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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 12/5

TO:

Bill Sittmann

FROM: JOHN H. FITCH, JR.
Associate Director
Private Sector Initiatives

☐ Information

☐ Action

☐ Let's Discuss

Per your request.

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Marianne
245-3410

The
Colonial Williamsburg
Foundation
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187

Vice President's Office

FJH/Hed

September 27, 1984

Mr. William F. Sittmann
Special Assistant to the President
West Wing of The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Bill:

I am just now getting around to write you as promised about the possibility of getting Secretary Margaret Heckler to come to Colonial Williamsburg as the main speaker for the opening of the reconstruction of America's first public hospital for the mentally ill.

As you may recall, this five million dollar-plus project has been in our plans for years. Because of the generosity of the late DeWitt Wallace, founder and co-owner of the Reader's Digest, this dream is soon to become a reality. With the opening of the Public Hospital the last major public building of eighteenth-century Williamsburg will have returned to the Historic Area. I am enclosing some background information about the undertaking.

We plan a fairly low key dedication. The primary event would be a dedication program attended by approximately 250 persons the afternoon of Friday, January 4, our first choice of dates. An alternate date would be the following day. An informal reception would follow and a small dinner party in the Secretary's honor would conclude the day. We also propose a short media conference for Secretary Heckler prior to the proposed 4 p.m. ceremony.

We are still putting together the guest list but it will include leading state and some national figures, major donors to Colonial Williamsburg, and others. We certainly would welcome suggestions from Secretary Heckler's office about other invitees.

William F. Sittmann

Page Two

September 27, 1984

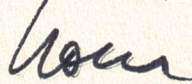
Our invitation would encourage Secretary Heckler to come as early as she wishes and to remain in Williamsburg as our guest for the entire weekend. We are holding the Lightfoot House, our major guest quarters for visiting leaders and residence of President and Mrs. Reagan in 1981 and President Mitterrand during the 1983 Summit, for her use.

We believe the occasion offers Secretary Heckler an opportunity to speak on the role of public support for the mentally ill, a tradition that began here in Williamsburg in 1773, or on any other related topic of her choosing.

If you believe there is a reasonable likelihood of Secretary Heckler's accepting our invitation, please give me guidance in how to proceed. The formal invitation, of course, would come from Charles Longworth, president of Colonial Williamsburg. Naturally we hope to determine Secretary Heckler's availability and willingness in a fairly reasonable period of time so that planning can begin.

Once again, Bill, I am in your debt.

Sincerely,

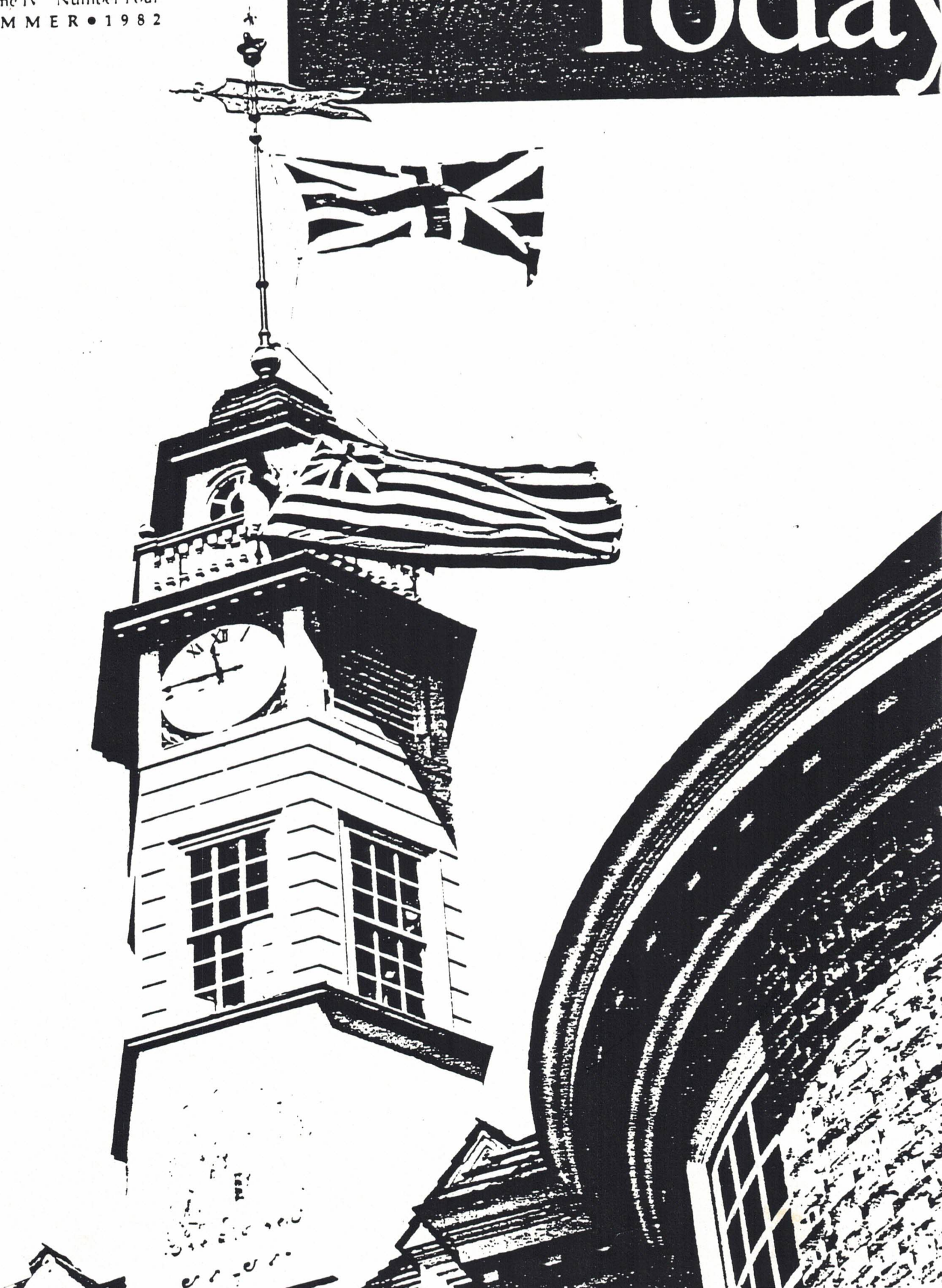


Norman G. Beatty
Media and Government
Relations

Enclosures

Volume IV Number Four
SUMMER • 1982

Today



A Message from the President of Colonial Williamsburg

FEW OF EVEN THE MOST studious of our visitors are aware of the extent and range of research constantly under way at Colonial Williamsburg and the importance of scholarly research to every activity and program we offer.



Colonial Williamsburg's commitment to research into a wide array of eighteenth-century subjects is vital as the basis of all forms of interpretation—that performed daily by interpreters, films, books, and other printed materials, and by the physical appearance of historic properties, interiors, and surroundings. Research at Colonial Williamsburg is an exciting story that deserves to be told more often.

A brief look at current efforts by staff historians reflects the breadth of our program.

Two studies relate to the Governor's Palace. John Hemphill is examining royal governance as practiced by Virginia's early royal governors, and Gretchen Schneider has completed her efforts to expand our knowledge of dress and deportment in the eighteenth century.

Later this year Colonial Williamsburg will reopen the Greenhow Store, once a thriving colonial mercantile activity. Our interpretation at the store will be greatly aided by Harold Gill's study of colonial storekeeping.

Similarly, Arthur Barnes's study of the economy of urban households will assist in the interpretation of the Powell-Waller homestead, a complex maintained for study by school groups.

The interpretation of Carter's Grove plantation will be based on a number of research projects covering four centuries of activities on the plantation site. The work of resident

archaeologist Ivor Noël Hume and his staff is already well known. Among other research projects nearing completion are Lorena Walsh's examination of the operations of eighteenth-century Virginia plantations, Philip Morgan's manuscript on the development of slavery in the colonial period, and Reginald Butler's work to help develop an Afro-American interpretive plan and training materials.

In addition, Shomer Zwelling has finished a paper on planter family life, and Edward Chappell continues his examination of regional agriculture outbuildings. These studies promise vital information, too, for our plans for Carter's Grove.

More long range in its implications and far more ambitious in scale is a study of the York County, Virginia, public records, the first phase of which is evaluated by Cary Carson in this issue. Members of the research department staff have combed out thousands upon thousands of bits of information about thousands of men, women, and children who lived in the area between 1630 and 1788. This project now enters an analysis phase that will result in a new book on urbanization in tidewater Virginia. The new data will be important to the interpretation of the Historic Area.

A list of smaller research projects and activities—requiring hours, days, or a few weeks—is too long for listing here. They range from assistance in interpretive training to research for new evening programs to reviewing new Foundation publications.

Though rarely seen practiced by most visitors, scholarly research is the basis of all of Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs.

Charles R. Longworth

CHARLES R. LONGSWORTH

Cover Photograph

Each year Colonial Williamsburg commemorates the troubled spring of 1776 when the most stirring historical events associated with the Capitol occurred. On May 15 Virginia's Burgesses pledged their lives and fortunes on the daring hazard of full freedom from England. Without a dissenting vote the legislators adopted a Resolution for American Independence. On June 7, Virginia's delegate, Richard Henry Lee, acting on these instructions, introduced a motion to this effect on the floor of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. This led directly to the Declaration of Independence, drafted largely by Thomas Jefferson. The dramatic fifty-day period culminating on July 4 is celebrated annually as the "Prelude to Independence," one of the many highlights of which is the striking of Britain's Great Union flag from the Capitol cupola to be replaced—amid spirited music and military salutes—with the Grand Union flag of the American colonies.

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A MOST AMBITIOUS UNDERTAKING

Opening of the Public Hospital of 1773 and the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Gallery Complex Is Projected for Spring 1985

by BEATRIX T. RUMFORD
Vice President for Museums

PLANS TO RECONSTRUCT America's first public mental hospital on its eighteenth-century site and to build an adjacent decorative arts museum have been enthusiastically developed and refined since November 1979 when it was announced that DeWitt Wallace, the co-founder of *Reader's Digest*, would provide financial support for the project.

In April Colonial Williamsburg's board of trustees endorsed the design concept and funding plan for the new museum complex. The project is rapidly moving toward the construction phase with ground breaking expected in August. Completion of both buildings is scheduled for mid-1984, and it is hoped that the installation of exhibits drawn from the Foundation's impressive reserve collections of eighteenth-century ceramics, furniture, metals, maps, prints, and textiles can be accomplished by the spring of 1985.

