

10-23
(June 1941)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED NATIONS HOME SITE
----- NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 0-36
U.N. HOME SITE
HISTORIC SITES MISC.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED NATIONS HOME SITE

HISTORIC SITES MISCELLANEOUS

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

- 2 -

the press identified the Black Hills bid with this argument."

He observed that the question of where to locate the UNO permanent home was "completely unresolved" until congress extended an official invitation to the preparatory commission.

"Immediately upon that invitation the decision was made," he said, "and the same people who decided to bring it to the United States will decide which proposed site in this country is most desirable.

"They cannot possibly ignore the fact that the official invitation by congress came as the result of prodding by South Dakota representatives in congress, Rep. Case and Senator Gurney.

"The point of view so strongly expressed by Rep. Mundt, in a house speech, that Britain is attempting to dominate the final decision has been shown to be true in the light of recent events. You may be quite sure that the psychology of this cleavage between the United States and England will work to the advantage of the Black Hills promotion."

Several States Represented

Final link in the chain of Dudley's freshened confidence is the fact that the Black Hills world capital committee, representing several states, appears to be the only American group representing more than a single municipality.

Now that the United States has been definitely chosen for the peace capital, the influence of these inland states "will be unquestionably exercised," he said, to establish the capital in the Black Hills.

Once 'Fantastic Idea'

"What once seemed a fantastic idea," he concluded, "now seems close to realization. The people of South Dakota have won great respect for themselves and their plan. Their representatives in the promotional organization and in congress have made a remarkably strong showing."

Dudley, making his third trip to South Dakota in the interests of the Black Hills country's greatest project of all time, conferred last week with Gov. M. Q. Sharpe, George Starring and other members of the executive group, visiting at Pierre, Huron, Rapid City and Deadwood. Starring is newly appointed treasurer-counselor of the Greater South Dakota association, of which he was formerly executive vice president.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

NATIONAL PARK RECEIVED
DEC 20 1945
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

(03)

SYMBOLS

- DL = Day Letter
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
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THE DIRECTOR NATL PARK SVC=
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*AD Jones
Tele. 12/26
E. Wilson
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REFERENCE YOUR TELEPHONE CALL TODAY. APPARENTLY
NEWSPAPER REPORTS CONSIDERED AUTHENTIC. WOLFSOHN
CONFERRED WITH SECRETARY WHO IS INTERESTED NOW ONLY
IN ROGERS ESTATE. ALLEN BEING NOTIFIED ACCORDINGLY=
KNOX ASSISTANT CHIEF COUNSEL.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

Benson R. Frost
Attorney and Counsellor at Law
11 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Rhinebeck, N. Y.

Rhinebeck, New York
December 20, 1945

Hon. William D. Hassett
Secretary to the President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

As you probably know, we have given an invitation to the United Nations Organization (UNO) to make the late home of President Roosevelt and the adjoining lands, the permanent site or home of that organization. I have just returned from London, England, where Dick Russell and F. Palmer Hart and I went to deliver the invitation in person and to submit all possible data we could get together to show that Hyde Park would be accessible, suitable and available for such a purpose.

There is one thing that bothers me and the members of the Committee, and I am wondering if you could give me any help, or tell me where to go to get the information I want. If you so desire, the matter can be treated confidentially:

At the present time the VANDERBILT ESTATE at Hyde Park is owned by the U. S. of America. The ROOSEVELT mansion and part of the adjoining lands have been deeded to the U. S.- or are about to be. The ARCHIBALD ROGERS ESTATE stands in the name of "The Second District Realty Corporation of New York City." I understand that this corporation is a subsidiary of, or connected with, the R. F. C. I also understand that this corporation has received an offer of \$200,000 for this property from some source, but that the offer is being held pending the decision of the UNO as to their selection of a site.

A bit north of the Village of Staatsburg is the OGDEN MILLS ESTATE, which is owned by the State of New York. We have been given to understand by members of the State Park Commission that if the UNO wants to take this over together with the Roosevelt Estate and lands at Hyde Park, that the State will probably acquiesce. We have the assurance of the President's family that a tract of something like 1000 acres of land, and which has not been deeded to the Federal government out of the Roosevelt holdings, would be available.

The thing that I would like to know is this: In case of the Vanderbilt land, and of that portion of the Roosevelt lands which are owned by the United States, I assume that it would require Congressional action for a sale or for a gift of those lands to the UNO? Am I correct in this?

In the case of the Rogers Estate, which alone consists of something like 775 acres of land, I assume that the second district Realty Corporation could convey these premises directly. And I believe that the State of New York Park Commission could convey the Mills Estate, altho it might require Legislative action. Those are just guesses on my part.

If all those lands, federal and state owned, were made available to the UNO, would you think that the federal government would expect to be paid for the federal lands which would have to be turned over to the UNO organization; or would the federal government make a gift of them to the organization? If Congressional action is necessary either to give or sell, would you think there would be any difficulty in obtaining favorable action from Congress?

