

October 24, 1963

Mr. Milton D. Thompson  
Director  
Illinois State Museum  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Thompson:

It was brought to my attention by Clyde Walton that you are now considering refurbishing the Lincoln Totem Pole, particularly if it is to be used in the Illinois Land of Lincoln Pavilion at the New York World's Fair.

The designer of our exhibit, Will Burtin, is anxious that the totem pole be one of the features of the entrance hall which is devoted entirely to Mr. Lincoln. This letter will serve as our formal request for the use of the totem pole for the period from approximately March 1, 1964 through the end of October 1965. Of course the Illinois Commission will assume responsibility for the security and insurance of the totem pole in New York, and will be pleased to acknowledge the State Museum's cooperation in making it available.

Clyde mentioned that in refurbishing the totem pole there may be some dimensional changes as a result of restoring it to its original form. It is important that our designer know the final measurements so that he can properly locate and display the item. Would you please supply that information directly to Mr. Will Burtin at 132 E. 50th Street, New York 22, along with any other information you may have which will be helpful to him in preparing the exhibit area?

We will be in touch with you in the near future to handle the details. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

James A. Cassin  
Executive Director

JAC:LF

cc: Mr. Clyde C. Walton  
Mr. Will Burtin  
Mr. Patch C. [unclear]