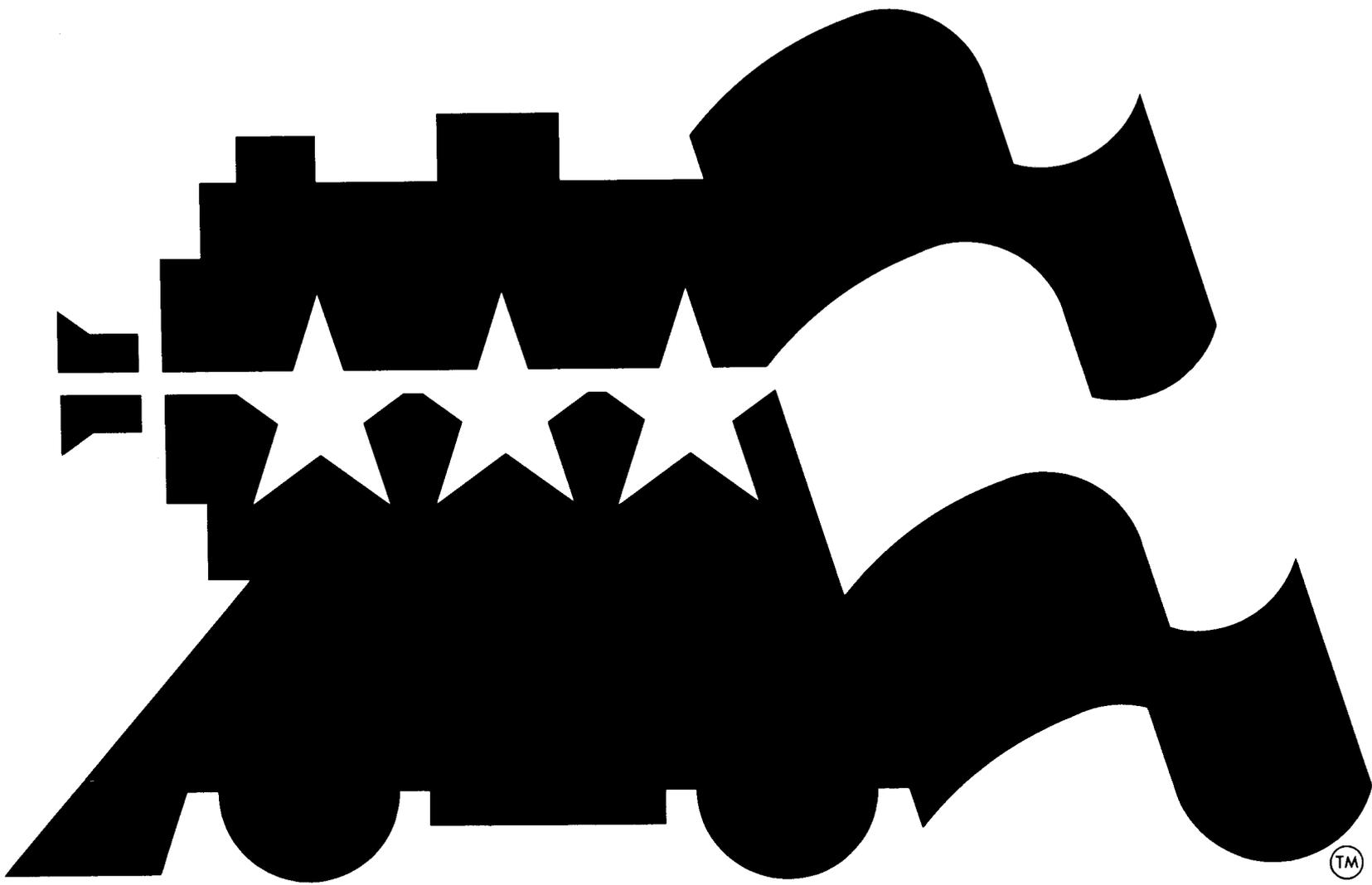


**The original documents are located in Box 64, folder “American Freedom Train (1)” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.



# AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit  
 Book Collection  
 Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

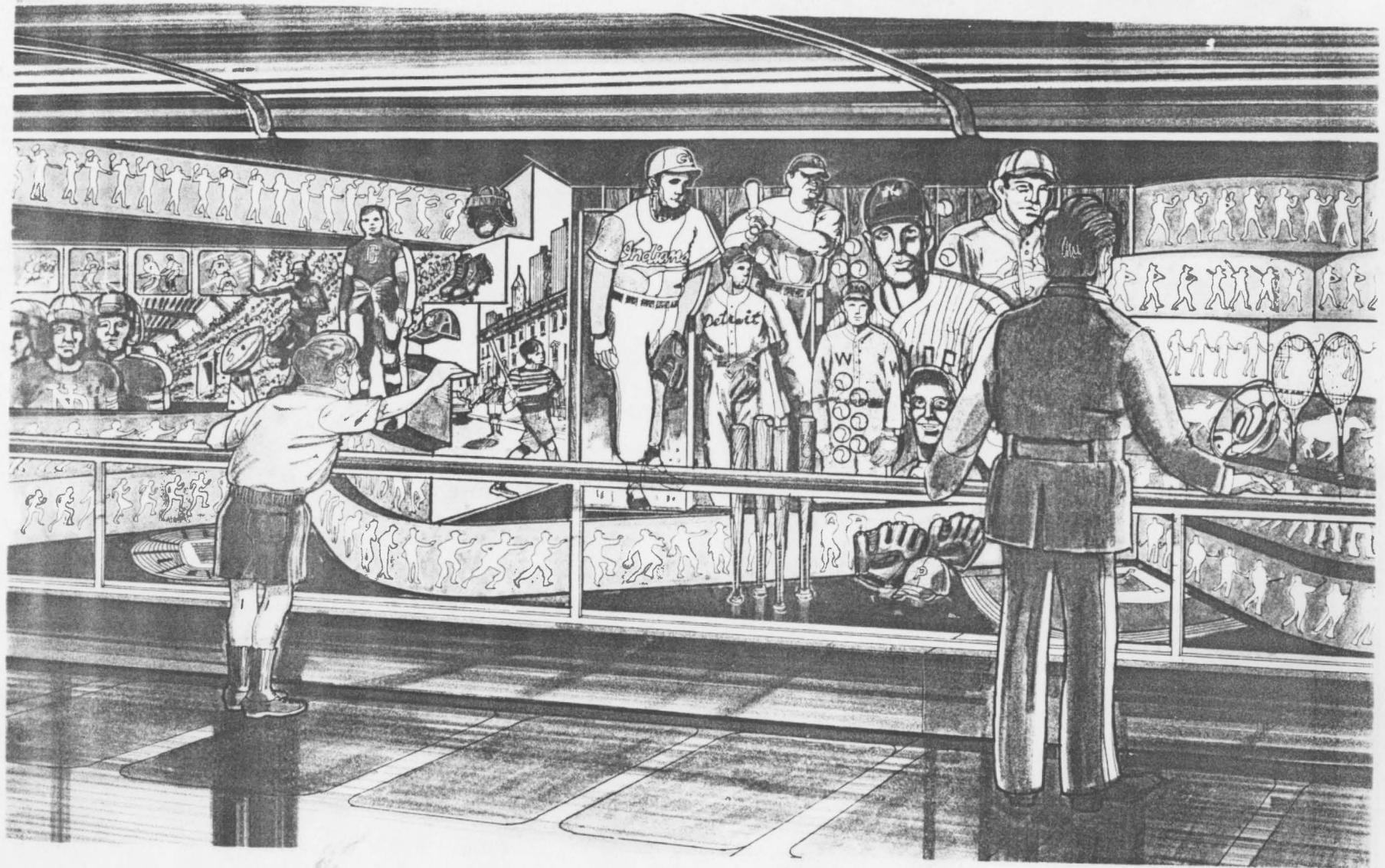
Item: 3 8"x10" B&W Photographs of  
Freedom Train Exhibits (~~artwork~~  
apparently  
artists' drawings of their  
conceptions of what the exhibits  
would look like)

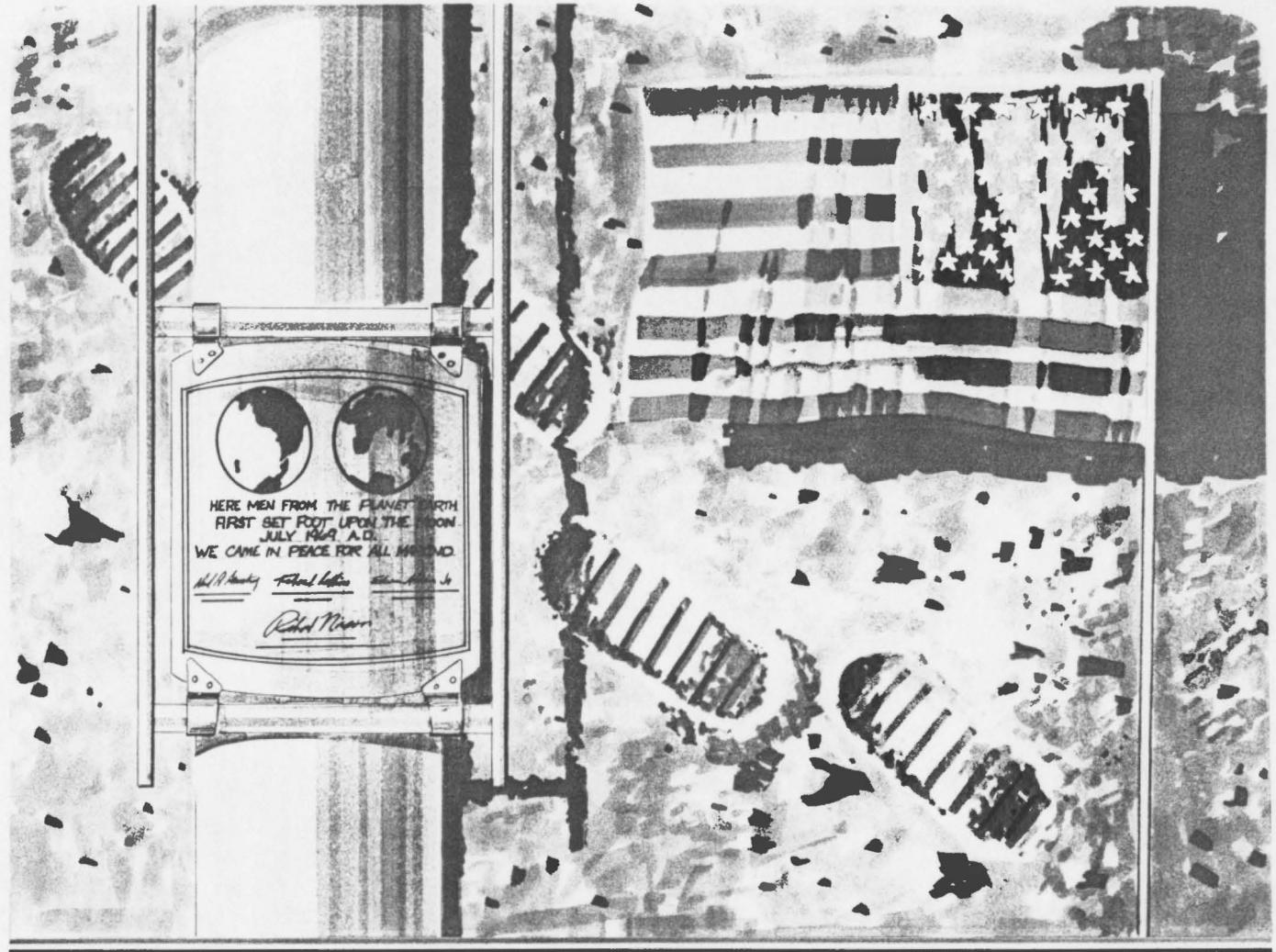
The item was transferred from:

John Marsh Files  
Bicentennial Subject File  
American Freedom Train (1)

