

TOM C. CLARK AWARD  
of the  
NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION  
Application

Pack \_\_\_\_\_

Troop 98

Post \_\_\_\_\_

Chartered to St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church

Of Washington, D.C.  
(City) (State)

In the National Capital Area Council

Hereby makes application for the TOM C. CLARK AWARD.

The unit has completed all listed requirements:

Advance planning

Study of the present condition of the facility and what its needs are

Determine how the project will improve, maintain, or offer wider use of the facility

Study the ecological and/or historical importance of the facility

Conduct the service project

This application is for a service project at The city of Washington

A brief report and supporting material is attached.

December 29, 1978

(Date)

Robert J. Wood  
(Signature)

Scoutmaster

(Unit leadership position)

Statement from park/land supervisor attesting to the completion is attached. ( )

In 1790, as a result of a compromise between Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, the site for the nation's capital was chosen to be on the Potomac River on land ceded by the states of Virginia and Maryland. A year later Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker began to lay out the boundaries of the city. Starting at Jones' Point on the Potomac River just south of the city of Alexandria they cleared a path in the forest forty feet wide to form the boundaries of the new capital. From Jones' Point they proceeded ten miles northwest. Then, turning northeast they worked their way for ten miles, crossing the Potomac River in the process. Then ten miles southeast and ten miles southwest crossing the river again and returning to Jones' Point. The work took over a year to complete.

Every mile they placed a stone marker. These are roughly square in cross section and are one and a half foot on a side. Originally they were about three feet above ground and about one foot below ground. Each stone is marked "Maryland" (or "Virginia") on one side and "Jurisdiction of the United States" on the other. The four corner stones are marked "West (or "North". etc.) Stone".

The forest quickly closed upon the stones and they became lost to view. At the turn of the twentieth century concern for the stones led the Daughters of the American Revolution to "adopt" the stones. Each local chapter of the DAR was to care for one or two of the stones. Fences were placed around the stones (two excepted) and plans were made to maintain them. Unfortunately, after an ambitious start, the plans faltered.

In 1978 most of the stones were overgrown and the fences were in need of painting. Several, located on heavily travelled streets had been severally abused by cars, the fences having been hit repeatedly. Some of the stones are located in the yards of private citizens and it was not unusual that they were uncared for also.

Kevin Wood, a Life Scout in Troop 98 (Fort Totten District, National Capital Area Council) sponsored by St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, chose as his Eagle project to organize the members of the troop to clean up the stones and paint the fences. The National Park Service, with a great deal of enthusiasm for the project, provided the paint, brushes, and rollers. Ten Scouts worked steadily for six days pulling weeds, scraping the bars on the fences, and repainting them. Two of the stones are missing and three were inaccessible (one on private property that the owner did not want the Scouts to paint and two on the Corps of Engineers Dalecarlia Reservoir property). Every other stone was visited, and if not cared for by a private citizen, was cleaned and the fence painted.

One of the most interesting aspects of the project was answering questions from people passing by. Most, for instance, had no idea that thirty squares of northern Virginia had at one time been part of the District of Columbia or that forty stones marked the boundary of the city. Some people, including some who lived in homes with stones on their property, thought the stones marked graves. The Scouts took considerable pleasure in explaining the stones to anyone who would listen.

In addition, it has developed in them a feeling for their city's history that they never had and a feeling of pride in the work. Whenever the troop passes the marker close to our neighborhood there is always some comment on the project.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS-EAST  
5210 INDIAN HEAD HIGHWAY  
OXON HILL, MARYLAND 20021

K14-NCR(NACE)

January 4, 1979

Mr. Kevin Wood  
Troup 98  
Boy Scouts of America  
1217 Lawrence St., NE  
Washington, D.C. 20017

Dear Mr. Wood:

This letter is expressing appreciation for the fine job you and Troup 98 of the Boy Scouts of America did during 1978 in refurbishing certain milestone markers around the District of Columbia and restoring their immediate surroundings to an appearance of dignity.

The National Park Service wishes to thank all who had a hand in this fine project. A copy of this letter will be sent to the particular chapter of the DAR under whose watchful eye these stones are located.

Sincerely yours,

Superintendent  
National Capital Parks-East



**SCOUTING/USA**

A program for Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers

**National Office—Boy Scouts of America**

North Brunswick, New Jersey 08902  
Telephone: 201 249-6000  
TWX 710-480-6262

February 20, 1979

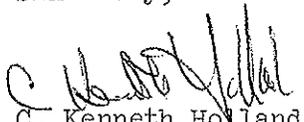
Mr. Herbert T. Wood  
1217 Lawrence St., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20017

Dear Mr. Wood:

It is with great pleasure that we can inform you that the application of Troop 98, St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church of Washington, D.C., to receive the Tom C. Clark Award has been approved. It is truly an outstanding service project.

The certificate is being shipped under separate cover to your Scout Executive for suitable presentation.

Sincerely,

  
C. Kenneth Holland  
Chairman  
Tom C. Clark Award

  
A. Zach Hirsch, Jr.  
Director  
Activities Service

cm

cc: Rudolph Flythe, Scout Executive, National Capital Area Council #82  
A. Zach Hirsch, Jr.

1026 Irving Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20017

9 October 1991

Mr. David R. Doyle  
12503 Two Farm Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Having learned of your work locating and recording all the remaining original boundary stones for the District of Columbia, I would like to add this bit of information on their history to your files:

In 1979 Kevin Wood, then 16 years old, organized the boys of Scout Troop 98, sponsored by St. Anthony's Church, 12th and Monroe Streets NE, in Brookland DC, to find and paint all the metal fences surrounding the stones. The boys also removed all trash from inside the enclosures. This was his required project for the rank of Eagle Scout, which he was awarded later that year. The paint was donated by the National Park Service. Twelve boys worked in pairs for three Saturdays and painted all but two enclosures -- all that they could find. I will add that the scoutmaster then (as now) was Herbert Wood, Kevin's father.

Please feel free to contact me if there is any further information I can provide, and thank you for the opportunity to add this to your account of the history of these stones.

Yours truly,

Hayden M. Wetzel  
Chair, Parents Committee,  
Troop 98 BSA

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