

**State Board of Review Meeting
National Register of Historic Places
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
State Historic Preservation Office**

Minutes of the July 27, 2018 Meeting

The State Board of Review meeting was held in the Wachovia room of the South Carolina Archives and History Center, 8301 Parklane Road, in Columbia, South Carolina.

Members Present

Mr. William L. Kinney, Jr. (Chairman), Dr. J. Edward Lee, Dr. Lydia Brandt (Vice-Chair), Dr. Kathryn Silva, Ms. Katherine Saunders Pemberton, Mr. Chris Judge, Ms. Meg Gaillard, Ms. Mary Katherine Hyman

Members Absent

Dr. A.V. Huff, Jr., Ms. Amy Moore, Ms. Amalia Leifeste

Call to Order

The chairman called the meeting to order at 10:37 A.M., and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introduction of Board Members

Mr. Kinney introduced the board members. Mr. Kinney welcomed new board member, Dr. Kathryn Silva, and recognized the service of retiring review board member, Ms. Amalia Leifeste.

Approval of Minutes

The members received the minutes of the November 17, 2017, meeting by mail (or e-mail) in the packets prior to the meeting. Dr. Lee made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Gaillard. The motion was approved unanimously.

Remarks

Mr. Kinney welcomed all present.

Mr. Kinney then introduced both Dr. W. Eric Emerson, director of the Department of Archives and History and State Historic Preservation Officer, and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, for remarks.

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, gave welcoming remarks, and introduced the National Register staff present: Dr. Ehren Foley and Ms. Virginia Harness. Mrs. Johnson also recognized other staff present from the State Historic Preservation Office: Ms. Pam Kendrick, Historic Architecture Consultant, Mr. John Sylvest, and Ms. Grace Salter, the Agency Advancement and Foundation Coordinator.

Consideration of Nominations

Mr. Kinney reviewed the procedures, which include five steps, for considering nominations. The procedures are: presentation of nominations; comments by visitors; questions by board members; uninterrupted discussion by board members; and decision by board members.

The following nominations were considered:

1. **Emanuel A.M.E. Church (Charleston, Charleston County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Jill Found of the University of South Carolina Center for Civil Rights History and Research. Mr. Judge asked that the name of the perpetrator of the racially motivated murder of nine people at the church be stricken from the nomination. Ms. Saunders Pemberton noted that the nomination is only for the local level of significance and asked about the potential national significance of the church. Dr. Foley explained that in order to list the building at a national level of significance a national context would have to be developed. He noted that at present the nomination did not have a national context, but that listing the property at the local level now would not preclude it from being listed at the national level later. Ms. Found also noted that part of the difficulty is that Charleston has not really been examined by academics for its role in the broader Civil Rights movement, making it difficult to develop a national level context at present. Ms. Alexzena Irving Furgess asked about the appropriateness of striking Dylann Roof's name from the nomination. She also asked about the inclusion of Denmark Vesey in the nomination. Ms. Found noted that Vesey's history, while clearly important to the history of the congregation, predates the present building and is therefore outside the primary focus of the National Register nomination. Dr. Foley added that the National Register program is about extant resources, a point Mr. Kinney reiterated. An audience member asked if it was possible for staff to offer a brief explanation of the National Register, which Dr. Foley provided. Dr. Lee moved to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, with a second by Ms. Saunders Pemberton. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. **St. George Rosenwald School (St. George, Dorchester County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Jennifer Melton of the University of South Carolina Public History Program. Ms. Anne Johnston, Mayor of St. George, noted that the nomination of restoration of this school was a major step forward for the town of St. George. She said that the citizens have been inspired by this building and they are undertaking a neighborhood revitalization effort. Mr. Ralph James, an alumnus of the school and part of the alumni association, also spoke in support of the nomination. He noted the recovery of several old Sears Roebuck catalogs from the site. Dr. Brandt asked about the additions to the school. Ms. Melton said that the plans specifically anticipated the need for additions and were designed for them to be

easily added with minimal change in the visual character of the building. Dr. Brandt noted that this could be more fully explained in the nomination. She also requested that the rationale for the dates of the additions be put in the nomination. Ms. Saunders Pemberton noted that, as a resident of Dorchester County, she was very pleased to see this nomination moving forward. Mr. Judge made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saunders Pemberton, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

3. **Griffin Motor Company (Florence, Florence County)** was presented by the preparer Ms. Caroline Wilson, consultant at MacRostie Historic Advisors. Mr. Marshall Griffin, grandson of the original owner of the building, expressed his appreciation for the nomination and the recordation of the building's history and architecture. He recalled his memories of the dealership and noted that it was an important part of the Florence community. Mr. Terry James, a resident of Florence, said he was very glad to see this building nominated. Ms. Wilson noted that the building currently operates as an informal museum and that there are many historic photos related to Griffin and the early stock car races on their Facebook page. Ms. Viola Hendley said that she grew up around the building and the racetrack, and said the preservation of this building was part of a larger Florence renaissance. Dr. Brandt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gaillard, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously.
4. **Jamestown Historic District (Florence vicinity, Florence County)** was presented by the Ms. Jennifer Melton on behalf of the preparer, Ms. Katie Hatton, both of the University of South Carolina Public History Program. Mr. Terry James, the great-great-great-grandson of Ervin James, spoke in support of the nomination. He noted that it was a long journey to reach this point. Mr. James spoke of the pride he felt for ancestors and their accomplishments. He noted his three-times-great-grandfather was a brave and forward-thinking man. Mr. James said that he has found descendants of Jamestown residents all up and down the east coast. He said that at the most recently family reunion he finally met a descendant of Eli McKissick and Mary Poston, who originally sold the land for Jamestown to his ancestors. He noted that they have been holding family reunions at Jamestown for thirty years. Mr. Glynn Willis of the Florence City Council, said that the James family was and is important to the Florence community and he hopes to see their contributions recognized. He said that it is important to remember the history of Jamestown. Ms. Gaillard asked that she and Mr. Judge be given the chance to motion to approve the nomination. Mr. Judge expressed his appreciation for Mr. James and his effort to interpret and share the history of the agrarian past. Ms. Gaillard made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Mr. Judge. The Board approved the motion unanimously.
5. **Booker T. Washington High School Auditorium (Columbia, Richland County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Jill Found of the University of South Carolina Center for Civil Rights History and Research. Ms. Doris Glymph Greene, President Emeritus of the Booker T. Washington High School Foundation, class of 1959, said it was important to note that Booker T. Washington was the first high school for African Americans in Richland County, and the second in South Carolina.