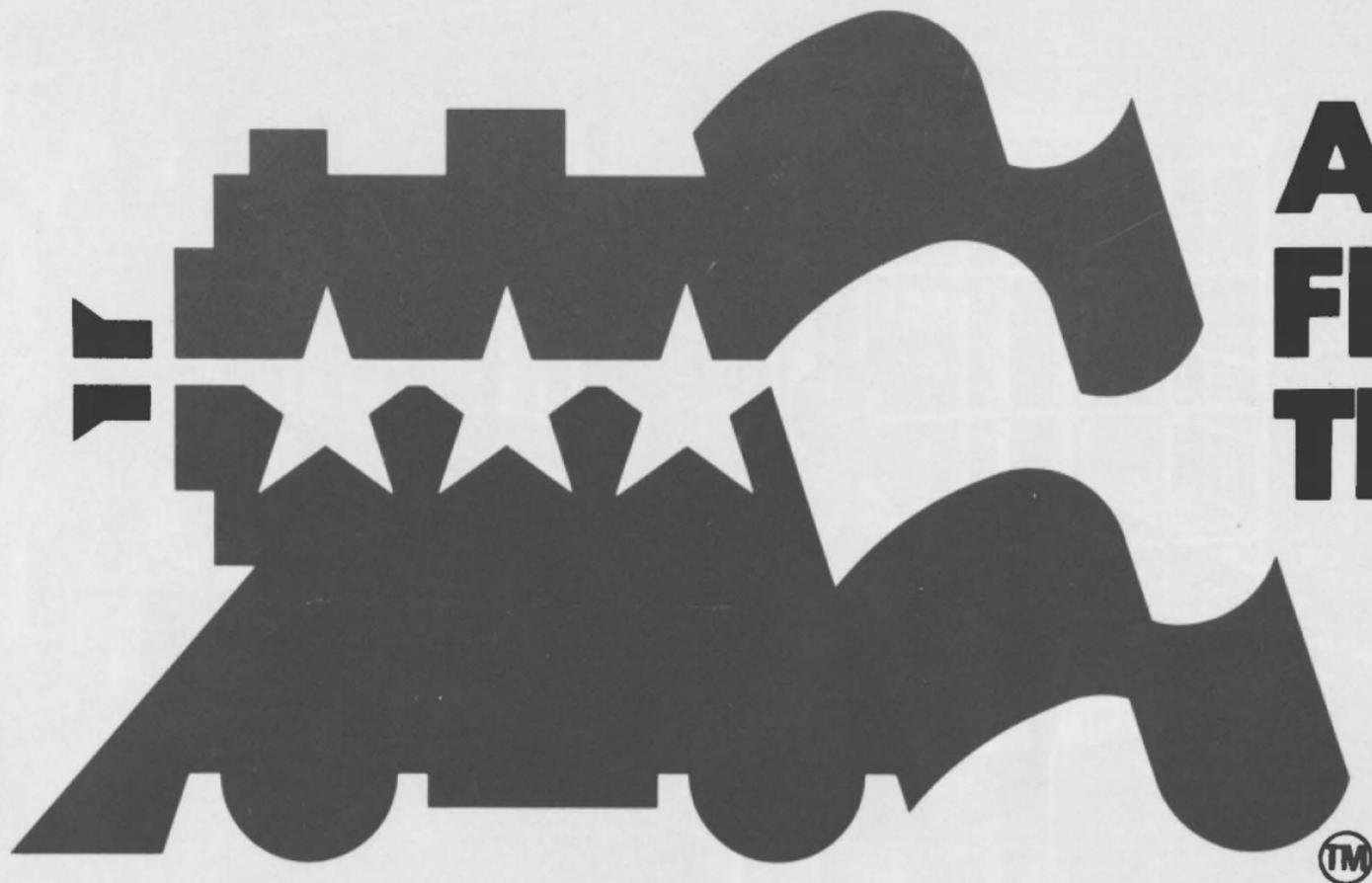
Initials/Date WHOM 2/5/86







**1966 - 1976**

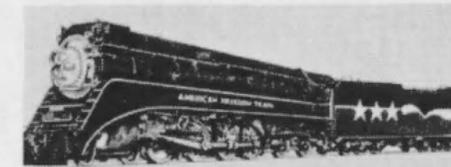


# AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

*A Moving Monument  
To American History . . .*



... Will Visit  
48 States  
1975-1976



## THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN<sup>TM</sup>

The ribbons of steel which bind this Nation together have become the Bicentennial Trail. The American Freedom Train was created especially to bring Americans the rare opportunity to review and relive the proud heritage that is ours.

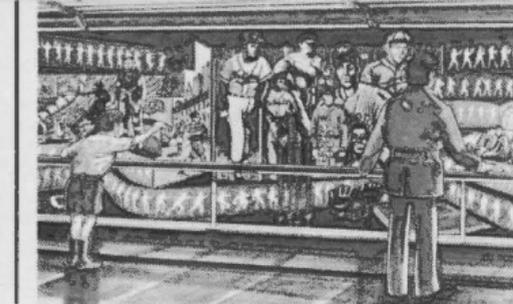
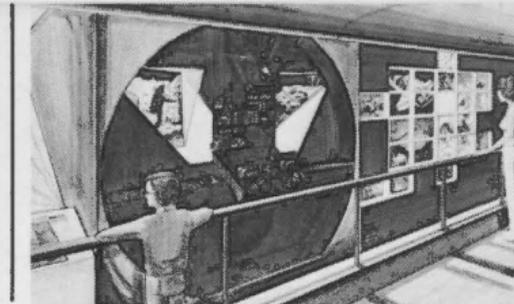
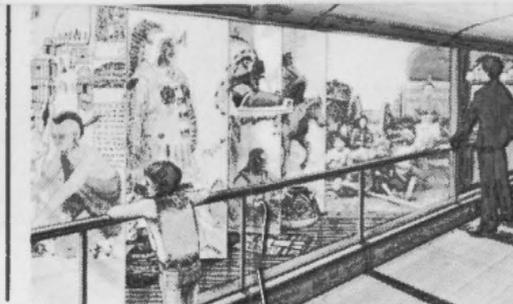
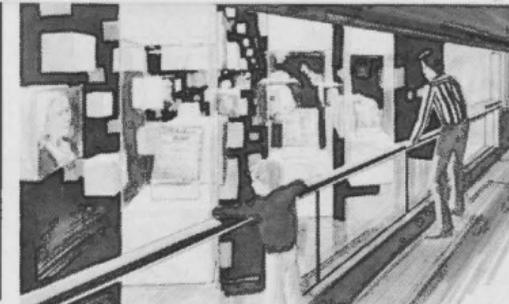
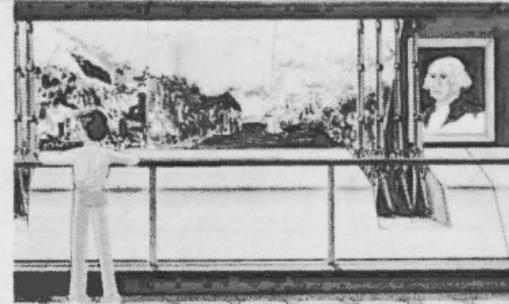
The 24 car, steam powered train is a living documentary condensing 200 years of American experience and achievement into a series of dramatic tableaux. The 21 month journey begins in Delaware, the first state to ratify the Constitution, and continues for more than 17,000 miles throughout the 48 contiguous states.

At each stop, pages of history come alive through 10 specially designed exhibit cars. Special effects

immerse the train's visitor into a total experience of sights, sounds and smells . . . that are America. Historical documents, priceless artifacts, and memorabilia reflecting all aspects of American achievement are gathered for display from private contributors, museums, and historical societies across the United States. Local Bicentennial groups are coordinating their celebrations with the train's arrival.

Individual audio units bring each visitor the exciting sounds of America's history. A moving walkway carries the visitor from one great moment to another during the fourteen hour display day. This monumental event will afford many American families a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

# A Super Happening



*The American Freedom Train is charged with the responsibility of reminding Americans of the rich, exciting, and unparalleled history that is theirs. What obstacles and what uncertainty we face today can compare with those we faced—and overcame—many times in the past? This is the message of the Bicentennial Freedom Train.*

*The exhibits will be brief but powerful in their intensity and meaning. Americans will be shown at work and at play demonstrating the qualities that have made this nation great. From the small towns, to the rich farm lands, to the biggest cities Americans yesterday and today share a common heritage and purpose.*

From the first flush of victory, Americans have been and always will be, *Revolutionary* (Car 1), willing to fight for the freedoms we hold dear. This is evident from the first fiery pamphlets on freedom to George Washington's copy of the Constitution.

We are *Adventurous* (Car 2), pursuing the never-ending quest for fresh frontiers that prompted exploration and expansion of the country. Early pioneers were lured by the promise of gold, and the excitement of founding a new country; modern pioneers are lured by the mysteries of outer space and the age-old challenge of man attempting to live in freedom.

We are *Builders* (Car 3), using our energy and skills to meet the needs of a Nation in the throes of growth, cautiously matching man-made development with environmental need.

The backgrounds of Americans are *Diverse* (Car 4), a vast spectrum of ethnic, religious and cultural contributions to a complex heritage unique to this country.

Americans are *Innovators* (Car 5), using industry and ingenuity to make the American way of life more comfortable and meaningful. Scientists, technologists, inventors . . . all have helped establish the reputation of American "know-how."

We are *Versatile* (Car 6), representing a myriad of pursuits portraying both traditional and unusual occupations while highlighting great men and women in American history.

We are *Sports-loving* (Car 7), engaging in a variety of leisure activities, both as participants and as spectators, with a passion for physical fitness and a spirit of competition.

We are *Imaginative* (Car 8), acting out our dreams and

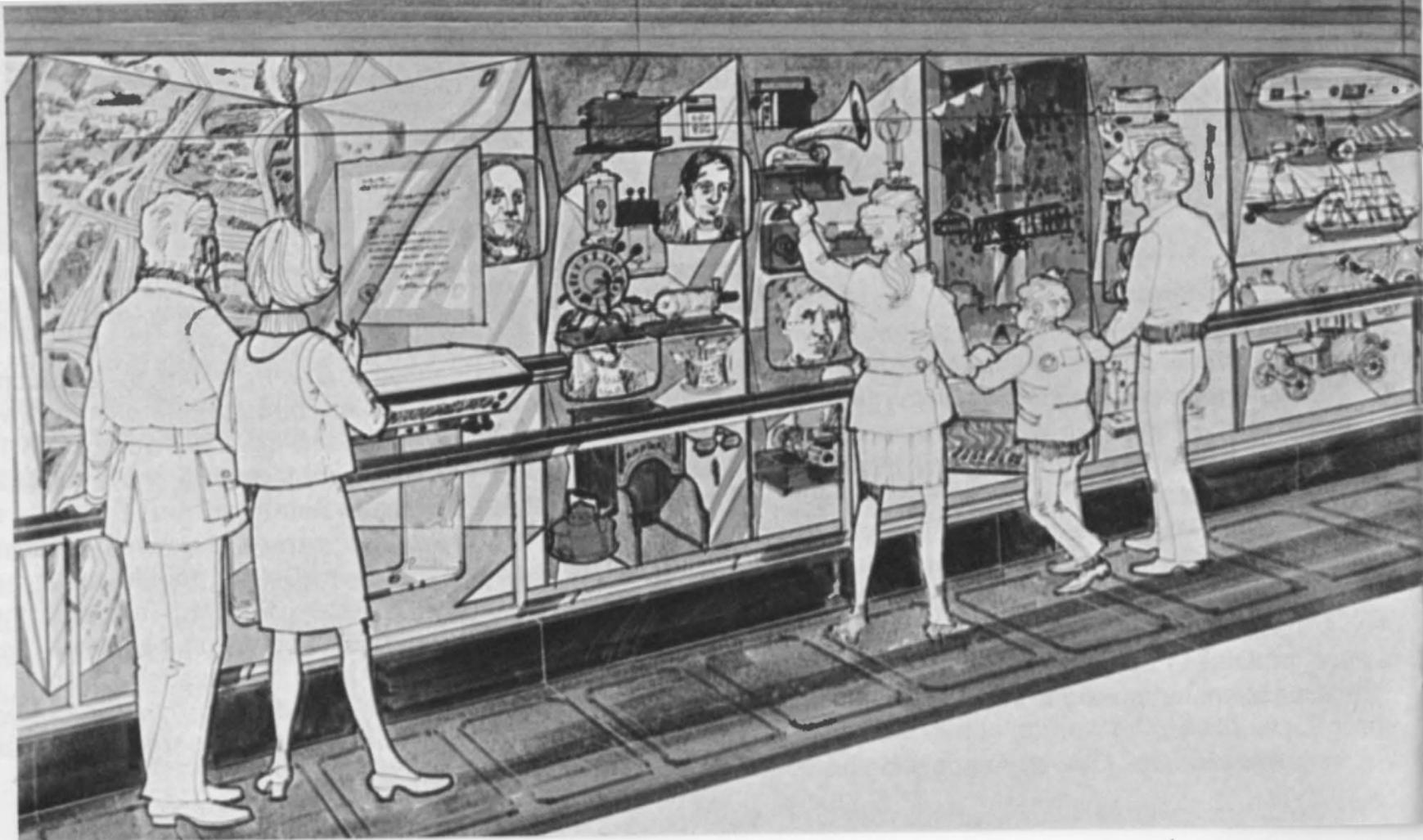
nightmares on the Broadway stage, radio, the Hollywood screen, and television.

