

Feb. 21

1968

Mrs. Barbara Spielman,
University of Texas Press,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Spielman:

Indeed I have you to thank for making me realize that I had not been clear about the four parts. Your new table of contents is excellent and I am very pleased over the entire outcome.

I trust that the print of the sand painting and the silver reached you on time, but I am astounded at the slowness of the air mail. Your letter of the 13th and Frank's of the 15th reached me together on Saturday afternoon. I went up to the Navaho Museum to re-photograph the sand painting design in black and white. While up there I saw Dr. Bertha Dutton. I told her that the final decision was the spell Navaho with a "j"! Her first cryptic comment was "well, if they want to be illiterate!" Then with a twinkle in her eye she asked "Who is publishing your book?" I told her, then she added "Do they spell that with a "j" too?" Her quickness and neatness with this comment I thought worthy of sending on to you, and I hope you get a good laugh out of it. I accept this decision somewhat reluctantly but I hope gracefully, and I do realize the complications in the text that the "h" spelling produced. However, the "h" is right and the Indian Service is wrong, and this isn't the first time the service has been wrong about the Navaho People! I feel reasonably sure that the combined weight of all the scholars will eventually change the word back again. So be it.

Also I see your point about the end papers, though again I am sorry. Do you think a few libraries putting their cards in a book are worth the loss of effect? I judge by the reaction of all those who have seen my dummy. I cannot quite visualize just where you could use these pages inside.

As to the Lippincotts, they were together at the time that I was over there, and for some years after they left the reservation. I think its best to leave it that way. And yes, use "adapted from" in relation to page 85 and Dine Bekayah.

The Jacket copy is excellent and I thank you. If it is not too late and if you think it necessary, you might add, "born in Colorado". I still have a strong feeling for my native state.

If this reaches you in time could you add to the end of the sentence beginning (in the Preface)"Some of these pictures were made more than thirty years ago, ~~about~~ of them between 1950 and 1965 when the photographic work was completed." Dont you think that this takes care of the dating problem

I assume that you are now finished with your part of this book. Because I have always spelled Navaho with an "h" I shall probably keep on doing so, and all my prints, a good many which have been sold and those that go on exhibit, already have my spelling. I hope Mr. Wardlaw wont mind this.

Again my grateful thanks for all your most excellent work and help and I hope that some day I shall have the pleasure of seeing you in person.

Most cordially,