

Interpretive Prospectus

**INDEPENDENCE
NATIONAL
HISTORICAL
PARK**

1970

Pennsylvania

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECOMMENDED

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"[The Declaration of Independence] gave promise . . . that all should have an equal chance But if this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle . . . I would rather be assassinated on this spot than to surrender it"

—Abraham Lincoln

PHILOSOPHY

Statement

Independence National Historical Park is as "Historical" as the concepts of self-government and freedom of expression, as relevant as tomorrow's news reports.

We must project a vigorous exposition of the global impact of the United States of America and the continuing exploration in civil liberties, not as a sugar-plum fantasy but as rugged human reality.

Contemporary Cogency

The American statement has tingling pertinence to the world. The United States is father to all succeeding adventures in people-based self-government.

Furthermore, in this Nation today, the American idea has special meaning. *Right now.*

"...during the 18th century, the establishment and largely peaceful maintenance of a major independent government that was responsible to the people seemed to be one of the glories of history to liberal Europeans.

"During the 19th century, the Revolution was regarded in the United States as the basis for the greatest patriotic pride, and the Founding Fathers were put forward as a source of perpetual inspiration. Unfortunately, in the desire to encourage exactly the type of emulation the schoolmasters preferred," teachers and journalists distorted the Founding Fathers into myths and legends that were historically inaccurate and open to ridicule.

"In the 20th century, the ridicule came. George Washington was painted as a dull-witted prig. Benjamin Franklin as a garrulous, rather comic penny-pincher. And the Constitution as a self-seeking document worked out by plutocrats.

"...and today, a new denigrating current has begun. There is open resentment of authority and skepticism about the validity of American institutions and the sincerity of American ideals."

J.T. Flexner

We, you and I, have the perspective—200 years of national and international reaction to the American idea.

We have the opportunity—the Bicentennial which will focus world attention here.

We have thus the obligation to renew respect for those men and to demonstrate the viable relevance of the idea.

Yardstick

For this Nation was built on an idea, the proposition that all men are created equal. And Americans are still challenged by the proclamation of liberty "...unto all the inhabitants thereof." And we continue the adventure by living for the realization of "...justice for all."

Each fact of the visitor experience at Independence National Historical Park should be measured by how effectively it:

- a) Invites the visitor to share the continuing American adventure,
- b) Stimulates the sense of the American challenge, and
- c) Inspires rededication to the idea.

THE WAY TO INDEPENDENCE

National Public Relations

We should stress the best program for visitation to INHP, disseminating maps and information throughout the United States. A basic pamphlet, entitled "Your Independence," would explain: "What is NPS?" "WHAT IS INHP?" "What to See," and "How best to see it." This will require the cooperation of oil companies and travel agencies throughout the Nation.

Certainly this basic information should be circulated throughout the Park System.

Federal Highways

A national route system "The Way to Independence," should direct traffic from every State in the Union toward INHP.

In fact, this kind of system, with good press and Federal Government cooperation could link the entire East Coast—all thirteen original colonies—in a Bicentennial travel party. There are perfectly legitimate tour points following the historic chronology—from the 1770 Boston Massacre and the 1773 Boston Tea Party, through the 1774 Virginia Burgesses call for Intercolonial Congress, the 1774 First Continental Congress progression to the Declaration of Independence, all the Historical Battlegrounds of the Service, through the 1787 Constitutional Convention, the 1791 ratification of the "Bill of Rights", and the 1800 move to the District of Columbia.

Audiences

Of course there are scholars and special interest groups, and there are many levels of school visits; these must be stimulated. But, the primary audience is the family, the intimate unit who have traveled to be where this Nation's heart first beat.

We must make their visit a pleasurable occasion, a rewarding and memorable experience. We must, on the one hand, soften urban intrusions and foster a sense of comfort and grace; and on the other hand, we should use the vitality of the living city surrounding INHP. We must make the Park an enclave of then and now, especially as the tempo of Bicentennial increases, but also we can use the accumulated conveniences of the city.

Traffic

To a large extent, the critical problems of traffic and parking are in the hands of agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia.

The Chestnut Street Mall might be pursued by suggesting the novelty be ventured first along the lower portion of the street—from Sixth Street to the river.

The South Street Crosstown proposal has encountered heavy opposition. Still, existing plans call for ramps off the Delaware Expressway to South and Vine Streets. These must be backed by a sign system guiding visitors to INHP parking facilities.

The Philadelphia Parking Authority has projected a 514-car facility on Area F.

Penn's Landing on the Delaware Riverbank, from Bridge to South Street, will offer

eating and lodging services, probably parking as well, at least for its own customers.

Primary Tour

An easy stroll from the visitor facility to City Tavern, along Dock Street to Harmony Street, thence to Carpenters Hall to Library Street, and the Independence Hall Complex will carry the visitor through the central sites of the American venture. From 1774 to 1800, this was indeed the spindle of the emerging Nation. This rear-garden route could be facilitated by broadening some paths and adding a few new ones. Perhaps pedestrian crosswalks can be provided midblock of Third, Fourth and Fifth Streets.

There should also be a bus system about the perimeter of the park and to specific points of interest in Philadelphia. This open air minibus or double-decker would flow along the rectangle route: west on Walnut Street, north on Fifth, east on Market, and south on Second. It might be fitted with a simple tape, operated by the bus driver, to point out key visit points. The visitor would buy that day's Independence Token and could board or debark at any spot on the run.

In addition to the regular perimeter tour busses, the system might include special tours, perhaps along the glamorous Benjamin Franklin Parkway with its cultural museums or to the historic museum of Fairmount Park.

Introduction

Because of the need to move rapidly with the development of the Invitation Center, we are offering here a more detailed analysis of the interpretive requirements of that center than of any other proposed development to permit the architects to move forward with their work.

Alerting the Visitor

If there are opportunities to get to the prospective visitor before he arrives in downtown Philadelphia, these should be utilized to the fullest. Attended stations, signs, road maps, etc., should encourage out-of-town visitors to stop first at the Invitation Center. Maps should be made available at such points showing the best way to get there. The visitor should also be told why it is a good idea to go there first: he can conveniently park nearby; he can find out about accommodations; he can plan his whole Philadelphia stay better; he can see the film that will provide a background to make this park visit more meaningful, etc. It may also be possible to have local commercial radio stations make public service announcements, especially during the morning hours, encouraging incoming visitors to go directly to the parking garage and then visit the Invitation Center first. A well-designed sign system on all arrival routes is an absolute necessity. In-town signs, subway signs, etc., should lead to the Invitation Center. Signing that reinforces the desired visitor flow should be planned for the route from the parking area to the Invitation Center.

