

FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1966 -- 12:15 p.m.

REMARKS BY MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON  
LUNCHEON FOR MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE  
FOR A MORE BEAUTIFUL CAPITAL AND  
BEAUTIFICATION DONORS

No one more than you gathered here today are truly the harbingers of this Washington Springtime of 1966!

Already you have shown your interest in and generosity to this Capital City. Knowing so much of your handiwork would begin to bloom this spring, Mary and I wanted you to see the city as it awoke from the winter snows.

We will be driving around after lunch to see some of the golden-fringed forsythia, the red and pink tulips, and yellow daffodils bursting forth. And, ringing Hains Point, will be the old and the new cherry trees which will one day make that drive a latticework of pink and white blossoms.

Thomas Jefferson once wrote: "A community should be planned with an eye to the effect on the human spirit."

Wherever we live, I believe all of us have felt a new surge of interest in doing just that -- making our cities not only functional, but beautiful.

But somehow an eyesore in this great capital is all the more conspicuous because it is -- after all -- every American's hometown. It is, after all, the capital of the free world.

It was just a year ago that we set out to add our marks of beauty to this great city. We are deeply grateful to all who have helped. And may I add, too, that during the 30 years in public life many issues -- large and small -- have crossed my dining room table. None, so much as this tremendous desire of Americans to make their land more beautiful, has ever brought forth so much response, so many willing hands. Thank you for being part of this joyous endeavor.