It is our hope and our expectation that if the UNO decides to come to Hyde Park, that the Federal Government would immediately make available, without charge, any lands owned by it. I would like your opinion as to whether this might be true, or what the proper procedure would be?

I wonder if you have heard any rumors about this situation, and whether you are in a position to tell me if our suggestion of Hyde Park as a home for the UNO would receive the blessing of the Administration, or whether it might oppose it?

I am just rambling along as I dictate this letter, but I hope you can get the gist of what I want to know, and what we want. We want the UNO to come to Hyde Park, to the late President's home, because we feel that the inspiration of his life and the place he occupied while living, and which he still holds altho he is gone, in the hearts of the people throughout the world, will always be an inspiration to the members of this world organization. If you can give me any help on the situation in any way I would be more than grateful.

I tried to reach you on the telephone today at Washington, but they told me you had left for a little rest over the Holidays. I am sure you greatly deserve it, and I hope that you will greatly enjoy it. With every good wish for the New Year, believe me,

Most sincerely,

(SGD.) Benson R. Frost

BRF-S

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UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site
Hyde Park, New York



DEC 29 1945
J. M. [unclear]
12/29/45
Mr. [unclear]
Secretary of the
conference
H. [unclear]
File
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December 27, 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One.

While I was at lunch with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt yesterday, the question of the location of the UNO headquarters came up for discussion. I gathered from the conversation that the choice fo Hyde Park as the site of the headquarters is very likely and that it will have the support of Mrs. Roosevelt as a delegate. The opinions expressed are of importance to the Service and possibly to the Department.

Mrs. Roosevelt stated that the National Park Service responsibilities for operating the President's Home would be increased greatly if the UNO came there. I expressed concern over the freedom that the local Chamber of Commerce was taking in giving the Home to the UNO for office space and for meetings.

Mrs. Roosevelt then stated that she thought the use of the Home by the UNO would be very fitting but that the manner of use would have to be considered. I replied that I did not believe the government could grant extra-territorial rights to the property because of the wording of the deed. Mrs. Roosevelt agreed. Another guest asked about the use of Vanderbilt Mansion as a residence for delegates. I replied that the wording of the deed for the Vanderbilt property would probably prevent that use and that I believed the President had aided in the preparation of that deed. Mrs. Roosevelt said that she believed that correct and that the President would have desired the two properties saved as they were. She felt that the UNO would not wish to see the site that was the justification for the headquarters location destroyed.

Mrs. Roosevelt then stated that it was her belief that the Home (residence and grounds) should be closed to the public during the sessions of the assenbly; that gates and barriers be removed and that the delegates be allowed to use the Home for informal meetings, discussions and rest. She believes that the thought that Franklin D. Roosevelt once lived and worked here will influence the delegates to meet problems as he would have met them. She believes that he would have approved of such use and that he would liked to have kept the Home "alive" in this manner. This opinion coming from Mrs. Roosevelt, a delegate, is important to the Service.

I then told Mrs. Roosevelt of my suggestion to Mr. Demaray last week that the Post Road past the Home should be saved and protected by making the Rogers estate the only waterfront property for the UNO site with the permanent construction and development to be placed between the Post Road and Violet Avenue (900). Mrs. Roosevelt expressed a favorable opinion of this suggestion. She then told me to inspect the Rogers house to consider its use in place of the Vanderbilt

Mansion and the Home. She also discussed several other houses that might be available.

The UNO site is to be chosen at London in January and the next meeting scheduled for the last of April will be held at the permanent site.

In view of this conversation yesterday, I recommend that the Director take steps immediately to place the Service in a position where it will be influential if not entirely responsible for planning the development of the UNO site if it comes to Hyde Park. If the Service is not in the driver's seat, we are going to have real difficulties in maintaining the principles of the historic site act as it applies to the historical areas at Hyde Park. I sincerely believe that the selection of Hyde Park as the UNO headquarters is imminent enough that the Director should consider Service policy with relation to it and bring the matter to the attention of the Advisory Board.

George A. Palmer
Superintendent

cc
Director ✓
Mr. Demaray

1254

INTERIOR DEPT
JAN - 946
SECRETARY'S

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1945

INTERIOR DEPT.
SECRETARY'S
MAIL CENTER
JAN - 3 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

TO NATIONAL
PARK SERVICE

I would greatly appreciate your guidance in replying to this letter from Benson R. Frost of Rhinebeck, a personal friend of the late President's, who is greatly interested in having the headquarters of the United Nations organization established at Hyde Park.

INTERIOR DEPT.
SECRETARY'S
MAIL CENTER
JAN - 3 1946
PREPARE DRAFT
OF REPLY

If you will give me such information as is obtainable within your jurisdiction, I will attempt to run down through other channels the replies to Mr. Frost's other inquiries. His letter, as you will see, covers a good deal of territory.

Happy New Year to you and to all of the members of your staff. They always give this office the fullest cooperation.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

1. Mr. ~~Drury~~ ^{DEC 29 1945}

2. Mr. ~~Evison~~

3. Mr. ~~Kahler~~

Handwritten: Tolson

Chicago Tribune - 12-29-45

UNO Site to Be Near Boston or New York City

(Map on page 2)

LONDON, Dec. 28 (AP)—A spokesman for the united nations organization interim committee said tonight the committee would choose a site in the "general areas" of either Boston or New York City as a permanent home for the organization.

