

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

PURPOSE:

The National Gallery of the American Indian in order to centralize his arts and crafts, and to make possible their circulation over the U.S.A. In order to acquaint white people with what he, as a human being, looks like, and what he is doing today. For a wide and thorough recognition of the richness of his culture and its individual and national value.

NECESSITY:

Because it is an American culture.

Because it is the beginning of a true American culture which we are desperately in need of developing.

Because, being primitive, it is basic and sound. The Indian has already enriched our national life; we need his further contributions.

IT IS NOT:

A duplication of any existing museum or movement.

Another organization to "Save the Indian," but is designed to bring to the White Man a realization of the Indian as a symbol of those enduring qualities of character and philosophy with which he has lost contact and needs to regain in order to establish the balance and poise so necessary for this present age of insanity.

METHOD:

A permanent exhibition of Indian arts and crafts, at the Gallery and on tour. Special exhibitions of Indian arts and crafts. Special recordings in sound and motion films of their daily activities, dances, dramas, music and languages. Exhibitions of these films at the Gallery and on tour.

Occasional presentations at the Gallery of dances, dramas and music "in person." A permanent exhibit of full-size examples of cliff-dwellings, hogans, tepees, pueblo buildings.

WORK ON PERMANENT EXHIBIT OF THE INDIAN IN PAINTING, SCULPTURE, PASTELS, ETCHINGS, MURALS BY AMERICAN ARTISTS AND ON TOUR.

LOCATION:

Washington, D.C. because, being the heart of our country, it is the logical place. Because there also it would affect Indian legislation favorably.

COST:

Building and equipment - four million dollars.

Contents - Indian arts and crafts, murals. Paintings and sculpture of them by American artists - one million dollars.

Cost of the building, equipment and contents to be met by a national subscription campaign.

Cost of land, landscaping and maintenance to be met by Government appropriation.

CAMPAIGN:

National campaign to be carried out with help of state and national organizations already formed for Indian recognition.

With: American museums and galleries; schools, universities and colleges; organizations interested in outdoor life, such as the Scouts; American Women's Clubs; art associations; transportation companies serving westward territories; historical societies; magazines and newspapers interested in development of this culture; Foundations interested in art and in educational work; Western Chambers of Commerce and Business Men's Clubs;