

Greatness comes in simple trappings," Richard Nixon declared in his first inaugural address. Soon thereafter he owned the most valuable single home in California's wealthy Orange County and a pretty fancy spread in Key Biscayne, Florida, buying both with virtually no cash of his own.

These transactions make his earlier property transactions look like the deals kids make pitching pennies.

If the ~~truth~~ full cost will never be known - and in taxpayer born transportation cost as he spent much of his time junketing and cause countless government employees to flutter around with, to and after him there must be a wasted fortune -the last of a series of ever-changing always-to-be-contradicted accountings is that into his properties and those of his beneficiary/friends an admitted total of \$ , , , . in public funds was ~~pour~~ poured.

Not counting the White House, which is his free and clear and where he also spent atx money as though he had to in order to live.

Not that he doesn't seem to prefer to live almost anywhere else.

His touches in the White House are marked by alterations like covering over the swimming pool White House doctors had considered valuable to the health of presidents. Commenting on this, former chief White House usher West wrote in his memoirs, Upstairs at the White House,