Hon. Secretary of the Interior,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

On May 7th I introduced in the Senate S. 6714 for the creation of the Rio Grande National Park in New Mexico. This bill was intended to create a national park of the reservation heretofore made in connection with the construction of the Rio Grande or Elephant Butte Reservoir in New Mexico. The bill provides for placing this park in charge of the Secretary of the Interior.

Among other things as will be noted on line 20, page 3, there was to be included in the general project of the bill the care and etc. of the hot or warm springs situated upon the reserve lands. These hot springs are known as the Palomas Springs. The Springs have been heretofore very inaccessible owing to their location, but yet it has been the custom for two or three hundred years for the Spaniards and Mexicans and more recently for the Americans residing in New Mexico and Texas particularly, to go there and make camps, taking in some instances their families, and availing themselves of the use of the waters for medicinal and other purposes. For this reason the bill provided for only a nominal rental or lease from such people for the use of camping places, etc.
United States Senate.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

S. of I.--E.

I am informed that your Department has had the matter of the permanent withdrawal of these lands surrounding the Springs under consideration and that recently there has been some suggestion of restoring these lands to the public domain. I am also informed that recently a chief of the Field Division in New Mexico has made an investigation of the government land at Palomas Springs and that he found the settlement at the springs and conditions very unsanitary. I desire to say to you that while the Senators from New Mexico are very strongly opposed to the general proposition of withdrawal of public lands in New Mexico by executive order, both Mr. Catron and myself would favor such an order withdrawing these lands, at least for the present, from settlement, provided it is understood that such withdrawal will not operate to prevent the use of the waters by the people of New Mexico as they have been accustomed to use them for the last two or three centuries.

Shortly after introducing this bill I called your attention to it by a written communication and then in hopes that its provisions might meet with your approval and that you might assist by your recommendation to the Committee in securing its passage.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]
August 23, 1912.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of August 8, directing my attention to S. 6714, a bill which proposes to reserve from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States, under the name of the Rio Grande National Park, all the lands heretofore reserved under the provisions of the Reclamation Act in connection with the Rio Grande Reclamation project.

With regard to your request for the further withdrawal of these lands you say--

"That while the Senators from New Mexico are very strongly opposed to the general proposition of withdrawal of public lands in New Mexico by executive order, both Mr. Catron and myself would favor such an order withdrawing these lands, at least for the present, from settlement, provided it is understood that such withdrawal will not operate to prevent the use of the waters by the people of New Mexico as they have been accustomed to use them for the last two or three centuries."

I am pleased to observe in your statement your recognition of a substantial principle concerning which you have heretofore expressed considerable doubt, and I am, more over, pleased to advise you that, in my opinion, executive withdrawals already made will render unnecessary any further withdrawals in protecting the public in the use and benefit of the Palomas Springs and the prevention of their private exploitation.
The bill (S. 6714), upon which a report of the Department was submitted to the Committee on Public Lands of the Senate under date of June 18, 1912, is similar to H. R. 3020, Sixty-second Congress, and H. R. 10274, Sixty-first Congress, the latter having been introduced by Hon. W. H. Andrews, Delegate from the Territory of New Mexico, on May 28, 1909, who had previously called the attention of the Department to these springs and recommended that they be declared a National Monument. Acting upon his suggestion, the Department under date of February 29, 1908, temporarily withdrew from entry, pending investigation as to the character of the hot springs, the NE, Sec. 32, all of Sec. 33, the NW of Sec. 34, T. 13 N., R. 4 W., the NW of Sec. 3, NE of Sec. 4, and NE of Sec. 5, T. 14 S., R. 4 W. A special agent of the General Land Office was directed to make investigation and under date of January 19, 1909, submitted a report as to the character of the springs and the use which had been made of them and recommended that the springs be set apart from entry and upon proper application, leased or disposed of to private parties. Numerous applications for the leasing of these lands have been received but applicants have been advised that there was no law authorizing the same.

