

G. ELLIOTT HAGAN
FIRST DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE
ARMED SERVICES

1/3

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CANDLER	MCINTOSH
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EMANUEL	TATTNALL
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JOHNSON	WHEELER

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT ADDRESS:
POST OFFICE BUILDING
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA

January 1, 1965

Honorable Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of the Interior
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

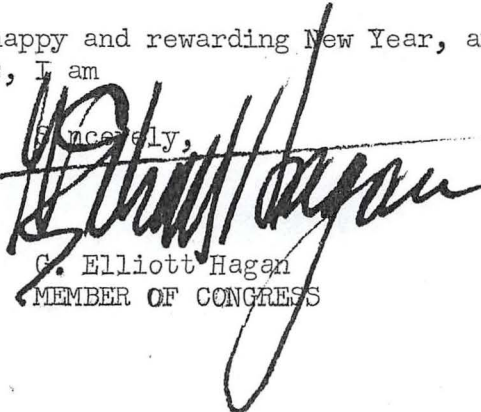
Dear Mr. Secretary:

During your visit to Savannah and the Revolutionary Battle Site with me, you stated that you planned to send a high official of the National Park Service to inspect the site and to see what could be done to expedite action on the project.

The sole purpose of this note is simply to let you know that we appreciate your kind offer, and that I would appreciate your letting me know when the official plans to visit the site.

I hope you will have a happy and rewarding New Year, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



G. Elliott Hagan
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

GEH:a

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1964 O 341-100

21



City of Savannah Georgia

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

P. O. BOX 1038

31402

AREA CODE 912

232-8147

JOHN J. RAUERS
MAYOR PRO TEM
J. T. COLEMAN, JR.
CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL
JULIUS J. SHOOB
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ALDERMAN
ROBERT J. CUMMINGS
ALDERMAN

MALCOLM MACLEAN
MAYOR

January 31, 1966

Honorable Stuart Udall
Secretary of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Udall:

We certainly enjoyed having you visit Savannah, and trust that Cumberland Island will soon be a national seashore park. However, the project that Savannah is particularly interested in is a Revolutionare Battlesite Park to commemorate the Southernmost battle of the Revolution in which Count d'Estaing led a combined army of American and French troops against the British in Savannah. This was the battle in which Pulaski met his death.

At no cost we can turn this property over to the Department of the Interior. If you could accept the gift and operate it on a smaller scale than the one at Yorktown, and the flags of the various countries displayed in a small museum similar to the Yorktown one, it would be a great asset to Georgia and the nation.

It was our understanding when you left that you were going to send an official of the National Park Service down here to look over this site. May we have the temerity to inquire how this project is coming and when we may expect this distinguished visitor?

Sincerely yours,

Malcolm Maclean,
Mayor

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1965-747-001

U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR
RECEIVED
FEB 2 11 12 AM '66
IN RECEPTION OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY

NORRIS
BROOKS
HARRISON

FREDINE FOR SWEM
PARKS

McLean
4/28
Myers 2/1
Carr 2 Feb

In Reply Refer to:
L58-CNP

FEB 9 - 1966

Dear Mr. Hagan:

I appreciate your recent letter acknowledging my offer to send an official of the National Park Service to review the suggested Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site with Mayor Maclean and members of the Revolutionary Battle Site Committee.

R. F. Lee, Assistant to the Director of the National Park Service, plans to visit this area with Regional Director Elbert Cox of the National Park Service in February. Director Hartzog will advise you of the specific dates for the visit.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Stewart

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. G. Elliott Hagan
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

cc:
Secretary's Reading File

~~BPO~~
~~EW~~

~~Mr. R. F. Lee, NE Region, w/c of inc. ---NOTE TO MR. LEE FROM MR. HARTZOG:~~
~~Regional Director, SE, w/c of inc.~~
~~GPS Copy~~
~~D. Mr. Hartzog, w/c of inc.~~
~~CNP~~
~~SLR~~

I understand Elbert Cox has discussed this matter with you. I would appreciate you undertaking this special assignment for me. When you and Elbert have settled on a date please prepare a short letter for my signature to Congressman Hagan advising him of the schedule. GBH

TFNorriss:klh 1/24/66

Rewritten:

TFNorriss:GBHartzog:klh 1/28/66

S-7765

SEA ISLAND COMPANY

RECEIVED
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON OFFICE
FEB 23 11 04 AM '66

Sea Island GEORGIA 31561

ALFRED W. JONES
Chairman of the Board

L58

February 18, 1966

AD ph 2/28

Files

Mr. Clarke Stratton
Assistant Director
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stratton:

Just a note to thank you sincerely for the helpful suggestion of having Ronnie Lee stop by here around March 9. We'll be awaiting word from you or from him as to the exact date of his arrival.

It was nice to see you again after all these years. It's good that at least one of the old guard is still around.

Kindest regards.

Cordially,

B. Lee Jones

g

cc: Mr. Russell Tuten - ~~L58 SEA ISLAND~~ ~~ALBERT FOR~~

Copy to: Mr. Cox, SERO - 2/28/66 pjk

J. RUSSELL TUTEN
EIGHTH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

H3815

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

February 22, 1966

*AD ph 2/28
files*

rec'd 2/25

Honorable Clarke Stratton
Assistant Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stratton:

I am indeed grateful for the time you spent with Honorable Alfred W. Jones and me last week. Your willingness to help us with the future development of Fort Frederica National Monument is greatly appreciated.

With high regards, I am

Sincerely,

[Handwritten Signature]
RUSSELL TUTEN

Copy to: Mr. Cox, SERO - 2/28/66 pjg

*see L 58 Georgia
SEA STAND*

[Handwritten mark]

file

L 58

~~#30~~ SER(RD)

FEB 24 1966

Mr. Alfred W. Jones
The Cloisters
Sea Island, Georgia

Dear Mr. Jones:

This is to let you know that Ronnie Lee and I plan to stop at Fort Frederica on Thursday, March 10. Mr. Lee is helping with some planning matters at Pensacola and at Savannah and I am very glad that we can have him stop again at Fort Frederica. I hope it will be convenient for you to spend some time with us while we are there. If for any reason Thursday morning (March 10) will not be convenient for you, will you please let me know.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

Elbert Cox
Regional Director

cc:

Mr. Stratton
Mr. R. F. Lee
Supt., Fort Pulaski

new blue envelope 2/25

*Barwick
for Melvin 2/25
Harrison 2/21
R. Lee 2-23
Stout 2/24*

158-CNP

MAR 1 - 1966

Hon. G. Elliott Hagan
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hagan:

Secretary Udall, in his letter to you of February 9, indicated that I would advise you as to when Messrs. R. F. Lee and Elbert Cox would visit Savannah to review the suggested Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site with Mayor Maclean and members of the Revolutionary Battle Site Committee. It is my pleasure to inform you that Messrs. Lee and Cox plan to arrive in Savannah by privately owned automobile during the evening of March 10. They will contact Mayor Maclean's office on the morning of March 11 to arrange a time and place for the meeting.

Thank you very much for your interest in the programs of the National Park Service.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

George B. Hartzog, Jr.
Director

cc: ~~DECO~~
Regional Director, SE (Mr. Cox)
Independence NHP (Mr. Lee)
SLR

FSMelvin:htg 2-18-66

Georgia

TH

NORRIS
BROOKS

PARKS

*Binneville
for Malcom 2/21
Jamm 2/21
Cox 2-23
Hutton 2-24
Myers 3-2-66*

L58-CNE

MAR 3 1966

Dear Mayor Maclean:

We are grateful to you for your recent offer to donate land in downtown Savannah for our use in commemorating the southernmost battle of the Revolutionary War.

It is our pleasure to inform you that National Park Service Regional Director Elbert Cox and Special Field Assistant to the Director Ronald Lee, whom Director Hartzog has designated as his personal representatives, plan to arrive in Savannah by privately owned automobile during the evening of March 10. They will contact your office on the morning of March 11 to arrange a time and place to meet with you.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Clarence F. Pautzke

Deputy Assistant

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Malcolm Maclean
Mayor of Savannah
Savannah, Georgia 31402

cc:

Secretary's Reading File

DCCO

FW
Independence NHP
~~Northwest Region~~ - Mr. Lee

Southeast Region - Mr. Cox

C - Miss Wickline

SLR

MES Copy

TFNorris:jc:2/19/66

Rewritten: TFNorris:jc:2/21/66

S-8343

tn
→ RETURN TO:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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708 2/7

RECEIVED
MAR 10 1966
WASHINGTON OFFICE

Gen Files
TRM

MAR 15 10 35 AM '66

MAR 14 1966

Mr. Alfred W. Jones
The Cloisters
Sea Island, Georgia

Dear Bill:

Just a note to thank you again for your kindness and hospitality which you always extend so graciously when we visit Fort Frederica. Elizabeth and I enjoyed especially the opportunity for a visit with you and Mrs. Jones at lunch.

e I hope that some of the suggestions which we reviewed together at the meeting in the afternoon have some worthwhile possibilities. I know that Mr. Lee understands the important part that the Fort Frederica Association has in our program, and nothing is more reassuring than to have him involved in our study of the matter. We will certainly keep you advised as Mr. Lee's study develops.

Thanks again for your kindness.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

Elbert Cox
Regional Director

bc:
Director (Attn: Mr. Stratton)
Mr. R. F. Lee
Supt., Ft. Frederica



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Independence National Historical Park
311 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58

March 23, 1966

AIRMAIL

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Thank you for your three letters commenting on the location of the Spring Hill Redoubt, other works involved in the Siege of Savannah, and the sites of important events during the battle. I am glad to have your views, and apologize for my long delay in acknowledging your letters. Your first communication arrived after my departure, and I have been away from Philadelphia much of the time since visiting Savannah.

We are considering the various materials and views that have been provided to us. The National Park Service has as yet reached no conclusions. It will almost certainly be necessary to secure additional data on several aspects of the matter. Should your manuscript be published in the reasonably near future, I would be very happy to have a copy.

With appreciation for your courtesy in writing to me.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald F. Lee
Special Field Assistant
to the Director

Morton Deutsch

March 26 1966

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH GA.

United States Dept. of the Interior
National Park Service
311 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Attention Ronald F. Lee, Esq

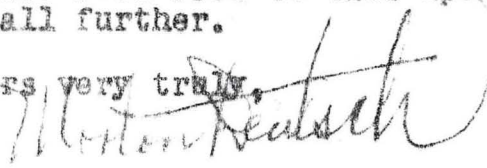
Gentlemen:-

I was on the verge of despatching a letter to the Hon. Stuart Udall, enlisting his cooperation in securing an acknowledgment of my three letters to you, when your air mail turned up in the morning's mail. I now realize that you did receive the letters promptly, and that because of absence from the city, you could not write sooner. The views expressed re the Savannah Historical Park, confirms my understanding, that, under no conditions, would the National Park Service place its stamp of approval upon anything which might be open to later historical debate -- and, that, was the consideration which prompted me to write you at great length.

I will appreciate it if you will keep me posted of what your engineering staff develops; and, in the meantime, if you will be good enough to explain to me what the "Echelle de 1200 Toilles" (on the d'Estaing map) means in an American Scale of the now, I will appreciate it very much. I am enclosing a self addressed and stamped envelop for your convenience. You can well appreciate, that, what I might now develop on my own, by use of the scale, might change certain facets of the manuscript of my work on the same subject. I am sure you will agree, a stitch in time, might save me hostile criticism later on. When I receive word that the mss has been accepted, I will advise you promptly.

In the meantime, please feel free to call upon me if I can serve you and/or Mr. Udall further.

Yours very truly,



md-p

enc

*March 2, 11 and 14, 1966



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Independence National Historical Park
311 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

Mr. Bright
Mr. Harris
RECEIVED
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1916
1966
50TH ANNIVERSARY
Mar 32 10

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58

March 30, 1966

CNP

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Special Field Assistant to the Director

Subject: Proposed Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument

On March 10, at your request, I visited Savannah, Georgia, with Regional Director Elbert Cox and Mr. Frederick Ley, Park Planner, to study the proposal for a Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument, contained in S2565, introduced by Senator Richard Russell, September 24, 1965, and HR-11490 by Congressman G. Elliott Hagan on October 7, 1965. We were cordially welcomed to Savannah by Mayor Malcolm Maclean who arranged a breakfast for us with twelve officials and community leaders interested in the project, including Mrs. Adrienne Roberts, Daughters of the American Revolution; Mr. Owen Page, Attorney and Battlefield Park Committee member; Mr. Henry Levy, Chairman, Metropolitan Planning Commission; City Manager A. A. Mendonza; Executive Director Norman Thompson of the Metropolitan Planning Commission; Executive Director Frank K. Butler of the Savannah Housing Authority; President Lee Adler, II, of the Historic Savannah Foundation; Mr. Walter C. Hartridge, former President, Georgia Historical Society; Mr. Alexander A. Lawrence, attorney, historian, and member of the Georgia Historical Commission; and Superintendent Ralston B. Lattimore of Fort Pulaski National Monument who was most helpful during our entire stay. Mrs. Adrienne Roberts, Mr. Hartridge, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Butler and others accompanied us on a tour of the proposed area.

Urban Renewal, Project "J"

The Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-117, 89th Congress) contains in Section 315(c)(1) and (2), provision for the Housing Authority of Savannah to donate all or any part of Urban Renewal Project "J" to a suitable agency to "develop, preserve, and operate such property on a non-profit basis as a historical site or monument." It is this property which is referred to in the pending bills and which Mayor Maclean and other officials asked us to consider accepting for purposes of the National Park System. A map of Savannah with Project "J" identified is enclosed and marked Exhibit A.

Project "J", approximately 38 acres in size, is one of five units in the general neighborhood renewal plan for the Broad Street-Canal Urban Renewal Area of Savannah. The other four projects (R28, R29, R37, R38) have already been carried out and Project "J" remains to be executed. A preliminary study of Project "J" made by the Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission in 1964, proposed a land-use plan which set aside 4.17 acres for a "Revolutionary War Park" with the remaining 34 acres devoted primarily to light industry, and secondarily to commercial uses. A copy of this plan is enclosed, marked Exhibit B. This preliminary land-use plan for Project "J" has not been approved and we understand any or all of the project lands within the total 38-acre tract might be available to the National Park Service if they are desired. Land acquisition costs to urban renewal for the originally proposed 4.17 acre "Revolutionary War Park," were estimated in 1964 to be \$179,431; and for the entire 38-acre tract, \$1,567,262.

Adjoining Project "J" is a second area, perhaps 12 acres in extent, also identified on the enclosed plan, which belongs to the Central of Georgia Railway. On this land are situated the early shop buildings, but not the historic passenger station or offices of the justifiably admired Savannah Terminal of the Central of Georgia Railway completed in the mid-nineteenth century. As pointed out to us by Mr. Walter C. Hartridge the shop buildings are an unusually interesting example of early industrial architecture. The Central of Georgia Railway plan to demolish them, however, and clear the site for sale. Demolition has been temporarily stayed by Savannah preservationists. Time will probably run out in May. This land is said to be worth perhaps \$250,000 to \$300,000. While some sponsors of the battlefield project indicated the City of Savannah might be

willing to add these 12 acres to Project "J", we received no indication of such a possibility from Mayor Maclean. Senator Russell's bill provides, however, that the Secretary may acquire lands adjacent to Project "J" if he determines they are necessary or desirable. There follows a discussion of alternate proposals for the utilization of Project "J" and adjoining lands.

1. Battlefield of Savannah, Project "J", and vicinity.

In 1779, while occupied by the British, Savannah was encircled by a substantially continuous line of fortifications. Of the several redoubts in this line, one situated near the western end, called the Spring Hill Redoubt, played a crucial part in the Siege of Savannah. This Redoubt, constructed of timbers and earth, is believed to have been approximately 175 feet square. The Spring Hill Redoubt bore the brunt of the attack by American and French forces on October 9, 1779. When this attack was successfully repulsed, the siege ended. It is this redoubt which the sponsors of the "Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument" wish particularly to reconstruct as the central feature of the proposed park.

