

Draft Minutes

JOINT MEETING
STATE REVIEW BOARD and BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
10:00 a.m. September 18, 2025
Reynolds Leadership Center, Virginia Museum of History and Culture
428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220

State Review Board Members Present

John Mullen, Chair
Dr. Jody L. Allen
Dr. Eleanor Breen
Carol Shull
Dr. Larissa M. Smith
Greg Rutledge

Historic Resources Board Members Present

Dr. Ken Rutherford
Aimee Jorjani
Martin Townes
Mary Pope Hutson
Dr. Ashley Spivey
Jamie Bosket

State Review Board Members Absent

Dr. Jeffrey Klee

Historic Resources Board Members Absent

None

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Julie Langan, Director
Roger Kirchen, Deputy Director
Jolene Smith
Jennifer Pullen
Michael Pulice
Joanna McKnight
Caitlin Sylvester
Joanna Hejl
Austin Walker
Ivy Tan*
Mae Tilley*

Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Amanda Terrell
Megan Melinat
Brad McDonald
Aubrey Von Lindern
Ari Calos
Blake McDonald
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Elizabeth Lipford
Kyle Edwards*
Karri Richardson*

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General
Sarah Spota, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources*

**denotes virtual attendance*

Guests Present (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets):

Jody Lahendro	Lena McDonald	Marcus Pollard
Paige Pollard	Kayla Halberg	Celina Adams
Leon Guanzon	Robin Patton	Horace Scruggs
Emily Winkey	Kajsa Foskey	Sharlene Wrenn
Erica Aaron	Lisa Aaron	Sean Dunlap
Faye Taylor	Artelle Spicely	Ashley Neville
Kelley Berliner	Taylor Evans	Dara Friedberg
Stephanie Newman	Annie Cupka	Pastor Damaro Robinson
Andres Romero Pompa	Samantha Pomier Jofre	Mia Copeland
Mary Ruffin Hanbury		

State Review Board (SRB)

Chair Mullen called the State Review Board to order at 10:00 a.m.

Deputy Director Williams took roll call of SRB members to confirm the presence of a quorum. Chair Mullen, Vice-Chair Allen, Dr. Breen, Ms. Shull, Dr. Smith, and Mr. Rutledge are present.

Chair Mullen read the land acknowledgement statement. He next explained the purpose and duties of the SRB and the process of Register designation. Each SRB member introduced themselves.

Chair Mullen noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online, and that it is being recorded. He said that some members of the public are attending the meeting online.

Chair Mullen next asked the SRB members if there were any questions about the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the meeting format and agenda. Dr. Breen so moved, and Dr. Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to approve the June 12, 2025, meeting minutes. Mr. Rutledge so moved, and Dr. Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to approve the 2026 meeting schedule, with the proposed dates being March 19, June 18, September 17, and December 10. Dr. Allen so moved, and Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Board of Historic Resources (BHR)

Chair Jorjani called the Board of Historic Resources to order at 10:09 a.m. Deputy Director Williams took roll call of BHR members to establish the presence of a quorum: Chair Jorjani, Vice-Chair Rutherford, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes, Ms. Hutson, and Mr. Bosket are present.

Chair Jorjani next requested a motion to nominate a new chair and vice-chair of the Board. Dr. Spivey moved to elect Dr. Rutherford as chair and Ms. Jorjani as vice-chair. Ms. Hutson and Mr. Bosket seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to elect Dr. Rutherford as chair and Ms. Jorjani as vice-chair.

Chair Rutherford explained the purpose and duties of the BHR. He invited BHR members to introduce themselves and introduced himself. Chair Rutherford noted that today's meeting is taking place in person and online and is being recorded. He said that some DHR staff members are attending the meeting online as are members of the public.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion for approval of the meeting format and agenda. Mr. Bosket so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative. Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve the June 12, 2025, meeting minutes. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to approve the 2026 meeting schedule. Mr. Jorjani so moved, and Mr. Bosket seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford then introduced Director Langan.

Director's Report & Recognition

Director Langan began her report by thanking Chair Rutherford and Vice-Chair Jorjani for their willingness to continue in the BHR's leadership roles. She then introduced Andrew Tarne from the State Attorney General's Office, who was in attendance.