Under date of April 20, 1909, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in a letter to the Hon. W. H. Andrews, stated
that his office knew of no existing law under which the lands
could be permanently withdrawn, but advised him that if a bill
authorizing such withdrawal were introduced in Congress, dis-
position of the lands would be suspended pending consideration
of the bill.

On May 28, 1909, Mr. Andrews introduced in the House of
Representatives H. R. 10274, sixty-first Congress, first session,
entitled "A bill reserving from entry, location, or sale, Lots
1 and 2 in Sec. 13, T. 13 S., R. 4 W., New Mexico Prime Meridian,
in Sierra County, New Mexico, and for other purposes." This
Department made report to Congress on said bill on January 8,
1910, and suggested certain amendments thereto. The bill did
not become a law, but H. R. 3020, sixty-second Congress, is
identical therewith.

Under date of July 27, 1912, a report was submitted to the
Commissioner of the General Land Office setting forth the value
and use of the springs in question for medicinal purposes. The
special agent recommended, in addition to Lots 1 and 2, Sec. 33,
that there should also be withdrawn for approaches and camping
grounds, the N\text{\frac{1}{4}} SW\text{\frac{1}{4}}, N\text{\frac{3}{4}} SW\text{\frac{1}{4}}, Sec. 33, and SW\text{\frac{3}{4}}, Sec. 34, said
township and range. These lands are all shown to be vacant
on the records of the General Land Office, but were included
in first-form withdrawal precluding all forms of disposition
under the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat., 388),
by departmental order of March 26, 1908, and are also included
in coal land withdrawal New Mexico No. 1 by Executive order of
July 9, 1910. Lots 1 and 2, Sec. 33, said township, were with-
drawn May 1, 1911, by the General Land Office until March 5,
1913, in aid of pending legislation.

Yours very truly,

Secretary

Hon. Albert B. Fall,
United States Senate.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON August 23, 1912

Hon. Albert B. Fall,
United States Senate.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, directing the attention of this office to S. 6714, sixty-second Congress, second session, introduced by you May 7, 1912, and entitled "A Bill To create the Rio Grande National Park in New Mexico."

This bill proposes to reserve and withdraw from settlement, occupancy, or disposal under the laws of the United States under the name of the Rio Grande National Park, all the lands heretofore reserved under the provisions of the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat., 388) in connection with the Rio Grande Reclamation Project and embraces many townships. The reservation proposed by the bill would include Lots 1 and 2, Sec. 33, T. 13 S., R. 4 W., N. M. P. M., on which are located what are known as the Palomas Hot Springs and contains a provision on page 3, line 20, authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to designate a tract or tracts including such springs and to lease the same under certain conditions for limited periods of time. It is also provided that the
Secretary may

"set aside a portion of the same for the use and occupancy of temporary or transient visitors, who may choose to construct temporary camping places or tents thereupon and shall exact only a nominal rental or lease from such transients or temporary occupants."

The attention of this Department was called to these springs by Hon. W. H. Andrews, delegate from the Territory of New Mexico, under date of March 23, 1908, who transmitted a letter from Mr. Robert Martin, of Engle, New Mexico, recommending that these springs be declared a National Monument.

Acting upon this suggestion the General Land Office under date of February 29, 1908, temporarily withdrew from entry, pending investigation as to character of the hot springs, the N\textfrac{1}{4} of Sec. 32, all of Sec. 33, the W\textfrac{1}{4} of Sec. 34, T. 13 N., R. 4 W., the NW\textfrac{1}{4} of Sec. 3, NW\textfrac{1}{4} of Sec. 4, and NE\textfrac{1}{4} of Sec. 5, T. 14 S., R. 4 W. A special agent of the General Land Office was directed to make investigation and under date of January 19, 1909, submitted a report as to the character of the springs and the use which had been made of them and recommended that the springs be set apart from entry and upon proper application, leased or disposed of to private parties. Numerous applications for the leasing of these lands have been addressed to the General Land Office, but the applicants have been advised that there was no law authorizing the same.
Under date of May 28, 1909, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in a letter to the Hon. W. B. Andrews, set forth the facts and stated that his office knew of no existing law under which the lands could be permanently withdrawn, but advised him that if a bill authorizing such withdrawal were introduced in Congress, disposition of the lands would be suspended pending consideration of the bill.

