

Director's Report  
September 9, 2002

1. I did meet with Jerry Orr, Manager of Charlotte Douglas International Airport. He continues to be opposed to the designation of the W.P.A. Hangar as a historic landmark but is committed to its preservation. He simply feels that historic landmark designation is unnecessary and possibly complicating for its future preservation. The issue before the Commission is whether it wishes to move forward with the designation process. I would suggest that you invite Mr. Orr to the October meeting of the HLC to explain his position.
2. I have not heard from the Newell Community Association about its feelings with respect to the preservation of the William and Rachel Newell Neill House. Stephanie Williams is a member of the Survey Committee, which will be meeting on Thursday night. I will get an update from her and report to the Commission at its October meeting.
3. I have been unable to reach the lawyer who represents the owners of a substantial portion of the Washam Farm on the Davidson Concord Road. They were supposed to report by August what portion of the land they would support for historic landmark designation. I will continue to pursue this matter.
4. Ron Tober of CATS and representatives of the City and Charlotte Trolley will be meeting with HLC staff and members this week to develop a specific strategy for negotiating a contract for purchase of the Southern Public Utilities Streetcar Barn at South Boulevard and Bland Streets.
5. The closing on the Sidney and Ethel Grier House has occurred. The HLC will be moving ahead with securing and stabilizing the property. The Projects Committee will be formulating a recommendation on what action the HLC might take to preserve the house.
6. The Survey of African American historic places will be finished this month. A presentation will be made to the Survey Committee at an upcoming meeting.
7. The HLC will be moving forward with processing several properties for historic landmark designation by the end of the year. These include: the Bradford Farm, the Lee House, the Washam Farm, the sites for the Oehler House and the McAulay House, and additional land at White Oak Plantation.
8. As you know, City Council did not approve the rezoning petition for the Grier-Rea House. Staff, especially Bryan Turner, has been working mightily to move the house off its historic site. The house will be moved at 11:30PM on September 9th. Crouch Brothers estimates that it will take approximately six hours to move the house to its temporary staging area.
9. I anticipate that the rezoning for the land at the Dr. George E. and Marie Davis House on Campus Street will occur in the near future. Soon thereafter, the Commission will be acquiring the house from Johnson C. Smith University and undertaking restoration. The house will eventually be sold back to the University.
10. Restoration work continues at the W. T. Alexander Plantation. The Commission has voted to place the property on the market once the current work is completed, which should be by the end of October.

11. The windows are being installed at Building B of the Charlotte Cotton Mills. Pappas Properties will be actively marketing the property for sale.

12. Architect Donny Luke is working on construction drawings for the restoration of the Rozzell House, and Allen Brooks will soon be doing the same for the Auxiliary Building at the Davidson Schoolhouse at Rural Hill.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan L. Morrill

The Hornet's Nest is the symbol of Mecklenburg County. In 1780 the British army occupied Charlotte and its environs. They called Mecklenburg County a "Hornet's Nest" of rebellion because of the opposition to British rule among the local Scots-Irish settlers. It is also the symbol of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. By clicking on it you will always be taken back to the HLC homepage.