



United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site  
511 10<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20004

IN REPLY  
REFER TO:

D20/L76 (FOTH)

May 11, 2010

Re: Repair and Rehabilitation of Petersen House  
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site  
Environmental Assessment

Dear Colleague and Neighbors:

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to repair and rehabilitate elements of the Petersen House (the House Where Lincoln Died), to include exterior repairs; installation of a new climate management system; interior rehabilitation of damaged plaster, wallpaper and other finishes; and the repair of historic windows, casements, doors and shutters. In addition, the NPS is proposing to accommodate a connection from the rear porch of the Petersen House to the adjacent building 514 10th Street, N.W., which will house the Ford's Theatre Society's (a formal park partner with the National Park Service) Center for Education and Leadership. This new connection will also allow the NPS to make improvements to the rear porch in order to provide universal accessibility to the Death Room in a manner that maintains the visitor experience while preserving the historic character of the house.

The Petersen House is located on 10th Street, N.W., Washington D.C., across from Ford's Theatre. After President Abraham Lincoln was shot, he was carried across to the Petersen family boarding house where he died the following morning. The Petersen House currently allows visitors to view two rooms of the house, as well as the Death Room, before exiting out through the back porch and down a flight of stairs.

At this time, the Superintendent is announcing a 30-day public scoping period to solicit public comments on this proposal. During this scoping period, the public is invited to identify any issues or concerns they might have with the proposed project so that the NPS can appropriately consider them in the preparation of the Environmental Assessment. You may submit comments electronically at the National Park Service's *Planning, Environment, and Public Comment* website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/FOTH>) or submit written comments to:

Superintendent  
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site  
Attn: Petersen House project  
511 10th Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Please submit your scoping comments by June 18, 2010. Once the Environmental Assessment is developed, it will be made available for public review for a 30-day period. If you wish to be added to the park's mailing list for this or other announcements, please be sure to indicate that in your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kym Elder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kym" and the last name "Elder" clearly distinguishable.

Kym Elder  
Superintendent  
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site