Save America's Treasures Tours

"By giving our own gifts to the future, we can make sure that when the new millennium finally comes, we won't just be celebrating a new year; we will be celebrating the strength of our democracy, the renewal of our sense of citizenship, and the full flowering of the American mind and spirit."

Fall 1999 - Chicago

October	Chess Records Blues Heaven Foundation
	Frederick C. Robie House
	Pullman National Historical Landmark District

Summer 1999

August	Nantucket United Methodist Church
July 23	National First Ladies' Library Event
July 1	Charter of Freedoms Project with POTUS

Spring 1999 - Visit to the Southwest

May 19	Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona
	Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, Arizona
May 21	Segesser Hide Paintings and the Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe, New Mexico
	San Esteban Del Rey and Acoma Pueblo, Acoma, New Mexico
	Southwest Pieta, Aluquerque, New Mexico
May 22	Mesa Verde National Park, Mesa Verde Colorado

Winter 1998

December 3	Louis Armstrong House and Archives, Queens, New York
December 5	Longfellow National Historical Site, Cambridge, Massachusetts
	African Meeting House, Boston, Massachusetts
December 10	Breet Street Shul, Los Angeles, California
	Broadway Theater Commercial District, Los Angeles, California
December 11	Conservatory of Flowers, San Francisco California

Summer 1998

July 13	Washington DC
	Francis Scott Key Monument, Baltimore, Maryland
	Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland
July 14	West Orange, New Jersey
	Newburgh, New York
	Pittsfield, Massachusetts
	Lenox, Massachusetts
July 15	Troy, New York
	Auburn, New York
	Victor, New York
	Waterloo, New York
July 16	Seneca Falls, New York - 150th Anniversary of the Women's Right's Convention

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Chicago - Fall 1999

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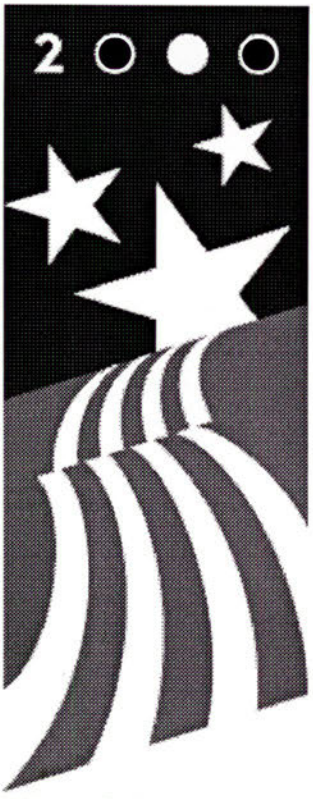
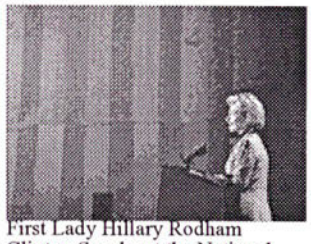


Photo Gallery

Previous Event

WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

"Save America's Treasures Tour" with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Speaks at the National Museum of American History.

"By giving our own gifts to the future, we can make sure that when the new millennium finally comes, we won't just be celebrating a new year; we will be celebrating the enduring strength of our democracy, the renewal of our sense of citizenship, and the full flowering of the American mind and spirit."

-- First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

CHESS RECORDS
BLUES HEAVEN FOUNDATION

John Mellencamp used to hang around outside just to catch a glimpse of his musical idols. Minnie Ripperton worked the reception desk. Berry Gordy picked up recording industry tips. Chuck Berry wandered in off the street at a previous Chess location hoping someone would listen to his music. The Rolling Stones recorded "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" here though they found some by taking their name from a Chess Records song and immortalizing its address in their instrumental "2120 South Michigan Avenue." But this generation of artists built upon the musical foundation laid by musicians up from the Mississippi Delta who found the opportunity to record through brothers Leonard and Phil Chess. The raw and natural sound they produced turned the music industry on its ear and established Chicago as the "Blues Capitol of the World." The Blues influenced other musical forms as noted by singer-guitarist Muddy Waters when he said, "The Blues had a baby and they called it Rock 'n' Roll." Chief among the Blues greats who worked here was Willie Dixon, prolific songwriter, producer and bassist. In his later years, he founded the Blues Heaven Foundation to protect Blues artists of the past and inspire future generations with the straightforward power of the Blues tradition. His widow, Marie Dixon, and other Foundation donors, restored this modest building and opened it to the public in 1997, but further restoration of the recording facilities is still needed to fully re-capture the heart and look of its 1950's and 60's heyday. The conservation needs of original sheet music, master recordings, instruments and memorabilia held here offer a glimpse of the widespread threat to the survival of irreplaceable music collections all around the country.

FREDERICK C. ROBIE HOUSE

Though set amidst the University and City of Chicago, this Prairie style home evokes the flat plains of the Midwest that lie beyond the city. Designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright for manufacturing executive Frederick C. Robie and his family, this 1909 home is considered Wright's masterpiece of the Prairie style he introduced. In keeping with many of Wright's designs, Robie House redefined interior space and

diminished the boundary between structure and landscape. It also included custom furniture and linens. Many architects have acknowledged this building's impact on modern architecture and recognized its quintessential American nature. The house served as a private home until 1926 and then variously as a dormitory, dining hall, and university offices before being placed under the management of the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio Foundation and named a National Trust for Historic Preservation site. It has survived the threat of demolition but is currently endangered by the effects of weathering and age. A ten-year restoration effort now underway includes structural stabilization and repair and conservation of original furnishings, fixtures and accompanying materials.

PULLMAN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DISTRICT

"The World's Most Perfect Town" -- according to the London Times in 1896 -- this was America's first model planned industrial town. Pullman was the site of innovation in urban planning, industrial manufacturing, and labor organization. The complex is touted as the most elaborate industrial complex of the 19th century, and its name is familiar to many as the site of the famous Pullman Strike of 1894. As the railroad industry developed, George Pullman (1831û1897) established the Pullman Palace Car Company to manufacture railroad cars. He established a complete town around the company where employees of all income levels could live, shop and play. Tension mounted when the national depression of 1893 reduced workers' incomes without reducing their Pullman housing expenses. As a result, workers increasingly joined, the American Railway Union, a new type of labor organization that brought all railroad workers together into one union. When negotiation failed, it called a national strike that was not successful in the short term but which proved the potential of organized labor by creating coordinated strike action all around the country. The Pullman Palace Car Company also made history several decades later as the first company to sign a contract with the African-American labor organization, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Maids founded by labor and civil rights activist A. Philip Randolph. After a heartbreaking fire in December of 1998, the challenge of preserving the main Pullman Factory Administration Building and Clock Tower is greater than ever before, but its deterioration would mean the loss of a landmark that tells several of America's most important stories. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois have formed a task force to evaluate options for saving and re-using what remains of the main factory complex, and the community continues its active commitment to preserve their neighborhood's heritage.







SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES

Focus on Funding

September 1999

Back

The story of preservation in America is the story of public-private partnerships. In keeping with that long tradition, *Save America's Treasures* is securing financial resources — both public and private — to help ensure the long-term survival of the nation's irreplaceable historic and cultural legacy.

Private Sector

To date, *Save America's Treasures* private-sector partner, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has raised more than $36 million in private support for new preservation grants and for special preservation projects in communities across the country. The First Lady announced significant contributions from corporations, private foundations, individual donors and federal agencies at events held during her *Save America's Treasures* tours.



On May 21, 1999, at a ceremony at the Pueblo of Acoma in New Mexico, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced more than $200,000 in contributions to *Save America's Treasures* for Cornerstones Community Partnerships, an award-winning youth training, preservation and community revitalization program. $75,000 of this amount will be dedicated to the restoration of San Esteban del Rey Mission Church and Convent at the Pueblo of Acoma.

Public Sector

On the public side, President Clinton proposed funding to *Save America's Treasures* in his 1999 budget and Congress approved $30 million in new federal grants to save significant historic sites and collections with the most urgent preservation needs. The grants, announced May 19, 1999, are managed by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. All must be matched equally with non-federal funds, thus stimulating state, local, and private involvement in these important projects. Agencies under the auspices of the Interior Appropriations bill were eligible to submit urgent federal projects, or apply on behalf of other regional sites or collections that fit the criteria. All of the 62 grant recipients met the standards of importance, urgency, educational value, and ability to complete the preservation work.

The National Trust works with the National Park Foundation and Heritage Preservation to designate preservation projects as Official Projects of *Save America's Treasures* to encourage their local preservation efforts, and attract gifts from corporations, foundations and individuals to support community projects. *Save America's Treasures* Official Projects designation will benefit the recipients of the federal grants as well. Since the grantees must match the federal award with private funding, Official Projects designation will help these historic sites and collections raise awareness and support.

To date, more than $66 million in public-private funds has been raised to save our nation's treasures. Together, the new public and private commitments and the greater public awareness of the nation's needs will result in the largest increase in preservation activity in over thirty years.

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Summer 1999

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National First Ladies' Library Event
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Canton, Ohio
July 23, 1999

Thank you to the McKinley's and to the library. I'm delighted to be here again with Dr. Sheila Fisher, who has been an inspiration and a strong supporter and one of the reasons we are able to celebrate the library today.

And I'm particularly pleased to be here with two people whom I enjoy and admire so greatly—your Congressman and his general. Both Ralph and Mary Regula have contributed so much to preserving our nation's priceless heritage. And they are owed a great deal of thanks, not only by those of you who are represented by the Congressman, but from the rest of us as well. Because their contributions expand our understanding of historic preservation and extend our appreciation as to the much greater depth that historic preservation can and is playing in our nation's present and future.

As you may know, I came here this morning directly from the memorial service held for John Kennedy, Jr., his wife Carolyn, and her sister Lauren. I know that your thoughts and prayers, like mine and so many millions of Americans, are with these two families at this time of unbearable sadness and loss. As the President said the other day, "It is times like this that we really stop to recognize that as big and diverse as our country is, we can come together as a national family. We can come together in sorrow or in joy if it reflects the values that we honor most."

This afternoon, we're here to celebrate efforts to preserve for future generations some of that common American history that we all share and value so deeply. The story is not only of America's first families—in particular, First Ladies—but of families everywhere who come together, in good times and in bad, to make America what it is today. And as in most families, there are some who take on the special role of caretaker. Someone who makes sure that we keep and preserve our family photo albums and letters; who seeks to keep distant memories alive; and who won't let priceless pieces of our history—our nation's history—get lost or damaged.

Fortunately for all of us, Congressman Regula has taken on that role as steward, becoming one of the staunchest supporters in Congress on behalf of the national effort to "Save America's Treasures." It is thanks to his tireless leadership that Congress provided $30 million in federal matching grants, enabling communities across the country and federal agencies like the National Park Service to preserve our nation's most significant treasures.

But as with most worthwhile endeavors, preserving America's treasures cannot—and should not—be solely a federal responsibility. Because after all, preservation in the United States has always involved both the public and the private sectors. Generous individuals, foundations, and corporations have always stepped forward. That is why we enlisted the National Trust for Historic Preservation as our non-profit partner for Save America's Treasures. And I'm delighted that as of this week, we have been able to raise $34.2 million in private funds—and those private funds are supporting projects around the country that tell the stories of our lives as Americans.

Over the past year, I've had the privilege to visit some 30 sites which the National Trust and its partners are saving and preserving—from George Washington's winter headquarters on the Hudson River, to the ancient dwellings of the Pueblo Indians in the Southwest, to the Breed Street Shul in Los Angeles. Each of these American treasures is a living textbook, a glimpse into the past, and a lesson for the future. And were it not for these preservation efforts, each one might very well have been allowed to crumble away, taking a piece of our history with it.

So that is among the reasons that I am particularly pleased to be here in Canton today, where this community has made such a strong commitment to preserve its history—and our nation's legacy.

I have just visited the restored Saxton-McKinley House—the home of our 25th president and his wife, Ida. That house now houses the First Ladies' Library. If you have not been there yet, I hope you will take the time to visit this extraordinary place. It is a perfect example of a preservation partnership, as a federal agency, a foundation, and an innovative project combined to make this a living site.

I saw so much in my short visit, and I commend all of you for it. Although I have been something of a student of first ladies since finding myself in this position a few years ago, there were many things that I had never seen before—including some priceless photographs of those who served as first lady and hostess for our first presidents. I was also pleased to see that a precious family heirloom—Ida McKinley's silver inkwell—has recently been presented to the First Ladies' Library [by the daughter of Ida's grand niece, Mary Gunn]. And it now sits where it always sat, here in Canton and in the White House, on Ida's personal writing desk in the parlor there.

As I looked at that inkwell, I marveled at how 100 years ago, Ida would sit at that desk and correspond with her friends and family by dipping her pen in ink. Today we tap away at a keyboard that instantly links us to the world. One hundred years ago, we drove from place to place in a horse and buggy, and could only dream of flying to far-away places. This week, we commemorate the 30th anniversary of man's first walk on the moon and the first of our shuttle missions ever to be commanded by a woman. In 1900, women did not compete in professional sports, and today we celebrate America's Women's Soccer Team as the World Cup champions.

So as I looked at Ida's inkwell, I thought about how the role of women—and first ladies—has grown and evolved over this past century, and how much we still needed to learn about their lives, their achievements, and their aspirations.

That's why Mary Regula's commitment to create the National First Ladies' Library is so important. Because now, especially, we understand how critical it is to preserve and document that ever-evolving legacy of women's contributions to our nation. Today we've gathered here at the City National Bank Building, which, as Mary has explained, will be the future site of the First Ladies' Library Education and Research Center. And I'm very pleased that, as Kitty Higgins announced, this renovation has been designated as an official project of Save America's Treasures.

As I traveled to historic—and even prehistoric—sites around our country as part of our "Save America's Treasures" tour, again and again I have stood in a place preserved through the leadership of women—women like Mary. Almost a century ago, journalist Virginia McClurg and philanthropist Lucy Peabody persuaded the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs to work to make Mesa Verde a national park. Ann Pamela Cunningham founded the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association to save George Washington's home. Alice Longfellow preserved her parents' home and belongings, including family papers and even the children's drawings. And today, more of us will be able to learn about the first ladies of our country because of the work and dedication of Mary Regula and all the other women who have worked with her, such as Sheila, and all the rest of you who are docents and contributors to this great project. And I salute and thank you very, very much.

What this project demonstrates is that as we approach the new millennium, we have a unique opportunity to expand our horizons and think more profoundly about what it means to preserve, and what values that preservation represents to us. Already, we are embracing more of our history and broadening our understanding of who did shape it. We're also widening the circle of who is responsible for taking care of and preserving that history. Saving our treasures is no longer a specialized or isolated practice of experts or curators. It is not even the province of just private citizens working by themselves alone. It is truly up to all of us, as you here in Canton have demonstrated.

Every community has a treasure in its own backyard that tells a unique story. And any American of any age can be a caretaker of our heritage, and thereby give a gift to our future.

As I was listening to the Pledge of Allegiance, I thought of the school children around America who have made such contributions. There were, for instance, school children outside of the Philadelphia area

who learned about the Save America's Treasures campaign to save the home of Harriet Tubman, the courageous ex-slave who led so many other slaves to freedom. These students brought pennies to school every Friday and raised $1,100 to help preserve that historic home. I think of the citizens of San Francisco who organized yard sales and sent in small donations to restore the beautiful Conservatory of Flowers overlooking Golden Gate Park, where families for generations had spent Sunday afternoons. And nearly a century ago, the more than one million school children from around the world who raised $500,000 to build the McKinley National Memorial, which I will visit this afternoon.

These are the kinds of efforts that have always represented the best of America. And I think about how all of us can be imaginative in contributing to this history. The President and I started the White House Millennium Council because we knew we wanted to do more to mark this important passage of time. Certainly, we understood that this would be an opportunity for great New Year's Eve parties. But more than that, it would allow us to take stock of who we are as Americans. And we chose as our theme, "Honor the past; imagine the future." That is what is happening here today.

I want to thank everyone who has made this gift to the future possible. I want you to stop and think about not only the tangible gifts—like the library and the soon-to-be renovated bank building—but even more important, perhaps, the intangible values that define us as Americans: Our responsibilities to one other. Our gift of freedom. Our commitment to respect and tolerate our diversity; to understand how unique America is. And our capacity to come together in sorrow and in joy to express the common values we honor most that bind us together.

One hundred years ago, President McKinley said, "Let us ever remember that our interest is in concord, not conflict, and that our real eminence rests in the victories of peace, not those of war." Those words—like our efforts to preserve America's treasures—honor our shared past. But they also serve—even a century later—as a blueprint for our common future.

I look forward to the lessons that will be learned and passed on through this library and the expanded understanding it will give us of the roles that these women played in our country's history. And by doing so, it will help to open our eyes to the kind of future that together we can imagine to make our country even greater. Thank you all very much.

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REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY IN HIGHLIGHTING CHARTER OF FREEDOMS PROJECT

National Archives Rotunda
July 1, 1999

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you very much. And I especially want to thank all of the students who are here with us today, especially Jasmine, Kevin and Nora, for reading to us the words that launched our nation and have inspired and challenged us ever since.

Imagine how significant those phrases are, "We the people," "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," "Congress shall make no law." There is so much about these Charters of Freedom that we learned about as children and that we still, every day, attempt to live up to in our country.

And I want to thank all of you who are gathered here for this important announcement. I want to thank Secretary and Mrs. Riley, who have joined us; a number of other officials from the administration; Congressman Regula, who is here with us; the Center for Civic Education; and all of you, the students, the educators and the citizens who are helping to pass on the Charters of Freedom and the values they teach to every generation.

I'm especially pleased to be here with Michael Armstrong and AT&T for your extraordinary generosity. For generations, AT&T connected us as individuals, and now it is helping to connect us to the past and move us forward into the future by helping to save our founding documents and make them come alive for our children.

I cannot think of a better gift than the gift that AT&T is announcing today to the Archives, the gift that they've given to the Save America's Treasures initiative that is part of the White House Millennium Council, that truly is making it possible for us to give gifts to the future that will carry us into the next century and the next millennium. So, on behalf of the White House Millennium Council, on behalf of all of us who care about preserving and enhancing our past, let me again thank Michael Armstrong and AT&T for this generous, generous gift. (Applause.)

And none of what we are celebrating today would have been possible without the early support of the Pew Charitable Trust, which allowed the National Archives, the Department of Commerce and NASA to create new cases for the charters. And none of that would have been possible without the commitment and leadership of John Carlin and the entire staff of the National Archives.

John and I first spoke about this project two years ago this month. And he has been a tireless advocate for the need to enhance and preserve better the work that is maintained here in the Archives -- the safety deposit box, which Mr. Armstrong referred to. So I want to thank John, the staff of the Archives and everyone who has helped us understand how we could preserve and protect the charters.

Imagine, if you will, the long tradition of citizens who have made it possible for us to meet here on the brink of a new century and a new millennium -- citizens who in the past protected our charter. Imagine Stephen Pleasanton, a State Department clerk in 1814, who received word that the British forces were coming and that the should take care of the papers in his office.

Now, when he asked the Secretary of War, the Secretary told him he shouldn't be so worried because it was unlikely that the British would break through the line. But as I have often told the story in the White House, we know, indeed, that the British did, and burned the White House to the ground.

And, thankfully, Mr. Pleasanton did not listen to those optimistic reports. Instead, he and others gathered up the Declaration of Independence, laws, letter from George Washington and the unpublished journals of Congress, and brought them to a grist mill two miles from Georgetown. But he decided that that was not far enough away from danger, so he found wagons and took the documents another 35 miles, to

Leesburg. He made sure they were safe in an empty house. He locked the doors and he went to bed, exhausted.

When he woke up, he did hear the news that Washington had been set on fire the night before, our public buildings had been burned to the ground. But, thankfully, our founding documents were unharmed because he had saved them.

Well, he was the first in a long line of concerned Americans. And now it is our turn. Because of today's announcement we can help ensure that the Charters of Freedom will be saved for all time and accessible to all people. We can help ensure that 100 years from now children will be able to visit this sacred place and to hear and see the words and the work of our Founding Fathers and so many others who have made America what it is today.

Imagine seeing the notes that President Eisenhower wrote to memorialize what he did during the Little Rock crisis; or to look over the papers showing the arrest and conviction of Susan B. Anthony because she had the audacity to vote. Our children will see this and so much more that is part of the American legacy.

And that is exactly what the President and I had in mind two years ago when we came here in August to announce the White House Millennium Council. We wanted to mark this important point in history, and to provide an opportunity for Americans to take stock of who we are as we end the 20th century, and to decide what of our culture, our history and our values we will bring with us into the next century.

We chose a theme for these activities: Honor the past; imagine the future. And that is what we've been trying to do. We've used the White House, our oldest continuous venue for presenting the arts in America, to showcase the best or our creativity and scholarship. In seven Millennium Evenings that we have held since 1998, we've heard about the future of science from Stephen Hawking; we've heard Winton Marsalis and Marian McPartland explore jazz as an expression of our democracy; we've heard Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel talk about the perils of indifference from Nazi Germany to the Balkans.

Two years ago, we invited Americans to think about ways each of us could give gifts to the future. Today there are more than 135 Millennium Communities. We're also seeing citizens coming together to build new parks, plants trees, create Millennium Trails, all of which help to explore our history and help us appreciate our beautiful outdoors. Because, after all, it is not just our Charters of Freedoms that help us define who we are as Americans; there are many artifacts and documents all over our country.

So we've tried, through the Save America's Treasures campaign to help preserve that history. It is a public-private partnership designed to highlight what is special about America's past. And this year the President proposed grants to save some of our most endangered sites and collections. And I'm very pleased that the Congress, with the leadership of Congressman Regula, and with bipartisan support, approved $30 million for this important effort.

And I'm very pleased that our partner, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, represented here by Dick Moe, has helped to raise an additional $33 million in private funding.

So we can see all over the country that saving treasures is not just the work of the federal government, nor even of our major corporate citizens, like AT&T, or even of our philanthropic foundations like Pew, but indeed, it is the work of all of us, from the youngest of our citizens to the oldest.

When I was recently at the ancient cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde, I learned about a 3rd grade class in Boulder, Colorado, that did extra chores to create something that they called "Adopt a Ruin" calendars. And by selling these calendars, they raised $15. One girl wrote to us and said, "I've raised $15 so far. I feel very special about that because it will mean that my kids get the experience to see all of these wonderful, important sites." Well, that is one of the reasons why this particular announcement is so important.

I'm reminded about the students from Woodlawn High School in Arlington, who are making the lessons

about our democracy come alive. They're having town meetings where they give everyone something to say, and those town meetings are exploring all kinds of issues -- from the number of teachers they should hire to whether they have compulsory study halls -- which, incidentally, the lobbied to overturn. They've interviewed veterans of World War II to ask them about the rights they were fighting for. They've done so much, including studying the Bill of Rights and learning more about what it means to be an American citizen.

So as we are now quickly approaching another 4th of July, I hope we will continue to think about how we pass on the values and the blessings that we enjoy as Americans, and that always we will pay particular attention to preserving that of our past that tells us who we are today and where we're going tomorrow.

Passing on the gift of freedom and the opportunity that comes with being an American may be our most important obligation. And by doing so, we help create the kind of future that we want for these young people and for all American children.

It's been a great pleasure working these last two years on the enterprises of the White House Millennium Council. And we have another year and some months to go in order to continue to spread the word about what we are trying to accomplish. And it's been a particular delight that the President has been so involved in these efforts. He's a great history buff and has contributed greatly to the ideas that we have developed about honoring the millennium.

So it gives me great pleasure to introduce the President of the United States. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. As you might imagine, this is a very special day for Hillary and for me, in a signal honor for us to have the chance to serve at this moment. I want to thank John Carlin for his faithful stewardship of these great documents; thank my friend, Mike Armstrong, for his generosity and for calling on others in the business community to help in this endeavor.

Thank Secretary Riley and NASA and the Department of Commerce for working with the National Archives in designing and developing the new encasement that will house our charters. I thank the Center for Civic Education for their efforts to teach our children the importance of history.

I'd like to thank these young people who are here who read -- first they helped us recite the Pledge of Allegiance, and then they read from our founding documents. And I thought that young man did a remarkable job introducing Hillary. I thought they were all great. Let's give them a hand. (Applause.)

And I would like to say a special word of appreciation to Congressman Ralph Regula for his leadership and for proving that this is one issue which is not a partisan issue. This is an American issue. And I'm very grateful to him for his leadership in the United States Congress on this. (Applause.)

On July 4, 1776, King George of England wrote in his diary, "Nothing of importance happened today." Now, even making allowances for the absence of world news and the Internet, His Majesty's diary entry stands as one of the most inaccurate statements ever written. (Laughter.) We all know that those who put their names to the Declaration of Independence changed the world forever.

Before then, liberty had been a rare and fleeting thing in the course of human history. Citizens of ancient democracies enjoyed it, but let it slip from their grasp. So the Founders labored mightily to craft a Declaration of Independence, then a Constitution and a Bill of Rights that they hoped would help America to beat the odds and keep liberty alive.

Two hundred and twenty-three years later, we can safely say they succeeded -- not only in keeping the liberty they created, in fact, alive, but in moving ever closer, generation after generation, to the pure ideals embodied in the words they wrote.

Today our liberty extends not just to white men with property, but to all Americans. Our concept of

freedom no longer includes the so-called freedom to keep slaves or extract profit from the labor of children. And our Constitution is the inspiration behind scores of democratic governments around the world -- from Japan to Poland to Guatemala to South Africa.

Each generation of Americans is called upon not only to preserve that liberty, but to enhance it; not only to protect the institutions that secure our liberty, but to renew and reform them to meet the challenges of the present with an eye for the future. The renewal of our generation -- in our economy, our social fabric, our world leadership for peace and freedom -- is well-symbolized by the project we celebrate today, employing the finest minds and latest technologies to preserve these charters of freedom for generations yet unborn.