Americans are *Creative* (Car 9), reflecting the evolution of American society through fine paintings and sculpture.

Finally, Americans are *Tenacious* (Car 10), emerging even stronger after conflicts that have tested the very fibre of the American system.

Two showcase cars feature such items as a lunar rover and the Freedom Bell, a double-scale model of the Liberty Bell. The Freedom Bell will be built through the support of the American Legion on behalf of the nation's children. This is the American Freedom Train's story, favoring no one institution or period of history, but weaving all aspects of that history into this unforgettable drama.

*The American Freedom Train will carry this nation's treasured documents and artifacts*



The American Freedom Train, Inc., is a non-profit, non-political, public organization initiated through grants from four major companies:

- ★ GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION
- ★ KRAFT FOODS
- ★ PEPSI-COLA COMPANY
- ★ PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

The Foundation is organized under the auspices of a National Advisory Board. Mrs. Gerald R. Ford has graciously accepted the Honorary Chairmanship, and Mr. Donald M. Kendall, Chairman of PepsiCo, Inc., and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson are the Co-Chairmen.

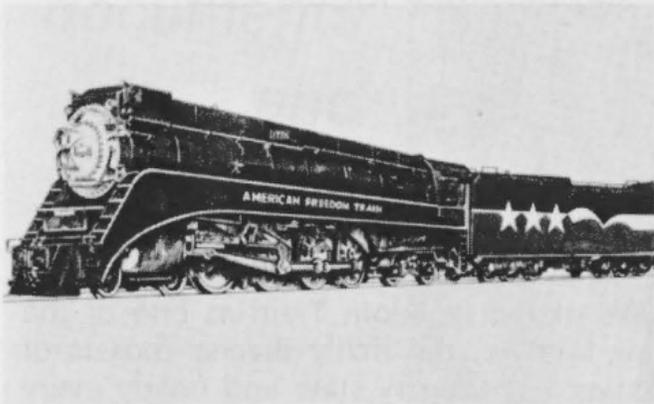
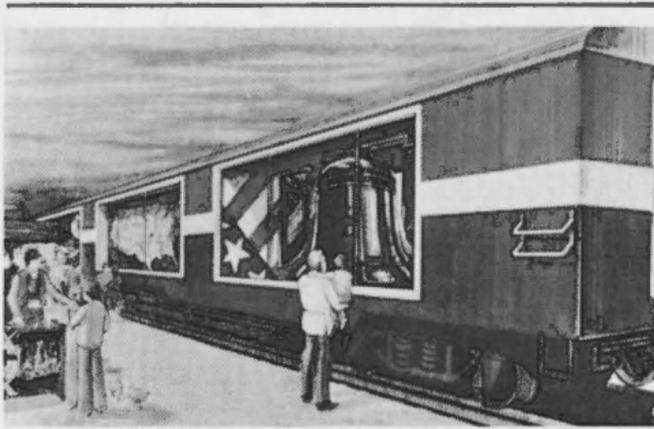
If you desire further information concerning the way in which your community can become involved in bringing America's past to everybody's hometown, write:

The American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.,  
5205 Leesburg Pike, Suite 800, Bailey's Crossroads,  
Virginia 22041.

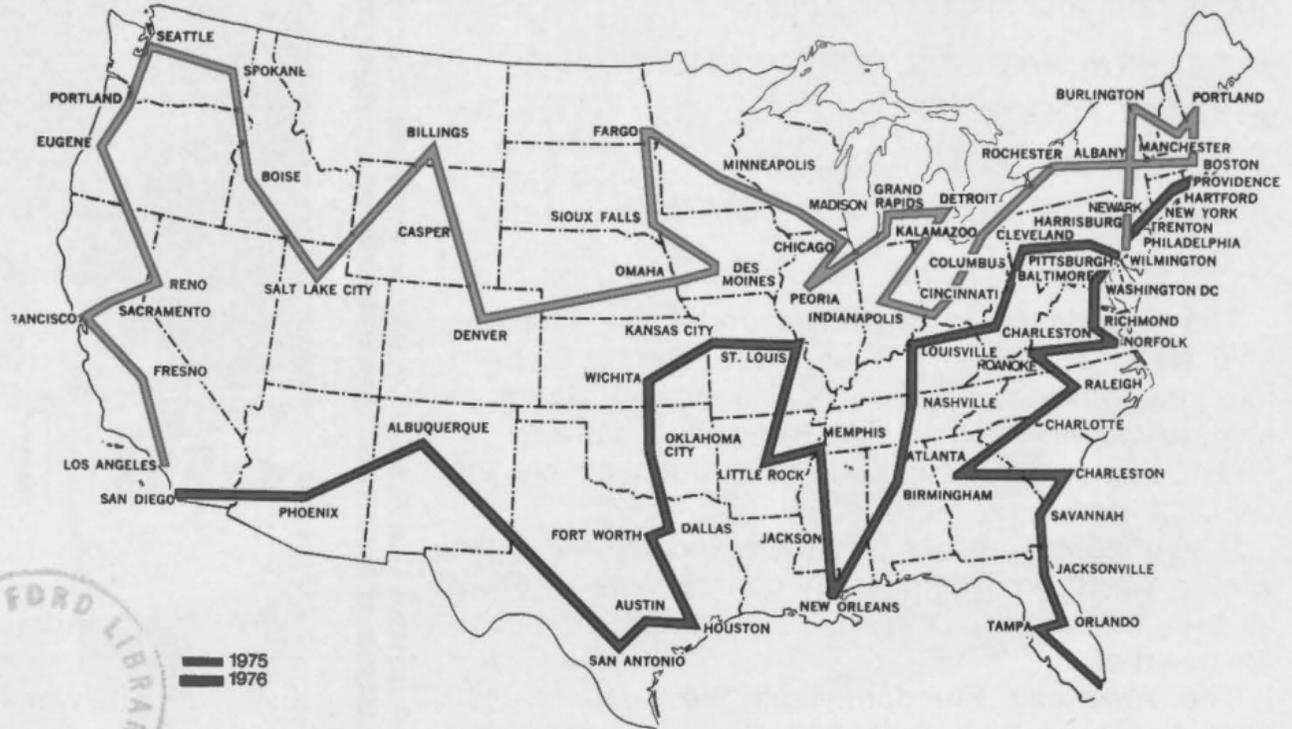


President Ford: "I strongly urge parents and teachers to make sure that your children and students take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. The cargo on this train represents much of our Nation's past history and our hope for the future."

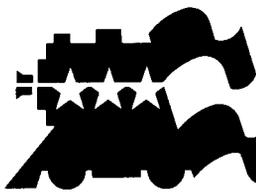
John Warner, Administrator, American Revolution Bicentennial Administration: "I see the travels of the Freedom Train as one of the major threads which will sew together the richly diverse mosaic of local Bicentennial projects going on in every state and nearly every community in our great country."



## Tentative Route of The American Freedom Train 1975-1976



Exhibition design: Barry Howard Associates, Inc.  
Brochure Designed by Hennage Creative Printers



# NEWS RELEASE

THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN FOUNDATION Contact: Al Bruce  
703/820-7300

115

PRESIDENT FORD ANNOUNCES AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN TO CARRY HISTORIC EXHIBITS TO 48 STATES ON 17,000-MILE BICENTENNIAL TOUR

President Ford has announced that the American Freedom Train, a steam-powered 22-car train displaying some of the nation's most treasured documents and artifacts, will begin a 21-month journey through the country next spring as a major part of the Bicentennial celebration.

"This exhibit touches virtually every phase of the American experience," President Gerald Ford emphasized. "I see the Bicentennial of 1976 as a rebirth as well as a birthday -- a rediscovery of our strength and of our potential. . . . This American Freedom Train will be a fitting symbol for what the Bicentennial really represents."

At the ceremony in Alexandria, Virginia, John W. Warner, Administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, recognized the Freedom Train as an official Bicentennial project by presenting a Bicentennial flag and certificate to Jon A. Foust, President of the American Freedom Train Foundation.

Later in the ceremony, President Ford presented George Washington's copy of the Constitution to Donald M. Kendall, Chairman of the Board of PepsiCo, Inc. and Co-Chairman of the National Advisory Board of the American Freedom Train Foundation. The document, which will be loaned by the National Archives, will be displayed on the Freedom Train.

-more-

5205 Leesburg Pike, Suite 800, Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia 22041

Mr. Kendall said the red-white-and-blue train, powered by a steam locomotive, itself a symbol of America's past, will journey through cities, towns and villages in each of the 48 contiguous states. It will be open for public viewing in more than 70 cities, placing 90 percent of the country's population within an hour's drive.

Sponsored by the non-profit American Freedom Train Foundation, the train is scheduled to begin its journey April 1st in Delaware, the first State to sign the Constitution. From there, the Freedom Train will journey to the Northeast, including Albany, Burlington, Manchester, Portland and Boston.

Mr. Warner described the venture as "one of the most significant--certainly the most visible and national in scope--of the many projects planned to honor America during the Bicentennial. The launching of the American Freedom Train not only embraces a dramatic summary of 200 years of America's progress and growth, but it represents a symbolic 'birthday gift' to the American people."

Mr. Kendall pointed out that the American Freedom Train was first made possible by donations of \$4 million from four leaders in the business community: Pepsi-Cola Company, General Motors Corporation, Prudential Insurance Company of America and Kraft Foods. Another \$13 million will be raised to complete the project.

According to the Foundation charter, funds remaining after the train's tour will be donated for charitable purposes.

Mr. Kendall said the train will bring America's historical past to almost everybody's home town. "We can think of no better way to celebrate the Bicentennial of American liberty," he said.

Mr. Foust said the train will exhibit in 12 specially-designed cars a priceless collection of historical documents, artifacts and memorabilia gathered from leading museums, private collectors and historical societies across the country. The National Archives, he continued, has agreed to loan such documents as George Washington's copy of the Constitution, which includes his marginal notes; Benjamin Franklin's draft of The Articles of the Confederation; the Louisiana Purchase; the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation and Delaware's Ratification of The Bill of Rights.

The 400-ton steam locomotive,, a former Southern Pacific Daylight class engine, was donated to the American Freedom Train by the city of Portland, Oregon. Once restored, this locomotive will be thoroughly tested and painted in official American Freedom Train colors.

The interior of each exhibit car will depict various facets of the American experience through two centuries, including the Revolutionary period, exploration, cultures, technological progress, labor and the professions, sports and the arts.

Moving walkways will carry visitors through the exhibit cars at a rate up to 1,800 people per hour over each 14-hour display day. Each visitor will carry a transistorized sound unit which will play a running narration coordinated with exhibits. In addition specially constructed outside showcase windows in the exhibit cars will display selected objects for people who will view the train as it passes through their communities, at reduced speed where possible, en route to the display cities.

There will also be two "showcase cars" one of which will carry a Freedom Bell, twice the size of the Liberty Bell. The Freedom Bell will be built through support of the American Legion on behalf of the nation's children. The American Freedom Train Foundation is searching for a permanent exhibition site for the bell in the Nation's Capitol. The other showcase car will display vehicles depicting a history of American Transportation.

