

717 S Flower  
 Inglewood, California  
 September 5, 1962

National Shrine Historical Parks  
 Dept of Interior---?---  
 Washington, D C

Dear Sirs:

Recently my attention has been called to the department in our government pertaining to national shrines--I refer particularly to that of the old church in Tarrytown, N Y--where some of my ancestors are buried.

In California we have some old cemeteries--meeting with bad fates as roads and developments come along and make believe the roads and developments are of more value than are the old shrines showing the tremendous cost our nation has been to get---

A woman in a crowd other day ejaculated how "nice" it was that our country had never had any great wars on its soil---being a student of history I was disgusted---having done genealogy work of Indian families as with settlers' families I KNOW how desperately we have fought for every inch of our land---and how desperately we shall have to fight again if this One World idea continues very far---mother's folks came on the Mayflower and father's with the great religious pogroms against the Protestants in Europe in the early 1700's---I KNOW from family names about many of those battles others never even heard of---they came before the Civil War---tho our country began over 250 years before the Civil War.

A family tie in one of our California cities has long been a source of regret to me; the pioneer who brought that family was a strong Episcopalian---and his eldest daughter married a good Episcopalian from Texas as his cavalcade crossed that state---both those men's names are mentioned in the founders' list of the old church in San Luis Obispo---the first non-Catholic church in California---or the west for that matter--1867.

The same little church still serves that faith and in 1967 there will be a grand celebration of the centenary---very rare for the west---

How would one go about getting it declared a National Shrine before 1967?

Please send me proper blanks, etc---so that I may set about it---unless it has already been so declared---which I doubt.

Sincerely,

*Bertha H. Fuller*

Mrs Bertha H Fuller

Logan 10/4/62  
Porter 10/4

October 4, 1962

L58-GHA

Mrs. Bertha H. Fuller  
717 South Flower  
Inglewood, California

JOHN M. CORBETT

Dear Mrs. Fuller:

We have received your letter of September 5 requesting information as to how the Episcopalian Church at San Luis Obispo, California, may be made a National Shrine.

At the present time, the National Park Service is engaged in a National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. This Survey produces studies which consider sites according to the theme, or phase, of American history they typify. The studies are reviewed by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments--a group of experts in the fields of American history, archeology, architecture, and conservation, which serves without pay. The Advisory Board makes its recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior, and seeks to recommend for national recognition those sites which possess exceptional value in commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States.

To guide it in evaluating the results of Survey studies, the Advisory Board has adopted a series of criteria, one of which pertains to churches. This criterion is as follows:

Structures or sites which are primarily of significance in the field of religion or to religious bodies but are not of national importance in other fields of the history of the United States, such as, Political, military, or architectural history, will not be eligible for consideration.

The Dutch Reformed (Sleepy Hollow) Church at North Tarrytown, New York, mentioned in your letter, was considered to possess exceptional value in commemorating the history of Dutch colonization and settlement in America. It is notable for its architectural and historical associations with Dutch Colonial life.

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Nat  
 Dep  
 Wash  
 It appears that the church described in your letter would be primarily of religious significance, as this is defined in the criterion quoted above. We are sorry we cannot be of assistance to you in this matter, but we appreciate your interest in the cause of historic preservation.

Dear Sirs:

Sincerely yours,

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Acting Chief, Division of

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 Regional Director, Western Region w/c of inc.

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*Burtha H. Fuller*  
 Mrs. Burtha H. Fuller