Director Langan then moved into a discussion of the Department's budget and funding. She informed the Boards that, after months of uncertainty at the federal level, the proposed budgets from both the House and Senate have added back level funding for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) following the initial recommendation of removal from the President. She then stated that the Department's preparations for the upcoming General Assembly session are already underway and have included meetings with the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the drafting of budget requests; the Governor's proposed budget will be released in mid-December. Director Langan noted that concern over the potential trickle-down effect from federal cuts has meant that state agencies have been cautioned to temper expectations and focus on highest priorities in drafting requests.

Director Langan then informed the Boards that access to DHR's archaeological collections will be temporarily impacted by a systematic review under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), with Tribal Liaison Jess Hendrick leading a task force that is working to develop a process for repatriation and tribal consultation as well as a NAGPRA communication plan. She noted the difficulty in establishing a firm timeframe for the project given the Department's extensive collection and limited staff.

Director Langan next offered an update on DHR's ongoing grant programs. She noted that the Virginia 250 Preservation Fund has been going very well, with 35 projects currently funded, of which four have already completed work. She also informed the Boards that Clermont in Clarke County, which the Department owns, has been awarded \$750,000 from the National Park Service's Semiquincentennial Grant program.

Director Langan concluded her report by notifying the Boards of DHR's upcoming webinar on historic churches, developed in collaboration with Preservation Virginia and the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Scheduled for October 9, the webinar will offer a primer on historic preservation of church buildings and is open to all denominations.

Chair Rutherford next introduced Caitlin Sylvester, DHR Grant Coordinator, to present the Department's recommendations for the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Historic Preservation Grant Program.

BIPOC Funding Recommendation Approval

Ms. Sylvester began by providing a brief overview of the BIPOC Grant program and the application process. She stated that staff received 56 completed full applications for this round of funding, of which 20 were elevated to a second round of review. The Department recommends funding seven projects for a total of \$2,514,254:

- Historic Free Hill Cemetery Archaeological Study, Columbia, Fluvanna County – \$110,498
- Jamestown Contraband Project, Jamestown, James City County – \$317,500
- Mattaponi Indian Tribe Cultural and Historical Resource Revitalization Project, West Point, King William County – \$999,990
- The Reclamation of Our Heritage: Preserving the Samuel D. Outlaw Blacksmith Shop, Onancock, Accomack County – \$64,967
- 1935 Walker-Grant School Rehabilitation, City of Fredericksburg – \$545,175
- Strong Boards for Sacred Walls: Virginia Nottoway Indian Community House & Interpretive Center, Capron, Southampton County – \$50,000
- The Museum of West Warm Springs and Meeting House-The John Wesley ME Church Restoration, Warm Springs, Bath County – \$503,918

Ms. Sylvester concluded by presenting the Board of Historic Resources with a resolution to award the funding as recommended.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion for approval of the BIPOC Funding Resolution. Mr. Bosket so moved, and Dr. Spivey seconded. The Board members voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Comment

Chair Rutherford introduced and explained the purpose of the public comment period and noted that speakers are asked to limit their remarks to three minutes. He added that the BHR will not take action on any comments presented today but DHR will take the comments under consideration. He added that a second comment period will occur when the BHR meets this afternoon to review Highway Marker and Easement program materials.

Five people signed in to speak in person. Three people attending virtually registered to speak:

1. Sharlene Wrenn, an alumnus of Rocky Branch School, spoke in support of the nomination. She thanked members of the alumni committee, including chair Raymond Wrenn, as well as Jody Lahendro, Martha Catlin of the National Park Service, staff from Preservation Virginia, and Marcus Pollard and Lena McDonald of Commonwealth Preservation Group for their guidance and contributions to recognizing and preserving the school.
2. Robin Patton of One Shared Story spoke in support of the African American Churches in Virginia Multiple Property Document (MPD), a long-term project for which One Shared Story received a National Park Service Underrepresented Communities Grant. Ms. Patton began by thanking Gloria Gilmore, founding member and former chair of One Shared Story, who first envisioned the project; Ms. Gilmore passed away in February 2025. She thanked former DHR staff member Jim Hare, who first introduced the idea of an MPD, as well as current DHR Grant Specialist Blake McDonald, who assisted with navigating the grant development and application process. She went on to thank Bright Hope Baptist Church for their support and collaboration, Paige Pollard and Commonwealth Preservation Group for their work developing the document, and all those who assisted with guidance and oral histories for the project.
3. Horace Scruggs of One Shared Story spoke in support of the African American Churches in Virginia MPD, for which he also provided an oral history interview to assist in the development of the historic context.
4. Emily Winkey of One Shared Story spoke in support of the African American Churches in Virginia MPD.
5. Kajsa Foskey of One Shared Story spoke in support of the African American Churches in Virginia MPD.
6. Lisa Aaron, church secretary for Bright Hope Baptist Church, was unable to unmute her microphone during the public comment period but provided a written statement in support of the nomination to the Boards.
7. Erica Aaron, a member of Bright Hope Baptist Church, was unable to unmute her microphone during the public comment period but provided a written statement in support of the nomination to the Boards.
8. Pastor Damaro Robinson of Bright Hope Baptist Church spoke in support of the nomination and offered his thanks to Robin Patton and Gloria Gilmore of One Shared Story.

