

found this to be the case serving under him as a member of the committee, of which I was chairman.

If you will forgive me for another personal reference, you were kind enough to refer to some of my public service. I think the record should show that my service as Secretary of the Army was under President Truman and my latest service under President Eisenhower, of course.

America's heritage of landmarks has been ravished not by invaders as in many other lands, but by a war of our own making. America's unceasing quest and drive for development and progress has unintentionally and, in many instances, unknowingly left a wake of senseless destruction. The new has risen on the ashes of a building, a neighborhood, a vista, an open space which should have been preserved and passed on to new generations. Our freedom, however, makes it possible for us to legislate now to protect, interpret, and use that which remains of the landmarks across this country.

We celebrate the 25th anniversary of the National Gallery; last fall we commemorated an anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution. Celebrations are directed to the success of programs and to the wisdom of those leaders who bring them into being. These just and worthwhile causes protect a national heritage which can be taken inside and stored, displayed and viewed. On the other hand, the cityscape cannot be treasured from such storehouses and brought out for special exhibition. These landmarks which enrich the city and countryside must be preserved on their natural site in relation to their surroundings and their functions, growing more valuable as time and weather age them and until their contribution is felt and made known.

Townscapes of tomorrow must have this character and beauty of manmade resources rooted in nature which accumulate through the years. It is worse than meaningless—indeed, wanton—to destroy the best that we have, while trying to create new and inspirational environments.

Organized concern for our tangible heritage began in 1859 when ladies from every State purchased and saved Mount Vernon. Through a dedicated number of individuals and organizations linked together through the National Trust for Historic Preservation, this concern of enlightened Americans has spread across the United States. Initially the focus was on the houses of the great and the places where political and military history were made. Now, landmarks of beauty, good design and neighborhood character are also being recognized and are assuming their places of importance.

President Johnson in his message on natural beauty in February 1965, and the White House Conference on Natural Beauty in 1965 provided the inspiration and suggested the method. The recently published "With Heritage So Rich," the report of the Special Committee on Historic Preservation under the auspices of the U.S. Conference of Mayors with a grant from the Ford Foundation, recommended the techniques. Public awareness of the problems of a rootless, ugly America has been kindled and must be stimulated into active appreciation and participation. Public and private agencies must assume an obligation to the citizenry for an environment made meaningful and attractive through the preservation of our landmarks. Once the leg-