



SPACES' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the last six years, SPACES has

- Conducted a national survey of folk art environments
- Increased the number of generally known sites from fewer than a dozen to more than 200
- Supported photographic surveys in Nevada and North Carolina
- Contacted every State Office of Historic Preservation and all State Arts Councils to make them aware of the phenomenon, SPACES' survey and our continuing follow through activities
- Documentation of numerous sites through oral histories, photographs, maps and historical data
- Established a format for collecting information on each site
- Developed a workbook for support groups and field survey forms
- Started local groups and assisted others in the preservation of sites and other necessary activities: Preserve Bottle Village Committee, Watts Towers Committee, Art Beal Foundation, The Orange Show and more
- Initiated more than 400 signatures on petitions and letters in support of Bottle Village
- Appeared as an advocate and expert witness for a number of groups
- Developed a membership organization
- Began a nation-wide survey to determine what states give arts awards (a way to give recognition to the artists and the art form)
- Developed and submitted a proposal to the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee suggesting the creation of a postage stamp honoring four folk art environments
- Initiated the successful nomination of 10 folk art environments to the status of California Landmarks, and helped get three sites placed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Initiated the successful nomination of Rolling Thunder for Nevada's first Governor's Folk Arts Award
- Initiated the nomination of Jesse Howard for a Missouri Arts Award (50 letters sent to encourage other support letters)
- Sponsored the proclamation of Simon Rodia Day by the City of Los Angeles
- Met with the National Archives of American Art, various museums, art scholars, folklorists, critics and others to encourage their recognition of this art form
- Presented lectures at conferences, seminars, schools, museums and to other interested groups throughout the country
- Met with numerous Arts Councils and State Preservation Offices

- Initiated the first conference on folk art environments
- Acted as a consultant to magazines and other media, to scholars, critics, authors and others
- Ran two intern programs for Bowling Green University (Ohio), UCLA and UC Riverside(pending)
- Produced two traveling exhibitions: Watts Towers and Many Mansions (four sites)
- Served as an information clearing house for media and interested government agencies, museums, scholars and others
- Produced an eight-page newsletter a 12-page newsletter and a series of member updates (a third newsletter is being developed)
- Developed the first substantive bibliography of the field
- Initiated and assisted in the development of a scholarly book for the Journal of American Culture (Bowling Green University) focusing on the genre
- Appeared on cable television to discuss California environments
- Appeared on a number of radio programs discussing environmental art
- Successfully managed eight governmental and private-sector grants
- Amassed files of information on many sites as well as extensive information on each state
- Developing an alliance with the Smithsonian Intitution's Archives of American Art to gather archival materials
- Working with a graduate student at UCLA on a potential grant from the National Institute of Aging to investigate the quality of life of the elderly as it relates to their living environment