

FRIENDS OF THE DR. RICHARD EELLS HOUSE

file

August 26, 2005

Mr. Chuck McClain, President
Quincy Preserves
PO Box 1012
Quincy, IL 62306

Dear Mr. McClain:

We were very pleased to host your organization recently at the Friends of the Doctor Richard Eells House. I hope you were impressed with the progress we have made at the House. We have invested over \$900,000 to date in purchasing, restoring, refurbishing and furnishing the House and as you well understand, preservation never ends.

We have recently been awarded a \$25,000 Grant from the National Parks Service to continue our work on the House. The project includes the critical task of reinforcing the original foundation of the House in the basement before it can undermine the entire structure. Also to be addressed, for parts of the House added after Doctor Eells lived there are: closing an outside basement entrance that is unused and unsafe, finishing a meeting room for more comfortable public use, finishing the public restroom to be accessible by all visitors (and to make it presentable), and finishing some outside work on the overhangs to help prevent water damage and further deterioration of the structure. Part of the requirement of the Grant is to provide matching funds.

Our contractor is ready to begin and we are now in the process of raising matching funds via a \$100,000 Restoration Drive. Besides completing the above referenced project, this fund drive should allow us to finish most of the structural work required for the House.

Quincy Preserves has been a strong supporter of the House since our inception over 10 years ago, and on behalf of the Board, I extend our gratitude and thanks. For the current project and fund raising target, we would like to request that Quincy Preserves take an active participation in fulfilling our goal by donating \$10,000. This amount will allow us to begin our NPS Grant project immediately and will help stabilize the House going into the winter months. If you would like any further information, a tour of the site or to meet with our board of directors, please let us know.

We appreciate any consideration you may be able to give us on this important matter and we look forward to hearing from you. Please call me at 217-257-7647 if required.

Very truly yours,

John W. Cornell

John Cornell
President and Treasurer