Invitation Center

The Independence Invitation should be tendered at the east-most portion of the park to help the visitor to appreciate the movement of the Continentals from City Tavern to Carpenters' Hall and ultimately to the State House "on the outskirts of town." But its mission is not to tie visitors to any one set tour of the park. The center has extremely important information-orientation functions. It has an important mood-setting task. Its major program must sum up the meaning of Independence and provide the background that will make the structures come alive for the visitor when he visits them.

In his report to us, Consultant John Harbour makes the point that visitors are handled most effectively in buildings designed for the specific purpose. He also suggests that one-way traffic and the avoidance of vertical travel are basic tenets of good planning. The building will be reasonably spartan in its functions. It will include ample rest rooms and lounges (unwinding areas). The lounge areas could have some striking graphic grabbers. The building should have some office and locker space.

Signing that reinforces the desired visitor flow should be incorporated into the decor of the lobby. These signs should state:

1. Obtain park tour information here...
2. Obtain city information, accommodation data, etc., here...
3. See the "First Act" film before touring the Park...

4. Special Children's Group Handling Space here...etc.

A public address system should be included in the planning.

Sales — This will be the Park's largest sales outlet. More than 100 titles will be available. In addition, document facsimiles, post cards, liberty bells and other appropriate souvenirs will be on sale. Provision should be made for browsing, for sales areas and for storage.

City Operations — A section of the facility will serve the needs of the city in providing information-orientation to visitors. Provision for counter and storage space should be made, and space for an orientation map provided. Places for phones (to call local hotels/motels) should be included. (There will be no food facilities in the structure.)

Handling Space — The advantages of including a special children's (group) handling space in the building should be studied to determine if it can be included in our planning. The Design Analysis should also include a Staging Area for tours and a pre-tour Staging Area.

NPS Operations — Included here should be a large information counter—flexible and additive—to provide personal services for visitors. In the event of extremely high visitation, more segments may be added to allow the desk to accommodate more visitors and receptionists. When visitor use is light these segments may be removed to create a smaller desk requiring fewer attendants. Provision for counter orientation devices should be made. Random select rear-screen slide projection units for operation by the attendant (about 6 units) should be designed into the structure. These should be carefully placed to permit the attendant to operate the device while maintaining proper rapport with the visitor. The attendants could also be expected to perform the following functions: dispense information packets for organized groups, provide lost and found service, page for emergency messages, arrange for foreign interpretive services, etc. When use of Independence Hall and its adjacent buildings is unusually heavy, the attendants will provide a very important service by suggesting alternate structures to visit and urging visitors to see the Hall at night.

Provision should also be made for a Self-service Information Center, including dispensing machines for the various types of (color-coded) tours. Foreign language brochures could also be dispensed in this manner.

Film — A 25-minute sound*, color motion picture will be presented. Theater capacity for 600-800 people is required; two auditoriums, differing in capacity have been suggested. This "First Act" film will be the only one shown on a regular basis to audiences in the facility, although other films could be scheduled specially, particularly in the evenings and especially in the Bicentennial years. Some evening

*Include flexible length for film, so a shorter, 10-15 minute version could be used at peak time, such as, during the Bicentennial.

programs may feature guest speakers, panel discussions, etc. It would be helpful if at least one of the auditoriums were fitted up for easy conversion to television use. The "First Act" film might have a "live" introduction. The film should be of the highest quality, the finest motion picture ever produced by the Service, the most compelling one ever done on this subject. The film should combine mood, an understanding of the great events that transpired in the nearby buildings, plus relevance to the issues that face us today, in such a way as to make the visitor's tour of the park more inspirational and informative. We are not aiming at a recital of facts. The film should feature the prelude to independence (as expressed in events at City Tavern, Carpenter's Hall and Independence Hall), the Declaration of Independence, the Liberty Bell, Congress' role in the Revolution, the Constitutional Convention and the Constitution, and the 10 years of Government operation—the formative years—in Philadelphia, from 1790 to 1800, as reflected in the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches. The sterling qualities of the achievements of the men who operated in this setting from 1774 to 1800 should be stressed. They did not solve all problems—many remain with us today—but they did provide the machinery for problem-solving. Their story is a unique one that we do not want to sentimentalize or overplay; yet this was an age of great figures and greater events that have easily stood the perspective of nearly two centuries. This is a time to honor. It is also a time to look at today and prophesy for tomorrow. The film should do all of this.

The producers of the film will determine the form it is to take in close collaboration with the Park staff and the Harpers Ferry interpretive staff. Resources include the buildings and restored settings, artifacts, the large collection of paintings (mainly portraits), prints, broadsides, etc. In addition, the producers may wish to consider animation, live performers, or a combination of all of these. Whether the film can be made available to visitors in certain foreign languages should be studied. We are anxious to have all visitors see the film before touring the Park. Accordingly, it should be tastefully, but effectively, promoted. The entrances to the theaters should be designed to invite interest and expectation. The theaters themselves should be designed to enhance the presentation and to serve as proper showcases for the quality film we envision.

Special Feature — The building should contain a high impact device that calls attention to the world importance of the documents and thoughts that emerged from these halls. There were antecedents to these decisions and events, so the approach must not be one "from these blessings all others flowed," but that we share certain ideals and approaches with other countries. We will want this general idea to emerge in the Park's entire interpretive program—the film publications, personal services, etc.—but here in the Invitation Center we would like to see an event developed that gives a quick and dramatic evocation of the roots of the ideas of freedom and liberty, culmination here in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and the flowering of the ideas in other parts of the world. This is not to be something that needs to be studied in detail. It could be a mural or a grouping of flags and face pictures; it could very well include the Park's copy of the Czech Declaration of Independence, which was signed in Independence Hall. It might include also, the essence of the Declaration of Human Rights. But this feature, too, should be the product of a creative designer who will create a masterpiece to sum up the ideals of

equality, freedom and justice that mankind shares.

The sequence in which the visitor experiences this feature needs further study: it could be the grabber he sees as he enters the building; it could be the culmination of the film presentation—seen by the visitor as he leaves either of the auditoriums; or it could be the main object of focus in a large lounge area, where the visitor can contemplate its meaning in a quiet area. It has been suggested that authorities like Historians Daniel Boorstin or Henry Commager or Commentators Eric Severeid or Walter Cronkite might be of assistance in developing content for this idea and thus provide the designer with solid data on which to base his conception.