The spokesman, who asked not to be identified by name, added that a subcommittee, leaving for the United States on Jan. 3 or 4 to inspect possible sites, would visit "at least 15 places and probably more." He declined to name these communities or to reveal the committee's itinerary.

The interim committee earlier issued a formal statement saying the subcommittee had been instructed to "consider possible sites within an area of 50 to 60 miles around Boston, and within an area east of the Hudson river in New York state and Connecticut between 25 to 80 miles of New York City."

Hyde Park, N. Y., the late President Roosevelt's ancestral home, lies within these boundaries.

Princeton in Running

The spokesman said, however, the instructions did not rule out other communities near these areas and specifically mentioned Princeton, N. J., as a site which might be visited and which remained under consideration. Princeton is southwest of the Hudson river, about 50 miles from New York City.

The interim committee last night ruled out the south and the middle west sections of the country, leaving only 10 Atlantic seaboard states in the running at that time.

The spokesman said Philadelphia, a strong bidder, had been eliminated in today's deliberations "because of its proximity to Washington."

During the UNO preparatory commission's debate on a site last week, several delegates argued that the organization's capital should not be "near enough to Washington to come under its influence."

Choose Four of Committee

Philadelphia and Princeton are only about 30 miles apart. The spokesman did not explain why Princeton remained under consideration even tho Philadelphia had been eliminated. But the committee's formal announcement said "the site should not be located within or too near a large metropolitan district."

Four members of the site committee, which will have six members, have been named. They are Francois Briere, France; Dr. Shuksi Hsu, China; Julio A. La Carte, Uruguay, and Awny El Khalidi, Iraq.

Hyde Park Site Urged as Selection for UNO

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—(P)—The National Park Service will be pleased to have property adjoining the late President Roosevelt's Hyde Park, N. Y., home selected as permanent headquarters for the United Nations Organization.

The reason is simple:

With the UNO home right next door, so to speak, more tourists will visit the Roosevelt estate, which the late chief executive deeded to the government for permanent maintenance.

And, more tourists mean more admission fees—nominal, of course which the park service charges for entrance into some of the properties it supervises.

A. E. Demeray, associate direc-

tor of the National Park Service, says it has not been determined what shall be the amount of the admission fee to the estate, where the ancestral home and the Franklin D. Roosevelt memorial library are two main items of interest.

Demeray expects that the fee won't be less than 10 cents nor more than 25.

Many people have the mistaken idea, Demeray says, that the site for the UNO home would be located on the Roosevelt property.

Actually, he explains, his understanding is that the site advanced adjoins the late President's estate and was once owned by the Archibald Rogers estate. The property,

comprising about 750 acres, is now controlled by the Second District Realty Corporation of New York City, which borrowed money for the purchase from an RFC subsidiary.

Lacking complete details on acquisition of the property by the realty corporation, RFC officials in Washington said it was "impossible to say" how, in the event UNO chooses the site, it will be turned over to the organization.

However, one official who requested anonymity, expressed the opinion that if the Rogers estate is finally chosen "a convenient plan to transfer title will be speedily arranged."

JAN 7 1946

NEWARK SUNDAY CALL, Sunday, December 30, 1945.

Name	Date
<i>Drury</i>	<i>JAN 14 1946</i>
<i>W. H. O.</i>	<i>1/14</i>
<i>Rickey</i>	<i>1/14</i>

Watching the Crowds

Willingness to Take Tax-Free UNO Headquarters But Not Veterans' Hospital a Bit Puzzling

By EDWARD SOTHERN HIPP

Morristown, through the agency of Mayor Potts, has joined Atlantic City, Princeton, Toms River and Asbury Park in bidding for the world capital of the United Nations Organization. There's no reason why Mayor Potts should miss an opportunity to obtain some free publicity for Morristown or for Mayor Potts; but it would be a tremendous surprise if the Morris bid is accepted. Mayor Potts being an old hand in the political game, should understand.

In the first place, the Mayor boasts that Morristown is an ideal site for the UNO capital because it includes such reminders of the Revolutionary War as Fort Nonsense and Jockey Hollow Park, not to forget the handsome house which Gen. Washington used as his headquarters. "Washington and his armies were here for two years," says Mayor Potts and "for five years Morristown was the center of the struggle to create our form of government."

Oh, yes? And does Mayor Potts think for a minute that John Bull's delegates will relish the notion of voting for a headquarters which served as an inspiration for the American revolutionists? This business of hands across the sea and all that is all right in its way, but the British would hardly like the idea of being continually reminded of the historic days in and around Morristown. Besides, in his apparent eagerness to acquire the UNO capital, has Mayor Potts ascertained if the \$50,000,000 worth of buildings to be erected will be located on tax-free real estate? If that makes no difference, someone may be able to explain to a puzzled observer in the left-field bleachers why the Mayors of other near-by towns are maneuvering so openly to avoid obtaining a U. S. veterans' hospital, to be built on tax-free ground.

