



Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Minutes and records, 1966-1973

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Minutes of Historic Landmarks Commission - January 6, 1970



The Commission met in the Ninth Street State Office Building on Tuesday, January 6, 1970, at 10:30 A. M. The following members were present: Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Mrs. Benjamin P. Alsop, Dr. Frederick Herman, Mr. John M. Jennings, Mr. Frederick D. Nichols, and Mr. William R. Seward. Absent: Mr. Stanley W. Abbott, Mr. Randolph W. Church, and Mr. Marvin M. Sutherland. Also present: Mr. James W. Moody, Jr., Executive Director, and Mr. J. R. Fishburne, Assistant Director.

The minutes of the meeting of December 2, 1969 were approved as distributed by mail.

On motion of Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Alsop, the Commission's balance sheet as of December 31, 1969 was approved and is attached to these minutes as Appendix I.

Mr. Moody reported that the Commission in fiscal 1970 will receive \$49,272.31 from the Federal Government under the National Historic Preservation Act, which is the largest single grant to any state.

Mr. Fishburne reported that publication of the HABS catalog has been delayed because Mr. Brown Morton of the HABS office, who was working in the northern part of the state, was seriously injured in an automobile accident. The Commission staff will complete his portion of the field work, and Mr. Morton plans to do the editorial work while recovering. It is now hoped that the manuscript can be completed by June, 1970.

Mr. Moody referred to the request from Historic Fredericksburg for \$25,000 to assist in the rehabilitation of the Old Stone Warehouse. Mr. Moody, Mr. Fishburne, and Mr. Loth have visited the warehouse and found it in very bad condition. The staff recognizes the need for funds to stabilize and protect the building and hopes that a sufficient sum can be had from the City and HUD. However, the staff sees a greater

need in Fredericksburg for a comprehensive study of the historic potential of the entire historic area of the City, and would support a request for \$25,000 for such a purpose.

Mr. Moody reported that he had received replies from all of the U. S. Senators and Congressmen except one concerning the west front of the U. S. Capitol, and eight of them were in hearty agreement with the Commission's desire to see to it that this part of the Capitol is restored, and three acknowledged receipt of the letter with thanks. (Since the meeting a reply has been received from the other Congressman, who acknowledged with thanks the views of the Commission.)

Mr. Fishburne reported that the staff is working on a rough draft of the Progress Report of the Commission, which will include the 201 sites and structures on the Virginia Landmarks Register, as well as introductory material.

Mr. Moody reported that the easement from Justice Hugo L. Black on his property at 619 South Lee Street in Alexandria was recorded on December 31, 1969. Permission was granted by the State Attorney General's office for Mr. Moody to sign the easement for the Commission and the transaction was approved by the Governor's office.

Mr. Moody presented a map showing Mayfield Cottage and the amount of land requested of the Hospital Board for the cottage, and also the parcel of land granted by the Hospital Board. There was a discussion on whether or not the Commission should endorse efforts on the part of Historic Petersburg to go back to the Hospital Board and again present the original request to provide a better setting for the house. On motion of Dr. Herman, seconded by Mr. Nichols, the Commission agreed to accept the parcel of land for Mayfield Cottage as proposed by the State Hospital Board. However, efforts will be made to try to obtain a twenty-foot access easement from the hospital entrance road to the Mayfield property. Also,

Mr. Moody will investigate whether or not an easement can be granted without the approval of the General Assembly.

Mr. Tucker Hill showed slides of the old post office at Charlotte Court House during its destruction, and the new post office which has replaced it. The Charlotte Court House area had been proposed as a preservation zone by the Register Committee before destruction of the old post office, but it is now believed that the character of the area has been altered to such an extent that it cannot be considered for the Register. Mr. Hill read from copies of correspondence with the U. S. Post Office Department concerning this new building. On motion of Dr. Herman, seconded by Mr. Nichols, Mr. Moody was instructed to write a letter (for Dr. Alexander's signature) to Mr. Blount, Postmaster General of the United States, outlining the hopes of the Commission that the Post Office Department will create a set of criteria which will take into consideration the environmental aesthetics, as well as the physical requirements of new post offices, in conformity with Mr. Blount's statement (which is to be quoted). It was suggested that he state that one of Virginia's outstanding architectural heritages is its court houses. Mrs. Alsop stated that a great deal can be done by planting around the new post office, and suggested that a copy of this letter be sent to the Garden Club of Virginia, asking for their cooperation in rectifying the situation.

