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

→ July 24, 1994

Dear Seymour,

It seems as though its been 25 years since I saw you or spoke to you. I hope that things are working out in a good way in your efforts to repair your house.

The summer is just that; hot, sticky and my only source of free time. Soon after you left for L.A., Jim Griffith came to Phoenix to speak at the Folk Art Show. During his stay, he finally came to see the garden! Of course, it was just wonderful to have the chance to speak with him. While he was here, Griffith told me about a fence in Bowie, Az. where the man had taken a narrow guage R.R. track out of an old mine and put it up around his property. He then welded any old metal tool he could find to it. I had to see it, and so I went there the next weekend. The fence is fantastic; and so is the village of Bowie!

I shot two roles of film, and to my amazement, each exposure actually captured what I saw when I made the photograph! Also, having seen Bowie, it helped me see my own part of the city, Sunnyslope. They both have a history in which the people were struggling for their survival. There are other factors, too. Anyway, the trip to Bowie furnished me with a vision of Sunnyslope, so I asked the camera if it would help me with this new project. Since then, I've been driving the back streets of the slope, and it has been an eye -opener!

Also, the people I've shown the pictures to are very excited about it. I have found places very few people know exist, and they are right here.

So, Seymour, I've been driving in circles!

I had lunch with Karen Hodges, and she asked about you. Then, the next day, July 16th, I saw her on the evening news on Ch. 10 at Mr. Lee's Oriental Rock Garden! When I called Mr. Lee to congratulate him, he told me that the Gazette had an article on Tues. July 12th. He said he would pick up an extra copy for me, and if he does, I will send you a copy. Also, there is supposed to be an article about Lee in Phoenix Magazine, soon. He was not sure which month it would be.

So, that is all of the excitement around here.

Marion