Chair Rutherford thanked everyone who spoke today, noted that their comments will receive careful consideration, and said that the public comment period is concluded.

Chair Rutherford called for a brief break at 10:56 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:02 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Statewide

1. African American Churches in Virginia Multiple Property Documentation Form, DHR File No. 500-0010 Δ

Mr. Austin Walker presented the African American Churches in Virginia MPDF.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the African American Churches in Virginia MPDF as presented. Dr. Smith moved that the MPDF be approved. Vice-Chair Allen seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the MPDF as presented.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the African American Churches in Virginia MPDF as presented. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Vice-Chair Jorjani seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the MPDF as presented.

Eastern Region

1. Bright Hope Baptist Church and Cemetery, Louisa County, DHR File No. 054-5480 Δ \$
2. Woodland Cemetery, Henrico County and City of Richmond, DHR File No. 043-0742 Δ **
3. Bear Garden, King William County, DHR File No. 050-0005 **

Ms. Joanna McKnight presented nominations 1 through 3 as a block.

4. Rocky Branch School, Dinwiddie County, DHR File No. 026-5114 Δ \$
5. *Daily Press* Building, City of Newport News, DHR File No. 121-5563
6. Norfolk Cultural and Convention Center, City of Norfolk, DHR File No. 122-5968 **

Ms. Ari Calos presented nominations 4 through 6 as a block.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Allen moved that the nominations be approved. Ms. Shull seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Eastern Region nominations as presented. Mr. Bosket so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Northern Region

1. William H. Randall Estates Historic District, Fairfax County, DHR File No. 029-6392 Δ ***
2. Wine House, Shenandoah County, DHR File No. 085-0178

Ms. Aubrey Von Lindern presented nominations 1 and 2 as a block.

Vice-Chair Jorjani asked whether the Department had received letters of support from residents of the William H. Randall Estates neighborhood. Ms. Von Lindern noted the high attendance and support at the public hearing for the nomination and said that additional letters should be forthcoming prior to submission of the nomination to the National Park Service.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Dr. Breen moved that the nominations be approved. Mr. Rutledge seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Northern Region nominations as presented. Ms. Hutson so moved, and Dr. Spivey seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Western Region

1. Parry McCluer High School, City of Buena Vista, DHR File No. 103-5194
2. P. Lorillard Tobacco Company Warehouse Complex, City of Danville, DHR File No. 108-6186 **
3. Abingdon Historic District 2025 Update, Town of Abingdon, Washington County, DHR File No. 140-0037 * **

Mr. Mike Pulice presented nominations 1 through 3 as a block.

Mr. Bosket and Ms. Hutson asked about the current and future use of the P. Lorillard Tobacco Company warehouses. Mr. Pulice said that he was not currently aware of any specific plans for the buildings. Dara Friedberg, co-author of the nomination, noted that the buildings are still in use.

Chair Mullen requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Vice-Chair Allen moved that the nominations be approved. Ms. Shull seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Rutherford requested a motion to approve the Western Region nominations as presented. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Ms. Hutson seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to approve the nominations as presented.

Chair Mullen asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Dr. Allen so moved, and Dr. Smith seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

Chair Rutherford asked for a motion to adjourn the joint session of the BHR and SRB. Dr. Spivey so moved, and Mr. Bosket seconded. The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the joint session.

