

GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE

900 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER 7, N. Y.

Director
OSCAR N. SOLBERT

Curator
BEAUMONT NEWHALL

Curator of Motion Pictures
JAMES CARD

March 26, 1957

Miss Laura Gilpin
Box 1173
Santa Fé, New Mexico

Dear Laura:

I have been trying to find a moment to thank you for making the Navaho exhibit available to Eastman House. It is a fine exhibit, and has drawn considerable attention. In fact, for Rochester, it has been most successful.

A clipping is enclosed as you can see Virginia Smith was more than usually interested in the pictures. We do not often get as long or as lively a review. Local newspaper critics, whether here or elsewhere are not exactly long on esthetics, as you well know; so we are all very gratified that she took more than ordinary pains and interest to express herself.

I started out to hang the show but Rochester weather decided otherwise so that Beaumont had to finish the job. He performed with customary ease and sense of rightness. One of the things we did was to tighten the exhibition by leaving out some of the images where there were several of a similar nature. I am always amazed to see how a little paring here and there will improve almost any exhibit.

I don't suppose that you will remount this exhibit at any time in the near future, but if you do, you might consider a less standard presentation. Bleed edge mounting on some prints would aid installation especially if they could be clustered around some of the prints which live well in wide borders.

How to decide all this is a dreadful problem. As my lads in the fourth year class are finding out. They have their year projects, mostly documentary, just at the stage of editing and layout, some for exhibit, some for book type presentation. The sweat and agony far surpasses that expended making the photographs. Sometimes