

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 17, 2008

The Honorable Norm Dicks  
Chairman  
House Interior Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
B-308 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
Ranking Member  
House Interior Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Dicks and Ranking Member Tiahrt:


We are writing to respectfully request \$800,000 in the FY2009 Interior Appropriations bill to fund the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS). The program was established by the National Park Service (NPS) in 2000 under authority granted in the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 and the National Preservation Act of 1966.

The purpose of HALS is to document landscapes that serve as tangible evidence of our nation's heritage and development. Historic landscapes are special places that are important representations of national, regional, and local identity and culture. They are also fragile places that are affected by the forces of nature, by commercial and residential development, and by vandalism and neglect. They undergo changes that are often unpredictable and irreversible. For these reasons, it is important to document these places so the stories they tell can educate and benefit future generations. HALS does not limit development, affect property rights, or involve the purchase of land.

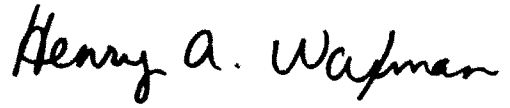
During the past 20 years, historic preservation has broadened beyond the historic building or urban district to include the historic landscape that provides the setting and context for a property. From carriage roads to Revolutionary and Civil War battlefields, designed gardens to the American ranch and homesteads, urban parks and plazas to industrial complexes, these landscapes represent the impact of the landscape on human beliefs and actions over time. We believe that \$800,000 is a small price to pay for the preservation of these stories for future generations.

If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Phil Page on my staff at 225-2671 or [phil.page@mail.house.gov](mailto:phil.page@mail.house.gov).

