

3501 CAMP BOWIE BOULEVARD, FORT WORTH 7, TEXAS PERSHING 2-2847

October 12, 1962

Miss Laura Gilpin  
Box 1173  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Laura:

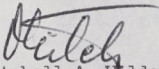
I was delighted to have your letter in response to my suggestion re the Indian Arts Fund. I was aware that the collection had been moved to the Art Museum and when I was in Santa Fe earlier this year the construction was under way for the vault, etc. This, of course, is a tremendous improvement over past situations and will, of course, assure continued safekeeping of the I.A.F. material.

As you are aware, our suggestion for the exhibit implies far more than merely bringing things out to public gaze. I am really more concerned with the documentation of the I.A.F. story and the people who did the work. I would hope, of course, that there would be some fairly rich photographic material covering the leading personalities and the work with the Indians. As a preliminary to our problem a check list might be prepared of just what and where is available. Does the Santa Fe Indian School have anything? How about such people as Oliver LaFarge and Morris Burge (this name is coming up from thirty years' immersion so I have no idea how it is spelled). Chap, of course, will know all the names, places and events and it is largely because he is still with us and still alert that I feel the project has a sense of imminence. Without Chap it would be an extremely difficult task to assemble this data.

By the time you receive this letter you will have had some response from your Board of Trustees. I look forward to hearing from you and do hope that it will be as interested as you are. We should also think of other museums who would be interested in this project. Of course, Santa Fe should show it but hopefully it should be seen somewhere in the East--preferably New York. Perhaps Mrs. Davisson would have some thoughts.

Best to both of you.

Sincerely,

  
Mitchell A. Wilder  
Director

MAW/lc