



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, 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

July 25, 2012

Lisa Miller, Senior Planner
 101 City Hall Plaza
 Durham, NC 27701-3329

Re: **Greystone, 618 Morehead Ave., Durham, Durham County**

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for the landmark designation report for Greystone. We have reviewed it and offer the following comments in accordance with General Statute §160A-400.6.

Completed in 1910 for James E. and Mary W. L. Stagg, Greystone possesses local historical and architectural significance for its association with one of Durham's leading businessmen and philanthropists of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and as a notably intact design by the Charlotte architectural firm of Hook and Rogers. Foremost among his numerous appointments, James E. Stagg was an executive of the Durham and Southern Railway and an officer of three textile manufacturing companies associated with the Duke family; both he and his wife were known for their generous support of numerous charities and cultural organizations. The importance of the house extends to its status as the last Chateausque style dwelling in Durham and one of the few full-blown examples of the style in North Carolina. We have communicated several technical revisions to you via electronic mail; we feel that, once these revisions have been made, the report will then provide the local governing board with accurate and sufficient information to determine whether or not Greystone has the requisite significance and integrity for local landmark designation.

Landmark designation means the community recognizes the property as one worthy of preservation because of its special significance and integrity in the local community. Any substantial change in design, materials, and appearance are subject to the design review procedures of the historic preservation 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 local governing board'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", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J.R. Crawford IV
Preservation Commissions Coordinator