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Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13617
Folder ID Number: 13617-006

Folder Title:
White House Commemorative Stamp 4/23/92 [OA 6101]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	18	1	4

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992 - 3:30pm

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE			<u>MCGROARTY</u>		

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

22 APR 22 P5:05

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST ~~★~~
FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*
SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

On Thursday, April 23, at 3:30 p.m., you will address two hundred attendees at a Rose Garden ceremony, where the Acting Postmaster General will present you with the stamp commemorating the 200th anniversary of the White House. Your remarks are four minutes in length and will be on cards.

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Three

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
ROSE GARDEN
3:30 PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992

My greetings to all of you, and to our two Associate Postmasters General here, Edward Horgan and Kenneth Hunter. And greetings to George Haley, Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission.

Welcome to Peerce Farm -- or as we call it nowadays, the White House. George Washington selected this site for the President's House more than 200 years ago, amid apple orchards owned by a colonial farmer named Peerce. Being a surveyor by trade, Washington knew what he was doing. Abigail Adams, the first First Lady to live here, wrote: "This is a beautiful spot ... and the more I view it the more I am delighted with it."

It was Thomas Jefferson who suggested a national competition to design the President's House. Washington himself chose the design of the winner -- James Hoban, an Irish immigrant then living in Charleston. Hoban's plan won out over grander designs, some of which included vast central courts, rotundas, and -- ((here's an intriguing idea)) -- a draped throne for the President.

Hoban's design was plainer than the others, more befitting the house of a democratic leader, but it was still stately and dignified, as Washington wanted. ((Incidentally, when he won the contest, Hoban began another capital tradition. He promptly "leaked" the news to his hometown papers in Charleston.)) After

many revisions to the original design, and after some unfortunate redecorating by British troops in 1814, the President's House assumed the graceful form we celebrate today.

1992 marks the 200th anniversary of this magnificent building. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1792, just a few yards from here, though the stone itself has never been found. You'll notice we're restoring the exterior stone walls of the residence, as part of the anniversary -- a celebration that includes commemorative books, museum exhibitions, and symposiums.

The celebration also includes a commemorative postage stamp -- which is what brings us here this afternoon. I thank everyone who has worked so hard to make this stamp possible -- particularly former Postmaster General Anthony Frank, who authorized it, and to Jack Ruther [ROOTHER], who did the superb design.

I hope the stamp serves as a reminder to every American that this place is truly the people's house. One of the great blessings of the presidency is the opportunity to live within its walls, to roam its hallways and absorb its history, to be reminded at every turn of the noble men who have lived here. But a president can never be more than a caretaker or a tenant in this House; for the White House belongs, as it has for 200 years, to every American.

Barbara and I pray that God continues to "bless this house," as he blesses the United States of America. Thank you.

#

WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP \ ROSE GARDEN
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992 \ 3:30 P.M.

MY GREETINGS TO ALL OF YOU, AND TO OUR TWO
ASSOCIATE POSTMASTERS GENERAL HERE, EDWARD HORGAN AND
KENNETH HUNTER. AND GREETINGS TO GEORGE HALEY,
CHAIRMAN OF THE POSTAL RATE COMMISSION.

WELCOME TO PEERCE FARM -- OR AS WE CALL IT
NOWADAYS, THE WHITE HOUSE. GEORGE WASHINGTON SELECTED
THIS SITE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE MORE THAN 200 YEARS
AGO, AMID APPLE ORCHARDS OWNED BY A COLONIAL FARMER
NAMED PEERCE.

- 2 -

BEING A SURVEYOR BY TRADE, WASHINGTON KNEW WHAT HE WAS
DOING. ABIGAIL ADAMS, THE FIRST FIRST LADY TO LIVE
HERE, WROTE: "THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL SPOT ... AND THE MORE
I VIEW IT THE MORE I AM DELIGHTED WITH IT."

IT WAS THOMAS JEFFERSON WHO SUGGESTED A NATIONAL
COMPETITION TO DESIGN THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE.
WASHINGTON HIMSELF CHOSE THE DESIGN OF THE WINNER --
JAMES HOBAN, AN IRISH IMMIGRANT THEN LIVING IN
CHARLESTON.

