



TENNESSEE ARTS COMMISSION

320 Sixth Ave. N., Suite 100

Nashville, Tennessee 37219

(615) 741-1701

November 26, 1986

Seymour Rosen
SPACES
1804 North Van Ness
Los Angeles, CA 90028

Dear Seymour:

I want to call to your attention recent developments with an important site which I suspect will be of interest to SPACES--the home of evangelical sculptor Harrison Mayes. Although the site is located in Middlesboro, Kentucky, Mayes was born in nearby Claiborne County, Tennessee. Much of his roadside work was placed in Tennessee, and there has been a good deal of interest in him within our state. Bill Henry, an active folk arts advocate in Tennessee, has worked with Mayes, and it is he who has brought the present situation to my attention. I refer you to him in hopes that SPACES may be able to offer assistance in efforts to preserve or commemorate the Mayes site.

Harrison Mayes has recently passed away, and his heirs are now deliberating the disposition of his property and remaining works. The house site was Mayes' workplace for the creation of the concrete sculptures which were placed throughout the country, and some of the pieces remain there. The site is also an environment in itself, containing a house and artistic fixtures created as permanent expressions of Mayes' aesthetic. Bill is in contact with Mayes' children and has been asked to advise them in their future course of action concerning the site. He was unaware of your organization and realizes a need to gain wider support and to benefit from the experiences of others who have faced conservation problems with similar sites. Bill will probably be contacting you soon, and I hope that you will also be getting in touch with him. His address is Bill Henry/115 E. Geneva Lane/Oak Ridge, TN 37830/ phone 615-483-0858.

I would welcome the involvement of SPACES in this effort and will gladly provide whatever assistance I can in developing resources and encouraging commitments to it within the state of Kentucky. Please feel free to contact me as you proceed.

Sincerely,

Robert Cogswell
Director of Folk Arts

12/5/86

Thanks P.C.