

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

Draft Minutes of the March 15, 2019 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), Ms. Patricia Lowe Smith, Mr. David Gruner, Ms. Katherine Saunders Pemberton, Dr. J. Edward Lee, Ms. Amy Moore, Ms. Mary Catherine Hyman, Mr. Chris Judge, and Ms. Meg Gaillard

Members Absent

Dr. Kathryn Silva and Dr. A.V. Huff, Jr.

Call to Order

The chairman called the meeting to order at 10:33 A.M., and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introduction of Board Members

Mr. Kinney introduced the board members. Mr. Kinney welcomed new board members, Mr. Derek Gruner and Ms. Patricia Lowe Smith.

Nomination of Vice-Chair

Mr. Kinney requested a nomination for a new Vice-Chair. Ms. Moore nominated Ms. Saunders Pemberton. Mr. Kinney called for a vote and Ms. Saunders Pemberton was unanimously elected Vice-Chair.

Approval of Minutes

The members received the minutes of the November 16, 2018, meeting by mail (or e-mail) in the packets prior to the meeting. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Moore. 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: Mr. Brad Sauls and Ms. Virginia Harness. Mrs. Johnson also recognized other staff present from the State Historic Preservation Office: Mr. Joseph Wilkinson, Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects, Mr. Ramon Jackson, African American Heritage Coordinator, Mr. John Sylvest, Project Review Coordinator, and Ms. Morgan Jones-King, Electronic Records Archivist.

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. **Campbell Chapel AME Church (Bluffton, Beaufort County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Carolyn M. Coppola of Celebrate Bluffton Inc. Ms. Lisa Sulka, Mayor of Bluffton, spoke in support of the nomination. She noted that the church building was constructed one year after Bluffton was incorporated as a town. She also spoke about the importance of the history of the church and that the story of the congregation is one of hope, commitment, and perseverance. She said that Bluffton is committed to preservation and retaining its historic buildings. Rev. Dr. John Black, pastor of Campbell Chapel AME Church also spoke in support of the nomination. He said that the Reconstruction era history of the church was an unspoken and hidden history that the church wants to bring into public awareness. He spoke of the importance of recognizing the building and its history, and noted that the current congregation has biological and cultural ties to the original founders of Campbell Chapel. He further said that recognition of this church, in which multiple ethnic groups have worshipped, recognized the broad society of Bluffton. Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh, Executive Director of Preservation South Carolina also expressed his support for the nomination and noted that it is very rare to find a thriving congregation so committed to the preservation of their historic building. Mr. James Gilliard, a member of Campbell Chapel, also spoke in support of the nomination. He asked each member of the congregation who is descended from the original trustees (all former slaves) of the church to stand and give their names. The descendants of William Lightburn present were: Mr. Nathaniel Pringle, Mr. Frank Gadson, Mr. James Gadson, Ms. Bertha Gadson, and Ms. Jannie Gadson Miranda. The descendants to Jackson Chisolm present were: Ms. Paula Martin and Ms. Yolanda Martin. Ms. Harness noted that there were two letters of support for the nomination, from Mayor Sulka and from Councilman Daniel O. Wood of the Bluffton town council. Mr. Judge asked what sources were used for researching the church's history. Ms. Coppola responded that there was limited documentation and that she relied on the deed, census data, church conference minutes, bank records, oral tradition, and physical evidence from the building. Ms. Saunders Pemberton