On May 28, 1909, Mr. Andrews introduced in the House of Representatives H. R. 10274, sixty-first Congress, first session, entitled "A Bill Reserving from entry, location, or sale, Lots 1 and 2 in Sec. 13, T. 13 S., R. 4 W., New Mexico Prime Meridian, in Sierra County, New Mexico, and for other purposes." This Department made report to Congress on said bill on January 8, 1910, and suggested certain amendments thereto. The bill did not become a law, but H. R. 3020, sixty-second Congress, is identical therewith.

Under date of July 27, 1912, a report was submitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office setting forth the value and use of the springs in question for medicinal purposes. The special agent recommended, in addition to Lots 1 and 2, Sec. 33, that there should also be withdrawn for approaches and camping grounds, the N\(\frac{1}{4}\) SW\(\frac{1}{4}\), N\(\frac{1}{4}\) SE\(\frac{3}{4}\), Sec. 33, and SW\(\frac{1}{4}\), Sec. 34, said township and range. These lands are all shown to be vacant.
on the records of the General Land Office, and were included in first-form withdrawals providing all lands of disposal under the Reclamation Act of June 27, 1902 (32 Stat. 388) by departmental order of March 20, 1906, and are also included in coal land withdrawal New Mexico No. 1 by Executive order of July 9, 1910. Lots 1 and 2, Sec. 38, said township, were withdrawn May 1, 1911, by the General Land Office until March 5, 1913, in aid of H.R. 6629.

The permanent reservation of the lands containing the Palomas Hot Springs and lands necessary for approaches thereto, or for camping grounds, is deemed advisable by the Department and the provisions of S. 6714, providing for leasing or renting lands so reserved for limited periods under the authority of this Department, would undoubtedly tend to the best possible development of the springs.

There is enclosed herewith a diagram showing the Rio Grande Reclamation Project and there has been indicated on such diagram the lands which would be reserved under S. 6714. It is to be noted that while only parts of one or two sections of land are needed in connection with the Palomas Hot Springs, this bill includes many townships already withdrawn under the Reclamation Act and included within the Rio Grande Reclamation Project now under process of construction. Nearly ten million of dollars have been
expended and will be expended on this project, which involves the reclamation of approximately 185,000 acres of land in the United States. The land in question is intended to be disposed of under the homestead laws of the United States and the provisions of the Reclamation Act; the homestead entries returning to the Government the proportionate cost per acre of constructing, operating, and maintaining the irrigation system. Large areas of land which would be affected by the proposed legislation have been withdrawn under the Reclamation Act in connection with this project for construction purposes and are needed for reservoir or other purposes. The inclusion of these lands in a National park might lead to a conflict of authority and seriously interfere with the control of the reservoir and other lands which are needed in connection with the reclamation project. Attention is also directed to the fact that all lands within approximately one-quarter mile of the high water mark of the proposed reservoir were reserved for the protection of native birds by Executive Proclamation of February 25, 1909. This reservation is known as the Rio Grande Reservation and is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture, subject to Reclamation Service use.

This Department is therefore of the opinion that the passage of the bill in its present form is not advisable.

Very respectfully,

Secretary
THEO. W. ESPE, CHIEF: recommending further upon his letter of July 27, 1912, re Palomas Springs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

Santa Fe, N. M., September 26, 1912.

Honorable Commissioner,
General Land Office,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Under date of July 27, 1912, I made report and recommendation upon certain lands in Ts. 13 and 14 S., R. 4 W., New Mexico, urging that certain parts of Secs. 33 and 34, T. 15 S., R. 4 W., be withdrawn for the use of Palomas Hot Springs situate thereon. The conditions at the springs were set out in the said report. Since the date of the said report I have been informed that the sanitary conditions at the settlement mentioned in the report have become very bad and that because thereof certain fevers have become prevalent. In view of the nature of the settlement there are no means for enforcing any rules or regulations upon sanitary measures, nor for other measures.