The Foundation is also discussing with the Flare Foundation for the Arts a possible program to bring artists and entertainers to many of the cities the Freedom Train will visit.

###



# NEWS RELEASE

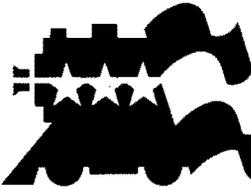
THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN FOUNDATION Contact: Al Bruce 703/820-7300

115

## DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS ON THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

Following is a partial list of documents and artifacts from the American Freedom Train. The list shows the variety of materials the Freedom Train will display.

1776 Edition of Thomas Paine's Common Sense  
Benjamin Franklin's draft of the Articles of Confederation  
Revolutionary War rifles and muskets  
George Washington's copy of the Constitution  
Delaware's Ratification of the Bill of Rights  
The First Bible printed in America  
"Battle Hymn of the Republic" manuscript  
Original Louisiana Purchase Agreement  
Gold miners' tools circa 1850  
Lincoln's Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation  
Indian artifacts, including: Hopi Kachina Doll,  
Totem Poles, Navajo Yei Blanket  
Baseball bats of Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio  
and Ted Williams  
President Roosevelt's speech to Congress after  
Pearl Harbor Day  
President Kennedy's handwritten draft of his  
inaugural speech  
Dr. Martin Luther King's vestment robe and Bible  
Moon rocks, moon flag replica and landing tape from  
NASA  
Sixty original machine patents including household  
items, industrial equipment, transportation,  
agriculture and communications  
Model of the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport  
Nobel Peace Prize



# NEWS RELEASE

THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN FOUNDATION Contact: Al Bruce  
703/820-7300

## Tentative Schedule

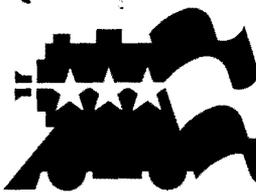
### American Freedom Train

1975

Delaware	April 1
Albany	April 6
Burlington	April 11
Manchester	April 14
Portland	April 17
Boston	April 20
Rochester	May 7
Cleveland	May 14
Columbus	May 22
Cincinnati	June 4
Indianapolis	June 12
Detroit	June 24
Grand Rapids	July 11
Kalamazoo	July 14
Peoria	July 18
Chicago	July 24
Madison	August 23
Minneapolis	August 27
Fargo	September 4
Sioux Falls	September 9
Des Moines	September 13
Omaha	September 17
Denver	September 23
Casper	September 30
Billings	October 3
Salt Lake City	October 8
Boise	October 15
Spokane	October 20
Seattle	October 24
Portland	November 4
Eugene	November 8
Reno	November 13
Sacramento	November 18
San Francisco	November 25
Fresno	December 9
Los Angeles area	December 16

1976

San Diego	January 8
Phoenix	January 17
Albuquerque	January 28
San Antonio	February 5
Austin	February 12
Houston	February 17
Ft. Worth	February 24
Dallas	March 2
Oklahoma City	March 12
Wichita	March 16
Kansas City	March 22
St. Louis	March 30
Little Rock	April 13
Memphis	April 20
Jackson	April 27
New Orleans	May 4
Birmingham	May 14
Nashville	May 20
Louisville	May 25
Charleston, W.Va.	June 3
Pittsburgh	June 9
Harrisburg	June 19
Philadelphia	June 24
New York	July 14
Providence	August 18
Hartford	August 24
Newark	August 28
Trenton	September 2
Baltimore	September 5
Washington, D.C.	September 16
Richmond	October 5
Norfolk	October 12
Roanoke	October 19
Raleigh	October 26
Charlotte	November 5
Atlanta	November 10
Charleston, S.C.	November 23
Savannah	November 29
Jacksonville	December 4
Orlando	December 14
Tampa	December 17
Miami	December 23



# NEWS RELEASE

THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN FOUNDATION Contact: Al Bruce 703/820-7300

115

## THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

### News Media Background

In April 1975, a giant steam engine, a colorful reminder from America's golden age of railroads, will power out into Delaware pulling 22 glistening red, white and blue cars filled with the history of America.

The American Freedom Train will have begun its historic two-year journey in celebration of the American Revolution Bicentennial. The American Freedom Train will initially journey to the Northeast, including Albany, Burlington, Manchester, Portland and Boston. From there, the train will travel to each of the 48 contiguous states.

Before the nation-wide journey is over, more than ten million Americans will have boarded the train and experienced its magnificent display. It will have traveled more than 17,000 miles through thousands of American communities and will have been viewed along the way by 40 to 50 million Americans and made stops in more than 76 cities. During its journey it will be on display within a one-hour driving distance of 90 percent of the nation's population.

This extraordinary project, which promises to be one of the most colorful and exciting of all Bicentennial activities, was

created and is managed by private citizens through The American Freedom Train, a tax-exempt public foundation located in Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia.

#### Origins of the Freedom Train

In 1947 there was an earlier version of the American Freedom Train sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation. It logged 37,160 miles in its travels across the country, stopping in every one of the then 48 states.

It was an enormous success, playing host to more than 3,500,000 visitors during its 16 month tour. The train had seven cars, three of which housed exhibits, was painted gleaming white with bands of red and blue, and was powered by a 2,000 h.p. diesel engine.

That train, called the Spirit of '47', could accommodate only 640 people an hour and, as a result, the wait to board was often long and discouraging. On the stopover in New York City, for example, people waited four abreast on a line that was 15 blocks long. This problem has been solved in the 1975 version by use of a moving walkway.

The idea for a Bicentennial "Freedom Train" came from Ross Rowland, a 35-year old commodity broker with a passion for railroading. In 1966 Mr. Rowland formed the High Iron Company, Inc. to restore and operate a mainline steam locomotive. High Iron ran a variety of public excursions including the "Golden Spike Centennial Limited," which marked the 100th Anniversary of the linking of the United States by rail.

After this successful venture, Mr. Rowland created the concept for the Bicentennial Freedom Train. By 1974 he had just about given up on the project when he made a presentation to Pepsi-Cola Company. The proposal soon caught the ear of Donald Kendall, Chairman of PepsiCo, Inc, and the project was underway. Three more public-spirited corporations, General Motors Corporation, Prudential Insurance Company of America and Kraft Foods donated one million dollars each and the Freedom Train was on the tracks. In announcing their donation of \$4 million, they said:

"The American Freedom Train will bring the Bicentennial to almost everyone's home town. We can think of no better way to celebrate the country's 200th birthday.

"The most meaningful way to appreciate the vitality of our country today, is to examine its heritage by reflecting into its past. The Bicentennial is the perfect time -- and the local community is the perfect place.

"In making our grant to initiate this project, we recognize that no single display or exhibit can capture all that is America. Our best hope is that the American Freedom Train will stimulate both pride and celebration."

### The Freedom Train - On Tour

The Engine: A 400-ton steam locomotive, a former Southern Pacific Daylight class engine, has been donated by the city of Portland, Oregon. The locomotive will be restored, thoroughly tested, and painted American Freedom Train colors.

In addition to the engine and tender there will be 22 cars, 12 of which will be used for displays and exhibits. The other cars will be used for tools and equipment, security and support services needed for the train.

A ceremonial honor guard from the U.S. Army will travel with the American Freedom Train.

### Inside the Freedom Train

Inside the train, visitors will travel through the exhibit cars on a moving walkway at a rate of 1,800 people per hour each 14-hour day. They will carry individual transistorized sound units which play a running narration coordinated with the exhibits.

With the assistance and cooperation of many organizations, the staff of the American Freedom Train Foundation is assembling an impressive array of historical documents and artifacts.

-more-



Car #1 THE BEGINNING: A look at the first moments of the struggle for independence from 18th century New England. Visitors will view an exhibit that includes precious documents that are the foundation of our liberty, such as George Washington's copy of the Constitution and Pennsylvania's Ratification of the Constitution.

Car #2 EXPLORATION AND EXPANSION: An exhibit of American frontiers from the opening of the West to the penetration of space. Early pioneers were lured by gold; modern pioneers are lured by the mysteries of outer space.

Car #3 GROWTH OF THE NATION: Changes wrought on this country as cities, farms, transportation centers and energy production have been added to the early landscape. America the Beautiful provides a musical reminder of the need for preserving our National environment.

Car #4 ORIGINS: Tracing the ethnic, religious and geographical origins of contemporary Americans. The music of dozens of lands speaks of this unique land of opportunity.

Car #5 INNOVATIONS: A review of the inventors and technicians whose efforts are synonymous with "American know-how" and the development of our free enterprise system and the American we know today. Patent drawings and models of inventions big and small are displayed.

Car #6 LABOR AND PROFESSIONS: An examination of the diversity and magnitude of fields of creative Americans and the products of their work. The pursuits of Americans, from silversmiths and glassblowers to film makers and scientists, are outlined.

Car #7 SPORTS: A panorama of the sporting American as hero, participant, and spectator. Scenes, artifacts and film clips from a sports-loving country include a sprinting Jesse Owens, Secretariat romping to victory, and Babe Ruth batting a home run.

Car #8 PERFORMING ARTS: A montage of American talent through vaudeville, Hollywood, radio and television, and the Broadway stage. The sounds of entertainment, from television to vaudeville, provide a musical backdrop for this dramatic part of America.

Car #9 FINE ARTS: A gallery of American painting and sculpture reflecting the evolution of American society. Priceless paintings and sculpture will capture the look of our country from 18th century portraiture through sweeping western landscapes.

Car #10 CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION: A dramatic portrayal of five events in American history which have tested the fiber of our system but from which Americans have emerged stronger and more unified. President Lincoln's assassination and President Roosevelt's economic strife will help portray the ability of a people to grow.

SHOWCASE CARS: The first of two glass-enclosed display cars deals with transportation and contains a series of wheeled vehicles lending additional testimony to American progress. The second car contains the Freedom Bell, which is twice the size of the Liberty Bell and will be built through support of the American Legion on behalf of the Nation's children.

#### Outside the Freedom Train

Moving through communities in which there is no scheduled stop, the train will travel slowly wherever possible so that crowds gathered by the side of the tracks can at least feel the excitement of the train.

The two glass-enclosed display cars, featuring developments in transportation and the Freedom Bell will be plainly visible from trackside. Each of the other exhibit cars will have four giant windows. The 20 pairs of windows are dedicated to a decade in the Nation's 200-year history.

At each scheduled stop a stage will be set up for the entertainment of the waiting crowds and for local celebrations and ceremonies. Local organizations such as cultural, entertainment, museum and historical groups are currently working with the Foundation to set up displays.

#### Historical Artifacts

A blue ribbon committee of consultants has been formed to advise the Foundation what should be featured aboard the train. The panel includes: Oliver Jensen, Editor, American Heritage Magazine; Dr. Milton Klein, Professor of American History, University of Tennessee; Dr. Joshua Taylor, Director, National Collection of Fine Arts; Dr. Bernard Finn, Curator, Division of Electricity and Nuclear Energy of the Smithsonian Institution Museum of History and Technology; and Curt Gowdy, NBC-TV Sports; and others.

Working in conjunction with organizations such as the National Archives, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Smithsonian Institution, the Foundation has received numerous commitments for artifacts such as:

Benjamin Franklin's draft of the Articles of Confederation  
George Washington's copy of the Constitution  
Delaware's Ratification of the Bill of Rights  
Moon rock, and landing tape  
The first Bible printed in the United States

More than 500 of these historical documents and memorabilia collected from museums, historical societies, and individuals throughout the United States will reflect American achievements in nearly every aspect of life.

### The Freedom Bell

A major exhibit of the American Freedom Train is the Freedom Bell. The Freedom Bell will be twice the size of the Liberty Bell in honor of the country's 200th birthday.

The American Legion, on behalf of the Nation's children, will donate funds necessary to build and exhibit the Freedom Bell.

The Foundation is exploring a permanent exhibit site for the Freedom Bell in the Nation's Capitol.

### Security

To guard both the Freedom Train and the historical artifacts and documents aboard the train, a sophisticated environmental and security protection system has been designed.

