The Honorable George Murphy

Dear Sir:

As a member of the Jedediah Strong Smith Society, headquarters at the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California, I am taking the liberty of including a resolution by that organization. It is my hope you may find time to ask Mr. Udall's serious consideration of this project. The East abounds in such historical markers while the West has a meager few.

Any effort on your behalf will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Ruth C. Clarke
WHEREAS, Jedediah Smith was the first American to cross the plains and peaks into California,
WHEREAS, his explorations and his trail finding blazed the way for the pioneers who followed across prairies and over the mountains to settle the West, and
WHEREAS, his paths were beset by hostile Indians who killed him at an early age,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Jedediah Smith Society in annual Rendezvous assembled that the Secretary of the Interior be and he is hereby petitioned to mark the trails of the great explorer, Jedediah Smith. He was the first to travel from Missouri to California to Oregon across unbroken barriers of desert, forest, and mountain.

Presented by Mrs. Ruth C. Clark
Box 373
Trinidad, Hondo, California 93583

1/15/68
Hon. George Murphy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Murphy:

We are pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mrs. Ruth C.
Clarke concerning the resolution of the Jedediah Smith Society to
mark the trails of Jedediah Smith. We appreciate your interest in
this matter and will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Director

TWood:htg 1-26-68
Hon. George Murphy  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Murphy:

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of Mrs. Ruth C. Clarke concerning the marking of the trails followed by Jedediah Smith in his western explorations.

We are very much in sympathy with the objectives outlined in the resolution of the Jedediah Smith Society. We regret that we have no authority or funds for the purpose of erecting historical markers of this type. Such projects are generally handled by the States through such agencies as State historical societies or State highway departments. Perhaps Mrs. Clarke would wish to get in touch with those agencies in the States through which Jedediah Smith passed on his travels.

We appreciate your continuing interest in historic preservation and were happy to supply the above information.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Howard W. Baker  
Acting Director

Enclosures (constituent's material returned as requested)

cc:  
Regional Director, Western w/c inc.  
HH (2) w/c inc.  
DAL, Mr. Melvin w/c inc.  
FBSarles:fgw 2/5/68
January 24, 1968

Hon. Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Members of the Tuolumne County, California, Historical Society has asked me to intercede with you in favorably considering a resolution adopted by the Jedediah Strong Smith Society urging the marking of trails made by this early explorer when he traveled from Missouri to California.

Certainly I would like to add my plea that you consider this resolution with favor.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

HAROLD T. (BIZZ) JOHNSON
Member of Congress

J:h
Enclosure
Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of Mrs. Ruth C. Clarke concerning the marking of the trails followed by Jedediah Smith in his western explorations.

We are very much in sympathy with the objectives outlined in the resolution of the Jedediah Smith Society. We regret that we have no authority or funds for the purpose of erecting historical markers of this type. Such projects are generally handled by the States through such agencies as State historical societies or State highway departments. Perhaps Mrs. Clarke would wish to get in touch with those agencies in the States through which Jedediah Smith passed on his travels.

We appreciate your continuing interest in historic preservation and were happy to supply the above information.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Hon. Harold T. Johnson
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

cc: Secretary's Reading File (2)
DG96
FW
DEMY
CL
Regional Director, Western) w/c of inc.
MH(2) w/c of inc.
DAl, Mr. Melvin w/c of inc.
NPS Copy

RETURN TO:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FBSarles:jad 2/2/68