Possibly, in a world as ill and confused as the world of today, the UNO capital committee might be more interested in a bid from Morris Plains.

W. H. O.

F. S. Ronalds
Morristown N. H. P.

2



The Director.

Mail to

~~Mr. Demaray~~

Mr. ~~Adcox~~
Mr. Lee
CHICAGO

UNO Choice of Hyde Park Site Would Be Tribute to Roosevelt

By EDWIN A. LAHEY
Special to The News Leader

HYDE PARK, N. Y., Jan. 7.—If the United Nations Organization chooses Hyde Park, N. Y., as its permanent home, as now appears probable, the choice will be a tribute to the memory of the late President Roosevelt, who conceived the idea of an organized peace.

And whatever arrangements for housing the organization are finally made (a small city would have to be built), the heart of the UNO site would be the home where Roosevelt was born and the rose garden where he is buried.

It would be a heart legally separated from the body, since the patch of Roosevelt land embracing the grave and the home was left to the people of the United States, and could not, without some complications, be thrown in with the property intended as a site for the UNO.

The UNO site will have extra-territorial rights, which will make it actually not a part of the United States.

WRITER VISITS ESTATE

The Roosevelt home and garden are not yet open to the public, but the writer had the opportunity to spend most of a morning there, thanks to the courtesy of George Palmer, a National Park Service official, who is preparing the place as a national museum site, to be opened sometime this Spring.

The real property containing the house and garden, and totaling 33 acres, has already been conveyed to the Federal government according to the terms of the late President's will. The personal property in the big Roosevelt house becomes government property after January 13, the deadline for the removal of whatever articles are desired by the Roosevelt family. (On the morning I was in the house, servants were removing Mrs. Roosevelt's washing machine.)

Visitors at the Roosevelt home, when it is opened as a national shrine, will find the interior of the big old house almost intact. There are some vacant spots on the walls, where members of the family have removed a picture or a print for which there was a personal attachment, but these spots are few.

OF GEORGIAN DESIGN

The house is of late Georgian design, in the best Hudson Valley estate tradition. The central portion of the house, originally a frame structure built before 1840, is now stucco. At either end is a wing built of field stone, and added in 1915.

You enter through a semicircular portico of Roman pillars. The house has about 20 rooms, and is two stories high. There is a built-in elevator in one corner. Where the floor level changes at several points in the house, there are hooks in the stairs, where the ramp for President Roosevelt's wheel chair was fastened.

The front door opens into a huge reception hall, large as the ordinary living-room. This room is filled with bric-a-brac which would be a standing temptation to souvenir thieves. The park service faces its most difficult task

An old-fashioned chair in the corner, with a red and white Indian blanket on the seat, was Fala's bed. The furnishings in this room are simple.

ROOSEVELT BIRTHPLACE

At the north end of the second floor is a little room with a brass bed and nautical prints on the wall, which was Roosevelt's boyhood room. Another bedroom was his birthplace.

Along the west side of the second floor there are three guest bedrooms. The two choice rooms have a bathroom between them. A man from Crane Company would have to jog his memory to recall the model numbers of the fixtures. The third guest room

leads off one of and is equipped with black and yellow pitcher.

Guests in these rooms include King George and Queen Elizabeth of England; Mr. Molotov; Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek; Princess Wilhelmina, Princess of Norway; Princess Juliana of the Netherlands; Winston Churchill and many others.

The rooms look like bedrooms in an old-fashioned house, but if the

in nailing down all the little articles in this hall before the place is opened to the public.

HAT ON BENCH

On one wall of this reception hall are a number of Revolutionary cartoons, lampooning the British. When King George VI of England was a guest at the house, he got many a chuckle from these cartoons.

President Roosevelt's jaunty Panama hat was on a bench in the hall where he was accustomed to throw it when he came inside. A member of the family is believed to have placed it there while removing personal effects from the house.

The hallway opens directly into a small dining room which faces west toward the Hudson River, and into a "Dresden room" pretty well filled with a grand piano, upon which rest dozens of autographed portraits of the royal and important personages who have spent a night under these eaves.

A corridor leads off the hall to the right into the north wing, where the kitchen, the servants' quarters and the President's office were located. The corridor to the left leads past a small sitting room, which was the favorite rookery of Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt, the President's mother, and into a big library, the No. 1 room of the house.

OCCUPIES WHOLE WING

The library stretches across the whole south wing, and has a marble fireplace at each end. It is lined in stained oak. Over the east fireplace is a Gilbert Stuart portrait of Isaac Roosevelt, one of the late President's ancestors. At each side of this fireplace are the high-backed armchairs he occupied during his two terms as Governor of New York.

Upstairs is a series of bedrooms and the "upstairs living room, a small room from which a number of pictures have apparently been removed. The only intimate touch left on the wall of this room is a portrait of the late President, in his most jaunty mood, and inscribed:

"For Mama, from F. D. R., July, 1936."

