

July 7, 1937

Dear Mr. Roll:

Thank you for remembering my Lincoln interests by sending me the program of the dedication of the Rutledge Tavern at New Salem and the opening of this beautiful Lincoln Memorial Park in Springfield. How I wish I could have been present at both ceremonies but the next best thing is having someone who was there remember me.

I am greatly interested in this garden and I am daring to suggest to Mrs. Knudson that you plant somewhere in your park what for a lack of a better term I call an ancestral garden, a garden made up of shrubs and trees and flowers brought from the succession of places in which the Lincolns settled after their arrival in America three hundred years ago up to the time that Abraham reached Springfield. I do not know that such a suggestion could be worked into the scheme but still it does not seem impractical to me if there is space for it. What do you think of the idea?

And thank you again for your kindness in sending me these documents.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. J. L. Roll  
825 Henrietta Street  
Springfield, Illinois