



**Comments by the Committee of 100 on the Federal City  
before the  
DC Historic Preservation Review Board  
October 27, 2016  
Case No. 16-17, Observatory Hill Historic District**

Good morning Chairperson Pfaehler and members of the board. My name is Richard Busch, and I am here representing the Committee of 100 on the Federal City. The Committee of 100 was founded in 1923 as a citizens' advocacy group and has worked ever since to sustain and safeguard the fundamental values of the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans that give our nation's capital much of its distinction, beauty, and character.

The Committee of 100 supports the recommendation of the DC Historic Preservation Office Staff Report, prepared by Ms. Anne Brockett and Dr. Ruth Troccoli, that Observatory Hill be designated an historic district in the *D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites*, and we further support its nomination to the *National Register of Historic Places* for listing as a district of national importance. As new uses are sought and developed for the buildings and grounds of this important element in the 1791 L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington, The Committee of 100 is especially pleased to note that the staff report considers the landscape of Observatory Hill integral to the nomination and, therefore, a contributing element in the proposed historic district.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.