mentioned that she appreciated the discussion in the nomination of the agency of the congregation in the changes the made to the church building when they first purchased it. She also asked how this property relates to other Reconstruction sites in Beaufort County. Mayor Sulka said that she is working with the Mayor Keyserling of Beaufort to develop heritage tourism based on Reconstruction history in the area and that the church and the Garvin-Garvey House will be included in that. Ms. Coppola said that the Reconstruction history of Bluffton is not well documented and talked about the importance of talking about the experiences of black and white residents as two parts of a single narrative. She expressed her hope that the nomination of the church is only a first step in adding to that body of knowledge. Ms. Hyman asked if there was a cemetery associated with the church. Ms. Coppola said that there was not a church cemetery but that there is an African American cemetery where at least some members of the church were buried. She noted that many African American cemeteries in the area began as slave cemeteries and are still actively used. Mr. Gilliard also brought up that Jacob Martin, a member of the congregation, is a local historian and knew a lot about the history of the local cemeteries. Rev. Dr. Black brought up that he had an additional letter of support for the nomination from Congressman Joe Cunningham that he would forward to Ms. Harness. Dr. Lee moved to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, with a second by Mr. Judge. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. **Faber House (Charleston, Charleston County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Alexis Eiland of Teras, LLC. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gaillard, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously. Following the approval, Ms. Harness noted that there was a letter in support of the nomination from the Historic Charleston Foundation.
3. **Giovanni Sottile House (Charleston, Charleston County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Christina R. Butler of Butler Preservation L.C. Dr. Bob Weyeneth of the University of South Carolina asked if Giovanni Sottile was an advocate for Italian phosphate mine workers before, after, or during his time working as an accountant for the phosphate industry. Ms. Butler explained that Sottile became an advocate later in his life, after having witnessed atrocities against Italian laborers during his work as an accountant. Ms. Cassandra Williams Rush asked if Sottile was the original owner of the home. Ms. Butler explained that he was not, that the house was built by a Dr. Glover in the 1820s and extensively renovated by a later owner in the 1860s before Sottile purchased it in 1905. Ms. Saunders Pemberton said that she appreciated the way the social history and architectural history of the house were tied together. She also noted that Charleston's Italian heritage is not really represented in any of the existing National Register nominations for the city. Ms. Butler said that as a Sicilian American it was exciting to work on this project and said that this house is one of the few places where the Italian history of Charleston is represented. Ms. Saunders Pemberton and Ms. Butler also mentioned that the Sottile family was involved in various other business ventures in Charleston. Mr. Judge asked why the area of significance was Ethnic Heritage: European rather than Italian. Ms. Harness explained that the areas of significance are defined by the National Register bulletin. Mr. Judge also asked about archaeology at the property. Ms. Butler said that there

wasn't a discussion of archaeology in the nomination but that there may be potential in the garden area. Ms. Moore said that she learned a tremendous amount from this nomination and told Ms. Butler that the enthusiasm and passion for the project was evident in the nomination. Mr. Gruner asked if Sottile used Italian craftsman for his renovations. Ms. Butler said that she did not know as the renovation was not well documented and that information was not available through any existing oral histories. She did say that there were a few Italian masons in Charleston at the time, but that most Italian immigrants in Charleston were laborers rather than craftsmen. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hyman, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

4. **Woodlawn (Quinby, Florence County)** was presented by the preparer, Mr. Kyle Campbell of Preservation South, LLC. The current owners of the property, Mr. Josh Edgeworth and Ms. Corene Gliba were present and Mr. Edgeworth spoke in support of the nomination. He mentioned that many locals in the small town of Quinby have memories of the home. Mr. Campbell noted that the present owners are the first outside the Mitchell family to possess the property. Ms. Moore asked if the ballroom was ever used. Mr. Campbell stated that it was used for the annual ball of the Camden Military Institute for many years, and that Mitchell also held fundraisers there for presidential candidates Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush. Mr. Edgeworth said that there was a local story that James F. Byrnes and Fitz Hollings (former governors of South Carolina) landed in a helicopter in the backyard of Woodlawn to attend the opening of Byrnes Academy and the locals thought a plane had crashed on the property. Ms. Smith asked about Driwood, Mitchell's company. Mr. Campbell explained that Driwood specializes in the recreation of hand-carved architectural moldings. Mr. Kinney, who had visited the house, also expressed his appreciation for its unusual architecture. He noted that the Mitchell family was also associated with the Murray-Mitchell Lighting Company. Mr. Edgeworth said that the pipe organ was removed and sold to a church in North Carolina. Ms. Gaillard made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Dr. Lee. The Board approved the motion unanimously.
5. **Tawana Motel (Myrtle Beach, Horry County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Janie Campbell of Rogers, Lewis, Jackson, Mann & Quinn. Mr. Gruner asked if there are other similar motels listed in the National Register. Ms. Campbell said that another Myrtle Beach motel, the Waikiki Village Motel, built in 1963, came before the Review Board in 2016 and is now listed. Mr. Gruner followed up by asking how many motels like this are still extant in Myrtle Beach. Ms. Campbell said she wasn't certain of the number, but that many have been significantly altered or demolished. Ms. Moore said that she was glad to see some of these motels being documented and preserved given the developmental pressures in the area. Mr. Kinney asked if the motel is privately owned. Ms. Campbell explained that it was, and that the owners are currently in the process of selling to a buyer interested in pursuing a historic tax credit project. Ms. Moore made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Mr. Gruner. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

