

North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2021

Virtual Meeting, via Zoom, streamed on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/Eh5pYQTVty8>

The North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee (NRAC) convened on October 14, 2021, in compliance with state open meetings law through a virtual online meeting using Zoom. The following members attended: David Bergstone, Shawn Patch, Matthew Jorgenson, Dr. Mary Lynn Bryan, Dr. David Dennard, Barbara Snowden, Dr. Valerie Ann Johnson, and Josi Ward.

North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NC HPO) staff and Department of Cultural Resources staff attending were Matt Zeher, DSHPO Ramona Bartos, Hannah Beckman-Black, John Wood, Jenn Brosz, Elizabeth King, Sarah Woodard, and SHPO and Deputy Secretary of Archives and History Dr. Darin Waters. Mr. Zeher served as technical support for the online meeting platform and the streaming. Presenting consultants attending via Zoom were Jamie Destefano and Heather Slane.

Acting Chair Valerie Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 and the meeting began streaming on YouTube.

Dr. Johnson welcomed everyone and began with an attendance roll call followed by committee introductions, and she extended a special welcome to new members Josi Ward and Shawn Patch. Dr. Johnson asked committee members to identify conflicts of interest. None were noted. Dr. Johnson asked for approval of the June minutes. Dr. Dennard moved approval, seconded by Mr. Jorgenson. The motion passed 8-0.

Dr. Johnson asked Dr. Waters to introduce himself and the HPO staff. Dr. Waters reported on his first weeks with the Department and described learning more about the office. He then turned the floor over to Ms. Bartos, who introduced herself and asked staff to introduce themselves, followed by the attending consultants, Ms. Slane and Ms. Destefano.

Ms. Bartos highlighted recent survey projects, National Register listings, Certified Local Government projects, and the HPO's virtual training presentations available on YouTube. She concluded by thanking the committee. Dr. Dennard asked Ms. Bartos if she kept abreast of the work of other HPOs, particularly those in other Southern states. Ms. Bartos stated that our office is competitive and that our nominations are of high quality. She noted that South Carolina puts forward about half the number of nominations that we do, but they are half the size of our state.

Dr. Johnson thanked John Wood for giving assignments to committee members, specifically for connecting Dr. Johnson to a Rosenwald group. Dr. Johnson noted that staff works far and wide, beyond where their offices are located.

Sarah Woodard noted that the public can share comments on the YouTube stream, which the technical staff can share. She reminded everyone to use the chat function for technical

difficulties, but not for the discussion of nominations, in keeping with the state open records laws.

National Register nomination presentations

Jenn Brosz began with our first National Register presentation, the **Elizabeth City Historic District (Boundary Increase II) in Pasquotank County**. Ms. Brosz introduced the district and past alterations to the district before describing the proposed increase area, including the proposed period of significance and historic character. Ms. Brosz also noted how the increase cleans up a hole left during earlier expansions. Ms. Brosz asked for questions. Dr. Dennard asked a question about correspondence and how local governments comment on nominations. Ms. Brosz described the comment process for Certified Local Governments, such as Elizabeth City. In this case, both the city and the local commission expressed support for the nomination. She went on to describe how often the two groups are split and what happens if the two groups are split or if both groups oppose the nomination. Mr. Bergstone asked if Area 3 was creating a new donut hole, and he asked Ms. Brosz to review the map. Ms. Brosz was unsure what was in the area in question, but she noted that the Park Service would review it. Mr. Jorgenson moved to approve the nomination, and Dr. Dennard seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Ms. Snowden did not vote because she lost her connection to the meeting in the meantime, but the quorum was maintained.

Ms. Brosz continued with **Norcott Mill-Cannon Mills Company, Plant No. 10, in Cabarrus County**. She located the mill on a map of Concord in Cabarrus County. She presented the history of expansions of the mill and described the resource and provided an interior and exterior tour of the building and site. She noted that it is eligible under Criteria A and C in the areas of Industry and Architecture. Its period of significance begins in 1916 when the mill opened and ends in 1971. When Ms. Brosz asked for questions, Mr. Jorgenson asked about the buildings and documented resources surrounding the complex being nominated. Ms. Brosz explained past Study Listings in the area.