When Hillary and I first realized that the turn of the millennium would occur while we were in the White House, we knew we had an obligation to mark it in ways that would be good for the country -- in her words, by honoring the past and imagining the future.

What we do with these hallowed pieces of parchment, all Americans can do with the important historical treasures that exist all around them -- in their attics, their parks, their town halls. Saving America's treasures is not about living in the past. It is about conveying to future generations the American story in all its texture and richness and detail; about fulfilling our duty to be good ancestors; about catching the spirit Thomas Jefferson had in his later years, when he became devoted to preserving desks and chairs and other ordinary things from his extraordinary times.

"These small things," he wrote, "may perhaps, like the relics of saints, help to nourish our devotion to this holy bond of Union, and keep it longer alive and warm in our affections."

I want to thank, first and foremost, Hillary for leading this effort, which has already accomplished so much -- from restoring the Star-Spangled Banner to honoring our great artists, thinkers and scientists. I look forward to walking on some of those 2,000 Millennium Trails we'll build together, and to naming more and more Millennium Communities.

We can all take pride in our efforts to renew our national treasures, for in a larger sense the story of our nation is the story of constant renewal -- the realization that we preserve the ideals embodied in these documents not simply by revering them, but by reaffirming our commitment to them. Each generation must widen the circle of opportunity, deepen the meaning of freedom, and strengthen the bonds of our community.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." We fought a war of revolution to make those words real in 1776. We rededicated ourselves to that proposition in 1863, recognizing that the bright words of the Declaration could not abide the stain of slavery, or endure the breaking of our union.

We rededicated ourselves at the coming of the Industrial Age, when we recognized that new measures were required to protect and advance equal opportunity and freedom. We rededicated ourselves again in 1920, when we ratified the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote.

We saved those ideals in World War II, and for millions upon millions of people in the Cold War. We rededicated ourselves again in 1963, hearing and heeding Dr. King's dream that one day, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slaveowners would one day sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

Today, at the coming of the Information Age, we rededicate ourselves yet again. Thank God our challenges are not those of depression or war, but those brought on by this hopeful and remarkable explosion in technology; by the globalization of our economy; by all the changes in the way we work and live and relate to each other and the rest of the world.

To keep our ideals alive we must embrace new ideas and follow a new course. Because we believe equal opportunity in 1999 is just as important as it was in 1776, we must rededicate ourselves to the truest

guarantor of that opportunity, a world-class educational system that benefits every single child.

Because we believe the federal government must promote the general welfare, as our founders instructed, we are dedicated to using its resources to pay squarely our single, greatest challenge as a nation today, the aging of America -- and to do so in a way that pays off our national debt for the first time since 1835. (Applause.) _

Because we believe every human being has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and no one should be discriminated against, uprooted, abused or killed because of his or her race or ethnic background or religion, we are proud to stand with our allies in defense of these ideals in Kosovo.

It is natural for any American contemplating the documents behind me to look upon those who crafted them as almost super- human in their wisdom and the times that they lived as a golden age. But the more you read about them, the more you respect their achievement because the founders were not gods on Earth -- they were farmers and lawyers, printers and merchants, surveyors and soldiers, chosen by their constituents to hash out divergent interests and make difficult decisions about the future -- to engage, in other words, in politics.

I said at my alma mater, Georgetown, last week, that at its best, politics is about values, ideas and action. That's what they were about. They turned politics into public service and made it a noble endeavor, and left us a framework to keep it going. The Declaration and the Constitution emerged only after fierce debate and difficult compromise. Today, these documents enjoy universal acclaim. And at the time they were written, believe it or not, many Americans -- though, thank goodness not a majority -- actually did not agree with them.

Yet, the framers refused to let serious differences of opinion become excuses to put off action. They overcame their differences and completed their tasks, and stayed true to an idea that Jefferson would later express in his first inaugural -- that every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle.

We have to keep that idea in mind today. The greatest threat to our democracy today, and certainly to freedom and democracy around the world, is the poisonous idea that what divides us is far more important than what we have in common; that as long as we have differences of opinion we must have personal animosities and we cannot have positive action. This is a dubious political strategy, a dangerous governing strategy, wrong as a matter of historical fact and an affront to the sacred documents we gather here to save.

Despite their many differences, the framers drafted, debated and signed the Declaration of Independence in less than a month. They drafted, debated and approved the Constitution in less than five months. If they could produce those enduring charters of freedom in a matter of months, surely there is no reason why we here in our time cannot make major progress in the remaining months of this millennium, to prepare our nation for the new millennium, and a 21st century which I am convinced will be America's best days.

We owe it to these children to honor their past, to imagine their future and to build a bridge to that future every single one of them can cross. So as we preserve the documents that launched this, the greatest journey in freedom and opportunity in all of history, let us resolve to do all we can to keep alive the spirit that got us to this point. These children will do the rest.

Thank you and God bless you. (Applause.)

Read our Privacy Policy

SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES VISIT
Nantucket United Methodist Church
Nantucket, Massachusetts

- Thank you, and thank you Max Berry for that kind introduction. Thank you Reverend Nelson for your hospitality in this church – a place that is clearly so close to your heart. I want to extend my gratitude to Graham Gund for the tour and to Ann Gund as well for your support of the preservation of this building and the many other historic sites on this island.

- It is a pleasure for me to be here today, in the historic atmosphere of this remarkable church, and on an island which has shown such a firm commitment to the cause of historic preservation. In 1966, the entire Island was named a National Landmark by the National Park Service. I was impressed to learn that Nantucket has the largest collection of 17th, 18th, and early 19th century intact historic structures in the country, including the African Meeting House, which serves as another living reminder of the diverse history of this island.

- The Nantucket United Methodist Church was built in 1823, during the golden age of Whaling, and serves as a living symbol of this island's history and character. Just twenty-three years after it opened to the community, however, the church already found itself under threat. I was inspired to hear of a story that I know has become somewhat of a legend around here. It was in 1846 that the Great Fire swept through Nantucket, destroying all the buildings on Main Street and the wharves. When this church stood in the Great Fire's path, firefighters made the decision to dynamite it in order to prevent the fire from spreading any further.

- As the fire spread and the destruction of the church seemed imminent, a young woman's voice emerged from the chaos. Firefighters turned their eyes to the nation's first female astronomer, Maria (mar-I-ah) Mitchell, who stood on the stairs along side this church. "If you blow up this church," she said, " You'll blow me up too." The delay caused by Ms. Mitchell's action was enough for a change in the winds to take place, which suddenly diverted the flames away from the church's direction. The building was saved.

- Now there is no town fire sweeping the streets today. But, as all of you know, this Church finds itself threatened once again by forces as great as fire. The church must now battle the corrosive elements of nature as it continues to serve as a house of worship and a center of the community in which it stands. The need to respond to this threat was made all too apparent when, in 1995, the Massachusetts Historic Commission placed it on its list of the Ten Most Endangered Places in the Commonwealth.

- The Nantucket United Methodist Church serves not only as a house of worship; it also functions as a theater and community center. The same people who used this place as a showcase for the arts or a venue for important lectures have come together to ensure its survival. You formed the "Two Centre Street Restoration Project," and, by January of 1998, Phase One of this restoration project was finished and paid for. This could not of been done without the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the leadership of Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin. The matching grants and support they provided have been crucial in this preservation effort, and I want to applaud their efforts.

- Yet more work needs to be done for the final two phases of this restoration plan to be completed. Here, as in so many places across the nation, the living symbols of our past stand threatened. And what better time to take action against this deterioration than now, as a new millennium calls us to 'Honor the Past and Imagine the Future.' That is the theme of the White House Millennium Council, which the President and I launched two years ago.

- As we end this century and this millennium and begin anew, we have many new challenges facing our great nation. And each of us in our own way will have to think of the gifts we can give to the future.

- And, today, I am delighted to announce over $51,000 in new donations toward the $148,000 still needed for Phase II of the Nantucket Methodist Church's restoration. Many people contributed to this effort. First, I want to thank Faraway Productions for its pledge to donate all proceeds from this year's opening night gala – about $15,000. Several others have pledged $10,000 each: Abby Johnson and Chris McKown through the Fidelity Foundation; the Bank of Boston, represented here today by

Steven DeCesare (de-say-ZAR-ay), President of Pacific Bank; and Thomas and Georgia Gosnell. On behalf of this important historic site, I thank you for your exceptional generosity and leadership.

- I also want to acknowledge other major supporters: Tom and Barbara Dwyer; John and Joan Goodwin; Jack Manning and Lyle Howland; Huntington T. Block; and Maureen and Nigel Palmer. Frankly, I wish there was time for me to name the many, many others who participated in this very spirited community effort. But I can assure you that I am well aware of your contributions – and deeply grateful.

- Finally, let me extend a special thank-you to a few people without whose help this effort could not possibly have succeeded: Ann Gund, Maureen Palmer, Bobbie Handman, and Bobbie Greene of Save America's Treasures at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This church owes a debt of gratitude to you all.

- I have traveled across the country with the Save America's Treasures program of the White House Millennium Council, in cooperation with the

National Trust for Historic Preservation, to bring attention to the historic places that capture the history of this nation. From the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow House in Cambridge, to the ancient cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde in Colorado, many of this nation's great sites and collections are deteriorating before our very eyes. Save America's Treasures has inspired Americans to give – in ways large and small – over $33 million to preserve the nation's legacy. And we've learned that more than paper or wood, or bricks and mortar stand at risk when we allow these places to fade away. Our collective memory and community identity are at risk of crumbling as well. To be a nation in the new millennium, we must safeguard what it means to all of us to be Americans.

- There's a lot of work for us to do, and it takes all of us – generous patrons as well as pennies for preservation. It means paying attention to the treasures in our own backyards. None of us owns our history, but each of us can be a caretaker of it. Each of us does have a responsibility to safeguard that history and pass it down to our children and our children's children.

- Thank you for your gracious welcome and for your steadfast efforts to keep the Nantucket United Methodist Church a standing symbol of the richness of this community. Your work will give a gift to the future, and I'm proud to witness it today.

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Southwest - Spring 1999

Divider Title:_____

WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

Save America's Treasures:
A Visit to the Southwest by the First Lady

FOLLOW THE FIRST LADY

Wednesday, May 19

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK
Grand Canyon, Arizona

Nowhere on earth does Mother Nature present the face of millennia as she does in the Grand Canyon. Several million years of natural history reveal themselves in the layered rocks of the Colorado River's great chasm. The river is always a force of change in the canyon, but humanity has left our subtle marks from the archaic native people who once inhabited the area, to Major John Wesley Powell who explored it, to architect Mary Jane Coulter who designed the signature buildings on the south rim. The Grand Canyon Greenway project is part of an enlightened effort to shape human influence and preserve this American treasure by creating a system of trails that will help the canyon endure into the new millennium. Seventy-three miles of trail will form a new system of transportation choices inside the park that will provide a safe, educational, healthy and environmentally sound alternative transportation route for thousands of visitors.

LOWELL OBSERVATORY
Flagstaff, Arizona

The past and the future share the same starlight as it speeds through millennia-gone-by and streaks past the earth into a future we have not seen. At 105 years old, Lowell Observatory has been and continues to be committed to teaching humankind about our place in the universe and making the discoveries that help us move beyond our planet. Lowell Observatory is the largest privately operated non-profit astronomical research observatory in the world and is a National Historic Landmark. It was here that the public's imagination about Mars was sparked, where the first evidence for an expanding universe was observed, where Pluto was discovered, where maps of the moon's surface for Apollo astronauts were refined, and where the public is invited to learn alongside world renowned astronomers and researchers. Objects and collections which tell this story, and which are vital to the educational work at Lowell are threatened by deterioration, and ongoing care is needed for the Observatory.

Saturday, May 22

Friday, May 21

SEGESSER HIDE PAINTINGS AND THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS
Sante Fe, New Mexico

The Segesser Hide Paintings are a colorful eighteenth century record of two events in New Mexico history painted on bison hides. One painting depicts an attack on an Apache village while the other accounts the ambush of the Villasur expedition, a group of Spaniards and Pueblo Indians sent from Santa Fe to search for French intruders in the Spanish empire. Most old New Mexico families can claim a special connection to the Segesser paintings through their ancestors, many of whom were involved in the battle depicted in the second painting. The hide paintings are currently on display in the Palace of the Governors, the oldest public building in the United States and now a unit of the Museum of New Mexico. Built in 1610, it was the seat of nearly three centuries of government and witness to colorful histories including Spanish, Pueblo, Mexican, and American. Both of these unique links to our past are in need of stabilization and conservation so that they may continue to tell their stories to future generations.

SAN ESTEBAN DEL REY AND ACOMA PUEBLO
Acoma, New Mexico

Situated on top of a mesa, hundreds of feet above the surrounding valley, Old Acoma or Sky City, is one of the oldest continuously occupied cities in the United States. As a thriving pueblo today, Acoma honors the many aspects of iys history in its living culture. In 1629 the Spanish established the church of San Esteban del Rey, and the Acoma people completed the church building in 1641. Although Acomas participated in the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, they chose not to destroy their church, making San Esteban del Rey one of the few Spanish missions to survive the uprising. The Pueblo of Acoma is working with Cornerstone Community Partnerships to identify and analyze causes of damage and deterioration of San Esteban, a National Historic Landmark. Skills learned through this program will also be applied to Acoma housing, enabling Acomas to preserve their community for generations to come.

SOUTHWEST PIETA
Albuquerque, New Mexico

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK
Mesa Verde, Colorado

Five thousand archaeological sites including some six hundred cliff dwellings are found in this national park. Established in 1906, it was the first park dedicated primarily to preserving human artifacts rather than natural environments. The Ancestral Puebloans lived on these grounds for hundreds of years but built the most complex cliff dwellings around 1200. Today twenty-four Native American tribes in the southwest have an ancestral affiliation with the sites at Mesa Verde. The cliff dwellings were re-discovered by many people including explorers, geologists, photographers and cattlemen, but did not gain widespread attention until the late 1800's. Virginia McClurg, Lucy Peabody and other women in Colorado and around the country led the effort to protect the area's dwellings and artifacts within a national park. Hundreds of sites are threatened by erosion and hundreds more need their conditions assessed and stabilized. The park has also been designated a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Unlike the star-crossed lovers depicted in this sculpture, the city of Albuquerque and the community of South Martinez Town have embraced fully this piece of public art by sculptor Luis Jimenez. This brightly colored fiberglass sculpture, originally funded by the City of Albuquerque and the National Endowment for the Arts, vividly recalls the Aztec and Mexican myths around the two volcanoes located outside Mexico City. The Aztec story accompanied the native Spanish and Mexican people who traveled the "Road of Life" which later became the Spanish " El Camino Real". The combination of the Aztec myth, its romanticized Mexican version, and Christian imagery reveal the mixture of cultures which is the heritage of the region. Students at the neighboring Longfellow Elementary School learn about sculpture and the many sources of their heritage through study of this work of art. Many partners including the community, the city, and the national non-profit Save Outdoor Sculpture of Heritage Preservation are committed to the display, safety, and conservation of the piece which faces on-going threats from the region's harsh elements and acid particulates.

GET INVOLVED

We stand at the convergence of a new century and the next millennium -- a milestone in human history. That is why the President and First Lady created the White House Millennium Council -- to set themes, engage the federal agencies and invite all Americans to participate in meaningful activities through the year 2000.

The overall theme of the White House millennium activities is "Honor the past -- Imagine the future." The President and First Lady are inviting states, Communities, non-profit organizations, federal agencies, and all citizens to participate in activities that strengthen our democracy, improve communities, and give lasting gifts to the future. The President has invited governors, mayors and other elected officials to involve citizens in marking the Millennium; many cities and towns are creating "Year 2000" committees to plan events.

For more information about the Save America's Treasures Program and other Millennium Council initiatives, please contact:

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Save America's Treasures
Progress Report — April 1999

Background

All across America, too many of the historic buildings, sites, monuments, objects and archival documents that tell the nation's story are deteriorating with time, misuse, weather, natural disasters, sprawl, improper conservation and even vandalism. These testaments to our American experience are found in communities across the country and urgently require conservation and restoration to survive into the next millennium. Many of these treasures are not being preserved because they lack funds or lack organized interest in the community. Without intervention, there is little chance they will endure.

Save America's Treasures was created by President and Mrs. Clinton as a White House Millennium Council program to further its goal to "Honor the Past – Imagine the Future." *Save America's Treasures* focuses on "protecting America's threatened cultural treasures..., including significant documents, works of art, maps, journals, and historic structures that record and illuminate the history and culture of the United States." To respond to the complex challenges of protecting and preserving the nation's priceless cultural heritage, *Save America's Treasures* was founded as a public-private partnership, led by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, between the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust works with two Associate Partners, the National Park Foundation and Heritage Preservation, to increase public recognition and secure long-term support for projects. (see Attachment A)

Save America's Treasures Goals:

- **Foster pride** in American heritage
- **Educate Americans** on the preservation problems facing the buildings, sites, monuments, objects and archival documents that represent America's diverse cultural legacy
- **Raise concern** for the urgent preservation needs of this country's historic and cultural treasures
- **Stimulate broad-scale involvement** in Save America's Treasures including financial support, organization of preservation projects, community preservation activism, and educational initiatives

Save America's Treasures 1998 Highlights and Accomplishments:

By any measure, *Save America's Treasures* had a successful inaugural year, beginning with the launch of the Millennium Committee to *Save America's Treasures* on May 4, when Mrs. Clinton and Richard Moe, President of the National Trust, announced the initiative and introduced the program's national partners. In 1998, Congress approved a $30 million federal appropriation, and with the help of Millennium Committee members, program partners, and the generous support of private donors, the National Trust secured more than $30 million in private contributions. Over the next eight months, the First Lady visited more than twenty historic sites and collections across the country with Millennium Committee members (see Attachment B). From June to December 1998, these *Save America's Treasures* tours, sponsored by the White House Millennium Council,

drew public attention to the program and to the critical preservation needs of some of the historic places and collections that tell our nation's story. The sites were then able to leverage the exposure to generate their own success stories — a wonderful example of a public-private partnership that works.

Visiting America's Treasures

The purpose of Mrs. Clinton's *Save America's Treasures* trips was to raise awareness and bring support to the dire conservation needs of many of America's most important and endangered historic sites, artifacts, documents and monuments. Events organized at each stop offered an opportunity to draw attention to the historical significance and preservation needs of each place, stimulate community support and announce public and private support to *Save America's Treasures* and to individual sites.

Results — Many sites have been able to build on the *Save America's Treasures* events to enhance public awareness and financial support and to increase attendance (see Attachment C). Some notable examples illustrate the positive impact of the First Lady's commitment to this public-private partnership at the grassroots level.

- *The Mount, Home of Edith Wharton* – Visitation tripled the day following the First Lady's visit on July 14, and more than doubled in subsequent weeks. Overall visitation experienced a 25% increase for the remainder of the 1998 season, which closed on November 1. The increased visibility of the project has helped Edith Wharton Restoration, Inc., raise a remarkable $320,000 toward restoration of the historic home, and work on the multi-year restoration project has accelerated.
- *Dutch Reformed Church* – Following the First Lady's July 14 *Save America's Treasures* visit, the church was selected for federal grant funding as a pilot planning project through the National Park Service under the Hudson Valley Heritage Area initiative. Another result of the awareness raised by the visit is the formation of an ad hoc committee by the City of Newburgh to examine church preservation and reuse opportunities. Meanwhile, critical, temporary, structural stabilization work has been completed to prevent the collapse of the church's second floor gallery.
- *Harriet Tubman Home* – The Harriet Tubman Home, Inc., and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church received a $50,000 matching grant from the New York State Heritage Area Program after the First Lady's *Save America's Treasure's* July 15 visit. In addition, the project secured $7,000 of in-kind services, and the supporting organizations have applied for a $798,700 multi-year grant from New York State. The positive effect of the First Lady's visit is further evidenced by the Auburn City Council adoption of a "Historic Park Task Force" and a full 100% increase in annual visitors to the Harriet Tubman Home.
- *African Meeting House* – Incredibly, the Museum of Afro American History has been able to raise its entire endowment and the remaining 15% of its project fundraising goal as a result of the attention drawn to the African Meeting House through the *Save America's Treasures* visit just a few months ago on December 5, 1998. Having reached its fundraising goal, the African Meeting House is now moving forward with the National Park Service on its plans to restore the building.

Public/Private Financial Support – The story of preservation in America is the story of public-private partnerships. In keeping with that long tradition, *Save America's Treasures* is securing financial resources – both public and private - to help ensure the long-term survival of the nation's irreplaceable historic and cultural legacy. President Clinton requested the establishment of the Millennium Fund to *Save America's Treasures*, and Congress approved a $30 million federal appropriation for FY 1999 to preserve nationally significant, intellectual and cultural artifacts.

In the second half of 1998, the *Save America's Treasures* program at the National Trust for Historic Preservation raised nearly $30 million in private support for new preservation grants and for special preservation projects in communities across the country. The First Lady announced significant contributions from corporations, private foundations, individual donors and federal agencies at events held during her July and December tours, including $1.74 million in grants from federal agencies. (see Attachment D)

Federal Appropriation – Congress appropriated $30 million for the Historic Preservation Fund in Fiscal Year 1999, to be administered by the Department of Interior through the National Park Service. Congress responded to the urgency of the nation's preservation needs, and asked that funds be available for nationally significant collections or historic properties that are threatened, endangered or otherwise demonstrate an urgent preservation and/or conservation need. Projects also must have a clear educational value and public benefit and the applicant must demonstrate the ability to complete the project. All federal grants must be matched by state or private funds.

Three million dollars of the appropriation is dedicated to the restoration of the Star-Spangled Banner and $500,000 will be used to restore of the Sewall-Belmont House, the birthplace and headquarters of the National Women's Party. The remaining $26.5 million will be distributed on a competitive basis as grants to priority preservation projects forwarded by the public agencies directly under the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Among the eligible agencies are: the National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Energy, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Museum and Library Services, in the Interior bill. Proposed projects, evaluated by a panel of experts, will be recommended to the Secretary of the Interior, and then forwarded to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for review. The first round of federal grants will be announced in April 1999.

Other Federal Support – A number of federal agencies have preservation programs and help to save many of the country's important historic and cultural resources. For example, the National Archives and Records Administration is presently re-encasing the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution to protect those precious founding documents from further decline. Others have supported preservation through *Save America's Treasures.* The National Endowment for the Arts awarded a $500,000 grant to Heritage Preservation's "Save Outdoor Sculpture!" – a national program to conserve public monuments, 50 percent of which are deteriorating. The Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded $1.24 million to stabilize San Francisco's earthquake-damaged Conservatory of Flowers, and has assisted other historic sites after disasters, according to FEMA guidelines.

Private Support – Communities and donors across the country are answering the call to honor the past and imagine the future by saving our nation's historic and cultural heritage. Private donors rose to the challenge and pledged nearly $30 million dollars to support grant programs, preservation projects and other program activities. The National Trust and the *Save America's Treasures* program's private-sector partners – Heritage Preservation, and the National Park Foundation – and Millennium Committee members have attracted the early generous support of foundations, individual donors and key Corporate Partners: (see Attachment D)

- ***Polo Ralph Lauren*** – committed $13 million to *Save America's Treasures* through the National Trust, including $10 million for the restoration of the original Star-Spangled Banner at the Smithsonian Institution with a small portion earmarked for program support, and $3 million for print advertising in support of *Save America's Treasures.*

- ***General Electric Company*** – contributed $5 million to *Save America's Treasures* through the National Park Foundation for the preservation of the Edison National Historic Site, including Thomas Edison's laboratory, the Invention Factory.

- ***Target Stores*** – contributed $925,000 to *Save America's Treasures* through Heritage Preservation's "Save Outdoor Sculpture!" program.

- ***Warner Bros. Records Inc.*** – announced its plans for the spring 1999 release of *Sing America: A Celebration of America and its Music*, a commemorative CD to promote and benefit *Save America's Treasures*. Net profits from the Warner Bros. CD, *Sing America*, will establish the Fund to *Save America's Treasures,* to be administered by the National Trust. Interest from the fund will provide grants to assist *Save America's Treasures* Official Projects in their preservation activities.

- ***Lyn and Norman Lear*** – contributed $1 million to *Save America's Treasures* through the National Trust for the Founding Fathers Papers Project, focusing on the original writings of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Benjamin Franklin, and $50,000 to national program support. It is estimated that this contribution will reduce by half the time needed to preserve and publish these unique documents.

- ***The Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund*** – made a $5 million challenge grant through *Save America's Treasures* and the National Trust for the restoration of San Francisco's Conservatory of Flowers. More than $6 million was raised with the help of *Save America's Treasures* to meet the challenge, including $1 million pledged from ***The Madeleine H. Russell Fund and the Columbia Foundation***.

- ***J. Paul Getty Trust*** – made a gift of $1.1 million to the National Trust, establishing the *Save America's Treasures* Preservation Planning Fund. Without proper planning – such as architectural or engineering studies – there is a risk that preservation efforts provide only temporary or cosmetic solutions that may pose safety risks or require additional preservation measures in the future. The grant program will support the essential planning phase of preserving historic buildings and districts. Matching grants from $10,000 to $50,000 for planning work and emergency stabilization will be available to eligible nonprofit and government organizations.

- ***Pew Charitable Trusts*** – contributed $350,000 to *Save America's Treasures* through the National Trust for national program support and the Founding Fathers Papers Project. Pew Charitable Trusts has also shown its support for preservation with a $5 million grant to the Smithsonian for the Star-Spangled Banner Restoration Project and $3.3 million to the encasement of the Charters of Freedom at the National Archives.

