The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “1/26/75 - Kennedy Center Preview of Capitol Hill Historical Society Film” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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REMARKS FOR THE

KENNEDY CENTER PREVIEW OF

CAPITOL HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY FILM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1975
BETTY AND I ARE DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TODAY.

PERSONALLY, I COULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT OF A BETTER WAY TO END THE WEEK AND BEGIN A NEW ONE THAN BY SEEING THIS DELIGHTFUL FILM.

AND IN PARTICULAR, I LIKE THAT UPBEAT TITLE -- "CITY OUT OF WILDERNESS." IT REALLY GAVE ME A LIFT. AFTER A WEEK SPENT IN MEETINGS CONCERNED WITH RECESSION, WITH INFLATION, WITH UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WITH THE OIL PROBLEM -- ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS THIS: WE MAY BE OUT OF THE WILDERNESS -- BUT WE'RE STILL NOT OUT OF THE WOODS!
AND THAT'S WHY A FILM LIKE THIS IS SO IMPORTANT.

IT VIVIDLY RECALLS THE REALITY OF PAST PROBLEMS AND REMINDS US THAT SOLUTIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FOUND FOR THEM, AND WILL BE FOUND IN THE FUTURE.
I particularly enjoyed the scenes of the Capitol building. Even though I spent twenty-five years in the House, I must confess I am still somewhat awed by the sight of the Capitol. So many important events have taken place in there, so many inspiring words have been spoken, so much history has been written.

And I hope Congress will write more history this year by approving my tax cut and energy program.
SEEING THIS FILM REMINDED ME ALSO OF THE SHEER BEAUTY OF THE CITY. LITERALLY, OUT OF THE WILDERNESS A CITY HAS GROWN THAT REFLECTS AMERICA'S PROMISES AS WELL AS ITS PROBLEMS. I HOPE ALL AMERICANS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW THIS FILM AND TO VISIT THIS CITY.

I KNOW THE BICENTENNIAL ADMINISTRATION IS PLEASED WITH THIS FILM, WHICH OBVIOUSLY WILL DO MUCH TO TELL THE STORY OF WASHINGTON TO THE MILLIONS OF VISITORS WHO WILL COME HERE TO CELEBRATE OUR TWO HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY.
I WANT TO CONGRATULATE MY GOOD FRIEND AND FORMER COLLEAGUE IN THE HOUSE, FRED SCHWENGEN, FOR THE WORK HE AND HIS ASSOCIATES PUT IN ON THIS FILM.

FRED AND THE DEDICATED MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE ALWAYS WORKING ON PROJECTS TO AID THE CAPITOL. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, THE SOCIETY USES THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALES OF CAPITOL GUIDEBOOKS TO PAY FOR PROJECTS TO BEAUTIFY AND ENHANCE THE BUILDING.
SINCE BETTY IS WORKING ON THE SOCIETY'S NEXT PROJECT OF A SOUND AND LIGHT SHOW AT THE CAPITOL, YOU KNOW I'LL BE AWARE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF FRED AND THIS PRODUCTIVE GROUP.

AGAIN, LET ME CONGRATULATE THOSE WHO WORKED ON THIS FILM DEPICTING THE HISTORY OF THIS FEDERAL CITY, WHERE MANY CHALLENGES REMAIN TO BE MET AND NEW DREAMS WILL YET BE FULFILLED.

THANK YOU.

END OF TEXT
CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS
SUBJECT: Presidential draft remarks for the Kennedy Center preview of Capitol Hill Historical Society film

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: 7:15 p.m., Sunday, January 26, 1975, the Kennedy Center

SPEECHWRITER: Kaye Pullen
EDITED BY: Casserly/Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:
Scheduling Office, Capitol Hill Historical Society

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