It is generally believed in Savannah that the Spring Hill Redoubt occupied a site near a marker, still visible on Railroad Street, placed there by the Georgia Society, Sons of the Revolution, in 1911. During our visit we discussed the location of the Spring Hill Redoubt with Mr. Alexander Lawrence, former President of the Georgia Historical Society, and author of Storm over Savannah, The Story of Count d'Estaing and the Siege of the Town in 1779, published by the University of Georgia Press in 1951. This highly readable and thoroughly researched volume is filled with fascinating information and observant comments about the Siege. Mr. Lawrence sketched his informal interpretation of the location of the Spring Hill Redoubt for us on a map of Project "J" and vicinity, copy enclosed marked Exhibit C. Although engineering studies would be required to achieve a surveyed location, it appears almost certain the Redoubt lay athwart Railroad Street and that no portion of it was located within Project "J". While a portion of the Redoubt was probably situated within the 12-acre tract adjoining Project "J" a significant portion was in all likelihood outside both tracts and under the sheds and railroad tracks of the still active passenger terminal of the Central of Georgia Railway.

The conclusion is that a Savannah battlefield site, with a completely reconstructed Spring Hill Redoubt on its original site as its central feature, is impossible at the present time. Lands within Project "J" saw supporting troop movements, involving actions related to the two historically interesting Jewish cemeteries within its boundaries. However, because it lacks surviving remains of the earthworks, and the terrain has been much built upon, Project "J" does not qualify under the official criteria for the category of historic sites to be included in the National Park System.

2. Project "J" and Historic Savannah Terminal, Central of Georgia Railway.

Some of the Savannah sponsors of National Park Service administration of Project "J" advocate preservation of the surviving early shop buildings of the Savannah Terminal, Central of Georgia Railway. At present, only the shop buildings are proposed, because the passenger station and offices are still in use. The shop buildings are situated outside Project "J", but within the adjacent 12-acre tract which is soon to be up for sale.

From an historical standpoint, assuming it should eventually become available as a unit, the logical use of this historic terminal would be as a Railroad and Transportation Museum to house old locomotives, passenger and freight cars and related memorabilia of the railroad industry in the South. Unfortunately, any possibility of this kind of use for these early industrial buildings was substantially removed on March 8, 1966 when Mr. D. W. Brosnan, President of the Southern Railway (also owners of the Central of Georgia) presented 12 acres of land near Norcross, Georgia to the Atlanta Chapter of the Railway Historical Society on which to build a Southeastern Railway Historical Museum. On the Norcross site, 23 miles from Atlanta, the Society plans to construct a replica of Atlanta's historic Union Station and within it display 10 locomotives, 16 freight and passenger cars, two streetcars and one bus to which the Society already owns title. Governor Sanders of Georgia participated in the announcement of these plans. See the enclosed clipping marked Exhibit D. Any national project relating to railway history in Savannah now appears impossible and the National Park Service has no apparent historical grounds for saving the shop buildings of the Central of Georgia Savannah Terminal. Their unusual architectural value merits their preservation by the State or the City, and it's very much hoped an appropriate local use can be found for them.

3. Project "J" and the Historic District of Savannah.

New Interstate Highway 16 is expected to become the major future travel entrance to Savannah. Interstate 16 enters the City at Project "J" and leads travelers directly into Savannah's historic district. The Chatham County-Metropolitan Planning Commission recognized the importance of this location in their preliminary land-use plan for Project "J", pointing out that a park here would give motorists "a more favorable impression of Savannah as they enter and leave the City." Thomas G. McCaskey, Vice-President of Colonial Williamsburg, in a recent study of Savannah as a travel destination, pointed out that the terminus of Interstate 16 could become the ideal entrance to Savannah and provide an excellent location for a visitor information center and parking area for perhaps 1500 cars. Sponsors of a "Revolutionary War Park" envisage the possibility of combining it with reception facilities for visitors to the historic district. As we considered this possibility we were taken by Mr. Adler and others to see the historic district for ourselves.

Savannah, the Colonial Capitol of Georgia, is widely known and admired for its green squares, broad thoroughfares, handsome historic houses, early public buildings, and churches, and its unusual waterfront. Savannah is perhaps even more famous for its 1733 city plan, one of the earliest and most important examples of city planning in the United States, the main elements of which have survived intact to the present day. Savannah is also well known nationally for its resourceful and imaginative program of historic rehabilitation, renewal, and restoration, actively in progress under excellent leadership for over a decade. In 1962, the Historic Savannah Foundation, of which Mr. Lee Adler, II, is President, sponsored an inventory of the historic buildings "in a two-mile-square area of that section of Savannah which was laid out and built on from 1733 until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861." This inventory, made by Paul S. Dulaney and his students from the architectural school of the University of Virginia with guidance from Mr. Carl Feiss and Dr. Frederick Nichols, revealed 88 buildings of exceptional, 306 of excellent, and 575 of good quality, or a total of 969 in these three categories. Mr. Walter C. Hartridge, former President of the Georgia Historical Society, offers these comments on Savannah's architectural heritage:

"Savannah is a city unusually rich in fine examples of 19th Century architecture. The best known architects of this country are represented here with characteristic examples

of their work. William Jay, John Holden Greene, Elias Carter, Charles B. Cluskey, Detlief Lienau, and E. Francis Baldwin are some of these outstanding architects. Most of their buildings are included in the Exceptional category. Other buildings in this category are the fine mid-19th-Century row houses which are so typical of the architectural pattern of Savannah, and the commercial buildings along the river front erected in the early 19th Century as cotton factors' offices and warehouses. All buildings in this category have national architectural significance, and each one has a definite place in the mainstream of American architecture."

"The second, Excellent, category contains buildings designed and built by local craftsmen and architects of less national renown. In many instances the published patterns of Minard Lafever were followed, as well as the work of the architects referred to above. Buildings in this Excellent category would stand comparison with those of other American cities where standards of taste and fine workmanship prevail."

"In the category marked Good are buildings which give local flavor to Savannah. High stooped row houses, wooden single houses, churches, and stores, reflect the trends of 19th Century architecture interpreted with a local touch."

"The relationship of these 969 buildings to each other and to the unique town plan which is Oglethorpe's legacy to the city he founded, make Savannah unique among American communities."

The staff of the Historic American Buildings Survey is keenly aware of the outstanding quality of Savannah's historical architecture in relation to its original city plan. HABS photographed or recorded 47 buildings there in the 1930's, added 13 more about 1962, and is currently making plans to photograph another 10 buildings this spring.

Savannah's historic district, a logical two-square-mile unit descended directly from the original city plan, is truly of national historical and architectural importance. It is recommended that this two-mile-square area be considered for early designation as a Registered National Historic District. Regardless of the future of Project "J" this important conservation step can and should be taken no later than the Advisory Board meeting in the fall of 1966.

4. Other Action regarding Project "J", including memorial park possibilities.

It is recommended that other action regarding Project "J" be postponed until after the designation of the Registered National Historic District. Thereafter, the National Park Service would be justified in joining with representatives of the City, the Historic Savannah Foundation, the Savannah Housing Authority, and others in planning studies for future visitor reception facilities, at the edge of the District, possibly located in Project "J" and possibly in combination with a memorial park and a museum of the City, including features commemorating the Siege of Savannah. After such studies are completed, a determination could be made whether Federal funds might be available to assist in the development. Such studies would compare the Project "J" site, with at least two other possible visitor reception sites including the proposed city Coliseum development near the terminus of Interstate 16, and the recently acquired Scarbrough House, which Historic Savannah Foundation plans to restore and consider for development "as a city museum or tourist information center." Such studies would also analyze such questions regarding a memorial park at Project "J" as (1) possible boundaries; (2) acquisition costs; (3) development concept; (4) development and operating costs; (5) access from Interstate 16; (6) historical base map of troop movements over this area during the Siege of Savannah; and (7) legislative precedents for memorial parks (since there are no established criteria).

Although this is an unusually complex project and a useful solution difficult to reach, it was a very great pleasure to meet Mayor Maclean and the civic leaders of Savannah, to see this truly handsome and historic city once again, and to try to find a sound basis for National Park Service-Interior Department cooperation with Savannah leaders in perpetuating their heritage, which unquestionably has national value.



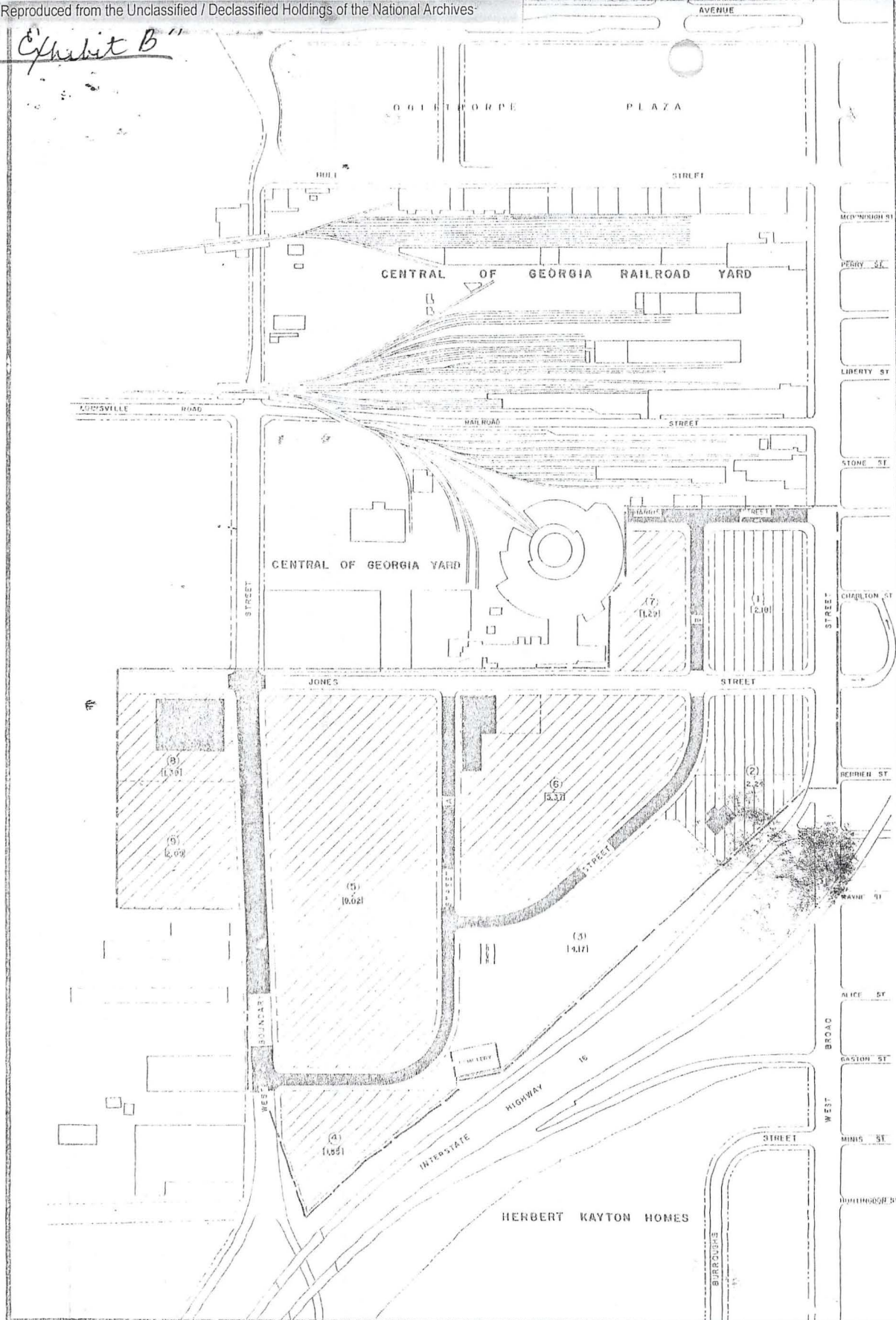
Ronald F. Lee

Enclosures *D*

cc:
 Regional Director, Southeast (w/enc.)
 Asst. Director, Coop. Act.
 Chief, Div. Legis. & Regulations
 Chief, Div. History Studies
 Supt., Fort Pulaski

Exhibit B

P
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'J'



- LEGEND**
- PROJECT BOUNDARY
 - BUILDINGS TO REMAIN
 - (1) PARCEL NUMBER
 - ACREAGE
 - LIGHT INDUSTRIAL USE
 - COMMERCIAL USE
 - REVOLUTIONARY WAR PARK
 - NEW OR IMPROVED STREET
 - ONE WAY STREETS

PROPOSED LAND USE

MAP # 3

CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

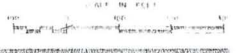
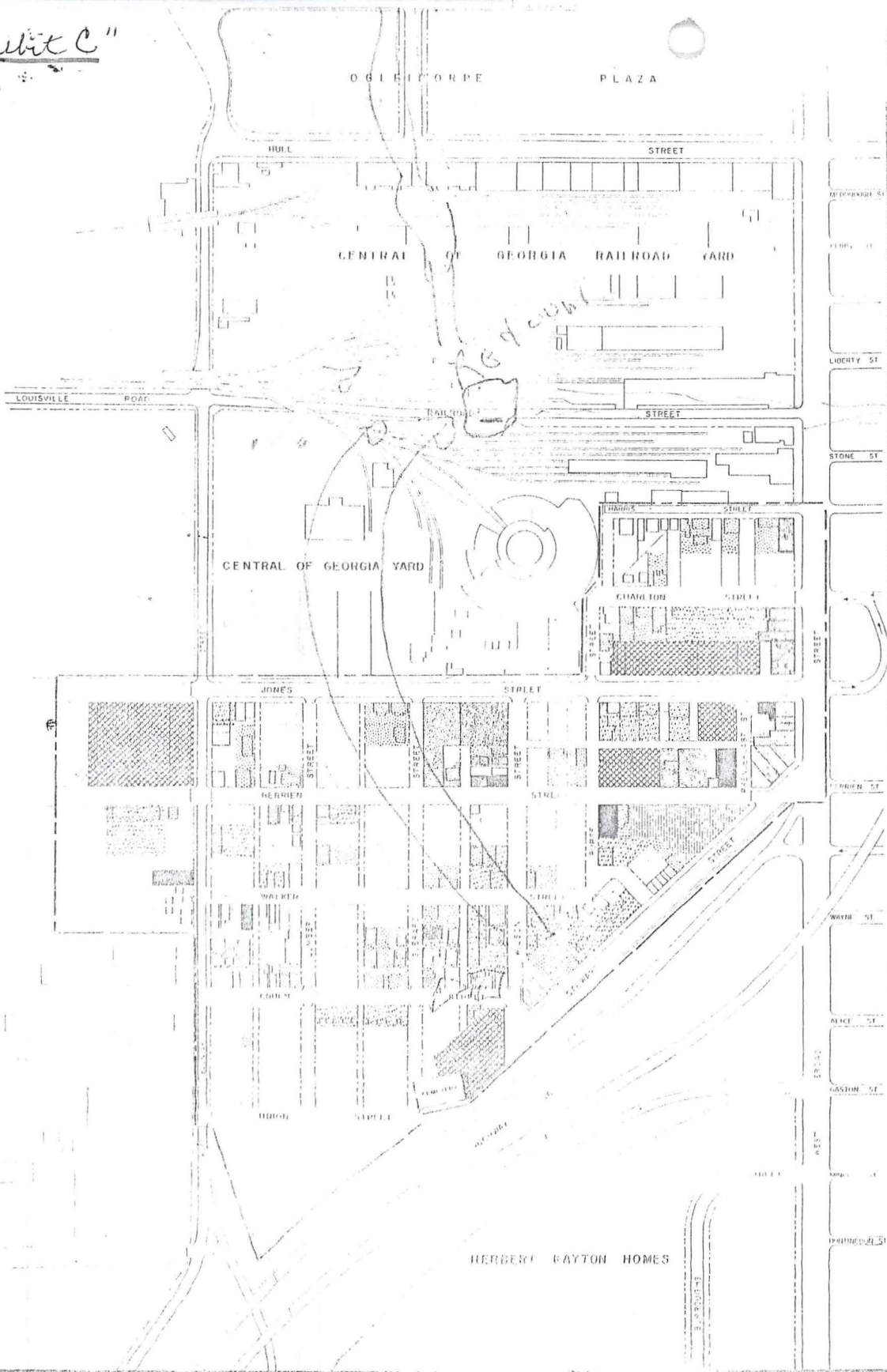


Exhibit C

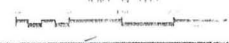
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- LEGEND**
- PROJECT BOUNDARY
 - ONE FAMILY
 - ▤ TWO FAMILY
 - ▥ MULTIFAMILY
 - ▧ COMMERCIAL
 - ▨ OFFICES
 - ▩ LIGHT INDUSTRY
 - WHOLESAL & DISTRIBUTING
 - ▬ CHURCHES
 - VACANT
 - UNPAVED STREETS
 - PAVED STREETS
 - ONE WAY STREETS

EXISTING LAND USE

MAP 1



"Exhibit D"

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION
Wednesday, March 9, 1966

Railroad Gives Site For Relics

The Southern Railway System Tuesday gave 12 acres of land near Norcross to the Atlanta Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society on which to build a Southeastern Railway Historical Museum.

