

June 25, 2024

To Whom it May Concern,

As the Superintendent of the Lake Wheeler Road Field Lab at NC State University, and the current Chairperson for the Historic Yates Mill Advisory Board, I am writing to express my support of the dissolution of the Historic Yates Mill Advisory Board.

The Advisory board was formed almost 20 years ago to provide support for the renovations and operation of Historic Yates Mill. The advisory board was comprised of current and emeritus employees of NC State, Employees of Wake County Parks, and members of the general public. The group raised funding for the renovations of the Mill, and continued to provide support for the operation of the mill and the corn-grinding tours that occurred for the general public on selected weekends.

Leadership and funding changes have occurred, such that the advisory board has voted to dissolve, effective July 2024. It is felt that the advisory board had accomplished what it set out to accomplish (renovation of the mill and continuous operation to provide public tours), and that the board was no longer making decisions that were pertinent to the ongoing operation of the mill. Under a new joint-use agreement written by the Yates Mill Associates and Wake County parks, future renovations will be funded and overseen by Wake County Parks leadership.

It is understood that significant changes or updates to the structure of the Historic Yates Mill will be approved by the appropriate persons at NC State (in both the Facilities department and the CALS Research Office). Regular communication will also occur between the Historic Yates Mill county park superintendent (currently Tim Lisk), and the Lake Wheeler Road Field Lab superintendent (currently Bridget Lassiter) regarding programming and structural changes to the mill.

Sincerely,



Bridget Lassiter, PhD
Superintendent, Lake Wheeler Road Field Lab
Current Chairperson, Historic Yates Mill Advisory Board