The joint meeting adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

Register Summary of Resources Listed: Historic Districts: 5
Buildings: 5
Structures: 0
Sites: 1
Objects: 0
MPDs: 1

BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Reynolds Leadership Center, Virginia Museum of History and Culture
428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220

Board of Historic Resources Members Present:

Ken Rutherford, PhD, Chair
Aimee K. Jorjani, Vice Chair
Jamie Bosket
Mary Pope Hutson
Ashley Spivey, PhD
Martin Townes

Department of Historic Resources (DHR)

Staff Present:

Julie Langan, Director
Stephanie Williams, Deputy Director
Kyle Edwards
Elizabeth Lipford
Dr. Jennifer Loux
Brad McDonald
Megan Melinat
Wendy Musumeci*
Jennifer Pullen
Karri Richardson*

**denotes virtual attendance*

Other State Agency Staff Present:

Andrew Tarne, Office of the Attorney General

Guests Present from Attendees List at Meeting:

Emmett Heltzel
Jennifer Paulson Lee
Ina Dixon
Tyson Gilpin
Brent Whittlesey

Guests Registered in Teams:

Adeela Al-Khalili
Dorothy Davis
Norma Johnson
Jonathan Hackworth
Robert Gilbert
C. Cilento Johnson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rutherford called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

Chair Rutherford read the Board of Historic Resources Call to Order of those members present: Vice Chair Jorjani, Mr. Bosket, Ms. Hutson, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes and Chair Rutherford.

Chair Rutherford read the following Land Acknowledgement Statement:

The Department of Historic Resources, the Board of Historic Resources, and the State Review Board acknowledge the indigenous peoples of Virginia and express its gratitude for their continued stewardship of her lands and waterways over many generations. We also acknowledge the free and enslaved Africans and their descendants whose labors and contributions on behalf of the Commonwealth have long been overlooked. We commit ourselves to meaningful engagement with all Virginians, past and present, as we strive to fulfill our charge as stewards of Virginia's long and rich history.

Chair Rutherford read the following BHR Purpose Statement:

The Virginia Board of Historic Resources is an official policy-making board of the Commonwealth of Virginia created by the Code of Virginia. Its policies are implemented by the Department of Historic Resources, which day in and day out labors on behalf of our irreplaceable resources in the interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth. The Board is charged primarily with the responsibility for:

1. *Designating historic landmarks of local, statewide, or national significance;*
2. *Establishing historic preservation practices for the care and management of our Virginia Historic Landmarks;*
3. *Designating state-recognized historic districts and archaeological sites and zones;*
4. *Approving historical highway markers;*
5. *Reviewing programs and services of the Agency, and making recommendations to the Director of DHR and the Governor regarding programs and services; and in order to preserve important sites and buildings in perpetuity; and*
6. *Accepting voluntarily granted gifts of preservation easements over historic properties to the Commonwealth.*

The Governor of Virginia selects members of the Board from volunteer and professional leaders of Virginia's history, preservation, and museum communities. Votes taken during this meeting are official actions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

Chair Rutherford asked the Board members to introduce themselves: Vice Chair Jorjani, Mr. Bosket, Ms. Hutson, Dr. Spivey, Mr. Townes and Chair Rutherford.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public spoke in favor of several highway markers including the Blue Ridge Parkway, TransAmerica Bicycle Trail, Gilbert's Restaurant and Thomas Laws.

The Public Comment agenda ended at 1:27 p.m.

HIGHWAY MARKERS

Dr. Jennifer Loux presented the following eight (8) New Markers as a block.

New Markers

1. Cypress Chapel Christian Church

Sponsor: Cypress Chapel Christian Church

Locality: City of Suffolk

Proposed Location: 1891 Cypress Chapel Road

2. Danville Canal

Sponsor: The Danville Research Center for African American History and Culture

Locality: City of Danville

Proposed Location: 424 Memorial Drive

3. Antioch (Rosenwald) School

Sponsor: Antioch Baptist Church

Locality: Mathews County

Proposed Location: 183 Antioch Road, Susan, VA

4. Dr. Elbyrne Grady Gill (1891-1966)

Sponsor: Nelson Harris

Locality: City of Roanoke

Proposed Location: 700 block of South Jefferson Street

5. Blue Ridge Parkway

Sponsor: American Society of Civil Engineers, Virginia Section

Locality: Nelson County

Proposed Location: Rockfish Gap Scenic Overlook, I-64 East

6. Gilbert's Restaurant

Sponsor: Pittsylvania Historical Society

Locality: Pittsylvania County

Proposed Location: 401 N. Main Street, Chatham

7. Patrick Central School

Sponsor: Patrick Central School Alumni

Locality: Patrick County

Proposed Location: Salem Highway (Route 8) near intersection with Black Jack Road

8. TransAmerica Bicycle Trail

Sponsor: Jennifer and William C. Lee

Locality: Botetourt County

Proposed Location: Catawba Road west of US 220

Board Comments Summary:

No discussion.

