

White Hill Lane, Hillsdale NY 12529
Milton Meltzer / ~~263 West End Avenue / New York 23, N.Y.~~

June 6, 1977

Miss Laura Gilpin
409 Camino Del Monte Sol
Santa Fe, NM 87501

ansd

Dear Miss Gilpin:

I am working on a large-scale biography of Dorothea Lange, under contract to Farrar, Straus & Giroux and with the cooperation of her husband, Prof. Paul Taylor, and the family.

I thought it possible that you and Lange may have met, though I have as yet seen no correspondence between you. I know you studied with Clarence White in New York, and so did she. Her time with him at Columbia was 1917-18, just before she left the East Coast permanently, and she settled in California.

Another possible link might be her photography in Arizona and New Mexico. She was married first to the western painter, Maynard Dixon, and made some extended trips with him in the southwest, he painting and she taking pictures. She was in Arizona in 1922 and again in 1923, photographing in Hopi villages, and she spent a good part of the year 1931-32 in Taos. Knowing of your work in the same region, again it seemed possible you met.

In any case, if you ever exchanged letters with her, would it be possible for me to obtain xerox copies, at my expense?

Even if you were not studying with Clarence White at the same time, I would be interested in your impressions of White as a teacher. I have some of her feelings about him, but to see him from another point of view might be helpful.

Many thanks for your kindness.

Sincerely,

Milton Meltzer