Liberty Bell — The placement of the Liberty Bell is currently under study (see below). If it is decided to include it as a feature of the main visitor facility, great care must be taken that its exhibition and viewing do not interfere with the important information-orientation and interpretive functions that the facility is being designed to perform.

ALONG THE PRIMARY TOUR

General

No matter how well we plan and publicize the suggested visitor flow, traffic will be diverse throughout INHP. For this, and other reasons, necessities: rest rooms and lounge areas, orientation and sales counters must be included in designs for the East and West Wings, the Franklin Court Complex, the Capital City Center, and the Education Exchange.

Flow

Principal attention must be devoted to the trail from the Invitation to the Continuing Adventure. This is the suggested visitor flow:

At the Invitation Center: the First Act statement of the drama in the creation of this Nation and introduction to the ideas, the men, and the place; and the Independence Invitation display of international contemporaneity. The primary tour—guided and self-guided—begins at the center.

Operations on Tour

The park should be a happy place—part of a vital city. Such franchised conveniences as ice cream parlours, cafes, coffee houses, and restaurants should be available to visitors. Licensed merchants might circulate through the Park, selling soft pretzels, lemon sticks and candy apples, water ices and "snowballs". The Park feels that all of this requires careful study, so that modern structures are not introduced into key areas. We need clean vendors. There might be an outdoor cafe on the east and west sides of Second Bank. Most of the food facilities, stalls for merchandise, etc., should be located in Area F. The State Mall offers some opportunity for this sort of activity also.

The primary tour also envisions the following:

A costumed Town Crier might guide visitors and call the day's principal attractions. Troubadors might stroll and sing, play lutes, guitars, and recorders.

Stalls might hold colonial toy makers, whistle whittlers, limberjack dancers.

There might be clothesline art exhibits. Artists might produce colonial silhouettes. The entire Park should flow with flower banks and stalls. Encourage the art people to locate near the Head House.

Josh/Julee handpuppets, operated by drama students, might be spaced throughout the Park, particularly at points where visitors must queue up to enter an historic museum.

The handpuppeteers might use prepared copy at specific locations and they should engage in ad-lib. byplay with the children. This would be a splendid learning experience for the students: introduction to the fascinating world of puppetry and to the ways of audiences.

City Tavern — This will be a working reconstruction to serve the beers and ales of the colonial period, with musical entertainment.

Dayside interpretation would enable a guide to explain that here Philadelphians received news from Boston brought by Paul Revere on the evening of May 19, 1774, that

Boston Harbor was blockaded by the British!

Here, on September 1, 1774, delegates to the First Continental Congress convened and conferred. This was the first intercolonial assembly of the leaders of the thirteen colonies. Here they met on September 5, to choose between the State House and Carpenters' Hall. From here, they proceeded in a body to Carpenters' Hall. Snacks/meals would be served inside during the day.

Nightside would feature hearty meals and lusty songs. The kitchen would be franchised; performers would include comics, chanteuses, minstrels, and folk singers.

First Bank — Like City Tavern, the First Bank will be interpreted briefly from outside the structure. The building could serve as overflow from the main visitor facility in Bicentennial years. We will want to tell the story of early "banking" in the United States here: the role of Alexander Hamilton in charting a course for the financial structure of the new Nation, the clash of personalities and ideas in the Hamilton-Jefferson quarrel on approaches to government, and the role of the First and Second Bank. This story will challenge the ingenuity of interpretive planners called on to provide good solutions at a later date.

Carpenters' Hall — We should work with the Carpenters' Company to develop a more effective plan of interpretation for the Hall. The original chairs might be used in a setting to recreate the meetings of the First Continental Congress. A sound program might be used in connection with the chairs to interpret the events of 1774, stressing that the sense of the meeting was not yet independence but conciliation. The several prime specimens in the Company's collection should be placed in better housing, and more meaningful labels provided. (For interpretive purposes, possible reconstruction of the Fawcett House could (1) tell the story of the Carpenters' Company in relation to the First Continental Congress and (2) tell the story of the Carpenters' Company itself—possibly via a rear-screen slide presentation.) A fine publication on the Carpenters' Company—and the life of a Master Carpenter—is planned for 1974. An available "Necessary" of the period could be placed near the Hall if private funds can be made available to move and restore it.

Pemberton House and New Hall — These have been reconstructed and house exhibits and audio-visual presentations dealing with the Army, Navy and Marine Corps in the period 1775-1805. They should be considered as spur features on the primary tour. The exhibits in New Hall should be redone in line with more current interpretive philosophy. But considering the overall development needs of the Park, this should have a fairly low priority. The buildings might be spiced with guard/guides in current or Continental Army, Navy and Marine Corps dress, if this can be conveniently worked out.

Second Bank — This, too, must be considered a spur feature of the primary tour. Visitors, on most occasions, should be urged to "catch" Pemberton House, New Hall, and the Second Bank on their return from the "walk to independence and nationhood".

Here will be galleries of portraits. A separate Prospectus has been developed by the

Park staff for this building. The collection of historical American portraits spanning the period 1775-1825 is one of the richest in existence. The plan calls for sales space and a floor plan of the galleries in the Rotunda. Portraits will be grouped in the various galleries under headings such as "Arts and Sciences", "American Statesmen", "Military Figures", "Signers of the Declaration of Independence", "Signers of the Constitution", "Foreign Dignitaries", "Pennsylvania History", etc. There will be a special Washington Room featuring the Peale portraits, the Pine portrait, the Sharples pastel, the mask and other available items. There will be space for changing exhibits also. Cost estimates for this development are included in the Portrait Gallery Prospectus. Since the major emphasis is not on the portraits per se, but on their use to highlight elements of the Park story, the emphasis will be on interpretation, rather than on art. A combination of written labels and audio messages will be tried. For example, the Washington Room calls for an audio message activated by a switch mat in the doorway. Use of artifacts and large graphics will help to make the place less of an art gallery and more of an interpretive enrichment center. A special feature will be a section devoted to the Peale Museum, employing artifacts and projected images to recreate the wonderful museum which Peale maintained in Independence Hall.

Among the logical items for sale here are portrait catalogues, silhouette kits, the story of Peale's Philadelphia Museum.

Independence Hall Complex

Guides — New uniforms, bright and colorful, should be designed for the Guides: perhaps a pleated culotte and cape affair for the girls, blazers and slacks for the men. These should be created by a professional designer and special to Independence Park. Guides must continue to react to the sense of their audiences; they should be invited to develop their own presentations within prepared sound-and-music tapes, particularly in the Assembly Room, Congress Hall, and the Supreme Court building.