### Admission and Memorabilia Sale

Tickets will be priced at \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. A portion of the advance ticket sales in each locale will be returned to that city for local Bicentennial activities. Quality souvenirs of the American Freedom Train will be available for purchase trackside.

### The Preamble Express

The logistics involved with the American Freedom Train are so complex that it was necessary to run a preliminary train across the United States in 1974 to coordinate the advance planning.

The red, white and blue "Preamble Express" left Boston on July 9 and visited many of the display sites.

Aboard the "Preamble Express" was a group of specialists who investigated track conditions, display sites, security plans and local and state activities planned around the Bicentennial. Those specialists are developing final Freedom Train plans.

The American Freedom Train Foundation - Organization

The American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, non-political, public foundation chartered in Massachusetts. Its main office is located in Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia. All money collected by the organization, not used in the administration, construction and operation of the Freedom Train, will be donated for charitable purposes.

The first step in managing the project was to develop an organization. Many details had to be worked out, including scheduling of the train, tie-in with local celebrations, collecting of significant American historical artifacts, security, cash flow and train personnel. To handle this project, Jon A. Foust, former Assistant Director of the National Parks Service, was named President and Chief Executive Officer.

Other members of the staff are:

1. Michael A. McManus, Jr.--Executive Vice President and chief legal officer. An attorney formerly with Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, New York City
2. Thomas R. Ames--Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, who was Vice President-Financial Officer for Bank of the Commonwealth, Detroit

3. G. Allan Walker, Jr.--Senior Vice President for Operations, former Manager of Wells, Walker & Co. and Wells Realty and Construction Co., Nashua, New Hampshire
4. Alfred D. Bruce--Vice President for Communications, formerly Vice President-Director of Public Relations, Washington Branch of Ketchum, MacLeod & Grove, Inc.
5. Mimi Austin--Vice President for Resource Development, who was with Overseas Exhibition Staff of the Department of Commerce
6. Robert Visser--General Counsel. A lawyer formerly Counsel to Howard, Prim, Rice, Nemerovski Canady & Pollak of San Francisco
7. George Strongman--Vice President of Field Operations, formerly Engagement Director for Ringling Bros.
8. Ruth Packard--Vice President of Artifacts, active in Washington, D.C. Civic and Community Affairs for more than 20 years.
9. John Manning--Vice President of Security, who was with the FBI for more than 20 years.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIERS

Barry Howard Associates of Larchmont, New York is responsible for the thematic development and interpretive design work and installations of the displays and exhibits.

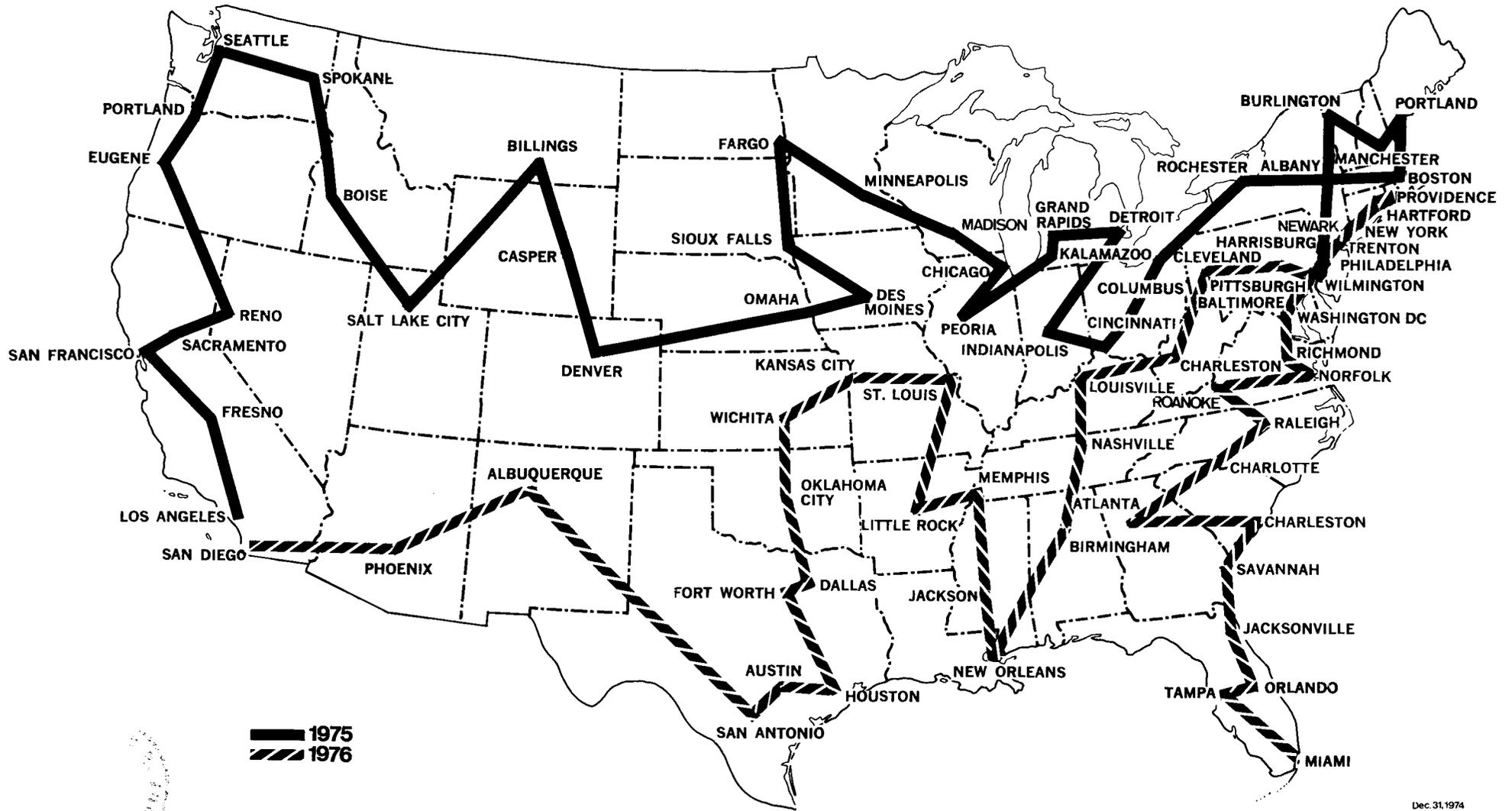
The Freedom Train exhibit and display cars are being reconstructed in Richmond, California and Venice, Florida.

The moving walkway is being engineered by and installed under the supervision of The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio.

The sound system is being engineered by By-Word Corporation, Armonk, New York.

Exhibit fabricators include G.R.S. & W., Inc. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; General Exhibits of Chicago, Illinois, and Design and Production, Inc. of Alexandria, Virginia.

# Tentative Route of The American Freedom Train 1975-1976



SEE Robinson  
Postbasic

November 19, 1974

Dear John:

Our mutual friend, Kenneth Robinson, has asked for additional information on the American Freedom Train. You will note from the attached letter that he has been asked to endorse the project and therefore I want to have greater details on this.

I would appreciate your thoughts and suggestions.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President

The Honorable John W. Warner  
Administrator  
American Revolution  
Bicentennial Administration  
736 Jackson Place NW.  
Washington, D.C.

JOM:kt



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ANNE ARMSTRONG  
JACK MARSH

FROM:

DICK LUKSTAT *DL*

The attached is a proposal for the Presidential Freedom Train Recognition Ceremony to take place on December 19th.

Would you please review this material and pass along to me any comments you may have.



President Ford  
December 5, 1974

#### TALKING POINTS

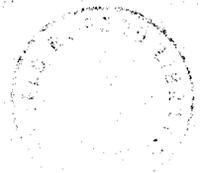
--American Freedom Train, displaying some of the nation's most treasured documents and artifacts, will begin an almost two-year, 17,000-mile journey through the 48 contiguous states next spring. The Freedom Train will be a thread focusing national and local attention on our country's Bicentennial.

--The Freedom Train will touch virtually every phase of American experience, from first tentative steps toward liberty at Lexington and Concord to outpouring of public spirit that is the Bicentennial celebration.

--Each stop on tour of 76 cities will provide municipalities with a focal point for local Bicentennial celebrations, a unique opportunity for each community to link directly to national Bicentennial celebration.

--The Freedom Train exemplifies the spirit of private enterprise at its best. Five sponsors...Pepsico, Inc., General Motors Corporation, Kraft Food Division of Kraftco, Prudential Insurance Company of America, and Atlantic Richfield Company...provided grants for Freedom Train. The non-commercial posture of Freedom Train is evidence of the generosity of the sponsors and the American Freedom Train Foundation.

--John W. Warner's remarks especially appropriate for this occasion. The fact that 40 to 50 million persons will view this Train means



that a permanent impression of the Bicentennial will be imprinted on the minds of everyone.

--National spirit is typified by the American Freedom Bell, a twice life sized model of the Liberty Bell to be exhibited on the Train. The bell is a gift from the American Legion on behalf of America's children.

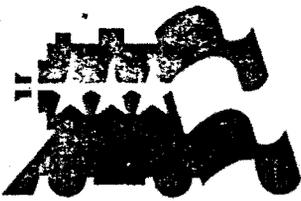
--The Freedom Train will give many Americans a chance to view important national documents and artifacts. Examples include: George Washington's draft of the Constitution; Pennsylvania's ratification of the Constitution; Moon rocks; handwritten draft of President Kennedy's inaugural speech; first American bible; Paul Revere's saddlebags, and other artifacts from America's past.

--Exhibit cars also depict virtually every facet of the American experience, including Revolutionary period, exploration, culture, technological progress, professions and trades, sports and arts.

--A lively red-white-and-blue locomotive, a 400-ton steam-powered 'iron horse' loaned by the City of Portland, Oregon, will pull the Freedom Train. Personal 'thanks' on behalf of all Americans for this gift.

--The Preamble Express, from which the President speaks, has toured the United States to meet with mayors and city fathers to discuss Freedom Train appearances. Their response typifies the Nation's enthusiasm for the Bicentennial and the American Freedom Train.





12/3/74

# The American Freedom Train Foundation

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

5205 LEESBURG PIKE, SUITE 800  
BAILEY'S CROSSROADS, VIRGINIA 22041

703/820-7300

## PROPOSED SCHEDULE

PRESIDENT FORD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE  
AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN FOUNDATION'S NATIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE

Thursday, December 19, 1974  
12:30 p.m.

12:00 noon	Pre-program entertainment provided by High School Band.
12:15 p.m.	National Anthem performed by High School Band.
12:18 p.m.	"Here Comes the Freedom Train" sung by Porter Wagoner*and Dolly Parten*
12:23 p.m.	Musical Interlude
12:30 p.m.	"Ruffles and Flourishes" Announcement "Hail to the Chief"  President Ford arrives on the platform and is seated.
12:31 p.m.	Welcoming remarks by Master of Ceremoni and introduction of John Warner.
12:33 p.m.	Remarks by John Warner and presentation of Official ARBA Seal to Jon Foust.
12:38 p.m.	Acceptance remarks by Jon Foust
12:39 p.m.	Master of Ceremonies introduces Don Kendal. Chairman of the Board, PepsiCo, Inc.
12:40 p.m.	Remarks by Don Kendall and introduction of Lady Bird Johnson*
12:43 p.m.	Remarks by Lady Bird Johnson and introduction of President Ford.
12:46 p.m.	Presidential remarks.
	Full Press Coverage
12:51 p.m.	Remarks conclude.

At the conclusion of his remarks, President Ford presents George Washington's copy of the Constitution to Mr. Kendall and Mrs. Johnson.

"Hail to the Chief"

12:55 p.m.

President Ford is escorted from the platform by Mr. Kendall and Mrs. Johnson

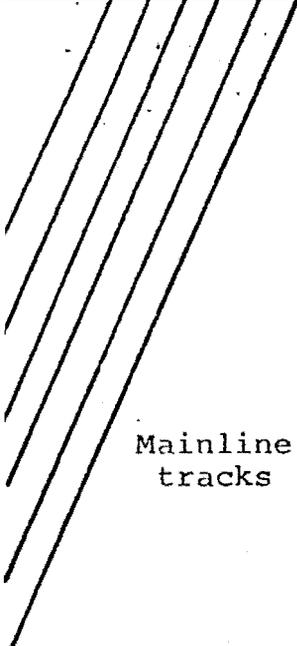
1:00 p.m.

