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Tractor Test and Power Museum, The Lester F.
Larsen

May 1994

Museum Committee Meeting May 1994

Tractor Museum

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May 3, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO: Friends of the University of Nebraska Tractor Test
and Power Museum

FROM: Bill Splinter, Chairman

This is to include the following items along with the Minutes and revised By-Laws:

1. A copy of the SAE article by Russ Candee and Frank Walters providing the history of the tractor testing program and the test code.
2. A copy of the report of Laura Casey, a Museum Studies Masters student who inventoried our collection and provided us with recommendations for properly identifying ownership and developing exhibits.
3. Evaluation of Tractor Test Building integrity.

Les Larsen and I met with Paul Harmon, Chairman of the Construction Management Department in the College of Engineering and Technology at 9:00 on May 3 to have him examine the structural integrity of the Tractor Test building. Following the recommendation of Mr. Miller that we have a structural engineer evaluate the walls, I contacted two structural engineers who said that Harmon was the best person to look at the building.

Basically, Harmon said the structure appears solid although there is some termite damage in spots and the exterior stucco has failed in a couple of areas. He will have an estimator look at the building yet this week to give us a cost estimate on what it will take to renovate the building.

From The Desk Of:
Norman E. Tooker,
7745 Park Lane, Ralston, NE 68127

May 16, 1994

Dr. William Splinter
Department of Biological Systems Engineering
L. W. Chase Hall
P. O. Box 830726
Lincoln, NE 68583-0726

Dear Dr. Splinter:

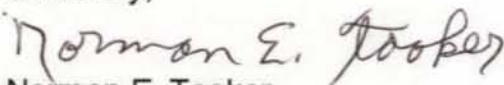
As a member of The Friends Of The University of Nebraska Tractor Test and Power Museum committee, a member of The Antique Tractor and Farm Machinery Commission, and Master of the Nebraska State Grange, I lend my encouragement and support to the committee's work in trying to preserve the original Tractor Test building on East Campus.

As we have discussed in the Committee meetings, The generation of people who were involved in the early days of the tractor testing program and those of us who are the last of those who operated the horse drawn machinery and operated the first steel wheeled tractors and first rubber tired tractors are at an age where we need to capture and preserve our experiences or those experiences will be lost.

It seems that we in America are so involved in looking to the future in our planning that we often disregard the preservation of the past. We need to plan for that too.

Work on the preservation of the old Tractor Test building and provisions for the storage and preservation of the antique tractors and farm machinery now on campus needs to be provided for in the near future or it will be lost. The old building is deteriorating very fast. I do offer my encouragement and support as representative of the above mentioned committees and the Nebraska State Grange in your efforts to preserve the old Tractor Test facilities..

Sincerely,


Norman E. Tooker