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COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

March, 1975

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford, Honorary Chairman

Mr. Gary E. Everhardt, Chairman

Mr. Gary E. Everhardt  
Director  
National Park Service  
U. S. Department of Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20242  
Tel: 202-343-4621 (office)

Mr. J. Carter Brown  
Director  
National Gallery of Art  
Washington, D. C. 20565  
Tel: 202-RE-74215 (office)

Honorable Wiley T. Buchanan  
4220 Nebraska Avenue, NW.  
Washington, D. C. 20016  
Tel: 202-Em-2-1982 (home)  
331-7320

Mrs. Thurmond Clarke (Athalie)  
4633 Brighton Road  
Cameo Shores  
Corona del Mar, California 92625  
Tel: 703-253-5168  
714-673-5788

Mr. Clement E. Conger  
Curator  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500  
Tel: 202-456-2550 (office)

Mrs. Lamnot duPont Copeland  
Mt. Cuba (Pam)  
Greenville, Delaware 19807  
Tel: 302-CE-95236

Mrs. Charles W. Engelhard, Jr.  
"Cragwood" (Jane)  
Far Hills, New Jersey 07931  
Tel: 201-766-7224

In Florida: "Pamplermousse"  
Boca Grande 33921

Honorable Clare Booth Luce  
4559 Kahala Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815  
Tel: 202-333-0903  
Now at:  
Watergate, S  
Apt. 1106

Mrs. Brooks McCormick  
1530 North State Parkway  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
Tel: 312-787-5043

Mr. Robert McNeil  
601 East Evergreen Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Tel: 215-247-1010  
215-836-1044 (home)

Mrs. Richard P. Mellon (Trudy)  
"Woodlea"  
Ligonier, Pennsylvania 15658  
Tel: 412-238-5656

Mrs. John Murchison (Lupe)  
Post Office Box 55  
Addison, Texas 75001  
Tel: 214-741-6031 (husband's office)

Mrs. Stewart Hooker  
One Sutton Place South  
New York, New York 10021  
Tel: 212-753-3156  
305-659-1503

Mrs. Aristotle Onassis  
1040 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10028  
Tel: 212-421-9100 (Nancy Tuckerman)

Mrs. Ogden Phipps (Lillian)  
635 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10021  
Tel: 212-Bu-8-3865



Dr. S. Dillon Ripley  
Secretary  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D. C. 20560  
Tel: 202-232-3131

Mr. Rex Scouten  
Chief Usher  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500  
Tel: 202-456-2650

Mr. W. Clement Stone  
445 Sheridan Road  
Winnetka, Illinois 60093  
Tel: 312-275-8000 (office)

Mrs. Frederick K. Weyerhaeuser	In Florida: P. O. Box 277
294 Summit Avenue	Hobe Sound, Florida
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102	33455
Tel: 612-222-1248	
612-224-5452	
305-546-3381	

Mrs. Phillip K. Wrigley  
P. O. Box 427  
Avalon, California 90704  
Tel: 312-644-2121  
312-943-4774  
414-248-4447

Mr. Edward V. Jones (Architectural Advisor to the Committee)  
405 North Monroe Street  
Albany, Georgia 31701  
Tel: 912-435-5897 (home)  
912-435-3525

Mr. Elmer Atkins (Secretary to the Committee)  
National Park Service  
1100 Ohio Drive, SW.  
Washington, D. C. 20242  
Tel: 202-426-6725

sent to 3/6/75  
Casselman —  
for top priority





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR PHILIP BUCHEN

FROM:

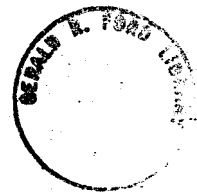
RON NESSEN *RHN*

SUBJECT:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Attached is a letter from Maxine Cheshire of the WASHINGTON POST, which was received March 4, 1975, by Larry Speakes of my staff, who handles inquiries from Mrs. Cheshire.

I would appreciate your advice before replying to this letter.



# The Washington Post

1150 15TH STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20071

(202) 223-6000

March 3, 1975

Mr. Larry Speakes  
Assistant Press Secretary  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Larry:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC, Section 552, I hereby request that you disclose to me for inspection and copying the following records:

1. A list of donors and amounts contributed to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House since its formation.
2. A list of expenditures by that Committee, along with the names and addresses of all persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service.

As I have indicated earlier to you by phone, I would like this information as promptly as possible. In view of President Ford's policy on openness in such matters, I cannot imagine that he or anyone in his administration would feel that the public does not have a right to know who gives to this historic White House project and how the money is spent.

Sincerely,

*Maryne Cheshire*  
Maryne Cheshire



sent to 3/6/75  
Casselman —  
for top priority



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 4, 1975

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Sincerely,

*Maxine Cheshire*  
Maxine Cheshire

Saturday 3/8/75

1:50 Mr. Buchen asked me to call someone in the Counsel office and get the citation for the creation of the W. H. Historical Commission? ??

Barry said it was 3 USC Annotated -- in the pocket.

E. O. 11145, which provides for the Curator of the White House, Committee for the Preservation of the White House.



Saturday 3/8/75

Meeting  
3/8/75  
3:15 p.m.

2:00 Mr. Buchen had a call from Mrs. Ford concerning the W.H. Society, Maxine Cheshire letter, and something about China for the White House.

Mr. Buchen wants to meet with Rex Scouten (if convenient this afternoon) and asked if he would bring with him a copy of the Cheshire letter and any other material dealing with the purchases on order for the W.H. that relate to the previous administration.

*Silver*



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1975

Dear Ms. Cheshire:

This is in response to your letter of March 3, 1975, received by this office on March 4, requesting (1) "a list of donors and amounts contributed to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House since its formation," and (2) "a list of expenditures by that Committee, along with the names and addresses of all persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service."

You have stated in your letter that your request is being made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 522). As you may know, there is a substantial legal question as to whether the Act applies to the White House and/or component units thereof.

Notwithstanding this question, I am advised that at its recent meeting on March 11 the Committee approved the issuance of a comprehensive report of its activities for the period 1969 through 1974. The report of the Committee will also contain an appendix detailing the income and expenditures of the Committee for the previous five years. This report, which is customarily issued following a change of Administration, should contain all of the information you have requested with the exception of the addresses of persons to whom payment was made for any purchase or service.