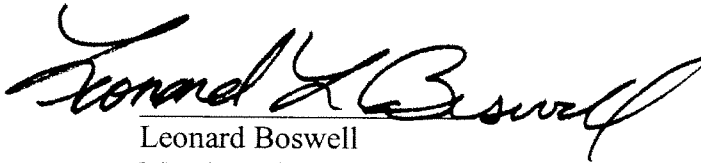
Sincerely,



Russ Carnahan  
Member of Congress



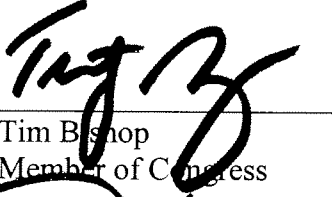
Henry Waxman  
Member of Congress



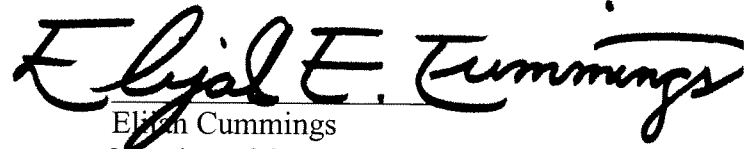
Leonard Boswell  
Member of Congress



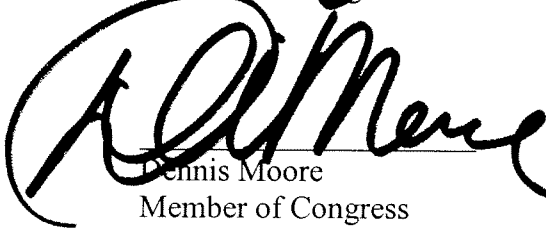
Henry Brown  
Member of Congress



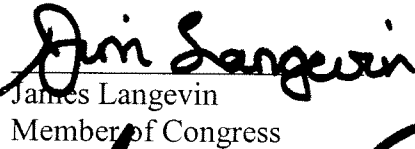
Tim Bishop  
Member of Congress



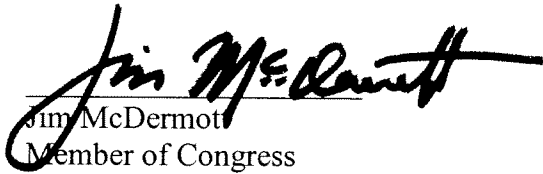
Elijah Cummings  
Member of Congress



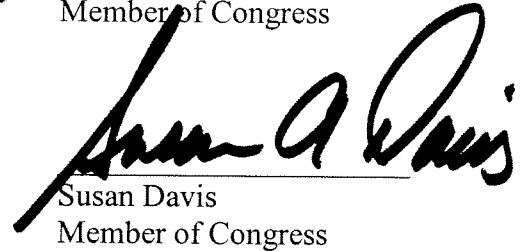
Dennis Moore  
Member of Congress



James Langevin  
Member of Congress



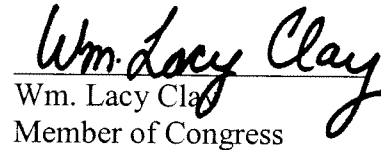
Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



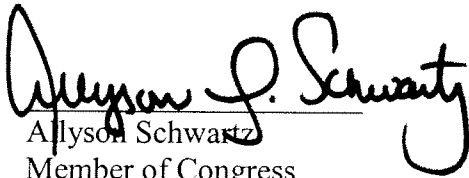
Susan Davis  
Member of Congress



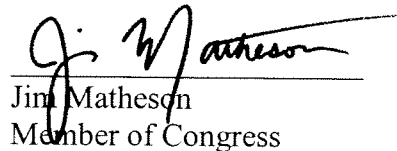
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



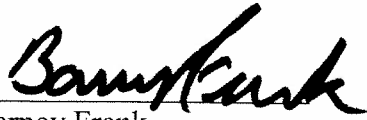
Wm. Lacy Clay  
Member of Congress



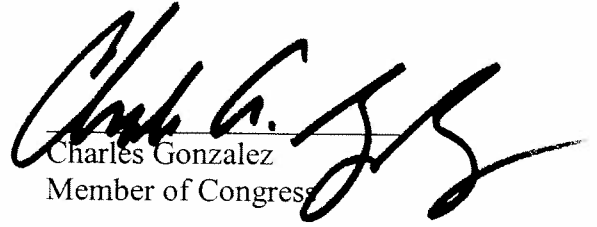
Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress



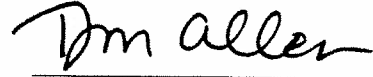
Barney Frank  
Member of Congress



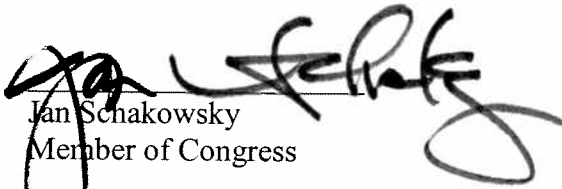
Charles Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



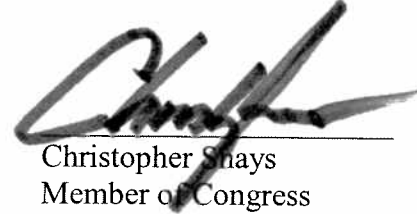
Donald Payne  
Member of Congress



Tom Allen  
Member of Congress



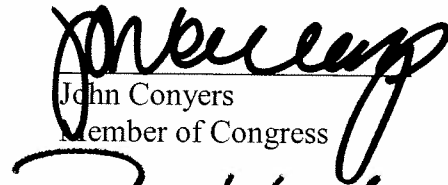
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



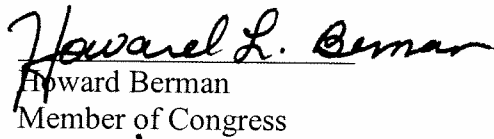
Christopher Shays  
Member of Congress



Ellen Tauscher  
Member of Congress



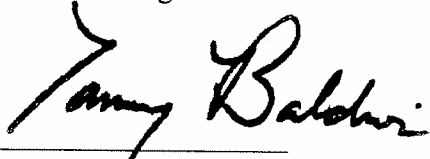
John Conyers  
Member of Congress



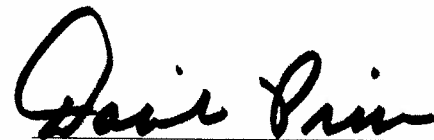
Howard Berman  
Member of Congress



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress



David Price  
Member of Congress