



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
333 MARKET STREET
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17126-0333

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

717-787-5820

July 30, 2013

Ms. Carol A. Black
President, Lincoln University Heritage Initiative
President, AALU Chester County Alumni Chapter
246 West Summit Avenue
West Grove, PA 19390

Dear Ms. Black:

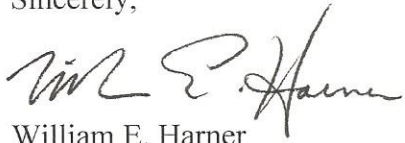
It is with genuine interest that I write this letter in support of the efforts by the Lincoln University Heritage Initiative to preserve and honor the history of our state and country embodied in the 15 original structures on the Lincoln University campus. The placement of these buildings on the National Register of Historic Places continues the efforts begun in 1985 by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The proposed Historic District represents not only our greatest struggles and accomplishments as a nation, but our hope for the future as well. It is our sincere desire to see this effort through to fulfillment.

These buildings mark the development and identity of many notable pioneers of modern society. Individuals from various walks of life were educated within these historic buildings. Pennsylvania is proud to recognize Thurgood Marshall, Langston Hughes and Cab Calloway as only a partial list of alumni of Lincoln University, all significant contributors to their respective fields. The buildings themselves are also representative of various architectural styles including Italianate and Gothic Carpenter to the Queen Anne and modern designs of early post-World War II.

By placing these buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, Pennsylvania can be assured that students of the future share in the wonderful history embodied in these structures. Cultural struggles evident in the Underground Railroad and Civil War are memorialized in these structures. The buildings are witness to the foundation of higher education of African-Americans in Pennsylvania. In addition to the cultural and historic benefits, placing these 15 original buildings on the National Register of Historic Places will provide economic benefit to Chester County.

I am delighted to be part of this worthy collaboration and wish you the best of luck in your efforts to memorialize a significant part of Pennsylvania history on the campus of Lincoln University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. E. Harner".

William E. Harner

Acting Secretary of Education

cc: Secretary C. Alan Walker