



**Howard J. Kittell**

President and CEO

Andrew Jackson Foundation / Andrew Jackson's Hermitage, Home of the People's President

The focus of Howard Kittell's career is on organizational management and growth, preservation of America's history and sites, and land conservation. His passions are American history, architecture, and inspiring a love of these topics in others.

Kittell is the President & CEO of the Andrew Jackson Foundation that owns and operates Andrew Jackson's Hermitage in Nashville, TN. He has held this position since November 2008. Home of our nation's 7<sup>th</sup> president, The Hermitage is a National Historic Landmark that consists of the 1,120-acre property, 27 buildings including the renowned Hermitage Mansion, Jackson's Tomb, gardens, slave quarters and extensive collections. It is operated by a staff of 105 employees.

For 10 years prior to The Hermitage, Kittell was the Executive Director of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation in Virginia. The foundation manages the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, a congressionally-enacted National Heritage Area. In that capacity, Kittell oversaw the preservation of 10 Civil War battlefields, interpretive programs, and promoting heritage tourism to the Shenandoah Valley.

Kittell's career in historic preservation and history began in the late 1980s when he became the assistant director of the Providence (RI) Preservation Society. Subsequently he served as the executive director of the Preservation Coalition of Greater Philadelphia and executive director of the Chestnut Hill Historical Society, also in Philadelphia.

A Michigan native, Kittell received a degree in Urban Planning from Michigan State University and did graduate work in architectural history and historic preservation at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

He is married to Jennifer Esler, also a museum professional. They have two grown children: Jeffrey, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and the University of Michigan, and Elizabeth, a graduate of the University of Virginia. They have two grandchildren.