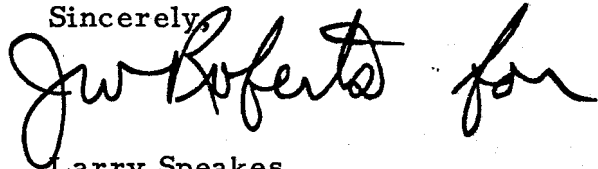
I am informed that the Committee has no separate list of the addresses of those to whom payment was made for either purchases or services. However, the Committee will be pleased to assist you in obtaining such information. The report, which has been in preparation for several months, is expected to be completed on or about April 1. We will make it available to you at that time.

With respect to existing documents, which are the basis for the Committee report, additional time is required to process your request. This is necessary because the Committee files are, in part, files



maintained by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and the Committee must consult with NPS concerning the possible release of this data. Therefore, we are extending by 10 working days the time in which to respond to your request with respect to any existing records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jw Roberts for".

Larry Speakes  
Assistant Press Secretary

Ms. Maxine Cheshire  
The Washington Post  
1150 15th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

bcc: Phil Buchen



ADDENDUM

COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION  
OF THE WHITE HOUSE

1100 OHIO DRIVE, S. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242

April 8, 1975

The following items were inadvertently left off the Expenditure Report of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House for the year 1972 when the Report of the Committee was issued on April 4, 1975.

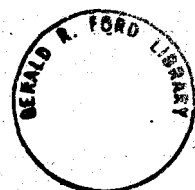
Payee	Item	Amount
Rudolf Andrle	27 Dining Room chairs restored	\$4,730
Parke-Bernet Galleries	Pr. lamps, side chair & pr. of chairs	7,750
H. O. McNierney Stalker & Boos, Inc.	Bed	5,000

The final corrected expenditures for the year 1972 were \$1,112,649 and the total expenditures for the years 1969-74 were \$3,345,898.

NOTE:

Payment for the portrait of Mrs. John F. Kennedy was not listed under the expenditures of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House in 1971 because the artist was paid for this portrait directly by the White House Historical Association. The amount paid was \$15,000.

The portrait of President John F. Kennedy was paid from the Acquisition Fund because the White House Historical Association had deposited funds in the account for this portrait.



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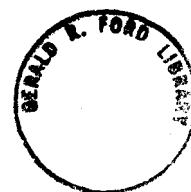
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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM

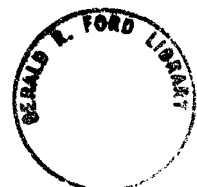
*Clem Conger*  
CLEM CONGER, CURATOR

In accordance with your request, I am submitting herewith a detailed list of on-going projects for the improvement of the White House rooms which have been considered by the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and have been in varying stages of discussion or progress by the Curator and Mrs. Edward V. Jones, Architectural Consultant and Design member of the Committee for the past few years.

Unfortunately, we have never had the opportunity to discuss and explain these various subjects to Mrs. Ford. The problem has been to bring Mrs. Ford, Mr. Jones (who lives in Albany, Georgia and contributes his services to the White House and the State Department) and me together. We have had Mr. Jones here three or four times, but Mrs. Ford was available only for a limited period or not at all, as most recently on March 9, 1975 when most of this was to be shown to her in the various rooms with designs, colors, fabrics, etc. for her consideration. It is very difficult if not impossible to consider changes in the rooms when not actually in the room.

Mr. Jones and I would like at least to show Mrs. Ford what we had in mind for great improvements and upgrading in the Queen's Bedroom. We understand that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is but the drapery and upholstery orders were too far underway to stop when this word was communicated indirectly to me. The furniture and mantel had all been acquired before President and Mrs. Ford came to the White House.

We are not at all unhappy that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is, but the draperies and upholsteries must be replaced eventually. Once Mrs. Ford has seen our proposals they may be placed in the room if she approves or may be placed in White House storage to be used at a future date.



Due to the tremendous number of acquisitions of the highest quality in American furniture, chandeliers, rugs, and decorative objects during the period 1970-74, very few purchases in these fields will be necessary in the foreseeable future. Major work is necessary in architectural and design details in rooms, draperies, upholsteries, etc. Major purchases in the future should come in the field of American paintings where the White House is woefully short in quantity (not quality) owned.. There are presently a large number of loans of paintings from 17 major museums and art galleries some of which go away frequently for exhibition elsewhere and thus, blank spots are created despite the fact that we have acquired 60 paintings in the last 5 years.

### Diplomatic Reception Room

The mantel and overmantel panel are to be replaced with a period mantel of about 1800. (the present mantel was made in the White House in the 1940's). A new overmantel panel will permit the use of a superb American horizontal mantel mirror permanently lent to the White House by the Metropolitan Museum of Art (the mirror is in the Curator's Office). The mirror has scenes of early America around the borders which are related to the "Scenic America" wallpaper in the room. The bronze bust of Jefferson now on the mantel is inappropriate and a second rate modern copy and would be removed. The furniture in the room may be slightly rearranged.

### China Room

A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and the Vermeil Room. A rearrangement of Presidential porcelain collection is needed to take care of numerous additions to the collection as well as corrected attributions.

### West Garden Room

This room is being re-designed with an Oriental character of the late 18th century. On the walls will be a Chinese floral wallpaper with a yellow background. On the floor will be a new rush carpet. Furniture in the room will consist of two wooden garden benches painted an apricot color with upholstered seats, two tables in front of the benches, small tables at ends of the room, Chinese porcelain garden seats already acquired and a pair of large Chinese export planters already acquired which will have trees in them. The wallpaper has been especially made, having been ordered last summer. It is hoped that minor architectural changes and corrections can be made in the glass areas. The room is scheduled to be set up in July 1975.

## STATE FLOOR

### East Room

New draperies are needed at all six windows as the present draperies are beginning to disintegrate from age and exposure. Material as identical as possible to the material now used would be ordered from an American firm (the original fabric was ordered from France in the Kennedy administration and is no longer available). The present cornices would be removed and replaced with wider valances. Mr. Jones has redesigned appropriate draperies. It will cost approximately \$60,000 for fabric and the manufacture of the draperies.

### Blue Room

The beautiful Chinese rug in the French manner which was shown to and approved by the Committee on March 11, 1975 is to be paid for at a cost of \$52,000. Hopefully, Mrs. Hooker, a member of the Committee, will re-imburse the acquisition fund as she has paid all other expenses in refurbishing the Blue Room (\$250,000).

