



CONTACT: Charmaine Easie-Samuels
Hampton Brand Communications
901-374-6462
Charmaine.Easie-Samuels@hilton.com

Esther Rawlings
Cohn & Wolfe
310-967-2953
Esther.Rawlings@cohnwolfe.com

EMERALD CITY CELEBRATES ONE OF ITS LEGENDARY SETTLERS

Chief Seattle Honored by Hampton's Save-A-Landmark® Program with Restoration Effort of Old Man House Park

Memphis, Tenn., August 21 – Chief Seattle, the legendary namesake of Seattle, Wash., was celebrated by the city once again with the refurbishment of Old Man House Park, the site of the honored chief's original birthplace and home. The Suquamish Tribe, previously led by Chief Seattle in the mid-1800s, worked in conjunction with Hampton® Hotels' Save-A-Landmark® program (www.hamptonlandmarks.com) to completely restore and beautify the park grounds.

Dozens of volunteers from local Hampton Hotels spent an estimated 100 hours restoring the park, which included cleaning, pruning and landscaping the one-acre grounds, re-grading the switchback walking trail, repairing existing signage and parking stalls, and sanding and painting picnic tables and benches.

"The city of Seattle honored Chief Seattle by naming their home for him. He was not only a prominent figure among his people, he's an important part of American history," said Judy Christa-Cathey, vice president of brand marketing for Hampton Hotels. "We're excited to have the opportunity to work closely with the Suquamish Tribe on this restoration effort, ensuring that future visitors of Old Man House Park will continue to enjoy the brilliant landscape and learn more about the legacy that Chief Seattle has left behind."

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission returned the ownership of Old Man House Park in 2004 to the Suquamish Tribe. The return of the historic site, where Chief Seattle was born and later laid to rest, to tribal ownership was a cause for celebration, honoring Native American culture and the legacy of Chief Seattle.

Old Man House, a derivative of the Indian word "o-le-man," meaning strong man, once held an impressive longhouse, which was built by Chief Seattle's father and reportedly housed eight great Indian chiefs and their families. Although no photographs exist of the structure, it was estimated to be 500 to 1,000 feet long and up to 60 feet wide, probably the largest cedar longhouse in Puget Sound. It was ultimately destroyed by the acting U.S. Indian Agent around 1870, and was the last active winter house

utilized by the Suquamish Tribal community. A ten-foot replica of the historic longhouse now resides on the park grounds.

In 2008, Hampton Hotels Save-A-Landmark® program has been devoted to honoring “Landmark Legends,” such as Chief Seattle, who each have instilled positive change to America and will remind the world of the greater legacy each of these legends have left behind. The Old Man House Park was the fourth Save-A-Landmark® project of 2008, and the 39th in the program’s nine-year history. The program’s ultimate goal is to “save” a landmark in each of the 50 states by the end of 2010.

The 2008 Hampton Hotels Save-A-Landmark campaign is dedicated to preserving the historical sites of “Landmark Legends,” honoring those that have made a positive impact on American history. “Landmark Legends” was launched in early 2008 with the restoration of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., honoring the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s untimely passing. The program has also celebrated historic Americans such as pioneer author Laura Ingalls Wilder and aviator Amelia Earhart, and will be remembering showman PT Barnum with the refurbishment of the [Barnum Museum](#) as well as Edgar Poe and the [Poe Museum](#) this fall.

The 2008 landmark locations were generated from a nationwide survey, conducted by Hampton Hotels, to celebrate the accomplishments of those Americans who have inspired change, overcome adversity and made a difference. Those looking to discover other locations devoted to historic individuals – or to possibly nominate their own “Landmark Legend” – can visit the Save-A-Landmark site at www.hamptonlandmarks.com and click on “submit a landmark” to enter a nomination for a legendary landmark or mail recommendations to: c/o Save-A-Landmark to 8730 Sunset Blvd, 5th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Below is just a sample of “heroic” landmarks already included in the program’s online database.

- **Jesse Owens Memorial Park**, Danville, Ala.: This park honors Olympic great [Jesse Owens](#), an Oakville native who won four gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, the first American and the second athlete in history to win four gold medals.
- **Jackie Robinson Birthplace**, Cairo, Ga.: Born here on January 31, 1919 to sharecroppers and enslaved grandparents on what was once a plantation, [Jackie Robinson](#) – the first African-American major league baseball player – was just two years old when his mother packed up Jackie and his four siblings, hopped on a train and headed to California.
- **Hellen Keller Birthplace**, Tuscumbia, Ala.: This small birthplace cottage was the site of the remarkable story of [Helen Keller](#), the woman who was struck blind and deaf after becoming ill around the age of two. The home, called Ivy Green, eventually became the living quarters for Helen and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, whose huge teaching strides with Helen began by simply spelling out the word "water" in Helen’s hand as she pumped water over it.

- **Celia Cruz and Freedom Tower**, Miami, Fla.: The Cuban songstress [Celia Cruz](#), “the Queen of Salsa,” performed at Freedom Tower during a 2001 fundraiser to turn the site into a museum, and was later brought to the tower after her death so tens of thousands of mourners could pay their last respects to the legendary singer. Known as the Ellis Island of the Cuban community, Freedom Tower is where immigration officials processed more than 500,000 Cubans who fled the country in the 1960s.

Hampton’s Save-A-Landmark program is continuing its ninth year preserving historical, fun and cultural landmarks, from the [Carousel Gardens](#) in New Orleans, La. to the historical [National Monument to the Forefathers](#) in Plymouth, Mass. During this time, the program has helped research landmarks in need, promoted landmark sites and their importance, facilitated thousands of volunteer hours, donated several tons of supplies and worked with matching grants — all at an investment of more than \$2.5 million. Uniting its hotels together in the communities they serve, Hampton employee-volunteers work hand-in-hand on the landmarks while Hampton provides the financial support to refurbish selected sites.

About Hampton Hotels

Hampton, which includes Hampton Inn, Hampton by Hilton and Hampton Inn & Suites hotels, is a mid-priced leader in the lodging segment. Hampton is part of Hilton Hotels Corporation, a leading global hospitality company, with more than 3,000 hotels and 500,000 rooms in 74 countries and territories, with more than 135,000 team members worldwide. The company owns, manages or franchises some of the best known and highly regarded hotel brands including Hilton[®], Conrad[®] Hotels & Resorts, Doubletree[®], Embassy Suites Hotels[®], Hampton Inn[®], Hampton Inn & Suites[®], Hilton Garden Inn[®], Hilton Grand Vacations[™], Homewood Suites by Hilton[®] and The Waldorf=Astoria Collection[™].

Hilton Hotels Corporation is an Official Sponsor of the U.S. Olympic Team, which will extend through the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Vancouver, the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London, the 2010/2012 U.S. Paralympic Team and the 2011 U.S. Pan American Team.

The Hilton Family of Hotels adheres to founder Conrad Hilton’s philosophy that, “It has been, and continues to be, our responsibility to fill the earth with the light and warmth of hospitality.” The company put a name to its unique brand of service that has made it the best known and most highly regarded hotel company: **be hospitable®**. The philosophy is shared by all brands in the Hilton Family of Hotels, and is the inspiration for its overarching message of kindness and generosity.

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