

DECLARING A PORTION OF SILAY CITY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, A NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK.

WHEREAS, Article 14, Section 14 of the 1986 Constitution of the Philippines states that "the State shall foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture...";

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Presidential Decree No. 260, dated August 1, 1973, specifically vested the National Historical Commission, now the National Historical Institute, the power to declare historical and cultural sites and edifices as National Shrines, Monuments and/or Landmarks;

WHEREAS, the National Historical Institute is the government agency charged with the maintenance and care of historical shrines, monuments and landmarks, and the development of historical sites and structures that may be declared as National Shrines, Monuments and Landmarks;

WHEREAS, Silay is the hometown of eminent Filipinos like Melecio Severino, Miguel Severino and Luis Ginete who led nationalist resistance movements in Silay against American Occupation during the turn of the century;

WHEREAS, Silay was the cultural center of Negros, with the pre-war theater KAHIRUP as the hub of cultural activities;

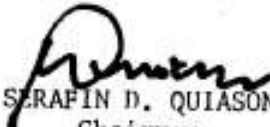
WHEREAS, the prominent citizens of Silay influenced the socio-economic and political affairs of Negros and the country as well, with the business and economics brought about by the sugar haciendas of the Gaston, Ledesma, Valencia, Gamboa, Locsin, Golez, Montelibano, de la Rama, Lopez, Jison, and many other families;

WHEREAS, Silay boasts of ancestral houses of architectural importance depicting the local aesthetic values of their builders and owners, and because as distinct architectural and historical legacies from the past they need to be preserved and safeguarded;

WHEREAS, the ancestral houses of Silay City, specially those found on Rizal Street row, their interrelationship with each other and collectively to their common site, form distinct and special urban and environmental qualities which reflect the city's historico-cultural development, and give inspiration and impact on modern socio-economic and political growth in larger scale;

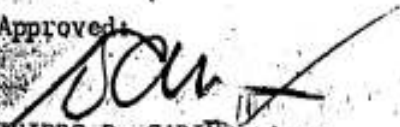
NOW, THEREFORE, the National Historical Institute, by virtue of the powers vested in it by Presidential Decree No. 260, dated August 1, 1973, as amended by Presidential Decree No. 1505 dated June 11, 1978, hereby declares a portion of the city of Silay, the area along Rizal Street as a protected historical site and to be known as the SILAY NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK.

Recommending Approval:


SERAFIN D. QUIASON
Chairman

National Historical Institute

Approved:


SIDRO D. CARINO
Secretary
Department of Education,
Culture and Sports

July 1990