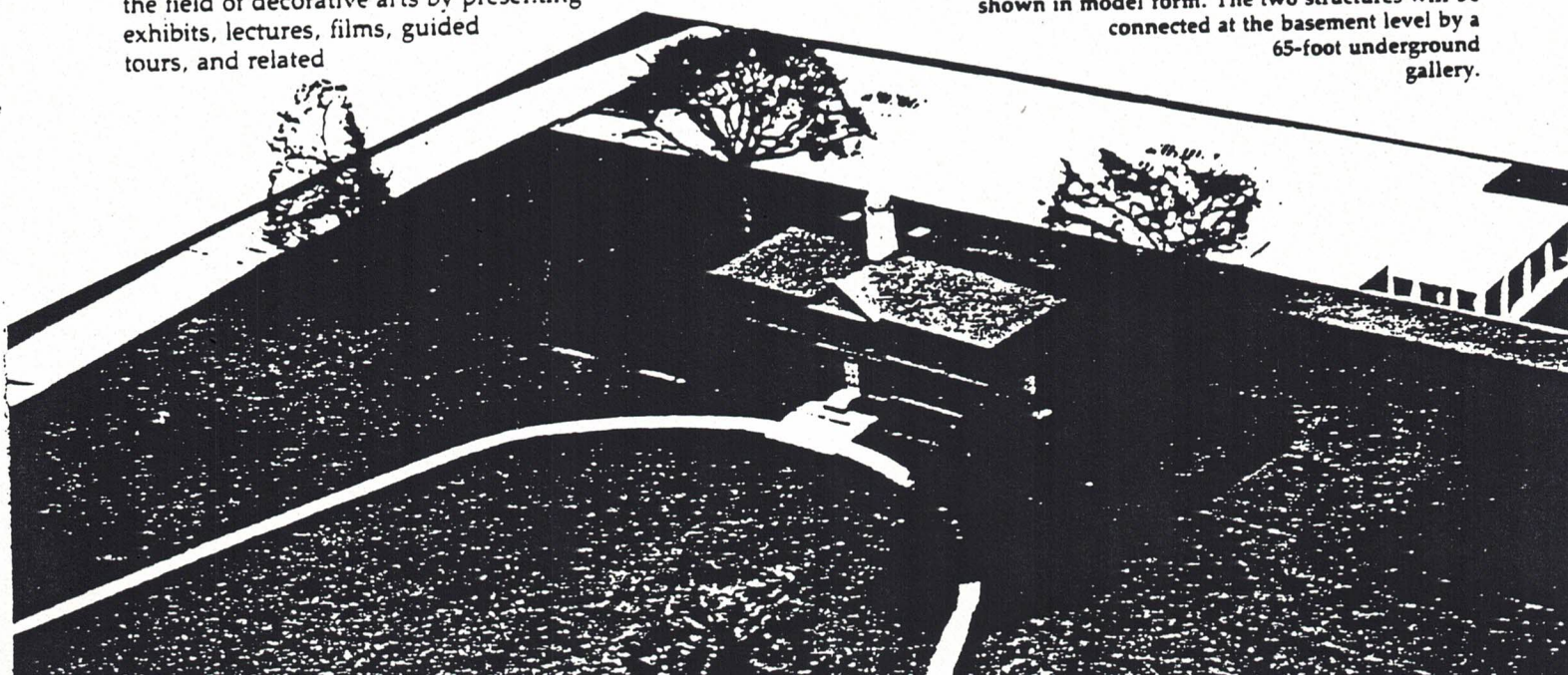
Colonial Williamsburg owns over ^{8,000}~~4,000~~ objects that are not particularly appropriate for use in the Historic Area but are of great rarity and artistic appeal. Experts consider many to be among the finest of their kind. Chief curator and vice president Graham Hood and his staff have long wanted to make these antiques accessible to the visiting public as well as to students and scholars. The DeWitt Wallace Gallery will enable the Foundation to expand its educational efforts in the field of decorative arts by presenting exhibits, lectures, films, guided tours, and related

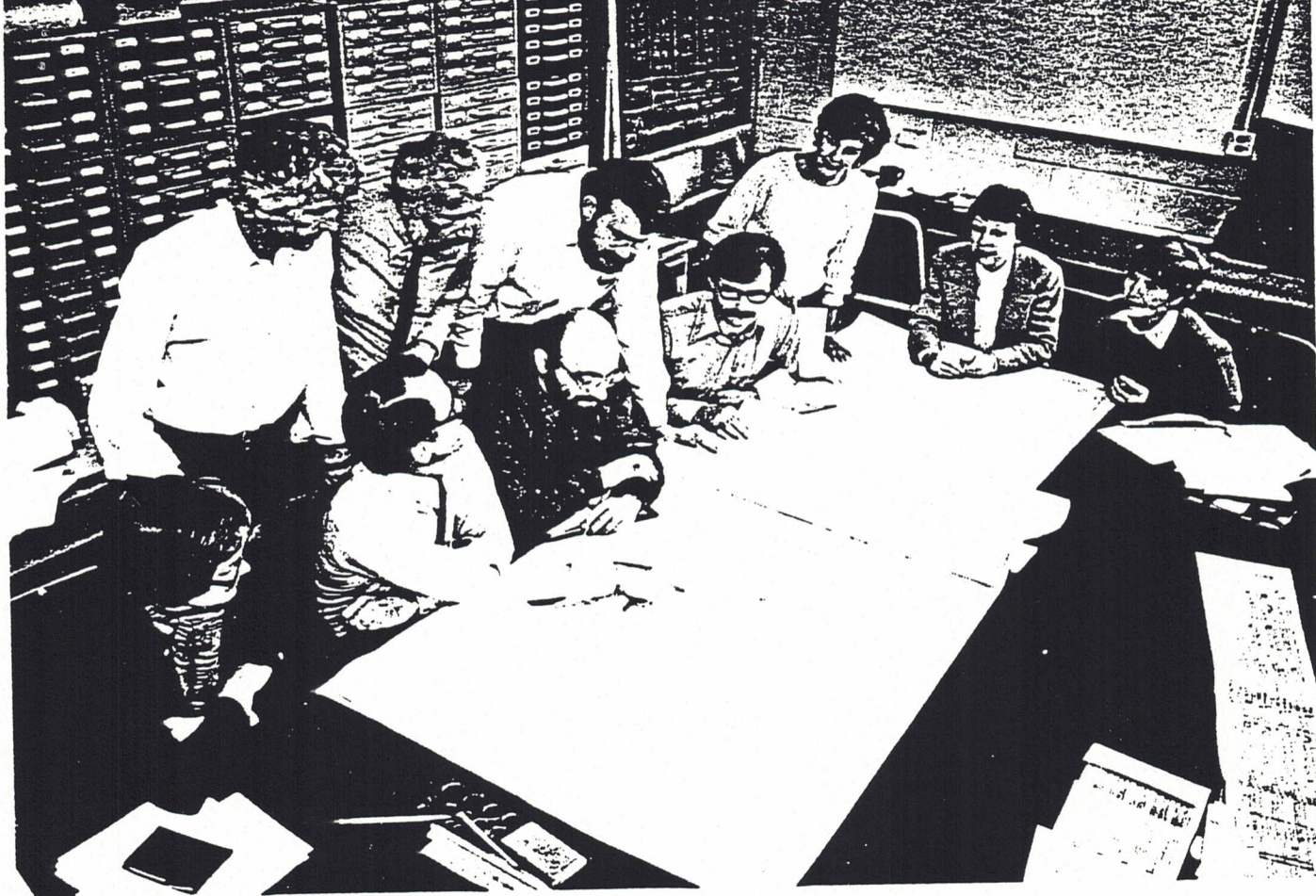
programs that illustrate and interpret the relationships and influences between objects made and used in eighteenth-century Williamsburg and those created elsewhere in the colonies and abroad.

The rebuilding of the Public Hospital of 1773 on its original foundations near the southeast corner of Francis and Henry streets will complete the reconstruction of the colonial city's major public buildings. This will be the largest reconstruction project undertaken by Colonial Williamsburg since 1934 when the Palace and the Capitol were

TRIX RUMFORD has a raft of responsibilities in her vice presidential role. In addition to her duties as chief administrator for Bassett Hall and the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Center, she is also project manager for the Public Hospital/Decorative Arts Gallery complex and oversees all aspects of its planning and development. A graduate of Wellesley College, she received her master's degree in American Folk Culture from the Cooperstown Graduate Programs. An avid swimmer and a noted epicure, Miss Rumford is a trustee of the New York State Historical Association and a leading authority on American folk art.

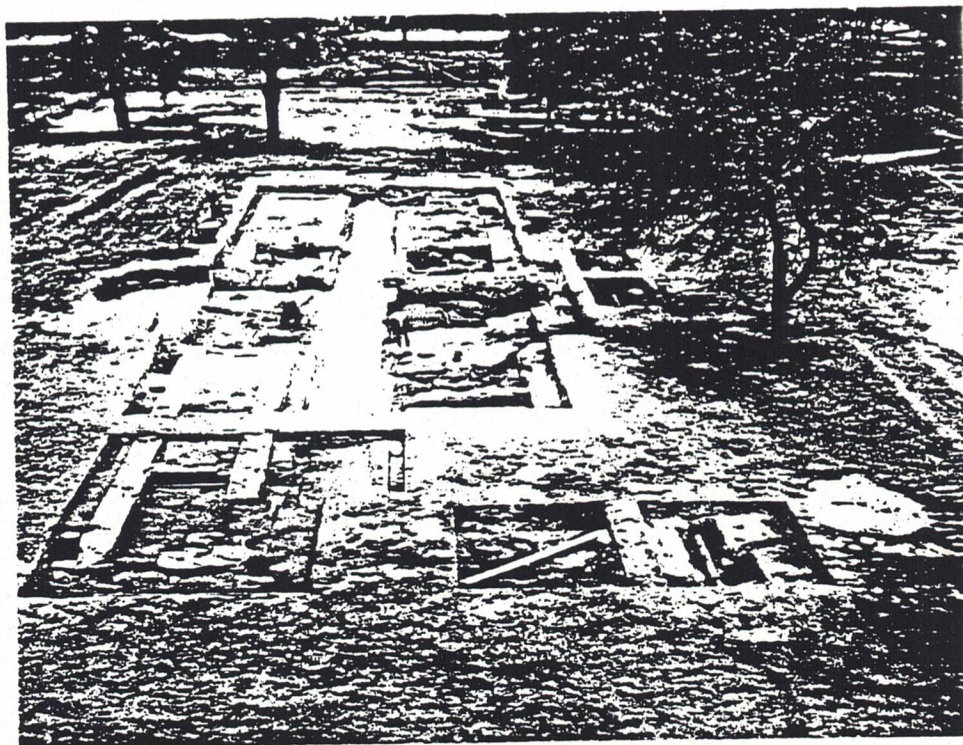
AMERICA'S FIRST PUBLIC MENTAL HOSPITAL OF 1773 and the adjacent DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Gallery are shown in model form. The two structures will be connected at the basement level by a 65-foot underground gallery.





THE FOUNDATION'S SENIOR CURATORIAL STAFF gathers to discuss with design consultant Vincent Ciulla preliminary exhibition concepts. Seated left to right are the author, who is project manager; John D. Davis, curator of metals; Ciulla; Wallace B. Gusler, curator of furniture and arms; Linda R. Baumgarten, curator of textiles; and Margie S. Gill, registrar. Standing are chief curator Graham Hood; John C. Austin, curator of ceramics and glass; James M. Gaynor, curator of mechanical arts; and Margaret A. Beck, curator of exhibition buildings, maps, and prints.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS reveal the full ground plan of the hospital, which received its first patients in 1773. The building burned in 1885. Archaeologists dug through the debris to expose the colonial foundations in 1972-1973. Resident archaeologist Ivor Noël Hume and his staff subsequently discovered brick foundations and artifacts relating to six key eras of site occupation beginning about 1680 and continuing through the final inferno.



completed. During the past year all design elements for the building's exterior have been carefully researched and documented by staff in the department of architectural research.

First Conceived in 1766

The first plans for the hospital date to 1766 when Royal Governor Francis Fauquier urged passage of a bill to establish a publicly funded institution where the insane could be both isolated and treated. Construction was authorized by the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1770. Built with instructions from the prominent Philadelphia architect, Robert Smith, and opened in 1773, this was the first public institution in the English colonies devoted exclusively to the treatment of mental illness. The 100-foot by 32-foot structure, whose original specifications call for 200,000 bricks, was described by a French soldier in Williamsburg during the Revolution as a "very fine edifice" and by another contemporary visitor as a "large handsome brick Mad House." A disastrous fire swept the property in 1885, destroying the principal colonial buildings.

The hospital will also serve as the entrance to the new DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Gallery. It will be connected at the basement level by a 65-foot underground gallery leading to a modern museum building concealed behind a 12-foot-high brick facade that will give the appearance of an eighteenth-century garden wall.

