

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1998


Dear Friends:

As the world and our lives move at an increasingly faster pace, it becomes ever more important to remember where we come from as a people. Our values and traditions are inexorably linked with a sense of place. In every part of our nation and around the world, we honor those places that are linked to events of the past.

The articles in this issue of *CRM* point, like a compass, toward the historic places and cultural resources in our communities and in our nation. Because they have the power to evoke in each of us a deeper understanding of our lives and of the world around us, we have come to believe strongly that one of our national goals is to ensure that our cultural resources are accessible to everyone. Computer technologies and the Internet are powerful tools to help us not only to meet that goal, but also to preserve and interpret our mutually shared history.

As a people, we cherish our historic sites. These places can make our spirits soar and remind us of life's possibilities and of our human powers to imagine and to create. In this time of great global change as we approach both a new century and the next millennium, the pace of technological change occurs at a rate far beyond the capacity for human beings to comprehend, and our historic resources become more and more important. Still, the coming of a new century and millennium presents us with a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our past and to imagine our future. In that spirit, utilizing the gifts of our new technology, let us move forward confident that we will preserve the knowledge and appreciation of our common heritage for generations to come.

Sincerely yours,

  
Hillary Rodham Clinton