



When the annual Sculpture Celebration began in Caldwell County in 1985, few could have imagined the impressive collection we enjoy today.

When Dr. Henry Michaux, a Lenoir native and sculpture professor at the University of South Carolina, envisioned the Sculpture Celebration he hoped to encourage citizens to enjoy an under-utilized park as much as to celebrate sculpture. Collaboration with Parks and Recreation Director Sam Sturgis and Arts Council Executive Director Liza Plaster made the Sculpture Celebration a reality and Caldwell County was on its way toward owning a most remarkable and varied sculpture collection.

*“[This] is small town North Carolina and yet here is a collection of 77 works which have been lovingly assembled for a sustained period of time.”**

Held annually on the first Saturday after Labor Day in J. E. Broyhill Park, this event draws sculptors from across the southeastern United States and is recognized nationally.

The first three pieces of the collection were purchased in 1986. One, the metal “Pig” weather-vane, sits atop the Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir. Over the years, privately funded acquisitions have been purchased from artists at the celebration. Three pieces are commissioned works.

The Celebration and the permanent collection have been featured in North Carolina’s *Our State* magazine, on a UNC-TV special, noted in the *Orlando Sentinel*, and dubbed by the *Charlotte Observer* as the place “where sculpture reigns.”

A study by Appalachian State University in 2006 confirmed that Caldwell County has the largest collection of permanent public outdoor sculpture of any community of its population in the United States.

In a recent study by the Chamber of Commerce, the collection was identified as a “phenomenal collection of assets” that sets Caldwell County apart from other counties in the region and is a reflection of our history of craftsmanship.

More than half the collection is outdoors for easy access to locals and visitors, and many of the indoor pieces are also accessible, though primarily on weekdays.

**Internationally recognized sculptor Thomas Sayre*

*On the cover: West Wind Sentinel, Mike Roig
Inside panel, clockwise from top left: Leaving Anger, Heather Alexander; Passages, Marvin Tadlock, and Totemic IV, Glenn Phifer.*



WALKING TOUR OF SCULPTURES IN THE DOWNTOWN LENOIR AREA

1 PIG

by Glen Gardner
Caldwell Arts Council

METAL; ONE OF THE FIRST PIECES ACQUIRED, IT NOW SITS ATOP THE CALDWELL ARTS COUNCIL

2 FOUR TRUMPETS

by Adam Bradshaw
Caldwell Arts Council

PAINTED STEEL; HAS BROUGHT ATTENTION TO THE ARTS COUNCIL

3 THE MELTDOWN

by Mark Potter
Caldwell Arts Council

CREATED AT THE END OF THE COLD WAR, DEPICTS THE SOVIET UNION’S HAMMER AND SICKLE DRAPED IN THE AMERICAN FLAG

4 FINISH LINE

by Jim Weitzel
Caldwell Arts Council

TILE; IDEA CAME FROM FOLDING A PHOTO OF A CHECKERED FLAG

5 KEEPERS OF THE WILD**

by Jane Tucker
Caldwell Senior Center

REALISTIC BRONZE PIECE

6 INTERRUPTED COLUMN

by Marvin Tadlock
corner of Mulberry & Pennton

METAL; TILTED CUBES INTERRUPT THE RECTANGLES

7 IN OTHER WORDS FLV

by Gretchen Lothrop
Caldwell Memorial Hospital

“FLY” USED TO MEAN COOL, A PIECE “COOL ENOUGH TO FLY”

8 WHIPPET**

by Chris Gabriel
Caldwell Memorial Hospital

TRADITIONAL BRONZE PIECE MEANT TO CAPTURE THE TENSE, ALERT QUALITIES OF THIS BREED

9 DAEDALUS

by Scott Strader
Caldwell Family Care Center

ALUMINUM; COULD THIS PIECE BE RELATED TO THE GREEK MYTH OF ICARUS?

10 & 11 SPECIAL DELIVERY* MEDIUM-SIZED BIRD*

by Stefan Bonitz
Davenport School

ARTIST WORKS ALMOST SOLELY WITH FOUND OBJECTS. MEDIUM-SIZED BIRD KEEPS WATCH OVER THE PLAYGROUND

12 AMARYLLIS ARCHITECTURALIS

by Vega Metals
LHS Apartments (old Lenoir High School)

STEEL; COMPOSED BY 3 ARTISTS COMBINING IDEAS AND TALENTS

13 UNTITLED

by Dan Howachyn
Lenoir Police Department

ABSTRACT PIECE MADE FROM MARBLE AND STEEL

14 WHILE I CLOSE MY EYES

by Kevin Eichner
West Avenue

SCULPTOR GIVES FORM AND MOVEMENT TO RIGID I-BEAMS

* Located on public school grounds, open to the public weekdays after 4:30 p.m. or on weekends only. Please do not visit the schools during the school day.

** Indoor Piece

15 RED CORONA

by Steve Bickley
Main Street

PAINTED STEEL; IN ASTRONOMY, A CORONA IS THE GASEOUS ENVELOPE AROUND THE SUN AND OTHER STARS

16 PONDERING SPOT

by Dean Curfman
J.E. Broyhill Park

DON’T MISS THIS ONE! WHEN YOU FIND IT, HAVE A SEAT AND ENJOY.

17 TALISMAN

by Scott Strader
J.E. Broyhill Park

ALUMINUM; A TALISMAN IS THOUGHT TO HAVE MAGIC POWERS OR BRING LUCK

18 THE LAST OF THE SPOKANE**

by Griffin Chiles
Lenoir Post Office

ONE OF A SERIES OF NATIVE AMERICAN PORTRAITS BY THIS ARTIST SHOWING THE NOBILITY AND INNER STRENGTH OF A BELEAGUERED PEOPLE

19 MOSAIC TRIPTYCH

by Debbie Van Ordstad
Family Resource Center

TILE; “SCULPTED” IN A SPECIAL PROJECT WITH COMMUNITY CITIZENS’ HELP

20 STONE BENCH

by Bob Doster and Dan Howachyn – Griffin Realty

ASSEMBLED FROM SCRAP STONE AND GIFTED TO THE ARTS COUNCIL



