

SPACES Saving and Preserving Arts & Cultural Environments
 1804 North Van Ness
 Los Angeles, CA 90028 (213) 463-1629

office use: USGS 7.5 _____
 State _____
 Site _____

ENVIRONMENT FIELD SURVEY FORM

SPACES is a nonprofit arts organization concerned with the identification, documentation and preservation of America's contemporary folk art environments. This form has been prepared by SPACES as part of a national survey of environments. It is intended to serve as a basic information sheet on an individual site. Any additional information may be added or attached to this sheet. Fill in as much as you can. Please send SPACES a copy of this form, along with xeroxes of any photographs or printed materials.

Please attach overview photo

Site Map: Please sketch aerial view of environment

direction of camera _____
 date of photo _____

N

ARTIST

Name JOSEPH FUREY Telephone (914) 469-2726 c/o son, Joe, Jr.

Address _____ City/State/Zip Chester, New York

Birthdate / / 06 Birthplace Camden, NJ Date of death _____ Place of Death _____

Is the artist still living on the site? yes no Is the artist still working on the site? yes no

Biographical information (schooling, occupation, awards & recognition including dates)

Although born in Camden, NJ, Furey moved as an infant to Newfoundland with his family, who originated there. Around 1925, while in the Navy, he was a light-heavyweight boxer. Thereafter he was an ironworker in NYC (Manhattan)

Local knowledgeable contact: Holly Metz/Bob Foster Telephone (201) 792-2212/656-2240

Address 522 Garden Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Sources of additional biographical information Joseph Furey, Jr. (will also contact sister on Staten Is.)

ENVIRONMENT

Name(s) of site Site is located at: 447 16th, Brooklyn, NY

Dates of construction 1981 to 1988 Factual date Estimated date

Street Address 447 16th Street Town/City Brooklyn, NY

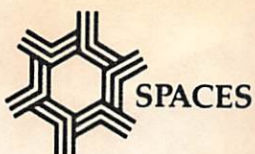
County Kings State/Zip Code NY 11215

If located in a rural area, give clear directions to site from major highway _____

Address not for publication Address may be publicized

Is the site open to the public? yes no If yes, state hours and fees Not yet!

Does the artist encourage visitors? yes no, the current owners do not. Furey loved the attention.



SPACES Field Survey Form

ENVIRONMENT (continued)

Description of surrounding area: rural suburban urban other _____

Description of environment: dwelling structure object garden other Apartment, 5 rooms

Present use of site: residence business other Building going co-op

PRESENT CONDITION (check appropriate line and explain choice appliques are in great shape, but see below:

- Excellent (structurally sound, well-maintained) Good (structurally sound, needs routine maintenance)
- Fair (needs repairs other than routine maintenance) because plumbing, elec. needs to be re-done in apt.
- Deteriorating (needs major structural repairs; not a reference to weathering objects)
- Ruins (some residual evidence) Destroyed (no evidence of site)

Preservation threats to site; check and explain choice Real estate owners may want to disassemble.

- Weather Vandalism Deterioration of site or materials Inappropriate alteration
- Long range plans for area (e.g., redevelopment) Other

Description of site (Include materials used, general appearance, number of acres, type of terrain, landscape features. Attach other sheets if necessary)

This is a 5-room "railroad" apartment with small rooms. Every surface except for the floors has been covered with cardboard appliques and shells. The appliques are in the shapes of diamonds, bowties, (the negative space from the bowties), some crosses, and hearts. In the kitchen Furey has covered a range with mosaic tiles and the ceiling of the kitchen has been covered with conventional tile-work. The appliques have been stiple-painted black, cream, green, and red mostly. The shells are mussel and clam, some opened and glued to the wall in "butterfly" shapes. The others are nailed. There are also lima beans glued to the wall in rows and plaster shapes of "birds" on pedestals in rows along the walls. Furey also covered several walls with mirrors.

What is the local attitude toward the site (give sources for conclusion) Vince Kelley and Kevin Kelley (who are partners with George Davis) owners of the apartment, are amazed by the site, which they hadn't known about. Few people are aware of it, so there is no local reaction to guage, overall. However, Davis thinks the work is "dreck" and wants to dispose of it.

Present owner/custodian Vince Kelley (Davis Kelley) Telephone (718) 965-3330

Address 922 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Other local persons, organizations involved with the site (Name, Address, Telephone)

Eliot Medow, Paint Conservator, 718-852-4770 (lives in Brooklyn)

Existing sources of information about the site (oral history, surveys, books, articles)

Will conduct extensive interview with artist a.s.a.p. Medow can do analysis of condition.

Potential sources of site information (e.g. local newspaper, historical society, college)

Family. Poss. info about artist from old papers re. boxing, and union re. work.

Is there other work off site? yes no If yes, please explain Furey gave grandchildren some plaster animals.

ADDITIONAL SITE INFORMATION (awards, newspaper articles, inclusion in other surveys, comments)

Preparer of this form /organization Holly Metz

Address 522 Garden Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Telephone (201) 792-2212 Date 2/21/89

Site photographer Robert Foster Telephone (201) 656-2240

Address 227 Grand Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030

Please feel free to duplicate this form and/or to add any other information.