

LAURANCE D. CONE
4825 BRAND WAY
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95819

October 10 1969

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

Dear Miss Gilpin;

It has been my great pleasure to be reading The Enduring Navaho. It is truly a great book in every way, picturewise writing and most of all the feeling for the Navaho.

Many years ago at Mesa Verde National Park in the gold era of Mesa Verde...1930 to seven years after...I knew the Navaho. They were my friends and still are. I have a great affection for them starting from working with them during those years and attending with them many dances all over their country, and then later picking up that association in Oklahoma.

Your treatment of the pictures and the material making up the text is the finest I have ever seen or read. The pictures are of the Navaho as I knew them and as I saw them year after year. There is a tremendous sympathy of feeling and compassion for them all kindly handled and giving my wife and me a feeling that they are the Indians we knew too. I have tried to get the book for a long time and now at the State Library I have it to read and to thoroughly enjoy. I have ordered it so we may add it to our library. I have many books

about the Indians, and this will be another book to read reread and reread again and love every time more.

The photography is unexcelled in its truth and quality. These are the Navaho as I know them. I find the spelling of Navaho is throwing me a bit for I find writing it the way you do is hard for me to do. I always write Navajo. I note you explain your spelling.

You have done a great and worthwhile job and have done it beautifully.

Thank you.

In reading the book I noted your living in the lovely city of Santa Fe, and I envy you. I have been there many many times, and dearly love Santa Fe. While living in Anadarko Oklahoma and working with the Indian Arts and Crafts Board for six years I often drove to Santa Fe and often visited there and loved every moment of the time there. I have noted your address and recall that street as being the same as a close friend or friends the Paul Frankes. He was at Mesa Verde as the head of the Park when I was there..and he and Betty were very good to us all.

I also note in the introduction your working with Robert Edmond Jones..another of my heros. In going to college I had wanted to be another Jones..I loved the theatre..but after training for the theater and working hard toward the stage..I found graduating in 1931.. did not place me in a good time for theater work.. the midst of the 1931 Depresssion. I went into landscape Architecture work and landed most fortunately at Mesa Verde. What a break...and a introduction for future happiness.

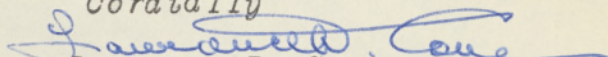
Thank you for the Enduring Navaho.
It is good to read it and to know with you

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many of those who aided you in the writing and
in obtaining the information. Father Berard..
Don Watson, Bertha Dutton and E. Boyd.. Sam Ahkeah..
Cosy Mc Sparron at Chin Lee.. both Bill and Sally
Lippencott and Fred Dockstader.. and the Arts
and Crafts Board... and Most of all The Navajo.

To my wife and to me.. your book is a
worthy companion to many other books now in
our collection. Thank you for writing it.

Very gratefully and
Cordially


Laurance D. Cone