The President's bedroom is in the southwest corner of the second floor. From it there is a magnificent view of the Hudson and the two bridges at Poughkeepsie, 10 miles south. The President's bed is a big old double affair in mahogany, with a high curving back.

Name	Date
Jesse	1/11/46
W. D. D.	1/14/46
	JAN 18 1946

to D. D. D.
W. D. D.
JAN 18 1946
C.C. - Park
Hyde Park

other two, talk, historians no doubt would want to listen.

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shek, Queen
Martha, of
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Churchill

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walls could

About 100 yards from the curving front portico of the house, along a diagonal walk, is the Roosevelt garden, about an acre of land, walled in by a hemlock hedge about 15 feet high.

GRAVE IN GARDEN

In the center of the garden the late President rests in his grave, before which is a simple stone of his own design, four by three by eight feet, and running the length

of the grave. The only inscription on the white marble is the name, "Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1882-1945," and beneath this, the unfinished inscription, "Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, 1884."

The grave is covered with a blanket of evergreen and heather. Delegations from foreign lands frequently place a wreath on it. A wreath of evergreen the day of my visit had a card attached which said: "Sincere Argentine friends of the greatest fighter for

Richmond News Leader, Monday, Jan. 7, 1946

freedom, decency and democracy." William A. Plog, 76, who has worked on the Roosevelt estate for 47 years, occupies a little sentry box in the corner of the garden, guarding the grave. He is now an employee of the Interior

Department. I asked him how he liked working for the government, and he smiled wanly and said:

"Well, I guess I'll give it a trial."

[Copyright, 1945, by the Chicano Tribunal]



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

1111/46

Name	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	JAN 21 1946
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
25, D. C.	

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY.

JAN 10 1946

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten notes: T. Hart, Dunning, Drury, F. L. G., Gordon]

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY.

JAN 14 1946

CHIEF CLERK'S

My dear Mr. Hascett:

I have received your memorandum of December 29 with reference to the inclusion of the Vanderbilt Mansion and the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Sites at Hyde Park, New York, within the headquarters site of the United Nations Organization in the event of its establishment at Hyde Park. I am extremely anxious that the UNO, if the site otherwise would be acceptable, should locate its headquarters at Hyde Park; I could think of no monument and no tribute which would so effectively do honor to the late President. There are complications, both legal and administrative, in making the Hyde Park area the headquarters of the UNO, but I am confident that these could rather easily be overcome.

By a deed executed May 21, 1940, Margaret Louise Vanalen conveyed the Vanderbilt Mansion property at Hyde Park as a donation to the United States. An order designating the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site was issued by me on December 18, 1940, under the authority contained in Section 2 of the Act of Congress approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666). The Deed contains a provision that the premises were conveyed in order to erect a memorial to be known as the "Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site". The title to this property is held in trust by the United States to be administered as an historic site.

On December 29, 1943, the late President executed a deed to the United States covering his home at Hyde Park, together with approximately 13 acres of land, pursuant to the Act of July 18, 1939 (53 Stat. 1065). As Secretary of the Interior, I accepted the conveyance of the property on December 30, 1943, pursuant to the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666), and, on the 15th day of January 1944, designated the Mansion and lands conveyed by the deed as the "Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site". The grave of President Roosevelt is now located within this historic site.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Library is a short distance from the Roosevelt Mansion. This Library was established by a joint resolution of the Congress approved July 18, 1939, and was designed to preserve and administer the historical material donated to it by Franklin D. Roosevelt and related material acquired from other sources by gift, purchase, or loan. In accepting the Library buildings and grounds, Congress pledged the faith of the United States for their proper maintenance and placed the Library under the jurisdiction of the Archivist of the United States.

It seems to me that the best way to reconcile the objectives of the two national historic sites and yet take advantage of this unexpected opportunity to honor the late President would be to provide for a continued Federal administration of the Home, the grave of President Roosevelt, and of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, and to turn the Vanderbilt Mansion property over to the UNO, in the event it would serve any useful purpose. This would, of course, require an act of Congress and would also amount to a departure, although a highly technical one, from the terms of the trust under which this property is held. If the donor ^{be} willing to give her consent to such use of this property, the Congress could devote it to this new use with entire good faith.

I am also of the opinion that such lands as the United States Government may convey to the UNO should be without charge, which should also be the case with regard to the Rogers estate if this property is in fact held by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

I might add, although the matter may be somewhat outside the jurisdiction of this Department, that I would recommend that the Congress, in enacting upon the selection of the UNO site, should not only give the land to the UNO, but should create an international enclave, over which the United States would exercise no jurisdiction.

I hope that the information contained in this letter will be of some assistance in making your reply to Mr. Benson R. Frost's letter of December 20, 1945, to you which is returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HAROLD L. ICKES

Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. William D. Hassett,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

Enclosure 804.

cc: Director's Office. w/c of Mr. Hassett's memo of Dec. 29/45;
and Mr. Frost's letter of Dec. 20/45 to Mr. Hassett. (by NPS).
Regional Director, Region One. ditto (by NPS).
Supt., Vanderbilt Mansion. ditto (by NPS).
Washington Liaison Office. ditto (by NPS).

