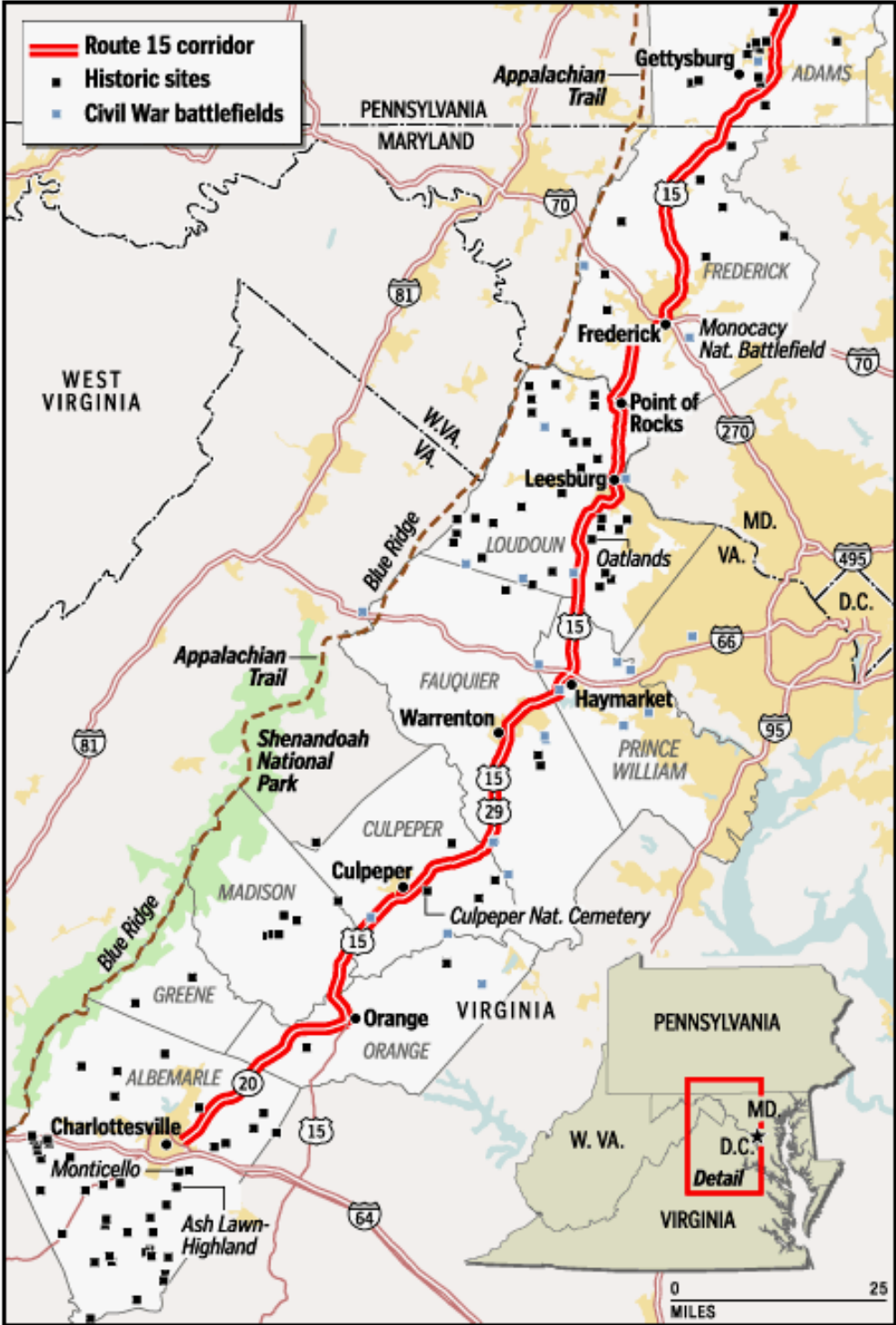


Journey Through Hallowed Ground

A National Park Service scheme, run by a “socially-conscious” aristocracy, designed to radically transform a million acres of Virginia’s heartland and to impose the “appropriate” quality of life on people of the Piedmont.



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“Everyone should do all in his power to collect and disseminate the truth, in hope that truth may find a place in history and descend to posterity. History is not the relating of campaigns and battles, and generals or other individuals, but that which shows principles. The principles for which the South contended were government by the people; that is, government by the consent of the governed, government limited and local, free of consolidated power. Those principles justified the South’s struggle.”—Robert E. Lee

Introduction

The information in this report is taken from published articles, Congressional hearings, official documents, press releases, and other sources available to the public via the internet and in most large public libraries. A number of authors or publishers were contacted and sources were cross checked to confirm accuracy. The endnotes/references cited cover only a small portion of the material available. Please bring any errors to my attention.

Originally started in June, 2005, the effort was intended to be a brief review of the recently-launched National Park Service (NPS) National Heritage Area (NHA) initiative. However, it became apparent the Journey Through Hallowed Ground (JTHG) corridor plan was a tangled skein. The geographic location, near Washington, D.C., the focus of influential, deep-pocketed organizations, politicians and individuals based in the region, and their connections to national and international money and power centers, led to the realization JTHG is not a 'boiler-plate,' NPS-NHA project.

Virginia's Piedmont, rich in natural resources and history, is home to a significant number of people who are traditionally cautious about intrusions into their personal and economic affairs, or interference with their property rights. As in most NHAs, "historic preservation," "protecting the environment," "tourism" and "economic sustainability" are the bait used to hook an unsuspecting public.

The JTHG project is illustrative of the social and material decadence of New Age dogma, a nihilistic ideology adopted by a class of "new barbarians" who intend to impose their vision on a vast, prosperous and culturally important area of the Old Dominion. It appears the Piedmont is seen as a challenging new experiment in their 'laboratory' for restructuring our traditional societal institutions.

The goal is to replace those institutions with a highly-controlled, "Third Way" structure of "public-private partnerships" and "governance by consensus." Local government decisions and democratic processes are to give way to rule by multi-layered regional authority and unelected, non-governmental organizations (NGOs). "Reeducating" the people of the Piedmont is part of the long-term collectivist strategy to radically alter concepts of individual liberty, private property rights and local government powers. The overall strategy for all NHAs is directly based on United Nations' Protected Area concepts being implemented worldwide.

The JTHG plan for Mr. Jefferson's and General Lee's Piedmont represents the exact opposite of their visions. They saw the progress, welfare and happiness of the people of Virginia and the nation inextricably linked to the limitation of powers of the state, and to property owned and controlled by millions of individuals.

To say the magnitude of the goals of the JTHG partnership is ambitious is an understatement. If allowed to move forward, the Piedmont would no longer be "a small piece of the American landscape permeated with the history and culture of the American nation." Instead, it would be recast as a mockery of the original.—LMS

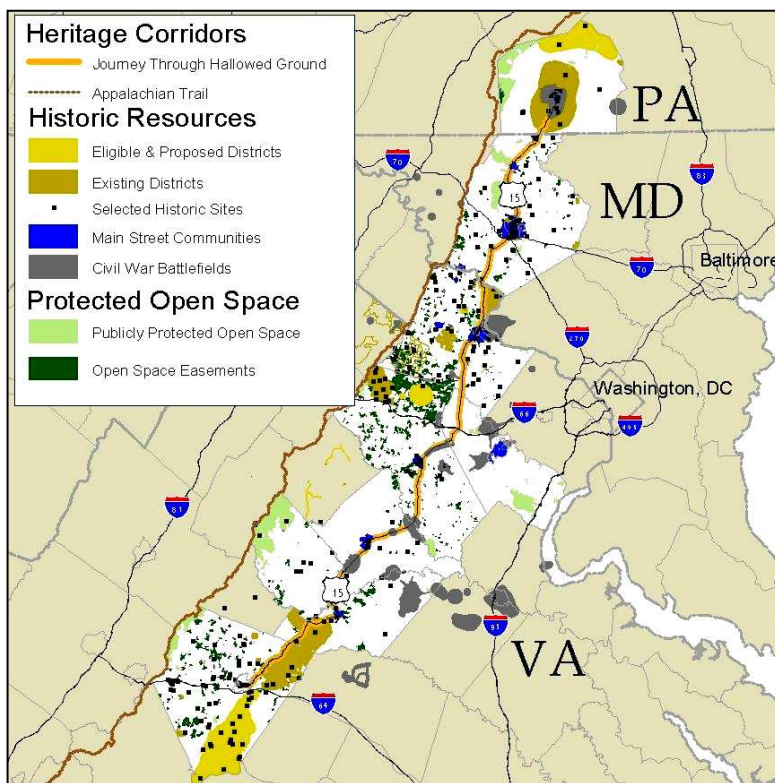
"Why is history important? Without history, many people have no idea how many of today's half-baked ideas have been tried, again and again—and have repeatedly led to disaster. Most of these ideas are not new. They are just being recycled with re-treaded rhetoric."—Thomas Sowell

Journey Through Hallowed Ground

A National Park Service plan threatens millions of acres of Virginia's private land

By L. M. Schwartz, © March, 2006, The Virginia Land Rights Coalition

America's privately owned lands, vast tracts encompassing towns, businesses, farms, forestlands and homes, have been targeted and transformed by Corridor Preservation initiatives, National Historic Districts and National Heritage Areas. Corridor preservation concepts developed and refined during the last three decades by the United Nations, and the National Park Service and its "partners" are being used with increasing frequency. A new corridor plan affecting a staggering swath of Virginia's heartland looms on the horizon with the recently announced *Journey Through Hallowed Ground Project* (JTHG). The "collaborative effort" is a "public-private partnership" allegedly designed to "preserve and protect the historic sites and natural resources" along a "175-mile-long, 10-mile-wide corridor" following Routes 15 and 20. Starting in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the corridor extends south through Frederick, Maryland to Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, near Charlottesville, Virginia.¹



On June 2, 2005, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named the Corridor as one of the "11 most endangered historic sites in America." According to Richard Moe, president of the National Trust, "There aren't many places that encompass a greater variety of significant historic sites—from Founding Fathers' homes to Civil War battlefields—or that face a more serious range of threats. Without comprehensive planning to manage sprawl and encourage appropriate growth, much of the region's heritage could be paved over."

More than ten years ago, the National Trust put the whole state of Vermont on the list because it saw Wal-Marts as a threat. Last year, it relisted the entire state for the same reason; and it added the Colorado plateau, covering parts of four states, to the list several

years ago because of "looting and vandalism" of archaeological sites. This year's list also includes millions of acres of Bureau of Land Management land in 12 states.²

The JTHG publicity campaign was simultaneously kicked off by its "partners" at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. "There is a staggering number, a million acres of land within that corridor, which is in the National Historic Register," said Cate Magennis Wyatt, of Waterford, executive director of the JTHG coalition, a former Secretary of Commerce and Trade under Governor Douglas Wilder. "Our objective," she said, "is to demonstrate that preservation can be economically sustainable, that nothing we are suggesting constrains landowners' rights, and that it will ensure quality of life for the communities along the corridor."

The JTHG "partners" includes 120 federal, state, and county agencies, and "non-profit" entities. The National Park Service, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, transportation departments of the three states, and "private organizations" such as the Piedmont Environmental Council, Scenic

America, Protect Historic America, the Civil War Preservation Trust and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation are leading the effort.

Many of the same “partners” were active in campaigns such as the one to defeat Disney’s plan to establish a ‘historic theme park’ in Haymarket, Virginia in the early 1990s. Wyatt believes the preservation “partners” have learned from their mistakes, and was quoted as saying, “The biggest mistake was they didn’t finish the job. They didn’t buy the land.”

The National Park Service, instrumental in the conception of the project, stated JTHG was, “Created through a partnership between the National Park Service’s National Register of Historic Places, Scenic America, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC)...an example of a new and exciting cooperative project.”³

Scenic America, a preservationist organization promoting “scenic highways,” calls it “a small piece of the American landscape permeated with the history and culture of the American nation.”⁴

The Piedmont Environmental Council, now one of the “lead partners,” stated in an ominous warning, “The Journey Through Hallowed Ground is facing new challenges. Haphazard sprawl development, the loss of vast tracts of rich farmland, and the increasing suburbanization of the corridor threaten to destroy its magnificent scenery and valuable history content.” PEC lists The Conservation Fund of Arlington as its working “partner” in the project.⁵

A number of Virginia’s officials quickly endorsed the plan. “Today’s announcement is a clarion call to all citizens, if they want to preserve our American heritage, each has to pay attention to, and participate in, and volunteer for public service, to ensure the efforts of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground can be brought to fruition. This tri-state, public-private initiative is an outstanding example of citizens and businesses working together to celebrate our remarkable American heritage and work intelligently to plan for future growth. I endorse it full heartedly,” said Senator John Warner (Va.). In addition to Warner, the project has been endorsed by Senator George Allen (Va.), Congressman Frank Wolf (Va.), Senator Paul S. Sarbanes (Md.) and a number of other Members of Congress.

JTHG is proposing “an innovative mechanism” to fund the purchase of “vital sites and large parcels through a real estate investment trust.” Wyatt proposed, “It will be a long-term investment hold and appeal to socially conscious investors. After purchasing private land, the trust would place easements and restrictive uses on the properties and then sell them. Farmers and landowners have no place to go but to a developer. We want to give them an alternative.”

Some supporters have commented, “This is where America happened.” There are six U.S. presidential homes in the vicinity of the JTHG corridor, Camp David in Maryland, Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello and James Madison’s Montpelier, a cottage used by Dwight Eisenhower, a cabin owned by Teddy Roosevelt and General George Marshall drew up the Marshall Plan in his Leesburg home. According to PEC, the corridor has “the largest collection of Civil War battlefields in America...hundreds of properties either listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the greatest concentration of rural historic districts in the United States.”

Portions of the two highways are already “protected,” meaning widening and upgrading them would be difficult. The JTHG coalition plans to press for additional restrictions. “We are seeking to obtain National Scenic Byway Status for the entire corridor,” Wyatt said, where the Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland Departments of Transportation would be required, by 2008, to use “parkway standards” for any future road improvements. Such standards inevitably include restrictions on land use within highway “viewsheds.”

A new and exciting cooperative project

Today, Route 15 is essentially a two-lane, rural highway supporting local commerce, commuter

and truck traffic. It was once known as the Carolina Road because it terminated at an Indian trading post on the Virginia-Carolina border. The road was a trade route used by Colonists just as it had been by Algonquin and Iroquois Indians, according to Eugene Scheel, a Waterford, Virginia historian. Scheel states a 1747 Fauquier County land grant refers to the Carolina Road as the “Rogues Road,” a name appearing in Fauquier and Loudoun County deeds as late as the early 1900s. North of Leesburg, a narrow wooded stream valley is still known as “Rogues’ Hollow,” where thieves plundered travelers. In 1780, Moravian Bishop John Frederick Reichel traveled from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to Salem, North Carolina. His diary records he was robbed in a neighborhood “far-famed for robbery and theft.” In light of the corridor initiative plans and the anti-property rights philosophy of most of the “stakeholder groups” involved, the irony of the appellation has been noted by a number of property rights advocates.⁵

The JTHG preservation plans were first outlined in 1996 when the National Park Service helped solidify a “public-private partnership to raise national awareness of the heritage and cultural resources along the Old Carolina Road.”

Since 1996, the “partners” have published the book, *Hallowed Ground*; completed a “corridor resource inventory;” launched a National Park Service, “web-based Travel Itinerary, Hallowed Ground, covering Virginia sites along The Journey;” received resolutions of support from the Virginia Legislature, the Leesburg Town Council, the Purcellville Town Council, the Adams County Board of Commissioners and the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors, among others; seen the designation of the Rt. 15 Corridor within Maryland as a State Scenic Byway; and have been instrumental in completion of the Rt. 15 Corridor Management Plan within Maryland and submission of this section of highway for consideration as a National Scenic Byway.

In addition, the “partners” have identified 400 years of Native American, European, American and African American history within the 175-mile swath of land; Monroe’s Oak Hill and Ashlawn and President Zachary Taylor’s home; two United Nations World Heritage Sites: Monticello and the Rotunda at the University of Virginia; 73 National Historic Districts/Places totaling over 1,000,000 acres; the largest collection of Civil War Battlefields in America; the greatest concentration of Rural Historic Districts in America; 13 National Historic Landmarks; two National Heritage Areas; numerous scenic rivers and landscapes; 13 National Parks Units; and other “significant cultural and agricultural destinations.”

Montpelier (right), James Madison’s estate near Orange, Virginia, is one of six presidential homes in the corridor listed as “endangered.”



As a result of what the 120 JTHG “stakeholders” say is a “significant danger of irreversible damage to the heritage areas and cultural landscape” and “the positive economic impact to this region from heritage/cultural tourism and from equestrian/agricultural land use” within the corridor, they feel “Congressional support exists to assist...collaborative efforts to preserve this region and support the significant economic benefits of its cultural and heritage resources...to propel this initiative forward.” They state “stakeholders range from national to grassroots organizations, from governmental entities to business associations and from farmers to private landowners.”

The “partners” have adopted a plan which include the following priorities: create “Public Awareness and Strategic Partnerships;” a focused, tri-state, regional awareness campaign with “community workshops, coalition building and shared web-based support systems;” forge “strategic

partnerships with corporations and foundations who share the vision of celebrating our heritage, educating our children with outreach programs and supporting the existing businesses which embrace and enhance our heritage;” a “cooperative effort to create a single vision for the execution of the strategic plan and the ultimate branding of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground region;” and “to bring civic education alive for children and adults alike and to promote the conservation of its irreplaceable natural and historic resources. By combining historic preservation with civic education and sound environmental stewardship, we aim to showcase integrity and innovation for generations to come.”

The goals embrace “existing national programs which are funded by the federal government” including the already mentioned National Scenic Byway designation by 2008 and National Heritage Area designation by the National Park Service, also by 2008.

“The challenge in preserving and protecting the region encompassed with ‘The Journey Through Hallowed Ground’ Corridor is that the vast majority of the land is privately held. Traditional means of keeping land in appropriate land use, whether through easements or outright purchase, are also a significant part of the solution which will be pursued,” according to the National Trust.⁶

A controversial Mason-Dixon Polling and Research poll was conducted by JTHG which alleges “a vast majority of voters living along the JTHG corridor highly value their natural and historic resources and link them directly to their quality of life.” JTHG claims Congressman Wolf and his colleagues in the House and Senate are in full agreement with their constituents “given that eight in ten voters that were polled expressed support for the JTHG initiative (81 percent).”

“Voters feel threatened and rate growth management as the number one issue facing their counties and region. Unfortunately, local officials get very poor grades for handling these issues,” said Larry Harris, a principal with Mason-Dixon. He indicated 70% of voters gave a negative rating to local officials for managing growth. “Voters are looking for solutions and leadership...they clearly see the Hallowed Ground initiative as a mainstream and common sense approach to protecting what they value most about their community and region.”

Cheryl K. Chumley, a reporter with the Fauquier Times-Democrat has raised some significant questions about the polling methods and its alleged accuracy. Only 900 registered voters were polled by Mason-Dixon from 11 counties during May, 2005. Harris indicated the JTHG coalition paid for the poll and certain coalition “partners” were allowed to preview poll questions before the poll was conducted. Cate Magennis Wyatt admitted the margin of error was larger than the normal 3 or 4 percent, but claims finances prevented a larger sampling. “If I had more money, I would obviously have polled further...to get it to 4 percent.” There was a 14 percent margin of error for Fauquier County statistics, but concerns about any overstatement of support for JTHG were labeled “semantics” by Wyatt.

Chumley’s investigation also raises questions about “question phrasing and question order” as likely sources of flaws. When asked to rate their level of understanding of the JTHG plan, 96 percent of those polled were not familiar with it. Wyatt seemed to back peddle on this, and is quoted as stating, “The understanding, I don’t think you can get to that degree...with a survey. It wasn’t intended to get to the bottom line...But it was a more general concept (that said) we benefit by living in this remarkable corridor... and a big part of what we’re doing is to drive tourism into this area.”⁷

Despite serious questions about the “partnership’s” claim of “overwhelming” support, Wyatt stated, “We are tasked with finding new, 21st century solutions that will balance the growth in the region, the need to preserve a precious and important region of our country, and to create economic development programs in conjunction with preservation efforts that will benefit each community along the Journey. Our polling results underscore our responsibility to the local communities along The JTHG corridor as well as our duty as Americans to bring the best minds together to ensure we balance

today's demands for growth with our responsibility to bequeath America's heritage to the generations to come." A number of observers see this "tasked duty" as self-righteous arrogance.

Many details about the corridor plan remain unclear. What does seem certain, based on past efforts of the "partners" and on similar experiences in other parts of the nation, is there will be a well-coordinated effort by self-appointed guardians and saviors of Virginia's "heritage," "environment" and "future generations." Funding and "technical assistance" will flow from the National Park Service, other federal and state agencies, and wealthy non-profits into the pockets of unelected, special-interest groups. The funds will be used to restrict property owners' rights to the "appropriate" use of their land, and to limit *inappropriate* economic activities within the corridor. The restrictions will result from a variety of pressures applied by so-called "stakeholder" and "partner" groups and include local land use regulations, historic site designations, scenic byways, conservation easements, viewshed protections, "smart-growth" and environmental regulation. If allowed to move forward, the Journey Through Hallowed Ground plan will serve as a catalyst for economic, political, social and cultural dislocations on a vast scale. The essence of every NHA plan is social restructuring and redistribution of wealth.

Re-engineering the National Park System: the National Heritage Areas/Corridor phenomena

Through its own relentless lobbying and what has been termed "self-aggrandizement," and with the help of various national and local alliances, the National Park Service bureaucracy expanded its system from a few parks and monuments in 1916 to about 350 units by 1990, including historical, archeological, recreational, and other types of parks.

The NPS history of land acquisition has been tainted by reliance on what many observers have documented as abusive, collusive and illegal practices, and very often, its open disdain for private property rights. NPS arrogance and a heavy-handed drive for land condemnation, acquisition and control have created deep suspicion, bitterness and enmity, particularly in areas where families have been forcibly displaced from their homes and property. Even so, during most of its existence the NPS has been considered a federal agency answerable to a vote-conscious Congress and, ultimately, to the American people. Of necessity resulting from mounting, widespread criticism, a NPS with a 'new, friendly face' began to evolve. But behind the scenes, there was something else driving the public relations and cosmetic makeover, something more ominous and not as apparent to the average American. The National Park Service's Sarah Peskin wrote:

The national park idea was developed in the mid 19th century not by ranchers or mountain men, but by eastern intellectuals...with the establishment first of Yellowstone in 1872 followed by the addition of Sequoia and Mount Rainier national parks and of course the great Yosemite...Formally adopted as a system in 1916, the early parks established the traditions and concepts that are still very much alive today...The basic approach was simple. The federal government owned the land. Park personnel managed the parks as self-contained islands — picture those first parks which were established in many cases in lightly populated areas with no local or state government...the longstanding policy when new parks were established, such as at Shenandoah in the 1930s was to remove all traces of contemporary human habitation in the parks...

The concept of National Parks changed significantly during the mid-1960s. Peskin candidly continues:

Immediately following this period a very new kind of national park designation emerged. Called national heritage areas, these are landscapes on the scale of the great national parks, but with one remarkable difference. They are inhabited by people. And these people continue to own the land and go about their business, but something new is at work here. These are places where people are conscious not only that they live in an area of historical importance, or scenic value, but that they need to work on a regional

scale and with multiple layers of government and non-profit organizations to make sure their region maintains its integrity...these areas...evolved directly from the national park service's planning and management approach.”⁸

“Heritage areas (a.k.a. urban cultural parks, greenline parks, heritage parks and corridors, and partnership parks) are an accelerating phenomenon,” states Paul M. Bray, an environmental and land-use planning attorney from Albany, NY. The founder of the Hudson Mohawk Urban Cultural Park, Bray has lectured and written widely and favorably about the concept of Heritage Areas and the NPS's “global” mission:

Yet, even within the park and historic preservation communities there is little understanding of what heritage areas represent...Heritage areas don't fit neatly within any concept or specialization we are familiar with and do, in fact, represent a sea change in traditional notions of parks and historic preservation...First and foremost, heritage areas are an outgrowth of the environmental age...Heritage area planning is holistic, resources based, and in keeping with the idea that people's true heritage is the entire Earth. It links the natural with the cultural and the past with the present and the future. If an ecologically and culturally sustainable society is still more of a vision than a reality, the vision has a useful vehicle in heritage areas to carry forth its principles...The heritage area planning and management process has institutionalized collective efforts for conservation and economic viability by enlisting the participation of conservation and economic interests.”⁹

In a July, 2001 report, *Rethinking the National Parks for the 21st Century*, the National Park System Advisory Board explained:

[T]hese Heritage Area initiatives have already created Federal and local partnerships to conserve and commemorate distinctive regional landscapes. Congress has designated 23 National Heritage Areas...Forging partnerships is the centerpiece of the heritage movement, and the National Park Service should establish a formal program to foster them. Such a program would create opportunities to preserve larger landscapes outside parks...It is the founding mission of the Park Service to insure that these special places will never be impaired, and will be available forever to inspire and inform future generations...It recognizes efforts underway to integrate living cultures into park life.¹⁰

The report also recognized the need to direct more “resources” to study, inventory and protect sites:

[T]wo-thirds of more than 2,000 cultural landscapes will also be in poor condition, unless resources are available to improve them. Of the 52,000 archaeological sites inventoried (out of the nearly one million believed to exist), the Park Service has assessed the condition of only 4,700 sites, and of those only 31 percent are in good condition...Moreover, the Service is directed by law to assist with historic preservation beyond park boundaries-on all federal lands, on tribal reservations, and in the public and private sectors. Its responsibilities include administering the National Historic Landmarks program, which has designated more than 2,300 nationally significant properties since 1935, and the National Register of Historic Places, which now includes more than seventy thousand sites...development, encroaches upon our battlefields. Historic neighborhood schools are abandoned. Prehistoric archeological resources are looted or vandalized. Suburban sprawl consumes historic farmsteads and rural landscapes.

Rolf Diamant, Superintendent of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, writes:

[T]he definition of parks is evolving. People are raising their field of vision beyond the often fragmented preservation of individual areas, structures, and critical habitats...in the last 20 years more than 100 new parks have been added to the system. Attempts to divest parks or to severely restrict the system's growth, such as the so-called park closure bill offered in 1995, have found limited support...More than ever, national parks are forging new relationships and partnerships transcending traditional concepts of 'park management' to participate in the stewardship and sustainability of watersheds, ecosystems, and the larger landscapes which they are a part of. ¹¹

The Vail Agenda

The *institutionalized collective* shift in the concept of the National Park System and the plan to *preserve larger landscapes outside parks* was forged into policy during an important but obscure meeting in Vail, Colorado in 1991. The product of a "spring workshop session" in the luxury resort town was a result of "collaboration" between luminaries of the NPS, The Nature Conservancy, the World Wildlife Fund, the Conservation Foundation, National Parks Foundation, the JFK School of Government and others. The "Vail Symposium" was funded by America's "top business and nonprofit environmental organizations" such as the Pew Charitable Trust and the Rockefeller Foundation. Strategic National Park Service objectives were drafted for the 21st Century. The Park Service officially adopted the plan, known as the *Vail Agenda* which included recommendations for directives to "modernize" the NPS.

Among those policy recommendations were the need for strictly trained NPS professionals to oversee new management criteria for existing parks and for expanding influence into "heritage zones" and "gateway communities." Recommendation: "The National Park Service should reestablish an areas study program, covering both natural and heritage resources and charged with initiating and responding to proposals for park system additions. This program could be based in the Office of Strategic Planning...The Secretary [of the Interior] should clarify existing authorities, ensure their appropriate and consistent use, and seek additional legislation necessary to protect park services against external threats."

William K. Reilly, President of The Conservation Foundation, which merged with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in 1985, served as President of World Wildlife Fund until taking over the helm at EPA in 1989. A self-styled internationalist in policy outlook, promoter of environmentalism and proponent of government control of private land and resources, he headed the U.S. delegation to the UN's Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992. His definition of external threats to National Park Service authority typifies federal park management's thinking. Speaking of external threats to the NPS, Reilly's solution was: "Smite the encroachers!"—meaning private property owners. He was quoted in *The Washington Post*, October 13, 1991:

If resource stewardship must be the first priority, then recognition of context, of the place of parks in a larger setting, has to condition and control park policies...the community around the parks is posing threats of unimagined size and stress, of irresistible, transforming consequence for the parks.

Top NPS officials have repeatedly expressed similar sentiments and the need to have adequate "tools" to mitigate what they see as the private property threat to their Park Empire. Jerry L. Rogers, a NPS Associate Director wrote:

...the greatest threats to historic properties, natural resources, scenic values, and the national parks come not from federal agencies but from private parties doing private things on private land.

In Congressional testimony, July 25, 1994, Rogers urged Congress *not* to limit the NPS power to condemn and take private land in the Shenandoah Valley National Battlefields National Historic

District, a NPS designated National Heritage Area:

We recommend that the Secretary of the Interior, rather than the Commission be charged with preparing the Shenandoah Valley National Battlefields Plan...that the bill be amended in a manner that does not restrict our ability to acquire land [by condemnation]...that the National Park Service be charged with conducting a locally-based planning process to develop the...plan we know is going to enable the National Park Service to be there on a perpetual basis...

On page 56 of the management plan for the Blackstone River National Heritage Corridor, prepared by the Center for Rural Massachusetts, the same policies are contemplated: “At some point, a sufficient level of concern is reached along with a growing concern that voluntary, non-regulatory measures are themselves insufficient to ensure that environmental, cultural and historic resources are adequately protected against indiscriminate and inappropriate development.”

In testimony before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands on June 28, 1994, Denis P. Galvin, Associate Director, Planning and Development, National Park Service, stated:

Mr. Chairman, it is a pleasure to appear here today to present the Department’s views on H.R. 2949, a bill to establish the Augusta Canal National Heritage Corridor in Georgia...we recommend enactment of H.R. 2949 with an amendment to provide that the designation of the heritage corridor shall not take effect until the Secretary of the Interior approves the partnership compact for the heritage corridor...This is especially important in order to define before designation, the clear relationship and responsibilities of each partner, and to define the appropriate Federal role. More specifically, and as called for in the plan, there needs to be...evidence of commitment to modify [local] zoning regulations; and evidence of commitment to create a State park.

Nathaniel R. Dickinson, a biologist retired from a 35-year career in wildlife management, 21 years with the New York State Conservation Department, wrote on March 2, 2004:

An objective review of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Management Plan logically would lead to the conclusion that it is loaded with anti-heritage elements...In 1996 the National Park Service declared that the Hudson River Valley was the landscape that defined America. [Likewise, JTHG *defines* America.] The Service has been shown to have an insatiable appetite...it is not just the historic sites that are targets of control, but the entire ten counties...The Heritage Area will create Heritage Area Trails. Up goes the red flag, for the encroachment that is sure to follow. Again, beware of those trails, trailways, corridors, and other gimmicks that suggest absolute control. Heritage tourism will subsequently be promoted...It is obvious that the time is long overdue for every citizen who might be impacted by the Heritage Area program, or other such monstrosities, to give serious thought to the implications...There is far too much control by special interests with the public-be-damned attitude.