President Ford departs

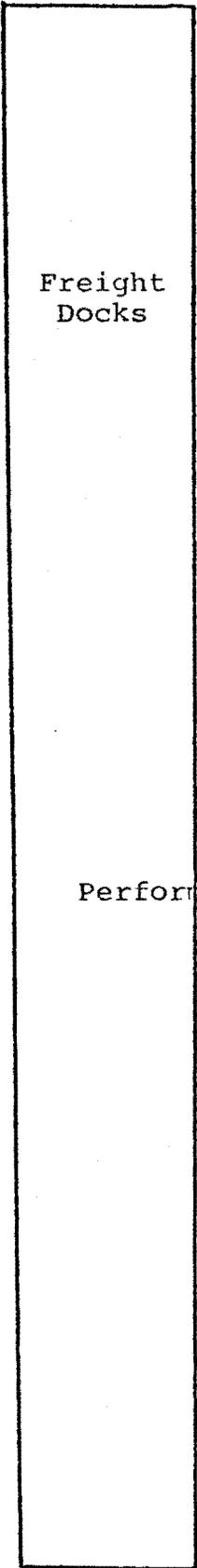
Master of Ceremonies makes brief concluding remarks and High School Band provides post-program entertainment.

\* Participation by these individuals is not confirmed.

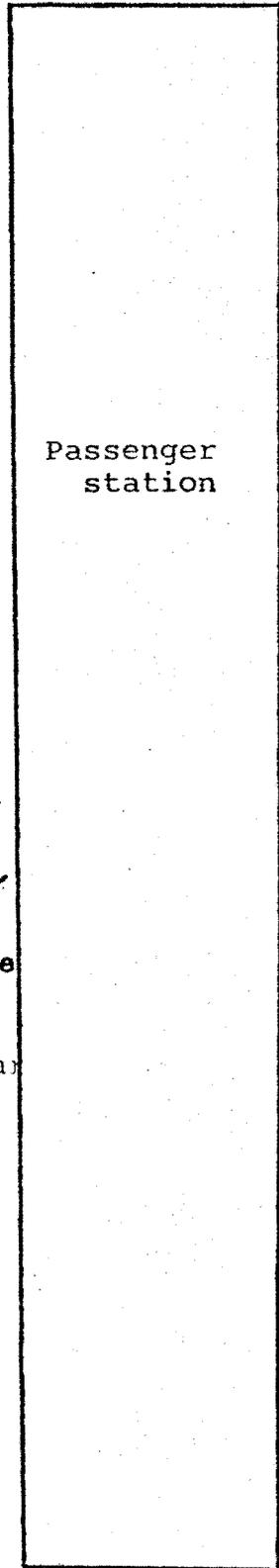
ALEXANDRIA  
MAIN STATION



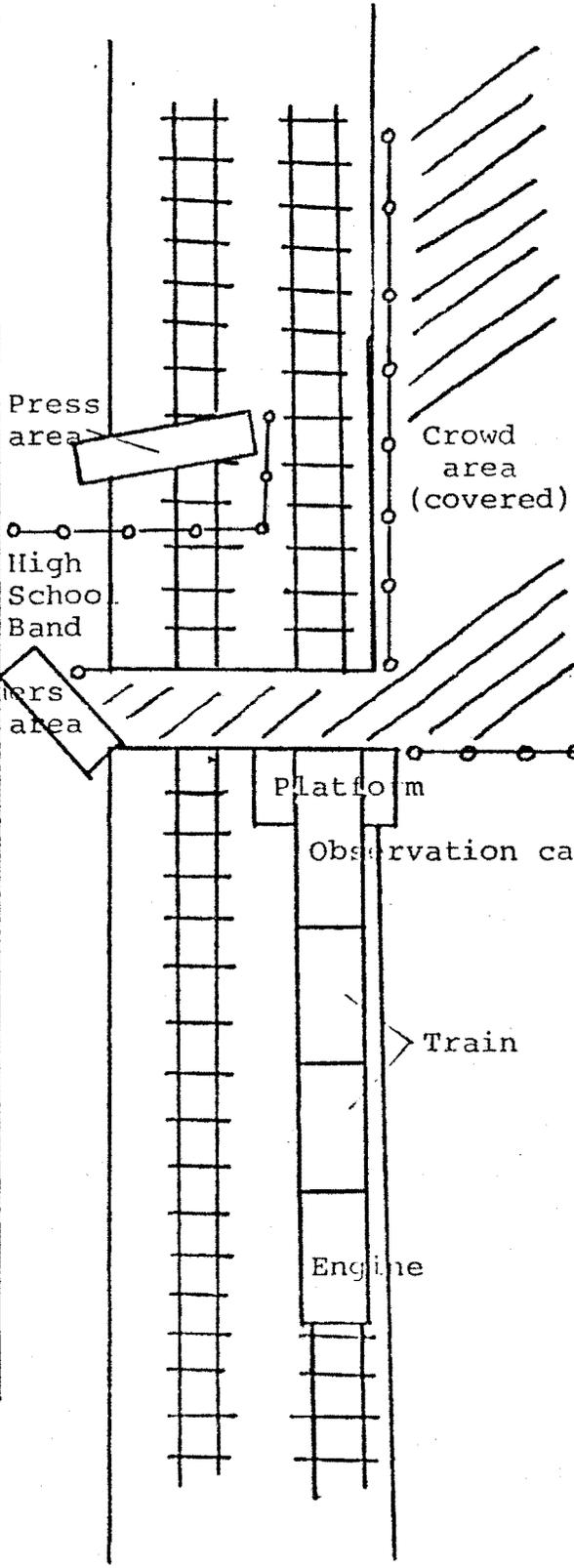
Mainline tracks



Freight Docks



Passenger station



Press area

High School Band

Performers area

Crowd area (covered)

