

NEWS RELEASE

National Council for
Historic Sites and Buildings,
Washington, D. C.

FOR RELEASE:-

Afternoon papers--
Monday, October 20, 1947.

WASHINGTON, October 20: Foundation of a National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States will be one of the most important topics to be discussed at the meetings of the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, scheduled for October 20 and 21 in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C.

The Council was formed last April by a group of nationally-known archeologists, architects, anthropologists, city planners, museum executives, geographers, historians, archivists, and antiquarians, who represented national societies and organizations interested in the cause of historic preservation.

The sessions will convene the afternoon of Monday, October 20, with Major General U. S. Grant, 3rd, USA, Ret., President of the Council, presiding. Discussions that afternoon will include "Neglected Homes of the Virginia Pioneer," by Thomas T. Waterman, distinguished historical architect; "The Future of Historic American Forts Recently Declared Surplus," by Congressman W. G. Andrews of New York; and "The Impending Loss of Ancient Indian Villages by Flooding," by Dr. William S. Webb, who directed archeological excavations in the Tennessee Valley during the 1930's.

At the dinner meeting that evening, Sir John Balfour of the British Embassy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, Honorable John Nicholas Brown, and Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield, will be speakers. Mrs. Crowninshield has long been active in many preservation and restoration activities, and is prominent in the Kenmore Association and other similar groups.

On Tuesday morning, October 21, Mr. George McAneny, President, American Historic and Scenic Preservation Society, will lead the discussion of plans for chartering the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which will be patterned to some extent after the British National Trust. This body will be responsible for the ownership and care of historic properties placed with or acquired by the national agency for preservation in perpetuity. Others participating in the discussion of the National Trust will be David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art; Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, Executive Secretary of the American Historical Association; Dr. Luther Evans, Librarian of Congress, and Newton B. Drury, Director of the National Park Service. Delegates that day will be the luncheon guests of the Director of the National Gallery.

In the afternoon session Robert N. S. Whitelaw, of the Carolina Art Association, will discuss "Historic Charleston, Inc.," and pictorial views of the British National Trust properties will be shown by Bradford Williams.

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The following organizations were among those instrumental in forming the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, and its subsidiary, the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States:

Society of the Cincinnati
American Institute of Architects
American Society of Landscape Architects
Archeological Institute of America
American Historical Association
National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society
American Anthropological Association
Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association
American Association of Museums
Mississippi Valley Historical Association
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities
Garden Club of America
National Conference on State Parks
Society for American Archeology
Southern Historical Association
American Planning and Civic Association
Society of Architectural Historians
American Association for State and Local History

Ex officio members include:

The Librarian of Congress
The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution
The Director of the National Park Service
The Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts
The Archivist of the United States
The Director of the National Gallery of Art

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