Researcher and columnist, Joanna Waugh, wrote of the *Vail Agenda*, “One planning group—the Resource Stewardship Group—was comprised of John Humke and John Sawhill of The Nature Conservancy, Michael O’Connell of World Wildlife Fund, two historic preservationists and four National Park Service managers. It recommended the Park Service push a new program—American Heritage Landscapes, which later became known as National Heritage Areas. This proposal has been described as ‘partnership parks for the 21st Century.’”¹²

“Within a year,” according to Tim Findley in a *Range Magazine* article, “the grand scheme of a newly conscious American park system was seen to fit in with a series of international concords directed at environmental protection. The *Vail Agenda* was carried first to Caracas, Venezuela, and a meeting of the IUCN, the so-called World Conservation Union, then, within a year, to Rio de Janeiro,

Brazil, and the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development. It was by then in the able custody of a staff member from senator, then vice president, Al Gore's office, Katy McGinty." ¹³

The *Vail Agenda* directed, "The NPS should identify those domestic resources that require international cooperation for effective management, protection and interpretation, and implement international strategies to manage, protect, and interpret such resources." By the early 1990s, it was more than obvious the "new" NPS had emerged as a subsidiary of the United Nations and its affiliated international agencies and NGOs. The NPS agenda was no longer solely under the direction of Congress or the American people. The "new paradigm" was the integration of *global control mechanisms* within the NPS's expanding definition of its park system.

A Quiet Revolution in land use control

Beginning in the 1970s, a series of "studies" were commissioned with major impacts on concepts, implementation and management strategies for the newly evolved form of national parks known as NHAs. In 1976, Congress directed the NPS to conduct the "National Urban Recreation Study" which recommended establishment of a system of "National Reserve landscapes" based on a "partnership" between local, state and federal governments and a series of specific, place-based heritage areas. J. Glenn Eugster, Assistant Regional Director of the Partnerships Office, National Park Service wrote:

Author Chuck Little, then of the Congressional Research Service, prepared a report for Congress that summarized the need for a new approach to urban park acquisition and management, "Greenline Parks: An Approach to Preserving Recreational Landscapes in Urban Areas." The concept, "Greenline Parks," was based on U.S. and International precedents and it suggested that special landscapes could be protected using a combination of federal, state and local means under a coordinated regional plan. Although Congress never enacted legislation for this approach many government agencies and private groups, with the assistance of the National Parks Conservation Association and the American Land Forum began to apply it in specific communities and landscapes. ¹⁴

Another study by the Rockefeller Task Force on Land Use and Urban Growth, *The Use of Land: A Citizen's Policy Guide to Urban Growth* (1972), offered land use planning as the best tool to "guide" growth and "protect" the environment. Laurence Rockefeller funded the publication, and William K. Reilly, who headed Rockefeller's Citizen's Council on Environmental Quality, edited it.

The report proposed the manner in which private land use could be restricted at no cost to government through jurisdictional control. Extension of government's jurisdiction required the effective repeal of the "takings clause" of the Fifth Amendment, which states private property cannot be taken for public use without just compensation. The thorny question in land-use issues and the state's police powers has been: When does regulation of property become confiscation of the property? The Rockefeller task force report clearly advocated tossing the "takings clause" on the trash heap of outmoded ideas:

Many [court] precedents are anachronistic now that land is coming to be regarded as a basic natural resource to be protected and conserved...It is time that the U.S. Supreme Court re examine its precedents that seem to require a balancing of public benefit against land value loss...and declare that, when the protection of natural, cultural or aesthetic resources or the assurance of orderly development are involved, a mere loss in land value is no justification for invalidating the regulation of land use...

Perhaps the most influential studies were *The Quiet Revolution in Land Use Control* (1972) by Fred P. Bosselman and David L. Callies, and *The Taking Issue: a Study of the Constitutional Limits of Governmental Authority to Regulate the use of Privately-owned Land Without Paying Compensation to the Owners* (1973), also by Bosselman and Callies, and John Banta. These two studies, done for the

President's Council on Environmental Quality, along with Callies', *A Model Land Development Code*, for the American Law Institute, "influenced a generation of lawyers, law professors and judges." Callies wrote:

Bosselman and Reilly convinced Gibbons [Boyd Gibbons headed the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), staffed by a former law firm summer associate, William K. Reilly] that a study of the growing role of states in the control of land use would be useful in support of a federal bill to implement the Model Code which sought to require a formal state role in the planning and use of land... Thus was born *The Quiet Revolution in Land Use Control*. As Bosselman conceived it, the study and report which followed it would concentrate on several key states which "took back" some of the police power delegated through zoning-enabling legislation to local governments... *The Quiet Revolution in Land Use Control* easily became the most influential study of land use in the 1970s, if not in the entire last quarter of the twentieth century, even though the model legislation it was designed to support never did pass Congress. It has been "revisited" many times, and its methodology repeated over and again not only in further state and regional studies, but in the Conservation Foundation's famous *International Comparative Land Use Study* and the many books and articles it produced in the late 1970s and early 1980s.¹⁵

The thrust of the land control establishment's legal efforts during the past three decades was to overcome Constitutional "limitations" protecting the individual's property rights. "The issue," according to Callies, "was the constitutionality of regulating so much private land outside the context of local zoning and the warning of Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes in the 1922 U.S. Supreme Court case of *Pennsylvania Coal Company v. Mahon* [260 U.S. 393 (1922)]: If a regulation went 'too far' it could be construed as a taking, as if the government took the property by eminent domain. In other words, a 'regulatory taking.'"

With the publication of *A Model Land Development Code* (1975), government entities and their NGO "partners" were provided "an accordion-like resource, parts of which could be adopted, or not, depending upon the goals and political climate in a particular jurisdiction." That accordion-like resource was applied to local planning and zoning, and environmental regulation of private land.

These three publications laid the legal foundations to dilute regulatory takings prohibitions in the courts. After *Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty Company*, 272 U.S. 365 (1926) and *Nectow v. City of Cambridge*, 277 U.S. 183 (1928), the supreme Court remained virtually silent for the next 50 years on the zoning/regulatory takings issue under the Constitution. In the interim, state courts "had riddled the regulatory taking doctrine with holes, leading Bosselman to conclude it should have no effect on either statewide or local land use regulatory practice."

The state and federal judiciaries had indeed undergone a quiet revolution allowing a regulatory Pandora's Box to be opened. In the name of "the public interest, health, safety and welfare" no man's property was safe. The courts turned their backs on regulatory takings except in the most blatant instances. Americans should not be at all shocked by the latest abdication of Constitutional principle, *Kelo v. City of New London* (2005). That decision is simply a logical outgrowth of the "quiet revolution" started in the 1920s and consolidated in the 1970s.

More International Connections and Controls

Rolf Diamant's "new relationships and partnerships transcending traditional concepts of 'park management'" were being absorbed into a vast, international, eco-system management structure where the decisions are based on the agenda of United Nations bureaucracies such as the IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, now known as the World Conservation Union). IUCN is the official technical advisory body to the World Heritage Committee

on natural heritage. For example, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972.

The IUCN was created on October 5, 1948, evolving from the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. Julian Huxley, former head of the Eugenics Society and founder of UNESCO, was a leading figure in its creation. The IUCN has a membership of more than 700 national and international NGOs, 74 sovereign governments, and 105 government agencies. Three organizations, the IUCN, the World Wildlife Fund and the World Resources Institute, have been the primary developers of global environmental and social policy as well as the coordinating bodies for the thousands of NGOs which promote and implement those policies.

The international management process under various UN “treaties” and agreements for National Heritage Areas in America, echoed in the NPS *Vail Agenda*, is spelled out in detail by Adrian Phillips, Senior Advisor to IUCN on World Heritage:

What is called for in the 21st century, and what is now emerging in the new paradigm, is a broader way of looking at protected areas. It is broader in three senses: By including a wider range of actors among those who initiate and manage protected areas, of which CCAs [Community Conserved Areas = National Heritage Areas] are an example; By working at a far broader scale than hitherto, as exemplified by ecological networks and bioregional planning; and by broadening our understanding of the range of possibilities encompassed in the definition of a protected area and the IUCN protected area categories, so that we can embrace parts of the lived-in landscape, for example as category V protected areas.

The IUCN definition for a Category V protected area, which encompasses our National Heritage Areas designations, is “[An] area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and *managed through legal or other effective means* (IUCN 1994).” (emphasis added) Phillips outlines the progress made at each subsequent World Parks Congresses, 1962 through 2003:

The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm (which may be seen as signaling the end of a colonial period of conservation); the development around the same time of the biosphere reserve concept as part of the Man and Biosphere program of the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], with its idea of a core area for strict protection surrounded by buffer and transitional zones, and its integration of conservation and development; the publication of the World Conservation Strategy in 1980, which expressed new thinking on conservation and its relationship to development (IUCN 1980); and the adoption of Agenda 21 and the CBD [Convention on Biological Diversity] at the 1992 UNCED.

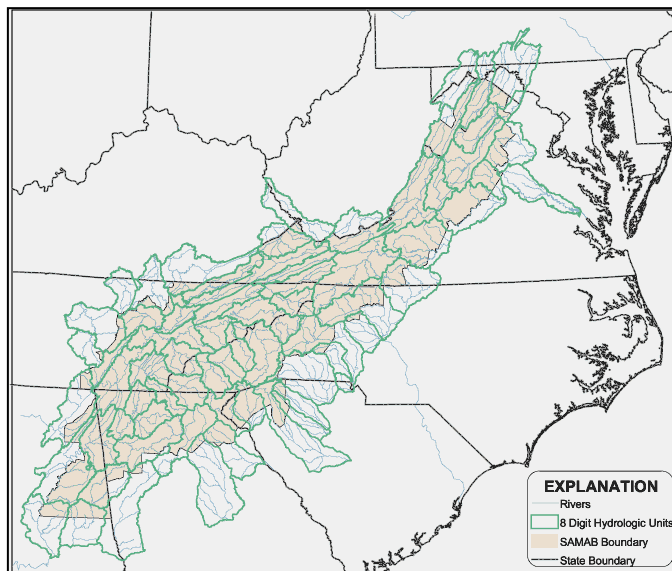
The result, he says, “is the emergence of a new paradigm for protected areas.” What Phillips describes in technical terms as “IUCN Category V Protected Areas” are being implemented as Wilderness Areas, American Heritage River Corridors, National Heritage Areas and other designations, all part of a long-range plan known as The Wildlands Project (TWP), a UN endorsed, eco-cultural system. It is designed to link totally uninhabited wilderness or “core areas across the continent as “wildlife corridors” where large predators such as wolves, mountain lions and grizzlies are reintroduced. Strictly managed “buffer” zones and human settlement or habitation “corridors” are located outside the vast “core areas.”

If The Wildlands Project is fully implemented in the US, using the current objectives, 50% of US land area will be “rewilded” and virtually depopulated to “pre-settlement” conditions. The remaining “buffer zones” would allow limited human activity, and populated “corridors” or “human resettlement

areas” would be highly regulated as “sustainable communities” using “Smart-Growth” and “Sustainable Development” policies. The Wildlands Project is not fantasy or theory, but is being steadily funded and implemented by most of the same “partners” who back the National Heritage Area/Corridor concept.

The UN’s Southern Appalachian Man and Biosphere program (SAMAB, right), is part of the Wildlands Project. It includes most of western Virginia and extends into the Piedmont region. A comprehensive overview of The Wildlands Project history and plan can be accessed at: <http://www.wildlandsprojectrevealed.org/index.html>

The thrust of smart-growth and sustainable development is designed to crowd the “human masses” into highly restricted zones where every activity—transportation, employment, education, medical care and “consumption of the earth’s limited resources”—can be strictly controlled. The “planners” who advocate these “human settlements” schemes have simply adapted a new, more palatable-sounding set of terms for the very old control mechanism known as a ghetto. In the Soviet Union, it is known as the *gulag*.



On June 16, 2005, the US House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held hearings on the impacts of the Wildlands Project on environmental regulations, energy and mineral development where “in conjunction with multiple local or national environmental organizations, [it] seeks to reestablish wilderness designations for approximately 50 percent of North America with the U.S. west as a major target.”

“The Wildlands Project is a long-term campaign,” said John Davis, the editor of the TWP official journal *Wild Earth*. “Wilderness recovery must start now but continue indefinitely—expanding wilderness until the matrix, not just the nexus, is wild...Does [this] mean that *Wild Earth* and the Wildlands Project advocate the end of industrial civilization? Most assuredly. Everything civilized must go...”

Just as the pagan culture of Gaia worship is praised in the UN’s Global Biodiversity Assessment, the Wildlands leadership has its “eco-shamans” to interpret “nature”: “Who knows what is precious and how much time is left?” wrote TWP board member Michael Soule. “The oracles are the fishes of the river, the fishers of the forest, and articulate toads. Our naturalists and conservation biologists can help us translate their utterances. Our spokespersons, fund-raisers, and grassroots organizers will show us how to implement their sage advice.”

Relatively unpopulated regions in the east, such as Virginia’s and West Virginia’s Allegheny Highlands, are specifically included in TWP plans. During the past 10 years, there has been a major effort by TWP NGO “partners” to establish bases of operations, to expand wilderness designations in the Jefferson-George Washington National Forests and to encourage further DOI/NPS/USFWS and USDA Forest Service land acquisitions in partnership with land trusts and preservation groups.

It is not coincidence the two programs, NHAs and TWP, were conceived at virtually the same time during the early 1990s. The broader strategy for both calls for using existing parks, national forests and land trusts to work as “partners” to acquire and tie up land. Ted Turner, who owns 2 million acres, is one of the major supporters of the UN and TWP, along with NGOs like The Nature Conservancy.



“I like the idea of taking it all and making ‘people corridors,’” says an activist involved in Wildlands planning in Nevada, Marge Sill, federal-lands coordinator for the Sierra Club. “Move out the people and cars,” says Dave Foreman, founder of the radical Earth First! Monkey Wrench gang and TWP co-founder. “If we identify, say, a private ranch in Montana that’s between two wilderness reserves, and we feel that 50 years from now it will be necessary as a corridor for wolves to go from one area to another, we can say to the rancher, ‘We don’t want you to give up your ranch now. But let us put a conservation easement on it. Let’s work out

the tax details so you can donate it in your will to this reserve system.’ When it’s needed for a corridor, it will be there.”¹⁶

The main IUCN elements of The Wildlands Project have been adopted by United States agencies such as the NPS, USACE, EPA, BLM, USFWS, and the USDA Forest Service under international conventions, and merged with the “modern paradigm” for National Heritage Areas, including these protected areas *requirements*:

Planned as part of national, regional, and international systems, with protected areas developed as part of a family of sites. The CBD [Convention on Biological Diversity] makes the development of national protected area systems a requirement (Article 8a); developed as “networks,” that is, with strictly protected areas, which are buffered and linked by green corridors, and integrated into surrounding land that is managed sustainably by communities.

Land in NHAs is viewed, according to Phillips, as a “community asset.” Private property rights and freedom of the individual to make decisions about economic, social and cultural issues which directly affect the lives of citizens and families are “balanced” by higher authority against the idea of a national and international heritage. The idea of independence and local control is “re-engineered”:

[M]anagement [is] guided by international responsibilities and duties as well as national and local concerns. Result: transboundary protected areas and international protected area systems...governance is by many partners...the ‘re-engineering’ of protected areas people; the reeducation of politicians and the public so that they understand the new model of protected areas; and the reorientation of development assistance policies...Bringing about such a revolution has not been easy. There are many people who—for good reasons or bad—do not wish to hear that the values and policies associated with protected areas are now very different from those that prevailed in the past.¹⁷

Similarly, one of the stated goals of the JTHG corridor project is creating “public awareness” and “educating our children with outreach programs” in an effort to “re-engineer” the thinking of protected areas’ people. Acceptance of multiple layers of national and international control of land and people “has not been easy.” The values and policies which Phillips says have “prevailed in the past” are the American values of liberty and individual property rights protected within our Constitutional system, now being replaced with a New Order model by international, collectivist revolutionaries.

Most of the hundreds of international agreements, memoranda of understanding, treaties, and compacts directing the National Park Service and other federal agencies having natural resource

jurisdiction were ratified *after* Morris Udall and environmental NGOs failed to get federal land use control acts through Congress during the mid-1970s. The environmentalists then completely bypassed the American people, Congress and the Constitutional process of enacting legislation. One example is the August 6, 1993 EPA document, *National Performance Review Ecosystem Protection* which states:

Evaluating National Policies/International Obligations: The Executive Branch should direct federal agencies to evaluate national policies on environmental protection and resource management in light of international policies and obligations, and to amend national policies to more effectively achieve international objectives. The State Department, USDI, EPA, USFS, NMFS, and other involved agencies should be directed to further develop national and international policies related to ecosystem management. In addition, the U.S. should to [sic] develop human population policies that are consistent with sustainable economies and ecosystems.

The designation of National Heritage Areas, National Monuments, National Wildlife Preserves, Wilderness Areas and other similar natural, historic and cultural preservation areas within the US are not born of any “grassroots” movement, even though that misleading term is used frequently. Instead, initiatives originate from what has been described as the elitist segments of society.

The Carter administration played a large role in implementing the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act as effective, “back door” federal land use control tools. In a “Forum on Preservation of Farmland,” the President’s Council on Environmental Quality determined, “The greatest need is to create a federal policy. This can be done by various tax and regulatory schemes. Another way is for the community to become part-owner in the land. A third way, well tested in Europe, is for the community to intervene in the actual market of land buying and selling.” The “community” is defined as NGO “partners” and “stakeholders,” not the affected individual land owners.

Corridor initiatives and their management are “top down.” Local “partners” and state agencies serve as foot soldiers commanded by federal agencies which have, throughout the last three decades, been transformed, one small step at a time, into mere ‘regional’ administrators for a global, collectivist structure aiming to control the world’s natural and “human resources.” Most Americans have not yet realized federal government has been ‘eunuchized’ to a large degree, and our representative governmental system has been greatly compromised. The emergence of “Regional Government Authorities,” “Regional Planning District Commissions” and similar structures are part of the “top down” process designed to castrate state and local government authority.

In March, 2004, Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton announced the Bush administration’s proposed legislation to promote and enhance community and regional heritage conservation efforts and to establish a National Heritage Area program. Testifying before the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks, Deputy Director of the NPS Randy Jones urged Congress consider establishing criteria for future proposed National Heritage Areas—a requirement that must be met before the Secretary of the Interior recommends their creation:

To be successful, National Heritage Areas must...work closely with all partners in the region, including federal land-management agencies...To ensure a constructive partnership, our legislative proposal requires the consultation and concurrence of federal land-management agencies within the boundaries of a proposed National Heritage Area. In addition to clarifying respective missions, this process of consultation will help identify potential partnerships as envisioned by the administration’s recent Preserve America Executive Order. Under this initiative, local communities and public land partners will collaborate for the promotion of local economic development and heritage tourism through the preservation and productive reuse of historic assets.

Local governing institutions, once closest to the people and standing as the firm protectors of individual rights and local government authority, are now, in almost all instances, rubber stamps for regional, state, federal and international policy. Legislative, executive and judicial bodies exist in name but no longer function independently. Because the structural vestiges of our original system, including separation of powers and subsidiarity, have been kept in place, where formerly each governmental unit had distinct boundaries of jurisdiction, it is difficult for the average citizen to comprehend the enormity of the transformation. The sheriff, the board of supervisors and the county court judge retain their *titles*, but in most cases have become mere local administrators or “factors” for “higher centralized authority.” The proliferation of federal and state grants and assistance programs create not just a federal nexus, but an international nexus which erodes local authority.

As this is being written, the USDA Forest Service is in the process of adopting new planning regulations using Environmental Management Systems contained in the International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001:2004 for new Forest Plans. This development came to light at the Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties Training Session held in Tucson, March 22-23, 2005, in discussions with Bob Davis, Director of Ecosystem Analysis, Planning, Southwestern Region III, US Forest Service.

ISO 14001:2004 (from the Abstract) “specifies requirements for an environmental management system to enable an organization to develop and implement a policy and objectives which take into account legal requirements and other requirements to which the organization subscribes...” The ISO standards are based on an “international consensus” where “*Think globally, act locally*—the well known credo for addressing environmental issues—also expresses the objective of ISO’s many environmental standards. These standards reflect global consensus on good environmental practice in the international context that can be applied pragmatically by organizations all over the world in their particular situation.”

The Nature Conservancy, a party to many international conservation agreements and memoranda of understanding with federal agencies, was awarded \$500,000 for a non-competitive contract to “develop the scientific foundation to meet regional priorities, including preparation of Forest Plan revisions” under the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 1992, P.L. 102-154.¹⁸

What NHAs mean on the ground

In 1995, the Senate Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation introduced S.1110, “The National Heritage Areas Partnership Program,” a bill designed “to encourage appropriate partnerships among Federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations and the private sector...to conserve and manage” Heritage Areas.

S.1110 codified the *Vail Agenda* but did not pass due to an outcry from citizens and property rights advocates. It would have required a “list of property in the area that should be conserved, restored, managed, developed or maintained because of the natural, cultural, or historic significance of the property as it relates to the themes of the area...recommendation of policies for resource management that consider and detail the application of appropriate land and water management techniques, including...the development of intergovernmental cooperative agreements to manage the historical, cultural, and natural resources and...analysis of means by which Federal, State and local programs may best be coordinated...”

Even former National Park Service director James M. Ridenour commented on the danger of this bill—federal land-use management. He declared the program, “[S]imply tries to do too much and threatens too many individual freedoms. I believe the heavy hand of big government will be clearly seen and defeated...”

Earlier, on September 19, 1994, Congressman Gerald B. Solomon of New York, wrote a “Dear

Colleague” letter to fellow Members of the House in which he stated: “I urge you to defend property rights and strongly oppose the American Heritage Area Participation Program when it comes before the House...The environmentalists advocating this bill have *federal land use control* as their primary objective...Secretary Babbitt has made it clear that funding for heritage areas will be conditioned on adoption of land use regulations acceptable to the federal government!!!” (emphasis in the original)

James S. Burling, lead attorney for Pacific Legal Foundation, analyzed the proposed legislation in detail on August 25, 1995. He concluded, “[T]he proposed Act has the potential of severely affecting local governments and private landowners throughout the nation. There are no objective standards for determining the boundaries of the National Heritage Areas and no meaningful justification for the proposed federal program.”¹⁹

Alston Chase, retired chairman of the Department of Philosophy at Macalester College in Minnesota, author of *Playing God in Yellowstone*, and *In a Dark Wood*, warned in a May 21, 1996, *Washington Times* op/ed:

In reality, the Heritage Area initiative is a massive central planning scheme to impose politically motivated federal zoning across the country. It would subject millions more acres of private lands to federal authority, to be directed by whatever policies bureaucrats decide...If you liked the social injustices wrought by the Endangered Species Act, you’ll love the Heritage Areas bill. The idea so reeks of elitism that the legislatures of two states—Colorado and Alaska—recently passed joint resolutions condemning it.²⁰

“The main enforcers of these policies are the National Park Service, the Army Corp of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Forest Service, The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and 800,000 lawyers,” says Tom DeWeese, President of The American Policy Center in Warrenton, Virginia.

These are aided by the advance troops of environmental radicals who infest every local community by scouting out possible targets, and by creating controversy and legal attacks on businesses, property owners and developers. No stone is left unturned, no scare tactic is too outrageous for these highly funded, politically sophisticated, fanatical societal misfits.

Groups like the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, National Wildlife Federation, the Wilderness Society, National Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Defense Council provide the legal research and courtroom advocacy to force property owners into submission. These groups have become so powerful and feared that most major businesses will pay them ‘green mail’ and capitulate to their demands without putting up a fight. Smaller property owners, farmers, ranchers and family businesses have little chance to hang onto their property once the attack begins.

This ‘ecologarcy’ is funded through federal tax dollars and through private foundations like the Rockefeller Foundation, the Mellon Foundations, Ford Foundation, Pew Charitable Trust, W. Alton Jones Foundation, University grants, the Environmental Grantmakers Association and through the selling of taken land—the booty of their legal assault.

As this violence to America’s most fundamental right—private property—grows, however, the average American is unaware of the rapid decline of private property ownership. That’s because the news media manages to either ignore the latest government taking, or describe it in glowing terms as a boon for the environment. Children in classrooms are taught that protecting the environment must take precedent over any human activity. All of this is backed up by a constant flow of unfounded ‘scientific’ reports declaring environmental Armageddon through ozone holes, global

warming and human consumption.²¹

On July 26, 2005, the US Senate approved legislation sponsored by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) to “explore the possibility” of adding the 500,000 acre Rim of the Valley Corridor in Southern California to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, making it nearly three and a half times the size of the existing Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, now 153,750 acres. According to Senator Feinstein, if passed by the House of Representative and signed by the President, S.153 would direct the DOI to study:

...impacts to wildlife, endangered plant and animal species...and historically significant landscapes, sites and structures...The National Park Service oversees the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the world’s largest urban park as designated by Congress in 1978, spanning from the Ventura Freeway westward to the Pacific Ocean. Inclusion of the Rim of the Valley corridor would link wildlife habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains to the Angeles National Forest...The Act requires the Secretaries to consult with state, county, and local governments, and to report their recommendations to Congress within three years. An Act of Congress would then be required to designate any new addition to the Park System. A number of environmental organizations support this legislation, including the Altadena Foothills Conservancy, the California Wilderness Coalition, Scenic America, and the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club...”

S.153 specifically includes major elements of The Wildlands Project plan for corridors:

In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall (1) seek to achieve the objectives of (A) protecting wildlife populations in the Recreation Area by preserving habitat linkages and wildlife movement corridors between large blocks of habitat in adjoining regional open space...(E) protecting (i) rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species; and (ii) rare or unusual plant communities and habitats;

In a 2005 paper, one of a series by the California Institute of Public Affairs, *The Urban Imperative: Urban outreach strategies for protected area agencies*, Ted Trzyna notes the special role of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The series is from the workshop proceedings at the Fifth World Parks Congress, Durban, South Africa, September, 2003. Trzyna is President of the California Institute of Public Affairs and Task Force Leader, Cities and Protected Areas, World Commission on Protected Areas. The California Institute of Public Affairs has been an IUCN member since 1980:

Many organizations work to restore nature and create parks in the inner city of Los Angeles. The impetus for projects often comes from elected officials or NGOs...However, one unusual organization, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), has had a special role. SMMC, a unit of the California state government, started operations in 1980. It was created within the context of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA), established in 1978 to protect natural and cultural landscapes...SMMC’s original mission was to acquire private lands for the SMMNRA...(The SMMNRA now covers 62,000 hectares and is a cooperative effort of the U.S. National Park Service, California State Parks, and SMMC.) In the process, SMMC became highly skilled at acquiring land and making it accessible by negotiating with landowners, combining funding from different sources, and forming partnerships with other agencies and NGOs. Its mandate has gradually expanded. It has helped preserve over 22,200 hectares of parkland...²²

According to Congressman Adam Schiff, the area includes parts of the Santa Monica Mountains, the Santa Susanna Mountains, the San Gabriel Mountains, the Verdugo Mountains, the San Rafael

Hills, and adjacent connector areas to the Los Padres and San Bernardino National Forests.

Preserved forever and ever...

*Can you hold a moonbeam in your hand?
Let's pretend there's history on your land,
Wouldn't a planet covered with easements be so grand!*—Anon.

The key to the Preservation Corridor/National Heritage Area concept is control of the use of private property. The NPS and its “partners” insist controls are only accomplished by “voluntary means,” a term which has proven to be as deceptive as “willing sellers.” Willing sellers are created by a myriad of ‘voluntary’ environmental and land use regulations implemented by government and its NGO partners as indicated above by Tom DeWeese. National Historic District and National Historic Landmark designations are two ‘tools’ used to enforce control without land owners’ consent.

While the Marxist ideal is the abolition of all private property, outright abolition and confiscation by force is not always necessary in the transition to a collectivist state. The illusion of private property ownership can be tolerated or may even be desirable as long as the state is able to dictate land use policy. The ‘landowner’ is seen by the state as a ‘productive human resource,’ paying taxes and bearing the direct costs of the regulatory burden in exchange for what is a feudal privilege of tenure. Loyalty to the state and to the ruling class is a condition of the illusion of ownership. Political costs for the ruling class can be controlled and minimized as long as the illusion is perpetuated.

In a feudal system, the *dominium directum*, the dominion of soil, is directly or indirectly vested in the crown. The use or nominal holding of lands or tenements by subjects of the crown, the *dominium utile*, is separated or split from the soil, and is held in subordination to a superior land lord, usually according to his will, and by some service, fealty or rent.

Phillips noted the change in values and definition of ownership is a “revolutionary concept” and has not been easy to accomplish. The changes he approves are revolutionary only in the sense of being a rejection of 700 years of man’s progress away from a feudal tenure system, and toward individual liberty with individual, unalienable rights in property. Many devices are being used to seduce land owners into accepting “new forms of joint and common property ownership to reflect community responsibilities, rather than just individual rights.” All of these modern devices are a regression to the old feudal tenure system and work by legally splitting fee ownership. In one of its more modern forms, it is also known as the fascist system.

Fee, fee simple, or fee simple absolute, three terms with essentially the same legal meaning in America, refer to the most complete form of land ownership. The fee owner possesses all possible “sticks” in the “bundle of sticks.” The powers allowed to the state are intended to be strictly limited by federal and state constitutions in order to protect individual rights. The fee owner has been able to exercise, until recently, the lawful right to exclude trespass, to enjoy, sell, rent, devise by will and to mortgage. Water, mineral and timber rights, and a vast multitude of other rights, such as development and subdivision rights, are sticks in the owner’s bundle.

The bundle of sticks *is* property. Property, by definition in Law, is the rights, *not the physical thing*. Because of general ignorance or misunderstanding of the lawful nature of property by the average person, government and its NGO strategists and partners have been able to mislead land owners who believe property is a physical thing, and thus are able to target specific rights to be removed from the bundle, the fee estate. The owner believes he still owns the physical thing because he plows his ground, sleeps in his home, pays his taxes and possesses a piece of paper called a title or deed. But the fee in his 100 acre tract of land in the year 2005 is greatly diminished compared to the fee possessed by his predecessor in title in the year 1875.

Legislatures and courts have acted and decreed incremental changes in the nature of fee ownership

during the past 100 years. One by one, sticks have been surreptitiously removed from the owner's bundle, usually "in the public interest" or for the "common good" or for the "health, welfare and safety of the community." Each restriction on rights imposed by government, whether through court decisions, zoning or environmental regulation, vests those rights partially or fully in the state. For all practical purposes, what were once the landowner's rights in property have been converted to privilege, or license. For instance, permits and approvals from the state are now required to build an addition to a home, to harvest timber, to subdivide land or to change from agricultural to commercial use. 75 years ago, such permissions were a rarity, found only in major cities, and were generally rejected by the majority of Americans as an incident of collectivism.

For the average landowner, the use of the legal device known as a perpetual conservation easement (CE), especially during the past 30 years, is one of the most insidious and least understood methods of splitting fee and transferring property (rights) to the state. Within designated boundaries of NHAs or historic corridors, the conservation easement has become one of the primary tools used to create a "new form of common property," a new form feudalism. PDRs and TDRs (Purchase/Transfer of Development Rights) are very similar devices, another "new form of tenure."

The conservation easement is a legally binding agreement or deed of conveyance of rights to the state. Most conservation easements are in perpetuity. Rights are conveyed to and held by the state or its designated agents such as land trusts and conservancies. A typical conservation easement separates development and other rights from underlying fee, thus allegedly "preserving" land.



The use of CEs raises the question, "Does man have a right to restrict the use of property in perpetuity?" One answer is found in Leviticus 25: "And the land shall not be sold in perpetuity; for the land is Mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with Me. And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land." When King Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard, in 1 Kings 21, Naboth answered, "Far be it from me before the Lord, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee." Jezebel conspired to murder Naboth and they took Naboth's land. The story of Naboth, a simple tiller of the soil, and Ahab and Jezebel, the 'state', illustrates how concentration of wealth and power leads to violation of the rights of the individual. (Illustration by T. M. Rooke)

The use of perpetual conservation easements is also alleged to be a "voluntary, private, market-based" means of preservation or protection of natural, scenic, cultural or historic resources "for future generations." The words, conservation easement, sound benign, even benevolent, but on closer inspection, the deceptive nature of the term becomes obvious, as well as the begged question: "For whom and from whom are resources being protected?"

