Public land patents.

"That the Secretary of the Interior (a) shall, whenever it shall be shown to his satisfaction that a tract of public land has been held in good faith and in peaceful, adverse, possession by a claimant, his ancestors or grantors, under claim or color of title for more than twenty years, and that valuable improvements have been placed on such land or some part thereof has been reduced to cultivation, or (b) may, in his discretion, whenever it shall be shown to his satisfaction that a tract of public land has been held in good faith and in peaceful, adverse, possession by a claimant, his ancestors or grantors, under claim or color of title for the period commencing not later than January 1, 1901, to the date of application during which time they have paid taxes levied on the land by State and local governmental units, issue a patent for not to exceed one hundred and sixty acres of such land upon the payment of not less than $1.25 per acre:".

SEC. 2. The following section is added to the Act of December 22, 1928, supra:

Mineral reservation.

"SEC. 3. If the claimant requests that the patent to be issued under this Act not contain a mineral reservation and if he can establish to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the requirements of this Act have been complied with by such claimant and his predecessors for the period commencing not later than January 1, 1901, to the date of application, no mineral reservation shall be made unless the lands are, at the time of issuance of the patent, within a mineral withdrawal or subject to an outstanding mineral lease."

Approved July 28, 1953.

Public Law 160 CHAPTER 255

AN ACT

July 28, 1953
[H. R. 3581]

To further the policy enunciated in the Act of October 26, 1949 (63 Stat. 927), to facilitate public participation in the preservation of sites, buildings, and objects of national significance or interest by providing for a National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States.

National Trust for Historic Preservation in U. S. General trustees. 16 USC 468b.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to further the policy of historic preservation in the United States as enunciated in the Act of October 26, 1949 (63 Stat. 927), the third, fourth, and fifth sentences of section 3 of that Act are hereby amended to read as follows: "The number of general trustees shall be fixed by the Board of Trustees of the National Trust and shall be chosen by the members of the National Trust from its members at any regular meeting of said National Trust. The respective terms of office of the general trustees shall be as prescribed by said board of trustees but in no case shall exceed a period of five years from the date of election. A successor to a general trustee shall be chosen in the same manner and shall have a term expiring five years from the date of the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was chosen, except that a successor chosen to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of such term shall be chosen only for the remainder of that term.".

Approved July 28, 1953.

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