D. W. Brosnan, president of Southern, presented deeds to the tract to Dave Salter, president of the Atlanta chapter, at a luncheon at the Capital City Club.

Gov. Carl E. Sanders "formally announced" the transfer



D. W. Brosnan

Gov. Carl Sanders

before the actual presentation of the deed.

Gov. Sanders said that no Georgian "would ever fail to recognize the debt we owe to the railroads of the state" for the progress that has been made here.

RAILROAD LAUDED

The governor said that the Southern was "in the forefront in imagination, dedication and inspiration in developing the South."

He said that the museum would "create a permanent monument to the employes of the Georgia railroad industry."

The society plans to build a replica of Atlanta's old Union Station — destroyed by Sherman in the Civil War—on the 12-acre site. The shed will hold the 10 locomotives, 16 freight and passenger cars, two streetcars and one bus to which the society now holds title.

Southern announced at the meeting that it was donating three Pullman cars to the Atlanta chapter—the Thomas Ruffin, the Glacier and the McGhesney, all heavy Pullmans of a type no longer in general service.

LOCATION OF SITE

The museum site is about 23 miles northeast of Atlanta near Norcross in Gwinnett County. It is at the junction of U.S. 23 and Berkeley Lake Road, about 500 feet from Southern's mainline.

From Interstate 85, the site may be reached via Pleasant Hill Road. It is approximately three miles from the junction of I-85 and Pleasant Hill Road.

After Brosnan, who is a native of Albany, Ga., presented the deeds, he was recipient of an award from the National Railway Historical Society.

Lewis Pardee, of New Jersey, national president of the society, gave Brosnan a certificate which made him a member "in honor for life" in the society.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Independence National Historical Park
311 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106



April 7, 1966

AIRMAIL

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

The French map of which I have a copy carries the legend "Echelle de deux Miles," not "Echelle de 1200 Toilles." I do not at present have a copy of the particular map you have.

There are at least five French maps, with four additional French maps derived from them, as well as four British maps of the Siege of Savannah. If you are writing on the subject, I believe you will want to examine as many of these maps as possible.

With very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald F. Lee
Special Field Assistant
to the Director

Morton Deutsch

April 9, 1966

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Information Officer
Embassy of France
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

It will be highly appreciated if you will inform me:

(a) Was the French word "mile" in use in 1779? If so, what, in U.S.A. feet and inches, would the French expression (1779) "un mile" connote?

(b) What, in U.S.A. feet and inches of the now, would the expression "Echelle de 1200 Toifes" connote on a French

Battle Map (of 1779) which I have in my possession now.

What, in feet and inches of the U.S.A. (1966) would 1 Toife connote?

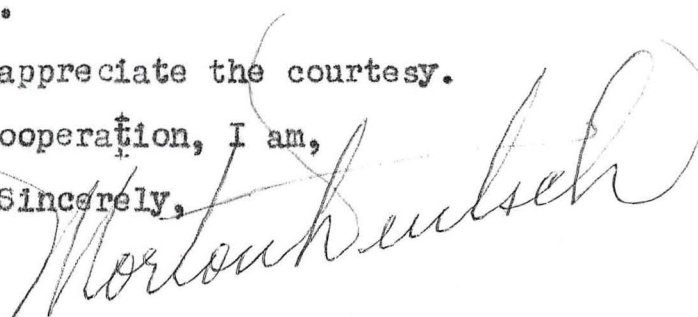
If you will be good enough to send a copy of your reply to me, to

The Hon. Stuart Udall
U.S. Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

I am certain Mr. Udall will appreciate the courtesy.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am,

Sincerely,



copy to
Hon. Stuart Udall,
U.S. Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

4/13/66

Morton Deutsch April 9, 1969

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Hon. Stuart Udall
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

Pardon my intrusion upon your valuable time. I am forced to do so, having failed to make myself coherent to the Hon. R. F. Lee, Special Assistant to the Director of the National Park Service, Philadelphia, who visited our City last month in connection with the location and development of a National Park to commemorate the Battle to Raise the Siege of Savannah, in October 1779.

Having what I believed to be information which would be of value to your goodself, and to the Park Service - information which leads me to believe that the site pointed out as being Spring Hill Redoubt, was not Spring Hill Redoubt (there actually were two Spring Hill Redoubts), I addressed a total of three long letters to Mr. Lee; the first two having been sent to him through the hands of American Philosophical Society, in Philadelphia; the other being mailed direct; when, after an interval of three weeks, I received a most incoherent letter from Mr. Lee - the kind you would call a graceful political "brush"!

In my original letter to Mr. Lee, I told him that the map which I was working from, had been found in the ancient archives of the King of France (Louis XVI); that a copy of the same had been given by me to Dr. Richard F. Shryock of the American Philosophical Society; who, I felt sure would make the map available to the Park Service, if he felt it would be helpful. But, apparently, Mr. Lee required no additional data; yet, Mr. Lee's letter to me led me to believe that the fullest investigation would have to be made on the ground, before a decision was reached.

Under date March 26, 1966, I wrote Mr. Lee, as per xerox attached, and, as you will also note from xerox of letter received by me two weeks afterwards, the "brush" is again being applied, but with not too much finesse! Mr. Lee (by rubber stamp) says he does not have a copy of the map I am working from; yet he made no effort to obtain it from Dr. Shryock, or request a copy from me. He also states that there are other maps appertaining to the subject; yet, he does not give name of maps, or offer to furnish me with xeroxs of the same, provided I pay for the same. This smells very much unlike Chanel No.5!

To assure you of my sincerity, I am sending you a copy of the map I refer to, with my compliments, under separate cover. I am also sending you a carbon of my letter of date to the French Embassy; seeking information as to whether the terms "mile" and "toise" was in use in 1779, and such what ~~it~~ denoted then. The metre was not officially adopted by the French (though used) until

J3553

★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1965 - 790-107

To- Hon. Stuart Udall, Secretary of the Interior

-2-

sometime later. My only interest in the matter is to make certain that you, and your department, do not come under the critic's lash later on. Of course, I may be wrong, and will stand correction; yet, it has already been admitted that the spot where a marker now stands to commemorate the spot where Casimir Pulaski fell from his horse, was marked via "guess"!

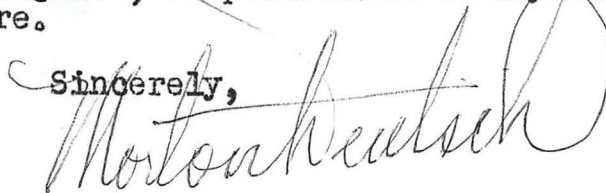
I am asking the French Embassy to send a copy of their letter to me - to your goodself. This should place all concerned on the proper footing; and, as I believe that there can be no more an authentic map than the one I am sending you, it should not take too long to prove what we are seeking to prove, or to disprove.

I am satisfied you will find my letters to Mr. Lee of March 2, 11 and 14, on this subject, of vital interest to you, or, to whomsoever you delegate to study the matter, minus the "Lee Brush"!

I know how you personally feel towards the electorate you serve, and I am certain such imperialistic treatment as Mr. Lee (through ignorance, or, under orders) has shown me, is not in keeping with what an individual paid with my taxes, should be allowed to continue to dispense. I speak frankly, and believe I am fully justified in doing so.

If you want to check on my reliability and how closely I worked with the Administration on the intra-state clean up of the Savannah River, just call up the Hon. Murray Stein, Department of Health and Welfare. What he tells you will cause you to move cautiously on the local historical park, for the now. I need not tell you that I will be very pleased, indeed, to place you or anyone else you may designate, in possession of any other information you may require.

Sincerely,



P.S.

Please acknowledge receipt of map.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON PLANNING AND SERVICE CENTER
1730 NORTH LYNN STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58-RH

April 13, 1966

Central files
Norris 6/11/66
6/10/66
Hoerts
7/11/66
5/23



*Jay - I believe
Mike Lamb
has written
a legislative
memo on
this.*

Memorandum

To: Chief, Division of New Area Studies and Master Planning
From: Chief, Division of History Studies
Subject: Proposed Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument

*Please
check and
then
discuss
with
Peaty
for
travel
program*

Returned herewith is R. F. Lee's report on his visit to Savannah. He had previously furnished us with a copy, which we are retaining in our files.

We concur fully in the contents of the report and in the recommendations. From the information now available to us, we believe that the Savannah historic district will easily qualify for designation as a Registered National Historic Landmark. The proposed park is not in this district, however, and we seriously doubt that Landmark designation would deter its promoters.

*/ Ray
4/16*

Robert M. Utley
Robert M. Utley

Enclosure

Georgia

Laube 4/8
Harrison
Norris 4-11
Freeman
4/11

APR 18 1966

258

Sweat
4/14
Reid 4/19
Myers 4/19

Memorandum

To: Assistant to the Secretary and Legislative Council

From: ^{Assistant} Director, National Park Service

Subject: Proposed Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument

On March 10, a National Park Service party consisting of Special Field Assistant Ronald F. Lee, Regional Director Elbert Cox, and Planner Frederick Ley, visited Savannah, Georgia, for the purpose of discussing with the local people plans to establish a National Monument in Savannah, as proposed in Senator Russell's bill S. 2565, and to make a preliminary evaluation of the site. A copy of Mr. Lee's report of March 30 is attached.

S. 2565 authorizes acquisition of a 38-acre site termed "Project J" together with whatever adjacent lands are needed. Project J has been designated part of the Urban Renewal Plan for Savannah. Mr. Lee concluded that because neither Project J nor an adjacent 12-acre tract contain historic remains of the Revolutionary War, and the terrain has been much built-upon, the site referred to in the bill does not qualify for National Historic Site or National Monument status.

Located on the 12-acre tract adjacent to Project J are several old shop buildings that were used as part of the Savannah Terminal of the Central of Georgia Railway. Mr. Lee concluded however, that there are no apparent historical grounds for the National Park Service to save these shop buildings. The Atlanta Chapter of the Railway Historical Society is planning to construct a replica of Atlanta's historic Union Station on a site 23 miles from Atlanta, and display rolling stock it now owns, so that a national project to portray railway history is not needed.

Project J is located where Interstate Route 16 enters Savannah, and could be developed as an entrance to the adjoining Historic District of

Reid
4/19/66
map

Savannah. Mr. Lee has suggested that the historic district be designated as a Registered National Historic District to recognize its unquestioned historic significance, and follow up this action with a joint National Park Service-City study of the possibility of developing Project J as a visitor center and entrance to the District.

We concur in the foregoing recommendations, and we suggest the following course of action:

1. Submit for consideration of the Advisory Board the proposed designation of Savannah's historic district as a Registered National Historic District, at the Board's Fall 1966 meeting.
2. Assuming it is approved by the Advisory Board, designate the historic district.
3. Discuss with city officials and the local historical society the possibility of a joint study of the potential use of the Project J site and its adjoining lands, such study to analyze a proposed memorial park in terms of boundaries, cost, access, and developments, as well as to identify locally financed or aided alternatives.

A delegation of interested people from Savannah will visit our Regional Office in Richmond shortly and from there expects to come to Washington on about April 18. We believe it would be helpful to discuss the foregoing with them at that time.

(SGD) JACKSON E. PRICE

J. Lambe

~~Attachment~~

cc:

FW

Associate Solicitor Parks and Recreation
Regional Director, Southeast

Mr. R. F. Lee

Mr. Utley

Mr. Swem

Mr. Harrison

NPS Copy

JMLambe:sap 4/8/66

Cullen 4-20
Young 4-20

APR 25 1966

L58

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

The Secretary of the Interior has asked us to reply to your recent letter regarding the possibility of establishing a national monument in Savannah, Georgia, to commemorate the battle fought there in 1779, and to thank you for the copy of the French map "Siege De Savannah" which you so thoughtfully enclosed.

We regret that Mr. Lee's office was unable to furnish you copies of the maps with which our historians are working, but believe you may be able to obtain copies from the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah or the Library of Congress in Washington. Please be assured that before any final decision is made regarding this proposal that the matter will be thoroughly investigated, and your suggestions will receive full attention.

Your cooperation and interest in this project are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Sd.) HOWARD R. STAGNER

Assistant Director

cc:
Mr. R. F. Lee, Independence Hall NHP
DCCO
Regional Director, SE, w/c inc.
SIR, Mr. Melvin, ~~w/c inc.~~
RH (2) w/c/ inc.
RH, Mr. Cullen, w/c inc.

(2 maps mentioned in letter sent at RH office)

JC Cullen:RO 4-22-66

5-10220 *mtg*

Morton Deutsch

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Hon. Howard R. Stegner

Assistant Director

U.S. Dept of the Interior

Courtesy of the
Hon. Everett Dierksen

Washington, D.C.

Utley MAY 23 1966

Morton Deutsch

May 1 1966

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Howard R. Stagner, Esq
 Assistant Director
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 National Park Service
 Washington, D.C.

Courtesy of the
 Hon. Everett Ruess

Sir:-

I thank you for your letter bearing a rubber stamp date of April 25, 1966. It is hard for me to understand why the U. S. Government (or the National Park Service) persists in not stating the date of the letter which they are acknowledging. Is it to cover up dilliatoriness in the premises? Is the National Park Service overworked, overpaid, and underfed? As a taxpayer, it will be my pleasure to do whatever is necessary for you, in the premises.

It seems, my good friend, that, for some reason unknown to me, the National Park Service still persists in using the "Lee Brush". Why? Is not a taxpayer entitled to ask questions and receive answers? Or, is the national government at this time so firm in the belief that they sit so firmly in the saddle that they will remain there?

You force me to write you in this wise, with a copy under personal cover to Mr. Udall, who, seeming, also, is too busy to write a taxpayer; because, without any effort at all, you could have told me - given me a description of the maps from which the Department was working. PLEASE DO.

In my letter to Mr. Udall, commenting blindly (without the maps your department were working from, on the proposed d'Estaing Park in Savannah), I told you, that, to inform all concerned, I had communicated with the French Embassy for pertinent information, which, if you already knew, you were not gracious enough to give me - I requested the French Embassy to send Mr. Udall a copy of their reply, but since they have not done so, it is very probably because of the presently existing strained relations from the Hon. Charles de Gaulle, per se A friend just back from Paris told me last evening, that, while he and his saw no outward anti-American demonstrations, they could feel a sort of coolness, and an air of resentment wherever he went. And, the United States Government is in process of spending millions of printing paper money here, to erect a park, in what might turn out to be the wrong location, to do honor to Count d'Estaing, who, on September 16, 1779, without consulting with the American General Benjamin Lincoln (who he had been advised was only ten miles away) DEMANDED SURRENDER OF SAVANNAH IN THE NAME OF HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY, LOUIS XVI OF FRANCE. Can you imagine what might have been, if the British had surrendered on September 16, 1779? We would have had a new foe to contend with, in the war of attrition, then being fought on many fronts.

To - Howard R. Stagner, Assistant Director, S.Dept, of the Interior -2-

Since the Hon. Secretary of the Ambassade de France aux Etats Unis 27
Stanislas Filliol, did not, as requested, send a copy of his letter of April/
to me, to Mr. Stuart Udall, I quote therefrom for your and Mr. Lee's
information:

"I wish to let you know that the word "mile" was not used
in France, except in the sense of a nautical mile.

"Echelle de 1,200 toises" means scale of 1,200 toise. One
toise is the equivalent of 6'4"7/10."

"Echelle de 1,200 toises" is the scale of miles on the map I sent Mr. Udall,
with my compliments. It bears the following "SIEGE DE SAVANNAH - Fait par
les Troupes du Roi Aux Ordres de Monsieur Le Comte d'Estaing, Vice Admiral
de France en September en October 1779." It is the map of the same
d'Estaing you propose to honor; so it should be as accurate as any other
of those concealed maps you are presently using. Shouldn't it, now,
Mr. Stagner.