AJK-fmd



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Handwritten initials and scribbles

ADDRESS ONLY

THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

January 10, 1946.

Confidential

MEMORANDUM for the Director. *JAN 14 1946*

Under separate cover and confidentially I am mailing to you a copy of the Hyde Park and Biltmore Estate reports prepared at the request of Secretary Ickes. The Secretary has presented a copy of each of these reports to the President.

G. E. Demaray
Associate Director.

Reports loose in file

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
RECEIVED
JAN 28 1946
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

W.N.O.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1946

Hyde Park Site Prediction Irks U. N. O. Group

French Member Denies He Reported to Paris; Boston Offers Facilities

By Barrett McGurn

BOSTON, Jan. 17.—Comment in France today by Foreign Minister Georges Bidault to the effect that the United Nations headquarters would "likely" be placed in Hyde Park, N. Y., created a minor storm this afternoon among the U. N. O.'s seven-nation site selectors.

Mr. Bidault's probably unintentional inference that the site-hunters, who still have a week of place inspecting to do in New England, were merely going through motions to please local boosters, was not missed by the U. N. O. representatives. Several comments were tart.

"I, as chairman, would like to stress the word 'likely,'" said Dr. Stoyan Gavrilovic, chairman of the U. N. O. site-inspectors. He said: "Boston people can say it will 'likely' be Boston. New York people can say it will 'likely' be New York, and French people can say it will 'likely' be anything."

Denies Reporting to Paris

Francois Briere, former French Consul in Boston, who is France's representative on the committee, seemed startled. He had certainly not been the source of Mr. Bidault's ideas, he insisted.

"I have not sent a report of any kind to Paris since I have been in America," he said.

Dr. Gavrilovic seconded him. He said that the committee had made no report on the sites it had seen in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey and will make none of any sort until it returns to the U. N. O. General Assembly with its four-to-

six recommendation at the end of this month.

Mr. Bidault's remarks as reported by The Associated Press, were made today in Paris to the French Cabinet.

Boston Offers Facilities

Boston got down to business during the day and offered specific facilities for U. N. O.'s temporary headquarters, which will be needed by the international group by March. The city said that U. N. O. could have the full use of four hotels containing a total of 1,000 rooms. They were the Lincolnshire, the Victoria, the Buckingham and the Somerset. In addition, the committee was told it could have as much more space as it needed in the Copley Plaza and the Statler, which would be shared jointly by U. N. O. and the public. Dr. Gavrilovic said he would need a total of 500 rooms in these two.

The generosity of the Boston offer was emphasized by the comment of one hotel representative, Floyd L. Bell. He said that Boston's hotel shortage is as acute as that in other parts of the country and that two days ago "there was not a room vacant in a hotel in Boston." In addition, the U. N. O. committee was shown through possible office buildings for the temporary international headquarters.

For a general assembly meeting hall Boston officials showed the committee the city's Symphony Hall, a 2,800-seat auditorium which is described as Boston's equivalent of Carnegie Hall.

Truck Cuts Off Trolley Front

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17 (AP).—The front end of a trolley car was sheared off today in a collision with a tractor trailer, injuring four persons. The truck crashed into a house, turned over on its side and caught fire. The driver, William Stiggle, twenty-six, of Millsboro, Del., was extricated by police. He suffered a back injury. Motorman John Krawiecki, thirty, was knocked back into the trolley car by the crash and was taken to a hospital.

Hyde Park Stationer Sells Roosevelt Postcards

Published Memorial Library and Vanderbilt Estate Views

In an article published in the New York Herald Tribune on Jan. 5, 1946, under the heading "Plan to Convert Hyde Park for U. N. O. Drafted," the following statement was made:

"Matters, they indicated, are already delicate enough with an occasional choleric Hyde Park political foe of the late President, such as the stationery store man in that hamlet who refuses to sell picture postcards of either the Roosevelt Memorial Library or of the Vanderbilt estate."

The Herald Tribune is in receipt of a letter from William A. Mulvey, attorney, of 54-56 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, written on behalf of Raymond Hill, of Hyde Park, to the effect that Mr. Hill is the only recognized stationer in Hyde Park and that he has been selling and even had published and printed in his own name postcards of the Roosevelt Memorial Library and the Vanderbilt estate.

The Herald Tribune regrets that the article has inconvenienced Mr. Hill and takes this opportunity to correct any erroneous impression that may have been obtained from it.

