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**National Park Service
Herbert Hoover National Historic Site
Odyssey Productions, Inc.**

ADVENTURE AND GREAT UNDERTAKINGS: Herbert Hoover's Childhood at West Branch

Final Script

1. EXTERIORS AND INTERIORS: THE BIRTHPLACE COTTAGE.

Beautiful images with a tender feeling portray the birthplace cottage, focusing on its treasures. Shots might include: The exterior of the house with sunlight streaming through the trees. The wavy window panes. The iron latches. The cradle. The trundle bed. The high chair. The sewing machine. The quilts. The whatnot. Possibly the house can be shot at night, with light from within to look like kerosene lantern light.

NARRATOR: (voiceover)

HERE,

IN 1874,

IN WEST BRANCH, IOWA ...

THE 31st PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED

STATES WAS BORN.

THE SMALL COTTAGE WAS BUILT

BY HIS FATHER AND

GRANDFATHER.

IT WAS A HOME WITH WALLS

STRONG AND SECURE ...

... CURTAINS OPENING TO

WINDOWS ON THE WORLD.

HERBERT HOOVER: (voiceover)

(Actor's voice)

*"My roots are in this soil. The
cottage where I was born is physical*

*proof of the unbounded opportunity
of American life.*

NARRATOR:

HERBERT HOOVER NEVER LOST HIS
FONDNESS FOR WEST BRANCH.

IN THE 1930s, HE AND HIS WIFE

LOU ...

... MADE A COMMITMENT TO

RESTORE THE BIRTHPLACE

COTTAGE.

IT'S NOW THE CENTERPIECE OF

HERBERT HOOVER NATIONAL

HISTORIC SITE ...

... UNDER THE STEWARDSHIP OF

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

dissolve to:

2. TITLE SEQUENCE.

A wider shot of a West Branch scenario as it might have appeared at the time Hoover lived there; it may include reenactments with children.

SUPER TITLE: ADVENTURES AND GREAT UNDERTAKINGS:

Herbert Hoover's Childhood at West Branch

HOOVER WISHED FOR EVERYONE...

A CHILDHOOD SUCH AS HIS

AT WEST BRANCH:

HERBERT HOOVER:

"... Days should be filled with adventure and great undertakings, with participation in good and comforting things."

continuing on Page 4, Scene 5

dissolve to:

5. CLOSEUPS OF IMAGES OF QUAKERS

Hands clasped of different races -- the Bible and turning its pages -- a hand reaching for a Quaker bonnet.

NARRATOR:

THE QUAKER IDEAL PROMOTES

SOCIAL JUSTICE ... USEFULNESS TO

OTHERS ... AND WORLDWIDE

PEACE.

THOSE VALUES PERMEATED

HOOVER'S LIFE.

dissolve to:

6. Historical film footage of international child relief efforts, war relief efforts, war gardens and other scenes to illustrate the narrative.

DURING AND AFTER WORLD

WAR I ...

... HE ORGANIZED RELIEF EFFORTS

THAT RESCUED NEARLY 20

MILLION CHILDREN IN

EUROPE.

HE CAME TO BE KNOWN AS "THE
GREAT HUMANITARIAN."

AS PRESIDENT, HE ORGANIZED A
WORLD DISARMAMENT
CONFERENCE.

WHEN HOOVER WAS BLAMED FOR
THE GREAT DEPRESSION ... HIS
QUAKER DISCIPLINE KEPT HIM
FROM REVEALING HIS
PRIVATE ANGUISH AND TIRELESS
WORK.

dissolve to:

7. A sequence illustrating a historic blacksmith shop.

HOOVER'S WORK ETHIC WAS
SHAPED AT THE FORGE OF HIS
FATHER'S BLACKSMITH SHOP.

BERTIE AND TAD HELPED OUT BY
SWEEPING, AND RUNNING
ERRANDS.

8. A montage of images creates the sense of all the "Hooverizing" contributions of

everyday people during World War I.

"PITCHING IN" TO HELP WAS PART
OF HOOVER'S CHILDHOOD.

IT ASSURED HIM, AS AN ADULT,
THAT OTHERS WOULD DO THE
SAME IF ASKED.

AND THEY DID.

DURING WORLD WAR I,
THE ENTIRE NATION

"HOOVERIZED:"

... PLANTING WAR GARDENS ...

... OBSERVING "MEATLESS
MONDAYS"

... AND SACRIFICING THEIR OWN
COMFORTS TO HELP WIN THE WAR.

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To see the complete script, contact me at matrazzo@msn.com
