

Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission



Resolution of Recognition

RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, the area in the southeastern part of what is now Randolph County was the site of important road networks in the colonial and early statehood eras; and

WHEREAS, these roads crossed the Deep River at key ford and ferry sites; and

WHEREAS, William Searcy operated a ford and later a ferry at the lowest crossing point of the Deep River in Randolph County, on a vital colonial roadway between Chatham Courthouse and South Carolina, from as early as 1761 through the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, Searcy's Ford/Ferry was the site where the Continental Army crossed the Deep River on its march to South Carolina following the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in 1781, and a location employed by Tory Colonel David Fanning in ambushes of Whig forces; and

WHEREAS, Edmund Waddell purchased and operated the ferry site after Searcy's death; and

WHEREAS, Edmund Waddell was a prominent Randolph County citizen who served in the state legislature and the 1788 North Carolina Constitutional Convention; and


WHEREAS, the Waddell Cemetery includes the gravesites of Edmund Waddell and Windsor Pierce, a Revolutionary War veteran and Justice of the Peace, and may include the gravesite of William Searcy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the official recognition as a Randolph County Cultural Heritage Site is given to

SEARCY'S FORD/FERRY, WADDELL'S FERRY AND WADDELL CEMETERY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is approved by the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission and recorded in its minutes, with appropriate history and photographs placed on the Commission's historical website, and a suitable copy of the Resolution presented to the recipient.

Approved this 28th Day of March, 2017.



L. McKay Whatley, Chairman

Resolution Number 2017-1