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AKK Subj

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Thank you for your courtesy in forwarding for our review the language the White House Historical Association proposes to include in the brochure that will accompany the 1983 White House Christmas Ornament.

We have no legal objection to use of the language you forwarded.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. Bernard R. Meyer
Executive Vice President
White House Historical Association
740 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

FFF:PJR:ph 10/28/83
cc: FFFielding
PJRusthoven ✓
Subject
Chron.

RR Sug.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 28, 1983

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING
FROM: PETER J. RUSTHOVEN *PR*
SUBJECT: Draft Brochure Language for the
1983 White House Christmas Ornament

Bernard R. Meyer, Executive Vice President of the White House Historical Association, asked us to review the draft language the Association proposes to include in the short brochure that will accompany the 1983 White House Christmas Ornament.

Mr. Meyer says we reviewed and approved the language for the 1981 and 1982 brochures, copies of which he was kind enough to enclose. Though I was not involved in the earlier reviews (reportedly handled by H.P.), I certainly see no legal problem either with the language we are said to have blessed for Christmases Past, or with the language submitted for our scrutiny in connection with Christmas Yet to Come (soon to be Christmas Present). Specifically, this year's ornament is to be a replica of the north facade of the White House during the John Adams era; the draft brochure language gives appropriate historical background information, and I am hard pressed to find a legal issue (much less a legal problem) lurking midst this proposed prose.

Mr. Meyer, who reports that Chief Usher Rex Scouten has no objection to the draft language, is running up against a printing deadline and requests the favor of an early reply. A draft of such is attached for your review and signature.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Thank you for your courtesy in forwarding for our review the language the White House Historical Association proposes to include in the brochure that will accompany the 1983 White House Christmas Ornament.

We have no legal objection to use of the language you forwarded.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. Bernard R. Meyer
Executive Vice President
White House Historical Association
740 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

10016

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- D - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

(not worked on this)
PR

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Bernard R. Meyer

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Attaches draft of brochure to be used by the White House Historical Association with their 1983 Christmas ornament

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUTROLL</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>DD 83110127</u>
<u>CWAT 09</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DD 83110127</u>
	<u>S</u>	<u>DD 83111107</u>

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
 - C - Comment/Recommendation
 - D - Draft Response
 - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 - S - For Signature
 - X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
 - B - Non-Special Referral
 - C - Completed
 - S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.



WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
740 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20506

181593 *aw*

October 25, 1983

Fred F. Fielding, Esq.
Counsel to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Fielding:

The White House Historical Association plans to produce and sell its 1983 White House Christmas Ornament, in carrying on a program started in 1981 and continued in 1982.


This year's ornament will be a gold-plated representation of the north facade of the White House as it is believed to have looked at the time President John Adams resided in the White House as its first occupant.

As is our practice, we intend to issue a small brochure with the ornament which describes the ornament, its source, and the significance of its representation. A draft of the text of the brochure is enclosed. It has been reviewed by the Office of the Curator and by the Chief Usher, Mr. Rex Scouten, and we have been informed that they have no objection to the text. I am enclosing, also, copies of the brochures which accompanied the 1981 and 1982 ornaments. The text of both of these was found by your office not to be objectionable from a legal perspective. The brochure to be used this year will be in the same general format as the ones used in the two previous years, and it will include the same "boiler-plate" language about the Association as appears in the earlier brochures.

We request an expression from you as to whether your office would have any objection to the language in the enclosed

text proposed for the 1983 ornament. In view of the short time left to print the brochure, a reply at your earliest convenience would be very much appreciated. If there are any questions in the consideration of this matter by your office, I can be reached on 737-8292.

Sincerely yours,


Bernard R. Meyer
Executive Vice President

Enclosures

CHRISTMAS 1983

The White House

The 1983 White House Christmas Ornament, depicting the White House as originally built, is the third in a series. Carefully designed and crafted by the White House Historical Association, the gold-plated ornament was created for the Christmas tree that will stand in the Blue Room during the holiday season 1983.

The 1983 Christmas ornament is a miniature replica of the north facade of the White House in the time of John Adams. When John Adams, the second President of the United States, moved into the unfinished White House in the autumn of 1800, he became the first in what was to be an unbroken line of presidents to live there. The porticoes familiar to us today were not to be built for nearly 30 years; the great sandstone walls were whitewashed, and there were no East and West Wings.

President Adams lighted his rooms with candles and kept warm before large log-burning fireplaces. The house was drafty and uncomfortable, but for John Adams it held promise. There he wrote his famous benediction for the house in a letter to his wife: "I Pray Heaven to Bestow the Best of Blessings on THIS HOUSE and on All that shall hereafter Inhabit it. May none but Honest and Wise Men ever rule under this Roof."

The source of the design of the Christmas ornament is one of the earliest-known illustrations of the building, found in Charles William Janson's book, The Stranger in America, published in London in 1807. In showing the north side of the White House, the "public" front, it features the original configuration of a pediment supported by four Ionic columns, which were attached to the wall of the house. Over the front door was a swagged garland of richly carved stone flowers. Most of the early architectural elements of the White House survive, forming part of a more extensive house, which, like the nation itself, has undergone many changes.