

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

CAPITOL SQUARE PRESERVATION COUNCIL

RICHMOND

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Capitol Square Preservation Council Names Kathleen S. Kilpatrick as New Executive Director

- *Kilpatrick has 35+ years of experience in historic/cultural resource policy administration --*
- *CSPC focuses on stewardship of Thomas Jefferson's State Capitol & Capitol Square --*
- *VA's State Historic Preservation Officer for 13 years assumes CSPC position Dec. 1 --*

RICHMOND, VA – Following an extensive search, [Virginia's Capitol Square Preservation Council](#) (CSPC) today announced the appointment of Kathleen S. Kilpatrick – a nationally recognized and widely respected leader in cultural resource policy, from public history and educational programming to preservation management and development of historic sites – as its new Executive Director, beginning December 1, 2013. Ms. Kilpatrick brings over 35 years of professional experience in historic and cultural resource policy development and administration to the CSPC position, having been Director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer through four governors over the past 13 years. The CPSC is a legislative branch agency charged with planning and reviewing projects that affect the Virginia State Capitol designed by Thomas Jefferson, its historic artifacts, and other historic buildings on or adjacent to Capitol Square as well as advising on landscape, architectural, and archaeological features at the seat of state government in Richmond.

“Like all members of the Council, I am impressed by Kathleen Kilpatrick’s unparalleled combination of experience and knowledge, leadership skills and passionate advocacy for historic and cultural preservation,” said **Scott M. Spence**, CSPC Chairman. “Her cooperative style of managing and pragmatic approach to problem solving are tremendous assets that will be vital to helping us advance the Council’s mission of protecting, preserving and sharing Capitol Square.”

“I am excited to focus on stewardship of Jefferson’s Capitol, a work of international architectural and historical significance,” said **Ms. Kilpatrick**. “The grounds and sculptural works form an important cultural landscape, and the surrounding buildings are a wonderful and varied assemblage demonstrating that good architecture of any style and era stands the test of time. Taken together, Capitol Square is a wonderful showcase and asset for Virginia, and looking beyond the first-order obligation of caring for it, we need to share that asset in dynamic ways with citizens, travelers, educators and students.”

“I congratulate Kathleen Kilpatrick on her appointment as Executive Director of the Capitol Square Preservation Council,” said **Governor Bob McDonnell**. “Kathleen is incredibly talented and dedicated to our Commonwealth and the remarkable history we share as Virginians. During our administration, she has ably served as Director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer, and has been someone we always could count on for sound advice and wise counsel. I know Kathleen will keep telling the story of Virginia in her new leadership position, and our Commonwealth will continue to be better for her public service.”

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Ms. Kilpatrick has extensive experience at the state and federal levels and a broad background in natural and cultural resource policy. Most recently, she has been Director of the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) and State Historic Preservation Officer for the Commonwealth for almost 13 years. Under her very effective leadership, Virginia's Department of Historic Resources has moved to the forefront of land and landmark conservation as well as community revitalization through the renewal and economic opportunity benefits that are created with the adaptive reuse of historic buildings in the urban core. Ms. Kilpatrick joined DHR as deputy director five years prior to her appointment to head the executive branch agency in February 2001. Her prior state service also included being a Special Assistant for Policy and Legislation to the Secretary of Natural Resources with responsibilities for issues related to historic resources, game and inland fisheries, marine resources, state parks, and outdoor recreation.

Ms. Kilpatrick's federal service includes five years with the U.S. Department of Interior as Senior Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget from 1988-1993. In 1984, she was appointed by the President and confirmed by the U. S. Senate to a six-year term on the National Council on the Humanities.

The CSPC is not unique in wanting her involvement and guidance in important activities. Ms. Kilpatrick is a director, trustee or advisor to many non-profit organizations and government efforts at the state- and nationwide levels. Of particular relevance for her new position as CSPC Executive Director, Ms. Kilpatrick is a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Advisory Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites, which is dedicated to the recognition and conservation of the world's cultural monuments and natural sites.

"Kathleen's vast knowledge of historic resources, along with her extensive understanding of how state government really works, makes her an absolutely perfect fit for the CSPC position," said **Susan Clarke Schaar**, Clerk of the Senate of Virginia.

"Kathleen's many professional accomplishments, coupled with her creativity and proven ability to communicate well and work collaboratively with people of divergent views, made her selection an obvious one," said **G. Paul Nardo**, Clerk of the Virginia House of Delegates. "She will be a welcome ally for those of us charged with safeguarding and sharing Mr. Jefferson's 'Temple on the Hill.'"

A graduate of Sweet Briar College, Ms. Kilpatrick is a native Virginian who resides on a family farm in Goochland County. She has one son and is an avid hunter and horseback rider.

Created by the Virginia General Assembly in 1999, the Capitol Square Preservation Council consists of 13 capable individuals with expertise in art, architecture, landscape architecture, history, preservation, and administration. In addition to Chairman Spence and Clerks Schaar and Nardo, the current CSPC members are: Edward J. Gillikin, Jr., Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects; David B. Bradley, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; Sally Guy Brown, Garden Club of Virginia; Deborah Murdock, Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities; Andrew W. Clark (CSPC Vice Chair), Historic Richmond Foundation; William M. S. Rasmussen, Virginia Historical Society; Terry Clements, Virginia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects; Cortland Putbrey, Citizen-at-Large; Lisa M. Hicks-Thomas, Virginia Secretary of Administration; and presently vacant, Citizens' Advisory Council on Furnishing and Interpreting the Executive Mansion.

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