Now, Sir, on receipt of this scale by you, you should be able to reconcile
rights and wrongs. It shows, that, what is designated on that map as
"Redoubte de Sprink Hill" commenced at ^{what is} Oglethorpe Avenue, on the North,
and extended South 1-5/8". How any one would now dare to say, at what
point of "Sprink Hill" the actual assault was made, is the \$64.00 question.

With a strong glass, I find this a.m., that, I erred in a statement I ^{previously} made
that there were 2 "Sprink Hills". Closer reference to the battle plan
this morning, reveals (in the faint reproduction) that, instead of K and L
on the "Legende" of Spring Hill being British Redoubts, they actually were
enemy positions against different sectors of Spring Hill -

Letter K of Legende reads "Batterie des enemies a gauche de la Redoubte
de Sprink Hill, de 5 pieces de Cannons"

Letter L of Legende reads "Batterie Enemies de 5 pieces de Canon, don
deux flanquant de la Redoubte de Sprink Hill".

Since L and K are both Franco-American Batteries, you might well discard
them from your consideration - don't you think?

So, in the face of all of which, we start off with ^{long standing} the fact, that, a marker
has been placed, haphazardly, in the Central of Georgia ^{station} to mark the
spot when the hero Pulaski, who owed the U.S. Government some \$131,000
when he died, and who wrote over his own signature "I am serving in the
U.S. Army to please France" received his "mortal" wound? You had nothing
to do with the placing of this marker; but, I merely call it to your atten-
tion, so, that, the Park Service wont condemn the Central of Georgia Railway
Station, via Urban Renewal, and pay the Central of Georgia beaucoup dollars,
as they anticipate doing - with a bill already through the Congress - for
obsolete buildings and land galore belonging to the same Southern Railway-
Central of Georgia interests. Wouldn't this make headlines, Mr. Stagner?

The one place on the d'Estaing map that we know did exist at the time was
"Cimitiere de Juifs" - the Jewish Cemetery - if it is the one which is still
extant, your able engineers should have little trouble in authenticating

To - Howard R. Stagner, Assistant Director, U.S. Department of Interior -3-

how many feet this ~~line~~ from the Savannah River. Still, as I told you before, the mere fact that the Franco-American battle orders carried the provision, that, in case of a rout, the men were to take refuge in the Jewish Cemetery, where the Reserve was stationed, does not place the Jewish Cemetery, in the area of battle, but definitely outside of the battle area on which the U.S. Government are all set to tear down existing buildings, via iniquitous Urban Renewal 'Grab What You Will' tactics.

When the advocate of the Park, my good friend, Mrs. Roberts, called me at her own volition sometime back, she averred that, the entire Western Section of old Savannah was battlefield. If that is true, then why not make it so; instead of picking out one, yet to be confirmed site, in the Southern-Railway-Central of Georgia Yards, and, saying, this is it -- or, did Mrs. Roberts mean to convey, that, the U.S. Government, by Urban Renewal, intended to take additional property belonging to Central-Southern Railway, North of Liberty Street, and between Liberty and Hulls Streets? The U.S. Government has already hijacked all the property from Hull Street North to Broughton, in what was definitely the battle area; and, as there is plenty of vacant land there, all the National Park Service has to do is to erect a marker there.

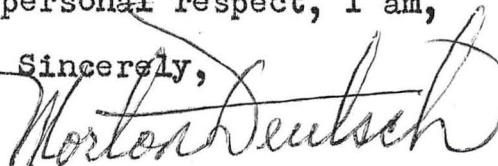
Tell me, Mr. Stagner, truthfully, do you feel, that, with all the dilly-dallying and shilly-shallying that the U.S. Government has been doing in prosecuting that "undeclared" war in Vietnam - and, with the billions of taxpayer money which is being poured in there, with a policy which ties the military's hands behind their backs - do you feel Mr. Stagner, and you, too, Mr. Udall, that the U.S. Government is justified in new building park on top of park - and, in the particular case of the Savannah one we are discussing, to honor individuals who did not have at heart the best interests of our country?

When I entered into correspondence with the National Park Service, I was motivated purely and simply with a desire (based on facts in hand) to try and help the U.S. Government save face, and guide them so that they would not go astray; but, by your Department's sacrosanct attitude, you force me to throw the ~~papers~~ ^{papers} upon your doorstep, and let them ~~fly~~ ^{fly} where they may.

I have been a good Democrat up until now; but Mr. Lee's "brush off" to begin with, and, that assinine, uncooperative letter you wrote me, has made me decide where my vote will go next election. Since there is no Republican Senator from Georgia in Washington now, I am sending this to the Hon. Everett Dierksen, with the request that he effect personal delivery for me, to the Hon. Stuart Udall.

With assurances of my high personal respect, I am,

Sincerely,



carbon copy to
The Honorable Everett Dierksen,
Washington, D.C.

MAY 9 1966

Copy referred to *Director* By Southeast Region

5/12
NORRIS

WSE



HOUSING AUTHORITY of SAVANNAH

POST OFFICE BOX 507
EAST BROAD AT OGLETHORPE SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402
TELEPHONE
AREA CODE 912 233-3053

central files
6/10/66
CAM

COMMISSIONERS

L 58

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- JOSEPH F. GRIFFIN, JR., VICE-CHAIRMAN
- EUGENE G. HARDY
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- P. A. PATTERSON

FRANK K. BUTLER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
SOUTHEAST REGION	
MAY 5 1966	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir., (G)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir., (H)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir., (CA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to Reg. Dir., (PA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to Reg. Dir., (E)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Studies Asst.
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

May 3, 1966

Mr. Elbert Cox, Regional Director
National Park Service
Federal Building
Richmond, Virginia

Dear Mr. Cox:

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for letting me be a part of the discussion on the projected Revolutionary Park for the City of Savannah with Mrs. Adrienne Roberts and Mr. Walter Hartridge.

cc: Dir. &
Conserv

Before our interview with you and even after leaving Richmond, we visited many installations and feel that with the development of the Revolutionary Park in Savannah it will give tremendous impetus for the preservation of historic sites and structures in the state of Georgia, as well as the attraction to thousands of tourists in our nation who are interested in this type of historic parks, which is not new to the National Park Service.

I personally want to thank you for the delightful luncheon and also your positive contribution in helping Mrs. Adrienne Roberts and Mr. Walter Hartridge trying to make the Revolutionary Park site become a reality.

Thank you for directing us to the Church Hill restoration project which we reviewed with interest, taking many pictures.

Sincerely yours,

Horace A. Edwards
Director of Conservation

HAE:mjr

- cc: Honorable Malcolm Maclean, Mayor
- Dr. W. W. Osborne, Commissioner, H.A.S.
- Mr. Frank K. Butler, Exec. Dir., H.A.S.
- Mrs. Adrienne Roberts
- Mr. Walter Hartridge

copy funded WSC 6/10/66

EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN
ILLINOIS

MINORITY LEADER



RNP

United States Senate

May 6, 1966

Mr. Robert C. McConnell
Assistant to the Secretary
(Congressional Liaison)
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McConnell:

At the suggestion of Mr. Morton Deutsch, of 14 East 40th Street, Savannah, Georgia, I am transmitting a communication addressed to the Secretary and one addressed to Mr. Howard R. Stegner, Assistant Director of the National Park Service.

It will be appreciated if you will place these communications in the proper channels.

Sincerely,


Everett McKinley Dirksen

CULLEN

YOUNG

UTLEY

Business 5/19
Johnson 5/19

158-RH

MAY 20 1966

Hon. Everett McKinley Dirksen
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Dirksen:

Thank you for your recent letter in behalf of Mr. Morton Deutsch regarding the possibility of establishing a national monument in Savannah, Georgia, to commemorate the battle fought there in 1779.

As we recently informed Mr. Deutsch, before any final decision is made regarding this proposal the matter will be thoroughly investigated and his suggestions will receive full attention.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HOWARD R. STAGNER

Assistant Director

cc:
Regional Director, Southeast, w/c of inc.
RH, w/c of inc.
SLR

JFCullen:bar:5-18-66

WTA

Cullen 5/25
R. Young
5/25
May 5/25

L58-RH

MAY 27 1966

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

This is in reply to your letter of May 1 regarding the proposal to establish a National Monument in Savannah, Georgia, to commemorate the battle fought there in 1779, which Senator Dirksen forwarded to us.

The National Park Service is not at the present time conducting any detailed study of this area which would enable us to answer your questions. Legislation to establish the area as a unit in the National Park System has been introduced in the Congress, but until such legislation is enacted we will not know what the final action will be. For information regarding the urban renewal program in that area, we suggest you contact the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which administers the urban renewal program.

As we informed you in our letter of April 25, before any final decision is made regarding this proposal the matter will be thoroughly investigated and your suggestions will be brought to the attention of those concerned.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HOWARD R. STAGNER

Assistant Director

cc:
Regional Director, SE w/c of inc.
RH w/c of inc.
RH - Mr. Cullen w/c of inc.

JPCullen:tn 5/25/66

Dear Senator Jackson:

Your committee has requested a report from this Department on S. 2565, a bill "To provide for the establishment of the Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument."

We recommend the enactment of S. 2565, if amended as suggested herein.

S. 2565 directs the Secretary of the Interior to acquire, by gift, purchase, or otherwise, the lands (together with the improvements thereon) described in section 315 (c) (1) of title III of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (79 Stat. 451), together with any other adjacent lands and improvements, which he determines are necessary or desirable for designation as the Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument. The bill directs the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, to administer the monument subject to the act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and the act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666). It also directs the Secretary to construct and maintain roads, trails, markers, buildings, and other improvements, and facilities for the care and accommodation of visitors.

Section 315 (c) (1) of title III of the Housing and Urban Development act of 1965, provides that the urban renewal project in Savannah, Georgia, known as Project "J" may include the donation by the Housing Authority of Savannah of all right, title, and interest of the

authority in all or any portion of the land within Project "J".

Paragraph (2) of the subsection provides that the conveyance shall be made only if the donee furnishes assurances that the donee will develop, preserve, and operate such property on a nonprofit basis as a historical site or monument.

The area known as Project "J" is described in section 315 (c) (1) as bounded on the north by properties of the Central of Georgia Railway Company, on the east by West Broad Street, on the south by the right-of-way for Interstate Highway No. I-16, and on the west by the Savannah and Ogeechee Canal and West Boundary Street.

Project "J", approximately 38 acres in area, is one of five units in the general neighborhood renewal plan for the Broad Street - Canal Urban Renewal area of Savannah. The other four projects have already been carried out, and Project "J" remains to be executed. Preliminary plans of the city propose that 4.17 acres be set aside for a "Revolutionary War Park" with the remaining 34 acres devoted primarily to light industry and secondarily to commercial uses. The preliminary plan has not been approved by the city.

The area within Project "J" is ideally located with respect to the historical areas of Savannah. From Revolutionary War times the city of Savannah has figured prominently in the history of our Nation.

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments in October 1965 found the siege of Savannah to be an episode of national significance in American history. In 1779, while it was occupied by the British, Savannah was encircled by a generally continuous line of fortifications. Of the several redoubts in this line, the Spring Hill Redoubt played a crucial part in the Siege of Savannah by American and French forces who attacked this part of the line on October 9, 1779. When this attack was successfully repulsed the siege ended. Our investigations show that a portion of this redoubt was probably situated adjacent to Project "J".

Also nearby is a historic railroad terminal of the Central of Georgia Railway. The terminal is still in use, but the old shop buildings, which are of unusual architectural value, are no longer used. The shop buildings are located on lands adjacent to Project "J".

The Project "J" site is also adjacent to the city's major historic district. Savannah, the Colonial capital of Georgia, is widely known and admired for its green squares, broad thoroughfares, handsome historic houses, early public buildings, and its unusual waterfront. In 1962, the Historic Savannah Foundation sponsored an inventory of the historic buildings in a two-mile-square area of that section of the city which was laid out and built on from 1733 until the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. This inventory revealed 88 buildings of exceptional, 306 of excellent, and 575 of good quality, a total of 969 historic buildings in this district.

Savannah's historic district, a unit descended directly from the original city plan, appears to be of national historical and architectural importance. We hope to present a proposal for formal recognition of this fact to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, in October, wherein the district will be declared eligible for early designation as a Registered National Historic District. Such areas as Old Sacramento in California, Beacon Hill in Boston, and Annapolis, Maryland, have been similarly designated as historic districts.

New Interstate Highway I-16 will become the major travel entrance to Savannah, when completed. Interstate 16 enters the city at Project "J" and leads travelers directly into Savannah's historic district. Thus Project "J" is in an excellent location for a visitor information center emphasizing the city's rich historic heritage. We believe a properly planned facility at the Project "J" site would be of tremendous service to visitors travelling Interstate 16 and an excellent opportunity for a cooperative program of interpreting Savannah's history. The interpretive and information center should properly be operated at the city or other local governmental level in recognition of the continuing efforts of the city and local preservation groups to perpetuate their historical heritage. This Department would join with the city in the planning, interpretation, and possibly the development of the site to give full recognition to the historical events of national importance that occurred in Savannah.

To carry out the proposal for an interpretive and information center, a comprehensive plan drawn up on a cooperative basis utilizing the capabilities of state or city agencies and local interested groups, and of this Department, should be prepared. Such a plan is needed to identify the possible boundaries, land costs, development concepts, development and operating costs, access ties with existing and proposed routes, historical events that should be emphasized, and a basis for Federal-local participation in an interpretive and development program. The possibility of multiple or alternative sites should of course be considered.

The enclosed draft of a substitute bill would provide for a study which could result in such a plan, including a recommendation for further legislation as necessary. We estimate that the costs to this Department of participating in the study will be approximately \$25,000.

Our cities are traditionally the sources of our early historical heritage. Visitors to metropolitan areas need to be aware of what there is to see and study in the historical and architectural examples that remain of our past. We believe that an interpretive and information center as herein proposed will help meet this need at Savannah.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on
Interior and Insular Affairs
Washington, D. C.

A B I L L

To provide for a cooperative plan of interpretation of the historical and architectural values of Savannah, Georgia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior may, in cooperation with the State of Georgia, the City of Savannah (or any instrumentality thereof) and with interested organizations and individuals, prepare a comprehensive plan for the development and operation of an interpretive and information center for visitors to the historic City of Savannah. The plan shall consider the possible site or sites, boundaries, acquisition costs, development concept, development and operating costs, access from existing and proposed routes, interpretive program for the center, and shall identify the costs that should be borne by Federal and non-Federal sources. Not later than two years from the date of enactment of this Act the Secretary shall transmit the plan to the President and the Congress, together with his recommendations for such further legislation as may be necessary.

Sec. 2. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Lambe 8/23

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Green 9/1

Harrison
my 9/8/66/6
file 9/9

L58

SEP 8 1966

Memorandum

To: Legislative Counsel, Office of the Solicitor
Through: Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Assistant
From: Director, National Park Service

Subject: S. 2565 - To provide for the establishment of the Savannah
Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument.

Your memorandum of September 30, 1965, requested our views and supporting data on this bill. Our memorandum of December 28, 1965, recommended that the Department defer the submission of its report.

We understand that Senator Russell, sponsor of the bill, has requested that a report be expedited. For convenience there is enclosed a draft Departmental report. The report recommends the enactment of a substitute bill to authorize the Secretary to prepare a comprehensive plan for a visitor information and interpretive center in Savannah.

(SGD) JACKSON E. PRICE

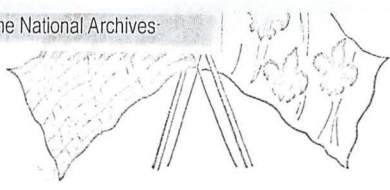
- cc:
- Associate Solicitor, Parks and Recreation
- FW
- FOC
- SOL-DL Mr. Wolph
- LOR-Mr. Sullivan
- Regional Director, Southeast Region
- WSC-Mr. Peetz (3)
- R-Mr. Stagner
- C-Mr. Swem
- SLR-Mr. Harrison
- NPS Copy

→ RETURN TO:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



JMLambe:dmw 8/3/66

Reid
9/8/66
map



Revolutionary Battle Park, Ga.

