Earlier this spring, I stepped into my present role of Interim President & CEO of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. During this time of transition, I have been inspired and deeply gratified by the friends around the country whose dedicated leadership and support helped to maintain our momentum while setting a new trajectory for our mission and our movement as we embark on an exciting year ahead.

That year ahead, of course, will begin with my passing this torch of leadership to Carol Quillen as the 10th President & CEO of the National Trust. I look forward to introducing Carol and welcoming her with the same warmth, enthusiasm, and support that I enjoyed from allies across the field over the course of my tenure.

This has been the opportunity of a lifetime, shaped by relationships and memories that will endure and grow for years to come. Working alongside colleagues at the National Trust—and getting to know those at our sites and subsidiaries—I gained further insight and appreciation for the vital role the National Trust plays advancing our cause nationwide. Behind the scenes and on the ground—including two incredible journeys with National Trust Council members to San Antonio and Pittsburgh—I experienced firsthand the impact of that work as well as the passion of our donors and partners for preserving the places that shape our American experience.

Leading this organization at this moment has been an absolute honor and the culmination of a personal journey more than a decade in the making. Like many of you, my calling to preservation began in a place I call home—in the Badlands of North Dakota—with an effort to protect Elkhorn Ranch, where Theodore Roosevelt recovered physically and mentally after the deaths of his wife and mother. There, he saw firsthand the challenges of development in the West and the need to protect places that nurture our sense of place and define who we are as a nation.

Although the immediate site of Roosevelt’s Elkhorn Ranch was protected as part of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, the views of the Little Missouri River Valley that once inspired Roosevelt have become increasingly vulnerable to the development of oil wells, gravel mines, and new roads and bridges. About 10 years ago, I became involved with the National Trust to address these challenges—and I am delighted to say that we have made significant progress in protecting that pristine landscape after its listing as one of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in June 2012.

A few years after I began working with the National Trust on the Elkhorn, I was invited to join the Board of Trustees—and elected to Chair the Board in 2020, just before the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, I had no idea then that it would lead to serving as the organization’s interim President just a few years later. But I am so glad that it did.

In the pages that follow, I am delighted to share some highlights and milestones from this past year and, most importantly, to recognize the incredible community...
Development Halted for Historic Neighborhoods of Charleston
The Historic Neighborhoods of Charleston in Charleston, SC were threatened by a controversial planned redevelopment along the city’s waterfront at Union Pier. Shortly after their inclusion as one of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in May, the South Carolina Ports Authority announced a halt to the project to allow for further community input.

PHOTO BY VANESSA KAUFMANN

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We Are Advocating for Action
From the Historic Neighborhoods of Charleston and the Threatt Filling Station in Luther, Oklahoma, along Route 66, to the newly created Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument with sites stretching from Chicago to the Mississippi Delta, we are building on our commitment to raise awareness, advance policy, and take direct action to preserve our past for future generations.

We Are Strengthening American Communities
Through sacred places like First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and legacy businesses like the Holly Hotel in Holly, Michigan, we are delivering support where it’s needed most and can make the greatest impact to preserve the icons and institutions that make our cities and towns feel more like home. We are driving research and development to protect these places from threats like climate change, and we are working alongside partners and property owners to respond when disaster strikes in places like Maui, Hawai‘i, where residents are still recovering from last summer’s tragic wildfires.

We Are Elevating Our History
Across our world-class portfolio of National Trust Historic Sites, through transformational nationwide initiatives like the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, and with subsidiary and partnership programs like Historic Artists’ Homes and Studios, we are stewarding and uplifting our historic places to connect Americans from all walks of life with the places that tell their stories. We are rethinking the visitor experience at historic sites and museums across America while working hand-in-hand with descendant communities to re-examine our interpretation and stewardship of sites of enslavement. Across our work, in all that we do, including our efforts to shape the future of the preservation movement, we are ensuring the places we save speak for all Americans.

We Are Leading for Change
Whether it is at national gatherings like our annual PastForward preservation conference, through our scholarships and training opportunities, like HOPE (Hands-On Preservation Experience) Crew, or our honors and national award programs to promote and celebrate the advancement of leadership, excellence, and innovation across our field, we are initiating real change for the cause of preservation in America. And with investments in technology, we are becoming more efficient and effective as a leader and innovator within our movement.

None of this would be possible without the dedicated generosity and support of our friends and champions across the country. You are the driving force behind our work and the lifeblood of our movement. It has been an honor to work alongside you during this year of momentum for the National Trust and America’s historic places. As I turn the page from this chapter of involvement with the National Trust, I am tremendously proud of all we have achieved and look forward to our continued work together under Carol’s leadership and vision to build on the organization’s trajectory toward our year of 75th anniversary celebrations kicking off in October 2024.