A \$35,000 PLANNING GRANT from the National Endowment for the Arts has assisted collections in cataloguing antiques for the decorative arts exhibition. NEA fellow John Barden is shown assessing a variety of eighteenth-century candlesticks in the warehouse collection. Two other fellows are involved in the program. Leslie Brown is seen measuring seventeenth- and eighteenth-century English decorated slipware while Kathy Smith sizes a bodice to be incorporated in the gallery's costume display.



Designed by consulting architect Kevin Roche of Hamden, Connecticut, one of the master designers of our time and recipient of the 1982 Pritzker Architecture Prize, the new Wallace Gallery will be contemporary in concept and will offer flexibility of use.

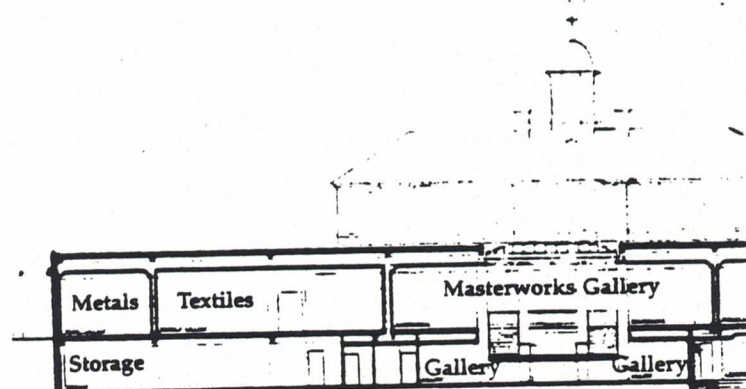
The low-lying rectangular structure, which measures 464 feet by 100 feet, will provide approximately 28,000 square feet of gallery space. The main floor will be penetrated by two symmetrically placed glass-roofed garden courts that will allow filtered daylight to illuminate the adjacent exhibition areas. A handsome stairway located in the entrance court on the lower level will lead to the main floor.

A Masterworks Gallery, featuring antiques of great rarity, aesthetic distinction, and technological virtuosity, will surround an open balcony overlooking the garden court below. On either side of the Masterworks Gallery 10,000 square feet of exhibition space has been assigned to a series of study galleries for the permanent display of English and American furniture, textiles, prints, metals, and ceramics.

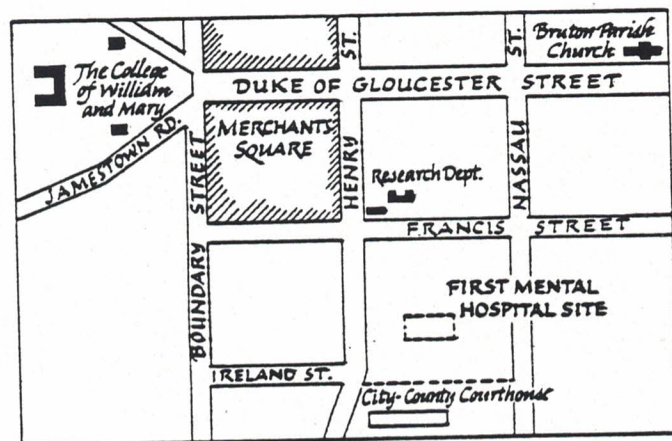
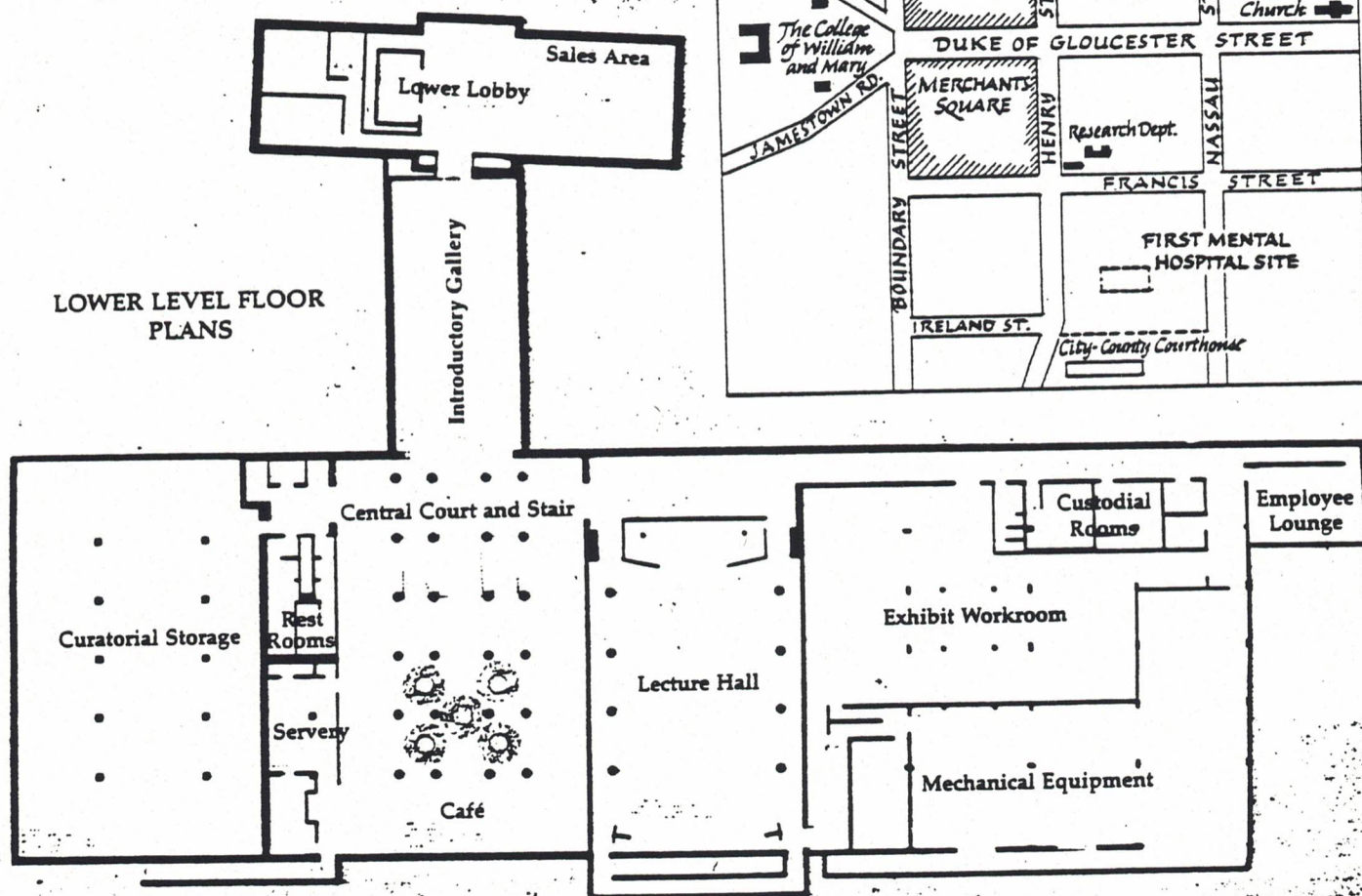
The concentration of objects will be rather dense in each of these areas and the sequence of arrangement may be chronological, stylistic, or thematic, depending on the range of materials available and the particular interest of the curator responsible for the installation. In addition, there

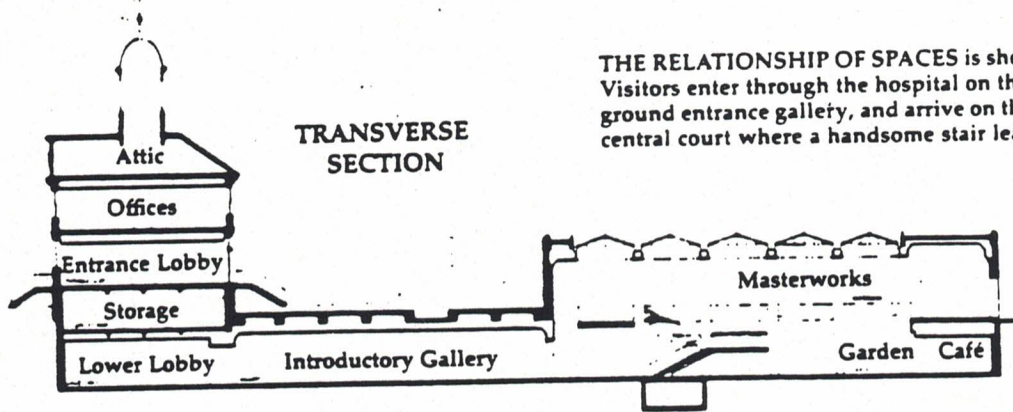
will be an area of 6,000 square feet for special exhibits drawn from the Foundation's holdings as well as from other sources.

To facilitate future expansion, the west end of the building will be treated as a garden enclosed on three sides by a 12-foot-high brick wall. When additional gallery and storage space is needed, the area can be roofed over to provide another 20,000 square feet on two levels. Initially, a publications sales area, a lecture hall seating 250 persons, and a



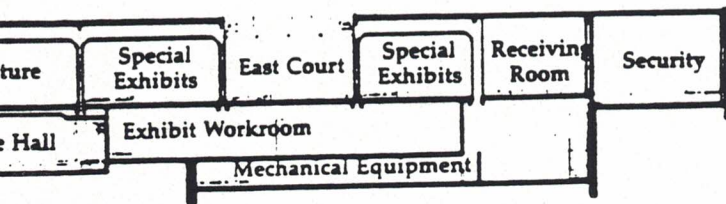
LOWER-LEVEL FLOOR PLANS of the new museum complex show the Public Hospital on its original, slightly angled foundation with a 65-foot entrance gallery connecting the two structures.





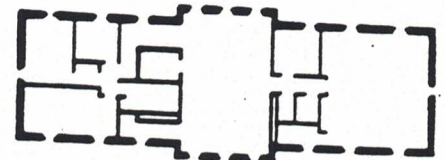
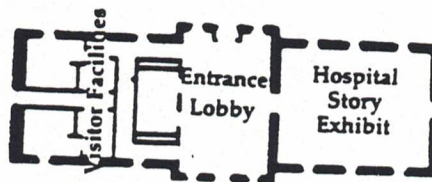
THE RELATIONSHIP OF SPACES is shown as seen from the side. Visitors enter through the hospital on the left, traverse the underground entrance gallery, and arrive on the lower level of the skylit central court where a handsome stair leads to the exhibit floor.