(Savannah, October 9, 1779)

Nov. 14th. 1966

STEERING COMMITTEE

- ROBERT W. GROVES
- ALEXANDER A. LAWRENCE
- BRIG. GEN. A. L. HENDERSON
- THOMAS H. GIGNILLIAT
- OWEN H. PAGE
- WALTER C. HARTRIDGE
- MRS. ADRIENNE G. ROBERTS

Mr. Stewart Udall
 Secretary of the Interior
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Udall:

This is first to thank you for the recent action taken by your department in behalf of our effort to obtain a Nat. Park. We appreciated the recommendation to make a study and the \$25,000 set aside for this. I am confident given the facts that both state and local governments will cooperate to the fullest. But to you goes the credit of doing a job that will do credit to the dream.

We are today in a crisis however and we need help. The demolition crew have served notice that come Dec. 1st. before we can study the project that the buildings will come down. They are ready with pick ax and shovel to sell those brick. Would you be so kind as to direct a letter asking for an extension of time to STUDY the area in question and the buildings?

I am confident a letter from you to the proper authorities, the governor, the mayor, the housing authority would accomplish something I am helpless to do.

We have just installed a new mayor. (R) We now have no governor really...we are in the courts.

You will be interested to know that the Mayor of d'Estaing France, O. d'Estaing is expected here in the next two weeks. His time has not been established. Also were letters from Comte de la Villesbrunac about the interest of the French Embassy in our effort have been coming to me. I wish it were possible to have Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Mahoney and our Senator present for the event, a dinner planned.

Please keep this in mind in the future.

Thank you again from all of the Committee.

Sincerely,

9 Bluff Drive
 Savannah, Ga.

Handwritten note: by funded SERO 1/5/67

*PL
SAS-1480*

Refer
To: <i>DL</i>
Ack'd
<i>11/18/66</i>

United States Senate

November 17, 1966

Respectfully referred to
Secretary of the Interior
Interior Department
Washington, D. C.

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure.

By direction of

GPO 16-7257-1

U. S. S.

by forward SERO 1/5/67

15001

158

Mr. Freeman

November 22, 1966

Mr. Swem

Savannah Study

On November 21 the Director had a telephone call from Mr. Don Mendonsa, City Manager of Savannah, pertaining to our study of the Historic Site there. Mr. Mendonsa had been told that we had monies for a study of the area, which was in conflict with our proposed position on Senator Russell's bill that a study and financing were needed.

After talking to Max Edwards, the Director called Mr. Mendonsa back and told him that in light of the Senator's interest in this project we had reprogrammed our existing planning money to make the study of the Savannah area this fiscal year. He told him that we would not be able to get down in the area for further investigation until January or February 1967, and that just as soon as we know when we are to be there I was to call Mr. Mendonsa and let him know our plans. Ray or Jay, I wish you would make a note to check into this just as soon as possible and then let me know so that I could call Mr. Mendonsa.

This means, of course, that if Senator Russell introduces a new bill in the next Congress and we are asked to report on it prior to completion of our study we will have to tell them that we will not be able to furnish our comments until the study has been completed.

(SGD) THEODOR R. SWEM

cc:
Mr. Harrison-SLR
Mr. Bright
Mr. Norris

TRSwem:ram

Morton Deutsch

December 16 1966

FNP

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Hon. Stuart Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Hon. Max Edwards, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Legislation,
National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

IN RE PROPOSED U.S. BATTLE PARK
AT SAVANNAH, GA. TO HONOR
FRENCH Admiral-General d'Estaing

Your files, in National Park Service, Philadelphia, and in the office of the Hon. Harold R. Stagner, Assistant Director of the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. will show, that, I, based on such knowledge as I possessed, informed your department, that, based upon facts, as shown by d'Estaing's own battle map, the proposed site of the battle park was not on the ground where the fighting took place.

In Mr. Stagner's letter to me of May 27, 1966, he wrote:

"Legislation to establish the area as a unit in the National Park System has been introduced in the Congress, but until such legislation is enacted we will not know what the final action will be."

Is this the same legislation which, as a rider, was tacked on to a bill, by Georgia Senators, to provide one million dollars for this park? So that we will all know what we are talking about, please be good enough to send me a copy of this legislation promptly, accompanied by a statement as to what "the final action will be" on the part of the National Park Service.

On the subject^{ab} to the proper ground over which the Battle of October 9, 1779 was fought; Battle Orders of Admiral-General d'Estaing, and of General Lincoln, supported by the work of your own Engineers, based on extant maps; must, of course, govern. But, common-sense and economics must govern otherwise; or, else, by subterfuge, you are by-passing President Johnson's edict not to spend a penny, except where absolutely necessary in this budgetary year!

With a war on in Vietnam; and with the Country on the verge of bankruptcy, I question "Is this the time to spend one million dollars on a Savannah Park?" Multiply this by the sum now being spent on parks, nationwide, and quite a sum could be amassed, to feed the hungry, and cloathe the naked of the world - to which end (while I do not approve) the Administration has dedicated itself. Is this a time to build parks while our boys are being made cannon fodder of, in Vietnam - fighting a war for which no Pandora Box fitting slogan has yet been coined, or released - and, if we are to believe your own censored press releases, without adequate arms, planes and munitions?

5407

To- Hon. Stuart Hall

-2-

Hon. Max Edwards

Morton Deutsch

12/16/66

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Why certain ones, locally, seem hell-bent on doing honor to d'Estaing, and further unearned honor to Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski, U.S.A. is certainly hard for me to understand. Surely, they have not researched as thoroughly as they might have; and, why the Department of the Interior would encourage this line of thinking, without, also, making similar research, is also the \$64,000 question. I hardly think you could justify the expenditure of one sou of the taxpayers' dollar, unless you had done so. Perhaps, you may have researched on your own (and not taken the word of others); and, yet, based on my own research, and on facts set out in my book THE PHARISAIC BRIGADIER GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI, U.S.A. and HIS TIMES, which is now being read by publisher, neither d'Estaing, or Pulaski, rate encomium, at the American taxpayer expense.

Briefly, and, to the point, Casimir Pulaski did not come to the United States of America, because he was burning with sympathy and love for the American Cause. Pulaski was forced upon the U.S. Government - through American Commissioner Benjamin Franklin - by the French Government who had to rid itself of the presence on French soil of a branded Polish regicide. Pulaski's war record in the army of America was not a brilliant one. He resigned more times than any other officer in the American Army. He had outside interests to engage his attention, while warring should have been his sole objective -- and, gentlemen, the records of the United States Government (furnished me, by them) show that he was unable to account for \$136,000 advanced by the U.S. Government - and that this amount is still unaccounted for. There is a monument erected in Savannah memorializing Pulaski, and it has been here since 1854. AS A TAXPAYER, and an authority, historically, on Casimir Pulaski, I PROTEST against one penny of taxpayer money being spent on this individual -- who is not the national hero of Poland, and whose name is scarcely ever heard there. If we must honor a valiant son of Poland, now (to garner Polish votes for the Administration) why not do something fitting to honor the REAL NATIONAL HERO of POLAND, Kosciuzko; who came to America at his own expense; and, whose record in the War of the American Revolution was a brilliant one. Have your historians check into this, please!

And, as for French Admiral-General d'Estaing, your historians might well check into the American War of the Revolution non-accomplishment of this gentleman - though he did have opportunity to aid the American cause, from early in 1778, until October 9, 1779. I especially would like to draw your attention to d'Estaing's downright refusal to cooperate with American General John Sullivan, U.S.A. in an attack on Newport Rhode Island; which, had it not been for the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, between France and America; would have then and there caused a break in Franco-American relations - and, although the matter was hush hushed and oil poured upon the troubled waters; the wound still remained unhealed, and d'Estaing's latent feeling towards America was still there - even, when, at Savannah, others have written, that, the French displayed a high and haughty attitude towards the Americans - even placing their camp site off limits for the Americans.

To- Hon. Stuart Udall

-3-

Hon. Max Edwards

Morton Deutsch

12/8/66

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Now, if d'Estaing's Armada-Army came to Savannah, in fulfillment of the Franco-American Treaty of Amity and Commerce, it reasons, that, d'Estaing would have gone out of his way to confer with, gain the opinion of, and the military cooperation of General Benjamin Lincoln, U.S.A. before taking any action which might be harmful to the joint interests. D'Estaing did just the opposite of that. Moultrie's Memoirs of the War of the American Revolution, and Pulaski's own letter to d'Estaing (in my possession) set forth, that, when Generals Lincoln and McIntosh were at a point about 3 miles from Savannah, and awaiting d'Estaing's "decision", d'Estaing failed to give that decision; but, acting strictly on his own, marched the French troops to within sight of the British unfinished fortifications of Savannah, on September 16, 1779; and under a flag of truce (and with no American troops to bolster his surrender demands - unwise as they might have been) demanded the surrender of Savannah to HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY LOUIS XVI of FRANCE!!!!

Do we want to do honor to a man - a foreigner - who, with deliberation, and with malice aforethought, did not include the words "and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" in his surrender terms? I wonder if you have known of this previously; or, if you do not agree with me, now; that, had the British^{had} surrendered Savannah and Georgia solely to Imperial France; we would then have had a new enemy to contend with, in a new Theatre of War, extending South and West, to the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River? The records will bear out, that, although this action, on d'Estaing's part, took place on September 16, the Americans remained encamped some 3 miles from Savannah, until September 23, and then marched to Savannah, and joined up with the French!

The October 9, 1779, plan of battle to Raise the Siege of Savannah, was a d'Estaing one; a plan which even d'Estaing's Staff Officers did not approve of; and one General Lincoln was forced to initial over his better judgment; a plan which was to command the Allied troops to march across unreconnoitered ground - gooey rice fields - which sucked many in like quicksands; or, made them sitting ducks for the incessant blasts of grape shot from the British Redoubts in front of them. Writing, after his return to France (after the holocaust of October 9, 1779) concerning his plan to storm Savannah, d'Estaing said:

"I acknowledge that when deciding to attack by storm, I foresaw a lot of obstacles, but the great achievement is being able to conquer, and I thought it fitting to prove to the Americans by a brilliant action, as bloody as it might be, that the King's troops were able to dare anything for them";

which was d'Estaing's sly way of saying, that, when he, personally, made the decision to storm Savannah - over the protests of his own officers, and of General Lincoln, he had been driven headlong to take the long shot gamble -- hoping, that, notwithstanding how bloody and futile Victory then seemed to be; a 100 to 1 brilliant d'Estaing achievement would wipe the slate clean of his Armada's prior record in American Waters (Vide D'Estaing's American Expedition, John J. Meng) and enable him to return to France triumphant; having, in process

Hon. Stuart Hall

-4-

Hon. Max Edwards

Morton Deutsch

12/18/66

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

wiped the slate clean of his personal prior boo-boos, in the American War of the Revolution.

Noone, no matter how callous, could object to memorializing War Dead - especially of the War of the American Revolution; but, WHY SINGLE OUT TWO FOREIGNERS (whose records do not warrant it) when not one word has been mentioned, thus far, of the sainted AMERICAN DEAD (Officers and Men) who, led like sheep to the slaughter house, with d'Estaing at their head, lost their lives in an assault which d'Estaing himself believed had little chance of success!! I CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH A LIST OF AMERICAN DEAD IN THIS BATTLE - if you do not already have it. And, why spend American money to do honor to France, at a time when French-American relations are strained; when France has entertained a Red China Trade Mission in Paris, for eons; when France has strongly advocated the entrance of Red China into the United Nations; and, when France, even at this moment is engaging in talks with our enemy Soviet Russia -- with President de Gaulle going all out to overturn each and every aim of the United States of America, trade-wise in Europe, and war-wise, in Nato, and elsewhere. What has France done to aid our warring in South Vietnam? Why not erect a monument to General Charles de Gaulle, or General Mao, or Comrades Kremlin, with taxpayer money?

I am writing you at length, because, I would not for the world (even though I do not approve of the policies, in the main, of your Administration) have the United States Government become the laughing stock of the world, after THE PHARISAIC BRIGADIER rolled from off the presses. I love my Country too much for that; and I believe you do also. So, gentlemen, while making this protest, I do so cooperatively, and stand ready to help you further, if called upon to do so. But, surprisingly, thus far, though your representatives have been in Savannah, time and time again, they have by-passed me -- even Mr. Max Edwards, when here only a few days ago, made no attempt to contact me; but did hobnob with the D'ESTAINGERS! Why?

In Mr. Edward's statement to the newspapers, he said, that, eventually, he would ask for suggestions as to how best to memorialize the Battle of Savannah. Please accept this as my suggestion, now. (a) A fitting placque can be set up in what is presently known as Oglethorpe Plaza; which was the rice fields, per se, and the battle field, also. (b) Since the Southern Boundary of the City of Savannah, in 1779, was our present Oglethorpe Avenue; the Western Boundary Jefferson Street; and the eastern boundary Lincoln Street - with the Savannah River bounding the town on the North, that should well become the "HISTORICAL AREA" Mr. Edward's speaks about -- but, regrettably, other than for placques of the past, practically everything of Revolutionary Period building, no longer exists. (c) As d'Estaing's own map of the battle shows, the entire western perimeter of Savannah was encircled with Redoubts of the British; I have pinpointed one or more of these redoubts on the very ground upon which the City of Savannah is now engaged in erecting a COLLISEUM COMPLEX. This lays

To

Hon. Stuart Udall

Hon. Max Edwards

-5-

12/18/66

Morton Deutsch

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

in the area bounded on the west by the present West Broad Street; on the South by Liberty Street; and on the east by the present (and 1779) Jefferson Street, and bounded on the north by the 1779 South Broad Street, now called Oglethrope Avenue. You Engineers can pinpoint this for you on your own maps. They will also tell you that it was in the very middle of the battle area of 1779; and is in close proximity to the alleged site of the redoubt at which d'Estaing received a wound in his arm; from which he recovered.

Why not place that Information Center which Mr. Edwards speaks about, in close proximity to - or make it a part of the COLLISUEM COMPLEX of the City of Savannah? Why not rename, or name, the COLLISUEM COMPLEX, "BATTLE OF SAVANNAH" COLLISEUM, and why not make those murals and other exhibits a part of the interior decor of this Colliseum -- with other exterior symbolic significance to designate what it is really symbolic of? The plaque to all of the Americans, including Generals Lincoln, McIntosh and others who participated in the d'Estaing "slaughter" of October 9, 1779, should be erected there --- and, if the U.S.A. feels that it is duty bound, by Congressional Legislation, to give Savannah \$1,000,000 for a historical park; declare the area I have indicated (which is now being acquired by Urban Renewal) as a historical area, (as a Historical Park), and let the \$1,000,000 serve a useful purpose - not be wasted, unauthentically, on doing honor to foreigners, instead of to our own Americans!

To make certain that you will receive this letter, and give it the attention it deserves, and will answer me promptly; and, so, that there will ever be a record that Messrs. Udall and Edwards, as the proper executives of the Johnson Administration, have received this letter - I am requesting my good friend and outstanding American, the Hon. Everett Dierksen to forward this letter to you. After you gentlemen have considered all I have had to say, I will appreciate your writing me fully in the premises, with a copy to Senator Dierksen -- who, like myself, has, even in the last few days, gone on record as favoring President Johnson's recent pronouncements slashing appropriations for every unneeded expenditure!

Knowing, also, that the U.S. News and World Report, and, my good friend the Hon. David Lawrence, also stands for less wasteful spending on the part of the Administration; and, whose bent is historical, like my own; I am sending him a copy of this letter, for such use as he may wish to make of the same. Nothing herein written is confidential; so I trust all concerned will govern themselves accordingly.

With every good wish, and hoping you will agree in toto with my views, and will have the courage to so announce in the public prints, instead of beating around the bush, as you are now doing, I am,

Yours for honoring Americans first, last and always--
(i.e. Americans who rate that honor)

copy to Hon. Everett Dierken
Hon. David Lawrence

P.S. Now it could be, that, the Administration's desire to hear more UNWARRANTED rumors about Casimir Pulaski, stems from the fact, that the former Ambassador to Poland, and the present former Postmaster General GRONOUSKI, is the former President of the Pulaski Foundation - Ho! Hum!

FBSarles 12/12
RYoung 12/12

Revised 12/14

158-RH

DEC 14 1966

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Secretary of the Interior Udall has asked us to reply to your recent letter regarding the proposed Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument in Savannah, Georgia.

The legislation you mentioned, H. R. 11490 and S. 2565, failed to pass the 89th Congress and, consequently, is no longer pending.

We appreciate the interest in historical conservation which prompted your letter as well as the information it contained.

