DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL MONUMENTS
NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO.
PART I.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS
"CHUPADERO"

LAST DATE ON TOP.
The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend the creation of the Chupadero National Monument within the Manzano National Forest, New Mexico, with boundaries as indicated on the attached diagram. The proposed National Monument consists of approximately 180 acres of unsurveyed land.

Examination has been made by Forest officers of the area to be reserved and this examination shows the existence of ancient Spanish ruins of great historic value which should be included within a National Monument.

I enclose for your information a memorandum covering the points of particular interest regarding this area contained in the reports of the Forest officers who made the examination.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Acting Secretary.

Enclosure.
March 31, 1911.

Sir:

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated March 28th, in relation to the creation of a National Monument to include certain Pueblo ruins situated about eight miles southwest of the so-called Gran Quivira, in township 1 S., Range 7 E., New Mexico.

In response thereto I beg leave to say that while these ruins have not been examined by any member of the Smithsonian Institution, so far as information respecting them and the history of the section in which they are situated are available, they have no great historical interest. As these remains are evidently generally similar to hundreds of others scattered throughout the Southwest, it is not believed that the public interests will be especially subserved by creating a National Monument for their protection.

Yours respectfully,

[Signature]

[Stamp: Received G.L.O. Apr. 1, 1911]

The Commissioner of the General Land Office,
Washington, D. C.
The Secretary of Agriculture.

Sir:

I have the honor to return hereewith a form, in triplicate, for a proclamation creating, under the provisions of the act approved June 8, 1909, the Chupadero National Monument within the Manzánito National Forest, New Mexico. Under the provisions of the said act the President is authorized "to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest . . . ", and it has been the practice of this Department, under these restrictions, to carefully consider whether the objects sought to be preserved by the creation of National Monuments fall within the purview of the limitations set forth in the act as quoted, and it has been our practice, with the concurrence of the Bureau of Ethnology and the Smithsonian Institution, to reserve only the more important and striking prehistoric ruins among those which are scattered over the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico in the southwest. The Forest Service has submitted a description of
the alleged ruins which are sought to be preserved and I find that the same are described chiefly as a number of mounds, and this description contains no evidence whatever leading to a conclusion that there are important pueblo or other standing ruins within the tract. Ruins of this character are found everywhere in the territories indicated above.

The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in his letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, dated March 31, 1911, says:

While these ruins have not been examined by any member of the Smithsonian Institution, so far as information respecting them and the history of the section in which they are situated are available, they have no great historic interest. As these remains are evidently generally similar to hundreds of others scattered throughout the southwest, it is not believed that the public interest will be especially subserved by creating a National Monument for their protection.

As this opinion appears to be in conflict with the reasons given in the communication from your Department recommending the creation of this Monument, I shall appreciate any further information you may have upon the subject.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Secretary.
The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 11 with reference to the creation of the Chupadero National Monument in the Manzano National Forest, New Mexico, further information covering which you request. The matter is being again referred to the District Forester for further consideration. I shall be glad to inform you of any new facts that may develop pertaining to the situation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Acting Secretary.
The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to report with reference to the creation of the Chupadero National Monument in the Manzano National Forest as follows:

It appears that no additional information other than that already furnished can be supplied concerning the past history or present conditions of these ruins. Since it is felt that the facts already presented are not sufficient to warrant the withdrawal of these ruins as a National Monument it is respectfully recommended that no further action be taken in the matter.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully;

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Acting Secretary.