LONGITUDINAL SECTION OF WALLACE GALLERY
LOOKING NORTH TO PUBLIC HOSPITAL

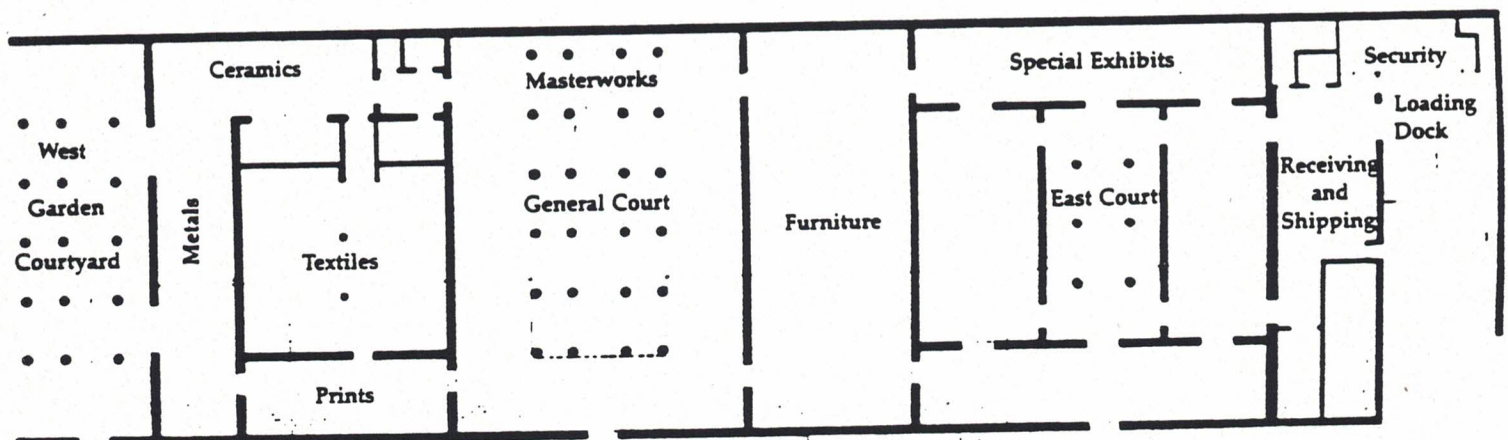


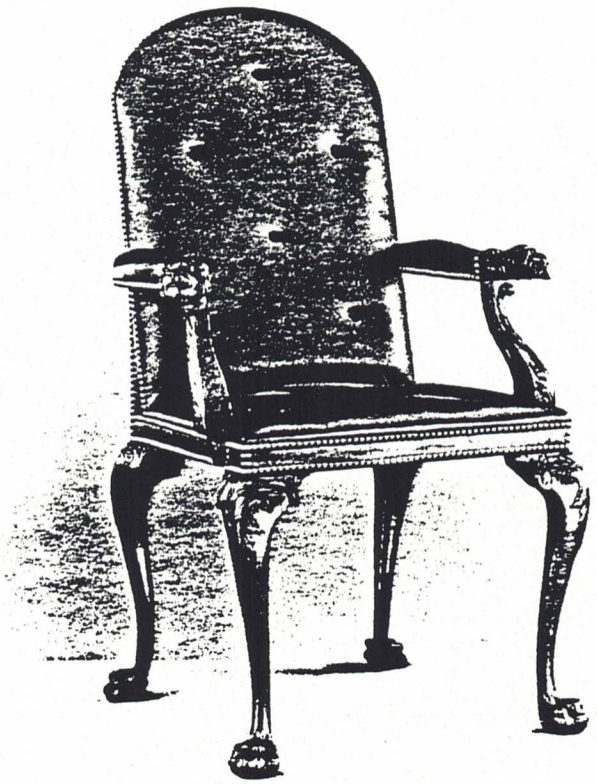
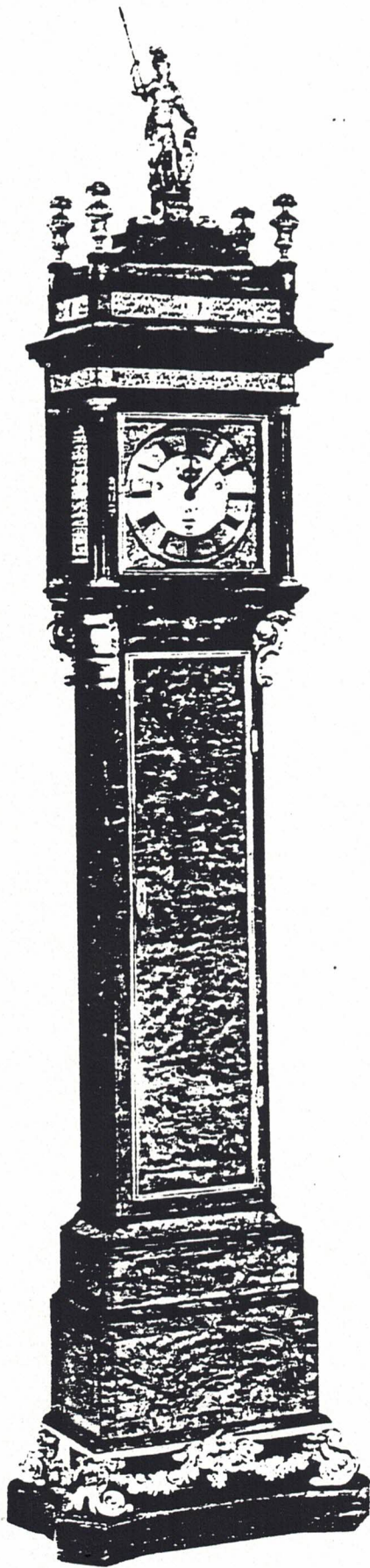
THIS LONGITUDINAL SECTION views the decorative arts gallery from the rear with the hospital in front. Together with the two buildings contain 47,000 square feet of program space with 23,000 square feet assigned to exhibits, 14,000 square feet to service functions, and 5,000 square feet to administrative activities. There will be an opportunity to add an additional 20,000 square feet of exhibit and storage space when the open courtyard at the west end is roofed over.

MAIN-FLOOR PLANS indicate space functions. The Public Hospital is 100-feet by 32-feet in contrast with the low-lying rectangular decorative arts building of 464 feet by 100 feet.

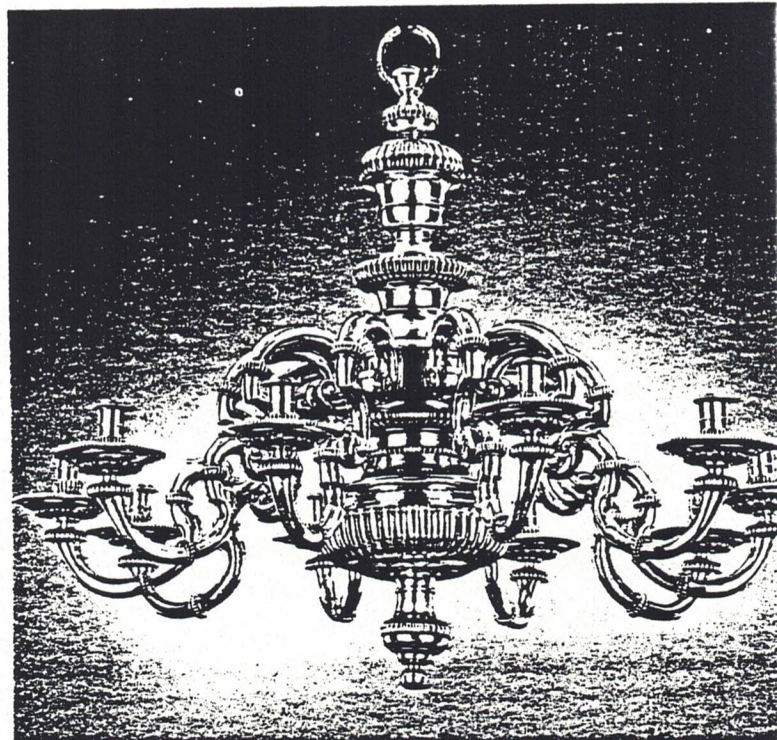


MAIN FLOOR PLANS





A MASTERWORKS GALLERY spotlighting holdings of great rarity, aesthetic distinction, and technological virtuosity will be one of the highlights of the decorative arts exhibit plan. Typical of the objects to be displayed are a tall case clock of French burl walnut with ormolu mounts with works by Thomas Tompion of London made for William III circa 1699; a ceremonial armchair made for the Capitol about 1755 and attributed to the Williams-





burg cabinet shop of Anthony Hay; a silver chandelier by Daniel Garnier of London also fashioned for William III from the mid-1690 era; an oil on canvas portrait of Robert Gilmore, a Baltimore merchant painted in 1788 by Charles Willson Peale (gift of Mrs. Leslie Langdon Vivian); and a large ornamental English creamware centerpiece from Leeds Pottery, 1770-1780 (gift of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Murdoch, Jr.).



small cafe will be housed beneath the galleries in the lower level. All areas will be readily accessible to handicapped visitors.

The Public Hospital itself will contain 8,000 square feet that will be used for administrative offices, a classroom, support facilities, and a large interpretive area adjacent to the entrance. Various exhibitions within the interpretive area will focus on the history of the hospital and how it was used in the eighteenth century. The underlying reasons for the establishment of the facility and its doctors, patients, and methods of treatment will be among the subjects explored here.

Extensive archaeological excavations have been under way at the Public Hospital site for more than a year and represent a continuation of the thorough exploration of the colonial hospital's foundations carried out in 1972-1973. Brick foundations and artifacts have been found by archaeologist Ivor Noël Hume and his staff that relate to six key eras of occupation beginning about 1680 and continuing through the devastating fire of 1885. As a result, considerable information about the use of the site and the evolution of the Public Hospital as a medical facility has been revealed.

On the basis of surviving documents and the archaeological evidence, it has been established that 10-foot-high wooden fences surrounded exercise yards (81 feet x 31 feet

each) at either end of the hospital. These are essential to the building for architectural and interpretive reasons and will be built concurrently with the hospital. The east yard will be interpreted in conjunction with the hospital exhibit. The west yard will provide an inconspicuous means of accommodating a handicapped access ramp and parking.

During the next 18 months seven senior curators and their assistants will be hard at work selecting and cataloguing a broad spectrum of objects destined for exhibition in the new museum. Conservation needs must also be addressed. Increasing amounts of time will be devoted to specialized research and to working with design consultant Vincent Ciulla on developing exhibition concepts and installation plans for the various display areas in the new gallery.

The combined costs of reconstructing the Public Hospital and building the Decorative Arts Gallery are expected to total \$14.9 million. Approximately \$12,000,000 has been provided by the late DeWitt Wallace. Gifts of additional funds are being actively sought. Donations of English and American decorative arts appropriate for exhibition in the new gallery are equally welcome.

This is undoubtedly one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the Foundation. The authentic reconstruction of the Public Hospital will enable Colonial Williamsburg to achieve a long-cherished architectural objective, while the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Gallery will result in one of the country's most significant decorative arts museums with countless new educational opportunities. ■

Public Hospital/Wallace Gallery

By Beatrix Rumford

Several days after the July 4 holiday, construction workers mounted a fifty star American flag atop the skeleton cupola of the Public Hospital to signal that the structural steel framing for the building had been completed. Since then, the unusually hot, dry summer has speeded progress on both the reconstructed hospital and the long, low decorative arts gallery being built 65' behind it.

Recently, those passing the site at the intersection of Francis and Henry Streets could watch the pouring of concrete slab floors for both buildings or observe the installation of roof planks, exterior metal studs and sheathing on the hospital. They may also have noticed the gradual disappearance of a huge mound of earth from last November's excavation which was used to backfill foundation walls and to cover the long underground gallery connecting the two buildings at the basement level. By mid-October, local sidewalk superintendents should be able to see the exterior brick masonry begin to be laid up, first on the hospital and then on the gallery.

Meanwhile, a team of CWF's architectural historians including Ed Chappell, Travis McDonald, Nick Pappas and Jim Waite continue to meet regularly at the site and with suppliers to insure that the brick, mortar, glass, millwork and roof shingles purchased for the Public Hospital reconstruction match colonial building materials as closely as possible in terms of color, texture, size and form. Travis McDonald serves as architectural coordinator for the reconstruction project. He has made several trips to a small brick company in Salisbury, North Carolina to oversee first the production and then the blending of handmade field and trim brick. He has also put many miles on his Volvo searching for a fine sand white enough to replicate the colonial mortar archaeologists uncovered in the original foundations.

According to Ron Catella, CWF's director of construction management, "The project is on schedule and no major delays are forecast." The general contractor, R.E. Lee and Son of Charlottesville, expects to complete construction of the facility by September 1, 1984. Present plans call for the opening of the Public Hospital exhibit on December 1, 1984 followed some four months later by the Wallace Gallery exhibits which should be installed and ready for visitors in April, 1985.