HOBAN'S PLAN WON OUT OVER GRANDER DESIGNS, SOME OF WHICH INCLUDED VAST CENTRAL COURTS, ROTUNDAS, AND -- ((HERE'S AN INTRIGUING IDEA)) -- A DRAPED THRONE FOR THE PRESIDENT.

HOBAN'S DESIGN WAS PLAINER THAN THE OTHERS, MORE BEFITTING THE HOUSE OF A DEMOCRATIC LEADER, BUT IT WAS STILL STATELY AND DIGNIFIED, AS WASHINGTON WANTED.

((INCIDENTALLY, WHEN HE WON THE CONTEST, HOBAN BEGAN ANOTHER CAPITAL TRADITION. HE PROMPTLY "LEAKED" THE NEWS TO HIS HOMETOWN PAPERS IN CHARLESTON.)) AFTER MANY REVISIONS TO THE ORIGINAL DESIGN, AND AFTER SOME UNFORTUNATE REDECORATING BY BRITISH TROOPS IN 1814, THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE ASSUMED THE GRACEFUL FORM WE CELEBRATE TODAY.

1992 MARKS THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS MAGNIFICENT BUILDING. THE CORNERSTONE WAS LAID IN OCTOBER OF 1792, JUST A FEW YARDS FROM HERE, THOUGH THE STONE ITSELF HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND. YOU'LL NOTICE WE'RE RESTORING THE EXTERIOR STONE WALLS OF THE RESIDENCE, AS PART OF THE ANNIVERSARY -- A CELEBRATION THAT INCLUDES COMMEMORATIVE BOOKS, MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS, AND SYMPOSIUMS.

THE CELEBRATION ALSO INCLUDES A COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP -- WHICH IS WHAT BRINGS US HERE THIS AFTERNOON. I THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE THIS STAMP POSSIBLE -- PARTICULARLY FORMER POSTMASTER GENERAL ANTHONY FRANK, WHO AUTHORIZED IT, AND TO JACK RUTHER [R00-THER], WHO DID THE SUPERB DESIGN.

I HOPE THE STAMP SERVES AS A REMINDER TO EVERY AMERICAN THAT THIS PLACE IS TRULY THE PEOPLE'S HOUSE.

ONE OF THE GREAT BLESSINGS OF THE PRESIDENCY IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE WITHIN ITS WALLS, TO ROAM ITS HALLWAYS AND ABSORB ITS HISTORY, TO BE REMINDED AT EVERY TURN OF THE NOBLE MEN WHO HAVE LIVED HERE. BUT A PRESIDENT CAN NEVER BE MORE THAN A CARETAKER OR A TENANT IN THIS HOUSE; FOR THE WHITE HOUSE BELONGS, AS IT HAS FOR 200 YEARS, TO EVERY AMERICAN.

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WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

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THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST ~~DA~~
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SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

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(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/21/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: WED. 4/22/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
THURSDAY, APRIL 23 - 3:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH <i>out of town</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, RM. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Two

92 APR 21 P5:17

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
ROSE GARDEN
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992
3:30 PM

[Acknowledgments]

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redecorating by British troops in 1814, the President's House assumed the graceful form we celebrate today.

This year we mark the 200th anniversary of this magnificent building. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1792, just a few yards from here, though the stone itself has never been found. You'll notice we're refurbishing the residence's exterior walls, as part of the anniversary -- a celebration that includes commemorative books, museum exhibitions, and symposiums.

The celebration also includes a commemorative postage stamp -- which is what brings us here this afternoon. I thank everyone who has worked so hard to make this stamp possible. [Placeholder for acknowledgments] I hope the stamp serves as a reminder to every American that this place is truly the people's house. One of the great blessings of the presidency is the opportunity to live within its walls, to roam its hallways and absorb its history, to be reminded at every turn of the noble men who have lived here. ~~((In fact, I like it so much I wouldn't mind staying another four years.))~~ But a president can never be more than a caretaker or a tenant here; for the White House belongs, as it has for 200 years, to every American.

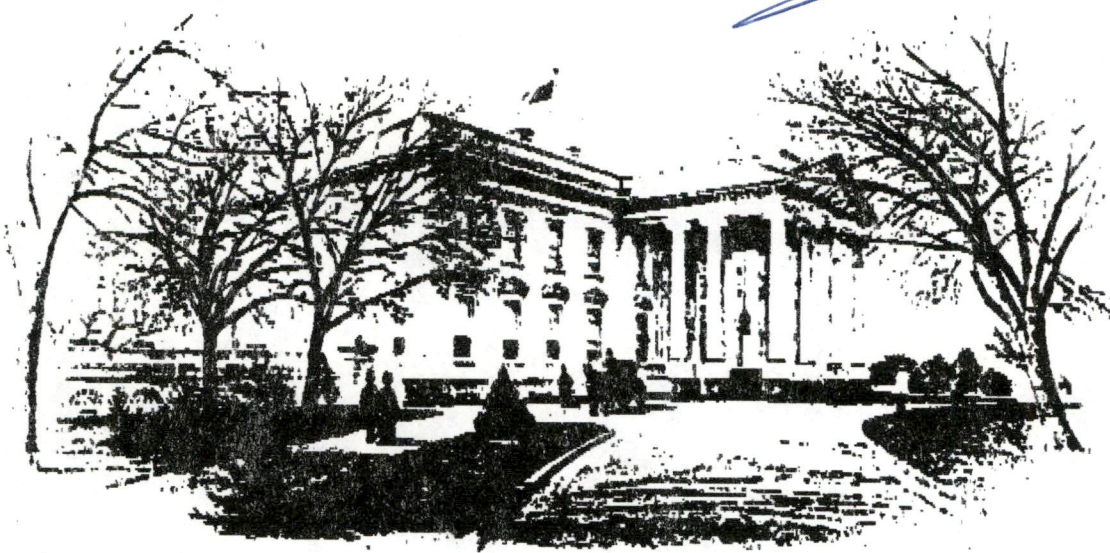
Barbara and I pray that God continues to "bless this house," as he blesses the United States of America. Thank you.

#

*delete
too
political
for this
event.*

Executive Office of the President

McBride



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 3

DATE 4/22/92

TO Christina Martin

FAX NUMBER x6218

OFFICE NUMBER _____

COMMENTS Attached are Rex Scouten's comments on the
stamp presentation speech.

FROM Sheri

FAX NUMBER _____

OFFICE NUMBER x2861

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

Presentation of White House Commemorative Stamp
Thursday, April 23, 1992 3:30 P.M.

The stamp will be presented by Acting Postmaster General
Michael S. Coughlin.

Acknowledgments:

Seated in the front row of the audience will be:

Associate Postmaster General Edward E. Horgan, Jr.
Associate Postmaster General Kenneth J. Hunter
Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission George Haley

From the Bureau of Engraving and Printing:

Jack Ruther, designer of the stamp

The stamp was actually authorized by the former Postmaster
General Anthony Frank.

Abigail Adams quote:

"The President's House is in a beautiful situation in front
of which is the Potomac with a view of Alexandria...this House is
built for ages to come."

Hoban wrote to friends in Charleston to tell them of his
award after it was announced by President Washington.

Following the burning in 1814, the House was rebuilt by
Hoban. The exterior remained the same as the original House.

We say that we are "restoring the exterior stone walls."





THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
Washington, D C 20260-0010

July 25, 1991

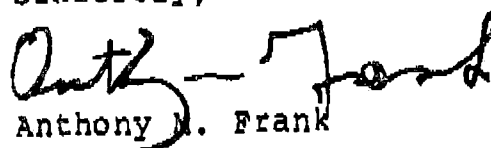
Dear Mr. Scouten:

This responds to your request for a stamp commemorating the bicentennial celebration of the laying of the cornerstone for the White House.

You will be pleased to know that I have approved this stamp for issuance and have directed the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to add it to our 1992 stamp program. As I am sure you will understand, this information should be held in confidence until a public announcement can be made.

Again, I appreciate your interest in our stamp program and extend my best wishes to you and your staff for a very successful centennial celebration.

