

Dan Dryden
81 Warren St.
New York, NY 10007

4/2/87

Mr. Seymour Rosen/ Ms. Elaine Wintman
SPACES, Inc.
1804 North Van Ness
Los Angeles, CA 90028

Dear Mr. Rosen & Ms. Wintman,

Ms. Lynda Hartigan of the National Museum of American Art has urged me to contact you immediately regarding a body of work which I, along with two of my friends, purchased from the artist's estate at public auction last fall.

This collection represents the entire corpus of artistic work by Emery Blagdon, an erstwhile farmer who lived in the Sandhills of north-central Nebraska. Reclusive and virtually unknown as an artist, Emery devoted the last thirty years of his life to the creation of his great work.

Emery's work consists of about 400 hanging sculptures made of various kinds of wire hand bent into geometric shapes, 50 pieces of hanging and free standing sculptures made of wood, metal and other materials, and nearly 100 paintings mostly enamel on wood. All these works Emery had carefully and precisely installed and displayed in a small shed in his farmyard.

Having met Emery in 1975, I first saw his work and learned of his belief that his works were mediators of physical energy and thus had the power to relieve disease symptoms and processes. With only an eighth grade education, Emery had to practice his inscrutable science on an intuitive level. He believed implicitly in the power of his works and gave treatments to neighbors and friends on a very informal basis. He was not a practitioner as such, but spent most of his time creating the works themselves, of which he was very proud.

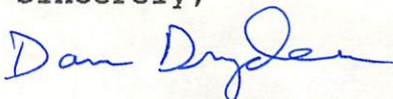
Thus far we have cataloged and photographed the collection, which is now stored in a warehouse in Nebraska. We have documented the site with maps, drawings, photographs and videotape and begun biographical and scientific investigations.

Our goal is to bring Emery's story and works to a wide audience, which our own means do not allow. We believe Emery's faith and work could be inspiring and interesting to many people. I would like very much for you to look at the enclosed slides. Any suggestions or comments as to how we can accomplish this goal would be most welcome.

There is a possibility that we will be in Nebraska either the week-end of May 1 or sometime later in the spring or early summer. Please let me know if you would like to see the work.

You can contact me at the above address or by telephone at 212-732-3644 or 212-226-8161. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Dan Dryden