

## RESOLUTION NO. 2, S. 2000

### DECLARING THE TOWN CENTER OF PILA IN LAGUNA AS A NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Philippines provides that "The State shall promote and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources;"

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 260, dated August 1, 1973, specifically vested the National Historical Institute with the power to declare sites and structures as national historical landmarks;

WHEREAS, the town of Pila, an early pre-Hispanic center of culture and trade in Laguna, has been recognized as one of the country's more important archaeological sites where clay potteries were discovered in excavations made at Pinagbayanan in 1967;

WHEREAS, the town of Pila was honored with the name of *La Noble Villa de Pila* by the Spaniards because of the genteel customs, refined manners and traditions of its people;

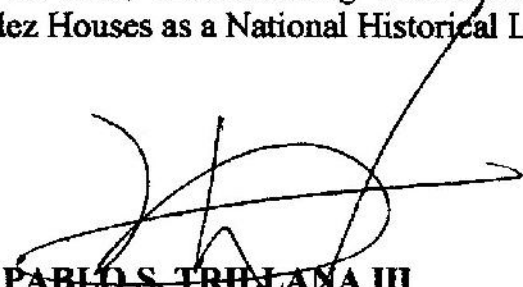
WHEREAS, Pila is one of the few existing towns in the Philippines that preserves the Spanish colonial town planning system for the Indies, where at the center of the town was the plaza complex with the surrounding church, tribunal, school and large houses;

WHEREAS, the structures of Pila reflect a rich and varied architectural history which remains relatively intact in its town center, from the Philippine-Baroque church of the Spanish period to the charming chalets of the American period;

WHEREAS, the town center of Pila is a living monument and testimony to the residents of Pila who were the builders, craftsmen, artists and artisans of such elegant, historic structures;

NOW THEREFORE, the National Historical Institute, by virtue of the powers vested in it by Presidential Decree No. 260, hereby declares the historic town center of Pila in Laguna, bounded by General Luna Street in the north, M.H. del Pilar Street in the east, Mabini Street in the south, and Bonifacio Street in the west, and including the Pila Elementary School, and the Jose Maceda and Santiago Fernandez Houses as a National Historical Landmark.

APPROVED: May 17, 2000

  
PABLO S. TRIELANA III  
Chairman

  
GABRIEL S. CASAL  
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