

Executive Order 13287, Section 3, Report to ACHP & the Secretary of the Interior

Section 3, Treasury Department Progress Report, 2014

- 1. Building upon previous Section 3 reports, please explain how many historic properties have been identified and elevated by your agency in the past three years? Has your inventory improved?*

The Department of Treasury has not added any historic properties to its inventory in the last three years and the inventory has not changed. The inventory consists of the Treasury building, a National Historic Landmark, the Treasury Annex, the San Francisco Mint and the Denver Mint.

- 2. Describe your agency policies that promote and/or influence the identification and evaluation of historic properties.*

Treasury claims title to only a small number of properties and leases its additional office space through the General Services Administration (GSA).

In 2014, the Department launched a mobile web site/app that provides the public with historical information about Treasury history. The mobile web site will be advertised by signage in the front of the building, targeting the large tourist population that comes to visit the White House complex. The Curator's Office also contributes regularly to a Flickr account, posting images of the Treasury building and its collections. In addition, the office regularly offers "blogs" on the collection and building on the Treasury web site.

Figure 1. Signage, Treasury Mobile App

- 3. How has your agency established goals for the identification and evaluation of historic properties including whether they have been met?*

The inventory of Treasury owned buildings is static. While identification is not typically an issue unless new properties have been delegated or acquired, continuing to evaluate the conditions and alterations of historic properties in use is a priority goal.

The Office of the Curator in the Office of Treasury Operations, Assistant Secretary for Management, is the Treasury-wide Federal Preservation Officer who directly oversees the stewardship of the Main Treasury building (NHL) and the Treasury Annex (contributing building in the Lafayette Square National Historic Landmark District). The Curator as the HPO assists with Section 106 review with the Mint.

- 4. Describe any internal reporting requirements your agency may have for the identification and evaluation of historic properties, including collections (museum and archaeological).*

Through Treasury Directive 75-01, “Department of the Treasury Historic Preservation Program,” the Curator’s Office provides a framework for the management and internal reporting of historic properties, archives and collections for all of Treasury. Within the overall reporting requirements, each bureau is encouraged to utilize the type of information recording system that works best for their specific needs.

For example, the Office of the Curator manages the Main Treasury and Annex collection of historic artifacts, i.e., artwork, decorative arts, and architectural fragments through a *Gallery Systems* software database. The movement of artifacts is recorded in the database and an annual inventory is conducted of the Collection to track location and condition of all collection objects.

With regards to historic architecture, the reporting structure is more formalized across the Department using the external Section 106 and Federal preservation guidelines established by the ACHP and NPS for internal reporting requirements.

- 5. Explain how your agency has employed the use of partnerships to assist in the identification and evaluation of historic properties.*

As indicated previously, our inventory is typically static and the identification of historic properties is not an issue.

Partnerships for evaluating the condition, repair, restoration and preservation of existing historic properties are a combination of internal partnering and shared resources between bureaus, private sector partnering with architecture and preservation consultants and external agency consultation and review by the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office, National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts.

- 6. Provide specific examples of major challenges, successes, and or opportunities your agency has experienced in identifying historic properties over the past three years.*

Treasury has had no initiatives regarding identifying historic properties because the properties inventory has remained unchanged in the last three years.

- 7. Explain how your agency has protected historic properties.*

The Treasury Department has judiciously followed the guidelines of the Secretary of the Interiors Standards in work performed on its historic properties. Also, the Department continued over the past three years to follow Section 106 guidelines on all major restoration projects to the Treasury building and Annex.

- 8. Describe the programs and procedures your agency has established to ensure the protection of historic properties, including compliance with Sections 106, 110 and 11 of NHPA.*

The Treasury building is a National Historic Landmark and any major building project that may affect its integrity is subject to Section 106 process which includes a review by the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office, the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts. The last project that was reviewed in compliance with the Section 106 process was the restoration of the building's North Plaza paving stones.

The Treasury Annex, the Denver and San Francisco mints have not had any projects reviewed for Section 106 in the last three years.

9. Describe your agency policies that promote and/or influence the protection of historic properties.

The Treasury Department has formalized an internal preservation policy through Directive 75-01, "Department of the Treasury Historic Preservation Program," which is consistent with the NHPA, DOI standards and the guidelines of the ACHP.

10. Explain how your agency has employed the use of partnerships to assist in the protection of historic properties.

The Treasury Department views protection not just as a preventative enforcement action but as a cycle of continuously engaging our historic properties in ongoing preservation. Treasury has fostered an exchange of "best practices" between the bureaus and under a wider umbrella has hosted meetings of the Federal Building Curator's group to demonstrate and get feedback on preservation projects in the main Treasury building. Within the last three years, specific Treasury building projects have included the restoration of the West Stair balustrade, decorative corridor painting and the restoration/repair of the North Plaza, the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance.

Figure 2, 3, 4. West Stair Balustrade Restoration: Before, After and Detail

11. Provide specific examples of major challenges, successes, and/or opportunities your agency has encountered in protecting historic properties over the past three years.

The major challenge facing the historic properties within the Treasury Department is their continued use as functioning office and factory buildings encompassing a diverse spectrum of activities from formulating economic policy to the production, storage and distribution of coins.

While Treasury's historic properties still serve the same functional needs as when they were first built, the production machinery, equipment, utilities and safety requirements have changed over time. The Department has successfully mitigated these changes to accommodate modern requirements while protecting the unique character of our historic properties.

