November 13, 2000

Ms. Carol Shull Keeper National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 1849 C Street, N.W., NC400 Washington, D.C. 20240

FAX: 202-343-1244

Dear Ms. Shull:

I urge the National Park System Advisory Board to head the advice of its own expert committee, supported by leading architects from around the world, and designate Richard Neutra's Cyclorama Building at Gettysburg a National Historic Landmark.

Architecture is a small piece of the human equation, but for those of us who practice it, we believe in its potential to make a difference, to enlighten and to enrich the human experience, and to penetrate the barriers of misunderstanding. The Cyclorama building at Gettysburg, designed by one of the greatest architects of the twentieth century, embodies the transcendent qualities of fine art in its composition of elements, and its selection of forms, scale, and materials. Surely a building of this stature, a pre-eminent modern contribution to the commemorative history of the Civil War, merits landmark designation.

Richard Neutra envisioned the Cyclorama Building as a site for solemn contemplation of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and a frame for the events that inspired it. His building reflects the highest ideals of his own time, and deserves the highest appreciation of ours.

Sincerely,

Fránk Gehry Architect