

PROPOSED

COLLOQUY ON THE LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK

MR. TSONGAS: Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss an issue of great interest to my state ^(Commonwealth) and indeed anyone interested in our unique national historic treasure^s. That is, the Lowell National Historic Park.

Mr. President, the National Historic Park in Lowell, Massachusetts has proven a major success, attracting over 437,000 visitors last year and expecting to exceed half a million this year. The Park has continued to expand physically and has the strong support of private developers who have invested nearly \$100 million in anticipation of continued federal financial support. Of particular interest are the two replicas of 19th Century street cars that are being used to transport visitors around the various park sites. (?)

Notwithstanding the overwhelming public interest in the Lowell Historic Park, and Congresses previous funding commitments, the Department of the Interior FY 1985 budget contains no construction and development funds for the Lowell National Historic Park nor for the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission. This is especially disappointing in that both the Park and the Commission have key developments planned for FY 1985. Moreover, the Senate has disagreed with the House position by deleting \$12.8 million for the Park. May I ask the distinguished Chairman of the Full Committee and the Subcommittee Chairman for a clarification of their position.