Hannah Beckman-Black presented **Norwood School in Iredell County**. Ms. Beckman-Black pointed out the location of the Norwood School in Iredell County. She noted that it is nominated at the statewide level of significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of Education and Architecture. Its period of significance runs for the period of its use as a public school from 1906-1927. The school is the earliest known surviving example of the school plans developed by the state at the beginning of the twentieth century. Ms. Beckman-Black detailed the school's history, specified what the boundaries included and did not include, and she provided a tour of the resource. Ms. Ward asked for additional explanation about how or why the school is being recommended at the statewide level. Ms. Beckman-Black described consultant's argument and review of similar schools at the statewide level. Ms. Bartos spoke about scarcity and Dr. Johnson noted how this school provides a statewide context for segregated schools. Mr. Bergstone asked about the statewide context and noted that the state's first graded school in Salisbury is not listed with statewide significance. He also asked about the context for the cemetery; Ms. Beckman-Black noted that the cemetery is treated as a secondary resource here. Mr. Bergstone also noted the need for technical assistance for grave marker maintenance.

Ms. Beckman-Black continued with a presentation of the **Ramsey Farm in Iredell County**. She presented photos of the farm and described the house and outbuildings. The period of significance extends from the construction date of the house and earliest outbuilding in 1883 to ca. 1930 when the meat house was constructed. She noted that I-77 divides the farm. Ms. Beckman-Black asked for questions. Ms. Snowden asked for clarification about the interstate and why the nomination was not proposed as a dis-contiguous boundary. Ms. Beckman-Black explained that the division was non-historic. Mr. Bergstone interpreted the Park Service guidance differently and pressed the question about discontiguous boundaries. Ms. Brosz elaborated on conversations with the Park Service regarding discontiguous boundaries.

Taking the floor from Ms. Beckman-Black, Ms. Brosz introduced the **Jeter and Ethel Neville House in Orange County**. Ms. Brosz located the house on a map of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, and provided a brief overview of the neighborhood evolution. She provided a history of the house and a tour of the resource. She attributed the building's masonry to John Wesley Campbell, a prolific mason in Chapel Hill. He worked mostly with brick, but Ms. Brosz provided an overview of Campbell's other stonework. The house is eligible for the Register under Criterion C in Architecture and Black Ethnic Heritage with a period of significance of 1944. Dr. Bergstone asked if the Office of State Archaeology had made a statement about this resource. Ms. Beckman-Black reported that OSA found no need for archaeology to be addressed.

Dr. Johnson opened the floor for comments. Mr. Bergstone asked about a district around the Neville House, and Beth King elaborated on past discussions about a district and the reasons why a single resource, rather than a district, was considered. Mr. Jorgenson returned to the discussion about Ramsey Farm boundary, and Mr. Bergstone suggested that a more explicit explanation or justification about the boundary be provided in the documentation. Dr. Johnson noted that the committee may likely encounter the effects of development (such as I-77) and how development affects integrity in the future.

Mr. Bergstone moved to approve Norcott Mill, Norwood School, Ramsey Farm, and the Neville House nominations. Mr. Jorgenson seconded the motion. The vote was 8-0. (By this time, Ms. Snowden was able to reconnect to the meeting.)

The committee took a break at 11:47 and reconvened at 11:57.

Ms. Brosz began the next nomination of the slate by presenting the **Downtown Sparta Historic District in Alleghany County**. The district is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Commerce, Politics/Government, Social History, and Architecture. She described Sparta's history as a county seat and the county's only town. She also described the effects of fires in the 1920s and 1930s, and she highlighted the town's architecture. Ms. Brosz concluded by discussing the boundary justification. The period of significance begins in 1928 and ends in 1972. When the floor was opened for questions, Mr. Bergstone noted a discrepancy in the stated size of the original town layout.

The western region slate continued with Ms. Beckman-Black, who presented the **Edwin Cochran Guy House in Avery County**. It is nominated under Criterion B in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development for its association with Edwin Cochran

Guy House. It is also eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The period of significance begins with the house's construction in 1916 and ends with Guy's death in 1955. Guy was a locally significant banker and mining investor, and he played an important role in developing water and electric infrastructure in Newland and the surrounding areas. No other figure had a similar transformative influence in Newland. Mr. Bergstone noted a typo in the text.

