

June 27, 1977

Dear Ms. Gilpin,

Thank-you very much for answering my letter concerning photographs of interiors in which Indian arts and crafts have been used as decoration. I know from having studied the Meem collection at the University of New Mexico as well as the collection at the Taylor Museum, that many of the finest photographs of Southwestern interiors are yours.

Strangely, this area is one which has not been explored: the influence of Indian arts on the architecture and interior design of the Southwest. I have spent nearly two years researching the subject, and it has been a fascinating experience. One of the most interesting parts has been interviewing people who knew Mary Jane Colter. They are few and far between, but I keep looking for more about her since she appears to be largely responsible for first using Indian arts as interior decoration. Unfortunately, Southwestern historians have all but ignored her work. I am hoping to give her as much credit as I can in my book.

I found a clipping in the Harvey collection which mentioned you as a friend of Miss Colter. If you can think of anything about her I might use in my book, I would very much appreciate hearing from you on the subject!

My husband and I are planning to be in Santa Fe in the next few weeks and, if possible, I would like to talk to you about using some of your photographs as well as of what I am attempting to do in the book. If this would be agreeable with you, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Mathilde Daughton
Mathilde Daughton

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