With a motion to approve New Markers #1-8 by J. Bosket and a second from A. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following five (5) Replacement Markers:

Replacement Markers

1. Gen. Edward Stevens (ca. 1745-1820) G-10

Sponsor: DHR

Locality: Town of Culpeper

Proposed Location: N. Main Street at intersection with Carpenter Drive

2. Pisgah United Methodist Church X-25

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Tazewell County

Proposed Location: US 460/19 (Trail of the Lonesome Pine) at intersection with Orchard Road

3. Gabriel's Uprising SA-66

Sponsor: DHR

Locality: City of Richmond

Proposed Location: Broad Street between I-95 and N. 16th Street

4. Medical Department of Randolph-Macon College F-69

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Prince Edward County

Proposed Location: US Route 15, south of intersection with Route 758

5. Action at Mill Creek A-71

Sponsor: VDOT

Locality: Shenandoah County

Proposed Location: Senedo Road (Route 42) near intersection with Orkney Grade Road (Route 263)

Board Comments Summary:

No discussion.

With a motion to approve Replacement Markers #1-5 by M. Townes and a second from J. Bosket, all members voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Loux presented the following list of applications under consideration for the December 2025 Board Meeting cycle:

Applications Under Consideration for December 2025 Board Meeting Cycle

1. Thomas Laws (Clarke County)
2. James A. Bland High School (Town of Big Stone Gap)
3. Hippodrome Theatre and the T.O.B.A. Circuit (City of Danville)
4. Battle of Wyerman's Mill (Lee County)
5. Maymont (City of Richmond)
6. Gen. Anthony Wayne's Rappahannock Crossing (Fauquier County)
7. Cypress Baptist Church (Surry County)
8. Home of Future U.S. President Jimmy Carter (City of Norfolk)
9. Northside High School (Pittsylvania County)
10. Clarence Smith (City of Danville)
11. Goochland Recreational Center, Inc. (Goochland County)
12. Crossing the Watershed Divide (Roanoke County)
13. Sir John Peyton (Mathews County)
14. Pohick Indians (Fairfax County)
15. Mojo Nixon (City of Danville)
16. French Quarter Cafe (City of Alexandria)

Marker texts for applications #1-8 (Thomas Laws, James A. Bland High School., Hippodrome Theatre and The T.O.B.A. Circuit, Battle of Wyerman's Mill, Maymont, Gen. Anthony Wayne's Rappahannock Crossing, Cypress Baptist Church, and Home of Future U.S. President Jimmy Carter), will be presented at the December 2025 Board Meeting, and applications #9-10 (Northside High School and Clarence Smith) will serve as alternate selections.

Board Comments Summary:

The Board asked what happens to remaining markers. Staff replied that they must reapply, and suggestions are made to help strengthen the material included. The Board noted that DHR has increased from 5 to 8 markers considered per meeting.

With a motion to approve the Applications for the December 2025 Board Meeting Cycle Applications #1-8 and Alternates #9-10 by A. Jorjani and a second from A. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

Interpretive Sign for Brown Grove Rural Historic District, Hanover County

- Sign measures 24 inches wide by 36 inches tall
- Brown Grove is a historically African American community established post-Civil War during the Reconstruction era, when Black residents began to acquire parcels of land, primarily from subdivided plantations. Until early in the twentieth century, the area was often called Merry Oaks after a nearby

eighteenth-century farm. The current name of Brown Grove is likely derived from the Brown family, a portion of whose property was conveyed in 1883 for the construction of the Brown Grove Baptist Church on Ashcake Road, which continues to serve as the community's spiritual and social center. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, Brown Grove developed into a thriving African American farming community, anchored by the church and connected by a network of farm roads and walking paths which included a handful of locally owned commercial businesses, such as the Jackson Grocery and Jenkins Store. In 1927, a dedicated school for Black students, the Brown Grove School, was completed across the road from the church. After World War II, Brown Grove modernized into a middle-class rural neighborhood, replacing many of its earlier frame dwellings with houses of brick and concrete block. Despite the encroachment of modern development, the community has maintained its continuity. The Brown Grove Rural Historic District was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register in 2022 and the National Register of Historic Places in 2023, encompassing 1,226 acres and includes 65 dwellings, a store, two churches, and 10 cemeteries. Included in the district is Slash Church, constructed 1729-1732, which is individually listed in the National Register.

