Commissioning Ceremonies
of the
Rhode Island Heritage Commission

The State House
Providence, Rhode Island

September 18, 1977
RHODE ISLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION
PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies: Representative Edward P. Manning
Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives

Cultural Presentations
Narragansett Indian Dancing and Singing
Holy Rosary Folklore Group
Kells Irish Stepdancers
Ukrainian Dance Group of Rhode Island
Congdon Street Baptist Church Gospel Chorus
Rhode Island Highlanders Pipe Band

Posting of the Colors: Combined Unit
Artillery Company of Newport
Kentish Guards, R.I.M.
Bristol Train of Artillery
Pawtuxet Rangers, R.I.M.
Gloucester Light Infantry

National Anthem: Pawtuxet Rangers Fife & Drum Corps

Invocation: Reverend Stephen Kyriacou,
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Providence

Governor's Address and
Executive Order: J. Joseph Garrahy, Governor,
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Swearing-In Ceremony: J. Joseph Garrahy, Governor,
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Chairman's Address: Senator Robert J. McKenna

Launching Ceremonies
J. Joseph Garrahy, Governor
Senator Robert J. McKenna, Chairman
assisted by the Gun Crews of the Artillery Company of Newport and the Pawtuxet Rangers, R.I.M.

Musical Selections by the
Lafayette Band - North Kingstown
Band Director - Joseph Pelosi
Band President - Ted Johnson

Benediction: Rabbi Dr. Theodore Lewis
Touro Synagogue-Congregation Jeshuat Israel
Newport, Rhode Island

– Collation –
HERITAGE COMMISSION

Senator Robert J. McKenna
Chairman

Robert K. Pirraglia
Vice-Chairman

Victoria Almeida
Dr. Fred Alofsin
Piotr Baryluk
Evan A. Bogosian
Gregory Bouley
Roger Bedard
Rene Bellevence
Mary M. Brennan
Mary Brown
Chester E. Browning
A. Leo Caise
William A. Castro
Armand B. Chartier
Joseph Chrostowski
Dr. Joel A. Cohen
Jean K. Coughlin
Rachel Cunha
Gregory Demetrakas
Judge Anthony Dennis
David DePetillo
Charles G. Devaney
Richard A. Dow
Leslie Elston
Joseph M. Fernandes
Reverend Dragan Filipovic
Michael Gammino
Lombard Gasbarro
Calvin Gaudet
Colonel Gilbert Hempel
Gertrude Hochberg
Barbara Jencks
Reverend Anthony Ivuc
Harry Kizirian
Robert Kitzner
Richard Jezdejek
Robert Kempenaar
Albert T. Klyberg
Robert Laflay

Maureen Lapin
John P. Lauth
Leonor Leonardo
Arthur Lurgio
Robert B. Lynch
Bernard F. Magiera
Florence Markoff
Maria Mattos
Edna O'N. Mattson
Rosalind McDonald
Sarah McKee
Wanda Moskwa
Rubina V. Narigny
Sister Ann Nelson
William J. O'Brien
John M. O'Hare
Lorraine Page
Roy I. L. Pearson
Gene Perrotti
Webster M. Pidgeon
Antone Ramos
Reginald Redford
Thurman Reynolds
Leslie Robertson
Louis B. Rubinstein
Ralph R. aRusso
Raymond L. Sickinger
Representative Matthew Smith
Rowena Stewart
Lawrence F. Sykes
Victor Tabor
Jose A. Torres
Joseph Turco
Senator Albert P. Vaslet
Antonio Vicente
Reverend Frederick Vslota
Sara Weaver
Dimitry Yasinczuk

STAFF

Ronald G. Tracey, Executive Director
Helen S. Hodde, Executive Secretary
Gladys S. Wyatt, Staff Coordinator
Edna O'N. Mattson, Public Relations Officer
Manuel B. Thetonia, Field Director
William Janowski, Field Assistant
William Di Raimo, Field Assistant
Judith G. McGovern, Special Projects Coordinator
Carol Zolobowski, Special Projects Assistant
EXECUTIVE ORDER
NO. 10
JULY 1, 1977
RHODE ISLAND HERITAGE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The United States of America is a nation of immigrants;
WHEREAS, In recognition of the immense ethnic migration to the State of Rhode Island and the cultural diversity represented by the citizens of the State;
WHEREAS, In recognition of the need to cultivate and preserve the pride of ethnic heritage of the citizens of the State; and
WHEREAS, In recognition of the need to commemorate and develop this aspect of American life;
NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, it is ordered as follows:

1. There is hereby established the Rhode Island Heritage Commission which shall consist of seventy-seven (77) members who have knowledge in the areas of Rhode Island history and culture and who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor without compensation.

   In the selection of members, the Governor shall appoint one (1) member from each of the State's largest ethnic groups as follows: Armenian, Arab, Black, British, Cape Verdean, French, Greek, German, Irish, Italian, Jewish, Latin American, Lithuanian, Native American, Polish, Portuguese, Swedish, and Ukrainian.

   The chairman of the Commission shall be designated by the Governor, and a vice-chairman and secretary shall be elected by the membership which shall also promulgate by-laws to regulate the operations of the Commission.

2. The purpose of the Rhode Island Heritage Commission shall be to commemorate the history and culture of the State; to study the economic, social, political, religious and cultural development of Rhode Island; to preserve the traditions of each ethnic group; and to foster brotherhood and understanding among our citizens.

   The purposes of the commission shall include but not be limited to:
   a) sponsoring and/or coordinating heritage festivals;
   b) conducting and/or sponsoring heritage seminars, conferences, and symposiums;
   c) publishing scholarly and popular works relating to the social, political, and cultural development of the State;
   d) coordinating programs with other private or public groups or agencies which will meet the cultural needs of Rhode Island's citizens;
   e) observing important events in the State's history with suitable celebrations; and
   f) funding projects and programs of public or private groups or agencies which relate to the history and culture of Rhode Island.

3. In carrying out the purposes of this Executive Order, the Commission shall continue to pursue all activities and functions of the Commission to Plan the Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the State's Independence on May 4, 1976.

4. All departments and agencies of the State shall furnish such facilities, advice and information to the Commission as is deemed necessary or desirable by the Commission to facilitate the purposes of this order.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]
J. Joseph Garrahy
GOVERNOR