Save America's Treasures **Plans for 1999**

Building on the momentum of 1998, *Save America's Treasures* plans to broaden its reach and involve more segments of the community to help preserve America's cultural and historic legacy. *Save America's Treasures* has exciting plans for 1999:

1) Bring recognition and support to historic sites and collections through special events
2) Develop and launch an interactive Website, **www.saveamericastreasures.org;**
3) Create education programs to make history come alive in classrooms across the country
4) Convene a national conference on the Founding Fathers Papers, examining the official papers of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Benjamin Franklin
5) Release the Warner Bros. Records *Sing America* CD
6) Launch a public awareness campaign through broadcast and print media
7) Increase public and private involvement and support for *Save America's Treasures*
8) Provide assistance to communities to save the treasures in their backyards by designating preservation projects in every community as *Save America's Treasures* Official Projects and through the Millennium Communities program

The Millennium Communities program, recently launched by the White House Millennium Council, calls on elected officials in cities, towns, counties and Native American communities to plan projects that 'honor the past and imagine the future.' Communities are encouraged to save their important local treasures as part of their millennium celebrations, for which they will receive official recognition.

❖

Attachment A

Save America's Treasures Program Partners

The White House Millennium Council – created by President and Mrs. Clinton in August 1997 to lead a multi-year initiative marking the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the new millennium.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation – a private, nonprofit organization, chartered by Congress in 1949, the National Trust is this country's leading preservation organization, dedicated to protecting irreplaceable historic buildings and the neighborhoods and landscapes they anchor through education and advocacy. As a White House millennium partner in *Save America's Treasures*, the National Trust is coordinating a public education campaign and working with other preservation partners to increase public recognition and secure long-term support for projects.

The Millennium Committee to *Save America's Treasures* – the National Trust established the Millennium Committee to provide guidance and expertise to this historic effort. Led by Honorary Chair First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and co-chaired by Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of former president Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Millennium Committee consists of private individuals, representatives from corporations and foundations as well as experts in fields of history, architecture and historic preservation.

Associate Partners:

The National Trust works with two associate partners to determine goals and develop public awareness and educational activities for *Save America's Treasures*:

- **National Park Foundation** – provides private support for the national parks where many of our national treasures are located.
- **Heritage Preservation** – a leading advocate for the preservation of America's heritage, including works of art, family heirlooms, books and archives, documents and photographs, architecture and monuments, and natural science specimens.

Attachment B

Sites Visited by *Save America's Treasures* in 1998:

Summer 1998 – During the summer, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and members of the Millennium Committee embarked on a *Save America's Treasures* tour of historic sites and collections in the Mid-Atlantic region.

June 15 **Monocacy Aquaduct**, C & O Canal National Historic Park, Frederick County, MD – Built in 1833, it is one of the most significant engineering landmarks along the historic C & O Canal, carrying the canal across the Monocacy River near the its junction with the Potomac.

Event – As Honorary Chair of *Save America's Treasures*, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton announced the National Trust for Historic Preservation's annual Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places at the Aquaduct, one of eleven sites on the 1998 list. She was joined by National Trust President Richard Moe, Senators Barbara Mikulski and Paul Sarbanes, and Rep. Roscoe G. Bartlett.

July 9 **Montpelier**, Orange County, VA – the lifelong home of James Madison, the fourth U.S. president and his wife, Dolley.

Event – First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton helped launch the "Discovering Madison" exhibit and announced a $1 million private gift from Lyn and Norman Lear to *Save America's Treasures* through the National Trust for the Founding Fathers Papers Project. Local Congressman Thomas Bliley and National Trust President Richard Moe also addressed the crowd of 3,000.

July 13 **Star-Spangled Banner**, Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of American History, Washington, DC – the American flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem, *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

Event – President Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Secretary Michael Heyman announced a $13 million gift from Polo Ralph Lauren Corporation to *Save America's Treasures* for the restoration of the Star-Spangled Banner and the *Save America's Treasures* public awareness campaign. A $5 million grant from Pew Charitable Trusts for the flag's restoration also was announced. The funds will be used for the flag's restoration, conservation and long-term maintenance, as well as to construct a state of the art conservation lab that will allow the public to observe the restoration of the flag and other artifacts.

Fort McHenry Monument, Baltimore, MD – the fort made famous for flying the flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write *The Star-Spangled Banner* after a victorious battle in the War of 1812, and which played an active role in our nation's history from the founding of the nation in 1776 through World War II.

Event: The First Lady toured this historic site and conducted a press roundtable to discuss *Save America's Treasures.*

Francis Scott Key Memorial, Baltimore, MD – monument commemorating the author of *The Star-Spangled Banner.*

Event: The First Lady was joined by Gov. Parris Glendening, Sen. Paul Sarbanes, Mayor Kurt Schmoke, Rep. Elijah Cummings, and members of the Millennium Committee to announce a $925,000 gift from Target, and a $500,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the preservation of the monument and other significant sculpture in each state as part of Heritage Preservation's national Save Outdoor Sculpture! program.

July 14 **Edison National Historic Site**, West Orange, NJ – Thomas Edison's Invention Factory where Edison conducted his research for forty-four years. The site still contains Edison's library of over four million documents and 400,000 artifacts, including drawings, research and machinery.

Event – General Electric Company's Chairman and CEO, Jack Welch and the First Lady announced a $5 million donation from GE for the conservation of Edison's laboratory. Mayor John McKeon and Rep. William Pascrell also delivered remarks. Their tour of the complex was carried live on the *Today Show* with Maria Shriver.

Newburgh, NY – located on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River, Newburgh was headquarters for George Washington, a thriving 19th century port, and home to many architects who developed what became known as the "picturesque" school of architecture. Newburgh hosts numerous historic treasures:

Lander Street Rowhouses – 33 historic buildings in the East End Historic District under rehabilitation for affordable housing.

Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site – headquarters of President Washington in 1782-83, while he served as commander of the Continental Army.

Dutch Reformed Church – one of the finest Greek Revival structures in the United States designed by the important 19th century American architect, Alexander J. Davis.

Event: With Rep. Maurice Hinchey, Mayor Audrey Carey and other local dignitaries, the First Lady toured the Lander Street Rowhouses and then walked through the Historic District to address a crowd of thousands in front of the Dutch Reformed Church. The First Lady then toured Washington's Headquarters.

Colonial Theater, Pittsfield, MA – built in 1903, the acoustically superior theater is among the best examples of legitimate theater architecture in America, and one of only 13 or 14 like it in the world. It regularly featured some of the best known theatrical talent of its day.

Event – Mayor Edward Reilly and more than 15,000 residents turned out in the main public square to welcome the First Lady and *Save America's Treasures* to Pittsfield. William Ivey, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, joined the First Lady on a tour of the theater, which has housed a paint and art supply store for several years. In playing for Mrs. Clinton, the young Berkshire Fiddlers gave the first performance in the theater since 1952.

The Mount, Lenox, MA – home of novelist Edith Wharton, winner of the 1920 Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Event: Mayor Gerald Doyle and Wharton Home preservationists joined the First Lady for a tour and speaking program on the steps of the mansion, which, along with its gardens, is undergoing extensive restoration. A $100,000 contribution to *Save America's Treasures* for this restoration project from a Millennium Committee member was subsequently conveyed.

July 15 **Kate Mullany's Home**, Troy, NY – home of Irish immigrant Kate Mullany, founder of the first long-lasting (eight years) all-female labor union (Collar Laundry Union) which managed to achieve near parity with men's wages.

Event: At an outdoor ceremony with Mayor Mark Pattison and area residents, the First Lady presented a National Historic Landmark plaque to the current owners of the historic home, and drew attention to Kate Mullany's accomplishments.

Harriet Tubman Home, Auburn, NY – home of Harriet Tubman, renowned leader of the Underground Railroad, with the adjacent Home for the Aged she founded.

Event: Following a tour of the site, the First Lady joined Mayor Christopher De Angelis, local dignitaries and Tubman's descendants at a ceremony to announce a private gift of $10,000 to the historic site.

Seward House, Auburn, NY – residence of former Governor, Senator and US Secretary of State William H. Seward and his wife. The home was a stop on the Underground Railway, a movement his wife assisted.

Event: Mrs. Clinton and members of the Millennium Committee to *Save America's Treasures* toured this well-preserved site.

Ganondagan State Historic Site, Victor, NY – this state park on the site of a large seventeenth-century Seneca village destroyed by the French in 1687 is dedicated to the Iroquois Nation. The site is cherished as the home and burial place of one of the most important figures in Iroquois history, Jikohnsaseh, the Mother of Nations.

Event: The First Lady met privately with Iroquois tribal mothers whose ancestors influenced the early women's rights advocates, then toured the site. The First Lady addressed the crowd, and then enjoyed traditional singing and dancing. Private gifts from Millennium Committee members totaling $20,000 were later contributed to Save America's Treasures for the site.

July 16 **M'Clintock House**, Waterloo, NY – Part of the Women's Rights National Historical Park, this is the house where the Declaration of Rights and Sentiments was finalized, three days before the Women's Rights Convention in 1848.

Event: At an evening ceremony, Mrs. Clinton announced a gift of $10,000 to restore M'Clintock House, and Girl Scouts President Elinor Ferdon announced the creation of the first national merit patch for historic preservation.

December 1998 – In December, the First Lady and Millennium Committee members once again traveled to six historic sites in four cities on the East and West Coasts for *Save America's Treasures*:

Dec 3 **Louis Armstrong House and Archives**, Queens, NY – the home of American jazz icon Louis Armstrong and the artist's vast personal collection of photographs, papers, scrapbooks, recordings, memorabilia and musical instruments archived at Queens College.

Event – Before an audience of 2,000 people, Wynton Marsalis and former Armstrong band members provided a moving tribute to this American musical treasure. The First Lady, joined by Senator-elect Charles Schumer, Rep. Gary Ackerman, and Queens Borough President Claire Schulman, announced more than $130,000 in private contributions to preserve the Armstrong home and save 600 audio tapes personally recorded by Armstrong and housed at the Archives.

Dec 5 **Longfellow National Historic Site**, Cambridge, MA – hospital for wounded American soldiers after the battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill, headquarters for George Washington while he planned the siege of Boston (1775-1776) and home of one of the world's foremost poets, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Event – The First Lady was joined by Sen. Edward Kennedy, and National Park Service Director Robert Stanton to announce the results of a remarkable public-private fundraising effort: a $1.6 million federal appropriation and an additional $305,000 in private donations, including a substantial contribution from Fidelity Foundation, for the preservation of the poet's home, furnishings and artifacts.

African Meeting House, Boston, MA – the oldest standing African American church in the U.S. and the last stop along Boston's Black Heritage Trail.

Event – The First Lady was joined by Sen. Edward Kennedy and Congressman Joseph Moakley to announce a $1.4 million federal appropriation for this site and to present another $40,000 in private contributions through *Save America's Treasures*.

Dec 10 **Breed Street Shul**, Los Angeles, CA – once a part of Los Angeles' thriving Jewish community, this historic synagogue in East Los Angeles' Boyle Heights neighborhood has been closed and boarded up for several years. The neighborhood's current Latino residents are working with the Jewish Historical Society to restore the shul as a museum and community center.

Event – Robert Erburu, chairman of the J. Paul Getty Trust Board of Trustees, announced a $1.1 million gift to the National Trust to establish the *Save America's Treasures* Preservation Planning Fund. Local community members past and present

turned out to see Latino, Jewish and local school groups perform, and to hear remarks by the First Lady, Governor Gray Davis, local dignitaries, and National Trust President Richard Moe.

Los Angeles Theater, Los Angeles, CA – one of the grandest movie palaces in the historic Broadway Theater District of Los Angeles. The theater celebrated its grand opening with the premier of Chaplin's film, "City Lights" in 1931, honoring Albert Einstein as the guest of honor.

Event – Before an enthusiastic audience of more than 1,500, Warner Bros. Records Vice Chair David Altschul joined the First Lady to announce the spring 1999 release of "Sing, America," a commemorative CD to benefit *Save America's Treasures.* After remarks by Stevie Wonder, National Trust President Richard Moe and local dignitaries, a group of at-risk youth from Los Angeles' Living Literature Colors United program performed.

Dec 11 **Conservatory of Flowers**, San Francisco, CA – this 1870s-era Conservatory is the oldest building in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. The fragile, wood and glass greenhouse holds a unique collection of more than 700 of the 1,000 known species of high altitude orchids, and countless other exotic plants. It has been closed to the public since 1995 after earthquakes and severe storms caused extreme structural instability.

Event – Unable to take place in the Conservatory of Flowers, which has been closed to the public since 1995, the event was held in the nearby Hall of Flowers. The First Lady announced a $5 million, two-to-one challenge matching grant from the Richard & Rhoda Goldman Fund. To help meet the Goldman challenge, the Madeleine H. Russell Fund and the Columbia Foundation pledged $1 million to Save America's Treasures. U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and National Trust President Richard Moe also spoke in support of preservation efforts for the Conservatory. Furthermore, more than $4 million in support from Millennium Committee members and other public and private donors was announced – including a $1.24 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Attachment C

Impact of Save America's Treasures' Visits to Historic Sites

Almost daily, the National Trust receives updates on the historic sites visited by the First Lady in support of Save America's Treasures in 1998. These sites are among those reporting that their publicity and fundraising efforts received a significant boost from the increased attention and exposure.

The Mount, Home of Edith Wharton – *visited July 14, 1998*

- Edith Wharton Restoration, Inc. has raised an additional $320,000 toward restoration of the historic home since Save America's Treasures visited in July.
- Work on the multi-year restoration project has begun; the deteriorated stucco finish on the building's four elevations was removed and east, west and south walls have been prepped for a new finish coat to be applied in the spring of 1999. The north wall was fully restored by early December and is now 100 % complete.
- Attendance tripled the day following the First Lady's visit, and more than doubled in subsequent weeks. Overall, the Mount experienced a 25% increase in visitors for the remainder of the 1998 season, which closed on November 1.
- The visit generated overwhelming media coverage: more than 100 articles from large and small newspapers in communities far and near, including Texas, California, the Midwest and Puerto Rico, most of which do not usually cover Edith Wharton, The Mount, or the importance of restoring her home.

Dutch Reformed Church – *visited July 14, 1998*

- The church was awarded a federal grant for a pilot planning project through the National Park Service under the Hudson Valley Heritage Area initiative.
- The National Park Service also will reactivate a modest state preservation grant for church stabilization work.
- To date, critical but temporary structural stabilization has been completed to prevent the collapse of the church's second floor gallery.
- The *Save America's Treasures* visit raised public awareness in the City of Newburgh of the church's importance and its preservation needs. An ad hoc committee was organized to examine church preservation and reuse opportunities.

Colonial Theater – *visited July 14, 1998*

- The *Save America's Treasures* visit heightened awareness of the project, and sparked greater interest from the general public to view the theater's interior. Guided tours by the Friends of the Colonial Theater were increased to accommodate the demand.
- Because of the heightened profile of the project, voluntary donations were made even before a formal fundraising campaign could be launched.
- Local merchants are lending support by sponsoring fundraising events to benefit the project.
- A survey for the Mayor after the First Lady's visit indicated that 89% of the local population supports the restoration project, and that it should be accomplished with a combination of both private and public funding.

Edison National Historic Site – *visited July 14, 1998*

- The site received tremendous media attention and was featured in major news outlets including NBC's *Today Show*.
- Visitors now cite the publicity surrounding *Save America's Treasures* visit as their reason for coming to the site.
- The Township and Chamber of Commerce are making use of the First Lady's visit in publicity efforts.
- After a national search, the Edison National Historic Site Foundation was recently hired a new director with the goal of raising $80 million for the full restoration of both the Glenmont Edison House and Invention Factory.

Harriet Tubman Home – *visited July 15, 1998*

- Since Save America's Treasure's visit, the Harriet Tubman Home, Inc. and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church have received a $50,000 matching grant from the New York State Heritage Area Program.
- The project also secured $7,000 of in-kind services, and has applied for a $798,700 multi-year grant from New York State.
- In addition, there are many other positive developments:
  - An archeological investigation of the site has already begun.
  - There was a remarkable 100% increase in annual visitors to the Harriet Tubman Home.
  - "Forging the Freedom Trail Project" is a new organization dedicated to the preservation of the Underground Railroad. The organization is planning its first annual conference on May 22, 1999 at the Harriet Tubman site.
  - Governor George Pataki is continuing his efforts to pass Freedom Trail legislation and the National Park Service also is adopting Freedom Trail legislation, which references the Harriet Tubman Home and the William Seward House.
  - The Auburn City Council adopted a "Historic Park Task Force" to further the interest sparked by the First Lady's *Save America's Treasures* visit.
  - There has been an extraordinary amount of press attention given to the site, nationally and regionally since *Save America's Treasures'* July visit.

African Meeting House – *visited December 5, 1998*

- The Museum of Afro American History raised the remaining 15% of its project fundraising goal and its entire endowment as a result of the attention drawn to the African Meeting House through the *Save America's Treasures* visit just a few months ago.
- The National Park Service has begun plans for the site's restoration, and is working with architects to revise and finalize the plans.

Louis Armstrong House and Archives – *visited December 3, 1998*

- Queens College, CUNY, is successfully using the attention brought to those sites to raise funds toward the restoration of the home and archives, receiving more than $100,000 in pledged support.

- The First Lady's *Save America's Treasures* visit generated significant press coverage, including an AP Newswire story that was picked up in media outlets across the country.
- Queens College is actively following up on promised support from elected city, state and federal officials, and inquiries from potential funders, resulting from the increased public awareness of the collection's preservation needs.

Longfellow National Historic Site – *visited December 5, 1998*

- The Friends of the Longfellow House initiated a viable plan for the site's preservation, including conservation surveys, to begin in February, and archive processing which will begin in April.
- There was extensive press coverage of the First Lady's visit and of the site itself, including a December 28,1998 editorial in the Boston Globe "Footsteps in the Sands of Time"
- Other offers of support generated by the visit have arrived from noted members of the corporate community, including the State Street Bank, and from Scalamandre, Inc., which agreed to reproduce all the Longfellow House's historic wall coverings, carpets, and fabrics.

Breed Street Shul – *visited December 10, 1998*

- The Jewish Historical Society of Southern California leveraged the *Save America's Treasures* event to raise an additional $30,000 since early December.
- Emergency roof repairs began, and the project is being reconsidered for a grant from FEMA.
- The project generated substantial positive local media coverage, prompting supportive letters to the editor of local newspapers, inquiries from volunteers, contributions and interest from social service agencies.

Conservatory of Flowers — *visited December 11, 1998*

- In the month following the First Lady's Save America's Treasures visit, Friends of Recreation and Parks – the organization coordinating the effort to save the threatened historic greenhouse – secured an additional $125,000 in gifts and pledges toward the Conservatory's preservation, with several other major donors expressing interest in the project.

Attachment D

	Donations to Projects/Sites**	Amount Pledged	Fiscal Year*
	African Meeting House		
*Foundations****		$10,000	FY99
Individuals		$30,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$40,000**	
	Conservatory of Flowers		
Corporations		$2,000	FY99
Foundations		$6,225,000	FY99
Individuals		$296,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$6,523,000**	
	Edison State Historic Site		
Corporations		$5,000,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$5,000,000**	
	Founding Fathers' Papers		
Foundations		$1,000,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$1,000,000**	
	Ganondagan State Historic Site		
Foundations		$10,000	FY98
Individuals		$10,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$20,000**	
	Longfellow House		
Corporations		$10,000	FY99
Foundations		$40,000	FY99
Individuals		$30,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$80,000**	
	Louis Armstrong Archives and House		
Corporations		$66,000	FY99
Foundations		$5,000	FY99
Individuals		$64,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$135,000**	
	M'Clintock House		
Foundations		$10,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$10,000**	
	Preservation Planning Fund		
Foundations		$1,100,000	FY99
Subtotal		**$1,100,000**	
	Save Outdoor Sculpture!		
Corporations		$925,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$925,000**	
	Star-Spangled Banner		
Corporations		$10,000,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$10,000,000**	
	The Mount, Edith Wharton's Home	**Amount Pledged**	***Fiscal Year**
Foundations		$100,000	FY98
Subtotal		**$100,000**	

Harriet Tubman House		
Individuals	$9,607	FY98
Subtotal	**$9,607**	
Val-Kill Historic Site		
Corporations	$500	
Foundations	$21,000	
Individuals	$16,400	FY98
Subtotal	**$37,900**	
In-kind Contributions		
In-kind Subtotal	**$3,278,090**	FY99
Federal Agency Support to Projects		
Federal Agency Subtotal	**$1,740,000**	FY99
Associated Credit to Projects (does not come through NTHP)		
Soft Credit Subtotal	**$340,000**	FY99
Operational Revenue		
Corporations	$115,000	
Foundations	$502,610	
Individuals	$275,580	
Operational Subtotal	**$893,190**	FY98/99
AGGREGATE TOTAL	**$31,231,787**	

Fiscal years are based on a October 1 - September 30 schedule.

****All gifts over $25,000 are subject to overhead in accordance with below percentage schedule.***

*****Several of the foundation gifts are actually individual pledges being fulfilled through foundation funds.***

Percentage Schedule:

Pledge/Gift Amount	% of Overhead to be Retained by SAT for Operational Purposes
Under 25,000	None
25,000 to 499,999	10%
500,000 to 999,999	7%
1,000,000 to 4,999,999	4%
5,000,000 and above	2%

- end -

Southwest Tour

Mesa Verde National Park
"Save America's Treasures" Tour
Remarks By First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Mesa Verde, Colorado
May 22, 1999

I am so pleased and honored—I cannot tell you. This is a great day for me. I came here to do what I could to assist and help the fine work that is being done here, and I feel especially honored to be an Honorary Park Ranger—people whom I admire greatly and whom I support. I was thinking, as I was sitting there, that I've got my very old hiking boots that I bought 30 years ago outside Rocky Mountain National Park where I was hiking. And about my love for the parks and my belief that the creation of the national park system is one of the greatest contributions that America has ever made to our understanding of what it means to be stewards of God's earth. And I am so proud to be here with all of you. To join the ranks of the "green and the gray" is something that I will long treasure.

I also was surprised when Larry mentioned in the opening remarks that I was the first First Lady to come as First Lady to this park. Usually, no matter where I go in the world, Eleanor Roosevelt has been there first. And I am sure that if you just looked more carefully at the records, you would find she was at the Cliff Palace—you know, sometime in the 1930s or 40s. But it is an honor for me to be here on behalf of the President, and really on behalf of Americans everywhere. Because the work that is done here, the stewardship that you carry forward, is so meaningful to us and will be for generations to come.

Before I formally begin, I want to recognize the Chief of Police, Roy Lane, and extend to your entire force my deepest sympathies for the loss of your colleague, Officer Dale Claxton, who died in the line of duty one year ago. I know there will be a memorial service for him today, a commemoration. And I think, just as we honor those who are the stewards of our parks, we also should take just a moment to honor those who are the keepers of the peace and on the front lines for all of us. And I extend my condolences and sympathies to his family and to everyone who knew him and worked with him.

I also want to thank Larry Wiese and his extraordinary staff for being such hosts to all of us, even waving the entrance fee for us today so that more people could be here. And I am grateful for that. You know, it is a bittersweet fact that we have to charge for entrance into these beautiful parks of such cultural and historical significance. But of course the needs for preserving and maintaining these parks require that, and I'm grateful for the opportunity for so many to come today.

My thanks also to Peter Pino for welcoming us in the spirit of his ancestors. Peter was with me earlier this morning at the Cliff Palace, explaining to me many of the features, which I saw, which are still a very active part in the lives of his people. And I was very grateful for that information, Peter, and for your leadership and commitment to preserving the understanding that

brings us together as people by learning and respecting more about who we are and where each of us come from.

To Dick Moe and the entire Trust, thank you for being such amazing partners in our effort to Save America's Treasures. And to all of you, I am grateful for your being here. And I particularly want to thank those who have entertained and assisted us today. Let me say a word of welcome and thanks also to Chairman Ernest House of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. I want to thank the Montezuma Cortez High School Band. Thank you for being here and sharing your talents here with us. If my husband were here he would be over figuring out what age the saxophone was and how long it had been played and having a conversation with the band members. To the Aneth Utah Navajo Dancers, thank you for being here. To the Zuni Pueblo Dancers and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe tribal dancers, to the Bala Sinem Choir from Ft. Lewis College, thank you for singing that important traditional song for us. And let's ask all the entertainers from the band, to the dancers, to the singers—everyone who came forward here today to entertain and to educate us—let us ask them to stand so that we can give them all another round of applause.

You know, I heard a wonderful story about a park ranger here at Mesa Verde. A ranger named John Bruce was leaving one of the sites with a group of young people, and he gathered them around him and asked them to cup their hands, to hold in their hands the beauty of the ancestral Pueblo people. And then he asked them to go through life preserving such areas, and buildings, and things of beauty. And that is what you all have done—not only those in the Park Service, not only those who helped contribute to the museum or the foundation. But all of you who are here as part of the larger community of America who have understood the importance of helping to preserve our past.

That is, in many ways, the purpose of the Southwest Tour that brings me here today—to ask all Americans to protect in our hands the wide and diverse circle of our history. Just think of the sites, the places, the monuments, and documents that tell the story of who we are as a people from one end of our country to the other. There are places that have great meaning. There are institutions that are carrying on the work of reminding us of where we came from and helping us to chart the future that we wish to have for ourselves and our children. And yet too often, these treasures, these reminders, these memories are crumbling before our eyes. Because, after all, our treasures are the legacy that I saw the other evening at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff; or when I stood on the rim of the Grand Canyon and saw one of our greatest natural resources; or the public art when I visited a Hispanic neighborhood yesterday in Albuquerque where young people had worked to protect an outdoor sculpture.

And it's not only our public treasures, but think of our own lives. Think of the oral histories that Peter and so many have passed down; think of our photo albums, our scrapbooks, the letters that record what our ancestors did, or how they came to this country, or what struggles or challenges they faced. Bob Stanton's history is very different from my history, which is very different from Peter's history, but we are all Americans and our diverse history tells a story to the world that the world needs to hear.

