

December 27, 1977

Miss Laura Gilpin
409 Camino del Monte Sol
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Laura:

It was such a pleasure to hear your voice on Christmas Day, and thanks so much for the call. We greatly appreciated hearing from you.

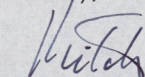
However, the day before was a little better because in the mail came a photograph of which I have very distinct and warm memories, i.e., San Juan in his Niche at Hernandez, ca. 1937. It is a beautiful print and I thank you so much for it. I think it should go into the museum collection so the next time you are in Fort Worth I will ask you to sign the mat. In the meantime, we shall be putting it up for posterity!

All went well through the holidays except that we caught a violent intestinal flu which put us both down for two days. Very fortunately no one was here to celebrate with us. We were alone as the kids had had all their celebrations in Fort Worth earlier in the year and were off skiing. We both took to our bed of pain.

I hope this New Year finds you up on your feet and feeling better than ever. It has been a trying but memorable year for us having completed this building, and at last having the space in which to work. I am sure that everyone on the staff breathes an easier breath but at least a thankful one that we no longer have to labor in the confines of the old building. This is particularly true, of course, for the photographic department where life has been lived in a straightjacket for over ten years.

Everyone at the museum sends their fondest greetings to you for the holidays, and Sally and I join in the best to your staff and love to you.

Sincerely,



Mitchell A. Wilder
Director

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