

National Register Advisory Committee Meeting

June 8, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Archives and History Building, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh

Third Floor Conference Room (#308)

Chair Barbara Snowden called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. She began by reminding members to complete travel reimbursement paperwork. She asked everyone to introduce themselves, specifically mentioning one's home location.

Committee Members in attendance were Fred Belledin, David Bergstone, David Dennard, Valerie Ann Johnson, Matt Jorgensen, Shawn Patch, Barbara Snowden, Tamara Holmes-Brothers, and Josi Ward.

Members of the public attending were John Wilson and Kyle Gardner. Attending staff from the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) included Sharon Hope, Lori Townsend, Luan Cho, Kelly Molloy, Jeff Smith, Lauren Poole, Beth King, Hannah Beckman-Black, Julie Smith, Claudia Brown, Sarah Woodard, Ramona Bartos, and Michele McCabe.

Valerie Ann Johnson asked about a potential conflict of interest regarding her role as a Preservation North Carolina board member and PNC's role with the Godette Hotel. Josi Ward identified herself as the preparer for the Walton Street Park and Pool nomination, and Shawn Patch disclosed that his company has been involved in some work at the Old Oak Cemetery.

Ms. Snowden asked if anyone had comments or corrections regarding the February 2023 minutes. Mr. Jorgensen identified three corrections, and Ms. Snowden asked about a clarification between Mooresville and Gastonia.

Ms. Snowden asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the changes as noted. David Dennard moved to approve, and Ms. Ward seconded. The vote to approve with edits was unanimous.

Ms. Snowden recognized Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Ramona Bartos to give a short report. Ms. Bartos reported that the HPO has had personnel changes since the February meeting, and she introduced Luan Cao, who joined the HPO as an environmental review specialist for transportation projects. She also mentioned Leslie Leonard began in May 2023 as the new Highway Marker Coordinator. She noted that Tim Simmons retired after 33 years of service to the Restoration Branch as Senior Preservation Architect and statewide coordinator of the federal historic tax credit program, and Sharon Hope's promotion to National Register Assistant position. Ms. Bartos then reviewed statistics produced for the new statewide Preservation Plan planning effort and she thanked Beth King for her work in collecting those statistics and for Beth's efforts to oversee many surveys right now. Ms. Bartos also shared

information about National Park Service grants that our office has received. Ms. Bartos closed by acknowledging staff's strong effort and hard work.

Dr. Johnson offered thanks from Shaw University for the HPO's good relationship with the National Park Service (NPS), which she believes to have been helpful in Shaw securing grants for work on university buildings.

Ms. Snowden then welcomed State Historic Preservation Officer Darin Waters, who thanked the committee for their service.

Lauren Poole began National Register presentations with the **Golden Asro and Ruth Holley Frinks House in Edenton in Chowan County**. She provided a brief overview of Golden Frinks' life and work, and she discussed the family's purchase of the house and changes they made to it. She provided a tour of the house. The house is eligible for listing under Criteria A and B for its association with the Civil Rights Movement and Golden Frinks' productive life. The period of significance extends from 1958 to 1973. Dr. Johnson spoke about the importance of listing this house because of the Frinks' work and because of the light it shines on small town Civil Rights work. Ms. Bartos mentioned the NPS-funded northeastern North Carolina Civil Rights grant to the HPO, which Sarah Woodard described. David Bergstone asked why the listing is at the local level rather than a higher level.

Julie Smith moved forward with **Holt's Chapel School in Pamlico County**. She provided a brief history of the Rosenwald School and noted that its significance is under Criteria A and C for its association with Black education and its architectural design. She described the boundary and addressed the aspects of integrity. She also discussed the other Rosenwald School in the county and noted changes to that building that have diminished its architectural integrity. The period of significance extends from the school's opening in 1922 to 1963 when it ceased operation as a school. The committee had no questions.

Dr. Johnson asked about changing the level of significance for the Frinks House. Staff did not have a clear answer to the reasoning behind that decision.

Matt Jorgenson made a motion to recommend the Frinks House and Holt's Chapel School for National Register listing. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was 8 to 0. (Ms. Snowden, as chair, does not vote but was present for all votes, hence the vote count despite 9 members being present.)