### State Dining Room

New draperies will be needed in a year or two due to age and exposure of the present draperies. A second and similar rug has been ordered for this room which gets the greatest usage of any room in the White House. The present modern rug which is a great success was delivered in 1973 and cost only \$15,000. An alternate rug is needed when this one is cleaned and repaired. The alternate rug will cost about the same as the first one which was a bargain as similar modern rugs would cost about \$30,000. The present Queen Anne chairs with upholstered seats and backs need reupholstering frequently as everybody touches them. They are too early in design for the room. In time, we hope to have a distinguished American Chippendale frame back set of chairs copied in quantity. The design would be more correct to the architectural period of the room. Only the seats would be upholstered. Therefore, fabrics would last much longer.





## SECOND FLOOR

### Lincoln Sitting Room

A refurbishing is needed with new draperies to replace the present worn ones. The wallpaper could possibly be changed to lighten the room.

### Lincoln Bedroom

The draperies are in shreds and new draperies are to be copied from a design of the Lincoln era (drawings of the Lincoln period show the design of the draperies). Mr. Jones has these designs underway. A Victorian rug that was in the room in Lincoln's time is to be copied and placed in the room.

### East Sitting Hall

Some furniture improvements have already been made but there are others to be made. The furniture is chiefly by John and Thomas Seymour of Boston, Mass., Circa 1810-1830 and is similar to the great pieces already in the Queen's Bedroom. This furniture was acquired in 1972. New draperies should be made and an antique rug should replace the modern wall to wall carpeting. A suitable rug may be in White House storage. New upholsteries are also needed.

### Central Corridor

Antique furniture owned by the White House should replace the Truman era reproductions in this area. The long range acquisition of fine American paintings for this area should be made to replace the numerous paintings on loan from major museums and art galleries which change frequently due to the institutions recalling the paintings for exhibition. Two large Chippendale looking glasses, a near pair flanking the doorway at the west end, are on loan and subject to recall in mid-1975. The finest known exact pair of American Chippendale looking glasses has been purchased for this location at \$35,000, half of their appraised value.

### Queen's Bedroom

The room has been re-designed in mid 1974 as a Boston bedroom of the early 19th century. All of the furniture for the room was purchased a long time ago with the majority of the pieces coming from the Stoneman collection of furniture by John and Thomas Seymour of Boston, famous cabinetmakers of beautiful furniture. The Stoneman collection was purchased for the White House in 1972.

Most of the great pieces now in the room will remain there. They are the Seymour bureaus, the Seymour secretary, the Seymour sewing table, the Seymour pole screen, the Seymour card tables on either side of the bed and the inlaid occasional table near the secretary.

Among the items to be placed in the room for Mrs. Ford's consideration are: a magnificent sofa by Samuel McIntire of Boston (this sofa was in the White House on loan during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and purchased during the Nixon administration); it would replace an unattractive modern overstuffed sofa now in the room; a Massachusetts wing chair purchased in 1972, a Martha Washington arm chair purchased in 1972, four painted side chairs made in Boston and purchased in 1972, a beautiful Hereke rug purchased in 1974 and a very beautiful four poster bed made in Boston by the Seymour brothers and purchased in 1970.

It is suggested that the walls of the room should be covered with a wallpaper based on a hand blocked early 19th century French wallpaper. The paper has a beige ground with pink and green classical ornaments. It would contribute more warmth and femininity to the room.

The period draperies are pink and green with the colors chosen from the colors of the wallpaper. The draperies have been made.

It is hoped that architectural changes can be made in the room. Among them would be a new cornice correct to a room of the period and a new wood mantel with classical motifs to replace the 1940 style wood mantel made in the White House shop. The woodwork of the Truman restoration in 1950 is totally incorrect. This work would be done while the President and First Lady are away from the White House.

In any event, some reproduction furniture in the room must go, for example, the large and ugly coffee table.

### West Sitting Hall

Improvements underway in the Ford administration include new draperies and new upholsteries on the furniture. The settee will have to have slip covers made in a different pattern. American antique furniture already owned by the White House could be used here to replace the French and reproduction furniture.

### Two bedrooms, north side

The resources are available to improve the furniture in these rooms at any time Mrs. Ford wishes. The rooms have loan paintings which may be recalled. Antique chandeliers have been installed recently in the rooms and rugs for these rooms are available from White House storage.

### Third Floor Rooms and corridor

The third floor rooms and corridor can be improved as time and resources permit. Already ordered are three large chandeliers for the corridor to replace the small five dreadful ones now there. The new lighting fixtures could be modern copies of antique chandeliers and therefore inexpensive.

Room 301 (Blue Toile Bedroom) and Room 329 (Red Toile Bedroom) need immediate attention. Draperies and upholsteries are worn out. Samples of new materials are ready for Mrs. Ford to approve or change. Some furniture adjustments are advisable.

## WEST WING

### West Wing Reception Area

Improvements in furniture, lamps and paintings will be made as resources permit.

### The President's Oval Office

The new oval rug will be similar to the rug in the Diplomatic Reception Room; the borders will be similar with the colors blending with the upholstery fabric now in the Oval Office.

The colors will be soft and attractive. Mr. Jones is working on the design with the firm of Edward Fields, Inc., at its Long Island factory. This is the same firm that made the Diplomatic Reception Room rug. As soon as the design is finished and colors correlated, a sample will be shown to Mrs. Ford. The walls of the room need to be painted with the previously selected color when the President is away. It will make the upholsteries, rug and draperies all "hang together" in color. New draperies are being made for this room with fabrics approved by Mrs. Ford.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

Most of these projects have been ongoing during the past several years.

### GROUND FLOOR

#### President's Library -

This is the only room on the Ground Floor which has not been refurbished since 1961. The room needs a "facelifting" which would include painting the walls, new draperies which would be better designed and brighter in color, new upholsteries and a new antique Bessarabian rug already purchased for the room. The furniture would remain the same except to change the very large center table now in the room and replace it with the smaller drum table now in the center of the Vermeil Room.

#### Map Room -

The room has undergone a major refurbishing and the room is now completely furnished. The woodwork in the room needs to be replaced with woodwork correct to the American Chippendale furnishings of the late 18th century - woodwork which would have been in the White House prior to the fire of 1814. It would make a much better background for the furniture. As the room appears now each of the three door frames are different. A correct mantel should replace the ugly stone mantel of the 1948-52 renovation. A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and Vermeil Room. Much of the furniture in the room is lent and if it should be recalled, new items will have to be purchased or borrowed.

