

November 22, 1973

Dear Laura:

Let me apologize for the extraordinary delay in writing you about the photographs we wish to purchase. You can see by the date above - Thanksgiving - that I am in the office trying to catch up on things. However, my performance in this matter is inexcusable and I hope you will forgive me. I saw your exhibition at Lee's in New York and it was superb. Its conciseness and richness gave the work an intensity and insightfulness which I think would be diminished in a larger show. I have not seen many exhibitions of your work, especially out there, but I think this is one of your best and by far, one of the best Lee has had in this or any other gallery season. Also, the small exhibition you had down at Prints on Prince Street through Graphics International was a gem!

As you know Mr. McAlpin came in way last summer and indicated to me his favorites from the group of prints you sent. I added my thoughts and together we have selected four prints for purchase. They are: The Ghost Rock; Square Tower House, Mesa Verde; Grinding Corn; and Ranchos de Taos Church. It was a hard decision to make but our funds are limited and even with Mr. McAlpin's generosity I am concerned with our ability to build up a rounded and diverse collection of original photographs.

I need a formal invoice from you for the four prints and then I can put through payment. I have worked under the assumption that the prints are \$250 each.

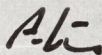
The remaining ten prints I am taking up to Lee Witkin in New York. I will alert John Szarkowski they are at Lee's gallery, but I think leaving them at MOMA would only cause further delay. They are having serious labor problems and I doubt John can turn his attention to purchases at this time. I will have a receipt from Lee as to delivery, and I will ask him to send one to you for your records.

I am really so embarrassed by this performance of mine - but I want you to know how much the pictures will mean to

our collection and to the generations of students who will
use them and learn from them.

With my warmest regards.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P.C. Bunnell' in a cursive style.

Peter C. Bunnell
Director

Miss Laura Gilpin
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Santa Fe, New Mexico