Jorgenson recommended moving the Walton Street Park and Pool presentation to the end of the Western Section because Ms. Ward would recuse herself.

Hannah Beckman-Black began with her presentation of the **Boyce K. and Kitzi McLamb Miller House in Buncombe County**. She provided the history of the property's development and described the landscape. The house is one of the largest and most distinctive Rustic Revival houses in the county. She provided a floor plan and numerous photos. Ms. Beckman-Black then presented a brief history of the Rustic Revival style and examples of other Rustic Revival buildings in the area. Ms. Snowden asked for comments, and Ms. Snowden asked how they had relocated and recreated a creek to the other side of the road. Ms. Snowden called for a vote, and Ms. Ward made a motion to approve affirmative recommendations for nomination of this property; David Bergstone offered a second. The motion passed 8 to 0.

At this point in the meeting, Ms. Ward recused herself as Ms. Beckman-Black prepared the nomination for the next property, and she left the meeting room.

Ms. Beckman-Black continued with a presentation of the **Walton Street Park and Pool in Buncombe County**. She presented the pool's history as a public park for Black citizens in Asheville. It was planned as the City's only park for Black residents and was constructed with Works Progress Administration support. Several original amenities are, however, no longer extant. The pool dates to the 1940s and is the oldest public pool for Black citizens in Asheville. She then described later additions, which include basketball courts and a softball field. The pool and bathhouse retain good architectural integrity. She next described the boundary and noted that the park boundary goes onto property owned by a different property owner other than the City. Ms. Beckman-Black explained how the resource cannot be listed over the objections of one private owner; in this case, the property is owned by both the City as well as one private individual, creating this unusual objection circumstance. The committee is voting to approve it or not, but if nominated, it would go forward to the Keeper for a Determination of Eligibility, rather than listing. She explained what a Determination of Eligibility does and does not do. The committee asked questions about the boundary, which Ms. Beckman-Black answered. Ms. Snowden asked about the private owner's reasons for objecting to listing, but staff noted that the private owner has the right but is not required to provide a reason. Fred Belledin suggested changing the boundary, which he thought might happen in the future. Dr. Dennard asked how often this type of objection happens, and staff responded that such objections are extraordinarily rare. Mr. Patch asked for clarity about staff's recommendation. Staff recommends approval and the Determination of Eligibility. Dr. Johnson suggested that race may be a factor in the objection. Dr. Waters reported that one of the historic photos of the pool was his grandmother's photo. Mr. Belledin asked about the history of the baseball and softball fields, which Dr. Waters confirmed had been there for a long time. Ms. Snowden asked for a vote on this property. Dr. Johnson made a motion to recommend the park and pool for nomination. Mr. Patch seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 to 0, with Ms. Ward having recused herself.

Following the vote, Ms. Bartos invited Ms. Ward back to the room, and Ms. Ward rejoined the Committee at the conference table, ready to participate in deliberations once again.

Ms. Beckman-Black continued with the **Waldensian Swiss Embroidery Company in Burke County**. She located the resource on the map and noted that it is nominated under Criterion A in the area of Industry with a Period of Significance running from 1915 to 1974, when the company moved out of the building. She provided historic images of the building and described various historic expansions, including changes so the building could host Valdese Weavers, which produced upholstery fabric and tapestries. She used a color-coded aerial photograph to illustrate the building's evolution over time. Her tour of the building included interior and exterior images and a description of changes to the building. Ms. Snowden asked if anyone had questions. Ms. Ward asked what would make a textile mill building not eligible and she asked about an assumption of historic significance. Staff responded that the HPO generally assumes textile mills have industrial significance. Mr. Jorgenson noted that her presentation had preemptively answered his question. Ms. Snowden asked for a vote. Mr. Patch made a motion to approve affirmative recommendation for this property; Dr. Dennard seconded. The vote was 8 to 0.

Sarah Woodard next presented the **Wemple-Shelton House in Caswell County**. She began her presentation by locating it on a map. The house is eligible for listing under Criterion C with a period of significance limited to the house's construction, 1843 to 1845. Ms. Woodard described the house's transitional architecture and provided exterior and interior photographs.

