



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 22, 2017

Reid Nelson, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
National Building Museum
401 F Street, N.W., Suite 308
Washington, D.C. 20001-2637

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Please find, enclosed the Treasury Department's submission for the *Preserve America Progress Report 2017*.

If you have any questions regarding the report or need further information, please contact Richard Cote, Treasury Historic Preservation Officer, at 202-622-0902.

Sincerely,

Mike Thomas
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Treasury Operations

Attachment

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

Section 3, Treasury Department Progress Report, 2017

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 of historic buildings consists of the Treasury Building, a National Historic Landmark and the Freedman's Bank Building (Treasury Annex), the San Francisco Mint, Denver Mint, West Point Mint and Fort Knox, all listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

2. *Does your agency have policies that promote awareness and Identification of historic properties?*

The Treasury Department actively promotes awareness of the Treasury Building, A National Historic Landmark, through a number of public initiatives. First and foremost, the Department has an established tour program that allows the American public to tour their Treasury building. Tour reservations are made through the constituents Congressional offices and are held on Saturday mornings conducted by volunteer docents, typically Treasury employees.

Secondly, the Treasury Department maintains an updated public website that provides information on the history of the Department, the Treasury collection and the Office of the Secretary. Periodic updates contain information on new exhibits staged in the Treasury Building that are also featured on the public tours.

Thirdly, the Curator's Office has developed a mobile web site for the Treasury tours and has signage around the Treasury Building promoting it. The mobile tour is a resource for the thousands of visitors who come to Pennsylvania Avenue but are unable to make the public Saturday tours.

3. *Describe reporting mechanisms or programs your agency uses to manage information about historic properties. What information do they contain about your historic properties?*

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 Freedman's Bank Building 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.

4. Has your agency employed partnerships to assist in the identification and evaluation of historic properties?

Partnerships for evaluating the condition, repair, restoration and preservation of Treasury's 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 state historic preservation offices, National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts.

5. 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 the identification of historic properties because the properties inventory has remained unchanged in the last three years.

6. Have your agency's programs and procedures to protect historic properties, including compliance with Section 106, 110, and 111 of NHPA, changed over the past three years in ways that benefit historic properties.

The Treasury Department's programs and procedures have not changed since the last report.

7. Has your agency employed 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 issues. The Treasury Curator's Office is also in a strong partnership with the Treasury Historical Association (THA) in fund-raising efforts to undertake restoration projects that benefit the Treasury building. This relationship has been on-going since 1986.

Most recently, the Treasury Historical Association has provided generous funding for the restoration of Treasury's West Stair balustrade, gifts that will enable the project to be completed in 2018. The organization also contributes on a regular basis to enhancements to the Treasury Collection and funding for the conservation of objects.

8. Does your agency use program alternatives such as Programmatic Agreements, Program Comments, and other tools to better manage and protect your agency's historic properties?

Treasury does not use program alternatives in the management of its historic properties.

9. *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.

A decrease in the Department's appropriation is a threat to maintaining and restoring the Treasury Building and Freedman's Bank Building and is being addressed by a 30 year capital plan.

10. *Do your agency's historic federal properties contribute to local communities and their economies? Is the use of historic properties encouraged and promoted within your agency?*

The Treasury Department and its properties are used as they were originally intended, as the headquarters of the Treasury Department and for the production and storage of coins. As the Department's headquarters, the Treasury Building is used as the Office of the Secretary and houses the Secretary's senior executive staff. Two staff offices have been restored to the period in which they were built and the Cash Room, a former banking hall, now serves as the Department's principal meeting space for key Department functions.

11. *Explain how your agency uses historic properties to foster heritage tourism, when consistent with agency mission.*

The Treasury Building, a National Historic Landmark, is open for public tours on Saturdays as noted above. The Denver Mint, listed on the National Register, also provides tours of coin production.

12. If your agency is subject to the requirements of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act (Property) and the Federal Property Management Reform Act, how will their requirements affect your agency's ability to protect and use its historic properties?

The Treasury Department's portfolio consists of five historic properties, the Treasury Building, a National Historic Landmark and the Freedman's Bank Building ("Treasury Annex") Denver

Mint, San Francisco Mint, West Point Mint and Fort Knox are listed on the National Register. All Treasury buildings are used by the Department in their intended original functions, as office buildings or for the production and storage of coins. So building re-use, surplus and/or excess properties are not at issue. The Treasury Department has maintained the buildings and modernized the buildings' infrastructures in such a way as to not compromise their historic integrity.

13. How is your agency meeting the requirements of EO 13693, Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade?

In support of EO 13693, Treasury uses historic preservation to maximize the use of existing materials and infrastructure to reduce waste, lessen energy consumption and water usage and increase the use of renewable energy sources. Consistent with EO 13693, Treasury takes advantage of inherent features in its historic buildings to maximize sustainability. Prime examples include large windows that support the use of natural lighting, high ceilings that allow greater air circulation, a durable natural masonry exterior wall with a significant thermal mass in its wall to help regulate interior temperatures.

In 2011, The U.S. Green Building Council recognized Treasury's sustainability efforts by awarding the Treasury Building Leed Gold certification.

Both the San Francisco and Denver Mints have initiated sustainability projects that reduce the mints' energy, water and material use during coin production. The mints have also lessened their carbon footprint along with recycling waste and eliminating carcinogenic chemicals used in production. Further information may be found in the Mint's 2011 Sustainability report, a response to achieving another executive order, EO 13514, sustainability goals.

14. Does your agency use, or has it considered using, Section 111 (now 54 U.S.C. 306121) of NHPA to lease or exchange historic properties?

The Treasury Department does not lease its historic properties.

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

Due to security concerns, Treasury does not share the use of its historic properties which are committed to the functions that they were built for and by the Department.

16. Provide specific examples of major challenges, successes, and/or opportunities your agency has encountered in using historic properties over the past three (3) years.

The Treasury Department continues to serve in its stewardship role in the preservation, restoration and maintenance of all historic buildings. The Department remains in a public-private partnership with the Treasury Historical Association in its efforts, the Association assisting with the funding for the Treasury building projects. As a complement to the Department's efforts, a

volunteer docent tour program enables the public to view the restoration work and hear about Treasury's history as it related to the headquarters building.

The major challenge is a decrease in appropriated funding. In this regard, the Treasury Historic Association has donated monetary gifts to the Department to assist in its Treasury Building restoration efforts.