

March 1, 2019

Joseph E. Wilkinson
Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects
State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives & History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29223-4905

Re: *New South Associates' Historical Architectural Survey of the City of Fairfax's Commercial Buildings—prepared for SCDOT's US 278 at US 321 Intersection Improvements Project, Allendale County, SCDOT PIN P029449*

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to improve the intersection of US 278 and US 321 in the City of Fairfax. The proposed improvements would increase safety by eliminating one or more of the railroad crossings on the northeast side of U.S. 278, as well as creating aesthetic enhancements such as installing a landscaped median, planting street trees, and expanding greenspaces (see attached plans).

The proposed project will take place entirely within SCDOT right-of-way (ROW) that is disturbed through development of road, rail, and other built environment development. It was therefore determined by SCDOT archaeologists that the proposed project area has very low probability for archaeological resources and archaeological survey is/was unnecessary. Cultural resources investigations for the project instead focused solely on aboveground resources.

The historic commercial buildings of the city of Fairfax were inventoried and evaluated for their eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), individually and as a district. Individually, two of the 36 commercial buildings are recommended eligible for the NRHP (site # 0061, Fairfax City Hall, and Site # 0072, the Fairfax Railroad Depot). Both resources accurately represent the history and development of Fairfax, are significant examples of their building types and/or styles, and retain a high level of integrity. Per project plans, project implementation would not adversely affect either of these resources or any other previously documented NRHP-eligible resources in or near the project area. **It is therefore recommended that the proposed project will not affect historic resources.**

It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with SCDOT findings. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,

David P. Kelly
Architectural Historian/NEPA Coordinator, RPG 1

DPK:dk

Enclosures: Cultural resources report, survey forms, project plans

I (~~do not~~) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Joseph E. Wilkinson Date: 3/4/19

cc: Shane Belcher, FHWA

File: ENV/DPK