Claudia Brown then presented the **Jeter and Ethel Neville House in Orange County**. She began by describing the history of the house and Mr. and Mrs. Neville. She located the house on a map and described its location in Carrboro, between Carrboro and Chapel Hill. She recounted the past NRAC review of this nomination and the NPS's return of the nomination because the Park Service did not believe it met the National Register Criteria when nominated only under Criterion C. She described the reviewer's guidance about re-nominating the building under Criterion A for Black Ethnic Heritage and under Criterion A for Architecture (rather than C for Architecture). Ms. Brown acknowledged that the house had been renovated to remove the house's stone mantel and the addition of replacement windows. Mr. Belledin asked about the replacement windows and lamented the loss of historic fabric.

Ms. Brown continued with the **Coan-Gray House in Forsyth County**. She described the house's setting in Reynolda Park and then provided the house's ownership history, which yielded its name. Charles Barton Keen and Thomas Sears designed the house and landscape, respectively, although the original designed landscape is no longer extant. She provided a physical description of the 1928 Colonial Revival house. She also described the minor changes that have taken place. She noted that Winston-Salem has many Colonial Revival houses, but she stated that this house stands apart for its scale and setting. Ms. Snowden asked for questions. Hearing none, staff presentations continued.

Jeff Smith presented the **Uzzell-Best Farm in Wayne County**. He located the county and house on a map. He showed pictures of the exterior and analyzed the stylistic references of the house, noting its Gothic Revival elements. He presented a labeled site plan and aerial photos to illustrate the cultivated fields that are part of the nomination. He described the collection of outbuildings and noted that sharecropper and tenant houses have been demolished, but the extant house and buildings convey the farm's significance under Criterion A in the area of agriculture. Mr. Jorgenson noted that this would be a good candidate for listing under Criterion D as well.

Mr. Jorgenson moved to approve affirmative recommendations for the preceding four nominations. Dr. Johnson seconded his motion. The motion passed 8 to 0.

At noon, the committee recessed for a thirty-minute lunch break.

When the committee reconvened, Ms. Snowden adjusted the agenda to hear next the Study List application for Island Farm because visitors were present for that application.

Sarah Woodard gave a presentation (drafted by John Wood) for the **Adam Etheridge House, also known as Island Farm, in Dare County**. The presentation located the house on Roanoke Island and provided current and historic photographs to illustrate the house's evolution over time from farmhouse to museum. Ms. Woodard acknowledged lengthy internal staff discussions about the property's eligibility for the Register, and she presented information about Criteria Consideration E, which addresses reconstructed resources such as the recently built but historically styled outbuildings now present on site. Included in the presentation were materials about other reconstructions or mostly reconstructed resources. She also presented differing approaches that a nomination might take, and conflicting observations made by North Carolina's National Register reviewer at the National Park Service. The conflicting thoughts of the reviewer began with the reviewer suggesting a narrow path to listing under Criterion C with a nomination that focused in great detail on the evidence and methodology supporting the restoration, with a boundary that included the outbuildings as noncontributing resources. Later, however, the same reviewer discussed beginning a nomination process by determining whether or not the building is a reconstruction or restoration, and applying a tight boundary, close to the house. Staff stated it did not have a recommendation for committee action. The Committee members engaged in conversation and asked questions of the application's sponsor. Mr. Belledin asked John Wilson to share his response to staff's presentation. Mr. Wilson indicated that the Island Farm organization is willing to attempt to follow the narrow path forward that the National Park Service laid out for a successful nomination. After discussions, Mr. Jorgenson made a motion to recommend Study Listing of the Ethrridge House, and Mr. Bergstone seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 to 0.

Ms. Poole began her Study List presentations with the **Godette Hotel in Carteret County**. She located the building on a map and proceeded with a description of the building. She presented historic photos with a history of the building and its use as a hotel, café, and gathering place for local residents. Ms. Snowden recognized Beaufort Town Planner Kyle Gardner as present in the audience. Ms. Snowden asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, Ms. Poole continued with the next presentation.

Ms. Poole next presented **Old Oak Grove Cemetery in Pasquotank County** and began by identifying the cemetery on a map. The cemetery is the oldest known African American cemetery in Elizabeth City. She provided a history of the cemetery along with photos and descriptions of burials sites and the cemetery. The images resulting from a ground penetrating radar survey illustrated the number of graves. She described how the cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D and that it would be eligible under Criteria A and D based on social and ethnic history and archaeology. Mr. Bergstone asked a question about the Criteria Consideration.