Platform

Observation car

Train

Engine



OBSERVATION CAR

Platform

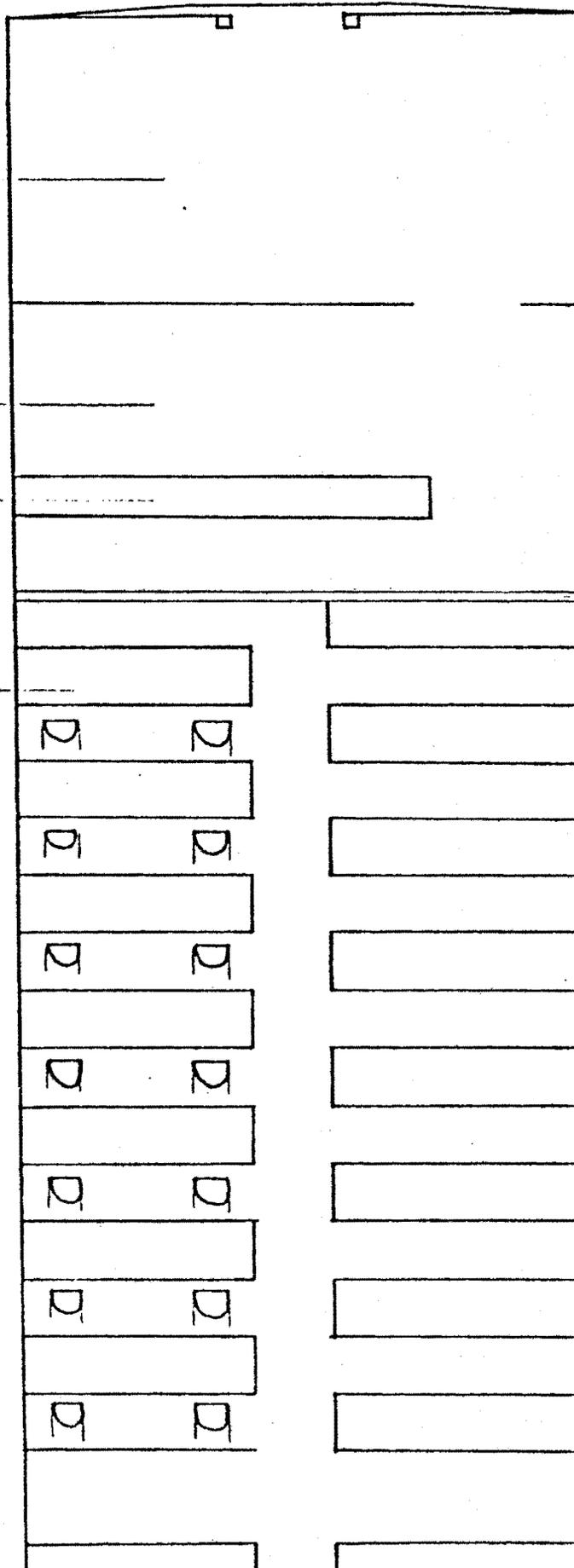
Office

Audio-visual  
Cabinet

Step

Table and Chairs

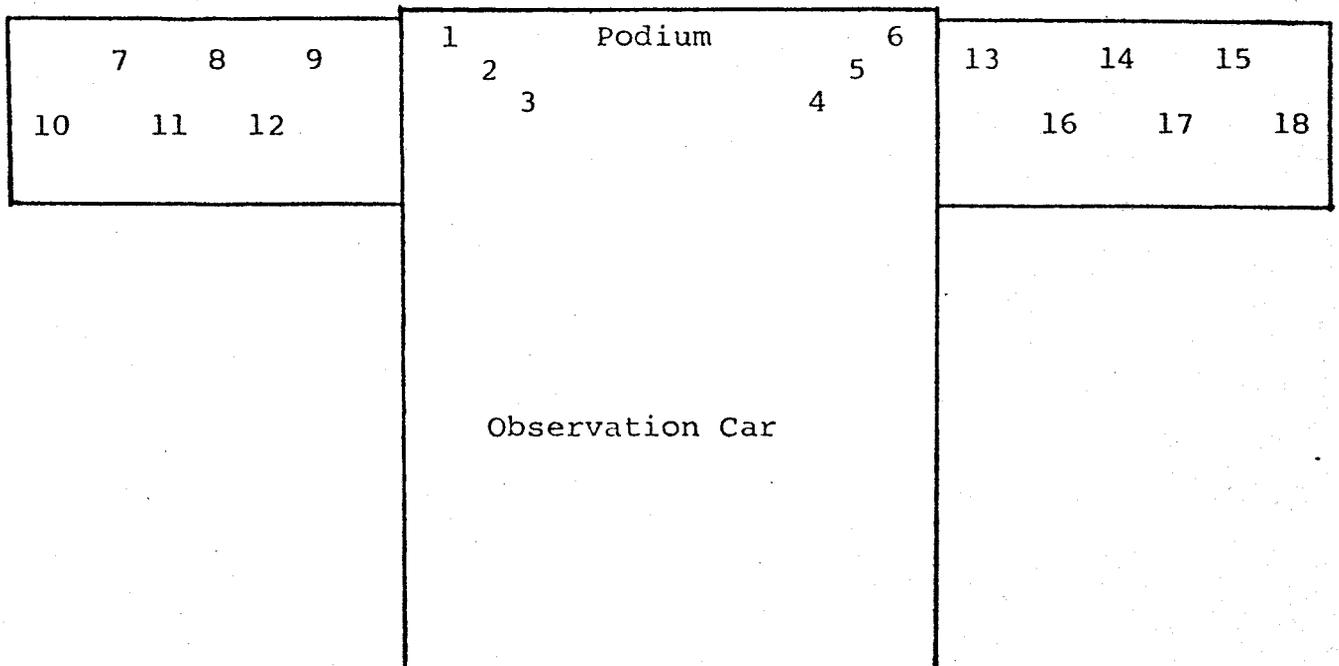
Projection &



Tentative

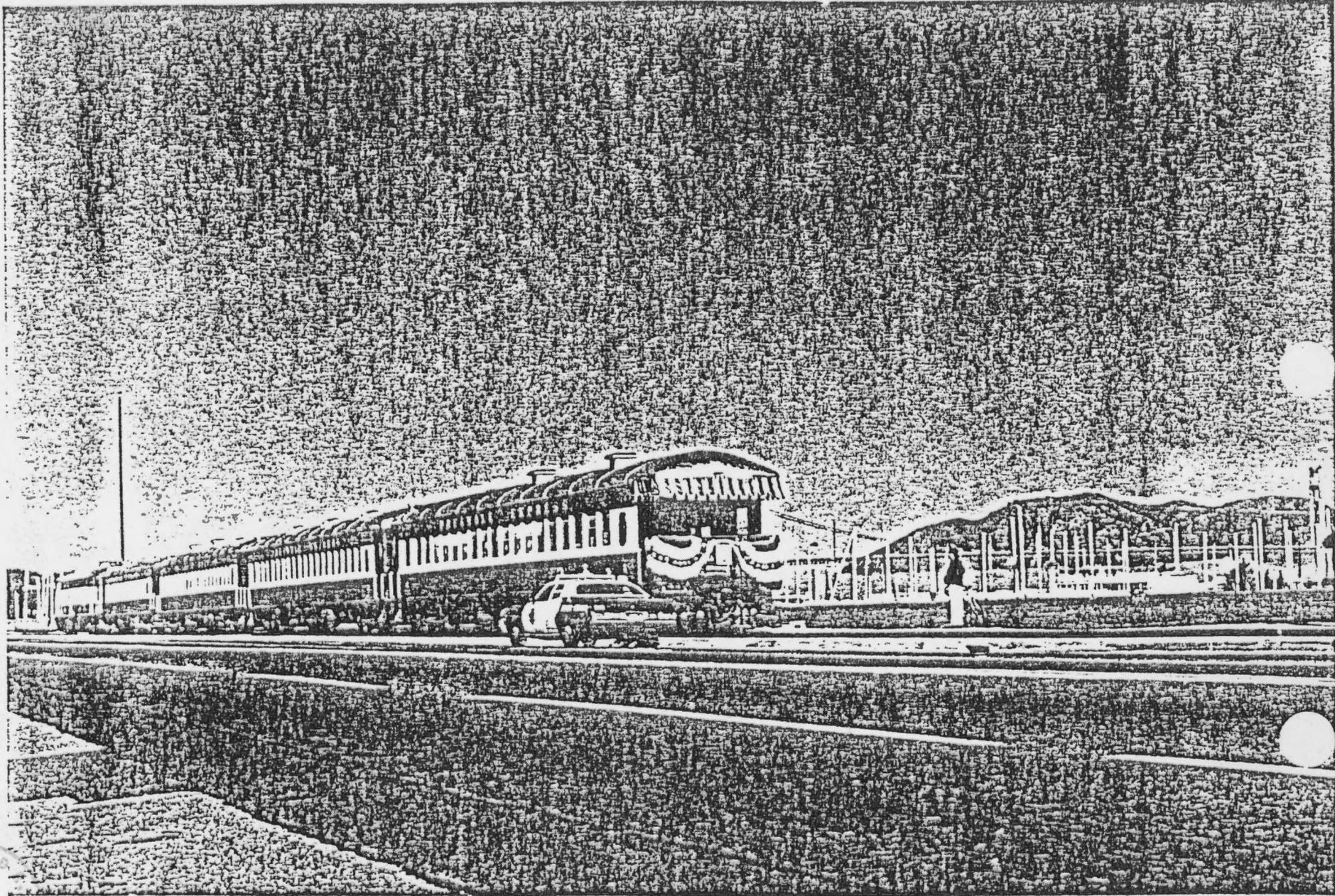
PLATFORM SEATING

Alexandria Train Station  
December 19, 1974



entativePLATFORM GUESTSAlexandria Train Station  
December 19, 1974

1. Mr. Donald M. Kendall, Chairman of the Board, PepsiCo, Inc.
2. Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson, Honorary Co-Chairman, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
3. President Gerald Ford
4. Master of Ceremonies.
5. Mr. John Warner, Administrator, ARBA
6. Mr. Jon Foust, President, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
7. Mr. William O. Beers, Chairman of the Board and President, Kraftco Corporation
8. Mr. Robert O. Anderson, Chairman of the Board, Atlantic Richfield C
9. Mr. Donald S. MacNaughton, Chairman of the Board, Prudential Insurance Company of America
10. Mr. Richard Congleton, Member of the Board of Directors, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
11. Mr. Gordon Edwards, Member of the Board of Directors, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
12. Mr. Vincent C. Burke, Jr., President of Riggs National Bank and Member of the Board of Directors, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
13. Mr. Thomas A. Murphy, Chairman of the Board, General Motors Corporation
14. Mr. Stephen P. Ailes, President, Association of American Railroads
15. The Honorable Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Mayor of Alexandria, Va.
16. United States Secret Service
17. Mr. Jack Cornelius, Member of the Board of Directors, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.
18. Mr. Waldemar A. Neilsen, Member of the Board of Directors, American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.





# The American Freedom Train Foundation

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

5205 LEESBURG PIKE, SUITE 800  
BAILEY'S CROSSROADS, VIRGINIA 22041

703/820-7301

NEWS RELEASE - Second Draft - Not For Release

## THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

### News Media Background

In April 1975, a giant steam engine, a colorful reminder from America's golden age of railroads, will power out of Wilmington, Delaware pulling 22 glistening red, white and blue cars filled with the history of America.

The American Freedom Train will have begun its historic two-year journey in celebration of the American Revolution Bicentennial.

From Wilmington, the capital of the first state to ratify the Constitution, the Freedom Train will journey to Boston, where it will participate in the celebration April 18 of the battle at Lexington, where the nation's fight for freedom began.

Before the journey is over, more than ten million Americans will have boarded the train and experienced its magnificent displays. It will have traveled more than 17,000 miles through thousands of American communities and will have been viewed along the way by 40 to 50 million Americans and made stops in 76 cities. During its journey it will have been within a one-hour driving distance of 90 percent of the nation's population.

This extraordinary project, which promises to be one of the most colorful and exciting of all Bicentennial activities, was

created and is managed by private citizens in a tax-exempt public foundation located in Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia, The American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc.

### Origins of the Freedom Train

Back in 1947 there was an earlier version of the American Freedom Train sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation. It logged 37,160 miles in its travels across the country, stopping in every one of the then 48 states.

It was an enormous success, playing host to more than 3,500,000 visitors during its 16 month tour. The train had seven cars (only three of which housed exhibits), was painted gleaming white with bands of red and blue and was powered by a 2,000 h.p. diesel engine.

That Freedom Train could take in only 640 people an hour and, as a result, the wait to board was often long and discouraging (a problem solved in the 1975 version). On the stopover in New York City, for example, people waited four abreast on a line that was 15 blocks long.

The idea for a Bicentennial "Freedom Train" came from Ross Rowland, a 35-year old commodity broker with a passion for rail-roading. In 1966 Mr. Rowland formed the High Iron Company, Inc. to restore and operate a mainline steam locomotive. High Iron ran a variety of public excursions including the "Golden Spike Centennial Limited," which marked the 100th Anniversary of the linking of the United States by rail.

After this successful venture, Mr. Rowland created the idea for the Bicentennial Freedom Train. By 1974 he had just about given up on the project when he made a presentation to Pepsi-Cola Company. The idea soon caught the ear of Donald Kendall, Chairman of PepsiCo, Inc., and the project was underway. Four more public-spirited corporations, Atlantic Richfield Company, General Motors Corporation, Prudential Insurance Company of America and Kraft Foods donated one million dollars each and the Freedom Train was on the tracks. In announcing their donation of \$5 million over a two-year period, they said:

"The American Freedom Train will bring the Bicentennial to almost everyone's home town. We can think of no better way to celebrate the country's 200th birthday.

The most meaningful way to appreciate the vitality of our country today, is to examine its heritage by reflecting into its past. The Bicentennial is the perfect time -- and the local community is the perfect place.

In making our grant to initiate this project, we recognize that no single display or exhibit can capture all that is America. Our best hope is that the American Freedom Train will stimulate both pride and celebration."

### The Freedom Train - On Tour

The Engine: The Freedom Train will be pulled by a former Southern Pacific Railway GS-4 class Daylight locomotive, loaned by the City of Portland, Oregon. The locomotive has been displayed in Oaks Park, Portland, since it was retired in 1959. The locomotive will be towed to a near-by roundhouse where it will be restored and painted American Freedom Train colors.

In addition to the engine and tender there will be 22 cars, 12 of which will be used for displays and exhibits. The other cars will be used for tools and equipment, security, support services and housing of personnel needed to man the train.

### Inside the Freedom Train

Inside the train, visitors will travel through each of the 10 exhibit cars on a moving walkway at a rate of 2,000 people each hour for 14 hours each day. They will carry a transistorized sound unit which plays a running narration coordinated with the exhibits.

With the assistance and cooperation of many organizations, the staff of the American Freedom Train Foundation is assembling an impressive array of historical documents and artifacts--each one selected for its integration with the theme of each exhibit car. The following is a brief description of the exhibit cars:

Car #1 THE BEGINNING: A look at the first moments of the struggle for independence from the profile of an 18th century New England street, visitors will view an exhibit that includes precious documents that are the foundation of our liberty, such as George Washington's copy of the Consitution and Pennsylvania's Ratification of the Constitution.

Car #2 EXPLORATION AND EXPANSION: A discussion of American frontiers from the opening of the West to the penetration of deep space. Moon rocks and Conestoga Wagons point out the American desire for new horizons.

Car #3 GROWTH OF THE NATION: Changes wrought on this country as cities, farms, transportation centers and energy production have been added to the early landscape. America the Beautiful provides a musical background for the vitality of the Nation's growth.

Car #4 ORIGINS: Tracing the ethnic, national and geographical origins of Contemporary Americans. The music of dozen of lands speaks of this land of opportunity.

Car #5 INNOVATIONS: A review of the inventors and technicians whose efforts are synonymous with "American know-how" and the development of our free enterprise system and the American we know today. Patent drawings and models of inventions big and small are displayed.

Car #6 PROFESSIONS: An examination of the diversity and magnitude of fields of making Americans and the products of their work. The pursuits of Americans, from silversmiths and glassblowers to film makers and scientists, are outlined.

Car #7 SPORTS: A panorama of the sporting American as hero, participant, and spectator. Scenes from a sports-loving country include a sprinting Jesse Owens, Secretariat romping to victory, and Babe Ruth batting a home run.

Car #8 PERFORMING ARTS: A montage of American talent through vaudeville, Hollywood, radio and television--and through it all, the great Broadway stage. The sounds of entertainment, from television to vaudeville, provide a musical backdrop for this dramatic part of America.

Car #9 FINE ARTS: A gallery of American painting and sculpture reflecting the evolution of American society. A gallery of priceless paintings and sculpture capture the look of our country from 18th century portraiture through sweeping western landscapes.

Car #10 CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION: A dramatic portrayal of five events in American history which have tested the fiber of our system but from which Americans have emerged stronger and more unified. From Lincoln's assassination through President Roosevelt's economic strife, the ability of a people to growth portrayed.

SHOWCASE CARS: The first of two glass-enclosed display cars, deal with transportation and contains--a series of wheeled vehicles lending additional testimony to American progress. The second car contains the Freedom Bell, which is twice the size of the original Liberty Bell and will be built through support of the American Legion on behalf of the nation's children.

Outside the Freedom Train.

Going through communities in which there is no scheduled stop, the train will travel slowly wherever possible so that crowds gathered by the side of the tracks can at least glimpse the excitement of the train.

The two glass-enclosed display cars, featuring developments in transportation and the Freedom Bell, will be plainly visible from trackside. In addition each of the other exhibit cars will have four giant windows. There are 20 pairs of windows in all, each pair dedicated to a decade in the nation's 200-year history.

At each scheduled stop a stage will be set up for the entertainment of the waiting crowds and for local celebrations and ceremonies. Local organizations such as cultural, entertainment, museum and historical groups are currently working with the Foundation to set up displays.