### Diplomatic Reception Room -

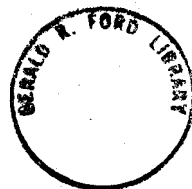
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## STATE FLOOR

### East Room-

New draperies are needed at all six windows as the present draperies are beginning to disintegrate from age and exposure. Material as identical as possible to the material now used would be ordered from an American firm (the original fabric was ordered from France in the Kennedy administration and is no longer available). The present cornices would be removed and replaced with wider valances. Mr. Jones has redesigned appropriate draperies. It will cost approximately \$60,000 for fabric and the manufacture of the draperies.

### Green Room-

The present chandelier (English, late 18th century) would be removed to the Family Dining Room, second floor, and replaced with an early 19th century chandelier which was purchased last year. The new chandelier would be correct with the early 19th century American furnishings now in the room. The chandelier in the Family Dining Room is a "married" chandelier of two parts, each of a different period, and would be replaced with the present Green Room chandelier. Mrs. Copeland and others on the Committee for the Preservation of the White House have objected to the present Green Room chandelier in that room.

### Blue Room-

The beautiful Chinese rug in the French manner which was shown to and approved by the Committee on March 11, 1975 is to be paid for at a cost of \$50,000. Hopefully, Mrs. Hooker, a member of the Committee, will reimburse the acquisition fund.

### State Dining Room-

New draperies will be needed in a year or two due to age and exposure of the present draperies. A second and similar rug has been ordered for this room which gets the greatest usage of any room in the White House. The present modern rug which is a great success was delivered in 1973 and cost only \$15,000. An alternate rug is needed when this one is cleaned and repaired. The alternate rug will cost about the same as the first one which was a bargain as similar modern rugs would cost about \$30,000. The present Queen Anne chairs with upholstered seats and backs need reupholstering frequently as everybody touches them. They are too early in design for the room. In time, we hope to have a distinguished American Chippendale frame back set of chairs copied in quantity. The design would be more correct to the architectural period of the room. Only the seats would be re-upholstered. Fabrics would last much longer.

### SECOND FLOOR

#### Lincoln Sitting Room-

A refurbishing is needed with new draperies to replace the present worn ones. The wallpaper could possibly be changed to lighten the room.

#### Lincoln Bedroom-

The draperies are in shreds and new draperies are to be copied from a design of the Lincoln era (drawings of the Lincoln period show the design of the draperies). Mr. Jones has these designs underway. A Victorian rug that was in the room in Lincoln's time is to be copied and placed in the room.

#### East Sitting Hall-

Some furniture improvements have already been made but there are others to be made. The furniture is chiefly John and Thomas Seymour of Boston, Mass., circa 1810-1820 and is similar to the great pieces already in the Queen's Bedroom. This furniture was acquired in 1972. New draperies should be made and an antique rug should replace the modern wall to wall carpeting. A suitable rug may be in White House storage. New upholsteries are also needed.

### Queen's Bedroom-

The room has been re-designed in mid 1974 as a Boston bedroom of the early 19th century. All of the furniture for the room was purchased a long time ago with the majority of the pieces coming from the Stoneman collection of furniture by John and Thomas Seymour of Boston, famous cabinetmakers of beautiful furniture. The Stoneman collection was purchased for the White House in 1972.

Most of the pieces now in the room will remain there. They are the Seymour bureaus, the Seymour secretary, the Seymour sewing table, the Seymour pole screen, the Seymour card tables on either side of the bed and the inlaid occasional table near the secretary.

Among the items to be placed in the room for Mrs. Ford's consideration are: a magnificent sofa by Samuel McIntire of Boston (this sofa was in the White House on loan during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and purchased during the Nixon administration); it would replace an unattractive modern overstuffed sofa now in the room; a Massachusetts wing chair purchased in 1972, a Martha Washington arm chair purchased in 1972, four painted side chairs made in Boston and purchased in 1972, a beautiful Hereke rug purchased in 1974 and a very beautiful four poster bed made in Boston by the Seymour brothers and purchased in 1970.

It is suggested that the walls of the room should be covered with a wallpaper based on a hand blocked early 19th century French wallpaper. It has a beige ground with pink and green classical ornaments. It would contribute more warmth and femininity to the room.

The period draperies are pink and green with the colors chosen from the colors of the wallpaper. The draperies have been made.

It is hoped that architectural changes can be made in the room. Among them would be a new cornice correct to a room of the period and a new wood mantel with classical motifs to replace the 1940 style wood mantel made in the White House shop. This work would be done while the President and First Lady are away from the White House.

In any event, some reproduction furniture in the room must go, for example, the large and ugly coffee table.

Central Corridor-

Antique furniture owned by the White House should replace the Truman era reproductions in this area. The long range acquisition of fine American paintings for this area should be made to replace the numerous paintings on loan from major museums and art galleries which change frequently due to the institutions recalling the paintings for exhibition. Two large Chippendale looking glasses, a near pair flanking the doorway, at the west end, are on loan and subject to recall in 1976-77. The finest known exact pair of American Chippendale looking glasses has been found for this location at \$35,000, half of their appraised value.

West Sitting Hall-

Improvements underway in the Ford administration include new draperies to be delivered May 21 and new upholsteries on the furniture. The settee will have to be recovered or have slip covers made in a different pattern. American antique furniture already owned by the White House could be used here to replace the French and reproduction furniture.

Two bedrooms, north side-

The resources are available to improve the furniture in these rooms at any time Mrs. Ford wishes. The rooms have loan paintings which may be recalled. Antique chandeliers have been installed in the rooms and rugs for these rooms are available from White House storage.

Third Floor Rooms and corridor-

The third floor rooms and corridor can be improved as time as resources permit. Already ordered are three large chandeliers for the corridor to replace the small five dreadful ones now there. The new lighting fixtures are modern copies of antique chandeliers and therefore inexpensive.

## WEST WING

### West Wing Reception Area-

Improvements in furniture, lamps and paintings will be made as resources permit.

### The President's Oval Office-

The new oval rug will be similar to the rug in the Diplomatic Reception Room; the borders will be similar with the colors blending with the upholstery fabric now in the Oval Office. The colors will be soft and attractive. Mr. Jones is working on the design with the firm of Edward Fields, Inc., at its Long Island factory. This is the same firm that made the Diplomatic Reception Room rug. As soon as the design is finished and colors correlated, a sample will be shown to Mrs. Ford. The walls of the room need to be painted with the previously selected color when the President is away. It will make the upholsteries, rug and draperies all hang together in color. New draperies need to be made for this room with a slight change in color and design.