CEs are not private, market-based contracts despite the claims of the land trusts advocating them. They can not be private because the ultimate repository of rights split from the grantor's fee is state or federal government. In addition, taxes fund the purchase of many CEs and special tax credits are allowed to easement grantors, certainly not a private, market-based transaction. Even in the case of what appears to be the rare exception, those few easements held by small, special-purpose land trusts, the shadow of state enforcement and control looms "for future generations."

CEs are not, in most cases, voluntary contracts, because the land owner is rarely informed by land trusts or by attorneys of the full meaning of the legal terms and potential liabilities inherent in a CE. The essentials of any valid contract include certainty, competence and consent of the parties. The vast majority of donors or sellers of easements can not, in fact, be fully informed because the terms of most

CEs are purposely broad and open to arbitrary interpretation by the easement holder, or by third parties who may intervene to enforce an easement and by the courts. Whether a grantor is truly competent to weigh perceived benefits against potentially complex liabilities, or to make determinations about the certainty of easement terms and to voluntarily consent to a binding agreement is open to question.

Contractual consent is an act unclouded by fraud or duress. Because CEs are not true easements, but statutory conglomerations of ill-defined restrictive covenants and servitudes, negative and affirmative obligations having very little to do with true conservation, the element of fraud muddies the waters. In numerous cases, duress has been a factor in persuading land owners to grant a CE. Government agencies such as the NPS and USFWS have consistently held land owners hostage with a variety of threats including closure of access roads, the Endangered Species Act, condemnation, legal action and regulatory harassment.

The language of a CE explicitly states it is a “non-possessory interest” in property. On its face, this language is fraud, a “deceitful practice or willful device, resorted to with intent to deprive another of his right, or in some manner to do him an injury.” Rights must vest. Rights not specifically *retained* by a grantor do not vanish but are, in fact, transferred to, vest in and are *possessed* by the grantee or holder of the easement. Rights are property. However, even those rights specifically retained by a grantor, and which seem secure at the time an easement is granted, are subject to future compromise, dilution, regulation or loss due to the uncertainty inherent in a CE.

In a May, 2005 case in Idaho, the USFS sued Therral “Terry” Jackson in U.S. District Court in Boise. Jackson owns a 3 acre lot in the Clearwater River Wild and Scenic Corridor, designated by Congress in 1968 as a national “Wild and Scenic River.” The Forest Service purchased numerous scenic easements within the 185-mile corridor after the federal designation created “new protection standards” and it now contends Jackson has violated terms of a scenic easement. The Forest Service bought the easement from previous owners in 1980 which “preserves the natural character and water quality of the corridor.” Jackson bought the property in 2002 and has, according to USFS allegations, built a “massive concrete retaining wall, patio, footbridge and concrete walk to the residence” which “changed the general topography of the landscape.” Jackson denies changes and additions he made to his *private property* violate development restrictions, but the Forest Service says if he does not return the landscape to its previous condition it will tear out the improvements and bill Jackson for the costs.

Also in May, 2005, *High Country News* reported on the plight of small tree farms in Washington State. About 40,000 individuals own small tree farms, 4 million of the 8 million acres of private forestland covering some of the best fish and wildlife habitat, lowland areas and streams. Kirk Hanson, of the Department of Natural Resources’ Small Forest Landowner Office, says small-scale timber operators had little say in negotiating the Forests and Fish logging rules. “The Forests and Fish rules were industry-negotiated. Small forest landowners were shoved to the side,” and bear the brunt of complex regulations necessitating the use professional foresters to fill out cutting applications.

The state offers an easement program to *help offset the costs of regulations for small forest landowners*. At a recent meeting of the Washington Farm Forestry Association, Peter Overton, an advocate for small forest owners whose family has owned a tree farm near Puget Sound since 1922, said tree farmers are hesitant to sign up for the easements because of the risk of being “tied up in forestry (and) then regulated out of business.” The state ties the hands of land owners with environmental regulations, and then offers a conservation easement program to *help* land owners which further limits future utility of the land. Eventually, private ownership is not feasible.

In one sense, a CE is a backward transfer of property, from the future to the present, a form of *conversion*: “the unauthorized assumption and exercise of the right of ownership over [property] belonging to another, to the alteration of their condition or exclusion of the owner’s rights.” It is also *trespass*, which, in the comprehensive sense, is “any transgression or offense against the law of nature...whether it relates to a man’s person or to his property.” Land trusts and donors of CEs assume

they have the god-like wisdom and the right to encumber future owners of land, to make decisions for the distant, unborn, “future generations.” This idea is totally alien to the Anglo-American view of individual Liberty and property rights and was strongly rejected by Jefferson and the Founders.

In pursuing CE acquisitions, land trusts have been able to operate in ways government agencies cannot, essentially without public scrutiny, oversight or procedural regulation. Public notice or hearings on their actions are not required. They are under no obligation to provide land owners with accurate factual or legal advice, appraisals, or to publicly disclose detailed financial information about their operations. Yet land trusts are tax-exempt, taxpayer funded and often act as real estate agents for government agencies.

The PEC claims preservationist efforts over the past 25 years “have led to voluntary conservation of more than 200,000 Piedmont acres and more than 35 million acres nationwide of working agricultural lands, working forests, wildlife habitats, historic landscapes, and parklands.”

Land trust acquisitions of land and easements have become an important tool of de facto land-use planning. Trusts can acquire strategically located land or development rights and therefore control road building, housing and industrial development, and water sources. One California land trust official described, how his organization stopped a major development: “We had co-opted the local government when we established a conservancy years ago by having the mayor of the local town and the supervisors on our board, and by me personally helping the board of supervisors of the county set up an agricultural land trust to protect irrigated agricultural land.

To the point where people in the government said, ‘Come talk with the land conservancy, because, in effect, off the record we’re telling you, you’re not going to work it out without the conservancy.’”

County	New Acres Under Easement in 2004	Total Acres Under Easement
Albemarle	6,753	Over 49,000
Clarke	997	Over 14,500
Culpeper	60	Over 4,000
Fauquier	8,264	Over 65,000
Greene	585	Over 2,000
Loudoun	1,635	Over 32,000
Madison	606	Over 5,000
Orange	769	Over 18,000
Rappahannock	4,121	Over 20,000
PEC Region	23,790	Over 200,000

Individuals often are caught in the middle of land trusts’ acquisition plans. If surrounded by trust holdings near a park or wildlife refuge, the land suddenly becomes an “inholding,” subject to great pressure from trusts and government to “protect” the land. With the uncertainty resulting from the status of a “priority” land acquisition target, inholders face protracted regulatory actions, harassment, and legal actions, often being convinced to become “willing sellers.”

In May of 1999, Earth First! and Wildlands Project co-founder Dave Foreman promoted conservation easements as a tool for implementing corridor plans such as the Wildlands Project, explaining to a New Mexico State University audience the CE’s role as a “pre-acquisition” tool to create “willing sellers:”

Conservation easements are the key to the corridors. Once the easements are legally in place, we can impose habitat restrictions for wildlife thus ending grazing and other agricultural practices. If the landowner refuses, the easement management loophole will allow us to sue the landowner and impose those restrictions.

On June 8, 2005, Timothy Lindstrom, a director and attorney for the Jackson Hole Land Trust, Wyoming, testified before the US Senate on the use of conservation easements. Mr. Lindstrom, formerly of Virginia, taught zoning and planning law at the University of Virginia School of Architecture, served nine years as the staff attorney for the Piedmont Environmental Council, twelve years as a member of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, and has lectured widely and published numerous articles on conservation easements and land use planning. He is highly regarded by preservationists and land trusts. His testimony is revealing, quoted here in part:

It is safe to say that the kind of restrictions on future use of land that can be

imposed by a conservation easement would be unconstitutional if imposed through a police power-based land use regulation. In addition, some states (e.g. most recently Oregon) have begun to impose additional constitutional and/or statutory limitations on local authority over land use...such concepts as “Dillon’s Rule,” and similar limitations on local authority, further limit the ability of land use regulations to preserve land...government regulation of land is not politically popular, and is typically strenuously resisted by landowners, even landowners with a strong conservation ethic. People simply don’t like to be told what to do with their land. This resistance makes extensive regulation of private land politically difficult, if not impossible...A vast amount of land in the United States, particularly in the West, is already owned by the public...However, in the West, and throughout much of the rest of the nation, further extending public ownership is anathema to many people. In addition, public acquisition is extremely costly. It is costly in terms of purchase price, costly in terms of maintenance of the land itself once in public ownership, costly in terms of administration, and it takes land off from local tax rolls. It is also politically costly...

Conservation easements are the tool that allows these landowners, whose private stewardship has made their land a national asset, to insure the future protection of their land. Conservation easements avoid all of the pitfalls of the other two methods of land conservation previously described: they are private and therefore their terms are up to the landowner, unrestricted by the complex and extensive constitutional and statutory constraints on land use regulation. Conservation easements transcend the tortuous political cycles that prevent consistent conservation by local government. Conservation easements do not involve the costs of public acquisition and, however costly the tax benefits provided to conservation easement donors, this cost will never be more than a fraction of the cost of public acquisition and ownership. Most importantly, conservation easements leave the management of the land up to the owner and, typically, local private conservation organizations.²³

Mr. Lindstrom makes several important points in harmony with international methods of controlling private land. One of the most serious obstacles to imposition of control schemes has been the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution. Lindstrom recognizes the obstacle exists even though Bosselman and Callies concluded it had been punched full of holes by various courts. He claims the conservation easement is a “private” tool which can be used to circumvent “complex and extensive constitutional and statutory constraints on land use regulation.” On his latter point, he is entirely correct, however, he falsely characterizes CEs as being private. This half-truth is one of the deceptions used by the land trusts to lure property owners into splitting their fee estate by agreeing to grant development and other rights to the state or its sanctioned agents. By convincing a landowner a CE is a private, voluntary contract, distrust of government involvement is swept aside. Most land owners are not fully aware of the implications of potential conveyance to and/or enforcement of the easement by “third parties.”

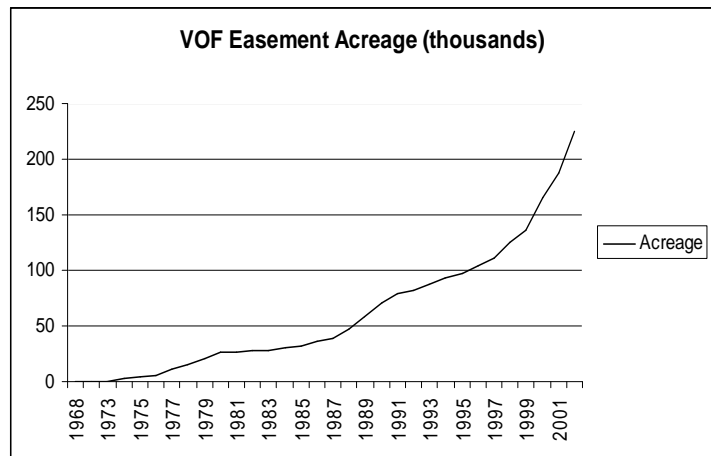
The recent Louisa County, Virginia case of farm owner Peter Blackman illustrates the perils of what originally was a “private, voluntary” historic preservation easement in the Green Springs Historic District, a National Historic Landmark. The CE was subsequently transferred to and enforced by the heavy hand of the NPS in federal and Virginia courts. Blackman’s farmhouse was encumbered by the easement, listed in the NPS National Register of Historic Places. He was harassed and eventually sued and criminally prosecuted by the NPS for attempting to renovate and restore a badly deteriorated and almost unlivable “historic home.”

In testimony before the US House Resources Committee’s National Parks Subcommittee on April 21, 2005, Blackman stated, “The National Park Service and others will use the National Register as a

bludgeon against the property owner and trample his property rights if they can. To them, your property, once listed, is just a resource. To them, it is not a home.”²⁴

Mr. Lindstrom correctly observes the increases in state acquisitions of land in fee have become an “anathema to many people,” not only in terms of public costs, but also politically. CEs allow land use controls to be imposed without the usual public costs or the anathema. Thus, full acquisition, maintenance and other costs are not directly incurred by the taxpayers. The state can extract its “sticks” from the private owner’s bundle at little or no obvious economic cost. The nominal land owner continues to be burdened by property taxes, although possibly at a relatively lower rate, as well as normal costs of upkeep. In addition, any costs of compliance with the terms of the CE are born by the landowner. Because many of the terms of CEs are vague and open to interpretation with changing circumstances, compliance costs and use restrictions may increase dramatically over a period of years. Land owners may also be subject to civil and criminal sanctions, as well as the “holder’s” enforcement costs if the land owner is found to be in violation of CE terms by a court.

This graph represents cumulative number of acres (in thousands) held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. VOF was created by the General Assembly in 1966 and is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor. The trend is consistent with other state, federal and land trust data for Virginia. “The use of conservation easements has increased almost 400 percent since the Tax Act of 1986 allowed for the deductibility of easements against one’s income taxes.” (*Land Use and Land Loss in the United States: The Impact of Land Use Trends on Real Estate Development*, National Association of Realtors, 2001) Note the ‘bump’ in the graph from the late 1980s through the mid 1990s corresponding to increased ‘tax incentives.’



The real push for use of conservation easements as a land control mechanism began with the 1972 publication of an environmental law paper by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), an advisory arm of the United Nations. In Chapter Two of D. D. Gregory’s paper, *The Easement as a Conservation Technique*: “The Need for Conservation Easements in The United States,” land control was specifically addressed:

Broadly speaking, the need for an approach like that permitted by conservation easements...arises for government agencies when the objectives are beyond their power to impose sufficient restrictions on property without compensation and in all cases for private organizations having no regulatory authority...In the United States it is the governmental need that is particularly acute because traditionally a choice must be made between a limited regulation, which may not be sufficient to the purpose, and acquisition of full title to land, which may not be necessary. The United States federal and state constitutions require ‘just compensation’ to be paid to a land owner whose property has been expropriated or condemned for public purposes...but full acquisition may clearly not be needed to accomplish the governmental objective...The cost to the government for paying the full value of land (particularly in areas most critically in need of preserving for scenic purposes, namely, agricultural or undeveloped land located in prime areas for development) can be prohibitive; and, in addition to the high cost of acquiring full title, full acquisition may clearly not be needed to accomplish the governmental objective of preserving the land in its present state. On the other hand, if land is so situated as to be at once both ripe for development and in need of preservation for scenic or conservation purposes, the government may well be precluded from simply

enacting a law to prohibit changing its natural state. This too, is because the courts have held that the general rule is that while property may be regulated to a certain extent, if regulation goes too far it will be recognized as a taking. This rule perhaps reflects the strong disposition of American law toward development and economic exploitation of land.²⁵

Lindstrom, and a host of others who endorse CEs, have simply refined and adapted the IUCN concept in America. The Uniform Conservation Easement Act (UCEA) was formulated by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, adopted in 1981, and then approved by the American Bar Association on January 26, 1982. The NPS served in an advisory role. The Commissioners commented:

The Act enables durable restrictions and affirmative obligations to be attached to real property to protect natural and historic resources. Under the conditions spelled out in the Act, the restrictions and obligations are immune from certain common law impediments which might otherwise be raised...[it] seeks to create a novel additional interest which, although unknown to the common law, is, in some ill-defined sense, a statutorily modified amalgam of the three traditional common law interests...There are both practical and philosophical reasons for not subjecting conservation easements to a public ordering system. The Act has the relatively narrow purpose of sweeping away certain common law impediments which might otherwise undermine the easements' validity, particularly those held in gross. If it is the intention to facilitate private grants that serve the ends of land conservation and historic preservation, moreover, the requirement of public agency approval adds a layer of complexity which may discourage private actions. Organizations and property owners may be reluctant to become involved in the bureaucratic, and sometimes political, process which public agency participation entails. Placing such a requirement in the Act may dissuade a state from enacting it for the reason that the state does not wish to accept the administrative and fiscal responsibilities of such a program...the very adoption of the Act by a state legislature facilitates the enforcement of conservation easements serving the public interest...One of the Act's basic goals is to remove outmoded common law defenses that could impede the use of easements for conservation or preservation ends.²⁶

This model act has been adopted in some form by most states. The Commonwealth of Virginia adopted it in 1988, found at Virginia Code § 10.1-1009 *et seq.* The Virginia Code makes it clear the ultimate repository of all interests held under a CE are vested in and controlled by the state. Thus, another *outmoded* Common Law concept of the inviolability of individual rights in property in Virginia was *removed* and *swept away*.

The recent supreme Court decision, *Kelo v. City of New London* (2005), opens the door for changes in the way government entities view conservation easements and other restrictions on property rights. Since “public use” has been redefined to mean “public purpose” under the Fifth Amendment, interpretations by legislatures and rulings by lower courts may prove to be “a can of worms” for landowners living in federal “protected areas” such as the proposed JTHG corridor. Even where states act to counter the effect of *Kelo*, a precedent has been set where there is a federal nexus which could take priority over any state action. The consequences seem uncertain and potentially far-reaching.

Virginia is not unique

Just as Virginians in the JTHG corridor are targeted, the residents of a corridor stretching from St. Louis to Cairo, Illinois are facing a similar plan which could impact up to 225,000 acres of mostly private woodlands and farmland along the Mississippi River, home to eight “endangered species.” Another 20 state endangered or threatened species are found in the area, part of the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge Complex established in 1958.

The Middle Mississippi River Partnership consists of 16 member organizations. The mission of the partnership is “to address natural resource issues through public and private resource management, compatible economic development, private lands conservation and education and outreach to the citizens of the region.” None of the “partners” were elected by the people affected.

The partnership’s National Wildlife Refuge Draft Corridor Vision Plan states, in part: “Implementation efforts will be based on planning and grassroots coalition building that includes local citizens and all levels of government. Private property rights must be recognized in implementing conservation projects and in offering solutions to natural resource issues. Voluntary participation by landowners is the key for implementing conservation projects that will meet resource needs. Any acquisition of land for conservation purposes will be through voluntary methods and involve only willing sellers.” Note the *recognition* of private property rights is a common element in most corridor management plans. The word, *protection*, is not used. What is *recognized* by the partnership is property rights are a stumbling block for implementation of their management plans for protected areas.

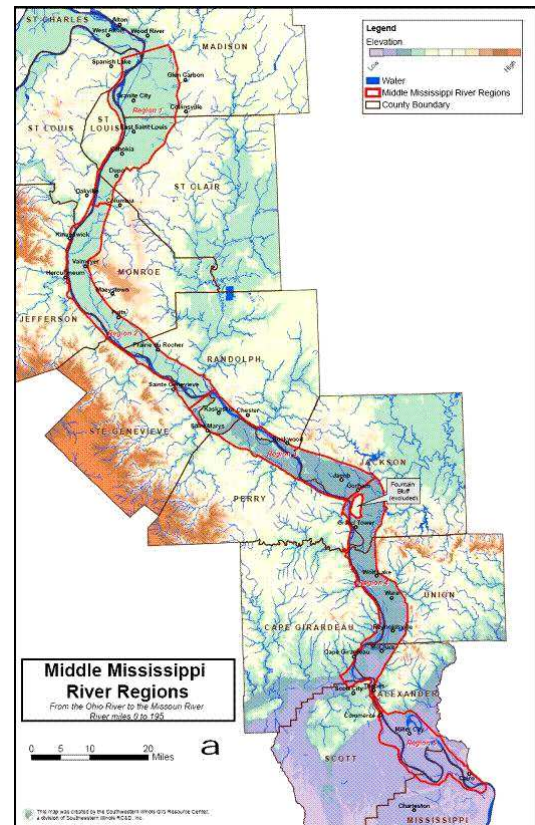
The MMRP includes: American Land Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Forestry Development Council, Illinois Society of American Foresters, Missouri Department of Conservation, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy, Upper Mississippi and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture, US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Wildlife Forever. For more information, see: <http://www.swircd.org/>

On the Upper Mississippi, a \$216 million-plus regulatory package is being used to “reduce the human stress on the fragile river environment and improve wild habitats.” In a recent Associated Press report, Ron Nicklaus of Genoa, Wisconsin, an avid duck hunter who camps every summer on the Mississippi, said, “This is big stuff. It really gouges a lot of folks. It (the Mississippi) doesn’t belong to the Fish and Wildlife Service. It belongs to the folks.”²⁷

The average American, not yet living in a “protected area,” has little inkling of what a cadre of “partners” has in mind for his or her economic well-being, property or freedom—little idea how whole communities are woven into the globalist fabric where the voice of the citizen is but a burr in Nebuchadnezzar’s garment, soon plucked out. The idea of private property being “protected for future generations” by government agencies and their “partners” is a con-game made more outrageous by the fact so many Americans would give it credence.

Tim Findley’s 2001 article in *Range Magazine* describes what happened to Grand Staircase Escalante. Simply change the names and it is your community:

The area seemed to have been newly discovered at the beginning of the decade by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) which sent its representatives into the regions around Escalante with worried talk about what mineral and coal exploration by such companies as Conoco might do to the pristine wilderness. But SUWA didn’t want just the Escalantes. It wanted five million acres over virtually all the south state to be wilderness...Not even Utah Senator Orrin Hatch, who called it “the mother of all land grabs,” knew it was about to happen...It has been nearly five years. Too late now to



surprise anyone with a suggestion of Clinton corruption in taking the coal out of production in exchange for campaign funds from the Indonesian Lippo Group, and too late to hold McGinty accountable for what seemed obvious collusion and even fraud in arranging the grab with the help of environmental radicals...



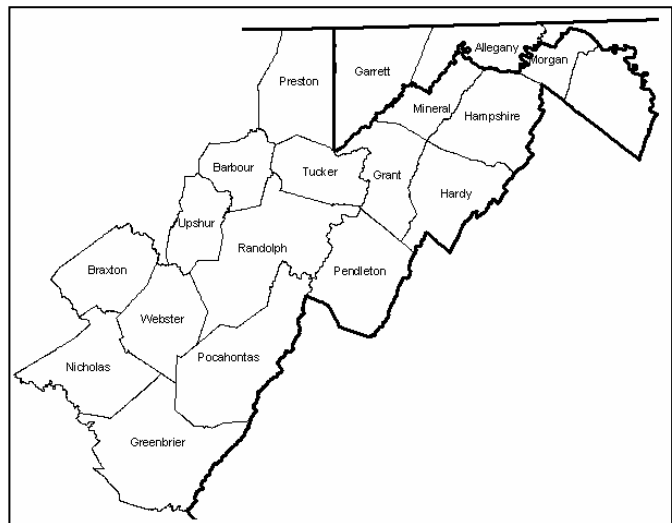
[Louise] Liston had heard the rumors too in 1996, but her congressional contacts assured her that “nothing was imminent.” When it happened, she says,

“It was devastating...Rural communities rely on the land, not just for a living, but for the way they live their lives. The monument has taken away all flexibility, not just grazing and mining, but wood gathering or Christmas tree cutting or family outings, even boy scouts on hikes. Now there are all new rules that take away all that. There’s such animosity now, so much bitterness.”

In Escalante it had begun more than 15 years before in a dispute over a road...When the county first sought to make mild repairs, adding a culvert and straightening a curve on one section of the road, they had the support of the BLM. The opposition came from the surprising strength of the newly emerging SUWA environmentalists who launched a lawsuit against the county and the BLM to prevent any road repairs at all...

In Kanab, the sawmills are all but gone...smaller jobs in painting or house repair or even retail sales are fading with the absence of core employment in mining or agriculture. A few newcomers have cautiously opened little bed and breakfast stops or small shops, but...there are only so many trinkets that can be sold in a region now overloaded with them, and ironically, under new monument rules visitors are restricted from entering the more remote areas many came to see. The jobs left in the “gateway communities” invented in the “Vail Agenda” are in tourism or in the federal government. The little towns are losing their identities.²⁸

The Appalachian Forest Heritage Area (right) corridor initiative is in the final year of a 4-year USDA Fund for Rural America grant. The current geographic scale of the heritage area includes 15 counties in West Virginia and two counties in western Maryland. The Monongahela National Forest lies at the heart of the proposed heritage area. The initial project workshop was held at Blackwater Falls State Park in November, 2001. The area has been a focal point for federal land acquisition by the USFS, NPS, and The Nature Conservancy particularly in the Canaan Valley where a National Park unit has been recently proposed. Short-term goals of AFHA “stakeholders” include: “Pursuing national designation of the heritage area; Developing a memorandum of understanding with the Monongahela National Forest; Compiling a formal management plan for the heritage area... common themes run through the visions expressed by participants, articulating some of the underlying dynamics and social tensions of the heritage area movement. A commonly expressed dialectic was the regionalism versus local control theme. Regionalism was often couched in the language of cooperation, partnerships, coordination, interdependence, or networking...visions for the Forest Heritage Area also reinforced the realization that heritage areas represent a new kind of sustainable development, one that integrates historic preservation, tourism, and economic development.” See: <http://www.joe.org/joe/2005april/a3.shtml>



PEC & Company: The Magical Kingdom game plan

There are those who vehemently deny the intent of NPS-NHA “partnerships” are to control private property or interfere with local government policy. The JTHG promoters claim, in what seems an almost Pavlovian manner, it is an endeavor where there are *only* “willing sellers” and “voluntary” participants. There is no hidden agenda, they say.

To repeat Cate Magennis Wyatt’s statement, “Our objective is to demonstrate that preservation can be economically sustainable, *that nothing we are suggesting constrains landowners’ rights*, and that it will ensure quality of life for the communities along the corridor.” (emphasis added)²⁹



Cate Magennis Wyatt (left) of the Waterford Foundation Board of Directors and attorneys sign the dotted line as “Phillips” farm in the Waterford Historic District is “preserved.” The Foundation received an \$800,000 matching grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to prevent “inappropriate development” which would threaten Waterford’s National Historic Landmark designation. A \$200,000 gift came from Executors of the Paul Mellon Estate. National Trust for Historic Preservation President Richard Moe and Congressman Frank R. Wolf (R-VA 10) “expressed dismay at the possibility of development” of the farm, a “center of a thriving agrarian history.” (December, 2003)

Film maker Ron Maxwell, director of *Gods and Generals* and *Gettysburg*, recently called Wyatt the “Joan of Arc of the Piedmont.” In almost the same breath, he mentioned England’s

Prince Charles’ words indicating the developer’s wrecking ball had done more to destroy London than four years of Luftwaffe bombing raids.³⁰

What is Joan of Arc’s definition of “quality of life”? Wyatt’s professed respect for private property rights does not match her or her allies’ record. It was virtually the same cast of actors who “partnered” to defeat the 1993 proposal for a Disney theme park in Prince William County. Whether the Disney project and its corporate culture would have been a beneficial addition to the area has been vigorously debated at length, but the episode serves as a case study of the manner in which preservationist special-interests exert control over localities and businesses, and over the average citizen, from the top down. Respect for property rights is selective. It depends on whose they are.

On 3,000 acres, four miles west of the Manassas Battlefield, Disney planned to invest more than \$650 million in a 400-acre “history theme park.” According to some figures, there would have been a potential for 6,000 new housing units, 1,300 hotel rooms, 2 million square feet of commercial space, a water park, a campground, and golf courses, with 6 million tourists annually generating 19,000 jobs and millions of dollars in tax revenue.

Some government officials and county residents saw Disney’s plan as Prince William County’s chance for economic revitalization. PEC, the Save the Battlefield Coalition, and others “dedicated to preserving the Piedmont and its historical sites” voiced immediate and angry opposition. The region’s preservationists were, and still are, viewed by many as “fox hunters and Piedmont gentry, oblivious to the interests of ordinary people, jealously protecting their estates and privileged lifestyle.”

Disney’s plan moved ahead until Protect Historic America (PHA), “an ad hoc citizens’ committee of historians and journalists,” entered the fray in 1994. Allied with National Trust for Historic Preservation’s president, Richard Moe, the “citizen groups” began to turn the tide against Disney and its supporters, which included “conservative” Governor George Allen. Some of the members of PHA’s advisory committee had been “involved in another Piedmont crisis in the eighties when a developer

had proposed a shopping mall on the very doorstep of the Manassas National Battlefield.” PHA included veteran journalists Nick Kotz and Rudy Abramson, collaborators in writing the current coffee-table book, *Hallowed Ground*. Support also came from the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club and regional environmental organizations, such as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Popularly acclaimed historians James McPherson, Shelby Foote and a legion of journalists, editors and cartoonists blasted Disney’s plan.

“Sensible regional planning still has a chance to preserve the natural and real historic assets that make the area special,” wrote Kotz and Abramson in 1997. “Within half an hour’s drive of the open fields where *Disney’s America* was to be built there are 64 sites listed on the National Park Service’s National Register of Historic Places. In rolling country east of the Blue Ridge between Harper’s Ferry and Charlottesville there are no less than 22 Civil War battlefields, 13 officially designated historic towns, and 17 historic districts.”³¹

The Piedmont Environmental Council filed suit under the Freedom of Information Act, demanding traffic analyses and other documents, and threatened to clog the courts with lawsuits until Disney was defeated. Prince William County residents formed Protect PW to voice concerns about traffic, sprawl, pollution, and the costs to taxpayers of the state’s incentives.³²

Betty Rankins, president of the Save the Battlefield Coalition, chanting doom, gloom and desecration at a Protect Historic America meeting in Manassas, February 13, 1994, told the gathering:

I am here to support the efforts of PHA [under Rudy Abramson] to stop the Disney threat. In 1988 one of our staunch supporters, Jody Powell, spoke and wrote eloquently on behalf of our national heritage and to warn of the desecration of Manassas. His words, from an article titled “Battling over Manassas” [*National Parks*, July/August, 1988] now seem very appropriate for describing the impact of Disney. I want to share them with you: *Today you can still see it, feel it: That blood-soaked, valor-hallowed piece of Virginia countryside where the entire Union tottered on the brink of destruction. The landscape has not changed. In rare and mystical moments you can relive the battle scene. But not for long. Throughout the land, Civil War and Revolutionary War battlefields—as well as many other units of the National Park system—are threatened. The attitude that open space is just land waiting to be developed has prevailed in this country. Highrise condominiums, television and radio towers, housing subdivisions, and shopping malls are springing up in every available square mile. What is the purpose of preserving a historical scene if the area is then intruded upon by adjacent development?*³³

What Powell and Rankins were, in fact, advocating is the preservationist’s creed: an almost insatiable appetite for preserving ‘adjacency.’ After all, Manassas was *only* four miles from the Disney site. As each adjacent tract of land is preserved, there are, by definition, more adjacent tracts threatening what has been preserved, *ad infinitum*. It’s *all* historic, *all* threatened, *all* pristine, every inch of Virginia.

With mounting criticism and pressure coming from across the country, Disney withdrew in September, 1994. But growth and traffic congestion still came to Prince William. What did the preservationists leave in their wake? Steven Ginsberg reports in the November 23, 2003, *Washington Post*:

The debate over the county’s direction since the demise of Disney seems to come up repeatedly at Red Rooster Antiques and Collectibles. It’s one of the few surviving businesses in Haymarket, the blip of a town that once stood to gain immeasurably from Disney.

Owner Pam Stutz said she was opposed to Disney because she didn’t understand

why people would want to visit a re-created version of American history. She also said that resulting traffic would have been a nightmare.

“We got it anyway,” Corinna Pearson said from behind the cash register. Their eyes met across the knickknacks and country kitsch with a look that said they’d had this discussion before, many times.

