UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL MONUMENTS
APACHE INDIAN RUINS

FILE NO.
PART 1

IMPORTANT
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HORACE M. ALBRIGHT, Director
The Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Director:

A day or two ago Mr. Emil Haury, who is working with Mrs. McCurdy and Mr. Gladwin over at Globe, dropped in to see me and to urge us to reserve a new national monument consisting of some very interesting ruins over in the Apache Indian reservation.

I am enclosing some photographs which he gave me. These show an excellent type of construction and the one of the Canyon wall shows some pretty good scenery.

These ruins are recently discovered and have thus far not been touched by the pot hunters. This makes it important from the viewpoint of future archaeological work. Another important point about these ruins is that Mr. Haury has been able to date them on the Douglass ring growth theory and they date pretty well down in the later days of the cliff dwellers occupation of the southwest.

I told him that I would try to get over in there and have a look at them later in the spring and would then let him know what the chances were for making a national monument. He is a very conservative worker and I have confidence in his judgment from the archaeological end of it. It remains for us to determine the value from the national monument point of view.

Do you want to leave this with me, or would you rather have Mr. Huesbaum go in for us and make the decision?

Cordially yours,

Frank Pitchley
Superintendent.
IN ANSWERING REFER TO

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Jesse L. Rusbaum,
Supt., Mesa Verde National Park,
Mancos, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Rusbaum:

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from Mr. Pinkley, dated January 29, relative to a newly discovered set of ruins on the Apache Indian reservation, which is self-explanatory. After looking at the photographs, also inclosed, please return them to this office for our files.

A telephone call to Neil Judd brought the information that Mr. Haury is trustworthy and that he thinks it would be worth while to examine the area and determine if it be of national monument standard. It would be fine if both you and Pinkley could visit the area. At any rate, we are putting the matter up to you as archeologist.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) HORACE M. ALBRIGHT

Director.

Inc. 7693

CC Mr. Pinkley

HCB 869.
copy

Gila Pueblo,  
Globe, Arizona.  
June 13, 1934

Mr. J. E. Graf, 
Associate Director  
Smithsonian Institution  
United States National Museum  
Washington, D. C.  

Dear Mr. Graf:  

In reply to your letter of May 26th, regarding the cliff-dwellings mentioned by Mr. West, I believe that he refers to the large group which lies east of the Sierra Ancha, just north of Salt River. There are several canyons, Cherry Creek, Coon Creek, Canyon Creek, and Pueblo Canyon, nearly all of which are situated in the Apache Reservation and which, up to the present, have been well preserved owing to the difficulty of access. Dr. Cummings has done some work in these ruins for the University of Arizona, and we have visited many of them in our search for sherds and beam material. The pottery is very consistent, and runs almost entirely to the types which occur in late Showlow horizons and the Four-Mile Ruin country. Our Mr. Haury is working on the tree-ring dating and, while he is not yet prepared to give an exact date, I think it is safe to say that the ruins will all fall into the early 14th Century.

We are urging the Department of the Interior to set aside some of these ruins as a National Monument since their isolation will be destroyed when the proposed Globe-Showlow highway shall be built. Work on this road has begun, and I shall be surprised if the ruins do not suffer in consequence.

A report on these ruins will probably be issued as soon as work now in progress shall be completed, but, in the meantime, if there is any further information which I can give, I hope you will not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

/S.  
Harold S. Gladwin
June 24, 1931

Mr. Horace M. Albright,
Director, National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Albright:

I am inclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Harold S. Gladwin, Gila Pueblo, Globe, Arizona, which it is thought may prove to be of interest. Our archeologists are of the opinion that the ruins to which Mr. Gladwin refers should be afforded some protection from vandalism. Possibly you can arrange to take some steps in this direction.

Very truly yours,

A. Wetmore

Assistant Secretary.
Mr. Brooks
Room 4122
Natural Park Service

We have had
the Indian Office
records examined.
But nothing has
been found of any
such "writ" as
mentioned by
Mr. Chadwick.

Moronica
Mr. Frank Pinkley,
Superintendent of Southwestern Monuments,
Coolidge, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Pinkley:

Mr. A. Wetmore, Assistant Secretary of the
Smithsonian Institution, U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C., wrote us under date of June 24
relative to certain cliff dwellings and ruins within
the Apache Indian Reservation, and he inclosed
copy of a letter from Mr. Harold S. Gladwin, Globe,
Arizona.

Copies of Mr. Wetmore's and Mr. Gladwin's
letters are herewith inclosed for your information,
together with a copy of Service letter of even date to
Mr. Wetmore.

Please look these over and if you have an op-
portunity to visit this area, do so and report your
findings.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) ARNO M. GAMMELER

Acting Director.

Inclosures 54414.

