



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATTN: News Directors, Producers and Editors

### **Two Key Organizations Join Forces to Ensure Preservation of Historic Communities and the Natural Environment** *Island Press and the Trust for Architectural Easements® Create Change*

*Washington, DC* (May 2008) - A sustainable built environment is critical to protecting the natural environment. Island Press, the leading nonprofit environmental publisher and the Trust for Architectural Easements®, one of the nation's largest preservation easement holding organization, are working together to promote the revitalization of historical communities as a necessary component to long term environmental sustainability.

Trust for Architectural Easements president, Steven L. McClain, notes that "the process of recycling and rehabilitating existing buildings is almost always more environmentally efficient than tearing down and building new. The positive attributes of rehabilitating older buildings is increased when one considers their protection results in not only preserving historic buildings, but also the continued use of the communities they anchor." The continued use of valuable infrastructure: sidewalks, streets, water and sewers, etc. reduces pressure to create new development and consume more of the nation's natural resources.

These two organizations together will:

- Cross-promote the concept of historic preservation as a positive influence in protecting the natural environment; and
- Encourage and promote the continued adaptive reuse of historic structures using the best available technology to achieve environmental goals.

"This new partnership will lead to increased awareness of the positive impact that the protection of historic neighborhoods can have on achieving a sustainable environment.," said Charles S. Savitt, president of Island Press.

Island Press was established in 1984 to stimulate, shape, and communicate the ideas that are essential for solving environmental problems. Publishing approximately 40 books and other information tools a year, we use a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed approach that brings practical solutions to complex challenges like climate change, the depletion of our oceans, sustainable energy and agriculture, and species extinction. A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Island Press publishes for scientists, policy makers, environmental practitioners, students, journalists, and the general public. Island Press - Solutions that inspire change.

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