



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Claudia R. Brown, Acting Administrator

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
 Linda A. Carlisle, Secretary
 Jeffrey J. Crow, Deputy Secretary

Office of Archives and History
 Division of Historical Resources
 David Brook, Director

August 31, 2011

Lisa Miller, Senior Planner
 Durham City-County Planning Department
 101 City Hall Plaza
 Durham, N.C. 27701

Re: Golden Belt Manufacturing Complex II, 800 Taylor St., Durham, Durham County

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for the landmark designation report for the Golden Belt Manufacturing Complex II. We have reviewed it and offer the following comments in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-400.6.

We concur the property is worthy of consideration and find that the applicant has done a commendable job of deciphering this complicated property. In order for the report to serve as a sound basis for decisions regarding certificates of appropriateness, Claudia Brown, Survey and National Register Supervisor, recommends the following technical amendments:

1. A close examination of the Sanborn Maps, particularly the 1902 series, reveals that the sections of the complex identified as Buildings 9, 10, 12, and perhaps the south ends of Buildings 11 and 14 were constructed in 1901, along with the section identified as Building 1. Except for the largest sections of the complex (Buildings 1 and 15), these sections would be more accurately identified as "wings," rather than as separate buildings. The main (west) facade of Building 1, facing the railroad tracks and described as the facade of Building 9, is the original facade. The section identified as Building 9 is really the west end of Building 1 – albeit an area separated from the rest of Building 1 by a fire wall. The sections identified as Building 13 and the north end of Building 11 appear to be early additions.
2. Complex II has four towers rather than five (and four are actually described in the report). The largest of these, in the center of the south elevation, was originally four full stories and has had its top story removed. The tower at the northeast corner is topped by a later addition.
3. The roof structure running most of the length of the mill is a monitor, rather than a clerestory.
4. The narrow connector between Complex II and the large buildings to the south (already designated) was constructed as an enclosed passageway, rather than a railroad platform, and

connected the original, main mill to the warehouse and the original bag factory. Railroad platforms were constructed on the west side of the enclosed passageway.

5. Building 15 merits more description, including its approximate square footage (it is quite large), number of stories, and roof type.
6. Three resources are not presently described: the water tower (technically a water tank) and two modern buildings at the east end of the property. Both buildings are shown on the context map and the metal one appears in one of the photographs.

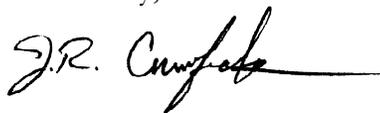
Once these issues are addressed, we think the report will provide sufficient information to deem that the mill has the requisite significance and integrity for landmark designation. Landmark designation means the community recognizes the property as one worthy of preservation because of its special significance and integrity. Any substantial change in design, materials, and appearance are subject to the design review procedures of the Commission. The owner may receive an annual deferral of fifty percent of the property taxes for as long as the property is designated and retains special significance and integrity (N.C.G.S. §105-278 *et seq.*).

Please note that if the local governing board wishes to extend the Commission's authority to significant interior features, the owner must give consent and the designation ordinance must specify the particular features subject to review 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. Once the necessary public hearing or hearings have been held, the governing board may proceed with the designation decision. Please find enclosed a designation confirmation form and notify me of the Commission's action at your earliest convenience. Also, if applicable, please let me know of any provisions in the designation ordinance that differ from those specified in the report.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our comments.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.R. Crawford IV", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J.R. Crawford IV
Preservation Commissions Coordinator

Enclosure