

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Fiscal 1985 Budget Briefing Statement

SUBJECT: Lowell National Historical Park Development

PROBLEM: Combined public and private sector development of the Boott Mills complex is a key component of the Lowell revitalization effort. Together with a new hotel, parking garage, Wang Laboratories Training Center and convention center, a revitalized Boott Mills complex is the focal point of planned downtown improvements. The National Park Service is developing its major park interpretive facility in a portion of the complex and anticipates assistance from several private cooperators. The park's exhibits will focus on the textile industry and the history of labor in Lowell. The remainder of the mill complex will be developed by private funding sources. It is vital for the overall success of the Boott Mills development that the momentum of the Park Service effort in the complex be maintained.

STATUS: The Boott Mills project has been assigned a regional and a national priority. The package is being revised to reflect funding in FY 84 in the amount of \$2.5 million gross which was added by Congress. Together with \$1.6 million gross which was added on in FY 83, these funds will complete the first phase rehabilitation of Building #6. This work consists of exterior restoration, structural rehabilitation, and partial interior improvements. Status of other park development projects is as follows: Lowell Manufacturing Company Visitor Center was completed in May, 1982. Dutton Street Parking lot was completed in August, 1983. Suffolk Mill Turbine Restoration project is expected to be under contract by July, 1984.

ALTERNATIVES: The following monies will be required in FY 85:

Alternative # 1 - Complete Boott Mills Building #6 and Countinghouse -	
	\$8,500,000
Alternative # 2 - Complete three floors of Building #6 -	\$7,000,000

SERVICE POSITION: NPS prefers Alternative #2. No priority has been set for either alternative. Funds would have to come via another congressional add-on at the present time. This alternative was selected because of our ability to obligate all of the funds appropriated in FY 85 if Congress were to take action. Alternative # 1 could not be completed within this time frame.

ACTION REQUIRED: Support Alternative #2, Boott Mill Building #6.

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Need to know now to do the program
No further progress w/out appropriation
\$4M unexp for this year

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LOWELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Fiscal 1985 Budget Briefing Statement

SUBJECT: Lowell Historic Preservation Commission development funds

PROBLEM: No development funds are contained in the FY 1985 budget request. Additional funds are essential to complete three priority projects and to continue a highly successful matching grants program for buildings of national significance. The priority projects are at a critical juncture at this time, all in the construction phase. The requested funds would conclude the major development projects approved by the Secretary in the Commission's Preservation Plan (1980). These projects were designed to support and insure the success of the Lowell National Historical Park (LNHP) by providing incentives for private development related to the Park theme. This strategy has been extremely successful and has been recognized as a national model. Seven private dollars have been invested for every dollar spent by the Commission on these incentive programs (over \$16 million in direct private investment as of the end of this year). The Commission has just three full fiscal years of operation remaining prior to its termination. For projects to be completed and programs implemented, funds must be made available as soon as possible.

STATUS: All Commission projects are in the construction phase. Cultural Center exterior rehabilitation will be complete in August '84, planning is underway for the interior and exhibits. The adjacent lot must be acquired, at which time landscape planning can commence. Pawtucket Canal construction will commence in April '84, with planning complete for the final stage improvements requested herein. All existing FY 1984 grant funds will be obligated by April '84. Two open historic trolleys will be delivered May '84, overhead line work by April '84, with planning complete for final stage improvements requested herein.

INTEREST GROUP/PERSON: Senator Tsongas, Congressman Shannon, Lowell City Council and City Manager. The retirement of Senator Tsongas and announcement of Congressman Shannon's attempt to succeed him have added an intensity to the efforts of these officials to secure enough funds to guarantee completion of Commission and LNHP development.

ALTERNATIVES: The following monies will be required in FY 1985 (by priority):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. <u>Boott Mills Cultural Center area</u> - acquisition, development performing arts park, exhibits, replacement parking: | \$2,600,000 | - <u>most</u> |
| 2. <u>Pawtucket Canal</u> - complete north bank: | 600,000 | |
| 3. <u>Grants- Boott Mill area and designated Park area</u> nationally significant buildings: | 1,500,000 | |
| 4. <u>Project planning</u> - design, construction supervision | 500,000 | |
| 5. <u>Trolley</u> - open car, final extension, track upgrading | 675,000 | |
| | <u>\$5,875,000</u> | |

ACTION REQUIRED: Support funding package

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