I have long wanted to come to Mesa Verde to learn more about the ancient civilization that took root here, that carved its hopes and dreams, and everyday lives into the beautiful mesas around us. We know that the history of America did not start with Columbus coming here. We know that it was the product of diverse cultures that predated that journey by thousands and thousands of years. People like us—mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, children and grandparents—who held ceremonies and told legends, who worried about their children. And as I climbed up from the Cliff Palace—being a, sort of, professional worrying person—I thought to myself, I can just imagine sitting, perhaps around the Kiva, thinking, "Oh, my gosh. When is my child going to come back? And is he going to be able to make his way up and down those cliff walls?"

We are linked together by the human experience that really defines time and history, and we are shaped by the people who came before. Save America's Treasures is part of the White House Millennium Council initiative that my husband and I created. When we began thinking about this unique moment in history—a change of a century, and a change of a millennium—we thought we wanted to do more than just stand by and encourage people to have great New Year's Eve parties, as wonderful as those are. We thought it was an opportunity for us to take stock of who we are as Americans as we end this century and millennium—to decide which of our values and our history and our culture we want to take with us into the future.

We chose as our theme, "Honor the past; imagine the future." And that is, in many ways, what we are doing here today. This morning at Cliff Palace, I tried to imagine what it must have been like on that day of that terrible December blizzard when two cowboys, Richard Wetherill and Charles Mason, struggled to find a trail in the driving snow. Then all of a sudden at the edge of a cliff, they see such an unexpected site, a dwelling nestled high on the opposite wall. To reach it, I have heard that they half climbed, half fell down the cliff that concealed the alcove that contained more than 100 rooms.

What they saw that day, and what I saw this day, was the remains of a rich and complex culture of the 30,000 people who at one point thrived here—farming and weaving, baking, carrying their construction materials as well as their food, their water, and their tools into their homes. It is a wonderful memory for us to try to even imagine what that life must have been like. But we also honor the ancestral Puebloans when we honor that this culture has not been erased from the land; that it is still here left behind. And not only what we see on the Mesa, what we see dug into the sides, but of the 24 American Native tribes in this region who have an ancestral tie with Mesa Verde, particularly the 19 Pueblo tribes whom I was honored to be with yesterday at the Pueblo of Acoma.

Today, Native Americans mark a historic event that is important not only to them, but to all of us. And that is the reclamation of over 2,000 remains and burial objects from eastern museums that have been returned so that they can finally rest in their ancestral lands where they belong. I saw yesterday at the Pueblo of Acoma the continuation of traditions of oral history, of dancing, of the beautiful pottery, of their care and stewardship of the oldest continuing church in America. If we lose such places, we lose our collective memory. We lose our opportunity to

understand and respect each other as who we truly are and where we came from. And we abdicate that obligation—I believe we have—to be caretakers of our history.

All of us can give a gift to the future. That is, I'm sure, what Virginia McClurg thought. She was a reporter turned conservationist who explored the cliff dwellings in the 1880s, and then devoted much of her life to a campaign to preserve Mesa Verde. She and Lucy Peabody persuaded the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs to accept this project, and they set about lobbying Congress to make Mesa Verde a park. They raised money through rummage sales asking for donations of 10 cents.

Now the amount we must raise to fulfill their mission has increased a bit since then. But their commitment continues. And today I am extraordinarily honored and deeply moved to announce additional contributions in new private dollars that will help save the endangered cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde. Following in the tradition of preservationists and of pioneering women like Virginia McClurg and Lucy Peabody, these contributions are a real testament to how we must preserve what we value—how we should honor the past.

I want to thank Sandra Wagenfeld and Fran Goldstein of Connecticut for making a very significant donation of $1 million, and I would like to ask them to please stand. We are so grateful to Sandra and Fran for their generosity, and they are being joined today by other extremely generous donors. I'm going to read these names off and then I'm going to ask all the additional donors and their representatives to stand so we can also thank them.

I want to thank the Mobil Oil Foundation, which is giving $250,000 to the National Park Foundation; Tauck Travel is donating $250,000 through the Travelers Conservation Foundation. The Tauck family, one of America's leading travel and tourist destination companies, wanted to celebrate their 75th anniversary as one of the largest touring companies with this millennium gift. And they have many generations involved in the travel industry. I know that 13-year-old Colleen Tauck is here with us as well.

The American Express foundation is giving $150,000 to the World Monuments Fund, their only domestic preservation gift and the largest grant worldwide. Another $25,000 comes from the Chambers family fund of Denver. And there are additional individual gifts from Joan Alderman, Jill Crow, Claudine Bacher, Harris Sherman, Nancy Clark-Reynolds, Ron Walker and former Governor Richard Lamb and Dottie Lamb. Let me thank all of them and please ask all of the donors to stand so we can express our appreciation.

You heard Dick Moe say that Mesa Verde is on two lists that it would never want to be on: the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Most Endangered List, and the World Monument Fund's Most Endangered List. So it's not only a domestic but an international concern that brings us here today to preserve this extraordinary place. And these citizens are setting an example of the role each of us can play. Within our own means, given our own resources, there are ways all of us can make gifts.

You know, Dick Moe likes to tell the story of an elementary school in Philadelphia that heard I had gone to Harriet Tubman's home, the home of the famous woman who had led slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad. And they adopted that home and they adopted a slogan, "Pennies for Preservation." And they collected pennies that are now totaling $1,100 to make a contribution to the Harriet Tubman home. In so many ways, each of us can set an example and make such a gift.

The federal government is also doing its share. This past Wednesday at the White House, Bob Stanton and I announced 62 new federal grants to projects all over the nation. And I'm very proud that Mesa Verde received a federal Save America's Treasures grant of nearly $1.5 million. That grant will be used to study and begin repairing some 600 cliff dwellings. Colorado received two other grants as well: $65,000 to repair the historic mining buildings of the San Juan mining district, and over $176,000 to begin conservation of ancestral Puebloan artifacts in Dolores. And we are so pleased that we have partners in Colorado who care about these issues.

Now the very same spirit that moved McClurg and Peabody and our donors today has also been found in a very special group of preservationists—3rd graders from Foothills Elementary School in Boulder, Colorado. For the past three years they have raised money by doing extra chores—something I believe in for children, and I'm glad to hear that—and selling "Adopt-a-Ruin" calendars that they make themselves. Now, they have raised $2,750, which will go to assess and protect the sites just discovered after the recent fire. The teacher who developed this project tells her students they are having a hand in history, and she is right. I want to recognize this teacher and any of the students who came with her. Would Marcy Lockhart and her students please stand from the Foothills Elementary School in Boulder, Colorado? I want to commend Marcy Lockhart, because one of the best ways to teach children history is to connect them with something that is real and tangible and that they can relate to—and that is exactly what you have done.

One of her students wrote about why she has worked so hard to raise money for Mesa Verde. Her name is Julia. She wrote: "I think Adopt-a-Ruin is a good idea because in 40 years, my kids will probably want to see the ruins, so I want to save the ruins. So far, I have raised $15. I feel very special about accomplishing our goal because it will mean so much to me to have my kids get the experience. I think the best part of that is when I grow up, I think it will be great to see the expressions on my kids' faces."

Well, Julia, that is one of the best statements about why we need to preserve our cultural and historic treasures. I cannot think of a better explanation, because we do want to do it, not only for ourselves, but for our children and our children's children. And we can use this opportunity and this time at the end of this century and millennium to think about what kind of future we want to pass down. What is it here at Mesa Verde that speaks to us? What will be the meaning of this place that was once called home by ancestral people? What evidence of their lives can we find and what kind of values for ourselves and our country can we take away?

In the last 10 days, I have been in two very different places. I've been in Macedonia visiting Kosovar refugees, and I've been in Littleton, Colorado, visiting the families of those who lost their loved ones in that terrible tragedy. When I was in Littleton visiting with those families who had endured every parent's worst nightmare—the loss of a child—I was overwhelmed by their loss, but I was also extraordinarily inspired by how, in even the worst of tragedies, they and their community had summoned the best of humanity. I saw the young people in Littleton in that gymnasium that the President and I visited. I talked with a lot of them. I listened to them. They were working to help each other to rebuild their lives, they were finding strength in their own families, and they were determined that violence and hatred would not win.

A half a world away, I saw the same determination in the faces of refugees who had been driven away from their homes, leaving behind their possessions, wondering what would happen to them and worrying about their family members whom they did not know the locations of.

If one stops and thinks about the gifts we have to give to the future, certainly our tangible gifts that we can pass on are important. But more than that, the intangible values that mark us as the people that we are are the greatest gifts that we can give to our children. Like the cliff dwellers of Mesa Verde, we are not alone in time. We have a responsibility to each other, and we have a responsibility to our children and their children, and we have a responsibility to our country. I hope we will pass down our gift of freedom. I hope we will pass down our stated commitment to respect one another, to understand the diversity that has made America such a unique civilization. I hope we will pass down our respect for human rights, our respect for the environment, our respect for the culture and the history that we find in places like this.

We are very fortunate and very blessed to be Americans at the end of this century. And because we are so blessed, we have obligations that come with blessings. We have responsibilities that only we can fulfill, and every day we have choices to make: how we treat each other, how much time we spend with our children, how hard we work to create better opportunities for ourselves and those who come after.

I hope we will pass down that fundamental belief that every generation can do better than the last. And if we do that, we will not only honor the past, and we will not only just imagine the future—we will create a future worthy of all of our ancestors, a future we can be proud of. Thank you all and God bless you.

Acoma Pueblo Sky City Community School
"Save America's Treasures" Tour
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico
May 21, 1999

Please be seated. Gu wha tze Hanu. I'm very happy to be here with you today and to have a chance to come and see you on the last day of school. Now I can see the teachers are applauding as well as the students. I wanted to come and see you on my way to really make it clear to the country how important Native American culture and history is. So I came to Acoma to celebrate your very long and distinguished history. But I also wanted to get a look at the future as well—to see the young people and the boys and girls who will be building this community and making it even stronger into the next century. Governor, I know that you agree that what we're trying to do here is to *honor* our past, but also to imagine a better future for all of our children.

Some of you may know that in the State of the Union speech that the President gave last January, he spoke specifically about his commitment in the budget he presented to the Congress to try to provide more teachers for our students in all of our schools in America. And it specifically included more teachers for schools in Indian countries. Because we want you to have the very best education, and we want your teachers to be able to have the support that they need to give you the best education. So it's very exciting for me to be able to come here and visit this school, to thank your principal—who has been here, she told me, for eight years as principal—and to see all of you. And to thank the teachers and the parents for doing what you're doing on behalf of the children of this pueblo and of this school.

I'm going now up to the Mesa where I will be privileged to visit the oldest church in the United States, which is part of your heritage. [Applause.] And there I will make a speech talking about how significant what you have done to protect your heritage is. And how it is truly an example for people not only other Native Americans, but people of all backgrounds here in the United States. I'm very proud to be here. I'm very grateful for the chance to come and try to bring some needed attention to what you are doing and the progress you're making and the challenges that you face as a community.

So thank you for letting me stop here to see the students. Let me wish all the students a very good summer vacation. Let me congratulate the teachers and the parents for working together to have a good school year. And let me also extend my very warmest wishes to all of you who are part of this community for everything you're doing to make it the very best possible place for your children's future. Thank you very much.

Pueblo of Acoma
"Save America's Treasures" Tour
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico
May 21, 1999

Thank you very much, Governor [Tortalita]. For all the officials, lieutenant governors, other governors, chairmen of the council—all who represent the people of Acoma and the other pueblos. And particularly to the people who are gathered here and who have given me such a warm welcome.

I am honored to be in this beautiful and sacred place. (Applause.) I know how deeply those of you who live here feel about your community. I could see it when I visited the school and saw the children learning their native Pueblo language. I could see it as I toured the old pueblo and visited the mission. I know that living in the oldest continuously inhabited community in the entire United States is a great privilege and I salute you for it. (Applause.)

Today we celebrate the work that we are doing together to highlight and recognize America's treasures. You have heard from Peter Chapin, who represents the Cornerstones partnership group that has worked so hard to save adobe churches all over New Mexico. You've heard from Dick Moe, who has, as the head of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, also worked very had to raise public awareness of the treasures we have. And I'm glad that we could be joined today by Kevin Gover, the Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.

I know that many of you have worked for many years to ensure that the culture and traditions and history of Acoma are preserved for your children and your children's children and for generations to come. That's especially important as we celebrate the end of a century and a millennium. After all, at the time of the first millennium, you were the only Americans here. (Applause.) And when we talk about "Saving America's Treasures," we have to begin by saving the first Americans' treasures. (Applause.)

One only has to walk into that beautiful church and to know that it was built with the hard labor of hundreds and hundreds of men—men who worked day and night to build that church because they were ordered to do so. But something happened there. And when the rebellion occurred, you saved that church, didn't you? You understood its importance and significance for yourselves and for generations to come.

I think of the words of the poet Simon Ortiz, who was born in this very place. Some of you may know his writings. Here is what he said:

> We must ensure that life continues.
> We must be responsible to that life;

With that humanity and the strength
Which comes from our shared responsibility
For this life, the people shall continue.

We can see clearly here how the circle of life continues passing down from one generation to next the lessons that have been learned.

I saw, for example, the powerful movements of the traditional buffalo dancers. I heard with great loving description how they had trained. And how they knew they were doing the same steps that had been done so many times, so many years before. I see it in the extraordinary pottery that you are so well known for—the designs, the meaning, the workmanship, the artistry. Again, continuing traditions, but not just continuing exactly what had been done before but adding on to them, making them yours, investing them with new meaning.

When the President started the White House Millennium Council, he and I knew that we wanted to be sure to take this time of a changing century and millennium to think about who we are as a people; to consider the traditions that we do value. And so we adopted a theme. It's on the plaques that we gave to each of the representatives of the pueblos: "Honor the past; imagine the future." Well, every day in so many ways, you honor the past. But you also live in the present and are imagining and are building a better future.

I want to thank the Governor for taking this opportunity to discuss the needs that this community has, particularly the need for education. Because it is very important that we do all we can to make sure that every child born here has the best education that he or she can obtain. (Applause.) We also know that there is a lot of work that has to be done in order to make life better in this community. Whether it is economic development or health care, there is much that we should be working on together. And I will take your message, as I'm sure the Assistant Secretary shall, back to Washington, Mr. Governor, and be sure that the people there hear your words as you delivered them to me. (Applause.)

I'm very pleased that we are gathered here to honor one of the great treasures of the United States. This church, which you have guarded and taken such good care of, really is something that represents not only your history and culture, but the diversity of American history and culture. As a nation we owe you a debt of gratitude for helping to preserve this extraordinary church. And to thank you also for maintaining the documents and historic pieces of art that it holds. I stood in the sanctuary of that church and I was just overwhelmed at its beauty. And I could see in my mind's eye the many festivals and events and important occasions that have taken place there. And I could understand just a little bit why you have worked so hard to keep this treasure alive.

To help you, I am pleased to announce today a $75,000 gift from the Cornerstones Community Partnership to the Pueblo of Acoma to help address the preservation needs of this extraordinary church and convent. (Applause.) This will be the first major restoration effort since the church was constructed over 350 years ago. And it will be a unique collaboration because it will bring together the elders and the young. It will have those of you that have been working so hard for

so long being helped by young people who will be trained and given the skills to do this work. It will reinforce the traditions and the culture that are at the heart of this community. What Cornerstones believes is the same that this community believes: that you must invest in your young people, you must give them the tools so that they can build better lives for themselves.

Last evening I was privileged in Santa Fe to meet some of the young men and women who are working with Cornerstones projects around New Mexico. I met one young man who has been working on a church and learning while he did his GED—gaining new confidence, emerging as a leader, being hired by Cornerstones and now running crews that train other young people to preserve adobe. That is what I hope will happen here many, many times over. So that the elders and the young together will deepen the traditions and the values that this community and this church represent.

I'm very pleased to be a part of making this announcement. And I want to add that my husband remains committed to doing what he can in his remaining time as president to make possible greater investments in young people—particularly young Native Americans. (Applause.) We will continue to invest in Tribal schools, to boost economic development, and work to improve the well-being of families. I'm very proud of the President's strong commitment to preserving and strengthening the government-to-government relationship. We have a lot of work to do today in order to make good on all of our hopes and dreams.

Tomorrow is a historic day in New Mexico and in the United States as the remains of more than 2,000 Pecos Pueblo Indians and burial objects will return to rest in their ancestral lands. (Applause.) I know how much this means to you and how long you have waited for this day. I want you to know how grateful the President and I are, as well, that this day has finally come to pass.

Today we pay tribute to all those ancestors—everyone who has come before to help create this extraordinary place that inspires so many of us today. And yet we do not just look backwards, do we? We face the future with the kind of energy and commitment that led those ancestors to establish that pueblo on that mesa. Think of how hard that was. When I think of the challenges that face us today as we move into this new century, they are not of the physical kind that confronted your ancestors and so many others. But in some ways they are even harder, aren't they? Because they require us to use our minds to be creative, to work together, to build new relationships which sometimes are just as hard as building a church.

So while we honor the past, let us bring those values that we honor to the present. Let us build on them and then let us work to imagine and create a better future—a future where the boys and girls that I saw in the school and that I walked between as they danced, will always know who they are and where they came from, but will be able to make choices and fulfill their responsibilities to build better lives for themselves and their families. That is my hope and my wish, and I am grateful that you have shared this day with me. I will never forget it. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Palace of the Governors
"Save America's Treasures" Tour
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Sante Fe, New Mexico
May 21, 1999

Thank you very much. Thank you. It is such a great pleasure to be back here in Sante Fe and to be here once again at the Palace of the Governors. This is my third visit, and every time I come back I just feel so energized by the atmosphere, the support, the enthusiasm of the people who are here in Sante Fe and who are committed to maintaining the historic importance not only of this site, but as we've already heard, really the entire culture of this extraordinary state.

I want to thank Dick Moe for his incredibly hard work on behalf of historic preservation and the leadership he has given the Trust. I am delighted to be back here in your city, Mr. Mayor, and thank you for the warm welcome that I have received. I am always pleased to be with your Congressman who has brought his incredible energy to Washington where it is much needed and where he is already making his mark on your behalf.

To Lynn Sebastian and everyone who works with her, I want to thank you for your commitment and your leadership on behalf of preservation in this state. I know that there are members of the state legislature who are here today, and I thank you for being here and supporting this effort. And I congratulate the museum and the Palace for this designation as one of America's treasures. It is certainly well deserved and an important additional recognition that I hope will bear a lot of fruit now and into the future.

I am delighted that I could be part of this gathering this morning when this designation is formally made. But more than that, to talk with people who are committed to the history of this state and this city and to draw as much national and public attention as I'm able to the treasures that are part of New Mexico's heritage.

When we began Save America's Treasures, we wanted to use the millennium as an opportunity to bring people's attention to what we had here at home in the United States through our incredible diversity, and do everything we could to bring more awareness to what we must save if we're to go into the next century, and indeed the next millennium, with our understanding of our past intact with its lessons available to us for the future. To that end we adopted a theme for our White House Millennium Council activities—"Honor the Past; Imagine the Future."

And there isn't any place in the United States where that theme is more fitting, because certainly here the past is all around. You heard Lynn recite just briefly some of the ways that the past still lives here in the present, and yet New Mexico is a dynamic, forward-looking place. So "honor the past" and "imagine the future" truly go hand in hand here.

I'm also pleased there are so many committed people who understand the importance of preservation. I know that the work that has been done in New Mexico and in Sante Fe goes back many years, and that it has been pioneering work that the rest of the country has learned from.

On Wednesday morning in the White House, as Dick has already referenced, we were able to announce $30 million in federal grants to support America's treasures. This will help 62 projects across the nation, from repairing the Washington Monument to rediscovering Hispanic literary texts. It was an extraordinary effort that brought people together from all over the country, and it matched what we have tried to do this past year in raising additional private funds for preservation needs. Through the work of the Trust and its partners, particularly the National Park Foundation and Heritage Preservation , we've been able to raise more than $30 million in private funding. So within the first year of Save America's Treasures we have, between the public money and the private money, raised more than $60 million that go directly to preserving the sites, the monuments, the documents, the artifacts, and the treasures that we hope will stand the test of time.

I was privileged to see one of those treasures that is right here at the Palace, the Segesser Hide Paintings, which are an incredible treasure and I'm delighted that they are here where they belong and the people are able to see them and study them. But everywhere in America there are treasures that we may not be as fully aware of as we need to be, and that is part of the mission of the White House Millennium Council's Save America's Treasures effort. When we started talking about it, we knew that we had to look to people who really understood what our past meant.

Here in New Mexico you can see by looking at the Hide paintings that the past is not something that is forgotten, but indeed is something that is very much alive in the lives of so many people here in New Mexico. I was told inside that indeed there are people in this audience who are descendents of the people pictured on the Hide paintings. And if you look at those Hide paintings and you can see particularly the depictions of the battle, these are indeed hearty people who are descended from those who survived those early struggles here in New Mexico. I know that one of them, Tom Chavez, is the director of the Palace of the Governors, a 13th generation New Mexican who descended from one of the soldiers in the painting. So it's not something we just look at and say, "Well that's an interesting depiction of the past," but something that really, truly tells us something about who we are today.

That is the case about what has gone on here at this Palace over the decades. Think about Governor Lew Wallace riding Ben Hur right here. Think about the activities that were in this plaza and will indeed be here again when Community Days start. Think about the records that were kept of those who paid a tax to help support the American Revolution and create the nation we have today.

So when we designate this site as a Treasure, it is not just a treasure for New Mexico, it is a treasure for America. And I want not only those who loved and supported it here in New Mexico to appreciate that, but really all of our country to understand how unique this particular site is. There isn't any more appropriate place in the entire United States to talk about historic

preservation. After all, it was Sante Fe that passed its own preservation ordinance to protect the historic district a full decade before Congress passed the National Act of 1966. It was in Chaco where the looting of archeological sites eventually led to the Antiquities Act of 1906, the first federal legislation addressing preservation. And it was the Pueblo of Taos where the return of Blue Lake Wilderness Area marked the first time the federal government gave land back to Native people.

Throughout the day I will be meeting with New Mexicans who are following this proud preservation tradition. They are, yes, honoring the past, but they are imagining a brighter future as well. I will go to the Pueblo of Acoma and see one of the oldest, if not the oldest, church still standing on American soil. It took hundreds of men carrying tens of thousands of pounds of stone, adobe, wood and water up to the top of that mesa. And yet even during the Pueblo revolt, the people of Acoma chose not to destroy their church, and for generations since they have been its caretakers. It's especially meaningful for me to visit Acoma on the eve of an historic day as Native Americans reclaim over 2,000 remains and burial objects from Eastern museums so they can finally rest in their ancestral lands.

Later I will visit South Martinez Town in Albuquerque where a community adopted a famous outdoor sculpture. It combines ancient myths and modern materials and explores the diversity of our people and the universality of emotions. The community has used this sculpture to teach their children about reading and geography, about the power of the arts and about our responsibility to care for our cultural treasures.

So here in one place we have Native American, Hispanic and Anglo treasures all coming together to make New Mexico what it is today. All of the values that flow from those traditions create a very exciting future. Over the last few years I've tried to highlight the homes and headquarters of people who reflect our diversity of Americans. Dick mentioned Harriet Tubman. But I've been to many places perhaps where the names are not as well known as hers, like a young woman named Kate Mullany who led the first labor movement back in the middle of the 19th century, representing young women who sewed collars and cuffs together. Or visiting the home of Longfellow, who helped to really put into words much of what we were experiencing as we began to look at our history in the 19th century.

In many ways what we are doing is trying to expand our understanding of historic preservation and to encourage people to think about the treasures that might be in their own backyard or, in New Mexico's case, in the sky. I'm pleased that New Mexico has named the night sky by its rightful name, a universal treasure. Well that's how we need to be thinking today when it comes to preservation. We have an opportunity to really expand our horizons and think more profoundly and richly about what it means to preserve and what we're going to preserve for and what values that preservation represents.

And certainly it is true that saving our treasures today is no longer a specialized or isolated practice, no longer a province of a select group of private citizens acting alone. Literally any American can give a gift to the future. And many of you in this gathering here today have been extraordinarily generous in giving the gifts that you have. And I particularly want to thank some

of the individuals who are with us who have stepped forward to serve on the National Trust's Committee to Save America's Treasures.

There's a lot of work for us to do, and it doesn't always take big bucks—though big bucks are always welcome. It can take pennies for preservation. It can take just those extra efforts of paying attention to what we do have in our own backyard. None of us owns our history, but each of us can be a caretaker of it. Each of us does have a responsibility to safeguard that history and pass it down to our children and our children's children. We can use this millennium time to think about not only our past, as we do honor it, but about our future.

Tom mentioned that the President and I were in Littleton yesterday, and just last week I was in Macedonia. I've been with people who've suffered unimaginable horrors, losses, and atrocities. Certainly being with the Kosovars who've been driven out of their homes, who've lost their loved ones, who are living in tents wondering when they'll be able to go back and resume their normal life, makes me even more grateful to be an American. Yet standing and sitting and talking and listening to the families who lost loved ones in Littleton makes me even more determined to help build the kind of America we can all be proud of. And that's a job for every one of us.

We can see clearly in our world today, both abroad and here at home, what happens when hatred and violence are allowed to destroy lives and even hope. But I have also seen the best of the human spirit. I've seen so many Americans working in those refugee camps in Macedonia and Albania, people who are both professional in terms of their work on behalf of relief and people who dropped whatever that were doing to dig latrines or hold babies or pass out medical supplies. And in Littleton I saw the spirit of a community coming back together, children having the courage to rebuild their lives again, and families finding strength in each other.

