



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL
TRUST
FOR
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION®

Contact: Nord Wennerstrom, Director of Communications,
202-588-6380, nord_wennerstrom@nthp.org
Bruce Milhans, bmilhans@achp.gov, 202-606-8513

NATIONAL PRESERVATION LEADERS HAIL CONGRESSIONAL ACTION SUPPORTING IMPORTANT NATIONAL PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 30, 2009)—John L. Nau, III, chairman of the **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)** and Richard Moe, president of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, today hailed President Barack Obama's signing of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (H.R.146/S.22) into law.

The two national historic preservation organizations (respectively the independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on historic preservation issues and the nation's leading preservation membership nonprofit) have long supported permanent legislative authorization of the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America grant programs. The omnibus bill that incorporates the authorization of these two complementary programs contains numerous measures important to natural, cultural and historic resource preservation constituencies.

"This legislation permanently authorizes these two important programs that provide American citizens in communities across the country with the means to use and save their historic places that tell their part of the American story," Nau said. "In doing so, they make powerful economic, environmental and cultural contributions to communities and the nation."

"America's cultural and historic resources help define us as a nation, and their preservation benefits all of us," Moe said. "Permanent authorization of Save America's Treasures and Preserve America is a necessary step in the ability to continue telling America's remarkable and diverse story – the U.S. Congress and the President are to be commended for their support."

Save America's Treasures grants, established during the administration of President Bill Clinton and championed by then-First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, provide essential funding for restoration and preservation work on nationally significant historic structures and objects. The Preserve America program, which includes a grant program, was established during the administration of President George W. Bush when Mrs. Laura Bush served as honorary chair for both initiatives. The Preserve America grant program provides matching funding for educational, marketing, planning and related historic interpretation and heritage tourism efforts. The law authorizes up to \$50 million for Save America's Treasures and up to \$25 million for Preserve America grants annually.

The National Park Service administers both the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America grants. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a strong non-governmental proponent of both grant programs and the principal private partner to Save America's Treasures. The Save America's Treasures grants function in coordination with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Preserve America grant program functions in coordination with the ACHP.

For more information on Preserve America, visit www.preserveamerica.gov. For more information on Save America's Treasures, see www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/. For more information on the ACHP see www.achp.gov.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (www.PreservationNation.org) is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, D.C., nine regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in all 50 states, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories.

###