

Laura Gilpin
Box 1173
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Laura Gilpin:

My wife and I are finally resettled back in Cambridge after extending our travels in the Southwest through the first of the year. We enjoyed all of it and ended up with a great deal of material on the Indian pueblos, both ancient and modern.

I hope you remember our conversations concerning the Ben Wittick collection at the Laboratory of Anthropology and concerning some of your photographs of the pueblos and of a Navajo summer shelter. You suggested that you could work from the original Wittick negatives or perhaps from the copy negatives that were made recently, but in any case you would not make a print if the negative would not produce a good one. You also indicated you would charge us by the hour for the work. For your own photographs you quoted a charge per print. All this was and still is entirely satisfactory to us.

I would like the following Ben Wittick's on 8 by 10 paper or larger if the negative is larger. These should be suitable for publication.

in Volume 2: #139V, #149V, #165V, #167V
in Volume 3: #232V
in Volume 6: #8, #18, #23, #25, #31, #39
in Volume 7: #64, #66

It would be a great help to us if you would put the identifying number on the back of each print.

I would like one 8 by 10 print of each of two of your own photographs: a shot of the corn dance and kiva at San Ildefonso from the Rio Grande book and the aerial shot of Santo Domingo that we discussed. These should also be suitable for publication.

I would also like a print of the beautiful summer hogan from your Navajo book. This was really more of a small clearing with blankets and things on the ground and women working in the shade of small trees joined overhead. I seem to remember your saying that a print of this would be larger than 8 by 10. Fine. This print will go into my own file of architectural prototypes and will not be used for publication.

Both my wife and I enjoyed meeting you and often talk of returning to Santa Fe. We look forward to receiving your photographs.

Sincerely,

Chester Sprague
Chester Sprague

52 Garden Street
Cambridge 38
Massachusetts