Presidential China

For information only, we had a project underway during 1972-74 with Lenox, America's leading porcelain manufacturer to design and manufacture a porcelain service for the White House to serve 250 people. The last service was made in the Lyndon Johnson administration for 216 persons. Prospective donors were available for the Nixon service. The whole project was called off by Mrs. Nixon at the end of July 1974. The major donor who was going to secure other donors was told by me to discontinue his efforts to raise the money from a number of prospective donors. A new service of this quantity of 250 of everything will be needed eventually. If it is made, a donor or donors must be found. The present cost would be in the neighborhood of \$250,000.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PHILIP W. BUCHEN  
*Philip W. Buchen*  
FROM CLEM CONGER, CURATOR

In accordance with your request, I am submitting herewith a detailed list of on-going projects for the improvement of the White House rooms which have been considered by the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and have been in varying stages of discussion or progress by the Curator and Mrs. Edward V. Jones, Architectural Consultant and Design member of the Committee for the past few years.

Unfortunately, we have never had the opportunity to discuss and explain these various subjects to Mrs. Ford. The problem has been to bring Mrs. Ford, Mr. Jones (who lives in Albany, Georgia and contributes his services to the White House and the State Department) and me together. We have had Mr. Jones here three or four times, but Mrs. Ford was available only for a limited period or not at all, as most recently on March 9, 1975 when most of this was to be shown to her in the various rooms with designs, colors, fabrics, etc. for her consideration. It is very difficult if not impossible to consider changes in the rooms when not actually in the room.

Mr. Jones and I would like at least to show Mrs. Ford what we had in mind for great improvements and upgrading in the Queen's Bedroom. We understand that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is but the drapery and upholstery orders were too far underway to stop when this word was communicated indirectly to me. The furniture and mantel had all been acquired before President and Mrs. Ford came to the White House.

We are not at all unhappy that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is, but the draperies and upholsteries must be replaced eventually. Once Mrs. Ford has seen our proposals they may be placed in the room if she approves or may be placed in White House storage to be used at a future date.



Due to the tremendous number of acquisitions of the highest quality in American furniture, chandeliers, rugs, and decorative objects during the period 1970-74, very few purchases in these fields will be necessary in the foreseeable future. Major work is necessary in architectural and design details in rooms, draperies, upholsteries, etc. Major purchases in the future should come in the field of American paintings where the White House is woefully short in quantity (not quality) owned. . There are presently a large number of loans of paintings from 17 major museums and art galleries some of which go away frequently for exhibition elsewhere and thus, blank spots are created despite the fact that we have acquired 60 paintings in the last 5 years.



## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

Most of these projects have been ongoing during the past several years.

### GROUND FLOOR

#### President's Library -

This is the only room on the Ground Floor which has not been refurbished since 1961. The room needs a "facelifting" which would include painting the walls, new draperies which would be better designed and brighter in color, new upholsteries and a new antique Bessarabian rug already purchased for the room. The furniture would remain the same except to change the very large center table now in the room and replace it with the smaller drum table now in the center of the Vermeil Room.

#### Map Room -

The room has undergone a major refurbishing and the room is now completely furnished. The woodwork in the room needs to be replaced with woodwork correct to the American Chippendale furnishings of the late 18th century - woodwork which would have been in the White House prior to the fire of 1814. It would make a much better background for the furniture. As the room appears now each of the three door frames are different. A correct mantel should replace the ugly stone mantel of the 1948-52 renovation. A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and Vermeil Room. Much of the furniture in the room is lent and if it should be recalled, new items will have to be purchased or borrowed.



### Diplomatic Reception Room -

The mantel and overmantel panel are to be replaced with a period mantel of about 1800. (the present mantel was made in the White House in the 1940's). A new overmantel panel will permit the use of a superb ~~Amer~~ horizontal mantel mirror permanently lent to the White House by the Metropolitan Museum of Art (the mirror is in the Curator's Office). The mirror has scenes of early America around the borders which are related to the "Scenic America" wallpaper in the room. The bronze bust of Jefferson now on the mantel is inappropriate and a second rate modern copy and would be removed. The furniture in the room may be slightly rearranged.

### China Room -

A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and the Vermeil Room. A rearrangement of Presidential porcelain collection is needed to take care of numerous additions to the collection.

### West Garden Room-

This room is being re-designed with an Oriental character of the late 18th century. On the walls will be a Chinese floral wallpaper with a yellow background. On the floor will be a new rush carpet. Furniture in the room will consist of two wooden garden benches painted an apricot color with upholstered seats, two tables in front of the benches, small tables at ends of the room, Chinese porcelain garden seats already acquired and a pair of large Chinese export planters already acquired which will have trees in them. The wallpaper has been especially made, having been ordered last summer. It is hoped that minor architectural changes and corrections can be made in the glass areas. The room is scheduled to be set up in mid May, 1975.



## STATE FLOOR

### East Room-

New draperies are needed at all six windows as the present draperies are beginning to disintegrate from age and exposure. Material as identical as possible to the material now used would be ordered from an American firm (the original fabric was ordered from France in the Kennedy administration and is no longer available). The present cornices would be removed and replaced with wider valances. Mr. Jones has redesigned appropriate draperies. It will cost approximately \$60,000 for fabric and the manufacture of the draperies.

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The present chandelier (English, late 18th century) would be removed to the Family Dining Room, second floor, and replaced with an early 19th century chandelier which was purchased last year. The new chandelier would be correct with the early 19th century American furnishings now in the room. The chandelier in the Family Dining Room is a "married" chandelier of two parts, each of a different period, and would be replaced with the present Green Room chandelier. Mrs. Copeland and others on the Committee for the Preservation of the White House have objected to the present Green Room chandelier in that room.

### Blue Room-

The beautiful Chinese rug in the French manner which was shown to and approved by the Committee on March 11, 1975 is to be paid for at a cost of \$50,000. Hopefully, Mrs. Hooker, a member of the Committee, will reimburse the acquisition fund.

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### SECOND FLOOR

#### Lincoln Sitting Room-

A refurbishing is needed with new draperies to replace the present worn ones. The wallpaper could possibly be changed to lighten the room.