6. **Five Points Historic District (Columbia, Richland County)** was presented by Ms. Virginia Harness on behalf of the preparer, Dr. Lydia Brandt, of Ward Brandt Consulting. Mr. Richard Burts spoke on behalf of the nomination and thanked the board for their consideration of the nomination. Ms. Alison Terracio, a member of the Richland County Council, also spoke in support of the nomination. Mr. Gruner said that he has lived near Five Points for twenty four years and walked and biked through it many times. He thanked Mr. Burts for his dedication and loyalty to Five Points. Dr. Lee made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Ms. Moore. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

7. **Dr. Cyril O. Spann Office (Columbia, Richland County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Catherine Fleming Bruce of Tnovsa Global Commons. Mr. Jackson said that he was pleased to see this nomination come before the board. He talked about his work with Columbia63 and how he had learned during his research on that project that Dr. Spann saved the life of Lennie Glover, a student protestor stabbed during a sit-in. The attack on Glover and his subsequent return to protest at the same lunch counter where he was attacked were instrumental in getting people to boycott segregated stores and restaurants. Mr. Jackson also noted that the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission supports the nomination. Rev. Dr. Doris L. Hicks, president of the Columbia Section of the National Council of Negro Women, expressed her support for the nomination. Ms. Cassandra Williams Rush also spoke in support of the nomination. She said that she moved to Columbia in 1970 but was originally from Williamsburg County, where Dr. Spann came every Thursday to perform surgery at the Benevolent Society Hospital in Kingtree. Ms. Lenora Bell, representing the Delta Eta Chapter of the Chi Eta Phi Sorority also spoke in support of the nomination. Ms. Bell said that while she herself had not worked with Dr. Spann, a member of the nurses' sorority did work with him. Councilwoman Terracio also expressed her support for the nomination. Ms. Harness noted that there were nineteen letters of support for the nomination, including letters from nine members of the South Carolina legislature. Other letters came from local elected officials, local medical professionals, and numerous organizations aware of or associated with Dr. Spann's life and work. Ms. Moore said she was curious about how gradual integration in Columbia was accomplished. Ms. Fleming Bruce said that much of her information on the subject came from the thesis written by Brad Sauls and Columbia63. Mr. Sauls stated that his thesis was just the tip of the iceberg on that period of Columbia's history. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked about the current and proposed use of the building. Ms. Fleming Bruce said that the building is presently owned by Dr. Spann's son, who is also a doctor and lived in Atlanta, Georgia. She said that they are working with the owner to try and make the building to the public and are applying for grants. She also said that the Good Samaritan-Waverly Hospital building nearby is going to be put back into use and she hoped that they could work with them to showcase the complimentary history of the two historic properties. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if the Dr. Matilda A. Evans House, presented at the previous Review Board, is nearby. Ms. Fleming Bruce said that it was relatively close. Ms. Moore said that next Friday there would be marker dedications at both Good Samaritan-Waverly Hospital and the Dr. Evans House. Mr. Judge told Ms. Fleming Bruce that he appreciated her work on this more recent

era in history and the Civil Rights Movement. Mr. Judge 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 summer 2019 meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 26, 2019.

The fall 2018 meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 15, 2019.

The spring 2019 meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2020.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Kinney asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Lee. The meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM.