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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Mesa Verde National Park
Colorado 81330



IN REPLY REFER TO:

K1817

January 10, 1971

Memorandum

To: Director, Denver Service Center
From: Project Supervisor, Mesa Verde
Subject: International Peace Garden

Upon a former request of the Librarian of the Service Center and for your information and use, I have written the enclosed narrative of the history, development and operation of the International Peace Garden, located in North Dakota and Manitoba. After the initial draft of the subject matter had been sent to the Superintendent of the Peace Garden and was returned to me with comments, the narrative was corrected and typed.

Also for information the newest I.P.G. prospectus, the Music Camp Schedule of 1972 and a program of the 9th Annual Athletic Camp and the highway maps of North Dakota and Manitoba are enclosed.

Ernst C. Scheffler
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In duplicate

*2 Enclosures of Narrative
Prospectus etc.*

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Enclosures

I N T E R N A T I O N A L P E A C E G A R D E N

N A R R A T I V E

1. History and Landscape

The National Association of Professional Gardeners of America held a convention in Toronto, Canada in 1929.

At this convention the idea for the development of a Peace Garden on the international border of the United States and Canada was presented by Dr. Henry J. Moore of Islington, Ontario and adopted by the Association. The International Peace Garden Inc. was formed under the membership corporation laws of the State of New York on September 17, 1930 -- the anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. (Current President of the International Peace Garden Inc. is Mr. John A. Stormon, Box 326, Rolla, North Dakota 58367.)

In the glacial moraine landscape of the Turtle Mountains, a tract of land was selected which is located not far from the geographical center of the North American Continent.

The landscape in the Turtle Mountains reflects character and original beauty and contains much unspoiled wilderness. Deciduous forests, shallow glacial lakes, small streams, meadows and swamps are existing and also variable hills and valleys.

Of this land the State of North Dakota donated 888 acres and the Province of Manitoba the bordering 1451 acres. The Garden is located west of and adjacent to Highway No. 3 of North Dakota which runs into Highway No. 10 of Manitoba.

The Peace Garden was dedicated on July 14, 1932 to become a Monument of Peace and a Historical Marker on the boundary of the United States and Canada. A crowd of 50,000 people from all parts of the Continent witnessed the dedication.

2. Development

For the development and the maintenance of the Peace Garden the State of North Dakota and the Province of Manitoba, as well as the Parliament of Canada and the Congress of United States, dedicated current appropriations. Numerous organizations in both countries have contributed substantially.

Plans for the development of the International Peace Garden were prepared by the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service. Accordingly, the Formal Gardens were constructed and planted and the two Loop Roads were built, which penetrate the American section and the Canadian section. A lodge and nearby tourist cabins were constructed in the forested part of the American section and also a small campground. Not far from the Garden entrance a house for the horticulturist and later a greenhouse were built. The greenhouse

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serves for cultivation of annual flowers to fill each year the many flowerbeds of the Formal Gardens.

On the Canadian side are the residences of the Superintendent and of the Maintenance Foreman. A number of Picnic Areas and a new Centennial Pavilion have been placed around Lake Stormon.

In the extreme southeast corner of the American section, an International Music Camp and a Caretaker's House are the largest development. The Music School is operating during the summer months and includes also classes for Dramatic Arts and Creative Writing. The nearby Amphitheatre is used by the students of the summer school. Concerts are programmed for the summer season. The Student Orchestra uses for these concerts the Amphitheatre and the upper terrace of the formal Gardens, where visitors find ample room to assemble.

The Royal Canadian Legion Athletic Camp is operated every year for a period of two to three weeks, conducted by a professional staff. Also the Boy Scout Organization operates campsite meetings every year.

3. Master Plan

A new Master Plan was developed in 1966 by the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service and was accepted by the Board of Directors of the International Peace Garden. A Landscape

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Architect of the Western Service Center of the National Park Service was assigned to give assistance to the Superintendent for completion of the Formal Gardens with additional planting projects and for the construction of the Avenues of States and Provinces in conformity with the Master Plan. A Chapel was constructed in 1969 on the international boundary at the western end of the Formal Gardens, where east of the Chapel site a large Peace Tower will be erected. The Peace Garden Superintendent, Mr. H. F. Howard, and his staff are constantly improving the existing developments, the plantings and the general upkeep of all areas of the Garden.

4. Visitation

The visitation of the Peace Garden reached almost 300,000 in 1969 and increased in 1971 to 425,000. The Summer Camps and the Music School attendance reached 4200 boys and girls in the 1971 season.

Visitors can find limited space to stay overnight in the Garden. The towns of Dunseith, North Dakota and Boissevain, Manitoba are in the neighborhood and have good motel service. There is a good restaurant outside the Peace Garden near the entrance on the American side and meal service is now provided in the Garden.

Not far from the Peace Garden are the Turtle Mountain Provincial Park (Canadian) and the Lake Metigoshe State Park (American) where camping, boating, fishing and hiking are favored activities for visitors.

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ARCHITECT

5. Forests and Wildlife

The forested and wilderness areas of the Peace Garden and the Lake Shores contain dense stands of native birch, willow, poplar and burr oak. In the Formal Gardens and near the main entrance, groves of Black Hill spruce, green ash, golden willow, oleaster, amur maple and many flowering shrubs have been added. Large, open areas provide unob-structed views framed by the woodlands. A small Arboretum and some tree nursery plots are existing in sheltered areas.

The Peace Garden presents a refuge for deer and water fowl and is also a good bird sanctuary.

Ernst C. Scheffler
Landscape Architect
Denver Service Center
U.S. National Park Service

January 11, 1972