

OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF IOWA

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FOR RELEASE	May 1, 2008	515/281-5834

Auditor of State David A. Vaudt today released an audit report on America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), in Waterloo, Iowa for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

Silos and Smokestacks was organized in 1996 as a non-profit corporation for charitable and educational purposes. The mission of Silos and Smokestacks is to preserve and tell the story of American agriculture and its global significance through partnerships and activities that celebrate the land, people and communities of the area.

Vaudt reported Silos and Smokestacks' public support and revenues totaled \$798,013 for the year ended December 31, 2007, a 3% decrease from 2006. Public support and revenue consisted primarily of a \$752,360 federal grant, provided through the National Park Service, for conserving, interpreting and developing the historical, cultural, natural and recreational resources related to the industrial and cultural heritage of Northeast Iowa. Expenses totaled \$789,721 for the year ended December 31, 2007, a 5.6% decrease from 2006, and included \$310,844 in project expenses and \$392,620 in personnel expenses. Federal grant revenues decreased \$18,273 from fiscal year 2006 to 2007, primarily due to a decrease in project expenses.

A copy of the audit report is available for review in the office of the Executive Director of Silos and Smokestacks, in the Office of Auditor of State and on the Auditor of State's web site at http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/reports.htm.

AMERICA'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE, INC. D/B/A SILOS AND SMOKESTACKS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006

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Board of Trustees

<u>Name</u> <u>Title</u>

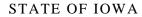
Fred Kirschenmann Chairman Soo Greiman Vice Chair Geoffrey Grimes Treasurer Tom Husnik Secretary Ron Birkenholz Member Jerry Bolton Member Alice Burke Member Kristopher Einsweiler Member Troy Louwagie Member Member Barbara Lykins Bill Northey Member Chad Steinkamp Member

Sandy Scholl Partnership Panel Chair

Donald Short Executive Director



OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE





David A. Vaudt, CPA Auditor of State

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<u>Independent Auditor's Report</u>

To the Board of Trustees of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements, listed as exhibits in the table of contents of this report, of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of Silos and Smokestacks' management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Silos and Smokestacks as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated April 4, 2008 on our consideration of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information included in Schedules 1 and 2, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 <u>Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations,</u> is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the aforementioned financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA Auditor of State

WARREN G. ÆNKINS, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor of State





Statements of Net Assets

December 31, 2007 and 2006

	 2007	2006
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 340,824	276,124
Grants receivable	-	50,405
Prepaid expenses	2,446	2,258
Equipment, less accumulated depreciation		
of \$34,876 and \$30,364	10,071	15,057
Total assets	\$ 353,341	343,844
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 5,431	771
Payroll tax payable	1,335	6,780
Compensated absences	9,159	7,451
Deferred revenue	 61,366	61,084
Total liabilities	 77,291	76,086
Net assets - unrestricted	 276,050	267,758
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 353,341	343,844

See notes to financial statements.

Statements of Activities

Years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007	2006
Public support and revenues:		
Public support:		
Contributions	\$ 17,204	15,184
Federal support	 752,360	770,633
	769,564	785,817
Revenues:		
Conference and workshop income	3,558	12,238
Tour income	22,787	24,762
Interest income	 2,104	805
	 28,449	37,805
Total public support and revenues	 798,013	823,622
Expenses:		
Project	310,844	378,863
Personnel	392,620	381,081
Occupancy	25,969	24,213
Administration	60,288	52,852
Total expenses	789,721	837,009
Change in net assets	8,292	(13,387)
Net assets beginning of year	 267,758	281,145
Net assets end of year	\$ 276,050	267,758

See notes to financial statements.

Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007	2006
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from federal sources	\$ 814,524	976,737
Contributions received	32,072	72,096
Interest received	2,104	805
Cash paid for goods and services and to employees	 (781,696)	(843,773)
Net cash provided by operating activities	 67,004	205,865
Cash flows from capital activities:		
Acquisition of equipment	 (2,304)	(5,935)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	64,700	199,930
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of year	 276,124	76,194
Cash and cash equivalents end of the year	\$ 340,824	276,124
Reconcilation of change in net assets to net cash		
provided by operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 8,292	(13,387)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash		
provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	7,290	8,702
Decrease in grants receivable	50,405	206,104
Decrease in accounts receivable	-	5,360
(Increase) in prepaid expenses	(188)	(1,582)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	4,660	(15,744)
Increase (decrease) in payroll tax payable	(5,445)	524
Increase in compensated absences	1,708	1,336
Increase in deferred revenue	 282	14,552
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 67,004	205,865

See notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2007 and 2006

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), was organized in 1996 as a non-profit corporation for charitable and educational purposes. It was created to support and facilitate the development of regional heritage tourism and to share the story of American agriculture. Silos and Smokestacks encompasses a 37 county region in northeast Iowa and is federally designated as a National Heritage Area and operates as an affiliate of the National Park Service. The primary source of public support is a grant received from the National Park Service.

Silos and Smokestacks is exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a similar section of the Iowa income tax law, which provides tax exemption for corporations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious or educational purposes.

B. Fund Accounting

Silos and Smokestacks accounts for all resources over which it has discretionary control to use in carrying out the operations of the organization in accordance with the limitations of its charter and bylaws.

C. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred.

Purchases of equipment providing future benefits are capitalized and depreciated.

D. Basis of Presentation

Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of Silos and Smokestacks and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

<u>Unrestricted net assets</u> – Net assets not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Revenues are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Gains and losses on investments and other assets or liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulations or by law.

E. Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets

<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u> – Silos and Smokestacks considers savings accounts and all other highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

<u>Equipment</u> – Purchased equipment is stated at cost. Donated fixed assets are valued at the estimated fair value on the date donated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of 3 to 7 years. No interest costs were capitalized since there were no qualifying assets.

<u>Compensated Absences</u> – Employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation benefits payable. Amounts representing the cost of compensated absences are recorded as liabilities and have been computed based on rates of pay in effect at December 31, 2007 and 2006.

(2) Equipment

A summary of equipment is as follows:

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37	30,3

(3) Employee Benefit Plan

Silos and Smokestacks offers a SIMPLE IRA plan. Under the plan, an employee can defer to their SIMPLE IRA up to \$10,000 per year for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. In addition, employees over 50 years of age can defer an additional \$2,500 and \$2,000 per year for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively, to their SIMPLE IRA. Investments grow tax-deferred, along with employer contributions. Silos and Smokestacks provides a dollar for dollar match for each participating employee's deferral, up to 3% of the employee's compensation. Plan expenses incurred by Silos and Smokestacks during the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 were \$8,648 and \$8,489, respectively.

(4) Risk Management

Silos and Smokestacks is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft; damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims for these risks have not exceeded the commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

(5) Matching Grant Activity

Silos and Smokestacks entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) to receive up to a total of \$10 million in grant funds during the period June 2000 through September 2010. The agreement requires a dollar for dollar match of Federal funds with non-Federal funds.

In a prior year, Silos and Smokestacks contributed \$250,000 to the Iowa Equestrian Center at Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The NPS has allowed Silos and Smokestacks to use the total non-Federal project cost of Phase II of the Iowa Equestrian Center of \$2.8 million as match. As of December 31, 2007, Silos and Smokestacks has used \$2,717,722 of the Phase II project costs as match.

During the year, Silos and Smokestacks contributed \$10,000 to the Heartland Acres Agribition Center, Independence, Iowa. The NPS has allowed Silos and Smokestacks to use the total non-Federal project cost of \$3,182,631 as a match. As of December 31, 2007, Silos and Smokestacks had not used any of the project costs as a match.





Statements of Public Support and Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

Years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

		2007	2006
Public support and revenues:			
Public support:			
Contributions	\$	17,204	15,184
Federal support:	·	,	-, -
National Park Service grant		752,360	770,633
		769,564	785,817
Revenues:		705,001	700,017
Conference and workshop income		3,558	12,238
Tour income		22,787	24,762
Interest income		2,104	805
	-	28,449	37,805
Total public support and revenues		798,013	823,622
Expenses:			
Project:			
Consultants		53,235	66,645
Grant and loan projects		85,849	83,048
Dues, memberships and subscriptions		3,410	5,130
Public awareness and promotion		16,392	42,335
Printing and postage		56,142	48,538
Website maintenance		1,467	8,514
Education and promotion projects		10,632	6,488
World Food Prize Partnership		700	11,233
Iowa's Five Secretaries of Agriculture project		5,000	3,649
Tenth Anniversary Celebration		-	8,207
Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area Conference		7,503	14,537
International Heritage Development Conference		500	-
Farm tours		21,928	22,829
Meeting and registration expense		11,616	11,165
Travel, mileage and lodging		27,467	42,518
Other		9,003	4,027
		310,844	378,863
Personnel:			
Salaries		316,445	304,149
Payroll tax		26,528	25,696
Insurance		39,369	36,332
Employee benefits		9,008	13,489
Other		1,270	1,415
		392,620	381,081