- Born enslaved on a local plantation belonging to the Perrin family, Caroline Dobson married Jefferson Morris in 1872, and the couple purchased 20 acres in Brown Grove in 1897. During her long lifetime, Caroline worked as a laundress and manager of the family's truck farm, but is best known for her role as a midwife. She is widely known as "the Mother of Brown Grove."
- Founded ca. 1870, Brown Grove Baptist Church began with small outdoor services held in a brush arbor on Sliding Hill Road. In 1883, Edwin Brown conveyed 0.1 acre of his farm to church trustees for a church site. The original frame building, constructed in the late 1920s or early 1930s, burned in 1941 and was replaced in 1945 with the current Gothic Revival brick church.
- One of the largest farms in Brown Grove, approximately 200 acres, was established by Frank and Lucy Garnett in the early 1900s, along both sides of Sliding Hill Road, including the former Merry Oaks Tavern property. The farm was later managed by Nathaniel Winston and his wife Lucy Garnett Winston, Frank and Lucy's daughter.

Board Comments Summary:

No discussion.

With a motion to approve the Interpretive Sign design and text for Brown Grove Rural Historic District, Hanover County by A. Spivey and a second from J. Bosket, all members voted in the affirmative.

Lafayette's Tour Marker, James City County

- On October 22, 1824, General Lafayette embarked on the steamboat Petersburg in Jamestown and arrived in Norfolk later that day.

Board Comments Summary:

No discussion.

With a motion to approve the text of the Lafayette's Tour Marker, James City County by M. Hutson and a second from A. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

New Kent County Local Marker Program

- Sign measures 32 inches wide by 40 inches tall

Board Comments Summary:

The Board clarified that the proportions are different from Virginia Highway markers.

With a motion to approve the design of the New Kent County Local Markers by J. Bosket and a second from A. Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

The Highway Markers portion of the agenda ended at 1:44 p.m.

Update Regarding Virginia Union University Addendum to Mitigation Agreement

Director Langan provided a brief update to the execution of the mitigation agreement.

Board Comments Summary:

Board confirmed that there is not a deadline for response from VUU.

EASEMENTS

Mr. Edwards presented the following new easement offers for consideration

New Easement Offers for Consideration

1. Nason Tract, Second Manassas Battlefield, Prince William County

Easement Applicant: American Battlefield Trust

Offer for ±2.7116 acres

Grant Funding: American Battlefield Protection Program, Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Nason Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. All leases must be subordinated to DHR's easement.
2. Demolition of the existing non-historic dwelling and associated structures and rehabilitation of the landscape must be completed within three (3) years from the date of easement recordation.
3. Rehabilitation or restoration of the landscape shall be conducted according to a written rehabilitation management plan negotiated by DHR and the Trust, and such plan shall be incorporated into the easement either directly or by reference.
4. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the Property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

2. Marshall Tract, Rappahannock Station Battlefield, Fauquier County

Easement Applicant: American Battlefield Trust

Offer for ±0.849 acres

Grant Funding: American Battlefield Protection Program, Fauquier County

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Marshall Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. All leases must be subordinated to DHR's easement.
2. Demolition of the existing non-historic dwelling and associated structures and rehabilitation of the landscape must be completed within three (3) years from the date of easement recordation.
3. Rehabilitation or restoration of the landscape shall be conducted according to a written rehabilitation management plan negotiated by DHR and the Trust, and such plan shall be incorporated into the easement either directly or by reference.
4. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement, and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the Property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

3. Goodale II Tract, Deep Bottom II Battlefield, Henrico County

Easement Applicant: Richmond Battlefields Association

Offer for ±5.708 acres

Grant Funding: Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund

The Easement Acceptance Committee recommends acceptance of the Goodale II Tract easement offer subject to the following conditions:

1. Demolition and removal of the existing non-historic buildings and structures and rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape shall be completed within four (4) years of expiration of the life estate.
2. Rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape shall be conducted according to a written rehabilitation management plan negotiated by DHR and RBA, and such plan shall be incorporated into the easement either directly or by reference.
3. Final review of the title work, title commitment, survey, draft easement and other recorded and unrecorded documents affecting title to the property by the Office of the Attorney General. Per this review, counsel may identify additional issues that require documentation or action.

