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4PM - Bob Orr (lieutenant Governor Ind

Wednesday, May 7, 1975

*Duval* *Log*

INFORMATION

April 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM : JIM CANNON

SUBJECT : George Rogers Clark Park  
Vincennes, Indiana

As you may recall, we were unable to advance the proposal for a Visitor's Center at this national park because a member of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation had recommended against it.

Since that time, Secretary Morton has reviewed the matter and asked that the adverse finding by the Council staff be reviewed by the full Council, by May 8, 1975. This is a first step toward getting the Visitor Center built.

I talked today with Governor Bowen about our efforts, and will continue to follow the matter.

cc: Bob Hartmann  
bcc: Mike Duval - Please continue to follow this

Dick Dunham  
Jim Cavanaugh



DOMESTIC COUNCIL CLEARANCE SHEET

DATE: April 11, 1975

JMC action required by: \_\_\_\_\_

TO: JIM CANNON

VIA: DICK DUNHAM *RD*

JIM CAVANAUGH *JD*

FROM:

Norm Ross

SUBJECT:

George Rogers Clark Park-Indiana

COMMENTS:

FYI

DATE: 4/15/75

RETURN TO:

Material has been:

☒ ~~Signed~~ and forwarded *Shaw*

☐ Changed and signed (copy attached)

☐ Returned per our conversation

☐ Noted

☐

*JMC*  
Jim Cannon *(m)*



THE WHITE HOUSE


WASHINGTON

April 11, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR

JIM CANNON

FROM:

NORM ROSS 

SUBJECT:

George Rogers Clark  
Park-Indiana

The attached letter deals with a matter brought to the President's attention by Governor Bowen during the President's recent trip to South Bend. Secretary Morton believes that this action by the entire advisory council will satisfy the Governor as well as the Congressional delegation.

Attachment

cc: Mike Duval  
Jim Falk



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

April 9, 1975

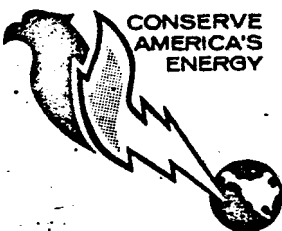
Dr. Clement M. Silvestro  
Chairman, Advisory Council on  
Historic Preservation  
1522 K Street, N.W., Suite 430  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Dr. Silvestro:

The National Park Service appropriations act for fiscal year 1975 provided funds for the erection of a visitor center at the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana. This park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is therefore subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Pursuant to the procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as set forth in 36 C.F.R. Part 800, both the National Park Service and the Council staff assessed the effect of this undertaking on the park. They concluded that, if located as shown in the 1967 master plan, the visitor center would have an adverse effect within the meaning of the Council's criteria for effect.

Because the National Park Service could find no alternative that would remove or mitigate the adversity and still permit the project to be completed in time for the Bicentennial year of 1976, the Director of the Service decided to seek reprogramming of the appropriation to needed rehabilitation work on the Clark Memorial Temple, the central feature of the park. The question of the visitor center was to be left to a new master plan study.

The finding of adversity and the decision to request reprogramming have raised serious opposition in Indiana and in the Congress. In order that the issues involved be given the fullest and most careful consideration, and that all interested parties be afforded an opportunity to state their views, I am asking that this case be placed before the full Advisory Council for its comment. I hope the Council will evaluate the finding of adversity reached by the



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Council staff and the National Park Service. If the Council disagrees with that finding, the Park Service would be prepared to proceed with construction of the visitor center as originally conceived. If the Council agrees with the finding of adversity, on the other hand, I would appreciate comment on possible mitigating measures that would permit construction at the planned location. If none appears adequate, alternative locations should be assessed.

A final decision is a matter of urgency. I am therefore requesting waiver of the onsite inspection involving Federal, State, and local units of government provided for in Section 800.5(b) of the Council's procedures and the public information meeting provided for in Section 800.5(c). Finally, I shall appreciate your calling a special meeting of the Council to take up this matter as provided in Section 800.6(c). It is my understanding that such a meeting could be scheduled to coincide with the next regular meeting of the Council on May 7-8, 1975.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

*Rogers Morton*  
Secretary of the Interior



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR

JIM CANNON

FROM

TOD HULLIN *TH*

SUBJECT

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK MEMORIAL PARK  
VINCENNES, INDIANA

PURPOSE

This morning you indicated that during the President's visit to South Bend, Governor Bowen and Indiana State GOP Chairman Tom Milligan, had mentioned to the President that a Bicentennial project for the George Rogers Clark Memorial Park had been cancelled by Mr. Robert Garvey of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The following is a brief background of the Bicentennial involvement with the Park.

BACKGROUND

The George Rogers Clark Memorial Park, Vincennes, Indiana, is a 22-acre Federal park surrounded by a river and a residential area and contains a temple-style monument to George Rogers Clark.

