

**Sunnyslope Rock Garden  
Grover Cleveland Thompson Museum  
10023 North 13th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85020**

March 27, 1994

Dear Seymour,

I looked in an old box today and found Thompson's original card he had made for the garden. People said I should name the garden for Thompson, but with the Boise Arboretum so well known- that is Boise Thompson Arboretum- and its fifty miles East of the valley- I felt that it was better to identify the garden with the locality. And now I see that Thompson had arrived at the same conclusion!

Speaking with Bud is an interesting experience. He is unwilling to accept my judgement that the cracking which is taking place is a result of moisture getting to the metal rebar Thompson has placed within two inch slabs of concrete. I know and others know that three inches of good concrete are required as a cover over metal armature to effectively keep the moisture from corroding it. The horizontal slabs are an invitation to further cracking if they have metal reinforcement within them.

I do not think that the garden has many of the problems inherent in Watts Towers. In the first place, it is not nearly as large. Although similar materials have been used, each site has its own individual sets of challenges.

Once I have my camera working again, I will send Bud photos as he requested. Already I found myself bragging to someone that I am corresponding with the consultant for Watts Towers.

My ex- husband has worked with concrete for over twenty-five years, and he has quite a bit of knowledge. He is aware of the need to create a patching mix which will be compatible with the existing. If the mixture of concrete is too rich it will have an adverse effect. Also the contraction/expansion has to match. Just because I can comprehend this, it doesn't mean that I am capable of mixing it or placing it.

I guess I'll be able to fill another volume once I learn all there is to know on preservation and restoration.

Thank you for putting me in touch with Bud.

Sincerely,



SUNNYSLOPE  
Rock Garden

10023 No - 13th Place

Sunnyslope Ariz.