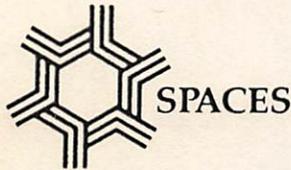


Saving and Preserving Arts and Cultural Environments
1804 North Van Ness Los Angeles, California 90028
Telephone: 213/463-1629



May 3, 1989

Hal Cannon
Utah Folklife Center
617 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Dear Hal,

Seymour says that it's been ten years since he spoke with you, so it must be time to write. What have you been up to lately? He showed me the beehive book--I love it--and he has to report that, alas, the beehive soda you gave him was the victim of an earthquake.

SPACES is still alive and kicking, in fact we're hastening our efforts because we're facing a particularly unfortunate situation. Many of the visionaries responsible for folk art environments are getting older, and some have recently died. This makes our job a lot harder, as the creators are the primary sources of information and documentation about the environments. Also, as a result of their advanced ages and deaths, the sites are disappearing or are being destroyed.

Thus, it's crucial that we intensify our efforts to identify and document environments across the nation. We have a Utah-specific question: Would you happen to know anything about Morry Cushings' porcelain-covered barber shop in North Salt Lake? We have a Salt Lake Tribune article from March 31, 1983 that indicates that the shop's days were numbered then, but we haven't been able to find out anything else. It looks like a great environment, and we'd like to know as much about it as possible: i.e., if it still exists, what shape it is in, if Cushings still owns it, biographical details about his life. Who could we contact to learn more?

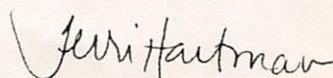
Also, we know of four other sites in Utah. As you'll see from the list, our information is scanty at best. We have heard about a rock creation of park arches in Moab, a rock and concrete fence in Kanab, signs that play on words in Mendon, and a religious environment featuring walkways and scripture messages created by a Mr. Gilgal (we don't know where it is). Do you know of these sites or any others?

Finally, would you or anyone associated with the Folklife Center be willing to go to a site and document it? We would supply a documentation form; basically, documentation involves writing a description (including the site's current condition and an interview with the owner, if possible) and taking photographs. The information will be put in the SPACES archives listing you as the researcher, with a record of any restrictions that you wish to put on the use of the material. Any calls for your photographs will be referred to you.

A lot of questions, we know, but the only way we can accomplish our task is with a lot of help. And any help you can offer will be greatly appreciated. We've enclosed our latest newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Seymour Rosen
Director
A Non Profit Tax Exempt Educational Corporation


Terri Hartman
Researcher