Mr. Moody presented a letter from the Fort Henry Branch, A.P.V.A., asking for support of their request to the General Assembly for \$37,500 to complete restoration of the Farmers Bank Building in Petersburg. On motion of Dr. Herman, seconded by Mr. Nichols, the Commission agreed to support a request for \$20,000 from the General Assembly for the A.P.V.A. to complete restoration of the Farmers Bank Building in Petersburg, contingent upon the balance of the necessary funds being raised by the A.P.V.A., and with the understanding that the \$20,000, if approved by the state, be expended

for the exterior masonry work, and that other funds be used for the interior work.

Mr. Moody reported that the Commission is being offered a historic easement on "Rock Castle" in Goochland County by Mr. and Mrs. Igor Moravsky, which includes 145 acres. On motion of Mr. Nichols, seconded by Dr. Herman, the Commission agreed to accept the offer of a historic easement from Mr. and Mrs. Moravsky on "Rock Castle" in Goochland County, subject to concurrence of the Governor's office.

Mr. Moody presented a letter from the Chairman of the Restoration Committee of St. James' Episcopal Church, Accomac, requesting the support of the Commission for an appropriations bill of \$9,000 to assist in restoration of the church. On motion of Mrs. Alsop, seconded by Mr. Nichols, the Commission requested that a letter be written to the proper person stating that the Commission will reconsider the request for funds to help in the restoration of St. James' Episcopal Church at Accomac after the Commission has been informed of who is going to do the work and how the funds will be spent.

Mr. Tucker Hill presented slides of the Longwood College Alumnae House in Farmville and stated that the building is threatened by demolition. He also presented a report describing the interior and exterior of the building which emphasized its aesthetic qualities. On motion of Mr. Nichols, seconded by Dr. Herman, the Commission requested Mr. Moody to write a letter, over Dr. Alexander's signature, to the Chairman of the State Art Commission, with copies to the A.P.V.A., President Willett, and the Garden Club of Virginia, strongly supporting the preservation of the Longwood Alumnae House at Farmville. Dr. Herman suggested that a copy be sent to each member of the Art Commission.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 1970, at 10:30 A. M.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 P. M.

Historic Landmarks Commission
Balance Sheet
December 31, 1969

Code	Item	Appropriated	Allotted	Expended or Encumbered*	Balance of Allotment
436					
01	Maintenance and Operation	\$93,720.00	\$46,860.00	\$42,483.59	\$ 4,376.41
	(Agency Service Contracts			(23.11	
	(Other Contractual Services			(73.72	
	(Office Equipment			(56.20	
	(Office Supplies			(785.21	
				(275.00*	
	(Travel			(761.84	
	(Communication			(1,110.05	
	(Photo. Equipment			(130.58	
	(Photo. Supplies			(1,049.76	
	(Lab. Supplies			(45.02	
	(Books & Periodicals			(280.61	
				(12.46*	
	(Insurance			(10.00	
	(Rent (Xerox machine)			(851.51	
	(Dues & Subscriptions			(59.75	
	(General Repairs			(33.25	
	Personal Service				
	(Salaries			(36,725.52	
	(Wages			(200.00	
90	Gifts, Grants, Donations				
	(Federal Funds)	6,164.61	6,164.61	5,434.59	730.02
	(Travel			2,209.34	
	(Wages			3,225.25	
10	Erection of Highway Markers	2,500.00	2,500.00	693.96	1,806.04
91	Collections for Destroyed Markers	659.00	288.55	- 0 -	288.55

Item	Appropriated	Allotted	Expended	Balance of Appropriation
Registered Landmarks, Sites, Easements	\$ 5,000.00	- 0 -	- 0 -	\$5,000.00
911 01 Virginia Historical Society	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	- 0 -
912 01 Confederate Museum	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	- 0 -
914 01 Stratford	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	- 0 -
915 01 Valentine Museum	12,500.00	12,500.00	12,500.00	- 0 -
922 01 Norfolk Naval Museum	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	- 0 -
924 01 Kenmore Association	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	- 0 -
936 01 Scotchtown	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	- 0 -
937 01 Woodrow Wilson Birthplace	8,500.00	8,500.00	8,500.00	- 0 -
938 01 Poe Foundation	3,100.00	3,100.00	3,100.00	- 0 -
939 01 Red Hill	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	- 0 -