

Saving America's Treasures

Since 1999, nearly \$125 million has been invested in the preservation and conservation of nationally historic structures, sites, and collections through Federal Save America's Treasures Grants.

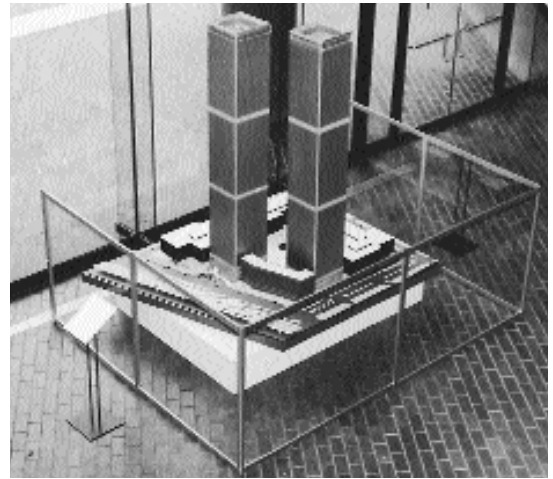
These grants have been used to help preserve Thomas Jefferson papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society, Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin in Spring Green, WI, the ancient cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, and the Star Spangled Banner at the Smithsonian Institution.

The National Park Service administers the grants in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. A total of 380 grants have been awarded to State, local and tribal governments, non-profit institutions, and Federal agencies for projects in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Midway Islands.

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All photos from
Save America's
Treasure's grant
applications.*



Rosa Parks Bus, Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, Dearborn, MI. On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks' quiet, courageous act of dignified defiance took place on this Montgomery, AL, bus. Her action was the catalyst for the Montgomery bus boycott and the modern Civil Rights Movement. Sold for salvage, used for storage and heavily vandalized, the bus was nearly lost until it reappeared for rescue on an Internet auction site. The museum will use its grant to restore the bus to its 1955 appearance for exhibit and interpretation.



World Trade Center Model, Octagon Museum/American Architectural Foundation Collection, Washington, DC. This 7-foot-tall model illustrates the first six buildings of New York's World Trade Center. The presentation model was fabricated in the model shop of Minoru Yamasaki Associates, the center's architect, to show the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the owners, what their complex would look like upon completion. The 1969 model has been damaged over time; the grant will support restoring a small scale version of this now-lost icon of the New York City skyline.

The grants are awarded competitively and require a dollar-for-dollar non-Federal match. That challenge has been met through the commitment of hundreds of partners — States, communities, corporations, foundations, and individuals — who have offered their time, their money, and their support. Organizations such as the National Park Foundation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have raised funds to match multiple grants.

The grants are a key component of the overall Save America's Treasures program launched by the White House Millennium Council, the National Trust, and the National Park Service in 1998 to focus public attention on the importance of this national heritage and the need to save the Nation's treasures at risk. More information about the grants can be found on the National Park Service Web site at <www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures/>. In addition, information about future grant cycles is available in a recorded message by calling 202-513-7270, press 6, or by sending an e-mail to NPS_treasures@nps.gov.

The 2002 grants to 79 recipients were announced this fall and include the projects shown here.

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St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury, VT. Horace Fairbanks, manufacturer of the world's first platform scale, built the Athenaeum as a gift to the people of St. Johnsbury in 1871. The building and its furnishings, art, and rare books remain intact. The grant will be used to upgrade the mechanical and electrical systems that threaten the continued active use of this National Historic Landmark and the preservation of the Athenaeum.



Mimbres Pottery Collection, Minneapolis, MN. The Mimbres people virtually vanished from the archeological record circa A.D. 1150. The foundations of their houses and their pottery are the only evidence of their world. The subjects of these remarkable black-on-white bowls include animals, mythical creatures, and abstractions of mountains, clouds, and plants. The grant will support their conservation.



Memorial Hall, Phoenix Indian School, Phoenix, AZ. As the only non-reservation Bureau of Indian Affairs school in Arizona and one of the largest Indian Schools in the country, the Phoenix Indian School played an instrumental role in the emergence and maturation of the Federal Government's policies toward the education of Native Americans in the 20th century. The Mission-Revival style Memorial Hall is the centerpiece of the school. Funds will assist in the restoration of the building.



Utica State Hospital, Utica, NY. Opened in 1843, this National Historic Landmark is one of the Nation's premier Greek Revival structures and is also notable as one of the first state insane asylums for the poor. Asylum doctors published the first periodical for psychiatric professionals and pioneered the treatment of the mentally ill through useful activities. Vacant since 1978, the grant will support restoration of the first floor and mechanical systems so that community groups can use the building.