“The biggest complaint for everybody was too much traffic. Well, hello!” Pearson said, pointing toward the unending line of cars passing through town. “I think it would have brought more money into the area. It would be better than millions of houses.”³⁴

The Disney parcel reverted to previous zoning for a residential planned community of up to 2,800 housing units, 400,000 square feet of commercial space, and 20 to 30 acres of light industrial. Another 100-acre parcel was zoned for rural residential and 500 acres remain agricultural. The county’s 1991 comprehensive plan allowed up to 77 million square feet of nonresidential development and 5,500 housing units in the Manassas-Haymarket-Gainesville triangle, which included the Disney site.

A capitalistic culture of materialism

Preservationists claim to despise a “capitalistic culture of materialism.” Even where those sentiments are genuinely rooted in distaste for the unethical behavior of a few unscrupulous people or corporations, the prevailing philosophy guiding the preservationist movement smothers liberty. Few within the movement seem to be able to distinguish the difference between ruthless exploitation and legitimate, competitive, free-market economic forces and their positive contributions to our lives.

The battle against Disney illustrates the confusion, on both sides of the conflict, when politics instead of principle is allowed to determine the outcome. Supporters and opponents alike generally staked out their positions on shaky ground. Opponents decried Disney’s corporate greed, profiteering, unbridled development and destruction of Virginia’s heritage. Proponents, including then “conservative” Governor George Allen, extolled private industry, free-markets, jobs, tax revenues and “bringing history alive to millions of visitors.”

Neither camp seemed to be able to analyze what the Disney plan was really about, nor were their positions rationally argued. Murray Rothbard, in *Eisnerizing Manassas* (1994), brings the issues into focus from a true, free-market point of view:

There are two important points to be made about the Disney plan for Manassas. In the first place, whatever it is, it is in no sense free-market capitalism or free-market economic development. Disney is scarcely content to purchase the land and invest in the theme park. On the contrary, Disney is calling for the state of Virginia to fork over \$163 million in taxpayer money for roads and other “infrastructure” for the Disney park. Hence, this proposal constitutes not free-market growth, but state-subsidized growth. The question then is: why should the taxpayers of Virginia subsidize the Disney Corporation to the tune of over \$160 million? What we are seeing here is not free-market growth but subsidized, state-directed growth: the opposite of free markets.

The second problem is the content of the park that Virginia taxpayers are expected to subsidize. When Walt Disney was alive, the Disney output was overwhelmingly and deliberately charming and wholesome...Since the death of Disney, however, and its acquisition by the buccaneer Michael Eisner, Disney content has been vulgarized, shlockized, and gotten less and less wholesome. Moreover, since Manassas is an historical site and the Disney park will teach history, it is important to ask what the taxpayers of Virginia will be letting themselves in for. The type of history they will subsidize, alas, is calculated to send a shudder down the spine of all patriotic Virginians...It is going to be debased history, multicultural history, Politically Correct history.

This sad truth is evident from the identity of the historian who has been chosen by Disney Corp. to be its major consultant on the history to be taught at the Manassas theme park. He is none other than the notorious Eric Foner, distinguished Marxist-Leninist historian at Columbia University, and the country's most famous Marxist historian of the Civil War and Reconstruction. Foner, as might be gathered, is fanatically anti-South and a vicious smearer of the Southern cause. It was Foner who committed the unforgivable deed of writing the smear of the late great Mel Bradford as a “racist” and fascist for daring to be critical of the centralizing despotism of Abraham Lincoln...Eisnerizing and Fonerizing Manassas has nothing to do, on any level, with free-market ideology or free-market economic development.³⁵

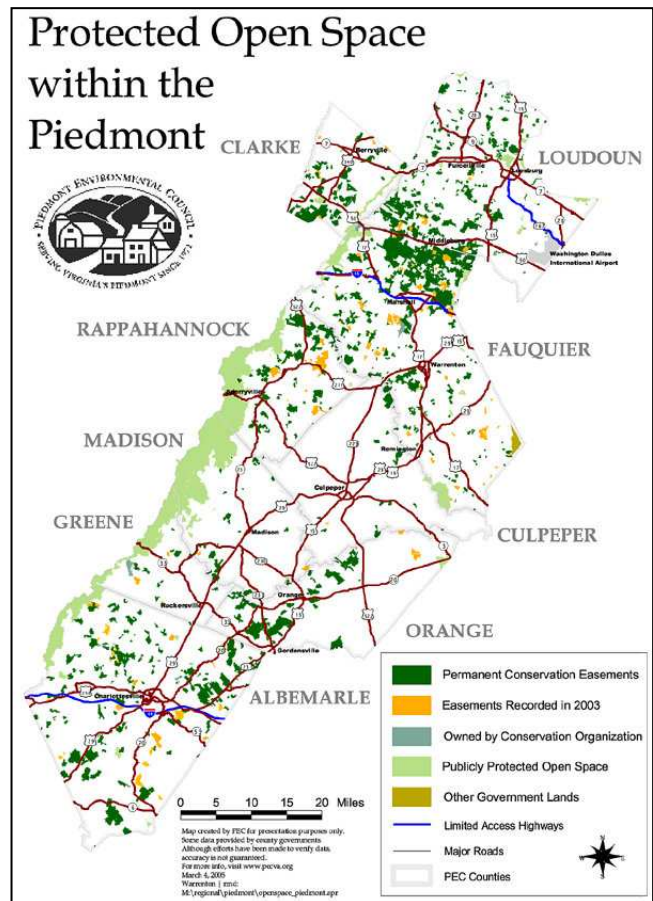
Disney’s ‘green’ opponents could not and would not argue against the Disney plan from a principled, anti-subsidy, free-market position. Aside from their general animosity toward anything vaguely related to free-market development, to do so would have been hypocrisy. Their own preservation goals are entwined with government interference in private affairs and dependence on public funding for pet projects.

The “conservative, free-marketeers,” on the other hand, should have been against the Disney project on principle, but many of them were avid proponents because they stood to gain from the “public investment,” economically and politically. George Allen’s “conservatism” appears little different than Lincoln’s Mercantilism, which has been a foundational tenet of the Republican Party leadership from its inception. Mercantilism was the driving force behind Lincoln’s War against the South, and, it appears, the motive for US involvement in other conflicts since. Senator Allen’s vision has broadened and he now seems comfortable in bed with and whispering endearments to both the preservationists and the mercantilists.

Partners move on to greener pastures—the Master Plan

“Disney began the process of helping a locally-based conservation movement get better organized,” said Christopher G. Miller, president of the Piedmont Environmental Council, a leader in the fight against Disney. “It demonstrated that we could be a lead participant in a broader effort and make a difference. It was a seminal moment.”

PEC and its “partners,” the Coalition for Smarter Growth, Virginia’s chapter of the League of Conservation Voters and the Prince William Conservation Alliance, grew into influential lobbying groups on land use issues. Their members were out in force at county offices, public hearings and policy meetings. After Disney withdrew, the preservationist alliance moved into Loudoun County where they helped elect officials who radically altered zoning ordinances to prevent development in the western part of the county. As a result of their preservation/environmental efforts during the 1993-2003 decade, Virginia’s Piedmont and the Shenandoah Valley saw perpetual conservation easements encumber the utility of 100,000 acres of private land, 20,000 acres more than in the previous 20-plus years.³⁶



In October, 2000, during a meeting at the Dulles Marriott attended by opponents and proponents of “smart growth” land use policy, State Delegate Richard Black criticized the Piedmont Environmental Council and Voters to Stop Sprawl for their opposition to major road improvements. “I think it’s very intriguing that the very people who are opposed to gridlock show up at public hearings and oppose rail to Dulles, oppose road construction throughout the county.” John T. Hazel, a northern Virginia developer, lawyer, and farmer, launched a stinging attack on the Piedmont Environmental Council. Hazel said he was a founder of the PEC but left the organization because it uses a multi-million dollar budget “to convince people that the preservation of their view-shed and horse riding are more important than economic stability and job growth.”³⁷

One of its targets was the Loudoun County master plan, which PEC members and allies believed to be a blueprint for sprawl. “Disney taught us that we can’t just sit back and nothing bad will happen,” said Miller. Between 1998 and 2001, according to Miller, PEC spent about \$500,000 on the Loudoun effort, much of the money coming from ‘hunt country’ activists’ donations. An annual report lists 40 people who gave in excess of \$10,000, including Virginia S. Warner, the daughter of Republican Senator John W. Warner (R-Va.); Jacqueline Mars, of candy company fame; Stephen M. Wolf, chairman of US Airways; and Sandy Lerner, co-founder of Cisco Systems Inc.

PECs “Third Way” Guru

One pivotal strategist in PEC’s Loudoun effort has been Ed Risse, a land use planning consultant and author who proposed to “lay the groundwork...of a unified field theory of economic, social and physical human activity.” One account states the anti-sprawl seer views himself as being the combination of Copernicus, Newton and Darwin in the planning field. Dr. Risse has taught urban and regional planning at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s School of Architecture, George Mason University Law School, in the University of Virginia’s graduate planning program.



Risse is a proponent of “implementing *The Third Way* strategies to overcome stalemate and polarization between no growth and Business-as-Usual in pursuit of creating quality, *sustainable human settlement patterns*.” (emphasis added) The Third Way is an adaptation of the Hegelian (Marxist) Dialectic with a new twist: a prettier name. It is based on a “partnership” concept where opposing interests, the *thesis* and *antithesis*, are brought together to implement a “new” strategy or dialectical *synthesis* which is the Marxist formula for advancing, step by step, to the total socialistic state.

One of Risse’s beliefs is the world would be better when people live in close-knit communities. His belief is right in line with the PEC smart-growth philosophy: kill development in rural areas and concentrate it in cities and suburban corridors. He believes in creating “new forms of joint and common property ownership [tenure] to reflect community responsibilities, rather than just individual rights.” In addition, he says, “There must be a process to intelligently allocate resources and equitably account for the location-related costs created by public and private actions. This process will fundamentally restructure the market for land, goods and services, and thus will change Business-as-Usual.”

“The bottom line is that there must be Fundamental Change in human settlement patterns... Humans cannot achieve safety and happiness relying on automobility.” Risse says the “answer is not ‘less government,’ but ‘better governance’...*there must be Fundamental Change in human settlement patterns and in governance structure*.” (emphasis in the original) Competitive free-markets, private property rights and the worth of the individual in deciding his own destiny are apparently not, in

Risse's opinion, intelligent or desirable processes. He leaves little room for speculation about who will create the *new forms of property ownership* and who will decide what the *intelligent and equitable* allocation process shall be. There is even less room for speculation about who will benefit from his Third Way, totalitarian process. His philosophy is taken directly from the global collectivist model, the UN's Sustainable Development programs, discussed below.

Risse gave "graduate planning class" presentations on "Understanding Human Settlement Patterns," holding dozens of meetings with Loudoun anti-development activists. "You've got to get people to buy into it," Risse said. "I only talked to a couple hundred, and they talked to their neighbors." The PECs \$500,000 campaign combined with Risse's UN-inspired mobilization of "partners" were contributing factors in all eight slow-growth, board of supervisor candidates winning elections in 1999.³⁸

Columnist Don Fiedor explains the concept of a The Third Way society envisioned by the Risse/PEC school of eco-socialism planning:

[I]n a 'Third Way' society, private property must be allowed. Rather than government owning all property and the means of production, as in pure socialism, an alternative is used. In a 'Third Way' society, property and business is heavily controlled by government regulation, rather than government ownership.

However, in a 'Third Way' society, the laws to keep us citizens in line come from the communist model of government—which means complete government control of everything from womb to tomb. We are to have a semblance of freedom. But the working class people must never have enough freedom (or accumulative power) to interfere effectively in either commerce or government. The moneyed elite, however, work under the capitalist system, and capitalist rules, so as to continue generating wealth. The elite get the freedom, the workers get strictly controlled.³⁹

In 1999, Richard Poe, *New York Times* bestselling author and journalist, clarified the connection between the Third Way and 'friendly' totalitarianism:

Among other things, the Third Way calls for business and government to join hands as "partners." This new ideology does not come with jackboots, goose-stepping thugs or delirious crowds shouting, "Sieg Heil!" But maybe it doesn't have to. Back in 1980, a leftwing political scientist and urban studies professor named Bertram Gross, in his book *Friendly Fascism*, foretold a kinder, gentler brand of tyranny. "Anyone looking for black shirts, mass parties or men on horseback will miss the telltale clues of this creeping fascism..." he wrote. "In America, it would be supermodern and multiethnic—as American as Madison Avenue, executive luncheons, credit cards and apple pie. It would be fascism with a smile."

Most people would accept the new order without distress, Gross predicted. They would have fewer rights, of course, but more gadgets, perks and entertainments. Troublemakers would be blacklisted and discredited, but rarely jailed or killed. When violence became necessary, it would be done discreetly...

The author of *Friendly Fascism* was no wild-eyed Cassandra. He was a leading architect of liberal social policy under presidents Roosevelt, Truman and Carter. As such, Gross unwittingly helped build the partnership of Big Government and Big Business that he later decried. He recognized his guilt only late in life. "I sought solutions for America's ills...through more power in the hands of central government," Gross admits. "In this I was not alone. Almost all my fellow planners, reformers, social scientists, and urbanists presumed the benevolence of more concentrated government power."

But they were wrong. Gross realized that centralized power was, in fact, the

linchpin of tyranny. “Big Business-Big Government partnerships...,” he wrote, “were the central facts behind the power structures of old fascism in the days of Mussolini, Hitler and the Japanese empire builders...I see Big Business and Big Government as a joint danger.” Gross died in 1997. But his spirit lives on, a fading spark of leftwing conscience, unsung and unheeded in the mad rush to the Third Way.⁴⁰

By 2001, after nearly two years of “hypocrisy, idealism, political salesmanship and, at times, pure nastiness” covered by the national media, a plan was developed and was put before the county which had the support of a majority of the Loudoun Board. It was “intended to contain suburban sprawl while preserving what is left of Loudoun’s rural landscape” and to “preserve the rural economy.” The plan aimed to limit development on a huge swath of land in the rural, western part of the county—300 square miles, or about two-thirds of the county—to one home per 10 or 20 acres, depending upon how closely they were clustered. The plan limited development in certain areas to one home per 50 acres. Then current planning allowed up to one home per three acres.

Jack Shockey, a farm owner and leader of Citizens for Property Rights, was quoted by the *Washington Post*, “This isn’t really about preserving farming, like they say it is, unless you count riding around on your large lot on a big mower as farming. This is about snob zoning.” A farmer’s red bandanna became the ‘flag’ of Citizens for Property Rights and other opponents of the anti-sprawl plan. They believe the “farm preservation” plan was, in reality, victimizing the farmers. Most members of the red bandanna group are not full-time farmers, but they see suburbanite demands for “open space” as an assault on property rights.

Citizens for Property Rights is an organization of farmers, citizens, homeowners, and landowners formed to help assure all Citizens’ property rights are upheld. They disagree with the prior Loudoun County Board of Supervisors downzoning policies and are working to ensure the equity in land is not damaged. See: <http://www.loudouncpr.org/>

S. Bruce Smart, former president of Continental Can Company, who raises horses and cattle on 600 acres, favored the restrictions. “Restricting development to homes on 50-acre lots sounds somewhat elitist, but not everyone has a Monet in their living room. And you wouldn’t tear up a Monet just because not everybody can have one.”



Early in 2003, hundreds of legal challenges were filed to overturn all or parts of the “slow-growth” ordinance passed by Loudoun supervisors who then announced they planned to add \$6 million to a legal defense fund set up after eight anti-sprawl supervisors came to power in 2000. County supervisors claimed the ordinance was carefully crafted and would stand up to legal challenge. “This is about what we expected,” said Supervisor James G. Burton, a staunch slow-growth supporter. “That’s why we took as long as we did—to make sure that we followed the public process correctly and that we treated all aspects of the issue fairly and openly. I’m confident we will prevail.”⁴¹

On March 3rd, 2005, on an interlocutory appeal from Loudoun County Circuit Court, the Virginia Supreme Court ruled the plan failed to adequately notice the public of impact changes, and found the downzoning was illegally imposed. With that decision, the county’s old rule of one house per three acres was back in force and the fight over downzoning continues. New supervisors were elected who claimed to be pro-property rights, but a divided board recently submitted two new plans in hopes a compromise will be reached to end legal actions embroiling the county over the past decade. Both plans are more restrictive than the original zoning but less restrictive than the one overturned by the Court.

Jack Shockey indicated his group’s official position is to accept the least restrictive plan, but noted both plans represented a betrayal. The new efforts to pass more restrictive rules have angered a number

of property Rights advocates who helped elect a Republican majority in November, 2003, hoping property rights would be respected. It appears there will be more suits by individuals including members of Citizens for Property Rights. Shockey is quoted as saying, “I’m sorry the Board of Supervisors didn’t have enough sense to listen to the Supreme Court and back off. There’s going to be more land-use lawyers and consultants in the peanut gallery taking notes. Instead of getting 200 lawsuits, maybe they’ll get 100 or 150.”⁴²

Preserving Ovoka Farm

As with the JTHG corridor plan, Scenic America designated the “scenic” and “historic” corridor of Ashby Gap, Virginia—where Route 50 crosses the Blue Ridge—as a “Last Chance Landscape.” In 1999, the 1235-acre Ovoka Farm was part of that landscape.

“Last Chance Landscapes”, like the National Trust’s “11 most endangered historic sites in America,” are part of the preservationists’ asset-tagging, inventory and promotion system. Much like cattle run through the chute at an auction barn, the “stock” is sorted, categorized, weighed, tagged and promoted by the “auctioneer.” Then the preservationist power-brokers gather and the bidding begins.

The Piedmont Environmental Council signed an agreement late in 1999 with Ovoka’s owner “to purchase and protect 1235 acres of the farm.” The \$6 million deal included \$1.2 million in federal funds. PEC claimed it was “the first critical step in reclaiming what Scenic America recently called one of the nation’s ‘Last Chance Landscapes’—a viewshed on the verge of being lost forever...PEC will ensure that this land is protected from development. Part of the property will be transferred to the National Park Service,” said PEC President Chris Miller. PEC plans included selling the remaining acres to the Commonwealth of Virginia, which would add the land to the adjacent Sky Meadows State Park. For whom was the land reclaimed and protected?

Ashby Gap near Paris, seen from Route 50

Ovoka Farm straddled the Fauquier-Clarke County border with 1,000 acres zoned for agricultural use, allowing 100 home sites. “That’s not what I want,” said Philip S. Thomas, owner of Ovoka. “I don’t think anybody wants that. By right, you could build a lot of crappy houses—‘McMansions’—and make a lot of money.” This raises a question of how he was able to sell land for half of the \$12 million he had been asking on the open market.



Apparently, Mr. Thomas and PEC crafted a cozy deal allowing sizable tax write-offs for him and an affordable purchase price for PEC. Thomas declined to give details about the tax benefits.⁴³

Ovoka Farm is a textbook example of how “historic corridor” land acquisition and management processes work. At the time, PEC made no bones about Ovoka being part “of a larger plan to preserve the entire eight-mile valley. A partnership between local citizens groups and local, state and federal officials has moved steadily over the last year toward banning tractor trailer trucks that have increasingly racked Route 17, a two-lane road that runs down the center of the valley. History’s Road. Traveled by the young George Washington...Without the volume and noise from these trucks, we’ll begin to see how this valley lived a century ago...The PEC will follow the purchase of Ovoka with discussion with other large land holders down the valley in an effort to encourage more land signed into easement.”

In October, 2003, PEC and NPS officials gathered near Paris, Virginia “for ceremonies on a high mountain meadow celebrating the transfer of 445 acres of historic and scenic land at Ovoka Farm from the Piedmont Environmental Council to the National Park Service for protection of the Appalachian

National Scenic Trail.” Praising a federal land acquisition deal supported by Senator Warner and Congressman Wolf, NPS Director Fran Mainella heralded the acquisition. “By working with a community of individuals and organizations with a shared sense of values...NPS was able to be part of an extraordinary public-private partnership...” Senator Warner and Congressman Wolf “commended PEC, which used privately donated funds to purchase and preserve the area, noting that the funds received from the National Park Service will again be used by PEC to further protect family farms, open space and historic sites in Virginia.” As with so many elected officials, both Warner and Wolf have long suffered from a chronic disorder preventing them from distinguishing between private and public funding.⁴⁴

PEC President Chris Miller said the vista includes “the largest concentration of permanently protected, privately-owned land in the eastern United States. Within the viewshed that extends some 20 to 30 miles in several directions are approximately 200,000 acres of land in or awaiting placement in conservation easement.”⁴⁵

The Appalachian Trail was completed in 1937. Public access was guaranteed by the National Trails System Act, 35 years ago, making the path part of the National Park System. It also authorized funding to surround the trail with public lands, protected from “incompatible uses.” Slow progress toward that goal prompted amendments to the Act, increasing federal authority for land acquisition. Since 1937, the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and some of the 14 states the trail crosses have been bargaining, hounding, badgering and sometimes suing adjacent, private “willing sellers” in order to secure a corridor about 1,000 feet wide. “You’ll make an initial contact and if, for whatever reason, the timing is not right, then come back a year or two later and resume negotiations,” said David Startzell, who heads the Appalachian Trail Conference. The Conference is a largely “volunteer, nonprofit” organization based in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia which “helps the government acquire land.” Its affiliate, the ATC Land Trust, uses public and private funds *to expand the protected area beyond the designated trail corridor.*

Included in the PEC/Ovoka Farm/NPS purchase was a \$1.2 million federal ‘deal’ for relocation of a mile-long section of the trail through “prettier scenery” along the Blue Ridge. PEC acquired the land in December, 2000. “When we started this project, we were not aware that they [the NPS] had any particular interest,” said Gray Coyner, a Piedmont Environmental Council member. “It’s a real plus for both sides.” The statement was so preposterous, one newspaper editor quipped, “Yeah! Right!”

Startzell said the deal demonstrates ‘protecting’ land and improving the hiking experience won’t stop—even after the trail corridor is secured. “Our efforts to acquire lands through the land trust will continue forever. Preserving what we now have as a public estate is kind of a continual process. We can’t rest on our laurels.” It appears there is always adjacent land to be protected.⁴⁶

June 4th, 2005, not quite two years after the PEC’s land transfer to the NPS, another crowd gathered near Paris, Virginia. Conservationists, politicians and “horsey-set types” celebrated the rerouting of the “strategic” patch of the Appalachian Trail, once part of Ovoka Farm. Kevin Chaffee, writing for *The Washington Times* described the festivities:

Later that afternoon, about 350 guests gathered at Confederate Hall on Hickory Tree Farm in Middleburg to raise funds for the Virginia League of Conservation Voters (VALCV), a non-partisan group founded in 2000 to elect pro-conservation candidates in state and local elections.

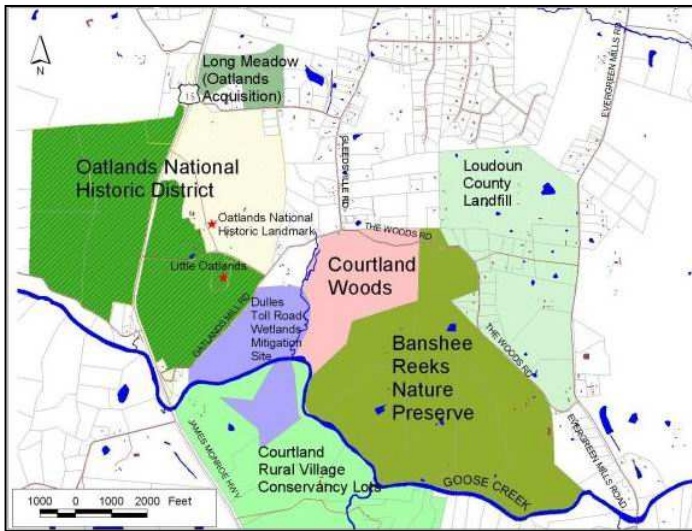
“It’s a tent full of people who love the land,” said Catherine “Bundles” Murdock, a fourth-generation hunt country resident who serves on the Middleburg town council. “It’s also the A-List from this area,” she said as Hickory Tree farm owner Mimi Abel-Smith and her brother James P. Mills Jr., George L. Ohrstrom II, Mark Ohrstrom, Allen Ohrstrom, Victor and Barbara du Pont, Laura “Lokie” van Roijen, Donald Glickman, Marie Ridder, Mary Swift, Cate Magennis Wyatt and Ned Evans tucked in for mahi-

mahi and roast duck, dancing, a live auction and a recognition ceremony for a dozen of the 26 Virginia legislators who earned a 75 percent-or-higher rating on recent conservation issues.⁴⁷

Marching Through Hallowed Ground

Voluntary land preservation works very well as long as there are volunteers. If land owners balk, they are *volunteered* into submission. That is the way it must be when a war is being waged to save Hallowed Ground.

On March 24th, 2004, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, PEC and the Audubon Naturalist Society filed suit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria, to overturn a wetlands permit issued by the Army Corps of Engineers for a housing subdivision “in the heart of the historic rural landscape of western Loudoun County.” The permit allowed stream crossings and filling wetlands next to *tributaries* of Goose Creek, “a state scenic river,” despite the objections of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.



The plaintiffs contended Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act required the Corps to consider the direct and indirect results for the 277-unit development known as Courtland Woods, “sprawled” across 200 acres of wooded hillside and meadows about a mile east of Oatlands Plantation, Loudoun County’s “most popular heritage tourism destination.”

Courtland Woods is an “inholding” flanked by the 1000-acre Oatlands Historic District and the 700-acre Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, both protected from development. Oatlands Plantation is a 300-acre property owned by the National Trust and located within the 947-acre Oatlands Historic

District, one of five National Historic Landmarks in the county. Impacts of development on the “historic sites” have been the focus of opposition to the Courtland Farms project.

Chris Miller, President of the Piedmont Environmental Council, claims, “The Corps refused to consider the impacts of hundreds of new houses looming over the front porch and gardens of Oatlands Plantation, ruining the beauty and historic quality that attract hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world to Loudoun County, the historic Route 15 corridor, and the Hallowed Ground of the Virginia Piedmont.”

Attorney Bradford Klein, manager of Courtland Farms Loudoun LLC, noted the irony of the plaintiffs trying to stop the subdivision when they supported it during the original zoning hearings in 1994. He said concessions were made, such as increasing the tree preservation areas and buffers for the Banshee Reef. “Does this sound like good faith negotiations to you?” he asked.

With tremendous pressure being exerted by the preservationists, on October 5th, 2004, the Corps suspended the wetlands and stream crossing as part of an agreement to settle the federal lawsuit. Loudoun County issued a stop work order. The Corps announced on October 8th there would be adverse impacts on Oatlands and it would re-open the Section 106 historic impacts process.

A group of environmentalists and preservationists formed a coalition in 2003 for the Campaign to Save Courtland Woods. “The problem is those acres are smack in the middle of 2,500 acres that are

preserved and in middle of the largest preserved area in Loudoun,” said coalition member Margot Blattmann. “This development is in the wrong place. It’s historic, natural and contiguous habitat for wildlife. It’s unsullied. It’s whole. It’s what it was like years ago. You can feel the nature of the place as it was 200 years ago.” The coalition aims to raise funds to purchase the property and add it to the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve.⁴⁸

Gods and Generals

Ronald F. Maxwell, the highly-acclaimed and talented director of Ted Turner’s *Gods and Generals*, delivered a speech at the annual meeting of the Piedmont Environmental Council, October 11, 2003, in Fauquier County, Virginia, and in part, he stated:

We live in a world in which human beings are subsumed into corporate masses, where their full humanity has been reduced to the more circumscribed status of worker and consumer. Major decisions about the quality of life and indeed the meaning of life have been funneled into a narrow economic equation. In such a world the natural curves and undulations of nature are in the way. They are an impediment to the one dominant concern—making money. Making lots of money, as quickly as possible—with little or no concern for any other aspect of human or natural life. In such a world the hills must be flattened, the rivers must be tamed, the roads must be straightened, the natural rhythms of life must be discarded for the non-stop hyper-speed of commerce. Like a freshly washed sheet, the Piedmont must be shaken out, dried, pressed and prepared for cutting and fitting. A massive alteration for the brave new world where development is king and all other considerations must yield.

‘Look at Fairfax County,’ boast these modern day Nebuchadnezzars. ‘We have turned a shabby, sleepy, backward place into a thriving megalopolis of jobs and commerce and profit.’ To borrow an old Soviet slogan, a worker’s paradise! We have stripped away the top-soil of quaintness and tradition, we have mauled away the useless village green, we have strip-malled yesterday, with all its memories and values, entombed that old world in concrete and asphalt, never to be seen again. Never even to be remembered. For what profit is there is remembering when such a bold new future awaits?

The plans are drawn; the financial capital has been amassed and allotted. The conquering armies will not come in Red Coats or Blue Coats or Gray Coats. They will come disguised as friendly businessmen, as concerned neighbors, as disinterested politicians, as ideologues of free enterprise, as defenders of property rights, as utopian dreamers; they will pose as our very best friends.

The Piedmont of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia—so precious, so unique, so splendid in its particularity and distinctiveness—would be reduced to everywhere America - that same monotonous no-where - where every place looks the same, everyone shops in the same stores, eats the same food in the same plastic shacks, breaths the same polluted air stuck in the same congested traffic. Small entrepreneurs, mom and pop businesses and long established grocery stores and restaurants will be replaced by franchises, absentee landlords, and national chains. The self employed small businessman metamorphoses into ubiquitous employee.

Millions of dollars of revenue and profits are sucked out of the local economy and whisked away to corporate headquarters in far away cities and far away countries. Our



farmland is paved over to make room for mega-store number 500 or 600 or 1,000. To make room for more parking lots. The decision to do so is made worlds away. Our so called representatives look the other way, or worse, call it progress. Call it job creation. Cut fancy ribbons in public while their cohorts cut our forests out of view.⁴⁹

What was Mr. Maxwell saying to his gathered friends? His words seem incongruous with his penchant for historical accuracy. He sees ill effects but is oblivious to causes, his sense of history a boring recital, another replay of the preservationists' broken record.

Was not each sweep of the grain cradle, each sweaty stroke of a farmer's arm, across the *natural curves and undulations of the unique, unsoiled land* a historic event? And today, what of the modern, diesel-powered combine, "sucking" the grain from the Piedmont's hills into the "corporate maw of hyper-speed commerce?" Is that not also historic? Which would he have? Whose bread does he eat; whose would he force Virginians to eat?

Is the director's script to be read as social engineering or as a fool's melodramatic babblings of pseudo-nostalgia for a pre-industrial, movie-set world of Celestial Seasonings tea-box-art?

What of the aspirations of minorities, the working poor and middle classes who someday want their homes to be surrounded by a modest acre or two of Virginia soil, but even now can not afford it because it has been *hallowed* beyond their means, every historic square foot of it, tied up in preservation corridors, heritage areas, landmarks, comprehensive plans, historic districts and conservation easements—and in the hands of a preservation elite, in the manicured, tax-sheltered estates where mahi-mahi and roast duck are served, and Monets hang on the living room walls?

If the god and general, Ted Turner and Ron Maxwell, whisk *their* film profits away to *their* corporate headquarters, and to *their* "non profit" foundations, donate a billion of *their* dollars to the United Nations, and provide more of *their* tax-exempt contributions to embalm the heartland of Virginia with "smart growth" and "sustainable development" and "corridor management"—well, that is just dandy; and who are we, the crass subsumed masses, to question *their* plans for us?

Who are these socially-conscious arbiters, sitting in disdainful judgment of the needs and desires of the 'shabby unwashed' whose preference is eating in a "plastic shack"?

Have not the Turners and Maxwells allied themselves with, supported and fed the true Nebuchadnezzars, not coming in Red Coats or Blue or Gray, but as the Babylonians of Congress, or the Bar, or the local board of supervisors? Have not they been the movers and shakers who have lobbied, collaborated, partnered, cajoled, schemed and sued to create the 'worker's paradise' they claim to abhor? Mr. Maxwell should know better.