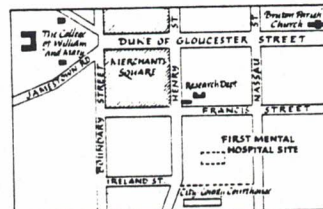
Although less visible than the construction of the new museum complex, planning for the interior spaces of both buildings continues to absorb a lot of time, energy and thought by many CWF staff—particularly on the part of curators and historians involved in developing the concepts and layouts for specific exhibit areas.

The entrance to the Decorative Arts Gallery will be through the Public Hospital where the east side of the main floor and the adjacent fenced wooden exercise yard will be devoted to a social history exhibit. This exhibit will teach visitors about the quest by

mental health care professionals—at Williamsburg and elsewhere—for a "cure" to mental illness during the period 1750-1885.

On leaving the hospital lobby, visitors will enter a narrow corridor, reconstructed to its 1773 appearance, with three doors on each side and one on the end. Only the center door on the left and the last door on the right will be open. The left door leads to a viewing room from which one will be able to look into two cells—one representing the period 1773-1820 and sparsely furnished with a crude bed, a chamber pot, signs of restraints and bars on the window; the other a more comfortably equipped circa 1845 "apartment." A brief audio program will describe hospital life in two markedly different periods in the institution's development. Across the corridor, visitors will have an opportunity to study in detail a standing exhibit which will explain why the hospital was founded and by whom, and will provide information about doctors, patients and methods of treatment during the first 100 years of operation.

As coordinator of the Public Hospital exhibit, historian Shomer Zwelling has spent the past 18 months tracking down and reading govern-



ment documents and numerous medical records and personal papers compiled by members of the Galt family who were involved with the administration of the Williamsburg Hospital for nearly a century. Zwelling is responsible for developing a script for the exhibit and its audiovisual components based on solid historical evidence and for locating the paintings, prints and artifacts which best tell the hospital's story.

Zwelling's chief assistants in this effort include Jay Gaynor, curator of mechanical arts, Travis McDonald, archaeologists Audrey and Ivor Noel Hume, and colleagues in the Department of Research and at Eastern State Hospital. Design work on the Public Hospital exhibit is the responsibility of David Root of the firm of Root and Chester in Washington, DC.

Admission to the Wallace Gallery will be handled on the lower level of the Public Hospital adjacent to the Museum Shop. The underground concourse linking the two buildings will be treated as a gallery which introduces visitors to the different types of objects they will see in three exhibit areas on the main floor of the modern museum that was designed by architect Kevin Roche of Hamden, Connecticut. It is hoped that the materials displayed in the introductory gallery will help first-time visitors understand what the decorative arts are and why the 18th century represents a high point in their development.

The introductory gallery leads to a

two-level glass-roofed garden court where a central staircase provides access to the exhibition floor. The lower level of the museum building houses a 240 seat lecture hall and a small cafe as well as restrooms, mechanical space, an exhibit prep room and curatorial storage. The east and west sides of the lower court will be lined with deep, floor to ceiling cases which can be used for a variety of display purposes. Initially, they will probably contain two or three thematic exhibits related to topics such as exploration and conquest, food service, or special programs in the lecture hall.

On ascending the stairs to the main floor of the new museum, visitors will find themselves in the Masterworks Gallery where about 125 extraordinary objects from Colonial Williamsburg's permanent collection will be grouped by stylistic or historical themes.

The Masterworks Gallery is surrounded by study rooms housing the foundation's collections of furniture, textiles, prints, metals and ceramics. Here the curators' goal is to make available the encyclopaedic range of CWF's collection of English and American decorative arts of the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries which are now hidden away in the Collections Building on Botetourt Street. In the new museum, visitors and CWF staff will be able to linger in the study rooms to view particular objects at close range, to browse and wander, or to pass by and quickly grasp the breadth and depth of the collections.

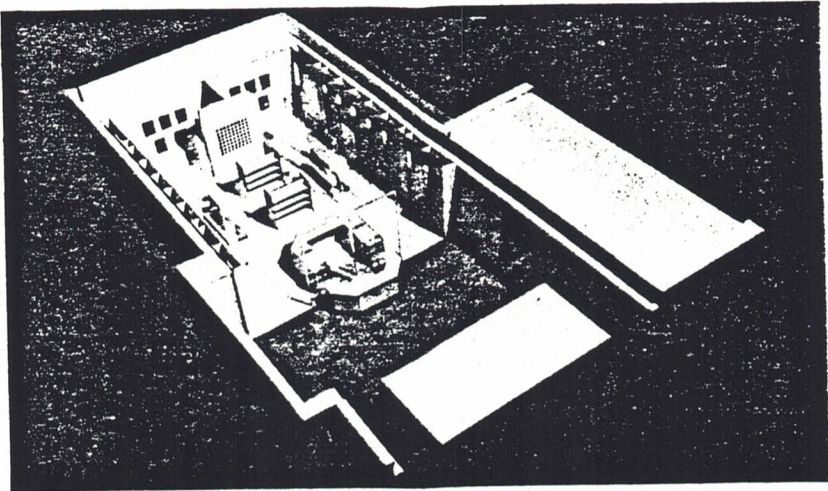
At the east end of the museum building, there is a 6,000 square foot area surrounding a rectangular skylit court that will be variously arranged to accommodate large special exhibits, most of which will be mounted for a 1-3 year period and will relate to Anglo-American decorative arts. Part of this area will be reserved for small, frequently changing shows of topical interest that tie to the Antique Forum, a Learning Weekend program, or special activities in the historic area.

For the museum's opening, Graham Hood and the curators are organizing an important exhibit which discusses and illustrates the interaction of patron and tradesman in the creation of objects in the Colonial Period. By examining ways in which experience, ambition and ability of the users of objects was fused with the tradition, skill and ambition of the producers of them, it is hoped that this exhibit will provide a heightened awareness of the roles of the 18th century consumer and producer thereby enhancing the interpretation of these themes now offered in the Historic Area. Exhibition design for the Wallace Gallery is being handled by Vincent Ciulla Design Associates in collaboration with architect Kevin Roche and his associates.

The reconstruction of the 15,278 square foot Public Hospital and the building of a 61,788 square foot adjacent decorative arts museum as well as the installation of exhibits and provision for visitor services have been made possible by the generous gift of the late Mr. Dewitt Wallace and Lila Acheson Wallace, co-founders of the *Readers Digest*.

COLONIAL
WILLIAMSBURG
NEWS

OCTOBER 1983



Preliminary design model showing museum shop and adjacent ticket desk to be located in a lower level of the Public Hospital near the entrance to the Introductory Gallery leading to the new museum.



A view of the Gallery and Hospital looking east from S. Henry Street in September, 1983. The rectangular openings in the gallery roof will be covered by filtered glass skylights and indicate the location of two interior garden courts. Initially the west end of the gallery building will be treated as a garden enclosed on three sides by a 12' high brick wall.



CW senior curatorial staff meet with design consultant Vincent Ciulla to discuss exhibition layouts for the Wallace Gallery. From left to right are Trix Rumford, project manager, Margaret B. Pritchard, curator of exhibition buildings' maps and prints; Ron Hurst, associate curator of furniture; Liza P. Gusler, associate curator (Carter's Grove); John D. Davis, curator of metals; Linda Baumgarten, curator of textiles; Ciulla; Jay Gaynor, curator of mechanical art; Debra Magid, Ciulla's associate designer; Graham Hood, chief curator; John C. Austin, curator of ceramics and glass.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 11, 1984

File

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES A. BAKER III

FROM: JOHN S. HERRINGTON

SUBJECT: Post-Election Planning

In the event the President is re-elected in November, jobs will be the focus of extraordinary attention here in Washington as well as in the States among campaign activists. I have spent almost two years in the Presidential Personnel Office, as Pen James's Deputy and Helene von Damm's successor, and I have had an opportunity to observe first hand the personnel process. Based on my in-depth knowledge, I am of the opinion that there will be an enormous demand for jobs in the second Reagan term and, concomitantly, a great shortage of positions with which to satisfy this demand. The situation is going to lead to a high degree of frustration and a substantial public relations problem for the President, White House Senior Staff, and Members of Congress. This need not happen provided adequate planning is instituted now. The following is a synopsis of the personnel scenerio I envision during the critical period from November 6, 1984 to June 30, 1985.

WORK LOAD

Resumes and job applicants come from several sources:

1. Senate and House Members
2. Republican National Committee
3. Reagan-Bush Re-elect Committee
4. Republican State Chairmen
5. Republican Finance Chairmen
6. Cabinet Officers
7. White House Staff
8. All other (one of the largest sources)

In addition, there are essentially four kinds of mail that we handle on a daily basis:

1. Congressional recommendations
2. Specific job related inquiries from interested citizens
3. Follow-up correspondence resulting from PPO

activities (i.e. interviews, telephone calls, contact with other White House Offices or personnel in the Departments or Independent Agencies)

4. Job related inquiries from the general public

JOB APPLICANTS

During the Transition Period in 1980 between Election Day and the Inauguration, 38,000 resumes were processed by the personnel transition team. Later, in the early days at the White House, many hundreds of resumes came into Presidential Personnel that were not processed or tracked on the computer by the Transition Team. Judging from the names which existed on the computer at a later date and my personal experience between April and October of 1981, resumes in this category exceeded 40,000.

PPO OPERATION

The highest number of people working in Presidential Personnel during this start-up period was 108, including White House slots, detailees, part-time staff and volunteers. When I arrived in Presidential Personnel in April of 1981 there were more than 80. At that time a personnel reduction of 22 left us with a staff of 60 plus. I personally observed these sixty operate the personnel system for eight months and I can say the operation worked reasonably well; however, a major shortcoming was that there was no method to track candidates on the computer and there was no established process for the orderly handling of resumes and job applicants. In essence, the office was divided into six separate units headed by Associate Directors which were responsible for certain departments and agencies. Individual job applicants were referred to these six largely on a catch-as-catch-can basis to be handled and placed in the various agencies. This effort was in good measure successful because, first, the agencies and departments were very cooperative at the time and, second, the level of frustration of job applicants was so high by this time that any attention to their file was welcomed (numerous newspaper articles at the time made mention of the many boxes of resumes in the halls of the OEOB and of 40,000 resumes supposedly lost by the Presidential Personnel Office, etc.) One of the principal deficiencies of the system was that there was no way to tell at any particular time the status of a given candidate, certainly an integral part of an efficient and manageable personnel system.

COMPUTERS

By all accounts, the computer system which was used in 1981 was inadequate. With the recent change to a more versatile and flexible system which OA is setting up for us, we are prepared to handle a maximum of 200 resume actions per day. This number of actions translates into a year round average which can be adequately handled at all times except for the six critical months following the re-election. Based on discussions with former employees and my personal experience, and as indicated by the substantially increased pressure regarding jobs that I have been getting over the last month or so through telephone calls and mail, I can estimate with some degree of accuracy that PPO will be receiving daily at least 1,000 pieces of incoming resume mail for a three month period, possibly extending to four or five months. It can be surmised that this increased volume will begin immediately following the election, continue through the Inauguration, and not taper off until April or May. Each piece of mail will require a response and at least two thirds will require some sort of follow-up action. Currently, all correspondence which comes to the White House dealing with jobs or candidates is eventually routed to PPO. In addition, any mail going to White House staff recommending certain persons or asking them to intervene in personnel decision-making also wends its way to Personnel. The following is my approximation of the expected mail load:

1.	Congressional directly to PPO	110/day
2.	Congressional to other White House staff and the President	50/day
3.	Specific job related inquiries that should receive consideration	400/day
4.	General job interest (lower priority than #3)	150/day
5.	Recommendations with resumes from various political sources	150/day
6.	Follow-up from various contact points (more information, yes I'm interested, I'm coming to Washington, etc.)	200/day
7.	Intergovernmental inquiries	50/day
8.	General recommendations and referrals (no resumes)	100/day
Total		1200+/day

NOTE: The Congressional mail for January, February and March is expected to be extremely heavy--it could triple in those months. Mail in November and early December is expected to be heaviest in the other categories. Most people working on the Reagan-Bush Campaign will move to the Inaugural Committee for further employment, but come January will be asking PPO for a job.

