June 1991

Tractor Museum Committee Establishment 1991

Tractor Museum

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June 20, 1991

Mr. Richard Maresh
220 North 16th Street
Geneva, NE 68361

Dear Mr. Maresh:

You are keenly aware of the desire to create a "Tractor Test Museum." Through your participation and leadership on the "Antique Farm Machinery and Equipment Commission" you are aware of the desires of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to initiate such a museum.

Unfortunately, the University does not have funds for such an endeavor. Several of us, however, feel there is a great deal of support from private and industrial groups. For example, in February when representatives from the tractor manufacturers met here, they thought their companies would be interested in sponsoring some of the costs for displaying earlier models of their manufacture. I would also suggest that many of the antique tractor clubs throughout Nebraska and neighboring states would be interested in offering assistance.

This background leads me to the purpose for this letter. UNL feels that a committee consisting of interested citizens throughout Nebraska is needed for planning and implementation for a Tractor Test Museum. We have the following UNL representatives who could serve on the committee -- Dr. Dale Vanderholm, Associate Dean and Director of the Agricultural Research Division; Dr. Glenn Hoffman, Head of the Department of Biological Systems Engineering; Dr. Hugh Genoways, Director of the University of Nebraska State Museum; and myself. As we at the University searched for the name of someone to chair this committee, your name surfaced repeatedly. Thus, on behalf of those wishing to create a Tractor Test Museum, I ask you to serve, at least for the first term, as chair of this committee.

If you agree, the UNL representatives mentioned above would like to visit with you in the near future to select members for this committee. It's the desire of UNL to have rapid progress in developing the museum. We hope that the tractors, dynamometers, and related equipment could be moved into the Livestock Pavilion in the very near future. We sense an urgent need to develop plans for this museum and to form strong support for this endeavor.
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Mr. Maresh
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Please respond to this request at your earliest convenience. You can reach me at (402)472-3123, if you desire to call and discuss this opportunity further.

Sincerely,

William E. Splinter
Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies

c:  Dr. Hugh Genoways
    Dr. Glenn Hoffman
    Mr. Tom Johnson
    Dr. Irvin Omtvedt
    Dr. Dale Vanderholm