



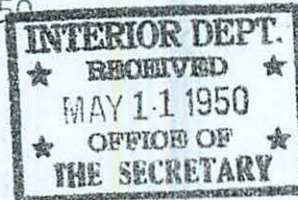
JOHN ANSON FORD
SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

County of Los Angeles
Board of Supervisors
501 Hall of Records
Los Angeles 12

May 8, 1950

MEMBERS of the BOARD

WILLIAM A. SMITH
CHAIRMAN
LEONARD J. ROACH
JOHN ANSON FORD
RAYMOND V. DARBY
ROGER W. JESSUP



AIR MAIL

The Honorable Oscar L. Chapman
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Oscar:

First I want to thank you (a) for the invitation to the Air
Pollution Conference (b) for your courtesy in having me as your
guest at the Conference banquet and (c) your enthusiastic endorse-
ment of the proposed national monument and statue of democracy.

I had a very satisfactory conference with Mr. Demaray, Mr. Drury (?)
and others. The theme, the treatment and the general idea received
their very favorable comment, as no doubt has been reported to you.

Discussion of the possibility of seeking token contributions for the
monument from other democracies brought up the question of protocol.
As a result I had - through the courtesy of your office - a very
pleasant call on Mr. Spruks, assistant protocol officer of the State
Department. Mr. Spruks declared there was nothing involved in the
proposal calling for checking with or supervision by the State
Department.

I found Drew Pearson most sympathetic to the idea and appreciative
of its world-wide significance. He expressed the idea that fund
raising might meet with some regional or provincial jealousy and
offered some appreciated suggestions about a national sponsoring
committee - a matter I already had in mind. He said he would be
glad to give it recognition when the project gets farther along.

I am now directing my thought to the practical problem of raising
funds.

I am not clear what your response was to my suggestion that you be
honorary chairman of the sponsoring committee. I wish you would give
me the assistance of your name in that capacity. If "protocol" forbids
it, can you give me a letter giving the idea your blessing?

Any plan that is perfected will have full safeguards for all funds
raised and all expenditures. Perhaps I can get one of the leading
financial men to serve as treasurer.

#2

Will you be free to offer any suggestions?

My best wishes go with you and the President in these coming days.

