



25 January 2011

Katherine S. Robinson
Executive Director
Historic Charleston Foundation
40 East Bay Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Serving the
Southeastern United States

BUSINESS OFFICE
2452 IRVIN RISINGER RD.
LEESVILLE, SC 29070

888-532-0392
bbbarch1@earthlink.net

Locations in
Louisiana
North Carolina
South Carolina

Dear Ms. Robinson,

Please find enclosed a copy of our report entitled *Mr. Gadsden's Neighborhood: An Historic Data Recovery Study of Portions of the Residential Wharf-Front Neighborhood of Gadsdenboro (1850-1880), City of Charleston, South Carolina* for your collection. This study was undertaken as an alternative mitigation method for cultural resource management of a project area within the National Register of Historic Properties "Charleston Old and Historic District: Eligible Boundary Expansion". The project was designed with input from the State Historic Preservation Office (Chuck Cantley, Fran Knight and Richard Sidebottom) and was reviewed by Mr. Cantley and Dr. J. Tracy Power of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Their review and comments are enclosed for your information.

The report identified, and discussed, more than three hundred individual households consisting of more than twelve hundred free residents and more than one hundred twenty enslaved residents living in a wharf-front neighborhood in Charleston between 1850 and 1880. We hope that it will be useful to historians and genealogists searching for information on native born South Carolinians, European immigrants, enslaved workers and freed persons who lived in Charleston during that transformational period.

Please feel free to give us a call at 803.532.0392 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

William B. Barr, M.A., RPA
Director

December 16, 2009

SHPO Project No. 08-CC0067

Mr. William Barr
Barr & Associates
2452 Irvine Risinger Rd.
Leesville, SC 29070



Re: Mr. Gadsden's Neighborhood: An Historic Data Recovery Study of Portions of the Residential Wharf-Front Neighborhood of Gadsdenboro (1850-1880) City of Charleston, South Carolina
SCDHEC – OCRM Project No. SCR10L669

Dear Mr. Barr:

Our Office has received the documentation dated October 2, 2009 you submitted for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (SCDHEC – OCRM) concerning OCRM Permit No. SCR10L669. SHPO's recommendation stated below is in compliance with the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act of 1976, as amended (South Carolina Code Title 48, Chapter 39), the "Policies and Procedures of the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program," and the 1996 Memorandum of Agreement between our Offices concerning implementation of the South Carolina Coastal Management Program.

The supporting documentation provided for this project (above referenced report) is in lieu of traditional archaeological investigations because of late 19th and early 20th century soil pollution covering the project area. A review of this report was undertaken by Mr. J. Tracey Power PhD, Staff Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator Historical Services Division of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Doctor Power's review is attached below. The report meets the standards and guidelines established by the Secretary of the Interior and those prepared by the South Carolina SHPO. As such, this report fulfills all obligations under the Coastal Zone Management Act, as amended and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, for identification and evaluation of historic resources in this area.

SHPO would like to take this opportunity to congratulate East West Concord Park, LLC for undertaking a magnificent study of everyday people who are rarely mentioned in our history books but played an important rôle in the history of Charleston. Also, it cannot be overstated, the excellent research conducted by Barr and Associates in producing such high quality research.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (803) 896-6181 or at ccantley@scdah.state.sc.us.

Sincerely,

Chuck Cantley
Chuck Cantley, MA, RPA
Staff Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Office

cc: Christine Koczera, OCRM

Thanks for letting me read through Barr and Associates' *Mr. Gadsden's Neighborhood: A Historic Data Recovery Study of Portions of the Residential Wharf-Front Neighborhood of Gadsdenboro (1850-1880), City of Charleston, South Carolina* (Contract # CPA-2).

I appreciate the opportunity to examine this impressive, comprehensively researched, well-written, and compelling portrait of a working class residential and commercial neighborhood on Charleston's Upper East Side in the mid-to-late nineteenth century. This remarkable study will not only prove to be valuable to anyone interested in the history of Charleston during this critical period in her history but should also be a model for any historians (especially social historians interested in the character of urban neighborhoods in the late antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruction eras) and other consultants who have the time, means, and other resources to produce similar studies. This study is based on a solid foundation of in-depth research in local and other records which gives impersonal trends the state, local, and neighborhood context they too often lack, and puts individual human faces on residents and pieces together family stories that give this sort of history a dimension, depth, and breadth that it rarely has.

Mr. Gadsden's Neighborhood is particularly innovative in its presentation, in which the environmental context of the study area and historic context of the city of Charleston, and discussion of land tenure in Gadsdenboro serve as an introduction to a research design, methodology, and discussion of sources, which in turns introduces a more detailed examination --- and closely-argued analysis --- of neighborhood constants and changes over a thirty-year period and then to a very interesting and valuable data analysis and conclusion. While most cultural resource management projects cannot possibly devote this level of intensive research and analysis to their subject areas, this particular project demonstrates a new and exciting way (even if it is relatively expensive in terms of money, time, and other resources) by which development projects that necessitate the significant alteration or even obliteration of historic or architectural resources can still produce something that adds to professionals', and the public's understanding and appreciation of what was once there and how the history associated with it still matters. This project has also produced information on this area of Charleston and its inhabitants (who are the types of people most often neglected or altogether absent from written histories) that will be of great interest to historians, genealogists, and many others.

I hope that our office, as we review means by which we can assist agencies, organizations, and individuals assess the effects of developments and other projects on properties eligible for listing the National Register, can use this study as a model of what can be accomplished by a team of professionals dedicated to furthering our understanding and appreciation of our shared past. Copies of this report should be provided to Historic Charleston Foundation, the South Carolina Historical Society, Preservation Society of Charleston, and the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina for the benefit to the public and scholars alike.

I appreciate your sharing it with me, and hope to see similar studies in the not-too-distant future.

Thanks again,
J. Tracy Power, PhD
Staff Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office