#### Lincoln Bedroom-

The draperies are in shreds and new draperies are to be copied from a design of the Lincoln era (drawings of the Lincoln period show the design of the draperies). Mr. Jones has these designs underway. A Victorian rug that was in the room in Lincoln's time is to be copied and placed in the room.

#### East Sitting Hall-

Some furniture improvements have already been made but there are others to be made. The furniture is chiefly John and Thomas Seymour of Boston, Mass., circa 1810-1820 and is similar to the great pieces already in the Queen's Bedroom. This furniture was acquired in 1972. New draperies should be made and an antique rug should replace the modern wall to wall carpeting. A suitable rug may be in White House storage. New upholsteries are also needed.

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Most of the pieces now in the room will remain there. They are the Seymour bureaus, the Seymour secretary, the Seymour sewing table, the Seymour pole screen, the Seymour card tables on either side of the bed and the inlaid occasional table near the secretary.

Among the items to be placed in the room for Mrs. Ford's consideration are: a magnificent sofa by Samuel McIntire of Boston (this sofa was in the White House on loan during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and purchased during the Nixon administration); it would replace an unattractive modern overstuffed sofa now in the room; a Massachusetts wing chair purchased in 1972, a Martha Washington arm chair purchased in 1972, four painted side chairs made in Boston and purchased in 1972, a beautiful Hereke rug purchased in 1974 and a very beautiful four poster bed made in Boston by the Seymour brothers and purchased in 1970.

It is suggested that the walls of the room should be covered with a wallpaper based on a hand blocked early 19th century French wallpaper. It has a beige ground with pink and green classical ornaments. It would contribute more warmth and femininity to the room.

The period draperies are pink and green with the colors chosen from the colors of the wallpaper. The draperies have been made.

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In any event, some reproduction furniture in the room must go, for example, the large and ugly coffee table.

Central Corridor-

Antique furniture owned by the White House should replace the Truman era reproductions in this area. The long range acquisition of fine American paintings for this area should be made to replace the numerous paintings on loan from major museums and art galleries which change frequently due to the institutions recalling the paintings for exhibition. Two large Chippendale looking glasses, a near pair flanking the doorway at the west end, are on loan and subject to recall in 1976-77. The finest known exact pair of American Chippendale looking glasses has been found for this location at \$35,000, half of their appraised value.

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Improvements underway in the Ford administration include new draperies to be delivered May 21 and new upholsteries on the furniture. The settee will have to be recovered or have slip covers made in a different pattern. American antique furniture already owned by the White House could be used here to replace the French and reproduction furniture.

Two bedrooms, north side-

The resources are available to improve the furniture in these rooms at any time Mrs. Ford wishes. The rooms have loan paintings which may be recalled. Antique chandeliers have been installed in the rooms and rugs for these rooms are available from White House storage.

Third Floor Rooms and corridor-

The third floor rooms and corridor can be improved as time as resources permit. Already ordered are three large chandeliers for the corridor to replace the small five dreadful ones now there. The new lighting fixtures are modern copies of antique chandeliers and therefore inexpensive.

## WEST WING

### West Wing Reception Area-

Improvements in furniture, lamps and paintings will be made as resources permit.

### The President's Oval Office-

The new oval rug will be similar to the rug in the Diplomatic Reception Room; the borders will be similar with the colors blending with the upholstery fabric now in the Oval Office. The colors will be soft and attractive. Mr. Jones is working on the design with the firm of Edward Fields, Inc., at its Long Island factory. This is the same firm that made the Diplomatic Reception Room rug. As soon as the design is finished and colors correlated, a sample will be shown to Mrs. Ford. The walls of the room need to be painted with the previously selected color when the President is away. It will make the upholsteries, rug and draperies all hang together in color. New draperies need to be made for this room with a slight change in color and design.

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## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

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### GROUND FLOOR

#### President's Library

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#### Map Room

The room has undergone a major refurbishing and the room is now completely furnished. The woodwork in the room needs to be replaced the woodwork correct to the American Chippendale furnishings of the late 18th century - woodwork which would have been in the White House prior to the fire of 1814. It would make a much better background for the furniture. As the room appears now each of the three door frames are different. A correct mantel should replace the ugly stone mantel of the 1948-52 renovation. A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and Vermeil Room. Much of the wonderful American Chippendale furniture in the room is lent. It should be recalled, "new" items will have to be purchased or borrowed.



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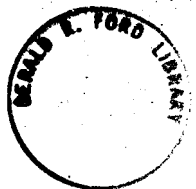
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The period draperies are pink and green with the colors chosen from the colors of the wallpaper. The draperies have been made.

It is hoped that architectural changes can be made in the room. Among them would be a new cornice correct to a room of the period and a new wood mantel with classical motifs to replace the 1940 style wood mantel made in the White House shop. The woodwork of the Truman restoration in 1950 is totally incorrect. This work would be done while the President and First Lady are away from the White House.

In any event, some reproduction furniture in the room must go, for example, the large and ugly coffee table.



### West Sitting Hall

Improvements underway in the Ford administration include new draperies and new upholsteries on the furniture. The settee will have to have slip covers made in a different pattern. American antique furniture already owned by the White House could be used here to replace the French and reproduction furniture.

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### Third Floor Rooms and corridor

The third floor rooms and corridor can be improved as time and resources permit. Already ordered are three large chandeliers for the corridor to replace the small five dreadful ones now there. The new lighting fixtures could be modern copies of antique chandeliers and therefore inexpensive.

Room 301 (Blue Toile Bedroom) and Room 329 (Red Toile Bedroom) need immediate attention. Draperies and upholsteries are worn out. Samples of new materials are ready for Mrs. Ford to approve or change. Some furniture adjustments are advisable.

## WEST WING

### West Wing Reception Area

Improvements in furniture, lamps and paintings will be made as resources permit.

### The President's Oval Office

The new oval rug will be similar to the rug in the Diplomatic Reception Room; the borders will be similar with the colors blending with the upholstery fabric now in the Oval Office. The colors will be soft and attractive. Mr. Jones is working on the design with the firm of Edward Fields, Inc., at its Long Island factory. This is the same firm that made the Diplomatic Reception Room rug. As soon as the design is finished and colors correlated, a sample will be shown to Mrs. Ford. The walls of the room need to be painted with the previously selected color when the President is away. It will make the upholsteries, rug and draperies all "hang together" in color. New draperies are being made for this room with fabrics approved by Mrs. Ford.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MR. BUCHEN:

*Attached is follow-up information  
regarding your discussion with  
Mrs. Ford on the Queen's Room.*

*Carolyn Porembka*



## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

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- 3 -

## STATE FLOOR

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A refurbishing is needed with new draperies to replace the present worn ones. The wallpaper could possibly be changed to lighten the room.

