

North Carolina
National Register Advisory Committee
Minutes
October 11, 2012

The North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee (NRAC) met on October 11, 2012, in the conference room on the third floor of the Archives and History/State Library Building, 109 East Jones Street, in downtown Raleigh. Committee members in attendance were: Mr. B. Perry Morrison Jr., chairman, Mrs. Millie Barbee, Mr. David R. Black, Dr. Jerry C. Cashion, Ms. Wendy Grady, Dr. Valerie Johnson, Mr. John Larson, Ms. Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll, and Dr. Linda F. Stine. Committee members who were absent were Dr. Edmond A. Boudreaux, Mr. George W. Edwards, and Mrs. Barbara Blyth Snowden.

State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff members present were: Ramona M. Bartos, acting state historic preservation officer; Claudia Brown, Survey and National Register Branch supervisor; Ann Swallow, National Register coordinator; Jessica Dockery, National Register and survey specialist; Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, National Register assistant; Chandrea Burch, file and photography clerk; Anna Grantham, assistant file and photography clerk; Scott Power, Eastern Office supervisor; John Wood, restoration/ preservation specialist, Eastern Office; Annie McDonald, preservation specialist, Western Office; Paul Fomberg, senior restoration specialist; Justin Kockritz, environmental review specialist; and GIS specialists Andrew Edmonds and Sam Franklin.

Visitors in attendance included Dr. Kevin Cherry, incoming deputy secretary, Office of Archives and History, and State Historic Preservation Officer; Dr. David Brook, director of the Division of Historical Resources; Michael Hill, Research Branch supervisor; Office of State Archaeology staff Lawrence Abbott, National Register coordinator, and Lynn Flora, Dee Nelms, and Joy Shattuck; Scott Ashcraft, U. S. Forest Service; historic preservation consultant Heather Fearnbach; and four of Ms. Fearnbach's graduate students in the UNCG historic preservation program.

Mr. Morrison called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. After asking if any committee members need to leave the meeting early, he reviewed the committee's conflict of interest rules. Mr. Morrison then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2012, meeting. Mrs. Barbee moved for approval, Dr. Cashion seconded the motion, and all voted for it.

Mr. Morrison recognized Ms. Bartos, who introduced Dr. Kevin Cherry, newly appointed Department of Cultural Resources Deputy Secretary, Office of Archives and History, and State Historic Preservation Officer effective October 16, 2012. She noted that he is a native of Denver, North Carolina, and that he spent the previous five years at the Institute of Museums and Library Services in Washington, DC.

Ms. Bartos then gave her report, beginning with an update on the HPO's activities of the previous four months. These included the office's hosting of the Southeastern State Historic Preservation Officers meeting in Asheville, which was attended by representatives of eight HPOs and included a workshop with representatives of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (a network of public-private partnerships established by the U. S. Secretary of the Interior that provide shared science to ensure the sustainability of America's land, water, wildlife and cultural resources) and a behind-the-scenes tour of Biltmore. She reported that the HPO is processing a tax credit application for R. J. Reynolds Factory 90 in Winston-Salem, which upon completion will be the state's largest tax credit project, projected at \$164 million in investment. Ms. Bartos also

reported that she and other HPO staff met with Andre Nabors of the N. C. Division of Tourism, Film, and Sports Development, who is interested in developing a partnership with the HPO to use the office's geographic information system to help tell the story of what he termed the "authentic North Carolina." She finished her report with comments on the ongoing threat of federal budget sequestration and its potential eight-percent reduction in the HPO's allocation from the Historic Preservation Fund, adding that she remains hopeful that a solution will be found to avoid this measure.

Mr. Morrison gave a brief report on Preservation North Carolina's recent preservation celebration held in Edgecombe County on October 7. He noted that the strong attendance of approximately five hundred people demonstrates a strong interest in historic preservation.

Presentation of National Register nominations began with Mr. Morrison's recognition of Lea Abbott, who presented a letter from Walter Daniels, chairman of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners, in support of the nomination of Judaculla Rock and preservation of the site. Mr. Abbott introduced Scott Ashcraft, archaeologist with the U. S. Forest Service, who proceeded to present the nomination for Judaculla Rock, near Cullowhee. At the end of his presentation, he noted that the nomination has been amended by adding two areas of significance since it was sent to the NRAC: industry under Criterion A, for the quarry site, and art under Criterion C. Ann Swallow clarified that these additions only entail revisions to the summary paragraph, not substantive changes to the statement of significance. Mr. Black moved for approval of the nomination and Dr. Stine seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Before presenting a nomination for a property in the eastern region, Scott Power introduced Matt Harrup, an East Carolina University graduate student in public history who is interning in the Eastern Office. Mr. Power also recognized Heather Fearnbach, who introduced four of her UNCG history and interior architecture graduate students.

Mr. Power then presented a nomination for Coinjock School in the Coinjock vicinity of Currituck County. After the presentation, Mr. Black asked about plans for the school, to which Mr. Power replied that the local historical society is exploring options for saving it. Dr. Johnson asked if the local group has had any contact with the N. C. African American Heritage Commission. Mr. Power responded that he didn't know and that NRAC member Mrs. Snowden has been leading the local effort. Claudia Brown added that Michelle Lanier, acting director of the commission, is aware of the situation. Mr. Black inquired about the size of the site. Mr. Power explained that the nominated property is part of a larger parcel and that moving the school back from the road, within the larger parcel, is a possibility. Ms. Leimenstoll added that her field school will spend a week working on the building in May 2013. Dr. Stine asked if the exterior paint scheme of cream with dark brown trim is original. Mr. Power replied that that it probably is. Upon a motion made by Ms. Leimenstoll and seconded by Ms. Grady, the committee voted unanimously for approval of the nomination.

