

To: North Carolina Historical Commission

From: Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.

RE: Request to install National Votes for Women Historic Roadside Marker

Date: March 9, 2021

Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, a site administered by the North Carolina Division of State Historic Sites and Properties, requests permission to participate in the W.G. Pomeroy Foundation's National Votes for Women Historic Roadside Marker program by installing one of their markers commemorating the suffrage activities of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown.

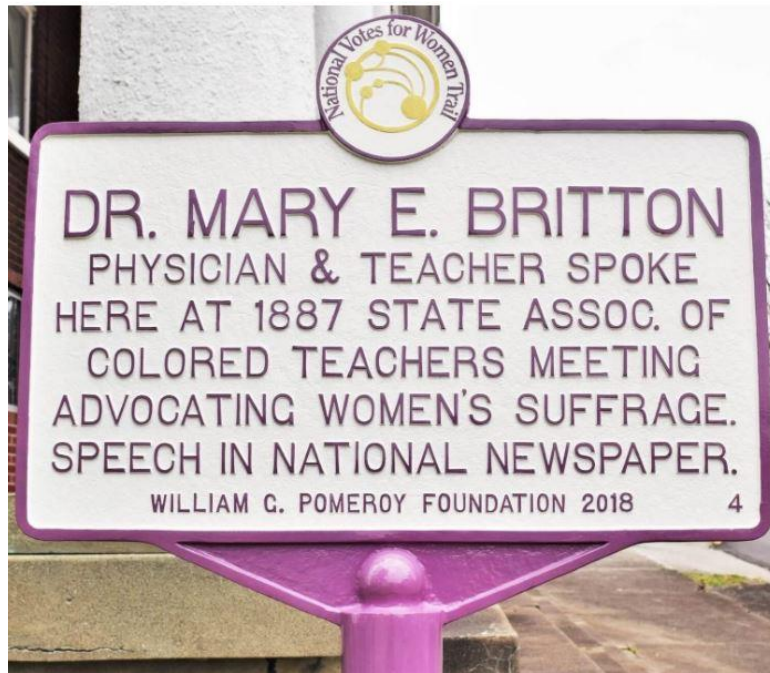
During the fall of 2020, the staff at Charlotte Hawkins Brown with the approval of Division Director Michelle Lanier and former Deputy Secretary Dr. Cherry submitted an application to the W.G. Pomeroy Foundation to be included in their National Votes for Women Historic Roadside Marker/Trail program.

Design of Marker:

The site has received acknowledgement that they will receive a marker for the site. The marker is 18" x 32" cast aluminum on a 7' pole. The marker will read:

**DR. C.H. BROWN,
EDUCATOR, ACTIVIST & NC
FED. COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS
FOUNDER, HELPED LEAD 1920
CAMPAIGN TO REGISTER BLACK
WOMEN VOTERS IN SALISBURY.**

Below is a photograph of what the marker would look like.



Location of Marker on State Historic Site Property:

It is proposed that the marker be installed on state property alongside the highway right away. This would avoid DOT right away issues. The marker would be placed on the road side of a hedge (or in it) that runs parallel to the road. The marker will be in front of Canary Cottage (along the road) as noted by image below marked with a blue arrow. The historic site's highway marker is on the road opposite Kimball Hall.





Approximate location of marker alongside the road. The marker would be placed right next to the hedge or into it as necessary to be on state property. If need be the marker could be placed just on the other side of the hedge on state property.



This view is in the same location but across the hedge and on state property. The marker could be installed along or in this side of the hedge if necessary.



The marker would be located along the hedge roughly opposite, or in front of, the access ramp seen on the side of Canary Cottage.

To: North Carolina Historical Commission

From: Fort Fisher State Historic Site and the Friends of Fort Fisher, Inc.

Subject: Request to install memorial plaque for Paul M. Laird

Date: March 9, 2021

Fort Fisher State Historic Site and the Friends of Fort Fisher, Inc. request to install a bronze memorial plaque in honor of Mr. Paul M. Laird. The 10x14-inch plaque will be attached to Fort Fisher's functional replica of a "Rifled and Banded" 32-pounder seacoast gun, located in Shepherd's Battery at the western end of Fort Fisher's land face fortifications.

Paul Laird, who passed away in 2020, was the Executive Director of the Friends of Fort Fisher from 2008 through 2018. His involvement with Fort Fisher dates to the early 1970s, when he worked as a volunteer and participated in underwater archaeology on the Union warship USS *Peterhoff*. Throughout the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, Paul served on the board of the precursor to the Friends of Fort Fisher, the Fort Fisher Restoration Committee, often as chairman. Paul's leadership was instrumental to achieving several of the historic site's goals. Chief among them was the installation of the mile-long stone revetment wall along the oceanfront, that protects Fort Fisher from erosion. He also played a key role in expansion of the visitor center and revised exhibits from 1998-2001. Paul negotiated the loan of the historic Fort Fisher cannon, the 150-pounder Armstrong gun, from West Point to the historic site in 2005. And Paul led the fundraising and acquisition of Fort Fisher's replica cannon, a "Rifled and Banded" 32-pounder seacoast gun, that continues to educate and entertain tens of thousands of visitors every year.

Paul Laird's family desires that the replica cannon be dedicated to and named for him and has pledged a \$50,000.00 donation to the Friends of Fort Fisher's capital campaign. The wording on the plaque will read:

**Shepherd's Battery #1
Home of Rifled and Banded 32-pounder Gun
"Loud Paul"
Named in Appreciation and Memory of
Paul M. Laird
Founder and Executive Director of
The Friends of Fort Fisher
2008 – 2018
Dedicated 2021
Sponsored by Kay Laird, Matt Laird,
Ben Laird, and Warren C. White, M.D.
Fort Fisher State Historic Site**

Paul Laird's plaque will replace an older plaque honoring the Military Order of Stars and Bars. The older plaque has been vandalized and ruined over the years. Replacing it will be a significant upgrade to the site. Thank you for considering this request.



Placement of Paul Laird memorial plaque on replica 32-pounder cannon (blue tape)