Assembly Room — Flexibility must be the order of the day. Personal service offered by the guides, and geared to particular situations, has proven highly successful. At times of maximum visitation, short labels may suffice. Some experimentation with audio seems in order.*

A sense of dissent should be suspended over the Assembly Room. Fragments of debate and music evocative of the awful drama lived in this room might help to interpret the most important chamber of American history.

This audio experiment could be meshed with the Guide's script outline. In this way, the Guide, working to a group, would speak of the debate between forces for independence and reconciliation and — "These United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent!" from one desk, and "That's national suicide!" from

*The Park feels strongly that audio is out of place in the Assembly Room. They feel such experimentation might be better tried in Old City Hall.

another. The Guide mentions the Declaration of Independence and we hear fragments... and so forth.

These audio elements, the sounds and the music, could also be played free—the immortal phrases still lingering. This would be exciting background during periods of uncontrolled visitor flow.

Or, commentary could be given by a costumed actor, representing perhaps the Congressional Custodian who, while moving about the room dusting and straightening, could remark on who sat where and who did what. This approach would demand actors, working from memorized scripts, and the theatrical convention that these characters have been fixed in time and place.

The Gallery — The long room on the second floor of the Hall should be restored as a place of banquets and public entertainment. This might well be the scene of gracious evening ensembles with string or woodwind quartets, small choral groups, instrumental and vocal soloists.

In his report to the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, Secretary of the Interior Hickel has stated: "In connection with the Bicentennial, we feel that it would be highly fitting for the State Department to give consideration to the frequent use of the Long Gallery for the formal reception to the United States of visiting heads of state, especially those of new and emergent nations. As the fountainhead of so many libertarian principles of global impact, few more appropriate locations can be conceived."

The room on the second floor of Independence Hall would be identified with short descriptive labels. It may be necessary — at times of maximum visitation — to close off the second floor to daytime visitation.

The Liberty Bell — The most popular single symbol of patriotism in the United States needs a new home. The Master Plan lists the following locations: (1) in the main visitor facility; (2) in a structure in Independence Square; (3) on a depressed site adjacent to Walnut street but within the Square; (4) across Chestnut Street within the first block of the State Mall; (5) in the East Wing; (6) within Independence Hall in the Tower Room, front hall or Supreme Court Chamber; or (7) in Old City Hall. A study is underway to select the best location for the Bell.

It would be nice to allow visitors to continue to have the opportunity to feel this artifact of freedom as they are now able to do. To make it inaccessible, to place it on a pedestal would be out of keeping with ideas of freedom and democracy that we have come to associate with the artifact. Again, interpretation should be flexible.

I once saw tears of joy come to the eyes of a Russian couple who heard the Liberty Bell tape in their native tongue. Hearing the message in the five other available languages has also brought incalculable dividends to us—not that this approach reaches a vast number of visitors, but it intensely heightens the understanding and appreciation of those who do hear the tapes. (The literature available on the park

in various languages also heightens the experience for foreign groups.) So, such messages should be made available at the Liberty Bell in its new setting—to be used when circumstances warrant it. In the Bicentennial years, even more language tapes than the six currently available might be provided.

We are anxious to maintain a sense of relevancy at the Liberty Bell. When possible, personal services can continue to provide such messages. We hope, too, that a brief message can be recorded by the current President of the United States which would be changed frequently—say every July 4—and would relate the meaning of the bell to yesterday, today and tomorrow. We realize that at times of great visitor impact, the personal services and the tapes probably cannot come into play, but we urge, again, that a flexible interpretive system be employed that can adjust to a variety of situations.

East and West Wings — These should be maintained primarily for visitor conveniences: restrooms, information and orientation, publication and other sales.

Congress Hall — Dayside interpretation should again be flexible, as noted above in connection with the Assembly Room. We could experiment with an audio presentation like that mentioned for the Assembly Room. (The Park prefers such experimentation at Old City Hall.) The Guide could synchronize his presentation to the sounds of debates preceding votes on the great issues of the day. The sounds might emanate from the desks at which the visitors sit. Thus, the Guide can explain that the guests are seated in the very seats.... Or, a ritualized drama might be presented by costumed actors representing Representatives of early Congress.

During evenings, Congress Hall might echo again with discussion and debate on contemporary issues.

University debating societies should be invited to compete in this most appropriate location, and surely this should be the setting for the Independence Forum.

The Forum would be a series of evening lectures by nationally-celebrated savants: Walter Lippmann, Bayard Rustin, Eric Hoffer, and such.

Supreme Court (Old City Hall) — The lower floor will be presented as a court setting. An audiovisual program should underscore the inspired compromises which gave the Federal Constitution the flexibility to suit the remarkable changes of the times. Herein lies the pivotal role of the Supreme Court as interpreter of the Constitution of the United States.

The Continuing Adventure — The adventure in realization of civil liberties should be related to the Supreme Court responsibility. The second floor of the Supreme Court building should be devoted to an exhibition of this persistent challenge.

This display could be an ambulatory audio-visual experience through the expanding appreciation of the "common man"—the American adventure in universal education broadened voting rights, labor unionism, and "black" equality. Provision should be

made for frequent changes in the presentation as the "Continuing Adventure" changes. There may be a place here for some Environmental in-put.

There should be cup-booths in which the visitor could hear actors reading Jefferson, Madison, and Lincoln material, and selected recordings of Wilson, Roosevelt, and Dr. King. Where we have issues yet to solve, this should be frankly stated, but there is no question that progress along many lines has been made in the past and we have the mechanism to solve present and future problems.

Graff House — The building where Jefferson lodged while drafting the Declaration of Independence is located on the southwest corner of Seventh and Market Streets—somewhat removed both geographically and chronologically—from our primary "walk to independence and nationhood". Yet its story is an important one and one that we expect to be of great interest to visitors. Its location suggests that it be considered a spur feature; yet during the height of Bicentennial festivities in 1976, we may want to tie it into the primary tour.

A reconstruction of the house is planned. Attached to it will be an interpretive wing of functional design. Space should be provided here for information and sales. In it visitors will also be introduced to the story of the Declaration of Independence by a short stand-up film. They will then proceed into the reconstructed building for a climax presentation at the (refurnished) rooms occupied by Jefferson. Here, an audio program or a miniature sound/light program would, hopefully, stir audiences in the same manner that the current play 1776 does. We will need to work closely with the historic architects on this production, as we envision a functional reconstruction of the rooms (perhaps with walls gutted) to make the whole adaptable to visitor use. A library and research facility, also using private funds, may be constructed in a nearby building.

