

**SPACES 1804 North Van Ness Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90028
(213) 463-1629**

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD-REKNOWNED OLD TRAPPER'S LODGE IS SAVED FROM DESTRUCTION

Recently saved from the threats of demolition and dispersal, John Ehn's Old Trapper's Lodge art works, California State Landmark #939, have found a new, secure home at Pierce College where the public can view the folk art environment intact and as the self-taught artist intended.

Old Trapper's Lodge is one of California's premier folk art environments. Built by former Trapper John Ehn over a 30 year period, the sculptures, tombstones, and artifacts represent his attempt to keep the myths and tales of the old west alive. The environment consists of large-scale, brilliantly painted concrete sculptures based on aspects of Morman folklore, a "Boot Hill" cemetery of humorous tombstones, various artifacts of days past, and assemblage of western memorabilia and family remembrances.

"In recent years John Ehn's artistic genius has been given acknowledgement by being included in important museum exhibitions and through exposure in national publications dealing with art," said Seymour Rosen, Director of a Los Angeles-based national preservation organization concerned with environmental art of this genre. The publication of major articles in local newspapers, such as the Los Angeles Times Magazine, and through KCET's "Videologues" introduced by Huell Howser have similarly furthered the reknown of John Ehn's work. Unfortunately John Ehn did not live to see the broad, public interest his work generated.

On July 6, 1988 the Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College Board voted to accept the donation of the art works by the Ehn Family Trust to Pierce College in the western San Fernando Valley. The sculptures as well as a majority of the other artifacts will be located on the Pierce College campus and will be available for public viewing.

Family member Rosemarie Farish expressed enthusiasm over the move, stating, "the family is excited that our father's dreams will be kept alive for the public to enjoy.

Representative components of John Ehn's work will be developed into an exhibit which will tour the country.

Although the site is currently being dismantled, the public will have its last chance to see the sculptures at their present location until approximately July 24. Old Trappers Lodge is located just north of the Burbank Airport - off of San Fernando Road and just East of Hollywood Way at 10340 Keswick.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Rosemarie Farish
Old Trappers Lodge
(818)767-1011

Seymour Rosen
SPACES
(213)463-1629

Richard Moyer
Pierce College
(818)719-6451