

November 7
1961

Dear Mr. Temple:-

Please pardon my writing to you in English. My French is very poor and also I am inclined to insert Spanish words every now and then! It was very nice to hear from you through Mlle Aude. And I am pleased indeed that you remember my Navaho book and are still interested in it. I am sending this letter off at once to tell you that I am shipping some prints in the next day or two. I want also to include an outline of the book which will give more meaning to the photographs. I have selected about two dozen prints which cover a variety of subject matter and will give some idea of the scope of the work.

It is of the greatest interest to me that you speak of LA GUILLE DU LIVRE. They published LA FRANCE DE PROFIL, by Claude roy and Photographs by Paul Strand whom I know and whose work I admire greatly. I have long wished that it might be my good fortune to have such wonderful reproductions and such fine quality of work.

I am trying to finish the text of the Navaho in the next few months. Some is done, and the photography is almost all ready. A few things I want to fill in in a few places. And, as you know, I have all of this Navaho story in color as well, more than any publisher would want. There are some questions that come to mind. Should this publisher consider my book, would they do both a French and an English edition? I am told here in Santa Fe that LA GUILLE DU LIVRE has some arrangement with the Graphic Press in New York? Do you know if this is correct? I have always wanted this book to be printed in Europe because of the superior workmanship. I have suffered enough through poor reproductions.

It will be with great eagerness that I await further word from you, and I think it would be wonderful if this should come to pass. I would certainly consider coming over to work with the publisher and printer so that we could produce the best possible result.

My best wishes to you and again my thanks for your interest
Most sincerely yours

OUTLINE FOR THE ENDURING NAVAHO, BY LAURA GILPIN

This is primarily a photographic book.

Suggested jacket, a color reproduction of a very fine Navaho blanket, a beautiful red, with black zig-zag stripes. Inserted a black & white reproduction of of the print enclosed bearing the title.

Front end papers. A checkerboard of faces, many different types, young, to old.

Back end papers A checkerboard of hands at work on crafts and general work.

Frontispiece. A double page spread. Navaho & sheep.

Dedication. A letter to a trained nurse friend to whom I owe much in the way of help. The letter gives a reason and setting for the book.

Foreword. Short but important

Contents. INTRODUCTION

PART I

Creation of the Navaho world.

Half title picture

Four full page uprights. The four sacred mountains taken from the air. Text short account of myth.

The Diné. (The People).

Twenty eight or more portraits mostly full page uprights.

Text. some descriptive. Some anecdote.

PART II.

Habitation
Occupation

Sixty or more pictures. Some are horizontal and text to fill page;

PART III

PART III

Transition

- A. people (a series of same individuals 25 yrs apart.)
- B. Government
- C. Recreation.

About sixty pictures. A few two to a page.

PART IV

Tradition

This section contains what I have of ceremonials. Very difficult to obtain, but I have a number that are most important. Still hope to get a few more things.

Appendix

map
chronology
bibliography.

Most of the photography is done. Can have as much color as any publisher would use. Hope for a possible use of color on the half title pages commencing each section.

Text only partly done, Will use much personal experience stories. This is Not a scientific work but much factual information can be worked in with the kind of text I want to complete.

11 X 14

Waiting for Yarbickai
Larkin Canyon del Norte

Native plants for veg dyes (Bah)

Nav. Weaver (elena)

Water hole

Senise - Ship rock

Selen Smith (old)

Nav. Senise Hogan (1934)

The little Shepherd

Nav. Woman (old lady a bit)

Senise Shiprock for Mountain

Dodges - Under Rock

Young Nav. Mother

Going home for Trading post

Shepherds of the Desert

8 X 10

Weaver's wife Hogan 1932

Woven child & lamb

Corrugated Wagon

Leadn of haw. (man for hidden Valley
du a Seennon skettin
Group in Hogan
Annie Wanneka
haw auto Crofts guild
at Shiprock Fair
Hawds of Daisy
Saad wt of East
jacket pix