

Mr. Tom Thomas & Ms. Patty Wissinger Southern Campaign of the Revolution Heritage Area Study US Department of the Interior National Park Service, Denver Service Center 12795 West Alameda Parkway, PO Box 25287 Denver, CO 80225-0287

March 4, 2009

Dear Tom and Patty,

Please accept our thanks, on behalf of Cleveland County, NC – for organizing an excellent series of 12 meetings across North and South Carolina. You and Patty did a terrific job! As the appointed representative for our county and the Cleveland County Chamber of Commerce, we whole heartedly welcome being recognized as part of the, possible, new US Heritage Area. We understand it will be called the Southern Campaign of the Revolution Heritage Area.

As the Curator of the Presidential Culinary Museum and as Executive Director of the American Revolutionary War Living History Center (ARWLHC) we welcome this potential designation. We also welcome a change in the history books as was mentioned during the meetings by the NPS. Few are qualified to speak out here in the South such as I am since I was born and raised in the North, educated in Northern schools and fully know the textbooks being used for history. You were right when you stated out loud to the assembled crowd that many Americans do not fully know of the great contributions made in the Southern Campaign. Many think that suddenly Cornwallis and Washington appeared in Yorktown and the war ended.

Most especially and dear to my heart is Cleveland County, NC – my county, where we have the battles of Kings Mountain, Ramseur's Mill and many more. Numerous local heroes lived here like Colonel Graham (right down the street from us), Colonel Hambright (Hambrecht) the mansion we live in), Colonel Cleaveland (whom our county is named after) and many others (Williams, Chronicle, Phifer (Pfieffer),etc...). We cannot begin to imagine living within history and not having our county included with our cities, Kings Mountain and Shelby.

We also are more than happy to state that we could facilitate an HQ for the OVTA Superintendant as well as be the coordinating HQ for the Heritage Area. We would be happy to assume responsibility for either or both and formally produce such request to you on behalf of the American Revolutionary War Living History Center (ARWLHC).

Please give it your kind and good consideration and keep up the excellent work you are doing.

Your friend,

Martin CJ Mongiello, MBA
Curator and Executive Director

The Historic 1879 Home to the Presidential Culinary Museum

The famed Hambright mansion of the Colonel Frederick Hambright dynasty