



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Pat McCrory, Governor
Susan Kluttz, Secretary
Kevin Cherry, Deputy Secretary

Office of Archives and History
Division of Historical Resources

April 1, 2016

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

**RE: Landmark Designation Report for the Walters Barber Shop, 112-114 South Main Street,
Huntersville, Mecklenburg County**

Dear Mr. Gray:

Thank you for the report for the above-cited property which is being proposed for landmark designation. We have reviewed the information in the report and offer the following comments in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-400.4.

The Walters Barber Shop building was constructed in 1920 and the north storefront was a barber shop from 1920 to 1972. The south storefront was a notions shop from 1920 to 1934, and the home of the Walters family from 1940 to 1952. The barber shop operated through two generations of the Walters family, surviving the Depression and World War II, and thriving during the 1950s. The historic integrity of the building has been lessened through the enclosure of both storefronts and the boarding up of the rear windows. On the interior the residential rooms in the south storefront space no longer exist and both commercial spaces have been remodeled. With these comments in mind, we believe the local governing board now has sufficient information to determine whether or not the Walters Barber Shop qualifies for local landmark designation.

Landmark designation means the community recognizes a property as an important historic resource worthy of preservation. Any substantial exterior design changes to a designated landmark are subject to the design review procedures of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. The owner may apply for an annual deferral of fifty percent of the property taxes for as long as the property is designated and retains significance and integrity.

If the local governing board wishes to extend the Commission's design review authority to significant features of the interior, the owner must give written consent. The designation ordinance must specify the features and describe the nature of the Commission's design review authority over them.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the report. Our comments are advisory only and are not binding. Once the governing board has received a recommendation from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg

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Historic Landmarks Commission and has proceeded in the same manner as would otherwise be required for an amendment to the zoning ordinance, the governing board may proceed with the designation decision. Once the designation decision has been made, please return the completed designation confirmation form, enclosed.

This letter serves as our comments on the proposed landmark designation of the Walters Barber Shop. Please contact me at 919-807-6575 should you have any questions about our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Mitchell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "L" and "M".

Laurie Mitchell

Local Preservation Commissions / CLG Coordinator

CC: Commission Chair

Enclosure