Public Forum — The Continuing Adventure should be underscored by a Public Forum, an outlet for all opinion. The best location for such a forum is the Lewis Quadrangle on Independence Mall.

The Quadrangle is a concrete rectangle, flanked on three sides by platforms rising to slender arches. It actually looks like an ancient Greco-Roman forum. There is no grass to trample. There are platforms to ascend and arches under which to declaim to the admiring throngs.

A public relations campaign should stimulate the use of the Quadrangle for public discussion, a Philadelphia version of Hyde Park.

*"I sometimes think
that the saving
grace of America*

*lies in the fact
that the
overwhelming
majority of*

*Americans are
possessed of
two lifesaving
qualities, a
sense of humor
and a sense of*

proportion."

—Franklin Roosevelt

**"Where liberty dwells,
there is my country."
—Benjamin Franklin**

FRANKLIN STORY

Market Street Houses — The Franklin Court Complex, a strong attraction on its own, should have rest rooms, orientation and sales counters. These would be in the Market Street Houses. The Houses also should hold:

Devices — There would be copies of ingenious inventions that Ben Franklin made and used: the extended claw, variations on electrical storage, folding seats, the stove, lightning rod, etc. These would not be originals, but inexpensive copies that could be handled by visitors.

Artifacts — Available original Franklin specimens should be displayed in protected settings. The desk, in particular, should be highlighted and used to introduce visitors to Franklin's house, which a special committee has recommended will not be constructed in the court.

Children's Corner — A proposed graffiti room, where youngsters would be allowed to "write themselves into history" met with rather universal criticism. As a substitute, it might be possible to reserve some space for a "child's view of Ben Franklin"—a place to display young people's drawings and conceptions of Ben and his life and work. (The Park prefers to see this in the Education Center.)

Post Office — We should request postal authorities to designate the present post office in the Mall building as Franklin Court Annex and use a special cancellation stamp. There should be a "mail drop" in the Market Street houses, with an appropriate reminder of Franklin's role in the colonial postal service.

Print Shop — There should be a reconstruction of the shop that was at the end of the Archway. This would house a working printing office, complete with a working compositor/pressman and his "printer's devil."

The Shop would produce for sale: handbills, broadsides, Poor Richard Almanack covers, and selected sayings of Poor Richard.

ENP&MA — This might be headquarters for Eastern National Parks and Monuments Association, as well as a sales outlet.

The Court — Franklin himself converted the vegetable garden into a "pleasure garden." It should be restored with plantings and bushes and walks and "a very large Mulberry."

"Weather Station" — Modern toys of weather measure: thermometers, barometers, wind gauges, and such, might be placed in a simulated meteorological station, suggesting Franklin's pioneer studies in this science. Weather news could be made available to visitors.

"Franklin House" — At the house site, visitors should be given some idea of what Franklin's home looked like (a painting or a model). Shafts should allow visitors to look down at the few intelligible archeological survivals. Some artifacts could be replaced and shown in situ to give visitors an idea of the types of materials found in the digs.

Franklin Film — Benjamin Franklin should be interpreted by an experience wherein the visitor is within the multi-faceted adventure of the man.

Facilities should be provided to present this aspect of the Franklin story. A Design study is needed to determine which way we go here. The film is to be the highlight of the Franklin presentation. It should be shown in space that does justice to the concept. Can the space be found in the Market Street houses? If not, where should we locate it?

The unusual technique is tribute to the incredible Dr. Franklin; this man is the message; the message is the medium. It is the only way to orchestrate his story.

Using Franklin's language, the film would follow his development and his awesome contributions. It would show the men of the period: from Andrew Hamilton to Alexander Hamilton. "I seem to have intruded myself into the company of posterity."

The audience would be surrounded by Franklin. Starting on one facet, off one cluster of interest, the story by Franklin would shift to another fact, and another, and another. There are eleven facets in four clusters of interest:

Printer—Journalist—Author
Scientist—Inventor—Educator
Politician—Administrator—Diplomat
Philosopher—Man

At the peak of the Franklin experience, the audience would be within the grand symphony of this man.

"...So the years roll and the last will come (and) I would rather have it said, 'He lived usefully' than, 'He died rich.'"

CAPITAL CITY

The interpretive center for the Capital City theme, must provide basic visitor services: restrooms, general INHP orientation and sales counters, with particular attention to Philadelphia, the first metropolis of British America.

Here are the beginnings: America's initial ventures in culture, commerce, religious freedom, and politics.

Exhibits — It could hold a model of late 18th century Philadelphia which would convert to what the city looks like today, and might even add a third and environmental dimension of what the city could look like tomorrow. An accompanying message would describe the old city and what has happened to it since, and relating this information to the tours. Small exhibits or audio-visual devices on other points of interest throughout Philadelphia and vicinity, possibly supplied by other institutions, would also be available.

Tours — This would be the principal starting point for self-guided tours for the Capital City story. These should be color-coded and the tourguide, the route, and wayside signs all would be keyed to those colors. Families thus may proceed at their own pace. The parent, with the tourguide, can serve as instructor, and his children can scout for the color clues along the trail. The pamphlets may be carried home for post-visit study.

Following is basic tour guide information, both walking tour possibilities and adjacent points of interest.

Early City Tour (Blue) — Walkable: Penn's landing, Edfreth's Alley, Todd House, Bishop White House, Powel House, Atwater Kent Museum, Maritime Museum, Fire Museum, and Physick House.

Adjacent: American Swedish Museum, Bartram's Gardens, Stenton, Rittenhouse Cottage, and Fairmount Park's Colonial Mansions: Mount Pleasant, Cedar Grove, Woodford, Strawberry, Sweetbriar, and Lemon Hill, plus the Deshler Morris House.

Background: Holme's Gridiron City Plan, Penn's "Greene Countrie Squares."

Cultural Tour (Red) — Walkable: Library Hall, Philosophical Hall, Pennsylvania Hospital, Walnut Street Theater.

Adjacent: Academy of Music, Robin Hood Dell, Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Art Museum, Free Library of Philadelphia, Franklin Institute, Fels Planetarium, and Academy of Natural Science, plus Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Library Company of Philadelphia. Background: Charles Wilson Peale's Philadelphia Museum.

"Holy Experiment" Tour (Purple) — Walkable: Friend's Meeting House, Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, Old St. Joseph's and Old St. Mary's, Mikveh Israel, Christ Church, Old St. George's Church, Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, Pine Street Presbyterian Church. Background: Penn Treaty Park.

Commerce Tour (Yellow) — Walkable: Dock Creek, Penn's Landing, Society Hill, Philadelphia Exchange, First Bank and Second Bank of the United States.