With the aforementioned in mind, I have, on a confidential basis, reviewed the Presidential Personnel Office structure with three Senior Personnel specialists at OPM, one of whom is in charge of the OPM computers in Macon, Georgia. Each has had extensive experience in the personnel processing area. They have recommended that we establish a resume-reception, mail-processing center as a separate unit within Presidential Personnel utilizing a "batching" process (breaking piles of resumes into working units of 50 separated by states). In consultation with OA, they have recommended that we use our existing computer system with some minor modifications. These modifications are based on the necessity of tracking upwards of 700 personnel actions per day. For example, one of the soft-ware changes is dictated by the need to program a set of general response letters to applicants, which was not done in 1980-81. This new arrangement needs to be instituted for the short-term six month period, preferably on a lease basis. I would, of course, defer to OA on that determination.

CONCLUSIONS

In consideration of the above, I am requesting the following:

1. Authority to increase the PPO staff by 36 members using the category "Other Governmental Personnel". Eighteen of these should be hired by October 22nd in order to allow time for preparation before the critical period. The need for the second eighteen would be later re-evaluated in November or December. The initial eighteen would be assigned as follows:

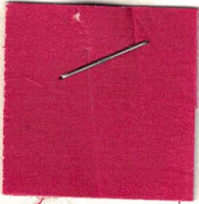
mail clerks	2
computer coders	3
key punch operators	3
runners	2
secretaries	3
resume reviewers	4
computer specialists (full time)	1

18

2. Additional offices on the upper floors of the OEOB to set up the resume reception center. No additional space on the first floor of the OEOB will be required. The additional space must be consolidated at one main location.
3. Authorization for computer modifications ASAP in accordance with the professional OA recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Herrington



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

5/10/84

Free
/ f. L. L. L.

Bill Litzmann:

Further info on FSO spouses.

Bob Kinnitt

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1984

84 MAY 9 10:49

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

Dear Mr. Stockman:

On Thursday, May 3, Representatives Pat Schroeder and Dan Mica introduced H.R. 5598, a bill intended to provide relief, in the form of maintenance grants and more favorable terms for continuation of Government sponsored health insurance, for former spouses of members of the Foreign Service not covered by the provisions of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Tab A). They will hold a joint hearing of the House Civil Service and International Operations Subcommittees on this bill on Tuesday, May 8, at 1:00 p.m. We have been asked to testify at that time. The expedited schedule, we believe, is a result of the impending May 15 deadline for reporting new legislation with budgetary implications.

This bill is an outgrowth of our objections to an earlier relief provision, contained in section 125 of H.R. 5197 which was introduced by Representative Schroeder on March 20, 1984. While H.R. 5598 is not a perfect answer to the very real plight of the former spouses it would aid, and contains certain technical flaws which would need to be corrected, it is in our opinion a substantial improvement, and probably the best compromise available. We therefore seek your concurrence to our presenting the enclosed testimony at the May 9 hearing.

In a meeting on Monday, April 30, Schroeder and Mica subcommittee staff members agreed with us that there was not time to pursue the full version of H.R. 5197 during this session of Congress, and subsequently confirmed that the two subcommittee chairs accepted this conclusion. At the same time, however, they indicated their intent to pursue vigorously legislation which would assist the group of former spouses of members of the Foreign Service previously described. That legislation is proposed in H.R. 5598. In view of many negative provisions in H.R. 5197, this overall outcome was welcomed by us.

The Honorable
David A. Stockman, Director,
Office of Management and Budget.

We think the maintenance provision, contained in section (a) of H.R. 5598, warrants serious consideration. It builds on an existing provision of law, section 523 (c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1977, July 12, 1976 (90 STAT. 847), which provides a flat rate payment to certain widows of members of the Service who retired when they had no realistic opportunity to elect a survivor annuity.

This plan has several advantages over earlier proposals on this subject. (A brief review of past developments is at Tab B.) It follows an existing precedent for spouses who are excluded from normal coverage, and thus does not create a new one for payments, using the standard annuity formulas, from the retirement system. It provides the same payment for all, which seems fairer than one based on the former spouse's salary, since there have been no contributions to the fund. It would also be self-terminating, in that the covered population could not increase, and would eventually disappear, with the death of those who would draw benefits.

The legislation as introduced also contains provisions allowing former spouses to retain eligibility for health insurance at group rates, rather than the current, much higher, individual rates. Under both the current arrangements and those in section (6) of H.R. 5598, all premiums would be paid by the individual, so we think the only additional cost to the Government would be a somewhat higher administrative cost in the case of those not drawing annuities, since direct payment would be required. In addition, we think the large majority of those covered would be drawing either a pro rata annuity under the existing Foreign Service Act provisions, or a maintenance payment under section of this bill, so that this difficulty would not be great.

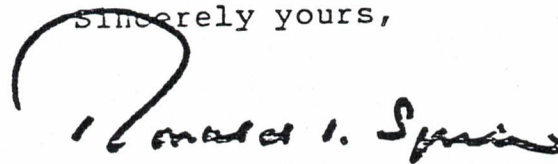
The Treasury Department's actuary has estimated that the total cost of the maintenance annuity provision of H.R. 5598 would be \$20 million. This would be amortized, under existing procedures, over a thirty-year period, resulting in additional cost to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System of approximately \$1.4 million annually. For comparison's sake, the actuary's estimate is that the comparable provision of H.R. 5197 would cost about \$30 million, with an annual amortized cost of about \$2.1 million.

As a final note, acceptance of the proposed bill would put the former spouse issue to rest for the Foreign Service. We have been told that this provision is acceptable to AAFSW, and to the two subcommittees most actively involved in the issue. If we are allowed also to support it, or at least not to oppose it, it would defuse a possible political argument that the Administration was unfeeling about the plight of destitute Foreign Service widows and former spouses, who had spent long periods of time in support of the U.S. Government, through service with their former husbands at posts abroad. Finally, it would preempt a possible effort to attach the original and much more flawed provisions on this subject originally introduced by Representative Schroeder to some other legislation, which we believe might be a possibility.

In view of all these considerations, the Secretary and I very much hope you will find it possible to clear the proposed testimony and suggested technical corrections on H.R. 5598, enclosed at Tab C.

I would be happy to discuss this with you or with your designee.

Sincerely yours,



Ronald I. Spiers

Enclosures

- Tab A - H.R. 5598 and Statements Upon Introduction
- Tab B - Background on Former Spouse Annuity Provisions
- Tab C - Proposed State Department Testimony on H.R. 5598

COMMENTS OF CONGRESSMAN JIM MOODY AT THE FUNERAL OF CHERYL AND JEANNETTA ROBINSON APRIL 9, 1984

HON. JIM MOODY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mr. MOODY. Mr. Speaker, I insert into the Record the following:

COMMENTS OF CONGRESSMAN JIM MOODY AT THE FUNERAL OF CHERYL AND JEANNETTA ROBINSON, APRIL 9, 1984

We are gathered here today to share the sorrow and grief of the Robinson family—one of the most humane, committed and productive families in our community. When any family suffers a loss this heavy, we must all grieve, for we are all reduced.

God has a purpose and a lesson for us in all things. But when death occurs as a result of a senseless act of violence, such as this one, His message is particularly hard to fathom.

One lesson we do learn from the death of Cheryl and Little Miss Jeannetta is what a fragile hold on life we all have, and how brief our stay here on Earth really is. For although the difference in the length of our stay on Earth and that of Cheryl and Little Jeannetta seems very large to us now, it is in fact but a twinkling of the eye compared to the eons of time that have passed before we arrived here and will pass after we leave. For we are judged not by how long we are here, but by what we do while we are here.

The second lesson we learn is how important it is to be always ready, since our own time of death may come at any moment. As the great philosopher and writer William Shakespeare wrote:

"There is divine providence even in the fall of a sparrow.

If it be now, 'tis not to come.
If it is to come, it will not be now.
If it not now, yet it will come.
The readiness is all."

I am sure that Cheryl Robinson and Little Miss Jeannetta were ready. And that they now rest in eternal peace.

Let us all remember the blessings we have, and may we do our best to serve our fellow man and God during our brief time here on Earth, and to be ready when our own time does come. •

FOREIGN SERVICE SPOUSES

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my distinguished colleague from Florida (Mr. Mica) in introducing legislation to provide annuity and health care benefits for divorced Foreign Service spouses.

The Foreign Service Act of 1980 recognized the unpaid service of Foreign Service spouses by providing retirement and survivor benefits for those who become divorced. Because that act only provided benefits for those divorced after the effective date, many deserving former spouses who were divorced before the 1980 act were excluded from its benefits.

There are numerous ex-spouses of divorced Foreign Service spouses who are surviving on the charity of church and family or on Government welfare payments because of inadequate retirement income. We are all familiar with the case of Jane Dubs, the divorced spouse of the late Ambassador to Afghanistan, who was left with no survivor benefits after the tragic assassination of her former husband.

The legislation Representative Mica and I introduce today would provide annuity and health benefits for these former spouses. Since 1965, certain widowed Foreign Service spouses have been eligible for grants of annuity benefits. The dollar amount is small, yet it keeps many of these spouses, most of whom are women, from destitution. This legislation would provide the same amount for divorced Foreign Service spouses who are not eligible for any other annuity. The number of divorced Foreign Service spouses eligible for this benefit is estimated to be less than 200.

We can neither forget the contributions these women have made to the United States nor ignore the poverty which many of them now face.

I am also aware of Foreign Service spouses in the Washington area who suffer from serious health problems, some resulting from inadequate medical care and living conditions abroad. Three are going blind, one from lack of money for a needed operation, two have Hodgkins disease, several have minor children with severe physical or mental disabilities.

The legislation introduced today allows divorced Foreign Service spouses to participate in the Federal employee health benefits program by paying a sum equal to the agency and employee share of the health plan premium. There are virtually no costs to the Government for providing this benefit. •

"NATIONAL TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS WEEK" MAY 6-13, 1984

HON. BRIAN J. DONNELLY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to your attention the first observance of "National Tuberous Sclerosis Week" which will occur the week of May 6-13, 1984.

First discovered over a century ago, it is thought to afflict as many as 1 in every 5,000 births. Its symptoms include mental retardation, epilepsy, developmental delay, and other handicaps. In spite of its frequency, and the severity of the disease, very little meaningful or sustained research has ever been conducted on it.

Fifteen years ago, Raymond and Linda Connors of Rockland, Mass., formed the Tuberous Sclerosis Association of America, Inc. Since then,

the source of the disease, and other families in their position. They have been instrumental in increasing awareness of this disease to the medical community and researchers in this country.

To assist in this worthy effort, last year, I introduced a resolution to designate the week of May 6 as "National Tuberous Sclerosis Week," and am pleased to say that this resolution was signed into law on April 13, 1984. I am hopeful that next week's observance will serve to draw the attention of the public and the medical community to the tragedy of this crippling disease, and the need for sustained research. •

M. SLADE CALTRIDER RETIRES

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 1984, Maryland's State highway administrator, M. Slade Caltrider, will retire after having served the State with honor and distinction for the past 36 years.

Mr. Caltrider's career with the State began in 1948 when he worked as a road inspector for the State Road Commission. Beginning in 1960, and until his appointment as State highway administrator in 1978, Mr. Caltrider worked on and supervised engineering projects in Maryland's Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. As State highway administrator, he directed a staff of 4,100 employees and operated a budget of over \$500 million.

