

## COLORADO SPRINGS FINE ARTS CENTER

WEST DALE STREET COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

September 9, 1952

Miss Laura Gilpin  
Box 1173  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Mitchell A. Wilder, Director

Dear Laura:

Thank you so much for your letter of August 18 which came in while I was on vacation, thus the delay in replying.

I am delighted to have word from you regarding your thinking on the ultimate disposition of your negatives. I had not been aware that the discussion on this very problem had come up at the Aspen conference which I was unable to attend. However, since your thinking is concurrent with my own and certainly goes along in what I consider to be the same constructive channel, we certainly agree. With your permission, I will inform the Central City Opera House Association that eventually the negatives will be left to the Association. I am most happy that this is your plan for I do feel that there is no other place where they will be given the proper treatment. The same, of course, applies to the material in which the museum is interested.

In the meantime, with regard to a reorder on the Central City pictures, I will take up the matter with Frank Ricketson, President of the Association, to see if they can set aside enough money to secure some of the missing pictures. I know that the Merry Widow is completely absent from their collection but the others, I think, are more or less intact with possibly a few exceptions. Could you give me a total count on the number in each portfolio which were originally turned over to the Association? I have no way of knowing how many there should be in each set.

•

Miss Laura Gilpin

September 9, 1952

Page 2

I am delighted to hear that all goes well with you and that you feel you will be able to get back on the Navaho book again in the near future. Please let me know when you are coming up to Colorado Springs as I would like to see you then. I will be away from the museum from the 20th of September until the 10th of October. Believe it or not, the santos are opening at the Metropolitan Museum of Art on the 20th of September. It will be quite an affair for us. We have sent back the very top material in the entire collection for the show. Best wishes from all of us. Incidentally, you will be pleased to know that we are doing a small memorial show on Mike Robinson opening this week.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. A. W." with a stylized flourish underneath.

MAW/ce