Sincerely yours,

(S) HOWARD R. STAGNER

Assistant Director

cc:
DCCO
Regional Director, Southeast, w/c of inc.
WSC - RH, w/c of inc. (2)
SIR - Mr. Melvin

FBSarles:gb 12-14-66

S-15407

[Handwritten signature]
7



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

SOL-DL

DEC 19 1966

Mrs. Adrienne G. Roberts
9 Bluff Drive
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Dear Mrs. Roberts:

Secretary Udall has asked me to thank you for your letter concerning the study for the Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site to be conducted by the National Park Service.

It was a pleasure speaking to you on my last visit to Savannah. Also I regret that I caught you at a frantic moment. I am sure that the dinner in honor of the Mayor of d'Estaing was a great success. I regret that I was unable to stay over.

As you know, the Park Service study is expected to begin early next year and we feel confident that the results of this study will enable us to adopt a course of action which will best commemorate the historic Battle of Savannah and give proper consideration to what should have been done toward the preservation of the railroad station brickworks.

Sincerely yours,

Max N. Edwards
Assistant to the Secretary
and Legislative Counsel

cc:
Senator Richard B. Russell
National Park Service
Mr. Edwards

MNEdwards:maw 12/13/66

S-14940

Cy funded SEFO 1/15/67

Mr. Tom Norri
CAM

Morton Deutsch

December 17 1966

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

L 58

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Washington, D.C.

Attention Mr. Harold R. Stegner, Assistant Director.

Sir:-

I am in receipt of your letter of December 14, 1966 reading as follows:-

"Secretary of the Interior Udall has asked us to reply to your recent letter regarding the proposed Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument in Savannah, Georgia.

The legislation you mentioned H.R. 11490 and S.2565 failed to pass the 89th Congress, and, consequently is no longer pending."

What does this mean? Do you mean to say, that, the National Park Service, with no money appropriated for this park, has deleted it from its forward agenda? Is there any other legislation now pending, or prepared for introduction at the next session of the Congress, to appropriate \$1,000,000, or any part of it, for this park? Please be good enough to advise me promptly, more especially so, since it is reported, that, the chief proponent of the Park made the statement only last week, that your department would build the park.

In addition to replying to me, a statement by you in Savannah Morning News, will serve to clarify the situation. You owe it to the taxpayers to declare yourselves one way or the other.

Yours truly,

Morton Deutsch

cc Editor Savannah Morning News.

Hon Everett Dierksen

Hon. David Lawrence

~~ADH~~
DEC 22 1966

*general files
series N-1/30/67*



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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DEC 19 1966

*~~I. Howard~~
~~F. J. Foreman~~
Woods
Jog*

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Russell:

Enclosed is a copy of our reply to Mrs. Adrienne G. Roberts of Savannah, Georgia, in response to her recent letter addressed to Secretary Udall relative to the Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site.

The copy of Mrs. Robert's letter which she sent to you is returned herewith per your request.

Sincerely yours,

Max N. Edwards
Assistant to the Secretary
and Legislative Counsel

Enclosures

cc:
Congressional Liaison
National Park Service
Mr. Edwards

Copy folder SERO 1/5/67

R. Young 1/12

BRIGHT 1/16/67
Winn 1/18
Green 1/19

L58-CAM

JAN 20 1967

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

This is in reply to your recent letter addressed to Assistant Director Stagner asking for information about the status of legislation proposing establishment of a Savannah Revolutionary Battle Site National Monument.

The bills you were interested in were introduced during the 1st Session of the 89th Congress which adjourned October 22, 1966. Since neither House acted on the bills, they did not become law.

Notwithstanding this fact, the National Park Service does have general legal authority to study and make recommendations on historic sites. The National Park Service plans to make a careful study of the possible alternatives for historical preservation in the Savannah area during the coming year. Then, if legislation is introduced we will be in a position to make recommendations on it based on the results of our study.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) THEODOR R. SWEM

Assistant Director

cc:
Regional Director, SE
Chief, ORP-WSC
CAM

TFNorris:jbm 1/16/67



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Free
6115
Jacobson

L 58
CAM

JUN 14 11 29 PM '67

JUN 13 1967

Owen Page, Esq.
Attorney at Law
Savannah, Georgia

Dear Owen:

I deeply regret your irritation and, indeed, your disgust with my inability to keep you fully informed about the status of the Battlesite Park project. The buck stops here, but your concern is with information for which I am dependent upon the National Park Service, and their cause for delay seems to me to be reasonable. I had asked for a detailed response to your letter of May 10 and now apologize for this delay in furnishing you anything pertinent to the planning team's study.

The Park Service has determined that Savannah's historic district does warrant special priority recognition in the preservation and interpretation of this outstanding area. However, there is major concern over the yet undetermined location of the coliseum, its parking facilities, and access areas.

We believe that construction of the coliseum within the historic district would be incompatible with the preservation concept of this great area. Without being managerial in Savannah's local problems, we would suggest serious consideration to placing the coliseum within the area designated Project J.

When the coliseum location has been resolved by local decision, the National Park Service is prepared to complete their battlefield commemoration study and present suggested plans for the Project J area, and if the coliseum is to be located there, present design proposals for a memorial plaza to be constructed as an integral part of the coliseum project.

Owen, last, but certainly not least, I do want to send my very best wishes and congratulations to you in your recent marriage. I hope that not too many months pass before I will have an opportunity to meet her in person. My best to both of you.

Yours very truly,



Max N. Edwards
Assistant to the Secretary
and Legislative Counsel

cc:

e National Park Service

Ted Swem

✓ Ray Freeman

Jacobson

Mr. Edwards

MNEdwards:maw 6/13/67

OWEN H. PAGE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
305-307 REALTY BUILDING
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401
TELEPHONE ADAMS 4-6636

June 16, 1967

Mr. Max Edwards
U. S. Department of Interior
Assistant to Secretary and Legislative Council
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Max:

Really, I used the cloak of irritation as a vehicle. It was to get some needed information. I apologize for my chicanery. When I hadn't heard from you, and knowing of the impending decision on the coliseum site, I felt that any design was justified. Thus, my apparently churlish mood.

Last Friday the mayor and aldermen made their final decision on the location of the auditorium and convention complex. It is to be located adjacent to Orleans Square, where the present auditorium is located. However, the plans of the former mayor and aldermen have been jettisoned, and new plans are being designed. Whether or not they will be more compatible with the historic district concept, I cannot say. If you wish any detailed information, I will ask the mayor to furnish you with the new plans when they are completed.

I wasn't aware of how sensitively related our Battle Site Project was to the historic district designation. I sincerely hope that the location of the convention - auditorium complex within the proposed historic district will not shatter it.

So much delay and confusion have accompanied the construction of the convention - auditorium complex that I am reluctant to divulge the contents of your letter. I am afraid that it would precipitate further delay.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, I supported the location of the complex

John
MPS

Mr. Max Edwai

June 16, 1967

Page 2

in the Orleans Square area. This is the Chamber's preference. It was determined after an exhaustive study of all sites with particular emphasis on the impact that it would have in revitalizing the section of the city (downtown) adjacent to it.

The die has been cast for Orleans Square. With this fait accompli, where does this put the Battle Site Project? Will it be lost, delayed or what? With the local and state sentiment generating for it, I do hope that you can prevail upon the Park Service to go ahead. I must confess that this is a turn of events that I didn't anticipate.

Do excuse the histrionics of my last letter. Upon reflection I guess it was rather a beastly show.

Most sincerely,



OWEN H. PAGE

OHP/bc

PARKS

LS8

~~LS8-CAM~~

JUN 29 1967

R. JACOBSEN 6/22

J. BRIGHT 6/22

R. DICKENSON 6/23

J. Johnson 6/26

Dickenson for Swann 6/29

Mr. Owen H. Page
Attorney at Law
305-307 Realty Building
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Owen:

We were relieved to learn from you that the issue involving the coliseum and convention center has finally been resolved.

The National Park Service has resumed analysis of its field study data and has begun the preparation of a report of alternative proposals for commemoration of the seige of Savannah. That Service estimates that this will be completed by early fall.

You can be assured that we will contact you as soon as the report is completed.

Sincerely yours,



Max H. Edwards
Assistant to the Secretary
and Legislative Counsel

cc:
~~Secretary's Reading File (2)~~

~~EW~~
~~DL~~
~~CL~~

Regional Director, Southeast
Supt., Ft. Pulaski

WSC, ORP
CAM Reading File
CAM, Mr. Jacobsen
DAL, Mr. Melvin
NPS copy

RRJacobsen:ds:6-23-67



FCP4

Morton Deutsch August 17 1967

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Hon. James D. Hall, Jr.
Dept of Industry & Trade
Atlanta, Ga.

copy to Hon. Lester Maddox, Governor

Hon. Horace Caldwell, Department
of
Parks.

Dear Mr. Hall:-

It was nice that you took the time to write me. I have read your letter with interest. I know you have a job to do; and, that, the aim seemingly is to benefit Savannah. But, since, it is taxpayer money that you aim to spend, fiscal responsibility should govern all of yours, and Mr. Caldwell's, activities. On the one hand, the Hon. Governor is on record as definitely against taking more Federal handouts (which, after all, is your money and my money, and the money of every taxpayer of Georgia); and, on the other hand, you gentlemen (relying on what has been dreamed up locally) seem all too willing to lend strength to a phantasy, which has traveled the full gamut of politics, all the way from Senator Russell and Hagan, the Department of Parks, and the Department of the Interior, right on down to the local level. I rather expected it would get there soon after the Hon. Lester Maddox was installed in office -- as a sort of a "payoff" -- for, the proponent was vociferous in making it known, in the highways and byways, hereabout, that, "Lester" was going to place her in a \$25,000 place in Government; and, that, come hell and high water, "Lester" was going to give her her d'Estaing Park, with a monument and a fountain, and goodness knows whatnot-- all of which was confirmed, when the Hon. Horace Caldwell let the cat out of the bag the other day, as quoted in the newspaper, that, because of the Governor's friendship for Mrs. Roberts, he felt certain the Governor would see that Mrs. Roberts got her park! The Architect who drew the plan is now an 'Admiral' in the Governor's 'Navy'!

Things have come to a pretty past in Georgia, when "friendship" governs the Governor, and his actions - now haven't they gentlemen. Our dear Governor (who must tell you how I have supported him) didnt talk that way when he was stumping the State - did he now? And, what would his critics say, if, this, added to the other, was let loose on the airways, and in the news media?

Don't misunderstand me, gentlemen, I am for anything that will be for Savannah's good - in this case, provided (a) it was historically correct; and in the (b) provided, it was not intended to fatten the coffers of the railroad, and others who hope to unload property which cost them little or nothing, at today's market prices. By the way, doesn't Mrs. Roberts, et al, own property in the area which we are talking about?

There is nothing vindictive in my make up - but "Cooperation" doesn't live on a One Way Street." I class myself tops among historians on this specific facet of Savannah History; and I have tried to cooperate; but, Mrs. Roberts et al, consider themselves and their opinions, sacrosanct --- so, since the "mountain" would ne'er come to Mohammed, I was left with no other alternative but to exercise my constitutional rights before the Senate Committee, who, if and

Morton Deutsch

August 17, 1967

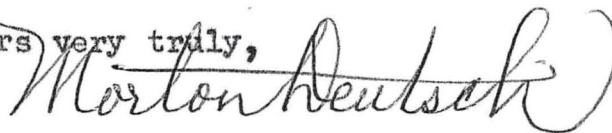
14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

when, the Federal Department of the Interior, has made its recommendation, will have to do with the appropriation of money. As I have told Secretary Udall, this is no time to spend Taxpayer Money for Parks. We are at war, internally in America, and externally, in Vietnam, and all over the world. We are now threatened with more Federal taxes; and more local, County and State taxes -- and, you gentlemen talk parks! This is the time to talk "common sense" protection, so that it will be safe for the taxpayer to walk on the streets; gather in public places, and enjoy Freedom of Assembly! When the Balloon Bursts, there will be hell to play - and you know it! And, all the while, dear Lyndon tells us we've never had it better!

I think you gentlemen had better soft pedal "Tourism". We've been blue enough in this Bible-belt State for aeons -- and, the Hon. Governor (true to his campaign promises) sounded the death knell to Tourism in recent days! Anyone going off for a week end, or a holiday (no matter how churchified they are) don't want any restrictions; and, you should know it, that, only a small percentage of the travelers are historic minded. And, with everyone City along the route stressing the same "historic" business, what reason can a "Blue" State present to induce tourists? Is it contemplated to erect Chapels in all of the Ga. State Parks?

I didn't have this in mind, when I started writing this letter; but I have a plan, a unique one, which could put this Savannah section of the country over in a big way. I have tried to get it aired publically for years; but, because I didnt belong to the blue stocking crowd, my idea has died on the vine. I am certain, if you gentlemen, and the Director of the Department of Industry and Trade, ~~were~~ fair and open-minded, they would welcome my suggestion, and bend every effort to put the same across. I place myself at the disposal of the Hon. Governor of Georgia, in this respect; and shall await your further news with interest.

Yours very truly,



carbon copy to
Henry W. Jackson, Esq
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior &
Internal Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Hon. Stuart Udall
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

CF
H H for info
SEP 1 1967
Gen. Files

Morton Deutsch

August 18 1967

AUG 22 12 25 PM '67

14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

L58

Hon. Stuart Udall ✓
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Hon. Henry W. Jackson
Chairman, Senate Committee
on Interior and Internal Affairs

Dear Friends:

PROPOSED BATTLE PARK TO
HONOR
FRENCH ADMIRAL GENERAL
COUNT D'ESTAING

The attached is intended to bring you gentlemen up to date,
on what is encompassed in Savannah-State of Georgia concerning
this proposed Park -- which has been the subject of many letters
sent you heretofore, by me, on this subject.

Tomorrow (if the controlled newspaper will publish it) I hope
to send you my "Letter to the Editor", wherein I set down over
my own signature, bona fide, well authenticated reasons, why
not one cent of taxpayer money should be spent to further
this D'Estaing Battle Park - or, to pour oil on the world-troubled-waters
mired up by Monsieur de Gaulle!!!

With assurances of my high esteem, I am,

Cordially,
Morton Deutsch

Ga.

P.S. The irony of the affair is that Mrs. Adrienne Roberts,
(who, for reasons not clear to the thinking public, seeks to
memorialized a disgraced French commander) is a Daughter of the
American Revolution; whose honorary lens should ever be spotted
upon our Valiant Americans. Has France erected any Parks to
any Revolutionary War Generals (Americans) that you know of?

Jacobsen 8/22
Baker 8/23
Dickenson 9/25

L58--CAM

AUG 28 1967

Memorandum

To: Chief, Office of Resource Planning, WSC
 From: Chief, Division of New Area Studies and Master Planning
 Subject: Savannah Revolutionary Battlesite study

The meeting on August 11, which was attended by Messrs. Baker, Harrison, Freeman, Bright, Connally, Utley, Rosenberg, Brooks, Lee and Jacobsen, concluded with the development of the following concepts for the guidance of the Savannah master plan team in presentation of their alternatives report.

1. The establishment of a Savannah National Historic Site (in non-Federal ownership) to embrace a portion of the historic district, which has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, and to include a detached area upon which the Central of Georgia Railroad shops stand, and where the Spring Hill Redoubt is believed to have been. This alternative would propose the location of a future coliseum with its related parking facilities in the Project J area; the development of zoning restrictions by the city to safeguard the historic structures and the character of the historic district; and the interpretation of the historical values in Savannah, from the Colonial era to the Civil War period, by the National Park Service.
2. The establishment of a city or state park on the balance of the Project J land and upon the adjacent 12 acres, which are now owned by the Central of Georgia Railroad, to commemorate the Battle of Savannah.

It was agreed that these proposals would be presented to Max Edwards before disclosure to Senator Russell.

(Sgd) R. E. Dickenson

Russell E. Dickenson

cc:
 Regional Director, SE
 WSC-DC
 DA
 DAL
 C
 H CAM Reading File
 CAM, Mr. Jacobsen
 RR Jacobsen:lr 8/22/67



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON PLANNING AND SERVICE CENTER
1730 NORTH LYNN STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209

RECEIVED
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON OFFICE

SEP 1 3 05 PM '67

Mr. Joles
~~*[Signature]*~~
READ 9/5
J. Bright 9/8
Jacobson

IN REPLY REFER TO:

~~D18~~-WSC(RP)

L58

Memorandum

September 1, 1967

To: Chief, New Area Studies and Master Planning

From: Chief, Office of Resource Planning, WSC.