Board Comments Summary:

Board members questioned the timing of the offer with the purchase re: Nason Tract offer.

With a motion by A. Spivey to approve New Easement Offers for Consideration #1-3 as presented, and a second by A. Jorjani, all members voted in the affirmative.

Easements Recorded Since the June 12, 2025 BHR Meeting

Mr. Edwards briefed the Board about the following recently recorded easements:

1. Wiseman Tract, Cedar Mountain Battlefield, Culpeper County

Easement Donor: Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Acreage: ±155.7199

Recorded: July 9, 2025

Deed of Assignment of Open-Space Easement

2. Buckland Church, Buckland Mills Battlefield, Prince William County

Easement Donor: Thomas J. Ashe, III and Timothy M. Purnell, Trustees of the Thomas J. Ashe, III

Exempt Trust Arising under the Thomas J. Ashe, Jr. Trust dated January 3, 1997

Acreage: ±0.93225

Recorded: August 29, 2025

3. Mauller Tract, Second Manassas Battlefield, Prince William County

Easement Donor: American Battlefield Trust

Acreage: ±3.1121

Recorded: August 29, 2025

Board Comments Summary:

No discussion.

Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn the meeting by J. Bosket and a second by A. Spivey, all members voted in the affirmative.

Chair Rutherford adjourned the meeting of the Board of Historic Resources at 2:02 p.m.

STATE REVIEW BOARD

Collections Room, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221

State Review Board Members Present

John Mullen, Chair
Dr. Jody L. Allen, Vice-Chair
Dr. Eleanor Breen
Greg Rutledge
Carol Shull
Dr. Larissa M. Smith

State Review Board Members Absent

Dr. Jeffrey E. Klee

Department of Historic Resources Staff Present

Jule Langan, Director
Roger Kirchen, Deputy Director
Amanda Terrell
Jolene Smith
Joanna McKnight
Ari Calos
Michael Pulice
Aubrey Von Lindern
Austin Walker
Mae Tilley*
Angel Williams*

**denotes virtual attendance*

Other State Agency Staff Present:

None

Guests (from attendees list in Teams and sign-in sheets): Lena McDonald, Paige Pollard, Celina Adams, Kayla Halberg, Jody Lahendro, Justin Patton, Mark Holmes, Tracey Holmes, Catherine Easterling, Eric Griffiths, Vernon Fleming, Ryan Leabough, Faith Hamann, Elizabeth Nowak, Tony Alston, Jeremy Manning-Smith

Chair Mullen called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. for discussion and consideration of the Preliminary Information Forms (informal guidance session).

The Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs) on the Consent Agenda were considered first. SRB members may request that PIFs on the Consent Agenda be switched to the meeting's Discussion Agenda. They also can email DHR staff with questions about any of the PIFs in advance of the meeting (emails between DHR staff and up to two SRB members do not violate the Virginia FOIA).

The Board approved the Consent Agenda by voice vote, with the following PIFs on this portion of the meeting's agenda. DHR staff provided written summaries of each PIF for review as a single block.

Consent Agenda:

Eastern Region

1. Webb House, Greenville County, DHR File No. 040-0001
2. Broad Creek Shores Historic District, City of Norfolk, DHR File No. 122-6495 Δ **
3. Boswell Mansion, Town of Chase City, Mecklenburg County, DHR File No. 186-5173
4. The Virginia Home, City of Richmond, DHR File No. 127-6157 **
5. Goochland Recreation Center, Goochland County, DHR File No. 037-5246 Δ

Northern Region

1. Saunders House, Town of Warrenton, Fauquier County, DHR File No. 156-5200 **
2. David Clayton House, Frederick County, DHR File No. 034-1092

Western Region

1. Montvale High School, Bedford County, DHR File No. 009-0306
2. South Boston Historic District Boundary Increase, Town of South Boston, Halifax County, DHR File No. 130-5025

Prior to the board's vote, Elizabeth Nowak and Faith Hamann from the City of Norfolk's Historic Preservation staff spoke briefly in support of the PIF for the Broad Creek Shores Historic District.

The board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda PIFs as presented.

