

# Fork Shoals Historical Society

P O Box 9285 Greenville SC 29604

January 20, 2023

Honorable Jay West

Dear Mr. West

I would like to ask you about replacing some signage that was removed from the Augusta Road shoulders during road improvement construction years ago, distinguishing the McCullough's Community in South Greenville County. The signs simply said "McCulloughs " .

The signs (2) were just north of the McCullough Mansion near the intersection of McCullough School Road on the southbound side of US Highway 25. The second sign was just south of the McCullough Mansion near the intersection of Columbia Road on the northbound side of US Highway 25.

The Fork Shoals Historical Society has acquired the McCullough Mansion and is presently undertaking a restoration effort to save this historic edifice. As you know the McCullough Mansion is the oldest brick structure still standing in Greenville County and was the centerpiece of a thriving community and drovers and stage coach stop in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. We feel that this signage replacement would bring awareness of motorist passing this historic place and assist us in our restoration effort as well as educate the public of the history of South Greenville County.

I would like to thank you in advance for your efforts and all of your good work in representing our community in the SC House of Representatives.

Yours Truly

J. A. Scott, III, Chairman FSHS

# Fork Shoals Historical Society

P O Box 9285 Greenville SC 29604

November 11, 2021

Honorable Ashley Trantham

Dear Mrs. Trantham

Last spring I verbally contacted you about replacing some signage that was removed from the Augusta Road shoulders during road improvement construction years ago, distinguishing the McCullough's Community in South Greenville County. I should have followed up with a written request so now I am sending you a written request.

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J. A. Scott, III, Chairman FSHS

## Cedarhurst Restoration Summary

Cedarhurst was constructed in 1812 and is the oldest surviving brick building in Greenville County and the northwest corner of the state (Anderson, Pickens, Oconee, and Greenville Counties). Built as the home of Irish immigrant Joseph McCullough, Cedarhurst was the central focus of a massive plantation operation in the early days of settlement in the Upstate. The home evolved throughout its history from the original brick federal house to the larger colonial revival building we see today. The home and the surrounding land remained in the same family for over two hundred years with the home being transferred to the Folk Shoals Historical Society in 2019 for them to restore and operate as an historic interpretive site.

The Fork Shoals Historical Society completed emergency stabilization work in the fall of 2019 and applied for a grant from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) to create a plan for the site. They were awarded the grant, a comprehensive Existing Conditions Report was completed for the building, and a full restoration plan was developed for the entire property to recreate the historic layout of the site. The plan was approved by SCDAH, and the society began fundraising to begin the work. Covid and the rural nature of the site have suppressed fundraising, but the organization has raised \$50,000 dollars so far through a variety of community activities. In addition to raising funds, a large group of dedicated volunteers have spent numerous workdays cleaning up the site and securing/stabilizing the house.

The goal for this project is to create a historic site that interprets the early development and agricultural history of the area. The house will be restored to serve as a period interpretive space as well as museum display areas. The grounds will recreate the gardens of the period and allow for the demonstration of the farming practices of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Missing outbuildings will also be recreated to interpret the full picture of domestic life of both the landowner and the enslaved population. This site will be part of a series of historic sites that interpret life in the upstate throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century and will foster tourism and create opportunities for hands on education for students in the area.