What are the motives of these utopian dreamers of "no-growth" and "anti-sprawl" whose answer to *our* problem is to simply "keep-people-out"—driving traffic, crime, congestion, and subdivisions, the messes *they* have made and left but refuse to wipe up, from *their* doorsteps ever further out to ours?

A May 15, 2005 editorial in the Fredericksburg, Virginia Free Lance-Star, *Smart growth? Try less planning*, directly addresses these questions (quoted in part):

One of the great myths spread by opponents of suburban development is that land-use patterns we have today are the result of free-market forces, greedy developers, and unregulated property rights. Contrary to urban legend, however, gaudy strip malls and tacky subdivisions are more often a consequence of over half a century of zoning and land-use planning, conducted under the guidance of professional planners in cooperation with elected officials. What repel us today are not the unintended consequences of free enterprise, but planning concepts from the 1960s that have dropped out of fashion.

Having failed us once, planners are asking for a second chance—along with more regulatory power than ever before—to impose their aesthetic sensibilities on the rest of

us, the philistine masses. Instead of letting the planners have their way, communities should work to restore and strengthen individual property rights. Part of this is giving property owners and builders the freedom to construct housing that people want—not what the planners want to impose on them...The activist wings of these movements gained traction by vilifying the suburbs and their residents. In response, many communities altered their zoning laws to slow the pace of suburbanization. The consequence has been to encourage leapfrog development—in what we now call exurbs—and even more sprawl.

It is revealing to look at the list of model communities that advocates of smart growth hold out as worthy of emulation. The Sierra Club conducts anti-sprawl tours in the Washington, D.C., area, and its guides highlight the beautiful neighborhoods of Old Town Alexandria in Virginia and Georgetown and Capitol Hill in Washington. Elsewhere in the country, anti-sprawl activists hold up Charleston and Savannah, both elegant cities, as role models, along with Society Hill in Philadelphia, Oakleigh in Mobile, the Garden District in New Orleans, and Beacon Hill in Boston.

These communities share a common trait besides their exquisite beauty and historical status: All were built before the advent of zoning, government planning, building codes, building inspections, building permits, and restrictive covenants governing the color of downspouts and window shutters. In short, they represent the spontaneous order of a cowboy capitalism long since regulated out of existence.

One of NIMBYs' major tools to deter growth and exclude less affluent residents is changing zoning to reduce densities and raise housing costs. Among the more common measures is "down zoning," by which raw land previously zoned for, say, five houses per acre is rezoned to allow only one house per acre—or even one house per five, 10, or 20 acres in some communities...In contrast to the country's average lot size of about one-third of an acre, today's growth-control strategies require minimum lot sizes of five, 10, or 20 acres—beyond what many home buyers want or can afford...The consequence is more sprawl—sprawl that has little to do with the free market. Larger lots lead to fewer houses (and people) per square mile, which means that more space is needed to house a given population. This spreading out, in turn, leads to traffic congestion from more long-distance commuters, more expensive housing, and a diminished quality of life, as commuters exchange leisure time for more affordable housing and longer commutes.⁵⁰



The Sheetz family opened their first store in 1952 in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Today, the convenience stores/filling stations are one of Virginia's leading family-owned chains. Sheetz' success is, of course, historic, but some, like New Urbanist James Howard Kunstler, might categorize their modern "plastic shacks" as symbols of crass, commercialism. "When we drive around and look at all this cartoon architecture and other junk that we've smeared all over the landscape...this ugliness is the surface expression of deeper problems—problems that relate to the issue of our national character." Meeting the needs of customers and a heritage of competitive free-markets and property rights is a national character problem?

Strong delusions lead to Sustainable Development and Smart-Growth

The *New York Times* called him the "Custodian of the Planet." A senior advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and former senior advisor to the president of the World Bank; confidant of Ted Turner and consultant for Turner's \$1 billion donation to the UN; a president of the World Federation of United Nations Associations; member of the World Commission on Environment and

Development (the Brundtland Commission headed by Gro Harlem Brundtland, then-Vice President of the World Socialist Party); executive committee member of the Society for International Development; advisor to the Rockefeller Foundation and to the World Wildlife Fund; member of the Board of Directors of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN); and member of the Commission on Global Governance, Canadian Maurice Strong is one of the world's most influential men. His memoir, *Where on Earth Are We Going?*, includes a foreword by the paladin of international human rights and crusader against corruption, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.



Yet his name is virtually unknown to Americans. Most state and local officials have absolutely no knowledge of his existence. During the past three decades, the work of this diminutive, unremarkable appearing man has shaped every aspect of life in America in subtle and powerful ways. The "Custodian of the Planet" is the "godfather" and one of the primary architects of "Sustainable Development" and its bastard offspring, "Smart-Growth," two of the most effective globalist tools being used to radically alter Americans' attitudes toward private property and individual liberties. Charles Lichenstein, deputy ambassador to the UN under President Reagan, called him "dangerous because he's a much smarter and shrewder man [than many in the UN]. I think he is a very dangerous ideologue, way over to the Left."

Strong helped lay the groundwork for the Kyoto Protocol at the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, 1992. Along with former Soviet ruler Mikhail Gorbachev, he is joint chairman of the Earth Charter Initiative, a New Age creed of pagan Earth Worship born of Gorbachev's Green Cross Organization and Strong's Earth Council. In November, 1987, Gorbachev told his Politburo: "Gentlemen, comrades, do not be concerned about all you hear about Glasnost and Perestroika and democracy in the coming years. They are primarily for outward consumption. There will be no significant internal changes in the Soviet Union, other than for cosmetic purposes. Our purpose is to disarm the Americans and let them fall asleep."

The Earth Charter, a document completely hostile to the Biblical ethic and to Western Civilization, envisions humans as merely equal to plants and animals, not created in the image of God, but just a part of a "one Earth community...founded on respect for nature...it is imperative that we, the people of Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations." Strong believes, "We must therefore transform our attitudes and values...The real goal of the Earth Charter is that it will in fact become like the Ten Commandments."



The "Ark of Hope," (left) an occult, New Age mockery of the Biblical Ark of the Covenant, contains Strong's Earth Charter. It was carried by a sloop from Vermont to the UN headquarters in New York and then to a place of honor at the UN Earth Summit II in South Africa. The Preamble to the Earth Charter states, "[W]e are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny. We must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature...towards this end, it is imperative that we, the peoples of the Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations."

Strong's Sacred Earth program of Gaia worship is enshrined in the 1995

“Global Biodiversity Assessment,” a report published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): “They therefore tend to view themselves as members of a community that not only includes other humans, but also plants and animals as well as rocks, springs and pools. People are then members of a community of beings—living and non living.” Apparently, rivers are viewed as mothers and animals as kin.

Strong’s program is simply a reincarnation of the Third Reich’s Dr. Ernst Lehmann’s pantheistic paganism as stated in Munich in 1934: “We recognize that separating humanity from nature, from the whole of life, leads to humankind’s own destruction and to the death of nations. Only through a re-integration of humanity into the whole of nature can our people be made stronger. That is the fundamental point of the biological tasks of our age. Humankind alone is no longer the focus of thought, but rather life as a whole...This striving toward connectedness with the totality of life, with nature itself, a nature into which we are born, this is the deepest meaning and the true essence of National Socialist thought.”

Strong was the Earth Summit’s Secretary General and claimed it would play an important role in “reforming and strengthening the United Nations as the centerpiece of the emerging system of democratic global governance.” According to the UN, *democratic global governance* is the UN’s ‘buzzword’ for a one-world government:

The two-week Earth Summit United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 was the climax of a process, begun in December 1989, of planning, education and negotiations among all Member States of the United Nations, leading to the adoption of Agenda 21, a wide-ranging blueprint for action to achieve sustainable development worldwide. At its close, Maurice Strong, the Conference Secretary-General, called the Summit a “historic moment for humanity.” Governments recognized the need to redirect international and national plans and policies to ensure that all economic decisions fully took into account any environmental impact.⁵¹

Strong’s Earth Charter advocates “the nations of the world should adopt as a first step an international convention that provides an integrated legal framework for existing and future environmental and sustainable-development law and policy.” His formula for saving the world is the radical alteration of western industrial civilization: “Economic growth is not the cure; it is the disease.”

At the 1992 Earth Summit, Strong stated, “The concept of national sovereignty has been an immutable, indeed sacred, principle of international relations. It is a principle which will yield only slowly and reluctantly to the new imperatives of global environmental cooperation. It is simply not feasible for sovereignty to be exercised unilaterally by individual nation states, however powerful. The global community must be assured of environmental security.”

As part of his plan to replace national sovereignty with global rule, he further advocated world-wide “redistribution of wealth” as a means to achieve “sustainability”: “...current lifestyles and consumption patterns of the affluent middle class involving high meat intake, use of fossil fuels, appliances, home and work air conditioning, and suburban housing are not sustainable. A shift is necessary which will require a vast strengthening of the multilateral system, including the United Nations...” He also asked, “Isn’t the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn’t it our responsibility to bring that about?” In a September 1, 1997, *National Review* interview, he stated, “Frankly, we may get to the point where the only way of saving the world will be for industrial civilization to collapse.”

Dave Foreman’s Wildlands corridors and Maurice Strong’s global resource control philosophy are cut from the same cloth: “Phasing out the human race will solve every problem on earth, social and environmental.” Foreman went on to say, “It is not enough to preserve the roadless, undeveloped

country remaining. We must re-create wilderness in large regions: move out the cars and civilized people, dismantle the roads and dams, reclaim the plowed land and clearcuts, reintroduce extirpated species.”

Just as the TWP was initially sponsored in America through the IUCN with funding for conceptual development provided under contract with the Audubon Society and The Nature Conservancy, Strong’s efforts are inextricably linked to the UN. Calgary journalist and lawyer Ezra Levant claims Strong has “never stopped pressing for a world where the UN’s resolutions would be enforced as the law in every corner of the Earth.”

The 1972 Stockholm Conference on Human Environment (Earth Summit I) had far more international significance than was ever reported...[I]t institutionalized NGOs as the instruments through which government could varnish its agenda with the appearance of public support. The primary outcome of the conference was a recommendation to create the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which became a reality in 1973 with Maurice Strong as its first Executive Director...The practice started by Strong at the 1972 conference, of cloaking the agenda in the perception of public grassroots support from NGOs, culminated in Rio in 1992, with the largest collection of NGOs ever assembled in support of Agenda 21.⁵²

UN’s *Agenda 21* sold as “Local Grassroots Support”

Not only have most Americans never heard of Maurice Strong, but most have never heard of a document entitled *UN Sustainable Development Agenda 21*. Known as *Agenda 21* for short, it defines itself as: “...a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment.”

Daniel Sitarz edited and “clarified” *Agenda 21* in the 1994, UN-approved book, *Agenda 21: The Earth Summit Strategy to Save the Planet*. He states:

Effective execution of Agenda 21 will require a profound reorientation of all human society, unlike anything the world has ever experienced—a major shift in the priorities of both governments and individuals and an unprecedented redeployment of human and financial resources. This shift will demand that a concern for the environmental consequences of every human action be integrated into individual and collective decision-making at every level.

Agenda 21 is the UN’s 288-page “soft-law” (non-binding) document adopted by 179 nations, including the US, at the Rio Earth Summit. It establishes the environmental foundation for the Socialist International’s Third Way brand of fascism. Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland, an organizer of the Earth Summit, “freely acknowledged to reporters in Rio that the Earth Summit’s agenda was based upon the Socialist International’s Declaration of Principles.” *Agenda 21* is the pattern for American sustainable development and smart-growth programs advocated by planners such as Ed Risse and by the JTHG “partners.”

The Third Way principles were eagerly endorsed by President and Mrs. Clinton. Mr. Clinton remarked at the Democratic Leadership Council’s Hyde Park Retreat, April, 2000, “...in New Orleans 10 years ago, we set out to outline what we believed ought to be done. Our approach came to be known as the Third Way.” Mikhail Gorbachev believed, “Bill Clinton will be a great president...if he can make America the creator of a new world order based on consensus.” Both Bush administrations have also adhered to and continued to advance the same *Agenda 21* principles for establishment of national sustainable development policies and a system of “global governance.”⁵³

Agenda 21 was never voted on by Congress and signed into law. Instead, it was “integrated” into official federal policy by President Clinton’s Executive Order 12852, issued June 29, 1993, creating the President’s Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD). It was thus adopted as an official executive policy directive designed to restructure every aspect of American society around one, all-encompassing principle: “protecting the environment.”

According to Dr. Michael Coffman, “*Agenda 21*, the primary policy document adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, is based on three publications produced jointly by these three NGOs and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): *Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living* (IUCN, WWF, UNEP, 1991); *Conserving the World’s Biological Diversity* (IUCN, WRI, UNEP, 1990); and *Global Biodiversity Strategy* (WRI, IUCN, UNEP, 1992).⁵⁴

Approximately 30 non-elected “representatives” of government, industry and environment sat on the PCSD: John C. Sawhill, President of The Nature Conservancy; Kenneth L. Lay, Chairman and CEO, Enron Corporation, who is awaiting trial for conspiracy and fraud; Fred D. Krupp, Executive Director, Environmental Defense Fund; Jonathan Lash, President, World Resources Institute; John H. Adams, Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council; Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior; Jay D. Hair, President, World Conservation Union (IUCN) and others of similar backgrounds.

The ‘swinging-door’ relationships between executives of major environmental/preservationist NGOs and top officials of US government agencies has been one of the driving forces in the development of environmental/social policy, as well as serving as a coordinating mechanism through which thousands of NGOs promote and implement policy. For example, Russell Train worked for the EPA and the WWF and was on the board of directors of two Rockefeller foundations. He was instrumental in putting together massive grants to form the World Resources Institute (WRI) in 1982, of which he was a member of the board of directors. Jay Hair, an original member of the PCSD, was head of the National Wildlife Federation before becoming president of the IUCN.

Particularly after the 1992 Clinton/Gore election, government agencies were infiltrated by NGO executives. National and international government agencies came under the management of those individuals who were instrumental in developing and promoting environmental/social policies as heads of NGOs, and then were appointed to positions of authority to implement their own policies.

Using the UN’s *Agenda 21*, the PCSD arrived at 154 policies to be implemented throughout America in order to achieve a national “vision of sustainable development.” That vision, based directly on the UN document, included a compilation of “detailed land capability inventories to guide sustainable land resources allocation, management and use at the national and local levels.” It was intended to establish methods to “limit the use of land resources through zoning schemes; use incentives and tax policy to foster particular land-use practices; create and enforce tenure arrangements...and establish easements...that seek to establish landscape characteristics favourable to biodiversity.” The “visions” of the promoters of the JTHG project and other National Heritage Area corridor plans are identical to the “visions” set out in *Agenda 21*.

Columnist Phyllis Spivey describes the new \$35 million general plan for Riverside County, California, the *Riverside County Integrated Project* (RCIP):

One of the most disturbing “sustainability” documents originated at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)—“Community Sustainability: Agendas for Choice-making & Action.” A draft guide for developing sustainable communities in the U.S. and internationally, the “sustainability roadmap” was prepared for yet another U.N. environmental summit, the 1996 “urban-ecological” Habitat II at Istanbul, Turkey.

The radical 26-page guide called for a blending together of workplace, housing and nature where Americans would live in highly-concentrated, heavily-controlled urban clusters, i.e., “human settlements.” They would rely on “transit, walking and bikes” for transportation and support marketplaces incorporating “consumer collectives,” “eco-buying cooperatives” and “workers collaboratives” in a climate of “eco-justice.”

A glossy RCIP brochure describes the plan as “a model for the nation...largest multi-species habitat conservation plan in the nation...a textbook example of Smart Growth...coordinated by a partnership between the Federal Government, the State Government, the County of Riverside, the Riverside County Transportation Commission and the Southern California Association of Governments.”

A July, 2004 Orange County Register editorial strongly criticized the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for its 104-page study designed to create “a sustainable future.” The editorial warned: “The ideas in the study should concern Southern Californians, since their governments are committing themselves to a plan designed to change the way most of us live.” Referring to “compact community development” (aka community centers, aka urban clusters, aka human settlements), as an “Eastern European-style planning regimen” the editorialist asserted: “...the regional planning agency wants to engage in social engineering: pushing us to live in high-density condos near transit stations. This is the foundation of an authoritarian planning regimen known as the New Urbanism, in which planners try to recreate dense urban centers and discourage the suburbanization most of us prefer...This is more of what many current city governments are pushing: stopping growth in open spaces, using zoning and taxpayer subsidies to reward developers of high-density projects, using eminent domain to take private property to make way for the infill developments.”⁵⁵

As a result of international legal, economic, social, and environmental initiatives, treaties, memoranda and agreements, including *Agenda 21*, adopted or acceded to by Congress and federal agencies such as the NPS, USFWS, EPA, HUD and USDA, an army of NGOs was created, fielded and funded to carry out the UN’s collectivist sustainable development/smart-growth directives in American communities, counties and within the jurisdiction of regional authorities.

These federal agencies are, by definition, “organizations of the United Nations System.” State agencies and major NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy have entered into “cooperative agreements” and “memoranda of understanding” with federal agencies, and are also, by definition, included in “organizations of the United Nations System.” The US Fish and Wildlife Service, for instance, retains the name of a US agency, but it follows international directives from UN Systems authority, and in turn, each state Fish, Game and Wildlife agency has been integrated through funding programs and cooperative agreements, no longer operating independently at the state level.

The tax-exempt, non-profit NGOs are stamped out on an assembly line, each a cog in a dynastic, self-perpetuating machine largely ‘greased’ by funding from government and multi-billion dollar tax-exempt foundations and charitable trusts, and perpetuated due to the ignorance of the American people. Changes in the concept and structure of government are goals pushed upon state and local governing bodies. Most of the changes have occurred since the late 1970s. For example, in 1965 there were fewer than 150 land trusts operating within the 50 states. By 1982, the number of local and regional trusts had increased to about 450, and at present, there are more than 1500. There are hundreds more legal advocacy groups such as the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC), think tanks and public policy groups—the list seems almost endless and grows daily.

Along with the dramatic increase in the number of tax-supported NGOs, there are other examples of an expanding, top-down control system. Local “comprehensive planning and zoning” controls proliferated where there were none, particularly in rural areas. The number of government regulatory

agencies has increased at all levels. Regional governing authorities and regional planning commissions have multiplied and blurred the lines between state and county sovereignty concerning local issues.

So-called “grass-roots, non-profit” organizations are anything but grass-roots, their efforts predictably aimed at consolidating and centralizing power, facilitating the transfer of decision making authority “up the ladder,” and leaving localities with less control over their destinies.

Complaints from state and local governing bodies about mandates from above, particularly “unfunded mandates,” rising at times to a deafening crescendo, have been regularly heard in nearly every city council and board of supervisors meeting. Yet in almost every instance, the individual voters, land owners and taxpayers, are told by hypocritical officials: “We have no choice. It’s mandated by Richmond. It’s mandated by Washington.” But at the same time, officials support and fund the very NGO ‘stakeholders’ who lobby for more centralized government authority, for less local autonomy and for less individual liberty.



The concepts of Agenda 21, sustainable development and smart-growth are in direct conflict with principles of our Constitutional Republic where “all men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights” and “to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men...”

Whether it is a chamber of commerce, a “watershed preservation council”, a “regional business incubator center” or a land trust, many officials are seduced into abandoning their duties to represent the individual citizen in favor of catering to these politically-connected special interest groups. In the alliance of the “stakeholder partnership” with government, government

officials no longer serve the people.

By legislative act, by regulatory mandate, by agency directive or through the use of federal/state grant programs, social, cultural and economic re-engineering has taken place under the guise of conservation, historic preservation, protecting species, sustainable development and smart-growth. A tremendous increase in the influence of taxpayer-supported, non-elected “community” organizations, acting “in the public interest and for the good of the community,” has facilitated a reversal of roles within representative government: those on the top now command the “people” on the bottom. The servant is now master. It is the very system of which Hitler spoke in 1923, the New Order he envisioned which transformed the governmental process in Germany and led to the rise of the fascist state:

What we [National Socialists] need if we are to have a real People’s State is land reform...And land [natural resources], we must insist, cannot be private property. Further, there must be a reform in our law. Our present law regards only the rights of the individual. It does not regard the protection of the race, the protection of the community of the people...A law which is so far removed from the conception of the community of the people is in need of reform.

NGOs run the gamut of size and influence from the “Save Our Local Creek Coalition” to the PEC to organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, but they are all of one fabric. Each of the NGO stakeholders has virtually identical goals: the “preservation” through additional government control of something “threatened,” whether it is “vanishing farmland,” a “scenic highway,” an “imperiled watershed,” a “Civil War” battlefield, or “revitalizing main street.” Each is focused on a particular

“piece of the puzzle,” and each partner works within an incestuous network of interconnected federal, state and non-profit entities. All but the smallest have full-time, paid staff to direct the efforts of supporters and volunteers. The average man and woman work one or more full-time jobs to help subsidize the network, yet remain in almost complete ignorance of their methods and goals.

Collaborative decisionmaking: methods for “facilitating” consensus and change

The use of *Agenda 21's* “new collaborative decision process,” also known as “consensus building,” “facilitation” or “visioning,” is a method enabling a deliberate shift in public policymaking away from actions based on absolute principles of limited, Constitutional government to the relativism of “participatory democracy” through which government is able to “varnish its agenda with the appearance of public support.” Under this process, unalienable individual Rights endowed by a Creator are no longer unalienable, but subject to compromise by “consensus of the community.”

Hitler’s “community of the people” is, of course, identical to the “council” in Soviet Russia. The Russian communist word for ruling council is “soviet.” Marxist theoretician George Lukacs (1885-1971) explained: “The institutions in socialist society which act as the facilitators between the public and private realms are the Soviets.”

The “stakeholder group,” a term repeatedly used by preservationists but not understood by most Americans, is identical to the “soviet” and is essential to the “consensus” process of “participatory democracy.” The states within the USSR were all termed socialist *democracies*. “Stakeholder” is a nebulous term describing a *communal stake* or claim on an individual’s private property, or on his actions. Stakeholders have no lawful interest in their neighbors’ private land, but in the name of the “communal good” or “the public interest” or “the public health, safety and welfare,” they seek to “facilitate” control for themselves as claimants who represent the “democratic state,” what Hitler called the “People’s State.”

“Viewshed protection” is a good example of the manner in which stakeholders impose “communal interests” on property in which they have no lawful ownership. They claim a stake in the scenic beauty of a particular landscape in order to force lawful owners of land to conform or restrict the use of their private land to the stakeholder’s sense of aesthetics. The individual’s right in his property is transformed by land use planning into “communal ownership,” state regulation of how his property should look. Another stick is taken from his bundle of sticks for the “common good.”

The “viewshed” becomes a “commons” to be exploited by the arbiters of “pristine beauty.” In contrast to many of Garrett Hardin’s faulty assumptions and conclusions in his 1968 essay, *The Tragedy of the Commons*, state (communal) ownership or regulation of property, much like the Commons, leads to the very abuse, exploitation and ruin Hardin complained of.

In a 1981 paper, *Resolving the Tragedy of the Commons by Creating Private Property Rights in Wildlife*, Robert J. Smith explains the real tragedy of the “commons”:

Private property rights have worked successfully in a broad array of cases to preserve wildlife and resolve the tragedy of the commons. Experience and the logical implications of common property resource theory suggest that private property rights are far superior to state or public property rights partly because of the unambiguous exclusivity of private property rights and the difficult problem of preventing too many from using the public domain under a system of state ownership. Furthermore, private property owners have a direct and immediate incentive not to mismanage their own property, while government owners or managers do not have the same incentives, nor are there many incentives that prevent all of the public from overusing the resources held in the public domain. It seems that Hardin’s proposal that resolution of the tragedy of the commons comes down to a choice between private ownership or government ownership is insufficient. State ownership appears to be little more than a more

regulated commons. We witness the same overuse and destruction of the public domain as we do in the purest commons.⁵⁶

Non-elected “community leaders” or stakeholder organizations demand “seats at the table” on federal, state and local boards, councils and “citizens” committees, for instance, and stakeholder witnesses are often given special deference as “experts” at public hearings. These community leaders, experts, boards, councils and citizen’s committees, called upon or appointed by governing officials for advice or to perform a particular task, often do not represent the best interests of most citizens but, instead, have a predetermined, special-interest agenda and act as *change agents* and as information and policymaking *filters*, excluding the concerns and views of affected individuals within a particular jurisdiction. The veneer of “local grassroots participation” is widely publicized as an accomplished fact and accepted by elected officials as a *bona fide* justification and endorsement for actions sought by stakeholder groups. The general public is led to believe decisions are made through a democratic process even when their concerns are ignored. This process discourages the average person from participation in public affairs or voicing individual concerns out of fear of being seen as out of touch with the “will of the community” or being labeled as a person who “spreads fear in the community.”

Because many governmental processes statutorily require public hearings, and because officials often appoint “task forces” or “citizens’ advisory committees” to study public issues, stakeholder groups rely on certain methods developed by behavioral scientists and psychologists to direct the outcome along predetermined lines.

The “facilitation of consensus” to arrive at change is an outgrowth of behavior-modification techniques developed as “group dynamics,” also known as the Delphi Technique. The Delphi Technique, group dynamics and consensus building are based on the Hegelian Dialectic: thesis, antithesis, and synthesis, where synthesis is the new thesis, compromise or outcome arising from a conflict between thesis and antithesis. The consensus method is a form of belief and behavior modification and the goal is a *continual* change toward “oneness of belief.”

Dean Gotcher, author and founder of the Institution For Authority Research, coined the term *Diaprax* (dialectic + praxis) to describe the practical application of the Hegelian Dialectic or “consensus process,” as conceived in the late 1700s by transformational Marxist, Georg Wilhelm Fredric Hegel who sought “unity in diversity.” Gotcher has written and lectured widely about Total Quality Management, consensus, the Delphi technique, group dynamics, cognitive dissonance, and paradigm shift, and their roles in restructuring society where people of diverse and often opposing backgrounds, worldviews and belief systems will *forfeit their own values, traditions and absolutes for the emotional rewards of group acceptance*.

Professional, trained “facilitators” are often employed to “guide a group to consensus” on a particular issue. The job of the facilitator in the consensus process is *to arrive at a predetermined outcome*. This point can not be stressed too much. *It is the job of the facilitator to herd the group and to compromise their individual positions for the sake of “social harmony” and “the good of the community.”* In fact, it is imperative to the “change process” for ordinary people to assume “ownership” of preset outcomes and to abandon their own beliefs.

The facilitator helps people believe an idea is theirs, and thus readily accept it. If change is forced on group members, they will resist. The methods of belief and behavior modification and “dialectic-reasoning skills” in group settings rely to a large degree on the inherent fears most individuals have of being alienated from the group. Using facilitation, individuals are convinced to look at themselves as part of the *collective society*, not as individuals.

Kurt Lewin (1890-1947), born in Prussia, was one of the most influential proponents of “facilitated change,” and is best known for his work in the field of “organization behavior and the study of group dynamics.” He was a Marxist social scientist who founded the Research Center for

Group Dynamics at MIT in 1944. With roots in Gestalt (“being shaped into oneness” or “a unified whole”) theory, Lewin developed operational methodologies of democratic leadership and the creation of “democratic group structure,” and “psychoeducational and cognitive-behavioural group therapy.”



Lewin’s work is foundational to the facilitation and consensus process. According to Lewin, “A successful change includes, therefore, three aspects: unfreezing the present level...moving to the new level... and freezing group life on the new level.” Change needs to be facilitated and guided. Lewin’s “democratic group structure” fits exactly into the collectivist model: “To instigate changes toward democracy a situation has to be created for a certain period where the leader [facilitator] is sufficiently in control to rule out influences he does not want and to manipulate the situation to a sufficient degree.”⁵⁷ The type of *democracy* Lewin speaks of is the Marxist-Fascist model.

The facilitation and consensus policymaking filter insulates elected officials from those they are supposed to serve. The individual voter, taxpayer and property owner are, as Lewin says, *ruled out*. The stakeholders also bring forward what are meant to appear to be locally initiated proposals for change or to cure what they consider a “societal evil.” Typical examples are smart growth programs, viewshed protections, corridor protection plans and downzoning restrictions. When individuals do advocate freedom to use and enjoy their own property, their position is often marginalized as not being “in the public interest,” as “greedy profiteering” or as “reactionary.”

The essence of the facilitation/consensus process is just what Lewin says it is: psychological manipulation. H. L. Mencken saw through the farce of Lewin’s “democracy”: “Democratic man,” Mencken said, “is quite unable to think of himself as a free individual; he must belong to a group, or shake with fear and loneliness—and the group, of course, must have its leaders.”

Or, as Lawrence Dennis wrote in *The Coming American Fascism* (1936): “[Fascism] does not accept the liberal dogmas as to the sovereignty of the consumer or trader in the free market...Least of all does it consider that market freedom, and the opportunity to make competitive profits, are rights of the individual. Such decisions should be made by a ‘dominant class,’ an ‘elite.’”

UN land use policy applied to localities

The UN’s land use policy was laid out at the 1976 UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat I). This policy is carried forward in *Agenda 21*, as well as in other UN treaties and documents. The implications for land use policies in rural America are summarized in the Habitat I *Preamble*. Set out in the clearest terms, there can be no doubt about the intent of UN policy and its integration into the NHA/Corridor and sustainable development/smart-growth programs:

Land...cannot be treated as an ordinary asset, controlled by individuals and subject to the pressures and inefficiencies of the market. Private land ownership is also a principal instrument of accumulation and concentration of wealth and therefore contributes to social injustice; if unchecked, it may become a major obstacle in the planning and implementation of development schemes. The provision of decent dwellings and healthy conditions for the people can only be achieved if land is used in the interests of society as a whole. Public control of land use is therefore indispensable.

Agricultural land, particularly on the periphery of urban areas, is an important national resource; without public control land is prey to speculation and urban encroachment...Such control may be exercised through: Zoning and land-use planning as a basic instrument of land policy in general and of control of land-use changes in particular...Public ownership should be used to secure and control areas of urban

expansion and protection; and to implement urban and rural land reform processes, and supply serviced land at price levels which can secure socially acceptable patterns of development.

Official U.S. endorsement of these very UN policies came from Carla A. Hills, Secretary of HUD, and William K. Reilly, then-head of the Conservation Foundation, later George H. W. Bush's Administrator of the EPA. NGO endorsers included International Planned Parenthood Federation; World Federation of United Nations Associations; International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN); World Association of World Federalists; Friends of the Earth; National Audubon Society; National Parks and Conservation Association; Natural Resources Defense Council; and the Sierra Club.

Compare the proposals of the Journey Through Hallowed Ground partnership, specifically the Third Way formula Dr. Risse and the PEC have advocated in northern Virginia, to the UN's vision. Henry Lamb, recognized for his research and writings on the subject, warned in 1997:

Most Americans are totally unaware of this relentless, 20-year campaign by the UN to gain control over land use around the world. Many people believe that the UN is a distant, benevolent do-good organization that is expensive, but which has no direct affect on America. Nothing could be further from the truth...Virtually every activity, conference, and action plan devised by the UN since the early 1970s has been aiming toward the ultimate objective of eventual global governance founded upon the principles of collectivism, central planning, and omnipotent enforcement, disguised by the language of equity, social justice, and environmental protection.⁵⁸

A conspiracy of ignorance and denial

Readers may brush aside the significance of the breadth of UN involvement in directing local American land use policy. It would be a grave error to do so or to conclude the efforts of an international preservationist elite are simply utopian dreams; and just as erroneous to dismiss the reality as "right-wing paranoia" or "conspiracy theory."

