

11/23/86

Rosemarie,

If you need the following letter for showing to people you are talking to -- best have it re-typed for that purpose... I'm homeless ,

Love,



11/23/86
Rte. 3, Box 444
Escondido, Calif.

9202
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Ms Rosemarie Parish
Old Trappers Lodge
10340 Keswick Street
Sun Valley, Calif. 91352

Dear Rosemarie,

As we talked about recently, here is what I can think of in regards to re-locating the museum of Dad's work (California Historical Landmark No. 939).

The idea of locating it at Calico is first choice by far. It has great appeal on every count..

A secure place of exhibit beyond our short life span.

A setting created by mind set and ideas of close similarity-- right down to the country humor and time frames involved. Walter Knott would have welcomed and approved, I'm sure .

A place of life and living where a great many people of sympathetic bent would actively enjoy John Ehns work .

By way on inducement to the management of San Bernardino County Park system , we have the fact that this collection has status as authentic folk art, and such status will surely increase as time flows on .

I would recommend that whatever effort necessary be made for Mr. Rosen of SPACES to confer with these gentlemen -- whatever their first thoughts might be ; especially if they be in doubt on this. I would trust that no final answer be made from them without talking to Mr. Rosen. He has the vision of this matter ,and the over-all view of Old Trapper and Calico, that must be very valuable ..

You and Louise, Lorraine, and I would surely follow thru on whatever needs to be done in moving and re-locating this exhibit.

This quite possibly involve a building or shelter at Calico .

We want to avoid putting material in storage, if humanly possible; We must accept that some things can't be used..

We want to offer constructive help , and the assurance of NO interference or trouble to the people who must take over and care for the material .

I know that you, Rose, think of some dismay on the perceived problems of loading and transporting the art work; large pieces especially . I am sure that you will be put at ease on this matter . The large statues , you will recall, are re-inforced with iron rods more than anyone would believe.. (Do we have any photos of the work in process ?)

The one statue of John Ehn himself was done by an artist that worked with Mr. Knott , and especially belongs at Calico .

Our recent trip to Calico the weekend of the anniversary celebration and the hi-jinks there, were surely in tune with Dad's view of how it was and should be . I remember a similiar outing in Death Valley some years ago when Dad and Mom were with us. Dad wore his red buckskin outfit and carried the old muzzle loader, and paraded to great effect . No one could doubt that he would want his work in Calico . /

The Park gentlemen should be told of (and shown) the furs and deerskin clothing in storage .

As the opportunity arises, please express my gratitude to Mr. Messerli , and the other gentlemen, for the interest shown in coming out to look at Dad's work . I know they will be of great help, whatever happens .

I think Calico is first and best by far, and that we must do anything possible to make this work .

Love,



Clifford B. Ehn