Subject: Report, "A Study of Historic Savannah, Georgia"

Enclosed in duplicate is the subject report. We believe the report reflects the consensus of the pre-master plan review meeting of August 11, which was attended by Messrs. Baker, Freeman, Harrison, Connally, Utley, Rosenberg, Bright, Jacobsen, Ley, and Brooks. Messrs. Utley, Bright, and Jacobsen reviewed the rough draft of the enclosed report.

Two plans are offered: One is primarily of local or State interest, while the other is broader in scope and provides for National Park Service participation in an interpretive program of Savannah.

Chester L. Brooks
for
Edward S. Peetz

Enclosure

cc:
Regional Director, Southeast, w/enc
Superintendent, Fort Pulaski, w/enc



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
REGIONAL OFFICE

SEP 15 9 43 AM '67

Jim Ellis

Handwritten signatures and initials, including 'RD 9/18' and 'J. Price'.

SOUTHEAST REGION, P. O. BOX 10008
FEDERAL BUILDING, RICHMOND, VA. 23240

SEP 14 1967

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L 58
D18-WSC(RP)
SER(PA)

Memorandum

To: Director
Attention: Assistant Director, Cooperative Activities

From: Regional Director, Southeast Region

Subject: Report, "A Study of Historic Savannah, Georgia"

We have reviewed the above report on the proposed Savannah
Battlefield Site. We believe this to be an excellent solution
to the problem; otherwise we have no further comments.

Jackson E. Price
Jackson E. Price

cc:
Chief, Office of Resource Planning, WSC
Supt., Fort Pulaski



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON PLANNING AND SERVICE CENTER
1730 NORTH LYNN STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22209

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58-WSC(RP)

September 22, 1967

Memorandum

To: Assistant Director, Cooperative Activities
Through: Chief, Office of Resource Planning, and *ESP*
Chief, New Area Studies and Master Planning

From: Team Captain, Chester L. Brooks

Subject: Results of field trip to Savannah, September 19-21.

Members of the field party included Joe Jensen, Bill Ingersoll (WASO Interp.), Gene DeSilets and Don Benson (PSC), Ralston Lattimore, (Superintendent, Fort Pulaski), and me.

Our assignment was to take a good hard look at Savannah National Historic Site study proposals and make further recommendations or suggestions, especially with reference to National Park Service provision of interpretive assistance.

The team endorsed the basic provisions of the master plan for a Savannah National Historic Site. We agreed that an interpretive center was necessary. Although we all felt it would have been good to retain the engine shed and a few related mid-1850s Central of Georgia Railway structures to tell this significant chapter of Savannah history, we concluded that the costs for rehabilitating and maintaining these structures would be too high to warrant their preservation by the National Park Service. Evidently the Historic Savannah Foundation has arrived at a similar conclusion as it does not even include these structures in its third or lowest priority (notable) for preservation. The team's considerations on possible use of the railroad buildings will be included in a later and fuller team report on Historic Savannah. After examining all existing potential visitor reception facilities, the team concluded it would be better to construct a new structure than to try to adapt an existing one.

The team will probably recommend:

- 1) Federal acquisition of 33 acres in Project "J" and hope for donation of 15 acres of the Central of Georgia Railway ;

- 2) Reconstruction of a "symbolic portion" of the Spring Hill redoubt if its location can be fairly accurately determined. A search of the historic records and an archeological dig might reveal the location with a fair degree of accuracy. (Superficial evidence indicates the site is now about 10 feet below grade);
- 3) Possible refinement of the boundary if needed to include sufficient space for reconstructed portion of Spring Hill redoubt and its proper setting;
- 4) Further study to resolve, if possible, the problem of access from Interstate 16 to the proposed reception facilities; and
- 5) In treating the Savannah story from the proposed reception center, Fort Pulaski should be included as a part of the total Savannah story.

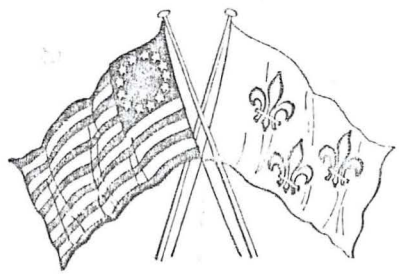
Follow-up action needed includes the preparation of exhibit material for the October 9 presentation in Savannah and, if Departmental and Congressional interest warrant it, the assignment of an urban design team to further refine the plan with special attention given to costs and other required support data.

Chester L. Brooks

Chester L. Brooks

cc:
Deputy Assoc. Director for Urban Affairs
Chief, Off. Res. Plng.

6349



(Savannah, October 9, 1779)

October, 30th. 1967

Dear Senator Russell:

As a follow up thought you'd like to see this nice letter to me from Mr. Cullum. You can see he has given us permission to carry on, and we are, in some quarters.

He tells us that our plan will be presented to the Secretary of Interiors Advisory Board. You will remember that Alex Lawrence offered to appear before them last time for us, and was prepared to go, when he was told he was not needed. He is again willing and ready if you think his services are needed.

I just don't know what we would have done without Alex, Owen Page, Walter Hartridge and the continued support of Robert Groves. How can we all ever thank you?

So glad you are better.

Sincerely,

Admiral R.

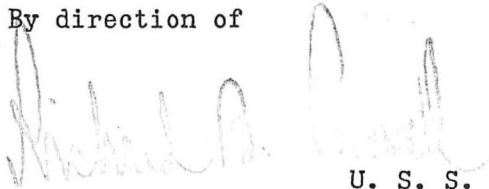
United States Senate

Nov. 6, 1967

Respectfully referred to
~~Department of the Interior~~

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure.

By direction of



U. S. S.

GPO 16-78137-2

Please Address Reply To
Room 205, Senate Office Bldg.

11/8/67

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Russell:

We are pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mrs. W. M. Roberts concerning the proposed Savannah National Historic Site, Georgia.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,


Director

~~EXX~~

TGWood:jd 11/8/67

Morton Deutsch

November 7 1967

END
 CAM
 all
 Jacobsen

NOV 9 2 13 PM '67
 14 EAST 40th STREET • SAVANNAH, GA.

Hon. Stuart Udall
 Secretary of the Interior
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Udall:-

So that your file on the agitated Historic Park in Savannah to do honor to French Admiral General d'Estaing may be complete; and, in all fairness to you, Sir, I am enclosing letter which I addressed to the Hon. Henry Jackson (and the individual members of the Senate Interior and Insular Committee) on October 12, 1967.

The following facts should now be crystal clear to you:

- (a) With no bill introduced or pending in Congress at this time,
- (b) and with the Department of Parks having spent the \$25,000 allotted to them, under Senator Russell's bill, to make a "study" of the situation,
- (c) and without even having, up until now, authenticated the site of Spring Hill Redoubt, and/or the swamp (rice fields) in which the allied command bogged down while en route to the defenses of Savannah (i.e. the "battlefield", if you would call it such)
- (d) Park Representatives, with halos around their head, and in a blaze of glory, orated at length on how they would now spend c \$1,850,000, for land alone, to satisfy the whims of a select few, at the expense of the overall many -- and, at a time, when the Federal Deficit has never been larger! As a sound business man, this should cause you, and your Department heads, to sit up and take notice!

It has just been announced in the newspaper that the Hon. Joseph P. Cullen, Public Relations Officer of the Park Service, for the South Eastern Region of the U.S.A. will present to the Interior Board on Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, "the recently unveiled plans for a proposed 48 acre Historic Park, etc" during the month of November. Since this report, et al, was prepared with tax payer money, and, since my interest is as sincere as your own; may I respectfully request that a xerox of the Park Service's report be mailed to me as soon as possible. Should there be any charge for the xerox, I shall be happy to send you my check.

Cordially,
 Morton Deutsch

copy to the Hon. Henry W. Jackson,
 Chairman, Senate Committee
 on Interior and Insular Affairs.

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Melvin (tu)

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Dickenson
Jamison 11/14

L58-C

NOV 24 1967

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Russell:

Thank you for your recent letter in behalf of Mrs. W. M. Roberts concerning the proposed Savannah National Historic Site, Georgia.

Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments met in Washington, D. C., on November 6-9 and considered the proposal to establish the Savannah National Historic Site. The Board's recommendations have been submitted to the Secretary for his approval. We will notify you when he has had an opportunity to consider the Board's recommendations.

We wish to thank you and Mrs. Roberts for your continuing interest in this proposed site.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) THEODOR R. SWEM

Assistant Director

Enclosures (*Constituent letters returned per request*)

cc: Regional Director, Southeast)
C, Mrs. Reiner } all w/c of inc.
DAL, Mr. Melvin }

~~JAMES~~ JHusted: TGWood:jad 11/15/67

11-15

BRIGHT 11/28
FOR DICKENSON

Lambe 11/29
J. Minn 11/29

L58-CAM

NOV 30 1967

Mr. Morton Deutsch
14 East 40th Street
Savannah, Georgia, 31401

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Secretary of the Interior Udall has asked us to reply to your recent letter concerning the proposed Savannah National Historic Site. Final modifications of a report on this proposal are underway prior to printing. When available, we will be most pleased to send you a copy.

We think that the record should be set straight with regards to your allegation that the National Park Service has spent \$25,000 allotted to us for this study. We assume that you are referring to S. 2565 of the 89th Congress which was to "provide for the establishment of the Savannah Revolutionary Battlesite National Monument." The Department of the Interior reported on this bill, suggesting a substitute which would authorize the Secretary to prepare a comprehensive plan for a visitor information and interpretation center in Savannah. We estimated the cost for such a study would be \$25,000. However, S. 2565 was not acted upon by the Congress and no additional funds were made available for this study. Accordingly, the current Savannah study is being absorbed as a part of the Service's regular new area study program but will not go into the depth envisioned by our report to the Congress on S. 2565.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Raymond L. Freeman

Acting Assistant Director

cc:
Regional Director, Southeast
WSC-RP
CAM
CAM Reading File

JWBright:lr 11/28/67

L58

L58-CAM

PARKS

S. Husted
11-15

Melvin

Dear Senator Russell:

DEC 6 - 1967

BRIGHT 11/20

Dickerson 1/20

We are pleased to inform you that the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, at its 57th meeting held in Washington, D. C., on November 6-9, adopted a resolution endorsing the proposal to establish a Savannah National Historic Site in Savannah, Georgia. The proposed site would consist of two units: (1) a portion of the Savannah Battlefield to be in Federal ownership and (2) a modified area of the Savannah Historic District to remain in nonfederal ownership.

Hanning

Beil
My m 11/21

An advance copy of the Department's news release announcing the actions of the Advisory Board which relate to proposed additions to the National Park System is enclosed. This contains brief descriptions of each area endorsed by the Board.

The National Park Service plans to prepare a limited number of copies of a conceptual plan for the proposed Savannah National Historic Site for distribution to those agencies and organizations which may be involved in this project. This document would serve as the basis for discussion and for further cooperative studies which would be required to determine precisely what part each agency or organization would contribute to the total plan.

We shall be glad to have representatives of the National Park Service meet with you at your convenience, if you so desire, to discuss this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Stewart

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Enclosure

RETURN TO:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Identical letters sent to:
Hon. Herman F. Talmadge
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Hon. G. Elliott Hagan
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

hagan
11-16

tw

cc: CAM Reading File
DAB, Mr. Melvin
NPS Copy
JHusted:bb1:11-16-67

cc: Secretary's Reading File (2)
FW
Regional Director, Southeast

WSC-RP
CAM, Mr. Jacobsen
CAM, Mr. Husted

RICHARD B. RUSSELL
GEORGIA

CHARLES E. CAMPBELL
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 6, 1968

Mr. Frank Melvin
Congressional Relations
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Melvin:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the article
in the SAVANNAH EVENING PRESS of April 30 which
we talked about on the telephone today.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Charles E. Campbell

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

On Battle Park

Brochure Delay Seen

A brochure being printed to describe the proposed Revolutionary Battle Park here is "on the back burner," and the whole project appears to be "dormant," according to an official of the National Park Service.

Joseph P. Cullen, Public Affairs Officer for the NPS regional office in Richmond, Va., said today that it now appears the brochure will not be printed until June or July.

The brochure will contain substantially the same proposal for the battle park that was worked by NPS officials here in October, he said. The plan calls for the development of the "Project J" urban renewal area west of West Broad Street and the adjacent old Central of Georgia Railway yards as a park commemorating the 1779 Siege of Savannah.

The delay in the brochure is caused by the fact that the

Government Printing Office gives priority to the Congressional Record and other government papers and presently has a backlog of work, Cullen said.

Cullen said he was "frankly, surprised" that Sen. Richard Russell "seems to have lost enthusiasm" in regard to the park.

He said Russell has introduced legislation in the current congressional session in regard to the proposed Andersonville commemorative park, but has not done anything in regard to the proposed Savannah park.

Cullen also said he "wished to clear up a misconception" in regard to the study for the park here. "It had been announced locally that the study was funded by a \$25,000 grant obtained by Sen. Russell from Congress. Cullen said that so far as he knew, Sen. Russell's bill had never gotten out of committee and the study was paid for out of NPS operating funds.

He added that the matter was now out of the hands of the park service and will remain dormant unless it is passed by Congress. "I am waiting for the bill to be passed," he said.

Brochure Delay Seen

From Page 1

Russell or Herman Talmadge, Rep. Elliott Hagan, or some other legislator.

He also said that separate Congressional action would be needed to provide any federal funds to purchase the land for the park or to develop it. He noted that in most cases local or state funds are used to buy the park site and donate it to the NPS, and that Savannah's position is somewhat complicated by the fact that Project J is designated as an urban renewal area.

"If there is local enthusiasm for the park and you really want to get anything done, I'd say that someone should see about getting some funds to buy the site, and someone should get after the legislators," he said.

Sen. Russell could not be reached for comment, but a source in his office said today that the senator "has not lost interest in the (Battle Park) project" although he has not taken any direct action in regard to it "for several months."

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MAY 9 10 45 AM '68

SOUTHEAST REGION, P. O. BOX 10008

FEDERAL BUILDING, RICHMOND, VA. 23240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58 SER(CA)

DAL

MAY 8 1968

Memorandum

To: Director
Attention: Mr. Melvin, Congressional Liaison

From: Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region

Subject: Newspaper article on proposed Savannah National Historic Site

As requested by Mr. Melvin, the following information is submitted:

On April 30, Mr. Cullen received a phone call from Mr. Dave Lawson of the Savannah Evening Press requesting the status of the proposed Savannah National Historic Site and the pending National Park Service brochure on this proposal. Mr. Lawson was informed that the brochure was being published by the Government Printing Office and was not expected to be available for distribution until June or July. He was also informed that the status of the proposed Savannah NHS had not changed, but ~~that~~ no legislation had been introduced in the present session of Congress to establish it. When asked if he knew why Senator Russell had not introduced legislation, Mr. Cullen replied ~~that~~ he did not know, but he assumed ~~that~~ the Senator was waiting until the National Park Service brochure was published. That was all Mr. Cullen said on these two subjects.

Upon further questioning, Mr. Lawson was informed that even if legislation ~~was~~ introduced and enacted to establish the site, such legislation would not ordinarily appropriate funds for that purpose. Such funds would normally be appropriated by the Congress in a separate action, either for acquisition or development, or both. The Park Service plan, Mr. Lawson was told, is based on the proposal that the Project J area (an Urban Renewal project) be transferred to the Park System, and if it is determined that additional land outside this area is needed, we would hope that it could be purchased by the state or city or private group and donated to the Service. That was all Mr. Cullen said on these subjects.

In essence, Mr. Cullen did not express any opinion or emotion on Senator Russell's action or lack of action, nor did he make any such

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well

National Historic Site

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statement as "someone should get after the legislators." Unfortunately, this newspaper article is both misleading and inaccurate. It is misleading because the reader is given the impression that Mr. Cullen is being critical of Senator Russell, and it is inaccurate in quoting the statements made to Mr. Lawson.



Charles S. Marshall

L58-CAM

MAY 21 1968

*Melvin 5/13
Duncan 5/14
Husted 5/14
Byght 5/14
Rechoft 5/15
Janison 5/16
Sweeney 5/17
Bill 5/21*

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Russell:

Thank you for your courtesy in sending us a clipping from the April 30 issue of the Savannah Evening Press relating to the proposed Savannah National Historic Site.