Discussion Agenda:

Eastern Regionpresented by Joanna McKnight and Ari Calos

1. King's Pond Mill, Hanover County, DHR File No. 042-0091 **
King's Pond Mill was previously presented to the board in June 2025, with a recommendation of local significance under Criterion C (Architecture). After members expressed concern over whether the property retained sufficient architectural integrity, it was recommended that potential significance under either Criterion B (Art – Nancy Camden Witt) or Criterion C as a significant early example of adaptive reuse be explored. Ms. Calos presented a revised recommendation for local significance under Criterion B and Criteria Consideration G for the property's association with artist Nancy Camden Witt, who renovated the mill building as a studio and gallery space in the late 1960s and produced more than 600 paintings there prior to her death in 2009. Dr. Breen asked whether there have been similar Criterion B listings for artists in Virginia; staff noted a handful of examples, including the Miles B. Carpenter House in Waverly and the Patsy Cline House in Winchester. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
2. Downtown Portsmouth Historic District Boundary Increase, City of Portsmouth, DHR File No. 124-5286
Mr. Rutledge noted that the boundary increase area seems like a logical extension of the existing district and suggested that a nomination focus on determining if there was a master plan for the area being discussed as well as situating Portsmouth within the larger context of urban renewal in the Hampton Roads area. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
3. Hamilton Road Bridge, Louisa County, DHR File No. 054-5010
Ms. Shull asked about earlier evaluations of the bridge's individual eligibility and if its current rarity relative to previous decades has increased its significance. Ms. McKnight confirmed that surviving metal truss bridges from the period have become much scarcer since the bridge was last surveyed and evaluated,

making it one of the few remaining examples of a once-common resource type. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Northern Regionpresented by Aubrey Von Lindern

1. Red Brick House, City of Waynesboro, DHR File No. 136-5092
Mark and Tracey Holmes, the owners of the house, spoke in support of the PIF and offered insight into its rehabilitation during the board's discussion. Regarding the property's potential for significance under Criterion A (Education), Ms. Shull noted the need to consider if the building retains sufficient integrity to reflect its historic use as a school (noted in deed records), given the alterations it has undergone. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
2. Thoroughfare Historic District Boundary Increase, Prince William County, DHR File No. 076-5150 Δ **
The expanded Thoroughfare Historic District was previously presented to the board in June 2025, at which time members voted to defer a recommendation due to concerns regarding the ability of archaeological sites to adequately convey significance solely under Criterion A. Ms. Von Lindern presented guidance received from Mike Roller, archaeologist and National Register reviewer for the National Park Service, regarding the potential for archaeological sites to contribute to an understanding of demographic change, settlement patterns, and community planning and development in the context of a primarily residential community such as Thoroughfare. Justin Patton, archaeologist for Prince William County, noted that Criterion D may still be considered for the eventual nomination while expressing his belief in the expanded district's significance under Criterion A. Ms. Shull stressed the importance of integrity considerations under Criterion A. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
3. Oakland Baptist Church, City of Alexandria, DHR File No. 100-0211 Δ **
Dr. Breen noted Krystyn Moon's 2014 report "Finding the Fort: A History of an African American Neighborhood in Northern Virginia, 1860s-1960s" as a good resource for establishing the historic context of The Fort community, which Oakland Baptist Church served. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Western Regionpresented by Mike Pulice

1. Calvary Rural Historic District, Halifax County, DHR File No. 041-5926
Board members noted the impressive number and high integrity of tobacco-related resources surviving within the proposed district. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.
2. Victoria Furnace, Rockbridge County, DHR File No. 081-5810 Δ
Board members asked whether similar furnace sites in Virginia have been listed in the historic registers. Mr. Pulice noted that a number of sites within the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests have been listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register only due to their federal ownership, though none are truly comparable in scale to the Victoria Furnace site. The board concurred with the staff evaluation committee's recommendations regarding eligibility.

Chair Mullen adjourned the SRB meeting at 3:48 p.m.

* Cost Share Sponsored Project
** Certified Local Government
*** Certified Local Government Grant Sponsored Project
☐ Associated with African American History
Associated with Virginia Indian History
^ ESHPF Grant-Funded Project
% State Stewardship
> National Park Service Grant-Funded Project
} Sponsored by Local Government (no grants utilized)
< Threatened Sites state grant
{ African American Outreach state grant
| National Trust for Historic Preservation private grant
\\ BIPOC application
\$ Associated with a Multiple Property Documentation Form