

PRESS RELEASE

April 15, 1947

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC
SITES AND BUILDINGS

FOR RELEASE: Morning papers of
Wednesday, April 16, 1947.

WASHINGTON, April 15: The National Council for the Preservation of Historic Sites and Buildings was formed here today by a group of national organizations, for the purpose of protecting and preserving historically important sites and buildings in the United States.

At the meeting, held at the National Gallery of Art, representatives of more than fifteen historical, scientific and civic groups organized the Council and formulated an initial program.

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Major General U. S. Grant 3rd. (Ret.) was elected President of the new organization, and Mr. George McAneny was named Chairman of the Board. General Grant is also Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and Mr. McAneny is President of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, New York.

The object of the group was stated to be "to further the preservation and interpretation, for the public benefit, of sites and buildings situated in the United States and its possessions and significant for American history and culture."

In pursuance of this program, the Council will proceed with the foundation of a National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States. This Trust will acquire and maintain buildings or sites of historic importance, either directly or in conjunction with local organizations.

Other officers are: Executive Vice President, Mrs. Dwight F. Davis, Former National Director of Volunteer Special Services, American Red Cross; Vice President, Mr. Kenneth Chorley, President of Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.; Secretary, Mr. Ronald F. Lee, of the National Park Service; Treasurer, Mr. Alexander Hamilton, of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society; and the following additional members of the Executive Board: Mr. David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.