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Most of the great pieces now in the room will remain there. They are the Seymour bureaus, the Seymour secretary, the Seymour sewing table, the Seymour pole screen, the Seymour card tables on either side of the bed and the inlaid occasional table near the secretary.

Among the items to be placed in the room for Mrs. Ford's consideration are: a magnificent sofa by Samuel McIntire of Boston (this sofa was in the White House on loan during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and purchased during the Nixon administration); it would replace an unattractive modern overstuffed sofa now in the room; a Massachusetts wing chair purchased in 1972, a Martha Washington arm chair purchased in 1972, four painted side chairs made in Boston and purchased in 1972, a beautiful Hereke rug purchased in 1974 and a very beautiful four poster bed made in Boston by the Seymour brothers and purchased in 1970.

It is suggested that the walls of the room should be covered with a wallpaper based on a hand blocked early 19th century French wallpaper. The paper has a beige ground with pink and green classical ornaments. It would contribute more warmth and femininity to the room.

The period draperies are pink and green with the colors chosen from the colors of the wallpaper. The draperies have been made.

It is hoped that architectural changes can be made in the room. Among them would be a new cornice correct to a room of the period and a new wood mantel with classical motifs to replace the 1940 style wood mantel made in the White House shop. The woodwork of the Truman restoration in 1950 is totally incorrect. This work would be done while the President and First Lady are away from the White House.

In any event, some reproduction furniture in the room must go, for example, the large and ugly coffee table.



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### Two bedrooms, north side

The resources are available to improve the furniture in these rooms at any time Mrs. Ford wishes. The rooms have loan paintings which may be recalled. Antique chandeliers have been installed recently in the rooms and rugs for these rooms are available from White House storage.

### Third Floor Rooms and corridor

The third floor rooms and corridor can be improved as time and resources permit. Already ordered are three large chandeliers for the corridor to replace the small five dreadful ones now there. The new lighting fixtures could be modern copies of antique chandeliers and therefore inexpensive.

Room 301 (Blue Toile Bedroom) and Room 329 (Red Toile Bedroom) need immediate attention. Draperies and upholsteries are worn out. Samples of new materials are ready for Mrs. Ford to approve or change. Some furniture adjustments are advisable.

## WEST WING

### West Wing Reception Area

Improvements in furniture, lamps and paintings will be made as resources permit.

### The President's Oval Office

The new oval rug will be similar to the rug in the Diplomatic Reception Room; the borders will be similar with the colors blending with the upholstery fabric now in the Oval Office. The colors will be soft and attractive. Mr. Jones is working on the design with the firm of Edward Fields, Inc., at its Long Island factory. This is the same firm that made the Diplomatic Reception Room rug. As soon as the design is finished and colors correlated, a sample will be shown to Mrs. Ford. The walls of the room need to be painted with the previously selected color when the President is away. It will make the upholsteries, rug and draperies all "hang together" in color. New draperies are being made for this room with fabrics approved by Mrs. Ford.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

PHILIP BUCHEN

*P.W.B.*

SUBJECT:

Projects of the Committee  
for the Preservation of the  
White House

Clem Conger has asked me to give you a copy of a memo he sent to me on April 9 and a description updated to June 12, 1975, of projects of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

I have gone over these documents with Betty, as she has probably told you.

Attachment





MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 9, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM

*Clem Conger*  
CLEM CONGER, CURATOR

In accordance with your request, I am submitting herewith a detailed list of on-going projects for the improvement of the White House rooms which have been considered by the Committee for the Preservation of the White House and have been in varying stages of discussion or progress by the Curator and Mrs. Edward V. Jones, Architectural Consultant and Design member of the Committee for the past few years.

Unfortunately, we have never had the opportunity to discuss and explain these various subjects to Mrs. Ford. The problem has been to bring Mrs. Ford, Mr. Jones (who lives in Albany, Georgia and contributes his services to the White House and the State Department) and me together. We have had Mr. Jones here three or four times, but Mrs. Ford was available only for a limited period or not at all, as most recently on March 9, 1975 when most of this was to be shown to her in the various rooms with designs, colors, fabrics, etc. for her consideration. It is very difficult if not impossible to consider changes in the rooms when not actually in the room.

Mr. Jones and I would like at least to show Mrs. Ford what we had in mind for great improvements and upgrading in the Queen's Bedroom. We understand that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is but the drapery and upholstery orders were too far underway to stop when this word was communicated indirectly to me. The furniture and mantel had all been acquired before President and Mrs. Ford came to the White House.

We are not at all unhappy that Mrs. Ford likes the Queen's Bedroom the way it is, but the draperies and upholsteries must be replaced eventually. Once Mrs. Ford has seen our proposals they may be placed in the room if she approves or may be placed in White House storage to be used at a future date.

Due to the tremendous number of acquisitions of the highest quality in American furniture, chandeliers, rugs, and decorative objects during the period 1970-74, very few purchases in these fields will be necessary in the foreseeable future. Major work is necessary in architectural and design details in rooms, draperies, upholsteries, etc. Major purchases in the future should come in the field of American paintings where the White House is woefully short in quantity (not quality) owned.. There are presently a large number of loans of paintings from 17 major museums and art galleries some of which go away frequently for exhibition elsewhere and thus, blank spots are created despite the fact that we have acquired 60 paintings in the last 5 years.

## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

Most of these projects have been ongoing during the past several years.

### GROUND FLOOR

#### President's Library

This is the only room on the Ground Floor which has not been refurbished since 1961. The room needs a "facelifting" which would include painting the walls, new draperies which would be better designed and brighter in color, new upholsteries and a new antique Bessarabian rug already purchased for the room. The furniture would remain the same except to change the very large center table now in the room and trade it with the smaller drum table now in the center of the Vermeil Room.

