a

²³ Fannie Ivey, obituary, Sumter First Baptist Church, July 29th, 1980.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ *The Lincoln High School Preservation Alumni Association Inc*, <https://www.lincolnsurter.org/about-us>.

year later. Following the last graduating class of Lincoln in 1970, Ms. Hildebrand went on to teach at both Allen University and the University of South Carolina.²⁶



Principal of Lincoln High School, Mr. John H. Kilgo (L), Educator Mrs. Fannie Spotts Ivey (C), Educator Ms. Agnes Hildebrand (R)

Other educators on this block included Mr. Leroy Scott who was superintendent of the African American elementary schools in Sumter, and Mr. J.C. Prioleau who was the principal of Ebenezer High School in Dalzell. Carrie Prioleau, Mr. Prioleau's wife, was the daughter of the owners of Murray's Mercantile Shop, one of the most successful clothing stores in the South Side on Manning Avenue.²⁷ Opposite the homes of Mr. Kilgo and Mrs. Ivey on South Washington were the homes of Mr. Leroy Bowman, and Mr. Charles Riley. A World War II veteran and combat pilot with the Tuskegee Airmen, Mr. Bowman moved out of the Westend in the late 1950s. His home was then bought by Dr. Lee, who would become Chief of Staff at the

²⁶ Felder, James, In-person Interview, September 10th, 2025.

²⁷ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

Community Hospital from the late 1950s through the early 70s. Next door to Dr. Lee lived Mr. Charles Riley who became the first licensed African American realtor in Sumter.²⁸

ENTERTAINMENT OUT WEST

While Westend residents worked a variety of jobs, they all enjoyed similar pastimes. Juke joints, baseball and football games, trips to the movies, and dances were some of the most popular free time activities residents enjoyed. Sports played a massive role in the lives of Westend residents, and many of the fondest memories shared by them include the local baseball team: The Sumter Tigers. Prior to the Civil Rights Act African Americans were not allowed to play baseball with whites, nor were they allowed to even be at Riley Field where the white teams played. Therefore the Tigers played at the baseball field owned by St. Jude Catholic School on West Oakland Street between Purdy and Walker Street.²⁹ In addition to hosting sporting events at its field and in its gym, St. Jude was also an important gathering location for events like dances and rummage sales. While not an official Negro League team, the semi-pro Tigers often attracted large crowds and enjoyed the support of African American residents across Sumter. Popular juke joints included Willie's on West Liberty between Sampson and Walker Street, and 3G's on the corner of Guignard Drive and West Liberty. Perhaps the most favorite joint in the Westend, 3Gs's was well known not only for its music, but its fried fish sandwiches as well.³⁰ The city's first African American owned and operated movie theatre was also in the Westend, located on West Liberty Street. From its earliest days showing silent movies prior to WWI, to its last screenings in 1974, the Lyric Theatre remained African American owned and operated. While it screened

²⁸ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

²⁹ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, September 16th, 2025.

³⁰ Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, October 13th, 2025.

mainstream Hollywood movies as well, it frequently screened independently made films starring African Americans in the Golden Age of films.³¹ Named for famed African American pharmacist and Westend resident Dr. Charles Birnie, the Birnie Center was an important place of gathering and community in the Westend. Originally located between Lincoln High school and Jackson Funeral on Council Street, African American residents from the South Side and Westend would gather at the Birnie Center to watch television, host parties, after school events, participate in clubs, and hold other recreational events.³² African American airmen stationed at Shaw Air Force Base would also use the center as a gathering place. While today the Birnie Center is formally known as the Birnie Hope Center and has relocated to South Purdy Street, it still fulfills the same functions.

THE SUMTER MOVEMENT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

Described as a city and county “devoid of extremes” Sumter was a peaceful place throughout much of the Jim Crow era. However, as the years wore on and the tide of progress became unstoppable, African American Sumterites prepared for a time when they would fight for an equal share of their city, county, state, and country. The Westend was where many of the leaders of this fight lived, worked, and organized for the Civil Rights Movement in Sumter. Widely accepted as the first event of the Movement, the July 27th, 1963 Holiday Inn sit-in was organized by lifelong Westend resident Ralph Canty and other students from Morris College.³³ The future Reverend Canty would be arrested along with two others at the sit-in, but was unfazed and would continue to organize and be a leading figure in the movement. The Sumter Movement

³¹ Bultman, Thomas, Telephone Interview, September 19th, 2025.

