



October 28, 1986

Mr. Maurice Fredericks
6950 Commerce Boulevard
Rohnert Park, California 94928

Dear Mr. Fredericks:

We read with much interest the story about John Medica in The News Herald (The Rocky World of John Medica - October 14, 1986). I feel very positive about the public statement that you made about your desire to find ways to protect his extraordinary environment and to find ways to make it a site of public pride and usefulness.

The article contained one mistake, SPACES has never suggested "interest.. in acquiring Medica's work." This has to be a local activity, where SPACES can help as a catalyst, to initiate preservation.

Let me reiterate SPACES's desire to accomplish this task that we talked about over a year ago, when John first strongly expressed his wish to save his site from destruction. The only thing holding back the project is the formal commitment that you are in the process of writing. With this in hand, we can move ahead.

I hope your telephone conversation with our attorney last spring and his letter of September 17, 1986 were of some use to you in formulating Johns' needs and desires and needs and the purposes of the to be formed local committee.

SPACES has already made some steps forward, with a public meeting, identification of some interested local people, and a successful recommendation of John's site to state historic landmark status (now California State Landmark # 939). We also prepared a site plan,

developed a timeline of Johns' life, generated some national publicity with a story in our newsletter and initiated an action for an historic plaque to be placed on the site. Also in progress is an exhibition on John's garden and a series of private and public funding events that are completely dependent on having formal approval to go forward. Local artists have prepared a slide show. Germs of ideas exist, but we cannot get commitments from people, corporations, private or public funding sources, service organizations, skilled professionals, and volunteers; neither can we begin to develop specific plans without parameters, based on John's needs, being defined. We are also concerned about John's health, since we see him as a direct participant when everything gets going.

As John again expressed in the article, he is willing to look at ways to protect his life's work. I hope you can soon find the time to help bring this to fruition. We and others are ready to develop the public committee and forum to accomplish these tasks. I look forward to sitting down with you again and resolving whatever questions there are.

Sincerely,

Seymour Rosen
Director

cc: Mr. John Medica

Mr. John Sherrell-Lathman & Watkins

Ms. Sandy Elder-California State Office of Historic Preservation

Mr. John Merritt-California Preservation Foundation

Ms. Susan Richter-Sonoma County Arts Council

Mr. Dayton Lummis-Sonoma County Museum

Ms. Geets Vincent-The News Herald

Ms. Suzanne Palmer