

January, 2026

Dear County Commissioners,

In 2025 the Durham Historic Preservation Commission diligently worked to preserve Durham's architectural, archaeological, cultural, and environmental history with care and hope for our city and county's future. Our seven-person roster considered 28 Major Certificates of Appropriateness during the calendar year.

With regards to the national register, we participated in the expansion of documentation for St. Joseph's AME church and the Harriet Tubman YMCA's addition to the registry. We also assisted in the process for the Chicken Hut receiving local landmark status. Collectively it is our belief that highlighting the lives of Durham's past residents and reflecting on how they impact us all now is paramount as we move forward. It has been a privilege to see our community and Preservation Durham come together to lay the foundation for a more equitable future in these efforts.

We once again sent our annual newsletter to residents in Historic Districts and we're continuing to discuss other avenues for disseminating this information to a wider audience.

We believe our part is a small but integral one in creating a Durham that all of us can be proud of and we remain firm in our commitment to approach historic properties in a fair, balanced, legal, and neighborly manner.

Continuously grateful for your support,

Alva Horton

Chair