



Leigh Walker  
/Caswell Messenger  
Woodside is at 1939 NC  
57 just minutes away from  
Milton's historic center  
and can be rented out  
for weddings, receptions,  
reunions and other events.  
Below, Judy Graydon gives  
a tour of Woodside.



*Historical Milton home is ...*

# A PLACE TO CELEBRATE

**BY LEIGH WALKER**  
STAFF WRITER

If Judy and Stuart Graydon's five daughters, three sons and two grandchildren don't keep them busy enough, the upkeep and running of The Woodside House in Milton certainly does.

Listed on the National Historic Registry, Woodside is located at 1939 N.C. 57, just down the street from the town's historic center.

"We bought the house from Century 21 about six years ago," Judy Graydon said. "It had been sitting there empty for nine months; the last couple that owned it ran it as a bed and breakfast."

Graydon said that at the time the family was not looking to buy anything, but that their oldest daughter had recently graduated from culinary school was looking for a place to practice her art.

"My husband's business partner mentioned



This room located on the second floor of the house has an original fireplace and two twin beds, each with a hand crocheted canopy. The dining room, below, seats 12 guests.



a bed and breakfast near us and my husband inquired about it," Graydon said. "When we bought the house it was completely empty; we had to start from scratch."

The Graydons extended the porch to its original size, painted the house inside and out and refurnished each room to its original splendor.

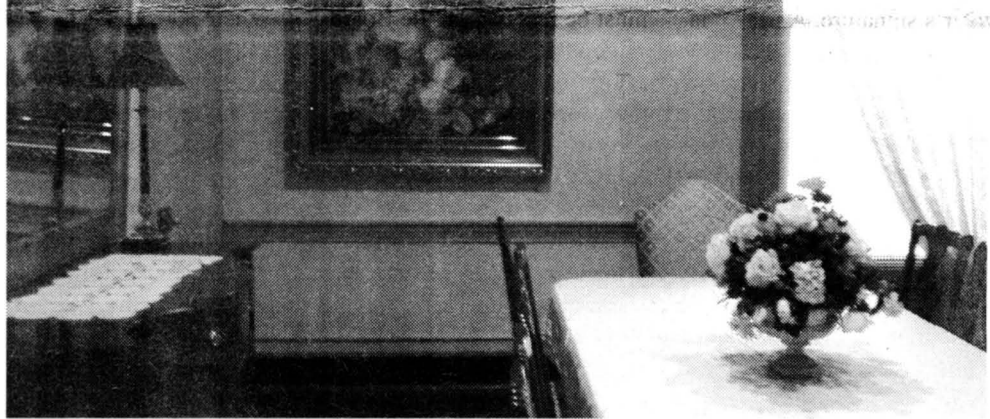
"There is a mahogany coiled newel post hand-carved by Thomas Day, a Thomas Day mantle and a bedroom with Thomas Day reproductions in it," Graydon said. "There are small bathrooms in each room except for the final one and in the dining room there is a large table that allows up to 12 guests to enjoy a meal together."

While the Graydons run the house, three couples own the establishment that has been used for weddings, reunions, reception and housing for Virginia International Raceway fans and teams.

"We have had good years and bad years," Graydon said. "Business comes at different times in waves and many of our guests repeat, coming back to Woodside for another visit."

The price for renting Woodside ranges from \$1,000-\$1,200 for an event and \$500 to rent the establishment for a single night.

"We keep a very high standard, we provide



the linens with complimentary soaps and shampoos," Graydon said. "It's better than staying in a hotel because you can gather together with people, enjoying the entire house."

The house has five bedrooms upstairs and can sleep 12, but can sleep 14 if guests use the two roll away beds provided.

"There are private grounds that can be used for an outside wedding or reception and even a grill many people use when they stay," Graydon said. "The kitchen can be used as a commercial place for your caterer but can also accommodate individuals who are using it on a smaller scale."

The house has three fireplaces downstairs with gas logs, accommodating guests who rent the house for Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve parties.

While the Graydons have enjoyed restoring and caring for Woodside they have put the house on the market, wanting someone to buy it that can devote more time to it than their active family can.

"The house has been a blessing to us and our family," Graydon said. "The beauty of the place warrants something, it's special. It is a comfortable place where you can relax and a celebratory place where you can enjoy the company of others."