

For Your Information

Not For Release

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Day of Clean-Up, Organization Scheduled at Pasaquan

Southeastern artists, area arts patrons, members of the Marion County Historic Society and others interested in the preservation of the late Eddie Owens Martin's "Pasaquan" will gather for a day of "conservation and celebration" on Saturday, November 25, 1989 at 10:00 a.m. You are invited to attend and, if you wish, to report on the activity. Pasaquan, described by Martin as a place "where the past, the present, the future and everything else all comes together" is located about three miles west of Buena Vista, Georgia on County Road 137. A map is attached with directions to the site.

Martin (A.K.A. St. EOM), who died by suicide in the spring of 1986, spent nearly thirty years of his life building the fantastic four acre complex of brightly colored and sculpted walls, pagodas, buildings, walkways and "temples" which he called Pasaquan. Pasaquan has been described by the New York Times as a "knockout . . . a chockablock proliferation of exotic forms and motifs - Indian, American Indian, Easter Island, Islamic, Madala and arabesque and totem and pagoda [which] ought to be just a colorful mess, but somehow appears to possess a lovely, rhythmical order." Known better regionally for his fortune-telling skills and psychic sensitivity than for his innovative, artistic creations, St. EOM willed his entire estate - land, buildings and collected work - to the Marion County (Georgia) Historic Society, headquartered in nearby Buena Vista (pronounced Bewna Vista).

Now, after nearly four years of legal red tape which involved, among other things, tax settlements with the United States Internal Revenue Service, a court determination of the existence of the Historic Society (along with a revitalization of that organization), and numerous other stumbling blocks, the estate has been granted to the Society.

Realizing the national and even international significance of Pasaquan as a major example of visionary art, the Marion County Historic Society will organize a tangent support group, open to a broad membership, the sole mission of which will be to conserve and interpret the site and its related

works of art. November 25 will begin the organization of this body, to be called The Pasaguan Society. Please make every effort to join us between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on November 25. We would be delighted to welcome you to the "strange and beautiful land" called Pasaguan.

Mulkey McMichael, President	Fred C. Fussell, Chairman
Marion County Historic Society	Pasaguan Preservation Committee