

Mr. BARRETT. Will you be kind enough to introduce yourself for the record?

Mr. GARVEY. I am Robert Garvey, Jr., executive director for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The theme of architecture within the registered landmark program is under study as is the theme on education. This program will also mark sites of culture as well as history and there are, I believe, about 25 different themes and the program is roughly three-fourths finished. It is anticipated that as time goes on, other sites, structures will be found and added to each theme and the program is now limited to the finding or marking the sites rather than giving them permanent protection.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. My knowledge on this subject is limited to the experience we have had with a building in the central part of downtown St. Louis that you may be familiar with. This is the old U.S. Court House and Custom House. An effort was made to have the building registered, but it was not considered historic.

Mr. RAINS. You have a champion here on that building.

Mr. GRAY. I hope that Mrs. Sullivan views that in the same light.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. The thing that I wanted the group who were interested in saving the building to do—when the decision has been made to tear the building down and build a new building on that site—the first thing that I advised them was to go to the Interior Department to see if the building could be registered as a historic site or as one whose architectural designs should be preserved. Interior told them that they did not qualify for admission on the register for historical sites which is, to my knowledge, the top register, but they did say that the building had some architectural value. There was a great deal of confusion in St. Louis about that.

Mr. GRAY. I speak as one interested—may I speak to that? I am quite familiar with the Old Post Office Building, and I desperately hope that there will be a way found to save it.

The problem here in this case, Mrs. Sullivan, is that the national registered landmarks program has not listed any Government-owned buildings as a registered landmark. Independence Hall is not a registered landmark. In some time, as a result of this legislation which will be before the various committees and I hope before the Congress and Senate, House and Senate—such a situation could not take place. Now, it is arguable whether the old post office is historically an architecturally important enough building to be registered. I believe it is but the opponents of saving the old post office don't always point out that it isn't on the register, or is Independence Hall, or any other federally operated building. There ought to be a federally owned register—a register of federally owned buildings and if this legislation adopted across the board I think there will be. I don't know whether this answers your question.

You have seen the report of the Advisory Committee to the Secretary of the Interior which says the building ought to be saved, but it doesn't qualify sufficiently as a national landmark. The Committee which makes up the list of registered national landmarks has not addressed itself yet to Federal buildings.