Those of us fortunate enough to have worked with Slade know him as an inexhaustible source of knowledge and expertise concerning the State's 5,200 miles of highways as well as countless urban and country roads. Mr. Caltrider and his staff have readily shared their considerable technical judgment and advice with me and my staff on many Federal road projects including such major thoroughfares as the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

Mr. Caltrider is a man held in high esteem by his colleagues. He holds the honor of having received the first certificate of recognition for outstanding and exemplary leadership in the field of equal employment opportunity ever awarded by the Maryland State Highway Administration in 1974. In addition, Mr. Caltrider is a member of several professional organizations including the National Society of Professional Engineers, the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers, and the Maryland Association of Engineers.

He is the epitome of a dedicated professional, and his leadership and technical skill in his field have been an invaluable part of the effectiveness of the Maryland Highway Administration.

to be a gene inserted
said. Rohm & Haas Co.
ported the research, will
begin tests toward mar-
as a spray insecticide and
it into seeds.

ationize all insect control.
lab. "Maybe more impor-
vania: there would be a
try. I call it 'recombinant'
ause you recombine 'this'
nt."
ne insect gut and not on the
ystem, as do most conven-
es. Because the insect gut
y than the human digestive
kills insects but is not harm-

ne was put in an ear of corn.
Harvey said, "then every
ave BT insecticide in it. If
ate it, that would be the end
s of dollars and cents, the
d worldwide is billions of dol-

ss turned to Harvey, who has
biology from Harvard Univer-
he had done pioneering work
gut in the 1960s in Denmark
ved the way for later research

Haas has a number of options
products," said Ronald Meeusen,
siologist who heads Rohm &
ture biology research at a 160-
in Spring House, Montgomery

y. Meeusen said, "what we
o do is produce crops which are
sceptible to various insect pests.
d be able to sell farmers crops
d have dramatically lowered re-
or insecticide. That would have
tal advantages, as well as cost

genetic engineering, Harvey
come up with a BT gene that
all agricultural pests, including
orer, the tobacco horn worm and
the tomato horn worm, often
dens.

ners at about 10 chemical compa-
s the country are searching for a
al BT, but Harvey said his team
the first people, I think, to have
peptides."

a month away from getting ones
20 times as powerful," Harvey said.
er people are trying to do it, too.
does it first is going to create a
ew industry. So the stakes are very

y estimated that researchers were
rs away from having a more potent
BT that could be sprayed directly
"We're about 10 years away from
the thing in plants," he said.

while, the gypsy moths will consume
s of acres of foliage from late spring
end of June. In the last three years,
moths destroyed 28 million acres of

and in the Northeast. "states
y moths have plagued since 1869, when
out the Northeast tried to develop a strain of
schman trying to develop a strain of
ought them to this country. Defolia-
as been on a downward cycle this year
in New England, eastern Pennsylvania,
ew Jersey and eastern New York.

the predators are advancing south,
defoliation is expected to increase in
nia, West Virginia, Maryland and south
ern Pennsylvania, said Win McLane,
icidesection leader at a U.S. Department
griculture center in Massachusetts.
out 43,000 acres in New Jersey will be
yed this year under a state-funded

moth-control program. Pennsylvania's \$3.6
million spraying program will treat parts of
30 counties this year.

"At the moment," Harvey said, "there is
no overall national program to control
gypsy moths. It's left up to individual state
and local governments. Once DDT was
banned, the federal government didn't have
any really effective weapon against the
gypsy moth."

This summer the Agriculture Department
will test some higher-potency strains of BT
on 800 acres near Lock Haven in northcen-
tral Pennsylvania, according to James Nich-
ols, chief of the Pennsylvania Department
of Forestry's pest-management division.

But the BT tested by the Agriculture De-
partment is only five to 10 times more
potent than the present BT.

In Brownsville, Texas, where the depart-
ment has based some of its BT research,
Howard T. Dulmage, an Agriculture Depart-
ment scientist, said that he was familiar
with Harvey's research and called Harvey "a
very good scientist."

"Somebody is going to come along with
something, and it might be Bill Harvey," he
said.

The Temple projects has received about
\$300,000 in financing each of the last two
years, Harvey said, "divided pretty equally"
among Rohm & Haas, Temple, the state,
through the Ben Franklin Partnership, and
the National Institutes of Health.

In another BT research project, Harvey is
using similar techniques to come up with a
strain of another variety of BT that kills
mosquitoes, which carry encephalitis and
malaria.

Through genetic engineering, Harvey is
working to implant a BT gene into algae. If
the work is a success, larvae would be killed
immediately after eating the genetically al-
tered algae. "You would have to introduce it
only once," Harvey said, and each new gen-
eration of the algae would carry the mosqui-
to-killing agent.

The goal is to curb malaria, one of the
world's leading causes of death, especially in
Third World countries.

The World Health Organization in
Geneva, Switzerland, is "very interested in
this approach," said Harvey, who talked
with the organization about putting BT
genes into algae.

"Imagine," Harvey said, "being the one
who rids an area of the world of malaria. It
would be exciting, wouldn't it?"

FORMER-SPOUSES OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS

HON. DAN MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I am
pleased to introduce legislation today
with the gentlelady from Colorado to
offer much needed relief to former
spouses of Foreign Service officers
who have been shut out from any pen-
sion after years of faithful service
abroad for the U.S. Government.
These women have suffered financial
years without any recognition for their
ice. Our bill finally addresses the
needs of these former spouses who
were not covered by the 1980 act, and I
am proud to do my part to see that
the Government at last does right by

THE EDUCATION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN AND YOUTH IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1984

HON. AUSTIN J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 1984

• Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, today I
am pleased to introduce along with my
colleagues the Education for Gifted
and Talented Children and Youth Im-
provement Act of 1984. This legisla-
tion is designed to assist States to mo-
bilize public and private resources and
talent to develop, expand, and improve
educational opportunities for gifted
and talented students, support re-
search, evaluate programs, and pro-
vide information and technical assist-
ance. This measure is, in part, a re-
sponse to the National Commission on
Excellence in Education's report, "A
Nation at Risk: The Imperative for
Educational Reform." The Commis-
sion states,

The Federal Government, in cooperation
with States and localities, should meet the
needs of key groups of students such as
gifted and talented, the socioeconomically
disadvantaged, minority and language mi-
nority students, and the handicapped. In
combination, these groups include both na-
tional resources and the Nation's youth
most at risk.

The Federal Government plays a
critical role in meeting the educational
needs of every group of at risk stu-
dents except our gifted and talented
children and youth.

While the Congress has, over the
past several decades, developed, re-
fined, and maintained discrete Federal
roles for the various students with
unique learning needs identified in the
Commission's report, there is at
present no Federal leadership directed
at improving educational opportuni-
ties for gifted and talented children
and youth. The very modest program
proposed in this legislation is designed
to fill that gap. The National Commis-
sion on Excellence in Education calls
upon our Federal Government in coop-
eration with our State and local gov-
ernment, private enterprise, and our
American citizens to share the respon-
sibility for improving education.

During the 1960's, education policy
and resource attention was focused on
the needs of other special populations,
and programs for gifted and talented
students declined dramatically. In
1969, through the leadership of Sena-
tor Jacob Javits of New York, and my
colleague, Congressman ERLBORN of
Illinois, the Gifted and Talented Chil-
dren's Education Assistance Act (sec-
tion 806 of Public Law 91-230) was
passed. This act established gifted and
talented youth as a Federal concern,
gave them priority in several Federal

98th CONGRESS
2d Session

H. R. 5598

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. Schroeder introduced the following bill; which was referred
to the Committee on -----

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to provide essential
benefits to certain former spouses not eligible for any
benefits under that Act, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

1 That (a) chapter I of title II of the Foreign Service Act of
2 1980 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following
3 new section:

4 "Sec. 2110. Benefits for Certain Other Former Spouses.--

5 (a) Any individual who was a former spouse of a participant
6 or former participant in the Foreign Service Retirement and
7 Disability System on February 15, 1981, and for whom no
8 election is made (whether before, on, or after the date of
9 the enactment of this section) by such participant or former
10 participant under section 2109 of this Act, is entitled to
11 an annuity, payable from the Fund, equal to the amount of
12 the annuity then currently payable to an individual under
13 section 523(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act,
14 Fiscal Year 1977 (90 Stat. 847).

15 "(b) A former spouse shall not be qualified for an
16 annuity under this section if, before such annuity
17 commences, such former spouse remarries before becoming 60
18 years of age.

19 "(c)(1) An annuity payable to a former spouse under
20 this section--

21 "(A) shall commence--

22 "(i) in the case of a former spouse of a
23 participant or former participant who is deceased or
24 who has retired under the Foreign Service Retirement
25 and Disability System as of the date of the

enactment of this section, beginning on the 120th day after such date; and

“(11) in the case of any other former spouse, beginning on the later of--

“(I) the date that such participant or former participant dies or so retires, whichever occurs first; or

“(II) the 120th day after the date of the enactment of this section; and

“(B) shall terminate on the last day of the month before the former spouse's death or remarriage before attaining age 60.

“(2) If a former spouse is not entitled to an annuity under this section because of remarriage, or if an annuity under this section is terminated because of remarriage, such annuity shall commence or be restored (as the case may be) commencing on the date such remarriage is terminated.

“(3) A former spouse to whom a lump-sum payment has been paid under section 815 of this Act shall not be entitled to an annuity under this section unless the former spouse returns such payment to the Fund.

“(4) An annuity under this subsection--

“(A) shall not be payable unless appropriate written application is provided to the Secretary of State, complete with any supporting documentation which

1 the Secretary may by regulation require; and

2 "(B) shall not be payable with respect to any
3 period commencing before such application is so
4 provided.

5 "(d) The Secretary of State shall--

6 "(1) as soon as possible, but not later than 120
7 days after the date of the enactment of this section,
8 prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry
9 out this section; and

10 "(2) to the maximum extent practicable, and as soon
11 as possible, inform each individual who was a former
12 spouse on February 15, 1981, of any rights which such
13 individual may have under this section.

14 "(e) For purposes of this section the terms 'Fund',
15 'participant', and 'former spouse', each has the meaning
16 given such term under sections 802, 803, and 804 of this
17 Act, respectively."

18 (d) The table of contents for the Foreign Service Act of
19 1980 is amended by adding after the item relating to section
20 2109 the following new item:

"Sec. 2110. Benefits for certain other former spouses."

21 Sec. 2. (a) Section 904 of the Foreign Service Act of
22 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4084) is amended in the second sentence of
23 subsection (d) by striking out "may be waived" and
24 inserting in lieu thereof "shall be waived".

1 (b) Such section is further amended--

2 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection

3 (g); and

4 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following
5 new subsection (f):

6 "(f)(1)(A) Except as provided in paragraph (3)(A), any
7 individual--

8 "(i) married to a member or former member of the
9 Service, whose marriage is dissolved by divorce or
10 annulment;

11 "(ii) who, immediately before the divorce or
12 annulment becomes final, is covered under a health
13 benefits plan as a member of the family of such member
14 or former member; and

15 "(iii) who, after the divorce or annulment becomes
16 final, qualifies under section 804(6) of this Act as a
17 former spouse of such member or former member,
18 is eligible for coverage under a health benefits plan in
19 accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

20 "(B) An individual described in subparagraph (A)
21 (hereinafter in this subsection referred to as a "former
22 spouse") may enroll in the plan referred to in clause (ii)
23 of such subparagraph (for self alone or for self and family,
24 as the individual may under this subparagraph elect) if,
25 before the expiration of the 31-day period beginning on the

1 date the divorce or annulment becomes final, and in
2 accordance with such procedures as the Director of the
3 office of Personnel Management shall by regulation
4 prescribe, the former spouse--

5 “(1) files an election for such enrollment; and

6 “(11) arranges to pay currently into the Employees
7 Health Benefits Fund (under section 8909 of title 5,
8 United States Code) an amount equal to the sum of the
9 employee and agency contributions payable in the case of
10 an employee enrolled under such chapter in the same
11 health benefits plan and level of benefits.