Transformations accomplished since the 1970s are not a secret plot arising from the efforts of a group of radicals meeting in darkened rooms. The goals and methods of the global preservationists and the UN's direct involvement are widely published in their own documents and readily available in almost any university library or via the UN's internet websites. The evidence of their success in altering our moral, legal cultural and social institutions is beyond argument. It can be seen in our daily newspapers, in our public schoolrooms, and heard on the lips of most elected officials. At almost any county board of supervisors meeting there are proposals related to environmental protection, smart-growth or some type of sustainable development program.

In fact, the UN and its agencies are proud of their goals and accomplishments and do not hesitate to broadcast them. What they have done and propose to do is no esoteric "conspiracy" and is certainly not the babblings of dreamers. The Strongs, Gorbachevs, Rockefellers, Turners and hundreds of other like-minded individuals, tax-exempt foundations and NGOs have immense wealth and influence. They have openly defined their goals, constructed legal implementation structures, and are using their combined powers to bring about a New Order, a system of "global governance" where they expect to rule as the privileged class. The fact some of these modern Nebuchadnezzars may see themselves as benevolent saviors of Gaia Earth makes them no less dangerous.

Dr. Steven Yates writes in his essay, *From Carroll Quigley to the UN Millennium Summit: Thoughts on the New World Order*:

Back in the early 1960s, historian Carroll Quigley did extensive research for his encyclopedic *Tragedy and Hope: A History of the World in Our Time. Tragedy and*

Hope recounted, in over 1,300 tightly-written pages of small print, the gradual rise to power of a small cadre of extremely wealthy and powerful individuals. Many were products of wealthy bloodlines...They operated mostly behind the scenes, not as national political elites but as an international elite—or superelite. For them, natural borders and loyalties were increasingly meaningless...So-called conspiracy theorists have written extensively of organizations such as the Council on Foreign Relations, founded in 1921, the Trilateral Commission, founded in 1973, and the European Bilderberg Group...as having the same goal: the creation of a world government with themselves at the helm.

Who was Quigley? Not a “right winger” in the John Birch Society but a highly respected senior-level professor of political history at the Foreign Service School at Georgetown University. He specialized in macrohistory, or the study of large-scale, global developments and trends...He was, after all, one of Bill Clinton’s chief mentors, personal heroes, and the one person Clinton thanked by name in his first inaugural address. Quigley had had Clinton as an undergraduate years before at Georgetown. As a youth Clinton already had his eyes set on the Presidency. Seeing that even as a teenager, Clinton was one of those people who was fascinated by power and would compromise any principle to obtain it, Quigley saw him as having the “right stuff.” It was Quigley’s powerful connections that obtained for Clinton the Rhodes Scholarship.

It has remained easy, despite Quigley’s impressive credentials, to dismiss the thought of a relative handful of behind-the-scenes operatives controlling the direction of history as the product of kooks. Journalists and pundits routinely and contemptuously dismiss “conspiracy theories” almost by reflex. However, some of the major players in the “conspiracy” do little to hide their aims. Maurice Strong, co-chairman of a United Nations affiliated organization called the UN Commission on Global Governance, said, “It is simply not feasible for sovereignty to be exercised unilaterally by individual nation-states, however powerful.” Shridath Ramphal, another co-chairman of the same organization, added, “The bedrock of every country’s international relations must be the mission of using the United Nations system as the machinery for working and acting together.” Strobe Talbott, US Deputy Secretary of State in the Clinton Regime, was considerably more blunt: “Nationhood as we know it will be obsolete, all states will recognize a single, global authority...National sovereignty wasn’t such a great idea after all.” None of these people want to end the nation-state in favor of freely acting and trading individuals; individualism is an anathema to this mindset. They are talking openly of global government, doing everything except calling it that...

Moreover, it makes little sense to speak of “conspiracies” when what is being done, is being done right out in the open where everyone can see it. One is tempted again and again of the arrogance of power. The real question, then, is: do we have the will to make use of our own resources?

Whether we are up to avoiding further centralization here in the US is still open to debate. The effects of decades of “public education” have taken their toll: Americans, by and large, are far more fascinated with *Survivor*, *World Championship Wrestling* and the fall football season than they are the affairs of state that determine the long-term destinies of nations. Our educational system now stresses vocational training, not the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, even at so-called liberal arts colleges...If we do not educate ourselves about the superelite is up to—or if we continue to dismiss whistleblowers as kooky “conspiracy theorists”—we will deserve the consequences.⁵⁹

Quigley was an ardent supporter of the goals of the superelite: “I know of the operations of this network because I have studied it for twenty years...I have no aversion to it or to most of its instruments...and I believe its role in history is significant enough to be known.”

Men such as Bertram Gross saw their error and sounded a warning: “‘Sure, we’ll have fascism, but it will come disguised as Americanism.’ This famous statement has been attributed in many forms to Senator Huey P. Long, the Louisiana populist with an affinity for the demagogues of classic European fascism. If he were alive today, I am positive he would add the words ‘and democracy.’”

As with Maurice Strong, few have ever heard of Bertram Gross or Carroll Quigley. Even Aldous Huxley, author of *Brave New World*, is not well known. In an essay, *Propaganda in a Democratic Society*, Huxley wrote:

There are also forces of another, less abstract character, forces that can be deliberately used by power-seeking individuals whose aim is to establish partial or complete control over their fellows...A society, most of whose members spend a great part of their time, not on the spot, not here and now and in the calculable future, but somewhere else, in the irrelevant other worlds of sport and soap opera, of mythology and metaphysical fantasy, will find it hard to resist the encroachments of those who would manipulate and control it.

It is difficult for Americans, distracted by “irrelevant other worlds of sport and soap opera,” misinformed or uninformed, to connect the dots. Many are aware America has changed but do not understand why it is happening. Most simply refuse to look at the evidence. Fearing a loss of the smallest creature comfort, of position and social standing, or of being branded as a ‘kook’ or misfit, existing in a state of denial is a preferable to knowledge. Knowledge carries a more fearful burden: the moral imperative to act.

If there is any ‘conspiracy,’ it is one of self-delusion, manipulation, denial and indolence. Complicit are elected officials, newspapers and media, the education establishment, and many businessmen, judges and clergy and “community leaders.” For them, the “outstanding citizens of the community,” exposing ignorance and injustice with truth brings few temporal rewards and carries many liabilities. It is much easier not to “rock the boat” and to ignore the leaks in the hull. It is more rewarding, in terms of personal gain and their public image, at least in the short term, to participate, wittingly or unwittingly, in the auction of their American birthright.

Cate’s World: Slick, Texas Crude



Following a professional career spanning the Atlantic, Cate Magennis Wyatt and her family settled into Waterford’s idyllic life, occupying a 1795 house in the “historic” village of less than 100 homes. Wyatt told the *Washington Post* her “children can be Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn.” She “was never happier than that moment, to see [her son] with a crawfish in his muddy little hands. That was why we came back...We decided we can live a much simpler life and still do business by cell phone and e-mail.”

The “quaint” village of Waterford, Virginia (left) is designated a National Historic Landmark. Waterford, where virtually nothing of historical significance ever happened, shares its lofty NHL distinction with the North Terminal of National Airport. Senator John Warner, in one of his trademark outbursts of intelligence and originality, asserted, “The rural setting and productive agricultural land in the historic Waterford Landmark is a national treasure that hosts visitors from around the world who experience living history and learn about our county’s rich heritage.”

Her “career” in and out of government included work as a Carter White House intern and commutes between London, Moscow and Kazakhstan running an “oil business” with her husband, Steve, during the late 1990s. She served as secretary of economic development for Virginia from 1992–1996; worked for Landsdowne Development; Remington International (an asset management firm); was a director of The Fairfax Group Ltd.; vice president of Weston Capital, a “real estate developer in Loudoun County;” a member of Loudoun County Environmental Indicators Project (she remarked how pleased she was to be working again with many people she has known in past initiatives focused on Loudoun County’s land use and beautification); and a co-chair of the now-defunct Millennium Society.

Cate Wyatt’s educational credentials include a B.A. from Notre Dame, majoring in government and economics. She also attended Sophia University, a Jesuit university in the center of Tokyo where the educational philosophy is “Christian Humanism.” As practiced at Sophia, it is a philosophy “helping to cultivate people...capable of creating a new culture...”

Most traditional Christians recognize Christian humanism as an absolute contradiction in terms. Humanists set out their beliefs in *Humanist Manifesto I* and *Humanist Manifesto II* where the supremacy of self is a subtle and “sophisticated” proclamation of “new age” atheism. Paul Kurtz, former editor of *The Humanist*, addressed the subject of Christian humanism: “Humanism cannot in any fair sense of the word apply to one who still believes in God as the source and Creator of the universe. Christian Humanism would be possible only for those who are willing to admit that they are atheistic Humanists. It surely does not apply to God-intoxicated believers.” Humanism professes there is no God; man and his environment are the result of evolution; ethics is situational; no one can possess absolute truth; there is no life after death; views of salvation are illusory and harmful; man is the most important thing in the Universe; and man has no soul.⁶⁰

A number of press reports portray Wyatt as the devoted mother of two, simply an “outstanding volunteer” working to preserve historic, rural Virginia from the ravages of uncontrolled development and urban sprawl. At a 2004 Loudoun Volunteer Services Outstanding Volunteer Recognition Ceremony: “Through her determination, organizational skills and tireless effort on behalf of the Waterford Foundation, Cate raised a major portion of the nearly \$4 million needed to save the Phillips Farm—the most critical open space in the Waterford National Historic Landmark District from imminent development...The foundation and all of Loudoun County are indeed fortunate to have volunteers of this caliber.” The former “hard-charging” executive has apparently found an idealistic mission as the Joan of Arc of the Piedmont: “I’ve been lucky enough to have a choice and to be able to work from here.”⁶¹

Last year, James A. Bacon, in nauseatingly fawning terms, recounted how the innocent, 1993 newlyweds, Cate and Steve, set out to make their own way in the harsh world. The two budding entrepreneurs just *happened* upon “an opportunity in the oil business” in Russia and Kazakhstan after the fall of the Soviet Union and “before the giant petroleum companies moved in:”

Looking for a taste of adventure, they set up an office in Moscow in 1994...patched together a plan to load Kazakh oil onto barges, run it across the Caspian Sea, up the Volga River, through the Volga-Don Canal, down the Don River and across the Black Sea to buyers in Bulgaria and Romania. Barges could move only a trickle compared to a pipeline, but the volume was more than sufficient to reward a small, start-up business...She and Steve had persevered through obstacles every step of the way but, finally, the government had signed a contract. “Then, the very next day,” she says, “they knocked on our door and said, ‘Terribly sorry, we can’t fulfill the contract.’” ...But all’s well that ends well. Surviving the ordeal, the redoubtable husband-and-wife team went on to make a string of deals in Russia and various countries in the Caucasus-Middle Eastern region...By 1997, a market was developing in Russia for luxury

consumer goods...Wyatt and an American obtained the exclusive rights to distribute Ralph Lauren's Polo and the French Elle lines of clothing in the countries of the former Soviet Union...But Wyatt was idealistic. She raised \$14 million to open a high-fashion store on Moscow's most fashionable avenue—and she was determined to make a success while playing by the rules...That, says Wyatt, was when she attracted the attention of the Russian mob and a corrupt KGB officer.



Four years ago, Cate and Steven returned to Virginia to settle down in Waterford, a historic and picturesque village in Loudoun County that could have been transplanted from the quiet English countryside. Steven still runs Equator International from Washington, a financial services company that markets specialized products, such as hedge funds and oil & gas investments...And Cate, mother of two, has slowed down, though she still runs at a pace that would exhaust most mortals. As a strategic consultant, she is taking on projects with not-for-profit enterprises that “make a difference.”...Wyatt says, she'd had enough of wheeling and dealing. She made a conscious decision to work only with entities “that did something that matter.” ...Her challenge, in essence, is to put into effect a plan to save the region—to change the land-use and transportation policies that vomit development from neighboring metropolises...It's a formidable task, and Wyatt knows she may be signing up for a five- to 10-year commitment. The developers, builders, politicians and other special interests arrayed against her are as almost as powerful and implacable, in a law-abiding context, as the Russian mob. Piedmont conservationists have failed to fend off sprawl for more than 20 years. But if anyone can succeed, it's Cate Wyatt, the mom who stood up to the Russian mob.⁶²

Attractive and “connected,” there appears to be more to the “strategic consultant” who grew up in Wethersfield, Connecticut than meets the eye. The generally air-headed media neglects to mention the connections which cast a different light on her “luck.”

Cate wins an Oscar

Upon announcement of her 1993 engagement to “Texas oil heir” Steve Wyatt, *Time* reported she was best known for “her dates” and “previous relationships” with “socially active Senators Ted Kennedy, Chris Dodd and John Warner, and Virginia Governor Doug Wilder.”

In 1996, *Forbes* magazine published an article entitled *Saddam's pal Oscar*:

Oscar Wyatt would sup with the devil if he could make money from it. Saddam Hussein? Apparently just as good a partner as any other, so far as the founder and chairman of Houston's Coastal Corp. is concerned. Wyatt had a deal to sell a 50% stake in Coastal's worldwide refining and marketing operations. Saddam was going to pay a sum said to be around \$1.5 billion. But of course when the dictator went to war with the U.S., the deal was off...When President Bush was showing signs of standing up to Saddam after the invasion of Kuwait, Wyatt delivered a speech in Corpus Christi, Tex. in which he was reported to have said: “The mentality of the people we are defending is that they think they can buy their liberty with our blood.” Wyatt seemed to be accusing President Bush of selling American soldiers to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The speech may have made Saddam happy, but, to put it mildly, it irritated a lot of other Arabs. Neither Saudis nor Kuwaitis are likely joint venture partners for Wyatt...One New York

money manager who specializes in oil and has made a lot of money investing in Coastal stock nonetheless says: “A lot of people just won’t deal with Oscar. They don’t like him, and they don’t trust him.”⁶³

British author Anthony Frewin wrote a 2001 story about French “club hostess” Claudie Danielle Delbarre, 18, who, in 1967, was murdered in her Walpole Street room in the “swinging” part of London. Robert ‘Bobby’ Lipman, the thirty-seven year old son of a wealthy New York property developer, fled the scene, flew home to New York and was admitted to Saint Luke’s Hospital “in great emotional distress.” Tracked by Scotland Yard and the FBI, extradited and tried, the international playboy was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to six years in prison. On the day of the murder, he had been on opium, cannabis, amphetamines, hashish, and was drinking alcohol.

Prior to sexual intercourse, he and prostitute Claudie took LSD. Lipman claimed he didn’t know what was happening during the LSD trip, which took him “into the centre of the earth, and found myself in a den of monster snakes which I was fighting off and battling with. They were huge prehistoric type, scaly and with fire shooting from their mouth. I felt I was fighting for my life. I am not sure how I dealt with the fire coming from their mouths.” The coroner reported Claudie died from repeated blows to the head, a fractured skull and suffocation, with eight inches of bed sheeting stuffed down her throat. It was as good a way as any to kill a fire-breathing dragon.

Lynn Sakowitz, a young, wealthy, Texas socialite, married Bobby Lipman in 1954. They had two children, Steve and Douglas. She left Lipman in the early 1960s and, in 1963, married Texas oil and gas billionaire Oscar Wyatt, Jr. who adopted both boys. Lynn is the granddaughter of an immigrant family who built a successful Texas merchandising business through hard work and scrupulously ethical business practices. In later years, the family business was mismanaged by Lynn’s brother Robert, declined and went into bankruptcy, but Oscar Wyatt’s “questionably acquired billions” enabled Lynn to enjoy “the Concorde-and-caviar empyrean inhabited by the likes of Princess Grace of Monaco and Truman Capote.”

In the late 1980s, Douglas became involved with Eternal Values, a bizarre, homosexual, Nazi cult led by New Age con-artist Frederick Von Mierers. Von Mierers, a former “male model” and “social climber” from Brooklyn, preyed on the young, physically beautiful and rich such as Jackie Adams and Sylvester Stallone. Von Mierers claimed he was an “alien from the star Arcturus,” the reincarnation of the prophet Jeremiah. “I’m here to train the leaders of the New Age,” he told writer Marie Brenner. “Everyone I am training for leadership will have perfect features. I believe in the master race!”

Von Mierers saved his followers from the coming Millennium Armageddon, and made millions, by “prescribing gemstones” having mystical powers which he sold for many times their worth using phony appraisals. Lynn Wyatt bought \$70,000 worth, “to ward off evil.” Some of those he duped became wise to his game and those “Satanic defectors,” as he called them, went to the police. Brenner exposed the cult in a March, 1990, *Vanity Fair* article, “East Side Alien.” Douglas Wyatt, shamed, went into hiding. Von Mierers died of AIDS in 1990 while under investigation by the Manhattan district attorney’s office.⁶⁴

Steve Wyatt, the “outgoing and high-spirited” playboy, was known as Oscar and Lynn’s favorite son. He, too, had a New Age, “spiritual” side, although different than his brother’s. Steve’s cup of tea was a macro-biotic diet, yoga, meditation and sleeping under a blue plastic pyramid “to cleanse his soul.” He followed the “teachings” of Werner Erhard’s “est” (Erhard Seminar Training and Latin for “it is”).

In 1960, at age 25, Erhard (not his real name) abandoned his wife and children, left Philadelphia and moved to St. Louis to sell cars. The est program he “developed” was “often abusive, profane, demeaning, and authoritarian,” a “hodgepodge of philosophical bits and pieces culled from the carcasses of existential philosophy, motivational psychology, Maxwell Maltz’s Psycho-cybernetics,

Zen Buddhism, Alan Watts, Freud, Abraham Maslow, L. Ron Hubbard, Hinduism, Dale Carnegie, Norman Vincent Peale, P.T. Barnum, and anything else that Erhard's intuition told him would work in the burgeoning Human Potential market." But he took in hundreds of thousands of dollars from the multitudes who wanted to have their consciousness "rewired." Erhard, the early guru of the Human Potential Movement, was eager do the rewiring for his followers.⁶⁵

By the early 1990s, the Duke and Duchess (Sarah Margaret Ferguson) of York's marriage was on the rocks. Allan Starkie, a confidant of the Duchess, wrote in his book, *Fergie: Her Secret Life* (1996), "The truth was that the love of Sarah's life, always, was not John Bryan but Steve Wyatt. It was with Steve Wyatt that she broke her wedding vows, while pregnant with her second child and with her marriage barely three years old. And since her real affection remained with this other American, the stepson of Houston oil magnate Oscar Wyatt..." Fergie met Steve Wyatt in Houston in 1989 while staying as a guest at the Wyatt's exclusive River Oaks mansion. Frewin wrote she "later met him in England and the rest is royal history." Fergie implies in her autobiography she and Steve were just friends, but her former "psychic advisor," Madame Vasso, among many others, says they had an intense affair.⁶⁶

Laura R. Handman and Robert D. Balin, attorneys with the international law firm Davis Wright Tremaine, explained the *Forbes* article resulted in a libel suit filed in London by Oscar Wyatt. The judge, Mr. Justice Morland, was presented with a legal dilemma: Do Fergie's toes make London a suitable forum? Handman and Balin claimed Oscar Wyatt was known in England because his son was Fergie's "infamous toe-sucking paramour." On this point there seems to be some confusion. Steve Wyatt and Fergie's "financial advisor" John Bryan knew each other very well, and Steve introduced him to Fergie, but it was Johnny Bryan who was caught in the photos which created a royal scandal, kissing the toes of half-naked Fergie. However, there were also a large number of allegedly compromising photos of Steve and Fergie found in Steve's flat which were turned over to the royal family. *Paris-Match* published photos of the Duchess of York in the company of Steve Wyatt, creating more scandal.

Duchess Fergie and her "friend" Steve had been jetting around the globe, reportedly in one of Oscar's planes, spending time together on secret "holidays" in La Gazelle d'Or, Morocco and at the Wyatt's "La Mauresque" villa, St. Jean Cap Ferrat in the south of France. British Royal Family brows were raised and British intelligence as well as the CIA turned its attention to the "Wyatt problem." The leak about Fergie's private dinner party for Steve and Iraqi oil minister Salman at the Palace was a huge embarrassment for the Queen. Members of the Kuwaiti Royal Family, personal friends of the Windsors, were living in England in exile. With Oscar's oil connections to Iraq, Allied troops preparing to "liberate" Kuwait, and Steve Wyatt (and his mother Lynn) getting too close to powerful people, like the Queen, he was becoming a *persona non grata* in the royal household. The Queen put pressure on Fergie to end the "friendship."

Oscar Wyatt was also well known in England because of frequent trips to the UK related to oil company subsidiaries. Mr. Justice Morland determined Texas was in fact the proper jurisdiction for Oscar's libel case, not London, since there were on-going libel proceedings by Wyatt against the *Houston Chronicle*, which compared him to J.R. Ewing of *Dallas*. In her book, *Blood Rich: When Oil Billions, High Fashion, and Royal Intimacies Are Not Enough*, Jane Wolfe wrote, "[W]ith the possible exception of...Santa Anna, whose soldiers killed every last Texan at the Alamo in 1836, no one is more hated in San Antonio than Oscar S. Wyatt, Jr."⁶⁷

His name "strikes fear in the heart of every pipeline executive," says William Greehey, a former Coastal official. And Wyatt was not just tough on pipeline executives. "In the early 1970's he cut off winter gas supplies to San Antonio and Austin, igniting one of the nastiest legal fights in the state's history."

Born in Texas in 1924, Wyatt entered the gas distribution and energy pipeline business in 1951 with \$800. He “almost single handedly built Coastal Corporation into one of the largest energy companies in Texas.” Pipelines grew from 68 miles to over 20,000 miles and the company became the 50th largest industrial corporation in America. Known as one of the toughest, shrewdest, most powerful and ruthless oil barons in Texas, and “meaner than a junkyard dog,” Oscar Wyatt “takes a backseat to no one in the pantheon of takeover artists.” Sales in 1991 totaled \$9.549 billion. Coastal subsidiaries operated eight refineries, a fleet of tugs, tankers, and barges, and 962 convenience stores in thirty-three states.



Oscar Wyatt and Lynn, his 4th wife

His empire involved vast ranches, Laker Airlines, coal mining, worldwide oil refining, marketing, natural-gas transmission, and exploration and production, and is entwined with a long history of dealings with such notable partners as Saddam Hussein, Muammar el-Qaddafi of Libya and rulers of Iran. He was the first to import oil from Red China.

With the late former Texas Governor John Connally at his side, then on the board of directors of Coastal, he flew to Iraq to meet Saddam and “negotiate” the release of American hostages on the eve of the first Gulf War. Oscar, at odds with the Bush oil family, was investigated for possible violation of the US trade embargo against Iraq, reminding one of Aesop’s witticism, “We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office.”

John-Paul Flintoff commented, “He has always denied discussing business, insisting the trip was humanitarian, but whether that is true or not, it has rightly been said that Oscar Wyatt can pick up the phone and speak to kings, prime ministers and OPEC potentates...Wyatt contributed \$100,000 to Johnson’s campaign, an almighty sum in those days. When Johnson failed to support certain business initiatives, Wyatt stormed into the Oval Office to call him a ‘no good, dirty, double-crossing son of a bitch.’ Remembering the incident later, Wyatt said: ‘Lyndon was jumping up and down. He kept saying, Now, Oscar, you don’t mean that! You’re my friend!’” Since 1989, Oscar and Lynn have donated more than \$700,000 to political war chests, \$500,000 going to Democrats.⁶⁸

It can not be said the Wyatt clan is “all business and no fun.” In the rarefied world of oil, royalty, banking and politics, pleasure and business are often combined.

Rima al-Sabah, wife of Kuwaiti Ambassador Sheikh Salem al-Sabah “got an A-List crowd” at her June, 2005 “farewell party” for Swedish Ambassador Jan Eliasson, slated to become president of the United Nations General Assembly. Guests included: Intelligence czar John Negroponte; former Washington Post Executive Editor Ben Bradlee; Justice Stephen Breyer; Senator Thad Cochran; cabinet members Norman Mineta (transportation) Carlos M. Gutierrez (commerce), Michael Chertoff (homeland security), Alphonso Jackson (housing and urban development) and Samuel W. Bodman (energy); Chief of Protocol Donald Ensenat; Sam Donaldson; Kathleen Matthews; C. Boyden Gray with Lally Weymouth; Debbie Dingell Bill and Ann Nitze; Jim Hoagland and Jane Stanton Hitchcock and Diane Williams; and, of course, Steve and Cate Wyatt.

Shelby Hodge, for the July 31, 2005, *Houston Chronicle*:

[I]t comes as no surprise that a duo of our town’s fabu femmes chose the South of France for July birthday celebrations. Lynn Wyatt bested the entire summer birthday scene both here and abroad by celebrating on the Cote d’Azur not once but twice. And during the second round, her long-time chum Elton John crooned an original birthday tribute created for her. Elton, his partner David Furnish and Lily Safra, the zillionaire

hostess and benefactress, invited 35 of Wyatt's European friends and family to La Leopolda, Safra's gilded villa in Beaulieu-sur-Mer, for a surprise birthday dinner on the terrace, under the stars, overlooking the Mediterranean. Ooo, la, la. The birthday girl's hubby, Oscar Wyatt, and three of their four sons — Houstonian Brad; Steven there from Washington, D.C., with wife Cate...A few days prior to the Safra soiree, Lynn and Oscar hosted her annual birthday bash at their summer home on the Riviera. Last week, Women's Wear Daily reported in breathless detail on the "Texas cowboy chic" hoe-down attended by Prince Albert of Monaco, Jerry Hall with Spiros Niarchos, Shirley Bassey, Joan Collins and many, many more. All dining on the Wyatts' French chef's interpretation of Tex-Mex. Guacamole and chips, anyone? ⁶⁹



Oilman Robert Mosbacher with Joan Collins (left) at one of Wyatt's "birthday parties." In 1966, George H. W. Bush was elected to Congress with Mosbacher as chairman of "Oil Men for Bush." Mosbacher was later chief fundraiser for Bush's presidential campaign and formed a "millionaire's club" of 250 contributors, each of whom coughed up \$100,000. He and Jim Baker were partners in oil deals and buddies with Kenneth Lay, also a big supporter of Bush. Mosbacher served as Bush's Secretary of Commerce. Enron hired several members of Bush Sr.'s administration, including former Secretary of State James Baker, and former Commerce Secretary Mosbacher. Over the years Enron and its executives contributed more than \$550,000 to various Bush campaigns. Like John Major, Baker serves on the board of the Carlyle Group, employing former president Bush as a senior consultant. Carlyle invests in defense industries and has ties with the relatives of Osama bin Laden. Baker's law firm "helped" US oil companies in the Caspian and Afghanistan and, as a "consultant," his first efforts included securing contracts for Enron in the Middle East. In 1999, to celebrate George and

Barbara's 75th and 74th birthdays, respectively, Robert and Mica Mosbacher threw one of the biggest parties ever in Houston: top tables cost \$100,000. In defense of his friend Ken Lay, Mosbacher said, "But remember that Enron and Ken Lay contributed a lot to the community." Community? Which one?

Wyatt family party friends include Prince Talal and Princess Ghida of Jordan, Samir Hamam of Cairo and Houston, Princess Titi von Furstenberg, the former Cecile Blaffer of the Humble Oil and Texaco Bluffers. The *New York Social Diary* for July 25, 2003 reports:

Oscar Wyatt with guests Merino Ferraz and Merino's sister and mother.



One of the year's most important social events deep in the heart of Beaulieu: the annual party Oscar gives for Lynn. Oscar has been giving these parties for thirty years...a full moon when the 70 guests headed for the Villa Romano on the Moyene Corniche. There was Kate and Steve Wyatt and their two children Katherine and Ford...Joan Collins and Percy Gibson, the Begum Aga Khan, Inaara and her mother who could pass for sisters, David Furnish, whose life-partner Sir Elton John was giving a concert that night but called during dinner to wish the Birthday Girl a happy happy. Also: Mica and Bob Mossbacher ...Anna Louisa and Merino Ferraz from Brazil, Diana Quasha, from Park Avenue, New York City; Flocky Busson and Jean Marc Pagliai; that ambassador from Palm Beach Jim Mitchell, Eddie Collins, Evie and Leslie Bricusse, Sir Roger and Lady Moore, former Ambassador Howard Wilkins from Texas, Cliff Klenck...there was dancing on their terrace which overlooks all of St. Jean Cap Ferrat

until the moon went down and the sun came up.

The same week, from Taki's column, *High Life*, in London's *Spectator*:

...all Russia's wealth seems to be here in St. Tropez and in London. Humongous superyachts, colossal houses, gargantuan egos, prodigious amount of hookers, all surrounded by mountainous bodyguards. By comparison, even the kleptocrats of Arabia look conservative...The oligarchs are shipping their ill-gotten billions out of Russia quicker than you can say Ali Baba. In the meantime, very old ladies in St. Petersburg are begging in order to eat, and old soldiers are vainly trying to sell their medals for an apple or two. Shades of pre-Hitler Germany...These carpetbaggers need to be reined in. Fast."

As this is written, two years later, gasoline prices in the "historic Piedmont" are ratcheting towards \$3 per gallon. The "oil business" in London, Moscow, Kazakhstan, Houston and the "gilded villas in Beaulieu-sur-Mer" is booming. Virginia's farmers, truckers, small businesses and working families struggle to pay the cost of fuel. The "socially conscious" kleptocrats, carpetbaggers and saviors of the Piedmont don't dine in "plastic shacks." They don't wonder who will pay the winter's heating bills or worry about filling their Land Rovers' gas tanks.

Cate Wyatt, the mother of two who settled into the quiet country life of Waterford, certainly has cultivated some interesting relationships...and continues to do so.

Cate's New Age Alignments: Occult Millennium Bash for the World's "New Order" Barbarians

In 1991, Dr. Robert Muller, the former assistant Secretary General of the United Nations and an early proponent of using millennium celebrations to further the goals of the UN, declared, "I thought that the United Nations should plan celebrations for the year 2000 well ahead of time...This is why, on the occasion of Earth Day 1977, I proposed that humanity should hold in the year 2000 a world-wide Bimillennium Celebration of Life preceded by unparalleled thinking, perception, inspiration, elevation, planning and love for the achievement of a peaceful, happy and godly human society on earth."

Muller believed, "The central political task of the final years of this century, then, is the creation of a new model of coexistence within a single interconnected civilization...The only real hope for people today is probably a renewal of our certainty that we are rooted in the Earth, and at the same time in the cosmos."

Idolized as the "Philosopher and Prophet of Hope" of the United Nations, and as the "father of global education," Muller is "Chancellor of the University for Peace created by the United Nations in demilitarized Costa Rica." The University for Peace is served by two paradigms of the 21st Century "elevation, inspiration and love": Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Honorary President of the University for Peace, and Maurice Strong from Canada, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, the President of the University Council.⁷⁰

By the early 1980s, Muller preached, "We have to manage our planet with more intelligence. By the year 2000 we will be fully into the business of making a new world." His words were not an idle boast.

Muller's "management" specialty is "education." The *Robert Muller World Core Curriculum Manual* preface states, "The underlying philosophy upon which the Robert Muller School is based will be found in the teaching set forth in the books of Alice A. Bailey by the Tibetan teacher, Djwhal Khul..." The Robert Muller School "is a participating institution in the UNESCO Associated Schools Project in Education for International Co-operation and Peace."

Alice Bailey, a leading disciple of Russian theosophist Madame Helena Blavatsky, formed the Lucifer Trust in 1920. In 1922, the name was changed to Lucis Trust although adherence to Blavatsky's Luciferian beliefs remained central: "...oppose the materialism of science and every

dogmatic theology, especially the Christian, which the Chiefs of the [Theosophist] Society regard as particularly pernicious.” The Lucis Trust worships an “Externalized Hierarchy” of “Ascended Masters,” who carry out a “master plan” to establish a permanent “Age of Aquarius” ruled by the “Lord of the World.”