Ms. Snowden asked for motions to approve both Godette Hotel and Old Oak Grove Cemetery for recommendation for inclusion on the Study List. Mr. Patch made a motion to approve Study Listings, and Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 to 0.

Beth King presented the **R.L. and Virginia Maxwell Ballou House in Ashe County**. She described changes made to the house over its lifespan and presented images and descriptions of the house. She proceeded to detail potential paths forward to listing under the Criteria and systematically explained why staff does not think the house should be added to the Study List.

Ms. Beckman-Black continued with the **Rutherfordton-Spindale Central High School in Rutherford County**. The school was listed in the National Register in 1993 with boundaries that included only the 1924 school, the 1939 vocational building, and the driveway approach. This current application adds information and context to support expanding the nominated boundary to encompass those other buildings and to decrease the boundary because of a road widening along one edge of the property. Staff recommended adding the boundary increase and decrease and additional information to the Study List.

Mr. Jorgenson made a motion to follow staff's recommendations, that is, to not recommend adding the Ballou House to the Study List but did recommend adding the Rutherfordton-Spindale Central High School's boundary expansion to the Study List. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it passed, 8 to 0.

Ms. Woodard presented the **Bynum Mill Village in Chatham County**. She started her presentation with a note about a district boundary proposed in an earlier Determination of Eligibility and how a likely boundary would exclude the mill site because the mill building had burned after that Determination of Eligibility. Ms. Woodard described the layout of the village

and gave a tour of the village in which she described the buildings. Staff recommended Bynum for Study Listing and notes that it is likely eligible for listing under Criteria A and C with a likely period of significance extended from the earliest building to 1976 when the county purchased the village.

Ms. Woodard carried on with presentation of **Johnson's Drive-In in Chatham County** and located it on a map, east of Siler City. She provided the building's history and evolution, and showed photographs, both current and historic, of the building's interior and exterior. Staff recommended that Johnson's Drive-In be added to the Study List. It is likely eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment and Recreation, and possibly Commerce or Transportation. Mr. Jorgenson noted that he has eaten at Johnson's many times.

Ms. Woodard then continued with a presentation about **Coker Hills, in Chapel Hill in Orange County**. She reviewed the development's history and its relationship with William Coker, a well-known botany professor at the University of North Carolina. She described how the development arose from Coker's land holdings. Staff recommends Study Listing for Coker Hills and suggests that eligibility is under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its collection of Modernist houses. The period of significance would likely run from about 1960 to about 1975.

Jeff Smith next presented the **Garber House in Forsyth County**. He began by describing the building and locating it on a map. Mr. Smith then went on to detail the life and work of Mary Garber as a sports reporter in Winston-Salem. Mr. Smith explained how Criterion B would apply and how the house would need to be the best building standing related to Garber's productive life. The office building where she worked still stands but has been determined ineligible for the register. The Garber House is proposed for listing under Criteria B and C.

Mr. Smith carried on with the **First Citizens Bank Building in Guilford County**. He showed exterior photos, interior images, and a floor plan. He located the building on a map and recounted the bank and building's history.

Mr. Smith continued with the **Lemuel H. and Marguerite S. Hole House in Guilford County**. He described the history and appearance of this Colonial Revival dwelling. He continued by explaining that the stucco on the façade and other alterations suggest that in comparison to other large Colonial Revival houses in Greensboro, the Hole House does not retain the architectural integrity necessary for National Register consideration and staff does not recommend Study Listing.

Mr. Smith moved north to **Rockingham County** to present the **Dewey H. Huffines House**. He showed pictures of the house, and then chronicled Dewey Huffines' career as a tobacco auctioneer who gained notoriety in Lucky Strike advertisements as an expert in tobacco flavor. Mr. Smith reported that Jo Leimenstoll has looked at woodwork in the Huffines' house and

suggested an uncertain attribution to Thomas Day. Mr. Smith noted that the application for Study Listing is for architecture as well as an association with Dewey Huffines, but staff recommends that the building is only a good candidate under Criterion B for its association with Huffines.