Annie McDonald presented a nomination for Tryon Country Club in Tryon, Polk County. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Morrison asked if the golf course is an integral part of the site. Ms. McDonald replied that the course is the reason for the country club's existence and thus is inextricable from the overall site. Mr. Larson asked if it can be assumed that the 1917 design of the course is intact and if only the clubhouse could be nominated. Ms. McDonald explained that the property is not nominated for landscape design because Donald Ross's working drawings are not extant, but the golf course is a contributing site in the area of recreation. Mr. Morrison asked if an eighteen-hole round of golf is played on the nine-hole course by playing holes one through nine and

then nine through one. Ms. Swallow explained that comparison with a 1917 survey map shows that the course is basically intact and that it is still played the same way as originally, although the holes have been renumbered. Mr. Black said that a statewide survey of Donald Ross-designed golf courses is needed. When Ms. Swallow jokingly replied that former state historic preservation officer Jeffrey Crow is conducting the survey, Michael Hill explained that most of Dr. Crow's retirement gifts from staff had to do with his love of the game. Mr. Larson moved for approval of the nomination, Mrs. Barbee second the motion, and all voted for its approval.

Before Jessica Dockery presented two nominations from the central and southeastern region, Dr. Cashion announced that he must recuse himself from consideration of the nomination for the Marion House and Marion Brothers Store in Siloam, Surry County. Ms. Dockery proceeded with presentation of a nomination for Wright's Automatic Machinery Company in Durham. After Ms. Dockery finished, Mrs. Barbee asked about the current use of the building, to which Ms. Dockery replied that it has multiple uses including storage and a police substation, but reconverting it to manufacturing is anticipated. Mr. Larson asked why the guard house is not a contributing resource. Ms. Dockery explained that it is a recent reproduction built of modern materials. Ms. Brown added that a modern reproduction qualifies as a contributing resource under Criteria Consideration E for reconstructed properties only if it complies with a master plan for a complex. Mr. Morrison inquired if the glass block, now painted, was used for natural light. Ms. Dockery said that it would not have let in much light because it is frosted and that she does not know why it was painted or why banks of windows on the side walls were covered with plywood. She also noted that the building is nominated under Criterion A for industry and military history. Upon a motion by Ms. Leimenstoll and seconded by Dr. Johnson, all voted to approve the nomination.

After Dr. Cashion left the room, Ms. Dockery presented the nomination for the Marion House and Marion Brothers Store in Siloam, Surry County. After the presentation, Ms. Grady moved for approval of the nomination, Mr. Black seconded the motion, and all voted for it. Dr. Cashion then returned to the room.

Ms. Swallow proceeded to present four nominations for properties in the central and southeastern regions of the state (see attached agenda). Mrs. Barbee made a motion to approve all four nominations and Ms. Leimenstoll seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The committee then adjourned for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

When the committee reconvened at 12:25 p.m., Mr. Morrison announced that Dr. Crow, shortly before his retirement, appointed George Edwards to the NRAC. Mr. Morrison stated that Mr. Edwards is the executive director of the Historic Wilmington Foundation and could not attend today's meeting due to a previously scheduled conflict.

Consideration of Study List applications began with presentations by Mr. Power and John Wood of three applications for properties in the eastern region (see attached agenda). Dr. Johnson moved for placement of the three properties on the Study List, Mrs. Barbee seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. McDonald presented two Study List applications for western properties (see attached agenda). Regarding the Hudson Cotton Mill, Ms. Leimenstoll asked why it is proposed for potential National Register eligibility only under Criterion A. Ms. McDonald explained that the 1980s additions preclude eligibility under Criterion C because architectural significance requires a high level of integrity, but the building has sufficient integrity for a Criterion A argument. Ms. Leimenstoll made a

motion to place the two properties on the Study List, Dr. Cashion seconded the motion, and all voted for it. Mr. Morrison cautioned the committee and staff that potential use of tax credits should not be discussed during the meeting.

Ms. Dockery presented four Study List applications for properties in the central and southeastern regions. She explained that staff recommended that all be approved except for the application for the Weymouth Heights Historic District in Southern Pines, which is recommended for deferral pending additional information about the Boyd family's historic conservation efforts in the area (see attached agenda). When she finished the presentation, Mr. Morrison commented that the narrow boards on the ceilings of the Sprunt Cottage in Wrightsville Beach served the functional purpose of concealing sheetrock seams in addition to being decorative. Mr. Black made a motion to accept staff recommendations regarding the four properties and Dr. Cashion moved to second the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Swallow presented four Study List applications for properties in the central and southeastern regions (see attached agenda). In the course of her presentation, she explained that staff recommended approval of Whisnant Hosiery Mill in Hickory and the Forsyth County Courthouse in Winston-Salem; approval of only the Hoots Brothers-Hoots Milling Company Roller Mill in Winston-Salem and denial of the company's warehouses due to alterations; and denial of the Nims Manufacturing Company-Rush Mill in Mount Holly due to alterations. During her presentation, Mr. Larson asked for clarification of the potential National Register eligibility of the Whisnant Hosiery Mill despite its large addition. Ms. Swallow acknowledged that the mill is a borderline case due to the large size of the addition and explained that staff believes that it does not preclude eligibility under Criterion A for industrial development because the addition is lower than, and placed to the side of, the historic portion of the building, leaving three facades exposed. She added that the mill also retains its historic windows. Ms. Brown then presented a Study List application for the Carter-Simmons House in the Pink Hill vicinity of Duplin County with a staff recommendation of approval. Dr. Cashion moved for approval of staff recommendations for the five properties, Dr. Stine seconded the motion, and all voted to approve it.

Mr. Morrison noted that the next NRAC meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2013. After thanking the committee and staff for their work, he adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ramona M. Bartos
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

RMB/cp
Attachments