#### Map Room

The room has undergone a major refurbishing and the room is now completely furnished. The woodwork in the room needs to be replaced the woodwork correct to the American Chippendale furnishings of the late 18th century - woodwork which would have been in the White House prior to the fire of 1814. It would make a much better background for the furniture. As the room appears now each of the three door frames are different. A correct mantel should replace the ugly stone mantel of the 1948-52 renovation. A new wooden floor is to be laid over the unattractive incorrect marble floor as has been done in the Library and Vermeil Room. Much of the wonderful American Chippendale furniture in the room is lent. It should be recalled, "new" items will have to be purchased or borrowed.

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*M. H.  
Jenkins*

June 17, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

CLEM CONGER

FROM:

PHILIP BUCHEN

*P.W.B.*

On Friday afternoon, June 13, I visited with Mrs. Ford and went over with her your memorandum to me of April 9 and your description of continuing projects of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, updated on June 12, 1975.

Mrs. Ford was very pleased to have this helpful description of the continuing projects. Together, we took the description of the second floor projects and went over each one as we visited the applicable rooms. She would like to do the same with you for the ground floor rooms and the State floor room and to review again with you the suggestions for the second floor rooms.

I believe Mrs. Ford is desirous of postponing any architectural changes in the Queen's bedroom but welcomes the thought of replacing certain of the furniture at this time.

As for the other suggestions, she appears desirous of setting priorities with the realization that the entire program will have to be extended over some years.

I know Mrs. Ford will be in touch with you on these matters.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1975

*W.H.  
Preservation*

MEMORANDUM FOR: CLEM CONGER

THROUGH: PHIL BUCHEN *T.W.B.*

FROM: DUDLEY CHAPMAN *DC*

SUBJECT: Applicability of the Advisory Committee  
Act to Meetings of the Committee for the  
Preservation of the White House

I.

You have asked whether the requirements of prior notice and open meetings of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I., apply to meetings of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House.

The Committee was established under Executive Order 11145 of March 7, 1964 (Tab A). The Order designates as members of the Committee the Director of the National Park Service, the Curator of the White House, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Director of the National Gallery of Art, the Chief Usher of the White House, and seven other members to be appointed by the President (Section 2). The Order provides that the Committee --

"shall report to the President and shall advise the Director of the National Park Service with respect to the discharge of his responsibility under the Act of September 22, 1961, for the preservation and the interpretation of the museum character of the principal corridor on the ground floor and the principal public rooms on the first floor of the White House...." (Section 3(a))



It also provides that:

"Among other things, the Committee shall make recommendations as to the articles of furniture, fixtures, and decorative objects which shall be used or displayed in the aforesaid areas of the White House and as to the decor and arrangements therein best suited to enhance the historic and artistic values of the White House and of such articles, fixtures, and objects." (Id.)

The Committee is directed to cooperate with the White House Historical Association and to invite individuals who are distinguished or interested in the fine arts to attend these meetings or otherwise to assist in carrying out its functions.

## II.

Since the Committee has both government and nongovernment members, and is authorized to give advice to both the President and the Director of the National Park Service, the Advisory Committee Act would apply to the performance of these functions.

## III.

Your description of the Committee's activities, however, is that it (1) does not ordinarily make recommendations to the President, or to the Director of the National Park Service, (2) makes decisions by equal vote of its members on the disposition of various properties and other gifts donated by private persons and not involving the expenditure of appropriated funds, and (3) reports to the First Lady rather than to the President.

## IV.

In my opinion, activities of the type described under III above are operational rather than advisory in nature and are, therefore, not covered by the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The applicability of the Act, therefore, will depend on the specific activities carried on by the Committee. Functions of the kind described under II must comply with the Act; those under III are exempt.

March 7, 1964

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

11145

PROVIDING FOR A CURATOR OF THE WHITE HOUSE AND  
ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION  
OF THE WHITE HOUSE

WHEREAS the White House, as the home of the highest elective officer of the United States

- symbolizes the American ideal of responsible self-government
- is emblematic of our democracy and our national purpose.
- has been intimately associated with the personal and social life of the Presidents of the United States and many of their official acts
- occupies a particular place in the heart of every American citizen, and

WHEREAS certain historic rooms and entranceways in the White House

- possess great human interest and historic significance
- traditionally have been open to visitors
- have provided pleasure and patriotic inspiration to millions of our citizens
- have come to be regarded as a public museum and the proud possession of all Americans, and

WHEREAS the Congress by law (Act of September 22, 1961), (75 Stat. 586) has authorized the care and preservation of the historic and artistic contents of the White House and has given the President certain responsibilities with regard thereto:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, it is ordered as follows:

Section 1. (a) There shall be in the White House a Curator of the White House. The Curator shall assist in the preservation and protection of the articles of furniture, fixtures, and decorative objects used or displayed in the principal corridor on the ground floor and the principal public rooms on the first floor of the White House, and in such other areas in the White House as the President may designate.

(b) The Curator shall report to the President and shall make recommendations with respect to the articles, fixtures, and objects to be declared by the President, under section 2 of the Act of September 22, 1961, to be of historic or artistic interest.

more



Sec. 2. There is hereby established the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee". The Committee shall be composed of the Director of the National Park Service, the Curator of the White House, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Director of the National Gallery of Art, the Chief Usher of the White House, and seven other members to be appointed by the President. The Director of the National Park Service shall serve as Chairman of the Committee and shall designate an employee of that Service to act as Executive Secretary of the Committee. Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation.

Sec. 3. (a) The Committee shall report to the President and shall advise the Director of the National Park Service with respect to the discharge of his responsibility under the Act of September 22, 1961, for the preservation and the interpretation of the museum character of the principal corridor on the ground floor and the principal public rooms on the first floor of the White House. Among other things, the Committee shall make recommendations as to the articles of furniture, fixtures, and decorative objects which shall be used or displayed in the aforesaid areas of the White House and as to the decor and arrangements therein best suited to enhance the historic and artistic values of the White House and of such articles, fixtures, and objects.

(b) The Committee shall cooperate with the White House Historical Association, a nonprofit organization heretofore formed under the laws of the District of Columbia.

(c) The Committee is authorized to invite individuals who are distinguished or interested in the fine arts to attend its meetings or otherwise to assist in carrying out its functions.

Sec. 4. Consonant with law, each Federal department and agency represented on the Committee shall furnish necessary assistance to the Committee in accordance with section 214 of the Act of May 3, 1945, 59 Stat. 134 (31 U.S.C. 691). The Department of the Interior shall furnish necessary administrative services for the Committee.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

THE WHITE HOUSE,

March 7, 1964.

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## CONTINUING PROJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

Most of these projects have been ongoing during the past several years.

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