12 “(C) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management
13 shall, by regulation, establish procedures designed to
14 provide timely notice to all members and former members of
15 the Service enrolled in a health benefits plan of the right
16 of election under this paragraph.

17 “(D) The Director may waive the 31-day limitation set
18 forth in subparagraph (B) in any case in which the Director
19 determines that the circumstances so warrant.

20 “(2)(A) Except as provided in paragraph (3)(A), any
21 individual who becomes a former spouse on or before the date
22 of enactment of this subsection may enroll in a health
23 benefits plan for self alone or for self and family if,
24 before the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on
25 such date of enactment, and in accordance with such

1 procedures as the Director of the Office of Personnel
2 Management shall by regulation prescribe, such individual--

3 “(1) files an election for such enrollment; and

4 “(11) arranges to make payments as described in
5 paragraph (1)(B)(11).

6 “(B) The Secretary of State shall, as soon as possible,
7 take all steps practicable--

8 “(1) to determine the identity and current address
9 of each former spouse to whom subparagraph (A) applies;
10 and

11 “(11) to notify each such former spouse of that
12 individual's rights under this subsection, which
13 notification shall be by mail, notice in newspapers of
14 general circulation, or such other method or combination
15 of methods as the Secretary of State considers
16 appropriate.

17 “(C) The Director, upon notification by the Secretary,
18 shall waive the 6-month limitation set forth in such
19 subparagraph in any case in which the Secretary determines
20 that the circumstances so warrant.

21 “(3)(A) Any former spouse who remarries before age 60
22 is not eligible to make an election under paragraph (1) or
23 (2). ’

24 “(B) Any former spouse enrolled in a health benefits
25 plan pursuant to an election under paragraph (1) or (2) may

1 continue the enrollment under the conditions of eligibility
2 which the Director of the Office of Personnel Management
3 shall by regulation prescribe, except that any former spouse
4 who remarries before age 60 shall not be eligible for
5 continued enrollment under this subsection after the end of
6 the 31-day period beginning on the date of remarriage.

7 “(4) Nothing in this subsection allows any individual
8 to be covered under more than one enrollment under chapter
9 89 of title 5, United States Code.

10 “(5) For purposes of this subsection--

11 “(A) the term ‘member of the Service’ does not
12 include an individual described in paragraph (6) or (7)
13 of section 103 of this Act; and

14 “(B) the term ‘health benefits plan’ means an
15 approved health benefits plan under chapter 89 of title
16 5, United States Code.”.

Background on Former Spouse Annuity Provisions

During the conference on the Foreign Service Act in 1980, and after a protracted and sometimes heated dispute, a compromise was reached which allowed a pro rata share of retirement benefits and survivor annuities to be paid to qualifying former spouses of participants in the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System. A qualifying spouse was defined as one married to a member of the Foreign Service for at least 10 years of the time the latter was in Government service, and who had been divorced from the member after the effective date of the Foreign Service Act (February 15, 1981). The pro rata formula means that, if for example, the member's career was 30 years, and the marriage lasted 15 of those years, the former spouse will receive one-half of the normal annuity and survivor benefits. This is paid for by reducing the member's or his/her current spouse's annuity/survivor benefit by the same amount. Representative Ford, the primary opponent of these arrangements, refused to allow them to apply to former spouses divorced before February 15, 1981, on grounds that to reduce a member's annuity or his second spouse's survivor annuity, after the financial arrangements attending the divorce had been reached, and perhaps after retirement or death of the member would be unfair and would create hardship.

The result of this compromise, however, was to leave a number of former spouses (the current estimate, from an Association of American Foreign Service Women (AAFSW) survey, is 150) without the same benefits they would have had, if the divorce had occurred later. Because many of these individuals are in serious financial straits, AAFSW and their subgroup, Women in Transition, have been working ever since 1981 to provide some coverage for this group.

Last December, they produced draft legislation, which Representative Schroeder subsequently incorporated in her version of proposed amendments to the Foreign Service Act (H.R. 5197). This version would have provided the same pro rata benefit for those divorced before February 15, 1981, as for those divorced after that date who are currently covered, but avoided one element of difficulty cited by Representative Ford by providing that this benefit would be paid for directly from the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund, without reducing the member's or former member's pension rights. We, however, had concerns that this formula, with payment in the form of a regular annuity from the FSRDS for which no contributions had been made, would create an unfortunate precedent. It would also have raised a question of equity,

since the annuity for current spouses of those divorced prior to February 15, 1981 would not be reduced to provide something for former spouses, but the annuity of those current spouses married to a member of the Service divorced from a prior spouse after February 15, 1981 would be reduced. The concerns were conveyed informally to Representative Schroeder's staff and to Association of American Foreign Service Women (AAFSW) which had worked closely with Representative Schroeder's staff in preparation of the original proposal.

Statement of Ambassador Alfred L. Atherton, Jr.
Director General of the Foreign Service
and Director of Personnel

before a Joint Hearing of the Subcommittees
of the Foreign Affairs Committee
and the Post Office and Civil Service Committee
of the House of Representatives

on H.R. 5598, a Bill to Provide Relief
to Certain Former Spouses

Tuesday, May 8, 1984

Madame Chair/Mr. Chairman:

It is a pleasure to be here this morning to testify in support of H.R. 5598, a bill to help a small group of former spouses of members of the Foreign Service, many of whom are in desperate circumstances. I would like to say right at the beginning that it seems to me the very fact we are all gathered here this morning says something good about this Government. It says that the Government of the United States of America has a heart and that it's heart is in the right place. I am glad to be a part of such a Government.

The first section of this bill would provide modest relief to those former spouses of current and former members of the Foreign Service who were divorced before February 15, 1981, the effective date of the Foreign Service Act of 1980. That Act, as you well know, Madame Chair/Mr. Chairman, contained landmark provisions protecting the annuity rights of persons divorced

from members of the Foreign Service after at least ten years of marriage. These provisions were made prospective because of the difficulty of redirecting payments that were already being made to others. However, it was the plight of those already divorced at the time the 1980 Act was being developed that dramatized the need for this type of protection, yet they were left out. Today they are four years older and their circumstances can only have deteriorated.

We think the circumstances surrounding this group of generally older former spouses is very similar to a group of 49 widows of Foreign Service officers who retired prior to October 16, 1960. Up until that date, contrary to legal provisions then applying to members of the Civil Service, those in the Foreign Service could not elect a survivor annuity at retirement without accepting a prohibitive reduction in their own annuities. At a minimum, the reduction was fifty percent of the survivor annuity they chose to leave. As a result, very few members of the Foreign Service were able to elect a survivor annuity. Consequently, they died leaving their widows, in numerous cases, in rather desperate straits. The Government had its heart in the right place in those days also. On four occasions --1956, 1960, 1965 and 1976-- bills were enacted to provide annuity grants to these widows. Originally \$1200 per year was provided. This was raised to \$2400 in 1960, and in 1976 annuity grants were made eligible for cost of living adjustments. Today, the 49 surviving widows in this group receive annuities of \$616 per month.

This bill, Madame Chair/Mr. Chairman, would grant identical annuities to a group of approximately 150 former spouses who are not entitled to any Foreign Service benefits nor, with very few exceptions, to any Social Security benefits based on their ex-husband's employment.

The justification for granting annuities to this group of former spouses is the same as the justification for enactment of the provisions of the 1980 Act mandating fair treatment for persons who have become divorced since the effective date of that Act. This group of 150 former spouses has served abroad in the Foreign Service community on the average of 12 years. They were faced with legal, cultural and linguistic barriers to paid employment abroad. Their frequent moves made employment in the United States difficult. Consequently, at the time of divorce many of these former spouses were left with no employment record, few marketable skills, no Social Security protection, no health insurance and no pension benefits from their ex-spouses. Reentering the work force in mid-life with age and skill level handicaps places them in low income jobs with little chance for advancement and relatively few years left to work. This situation clearly denies many in this group the capability of accruing enough funds not only to provide for their daily existence, but also adequate subsistence in their old age.

The first section of this bill would provide much needed relief to this group of former spouses. We do, however, believe strongly that two changes should be made. The bill would grant annuities to former spouses of members who die after resigning from the Service without entitlement to leave a survivor annuity. This is more generous than treatment accorded to spouses or former spouses under the 1980 Act or to the widow-grantees under the 1976 Act. We should limit annuity grants under this bill so that it is consistent with existing legislation in this respect.

Secondly, the 1980 Act requires that both spouses and former spouses who may be eligible for survivor benefits under the Foreign Service, Civil Service or other retirement system for Government employees elect to receive only one benefit. In other words, in order for a former spouse to receive benefits under the 1980 Act, she must elect, pursuant to Section 806(h), to receive it in lieu of any other benefit to which she may be entitled under the Foreign Service or other retirement system for Federal employees. We should include a similar provision in this bill. I have included revised language to effect these two changes in the attachment to my statement which I submit for the record.

Section 2 of the bill would provide health insurance protection to both the existing group of former spouses and to those who qualify as former spouses in the future -- married at least ten years to a member of the Foreign Service during the latter's Government career.

At the present time a person divorced from a member of the Service has 31 days from the date of divorce to enroll in a health insurance plan at individual as distinguished from group rates. The individual plan may or may not have benefits equivalent to the Government plan.

This bill would permit former spouses to elect within 31 days of divorce to remain under the Government health insurance plan in which enrolled at the time of divorce. It would also permit those divorced on or before the date of enactment to elect within six months of such date to enroll in a Government health insurance plan. The bill would require former spouses to pay both the employee and Government share of the premium. These premium rates are set by the Office of Personnel Management in accordance with law at levels sufficient to pay the full cost, including administrative costs, of the program. Accordingly, there should be very little additional cost to the taxpayer from the enactment of this provision.

We believe the health insurance provisions in this bill should be coordinated with, and remain consistent with, provisions governing the Government-wide program in such areas, for example, as coverage of newly-acquired spouses and participation in open seasons. To facilitate this, you may wish to consider amending Chapter 89 of Title 5 of the United States Code rather than the Foreign Service Act to include the provisions affecting former spouses.

The bill before you today would financially compensate this small group of former spouses for their dedication and service to their country. Health benefits would directly relieve many individuals faced with soaring health costs at a time when their physical condition is deteriorating. The Department supports this proposal to improve the circumstances of this group of former spouses, many of whom are in serious need.

My colleagues and I would be happy to answer any questions the subcommittee may have.

Thank you very much.

(Attention to
Alton Keel, OMB,
5/7/84)

Talking Points on H.R. 5598

The Administration should support section 1 of the Schroeder/Mica bill to provide annuity grants to former spouses left out of the 1980 Foreign Service Act, a small closed group.

1. Many in the group are in financial need --
 - o They are old, disabled, have little work experience.
 - o They are cut-off from Government pensions and few have Social Security protection.
2. Few in this older group have obtained generous or even fair divorce settlements, as witness their economic plight. (This was one of Schroeder's main arguments in securing passage of the 1980 Act.)
3. Former spouses of members of the Foreign Service faced disadvantages not faced by others --
 - o They faced cultural, legal and linguistic barriers to their own paid employment.
 - o Subjected to riots, bombings, diseases.
 - o Required, prior to 1972, to perform representational tasks for the United States.
4. This bill is designed to help a small group of needy women whom society has cast aside. If we can't support this bill, Schroeder and others are sure to trumpet the Administration's unfeeling, hardhearted attitude.
5. If we can support the annuity-grant section of this bill, we are fairly certain Schroeder will agree to drop the second section dealing with health insurance, which gives OPM serious problems.