Smithsonian Art Exhibit and Rhode Island State House and Providence City Hall (1962): Memorandum 01

Sheila Schermerhorn
Claiborne Pell

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MEMO TO: ISABELLE LEEDS

FROM: SHEILA SCHERMERHORN

I enjoyed very much meeting you at last.

Attached are copies of pertinent letters concerning a Smithsonian traveling exhibit for the State House and City Hall. You will note I have written Mrs. Pope to the effect that she will be hearing directly from you.

To confirm our conversation in the office last Friday re paintings for the office, when we have heard from all the people invited to be on the panel, you will arrange an initial meeting in your office at which time they will elect a Chairman and decide which is the best way to proceed; where and when to assemble the paintings for selection.

SS:RH

Enclosures
March 14, 1962

Democrat National Committee
1001 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Annette Cussons
Democratic National Committeewoman
187 Althea Street
Providence, R.I.

Hon. Claiborne Pell
United States Senator
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Claiborne:

In regard to your recent letter concerning the traveling exhibition of famous paintings, I do want to tell you how very enthused I am about this idea, and remember that you spoke to me about it when I was in Washington. I believe that this project could be most worthwhile, cultural, and generally good for our people of Rhode Island and it is wonderful of you to want to sponsor it.

As I expect to see Governor Nott within the next few days, I shall speak to him about it, although there is little that I can add to the excellent, detailed letter which you wrote him concerning the exhibit.

Please count on my support for this program, and let me know in which way I can help.

I enjoyed my trip to Washington very much last January. Having cocktails with you and Mrs. Pell was very delightful; the company was perfect, and the conversation - stimulating. Thank you so much.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
March 30, 1963

Mrs. Annette Cussons  
Democratic National Committee Woman  
151 Althea Street  
Providence, Rhode Island  

Dear Annette:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of March 14th. I am delighted that you share my enthusiasm for the plan to bring the Smithsonian traveling exhibitions to the people of Rhode Island and I certainly appreciate your support. Naturally, I will keep in mind your interest.

I look forward to having Governor Notte's reaction to this program.

It is good to hear that you enjoyed your trip to Washington last January. Nuala and I were very happy that you could come to our house for cocktails, and hope that your next trip to Washington will be in the not too distant future.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Claiborne Pell
March 23, 1962

Mrs. John A. Pope, Chief
Traveling Exhibition Service
Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Pope:

In connection with the proposed display in
the State House of one of the Smithsonian traveling
exhibitions, I can now report that we are making good
progress. Governor Notte seems to be quite favorably
disposed to the project, and I have now forwarded
the descriptive material to our Providence office.
You will probably be hearing in the near future from
Mrs. Isabelle Leeds who will now be coordinating the
project from there.

I do want to thank you again for your thoughtful
helpfulness in this matter and I am sure that it will
be a successful and worthwhile exhibition.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

SS