Which vision of the 21st century are we going to imagine today? And how will we each work to make that vision a reality? We have many gifts in America today, and the most important may not be the material but the intangible. Yes, they may need to be embodied in a building such as this, but it's more about who we are and where we came from and what kind of people we intend to be. We can give our commitments to make our future better. We can commit ourselves to freedom and respect for people who are not like us. We can pledge to spend more time and give more support to our young children and teenagers so they feel they're part of a community that cares for them. And we can give the most priceless gift of all—that gift of hope that every generation can do better than the last. In doing so, yes, we honor the past. But we take from it the best it has to offer and leave behind the tragedies that should no longer stalk our world. And by doing so, indeed, we help not only imagine a better future, but help create it—here in Sante Fe, in New Mexico, and across the United States.

Thank you for your work.

Cornerstones Community Partnerships Reception
"Save America's Treasures" Tour
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Santa Fe, New Mexico
May 20, 1999

Thank you so much. Let me start by apologizing for being so late. As some of you may know, we originally planned this tour starting yesterday in the Grand Canyon, continuing on today here in Santa Fe, going on tomorrow, and ending Saturday in Mesa Verde. Well then we really wanted to—and felt the necessity to—go, Bill and I, to Littleton, Colorado, to meet with the students, the faculty, and the community that were so terribly affected by what happened at Columbine High School just a month ago. And so I had to leave Flagstaff, where I spent the night, fly—first of all the plane didn't work [laughter], but other than that... But it was an incredibly moving experience, and one that started with Bill and I meeting all of the family members of all the victims of the killing. It was just an emotional and very moving time. Then we met at the large gymnasium at the other high school with all of the students. But that isn't why it lasted longer than we predicted. We felt the need to stay and visit with a lot of people there who were both very willing to share their feelings, but also wanted to suggest ways that we can work together to prevent a tragedy like this.

I apologize for being late. We got here as soon as we could. But I know that you had a wonderful time in a beautiful setting. [Laughter.] I can't imagine that you have not enjoyed the incredible hospitality of our hostess. I have admired Glenna's work ever since I became aware of it five or six years ago now. And if you've visited the Mall, you've seen her fabulous addition to the Mall with the Vietnam Memorial to the women who served. You will soon see, if you haven't already, the work that she did for the new coin honoring Sacagawea, who led Lewis and Clark on their expedition. You can just see all around you the extraordinary talent that she is sharing with us who are lucky enough to be here. And Glenna, I want to thank you for your commitment to your art, and your commitment to public art, and opening your studio to all of us tonight. It's a great pleasure.

And I'm so delighted to be with Clara again in New Mexico. She has been a great friend and a supporter, and I am always pleased to see her, especially under these circumstances where she is playing such an instrumental role in such an important project that we're here to highlight and honor. Anyone who knows Clara, as I think everybody in New Mexico does, understands how committed she is to any cause she takes on. I'm sure that a number of you are here simply because she asked, and I'm grateful to her and thank you for being here.

I know that Mayor Delgado is here, and Governor and Mrs. King—Bruce and Ellen King. And Governor Tortelita of the Acoma Pueblo, where I will be tomorrow, I'm delighted that you could be here. And I also thank Peter Chapin and the entire board of directors of Cornerstones Community Partnerships for providing such leadership—and such creative leadership—through

this organization. And to the executive director, Beth Johnson, thank you for your tireless efforts on behalf of Cornerstones. And community liaison Sam Baca, who has been a guiding light as well. I know that Sandy and Jim Fitzpatrick, who came also from Washington along with Clara and me here, I thank them as well.

I'm also very grateful to the Fannie Mae Foundation for their very significant gift of $100,000, and to their New Mexico partner for a contribution of $5,000. I'm very pleased that we could have this breadth of support that really spans the nation, and I am grateful to you. I also want to thank Rebecca Mandich for her individual gift of $10,000, and Peter and Lynn Conway for their $10,000 contribution. I want to single out and thank Intel, CNN, and Bank of America each for their corporate gifts of $10,000 as well.

I also want to thank Dick Moe, who is here. If you don't know Dick, I hope you get to meet him. He's the president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He is the private partner of the White House Millennium Council and our efforts to "Save America's Treasures." He, along with Susan Eisenhower, are co-chairing the Millennium Committee and are really helping us to forge a national program of awareness and additional resources to do the kind of work that Cornerstones is doing. I am also very grateful to Bobbie Green who works for the Trust and also serves on the board of directors. Bobbie, as some of you may know, worked for me at the White House before she was stolen away to head up the resource part of the Save America's Treasures effort at the National Trust. She is indefatigable, and she does it with grace, good humor, and a gentle spirit. I am extraordinarily proud of and grateful to her.

You know, what we are doing here tonight by celebrating Cornerstones is really exactly what the President and I had in mind when we created the White House Millennium Council. And then, through that, we began a number of initiatives that we hope would encourage people to take this moment in history and not just celebrate it on New Year's Eve or have a product like "millennium" toothpaste that you buy and it runs out—but instead to really think about the gifts that we could give to the future. To that end, we've chosen a theme: "Honor the past; imagine the future." Through that theme we have seen some remarkable events occurring around the country because people are really taking the millennium challenge seriously. They're looking at what is around them—their natural landscape and their man-built landscape—and thinking about what differences it makes in their lives, what the significance is, not only a reminder of the past but something that embodies values that we can carry with us into the future as well.

Yesterday, at the Grand Canyon, I was privileged to inaugurate a Millennium Trails Initiative. And I see Roger Kennedy, the former director of the National Park Service, and I'm very glad to see him here and to really celebrate the work that is done every day, throughout our country, preserving our natural heritage, and taking care of it so it is there for our children and our children's children.

Then I went to Flagstaff where I visited the local observatory. And in one place you could really feel the exploration and scientific discovery of the past, but also the continuing excitement and enthusiasm about what else we might find out there and how we can use the work of today to imagine a better future.

Well what you are doing here with the Cornerstones Community Partnership Program is really bringing together people who understand the significance of preserving the adobe churches and teachings—young and old alike—to teach the skilled work that is necessary for that preservation. And tomorrow I will be visiting a particular site that I know needs a lot of work. The work is required to repair the mission at the Pueblo of Acoma. And it's going to be expensive work. Roof repairs alone will cost about $875,000. But I know that Cornerstones is committed to the success of that project.

Because when we began thinking about treasures around the United States, some very obvious ones came to mind—the Star Spangled Banner that hangs at the Smithsonian is literally deteriorating right before our eyes; the Thomas Edison Invention Factory where he was in many respects one of the most influential people of the entire millennium because of his scientific and innovative genius and what he did to create the 20th century—places throughout the country that really popped into our awareness. And the adobe churches of New Mexico were right at the top of the list because what they are, and what they stand for, and what they say to us, and how they can still often be used as well as be admired and studied, is a real lesson in how we "honor the past and imagine the future." In creating the opportunity, through Cornerstones, for people to learn the skills so that they can continue to repair and maintain those treasures is a real way of living up to that old proverb of how if you want to help someone in the short run "you give them a fish," and how if you want to help someone in the long run "you teach them to fish."

Well Cornerstones is teaching a lot of people to fish, if you will—teaching them how to take care of their treasures, giving them the skills that are not only important for maintaining the culture of this state and this region of our country, but of really demonstrating a very clear sense of purpose in their own identities. So this is a very unique partnership, one that has very far reaching implications that I hope will not only teach, grow, and flourish here in New Mexico, but which will serve as an example for people throughout our country.

It was interesting today to go from my visits yesterday—the grandeur of the Grand Canyon, the wonder of the Lowell observatory—knowing that I would be here with all of you tonight, hoping that we could go out to Bandelier, which, because of the time, unfortunately got cancelled. Which I deeply regret and hope someday to be able to return. It was interesting, though, to think about this particular trip and all that it means, and what I hope it will inspire here in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado.

And then to go to Littleton, a suburb that has just literally grown up, house after house, without any trees. They are creating their identity; they're building their community. And then this incredibly horrific event that has ripped apart their peace and serenity. And what they thought was a place where they could raise their children in safety and build a future, has caused a lot of soul searching, not just for them but I think for the entire country. Both my husband and I said today that there is something about the events of a month ago that people can't get out of their minds. They talk about it, they think about it, they worry about their own children, they are concerned about what is happening in their own communities. And if that helps us think more

deeply about what kind of community we want to have and what kind of nation that we want to be, then maybe some good will come out of it. And certainly, if you think about how to build a stronger, more connected community for our children and ourselves, then we have to think about what values we want to bring from the past, how we preserve what is best among us, and how we make whatever changes we need to go forward.

It many seem like a great leap from Cornerstones to Columbine High School, but I see that it is all connected. Because as we end this century and this millennium and begin anew, we have a lot of new challenges facing our great nation. And each of us in our own way will have to think of the gifts we can give to the future. It may be something as simple as hugging our own child or our grandchild, or spending more time with that child. Maybe contributing to Cornerstones to maintain the culture and traditions here. It may be doing a lot of things. But whatever it is that we choose to do, we all have an opportunity now to make a gift to the future and to see that gift then multiply many times over as other people come together to make and build a future for all of us. Thank you for your contribution.

FINISHED TRANSCRIBING – NEEDS TO BE EDITED

Save America's Treasures Grants Announcement
Remarks by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

The White House
May 19, 1999

This is a very great occasion and I'm delighted to be here with members of Congress; heads of federal agencies; directors of museums, historic sites and collections; preservation leaders—all of you who care about our historic preservation and who are committed to ensure that the culture and history that we value will last for future generations far into the next millennium. We are here today to announce the first awards from this year's $30 million federal Millennium Fund to Save America's Treasures. These awards will support 62 preservation projects in 24 states, the District of Columbia, and the Midway Islands. Viewed together, they sketch a breathtaking portrait of America's diverse cultures and rich history.

Now we have learned, as everyone in this room knows so well, that preservation efforts succeed when there are a multitude of partners. So I want to thank the many, many partners who have made today possible, starting with the bipartisan support that we received from the Congress—especially the leadership and members of the House and Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittees. I want to thank especially Chairman Ralph Regula and Representative Norman Dicks, and **Senators Clay Gordon** and Robert Byrd and their staff members who worked so diligently on this important effort. And I want to recognize the other members of Congress who are here—you will here from two of them in a few minutes—Senator Kennedy and Congressman Murtha. But also in the audience are Rep. Tammy Baldwin, Rep. Tony Hall, Rep. Maurice Hinchey, Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, **Rep. Eddy ???,** and on route is Rep. Eleanor Holmes-Norton. And there were others as well who we had hoped would be here, who had unavoidable conflicts, including Chairman ??? who had his hand of ???? in his district. But, I'm told that all of you will take a moment to thank him and the other leaders of the sub-committee for their commitment to this effort. These grants would also not have been possible without the cooperation of the Department of Interior and the strong support of Secretary Babbitt -- and Director Stanton and the expertise of the Cultural and Resources staff headed up by Kate Stevenson. There are twelve federal agencies that submitted recommendations for sites to receive grants, or identified other urgent needs around the country and I'm grateful to all of them.

I also appreciate the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which coordinated the outreach to national non-profit preservation groups along with the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts. Now, I know that together, they received hundreds and hundreds of requests, which added to their workload, which they then had to sift through to forward the best projects, in their opinion to the National Park Service. And then a

broad-based committee met together for many hours to try to hash-out which of these important recommendations would be acted on.

I also want to acknowledge and express my great appreciation to the invaluable work of Dick Moe – the head of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the private partner along with the White House Millennium Council in the Save America's Treasures initiative.

Now, I'm pleased that the list of grantees we are announcing today is as diverse and imaginative as the communities from which they come. We are preserving nationally recognized touchstones of our history – from additional work needed on the Washington Monument to Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, Ebenezer Baptist Church. But we're also protecting lesser known historical sites that are not only cherished in their communities, but have a very important part in America's story to tell, including places like the Haskell Indian Nations University and Archives Collections in Lawrence, Kansas, and the beautiful but deteriorating Dutch Reformed Church, designed by Alexander Jackson Davis, in Newburgh, NY.

I visited that church on my tour last summer, and I can attest to both its dramatic beauty – and its very urgent preservation needs.

But our responsibility is to preserve more than the sites and monuments of our past. Grants have also been awarded to protect the written records so essential to our understanding of that history – whether it's the Custis Family papers at the Virginia Historical Society, or the collection of American Hispanic literature at the University of Houston.

We are also working to preserve our cultural heritage. The award to the National Film Preservation Foundation will make sure that our children and our grandchildren will know what early film-making looks like and appreciate even the old silent films that were precursors to the latest Star Wars prequel. These old films are now literally crumbling in film archives all over the country and this grant will go a long way to preserve them. The award to the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage will make sure that Native Alaskan Indians can still pass down their traditions and legends of boat-building to children and grandchildren.

Now, I could go on and on because I'm excited about every single one of these grant. From the Wright Flyer III, the Wright Brothers first practical airplane; to the plant collection brought back by the Lewis and Clark expedition; to absolutely invaluable works by Frank Lloyd Wright -- these grants represent the creativity and the ingenuity that has always fueled progress in America. They also represent our commitment as caretakers of our heritage. You know, a country that loses its history loses its collective memory and we cannot permit that to happen. And the time of such fast-paced change is all to easy to leave behind what we have built and what has contributed to bringing us to where we are today – and I think we do that at our peril.

Much of the heritage of our nation is under the stewardship of the federal government. That's why millennium grants will help preserve sites and collections owned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and even the Department of Energy.

In addition, we have great national cultural agencies and institutions that are good stewards of our history. That includes the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian, the US Holocaust Museum, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Endowments.

And one of the reasons that the President and I started the Millennium Council and its initiatives is because we became aware of the tremendous backlog of preservation needs in our federal collections and at our national historic sites. Of the hundreds of places managed by the National Park Service alone, almost 60% are historic sites with thousands of decaying structures and deteriorating artifacts. I know that Director Stanton is always reminding us that there is about $2 billion in backlog of maintenance just at our national parks.

That's why I am pleased that eleven important historic sites managed by the Park Service, and three of their nationally-significant collections, will receive Save America's Treasures grants totaling over $6.7 million.

We've also worked to try to preserve some of our national icons, such as the Star-Spangled Banner. The one's that are not maybe so well known, but equally important to our history, like the Charters of Freedom, the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution – all housed at the National Archives -- must be re-encased within three years or face deterioration. I'm very pleased – as I'm sure all of you are -- that the Save America's Treasures program will be taking care of our flag and that the President's budget received funding to preserve the Charters of Freedom.

Now the President has asked for another $30 million for the millennium to Save America's Treasures in the FY 2000 budget. If the imagination represented by today's grants are any indication, the next round could be even more exciting about what we need to give our nation. And next year, with continued bipartisan support of Congress, we want to make sure that all of the federal and regional sites around our country know about this program and have a chance to compete for one of its grants.

But we all recognize, and this program recognizes, that government alone cannot and in our country should not meet our urgent preservation needs. We can succeed only when the private sector is fully engaged in the kind of vital public/private partnership that our nation is known for and what this Millennium Council represents.

Last year, the White House Millennium Council invited the National Trust for Historic Preservation to be our official partner. And the Trust, in turn, worked with its associate partners, the National Park Foundation and Heritage Preservation.

Now, facing the needs that are so dramatic across the country -- the Trust quickly organized the Millennium Committee to Save America's Treasures. It now includes almost 100 members, and is co-chaired by The Trust's president, Dick Moe, and Susan Eisenhower. And I was very privileged to accept their invitation to be the Honorary Chair of this national committee.

We have had a remarkable first year. We have raised over $30 million in private funds. So we are really at the point of saying that we have increased the money for preservation needs more than $60 million in just one year.

If we could give you a small taste of what that more than $30 million in private funds represents – let me just mention a few. Polo Ralph Lauren Inc. – for example -- stepped up with $10 million to help preserve the Star-Spangled Banner. The GE Fund gave $5 million for the Thomas Edison Invention Factory.

And also thanks to the generosity of many private individuals, companies, and foundations – we're now moving much closer to the publishing of the Papers of the Founding Fathers; restoring the landmark Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park; and preserving the Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn, NY. These grants and others are described in the National Trusts' new report on Save America's Treasures, which has just been released publicly.

So, I want to thank all of you for what you have done. Many of you have labored in the field preservation for many years and I'm grateful to you. Others of you are new to this, inspired and motivated by the millennium effort – and all of you are playing a very important role. In just a few hours, I am leaving on my second Save America's Treasures tour with the White House Millennium Council, in cooperation with of the National Trust – this time to our great Southwest.

I will see some of the sites of our ancient inhabitants of this land, including the Mesa Verde and going also to visit a similar brilliant Native American culture at Acoma Pueblo in New Mexico. And I highlight what these communities have contributed to our rich cultural and historic myths in America. And I will be very pleased to announce to get more private contributions to Save America's Treasures, including more than $1.5 million to help stabilize and preserve the ancient Cliff Dwellings of Mesa Verde National Park, which has been identified by the World-Wide Monument Fund and others as one of the most significant millennial sites in the world. And thanks to private partners that we will announce on our tour, we're going to go a long way to make sure that Mesa Verde is there for the millenniums to come.

And I hope that each of you will follow the tour on the Millennium Council's web site and through the press. And be further inquired to reach out to even more of your fellow citizens about the importance of this work.

And now, I would like to introduce someone who has been our partner in this and even more than that has been an outstanding leader and steward of our natural and cultural resources. I believe that when the history of this Administration is written, this gentleman will join the club

ranks of the very most important people in our nation's history who have dedicated themselves to the preservation of what we hold dear in our national and global environment. And it is a great pleasure to introduce an absolutely superb Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt.

Closing Remarks at end of the program

When you look in the program and see all of the sites that will be receiving the first grants from one end of the country to the other. And I hope that you will be able to be at, next year around this time, and see a room filled with people in this way with people who are committed to preserving our history. And it's the motto of the Millennium Council's work "Honor the past, imagine the future" -- and I think we are doing both today. And you can certainly (inaudible) and people who come there to honor the past – certainly. But, they also come there to imagine the future. And that is what is the architecture and planning, and renewal for the human spirit for the good of itself.

So, this is a unique moment in history and I am very grateful to all of you. In about an hour, you will be dedicating the new sculpture garden at the National Gallery and (inaudible), the esteemed present Director of the National Gallery; and that is yet another way that we are "Honoring the past and imagining the future."

And I was just told by Elizabeth Alba who continued to take the opportunity offered by the Millennium to work on behalf of the Commission for the great Natural and Cultural Heritage. And this moment will come again in a thousand years and its unlikely that you will be able to bring public attention to bear quite so effectively, so I'm looking forward to working with the Members of Congress going forward on Federal Appropriations. But also working with all of you to continue to make a public/private partnership robust and that's kind of a militant (inaudible).

Then I'm sure that we may be able to receive recognition for this year and the hard work of many, many people. And so thank you all for being part of this first very successful year. Thank you very much

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Save America's Treasures Grants Announced

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, and National Park Service (NPS) Director Robert Stanton today announced the list of recipients of the 1999 Historic Preservation Fund Grants to "Save America's Treasures." These awards provide the nation with new opportunities to preserve and learn about our shared history. Twelve Federal agencies received awards for 62 projects in 24 states, the District of Columbia and the Midway Islands

President Clinton proposed funding to Save America's Treasures in his Fiscal Year 1999 budget, and Congress approved $30 million in Federal grants to address the urgent preservation needs of the most significant historic sites and collections. The NPS, under the Department of the Interior administers the grants.

The total of $30 million was distributed as follows: $3 million for the preservation of the Star Spangled Banner at the Smithsonian Institution; $500,000 for the restoration of the Sewall-Belmont House, Washington, D.C.; and $26.5 million to Federal agencies to preserve cultural artifacts and historic sites and structures.

A panel of five experts, representing preservation and conservation disciplines, from non-competing Federal agencies reviewed the applications and made recommendations for funding to Interior Secretary Babbitt, who then consulted with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the White House Millennium Council.

Selection criteria required that each project be of national significance, demonstrate an urgent preservation need and have an educational or otherwise clear public benefit. Grant awards must be match dollar-for-dollar. A large number of states, localities, corporations, foundations and others who value our shared heritage have already pledged to support these important projects through financial contributions, donations and in-kind services.

These Federal grants are one component of President Clinton's Save America's Treasures initiative, an effort planned by the White House Millennium Council in cooperation with the National Park Service and private partners to mark the beginning of the new millennium. The National Trust is leading the private sector efforts to Save America's Treasures in collaboration with the National Park Foundation and Heritage Preservation.

-NPS-

Editor's Note: Attached is a list of the specific grants.

U.S. Department of the Interior

Save America's Treasures

FY 1999 Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Preserve
Nationally Significant Intellectual and Cultural Artifacts and Historic Structures and Sites

1999 SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANTS

May 19, 1999

Grants are being awarded to 12 Federal agencies for 62 projects in 24 states, the District of Columbia and the Midway Islands. By law, each award requires a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match. A large number of states, localities, corporations, foundations and others who value our shared heritage have already pledged to support these important projects through financial contributions, donations and in-kind services.

Projects Identified in the Appropriations Language

Total award: $ 3,500,000

The Star Spangled Banner, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $3,000,000
The flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to compose America's national anthem has long been prominently displayed at the Smithsonian Institution. Age and inadequate exhibition space have taken their toll on this national icon. This funding will enable the completion of the restoration of the flag, which will return to public display in a state-of-the-art exhibition space that will ensure it long-term preservation.

Sewall-Belmont House, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $ 500,000
Since 1929, the Sewall-Belmont House has served as headquarters for the National Woman's Party, founded by Alice Paul. Paul was the most significant figure in the final phase of the struggle for women's right to vote. She employed dramatic techniques – White House demonstrations, hunger strikes and relentless political pressure – to achieve victory just before the 1920 election. The house suffers the effects of deferred maintenance; in particular, water penetrating the deteriorated roof has damaged structural members and interior surfaces. Funds will be used to replace the roof and to correct the structural and interior damage.

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Total award: $ 363,000

Haskell Indian Nations University Museum and Archives Collections, Lawrence, Kansas
Award amount: $ 50,000
Haskell University Museum has a large collection of historical documents, photographs, films and videos, artwork, wall murals and ethnographic cultural artifacts that are threatened due to inadequate storage and improper handling. Funds will be used to conserve the most seriously threatened items of the collection.

Theodore Roosevelt School / Fort Apache National Register Historic District, Fort Apache, Arizona
Award amount: $ 313,000
Fort Apache served as the hub of U.S. Army efforts to control the western Apache and, beginning ca.1925, as the Theodore Roosevelt Indian School. Funds will be used to correct roof and structural deficiences that threaten three buildings, to fully rehabilitate one of the three, and to rescue the stately elm trees that define two of the Fort's signature elements – Officer's Row and Post Parade Grounds.

Bureau of Land Management

Total award: $ 386,241

[redacted] Ranch House, Empire Ranch Headquarters, Empire-Cienega Resource Conservation Area, Sonoita, Arizona

Award amount: $ 95,300

The 22-room Vail Ranch house illustrates the 130-year history of how families adapted to the West through ranching. The unoccupied house suffers from animal, rodent and bird damage along with aging materials, water leakage, poor drainage and foundation problems. Funds will be used to preserve and treat windows and doors; to repair roofing, foundation, and walls; to improve drainage; and to support and repair interior ceilings.

Fort Egbert National Historic Landmark, Eagle, Alaska

Award amount: $ 50,000

Constructed during the Alaska Gold Rush in 1899, Fort Egbert contributed significantly to the settlement and economic development of Alaska. Five of the original 47 buildings remain, and the Non-Commissioned Officer's Quarters is the most severely threatened. Extensive damage to the building has occurred due to improper drainage, broken door and window frames and a leaking roof. Funding will be used to repair this damage and to restore the interior.

Heritage of the San Juan Mining District, Hinsdale and San Juan, Colorado

Award amount: $ 64,806

The mines of the San Juan District contributed a large portion of the mineral wealth that fueled the late 19th- and early 20th-century growth of our nation. Five historic mining structures are threatened by weathering, heavy snowloads, neglect, recreational impacts, vandalism and abandoned mine reclamation, and are in danger of being lost forever. Funds will be used to stabilize and repair these structures to ensure their preservation.

[redacted]rieval and Preservation of Southwest Colorado Collections, Anasazi Heritage Center, Dolores, Colorado

Award amount: $ 176,135

The collections are the remnants of the Ancestral Puebloan (Anasazi) culture, which was known for fine ceramics, agricultural traditions and masonry pueblos. The artifacts are not adequately protected from environmental threats nor are they currently accessible for education, interpretation or research. Funds will be used to transfer the collections to a federal repository, and provide conservation treatments.

Department of Energy

Total award: $ 1,020,000

Experimental Breeder Reactor 1, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, Scoville, Idaho

Award amount: $ 320,000

In 1951, the Experimental Breeder Reactor I (EBR 1) became the world's first nuclear reactor to produce usable amounts of electricity. Now a National Historic Landmark, EBR 1 is open to the public, offering the unique experience of passing through the guard house before visiting the control room full of scientific apparatus that operated experiments, all set in a vast, sparsely populated landscape. Funds will restore the guardhouse and conserve documents discovered onsite.

Buildings of the Manhattan Project, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico

Award amount: $ 700,000

[redacted]hese are the most significant remaining buildings related to the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos. The site has [redacted]eat integrity of original design, and the temporary wooden structures convey a sense of urgency of the

Manhattan Project through the expedient construction methods used for these buildings. Abandoned in the mid-1950s, the modest wooden buildings are in extremely poor condition and at risk of collaspe. Funds will be used to restore the complex, which will enable never-before public access and interpretation of the Manhattan project.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Total award: $ 1,271,845

"Paddling into the Millennium," The Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage, Alaska
Award amount: $ 730,980
Many Native Alaskan intellectual and cultural traditions pass from one generation to the next only by word of mouth, making their preservation very difficult in the modern world. For this reason, the process of making traditional boats, their uses, and the histories and legends associated with boat-making are in jeopardy of being lost forever. "Paddling into the Millennium" will bring together Elders from each Alaska Native culture who will share their skills directly with younger members of the culture and provide hands-on training as well as oral tradition. Funds will be used to record the Master Boat Builders and apprentices in the process of actually building a boat, which will preserve these traditions for many future generations.

