



Clinton Brown Company Architecture / ReBuild
The Full Service Historic Preservation Architecture Firm

November 2010

To the City of Buffalo and the Black Rock and Grant-Amherst communities,

Clinton Brown Company Architecture is pleased to convey this Historic Resources Survey to the residents, property owners, elected officials and all who have an active interest in the preservation and revitalization of the Black Rock and Grant-Amherst neighborhoods. This report reflects a Reconnaissance Level Historic Resources Survey that we completed in association with you and City staff. Initial fieldwork of observing more than 500 structures was completed in Spring 2010 and formed the basis for selecting the most significant buildings and sites that are noted in this report.

Once an independent municipality which rivaled its neighbor, the village of Buffalo, Black Rock has a long and rich history of its own which makes it a unique place in Western New York and our nation. Lower Black Rock was also one of the region's premier thriving Erie Canal towns. Today's Black Rock neighborhood deserves a higher level of recognition for its fine collection of buildings and structures, many of which are among the oldest in the City of Buffalo.

Today, the Black Rock/Grant-Amherst neighborhood is at a crossroads when it comes to utilizing its remaining historic architecture as a tool for redeveloping and rebuilding its economic base. Like many cities and towns across New York State and elsewhere, Black Rock is facing issues such as population loss, unemployment, urban blight and rising crime rates - all factors that can mean the deterioration, decay and destruction of the historic architectural fabric of the area and its unique sense of place as an individual community within the larger City of Buffalo. A strong community effort has worked tirelessly over the past several years to seek greater recognition of the unique architecture, history and culture of Black Rock and Grant-Amherst. This Historic Resources Survey presents the first step towards realizing this goal.

The City's leadership in commissioning this Historic Resources Survey as a means of identifying, recording and developing a greater understanding of the previously undocumented architecture in the Black Rock Planning Neighborhood is an excellent first step down a new road for a brighter future. This report should serve as a foundation for further preservation efforts and further raise public awareness of the value of the Black Rock/ Grant-Amherst area.

On behalf of the Clinton Brown Company Architecture team, thank you for the opportunity to present this Historic Resources Survey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Walkowski", written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Walkowski, CBCA Architectural Historian

We collaboratively design the revitalization of heritage buildings and communities

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