Architecture Tour (Orange) — Powerful forces who have left traces include Thomas Holme, Edmund Wooley, Dr. John Kearsley, Robert Smith, William Strickland, Thomas U. Walter, John Haviland, John Notman, John McArthur, G.F. Cummings, William I. Johnson, Frank Furness, Lescaze and Howe, Louis Hahn, and I.M. Pei.

Urban Renewal Tour (Green) — Public: Independence Mall, U.S. Mint, Mikveh Israel. Residential: Society Hill, Eastwick. Commercial: Penn Center, Progress Plaza, Federal Reserve Bank.

Craft Center

Near the Capital City Center, the Service expects to house its Crafts Center — to focus on historical preservation and research. There is an opportunity here for visitors to watch preservators at work in laboratory situations and provisions should be made in the design of the structure to permit such viewing. Exhibits here would tell the Park's "Detective Story"; how through archeology, architectural research and historic study, the experts were able to put the pieces together and restore, reconstruct, refurnish and mark. Something on the order of the Park's successful display, "After the Ball", is envisioned. The Master Plan, describes this proposed operation in some detail.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

The Philadelphia Merchants Exchange is being adapted to serve school and special interest groups. It must be fitted with sufficient restrooms, orientation and sales facilities. The Education Exchange would stress school services during the school year. Summer could concentrate on special interest visits, such as an institute for history teachers administered by the National Education Association.

Publications sold at this center would include child and teen oriented items, plus paperbacks and hard-cover books, resource catalogues and bibliographies.

A brown bagger lunch room might be established in the basement of the Exchange.

Advance Orientation

Reaching out to a child, you touch eternity.

Mailpiece — A basic mailpiece should be sent to publications such as *Scholastic Magazine*. It could carry the invitation of the President of the United States to visit Independence Park during these years of heightened interest. It should include the name of a Visitor Service Manager to contact.

Fact Sheet — Upon contact, the Manager could mail a more extended outline of the range of Park possibilities. With this fact sheet would go a questionnaire asking the teacher to suggest her objectives for her group. Correspondence could establish the best time for visit, from the Park's standpoint (when the load might be lightest) and from the school's (when transportation is most convenient).

Carriers — Perhaps cooperation will be possible with national buslines, railroads, and air carriers. Perhaps special Independence Tour packages can be secured for schools.

Visuals — Filmstrips, with language aimed at various age groups, might be sent to the schools to assist with preparation for a visit. The filmstrips might also be made available to all the Nation's schools, particularly through the midwest and the far west.

Learning Levels

Elementary — An auditorium in the Exchange would offer "The American Adventure," probably a cartoon film aimed at children in the elementary grades. It would highlight the meaning of the Declaration of Independence, the fight for Independence, and the establishment of the new government in terms particularly meaningful to the young. It, too, would be relevant and tie-in with problems of today.

Elementary level classes, like those presently offered by the Philadelphia Board of Education in the Second Bank, should be presented in the Exchange. Special programs would be developed, geared to particular needs. Vicki Smith's presentation on the Negro in early Philadelphia is an example.

There might be Colonial experience opportunities. These could involve period rooms, a schoolhouse where the children might write on slates, sharpen and use quill pens; places to pump a butter churn, to use a "necessary." Drawings done by the children after their visits should be displayed in the facility. These children must have the opportunity to visit Franklin Court with the Market Street devices, and, of course, Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

Secondary — An auditorium in the Exchange would show the "First Act" film. These youngsters might relish the opportunity to pump water and to carry the buckets, to chop and haul kindling, to card wool, and other Colonial experiences. Perhaps the yards of the Walnut Street houses (Todd and Bishop White) might be adapted for some of these on-site doing experiences, or a special area provided for such use. Secondary school students must also visit the Hall and the Bell and Franklin Court.

Special Interests — Organizations interested in specific American experiments and foreign visitor groups should be able to use the Education Exchange. At a central information desk, they could be guided to living expositions of antiques, art, architecture, religious expression, commercial growth, and urban renewal.

Colleges — With advance notice, university teachers might conduct classes in American art, music, dance, dress, drama, literature, humor, and products. The instructors might use material prepared by INHP staff. Colleges might conduct their own seminars on America and Americana here. Graduate students from accredited schools might arrange to receive credits for courses here in American history. The classes might be conducted by INHP historians and guest professors from many institutions. This could be tied-in with the Independence Forum at Congress Hall.

Personal services in the Education Exchange would acquaint scholars with other sources: the American Philosophical Society, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Germantown Historical Society, the Library Company, Free Library of Philadelphia, and the City Archives, plus the Park's resource materials.

SPECIALS

Pageantry

Muster — INHP might stage an annual Spring Muster, assembly of fife-and-drum corps to field competition on the Mall. Continental drills and tunes might be made available to groups interested in participating. Many drum-and-bugle units might be interested in a switch, especially as the Independence Spring Muster gains national attention.

Ceremony — Research would uncover innumerable moments for dramatic re-enactment in the Park. The most obvious opportunity—the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence—invites re-enactment. The Bell in the Tower would peal to summon an audience (as it did on July 8, 1776), and a message would set the scene. Escorted by an honor guard, Colonel John Nixon would proceed to a reading platform in the Square. There he would read portions of the document.

Fifers and drummers would lead the crowd about the Square, perhaps to the Liberty Bell. There the audience might be invited to join in singing, perhaps "Yankee Doodle," and "America."

Ideally, the first person to reproduce this historic public reading would be President Richard M. Nixon.

Holidays — Benjamin Franklin's birthday (January 17, 1706). A party should be given in Franklin Court. Participants would include printers, meteorologists, post office personnel, adult educators, insurance company representatives, fire and police officials, etc.

The first session of the United States Supreme Court should be observed in the Old City Hall on February 7 (1791) each year. Perhaps the entire Court could sit here that day; at least, the Chief Justice should visit and speak in the Independence Forum at Congress Hall.

Army Day is March 31. The Navy Department was created on April 30, 1798. Armed Forces Day is May 18. Flag Day is June 14. A costumed ceremony in the Assembly Room might dramatize the ceremony of the adoption of the stars and stripes design in 1777.

Constitution Day, September 17, might occasion a celebration of the Constitutional Convention (1787) in the Assembly Room. Perhaps the American Bar Association might join this experience.

The U.S. Mint was established on October 15, 1785.

The Congress convened in Congress Hall on December 6, 1790. This should occasion the participation of at least the leaders of the current House and Senate.

The First Bank of the United States was chartered on December 12, 1791.

