

May 11, 2004

Save America's Treasures  
Heritage Preservation Services  
National Park Service  
1201 "Eye" Street, NW  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor (ORG 2255)  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Cityscape Detroit is pleased to support the ***Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory Restoration Project*** of the Detroit Recreation Department. Our organization is certain that this project will be of great benefit to the citizens of the Detroit area who love Belle Isle, where the historic Conservatory is located.

We feel it is essential that such an historic structure as the Conservatory be rescued from its currently deteriorated state. We understand that the tight fiscal restraints under which the City of Detroit Recreation Department must operate. We are encouraged that the City is seeking help to restore this magnificent structure to its original condition. Conservatories reflect the ideals of the City Beautiful movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, and it is vitally important that Detroit's conservatory remain a bright and important public resource on Belle Isle. The Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, and support from the Save America's Treasures Program will ensure that this resource remains an important resource to residents and visitors alike. Without federal support, there is a strong likelihood that this contributing structure to the Nationally Registered Belle Isle Park will continue to deteriorate.

Cityscape Detroit was founded in 1980 to advocate for improving Detroit's quality of life through architecture, urban design, urban planning, and historic preservation. Our built environment affects us daily, and it is Cityscape's goal to demonstrate how through improving these four key design elements, Detroit will become a dynamic and wonderful place to live, work, and play for all its area residents. We consider Belle Isle Park and the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory an important historical site and building that contribute to our region's quality of life.

The proposed ***Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory Restoration Project*** complements the work of the Cityscape Detroit. We are happy to support this project.

Thank you very much for positively considering the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory Restoration Project.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur F. Mullen, AICP  
President