Mansfield

Name	Date
<i>Hill</i>	<i>Jan 1-28</i>
<i>File</i>	<i>1/20</i>

DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER

Wednesday, January 30, 1946

Tel. MUrray Hill 2-1234

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

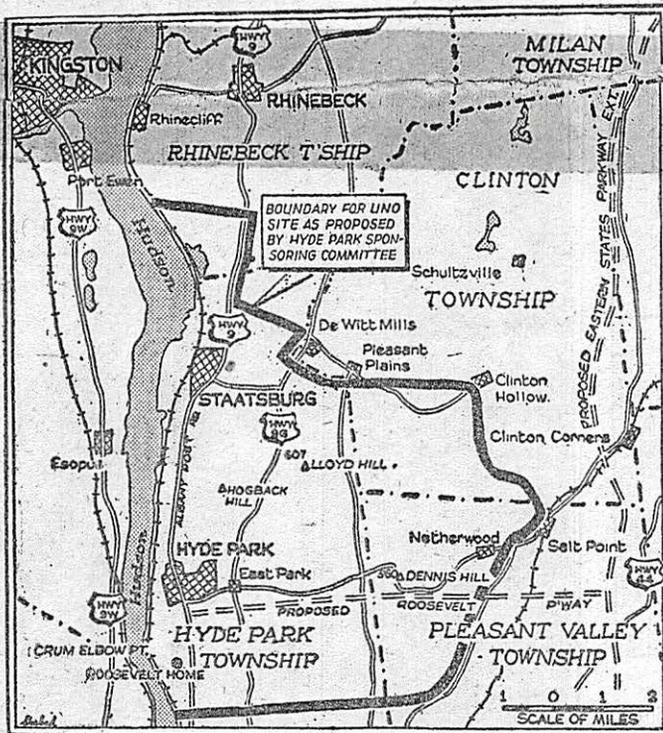
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EXTRATERRITORIAL HYDE PARK?

From yesterday's New York Times, we venture to borrow the map that goes with this editorial.

The black line on the map shows the boundaries of the United Nations Organization world capital if that capital happens to be situated in the Hyde Park area of New York

W.N.O



Heavy black line on this map, borrowed from yesterday's New York Times, encloses proposed Hyde Park, N. Y., site for UNO world capital. Villages of Hyde Park and Staatsburg would not be included.

State. Hyde Park village itself, and Staatsburg village, would not be included. The rest of the site would cover 47.11 sq. mi. In this area now reside an estimated 1,500 persons. These would be "removed," as news reports refinedly put it—maybe by the UNO's international police force; who knows?

In a detailed news story accompanying this map, the Times reported yesterday that the Hyde Park area has almost certainly been selected by the seven-man UNO committee which for several weeks has been going through the motions of inspecting other possible world capital sites. The chairman of this committee is a Dr. Stoyan Gavrilovitch, Foreign Undersecretary of Yugoslavia. Other members include a Dr. Shu Hsi-hsu of China, a Mr. Julio A. Lacarte of Uruguay, a Major Kenneth G. Younger of Great Britain, and a Mr. François Brière of France.

Here then, are 47 sq. mi. of United States territory which apparently are destined to become extraterritorial, meaning that they will cease to belong to us. U. S. laws will not run in this area, any more than Chinese laws run in Hong Kong, a British-owned Chinese island. The above-mentioned Dr. Shu Hsi-shu would know all about that.

As a world capital, the Hyde Park site will start with two strikes against it. The idea will be to honor the late Franklin D. Roosevelt by putting the world capital in his native neck of the woods. The UNO is his baby. But the catch is that Roosevelt was far from unanimously admired in his own country while he was alive, and that there are millions of Americans who do not now regard him as having been anything approaching a saint.

Roosevelt's popular vote in the 1944 election was about 25½ million. Dewey's was about 22 million. It is impossible that all or any great part of those 22,000,000 Dewey voters have now changed their minds about Roosevelt. Whenever anything unpleasant occurs concerning the UNO world capital at Hyde Park, these facts will be recalled by the general public, plus the fact that selection of this site apparently was cut-and-dried from the start and no other possible site had a fair chance to be chosen.

The area itself is a long way from New York City—some 75 miles—and, while the New York Central Railroad's suburban train service up the Hudson River is satisfactory, the trip remains a long one. That will mean that the UNO world capital personnel will be about as remote from what goes on in the real world as were the old League of Nations personnel at Geneva, Switzerland, if not more so.

* * *

For our part, we'd like to see the world capital put somewhere in Mexico, or Argentina, or any other country than the United States. But that would be too much to hope for. One obvious aim of the UNO is to locate its world capital comfortably close to Uncle Sam's cashbox.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
STANDARD FORM NO. 64
RECEIVED
SEP 25 1946
Office Memorandum
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE
TO : The Director

FROM : Evison

SUBJECT: A Call from Drew Pearson's Office

Name	Date
<i>Folsom</i>	<i>9-25</i>
<i>Waring</i>	<i>9-25</i>
	<i>9-30</i>
	<i>John</i>

DATE: Sept. 23, 1946

Just a few minutes ago I had a call from one of Drew Pearson's staff informing me that, in connection with a discussion of the difficulties of the United Nations organization in finding suitable headquarters, there had been a suggestion that some land already owned by the government be devoted to it, possibly Morristown National Historical Park! When I declined to give an offhand opinion as to the desirability of such a proposal, I remarked that in any case the area was pretty limited for any such purpose. To which the reply was, "Why, the World Almanac shows there are 1,051 square miles in it!"

Evison

C

O

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

P

November 18, 1946.

