

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

June 27, 2018

Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

Stewart Gray Preservation Planner Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission 2100 Randolph Road Charlotte, NC 28207

RE: Proposed Designation of the Albert Wallace Log House, 9425 Robinson Church Road, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County

Dear Mr. Gray:

Thank you for the report we received on the proposed designation of the Albert Wallace Log House located at 9425 Robinson Church Road in Charlotte. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

The report states the Albert Wallace Log House has special local significance in three areas: significance for architecture as an intact example of a c.1850 log house in Mecklenburg County; significance for its (inferred) historic use as a slave dwelling; and significance for its use as a sharecropper's house from 1880-c.1910 by the Tena Wallace family. Although the report describes the current appearance of the house as dating to the 1950 renovation it does not include a statement of integrity. Thus, we recommend revising the report to include a detailed description of how the property maintains architectural integrity to convey the three claimed areas of special local significance. Once the report has been revised to include this information the commission will have enough information to decide whether or not the property has the requisite special significance and integrity for local landmark designation.

Please note, the Albert Wallace Log House (c. 1850) property may contain significant archaeological resources, particularly materials associated with the lives of enslaved individuals on a nineteenth-century plantation. Care should be taken to avoid inadvertent damage or destruction of any potential archaeological resources during ground disturbing activities.

Landmark designation means the community recognizes the property is worthy of preservation because of its special significance to the local community. Any substantial changes in design, materials, and appearance to the property is subject to the design review procedures of the preservation commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the report. Please note, our comments are advisory only and therefore, nonbinding. Once the governing board has received a recommendation from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, it should proceed in the same manner as would otherwise

be required for an amendment to the zoning ordinance. Once the decision has been made, please return a completed copy of the enclosed form to our office.

This letter serves as our comments on the proposed designation of the Albert Wallace Log House. Please contact me at 919-807-6575 should you have any questions about our comments.

Sincerely,

Amber E. Stimpson

Amber E. Stimpson Local Preservation Commissions / CLG Coordinator

CC: Commission Chair

Enclosure