Regional

In respect to your interest, we asked the/Director of our Southeast Region, Richmond, Virginia, for a full report on this matter. His report has now been received, a summary of which is enclosed. We think it appropriate to point out that the referenced Mr. Cullen is one of our most respected staff members, and we have every confidence in the accuracy of his statements as ~~was~~ reflected in the enclosed summary.

Your continuing interest in the National Park Service is appreciated, and we regret any embarrassment the aforesaid newspaper article may have caused.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Harthon L. Bill

DEPUTY Director

Go.

Enclosure

cc:
Regional Director, Southeast)w/c of inc. & statement

CAM)
DAL - Mr. Melvin)

FSMelvin:htg 5-13-68

*TW
5/13*



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

SUMMARY
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON PROPOSED
SAVANNAH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

On April 30, Mr. Joseph P. Cullen received a phone call from Mr. Dave Lawson of the Savannah Evening Press requesting the status of the proposed Savannah National Historic Site and the pending National Park Service brochure on this proposal. Mr. Lawson was informed that the brochure was being published by the Government Printing Office and was not expected to be available for distribution until June or July. He was also informed that the status of the proposed Savannah National Historic Site had not changed, but no legislation had been introduced in the present session of Congress to establish it. When asked if he knew why Senator Richard B. Russell had not introduced legislation, Mr. Cullen replied that he did not know, but he assumed the Senator was waiting until the National Park Service brochure was published. That was all Mr. Cullen said on these two subjects.

Upon further questioning, Mr. Lawson was informed that even if legislation were introduced and enacted to establish the site, such legislation would not ordinarily appropriate funds for that purpose. Such funds would normally be appropriated by the Congress in a separate action, either for acquisition or development, or both. The National Park Service plan, Mr. Lawson was told, is based on the proposal that the Project-J area (an Urban Renewal project) be transferred to the National Park System, and if it is determined that additional land outside this area is needed, we would hope that it could be purchased by the State or city or private group and donated to the Service. That was all Mr. Cullen said on these subjects.

In essence, Mr. Cullen did not express any opinion or emotion on Senator Russell's action or lack of action, nor did he make any such statement as "someone should get after the legislators." Unfortunately, this newspaper article is both misleading and inaccurate. It is misleading because the reader is given the impression that Mr. Cullen is being critical of Senator Russell, and it is inaccurate in quoting the statements made to Mr. Lawson.

P. S. C. - D. & C.	
OCT 30 1967	
CHIEF D&C	10/30
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CHIEF CONST.	11/8 (lead)
<i>Page 2 acts</i>	
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OCT 27 1967

L58 SER(CA)

Memorandum

To: Director
 Attention: Assistant Director, Cooperative Activities

From: Regional Director, Southeast Region

Subject: Proposed Savannah National Historic Site, Georgia

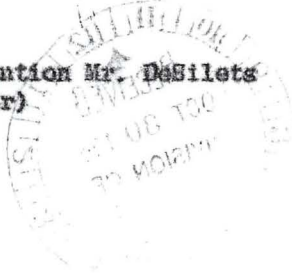
This will confirm Mr. Cullen's telephone report of our presentation of the above in Savannah on October 9. The proposal was enthusiastically received, particularly by Mr. Owen Page and Mrs. Adrienne Roberts. We have since received letters of support from Governor Maddox, Mayor Lewis, Mr. Page, Mrs. Roberts, the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Chatham County Commissioners, copies of which have been furnished your office.

Inasmuch as this proposal concerns the City, State, and other Federal agencies, we believe that the popular publication should be produced as soon as possible. This would enable these other agencies to have some definite idea of what our final plans will propose so that they may plan accordingly. We also suggest that an Urban Planning and Design team study be scheduled as soon as possible after the proposal has been presented to the Advisory Board.

(Signed)

Jackson E. Price

cc:
 Chief, Office of Resource Planning, WSC
 Chief, Design and Construction, PSC (~ Attention Mr. DeSilets)
 Supt., Kennesaw Mountain (State Coordinator)
 Supt., Fort Pulaski



DB

Philadelphia Planning and Service Center
Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

L58-PD

March 22, 1968

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Southeast Region
Attention: Mr. Joseph Cullen

From: Chief, Design and Construction

Subject: Proposed Savannah National Historic Site

Under separate cover we are sending you the following drawings and overlays as requested on March 20:

1. Base Map (large) with overlays
 - a. Overlay—Original Oglethorpe Plan of City and Redoubt
 - b. Overlay—Development of Project "J"
Partial restoration of redoubt and tour of Old Savannah
2. Base Map—Project "J" with overlay showing possible development
3. Rendered drawing—Railroad Bridge
4. Intermediate size base map of Old Savannah and Project "J"

We are pleased that these drawings will again serve a useful purpose and will appreciate their return after the April 4 meeting.

(SGN) H. R. SMITH

H. Reese Smith

In duplicate

Separate cover:
Drawings and overlays

cc:
Chief, PD
Chief Architect
DFBenson:mgh



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO

H30-JHH
L58-CPP

JUL 22 1969

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Russell:

Please accept our apologies for the long delay in replying to your letter on behalf of Mrs. Adrienne G. Roberts of the Steering Committee of the Revolutionary Battle Park, Inc.

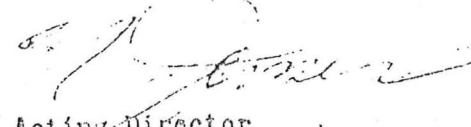
Public Law 89-665, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, authorized a system of grants through the States for preservation of historic properties. However, of the \$10 million authorized for this purpose during fiscal year 1969, Congress appropriated only \$100,000. In accordance with the act, this money has been earmarked for state-wide surveys and plans and for projects of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. No money will be available for individual preservation projects until the States have complete historic site surveys and preservation plans. When funds become available, those allocated to the State of Georgia will be channeled through the State Liaison Officer, Mrs. Mary Gregory Jewett, Executive Secretary, Georgia Historical Commission, 116 Mitchell Street SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

In October of 1967, the National Park Service proposed a plan in Savannah whereby the Revolutionary battle might be suitably memorialized and the historical values within the Savannah Historical District might be interpreted. This plan, however, required the obliteration of a number of railroad buildings which are believed by a number of persons in Savannah to possess such significance as to be worthy of preservation themselves. This impasse of purposes for the identical land area, plus a subsequently advocated plan by the Metropolitan Planning Commission to establish a "permanent fair" on this site which would include a railroad museum, a medieval

French village, a permanent carnival and a zoo, has precluded further study by the Service. Should local sentiments in the future crystallize in favor of our concepts for development and interpretation of the Revolutionary battleground, we will be pleased to work again with appropriate officials and agencies in its behalf. At this time, however, it appears that the local decision will be for city or State administration of the area in concert with local historical societies or organizations and with private enterprise.

Thank you for your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely yours,



Acting Director

Enclosure

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA., CHAIRMAN

JOHN J. LINDER, LA.
HENRY H. HALL, ARK.
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
STUART L. BOLLARD, FLA.
JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS.
JOHN O. PATTORE, R.I.
ALAN BIBLE, N.Y.
ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA.
GALE W. MCGEE, WYO.
MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT.
WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WIS.
RALPH YARBOROUGH, TEX.
JOSEPH M. MONTOYA, N. MEX.

MILTON R. YOUNG, DAK.
KARL E. MUNDT, S. DAK.
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
ROMAN L. IRUSKA, NEBR.
GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
NORRIS COTTON, N.H.
CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.
HIRAM L. FONG, HAWAII
J. GALEB BOGGS, DEL.
JAMES D. PEARSON, KANS.

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 26, 1969

Mrs. Adrienne Roberts
9 Bluff Drive
Savannah, Georgia

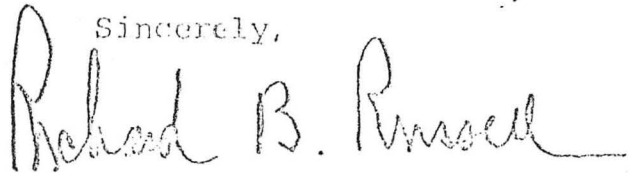
Dear Mrs. Roberts:

I am enclosing herewith the letter in response to your request for a statement of intent from the National Park Service in connection with the Revolutionary Battle Park.

I believe you will find this communication self-explanatory and I hope the information contained therein will be useful in clarifying the Interior Department's present thinking.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



OFFICERS

ALTER C. HARTRIDGE, PRESIDENT
I. DARNELL L. BRAWNER, VICE PRESIDENT
Y. WILLIAM W. OSBORNE, VICE PRESIDENT
RS. ADRIENNE ROBERTS, TREASURER
I. ROBERT J. DUFFY, SECRETARY

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

I. JOHN K. THORSEN, PUBLICITY



Savannah-Chatham County
Historic Site and Monument Commission

Savannah, Georgia

May, 8th, 1970

Governor Lester Maddox
The Capitol
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Governor Maddox:

I have fine news to report to you about the progress of our Revolutionary Battle Park. The letter you wrote me on October, 30, 1969 did exactly as you intended that it should: it enabled a number of State and City agencies to work in our behalf in the assurance that you were behind us. The Georgia Historical Commission certified the buildings on the site to be of national and architectural and historical significance. The Savannah and Chatham County Metropolitan Planning Commission working with our friend Jerry Horton in Atlanta and with City Manager of Savannah, have prepared and sent applications to H.U.D. for matching funds. And yesterday I received the best news of all, within four weeks I would be sent from H.U.D. a letter of intent, assuring us that the project would be funded with federal money before June, 30, 1970, as you specified in your letter to me.

I am enclosing a copy of your letter and an article that appeared in yesterday's Savannah Evening Press.

How happy we all are that this project, which was Mrs. Roberts' dream ten years ago, and for which she has worked incessantly, is so near realization, thanks to you.

With appreciation for your understanding and help.

Cordially,

Walter Hartridge, Jr.
President

30—Savannah Evening Press, Thursday, May 7, 1970

City Asks Funds For Battle Park

The city has applied for federal funds totalling \$157,326 to develop a Revolutionary Battle Park here. The amount would be matched with local funds bringing the total grant program to \$315,652.

City Manager Picot Floyd said the applications have been sent to the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

The city had agreed to file the applications for the Chatham-Savannah Historic Site and Monument Commission.

Two Applications

Two applications were filed. One is for a \$164,000 historic preservation grant and the other a \$151,652 open space grant. The funds would purchase a five-acre tract at the old Central of Georgia Rail-

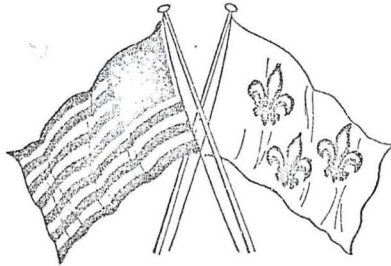
way yards, develop the site and restore five structures that were railroad buildings and are ~~considered important~~ly and architecturally important.

Gov. Lester Maddox has agreed to give \$51,000 from his emergency fund for the project on the condition that another \$51,000 is raised locally and the federal funds can be obtained.

The total ~~proposed~~ park area is west of West Broad Street between Interstate 16 and Louisville Road. It includes both the railroad yards and the city's urban renewal land Project J.

The commission hopes to develop the area as a major tourist attraction and commemorate the Revolutionary War Battle of Savannah fought on the site.

Commission Chairman Walter C. Hartridge has said the area would be developed "as a showcase window for Savannah" rather than as a "purely historical project."



C&C

Revolutionary Battle Park, Inc.

(Savannah, October 9, 1779)

TEERING COMMITTEE

- ROBERT W. GROVES
- ALEXANDER A. LAWRENCE
- SIG. GEN. A. L. HENDERSON
- THOMAS H. GIGNILLIAT
- WEN H. PAGE
- ALTER C. HARTRIDGE
- MISS ADRIENNE G. ROBERTS

Savannah, Ga.
May 11th. 1970

Senator Richard Russell
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Russell:

This is to bring to your attention the great progress we have met in trying to meet the criteria of everyone as well as to obtain letters of intent from every one. I believe you will see we have one from the Governor, from H.U.D. from the Interior Dept. In the letter from the Nat. Parks Dept. on date Jul 22nd. the closing paragraph sets forth the statement that when we have done the above they will be glad to work with us.

I talked to Mr. Joseph Cullen during the time of the recent visit of Count de Warren to us and he said the Interior Dept. had been cut back. But just about two weeks ago the article appeared PARK EXPENDITURES BOOST IS PROPOSED. So I am asking you again to explore the possibility of us getting some of the money to purchase some more of the park land, as we do need it all to make it acceptable, as we think, and of course for development.

We are well on the way and after 10 years I would say the Community is of the opinion this is what we need to the entrance to Savannah. The French Government is likewise going to help us. I do hope I live to see this park finished.

Thank you again for all of your patient interest.

May my Lord keep sustain you.

Love,

Park Expenditures Boost Is Proposed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Nixon administration proposed Monday a 50 per cent increase in federal spending for buying and developing new parks and recreation areas.

The proposal would increase the Land and Water Conservation Fund from \$200 million to \$300 million a year in fiscal 1971 and allow increased discounts to states and cities on the purchase of federal surplus property for park use.

The program was outlined to the House Interior Committee by Harrison Loesch, assistant secretary of interior.

"We must bring parks to the people," Loesch asserted.

"We believe it is urgent that we act now to provide additional recreational opportunity, particularly in view of the high rate of development and the rapid escalation of land prices."

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is the principal source of money for the purchase of recreation land by the National Park Service, the U. S. Forest Service and

the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. It also is used for grants to the states for park acquisition and development.

At present the fund consists of receipts from the sale of surplus property, park admission and user fees, and the tax on motorboat fuel, plus enough additional revenue from the federal offshore oil funds to total \$200 million a year.

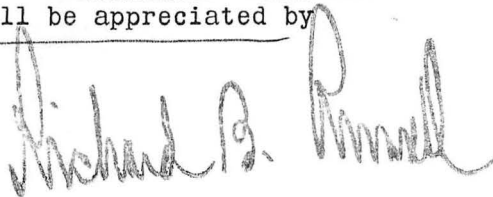
United States Senate

June 1, 1970

Respectfully referred to:

National Park Service
Department of the Interior

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by



U.S.S.

Please Address Reply To
Room 205, Senate Office Bldg

JUN - 5 1970

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Russell:

We are pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mrs. Adrienne G. Roberts of the Steering Committee of the Revolutionary Battle Park, Inc., concerning the revolutionary battleground.

e We appreciate your continuing interest in this matter and will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

TGWood:jad 6/5/70

P. Knight 4/15
R. Jacobsen 6/14
M. Griswold 6/14
T. Wood 4/22
June 6. 22
June 6. 23

LSB-12

JUN 30 1970

Hon. Richard B. Russell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Russell:

Thank you for your recent inquiry in behalf of Mrs. Adrienne G. Roberts.

As you doubtless are aware, the Secretary of the Interior's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, at its October 1965 meeting, noted that the Siege of Savannah was an event of national historic significance but stated that all evidence of the event had been obliterated by urban development. The following year the Advisory Board determined the Savannah National Historic District to possess national historic significance. In February 1967, it was registered as a national historic landmark. Later in 1967, a National Park Service study suggested the creation of a Savannah National Historic Site which would contain two units. One was to be a modified area of the historic district of the city to continue in private ownership. The other was to be a public area on the site where any of the events associated with the Siege of Savannah occurred. The latter area was proposed for acquisition by donation and for restoration to its appearance at the time of the Siege.

The National Park Service proposal did not receive broad support in Savannah.

Subsequently, local sentiment developed favoring preservation of several Central of Georgia Railroad structures located on the battlefield site. It appears now that a harmonizing of local interests for commemoration of railroad and the Revolutionary War history and stimulation of tourism through the development of amusement features has been worked out. This project may be a highly appropriate use of land so conveniently located to the citizens of Savannah, but we do not believe that such a plan could warrant participation by the Service.

Georgia
6-22

If at some future time local support should develop in favor of the Service concepts for development of these areas of national historic significance, we would be pleased to cooperate toward such an objective.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Thomas F. Slater

~~Deputy~~ Director

Enclosures

(Constituents' letters + material returned)

cc:

CL, Mr. Holley, w/c inc.
Director, Southeast Region (2), w/c inc.
IP, Mr. Ingham, w/c inc.
IP, Mrs. Livingston's Reading File
LL, Mr. Melvin, w/c inc.

FNP:PKnight:bbl:6-19-70