Links to Helpful Resources

- www.harnett.org/planning/historic-properties-commission.asp
- www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us
- www.hps.gov/nr/
- www.harnett.org/library/
- www.averasboro.com

Pre-Civil War Cabin
Averasboro Battlefield

Thorbiskope
19th century plantation house

Lebanon Plantation
Circa 1830

Summervilla
Built 1855

Harnett County Planning Department
108 East Front Street
PO Box 65
Lillington, NC 27546
Phone: 910-893-7525
Fax: 910-814-6459
Email: subdivision@harnett.org

Barbecue Church
Founded in 1757

Historic Properties Commission
Mission: To promote and preserve the architectural and social history, culture, and heritage of Harnett County.
The Historic Properties Commission was formed to provide for the preservation of the historical, cultural, and archaeological resources within Harnett County. Members will be appointed by the Harnett County Board of Commissioners. Members must demonstrate a special interest in history, architecture, archaeology, or related fields.

The Historic Properties Commission can:

- Recommend to the County Commissioners properties to be designated as historic districts and landmarks.
- Conduct an inventory of the area's historic resources.
- Review applications from owners of designated landmarks and structures in historic districts that plan to make changes to their properties.
- Conduct a public education program and make efforts to preserve, or aid in the preservation, of historic properties.

What can be a Historic Property?

Landmark designations may apply to individual buildings, structures, sites, areas, or objects which are studied by the Historic Properties Commission and judged to have historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural value. Historic district designation is a type of overlay district that applies to entire neighborhoods or other areas that include many historic properties. The overlay district provides controls on the appearance of existing and proposed buildings and other exterior features.

Benefits of a Historic Designation

Designation is an honor, indicating the community believes the property or district deserves recognition and protection. Historic district overlay zoning can help to stabilize property values by maintaining the neighborhood's character. It benefits property owners by protecting them from inappropriate changes made by other property owners that might destroy the special qualities of the neighborhood.

How Does the Designation Process Work?

The designation process usually begins when either a property owner or the Commission identifies a property or an area as a potential landmark or district.

Once an application is made, it is reviewed by the Harnett County Planning Department, as well as the State Historic Preservation Office.

After being completed, these reviews are forwarded to the Historic Properties Commission (HPC) for a formal recommendation.

The recommendation of the HPC is provided to the County Commissioners, who make the final decision on the application.

The Harnett County Historic Properties Commission encourages citizens, public agencies, and private organizations to recognize and use places of our past to create livable and viable communities for our future.