



City of Charleston Planning &
Zoning Department 915
Quarrier Street - Suite 1
Charleston, WV 25301

April 7, 2011

Anthony Kinzer
Executive Director
WV Center for African American Art & Culture
507 Peoples Building
179 Summers Street
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Anthony,

I am very pleased to provide this letter confirming that the Charleston Historic Landmarks Commission has designated and listed on the Local Register of Historic Places the 25 acre area bound by Washington Street East, Capitol Street, Smith Street and Sentz Court.

This area, historically known as The Block, is rich with the history of the city's African American community and represents a sense of time and place unique to Charleston. The CHLC found that your submission reflects significant geographical patterns, including those associated with different eras of settlement and growth. Specifically, The Block is located along US Route 60, where many black individuals and families leaving the South travelled in search of the industrial jobs available in the North. The Block was a safe place to stop for the night, or to stay indefinitely.

Thank you for your efforts, Anthony. Without the help of interested citizens like you, the Charleston Historic Landmarks Commission's work could not be done!

Lori Armstead Brannon Neighborhood Planner
Staff, Charleston Historic Landmarks Commission

Sincerely,