HLB/omm
Mr. A. Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary, Smithsonian Institution,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wetmore:

I am glad to see your letter of June 24, 1931, to Director Albright, which has come to my desk because Mr. Albright is in the west making a tour of the National parks and monuments.

I have carefully noted the contents of the copy of letter you enclosed, from Mr. Harold E. Gladwin, relative to the cliff dwellings and ruins in the Apache Indian Reservation, Arizona. It is noted that Mr. Gladwin stated: "We are urging the Department of the Interior to set aside some of these ruins as a National Monument since their isolation will be destroyed when the proposed Globe-Shelby highway shall be built. Work on this road has begun, and I shall be surprised if the ruins do not suffer in consequence."

A search of the records of this office and informal inquiry at the Indian Office fail to disclose any request to have these ruins set apart as a national monument. We are, however, very much interested in projects of this kind and have sent copies of your letter and Mr. Gladwin's letter to Mr. Frank Pinkley, Superintendent of Southwestern Monuments, Coolidge, Arizona, for his consideration and reaction. Of course you understand that since these ruins are within an Indian Reservation, the Indian Office of this Department has jurisdiction over them, and nothing could be done by the National Park Service without first securing the consent of the Commissioner of the Indian Service.

Sincerely yours,

(Bld) ARNO B. CAMMERER

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Acting Director.

Copy to Mr. Frank Pinkley,
Supt. Southwestern Monuments,
Coolidge, Arizona.
The Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Director:

I am sorry I have held up some correspondence on my desk having to do with certain ruins in the Apache country which Mr. Harold S. Gladwin through the Gila Pueblo, Globe, Arizona, has made attempts to have set aside as a National Monument.

I note that in his reply to Mr. Wetmore, dated July 7, Mr. Cammerer says: "A search of the records of this office and informal inquiry at the Indian Office fails to disclose any request to have these ruins set aside as a National Monument."

I think probably I can shed some light on this matter.

The ruins here mentioned cannot be reached at present without considerable difficulty although that country will soon be opened up by a new road and vandalism will immediately begin. The ruins are in a pretty good state of preservation. They are large enough to appeal to visitors from the spectacular standpoint, and they can be dated by the ring growth of their beams. They have thus far not been looted, and they show every evidence of yielding plenty of artifacts upon proper excavation. They are in an interesting time horizon, too.

Mr. Gladwin thought if we could put a proclamation on them the Gila Pueblo might become interested in opening them up and establishing a museum somewhat as they did at the Grand Canyon. He wanted me to go in at his expense and look them over but I told him the decision would lie with Mr. Nusbaum and any trip of mine would not settle anything. We then decided to ask Mr. Nusbaum to go in with us right after the archaeological meeting which was to be held at Gila Pueblo about the middle of April and which Mr. Nusbaum had promised to attend. Jess agreed to all this and Mr. Gladwin went ahead and hired a native to catch up and shoe several horses, for it was an eight or ten mile riding and pack trip from the head of navigation with a car, and hold them several days.

At the last minute Jess wired or wrote that he could not come and that blew the whole trip up for there was no use of Mr. Gladwin and myself going in there; any decision I brought out
would have been held up until Mr. Nusbaum could get around to going in to make the final decision.

Mr. Cammerer closes his letter of the 7th of July by saying: "Please look these over and if you have an opportunity to visit this area, do so and report your findings."

There isn't any need of my going in there and then sending some one else to make the final decision. Let the man who is to make the decision go in the first place and let him go quickly when a case like this comes up and let us get action on his decision and get something done.

You may not realize it, but our Service is getting in bad odor among some of the expeditions working in the Southwest, because we seem to be a lot of buck-passers; it takes too long to get permits through; it takes too long to come to decisions on possible monuments, etc. I have attended their meetings and know what some of these archaeologists are thinking, and I have a sneaking sympathy for them because I think we are overlooking some chances to deliver real service in this field. We ought to be on our toes to help these fellows out and save them bother and worry. They don't talk like they thought we were doing so.

I hope you don't think I am trying to talk myself into the job of handling permits or making decisions on monuments. I am not anxious to take on any more work. All I want is action.

Cordially,

[Signature]

Superintendent.
Mr. Frank Pinkley,
Supt., Southwestern Monuments,
Coolidge, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Pinkley:

I have your letter of August 5, last, relative to an investigation of certain ruins on the Apache Indian Reservation, which is in line with your conversation with me on the train to Carlsbad several weeks ago. I appreciate your putting this in writing for our guidance.

While we would like to have your own report on these ruins, irrespective of Mr. Nusbaum's, I concede your point of the wisdom of a report based on a joint investigation if that is possible. We are studying this matter, and if later on we find that Mr. Nusbaum cannot possibly make this investigation because of pressure of other matters on his time, we may have to resort to your making the investigation as a basis for a joint report by Mr. Nusbaum and you as associated in this work. This may have to be worked out this way.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) ARNO E. CAMMERER
Acting Director.