

WXPost  
**Nixon Data**  
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**Promised to**  
**Southern Cal**

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Former President Nixon will turn over White House tape recordings and papers accumulated throughout his public life to the University of Southern California, it was announced yesterday.

The announcement of an agreement between the school, one of the largest private universities in the West, and Nixon, who resigned the presidency Aug. 9, 1974, was made by USC in Los Angeles.

It was worked out in six weeks of negotiations between the USC board of trustees, university President John R. Hubbard, and the Nixons. The talks were concluded late Saturday at the Palm Springs, Calif., estate of Walter A. Annenberg, former U.S. ambassador to Britain and a friend of the Nixons. 19 APR

However, the turnover cannot take effect until the courts dispose of lawsuits involving an act of Congress last December placing possession of Nixon's presidential papers with the General Services Administration. GSA has custody of the bulk of Nixon's presidential and pre-presidential papers (those he accumulated as a member of the House, as a senator and as Vice President).

"GSA would not move these things until the legal cases are resolved," Steven Garfinkel, a GSA attorney, said yesterday.

Attorneys for Nixon, who are suing GSA to test the constitutionality of the December statute, and lawyers for GSA agree that the Supreme Court will have to decide the question of who owns the presidential papers.

Presidents from Hoover to Johnson have deeded or willed their papers to the National

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Archives, a function of GSA, the government's house-keeping agency.

Last March GSA told Congress that Nixon's papers and 880 tapes occupy 35,000 cubic feet of space and GSA produced a plan to process and provide access to them by 1977.

Dr. James B. Rhoads, director of the National Archives, said yesterday, "We anticipate, assuming that the 1974 act is not invalidated, we will be pulling them [Nixon papers] together and housing them in our records center in Suitland, Md."

The USC announcement said the university plans to raise funds through a public

solicitation to build the Richard Nixon Presidential Library on its Los Angeles campus. Leonard Wines, associate vice president for university affairs, said he expected solicitation would begin "before very long" but the cost of library construction has not been estimated.

Nixon, in a statement released by USC, said, "It has been my desire for many years to make available for historical research and analysis the papers and other materials I have accumulated during my years in public service . . ."

He said creation of the library "is in keeping with my view, shared by other recent former Presidents, that the materials of the constitutional officeholder . . . are imbued

with a public trust and should be preserved and made publicly available under terms consistent with the protection of the rights of others and with appropriate safeguards where materials regarding U.S. foreign policy and national security are concerned."

Nixon said if the 1974 act is held unconstitutional, reposing possession with him, he would ask GSA to amend a Sept. 7, 1974, agreement he made with GSA so that his White House tape recordings "will be available in the presidential library for public review under arrangements similar to those existing in other presidential libraries."

The agreement, now in abeyance under court order, provided for destruction of the tapes upon his death.

Herbert G. Klein, a former Nixon aide and a USC trustee, said yesterday that "the emphasis at the trustees' meeting was not in having a Lydon Johnson-type of memorial library, but rather a research library for scholars."

Stanford University and Whittier College, Nixon's alma mater, reportedly were interested in obtaining the papers.

Originally the Nixon papers were to be located in a library built by the Nixon Foundation, but these plans collapsed last January when the foundation dissolved itself after Congress legislated government possession.

Leonard K. Firestone, president of the Nixon Foundation when Nixon named him ambassador to Belgium in March, 1974, is a trustee of USC and

reportedly had a role in the weekend agreement.

Pat Nixon is a 1937 graduate of USC.

According to GSA, the bulk of Nixon's pre-presidential papers is at a GSA facility in Laguna Niguel, Calif., but those items included in a controversial 1969 gift Nixon made for a tax deduction, are tied up in another lawsuit here. A GSA attorney said no ruling will be made in that suit until the Supreme Court rules on who owns Nixon's presidential papers.

USC said that when the Nixon library is completed, it will be deeded to the United States and maintained and staffed by GSA.

National Archivist Rhoads said that GSA must notify Congress of a presidential li-

brary plan and Congress has 60 days to veto it. An average Presidential library, he said, has a GSA staff of 25, including 10 archivists, and costs GSA \$300,000 to \$350,000 a year.