Custis Family Papers, Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia
Award amount: $ 63,586
This collection chronicles the early days of the Republic through the mid-19th century and features the correspondence of George Washington, Robert E. Lee, William Byrd II and a host of other political and social luminaries. The papers are seriously deteriorated, and unless action is taken soon the collection will be lost. Funds will support a comprehensive conservation program for the over 900 items in the collection.

Lewis and Clark Herbarium, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Award amount: $ 148,779
The Herbarium is a priceless collection of plant specimens collected by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark during their 1803-1806 expedition across the western territories of the United States. Insects, handling, and the environment currently threaten the collection, which serves as a primary reference for botanists, historians, scientists and scholars. Funds will be used to conserve the collection and to provide proper temperature and humidity controls in its storage facility.

The 1905 Wright Flyer III, Dayton, Ohio
Award amount: $ 328,500
The Wright Flyer III is the world's first practical airplane: the plane in which the Wright brothers solved the remaining problems of control, the first plane to fly for extended periods and the first to carry a passenger. The metal structural elements of the plane are rusting, the unbleached muslin covering the frame is torn and spotted by condensation and mold and several wooden struts are broken. Funds will provide conservation treatments to restore this damage in preparation for the centennial of the plane in 2003.

National Endowment for the Arts

Total award: $ 2,278,952

Ca' d' Zan, Sarasota, Florida
Award amount: $ 353,147
Ca' d' Zan (House of John) is the 1924-6 Mediterranean Revival style winter home of circus magnate John Ringling, which houses his world-renowned collection of Baroque art. The house is located on Sarasota Bay, and both house and collections suffer from the cumulative effects of tropical storms, salt water, humidity,

extreme heat and intense sunlight. Funds will be used to conserve the fine art and the decorative surface finishes of interior rooms.

[redacted]ortant 20th-Century American Dances, Dance Notation Bureau, New York, New York
Award amount: $ 250,000
Ballet, modern dance, musical theater, jazz dance and tap have been among America's greatest contributions to world culture. Because dances are performed for relatively short periods they are easily lost and extremely difficult to recreate. Significant dances by this country's greatest choreographers, including Jerome Robbins, George Balanchine, Twyla Tharp and Agnes de Mille, will be lost unless they are recorded in Labanotation, the most widely used form of dance notation. Funds will support the creation of the Laban scores, which entails a notator observing all rehearsals of a dance and preparing a score written from the perspective of the dancers and extensive notes on costumes, lighting, casting, and choreographic intent.

***Poetry* Magazine Archives, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois**
Award amount: $125,805
Poetry: A Magazine of Verse, was founded by Harriet Monroe in 1912 to create an audience for modern poetry and introduce writers and ideas, and it transformed the way poetry and poets are recognized and read worldwide. This collection consists of 120,000 pages of manuscripts, letters and editorial files, including individual literary treasures such as the manuscript of T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock." Much of the collection is deteriorating due to brittle paper. Funds will be used to stabilize the deterioration and provide physical protection for the collection.

Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project, University of Houston, Houston, Texas
Award amount: $ 500,000
Significant literary texts by Hispanic authors of the United States from 1780 to 1940 are in danger of being lost forever. The texts, which are a foundation of Hispanic culture in the United States, are dispersed throughout [redacted]aries and private collections and have not been identified by these repositories as rare parts of the national [redacted]imony. Even if they are the only extant copy, the books are subject to interlibrary loan, casual handling and theft. Some 1000 texts have been identified to be at risk, and funds will provide for their conservation and their circulation on microfilm or electronic format to scholars, libraries and textbook editors.

Saving the Silents: The American Silent Fiction Film Project, National Film Preservation Foundation, San Francisco, California
Award amount: $ 1,000,000
Fewer than 20% of the films from the first four decades of American cinema – the Silent Era – survive today. The films were produced on cellulose nitrate film stock, an unstable, highly flammable material prone to decay. This project will preserve and restore to the public 67 films, including works by Thomas Edison; master directors D.W. Griffith, Cecil B. DeMille, and Ernst Lubitsch; and screen idols Clara Bow and John Barrymore. Funds will support the creation of preservation masters and public viewing copies in a more stable medium, the only means of preserving this early 20th-century heritage.

Walker Art Center Permanent Collection, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Award amount: $ 50,000
The Walker Art Center was the first public art gallery in the Upper Midwest and has become a major repository for 20th-century sculpture. Its *Spoonbridge and Cherry* (a vastly ovesized spoon holding a bright red cherry) by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen is a Minneapolis landmark that is known throughout the world. Funding will provide conservation treatments for 10 outdoor sculptures that are deteriorating due to repeated Minnesota winters.

National Endowment for the Humanities

Total award: $ 1,089,607

[redacted]ti-Slavery Pamphlet Collection, Cornell University Library, Ithaca, New York

Award amount: $ 331,000

Cornell University holds one of the world's most distinctive collections of anti-slavery literature. A.D. White, first president of Cornell, began this collection, which documents the anti-slavery struggle at the local, regional and national levels. Many pieces of the over 10,000 item collection are from the libraries of anti-slavery movement leaders. Much of the paper has turned brittle with age, and some ink of the period contributes to further paper deterioration. Funds will support a comprehensive conservation project for the collection.

Coolidge Collection of Thomas Jefferson Papers, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Massachusetts

Award amount: $ 55,624

The Coolidge Collection is the largest collection of Thomas Jefferson's personal correspondences and writings outside of the Library of Congress. Donated by four generations of Jefferson's Coolidge descendents over a period of 60 years, the collection contains more than 9,000 pieces of correspondence, 440 architectural drawings and 13 manuscript volumes. Funds will support the conservation of the correspondence and four of the manuscript volumes, which are in a deteriorated condition.

Dutch Colonial Manuscripts, New York State Archives, Albany, New York

Award amount: $ 79,025

This collection, spanning the period 1638-1670, is the earliest administrative records of what became the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and western Connecticut. The records deal with a wide range of issues, including the law, criminal prosecution, civil disputes, land conveyances, defense, relations with Indians and revenue generation. Translation of the records is underway, and funding will enable conservation of the collection, making it available for research for the first time.

[redacted]. Scott Fitzgerald Papers, Princeton University Library, Princeton, New Jersey

Award amount: $ 50,000

Since donation of this collection in 1950, Princeton University has been the world center for primary research on noted American author F. Scott Fitzgerald. The collection includes manuscript versions of all his works, among many other items. Decades of heavy research use and acidic paper have put the collection in jeopardy. Funds will be used to deacidify, repair and rehouse the collection to ensure that it will continue to be available for research.

Jane Addams / Hull-House Photograph Collection, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Award amount: $ 92,876

This collection consists of 5,000 historic photographs and 32 yearbooks that document the work of Jane Addams and her associates in the settlement house and social reform movements. Age and frequent use endanger both the photographs and the yearbooks, to the point that parts of the collection have been withdrawn from use. Funds will support the production and cold storage of 6500 preservation master negatives that will again make the entire collection available for research without endangering the irreplaceable original documents.

Louis Armstrong House and Archives, Queens College, New York, New York

Award amount: $ 300,000

Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong influenced American music and culture in his many roles as jazz musician, singer, actor, comedian, entertainer, author and cultural ambassador. After the death of Armstrong's widow Lucille in 1983, this house lay untouched until 1991, while water penetration, unfiltered sunlight, high humidity, and vandalism contributed to the deterioration of the building and its furnishings. Funds will be used to repair damage and conserve interior features and finishes in preparation for opening to the public on the centennial of [redacted]s birth.

Paper-Based National Icons, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland
Award amount: $ 181,082
[redacted] Maryland Historical Society holds a number of national treasures, including the original manuscript of the [redacted]-Spangled Banner," 56 of the 57 competition drawings for the U.S. Capitol and original watercolors of the interior of the White House by Benjamin Henry Latrobe. All are in need of conservation, which will be supported by these funds.

National Gallery of Art

Total award: $ 102,810

Index of American Design, Washington, D. C.
Award amount: $ 52,500
The Index of American Design is a collection of approximately 18,000 watercolor renderings created as a Works Progress Administration project from 1935 to 1942. The Index documents American decorative arts and items of material culture from the Colonial period through the 19th century. Poor quality illustration boards with highly acidic cores have discolored the painted surfaces. Masking tape, rubber cement, and other marks disfigure and are leading to deterioration of up to half of the collection. Funding will support cleaning and conservation treatments that will ensure the collection's preservation and its continued availability to the public.

Permanent Collection of Sculpture, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $ 50,310
This collection includes major works by America's most significant 20th-century artists, David Smith, Alexander Calder, Isamu Noguchi, Claes Oldenburg, Lila Katzen and Tony Smith. Even when fabricated from the highest quality materials, outdoor sculpture is subject to deterioration caused by metallic corrosion, paint loss and [redacted]ling, vandalism and structural deformation. With this funding, the Gallery will treat 10 monumental [redacted]ptures in serious need of conservation to preserve their integrity and to restore them to the condition [redacted]riginally intended by the artists.

National Park Service

Total award: $ 7,115,317

Collections of the Northeast Region – Colonial National Historical Park, Yorktown, Virginia; Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Longfellow National Historic Site, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Award amount: $ 977,100
The national parks and historic sites of the National Park Service's Northeast Region include outstanding collections of 18th-and 19th-century decorative arts, documents and other artifacts. Funds will be used to conserve objects and collections at three sites: 1) Colonial National Historical Park – Conservation treatments will repair damage to George Washington's dining and office tents caused by age and antiquated exhibit facilities; 2) Gettysburg National Military Park – Treatments will address the adverse effects of inadequate storage space, humidity, dust and insects on significant portions of the extensive and varied collection; and 3) Longfellow National Historic Site – Conservation will focus on books, furnishings and decorative arts objects threatened with loss due to deterioration.

Farm House and Slave Quarters, Hampton National Historic Site, Towson, Maryland
Award amount: $ 200,000
Hampton Farm includes a magnificient c. 1790 Georgian Mansion, designed gardens and grounds and many [redacted]ner original buildings. The Farm House, constructed of which began in 1725, is the oldest building on the site [redacted]d contains rare 18th-century arched wood paneling. The c. 1840s stone slave quarters illustrate living

conditions for African-American slaves and later tenant farm workers. Funds will reverse the deteriorating effects of age, weather and pests. This stabilization and restoration work will ensure the long-term preservation and public access to these buildings.

Ferry Building, Statue of Liberty National Monument, New Jersey

Award amount: $ 1,145,975

Ellis Island was the country's principal immigration station from 1892 to 1954. Immigrants took their first steps on American soil as they entered the Ferry Building, where officials separated the apparently healthy from the sick. The Ferry Building and connecting corridors 7A and 7B are the key connection between the immigrant processing facility (island 1) and the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital complexes (islands 2 and 3) and are some of the first buildings seen by current visitors as they approach by ferry. Abandoned for 45 years, the building is in an advanced state of decay. Funds will stabilize the building and restore its exterior in preparation for a new use and as a catlyst for future restoration of the remaining structures on the islands.

M'Clintock House, Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca Falls, New York

Award amount: $ 185,000

The M'Clintock House is one of three important resources associated with the first Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York, in July, 1848. Here Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Mary Ann M'Clintock and her daughters drafted the "Declaration of Sentiments," often called the "Declaration of Independence," which was read at the Convention. The structure is in a dilapidated condition. Some exterior work has been done, and these funds will support the restoration of the interior of this important building.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, Atlanta, Georgia

Award amount: $ 620,398

Ebenezer Baptist Church, a National Historic Landmark, is closely associated with the life and work of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The congregation recently signed a long-term lease with the National Park Service, which will restore the building and interpret it to the public. Repairs to deteriorating historic fabric on both the interior and exterior and conservation of historic furnishing and artifacts are needed to prepare the structure for increased public visitation and ensure its longterm preservation and protection. Funds will support this restoration program.

Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas National Park, Monroe County, Florida

Award amount: $ 970,400

Fort Jefferson is the nation's largest 19th - century seacoast fortification, retaining a high degree of historical and architectural integrity. Begun in 1846 to protect strategic navigational lanes through the Florida straits to the Gulf of Mexico, the fort was later used as an internment camp for approximately 2,500 prisoners during the Civil War. Continued exposure to salt, destructive weather and water threaten the fort's masonry. Funds will be used to stabilize the fort's scarp walls, embrasures and parade walls.

Paul Laurence Dunbar House and Barn, Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, Dayton, Ohio

Award amount: $ 117,030

Paul Laurence Dunbar was the first critically acclaimed African American poet and a classmate and friend of the Wright brothers. A badly deteriorated roof and poor water conduction systems now threaten his National Historic Landmark home, and a fire damaged the adjacent barn. Funding will support the installation of a new roof, with downspouts and other drainage systems, and the restoration of the barn.

Cliff Dwellings, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado

Award amount: $ 1,497,672

Mesa Verde National Park contains approximately 600 cliff dwellings built between AD 1200 - 1300 that represent the architectural apex of the Northern San Juan Pueblo culture. A minimum of repair has been done over the years, resulting in a cultural resource of great integrity and authenticity. From 1994 -1996, University

of Pennsylvania experts developed a model conservation program to document, identify and appropriately treat surface finishes in the cliff dwellings. With these funds, the park will expand the conservation program to treat and preserve several other "houses" in the cliff dwellings.

Mission San Jose de Tumacacori, Tumacacori National Historical Park, Tumacacori, Arizona
Award amount: $ 85,500
Mission San Jose de Tumacacori, a National Historic Landmark, is considered the best preserved Franciscan mission ruin in the United States, and it represents one of the oldest outposts of European civilization in the country. Deterioration threatens the murals, paintings, stenciling, and frescos in the nave and sanctuary and has weakened the structural components of the building. Funds will support conservation of the artwork, strengthening of the structural members and abatement of moisture migration throughout the structure

Perimeter Fence, Manzanar National Historic Site, Independence, California
Award amount: $ 150,000
Manzanar National Historic Site protects and interprets the historical, cultural and natural resources associated with the relocation of Japanese Americans during WWII. Manzanar housed over 10,000 relocated citizens and is the best preserved of the 10 original relocation facilities in the western states. Adverse use – poaching, woodcutting, off-road vehicle use, pothunting, relic collecting, vandalism and buglary – threatens both the natural and cultural resources of the site. Funds will support the restoration of the c. 1942, 6-strand barbed wire fence (3.6 miles) in order to protect the site.

Recreation Hall, Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark,
Wrangell - St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Cooper Center, Alaska
Award amount: $ 75,000
Designated a National Historic Landmark for its significance in engineering history, Kennecott is the best remaining example of an early 20th-century mining town. The Recreation Hall is a key structure in the site. Constructed in 1916, the building is in a badly deteriorated condition. Funds will be used for rehabilitation, including replacing the roof and repairing the foundation system, the deteriorated flooring, the windows and the chimney. This work will ensure the continued preservation of the building.

Washington Monument, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $ 1,131,242
The Washington Monument, a 555-foot classic obelisk, is recognized throughout the world as the symbol of American democracy. The monument is undergoing restoration to correct water infiltration problems that have threatened the structure, led to deterioration of the interior commemorative stones and damaged mechanical systems. The extent of damage to the stone at the top of the monument did not become clear until scaffolding was erected to begin the project. Funding will support restoration of this newly-revealed stone deterioration.

Save America's Treasures Grants Through the National Park Service

Total award: $ 10,272,126

Chesterwood, Stockbridge, Massachusetts
Award amount: $ 119,849
Chesterwood is the home and studio of Daniel Chester French, sculptor of the Lincoln Memorial. The house is an eclectic building with architectural and siting elements of the Italian Villa and the Colonial Revival styles. French, one of America's foremost sculptors played a major role in the design and decoration of the house. Two porches are close to collapse and original tapestry wallpaper is threatened by deteriorating plaster. Funds will support restoration of the porches, stabilization of the plaster and restoration of the wallpaper.

Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

Award amount: $ 52,880

Congressional Cemetery, established in 1807, is considered America's first "National Cemetery." It serves a final resting place for many notable Americans, including John Philip Sousa, J. Edgar Hoover and William Thornton. Funds will support the conservation of three of the cemetery's most important marker – the D.C. Arsenal Explosion Victims marker (ca. 1865), the Marion Kahlert marker (ca. 1905) and the Alexander Macomb memorial (ca. 1842) – and restore six table tombs that are in danger of being lost.

Dutch Reformed Church, Newburgh, New York

Award amount: $ 125,802

The church was the work of two outstanding Greek Revival architects: Alexander Jackson Davis, who designed it in 1835, and Russell Warren, who was the general superintendent of its construction, 1835-1837. The church, recognized as one of the finest examples of Greek revival architecture in the United States, is threatened by decades of neglect, weather, vandalism and fire. Funds will be used to stabilize the sanctuary floor and gallery and secure the building from fire.

Fallingwater, Bear Run, Pennsylvania

Award amount: $ 901,000

Fallingwater, designed in 1935 by Frank Lloyd Wright, is an icon of American architecture and exemplifies Wright's concept of the harmonious union of art and nature. Parts of the building are significantly overstressed and are beginning to fail. Water leakage is damaging the roof and interior furnishings. Funds will be used to structurally strengthen the overstressed sections, to repair wood and steel windows and to install a new roof that properly sheds water and to waterproof the terrace.

Fourth Ward School, Virginia City, Nevada

Award amount: $639,271

The Fourth Ward School, built in 1876, is a major contributing building in the Virginia City National Historic Landmark District. The building has suffered extensive deterioration over time, and rehabilitation of several major components is needed. Funds will be used to rehabilitate the mansard roof with its eave drainage system and the original windows and to provide seismic retrofit for the foundations of the building.

Gropius House, Lincoln, Massachusetts

Award amount: $ 64,349

Walter Gropius, founder of the German school of modern design known as the Bauhaus, was one of the most influential architects of the 20th century. After fleeing Germany, he built this house for his family in 1937, and it remained occupied until his widow's death in 1983 when it came into the possession of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA). Already deteriorated at that time, damage has increased due to water infiltration. Funds will be used to repair the windows, a primary entry point for moisture, and to restore water-damaged plaster.

Jackson Ward National Historic Landmark District, Richmond, Virginia

Award amount: $ 650,000

Richmond was one of the foremost black communities in the nation during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and Jackson Ward was the hub of the community's professional and social life. Many buildings are vacant and suffer from deterioration due to unsound roofs, wall openings and arson. Funds will support the stabilization and weatherproofing of a number of key buildings to preserve them for future rehabilitation and reuse.

The Mount, Lenox, Massachusetts.

Award amount: $ 2,865,000

Home of the celebrated author Edith Wharton, The Mount is a National Historic Landmark. It is also an autobiographical house, designed and built by Wharton based on the precepts outlined in her books *The Decoration of Houses* and *Italian Villas and their Gardens*. Funds will be used to complete the stabilization of

the building's exterior, to restore the greenhouse that is in danger of collapse and to restore the gardens that have been badly damaged by heavy visitation.

[illegible]er Wolf Administration Building, Fair Park, Dallas, Texas
Award amount: $ 3,000,000
The Peter Wolf Administration Building is an outstanding example of Art Deco design and one component of Fair Park, the National Historic Landmark site of the 1936 Texas Centennial. Currently in a controlled state of collapse, the building has been closed for years. Funds will restore the exterior of the building and its steel truss skeleton in preparation for reuse as the Women's Museum.

Sloss Furnace, Birmingham, Alabama
Award amount: $ 207,275
Sloss Furnace National Historic Landmark, now the museum of the City of Birmingham, is the only complete blast furnace complex open for public interpretation in the world. The region's high humidity, high water table and heavy rains have caused significant corrosion and erosion over time. Funds will support the stabilization of Number One Furnace, including foundation repair, replacement of severely deteriorated beams and application of a new protective coating.

Taliesin, Spring Green, Wisconsin
Award amount: $ 1,146,700
Taliesin is the most personal representation of Frank Lloyd Wright's work; he constructed, reconstructed and expanded it from 1911 until his death in 1959. It was his home and continues to serve, for the warmer half of each year, as a residence for the Taliesen's architecture students. Moisture and the freeze/thaw cycle of many years have damaged the stone and wood building and its collections, and a 1998 mudslide destroyed part of the hill around which the structure is built. Funding will fix drainage problems that allow water to penetrate the [illegible]use and that could lead to another, larger mudslide and will restore damaged interior features and finishes.

[illegible]Washburn A Mill, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Award amount: $ 500,000
A National Historic Landmark, Washburn A Mill represents Minneapolis' reign as the flour milling capital of the world from 1880 to 1930. Built in 1879, the mill was the birthplace of General Mills, producer of Gold Medal flour, and the home of Betty Crocker's kitchen. The vacant mill was heavily damaged by a 1991 fire that left its walls and foundation exposed. Funds will be used to stabilize and preserve the structure, enabling the construction of a museum of the milling industry inside the walls.

Smithsonian Institution

Total award: $ 1,578,664

Artwork Collection of the National Anthropological Archives, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $ 228,664
This collection contains nearly 20,000 drawings that constitute a visual record of the cultures of Native America and of the United States' interactions with these cultures. The collection contains 19th-century artwork produced by Native Americans to record their ways of life, documents pertaining to U.S. expansion into the West and early scientific investigations of Native American origins. The collection is deteriorated to the point of disintegration. Funds will be used to conserve and provide proper storage for the collection.

Threatened Artifacts of the Apollo Space Program, National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C.
Award amount: $ 1,350,000
[illegible]The National Air and Space Museum has collected more than 2500 artifacts representing nearly every facet of [illegible]he Apollo Space Program, ranging from the Apollo command modules that ferried the astronauts safely back

from the moon to spacesuits to decals, patches and other personal items of the Apollo astronauts. Funding will support the implementation of a comprehensive conservation effort to counteract the effects of inadequate storage, environmental factors and time.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Total award: $ 666,392

Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, Sebastian, Florida
Award amount: $ 57,711
Established in 1903 by Theodore Roosevelt, Pelican Island was America's first national wildlife refuge, intended to protect the last pelican rookery on the Atlantic coast of Florida. A National Historic Landmark, the island has lost more than 50% of its original size due to increased boat traffic along the Intracoastal Waterway. Funds will be used to stabilize the shoreline through construction of a natural wavebreak and the planting of native trees and grasses.

D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery, Spearfish, South Dakota
Award amount: $ 300,000
This facility is unique in the nation. Devoted to the preservation of the National Fisheries Program, it includes several historic structures and an extensive collection of artifacts and archives. Weather and age have taken their toll on the site, and unless checked damage will accelerate. Funds will support structural stabilization and exterior restoration of three buildings, repair of the pond and flood channel retaining walls and restoration of the Yellowstone Boat.

Commercial Pacific Cable Buildings and Former Naval Facilities, Midway National Wildlife Refuge Midway Islands
Award amount: $ 308,681
Due to base closures, Midway's role shifted in 1996 to that of a National Wildlife Refuge. The ravages of time, saltwater corrosion and disuse have left most of Midway's historically significant properties in jeopardy. Funds will be used to stabilize the Commercial Pacific Cable Buildings, the oldest on the island, and make them weather-tight. Funds will also be used to mount a major eradication effort against the termites that are attacking the former Naval facilities, designed by noted architect Albert Kahn.

U.S. Forest Service

Total award: $ 260,310

Green Mountain Lookout, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mountlake Terrace, Washington
Award amount: $ 50,000
The Green Mountain Lookout is significant for its role in fire detection and its use as a U.S. Army aircraft-warning site during World War II. Snow and wind have damaged the lookout to the point that it is in danger of collapse, and it has been closed to the public since 1994. Funds will be used to replace structural components and to restore the interior and exterior of the lookout.

The Letter Box, Grey Towers National Historic Landmark, Milford, Pennsylvania
Award amount: $ 116,000
The Letter Box served as the office and archives of Gifford Pinchot, eminent conservationist, chief forester, and two-term governor of Pennsylvania. Designed by architect Chester H. Aldrich in 1925, this classically proportioned stone building has severe water infiltration problems. Funding will provide a new roof, interior restoration and selected collections conservation.

Honanki Cliff Dwellings, Coconino National Forest, Sedona, Arizona

Award amount: $ 94,310

The large cliff dwellings of Honanki, built between AD 1150 - 1300, are a spectacular example of Sinagua architecture and rock art. The site is currently closed to the public because of structural instability. Funds will be used to stabilize the cliff dwellings so that they may be reopened to the public, to construct a walkway to reduce the impact of foot traffic on the site and to remove graffiti.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Commission

Total award: $ 54,736

Benjamin B. Ferencz Collection, Washington, D.C.

Award amount: $ 54,736

As a member of the U.S. Armed Forces that liberated Dachau and Buchenwald, Harvard-trained lawyer Benjamin Ferencz secured many records left in the camps. These documents included numbers of Jews, Communists, Gypsies and others killed, the names of the unit commanders and other details about the atrocities perpetrated in the camps. In 1994, Ferencz donated the collection to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Funds will support conservation of the collection so that it will be available to future generations of scholars and students.

