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May 29, 2010

Mr. Mark Dennen
State Historic Preservation Officer and Executive Director,
Kentucky Heritage Council
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Mark:

I am deeply honored to receive the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Preservation Award today. This is one of the greatest honors I have received and there are no words of gratitude that can adequately convey my appreciation to the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation for this very special recognition. To be rewarded for doing what I have loved to do over the years is certainly very meaningful. However, this award really belongs to my present and former students and to my colleagues at the University of Kentucky and to those individuals and groups in historic preservation with whom I have been associated. I have learned more from all of them than they have learned from me, I have been inspired far more by my association with all of them than I have been a source of inspiration for all of them. Therefore, I thank all of them for making this moment possible for me and I salute all of them for their achievements in our efforts to make historic preservation a living and relevant act and process.

When I think about the remarkable saints in preservation who have received the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Preservation Award, I am particularly humbled to have my name added to this list while wondering if I deserve to be in such a distinguished league. My efforts seem pale by comparison with their monumental contributions to preservation in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Nevertheless, I am very pleased and honored to join the ranks of those truly outstanding persons who have been named for this award.

I thank you with my deepest appreciation and gratitude for selecting me as the 2010 recipient of the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Preservation Award.

Sincerely

Clyde Reynolds Carpenter, FAIA, Architect
Chair, Department of Historic Preservation
Clay Lancaster Endowed Professor in Historic Preservation
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