

**Chatham County Historical Association, Inc.**

P. O. Box 93 / Pittsboro, NC 27312 / (919) 542-3603

[www.chathamhistory.org](http://www.chathamhistory.org)

18 August 2005

Mr. John W. Coffey  
126 Araya Lane  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mr. Coffey:

Thank you for explaining in greater detail how you planned to preserve the corn crib your development at 4623 Mann's Chapel Road by moving it to the grounds of your home. After speaking with the CCHA president, I am glad to confirm our confidence in your preserving this valuable example of local history.

I also appreciate your allowing me to revisit the site to take photographs of the log structures and corn crib on the property. Accompanying me was an archaeologist, who was most impressed with the corn crib, reinforcing its value as reported in *The Architectural Heritage of Chatham County, North Carolina* and noticing a number of details that eluded me completely, e.g., the buckshot embedded in the door, the evidence of fire damage on the south side, the nails evenly distributed in the logs about head height on both south and north sides, the stump nearby that might well have been a chopping block.

She also picked up some papers in the log houses, noting business records from the 20s and a set of World War II letters from Italy. She questioned the feasibility of restoring the log houses in light of the extensive insect and water damage but noted that there was considerable good lumber as well. Should you decide to clean out those houses prior to putting them on the market, we would appreciate the opportunity to look through the contents for items of historical interest.

We hope you will continue to work with us to develop a plan whereby developers have access to a site where historical structures can be moved to preserve them.

Cordially,



Jane Pyle

copy for: ✓ Chatham County Planning Department  
John Simons, President, CCHA