Clinton Presidential Records
Digital Records Marker

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December 1998

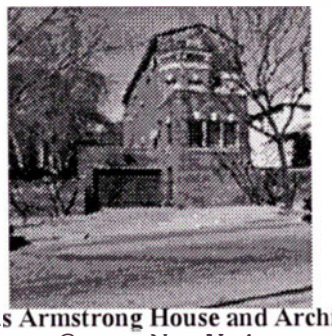
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WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

A Visit by the First Lady to Save America's Treasures

FOLLOW THE FIRST LADY

Thursday, December 3, 1998



Louis Armstrong House and Archives
Queens, New York

American jazz icon Louis Armstrong was welcomed all over the world and could live anywhere he wanted, but from 1943 until his death in 1971, a two-story frame house in Corona was his home. A New York City and National Historic Landmark, the Louis Armstrong House is scheduled to open as a museum in the year 2000, enabling the public to step into Armstrong's own "wonderful world." The Archives at Queens College contain the artists' vast personal collection of photographs, papers, scrapbooks, recordings, memorabilia and musical instruments. Armstrong recorded 650 reel-to-reel tapes of conversations and performances which require urgent attention to be saved from deterioration and loss. The First Lady is joined by Wynton Marsalis in a salute to the great Satchmo and to the value of preserving America's creative legacy.
Photo courtesy of the Louis Armstrong House and Archives

Thursday, December 10

Breed Street Shul
Los Angeles, California

The old and the new are united at the Breed St. Shul, an historic synagogue, where the Jewish Historical Society is working with the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council and the East Los Angeles Community Corporation to "honor the past -- imagine the future." The partners hope to establish a museum honoring the Jewish heritage of the neighborhood and a community center with space for educational and cultural programming for current residents. The rehabilitation is in the early stages and has already garnered support from a wide array of community members including volunteers, nonprofit organizations and elected officials.

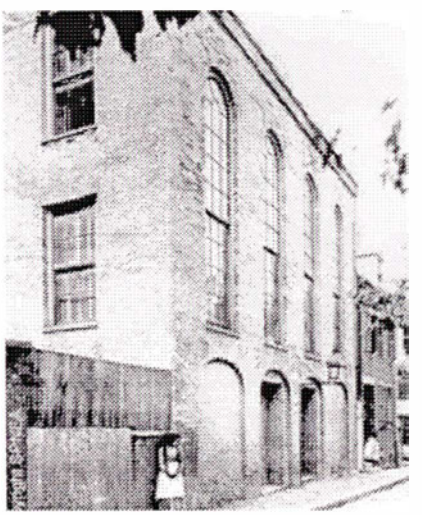
Broadway Theater and Commercial District

Saturday, December 5



Longfellow National Historic Site
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Built in 1759 for Major John Vassall, a wealthy Tory who fled Cambridge in 1774 on the eve of the Revolution, the house was used for a time as a hospital for wounded American soldiers after the battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill. Between July 1775 and April 1776, General George Washington was headquartered in this grand home and here he planned the Siege of Boston. In 1843, Nathan Appleton bought the house as a wedding gift for his daughter, Fanny, and her new husband, and thus for almost half a century (1837-1882), it was the family home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, one of the world's foremost poets, scholars and educators. The National Park Service has managed the site since 1972. Currently closed for a major rehabilitation to install fire, security and environmental control systems, the national historic site is planning increased public educational programs. These include cataloguing and preserving the archives, establishing a Center for Poetry and the Imagination, and restoring the gardens and grounds.
Photo courtesy of the National Park Service



Broadway Theater and Commercial District
Los Angeles, California

Lavish vaudeville and movie houses along Broadway reveal the excitement and magic of an era in the cultural life of Los Angeles. Their historic architecture and interiors are depicted in movies, television shows and music videos. Innovative restoration and re-use plans with committed partners including property owners, nonprofit organizations, city agencies, and individual volunteers, are keeping alive the rich stories these theaters have to tell for another generation.

GET INVOLVED

We stand at the convergence of a new century and the next millennium -- a milestone in human history. That is why the President and First Lady created the White House Millennium Council -- to set themes, engage the federal agencies and invite all Americans to participate in meaningful activities through the year 2000.

The overall theme of the White House millennium activities is "Honor the past -- Imagine the future." The President and First Lady are inviting states, communities, non-profit organizations, federal agencies, and all citizens to participate in activities that strengthen our democracy, improve communities, and give lasting gifts to the future. The President has invited governors, mayors and other elected officials to involve citizens in marking the Millennium; many cities and towns are creating "Year 2000" committees to plan events.

For more information about the Save America's Treasures Program and other Millennium Council initiatives, please contact:

The White House Millennium Council
Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, Director
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Washington, D.C. 20503
(202)456-2000
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millennium@whitehouse.gov

African Meeting House
Boston, Massachusetts

This oldest standing African American church in the U.S. was built in 1805 and 1806 almost entirely by black labor with funds raised from the entire community. The Meeting House became a center of religious and cultural life. Abolitionist Frederick Douglass recruited the historic 54th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry at the African Meeting House and William Lloyd Garrison, a white integrationist, launched the New England Anti-Slavery Society from this building on January 6, 1832. Owned and operated by the Museum of Afro American History, a nonprofit educational organization, the African Meeting House is part of the Boston African American National Historic Site and is managed in partnership with the National Park Service. The building will undergo restoration in 1999, but the collections need additional curatorial care so that they may be used in the museum's educational programs.
Photo courtesy of the National Park Service

Friday, December 11

Conservatory of Flowers
San Francisco, California

Made of glass and redwood, the Conservatory's elaborate construction was modeled after London's Royal Conservatory of Kew Gardens. It is the oldest municipal wooden conservatory in the nation and houses many plants from the rain forests of Central and South America and the Pacific Islands, where destruction of native habitats endangers their survival, as well as plants whose origins date from prehistoric times. Both age and natural causes, such as numerous earthquakes and storms, are responsible for the deterioration of the Conservatory. A 1995 condition assessment found that the Conservatory has significant deficiencies which, with the absence of seismic strengthening, pose a life-safety risk in the event of future earthquakes or storms. It closed to the public in 1995. A generous challenge grant, along with support from the City, and contributions from the public, will provide for the restoration of this landmark building.

[Back]

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DECEMBER TREASURES TOUR VISITS

Longfellow
African Meeting House
Louis Armstrong
Breed Street Shul
LA Theater
Conservatory

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

CONSERVATORY OF FLOWERS

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 11, 1998

→ Alice Russell Shapiro

→ Stars - B →
now Conservatory
of the Sea
Co.

— 3 years ago tomorrow
devastating storm

NOT
AS
DELIVERED

Thank you, Dick, for that kind introduction. I'm so pleased to be here -- in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, and to have just visited the glorious Conservatory of Flowers. California's first poet laureate wrote that this state is "the land of romance, of mystery, of worship, of beauty and of song." Having looked out on the stunning view from the Conservatory to the gardens and beyond, it's hard to disagree with her.

I'm particularly glad to be joining so many people here who care about preserving this historic landmark for the people of San Francisco, and the world: Willie Brown -- who has brought such strong leadership -- not to mention a sense of style -- to the Mayor's office; Joel Robinson, general manager of Parks and Recreation -- representing the city's and county's commitment to this landmark; my friend, Senator Barbara Boxer. I'm so pleased that the people of California had the wisdom to send the Bay Area's very own back to the Senate -- where she belongs.

I want to thank Dick Moe of the National Trust for Historic Preservation -- who as you just heard, feels so passionately about saving America's treasures. I also want to recognize Friends of Recreation and Parks, who care for all of the city's parks -- but who have a special place in their hearts for Golden Gate Park and the Conservatory of Flowers.

Today, we've come together to help ensure that this beloved landmark -- visited and used by generations of San Francisco families -- can continue to serve and enrich this community for future generations.

This group in particular knows how we are all connected to each other by shared values, shared experiences, and shared hopes. It is time to look toward the next century and the new millennium, to think about what those values mean to us, and to carry them forward.

That was the idea behind the White House Millennium Council that the President and I established last year. We wanted to engage all Americans in thinking about what defines us as a nation, and what gifts we could all give to the future. The theme we chose for the Millennium Council is to honor the past, imagine the future.

My visit here -- and yesterday's visit to the Breed Street Shul and the Broadway Theater District in LA -- is part of a larger millennium project that Dick Moe talked about -- a public/private partnership to "Save America's Treasures." The National Trust for Historic Preservation -- as he said -- is the private sector partner in that campaign, along with the Committee to Save America's Treasures. Their work is vital. These historical and cultural sites are irreplaceable. We lose them, and we lose our history -- and our national memory.

We launched this effort to "Save America's Treasures" this past summer -- in front of the great Star-Spangled Banner -- now being repaired at the Smithsonian. Since then, I've visited places like Thomas Edison's laboratory; where he invented things like the motion picture camera; the home of Harriet Tubman, the former slave whose bravery was an example to all who cared about freedom; the home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow -- whose poetry captures our history and ideals as a people.

Each of these stops reminds us of the treasures we have, and the ones that we are in danger of losing -- like the Conservatory of Flowers -- if we do not take action together.

The Conservatory of Flowers has an extraordinary history -- not only as the oldest municipal wooden conservatory in the nation -- a San Francisco landmark -- and one of the nation's greatest collections of rare and endangered plants. It's been an important gathering place for the community over the years. And it's been the home of generations of memories -- of families who have cherished this place, and used it to mark milestones in their lives.

I've heard about one couple who was married here 50 years ago. They've moved to Connecticut, but every year on their anniversary, they come here -- to sit for an hour by the lily pond and hold hands. I've heard about a woman whose grandparents took her to the Conservatory every Sunday afternoon. Now she brings her own grandchildren.

One San Francisco family has been coming here for 20 years -- to take their Christmas photograph -- in the same room, in front of the same plants. (In fact, if the gardeners here had dared to move those plants in the interim -- they had to be moved back to their original position.) Like so many of us -- this family wanted to document the growth and changes in their family -- in a place that was meaningful in their lives.

Many are drawn to the gardens and the rare botanical collection of plants -- a few of which I understand carry a history from millennia to millennia. And here, I want to underscore the importance of preserving these green and open spaces in our cities for our children and grandchildren. And you can see why.

Some people come the Conservatory only in August -- to see the banana trees. Others come only in March -- to see the high altitude orchid display -- or the 200-year old philodendron. For many others -- in the words of my wonderful guide (and director of the Conservatory) George Marcopulos -- a daily visit there has become their "ritual cup of coffee."

The Conservatory of Flowers also has an amazing history of people who have sought to maintain and preserve it over the years. I've been told that parts of this structure were actually transported from New York around Cape Horn in a chartered ship. But it wasn't unpacked and built until a group of 27 families purchased it -- and gave it to the City of San Francisco.

This being the land of earthquakes, fires and storms (and now blackouts) -- the Conservatory has been threatened and damaged many times. But the citizens of San Francisco and others have always come to its rescue. When it was partially destroyed by fire in 1883 -- it was rebuilt with an individual donation. When the Conservatory was shut down in 1996 -- there was an outpouring of public support. People sent in large and small donations -- and wrote notes about the role the Conservatory played in generations of their families. Everyone wanted to become guardians of this beloved place.

Whole classrooms, for example, have sent in their milk money. I particularly like the story of two young boys who raised $20 for the Conservatory by holding a bake sale. Even better -- their mother more than matched those funds with her own $50 dollar check. Now that's what I call a great challenge grant.

I want to acknowledge some of the many partners -- from the city, the state -- led by Senator John Burton-- and individual donors -- who have played a role in these restoration efforts over the past few years. I especially want to acknowledge the work of the Friends of Recreation and Parks, who have worked tirelessly to reopen the Conservatory. The World Monuments Fund placed the Conservatory on its 1996 Most Endangered Sites list, providing funding from American Express. Now these early efforts are being combined with the "Save America's Treasures" campaign.

Today, I'm pleased to announce that over $11 million in public and private funds has been raised to ensure that the Conservatory and its collection of rare and beautiful plants can be enjoyed by future generations.

We have to thank most of all the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund. Its president, Richard Goldman, along with his children, have given an extraordinarily generous gift of $5 million as a challenge grant to other contributors to match twice over. Because they are committed citizens of San Francisco, and because the Conservatory has held special meaning for this family -- especially for Rhoda, who would have loved being here today -- the Goldmans stepped forward with this support, which I know has already inspired others to do the same.

We are enormously grateful as well for the $1 million grant from the Madeline Hass Russell Fund and the Columbia Foundation, of which Madeline Hass Russell is founder and president. We owe Madeline and her children a debt of gratitude for this generous gift.

So many citizens of San Francisco have come together. Other important gifts include those from Robin and Marsha Williams ($250,000); Mark and Susie Tompkins Buell ($100,000); Richard and Marianne Peterson ($100,000); and the Swig family Foundation ($80,000). In addition, other generous groups and supporters have helped to make this day possible -- including the San Francisco Garden Club; the San Francisco Landscape Garden Show; the S. H. Cowell Foundation; Macy's Department Store; Ambassador William and Jean Lane; Phil Schlein and Ellen Klutznick; Brook and Shawn Byers; Nan Tucker McEvoy [MACK-a-VOY] and so many others who are contributing to this important restoration work.

I'm also so grateful to the federal government -- because today I can tell you that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) -- has provided $1.24 million to restore and prevent further damage to the Conservatory.

FEMA resources are now available to repair and restore historic sites after natural disasters have struck. I want to thank James Lee Witt for this innovative new strategy to help safeguard America's legacy.

The State Librarian for California said recently that "The American people have assigned California a special role: to seek out the American future; to test it; to try its options; rejecting what doesn't work, and building upon what does." There may be some -- there always are -- who would try to argue that their state is just as visionary. But I think that today -- as we hear this list of individual, corporate, and public benefactors coming together to save this national landmark -- that once again, California is a model for how to best preserve America's treasures for the next millennium.

All of us -- from the school children donating their milk money to city agencies to major corporations to generous citizens -- can become the caretakers of our heritage. We can all make gifts to the future. And I want to thank everyone here today for being a part of this exciting national effort to save America's treasures for the next generation and the new millennium.

Thank you.

NOT AS DELIVERED

Pre-final Clean copy W/O Ellen's edits 12/10/98, 10:00 am

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
WARNER BROTHERS ANNOUNCEMENT
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER 10, 1998

I'm so glad to be here at this beautiful LA Theater, and to be introduced by one of my true heroes, Stevie Wonder. It's a pleasure to join all of you for this important preservation event: I want to thank Councilman Richard Alatorre for his support and concern for preservation in this community; Dick Moe of the National Trust for Historic Preservation -- who is doing such an extraordinary job of saving America's Treasures; David Altschul of Warner Brothers Records for his creative and generous leadership; and all of you here in this community who treasure this historic theater district -- including our young performers.

I must admit that I'm overwhelmed by the glorious architecture and lavish details of this theater -- one of LA's -- and the world's -- great movie palaces. Even the floor in the lady's room is an artistic masterpiece. But I'm impressed as well by how forward looking its creators were - by putting in an electrical indicator to monitor available seats -- and building soundproof "Crying Rooms" so that parents holding noisy babies could still watch the films -- and a staffed playroom in the basement for older kids. Who says we can't still learn from the past?

There are so many extraordinary theaters in this one small area -- from the Orpheum with its rare Wurlitzer organ to the Million Dollar Theater, which has played such an important cultural role in the Hispanic community -- and so many others, all filled with the memories of dazzling performances and legendary stars; where careers were launched; and fortunes made. But as we all know -- only two of the dozen historic theaters are now open, and this area has lost much of its former sparkle. And that's why we are all here today.

This historic district may contain the highest concentration of movie palaces in the world -- but I would argue it also contains the highest concentration of culture buffs, preservationists and arts advocates in the world. People who really care about preserving the past -- to benefit and enrich the lives of future generations. And I'd like to recognize the many public and private partners who are coming together to restore and revitalize this Broadway Theater District.

The LA Conservancy -- the largest local non profit of its kind in the country -- has made a longstanding commitment to revitalize this area, and has opened it up to new audiences and supporters through walking tours and annual film series. And now, by working with the city to produce a comprehensive "action plan" for Broadway -- the Conservancy will serve as a catalyst for economic development and preservation.

(We've seen the progress than can be made -- in places like New York's Times Square -- when non profits and others come together to pave the way for major companies to invest in revitalizing communities like this one. And I am hopeful that such investors here in LA will step up to the plate and join this important public/private partnership).

I want to recognize other partners like "Friends of the Orpheum" -- which is reclaiming that theater for live performances and special events -- much to the delight of LA's young people. I've heard that much of the restoration work being done there is by skilled theater workers and technicians who are volunteering their time and talents.

The wonderful performance of the Living Literature Colors United -- which as some of you may remember performed at the ' 92 Inauguration -- demonstrates the vital role that the arts and literature can play in transforming the lives of our young people -- and how committed this city is to providing these opportunities for creative, positive expression. (Let's give them another round of applause for their performance). So I'm particularly pleased to hear the LLCU has plans to purchase and renovate the Palace Theater -- so that it can again become a vibrant and profitable performance site -- and more young people can have the opportunity to learn these life-changing skills.

Individual citizens have also stepped forward to contribute to this conservation effort. Bruce Corwin and his family have deep roots in this community -- having managed theaters in the district for three generations -- and I want to thank Bruce, Ira Yellin, and other theater owners who have made such personal commitments to the revitalization of this District.

Thanks to this impressive cast of government and business leaders, non profits, and individuals -- curtains are rising not only here in the Broadway District -- but in other cultural centers of LA. I heard there was a gala evening in the Hollywood District last week celebrating the opening of the Egyptian Theater -- which had been closed for 8 years. And that just a few nights ago -- an agreement was reached to preserve and restore the Cinerama Dome Theater -- another one-of-a-kind theater in Hollywood.

When we see our history come alive like this — we see so much of what makes us the people and the country that we are today.

Restoration efforts like the ones you are all engaged in have a long and honored tradition in this country. By 1850 -- we had already established George Washington's headquarters at Newburgh New York as our first state historic site -- a place I just visited last summer. What they knew then -- and what we have continued to learn through successes and failures such as the destruction of Penn Station in New York -- is that we can never own our nation's past. We're caretakers of it. And we all have a responsibility to future generations to be good caretakers.

When people ask me, "what does it mean to save an old building like this one? Aren't there a lots of other important things we should be worried about?" I first give a very practical answer. We know from our experience that when a city like Los Angeles, with the rich history that you have, is able to revitalize that history, you become a beacon for economic development and tourism that creates jobs and opportunities for people who live here.

But we're also talking about saving America's history for everyone. This is not just a beautiful historic building. It has a history; it gives us insights into the past. And by preserving our buildings, our documents, our cultural and artistic sites -- we are preserving what we value --

and what we want to bring with us into the next generation.

We are connected to each other by shared values, shared experiences, and shared hopes. It is time to look toward the next century and the new millennium, to think about what those values mean to us, and to carry them forward. That was the idea behind the White House Millennium Council that the President and I created last year. We wanted to engage all Americans in thinking about what defines us as a nation, and gifts we could all give to the future. The theme we chose for the Millennium Council is to honor the past, imagine the future.

My visit here today -- and to the Conservatory of Flowers in San Francisco tomorrow -- another historic site in need of repair -- is part of a larger millennium project that Dick Moe talked about -- a public/private partnership to "Save America's Treasures." The National Trust for Historic Preservation -- as he said -- is the private sector partner in that campaign, along with the Committee to Save America's Treasures that has recently been established. It's work is vital. These sites and artifacts are irreplaceable. We lose them, and we lose our history — and our national memory.

This national effort to "Save America's Treasures" received a wonderfully creative boost today — with the announcement of the "Sing America" CD. I want to thank David Altschul and Warner Brothers Records for making that remarkable contribution. And I want to thank David personally for being such a generous and creative member of the Save America's Treasures committee.

When music lovers buy this CD, the proceeds will go to the National Trust to establish the Fund to Save America's Treasures. The new fund will be an endowment — a permanent grant fund to help neighborhoods and towns all over America to save their own treasures. The grants wills provide that all-important seed money to get the advice and expert assistance needed to preserve a site or a collection that is important to that community. We all know about the Star-Spangled Banner, now being conserved at the Smithsonian Institution. We all know about the great Park Service sites at Gettysburg and Independence Hall in Philadelphia. But every town has a treasure in its back yard: the statue on the town green, the historic schoolhouse or home of a famous resident. Now the Fund to Save America's Treasures will help preserve the legacy of all of us — and for generations to come.

(I'd like to note that one of the performances that people will hear on this album will be by Louis Armstrong -- whose archives of music at Queens College in New York I visited last week -- to support efforts in that community to ensure the music and spirit of "Satchmo" can live on for our children and grandchildren.)

All of us -- from the volunteer electrician who is helping to replace the thousands of light bulbs in the Orpheum Theater to the young people who performed for us today to city agencies to powerful companies like Warner Brothers -- can become the caretakers of our heritage. We can all make gifts to the future. Thank you all for playing your part in this exciting national effort.

Thank you.

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT BREED STREET SHUL
BOYLE HEIGHTS, LOS ANGELES
DECEMBER 10, 1998

Thank you all. Today we help ensure that this historic Shul, which is a symbol of the Boyle Heights community, will once again be the pride and center of the community.

This Sunday, on the first night of Hanukkah, my husband and I will be in Jerusalem, joining Jews all over the world in lighting the Menorah and beginning the Festival of Lights. We will think of the Maccabees and others who fought to save their Temple...and, with it, the right to religious freedom and cultural tradition that we hold so dear in this city and country. Like in Boyle Heights, their Temple was defiled. And, like in Boyle Heights, the community took it back. With a small amount of oil and a lot of faith, they kept the eternal flame alive.

As my husband and I light the candles on the Menorah in Jerusalem, as we light the Christmas tree in Bethlehem, and as many of you here take part in the Peace Posada tonight and honor the Virgin of Guadalupe [Guah-dah-loo-pay] this Saturday...we can all give extra thanks this year -- because your faith and hope, your love and hard work have ensured that the flame at the Breed Street Shul will stay alive well into the Millennium.

For that, we owe a debt of gratitude to everyone in Boyle Heights who refused to let this Shul be destroyed, especially our hosts, Congressman Becerra and Councilman Alatorre [Al-ah-tore-ee]. The Councilman fought for 10 years on the floor of the City Council and on the streets of Boyle Heights to save this Shul. And I want to pay a special tribute to our ultimate host, Governor-elect Gray Davis (I love the way that sounds). The last time I saw Gray he was the Lt. Governor. And I have a feeling it was because so many of you here made your voices heard at the ballot box that Governor Davis will now lead California into the next century.

You have kept the flame on Breed Street alive because of Steve Sass and the Jewish Historical Society...thank you for your leadership, passion, and longtime commitment to preserve not only this Shul, but the history of one of the largest Jewish communities in the world. And I am so pleased to announce that the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles will also donate $15,000 to help save the Breed Street Shul.

I also want to thank Dick Moe and our partners at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. I'm glad that their members of the Millennium Committee to Save America's Treasurers are here with us today. Dick talked about how important it is for the private sector to make this fight their own.

And I want to thank Robert Erburu [Er-bur-oo], Barry Munitz, Harold Williams and the entire J. Paul Getty Trust for doing just that. Like two million other Americans, I had the opportunity to make the pilgrimage to the amazing new Getty museum. What a thrill it is to come back one year later to see how their extraordinary generosity is saving art and culture and history in Boyle Heights and other neighborhoods around the country.

And I am pleased to say that the federal government will do its part to help. The Federal Emergency Management Agency -- many of you know it as FEMA -- has made a commitment to provide funds to the Breed Street Shul to preserve its foundation and prevent more damage in the future.

But, what is perhaps most special is that, like Boyle Heights and all of L.A., the mission to save the Shul belongs to both people who remember the old neighborhood and those who live in the new -- from the Jewish Historical Society and Jewish Federation which I already mentioned to the Boyle Heights Neighbors Organization, the East Los Angeles Community Corporation, the L.A. Family Housing Corporation, the Los Angeles Conservancy and the residents who live all around Soto and Cesar Chavez.

After the film, Meet me at Brooklyn and Soto, started playing on public television, I'm told calls came in from people who wanted to help: The teacher at Roosevelt High, whose class wanted to take on the Shul as a community service project. The Latino painter who said he didn't have any money, but he wanted to paint over the graffiti. The neighbors all around this area, who want to plant flowerbeds and make this entire building beautiful again.

And just now, I met two 79 year-old twins, Saul Bojarsky and Eli Boyer, who were Barmitzvahed in the Shul together. They told me how they flipped a coin to decide who would give their speech that day in English...and who had to do it in Hebrew. And they explained that their grandfather was the one who created the tablets that once adorned the front of this building. These tablets were taken away by theft and earthquakes. But now I'm so pleased that their family has made a commitment to replace them.

What all of you understand is that none of us owns our history. We are its caretakers...and one by one, generation by generation, we

have a responsibility to pass it on. That is the purpose of the White House Millennium Council the President and I have created. We knew that the year 2000 will bring all kinds of great New Year's eve parties -- from Olvera Street to the 3rd Street Promenade. We knew there would even be products like Millennium toothpaste and potato chips and everything else you can imagine.

But we also thought it could be a time for us to think about what defines us as a nation. Not just some history lesson that sits on the shelf. But what are those shared living values -- like our belief in family, religion and history -- that have been woven through our communities? And what can all of us do to bring them with us into the future?

Our national theme is: Honor the Past, Imagine the Future. And one of the ways we are fulfilling that challenge is through this Save America's Treasures initiative. Since July, I have traveled to cities all over the country...visiting places such as Louis Armstrong's archives, Thomas Edison's laboratory, and Harriet Tubman's home. Because we can only imagine the future, if we honor not only our famous monuments and leaders, but also our history of religion, creativity, and architecture. Now, some may ask, well what difference does it make to save a building? What does it mean to honor the Breed Street Shul?

When we honor the past here, we are also honoring the story of Jewish survival and memory that ran through this community for decades and still holds and the bricks of this Shul together today. As I walked around, I could almost smell the pickle barrels, Canter's corned beef sandwiches, and herring that used to line these streets. Or imagine people on the street corner, arguing about the problems of the world.