Lucis Trust is so powerful it has “Consultative Status” with the United Nations and maintains the UN’s Meditation Room. Promoting a globalist, one-world government ideology, Lucis Trust founded World Goodwill which supports “the work of the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies as the best hope for a united and peaceful world.” Through the work of the Lucis Trust the “inner spiritual government of the planet, known under such different names as the spiritual Hierarchy, the society of Illumined Minds [Illuminati?]....[will] initiate action to prepare for the new world order.”

Muller’s efforts laid the groundwork for Millennium Society co-chair Cathleen Magennis Wyatt to predict, “Undoubtedly, the turning of the millennium will be one of the largest commercial events of our lifetime.” Millennium Society co-chairman, Edward McNally said, “We searched the world for the right location and we thought about Stonehenge in England and we thought about Machu Picchu, the lost city of the Incas in the Andes Mountains.” Wyatt further claimed, “We have in store the most fantastic celebration in the history of the world.”

At the time, McNally was a Chicago lawyer. A member of Yale’s macabre and occult Skull and Bones society, he was later appointed by “Conservative Christian” President G. W. Bush, a fellow Bonesman, to General Counsel of the Office on Homeland Security and Senior Associate Counsel on National Security. Bush has feigned ignorance when asked about Skull and Bones: “The thing is so secret that I’m not even sure it still exists.”



In 1996, Helen O’Neil wrote for *The Associated Press*:

A bunch of Yale graduate students founded the Millennium Society in 1979 to plan “the largest charity fund-raiser in the history of the world.” Plans include a round-the-globe succession of black-tie parties and concerts at historic sites, including...the pyramids in Egypt... “The goal is to raise \$100 million to create a kind of international Rhodes scholarship,” said Cathleen Magennis Wyatt, London-based co-chairwoman of the society... “In addition to making money...and having a hangover, you can also leave behind a significant legacy,” she says. “And that legacy is one of learning.”



And *Money* reported in 1991, “But the most lavish of the planned parties will be a private affair. The society has signed an agreement with the Egyptian government for the right to celebrate New Year’s 1999 at the Great Pyramid of Cheops. And it has chartered the Queen Elizabeth 2 to transport 1800 people from New York Harbor to Alexandria...passage will not be for sale to the general public—only to people who belong to the Millennium Society...Prices for the cruise will vary—but qualify as charitable contributions...”⁷¹

The Egyptian Tourist Authority, in a 1999 press release about the New Age event, enthused:

Jean Michel Jarre is composing *The Twelve Dreams of the Sun*, an all-night, avante-garde opera spectacular outdoors on the Giza Plateau and will incorporate the pyramids and the Sphinx as the gala epic unfolds under the stars. This extraordinary original multimedia extravaganza has been conceived by Jarre to accompany the sun as

it passes from the 2nd into the 3rd millennium...It is planned that each act will culminate exactly at midnight in the individual time zones...At midnight, a helicopter will fly into the site, and hovering in a starburst of lasers and spotlights, will place a gigantic gilded cap atop the Great Pyramid...The gold cap, approximately 28 feet high (or about the size of a two-story house...will catch the first light of the new millennium as the sun rises over Egypt. Capping pyramids with gold and timing important events to the setting and rising of the sun are very much part of the ancient Egyptian pharoanic tradition...a semicircle of twenty voluminous party tents will be erected and elegantly decorated for the long millennium gala. Inside each, a select group of Egypt's most famous five-star hotels will provide gourmet catering, dancing, and even plush resting areas as elegant guests from around the world play out the twelve-hour celebration.

Another report from December, 1999, stated a "high profile group in Washington DC calling itself The Millennium Society, with members such as ex-White House official, Edward McNally, and a list of guests including Ronald Reagan, Mikhail Gorbachev, Deng Xiaoping, Bill Clinton, Bruce Springsteen, Elizabeth Taylor and Nelson Mandela apparently will, attend the World Millennium Charity Celebration, the 'Celebration of Civilisation' to welcome the Year 2000 at the Great Pyramid of Cheops..."

The capping of the Great Pyramid was cancelled, but the world's "select" had 7,500 seats at dining tables in 15 white, carpeted tents set up before the giant stage, including 500 members of America's Millennium Society. "Spectators," who paid about \$14 each, had standing room available in the desert to see the event. The "plastic shack" set, no doubt.⁷²

The UN and Skull and Bones inspired event was much more than a love-fest for the Earth and a party to celebrate an "ancient Egyptian pharoanic tradition" of Isis worship. It was the ingathering of the world's collectivist, New Age thinkers and power brokers. W. B. Howard, editor of *Despatch* magazine, provided commentary on the "new world order" events kicked off in Egypt and scheduled to take place around the world:

This massive celebration, involving many of the world's top political and economic leaders...symbolizing the dawn of the new occult order...kicks off the January 1-3, 2000, "Millennium Symposium on Great Challenges of Our Time"...The Millennium Symposium is a three-day event sponsored by UNESCO and produced by the Millennium Project of the American Council for the United Nations University. During these three days a host of speakers and workshops will focus on the upcoming global changes facing humanity, including issues of world governance, the creation of a global sustainable society, and the shaping of new planetary security strategies.

In January, the "North American Regional Hearings for the Millennium" were scheduled in Chicago by the Gorbachev Foundation's State of the World Forum at the behest of Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations. The event was to focus on "Strengthening the U.N. for the Challenges of the 21st Century" and the goal was to provide direction for the UN Millennium Assembly.

In March, "World Citizenship Day" was to be hosted in San Francisco on the first day of spring by the Association of World Citizens to foster "planetary allegiance and promote global government."

In April, "Earth Day 2000" was to be a global event with more than 300 million people in 150 nations expected to participate in the largest Earth Day ever, the 30th anniversary of Earth Day.

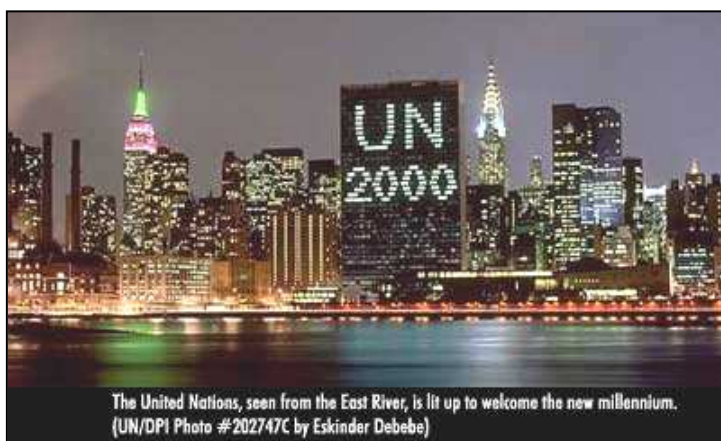
In May, the "NGO Millennium Forum" would be held in New York at the UN for Non Government Organizations (NGOs) from around the world to strategize for the Fall United Nations Millennium Assembly. "The NGO Millennium Forum will seek to establish a new world vision and a global decision-making process."

In June in Hannover, Germany, the “Expo 2000” international conference would analyze the progress of the United Nations *Agenda 21* program for world change and “examine *Agenda 21*’s affect on global society and determine what new steps need to be taken.

July in Houston included “FutureFocus 2000: Changes, Challenges & Choices. This annual meeting of the World Future Society will examine the latest developments and trends shaping the new world civilization.”

September was Gorbachev’s “State of the World Forum” in New York in conjunction with a host of UN agencies, the annual gathering of world leaders to correspond with the UN Millennium Assembly focusing on the future of the United Nations and increasing its authority through world law. This, in conjunction with the “United Nations Millennium Assembly and Summit,” one of the most important events of the year where thousands of leaders from around the world would gather to find “solid new directions on the implementation of global government” including a possible “People’s Assembly” where “Non Governmental Organizations from around the world would have a voice in the creation of a new world civilization.”

Many more “world changing” events were scheduled and coordinated by the American Council for the United Nations University, Egypt’s United Nations Resident Coordinator, the World Future Society, the Millennium Society, the Smithsonian Institute, Futures Group International, Cairo University, and the UNESCO Regional Office. Funding came from General Motors, The Foundation for the Future, the Alan F. Kay and Hazel Henderson Foundation for Social Innovation, Deloitte & Touche, the United Nations University, and the U.S. Army Environmental Policy Institute.



The United Nations, seen from the East River, is lit up to welcome the new millennium.
(UN/DPI Photo #202747C by Eskinder Debebe)

It was indeed a year of “learning,” as Cate Wyatt indicated. As one of its goals, the Millennium Society sought to “foster great achievements in the Third Millennium by helping educate the world’s future leaders.” Society fundraising proceeds were to be used to establish Millennium Scholarships for international study at United World Colleges, “the worldwide system of schools formerly headed by the Prince of Wales and now led by [Marxist] former South African President Nelson Mandela.” The schools seek to “foster international understanding and world peace.” The Millennium Scholars Program “hopes to collect \$100 million to establish a permanent endowment,” a scholarship fund for college freshmen from around the world “who have demonstrated a commitment to peace.”

It was Winnie Mandela who advocated “necklacing” fellow countrymen in order to bring “peace” to South Africa, “We have our boxes of matches. We have our bottles...With our necklaces, we will liberate this country!” And Nelson Mandela, not one to criticize his wife Winnie’s educational efforts, praised Fidel Castro, Yasser Arafat and Muammar Gadhafi for their “love for human rights and liberty.”

“Necklacing,” as typically carried out by the African National Congress, consisted of binding a black adversary hand and foot, draping a gasoline-filled tire around the neck, and setting the victim ablaze. Often, children were forced to witness their parents’ “peaceful and enlightened liberation.” A “learning” experience, no doubt.

Oil for Food—and it ain’t for salad dressing

While Cate Wyatt cozied-up with the world’s New Order elite and raised funds for their “socially conscious” endeavors, her bulldog father-in-law, Oscar, continued to wheel and deal. *The New York*

Times reported on October, 9 2004:

Major American oil companies and a Texas oil investor were among those who received lucrative vouchers that enabled them to buy Iraqi oil under the United Nations oil-for-food program, according to a report prepared by the chief arms inspector for the Central Intelligence Agency. The 918-page report says that four American oil companies—Chevron, Mobil, Texaco and Bay Oil—and three individuals including Oscar S. Wyatt Jr. of Houston were given vouchers and got 111 million barrels of oil between them from 1996 to 2003. The vouchers allowed them to profit by selling the oil or the right to trade it...The largest of the allocations went to Mr. Wyatt, who the list said had received allocations totaling 74 million barrels. At the profit rates of 15 cents to 85 cents per barrel that were reported in the arms inspector's study, he could have earned \$23 million...The oil-for-food program, which was started in 1996, was intended to allow Iraq, in a closely monitored way, to sell enough oil so that the country would have the resources to buy food, medicine and to maintain certain critical public facilities. The program was abused when Saddam Hussein intervened, personally selecting individuals and companies to receive oil allocations. The allocations, also called vouchers, could be sold so that the recipient approved by Mr. Hussein did not have to trade the oil but could simply profit from the transaction. Ultimately, Mr. Hussein began to demand kickbacks in return for these oil allocations, a requirement that some oil dealers were willing to honor given the large profit margins associated with oil trade...Mr. Wyatt, who did not respond to messages left on Friday at his Houston office, was by far the largest recipient of oil allocations, as recorded on the secret list maintained by the Iraqi government, the report says.⁷³

And an October 18, 2004, *Los Angeles Times* article explained:

Wyatt came to be a central figure in a small, loosely knit group of Americans who supported policies and activities potentially beneficial to Hussein even as they benefited from the dictator's oil resources, U.S. officials, oil analysts and personal acquaintances said. Their story provides a revealing glimpse at the politics of oil and the people behind it, operating in a world that mixed diplomacy, intrigue and multimillion-dollar oil deals. The men, involved in Iraq through professional and personal relationships that in some cases stretched back decades, at times engaged in a secretive campaign of private diplomacy, offering themselves as a communications back channel between Hussein and at least two U.S. administrations, the sources said...Wyatt and a former business associate, David Chalmers, whose company was mentioned in the CIA report, were primarily interested in Iraq for business reasons, friends and analysts said. They bought Iraqi oil in a market that came to be characterized by shadowy middlemen and kickbacks, backroom deals and high-stakes showdowns...The other Americans named in the CIA report, Virginia oil trader Samir "Sam" Vincent and Michigan real estate developer Shakir Al Khafaji, helped sponsor high-level trips to Iraq during the 1990s with influential U.S. congressmen and brought high-ranking Iraqi religious leaders to the United States...The legality of oil sales to individuals, however, is suspect, congressional investigators said. Hussein abused the U.N. program by personally issuing oil vouchers to high-ranking political figures worldwide to win friends and wage a propaganda war to lift the sanctions, according to the CIA report by special weapons inspector Charles A. Duelfer...The first company to win approval to buy Iraqi oil was Wyatt's company, Coastal, according to the records contained in Duelfer's report...Coastal Corp., meanwhile, donated \$2.5 million to a variety of political action committees and political organizations between 1991 and 2000, before the company was sold to El Paso, the records showed. Bob Baer, a former CIA officer, said that his Iraqi

sources told him that Wyatt had represented himself as a way to send a message to President Clinton.⁷⁴

Wyatt's Coastal (now El Paso), the only publicly traded American oil company on Saddam's kickback list, was shown as paying \$201,877 in "surcharges," part of the \$228 million in surcharges on oil sales the CIA report said Saddam had collected, largely from Russian companies. Coastal received a grand jury subpoena from federal court in New York. Wyatt acknowledged through a spokeswoman he had traveled to Baghdad as recently as early 2003, as the US was preparing for war, to meet with Iraqi officials. He declined to disclose the purpose of his visit.

One of the largest purchasers of oil was Swiss-based Glencore, run by one-time fugitive American financier Marc Rich. The CIA report alleges Glencore paid over \$3.2 million in kickbacks. Rich, wanted for tax evasion, was pardoned by President Clinton during his last days in office.

In April of 2005, Chalmers, president of BayOil USA, and Ludmil Dionissiev, a Bulgarian citizen and permanent US resident, were arrested at their homes in Houston. Tongsun Park, a Korean man was also accused by federal authorities of illegally acting as an Iraqi agent. US Attorney David N. Kelley said he would seek extradition from England of John Irving, a third defendant. The defendants were accused in US District Court of participating in a scheme to pay millions of dollars in secret kickbacks to Hussein. Saddam and his henchmen allegedly received billions, used for luxurious living and repression, while Iraqi children did without food, medicine and schooling. Wyatt maintained his company did buy oil from Saddam but he never did so personally, and his company's dealings all complied with UN rules.

On October 21st, 2005, Oscar Wyatt, 81, was arrested by the FBI at his Houston home and was charged with bribing Iraqi officials in the corrupt, UN OFF scheme. If convicted for paying millions of dollars in kickbacks to the Hussein regime, he faces a maximum prison term of 62 years. U.S Attorney Michael Garcia will seek to seize at least \$1 billion from Wyatt and two Swiss "business executive" partners also named in the indictment. The indictment alleges Wyatt operated through two Cyprus-based oil-trading companies, Nafta Petroleum Co. Ltd. and Mednafta Trading Co. Prosecutors said Catalina del Socorro Miguel Fuentes, also known as Cathy Miguel, and Mohammed Saidji, operated the trading firms. In order to hide their bribes, the defendants are alleged to have made numerous secret deposits to a bank account in Jordan controlled by the Iraqi government.

Circling the wagons at the UN

Duelfer's report prompted Congressman Christopher Shays (R-Conn.), who heads the House Government Reform Subcommittee investigating the OFF program, to say his panel would "follow the list wherever it takes us. We want a full explanation of the involvement of all American oil companies and individuals who were involved in a thoroughly corrupt program."

Neo-con Representative Henry J. Hyde, (R-Ill.), chairman of the International Relations Committee, is also "investigating." He said the Iraq Survey Group's report showed the "full breadth of Saddam Hussein's corruption and manipulation of the U.N. Oil for Food program."

The UN-appointed "Independent Inquiry Committee," headed by the former Federal Reserve chairman and establishment insider Paul A. Volcker, said his committee, too, was "reviewing" the new report "to see if it helps us with our investigation." He told a news conference that Annan's role would be investigated further, as well as Annan's son, Kojo, employed by the Swiss firm, Cotecna, and Annan's right-hand man, Benon Sevan. Cotecna received a \$10-million-a-year UN contract in late 1998 to certify goods coming into Iraq under the \$67 billion program. Investigators accused Cotecna and Kojo Annan of trying to conceal their relationship after the firm was awarded the contract.

With these "independent" investigators hot on the trail determining who broke into the henhouse, the guilty will, no doubt, be found and punished. "When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in

rather a scornful tone, ‘it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.’”

Wily old Saddam—who is rumored to be sipping champagne in the French Alps in the company of some friendly US intelligence operatives, and chuckling about his look-alike enduring a secret trial for “war crimes”—is the focal point of the probe. A few easy targets such as Oscar Wyatt, said to be a political enemy of the Bush family, will be hit as part of the investigative spectacle. As with the BCCI scandal, the real villains will be ‘put back together again.’ And the public will soon be distracted by another newly-fabricated ‘crisis.’



Saddam Hussein probably embezzled at least \$21.3 billion in oil money during 12 years. But a staggering \$17.3 billion was pilfered between 1997 and 2003 on Kofi Annan’s watch. Annan’s UN Secretariat took a 2.2% commission on Saddam’s oil sales, totaling \$1.4 billion over the life of the OFF program, allegedly to cover the costs of “supervising” Saddam.

The UN never fully metered oil shipments, or fully inspected goods entering Iraq, or “caught” the pricing scams allowing Saddam to rake in \$4.4 billion in kickbacks on relief contracts (by estimates of Senate investigators). It was an Annan-Hussein money laundering partnership. The UN’s “business services” included kickbacks, surcharges, importation of oil equipment and smuggling out oil.

Prior to becoming secretary-general, Annan was head of UN “peacekeeping.” Annan is a proponent of citizen disarmament and advocated a 1995 UN resolution to disarm the Somalis, register their weapons and construct a new army. He has consistently advocated stripping American citizens of the right to keep and bear arms. His “peacekeeping forces” in Somalia tortured, raped and murdered a helpless, unarmed population, and he was ultimately responsible for the Somalia disaster in which the bodies of US soldiers were stripped and dragged through the streets by mobs shouting, “Victory over America.”



The photo at the right was taken during the U.N. “Restore Hope” mission in Somalia. In a Brussels court in June of 1997, two Belgian paratroopers, Privates Claude Baert and Kurt Coelus, admitted to “roasting” a Somali boy. They were acquitted. A UN spokesman insisted “the UN is not in the habit of embarrassing governments that contribute peacekeeping troops.” Another military tribunal investigated one of Annan’s peacekeepers who photographed a Somali boy being forcing to ingest worms and vomit. Fifteen members of the 3rd Battalion of the parachute regiment were investigated in 1995 for “acts of sadism and torture.” Another boy was murdered by being locked in a container in the desert sun for 48 hours. A thirteen year-old girl was “tied to the front of an armoured carrier” and repeatedly raped while Italian officers looked on. When the officers “wanted to have fun, everybody went along with it.” Canadian troops were investigated for torturing a Somali to death and killing three others. Paratroopers “were specifically trained in methods of torture to aid interrogation.” One of them stated: “What’s the big deal? They are just niggers anyway.” <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/htmlContent.jhtml?html=/archive/1997/06/24/wbel24.html>

During the 1980s famine in Ethiopia, the UN spent \$75 million building and upgrading apartment complexes for its administrators and staff. Food rotted on the docks due to lack of transport. In East Timor, \$50 million of UN administered aid was used to build hotels and malls instead of schools and health centers. 70 per cent—a conservative estimate—of the UN’s operational costs go towards inflated salaries, first class air travel, fancy cars, fancier accommodation, often in five-star hotels, huge allowances and other “benefits.” Yet Annan chides the US, “Only here do politicians still argue over whether the UN is worth having, whether it produces value for money, or whether we might be better off without it.”

At the Millennium Summit, Kofi Annan told leaders of 191 member states, “You are yourselves the United Nations. It lies in your power, and therefore it is your responsibility, to reach the goals you have defined. Only you can determine whether the United Nations rises to the challenge of the peoples’ hopes...”

Uncle ‘Mo’ pulls more strings...

Those who are savvy to the knavery of international power brokers know Maurice Strong is intimately associated with the radical agenda to “redistribute wealth” in order to save the earth. His idea is having the world’s industrial nations pay for their environmental ‘sins’ by forking out \$600 billion *annually* to the Third World. Who would benefit from the socialistic largess?

Henry Lamb of Sovereignty International explained how the Kyoto treaty, for instance, (rejected by the US Senate in 2000 but by no means dead), would have exempted “developing countries” like China and India from restrictions on industrial emissions, while severely limiting emissions in “developed countries.” India would have been able to “trade” emissions allowances to the US, a plan by which Enron hoped to recoup its catastrophic losses:

People like Maurice Strong advocate radical programs because they hope to use the UN to benefit their financial institutions. For instance, had they been able to get the world to sign on to the Kyoto Accords, companies like Enron would have made untold zillions of dollars with natural gas in India, with various emissions-trading schemes.

It’s complicated, but the basic principle is simple—Maurice Strong and his friends come out on top. When you watch these people, you have to follow the money. They always find their way to the money.⁷⁵

In Strong’s introduction to Jim MacNeil’s *Beyond Interdependence: The Meshing of the World’s Economy and the Earth’s Ecology* (1991; Trilateral Commission), he wrote, “This interlocking...is the new reality of the century, with profound implications for the shape of our institutions of governance, national and international. By the year 2012, these changes must be fully integrated into our economic and political life.”

Aside from his intimate UN connections as Annan’s right-hand-man in charge of UN “reform” and shepherding the Kyoto Protocols into being, Strong has an interesting history of ‘business connections’ which frequently led to scandals from which Uncle Mo usually comes “out on top.”

Canada Free Press founding editor Judi McLeod has done an excellent job of tracking the convoluted connections between Strong, big oil and the world’s elite.

When it comes to global influence, Canada’s Montreal-based Power Corporation is an octopus with tentacles everywhere.

Both Prime Minister Paul Martin and his mentor Maurice Strong, senior advisor to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, worked for Power Corp.

Martin’s immediate predecessor is former Prime Minister Jean Chretien, whose daughter, France is married to Andre Desmarais, son of Power Corp’s founding father, Paul Desmarais.

Desmarais Sr. is a major shareholder and director of TotalFinaElf, the biggest oil corporation in France, which has held tens of billions of dollars in contracts with the deposed regime of Saddam Hussein.

As Canada Free Press (CFP) revealed last week, Paul Volcker, who heads up the Independent Inquiry Commission into the oil-for-food scandal, held a seat on Power Corp's international advisory board. Power Corp. now maintains controlling interest in BertelsmannAG, Germany's large publishing empire--bigger even than Rupert Murdoch's News Corp...

In February 2001, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert, one of Belgium's top 10 companies and 25 percent owned by Power Corp., acquired control of BertelsmannAG. Andre Desmarais, President and Chief Executive Officer of Power Corp., was named to the BAG board.

As it turns out, the publishing company controlled by Canada's powerful Desmarais family has a less than honourary history. Indeed, during the days of the Third Reich, BertelsmannAG was the biggest publisher of Nazi texts, with production more prolific than the National Socialist Party's own printing business. The Nazi chapter of BertelsmannAG began in 1933, but was only documented and disclosed by a historian Saul Friedlander in 1999.

Bertelsmann published the nefarious, *The Christmas Book for Hitler Youth*.

The publishing empire which employs some 80,000 workers in 51 countries, posted an overall cash flow of \$18.3-billion in 2002.

Originally run by the Heinrich Mohn family, the company donated money to the SS and to various ecology Save-the-Earth factions of the Nazi movement.⁷⁶

McLeod has tied together Strong's links with Canada's former intelligence chief, Reid Morden, Volcker's right hand man on the OFF Independent Inquiry Commission. Morden is connected to Desmarais in his role of selling nuclear plants to China. Prime Minister Paul Martin apparently saw no conflict of interest, especially since Martin's senior adviser is Kofi Annan's buddy, Maurice Strong.

Andre Desmarais sits on the China International Trust & Investment Corp (CITIC), called the investment arm of the Chinese military. Strong has publicly stated he believes China is the economic and ecological future of the world. CITIC supplied Chinese arms to Saddam through the OFF scam, including a fiber optic air defense network installed by China. China also sold arms to the Taliban and continued deals with them after 9/11.

In mid-1997, Strong received a check for \$988,885 made out to his name (page 106, Volume II of the Volker report). The check was drawn on a Jordanian bank, funded by Saddam's regime, and delivered to Strong by Korean "businessman" Tongsun Park (also Oscar Wyatt's associate), who was a UN "back-channel" for Saddam. Strong endorsed the check to a third party to invest in a Strong family-controlled business, Cordex Petroleum.



Strong's business associations with Kojo Annan, the son of the Secretary-General, are also curious. Kojo figured prominently in the oil-for-food investigations. He received large payments from a Switzerland-based company, Cotecna Inspections S.A., hired by the United Nations to monitor OFF relief imports into Iraq between 1999 and 2003. During part of that time, Kojo held a seat on the board of another company, the now defunct Air Harbour Technologies, registered at the Isle of Man. Volcker's March, 2005, UN-authorized investigation report on Kofi Annan and his son Kojo

failed to mention Kojo had served on the board of directors of Air Harbour Technologies alongside the UN Secretary-General's "special adviser," Maurice Strong. Air Harbour, specializing in "high quality tourist developments," also registered in Cyprus, provided consulting services for "building design." In the mid-1990s, Air Harbour was implicated in scandals involving work on the airport at Harare, Zimbabwe. Then chairman of the company, Hani Yamani, is the son of the former Saudi oil minister who became world-famous during the oil crisis of the 1970s. The Movement for Democratic Change suggested Air Harbour's consortium owed its success to lobbying by President Mugabe's nephew, Leo Mugabe. Kojo believes he has been unfairly criticized in the official report on the awarding of a UN OFF contract. He now works for the oil-trading firm, Petroleum Projects International.⁷⁷

Another former Cotecna "employee and consultant," Michael Wilson, served with Kojo Annan on the board of Air Harbour. The *New York Times* reported Mr. Wilson is under investigation in Switzerland on possible bribery charges involving a contract to renovate a Geneva-based UN agency, the World Intellectual Property Organization.

As Strong was organizing the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June of 1992, Costa Rica's Ministry of Natural Resources simultaneously filed charges against him and Julio Garcia, his partner in Desarrollos Ecologicos S.A. They built a \$35 million condo-hotel, Villas del Caribe, on land in the Kekoldi Indian Reservation and Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Refuge. It seems Strong did not have a clear title to the land at the time of construction and it was done without official permits. Strong's son ran the luxury hotel.

Just coincidentally, in 1994, Ontario Hydro's chairman, Maurice Strong, opened talks on buying 30,875 acres of a Costa Rican forest in a deal the Canadian opposition Progressive Conservatives branded as "wacky" in the face of the utility's \$34 billion debt. Bordering on Corcovado National Park, Hydro said the land would be added to the park for environmental preservation and to help combat greenhouse gases. Why did Strong want all that jungle in Costa Rica? Hydro spokesman Terry Young told *The Star*, "It's an interest we have in testing opportunities to offset greenhouse gas emissions. It's because of the trees. Trees sequester carbon dioxide." Ontario Hydro was creating carbon dioxide through its coal-fired generating stations. Thomas Walkom of the *Toronto Star*, May 19, 1994, wrote, "Really miniscule minds might suggest that if Hydro were truly interested in preventing global warming, it shouldn't be building coal-fired generating plants in already polluted China. Absolutely infinitesimal minds might argue that Strong's adopt-a-rain-forest policy is a form of blood money—maintain trees far away so you can pollute with impunity at home." After all, *The New Yorker* magazine commented 20 years earlier, "...the survival of civilization in something like its present form might depend" on Uncle Mo.

In 1998, Cathie Adams, President of Texas Eagle Forum, reported:

As president, Bill Clinton has rammed through the NAFTA and GATT trade agreements that disadvantage American workers; he has worked for the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO) that has decided against American industries like Kodak, in favor of Japanese markets; he has issued numerous executive orders which circumvent Congress's responsibilities such as banning the import of 58 types of weapons that whittles away at our second amendment right to bear arms; and he has placed our military ultimately under United Nations (UN) command in his infamous (executive order) PDD 25.

America's foreign policy void is being filled by the UN with the aid of \$4 billion annually from taxpayers...Americans should know some of the UN's major personnel, since indeed they are forming a global "governance," which is the same as a world government...

Strong's right-hand-man is James Gustave Speth, Administrator of the UN Development Program (UNDP) which acts like an international welfare agency. Speth is

a Yale law graduate and former Rhodes Scholar. Like Strong, Speth is an environmental extremist. He's written two books, *Protecting Our Environment: Toward a New Agenda*, 1985 and *Environmental Pollution: A Long-Term Perspective*, 1988. He served as Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality under President Carter and was a Professor of Law at Georgetown University. He joined Bill Clinton's transition team after the 1992 election and shortly thereafter, he was chosen to be the Executive Director of the UNDP.

Speth shares Maurice Strong's promotion of the UN's "global governance" initiative. They are using the environmental agenda to redistribute wealth globally, a.k.a. socialism. In a speech to a UN meeting entitled Rio Plus Five in March 1997, Speth said, "It is precisely because we need greater harmonization of environmental global governance mechanisms that I personally support the creation of a World Environmental Organization."

Underscoring the plan to use the environment to create global government, Speth said in his Rio Plus Five speech, "Perhaps the most far-reaching, powerful development in the area of global governance is the emergence of the World Trade Organization.... Over time, the Global Climate Convention will actually become even more influential." Speth [wants] world government, Speth also endorses global taxes.⁷⁸

Power grabs, land grabs, water grabs, air grabs

Strong started in the oil business in the 1950s. By the age of 35 he was president of a major holding company, the Power Corporation of Canada. Called "the Michelangelo of networking," he made friends in high places in Canada and wove them into his oil and real estate ventures as business partners. In 1997, Ronald Bailey wrote in *The National Review*, "He cultivated bright well-connected young people—like Paul Martin Jr., Canada's present finance minister and the smart money's bet to succeed Jean Chretien as prime minister—and salted them throughout his various political and business networks to form a virtual private intelligence service. And he always seemed to know what the next political trend would be—foreign aid, Canadian economic nationalism, environmentalism." By 1975, he was running semi-nationalized Petro-Canada, created by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

According to Bailey, "...Strong continued the international networking on which his influence rests. He became a member of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission). He found time to serve as president of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, on the executive committee of the Society for International Development, and as an advisor to the Rockefeller Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund. Above all, he served on the Commission on Global Governance—which, as we shall see, plays a crucial part in the international power grab." The network included former Vice President Al Gore; World Bank President James Wolfensohn, formerly on the Rockefeller Foundation Board and currently on the Population Council Board; Shridath Ramphal, formerly Secretary General of the (British) Commonwealth, Co-Chairman of the Commission on Global Governance; Jonathan Lash, President of the World Resources Institute (which works closely with the World Bank, the UN Environment Program, and the UN Development Program) and Co-Chairman of the President's Council on Sustainable Development; Ingvar Carlsson, former Swedish prime minister and Co-Chairman of the Commission on Global Governance (CGG).

Strong gave generous political contributions (of dubious legality) to both American parties, including to George H. W. Bush. When asked why, Strong said, "Because I wanted influence in the United States."

