

Pace Gallery Bid for Sculpture In Central Park Barred by City

By GRACE GLUECK

A proposal by the Pace Gallery here for the temporary installation of two abstract sculptures in Central Park has been vetoed by Edwin Weisl Jr., Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Commissioner. The sculptures, by Ernest Trova, were intended to advertise a show of the artist's work currently at the gallery, 32 East 57th Street, Commissioner Weisl held.

"The park is now an official landmark, and cannot be used for commercial purposes," he said, adding that even with his approval, the proposal would have to be cleared with the Landmarks Commission and the city's Art Commission.

Arnold Glimcher, the gallery's president, said the proposal had been encouraged by Parks Department subordinates, and that several thousand dollars had already been spent on preparation for installing the works. Noting that sculptures by other artists, represented by other galleries, had been installed on the site, at Fifth Avenue and 60th Street across from Grand Army Plaza, he said that the veto was "evidence of the hostile environment the city provided for outdoor sculpture."

But the Commissioner said that the work by other artists in connection with commercial

gallery shows had been installed before the park's landmark designation. Further, the city did much to encourage the display of outdoor sculpture, he asserted. A proposal is under consideration to permit the showing of works by galleries on the Park Avenue malls, for example, and the Parks Department will cooperate with the Whitney Museum for display on park property of works by Mark di Suvero, in conjunction with an exhibition at the Whitney this fall.

Meanwhile, one Trova sculpture has found an outdoor roost here. "Profile Canto West," a 22-foot-high stainless steel piece weighing nearly two tons will be installed today at Heywood Tower, a middle-income and low-income apartment house at West 91st Street and Amsterdam Avenue. The work was purchased at cost from the artist by the builder Kreisler Borg Florman.

Mrs. Eisenhower Improving

FORT GORDON, Ga., March 31 (UPI)—Mamie Eisenhower is eating a normal diet and continues to make steady improvement, her physicians at Fort Gordon Army Medical Center said today. Mrs. Eisenhower, widow of President Eisenhower, entered the hospital last Tuesday suffering from intestinal bleeding.