

Calendar No. 171

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 140

[Report No. 106–89]

To establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 19, 1999

Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

JUNE 24, 1999

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Thomas Cole National
3 Historic Site Designation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

6 (1) the Hudson River school of landscape paint-
7 ing was inspired by Thomas Cole and was character-
8 ized by a group of 19th century landscape artists
9 who recorded and celebrated the landscape and wil-
10 derness of the United States, particularly in the
11 Hudson River Valley region in the State of New
12 York;

13 (2) Thomas Cole is recognized as the United
14 States’s most prominent landscape and allegorical
15 painter of the mid-19th century;

16 (3) located in Greene County, New York, the
17 Thomas Cole House, also known as Thomas Cole’s
18 Cedar Grove, is listed on the National Register of
19 Historic Places and has been designated as a Na-
20 tional Historic Landmark;

21 (4) within a 15-mile radius of the Thomas Cole
22 House, an area that forms a key part of the rich
23 cultural and natural heritage of the Hudson River
24 Valley region, significant landscapes and scenes
25 painted by Thomas Cole and other Hudson River
26 artists, such as Frederic Church, survive intact;

1 (5) the State of New York has established the
2 Hudson River Valley Greenway to promote the pres-
3 ervation, public use, and enjoyment of the natural
4 and cultural resources of the Hudson River Valley
5 region; and

6 (6) establishment of the Thomas Cole National
7 Historic Site will provide—

8 (A) opportunities for the illustration and
9 interpretation of cultural themes of the heritage
10 of the United States; and

11 (B) unique opportunities for education,
12 public use, and enjoyment.

13 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

14 (1) to preserve and interpret the Thomas Cole
15 House and studio for the benefit, inspiration, and
16 education of the people of the United States;

17 (2) to help maintain the integrity of the setting
18 in the Hudson River Valley region that inspired ar-
19 tistic expression;

20 (3) to coordinate the interpretive, preservation,
21 and recreational efforts of Federal, State, and other
22 entities in the Hudson Valley region in order to en-
23 hance opportunities for education, public use, and
24 enjoyment; and

1 (4) to broaden understanding of the Hudson
2 River Valley region and its role in the history and
3 culture of the United States.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) HISTORIC SITE.—The term “historic site”
7 means the Thomas Cole National Historic Site es-
8 tablished by section 4.

9 (2) HUDSON RIVER ARTIST.—The term “Hud-
10 son River artist” means an artist associated with the
11 Hudson River school of landscape painting.

12 (3) PLAN.—The term “plan” means the general
13 management plan developed under section 6(d).

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (5) SOCIETY.—The term “Society” means the
17 Greene County Historical Society of Greene County,
18 New York, that owns the Thomas Cole House, stu-
19 dio, and other property comprising the historic site.

20 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HIS-**
21 **TORIC SITE.**

22 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established, as an af-
23 filiated area of the National Park System, the Thomas
24 Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York.

(b) DESCRIPTION.—The historic site shall consist of the Thomas Cole House and studio, comprising approximately 3.4 acres, located at 218 Spring Street in the village of Catskill, New York, as generally depicted on the boundary map numbered TCH/80002, and dated March 1992.

SEC. 5. RETENTION OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF HISTORIC SITE BY GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Under a cooperative agreement entered into under section 6(b)(1), the Greene County Historical Society of Greene County, New York, shall own, ~~manage~~, *manage*, *administer* and operate the historic site.

SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION OF HISTORIC SITE.

(a) APPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM LAWS.—Under a cooperative agreement entered into under subsection (b)(1), the historic site shall be administered ~~by the Society~~ in a manner consistent with this Act and all laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—

- (1) the Act entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and
- (2) the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings,

1 objects, and antiquities of national significance, and
 2 for other purposes”, approved August 21, 1935 (16
 3 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

4 (b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

5 (1) ASSISTANCE TO SOCIETY.—The Secretary
 6 may enter into cooperative agreements with the
 7 Society—

8 (A) to preserve the Thomas Cole House
 9 and other structures in the historic site; and

10 (B) to assist with education programs and
 11 research and interpretation of the Thomas Cole
 12 House and associated landscapes in the historic
 13 site.

14 (2) OTHER ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may
 15 enter into cooperative agreements with the State of
 16 New York, the Society, the Thomas Cole Founda-
 17 tion, and other public and private entities to—

18 (A) further the purposes of this Act; and

19 (B) develop, present, and fund art exhibits,
 20 resident artist programs, and other appropriate
 21 activities related to the preservation, interpreta-
 22 tion, and use of the historic site.

23 ~~(c) ARTIFACTS AND PROPERTY.—~~

24 ~~(1) PERSONAL PROPERTY GENERALLY.—The~~
 25 ~~Secretary may acquire personal property associated~~

1 with, and appropriate for, the interpretation of the
 2 historic site.

3 ~~(2) WORKS OF ART.—The Secretary may ac-~~
 4 ~~quire works of art associated with Thomas Cole and~~
 5 ~~other Hudson River artists for the purpose of dis-~~
 6 ~~play at the historic site.~~

7 *(c) ACQUISITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The Sec-*
 8 *retary may acquire personal property associated with, and*
 9 *appropriate for, the interpretation of the historic site.*

10 (d) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September
 12 30, 2000, under a cooperative agreement entered
 13 into under section 6(b)(1), the Society, with the as-
 14 sistance of the Secretary, shall develop a general
 15 management plan for the historic site.

16 (2) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall in-
 17 clude recommendations for regional wayside exhibits,
 18 to be carried out through cooperative agreements
 19 with the State of New York and other public and
 20 private entities.

21 (3) AUTHORITY.—The plan shall be prepared in
 22 accordance with section 12(b) of Public Law 91–383
 23 (16 U.S.C. 1a–7(b)).

1 (4) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—On the completion
2 of the plan, the Secretary shall provide a copy of the
3 plan to—

4 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural
5 Resources of the Senate; and

6 (B) the Committee on Resources of the
7 House of Representatives.

8 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
10 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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