



KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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September 23, 1988

Seymour Rosen
 Director
 SPACES
 1804 North Van Ness
 Los Angeles, California 90028

Dear Seymour:

It was nice to hear from you. To bad we only get the chance to correspond if it is business.

Thank you for your letter about the Garden of Eden. We are aware that the property is up for sale and we too hope someone who is sensitive to this type of art becomes the new owner.

I have spoken with Barbara Brackman of the Grassroots Arts Association about the problem. They are hoping to find a private buyer for the site. As I understand it they may have someone who is interested. They have also considered applying for funds throught a new program at the Kansas Arts Commission. So, they are definately working on it.

The state is currently studying the sites they already have to determine their future. Any new sites would have to be considered in this master plan. Unfortunately this study will take some time. The way a property is usually considered for state ownership is by petition. Then the matter is "studied" for 12 months. This process can be cut short if the governor or the legislature wants the property. Unfortunately none of this is good news for a property that is up for sale right now. The other bad thing about the timing is the state is being pressured to consider several other sites at this time.

Overall I am optimistic that the property will survive. Too many people are interested in the issue, especially after what happened to Inez Marshall's work. There are a lot of people who are working to see the Garden of Eden not only survive but survive with dignity.

Hope all is well with you. On a personal note, I am expecting a baby in December. I think the baby will present a big change in my life. Both Carl and I are trying to prepare for him the best way we can. We know we will have to slow down our workaholic ways. Take care!

Sincerely,

Jennie
 Jennie Chinn, Folklorist

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