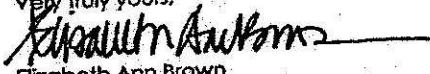


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entered into a different domain. In this situation, our opinions and that of the federal agency involved about the eligibility of the properties for the NRHP are important under federal regulations, and you had a responsibility to complete consultation before you allowed the properties to be damaged or destroyed.

It would be a violation of our responsibilities under Section 106 to write a clearance letter under circumstances such as this. We continue to hold that the properties were eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for the purposes of Section 106. We have worked with many banks through the Section 106 process, and through the process several historic buildings, including two houses, have been rehabilitated for bank use. I am sorry that these opportunities are foreclosed in your case. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how to mitigate this unfortunate series of events and clear your project.

Very truly yours,



Elizabeth Ann Brown
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Mr. John Fowler, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Director of Supervision, FDIC
Mr. Victor Blackledge