On behalf of all of us at the National Trust, thank you for helping us move our nation forward without leaving our past behind.

Warm regards,

JAY CLEMENS
INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO
We are honored to recognize the generous individuals, foundations, and corporations whose support from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, saved historic places nationwide. We make every effort to ensure that the Honor Roll of Donors is as accurate as possible in every respect. If we have fallen short or if you would like to update your recognition listing for future publications, please do not hesitate to contact us at philanthropy@savingplaces.org or by calling 202.588.6003.

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Restoring a Haven of HOPE on America’s Mother Road

Students from the Guthrie Job Corps worked and learned about masonry restoration alongside historic trades expert David Gilney during a HOPE (Hands-On Preservation Experience) Crew project at the Threatt Filling Station on Route 66 in Luther, Okla. Edward Threatt positioned left and preserving their family’s legacy in the Threatt Filling Station, which was listed as one of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in June 2021.

PHOTO BY DAVID GILNEY
Promoting Tools for Transformation

In October 2022, Courthouse Lofts was recognized by Preservation Massachusetts with the Paul and Milt Torgian Award and received the Jack Kemp Excellence in Affordable and Workforce Housing award from the Urban Land Institute. Vacant for more than a decade, the former Worcester County Courthouse was converted into multifamily, mixed-income housing utilizing a combination of state and federal historic tax credits—and was featured as a case study in a 2023 State Historic Tax Credit Initiative generously supported by Julia and David Uihlein.
Building Momentum to 75!

Please mark your calendars to join us next fall in kicking off a yearlong celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This incredible milestone is a testament to the dedication and support of friends and chapters across the decades and around the country who have contributed to our history of leadership and impact—and will fuel our momentum for the future. Stay tuned for more details about our year of celebration, kicking off during PastForward 2024 in New Orleans.
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Celebrating Touchstones of Culture and Community through Historic Small Restaurants

The Holly Hotel in Holly, MI was one of 28 historic eateries nationwide to receive grants totaling $1 million as part of the Backing Historic Small Restaurants program. Now in its third year, the program builds on our longstanding partnership with American Express and recognizes the incredible culinary heritage found in every corner of America.

PHOTO COURTESY THE HOLLY HOTEL
The National Trust’s consolidated operating revenue, including its subsidiaries Main Street America and the National Trust Community Investment Corporation, totaled $117 million July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. As shown in the charts below, the National Trust achieved 78 percent programmatic efficiency, with only 12 percent spent on general and administrative expenses.

Information based on unaudited, consolidated financial data. Audited financials will be available by January 1, 2024 on SavingPlaces.org/financials.

Our financial summary includes funding from the following brands and subsidiaries:
- Cooper-Molera Preservation LLC
- Greenrock Corporation
- Historic Hotels of America
- Main Street America
- National Trust Community Investment Corporation
- National Trust Insurance Services LLC
- National Trust Tours
- NT Solar

Sources of Funding
- $70,095,108 Contributions and Grants
- $18,662,008 Subsidiary Income
- $16,981,852 Investment Return
- $7,044,011 Program Fees and Other
- $4,129,724 Admissions and Special Events

Use of Funds
- 42% Preservation Services
- 29% Historic Sites
- 12% General and Administrative
- 7% Education and Publications
- 6% Fundraising
- 4% Membership Outreach

ON THE COVERS
1. The Edith Farnsworth House in Plano, IL, marked its 50th anniversary as a National Trust Historic Site in December 2023. By Matthew Gilson
2. Cozy Inn in Janesville, WI, a 2023 Backing Historic Small Restaurants grant recipient. By Rich Fletcher
3. The historic neighborhoods of Charleston were included on the National Trust’s 2023 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. Courtesy Preservation Society of Charleston
4. HOPR Crew member working at Threatt Filling Station on Route 66 in Luther, OK. By David Gibney
5. In July 2023, the civil rights legacies of Emmett Till and his mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, were memorialized in the creation of the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument. Creative Commons
6. First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre in Wilkes-Barre, PA, one of sixteen congregations to receive a total of more than $2 million in capital grants in October 2022 through the National Fund for Sacred Places. By Jonathan Edwards
7. River District, a 2023 Great American Main Street Award winner, in Danville, VA. Photo by Laura Ashworth/Danville Office of Economic Development and Tourism.