

Saving and Preserving Arts and Cultural Environments
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April 17, 1989

Dan Van Zant
9470 Swede Creek Rd.
Palo Cedro, CA 96973

Dear Mr. Van Zant,

We were very sad to hear about your fathers death. He impressed me from the first time we met in 1971. (see enclosed NL #9)

Allie & Irving have been supplying me with current bits & pieces of information about what is going on and your interest in protecting The Monument. They said you would like our help.

First let me explain that SPACES is simply a tiny non-profit organization concerned with sites like your fathers across the country - most of our activities are done on a volunteer basis - we have no full time staff and no magic way of saving any particular site, or raising piles of cash.

Having said that we would like to offer what help we can, remembering our limitations and understanding that we are also dealing with many other crises around the country.

I've enclosed our newsletter (#8) which lists a series of questions that must be answered before a campaign can be organized. I believe the questions are fair and necessary for this purpose.

You and other family members must be clear and of one mind before we can approach those who can help you save the site.

Allie mentioned getting The Monument listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a possible way to protect the site. Historic designation is a long process. I don't believe The Monument is old enough (50 years) to qualify as historic. Also, the designation as an historic landmark doesn't keep weather or vandalism from taking its toll.

Does it sound very negative so far?.....we also have a lot going for usyour interest, positive notoriety of the site, interest and concern of the Nevada Arts Council, the Light-Saraf film as a selling tool...and I assume - a clear title to the property.

Read the **On Preservation - What You Should Know** story in the newsletter (#8), check with Ahtrum, collect and protect Thunder's papers (please check our enclosed fact sheet on your father), identify the problem(s) (money? Title? wear and tear? custodian?) and then contact me.

If you want to call - use the cheap off hours - I'm generally here on weekends and up late - so you can call after 11:00 P.M. I'm sure something positive can happen.

My best,


Seymour Rosen
Director