12. Explain how your agency has used historic properties.

The Treasury Department uses all of its historic properties in the ways that they were originally intended to be used, as office buildings and as mints. The Treasury building, a National Historic

Landmark, is used as the headquarters of the Treasury Department and houses the Office of the Secretary, executive policy and administrative offices. The Annex building, constructed as an expansion of the main building in World War I to administrate the funding of the war, continues to be used as office space. The San Francisco and Denver mints continue to produce coins.

13. Explain the overall condition of the historic properties within your agency's control.

The Treasury building, a National Historic Landmark, has been a model for other preservation efforts of significant historic federal buildings in Washington. The building was recently been restored modernized (completed in 2007, winner of ACHP 2008 Chairman's Award) and individual restoration projects have continued in the building since the Curator's Office was created in 1985.

The Treasury Annex has undergone a window replacement and restoration project, the subject of Section 106 review. The Mint buildings have sustained no significant building projects within the last three years.

14. Describe your agency policies that promote and /or influence the use of its historic properties.

Due to the on-going use of Treasury buildings that are historic properties, there hasn't been an occurrence whereby the Treasury Department has divested a building from our inventory or where a function has dramatically changed that would mandate an alternative use. Our efforts focus on maintaining the historic integrity of the buildings whenever there is a modernization.

Since the late 1980s, the Treasury building has maintained a public tour program so that public may visit the historic Treasury building. The tour program, like the White House, is a Congressional tour program with tour reservations made through Congressional offices. The tours highlight the significance of the Treasury Department in American history as well as the ongoing care and restoration of the Treasury building. The tour program at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing building is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Washington, DC. Special tours at some of the Mint buildings are also available.

15. Explain how your agency has used Section 111 in the protection of historic properties.

The Treasury Department has not used Section 111 for its historic properties. The properties are used solely by the Treasury Department.

16. Explain how your agency has employed the use of partnerships to assist in the use of historic properties.

The Treasury Department has partnered with two "friends" groups, the now defunct, Committee for the Preservation of the Treasury Building, and the Treasury Historical Association, in the restoration of the Treasury building and the conservation and acquisition of Treasury collection objects. The partnerships have produced significant restoration activity in the Treasury building

that has continued to maintain the appearance of the building as a premiere federal agency office building in Washington, DC.

The Treasury Historical Association continues to support the Treasury building restoration and is currently involved in a capital campaign effort to fund even more projects. The Association has also established an endowment for the maintenance of the historic spaces that they helped restore in the past.

17. Provide specific examples of major challenges, successes, and/or opportunities your agency has encountered in using historic properties over the past three years.

As noted in previous answers, the Treasury Department has a modest sized inventory of historic properties whose use has been adapted over the years, yet essentially serves the same purpose for which the buildings were designed. Absent more dramatic challenges to convert historic properties to new uses, most efforts of the Department fall into the category of maintaining and gradually adapting buildings for modern production and office needs.

What can become difficult is that historic features that are more decorative in nature can be difficult to get funded, particularly in an economic downturn. In the case of the recent repair and restoration project at the Main Treasury building that was completed in 2007, discoveries during construction created a preservation “to do” list that was longer after the project than it was before the project began.

The Treasury Historical Association partnership has provided funding to allow Treasury to restore significant architectural features such as the West Stair balustrade which complements the funding that the group donated for the restoration of the West Dome, located immediately over that stair. The group has also partnered with the Department in funding the conservation of objects in the Treasury Collection.

18. Describe your agency’s sustainability goals and climate adaptation planning and how stewardship of historic properties is being addressed.

In November 2011, the Treasury building received gold certification from the US Green Building Council, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), under the Existing Building (EB) version 2.0 guidelines. This award celebrates the Department’s continual effort to not only preserve and restore the Treasury building as a National Historic Landmark but also insure that the building is a model for environmental sustainability.

In compliance with EO 13514, the LEED certification addressed issues dealing with sustainability sites, water efficiency, energy reduction, waste and indoor environmental quality improvement. In addressing these issues, the Treasury building underwent a series of enhancements that were related to environmental sustainability. The work had no effect on the building’s historic integrity.

In 2011, the U.S. Mint at Denver purchased 100% renewable electricity for its first full year and was recognized as the 10th largest purchaser of green power in the Federal government by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Treasury Department's Sustainable Buildings Plan aligns with the goals set forth in its Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan. Treasury strives to advance sustainability in its facilities by promoting the preservation of our historic resources. Consistent with historic building preservation laws and requirements and to the fullest extent practicable, sustainable practices shall be incorporated into at least 15 percent of Treasury's existing inventory by 2015.

In Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance, Federal Agencies are directed to implement high performance sustainable Federal building design, construction, operation and management, maintenance, and deconstruction by ensuring that rehabilitation of federally owned historic buildings utilizes best practices and technologies in retrofitting to promote long-term viability of the buildings.

Treasury's Climate Change Adaptation Plan does not specifically address historic properties as it is still a high-level planning document at this point. The focus is on the protection of all Treasury facilities from the adverse effects of climate change.

TREASURY MOBILE TOUR

m.treasury.gov/mobiletour

A Virtual Tour of the
Historic Treasury
Building for Your
Phone or Tablet



Figure 1, Treasury Building Tour, Mobile App Signage



Figure 2, Treasury West Stair Balustrade Restoration, “Before”



Figure 3, Treasury West Stair Balustrade Restoration, “After”



Figure 4, Treasury West Stair Balustrade Restoration, Detail