I could imagine the men's social athletic clubs, one of which has been meeting every Wednesday for more than 60 years. Or the children who would dress up and go from Shul to Shul visiting their friends during the holidays. I could hear the prayers that lasted through two World Wars, through a depression and oppression, and the sound of the Shofar [show-Far] that echoed through this building when Israel was born 50 years ago.

And we can hear the laughter of a diverse group of children, echoing through the century and filling these streets still today. I'll never forget the man in "Meet me at Brooklyn and Soto" who talked about how terrible it was when his Japanese American neighbors were forced to leave during the war. He promised the woman next door that he would take in their mail, pay their bills and they'd work it all out when she came back. And, because of him, when she did come back in 1946, she came back to a clean house..and cried tears no longer of sorrow, but of joy.

Because when we honor the past here, we also honor the immigrants who wrote the collective story of our neighborhoods, even as they protected their individual identities.

They have come from places such as Mexico, Eastern Europe, and Japan. And they found themselves in Boyle Heights, often escaping suffering and persecution, looking for opportunity, and, all the while, teaching the world that we can understand each other, respect one another, and live together.

And when we honor the past, we take another step forward in saving the young, but rich, history of Los Angeles...from Art Deco buildings to the Broadway theaters I will visit later to the nearby Mariachi Plaza recently donated by the Mexican state of Jalisco [Ha-leece-ko]. Because members of the community took a stand, this

city has an extraordinary L.A. County Library. The Cinerama Dome has been saved. The Buddhist Temple is now the Japanese American National Museum. And this beautiful Eastern European style synagogue ...will continue to bring the Boyle Heights community together and provide children with lifelong learning about their pasts and futures.

[We know that saving the Breed Street Shul and other treasures in neighborhoods around the country will take every person and every weapon at our disposal. And none more so than the $1.1 million in planning grants that the J. Paul Getty Trust has made possible. We would never want our doctors to cut us open and operate without first doing an examination to find out what's wrong. And, likewise, we cannot save these historic buildings unless we take a close look at how they were cared for yesterday...and how we want to use them tomorrow. And, again, I want to thank the Getty Trust for this innovative and generous contribution to the National Trust.]

The word Hanukkah means "rededication," which, in many ways, is what we're doing today. The Shul is a dream in the making. And today we can finally dream of a future when we no longer see graffiti or broken windows or barbed wire fences.

Instead, we can imagine going to watch cultural events downstairs and tending to a community garden outside. Imagine seeing children with a safe place to play, laugh, learn and do their homework after school, during the summer and on weekends.

Imagine a place where children of this community are taught how to play an instrument, paint a picture, and express themselves with art, not violence. Imagine a museum, which will teach them about the names of leaders like Cesar Chavez who adorn these streets.

Imagine a museum where people in this neighborhood and all over the country can come to learn about the history of East L.A. and the Latinos, Jews, and other diverse groups who have shaped it and called it home. Imagine a place that is the once again at the center of what is now a vibrant, extraordinary Latino community.

My staff told me that when they came out to take a look at the Shul, there wasn't any electricity, and they were going to use flashlights instead. But, when they went around back to go inside, they saw that the neighbors, who are so proud of this Shul, had actually run an extension cord from their own homes to bring this building light. They brought the light themselves.

Just as many Latinos will do during the Posadas and the honoring of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Just as we did at the White House yesterday and so many Christians around the world will do as they light up the Christmas tree over the next two weeks. And just as Jews will do during Hanukkah next week. Every night that we add another candle to the Menorah, it shines more brightly from our windows, spreading more light to others and ensuring that the eternal flame will never die.

Thank you all for inspiring every single person in this city and country to help keep the eternal flame alive in their own communities. Whenever anyone takes a look at a building covered in graffiti, a library

lacking in resources, photographs that are yellowing, a cemetery overgrown with weeds and worries that it can't be done, we can say look at Boyle Heights. Look at how the people came together to become caretakers of their history. Look at how they saved not only a beautiful Shul, but a better way of life...and future for people who live here.

President Kennedy said, "On this earth, God's work is our own." You are truly doing God's work. May God bless you during this holiday season and always. Thank you very much.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Treasures Tour Remarks at the
Longfellow House - Boston, MA

December 5, 1998

Thank you all. I am delighted to be here again. I came here many years ago when I was a student at Wellesley. So to come back, and to see this house and what it represents is a special personal treat. I am delighted to join the Friends of the Longfellow House and so many other supporters, most of whom could not fit into this room today, who are making sure that the poetry and the history created within these walls is told and retold and never forgotten.

I want to thank Senator Kennedy for welcoming me back home to Massachusetts, and I do feel very much at home here. I spent a lot of very happy years here. I want to thank him for his dedication and support for this project, and for so many others, his efforts to really enhance the quality of life right here in our nation. He worked tirelessly to ensure that the federal budget for 1999 includes $1,645,000 to restore the Longfellow House.

Now he obviously has great political skills -- everyone recognizes that -- but I know that he was able to obtain that appropriation because of his poetic skills. I am told that in the meeting he had with Senator Byrd, a very important member of the Appropriations Committee in the Senate, he didn't just talk about offsets and line-items, instead he recited "Paul Revere's Ride." He was able to do this for one reason, and that is his mother made him memorize it. So I wanted the students to know that there's a real purpose in learning poetry -- in addition to the enjoyment and the history lesson that they include -- because, after all, it may help you in the work place someday. And besides, if you listen to your mother, then you'll go far.

I am also pleased to have our poet laureate and a fellow Longfellow fan, Robert Pinsky, here, who has done so much to bring poetry to the national attention that it needs and deserves in our country, and I am very grateful to him for that. I wanted to say a special word of appreciation to Susan Eisenhower, who is here with us. Her own family, as we know, has been extraordinarily important in America's history. Susan has joined our efforts as the co-chair of our Save America's Treasures campaign through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. And I personally and publicly want to thank her for her contribution and commitment to this.

And of course to Bob Stanton and all of the Park Service employees, the directors, and the site directors that are here. We owe such a debt of gratitude to these men and women. I am so amazed and impressed every time I travel around our country and I go to a Park Service site to see the love and enthusiasm that our Park Service employees bring to their tasks. This is truly a labor of love. And it is exciting to know the breadth of the sites and experiences that they interpret and relay to the public. And certainly we have our great national parks, but then we have jewels like the Longfellow House as well. I hope that everyone who visits here and learns about what we are doing here will say a word of thanks to the great Park Service employees the next time you encounter one.

You know, as we went through this house and toured it, I just felt overwhelmed. Susan and I were privileged to be taken on a tour by Jim Shea. I thought Jim was going to levitate a few times with excitement about what was in this house, and what it represents to our history. This truly is one of the most important original sites of what it means to be an American and what it took to create the United States of America.

But there is so much else as well that has gone on in this house. The visitors through the years, people like Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Julia Ward Howes, and Charles Sumner, who came here to talk about slavery and philosophy with Longfellow. And what I especially appreciate is how the Longfellow family understood the importance of what occurred in this house, that they too set about preserving it. We could not have what we have if they hadn't understood from the very beginning that being the house of General Washington, being a place where Phyllis Wheatley, the former slave poet who was astonishing people with her writings, came to visit General Washington. So when we tour this house, we see history come alive. We see so much of what has made us the country and the people that we are.

Now, certainly, we have a lot of work to do to make sure that this house really represents and is able to convey to future generations everything that happened here. And I believe that one of the great gifts that we can give our children and our children's children is to use this millennium to celebrate how we became Americans and what our values and ideals are. That is why the President and I created the White House Millennium Council, and really wanted to ask all Americans to help us live out the national theme of "honor the past and imagine the future." Certainly what we have tried to do since the beginning was to inspire even more Americans to appreciate what we have right now in our midst. I'm sure there are many people here in Cambridge who walk by this house or drive by this house who don't get to know its significance. They may not have ever even visited it, but certainly may not know that it had so much of an impact on our history as Americans.

So my visit here, and the visit that Susan and I will make in a few minutes to the African Meeting House, are all part of trying to bring greater public awareness and attention to the treasures that we have, to honor our past, but not just to stop there, to use those treasures and that past to imagine a future that will continue the greatness of America and move us even closer to our ideals.

Now there are many who have contributed greatly to the Save America's Treasures effort -- on a tour that I took last summer and on a visit I made just last Thursday was Armstrong House and Archives in Queens, N.Y. Private citizens, corporations, foundations have stepped forward to be part of this public-private partnership that Susan and I and others are putting together to save America's treasures. Well, again we have some very exciting news and I have a feeling that Senator Kennedy and Bob Stanton and all of us are just thrilled by the announcement that I am about to make.

I am pleased to announce that more than $300,000 of new private donations have been raised to preserve this house into the millennium. I am particularly pleased that the Fidelity Foundation of Fidelity Investments has made an extraordinary commitment of $225,000 in care for the house and its collections. The Fidelity Foundation will give a $75,000 grant directly to the Friends of Longfellow House to help catalogue this magnificent collection. And they are also giving you a $150,000 challenge grant to preserve the historic wallpaper, floor coverings, furniture, and decorative art in the house. I have to say I was just overwhelmed to learn that the wallpaper in the parlor dates to 1844. Now, I don't know a house anywhere that has been able to preserve its wallpaper for more than a hundred and fifty years.

I want to thank Ned Johnson, the chair of Fidelity Investments, and his trustees. And I want to thank my Wellesley classmate Anne Marie Soullier for being the director of the foundation who personally did so much to make this possible. Thank you so much.

Now that's the first piece of good news, and the next is that six generous donors have already answered Fidelity's challenge by donating $80,000 and matching more than half of the Fidelity grant. I want to thank Peter and Carol Lynch, Ann and Graham Gund, Barnes & Noble's Booksellers, Steve and Barbara Grossman, David Rockefeller, and an anonymous donor for their gifts, and I especially want to thank Ann Gund for all her help and encouragement.

So we are really on the way, and this is exactly the public-private partnership that Save America's Treasures was set up to do. Yes, it is important that we collectively, through our government, support the National Park Service, of course. But there is no way that we can, through the appropriations process and tax dollars, meet the needs of all of our Park Service sights. I think, Bob, the last time I looked we had about $5 billion in deferred maintenance costs in our parks. So we have a big job just to keep up with a lot of the needs that our Park Service sites have and our millions of visitors place on our Park Service sites every year. But if we put together this partnership as we have done with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, working with the National Park Foundation in bringing it private donors as we have done today, we will make a most extraordinary gift to the millennium in our country. We will truly honor the past, but by doing so we will create sites that will always be there to help future generations imagine the future as well.

You know, I am told that when Longfellow came to Cambridge, he went by the old North Church and recalled how his grandfather had told him the story of Paul Revere when he was a child. That was passed on to him. That was not just left with one person in one generation's memory. Retelling that story inspired him to write his story. He did it not only to celebrate Paul Revere's ride, but he did it during the Civil War because he wanted the American people to remember our common past and to stay together into the future. Well, our task today is much the same. I have always loved Longfellow's poems, and I didn't know which one I wanted to quote from to end my remarks, but "A Psalm of Life" has already been referred to and I think there is so much wisdom in that poem. So just hear these few lines:

> Not enjoyment and not sorrow
> Is our destined end or way,
> But to act, that each tomorrow
> Finds us farther than today.

Well today the Longfellow House, the Friends of the Longfellow House, the National Park Service, and Save America's Treasures finds us farther than we were yesterday, moving closer to a goal, in making it possible for every American to appreciate and honor our past and to help us imagine a better future with the donations you've given. Thank you all so much.







To comment on this service,

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
AFRICAN MEETING HOUSE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

DECEMBER 5, 1998

It is a great personal pleasure and honor for me to be here on Beacon Hill at this important historic site, the African Meeting House. As it has already been said, this is a place that holds significance not only for African Americans and their enduring struggle for justice, but for all of us who believe that learning about our past will guide and inspire us for a better future.

I want to thank Sylvia Watts McKinney for her extraordinary contributions to keeping this historic place alive, and for her leadership at the Museum of Afro American History. I would like to ask John Gillis and all the members of the Board of Directors of that museum to stand or raise your hands so that we can thank you as well.

I want to thank Bob Stanton, the director of the National Park Service, and Ken Hidelberg, and all the members of the Park Service who work so hard every day to preserve our treasures throughout our country. I have a great deal of admiration and appreciation for the Park Service. I have visited many of the sites, from our great national parks like Yellowstone to places like this. I know how hard and dedicated the Park Service employees are and I personally and publicly want to thank them for their commitment to doing all they can to make sure that one of the greatest inventions of America, the Park System, will be here for generations to come to enjoy and learn from. So thank you very much.

I do want to thank Professor Horton, who has worked with me starting last summer in understanding that raising public awareness about some of the Treasures sites that we have visited and as you heard, for his eloquent presentation today. Both he and his wife have made major contributions to our understanding of the role and contributions of African Americans in our history. And it's something that we can't do too much. I don't know if, like me, you are always learning new things when you come to places like this. But just in the very short time that we had for Sylvia to show us around, I have already learned a lot. Like about Edmonia Lewis, the daughter of a Choctaw Indian and a black father, one of our earliest American sculptures. And how many Americans know that? How many would take a look at that bust that she did downstairs in the museum and say, "A woman of Native American and African American heritage did that?" I don't think many of us would have thought that. There are so many things to learn about what we have all brought to this wonderful experiment and adventure known as America. I think all the work that you are doing is so significant.

I want to thank the members of the Black Legislative Caucus for their support of this Meeting House, and I want to say a word of appreciation to Ira Jackson and the Bank of Boston for the delicious refreshments that you will get a chance to enjoy in just a short time. I particularly want to thank the two gentleman [Senator Kennedy and Congressman Moakley] who have shared the stage with me. It is hard to say enough laudatory things about them. Certainly they have done so much for Massachusetts and, by extension, our country. We are here today because of their personal commitment to this particular site. I want to thank them both for the recent appropriation by Congress of $1.4 million to the Boston African American National Historic Site to carry out a major restoration of this Meeting House. Thank you so much.

It is especially significant that this space is the space that was the place where the meetings

you heard about, attended by people like Frederick Douglas, occurred. But this is not just a static historic site. I know that it continues to play an active role in the modern life of this city, and that it has a lot of activity from community meetings to discussions about race, and cultural workshops to plays. So this simple structure, America's oldest standing black church, tells a story of enormous breadth and complexity that continues to this day and will continue now into the future. You know it offered in the past both slaves and free people of color a place to worship in dignity, to celebrate their African roots, and to nurture their future leaders. But it was more than a church. It was a school, a political and social gathering place, a sacred and secular center in which they could address the racial injustices of that day. You could almost hear the voices of the past, the children's choirs and the Glee club, the young men's literary debating society, the first generation of Boston's free people of color who attended school here. The most soaring voices we can hear if we listen are the voices of those who stood in this hall to denounce slavery and to call for freedom. Those voices were filled with power, and they were especially powerful because for the first time in our nation's history, black and white voices were joined together in their demands for justice and equality.

We know that the white abolitionist, William Garrison, wrote of the "unbending spirit of liberty" of those seeking their freedom had been searching in vain for a meeting place for anti-slavery reformers. No hall in the city opened its doors to him except this African Meeting House. I've read about how William C. Nell, as a young boy, stood outside this house on a snowy, cold evening in 1832 straining his ears to hear Garrison debating issues of slavery and the need for abolition. That night they established the New England Anti-Slavery Society, and William Nell would later become a leading abolitionist, community leader, and historian.

It was here, as well, that Frederick Douglas raised his voice urging black men to answer the nation's call for recruits for the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. Many of whom would die for the cause of freedom on the battlefields of the Civil War, even as many of their kin folk remained in bondage.

Sometimes the voices in this meeting house were muffled, as runaway slaves used it as a safe haven, an important stop on the Underground Railroad. Now for most of the twentieth century, this building housed a synagogue, and the sounds of Jewish prayers would fill this room -- once again confirming this site as a symbol of the determination and resilience of all who struggled for freedom and human rights. I've just come from another historic site, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow House in Cambridge, and he too raised his voice against slavery. There is so much that happened here that was stipulated and catalyzed by this building. In one of Longfellow's many writings against slavery he said, "Shame that the great republic, the refuge of the oppressed should stoop so low as to become the hunter of slaves." As we seek to learn from it, even grapple with our past, it is this constant measuring of how we live up to our own ideals as Americans that can help us move closer to those ideals and navigate into the future.

The President and I formed the White House Millennium Council as a way to stimulate discussions and thoughts about our past and our future. We chose as our theme, "Honor the past, imagine the future." By coming to sites such as this we are doing just that. We are certainly spotlighting monuments and houses, but more than that, the ideals, the convictions, the beliefs that made these places alive and that are still telling us a story today. It seems fitting that this has become a community project, and I applaud the Afro American Museum's commitment to preserving and using this site, and its ambitious $3.8 million capital campaign which I hear has already passed the 85 percent mark.

Today I am very pleased to announce an additional $40,000 which will help continue this vital preservation work. These funds, which will go toward the endowment, will be used to protect the priceless collection associated with this building. I want to express deep appreciation to the National Association for African American Heritage Preservation for its $10,000 gift. I want to thank NAACP's president, Claudia Polley Love , who is with us today, and the organizations that made this gift possible: American Express and Alamo Rent a Car. I also want to acknowledge the individual contributors who are here, Alan and Susan Solomont who are here with two of their children, Donna and Mack McLarty, Steve and Joan Belkin, and Donna Harris-Lewis who gave her contribution in honor of that great Boston Celtic Reggie Lewis. Thank you all.

As we celebrate the importance of preserving our history, I wanted to note with sadness the recent death of Henry Hampton, whose ground-breaking series, "Eyes on the Prize," opened all of our eyes to both the tragedy of racism and the triumph of the human spirit. It is up to all of us -- government, business, individual citizens, and foundations -- for everyone to become the caretakers of our heritage and to pass our history on to our children and grandchildren. I thank all of you for understanding the importance of this mission and for supporting this house which stands as a powerful reminder of how the events and passions of another time can still speak to us today, and how important it is to keep places like this alive, inspiring us to work even harder to create a more perfect union here in America. Thank you all very much.







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First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Treasures Tour Remarks at Queens College on the
Louis Armstrong House & Archives - Queens, NY
December 3, 1998

I am so honored to be here today for this special occasion. There are so many people to thank who helped make this possible. I'm so pleased that we could be joined by Senator-elect Schumer and Congressman Ackerman. I want to thank Michael Mossman and the Queens College Jazz Orchestra. I want to thank Dr. Sessoms. I want to thank Michael Cogswell who, you can tell from his presentation, takes his job as the archivist for this wonderful collection to heart.

Claire Shulman has done a fabulous job in so many ways, and her support for preservation is something that we've heard a lot about but bears mentioning again. Bill Ferris, the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, is here with us. He had been a great supporter of preserving not only our buildings and our visible monuments, but the tapes and the documents that also tell us about who we are as Americans.

I'm so grateful that our friend Wynton Marsalis could be here today. The talent that he brings to everything he does is just extraordinary. And Mr. Shaw, you have added a lot to this event. Thank you very much.

Earlier today I was able to visit the Louis Armstrong House and to see the house that jazz built, *literally*. I know that when it is finished -- hopefully by July 4th in the year 2000 -- it will be a great magnet for jazz lovers and Armstrong admirers from literally all over the world. It's also a wonderful piece of Americana because it is decorated in a style that I remember from the 1950's, the 1960's and the early 1970's, and so when you walk into that mirrored bathroom and that turquoise kitchen you are going to say, "I remember being in these places. That's where I grew up, that's where my family and friends lived those years ago."

You know, it's amazing that more than 25 years have passed since Louis Armstrong lived in Queens, but his spirit, his music, all of that still fills not only this particular part of America, but *all* of America -- literally the entire world. I already have been educated about how much Queens has contributed to jazz -- the "Jazz Trail" and so many great jazz musicians who still live here in Queens. And we can see the work that has come from those of you who are part of the living legacy of jazz in America, and in particular of Louis Armstrong's contributions through the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation. There are neighborhood schools that are being sponsored by the Foundation and young people are learning more about what it means to have jazz as part of the American experience.

It's an important job that we are here to celebrate today to preserve the Armstrong House, to preserve the Armstrong Archives, because if we don't, we lose something -- not only of a particular artist, a legend -- but of who we are. As we listen to those tapes, you know we could think about what it was like for someone of that kind of extraordinary American presence to sit down with royalty and share his beans and talk about what it was like to travel around the world. He had so many talents -- he was an instrumentalist, a vocalist, he was an actor and an author.

He was a composer and he certainly was a cultural ambassador. And he himself was a great preservationist. As Michael Cogswell told us, he preserved and saved everything. So we are very fortunate because in the Archives today you can get a full feeling of what this man was like, not only as a musician and an artist, but as a human being. And as Mr. Shaw said, how he lit up a stage, how he added something, how Wynton said he made us all the better for having encountered him personally or, if not that fortunate, encountered him through his music. I think that part of what we are doing here with our millennium effort is making it possible for the next generation to appreciate what Mr. Shaw had to say, what Wynton Marsalis had to say. They may never hear Mr. Shaw or Wynton personally, but they'll be able to hear what they heard and draw their own conclusions. If we are going to do that, then we have to contribute to make it possible for future generations to appreciate what we have been able to appreciate.

I want to thank very much a member of our Save America's Treasures Council, Ronnie Ginott, and her husband, David. She has raised over $100,000 as of today for the Armstrong Archives. And I want to thank her for that.

Ronnie has received numerous commitments from, among others, the Sam Ash Music Co.; the Carl Fischer Music Publishers; Cynthia Friedman; the Gemeinhardt Flute Co.; the Safra National Bank of New York; the Selmer Co.; United Musical Instruments; the Winston Band Instrument Co.; the Rayburn Musical Instrument Co.; Yamaha Band and Orchestral Instruments; and several anonymous donors.

I also appreciate that the NEH has given a big financial boost to the Armstrong Collection by not only helping to save these treasures, but to share them by funding a traveling exhibit. And soon in the Armstrong House, there will be a permanent Armstrong museum and that in part will be due to a gift, I am pleased to announce, of $30,000 from Tom Lee and Ann Tenenbaum in the ASCAP [American Society of Composers, Artists and Publishers] Foundation. They are also going to make their contribution to ensure that that house really speaks to people as they visit in the years to come. Generosity like these gifts makes it possible for us to continue this vital work preserving the art and artifacts that define our nation and our future. Such efforts are all a part of our larger project to save America's treasures, which really requires both public and private support.

I thank Congressman Ackerman for referring to, and I thank him and his other colleagues for voting for, a contribution from the Federal Government that will be matched by private contributions. You know, if we think about the work that we have to do to honor the past and imagine the future, which is the theme of our millennium celebration, there is literally something for everyone to do.

I want to thank the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Save America's Treasures Committee and the committee members who are here with us today. In the next week or so I am going to visit some other sites that may not be as well known as the Star Spangled Banner that hangs in the Smithsonian, may not represent someone as well known as Louis Armstrong, but are also part of our heritage. For example, on Saturday I will travel to Boston to visit the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow House, as well as the African Meeting House, the oldest standing

African American church in our country. And then a few days later I'll be in both Los Angeles and San Francisco to spotlight other of our famous monuments and to really pay tribute to the people who in our great diversity as Americans have made us the country that we are today. Louis Armstrong understood since 1932, when he first went overseas, that he really belonged to the world but he represented America. He brought a message of hope and good will, and he made it possible to go to Berlin during the height of the Cold War and be referred to as Ambassador Satchmo. He charmed his way across Checkpoint Charlie. And in a *New Yorker* cartoon of that era, there is a State Department official who says, "This is a diplomatic mission of the utmost delicacy. The question is, 'Who is the best man for it: the Secretary of State or Satchmo?'" Well I don't think there was much doubt.

He was not only an American ambassador overseas, he was an ambassador of another kind, an a ambassador between and among people, particularly between the races. That was a dangerous assignment when he took it on. He often risked his own safety to sound a clear and resonant note for civil rights. He blasted those who stood for segregation, and his words carried special weight as did his music, his films, his great gifts. One white southerner, as a boy, who had seen Armstrong play at a dance, later joined the NAACP legal team that worked on the ground breaking decision of Brown v. Board of Education. And when he was asked why he, as a white lawyer, would join with famous black lawyers like Thurgood Marshall to overturn segregation, he attributed his inspiration to Louis Armstrong. He said that he had opened his eyes wide and put him to a choice. He wanted to be on the right side, he wanted to be on the side of human dignity, respect and civil rights.

So today when we come here to Queens, and we honor the place he lived in Corona and we honor this college which is preserving his legacy, I hope we recognize that he wanted himself and his music to stand for America in the most profound way, to be a real symbol of why we are such a great nation -- because we are one out of many. He used to love living in that neighborhood, I'm told. He liked getting his hair cut at the local barber shop. He liked shopping at the grocery store. He loved having the neighborhood kids in to watch Westerns on Television. And he was once asked, "Why live here? Why live in Corona, Queens? You could live in many other places. Why here when you are on the road 300 plus days a year?" And he was reported to have said, " You know, we are right out here with the rest of the colored folk and the Puerto Ricans and Italians and the Hebrew cats... The fridgidaire is full of food. What more do we need?"

I think it's something all of us as Americans should be reminded of: "What more do we need?" We have so many blessings, we have so many freedoms, all we have to do is just make sure we respect each other and value each other's contributions and we can, I think, if we just pause for a moment and lift up our eyes and open our ears and get that kind of inspiration from a great American. Someone who can still teach us by his example and by his music. And I am honored to be here at Queens College to join in this tribute and to thank all of you who are contributing to making that contribution of Louis Armstrong stand for the next century and millennium.

Now we are going to hear some more of that wonderful music and we are going to hear it from some children from Queens. I'm honored to introduce the student choir of the Louis Armstrong Elementary and Intermediate Schools. Please join me in welcoming them.