

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

SYMBOLS	
DL	= Day Letter
NL	= Night Letter
IT	= International Letter Telegram

Unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SF-1201 (4-60)

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

LLE302 OA191

O CHA055 NL PD CHICO CALIF 8,
STEWART L UDALL, SECRETARY OF INTERIOR
WASHDC

1962 JAN 8 PM 6 27

llh by memo to guard Dept of Interior

L 58

DEAR SECRETARY UDALL. I HAVE MOST ENTHUSIASTICALLY ADMIRERD
YOUR WILL TO SAVE SOME OF THE WILDERNESS FOR OUR CHILDREN AND
ALL SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

I BELIEVE TOO, THAT WE MUST SAVE OUR HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL KNOW AND FEEL THE GREATNESS OF THEIR
HISTORICAL INHERITANCE. OUR COMMUNITY PROUDLY LAYS CLAIM TO
ONE OF THE GREATEST HISTORICAL HOMES IN OUR STATE, THAT OF
GENERAL JOHN BIDWELL NAMED BY DR ROCWELL HUNT, HISTORIAN AS
ONE OF THE FOREMOST CALIFORNIA PIONEER. I IMPLORE YOUR ASSISTANCE
TO PRESERVE THIS LOVELY OLD MANSION IN ITS PROPER SETTING.
THE MANSION AND GROUNDS HAVE BEEN STATE PROPERTY FOR YEARS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE STATE SCHOOL NAMELY CHICO STATE

OF SERVICE
is a fast message
unless its deferred char-
acter is indicated by the
proper symbol.

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0 CHA055/2

1962 JAN 8 PM 6 2

COLLEGE. AFTER RECEIVING GREAT SUMS OF MONEY TO EXPAND THE COLLEGE THEY HAVE TURNED OVER THE MANSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND BEACHES. THEY FAIL TO SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF RESERVING AMPLE SPACE FOR PROPER SETTING. THE COLLEGE IS NOW DESIGNING A SCHOOL BUILDING ON PART OF THE GARDEN WHICH WILL NOW AND FOREVER DESTROY MUCH OF THE DIGNITY AND BEAUTY OF THE OLD MANSION.

WILL YOU PLEASE MAKE INQUIRY AND INFORM ME AS TO THE PROPER PROCEDURE I MUST TAKE TO LOC THIS HORRIBLE MISTAKE

MARY C J GONI MEMBER OF WILDERNESS SOCIETY, NATURE CONSERVANCY NATIONAL PARKS ASSN. SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, NATIONAL AUDABON SOCIETY.

TO SECRETARY
JAN 17 1962
FOR SIGNATURE
ADVANCE COPY

California

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY

1/15
Adrian
Kaliles
1/16
Russ 1-17

L58-CHA
PARKS

JAN 23 1962

Dear Miss Goni:

Secretary Udall appreciates the kind remarks in your telegram of January 8 about the Department's conservation efforts and asked us to express his thanks. He also asked that we comment on the question you raise about the John Bidwell home which has been under the jurisdiction of Chico State College.

You indicate that the College has turned over the Bidwell home, which is State property, to the Division of Beaches and Parks. You have the feeling, apparently, that the Division is not exerting itself to assure the reservation of sufficient grounds and space to give the old historic home a proper setting, and that the old garden will be built upon according to current plans and thus destroyed. While we do not have any direct knowledge of and acquaintance with the Bidwell home, it would seem essential to preserve sufficient grounds around the immediate environs of the home, including the garden perhaps, to assure something of its original historic setting.

We wonder if you have discussed this matter with Mr. Charles A. DeTurk, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, for the State of California. The Division of Beaches and Parks, to which you make reference, is a part of his Department. Mr. DeTurk is known to us as a man of broad interests, sympathies, and understanding in matters of conservation. We feel that if this matter is brought to his attention he will give it very careful consideration. We suggest that you arrange to discuss it with Mr. DeTurk to see if he can help arrange a suitable settlement of the issue.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) John A. Carver, Jr.

Secretary of the Interior

Assistant

Miss Mary C. J. Goni

Chico, California

Calif

PRS 3526

Copy to: DCCO - IM (2)
Region 1 Director, Region Four w/c of inc.
Mr. Kennedy, Rm. 3212 w/c of inc.
Branch of History w/c of inc.
REAppleman:jd 1/15/62