³² Clyburn, Charles, Telephone Interview, September 16th, 2025, Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

³³ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

could not have succeeded without community collaboration and support from the many churches in and around the Westend. Mt. Pisgah AME Church on West Bartlette, Emmanuel United Methodist Church on South Main Street, and First Missionary Baptist Church on Dingle Street among others endorsed the civil rights struggle and hosted meetings related to the movement. The chairman of the church leadership, and President of the Sumter Movement was Westend resident and future Bishop of the AME church, Reverend Frederick James of Mt. Pisgah Church.³⁴ Bishop James was an erudite and eloquent speaker, originally from Newberry. Arriving in Sumter in the 1950s Bishop James quickly became a beloved and influential member of Sumter's African American community. When the Sumter Movement began then Bishop James was chosen as President not only for his extraordinary leadership qualities, but its speculated that because most of his family did not reside in Sumter he would be better insulated from any potentially retaliatory attacks, physical or financial.³⁵ The Sumter Movement was not just a boys club either, there were many important female Westend residents who made the movement what it was. Gloria Montgomery, later Jenkins, and Peggy White who lived on Washington Street and Edwards Street respectively, were recognized as "architects" of the Movement.³⁶ Bringing her expertise as a veteran of the Greensboro, North Carolina sit-in campaign, Gloria Montgomery was a key organizer of the Movement. The Westend produced more than just locally important civil rights leaders and activists as well, like Field Secretary and Director of Organization for the Congress of Racial Equality, James T. "Nooker" McCain, and 17 term US Congressman James E. Clyburn. Although Mr. McCain originally worked as a teacher and principal in Clarendon County, he lived in the Westend and his son James T. McCain Jr grew up in the neighborhood

³⁴ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

³⁵ Clyburn, James, Telephone Interview, October 1st, 2025.

³⁶ Canty, Ralph, In-person Interview, September 26th, 2025.

and became part of the inaugural mixed-race class at Edmunds High School.³⁷ After becoming CORE's Field Director in 1957, Mr. McCain spent 9 years crisscrossing the US leading sit-ins, bus boycotts, and freedom rides. After his time with CORE Mr. McCain worked for the Scholarship, Education, and Defense Fund for Racial Equality. Seeing his father was a rarity for James Jr, typically the two would only be able to meet once or twice a year as his schedule kept him away from home constantly.³⁸ Born in 1940 as the oldest of 3 boys to Westend Reverend Enos L. Clyburn and Almeta Clyburn a beautician, James E. Clyburn grew up in the Westend before attending college at South Carolina State College. Growing up in his civically minded father's church and being surrounded by community minded professionals like schoolteachers and clergy, instilled in Congressman Clyburn a strong sense of empathy and belief in the common good. The Congressman believes that every teacher he interacted with growing up in the Westend had zero animus towards any of their students, and a genuine desire to see them succeed.³⁹ In the years since his election to represent South Carolina's 6th Congressional District, Congressman Clyburn has served as House Majority Whip and Minority Leader, and been a champion of human and civil rights causes in Congress for over 32 years. He is also the first African American to represent South Carolina in Congress since his kinsman George W. Murray did so in 1893.⁴⁰

WHY DESIGNATE THE WESTEND?

The Westend was not only the heart of African American culture in the City of Sumter, but was an extraordinary incubator of African American intellectual, physical, political, and legal

³⁷ McCain, James, In-person Interview, July 21st, 2025.

³⁸ McCain, James, In-person Interview, July 21st, 2025.

³⁹ Clyburn, James, Telephone Interview, October 1st, 2025.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

talent. The number of trailblazers that lived and worked in a neighborhood less than 2 miles wide is staggering, and difficult to fully quantify. The first full time African American physician in Sumter County, the first full time African American lawyer in Sumter County, the first full time female African American lawyer in Sumter County, the first African American real estate agent, the first African American pharmacist in Sumter County, and many other firsts called the Westend home. Civil rights pioneers and visionaries, members of the State Legislature and Congress, and the educators, artists, and clergymen who shaped them into the leaders they are today, called the Westend home. By declaring the Westend to be a local historic district not only does the City of Sumter help to preserve a vital physical piece of its heritage, but it creates a rare bridge for future generations to their past. Children who grow up in the Westend will ask why their neighborhood is special, and the lives and legacies of people like Fannie Ivey, Leroy Bowman, James Clyburn, Dorothy Sampson, Edward Jones, and so many others will come alive and be the answer. Baseball games at St. Judes, movies at the Lyric Theater, and nights at the juke joints will be the answer. Dr. Bultman treating patients all day at his home on West Bartlette, E.C. Jones making dental care affordable for everyone, and E.A. Parker ensuring a competent defense for people who because of the color of their skin may not have gotten one, will be the answer. The answer will be because everyone loved Out West.

All photos used in this project were given courtesy of Westend Neighborhood Association President Keith Ivey. All primary and secondary source information regarding life in the Westend and South Side, the lives of now deceased individuals, and establishments within the Westend and South Side was given by current and former Westend residents: Charles Clyburn, Dia Clyburn, James Clyburn, Thomas Bultman, Ralph Canty, Keith Ivey, Jim McCain, and James Felder. This project was a collaborative effort between the residents of the Westend

and the Sumter Museum. The Sumter Museum & the Westend Neighborhood Association would like to thank WLA Studios for their historic resource survey of Sumter and the Westend that served as a blueprint and partial catalyst for this project, as well as their assistance in this project's presentation. The Sumter Museum fully endorses the designation of the Westend as a local historic district and sees the district's designation as a vital part of the preservation of local history in Sumter.