Ms. Beckman-Black moved on to the nomination for **High Top Colony Historic District in Buncombe County**. She located the district on a map. The district is significant under Criterion A for its association with Social History and Entertainment/Recreation, and under Criterion C for its architecture. The period of significance begins in 1919 with the establishment of the camp and ends in 1954 with the addition of electricity and water in the district. It was established as a religious summer retreat for people associated with the neighboring Blue Ridge Assembly summer camp, and closely aligned with racial and social justice. She noted that Buncombe County supports the nomination. Mr. Bergstone asked about two non-contributing lots on the edge of the proposed boundary.

Dr. Johnson called for a motion to approve the western nominations. Dr. Dennard moved to approve the Downton Sparta Historic District, the Edwin Cochran Guy House, and High Top Colony Historic District. Mary Lynn Bryan seconded the motion. Dr. Dennard led a wide-ranging discussion about districts and public involvement. Dr. Waters and Dr. Johnson offered thanks to staff. The motion passed 8-0.

The committee started a lunch break at 12:45 and reconvened at 1:06.

Survey and Study List presentations

Beth King reviewed the survey projects that will be presented today for informational and Study List purposes, and she spoke about the time constraints for Historic Preservation Fund grant-funded project.

Consultant Heather Slane began her presentation of the findings of the Burlington architectural survey in **Alamance County**. She explained the methodology. She detailed findings and presented three Study List resources: **Central Heights Historic District, Walter M. Williams High School, and the West Davis Street-Fountain Place Historic District (Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease, and Additional Documentation)**. Mr. Jorgenson asked why the high school wasn't considered part of the Fountain Place district.

Ms. Brosz presented the **Old Richmond Grange Hall in Forsyth County** on behalf of Heather Fearnbach. She provided a location and tour of the hall.

Dr. Johnson called on Jamie Destefano began her presentation of **Furry's Lodge in Haywood County**. Ms. Destefano recounted Waynesville's history, focusing on its resort history, setting the lodge into the post-war resort history of Waynesville. There were no questions for Ms. Destefano.

Dr. Johnson called for a motion regarding the five survey resources, and Mr. Jorgenson made that motion to accept them onto the State Study List. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. Dr. Johnson proceeded with a roll-call vote and the motion passed 7-0. Dr. Dennard was not present for this vote.

John Wood began the Study List presentations from the eastern region with **Best Chapel School in Greene County**. He located the building and described it. Mr. Wood presented the building's history and noted the multiple changes made to the building over time for its conversion to a residence. Staff did not recommend Study Listing for this school.

Mr. Wood moved forward with **Zack's Grocery in Halifax County**. The application included only three images and Mr. Wood supplemented those photos with Google streetview photos and previous survey photos. He noted changes to the building's interior and exterior. Given the loss of material and setting integrity, staff did not recommend Study Listing for Zack's Grocery.

Mr. Wood concluded his presentations with the **Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association Warehouse/Nashville Building Supply Company in Nash County**. Mr. Wood first presented the Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association Building as an individual resource, and then he presented a complex that includes the Tobacco Grower's Cooperative Association Building and the Nashville Building Supply Company. He provided the buildings' history and photos of the buildings. Staff recommended that the individual warehouse building be placed on the Study List. Staff feels that the Building Supply complex is also a good candidate for the Study List, but recommends deferring a decision pending more information about the construction dates of the individual buildings.

When the floor was opened for questions, Ms. Ward asked if an applicant can re-submit with additional information. Mr. Wood responded that staff tries to get as much information as possible, and relative to Zack's Grocery, Mr. Wood did request additional information. He had asked the applicant to wait to hear the application until the applicant collected more information. The applicant declined collecting more information. Mr. Jorgenson noted that the committee can also ask for additional information.

Dr. Johnson called for a motion on the applications Mr. Wood presented. Ms. Bartos asked Mr. Wood for a summary of staff's recommendations. He noted that staff does not recommend listing Best Chapel School or Zack's Grocery. He expressed staff's concerns about the Cooperative Association Building and staff recommends Study Listing, but with some reservations and questions about whether the building should be considered as part of a complex pending additional information.