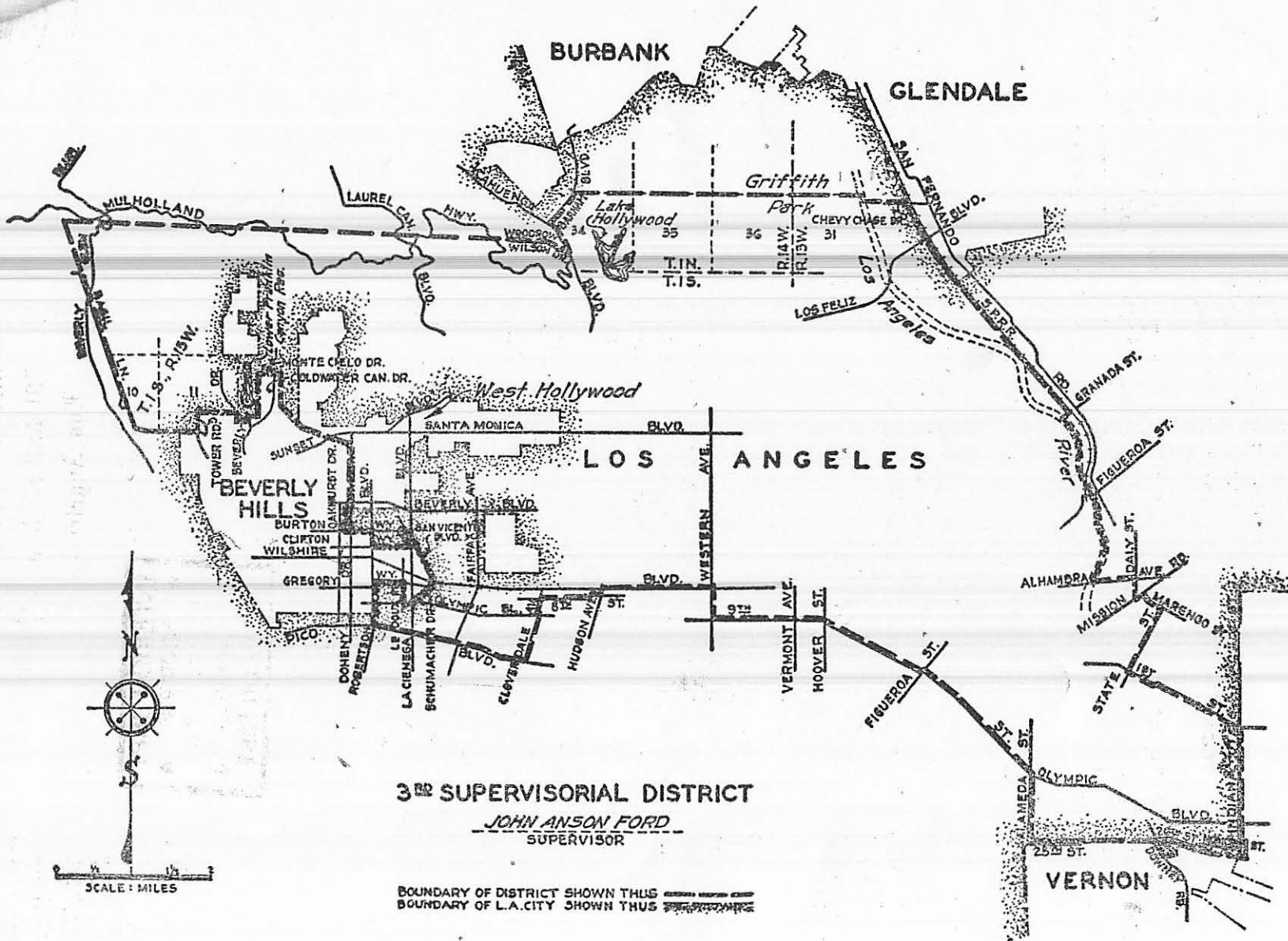
Sincerely,





JOHN ANSON FORD

JAF:mlb

P.S. I visited the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials again. Superb as always! But I think your department's Jefferson Memorial descriptive folder is not up to its subject. Both the photos and text should be improved. And it should be the same size as the Lincoln folder, I think.



3RD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
JOHN ANSON FORD
 SUPERVISOR

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT SHOWN THUS 
 BOUNDARY OF L.A. CITY SHOWN THUS 

ALFRED JONES-COUNTY SURVEYOR
 JULY 1936 A.M.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

PRS 1372

TO SECRETARY
MAY 19 1950
FOR SIGNATURE

In reply refer to:
L58 WASO

MAY 23 1950

Porter
Smith
Solomon
MAY 18 1950
Sumner
Pring
5/25
5/24
5/24/50
Winters
RF
To register
signature
Rec 7/4

Dear John:

It was a pleasure to discuss with you, the other day, the project which is now taking shape to create on the west coast, near Los Angeles, a national and international memorial symbolizing the theme of democracy uniting the world. I congratulate all who have had a part in this conception and share with others who are familiar with the preliminary plans, the hope that the project may come rapidly to full realization. Such a memorial, in a sense, a west coast companion to the Statue of Liberty, could express the fundamental aspirations of all Americans for democracy and peace in a manner worthy of our country, and could provide a source of inspiration for peoples far beyond our borders.

I wish you every success in your undertaking.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Oscar

Secretary of the Interior

Mr. John Anson Ford
Supervisor, Third District
County of Los Angeles
501 Hall of Records
Los Angeles 12, California

Copy to: History Division (by NPS)
Regional Director, Region Four (by NPS)

Each with copy
of Mr. Ford's
ltr of 5/8/50

N. P. S. COPY