On June 7, 2023, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission (“Commission”) conducted, in the above referenced matter, a public hearing in accordance with the statutes and case law pertaining to quasi-judicial proceedings for the issuance of certificates of appropriateness. During the hearing, Michelle McCullough, Historic Resources Officer, presented the staff report, findings, and recommendation. Ariana Hood, applicant, appeared to present testimony and evidence in support of the application. No one appeared to present testimony and evidence in opposition to the application.

After presentation of all testimony and evidence, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission, based upon the evidence presented in the application and during the hearing, finds that the proposed work is not incongruous with the character of the Old Salem Historic District because:

1) The project proposes to replace the existing porch floor at the rear, north facing, elevation due to severe deterioration and to make the porch comply with current accessibility building code. The new porch will be based on the original design, matching in-kind the material, footprint, and size. The only change will be to raise the porch and make it level with the interior floor. Raising the porch floor will allow for the entrance to be ADA accessible in a sensitive manner, preserving the site and its character-defining features and the structure’s character-defining elevations, features, and finishes. (*Entrances, Porches and Balconies*, District Standards 4 and 6 and *Safety, Accessibility and Code Requirements*, District Standard 1)

2) The proposed project introduces a new self-supported ADA ramp and landing that leads from the adjacent sidewalk on Church Street to the porch at the rear entrance to the building. The ramp will be 5’ wide by 13’ in length and the landing will be 5’ wide by 5’ in length. The ramp and landing will be made from wood and will match the design of the existing porch. There will be an 8’ in length by 5”-6.75” high (2 or 3 courses high) brick wall at the end of the landing adjacent to the sidewalk. The ramp meets accessibility building code in such a way that the site and its character-defining features and the structure’s character-defining elevation, features, and finishes are preserved. The design of the new landing and ramp are compatible with the scale, materials, details, and finish of the structure and existing rear porch. The ramp and landing are located on the least obtrusive elevation and do not detract from the historic character of the District. The proposed ramp and landing are self-supporting and are reversible and do not compromise the original design of the entrance or porch. (*Safety, Accessibility and Code Requirements*, District Standards 1-4, and 6)
3) The proposed project will retain the existing wood railing that is located around the existing porch except for a small section that will be removed on the east elevation, where the ramp will be installed. New railings, that will run along the north and east sides of the ramp and on both sides of the new steps at the existing opening in front of the rear door, will be installed. The design of the new railing will be compatible in pattern, spacing, configuration, dimension, scale, materials, and color with the character of the structure and District. (Railings, District Standard 4 and Safety, Accessibility and Code Requirements, District Standard 5)

4) The proposed project will install another granite step, where there is a break in the existing railing directly in front of the rear door to allow for ingress onto the existing porch. The granite step is being salvaged from Main Hall on the Salem College campus. This new feature is based on physical evidence that such steps were found in Salem during the period of significance. It is an appropriate design and compatible in location, pattern, spacing, configuration, dimension, scale, texture, and material with the character of the structure and the District. Stone is an appropriate material. (Walkways and Steps, District Standard 3)

Based on the preceding findings, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission hereby approves COA2023-051 at the Inspector’s House, 9 East Academy Street (PIN: 6835-33-1148.00), located in the Old Salem Historic District with the following conditions:

1) The applicant shall receive, prior to commencement of the work, all other required permits or permissions from governmental agencies;

2) Commission staff shall review and approve any revisions or deviations to any portion of the as-submitted work prior to commencement of that portion of the project; and,

3) The applicant shall submit the Certificate of Appropriateness Request for Certification of Completed Work form and photo documentation of the completed project to HRC staff within ten (10) days of its completion.

This the seventh day of June, 2023.

Mary Catherine Berry, Chair
Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission
CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
Date: June 8, 2023
CASE #: COA2023-051

On June 7, 2023, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission approved the issuance of this Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) on the application for the following work at the Inspector’s House at 9 East Academy Street, located in the Old Salem Historic District.

- Installation of ADA ramp, porch, and railing

Approval of this item was granted **subject to the following conditions**:

1) The applicant shall receive, prior to commencement of the work, all other required permits or permissions from governmental agencies;

2) Commission staff shall review and approve any revisions or deviations to any portion of the as-submitted work prior to commencement of that portion of the project; and,

3) The applicant shall submit the Certificate of Appropriateness Request for Certification of Completed Work form and photo documentation of the completed project to HRC staff within ten (10) days of its completion.

This COA runs with the property upon which the work is to be performed. The COA does not serve in any manner as a certification by the HRC or the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Division that the applicant or anyone else has the authority to be on the subject property to perform the approved work. You should perform your own due diligence to confirm whether you have the legal authority to be on the property to perform the approved work.

This Certificate of Appropriateness expires on June 8, 2026.

Mary Catherine Berry, Chair
Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

The scope of work for this project must meet all other applicable building codes and ordinances. Any additional approvals or permits from the City must be obtained prior to initiating work.