Two years ago the National Park Service included the park as one of 21 original significant Bicentennial sites. A Visitor Center had been planned for the site at an estimated cost of \$700,000 and was part of the Park Service's Bicentennial three-year construction plan.

The project, however, was dropped by the Park Service to accommodate FY 75 budget restrictions. The elimination of the Center was approved by OMB Deputy Director, Fred Malek; and Anne Armstrong, Counsellor to the President and Chairman of the Domestic Council Committee on the Bicentennial, in a complete review of all Bicentennial projects.





Congress added the project back in to the Interior appropriations for FY 75. At that time, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, within the Department of the Interior and headed by Robert Garvey, reviewed the Visitor Center plans; and on January 30, 1975, rejected the plans as a "visual intrusion" upon an historic site and as inconsistent with the physical plan of the park.

#### CHIEF CONGRESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Interest has been shown by Rep. Roy A. Taylor (D., N.C.), ranking member, House Interior Committee; Senator Birch Bayh (D., Ind.).

#### STATUS

Interior has dropped the project but is going ahead with a film estimated to cost \$75,000 on George Rogers Clark. The Director of the Park Service, Gary Everhardt, advises that (1) the project is a poor one and that Garvey is on strong grounds; (2) it is questionable whether the Secretary has the power to overrule Garvey; accordingly, the Park Service is reluctant to test the Secretary's authority on a weak case.

This is a quick outline of the situation. If you need more information, please let us know.



HIGH PRIORITY

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR :

TOD HULLIN

FROM :

JIM CANNON

*JH*  
*J.C.*

During the President's visit to South Bend, Governor Bowen and Tom Milligan, State Chairman for Indiana, complained to the President that a Bicentennial event related to George Rogers Park Memorial in Vincennes, (a site of a victory by a small band of soldiers led by Rogers against the British), had been cancelled by Robert Garney.

The President wants to get this situation straightened out as quickly as possible.

Would you find out the facts as soon as possible - today if you can, and come in to see me with a brief paper about it?

Many thanks.

cc: Dick Dunham  
Jim Cavanaugh



March 31, 1975

TO: Jim Lynn  
FROM: Jim Cannon

More about the George Rogers Clark  
National Historical Park in Indiana.

JMC:jm  
Enclosure



Briefing Statement  
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Although not part of the Administration budget request, funds were appropriated by the Congress for the 1975 fiscal year to construct a visitor center at George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana, as a feature of the National Park Service Bicentennial program. The visitor center was to have been in accordance with a master plan prepared in 1967, shortly after the park was transferred from the State of Indiana to the Federal Government pursuant to an Act of Congress.

Sec. 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires Federal agencies with projects that will affect a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places to seek the comment of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Since the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park is included in the National Register, the National Park Service sought Advisory Council comment. Under Advisory Council procedures, there was a consultation on site between representatives of the Council, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the National Park Service. The Council also engaged an eminent authority on art and architectural history as an outside consultant. The Council and State representatives and the consultant agreed that the visitor center, in the proposed location, would adversely affect the memorial temple and its setting. Although the National Park Service had initially reached a determination of no adversity, upon review the Director of the National Park Service reversed the original determination and agreed that the proposed location would impair the integrity of the park's resources. The Director further decided that the temple itself, the central park resource, stood in such severe need of rehabilitation work that the visitor center funds should be spent on it instead.

It is therefore the intention of the National Park Service to seek authority to reprogram the visitor center funds for immediate reroofing, repointing, and cleaning of the temple, to be completed in time for the Bicentennial; to schedule another master plan study to deal with the question of the visitor center as well





as other questions that have arisen since the first master plan was completed; and to request additional funds to meet the remaining rehabilitation requirements after the Bicentennial year is ended.

Announcement of the NPS action has aroused considerable protest in Indiana and in the Congress, most notably from Rep. Philip Hayes, in whose district the park is located. (In the 1974 election, Rep. Hayes defeated Rep. Roger Zion, who was responsible for the congressional add-on that provided funds for the visitor center.) Gov. Otis R. Bowen of Indiana has approached the President personally to request that the NPS action be reversed, and explanations have been provided the White House. NPS is taking action currently that seems likely to bring about an accommodation with Rep. Hayes.

The enclosed correspondence describes the issues in greater detail.

RMUtley    x7550  
3/28/75



FEB 28, 1975

## Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Midwest

From: Director

Subject: George Rogers Clark National Historical Park

On February 26 I met with representatives of your Region, the Denver Service Center, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. This memorandum records the conclusions reached in this meeting.

