

But the resolution fixed a site along the Mall now occupied by the new Smithsonian Air Museum for the gallery.

The intent of the resolution protects the National Collection of Fine Arts in a new gallery—now proposed in the Patent Building—according to one view. But to the majority of league members, the fact that the Smithsonian built an air museum on one art gallery site hints that the pattern could be repeated by history nosing out art again in the Patent Building.

[From the New York Times, Saturday, May 13, 1961]

CAPITAL TO HAVE ITS SHAKESPEARE—FREE PARK PRODUCTIONS ARE PLANNED THIS SUMMER

(By Louis Calta)

Washington, like New York, will have its free Shakespeare in the park this summer. The founder and organizer of the venture is Ellie Chamberlain, who once worked with Joseph Papp's Shakespeare Festival in Central Park.

Yesterday Miss Chamberlain explained that her association with Mr. Papp's group had been the motivating element for the capital project. The plan she has chosen for the first season is "Twelfth Night," which will open July 1 for a 2-week run.

The classic will be played at the Sylvan Theater, a 1,500-seat outdoor theater set in a grove of trees and shrubbery about 2 blocks from the White House and about 100 paces from the base of the Washington Monument.

The Department of Interior is providing the theater and maintenance and the District of Columbia Recreation Department will supply the equipment. Production costs are being met by private donations. These will be supplemented by a recently launched dollar drive.

Among those who already have responded to the drive, according to Miss Chamberlain, are Robert Frost, Laurence Olivier, Mr. Papp and Richard L. Coe, drama critic for the Washington Post.

All of the actors, Miss Chamberlain explained, have volunteered to perform without pay in the expectation of improving on their art. Rehearsals are scheduled to start May 29.

[From the Evening Star, Washington, D.C., Friday, Mar. 17, 1961]

SHAKESPEARE FETE PLANNED—ACTRESS DREAMED IT UP, MEANS TO MAKE IT ANNUAL

(By Amelia Young)

If Ellie Chamberlain gets her way, the Nation's Capital will have its own Shakespearean Festival every summer beginning in 1961.

Ellie is a local actress-director turned entrepreneur who means to stage a festival this July no matter how she has to do it.

She plans to put on "Twelfth Night" for a 2- or 3-week run, using the best of area talent and drawing on the National Capital Parks and the D.C. Recreation Department for assistance.

Already she has received permission to use the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument grounds, pending final arrangements, and the Parks Department has agreed to put up seats for an audience of 1,500.

Ellie's dream is to raise \$5,000 to cover the production costs (lighting, costumes, scenery) and she is applying for a license to solicit donations. The actors will not be paid and the public will not be charged. This is strictly a non-profit venture.

Should she fail to collect the full amount, Ellie said, she'll have to rely heavily on imagination—but the show will go on.

WORTHY PRECEDENT

For example, if necessary the company will perform on weekend afternoons without any stage lighting at all. "We would have a valid precedent for this," she said. "Shakespeare's own company performed in full daylight."

And the scenery could be reduced to just the suggestion of a set. "Scenery should be simple, anyway. I feel. It's there to enhance the mood and quality of a production, but it shouldn't be heavy. It shouldn't interfere. So the