

From: Brent Leggs [mailto:brent.leggs@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2011 1:30 AM
To: Preservation
Subject: Natl. Museum of African American History & Culture/Section 106

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my opinion.

I work in the field of historic preservation. I've attended lectures at Harvard about the design and its impact to the historic fabric on the mall and the surrounding area.

Being someone that loves old buildings and the Classical architecture of the mall, I am excited, even delighted to see a new monument that is designed with a modern aesthetic. The linear design is appropriate for the spatial limitations and height restrictions on the mall and in the city, plus the time period the new building will be constructed signifies the 21st century. We shouldn't construct another new building on the mall in the Classical style, but remember that architecture is a much about beautifying the built environment as it is about expressing a societies progress through design. And, the design of the building has been carefully developed to connect to the Black experience around the world, which seems to require a non-traditional design plan.

The proposed design will not affect any historic views that would negatively impact surrounding historic resources, and the new design will fit nicely into its landscape context.

I hope the Section 106 Process supports this building being constructed in it's current location without any additional modifications to the design.

Best,

Brent Leggs