1. Visitor Center. The visitor center plan, if implemented, would cause an adverse effect on a National Register property within the meaning of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's criteria under Sec. 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The visitor center is improperly located. On the proposed site it would constitute an intrusion on the prime resources of the park--the temple and its setting. Also, located behind the temple, it would bring visitors to the central feature of the park by way of the back door and deny the original intent of the design that they approach by way of the broad esplanade from Vigo Street. This adversity will be mitigated by not proceeding with the construction of the visitor center as now planned and sited. However, the project of replacing the underground cable for the lighting system and restoring the memorial grounds is not an adversity and, as the Advisory Council did not object, may proceed.

2. Temple Rehabilitation. The temple is in serious disrepair and urgently needs rehabilitation work. An effort will be made to reprogram the \$300,000 available for the visitor center to accomplish such portion of this work as can be completed in the 1975 calendar year. To support the reprogramming, the Regional Director will furnish the Associate Director, Administration, as soon as possible with a statement setting forth the rationale for canceling the visitor center project and the justification for the rehabilitation project, including the emergency factors that make it necessary to proceed at once and outside the regular budget cycle.

The rehabilitation work judged susceptible to accomplishment this calendar year is roofing and flashing, repointing, and cleaning of



the temple. Ideally, the entire memorial structure should be so treated, including the base, and including replacement of the waterproofing surface on the base. If this is not possible, for fiscal or other reasons, the treatment should be applied to the temple only and the base left to a later project.

In this connection, Mr. Steenhagen of the Denver Service Center will consult with the architect who designed the waterproofing project and ascertain what further work was then contemplated and whether it is practicable to include the temple base in this contract. The contract documents will be prepared by DSC upon request of the Regional Director. Chief Historical Architect Judd should be involved in their preparation. The time element is critical since much of the work will have to be done during the warm summer months.

The balance of the needed rehabilitation work will be programmed by the Regional Director to be accomplished as soon as possible after the Bicentennial year of 1976, during which the park should be free of construction apparatus and activity. This project will involve a structural analysis and necessary work on the base of the temple (if not done in 1975), the retaining wall, and the bridge monumentation.

Both stages of the rehabilitation project are Sec. 106 undertakings.

3. The Regional Director will program as a priority project a new master plan for the park. The plan will take account of evolving attitudes in the State and community toward historic preservation and will explore the potential for cooperative relations involving the adjacent historic district, Greuselund, and other historic properties as called for by the legislation authorizing the park. The master plan will also be a Sec. 106 undertaking.

4. The Regional Director will complete the Sec. 106 proceedings on the visitor center by writing the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation conceding adversity of the visitor center as planned, stating that mitigation will consist in not constructing the building as planned and sited, and recording that we will proceed with the contract for grounds restoration and cable installation.

5. Drs. Connally and Curry will brief Departmental officials and key Members of Congress on our decisions and will inform the Regional Director when this has been done, which will be the Region's authority for proceeding with its responsibilities as set forth above. The Region will thereupon explain these decisions





and intentions to city officials and other concerned parties in Vincennes. Lowell Sturgill will handle the reprogramming process upon receipt of justifications from the Region.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director



APR 7 1975

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1130-PP

Honorable Philip H. Hayes  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hayes:

As we promised in our meeting of March 4, here is the funding breakdown of the appropriation for the visitor center at George Rogers Clark National Historical Park:

\$302,000	Net construction
105,000	Exhibits and audiovisual
45,000	Supervision
<u>80,000</u>	Contingencies

\$532,000 Line item

We hope that the funds appropriated for the visitor center may be reprogrammed to rehabilitate the temple, which badly needs reroofing, repointing, and cleaning. This project, together with the projected grounds rehabilitation and installation of underground lighting equipment, would place the park in good condition for the observances of the Bicentennial year.

As you know, a new master plan study of the park will be undertaken as a matter of high priority. The question of the visitor center can be dealt with in that study.

If the reprogramming is finally approved, the net construction amount of \$302,000 plus the amounts for supervision and contingencies would apply to the rehabilitation. The grounds and lighting project was a separate line item of \$173,000 and will proceed as scheduled. Also, we intend to proceed with preparation of an audiovisual presentation.

At your request, we have obtained the enclosed correspondence from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. This material documents the progress of the consultations pursuant to the Council's procedures for compliance with Section 105 of the National Historic Preservation Act set forth in 36 C.F.R. Part 300.



In this connection, we wish to point out that funds for a visitor center at George Rogers Clark were included in the F.Y. 1975 appropriations act as a result of committee action rather than an administration request. Therefore, we did not initiate Section 106 compliance action as early as we would have had we anticipated receiving funds for this purpose.

If we can provide you with further information, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally  
Associate Director,  
Professional Services

Enclosures

bcc:

Regional Director, Midwest Region (2), w/encl.

Manager, Denver Service Center, w/encl.

Director's Reading File

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L)

AC)

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~~(PP)~~

LS)

FNP:RMutley:mmm 3/6/75