.Y

J. A. Krug, Secretary of Interior,
Washington, D. C.

The following telegram was sent tonight to President Truman, Secretary Byrnes, and the United Nations permanent home site Committee. We urge your support. "We respectfully suggest for your consideration the Boulder Dam Recreational Area in Nevada as the ideal permanent home of the United Nations. Boulder dam is known throughout the world as one of the greatest achievements in harnessing natural resources and world opinion would regard favorably the Boulder Dam area as an appropriate site for building enduring international relations. A suitable site on the shores of beautiful Lake Mead near Boulder City can easily be obtained without condemning valuable private property since all land in this area is Government. The climate is ideal the yeararound. Power and water are available in unlimited quantities. The community is serviced by transcontinental airlines. Two transcontinental railroads and two transcontinental highways. The suggested site is less than 10 hours flying time from New York, 90 minutes from Pacific Coast ports, and offers landing facilities for either land or seaplanes. The site offered is America's greatest scenic attraction according to the National Park 1946 figures and is located in the heart

of the glamorous southwest where the spirit of pioneering and adventure still prevails. Free from prejudices and pressure groups we cordially invite the permanent home site Committee to visit this area before making its final decision as to the location of the permanent home of the United Nations.

BOULDER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY HAROLD JULIAN
CHAIRMAN UNITED NATIONS HOME SITE COMMITTEE.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE
CHICAGO 54, ILLINOIS

~~Mr. Tolson~~ 7/11/46 NOV 22 1946
~~Mr. Repley~~ CAR 11/22.
File J

Repley should be
made in collaboration
with Reclamation. This
could be handled better
in Washington.

I do not think
N.P.S. should object. MSD

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ADDRESS ONLY
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

54

November 22, 1946.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Demaray.

I am returning the original telegram of November 18 from the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce's United Nations Home Site Committee, in which that organization offers for consideration the Boulder Dam Recreational Area as "the ideal permanent home of the United Nations," as I believe the reply to it should be made in collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation and could best be handled from your Office.

I do not think that this Service should interpose any objection to consideration of Boulder Dam Recreational Area by the United Nations in its search for a permanent home site.

(Sgd) NEWTON B. DRURY

Director.

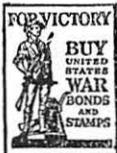
Enclosure 1213334.

cc: Regional Director, Region Three, with copy of telegram.
Supt., Boulder Dam, with copy of telegram.
Mr. Drury, with copy of telegram.
Mr. Price, with copy of telegram.
Mr. Richey, with copy of telegram.

vea

6





THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEC - 6 1946

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There is enclosed for your consideration a copy of a telegram of November 17, addressed to Secretary Krug by the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, suggesting that the Boulder Dam Recreational Area be selected as the permanent home of the United Nations. I trust that consideration will be given to this proposal in connection with the selection of a permanent home site for the United Nations.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) OSCAR L. CHURMAN

Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. James F. Byrnes,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure 87.

cc: Regional Director, Region Three.)	
Supt., Boulder Dam.)	By NPS
→ Director's Office, Chicago, (2).)	
WLO.)	
Mr. D. E. Lee.)	
Mr. Howard Julian, Boulder City		
DEL:db		Chamber of Commerce.

C O P Y

In reply refer to
OA

My dear Mr. Julian:

I have received your telegram of November 17, 1946 suggesting the Boulder Dam area as the site of the permanent headquarters of the United Nations. Your interest in this question is appreciated.

As you will have noted in the press, the General Assembly of the United Nations on November 9 decided to enlarge the terms of reference of the Permanent Headquarters Committee and leave it open to that Committee to consider areas anywhere in the United States in recommending a headquarters site. Subsequently the Permanent Headquarters Committee voted to consider, in addition to Westchester County, New York, areas which might be made available without cost or at reasonable cost in the following localities: New York City, Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco. The Committee also appointed a sub-committee which is now engaged in making a survey of proposed sites in and near these four cities.

You may, however, wish to bring your suggestion directly to the attention of the United Nations. Communications should be addressed as follows:

His Excellency
Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General of the United Nations
Lake Success, New York.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Alger Hiss
Director, Office of
Special Political Affairs.

Mr. Harold Julian,
Boulder City Chamber of Commerce,
Boulder City, Nevada.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON



NATIONAL PARK
RECEIVED
DEC 30 1946
CHIEF OF BUREAU

RECEIVED
DEC 19 1946
SECRETARY

Chicago

December 18, 1946

In reply refer to
OA

INTERIOR DEPT.
SECRETARY'S
MAIL CENTER
DEC 20 1946
TO NATIONAL
PARK SERVICE

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have received your letter of December 6, 1946 enclosing a copy of a telegram of November 17 from the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce urging consideration of the Boulder Dam area as the site of the permanent headquarters of the United Nations.

A similar telegram dated November 17 from the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce was received by this Department. For your information I am enclosing a copy of our reply of November 25.

As you know, the General Assembly has since decided to establish the permanent headquarters in New York City.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

Enclosure:

Copy of letter
to Mr. Julian.

The Honorable
J. A. Krug,
Secretary of the Interior.

DEC 31 1946