

UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2002:078

VANN HOUSE AND PLANTATION SITE ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and

WHEREAS, the US Trail of Tears Commission was created specifically to commemorate the forced Removal of the Cherokees from the eastern United States, and to preserve and improve sites along the route that is associated with this removal; and

WHEREAS, the 1,000-acre plantation of Cherokee Chief James Clement Vann, near present-day Chattsworth, GA, constitutes an important cultural resource for the Cherokee Nation, the State of Georgia, and the United States, however, only the house, on a small lot, currently is in public ownership; and

WHEREAS, the centerpiece of this plantation, the Vann House, is owned and operated as an historic site by the State of Georgia and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, a 100-acre tract adjacent to the house property, the original site of plantation outbuildings, is threatened by development which will, in turn, diminish the integrity of the entire site; and

WHEREAS, the Trust for Public Lands, together with the Trail of Tears Association, has committed to the purchase of the 100-acre tract; and

WHEREAS, the USET Culture and Heritage Committee recognizes the value of this property, even though other Removal Tribes – the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, and Seminole Tribes have been excluded from the Trail of Tears National Trail; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors supports the Trust for Public Lands and the Trail of Tears Association in their efforts to acquire funding for the acquisition of this property.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.

Keller George, President

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly Wright, Secretary

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.