During the mid 1990s, Strong became embroiled in the Molten Metal Technology scandal. With ties to presidential hopeful Al Gore, the busted handler of hazardous waste was notorious for its "flaky technology." In Senate hearings on corrupt campaign financing, it was revealed MMT was a big contributor to Gore's campaigns. Strong sat on MMT's board and sold shares at around \$31 apiece a

just before the stock collapsed in October, 1996. By 1998, the stock was at 13 cents per share and Strong was facing a class-action suit.

As part of Strong's vision for Global Governance under the UN, taxes must be levied by the UN to finance its operations independent of reliance on member contributions. These tax schemes include James Tobin's 0.5 per cent tax on foreign-exchange transactions which could raise \$1.5 trillion annually; "user fees" imposed on companies operating in the "global commons," collected on international airline tickets, ocean shipping, deep-sea fishing, geostationary satellite orbits, and the electromagnetic spectrum. CGG defines the "global commons" to include the atmosphere, outer space, the oceans beyond national jurisdiction, and the related environmental systems that contribute to the support of human life.

He saw the real prize as some form of a "carbon tax-emission credits" scheme levied on all fuels made from coal, oil, and natural gas. The CGG believes a carbon tax "would yield very large revenues indeed." Ted Carpenter, the Cato Institute's director of foreign policy studies, warned of the UN's record of empire-building and corruption, "One can only imagine the degree of mischief it could get into if it had independent sources of revenue." Kyoto's framers deliberately created regulations to hamstring Western businesses by imposing limits on "greenhouse gas" emissions, but exempting China, India and other "developing nations" with whom Uncle Mo has close ties, thus giving a competitive international advantage to his friends, such as Power Corporation of Canada. Chinese power plants would be able to sell "clean air credits" to Western producers for cash. The potential sums involved in this air grab are staggering. Estimates of the costs to the US for cutting emissions range as high as \$400 billion annually in lost GDP and a loss of up to 3.5 million jobs. Who would administer and broker such emissions trading deals with China and India? Who would be in a position to benefit? The OFF scandals would pale in comparison to this huge wealth redistribution con game.

Maurice's ties to China are at least partly due to his cousin, Anna Louise Strong (1885-1970), a radical Marxist journalist. She spent many years during the 1920s and 1930s traveling in the Soviet Union and Red China promoting communism. In 1958, she moved to China, one of few Westerners to be admired by Mao Tse-tung. She remained there until her death in 1970, where she was buried. The funeral was personally organized by Chou En-lai.

At the conclusion of an interview by Daniel Wood in the May, 1990 issue of *WEST* magazine, entitled "The Wizard of the Baca Grande," Strong described this scenario from a novel he contemplated writing:

Each year the World Economic Forum convenes in Davos, Switzerland. Over a thousand CEOs, prime ministers, finance ministers, and leading academics gather in February to attend meetings and set the economic agendas for the year ahead. What if a small group of these word leaders were to conclude that the principle risk to the earth comes from the actions of the rich countries? And if the world is to survive, those rich countries would have to sign an agreement reducing their impact on the environment. Will they do it? Will the rich countries agree to reduce their impact on the environment? Will they agree to save the earth?

The group's conclusion is "no." The rich countries won't do it. They won't change. So, in order to save the planet, the group decides: isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?

This group of world leaders form a secret society to bring about a world collapse. It's February. They're all at Davos. These aren't terrorists—they're world leaders. They have positioned themselves in the world's commodity and stock markets. They've engineered, using their access to stock exchanges, and computers, and gold supplies, a panic. Then they prevent the markets from closing. They jam the gears. They have

mercenaries who hold the rest of the world leaders at Davos as hostage. The markets can't close. The rich countries...?

Daniel Wood added, "...and Strong makes a slight motion with his fingers as if he were flicking a cigarette butt out of the window. I sat there spellbound...He is, in fact, co-chairman of the Council of the World Economic Forum. He sits at the fulcrum of power. He is in a position to do it."

Strong told Toronto journalist Elaine Dewar that he liked working for the UN specifically because of its undemocratic nature. "He could raise his own money from whomever he liked, appoint anyone he wanted, control the agenda," Dewar wrote in her book, *Cloak of Green*. "He told me he had more unfettered power than a cabinet minister in Ottawa. He was right: no voters had put him in office, he didn't have to run for re-election, yet he could profoundly affect many lives."

Strong and his wife Hanne, like so many of his associates in high places, are deeply involved in pagan mysticism and the occult. Hanne and Maurice were informed by a mystic "the Baca would become the center for a new planetary order which would evolve from the economic collapse and environmental catastrophes that would sweep the globe in the years to come." They established what has been called "the global headquarters for the New Age movement in the San Luis Valley of Colorado." At the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains near Crestone, the Manitou Institute and the Manitou Foundation guide an "international spiritual community which they hope will serve as a model for the way the world should be if humankind is to survive—a sort of United Nations of religious beliefs."

The 63,000 acre (or 100,000 acre—reports vary) Baca Grande received annual grants of \$100,000 from Laurence Rockefeller. Various "faiths" have "monasteries" such as "the Haidakhrndi Universal Ashram, a Vedic temple where devotees worship the Vedic mother goddess; amulet-carrying Native American shamans; a \$175,000 solar-powered Hindu temple; a mustard-yellow tower called a ziggurat; a subterranean Zen Buddhist center complete with a computer and organic gardens; a house full of thousands of crystals; and even Shirley MacLaine and her New Age followers." The Kissingers, Rockefellers, McNamaras, and other New Order pagans visit the Baca where politics, power and the occult are merged.



Strong predicted water would be rationed by armed guards by 2031. He also claimed he was unaware of a massive aquifer under his Baca ranch when he purchased it. In 1986, he filed a water claim and formed American Water Development Inc. (AWD). It seems Strong's ranch lay above one of the largest aquifers in North America and he planned to sell water to the city of Denver. The ranch extends a dozen miles south to Great Sand Dunes National Monument, part of the upper San Luis Valley. Beneath is an immense deposit of sediment, two to six miles deep and holding at least 2 billion acre-feet of water. *High Country News* writer Ed Quillen estimated it was 50 times the combined capacity of Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Despite assurances the water would not be pumped out of the valley, local farmers became suspicious and sued. Strong enlisted a powerful group of friends on the AWD Board including William Ruckelshaus, former head of EPA and CEO of Browning-Ferris Industries; Sam Belzberg, Canadian corporate raider; Robert B. Anderson (son of Robert O. Anderson of ARCO); and David Williams Jr., an Oklahoma millionaire and pipeline builder. AWD eventually lost the lawsuit when it was revealed Strong planned to extract 65 billion gallons of water annually, lowering the region's water table by as much as 100 feet. Most of the ranch was eventually sold to

businessman Gary Boyce, and has ended up being owned by The Nature Conservancy.⁷⁹

This is a bare outline of Maurice Strong's ties to the wealth and power behind "saving the planet." There are a multitude of additional convoluted links to international banking, shipping, energy, mining and real estate ventures—a corporate maze where dealings with despotic regimes in North Korea, Africa, the Mideast and China have been the norm.

The parallels between the Strong and Wyatt clans are interesting. Their big oil, energy and real estate business connections; family or personal relationships with dictators; criminal indictments of close associates or family members; UN/New Age/occult connections; and their peculiar visions for saving the world from environmental ruin are unmistakable. Although on a different scale, Cate Wyatt's JTHG scheme is based on the globalist's template: exploitation of natural and human resources, and transfer of control and wealth to an unelected aristocracy. Her "learning experience" should not be underestimated. While Maurice Strong has long been one of the most powerful facilitators of one-world government, at 76, his days are numbered. Someone just as cunning and ambitious will likely fill his shoes. Cate Wyatt is a lesser figure in the pantheon of power brokers, but for the 'devoted mother of two leading an idyllic country life,' it appears there is potential for advancement.

A modern dilemma

Some individuals argue the complexity of the "interconnected world" is much greater now than it was in Jefferson's day; that competitive, free markets, individual choice, and private property rights were ideals which may have worked in an agrarian society; but now, in the "modern, high-tech age," more government intervention is required to solve and prevent problems—more structured controls on human activities are needed, including global enforcement mechanisms. This and similar arguments are often heard but are based on pure fallacy, unsupported by logic, contrary to laws of human nature and damned by historical precedent. The complexities of life in 1800 were no less real than today; human nature was no different; and throughout the history of civilization, excessive government intervention has always led to corruption, disaster and ruin.

Even if governing bodies were composed of learned, honest and benevolent people, would they be competent to decide the acreage a farmer should plant in corn? Would they be competent to mandate an orthopedic surgeon is in a community? Would they be competent to determine where each individual should build a home and what size? Anyone seriously suggesting a few men and women should or could manage the private affairs of every citizen would rightly be considered a lunatic or worse. Their total incompetence to make such simple, individual decisions is evident and attempts to do so should provoke immediate derision. How much more competent are they in deciding what is best for thousands or millions of people.

The more advanced a society, the more certain government (political) intervention in private affairs will diminish individual productive attitudes, capacities and efforts. Did any of the Soviet Union's five-year plans lead to peace and prosperity for its people? Did the "War on Poverty" eliminate poverty? Did President Nixon's wage and price controls lead to anything but economic disaster?

No government, no matter how honest and wise, can intelligently foresee, let alone pass judgment on the countless human exchanges of even the simplest society. Yet we ignore common sense and demand elected officials and their appointees attempt exactly such lunacy when we ask or demand they make politically-based decisions regarding private property. Political monstrosities modeled on principles of medieval feudalism, almost all currently-practiced land use planning and zoning schemes, are forced on people in almost every jurisdiction in America with horribly costly consequences.

By definition, planning, zoning, sustainable development and smart-growth are political processes where the subjective values of one person, group or special interest can be imposed upon others who

have differing values. It is political interference with private property under the presumption no man has the right to control what is his and every person has the right to control what is his neighbor's, *without any cost to the ones who do the controlling*. Rights are taken from one group for the benefit of others, without compensation, usually in the name of the public interest.

Madison wisely wrote, “In its larger and juster meaning, it [property] embraces everything to which a man may attach value and have a right, and which leaves to everyone else the like advantage. Where an excess of [government] power prevails, property of no sort is duly respected. No man is safe in his opinions, his person, his faculties, or his possessions.”



In 1850, Frederic Bastiat, a French statesman and political philosopher, wrote a pamphlet entitled *The Law* in which he observed: “When a portion of wealth is transferred from one person who owns it—without his consent and without compensation, and whether by force or by fraud—to anyone who does not own it, then I say that property is violated; that an act of plunder is committed...but how is this legal plunder to be identified? Quite simply...see if the law benefits one citizen at the expense of another by doing what the citizen himself cannot do without committing a crime.” Compare Bastiat’s remarks with the opening sentence of Timothy Lindstrom’s testimony regarding the use of conservation easements.

The platitude, “in the public interest,” or “for the common good,” is used by government officials and their NGO partners to justify all types of fraud, plunder and theft. The truth is *there is no such thing as “the public interest.”* Only individuals have interests and rights. Each individual and each property is different. Needs, visions, circumstances, qualities and potentials vary.

Free men acting in a free-market society, not government, create the incentive for private property to be used for the “general welfare” of all citizens. Because ownership of property is not free, the costs of ownership impose obligations on owners to act as ‘stewards.’ Private ownership of property serves a social function. Owners benefit only when property is rationally employed and thus owners are generally compelled to make decisions which also benefit society.

What is not widely understood is the free-market has been so distorted by political interference it does not always function to allocate the use of property in the most rational or efficient manner. As the power of government has extended beyond its legitimate purpose, the protection of the rights of each individual; as more and more subsidies, fees, taxes, rules, ordinances and regulations restrict or influence decisions individuals may make for themselves, special interests arise who clamor for the favors of (or even bribe) politicians who, in turn, “suck the marrow from the bones of civil society.”

Individuals who are not favored are reduced to begging for the special privilege of using their property. They no longer own all the sticks in the bundle, having allowed incompetent, corrupt or ignorant politicians to take their rights and use them for selfish or moronic purposes. Irrational behavior is encouraged when there is no link between the rewards and costs for decisions made about the use of private property.

There are those who claim “greedy land developers” are the culprits, causing sprawl, strip-malls, traffic congestion, crime, pollution, and urban blight. The developer is simply filling needs of the consumer. His occupation is no more greedy than the grocer selling bread. The exception, the unscrupulous, dishonest individual or corporation, finds it very difficult to cause harm where his ‘special interests’ are not given preference and where the rights of every citizen are secured.

Too often, symptoms are confused with underlying causes. Until legislators, judges, supervisors and other public officials are required to adhere to Constitutional and moral principles, where

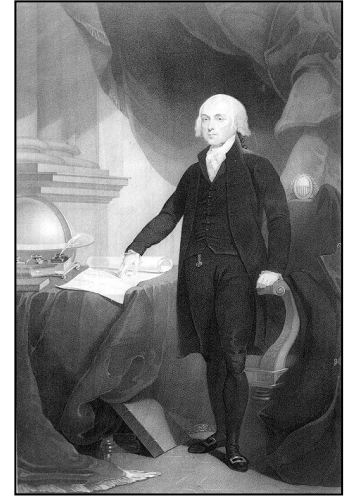
government protects the rights *of each individual*, debilitating and costly mistakes, stupidity, corruption and favoritism will continue to lead to crime, pollution, congestion and other ills.

Again, quoting Madison:

This is not a just government, nor is property secure under it, where the property...is violated by arbitrary seizures of one class of citizens for the service of the rest...under which unequal taxes oppress one species of property and reward another species...where arbitrary restrictions, exemptions, and monopolies deny part of its citizens the free use of their faculties...

There are some legitimate reasons for regulation of private property. Statutes and ordinances specifically aimed at protection of fundamental rights, prevention of fraud and enforcement of contracts are properly within the sphere of government power. Speed limits on public streets protect life and property. Fire protection codes, public nuisance abatement, and prohibitions of excessive noise or pollution are legitimate government functions.

Clearly defined, specific measures, applied non-arbitrarily, are much different than hundreds of emotional constituents demanding officials interpret and apply vague or contradictory rules; much different than placing honest officials in the dilemma of granting variances, special use permits and exceptions; and much different than allowing unscrupulous officials the opportunity to act in their own interest or to cater to special interests—for some will, even when contrary to law and morality.



In instances where conflicts arise between individuals, where one party seeks to use his property in what appears to be a legitimate manner, and another party objects on the grounds some harm will be done, the solution should not lie within the realm of politics. Settling disputes should be based on an accepted body of rules, principles and common sense, not on whim, prejudice or “consensus of participatory democracy,” the tyranny of the majority. When the solution to conflict is not apparent, resolution can usually be found in the ancient common law rules of trespass and nuisance, revised to reflect modern community needs.

By recognizing and conforming to well-defined, specific laws, based on free choice of men to act without external control, so long as there is no aggression or fraud against another, limited government will function to protect each of us from crime, pollution, devastated inner cities and urban sprawl, and will enrich our lives. Arthur Lee (of Virginia) correctly stated in 1775: “The right of Property is the guardian of every other right, and to deprive the people of this, is in fact to deprive them of their Liberty.”

We now have the alternative: chaos, bribery, theft, political corruption, partial strangulation by collectivist taxation and regulation, and the undermining of the foundations of our society. For the unwary, it is but a few short steps into the abyss of total servitude and despotism.

A strange paradox: what preservationists have taught, and wrought

Dr. Clyde N. Wilson, Professor of History, University of South Carolina, examined the paradox in his *Essay on Historical Consciousness*:

[W]e have a strange paradox. On the one hand, historical thinking is in the blood of Western man, an inescapable part of his nature. Further, there is evidence of an increasing public thirst for history—history, in fact, is one of our few remaining means of making contact with reality amidst the frenetic vulgarity of American culture...The paradox is that, on the other hand, despite the thirst for history and the centrality of

historical thinking in our consciousness, academic historians have never been more irrelevant, incestuous and unreadable. The public thirst must be satisfied by trashy novels or even trashier docudramas. Or by tours of government-managed historic “sites” overlaid with the canned patter of professional guides, who do for historical understanding exactly what the Big Mac does for good dining.⁸⁰

Virginians can learn much from the preservationist history lesson: history is artifact, the result of artifice. What is preserved? Is it truth, moral principle and the rights and worth of the individual? Or is it power and ego, and schemes to redistribute the private assets of Virginians? History is not an interpretive sign beside a wooded hillside where a soldier once passed; neither is it a made-in-China trinket sold at a tourist destination; nor is it the spectacle of “reenactors marching into battle.”

The term, *historic preservation*, has become a shrill, exhausted, oxymoron—repeated and repeated—drowned in mind-numbing cacophony: endangered, viewshed, pristine, tourism, threatened, for future generations, urban sprawl, and hallowed ground...*ad nauseum*. With these words, control and ownership of private land is being wrested from individual citizens. Property and power are being concentrated in the “public-private corporation.” The liberty and will of the individual and the decisions of elected local officials are rendered meaningless, suffocated beneath a metastasizing tumor of interlinked special-interest groups funded by taxpayers’ indebtedness, with no regard for the price being paid by the average man and woman, or to be paid by “future generations.”

The phenomenon, a near-mania, for preservation of environment and historic/cultural resources is being shoved down the American throat for the common good. Bernard Switalski wrote of the common good in an essay, *The Fascism of Environmentalism*:

When the Nazis came to power, most conservationists eagerly aligned with them. The magazine of the Bund, *Naturschutz in Bayern*, quickly proclaimed, “No time has been so favorable for our work as the present one under the swastika banner of the national government.” Most of them advocated limitations on property rights. One wrote, “The mere material advantage of the individual should never win out over the rights of the general public.”⁸¹

Further defining the public-private partnership, the “common good,” Benito Mussolini, the fascist dictator of Italy, was more incisive: “Fascism should more appropriately be called Corporatism because it is a merger of State and corporate power.” Mario Palmieri wrote in *The Philosophy of Fascism* (1936), “Economic initiatives cannot be left to the arbitrary decisions of private, individual interests.”

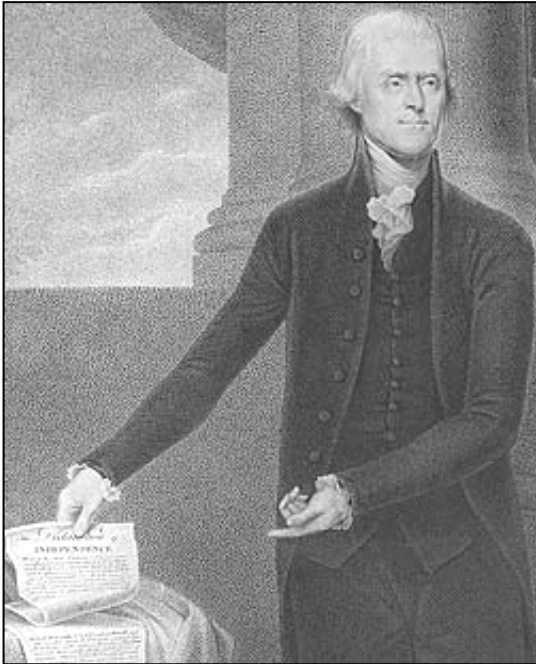
The world has evolved since Mussolini’s day. Then, we have been led to believe, there were illusive and ever-shifting alliances of capitalism, fascism, socialism and communism. A World War and subsequent Cold War realignments of allegedly competing systems caused world leaders to rethink nationalism, the boundaries of authority of nation-states within the “new, smaller, more dangerous world” which followed the Second World War. If we were to conquer the scourges of poverty, inequity, famine, disease and national imperialism—scourges allegedly leading to the savagery of war—the world “community of man” would need to “unite in peace” and the “consensus of democracy.”

In fact, Hitler’s dream of National Socialism, his New Order for the world, and Stalin’s Russian Imperial Socialism were “united” with European and American Democracy and Capitalism in the creation of the UN at the end of the War. It was the Capitalists and Mercantilists of America and Europe who financed both dictators’ rise to power, who then financed their war machines, and then financed and supported the creation of the UN as their Hegelian ‘final solution’ for the monsters they had created. The financiers were not capitalists in the free-market sense. They were corporate monopolists, modern Mercantilists such as John D. Rockefeller whose creed was, “Competition is a

sin.” They, the world’s puppeteers pulling strings from behind the curtain, saw the state, and ultimately the UN Super State, as the engine for consolidation of wealth and power represented by control of the world’s resources in the hands of an international oligarchy.

Resurrected from the ill-timed League of Nations, the UN was designed to ensure “World Peace and Democracy”—to become the international framework for a one-world, “global governance” system. As its global bureaucracy has steadily expanded, so has its influence and power. Peace, Equity and Democracy, as defined within the globalist power structure, have totally different meanings than Americans have been led to believe.

For the “world leaders” of the UN system, the absence of all opposition to their power is Peace; Democracy is an interim expedient—two of their wolves and one sheep deciding what is for supper;



Equity is the redistribution of wealth, of the world’s resources into their hands, the hands of the corporate state and its ruling class. Energy, agriculture, communications, manufacturing...all merged into a vertically-integrated global system.

Historical truths are much different than popularized myths. Our Declaration of Independence and Constitution are based on the Natural Laws of a Divine Creator. Both documents express truths about the intimate linkage between the individual ownership of property and liberty, the worth of the individual in the eye of God. But who visits *those* historic monuments? Who practices and nurtures *their* ideals? Where are the reenactors of *those* battles? Who preserves *that* environment and heritage? Who honors *that* Hallowed Ground?

Private property ensures the limitation of state powers. Property, owned by millions of individuals, precludes the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a few. It is the individual’s insurance policy for Freedom. The

JTHG preservationists would cancel that policy.

Claiming to preserve “rural heritage,” “historic sites,” “open spaces” and “local economies,” the JTHG preservationists do the opposite by manipulating the uninformed in order to secure funds for un-Constitutional appropriation of private land into the “communal” estate and to advance their own financial gain. With their cloak of “history” distracting a gullible portion of the populace, they violate “the very foundations of freedom for which historic battles were fought...market[ing] their wares with window dressings of authenticity, heritage, and the good of all...These interpretations pervert and undermine the ability of future generations to develop skills necessary to seek out and critically analyze authentic historical information. Passion about the principles learned from the past is thereby reduced to just another form of entertainment without the discipline of critical inquiry.”⁸²

Why man stumbles in the darkness of ignorance when he has the light of historical truth for guidance is a mystery. Why do we condone a Journey Through Hallowed Ground when it perverts both history and liberty? Alexis de Tocqueville saw history on two continents; and he could see us, today, and our modern cults of preservationists and historians, led by a cunningly oily haute monde, spreading their infectious doctrines, mocking our true heritage and undermining our future in an insane frenzy to secure wealth and privilege:

I look back for a moment on the situation of France seven hundred years ago, when the territory was divided among a small number of families, who were the owners

of the soil and the rulers of the inhabitants; the right of governing descended with the family inheritance from generation to generation; force was the only means by which man could act on man; and landed property was the sole source of power...

The historians of antiquity taught how to command; those of our time teach only how to obey; in their writings the author often appears great, but humanity is always diminutive.

If this doctrine...passes from authors to their readers till it infects the whole mass of the community and gets possession of the public mind, it will soon paralyze the activity of modern society...moreover, I would observe that such doctrines are peculiarly dangerous at the period at which we have arrived. Our contemporaries are only too prone to doubt of human free-will, because each of them feels himself confined on every side by his own weakness; but they are still willing to acknowledge the strength and independence of men united in society. Do not let this principle be lost sight of, for the great object in our time is to raise the faculties of men, not to complete their prostration.⁸³

Writing to James Madison from France, October 28, 1785, Jefferson saw the same upper crust—"fox hunters and Piedmont gentry, oblivious to the interests of ordinary people, jealously protecting their estates and privileged lifestyle"—tying up vast tracts of land for their own pleasure, to the detriment of the rest of society:

[W]hat could be the reason so many should be permitted to beg who are willing to work, in a country where there is a very considerable portion of uncultivated lands? These lands are undisturbed for the sake of game. It should seem then that it must be because of the enormous wealth of the proprietors which places them above the attention to the increase of their revenues by permitting these lands to be labored...It is not too soon to provide by every possible means that as few as possible shall be without a little portion of land. The small landholders are the most precious part of the state.

Five years ago, Diane Alden described the progress of the intellectual plague of elitist barbarism sweeping the American conscience. Her remarks were aimed at the ruling political class, the John Warners, the George Allens, the Frank Wolfs and their glitterati friends. But during the past five years, the barbarism has only increased:

These new barbarians and true believers have taken the rule of law and liberty and the Bill of Rights and Constitution and turned them upside down...This 'new order' they propose will destroy the very freedoms that have allowed their beliefs to gain so much ground over the years. Just as with some missionaries of old, they devise a torturous iron maiden of conformity, a constraining prison of the soul and the intellect that will oppress all humankind. They call it unity. But it is not a unity freely chosen. It is not a unity that grows out of liberty and brotherhood. It certainly has nothing to do with the best of Western civilization. It is a unity created out of the devil—better known as "the will of the people."

Our tyrants, which include some senators, may wear \$1,000 suits and have \$200 haircuts, but they are tyrants nonetheless. As Roman historian Catellus stated regarding the Roman Senate over 2,000 years ago: "We pile up riches for ourselves while the state is bankrupt. We sing the praises of prosperity—and idle away our lives. Good men or bad—it is all one. All the prizes that merit ought to win are carried off by ambitious intriguers. And no wonder, when each one of you schemes only for himself, when in your private lives you are slaves to pleasure, and here in the Senate House the tools of money, or influence. The result is that when an assault is made upon the Republic, there is no one there to defend it." (Words attributed to Marcus Portius Cato by Gaius

Sallustius Crispus (Sallust) in *The Conspiracy of Catiline*, ca. 44-40 BC) ⁸⁴

This history lesson is as valid today as it was two millennia ago: those holding offices, given the opportunity, will betray every liberty we hold dear. Many are driven by ego, political gain or material rewards, willing to compromise themselves, their neighbors and their communities. They are the “useful idiots” of whom Lenin spoke. The Founders repeatedly warned of man’s folly, ignorance, weakness, corruption and treachery. Whether a president, a governor, a congressman, or a county supervisor; whether honest, intelligent, well-meaning and virtuous, none should be trusted, but must be bound down by the chains of the Constitution.

We claim to be free, to have Unalienable Rights expressed in a Declaration of Independence and protected by a Constitution. We speak of a government of enumerated and limited powers, the “servant of the people.” But we foolishly entrust our rights to the custody of ‘leaders’—always in “the public interest”—in whose minds and in whose 4th of July speeches those Documents have come to have little meaning other than a ruse intended to manipulate the citizen to surrender his rights.

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are words on paper. Inspired as those words are, they are meaningless if ignored. In Law, there is an old maxim: “Those who will not assert their rights and take steps to defend them, have none.” And, it should be added, deserve none.

At the close of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, Franklin proclaimed the Delegates had created a Republic—“if you can keep it.” They knew the alternatives would lead to despotism, a government by the whim of men, the tyranny and self-inflicted misery of democracy. On May 31, 1787, Edmund Randolph told his fellow Delegates the object for which they had met was “to provide a cure for the evils under which the United States labored; that in tracing these evils to their origin every man had found it in the turbulence and trials of democracy....” And Madison: “Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives, as they have been violent in their deaths.”

The unchecked power of wealth and privileged interests, and the tyranny of the majority were rejected at that Convention. The Founders, the Virginia Delegates in particular, with all their faults and personal differences, keenly understood the history of nations. They sought freedom for themselves



and for their posterity; free of the despotism, aristocratic decadence and entangling alliances of the Old World; free of the constant intrigues and wars which sapped the vitality of Europe and kept its people in feudal servitude.

We, too, should reject the attempts of self-righteous, unelected charlatans, “Gods and Generals,” and a “Joan of Arc of the Piedmont,” to force their troops, spies and carpetbaggers into our lives under the banner of preserving history. We should refuse to become their pawns, swayed by blandishment and deception. We should spurn their collectivist rescriptions of Virginia’s past; repudiate the UN-spawned drive to indenture not only our land and possessions, but our physical and spiritual beings as well.

That should be every Virginian’s Journey to defend and preserve Hallowed Ground.

Endnote

In late March, I was sent a January Draft of the “Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area Act of 2006.” During final editing of this report in April, the *Washington Post* reported Representative Frank R. Wolf (R-Va.) and Senator George Allen (R-Va.) would introduce legislation to designate JTHG a NHA. Allen said he was “attentive” to the concerns of property owners. “As a student of history, I understand the importance of preserving these historical sites. As a conservative, it is imperative to find a balance between that goal and protecting private property rights.” Mr. Allen’s claims have not been supported by his voting record, and are certainly not by his support for JTHG. Under the Constitution, there is no authority to introduce or fund *any* NHA legislation.

The Draft includes alleged “protections” for property rights in the form of deceptions *meant to mislead* the public. The management entity is charged with developing a management plan, which, due to the very nature of the NHA concept, is an assault on the private property rights of every individual owning land within the official NPS “delineation of the boundaries of the Heritage Area boundaries.”

There is a provision for individual property owners to opt-out. “Any owner of private property included within the boundary of the Heritage Area shall have their property immediately removed from the boundary by submitting a written request to the management entity.” The opt-out provision is meaningless. Such properties would become ‘inholdings,’ still subject to local zoning and planning regulations enacted as a result of collaboration between the management entity and local governing bodies. “Nothing in this Act shall be construed to modify the authority of Federal, State, or local governments to regulate land use.”

“The management entity for the Heritage Area shall be The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, a Virginia corporation...” \$10,000,000 would be appropriated by the NPS to the management entity over a 15 year period. Additional funding would be available from other federal, state and local sources. These funds are powerful tools to persuade state and local authorities to “protect” all land within NHA boundaries with their own rules and regulations. There is no opt-out for local land use and zoning regulations such as inclusion in local historic districts, viewshed protections or the regulatory consequences of Scenic Highway designations.

In addition, “Nothing in this Act shall preclude the management entity from using Federal funds available under Acts other than this Act for the purposes for which those funds were authorized.” Funds from a multitude of programs, such as TEA/ISTEA, are typically used in NHAs to acquire property and easements, to restrict the use of property and to restrict highway improvements.

“The management entity shall develop a management plan for the Heritage Area that presents comprehensive strategies and recommendations for conservation, funding, management, and development of the Heritage Area...includes an inventory of the property and resources in the Heritage Area that should be preserved, restored, supported, managed, developed, maintained, or [acquired] because of its national historic significance...The management entity shall assist units of government, regional planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations in carrying out other actions that the management entity determines to be advisable to fulfill the purposes of this Act.”

Words in a statute have distinct legal meanings not always understood by the average person. The purpose of the Act is to create a federally-funded management entity with the legal authority to determine a management plan, and to then implement that plan. Black’s Law Dictionary defines *manage*: “To control and direct, to administer, to take charge of.”

The management entity Board of Directors “shall include representatives from a broad cross-section of the individuals, agencies, organizations and governments that were involved in the planning and development of the Heritage Area before the date of enactment of this Act and which shall oversee the development of a management plan...” No dissenting voices are allowed on the Board.

All so-called private property rights protections written into this Draft bill are fraudulent. ***Nothing in the Draft prohibits the acquisition of private land by eminent domain/condemnation.***

Every property owner should ask a simple question: “Do I want to control my own land; or do I want a top-down, global management system imposed on me and my land by the NPS and its local, unelected partnership, as has happened in every other NHA?” Only fools and simpletons believe JTHG would be different.

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85. Additional suggested reading: Richard Pipes, *Property and Freedom*, Knopf, New York, 1999; Bernard H Siegan, *Land Use Without Zoning*, D.C. Heath, Lexington, Mass., 1972; *Private Property and Political Control*, The Freeman Classics, Foundation for Economic Education, 1992; Richard A. Epstein, *Takings*, Harvard U. Press, 1985