Statements of Public Support and Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

Years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

	2007	2006
Expenses (continued):		
Occupancy:		
Rent	19,014	17,266
Telephone	5,811	5,867
Other	1,144	1,080
	25,969	24,213
Administration:		
Accounting	7,280	6,820
Consultants	5,735	1,520
Legal services	625	-
Depreciation	7,290	8,702
Insurance	4,337	4,478
Dues, memberships and subscriptions	7,908	6,419
Materials and supplies	6,416	5,528
Internet access	1,106	1,116
Printing and copies	1,487	1,233
Postage and shipping	1,524	1,490
Advertising and promotion	226	1,909
Training and education	1,800	1,788
Repair and maintenance	4,937	6,263
Meetings and registrations	1,559	1,974
Travel, mileage and lodging	7,619	3,167
Other	439	445
	60,288	52,852
Total expenses	789,721	837,009
Change in net assets	8,292	(13,387)
Net assets beginning of year	267,758	281,145
Net assets end of year	\$ 276,050	267,758

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Year ended December 31, 2007

	Agency or				
	CFDA	Pass-through	P	rogram	
Grantor/Program	Number	Number Number E		enditures	
Direct:					
U.S. Department of the Interior:					
National Park Service:					
Unknown Title	15.000	CA6069A0031	\$	752,360	

Basis of Presentation – The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The information on this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133, <u>Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations</u>. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

See accompanying independent auditor's report.



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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control
over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
Government Auditing Standards

To the Board of Trustees of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area:

We have audited the financial statements of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated April 4, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of the control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects Silos and Smokestacks' ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood a misstatement of Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Silos and Smokestacks' internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by Silos and Smokestacks' internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials and employees of Silos and Smokestacks and other parties to whom Silos and Smokestacks may report, including federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of Silos and Smokestacks during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.

DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA Auditor of State

WARREN G. ÆNKINS, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor of State

April 4, 2008

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Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable
to Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance
in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133

To the Board of Trustees of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area:

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a, Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), with the types of compliance requirements described in U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2007. Silos and Smokestacks' major federal program is identified in Part I of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of Silos and Smokestacks' management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Silos and Smokestacks' compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether non-compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Silos and Smokestacks' compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on Silos and Smokestacks' compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, Silos and Smokestacks complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of Silos and Smokestacks is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials and employees of Silos and Smokestacks and other parties to whom Silos and Smokestacks may report, including federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA Auditor of State

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WARREN G. ÆNKINS, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor of State

April 4, 2008

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

December 31, 2007

Part I: Summary of the Independent Auditor's Results:

- (a) An unqualified opinion was issued on the financial statements.
- (b) No material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting were disclosed by the audit of the financial statements.
- (c) The audit did not disclose any non-compliance which is material to the financial statements.
- (d) No material weaknesses in internal control over the major program were noted.
- (e) An unqualified opinion was issued on compliance with requirements applicable to the major program.
- (f) The audit did not disclose any audit findings required to be reported in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Section .510(a).
- (g) Silos and Smokestacks' major program is CFDA #15.000 Unknown Title.
- (h) The dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs was \$300,000.
- (i) Silos and Smokestacks qualified as a low-risk auditee.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs December 31, 2007

Part II: Findings Related to the Financial Statements:

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES:

No matters were noted.

INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

No matters were noted.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs December 31, 2007

Part III: Findings and Questioned Costs For Federal Awards:

INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

No matters were noted.

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES:

No material weaknesses in internal control over the major program were noted.

Staff

This audit was performed by:

Kay F. Dunn, CPA, Manager Billie Jo Heth, Senior Auditor Aaron P. Wagner, Staff Auditor

> Andrew E. Nielsen, CPA Deputy Auditor of State