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For Immediate Release:

Contact: Carol Grant
Iowa Capitol Planning Commission
515-664-0096

**Bricks from Capitol Dome Restoration Available for Sale March 7
Proceeds to Benefit Capitol Complex Monument Conservation**

(Des Moines, Iowa) The restoration of the inside of the Iowa Capitol Dome is providing an opportunity to raise money for conservation of monuments on the Capitol Complex. Bricks from the dome will be available to the public for \$100 each at the Capitol Gift Shop beginning **March 7, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.** All proceeds from the bricks will benefit the State of Iowa *Monument Conservation Fund*.

The Iowa Capitol Planning Commission is kicking off this campaign in its continuing effort to help conserve the sculptures, fountains, and memorial tablets on the grounds of the State Capitol honoring people and events important to Iowa history. In 2016, the Iowa Legislature authorized a public-private approach to the need for monument restoration and established a matching grant appropriation of up to \$100,000. This includes a two-to-one match, meaning for every \$2 raised in private donations, the Legislature has appropriated \$1 to help care for the monuments.

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“We believe Iowans would like to own a piece of their state’s history with the opportunity of acquiring a brick from the famous Capitol dome,” said Bill Dikis, chairman of the Capitol Planning Commission. The bricks date back to 1881 when the dome was built. The dome is constructed of iron ribs with brick vaulting infill. Approximately 1,000 bricks were salvaged intact during the restoration process. When purchased, each brick will come with a numbered collector-quality medallion along with a certificate of authenticity. They can be packaged and shipped for an additional charge. Again, the bricks will be available at the Capitol Gift Shop on the ground floor beginning **March 7**. You can also visit the shop’s website to order at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/store>. If you don’t want a brick but would still like to help conserve the Capitol monuments donations of any amount can be mailed to:

State of Iowa *Monument Conservation Fund*
Department of Administrative Services
1305 East Walnut
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Attention: Finance – 3rd Floor