Mr. Jorgenson made a motion to deny placing the Best Chapel School and Zack's Grocery on the State Study List, to approve Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association Warehouse for inclusion on the State Study List, and to defer a discussion of Nashville Building Supply Company. Mr. Patch seconded the motion. Mr. Jorgenson amended his motion to direct staff to alert applicants why the applications were denied. Ms. Ward seconded the amended motion. The roll-call vote was 7-0, with Dr. Dennard absent.

Julie Smith presented the **Martin C. Poyner House in Currituck County** for the State Study list. She located the house on the map. She described the house and changes to the house over time, and she recommended it for Study listing. Mr. Jorgenson moved to Study List the house, and Mr. Bergstone seconded the motion. In the discussion, Ms. Snowden noted that her book is quoted in the application, but after discussion, it seemed that Ms. Snowden does not have a conflict of interest and will not benefit in any way from Study Listing. The motion passed 7-0. Dr. Dennard remained absent.

The committee took a five-minute break during which the committee and staff discussed Dr. Dennard's absence.

The meeting restarted with Ms. Brosz presenting the **Graham Historic District (Boundary Increase and Boundary Decrease) in Alamance County** for the state Study List. Ms. Brosz described the original district, which was listed in 1983 under Criteria A and C. She provided a summary of the history of the district's creation and the project to update the district. Ms. Brosz continued with descriptions of the expansion and decrease areas and provided photos. She reported that staff recommends approving all of the presented expansion increases and decrease except for the expansion of an area labeled B, citing a lack of contiguous historic resources.

Ms. Brosz continued with **Minneola Manufacturing Company in Guilford County** for Study List consideration. She presented a detailed plan of the mill showing its evaluation. The mill had been presented for the Study List in the past, and she discussed the past presentation and what information has changed since that first attempt at study listing. She noted that since 2016, the applicant was able to date the evolution more firmly; new physical investigation revealed a minimally-attached 1976 brick veneer over original facades, and the new application provides better interior exploration. A painted ghost sign remains under the façade because the brick was attached with a space between the veneer and the original wall. Staff recommends Study Listing with the advice that as much of the historic exterior be revealed as possible.

Dr. Johnson asked for a summary of staff recommendations regarding the Graham Historic District and the Minneola Manufacturing Company. Ms. Brosz summarized those: for Graham, staff recommends Study Listing with the caveat that area B would not be eligible for expansion, that the decrease area be expanded, and that the area between areas C and D be included in an increase, and for Minneola, staff recommends approval with the note that the National Park Service will want to see as much historic fabric uncovered as possible at the time of the nomination.

Mr. Patch asked a question about how the veneer and changes to mills is treated. Ms. Brosz and Ms. Bartos discussed the way mills are often treated in terms of integrity and changes over time.

Mr. Jorgenson moved to accept staff's recommendations. Dr. Bryan seconded the motion. The roll-call vote was 7-0.

Ms. Beckman-Black moved forward with **Westside High School in Columbus County** for Study List consideration. She located the school within the town of Chadbourn. She reviewed the history of education for African American students in Chadbourn. She provided the history

specific to Westside High School and presented a site plan showing the building's evolution. She noted its very good architectural integrity. Ms. Snowden made a motion to add the school to the Study List and Mr. Patch seconded the motion. The vote was 8-0, with Dr. Dennard having returned to and again participating in the meeting.

Ms. Woodard followed with the **Leonidas Lafayette Polk House in Anson County** for Study List consideration. The house was built around 1825 and staff recommends Study Listing under Criterion C and possibly under B. Ms. Woodard located the house on a map, summarized its history, and provided a tour of the interior and exterior.

Ms. Woodard continued with **Flint Mill No. 2 in Gaston County** for Study List consideration. It was built in 1923 with additions in the mid-twentieth century. She presented the mill's location and illustrated its evolution. She provided interior and exterior photographs, and concluded that staff supports Study Listing under Criterion A and C for its association with industry and its architecture.

Ms. Woodard moved on to **Gladstone Academy in Stanly County** for Study List consideration. The late-nineteenth century school building has undergone a few minor alterations, but generally seems to retain its original appearance. Ms. Woodard presented photos and the building's history, and recommended its Study Listing under Criteria A in Education, and possibly under C for architecture.

Ms. King presented the **Seaboard Air Line Station in Granville County** for Study List consideration. She noted that she visited on an extremely rainy day. Her presentation uses Google streetview images. She gave a history of the depot with modern and historic photographs. She provided a historical context for the depot and discussed Creedmoor's mule-trading history. She noted that staff does not have a strong recommendation and stated that staff engaged in a lively debate. Ms. Ward noted the rarity of the resource.