### Historical Artifacts

A blue ribbon committee of consultants has been formed to advise the Foundation what should be featured aboard the train. The panel includes such men as: Oliver Jensen, Editor, American Heritage Magazine; Dr. Milton Klein, Professor of American History, University of Tennessee; Dr. Joshua Taylor, Curator, National Portrait Gallery; Dr. Bernard Finn, Curator Electricity, The Smithsonian Institution; Curt Gowdy, NBC-TV Sports; and others.

Working in conjunction with organizations such as the National Archives, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Smithsonian, and the National Gallery of Art, the Foundation has received numerous commitments for artifacts such as:

Benjamin Franklin's draft of the Articles of Confederation

George Washington's copy of the Constitution, Committee on Detail

Delaware's Ratification of the Bill of Rights

Pennsylvania's Ratification of the Constitution

Moon rock, moon flag, and landing tape

The first Bible printed in the United States

More than 500 of these historical documents and memorabilia collected from museums, historical societies, and individuals throughout the United States will reflect American achievements in nearly every aspect of life.

### The Freedom Bell

A major exhibit of the American Freedom Train is the Freedom Bell. The Freedom Bell will be twice the size of the Liberty Bell in honor of the country's 200th birthday.

The American Legion, on behalf of the nation's children, will donate funds necessary to build and exhibit the Freedom Bell.

The Foundation is exploring a permanent exhibit site for the Freedom Bell in the National Capitol.

### Security

To guard both the Freedom Train and the historical documents aboard the train, a sophisticated security system has been designed.

### Admission and Memorabilia Sale

Tickets will be priced at \$1.00. A portion of the advance ticket sales in each locale will be returned to that city for local Bicentennial activities. The Foundation, in its attempts to limit commercialism, will sell only high quality memorabilia of the Freedom Train visit.

### The Preamble Express

The logistics involved with the American Freedom Train are so complex that it was necessary to run a preliminary train across the United States in 1974 to coordinate the advance planning.

The red, white and blue "Preamble Express" left Boston on July 9 and visited every one of the 76 display sites.

Aboard the "Preamble Express" was a group of specialists who investigated track conditions, display sites, security plans and local and state activities planned around the Bicentennial. Those specialists are developing final Freedom Train plans.

The American Freedom Train Foundation - Organization

The American Freedom Train Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, non-political, public foundation chartered in Massachusetts. Its main office is located in Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia. All money collected by the organization, not used in the running of the Freedom Train, will be donated for charitable purposes.

The first step in managing the project was to develop an organization. Much of the creative work had been accomplished, but many details had to be worked out, including scheduling of the train, tie-in with local celebrations, collecting of significant American historical artifacts, security, cash flow and train personnel. To handle this project, Jon A. Foust, former Assistant Director of the National Parks Service, was named President and Chief Executive Officer.

Other members of the staff are:

1. Michael A. McManus, Jr.--Executive Vice President and General Counsel. A lawyer formerly with Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, New York City
2. Thomas R. Ames--Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, who was Vice President-Financial Officer for Bank of the Commonwealth, Detroit

3. G. Allan Walker, Jr.--Senior Vice President for Operations, former Manager of Wells, Walker & Co. and Wells Realty and Construction Co., Nashua, New Hampshire
4. Alfred D. Bruce--Vice President for Communications, formerly Vice President-Director of Public Relations, Washington Branch of Ketchum, MacLeod & Grove, Inc.
5. Mimi Austin--Vice President for Resource Development, who was with Overseas Exhibition Staff of the Department of Commerce
6. George Strongman--Vice President of Field Operations, formerly Engagement Director for Ringling Bros.
7. Ruth Packard--Vice President of Artifacts
8. John Manning--Vice President of Security, who was with the FBI for more than 20 years

#### CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIERS

Pulling the Freedom Train is a former Southern Pacific Railway GS-4 class Daylight locomotive loaned by the city of Portland, Oregon.

The Freedom Train exhibit and display cars are being reconstructed in Richmond, California and Venice, Florida.

The moving walkway is being engineered by and installed under the supervision of The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio.

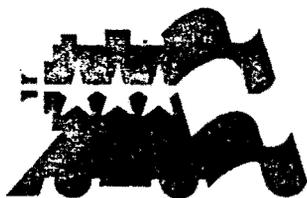
The sound system is being engineered by By-Word Corporation, Armonk, New York.

Exhibit fabricators include G.R.S. & W., Inc. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and General Exhibits of Chicago, Illinois.

# # #



December 3, 1974



# The American Freedom Train Foundation

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

5205 LEESBURG PIKE, SUITE 800  
BAILEY'S CROSSROADS, VIRGINIA 22041

703/820-730

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

For more information  
contact: Al Bruce  
703-820-73

DRAFT

PRESIDENT FORD ANNOUNCES AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN TO CARRY HISTORIC EXHIBITS TO 48 STATES ON 17,000-MILE BICENTENNIAL TOUR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 -- President Ford today announced that the American Freedom Train, a steam-powered 22-car train displaying some of the nation's most treasured documents and artifacts, will begin a 21-month journey through the country next spring as a major part of the Bicentennial celebration.

In a ceremony at the Alexandria, Va. railroad station, President Ford called the Freedom Train "a unifying symbol of the heritage that has made America great."

John W. Warner, Administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, recognized the Freedom Train as an official Bicentennial project by presenting a Bicentennial flag and certificate to Jon A. Foust, President of the American Freedom Train Foundation.

President Ford presented George Washington's copy of the Consitution to Donald M. Kendall, Chairman of the Board of PepsiCo, Inc. and Co-Chairman of the National Advisory Board of the American Freedom Train Foundation. The document, which is from the National Archives, will be displayed on the Freedom Train.

Mr. Kendall said the red-white-and-blue train, powered by a 400-ton locomotive, itself a symbol of America's past, will puff and whistle through cities, towns and villages in each of the 48 contiguous States. It will be open for public viewing in more than 70 cities, each within an hour's drive for 90 percent of the country's population.

Sponsored by the non-profit American Freedom Train Foundation, the train is scheduled to begin its journey April 1st in Wilmington, Delaware, the capital of the first state to sign the Constitution. From there, the Freedom Train will journey to Boston, where it will participate in Patriots' Day on April 18, the 200th anniversary of the battle at Lexington.

Mr. Warner described the train as "one of the most significant-- certainly the most visible and national in scope -- of the many projects planned to honor America during the Bicentennial. The launching of the American Freedom Train not only embraces a dramatic summary of 200 years of America's progress and growth, but it represents a symbolic 'birthday gift' to the American people."

Mr. Kendall pointed out that the American Freedom Train was made possible by donations of \$5 million over a two-year period from five leaders in the business community: Pepsi-Cola Company, Atlantic Richfield Company, General Motors Corporation, Prudential Insurance Company of America and Kraft Foods. To cover operating costs, another \$13 million will be raised from individual donations and the sale of tickets and commemorative gifts. Only quality

memorabilia of the Freedom Train will be sold on the train. According to the charter of the Foundation, funds remaining after the train's tour will be donated for charitable purposes.

President Ford thanked the sponsors, stating "Your corporate contributions should inspire others to participate in the Bicentennial."

Mr. Kendall said the train would "bring America's historical past to almost everybody's home town. We can think of no better way to celebrate the Bicentennial of American liberty. It is one of the most exciting projects of the 200th anniversary, and we are pleased and proud to be associated with it."

Mr. Foust said the train will exhibit in 12 specially-designed cars a priceless collection of historical documents, artifacts and memorabilia gathered from leading museums and historical societies across the country. The National Archives, he continued, has agreed to loan a number of documents, among them George Washington's copy of the Constitution, which includes his marginal notes; Benjamin Franklin's draft of The Articles of the Confederation; Pennsylvania's ratification of The Constitution; Delaware's ratification of The Bill of Rights; and credentials of the Pennsylvania delegates to the Continental Congress, including those of Franklin.

He also thanked the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad Company for use of the railroad station in which the ceremony was held.

Mr. Foust said a huge steam GS-4 Class Daylight locomotive, No. 4449 formerly belonging to the Southern Pacific, is being loaned to the American Freedom Train Foundation by the City of Portland, Oregon. The locomotive will be completely restored in a nearby railroad roundhouse. Once restored, the locomotive will be thoroughly tested and painted in official American Freedom Train colors. The engine and train are scheduled to return to Portland later in the tour.

The interior of each exhibit car will depict various facets of the American experience through two centuries, including the revolutionary period, exploration, cultures, technological progress, professions and trades, sports and the arts.

Moving walkways will carry an estimated 40 to 50 million visitors through the exhibit cars at a rate of 2,000 people per hour over each 14-hour display day. Each visitor will carry a transistorized sound unit which will play a running narration coordinated with exhibits. The exhibit cars have specially constructed outside showcase windows that will display selected objects for people who will view the train as it passes through their communities, at reduced speed, en route to the display cities.

In addition, the train will have two "showcase cars," one of which will carry a Freedom Bell, which is twice the size of the original Liberty Bell and will be built through support of the American Legion on behalf of the nation's children. The American

Freedom Train Foundation is searching for a permanent exhibition site for the bell in the Nation's Capitol. The other showcase car will display rare vehicles depicting a history of American Transportation.

###

DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS ON THE  
AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN

Following is a partial list of documents and artifacts from the American Freedom Train. The list shows the variety of materials the Freedom Train will display.

Benjamin Franklin's draft of the Articles of Confederation  
Original Tea Chest from Boston Tea Party and Paul Revere's Saddlebags  
Old rifles and muskets  
George Washington's copy of The Constitution  
Delaware's ratification of the Bill of Rights  
Pennsylvania's Ratification of the Constitution  
The First Bible printed in America  
Original Lewis and Clark map of northwestern territory  
Original Louisiana Purchase Agreement  
Gold miners' tools circa 1850  
Headlights from 1860 railroad locomotive  
Col. Jim Bowie's knife  
Copy of Lincoln-Douglas debate  
Lincoln's preliminary draft of Emancipation Proclamation  
Indian artifacts, including Navajo basket, Iroquois tomahawk, and Cheyenne facemask  
Old circus posters  
Old scientific instruments  
Baseball bats of Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig, Joe Dimaggio and Ted Williams  
Crystal radio set  
Jesse Owens' track memorabilia  
Tennis medals of Helen Moody, Billie Jean King, Don Budge, Althea Gibson, and Arthur Ashe  
President Roosevelt's speech to Congress after Pearl Harbor Day  
President Kennedy's handwritten draft of his inaugural speech  
Dr. Martin Luther King's pulpit  
Moon rocks, moon flag, and landing tape from NASA



AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL ADMINISTRATION

736 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20276

(202) 382-1776

December 4, 1974

The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Jack:

The American Freedom Train has the potential of being one of the most visible and constructive national Bicentennial projects. A steam engine will power a train of cars specially remodeled to carry historical artifacts for stops at 76 cities during a 21-month period. Copies of the enclosed brochure were provided to each member of the Congress.

President Ford has been invited to participate in the official announcement of the project and, it is my understanding, he has tentatively scheduled an appearance at 12:30 p.m. on December 19, 1974 at a railroad station in the Washington area. I hope you can join.

Jon A. Foust, President of the American Freedom Train Foundation, as well as several of the senior executives of the corporate sponsors have coordinated the project with my Administration. Likewise, we have received very helpful support from the Archives, the Smithsonian and the National Park Service.

With respect to Congressman Robinson's concern over the possibility of a request to Congress for Federal funding, I know of no plans at this time. In fact, several months ago I counseled the corporate sponsors not to seek Congressional funding. Today, by telephone, I confirmed with Mr. Foust the absence of any intent to seek funds from Congress.

I can easily provide you with complete details of the financial plan. In general, however, the development costs (in the several millions) will be assumed equally by five corporate sponsors. Approximately 25% of the ticket revenue per display-day will be allocated to each of the municipalities hosting stops. No profit is anticipated from these operating revenues. However, any assets or excess revenue must be donated to a charitable organization under the supervision of the Superior Court of Massachusetts.

This project is a superb example of the initiative and support that the Bicentennial is daily gaining from the private sector.

In the Spirit of '76,



John W. Warner  
Administrator

Enclosure

Please note:

**NEW ADDRESS:**  
**AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL**  
**ADMINISTRATION**  
**2401 E Street, N. W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20276**



