

The ROSWELL MUSEUM



ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

Thomas M. Messer
Director

January 4, 1951.

Miss Laura Gilpin
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Miss Gilpin:

We at the Roswell Museum are so sorry about the confusion attendant on the scheduling of our exhibition of your fine Rio Grande photographs. It is very good of you to assure Paul Horgan of your helpfulness in straightening this out. You will understand, I am sure, after reading the enclosed copy of your letter to Mr. Messer, dated May 16, 1950, that we here felt assured of the dates your letter confirmed; that is, Feb. 4 to March 4, 1951. All the nationally-known art magazines, whose deadlines are two months in advance of publication, have already received notification of this exhibit, and our own publications, the monthly Members' Calendar, and the quarterly Bulletin, have also carried advance notice. Our own exhibition calendar is filled through May, 1951. These facts make us particularly eager to put on your show as planned, and grateful to you for your offer to cancel your planned Washington exhibit.

The policy of the Roswell Museum is to present a very informal lecture in connection with each of our exhibits. The date for this Gallery Talk related to your own show is February 19. Paul Horgan suggested I ask you if by any chance you would be free on that date, and would consider driving to Roswell to see your photographs installed and to give an informal talk at 7.30 that evening on your experiences while making these Rio Grande photographs. It would be a great pleasure and privilege for our Museum to announce such a lecture, and Paul would be most happy to introduce you. The Roswell Museum operates on the proverbial shoestring, so that unfortunately we are not in a position to offer a lecture fee, but would most gladly pay travelling expenses, of course, and it would be a great pleasure to me to have you stay overnight with me. I live a few miles out of Roswell in the country; and believe I could make you comfortable. Should this work out, it would be a delightful thing for our Museum and our community, as well as a personal pleasure. May we hear from you about this suggestion, as well as receiving as soon as possible confirmation from you of our receiving your distinguished exhibit some days in advance of the opening day (February 4?) in this connection I am enclosing, in addition to the copy of your May letter to Mr. Messer, one of our recent Bulletins.

Mary Carrington Nicholas
Assistant to the Director

Very sincerely yours,
Mary Carrington Nicholas