The original documents are located in Box C6, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 11/14/74 (2)" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON, D.C.

From the President:		
Date:	Time	a.m. p.m.
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United States Capitol Historical Society

200 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 543-8919



November 1, 1974

Mr. Robert T. Hartmann Counsellor to the President The White House Washington D. C. 20500

Dear Bob:

Since we last talked, I have received a letter from the White House in response to my letter of August 13, 1974. I am enclosing copies of both. Since then, we have been officially recognized by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and our Advisory Board has been completed.

Regarding the President's statement that he would appoint someone at the White House to handle the U.S. Capitol Historical Society's sound and light project, I would appreciate it if you would look into this and expedite the appointment of the person in question. We would then bring this individual up to date on our project for the Capitol in order for him or her to keep Mr. Ford apprised of our activities.

The film that I discussed with Mr. Ford in his office four years ago is a reality and I know when he sees it that he will be excited and pleased.

Sincerely,

Fred Schwengel

President

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Honorable Fred Schwengel, President; Honorable Marguerite Stitt Church, Carl Haverlin, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Melvin M. Payne, Walter Rundell, Jr., Vice Presidents; Victor M. Birely, Treasurer; Lillian R. Kessel, Recording Secretary

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State and Local History

Counsellor to the President The Unite Couse Weshington D. C. 20500

Proveraber 1, 1974

United States Capitol Historical Society

200 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 543-8919

August 13, 1974



The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

First, congratulations on becoming the Chief Executive of the greatest nation on earth. This is indeed, under the circumstances, a magnificent development for us and for the world. You have the capability, the experience and a sense of dedication rarely found in public life. Ever since I have known you, you have grown and my admiration for you has grown.

I want to write you to tell you also that by the provisions of the constitution of the United States Historical Society, you will continue to serve on the Honorary Board of Trustees. Now that you are so very busy and have much to attend to you may want to follow the tradition of previous Presidents, and that is to name somebody from your official family to set on the Board in your behalf.

I am glad to announce that our program, as I have told you previously, a program for helping people better understand our history, is progressing nicely and I am sure we will be making a significant contribution to the Bicentennial period. No doubt some of your aides have told you the progress we have made in publications. You will be interested in knowing that WE, THE PEOPLE, that you were so instrumental in making so adequate and successful, passed the three million mark in sales, making it the best selling history book in all time.

Our History Department is growing. We are in the final stages on a book for visitors to Washington, D.C. It will be entitled WASHINGTON, ITS PAST AND PRESENT. Ot is designed to become a part of a collection known as Profiles of Washington, that includes the White House book, Equal Justice, We, The People, and the new book entitled Washington, Past and Present.

The Art program is going very nicely. You no doubt have had a chance to view the Art in the hall leading to the House Restaurant, w;ich is now finished. The accolades and the comments of appraisal surpass anything we had anticipated. The Board has

decided to retain the artist, Allyn Cox, next year and have him present a master plan for a continuing art program on the ground floor of the House side. All of this is envisioned to be a gift to the Capitol and to posterity.

The Sound and Light which will be our supreme effort is going along nicely. We have the report from the French firm, consisting of the partnership of Pierre Arnaud and Andre Weil, have given us the preliminary report which we believe is a firm figure on the costs of the show. It is for Seven Million Dollars and we are budgeting some Three Million Dollars for operation and management.

There may be questions and/or suggestions that occur to you, if so do feel free to have your representative inquire about them, and we will do our best to respond.

With every good wish to both you and Betty, with God's blessing to your entire family, I am,

Sincerely yours,

FRED SCHWENGEL

President

FS:mib

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

August 30, 1974

Dear Fred,

Many thanks for your good letter of August 13th. I truly appreciate having your good wishes and support as I begin my duties as President of the United States.

I am glad to know the the program of the United States Historical Society is progressing so well, and appreciate having your confidence that the program will be making a significant contribution to the Bicentennial period.

At present I am not ready to name the person from my "official family" to represent me on the Board of the U.S. Historical Society. I do appreciate your calling this part of the constitution of the Society to my attention and I will advise you of my decision.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Honorable Fred Schwengel President United States Historical Society 200 Maryland Avenue, N.E. Washington, D. C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 14, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JOHN O. MARSH

FROM:

JERRY

The attached material was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

-- Seems to me Jack Marsh would be ideal. If you agree, let's do it now.

Don asked me to pass this material on to you and to let you know that the President wanted you to handle this material along with your Bicentennial duties. If I can be helpful, let me know.