The Bill of Rights was ratified on December 15, 1791, in Congress Hall. Certainly,

a bold celebration of civil liberties should be staged at the Continuing Adventure Exhibition in the Supreme Court building.

Mall — A Franklin kite flying contest might be staged in March. The Franklin Court is much too confining. The Mall has a broad wind sweep.

Lewis Quadrangle would be the perfect public forum, for dissenters and consenters, for discussions, debates, and lectures.

The Park's Sound and Light Program has had a mixed success. A new script has been prepared and a new program was inaugurated in 1970. Later, the presentation might be planned for the Mall side of Independence Hall (rather than the Square), which would offer a better perspective. (Of course, if the Liberty Bell is placed in the Square, the possibilities of using it as a climax to the Sound and Light Program, suggest a Square-oriented presentation.)

The Park Master Plan proposes the acquisition of the three blocks of the State Mall. As indicated, we would like to use this area (especially the "Forum") for many of the programs and activities now held in Independence Square. We would also hope to develop a Summer in the Parks program, working closely with the City's Department of Recreation and the Office of the City Representative.

Music — There might be a daily and evening schedule of song and dance, using the myriad musical groups of this singing city. The Mall schedule would include: Marching bands—a melange of brass bands, color guards, drum majorettes, and drum-and-bugle corps; the unique Philadelphia phenomenon of Mummers; an ethnic panorama: song and dance from all parts of the world preserved in Philadelphia, from the Welsh Eistedfodd to a Kalmuck (Mongol warrior) festival.

Television — The most powerful tool of mass communication should be used. Park structures will have electrical outlets for television, and the Park will work closely with networks and stations to see that the Independence story is brought to those who cannot visit the site. During the Bicentennial years many programs can emanate from the Park, and forums and special programs will be the order of the day.

Sculpture — It is hoped that a portion of the air rights over the Delaware Expressway can be developed into a contemporary sculpture garden, where the works of sculpture of various nationalities could be placed. Their creations would express the themes of freedom and independence in today's terms.

Theater — Fine, pertinent productions like the musical "1776", would enhance the Park story and give visitors something to do in the evenings to encourage them to extend their stay. A historic theater near the Park is operating today, and we could urge its owners to capitalize on the interest in the Bicentennial by booking plays of this sort.

Waysides — The wayside exhibits are of recent installation. Their replacement would have very low priority, although a few additions may be necessary.

Orientation Exhibits — The Prospectus, as indicated, is based on a hope that visitors will come to the Invitation Center to get the proper introduction to the Park and fan out from there. It is also based on the knowledge that visitors will approach from various directions. Thus, information-orientation will be available at the Market Street houses, at the Capital City Center, in the West Wing and, to a lesser extent, in the Educational Facility and at every other manned station.

To assist in orienting the visitor, a series of orientation exhibits should be placed at key approach points surrounding the park, with the "you are here" approach and the strong suggestion that the visitor start his tour at the main facility.

Priorities — Park needs call for highest priority for the following: restoration and refurbishing of the second floor of Independence Hall; development of the Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank; planning and construction of the main visitor facility, and selective restoration and refurbishing of the first floor of the Supreme Court (Old City Hall).

A decision on the future home of the Liberty Bell should be made at once and funds immediately programmed to provide a proper setting. Completion should be no later than 1975.

Next on the high priority list are developments for the Graff House, the Capital City story and associated craft center exhibits, the Franklin Court proposals, and the reconstruction of the City Tavern.

We should work with the Carpenters' Company to see that proposals for Carpenters' Hall are in place by 1974, its Bicentennial year.

The development of the Education Center in the Merchants Exchange would, hopefully, also be a going concern by 1976. Development of proposed interpretation for the second floor of the Supreme Court (Old City Hall) would be a positive contribution to the Bicentennial.

COST ESTIMATES**Invitation Center**

Planning for "First Act" Film	\$ 50,000.00
"First Act" Film, including equipment	450,000.00
Planning for exhibits, orientation devices and global impact feature	25,000.00
Random select units and programs (6)	10,000.00
Orientation devices	10,000.00
Graphics exhibits	20,000.00
Self-Service Information Center	70,000.00
Main Theme Feature	100,000.00
Miscellaneous Visitor Facility Signs	3,000.00
Planning (including writing) of tourguide pamphlets	6,000.00
Production of tourguide pamphlets	16,000.00
Planning (including writing of) "Your Independence" pamphlet	1,500.00
Production of "Your Independence" pamphlet	7,000.00
Planning (including writing of) Liberty Bell pamphlet	1,500.00
Production of Liberty Bell pamphlet	8,000.00
(Deduct \$43,000. for publications if not valid for Construction programs.)	
	\$781,000.00

Franklin Center

Planning for exhibit portions of Franklin Court presentation	\$ 8,000.00
Working models of Franklin Devices for visitor participation	15,000.00
Orientation exhibits	3,000.00
Archeological-historical exhibits	15,000.00
Working print shop reconstruction and refurnishing	100,000.00
Franklin House site interpretation	20,000.00
Planning for Franklin film	12,000.00
Franklin film, including equipment	125,000.00
Miscellaneous signs, Franklin area	1,000.00
Planning (including writing and editing of Franklin printshop pieces)	1,000.00
Production of Franklin printshop pieces	6,000.00
	\$306,000.00

**Capital City Center
(Crafts Center)**

Planning for exhibit portions of presentation	\$ 6,000.00
Planning for AV portions of presentation	2,000.00
Orientation and cultural exhibits	10,000.00
Independence Park story (conservation) exhibits	10,000.00
Double-model of Philadelphia w/AV presentation	40,000.00
Miscellaneous signs	500.00
	\$68,000.00

Carpenters Hall

Planning for exhibits portions of presentation	\$ 3,000.00
Planning for AV portions of presentation	1,000.00
Chair setting, including graphics	6,000.00
Sound-light program to accompany above, including equipment	5,000.00
Artifacts exhibits	22,000.00
Rear-screen slide presentation on Carpenters Company (captioned), including equipment	3,000.00
	\$40,000.00

Graff House

Planning for exhibits portions of presentation	\$ 2,500.00
Planning for AV portions of presentation	4,500.00
Exhibits (changing) for Declaration documents	10,000.00
Introductory Audiovisual Program, including equipment	30,000.00
Furnishing of room: stage setting effect	120,000.00
Sound-light show for room, including equipment	15,000.00
	\$182,500.00

