

February 2, 2004





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AHC 04-0177, Construct and operate a branch bank, Jefferson County, AL

Dear Mr. Mortis:

Thank you very much for your most recent letter, and for talking with sill little at the Attarney General's Office on the telephone. We want to reach an agreement with you on mitigation so that we may write a clearance letter for your project.

Mitigation is a plan to make up for the loss or damage to historic resources. Even though the Clairmont Avenue houses are destroyed, you must still mitigate this loss in order for us to clear the project. Some of the documentation we would have requested, like a site plan drawing, black and white photographs of the house, and archaeology, is impossible because of the demolition. Still, a reasonable record can be accomplished on these structures and the people who lived there, which would include:

 Copies of photographs of the houses that were taken recently and historic photographs available from old Board of Adjustment.

 Written descriptions and research on the houses and the occupants can be drawn from standard historical references,

This research should be done to the highest professional level by a person who meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for History or Architectural History. I am enclosing a list of consultants for your reference; several are in your immediate area.

Archaeological mitigation is more difficult to determine since clearing the site

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