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SalemTownne Retirement Community Receives Generous Gift from Charles H. Babcock, Jr. Estate

Gift of Charles H. Babcock's Westerly Estate Will Double Size of SalemTownne's Campus

Winston-Salem, NC – SalemTownne, a retirement community located near historic Bethabara Park, has received a gift of the late Charles H. Babcock Jr.'s 58.7-acre Westerly Estate from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation. The property, which is contiguous to SalemTownne, includes a home, barn, and pond and will double the size of the SalemTownne campus. The Westerly Estate is located at the corner of Indiana Avenue and University Parkway and is where Babcock lived for more than 30 years prior to his death in March 2005. Babcock was a philanthropist and the grandson of Richard Joshua Reynolds, the founder of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

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“Salemtowne is deeply gratified that the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation has entrusted this beautiful property to our stewardship,” said Joe Lydon, President of Salemtowne. “Charles Babcock was such a great neighbor of Salemtowne and for decades was a generous benefactor of many charitable organizations. It is an honor to be the recipient of this tract of land that will be responsibly incorporated into our community.”

He said that the Board of Trustees will study the property and determine its future uses, which could include hiking and nature trails and conversion of the over 2,300-square-foot home for meeting space. “A large portion of the land will be kept in its natural state in keeping with the Foundation’s interest in preserving the environment. We will also look for ways to use the property to fulfill our mission of reaching out to the broader community by providing support to seniors and caregivers through education and community activities. We want to share what we have been given and honor Salemtowne’s vision of support for life-long learning and serving older people and the community,” said Lydon.

Salemtowne is an accredited continuing care retirement community established in 1972 by members of the Moravian Church. The community, open to all denominations, consists of independent living cottages and apartments, assisted living accommodations, a state-of-the-art nursing center and fitness center. Its entrance is on Bethabara Park Boulevard off University Parkway.

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