Julie Smith next presented the **St. Matthew AME Church in New Hanover County**. The church is located in a historically African American community called Wrightsville Sound. Ms. Smith described the sanctuary, located it on a map, and provided a photographic tour of the sanctuary. She addressed an association artist, Minnie Evans, but noted that the church's potential eligibility is tied to its architecture, not Ms. Evans.

Ms. King presented **Mount Vernon School in Iron Station in Lincoln County**. She described its history as a Rosenwald School and its association with neighboring Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist Church. Ms. King provided a description of changes that have occurred to the building over time, and she showed photos of the building. She also located the school on a map. Ms. King addressed potential concerns about a loss of integrity of the building and reported staff's support for Study Listing this resource. It is likely that it could be listed in the Register under Criterion A for its association with Black Education.

Ms. King continued with a presentation of the **Pilot Mountain West Main Street Historic District** in Surry County. She located the district on a map and described its boundaries, addressing differences between staff's recommended boundary and the application's recommended boundary. She described the district as containing Pilot Mountain's most architecturally significant residential resources. She suggested a likely period of significance from about 1896 to about 1966 and noted that the district would likely be eligible under Criterion C for its architecture.

Ms. Snowden called for vote on the Piedmont Study List candidates. Mr. Jorgenson made a motion to recommend approval of Study Listing of nine of the resources but not approve one of the resources, following staff recommendations. Mr. Patch seconded the motion. The motion was approved 8 to 0. This vote recommended adding the Bynum Historic District, Johnson Drive-In, Coker Hills, Garber House, First Citizens Bank Building, Huffines House, St. Matthew AME Zion Church, Mount Vernon School, and Pilot Mountain West Main Street Historic District to the Study List but not the Hole House to the Study List.

Ms. Snowden concluded the meeting with thanks to Mr. Jorgenson, who is rotating off the committee because of term limits.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00.

NATIONAL REGISTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 8, 2023
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: Archives and History Building, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh
3rd Floor Conference Room (#308)

The public may attend in-person or view the meeting on YouTube via livestream.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2k0d-xgqOMc>

NATIONAL REGISTER AND STUDY LIST AGENDA

COUNTY	PROPERTY/LOCATION	PRESENTER
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NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

Eastern Region

Chowan	Golden Asro and Ruth Holley Frinks House Edenton	Lauren Poole
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Pamlico	Holt's Chapel School Oriental (vicinity)	Julie Smith
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Western Region

Buncombe	Boyce K. and Kitzi McLamb Miller House Asheville	Hannah Beckman-Black
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	Walton Street Park and Pool Asheville	
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Burke	Waldensian Swiss Embroidery Company – Valdese Weavers, Inc. Mill Valdese	
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Central and Southeastern Regions

Caswell	Wemple-Shelton House Yanceyville	Sarah Woodard
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Orange	Jeter and Ethel Neville House Carrboro (originally presented 10/2021; returned for substantive revisions)	Claudia Brown
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Forsyth	Coan-Gray House Winston-Salem	
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COUNTY	PROPERTY/LOCATION	PRESENTER
Wayne	Uzzell-Best Farm La Grange	Jeff Smith

STUDY LIST APPLICATIONS

SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

Eastern Region

Carteret	The Godette Hotel Beaufort	Lauren Poole
Pasquotank	Old Oak Cemetery Elizabeth City	
Dare	Augustus Etheridge House Manteo	Sarah Woodard

Western Region

Ashe	R. L. and Virginia Maxwell Ballou House Jefferson	Beth King
Rutherford	Rutherfordton-Spindale Central High School (Additional Documentation, Boundary Increase, and Boundary Decrease) Rutherfordton	Hannah Beckman-Black

Central and Southeastern Regions

Chatham	Bynum Mill and Mill Village Bynum	Sarah Woodard
	Johnson's Drive-In Siler City	
Orange	Coker Hills Neighborhood Chapel Hill	
Forsyth	Garber House Winston-Salem	Jeff Smith
Guilford	First Citizens Bank High Point	
	Lemuel H. and Marguerite S. Hole House Greensboro	

COUNTY	PROPERTY/LOCATION	PRESENTER
Rockingham	Dewey H. Huffines House Reidsville	
New Hanover	St. Matthew AME Church Wilmington	Julie Smith
Lincoln	Mt. Vernon School Iron Station	Beth King
Surry	Pilot Mountain West Main Street Historic District Pilot Mountain	