

DODD, LIEBERMAN, LARSON APPLAUD COLTSVILLE HISTORIC LANDMARK DECISION

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Washington, DC -- Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne, announced today that Hartford's Coltsville has been officially named a National Historic Landmark. The Secretary's sign off confirms the unanimous decision made by the National Park Service Advisory Board in July and a similarly unanimous vote by the Landmark Subcommittee late last year. Today's announcement also conveys some tax and rehabilitation benefits to the site and puts Coltsville one step closer to achieving all of the benefits of National Park Status.

“The Colt

Factory was a vital component of Connecticut's industrial success and accordingly, it holds a prominent place in the history of our state and our nation," said Senator Chris Dodd (CT-D). "I applaud Secretary Kempthorne's recognition of Coltsville's historical significance. I will continue to work towards the goal of obtaining National Park Status for the Colt factory and the surrounding area so that it will be preserved for future generations to learn from and enjoy."

A spokeswoman for Senator Joe Lieberman (CT-ID), Erika Masonhall, said "Senator Lieberman welcomes this decision because it recognizes Coltsville for the important role that this site played in making Hartford a leading industrial area. The Colt family's spirit has helped make this important designation a reality."

Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01), Vice Chair of the Democratic Caucus, said, "The Colt Factory and the surrounding area are an important piece of U.S History — one that should be honored and preserved for our local benefit and our national historical record. I am thrilled with Secretary Kempthorne's decision. I look forward to continuing to work with members of our community to secure the National Park Status that the area deserves."

The Colt Factory and the surrounding historic district is a landmark in Hartford and a site of great national importance. It was the seed of the Industrial Revolution in this country. The manufacturing innovations that were achieved at Colt spawned some of the most successful businesses in the nation including Pratt and Whitney and the Ford Motor Company. Under the guidance of Sam and Elizabeth Colt, Colt Firearms established the United States as a world leader in business and was the first American company to go abroad.

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