She also recalled that families from rural areas rented rooms for their children to stay in so they could attend the school and that many others walked from long distances. She explained that the foundation came to be in the wake of the closure of the school and the subsequent demolition of most of the buildings, and that the purpose of the foundation is to preserve traditions and history. The foundation has also established scholarships. She noted that each year the John Rourke Chorus performs in the auditorium, a preservation of the tradition of all Booker T. Washington students learning and performing spirituals. She also noted that there were a large number of Booker T. Washington alumni present to support the nomination, including Gladys Butler Goforth, who graduated seventy-five years ago. She said that all the alumni are now age sixty or older, and that in order to preserve the legacy of the school beyond their lifetimes, they'd established the Millennium Society for non-alumni. Ms. M. LaNelle Kohn, a graduate of the class of 1968 and later part of the faculty in 1974, thanked Ms. Greene for her remarks. She noted that Dr. Bobby Donaldson and others worked on an exhibit on display at the building to share the history. Ms. Kohn also thanked the Millennium Society and Ms. Kim Greene. Mr. Albert Jackson, class of 1950, wanted to make special mention of J.C. Caroline, one of the greatest athletes to come out of South Carolina, who went on to professional football career. Ms. Alexzena Irving Furgess, class of 1962, said that she grew up in Wheeler Hill, the neighborhood around the school, and that it has changed a lot. She noted that Saxon Elementary and Union Baptist Church were torn down to build the Strom Thurmond Wellness Center and the Carolina Coliseum, respectively, and that Florence Benson Elementary is now part of USC. She explained that the physical landscape she grew up in was almost entirely obliterated and that Booker T. Washington Auditorium was essentially all that remained. She noted that there were six people in the room who had been there when the auditorium opened. She said that to her the National Register listing is about more than just a building, it is about the significance of a way of life. Mr. Matthew Addison, class of 1962, spoke on behalf of the community that once surrounded the school [Wheeler Hill]. He said there are now only five people left in the community and he is glad to see that the auditorium still remains. He said that the nomination means a lot to the Wheeler Hill community. Mr. Clarence Dickerson, class of 1971, shared that as a student he'd hoped that USC would embrace Booker T. Washington as a feeder school, but that didn't happen. He said that listing the auditorium would help ensure its future. Ms. Gladys Butler Goforth spoke about the personal significance of the nomination to her, explaining that she attended school at Booker T. Washington from 1940 to 1944, graduating as valedictorian. She later taught twice at the school, once right after college and again in 1973-74, immediately prior to the school's closure. She said that she was very glad to be present to speak on behalf of the nomination and asked the Board to please vote affirmatively. Dr. Lee noted that the preparer, Ms. Jill found, did an excellent job on this nomination and with Emanuel AME Church, situating each building within its appropriate context. Dr. Lee made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Dr. Brandt. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

6. **Olympia Mill Village Historic District (Columbia and vicinity, Richland County)** was presented by the preparer, Dr. Lydia Brandt, of Ward Brandt Consulting. Dr. Brandt recused herself from the consideration of the nomination.

Ms. Viola Hendley, a resident of Olympia, spoke in support of the nomination. She stated that she had lived in the mill village since 1983 and that listing on the National Register was long one of her goals for the community. She expressed her hope that the nomination would move forward. Mr. Robert Guild, President of the Granby Mill Village Association, also spoke in support of the nomination. He noted that the adjacent Granby Mill Village, where he resides, was listed in 1993 and that the listing fostered a sense of community pride. He noted that when he moved to Granby in 1973 many people still worked in the mills and it was at that time he began to realize the importance of the textile industry in South Carolina history. He noted that recently there was been an upswing in support for mill villages in Columbia. Mr. Guild also recognized Mr. Richard Burts for the rehabilitation of 701 Whaley. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if there were any plans to give the mill village local protection. Ms. Hendley said that she was hopeful that something of that nature could be arranged with Richland County, as most of the village is outside the city limits. Dr. Brandt further explained that all of the worker housing is in Richland County. An audience member asked about plans for a mill museum. Dr. Brandt said that a museum will open in October at the Olympia Mill School, a building recently listed in the National Register. Mr. Judge made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Ms. Hyman. The Board approved the motion unanimously, with Dr. Brandt abstaining.

7. **Columbia Historic District II (Boundary Increase II and Boundary Decrease) (Columbia, Richland County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Janie Campbell, consultant. Mr. Kinney inquired about the boundary decrease. Ms. Campbell explained that the boundary was only being decreased due to the relocation of a building. Dr. Brandt made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Ms. Gaillard. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Other Business

Mr. Kinney announced the following upcoming Review Board meeting dates:

The fall 2018 meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2018.

The spring 2019 meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 15, 2019.

The summer 2019 meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 26, 2019.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Kinney asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Brandt. The meeting adjourned at 12:43 PM.