City Tavern	Planning for limited exhibits	\$ 7,000.00
	Exhibits	<u>To be determined</u>
Second Bank	See Portrait Gallery Prospectus	\$165,000.00
Education Center	Planning for "The American Adventure"	
	film and for filmstrips	\$ 7,000.00
	Planning for period rooms and exhibits	10,000.00
	"The American Adventure" film,	
	including equipment	60,000.00
	Filmstrips for schools	10,000.00
	Period rooms and exhibits	<u>100,000.00</u>
		\$187,000.00
Supreme Court Building (City Hall)	Planning for 2nd floor presentation	\$ 10,000.00
	"The Continuing Adventure" presentation, involving AV and exhibit units that feature portions of the evolving civil rights story (or period museum based on Independence Hall collections)	
		<u>100,000.00</u>
		\$110,000.00
Independence Hall	Planning for exhibits portions of presentation	\$ 500.00
	Planning for AV portions of presentation	1,000.00
	Signs, labels, etc.	2,000.00
	Sound presentation, including equipment	<u>3,000.00</u>
		\$ 6,500.00
Congress Hall	Planning for exhibits portions of presentation	\$ 200.00
	Planning for AV portions of presentation	200.00
	Signs, labels, etc.	1,000.00
	Sound presentation, including equipment	<u>2,500.00</u>
		\$ 4,200.00

Liberty Bell

Planning for exhibits portions of presentation	\$ 100.00
Planning for AV portions of presentation	500.00
Signs, labels, etc.	1,000.00
Sound presentation, including equipment (President's voice)	<u>2,500.00</u>
	\$ 4,100.00

West Wing

Planning for orientation exhibits	\$ 1,000.00
Orientation Exhibits	<u>7,500.00</u>
	\$ 8,500.00

**Orientation Devices
(Outdoors at key
locations)**

Planning	\$ 1,000.00
Production 10 @ \$500.	<u>5,000.00</u>
	\$ 6,000.00

July 15, 1969

Add 5% per year to costs of all items

(Construction item costs are estimates. Planning will provide
more exact figures for construction items.)

STAFFING

Under present proposals of the Interpretive Prospectus, it has been determined that a significant increase in the interpretive and protection staffs is necessary. A minimum of 20 interpretive positions are required to operate the present and proposed structures within the Park. These 20 interpretive positions will require 30 people (based upon the formula: one position requires one-and-one-half persons, to allow for seven days per week operations, eight hours per day). In addition to the interpretive staff, 21 protection positions requiring 32 persons are necessary. With the development of a visitor center, three motion picture projectionists will be needed. In the event that the Park operates on a 12 to 14 hour basis from 1975 through the Bicentennial years, an appropriate increase in all positions listed above with the accompanying one-and-one-half persons per position will be required.

While maintenance positions have not been listed, it would be well to keep our needs in mind. Janitors, electronic specialists, mechanics, etc., will be needed to operate and maintain a busy Park.

Seasonal interpretive personnel presently employed during the peak visitation period (June to September) number 14. By 1975 and the following years, the number of seasonal positions will be significantly increased to operate the Park's interpretive program efficiently. The number of additional seasonal positions will depend on certain factors to be determined—such as the number and types of conducted tours and talks, hours of operation, further development of Park, evening programs, etc.

ADDENDA

Area F

Presently under discussion between City of Philadelphia and NPS. If acquired, a proposed Mall area would be tied-in with the proposed Delaware Expressway Cover and will contain informational signs and informational kiosk during the summer. Interpretive markers will be needed for the Fulton House and the Slate Roof House.

Black History

Wherever possible, the role of the Negro American in the Park story will be shown. This can be handled by personal services in places like the Liberty Bell. It should be included in the interpretation for the Todd House. It should appear in the relevance section of the film planned for the main visitor facility. It should be included in the interpretation planned for the Capital City Center. The Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank will offer further opportunities. The proposed presentation for the second floor of Old City Hall (Supreme Court) will offer numerous opportunities for the inclusion of Black history.

Miss Victoria Smith, representative of the Philadelphia Board of Education at the Park, has developed outstanding programs for school children dealing with Negro history. Her good work should be encouraged and expanded.

A Final Word to Planners

This document is purposely broad in nature and a more in-depth interpretive planning report should be prepared for each of the proposed developments. In the meantime, we want to share with you Regional Director Lon Garrison's thoughts on some aspects of interpretation for Independence Park which should guide our work:

"Foreign Aid"

The "foreign aid" aspect of the Revolution and Independence story needs attention. The Second Bank proposals indicate pertinent art groupings of "foreign dignitaries," which would include foreign participants in the Revolution. Hopefully, the visitor center film will give due note to the foreign military figures and nations who contributed to the birth of this country. There may be other opportunities. All this adds to the symbolism of the Liberty Bell and the relevance to the world of its story.

Capital City Story Thoughts

We see the whole approach at the Capital City Center as "environmental" in its broadest, multi-faceted sense, not just the third dimension of tomorrow. Hopefully, the black American will be part of the "social environment" aspect of the "Capital City" story to be presented here; certainly he would seem to represent one of the broader implications of Penn's Experiment" (The American Anti-Slavery Society—first of its kind—was founded in Philadelphia, 1833). Philadelphia—in the spirit of the Greek meaning of its name—was a society based on tolerance and love, manifested at the outset in Penn's treatment of the Indians, manifested later in such things as hospital and prison reform, hopefully manifest today in one of the currently more peaceful urban environments. The Capital City Center is also the place to plug the unique pace setting and nationally important role of Independence Park in urban

renewal—which might well be interpreted as a “living” extension of the urban planning of William Penn himself—from which came the “grid” plan that has been so much a precedent for other cities in this country.

Capital City Center tours: The “Holy Experiment” tour might well include in its “adjacent” form some sites in Germantown, etc., illustrating the tolerance of various nationalities and minorities that we think were equally a part of the great experiment; the “architecture” tour should play up the physical manifestations of Independence in such buildings as the First and Second Banks and the Merchants Exchange, as the “founding fathers” looked away from the Georgian architectural heritage of England to the classical era of Greece and Rome for democratic-republican inspiration.

A Plea for Wayside Planning

We hope that the next edition of the prospectus will go into more detail regarding wayside exhibits. Even though existing signs and waysides are relatively new, text revisions seem very much in order for some of them in terms of the need for detailed on-site interpretive relevance. This is particularly true in terms of the smaller sign panels which too often are more informational than interpretive in scope. Some of the sign panels might even be scrapped but outdoor exhibits and interpretive signs are, we continue to feel, vitally important in terms of the visitor reading the history on the land.

interpretive prospectus

INDEPENDENCE



NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK / PENNSYLVANIA

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