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## Sunnyslope Rock Garden

10023 N. 13th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85020

Jan. 15, 1994

Dear Seymour,

I have a couple slides of Strunk Hollow. Once I get some prints made, I'll send you copies. I made some prints from Strunk's photos, and really, I'll have to go over with my camera. It is an interesting place.

As I start putting more information together, I'll send you copies. This morning I listed all the sites I could think of in the Phoenix area. Many of them are small or slight, and some are gone, and some I've only heard of, so it's a mixed bag. I feel more secure, now that I am formulating a list.

I nominated Thompson for the Governor's Arts Award. Ron let me use his name as the nominee. Probably nothing will come from it, but I've done all that I can do.

I'm thinking of inviting the Governor to spend the night at the garden. Now don't laugh! We had a drive-by shooting about a month ago. There is a gang living on my block. and since the woman was shot, now this gang is going after the other gang, of course. So I guess I'll have to invest in a bullet proof vest.

Anyway, in South Phoenix, there is alot more trouble than here, and the Governor has spent the night down there twice already. So, by inviting him to stay here, I would bring the garden to his attention and my concerns for the neighborhood as well.

The sun is hot. I don't know how I'll stand the Summer heat when its already too hot in January.

I am finding out about the levels of recognition in the State of Ariz. There is the Highway Dept. which works with the Arizona Historical Society which has its main office in Tuscon. Both of these people work with a research committee, which makes sure that the documentation is correct.

So, if a group wanted a marker put up some place, they would make the recommendation and have the responsibility of raising the funds for the production of the marker. They might provide the wording for the marker. Then the Historical Society and the research people would decide exactly what would be said according to the constraints of the size of the sign. It seems that the Historical Society is an important element. I have the mans' name and number to call in Tuscon.

The lady from Highways said that they are involved only with signs which go along Arizona State Routes. That makes sense.

So far I haven't heard anything about different levels of recognition. Possibly they will think its a good idea when I suggest it to them. My impression is that the procedures are handled by a very few people, and it will take some time to find out how to influence the system. I will try to listen very well when they speak to me.

Mystery Castle was selected as one of twenty most popular places to go in Phoenix. And then MaryLou told me that she got a Tourisn Award. She said it was National.

This shows that there are alot of awards. It just takes time to find out what they are.

The Art Brut Societies and Magazine should present awards since the outside of the Outsider World likes awards so much.

See ya' in March.

Maion

P.S. Do you have a new  
zip code?

\* I was speaking with Deba Walls, who likes the garden and she's the state Historian - and she asked me to complete the survey. I told her what you said about putting all the sites in this category together. She seemed to think it was a good idea. I think there's some kind of a file - some resource at their office. I'll personally deliver the survey and maybe I'll get a chance to work with them. I know they're very busy - but maybe they have resources I can use.

10023 N 13TH PL  
PHOENIX AZ 85020-1849 -23

← I do!  
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I just got a polite rejection from Arizona Highways Magazine. But I'll send them more pictures next year.

\* { Oh, Seymour, I've just completed the Historic Survey for the St. of Arizona. - and I'll be the Vice President of the Sunny Slope Historical Society - for whatever that's worth. M.

Strunk's Hollow  
5112 W. Onyx Ave.  
Glendale, Az.

home 931-1055

"The Antique Difference"  
Sonny and Jan Strunk  
6960 N. 57th Dr.  
Glendale, Az. 85301  
(602) 842-2842

Beginning date: 1977

Corner property filled with eclectic collection having large forms and not necessarily logically related to one another.

Facing Onyx:

surry, fire spool and hose, water pump, flag, oak barrel planters wagon wheels, old wooden wagon, an Indian ladder *going to the roof.*

This side of the house is decorated with a wooden fence along a balcony and a set of windows, (originally from Legend City) create an impression of fantasy and gingerbread, relating the area of the roof to the rest of the facade and the yard. Numerous lamps hang from overhangs and along the wall of the house. Birds baths, wooden stumps and ancient farm implements serve as counterpoint against the lush pampa grass and other vegetation. Bird houses, faded in the sun, along with an elfin lodge complete with several ceramic elves lounging on the porch, and a couple below, lo|igaging by a shady steam. Old rusted trunks, Rail Road signs and switches, coalmining carts, are a few of the myriad voluminous objects filling the space surrounding the Strunk's Hollow home, facing Onyx.

From 51st Drive, you see a large log, not far from the fence, partially decayed. Frolicing on the log are three beavers; one of which has tumbled onto his back. Rabbits, elves and tiny deer are in the underbrush. Several happyfaced snails are playing on a small stump. And under a rusted-out cooking pan you see three very serious looking old men with pointed hats.

Standing back from the property, you can see past the vine covered fence, that there is a huge circular staircase going from the back yard to the second floor balcony. The back yard has a fish pond and is decorated with many woodland spirits.

Looking at the roof, one sees an old wooden yoke, pinwheels and more hanging lanterns. Exotic collections decorate the interior as well.

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Publications:

Arizona Republic

June, 1980  
May, 1989

Phoenix Home and Garden

December, 1982

Daily News Sun

Sept. 1992