Ms. King continued with **All Saints' Episcopal Church in Warren County** for Study List consideration. She noted that the application was very thorough, and the Bishop of North Carolina supports the application. The church is highly intact to its construction between 1913 and 1918. She detailed the church's history as an importance as an African American congregation. She described staff's endorsement of the church's Study Listing under Criteria A and C, and meeting the religious properties consideration.

Ms. Woodard finished the day's presentations with the **Horne House in Polk County** for Study List consideration. This house was built in 1916 as a vacation home for a mill manager, but his wife did not want to move to the country and he eventually sold the house. The Horne family lived on the farm for many years and made some minor changes to the house over the years. The house is recommended for the Study List under Criteria C for its architecture.

Dr. Johnson called for questions, and she thanked the committee. Dr. Johnson noted preservation efforts in Warrenton to document and preserve Black history.

She asked for motion to accept staff recommendations on the last six Study List nominees (Westside High School, Flint Mill No. 2, L.L. Polk House, Gladstone Academy, Seaboard Airline Station, All Saints' Episcopal Church, and the Horne House. Dr. Bryan moved to approve staff's recommendations to add each resource to the Study List except for the Seaboard Airline Station, which staff did not outright recommend for listing. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The vote was 8-0.

Dr. Johnson thanked staff and expressed her gratitude for staff working together. Mr. Jorgenson moved to adjourn, and Dr. Bryan seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 4:48. Dr. Dennard expressed thanks for Mr. Wood going to check on him at home due to his unexplained absence during a period of the meeting. Dr. Waters thanked everyone for their participation, and he thanked staff expressly.

NATIONAL REGISTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual Link- <https://youtu.be/Eh5pYQTVty8>

Please note: There will also be an option to view the meeting in-person at the Auditorium of the Archives and History Building, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh.

October 14, 2021

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

NATIONAL REGISTER AND STUDY LIST AGENDA

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>PROPERTY/LOCATION</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
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NATIONAL REGISTER

SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

Eastern Region

Pasquotank	Elizabeth City Historic District (Boundary Increase II) Elizabeth City	Jenn Brosz
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Central and Southeastern Regions

Cabarrus	Norcott Mill – Cannon Mills Company Plant No. 10 Concord	
Iredell	Norwood School Statesville vicinity Ramsey Farm Statesville	Hannah Beckman-Black
Orange	Jeter and Ethel Neville House Carrboro	Jenn Brosz

Western Region

Alleghany	Downtown Sparta Historic District Sparta	
Avery	Edwin Cochran Guy House Newland	Hannah Beckman-Black
Buncombe	High Top Colony Historic District Black Mountain vicinity	

STUDY LIST**SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH*****Survey Projects***

Alamance	Walter M. Williams High School Burlington	Heather Slane
	West Davis Street-Fountain Place Historic District (Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease, and Additional Documentation) Burlington	
	Central Heights Historic District Burlington	
Forsyth	Old Richmond Grange Hall Tobaccoville vicinity	Jenn Brosz
Haywood	Furry's Lodge Waynesville	Jamie Destefano

Eastern Region

Greene	Best Chapel School Snow Hill vicinity	John Wood
Halifax	Zack's Grocery Weldon	
Nash	Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association Warehouse Nashville	
Nash	Nashville Building Supply Nashville	
Currituck	Martin C. Poyner House Moyock	Julie Smith

Central/Southeastern Regions

Alamance	Graham Historic District (Boundary Increase and Boundary Decrease) Graham	Jenn Brosz
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Guilford	Minneola Manufacturing Company Mill Complex Gibsonville	
Columbus	Westside High School Chadbourn	Hannah Beckman-Black
Anson	Leonidas Lafayette Polk House Polkton	Sarah Woodard
Gaston	Flint Mill No. 2 – Burlington Industries, Inc. Plant Gastonia	
Stanly	Gladstone Academy Misenheimer	
Granville	Seaboard Air Line Station Creedmoor	Beth King
Warren	All Saints' Episcopal Church Warrenton	

Western Region

Polk	Horne House Green Creek vicinity	Sarah Woodard
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