Ms. Mary Joy Scala  
Neighborhood Development Services  
City of Charlottesville  
P.O. Box 911  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Re: Fifeville-Castle Hill Historic District, City of Charlottesville

Dear Ms. Scala:

On Behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I am writing to inform you of the results of the March 19th, 2008 Boards Meeting. The Board of Historic Resources has recommended listing the **Fifeville-Castle Hill Historic District** in the Virginia Landmarks Register. The State Review Board also recommended this property for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Both boards approved the nomination but identified contingencies to be satisfied in a revised nomination to be circulated to both Board Chairpersons for their review. The revised nomination will not require another review/hearing by the full Boards.

The Historic Resources Board required that African-American history of the district be expanded; that an alternative name for the district be found; and that potential names be circulated for historic district property owners comment before DHR and the City of Charlottesville agree on the alternative name. The State Review Board required that additional research be made, conducted, or presented that buttresses information regarding African American history as it pertains to slavery, reconstruction, and 20th century history and that it is added as addenda or revisions to the current nomination draft. The State Review Board recommended public participation in the nomination revision process, such as posting it on the city’s website or public meetings or mailed notification. Once both Boards have approved the revised nomination and have confirmed that their contingencies have been addressed, and after a final staff review, we will forward the nomination to the National Park Service, including recommendations from the Boards and Agency Director that the resource is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency and Boards recommend that the City take the lead in addressing the contingencies.

The Virginia Landmarks Register includes historic landmarks, buildings, structures, districts, objects, and sites which are recognized as having historical, architectural, or archaeological significance at a local, state, or national level. The **Fifeville-Castle Hill Historic District** deserves this official recognition as one of the Commonwealth’s historic resources. While registration does not in itself protect the property, we hope this formal recognition will provide encouragement to your continuing efforts to preserve this important part of Virginia’s history.
As you move forward to address the contingencies and complete the nomination, please let us know how we can assist in offering technical advice. You may contact me at 804-367-2323 x-115 or Ann Andrus, Director of the Capital Region Preservation Office at 804-367-2323 x-133.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Marc C. Wagner
Director, Resource Information Division

cc: Maral Kalbian
June 26, 2009

Ms. Mary Joy Scala
Neighborhood Development Services
City of Charlottesville
P.O. Box 911
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Re: Fifeville and Tonsler Neighborhoods Historic District, City of Charlottesville

Dear Ms. Scala:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you officially that the Fifeville and Tonsler Neighborhoods Historic District has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. The district was listed by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, on June 18, 2009.

I am sure this news is gratifying to you, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources shares in your pleasure.

Sincerely,

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

c: The Honorable Dave Norris, City of Charlottesville Mayor
DATE: 9 December 1988 (with changes of 12/29/88)
TO: To Whom It May Concern
FROM: Jeff O’Dell
SUBJECT: Potential FIFEVILLE National Register historic district, Charlottesville

This area was surveyed Dec. 6, 1988 by DHL architectural historian Jeff O’Dell and historic-district specialist David Edwards. Please refer to attached map showing proposed district boundaries.

The area proposed as a National Register district includes the earlier part of a larger neighborhood commonly referred to as Fifesville. Located south of West Main Street, the principal historic commercial corridor connecting downtown Charlottesville with the University of Virginia, Fifesville is a predominantly black residential neighborhood. The district includes roughly ten city blocks of mostly late-19th and early 20th-century dwellings and commercial structures.

Boundary Description and Justification: As presently drawn, the district is bordered on the west by Ninth Street, S.W., a relatively heavily-traveled street that provides a north-south link between Cherry Avenue and West Main Street, major thoroughfares divided by railroad tracks. The northern section of Ninth St. is largely intact, featuring at least three early commercial buildings. On the south, the district is bordered by Cherry Ave. or lots bordering Cherry. Cherry Ave. itself is a major east-west corridor which has been altered by modern commercial development. On the east, the district is bordered in part by the Ridge Street Historic District. Other western boundaries have been drawn so as to exclude post-1940 or intrusive buildings and empty lots. On the north, the district is bordered by the lots facing Nalle St. and Dice St., as wells as portions of the north-south thoroughfares Six-and-a-Half Street and Sixth Street.
Review Board. In addition, city officials, local citizens and landowners should be contacted and a public information meeting called before any register work begins.

Because of its historic and architectural significance, the DHL recommends that the City of Charlottesville give special consideration to the area. This would include recognizing the area's potential National Register status in its comprehensive plan, preventing demolition of old buildings, supporting sensitive renovation and rehabilitation, and retaining residential zoning where it already exists. Architectural Design Control (ADC) is not recommended for this area at the present time.