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Community activism: The Kenyon Street website

Carolyn West

In 1973, Carolyn West bought the Charles Atkins House at 65 Kenyon Street in the West End. Her block – the first one north of Farmington Avenue – was built between 1890 and 1904, and features fine old historic houses in a variety of Victorian styles, many of them designed by William H. Scoville, one of Hartford's most prolific residential architects of the period. Carolyn fell in love with both the house and the neighborhood and in 2006 was inspired to create a community website as a way for people to see the block through her eyes. The website highlights the 32 houses on the block, with photos and historical information. It promotes community activities, such as a tree planting project, garden walks and tag sales. You can even purchase a series of note cards, designed by Carolyn, that feature the lovely houses and gardens of on her block. Visit the web site at www.kenyonstreethartford.org.