Sincerely,


Anthony M. Frank

Mr. Rex Scouten
Curator
The White House
Washington, DC 20500-0001

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Two

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ROSE GARDEN
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WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

92 APR 22 P1: 41

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: White House Commemorative Stamp

We have reviewed the attached presidential remarks and have no suggested changes. We approve the draft in its present form.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/21/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: WED. 4/22/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
THURSDAY, APRIL 23 - 3:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCGROARTY</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, RM. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Two

92 APR 21 P5:17

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
ROSE GARDEN
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992
3:30 PM

[Acknowledgments]

Welcome to Peerce Farm -- or as we call it nowadays, the White House. George Washington selected this site for the President's House more than 200 years ago, amid apple orchards owned by a colonial farmer named Peerce. Being a surveyor by trade, Washington knew what he was doing. Abigail Adams, the first First Lady to live here, wrote: "This is a beautiful spot ... and the more I view it the more I am delighted with it."

It was Thomas Jefferson who suggested a national competition to design the President's House. Washington himself chose the design of the winner -- James Hoban, an Irish immigrant then living in Charleston. Hoban's plan won out over grander designs, some of which included vast central courts, rotundas, and -- ((here's an intriguing idea)) -- a draped throne for the President.

Hoban's design was plainer than the others, more befitting the house of a democratic leader, but it was still stately and dignified, as Washington wanted. ((Incidentally, when he won the contest, Hoban began another capital tradition. He promptly "leaked" the news to his hometown papers in Charleston.)) After many revisions to the original design, and after some unfortunate

redecorating by British troops in 1814, the President's House assumed the graceful form we celebrate today.

This year we mark the 200th anniversary of this magnificent building. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1792, just a few yards from here, though the stone itself has never been found. You'll notice we're refurbishing the residence's exterior walls, as part of the anniversary -- a celebration that includes commemorative books, museum exhibitions, and symposiums.

The celebration also includes a commemorative postage stamp -- which is what brings us here this afternoon. I thank everyone who has worked so hard to make this stamp possible. [Placeholder for acknowledgments] I hope the stamp serves as a reminder to every American that this place is truly the people's house. One of the great blessings of the presidency is the opportunity to live within its walls, to roam its hallways and absorb its history, to be reminded at every turn of the noble men who have lived here. ((In fact, I like it so much I wouldn't mind staying another four years.)) But a president can never be more than a caretaker or a tenant here; for the White House belongs, as it has for 200 years, to every American.

Barbara and I pray that God continues to "bless this house," as he blesses the United States of America. Thank you.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 APR 22 P2:40

DATE: 4/21/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: WED. 4/22/92 3:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP THURSDAY, APRIL 23 - 3:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIRESTONE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

OK - MES for DS

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Two

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THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992
3:30 PM

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— is this a word?

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Executive Office of the President



FACESIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 3

DATE 4/22/92

TO ~~Christina Martin~~ ANDY FERGUSON

FAX NUMBER x6218

OFFICE NUMBER _____

COMMENTS Attached are Rex Scouten's comments on the
stamp presentation speech.

FROM Sheri

FAX NUMBER _____

OFFICE NUMBER x2861

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1992

Presentation of White House Commemorative Stamp
Thursday, April 23, 1992 3:30 P.M.

The stamp will be presented by Acting Postmaster General Michael S. Coughlin.

Acknowledgments:

Seated in the front row of the audience will be:

up front { Associate Postmaster General Edward E. Horgan, Jr.
Associate Postmaster General Kenneth J. Hunter
Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission George Haley

From the Bureau of Engraving and Printing:

- (rather)*
- Jack Rather, designer of the stamp
 - The stamp was actually authorized by the former Postmaster General Anthony Frank.

Abigail Adams quote:

"The President's House is in a beautiful situation in front of which is the Potomac with a view of Alexandria...this House is built for ages to come."

Hoban wrote to friends in Charleston to tell them of his award after it was announced by President Washington.

Following the burning in 1814, the House was rebuilt by Hoban. The exterior remained the same as the original House.

We say that we are "restoring the exterior stone walls."





THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
Washington, DC 20260-0010

July 25, 1991

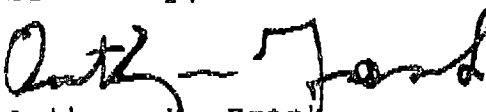
Dear Mr. Scouten:

This responds to your request for a stamp commemorating the bicentennial celebration of the laying of the cornerstone for the White House.

You will be pleased to know that I have approved this stamp for issuance and have directed the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to add it to our 1992 stamp program. As I am sure you will understand, this information should be held in confidence until a public announcement can be made.

Again, I appreciate your interest in our stamp program and extend my best wishes to you and your staff for a very successful centennial celebration.

Sincerely,



Anthony M. Frank

Mr. Rex Scouten
Curator
The White House
Washington, DC 20500-0001

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

92 APR 22 11:06

April 22, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATION

FROM: ROBERT T. SWANSON *RTS for*
ASSISTANT COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: White House Commemorative
Stamp, Thursday, April 23 - 3:30 pm

At your request, Counsel's office has reviewed the above-
reference matter. We have no legal objection or comments.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
April 21, 1992
STAMP
Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP
ROSE GARDEN
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1992
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#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 23, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN PRESENTATION OF WHITE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

The Rose Garden

3:30 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mike, very much. And greetings to all of you. May I greet Edward Horgan and Kenneth Hunter, Associate Postmasters General. Mike, thank you, sir, for the introduction and those remarks. Old friend, George Haley, here, the Chairman of the Postal Rate Commission.

And welcome to Peerce Farm, or as we call it nowadays, the White House. George Washington selected this site for the President's house more than 200 years ago amid apple orchards owned by a colonial farmer named Peerce. Being a surveyor by trade, Washington knew what he was doing. Abigail Adams, the first lady to live here, wrote, "This is a beautiful spot. And the more I view it the more I am delighted with it."

It was Thomas Jefferson who suggested a national competition to design the President's house. Washington himself chose the design of the winner, James Hoban, an Irish immigrant then living in Charleston. Hoban's plan won out over grander designs, some of which included vast central courts, rotundas and -- here's an intriguing idea --- a draped throne for the President. (Laughter.) His design was plainer than the others, more befitting the house of a democratic leader but it was still stately and dignified, as Washington wanted.

Incidentally, when he won the contest, Hoban began another capital tradition. He promptly leaked the news to his hometown papers in Charleston. (Laughter.) And after many revisions to the original design, and after some unfortunate redecorating by British troops in 1814, the President's house assumed the graceful form that we celebrate today.

And 1992 marks the 200th anniversary of this magnificent building. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1792, just a few yards from here, though the stone itself, I'm told by the historians and the custodians, has never been found. You'll notice we're restoring the exterior stone walls of the residence as part of the anniversary -- a celebration that includes commemorative books and museum exhibitions and symposiums. The far side of the house has been stripped down and painted. And I'm told again by the historians that this is the first time that the building has been taken down to its original stone.

The celebration also includes a commemorative postage stamp, which is what brings us here this afternoon. And I thank everyone who worked so hard to make this stamp possible, particularly the former Postmaster General Anthony Frank, who authorized it; Jack Ruther, who we just met, who did the superb design.

And I hope the stamp serves as a reminder to every American that this place is truly the people's house. One of the

MORE

things I enjoy the most is taking our foreign visitors over here when the tours are on. And I'll never forget the reaction when I introduced a monarch to the visiting tourists coming through here. And one of the kids started yelling, "It's a real live king, Dad. It's a real live king." (Laughter.) And it was a good experience for the real live king to see how the people consider this properly "their" house.

One of the great blessings of the presidency, obviously, is to live within the walls of this house, to roam its hallways, to absorb its history, and to be reminded at every turn of the noble men who have lived here and of their families. But a President can never, obviously, be more than a caretaker or a tenant in this House, for the White House belongs, as it has for 200 years, to every American.

And we are very grateful, Barbara and I both. And we pray that God continues to bless his House, as he blesses the United States of America.

Thank you all very much for coming. And now, Mike, do the honors. (Applause.)

(The stamp is unveiled.) (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: That concludes our brief ceremony, but thank you all very much for coming. (Applause.)

END

3:35 P.M. EDT