By letter dated September 16, 1912, signed by the Assistant Secretary, I was appointed Superintendent of the National Monuments in New Mexico which are not within the National Forests. It occurs to me now that if the lands in question could be included in a National Monument there...
would be sufficient authority immediately to prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct of those visiting or camping or otherwise remaining at the springs, in addition to appoint a custodian with full authority to enforce such rules and regulations, etc. Such a custodian, competent in all respects, could be found at the springs, and his services could be gotten without emolument.

I make the above suggestions for what they may be worth.

Very respectfully,

Chief of Field Division.
Refer to SW A for attention.
that thing change.

10/1/12
Mr. Weller: Please mark on sheet the boundary line which are such public lands with marginal references.

Tours to Our Western States, 1873-1875.

X. E. T. 2019(W.B.) from 11/1908, Lots 12, Secs. 3-13, 4% Forest Reserve. *Lot 12, Sec. 33-13, 4% Little X. April 20, 1909-3/16,


Lot 2: May 1, 1911. + Rev. 3, 50, Sept. 11/33, Lots 12, Sec. 3, Lot 142. Sec. 14, 4% Robert Leon. + Dec. 17/43, Nov. 29/89, Feb. 4, 5, 7, Sec. 3, West 6, 7, 8, Sec. 14, 4% Colby B. Callagy. + Dec. 11/44, Nov. 29/44, Dec. 9/11, 11 + 8/100 Sec. 4, 143, 4% Elfrida River."
November 9, 1912.

The Chief Clerk:

Pursuant to your request I have considered the letter of Mr. Espay, Chief of Field Division, recommending that certain lands in New Mexico in which are situated the Balomas Hot Springs be withdrawn as a national monument under the provisions of the Act approved June 8, 1906, entitled "An Act for the preservation of American antiquities," (34 Stat., 225).

It is provided:

"That the President of the United States is hereby authorized in his discretion to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon lands owned or controlled by the government of the United States, to be national monuments," etc.

Taking the context of the Act together with its title, it is clear that it was not the purpose of the Congress to authorize the President to withdraw lands adapted merely for some particular commercial use and chiefly valuable therefor. In one sense any land is a matter of scientific interest. Mineral lands are unquestionably objects of scientific interest; so are agricultural lands, or desert lands, or timber lands, but it was not the intent of the lawmakers to authorize the withdrawal of the classes of lands above mentioned.

I am therefore of opinion that the lands mentioned
by Mr. Espey are not subject to withdrawal and reservation as a national monument under the provisions of the afore-
said Act.

Respectfully,

[Signature]
Acting Chief Law Clerk.
November 14, 1912.

Memorandum for Mr. Gove.

You will recall our conversation relative to the attached report of Chief of Field Division of the General Land Office, Theodore N. Espe, recommending the reservation for National Monument purposes of the public lands upon which are located the Palomas Hot Springs, New Mexico, together with some adjacent tracts for administrative purposes. Before taking this matter up with the Reclamation Service, as suggested by you, the tracts mentioned lying within a large withdrawal for reclamation purposes, I laid the matter before the Law Board of this Bureau, with request for a report as to the propriety of creating a National Monument under the provisions of the act of June 8, 1906. The attached opinion of the Acting Chief Law Clerk, that the lands in question are not subject to withdrawal and reservation as a National Monument under the provisions of the law referred to, suggests a reference of the papers to you for consideration in connection with the recommendation of Senator Fall relative to
proposed National Park legislation in which he is interested. I think, however, that the additional tracts to the east and north of the two lots already withdrawn should also be withdrawn pending legislation until March 5th, next, the same as lots 1 and 2, in Section 33, because I think Mr. Espe's recommendation for administrative purposes, that any reservation should embrace this additional territory, is a good one.

I inclose form providing for such withdrawal.

[Signature]
Chief Clerk.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARKS

August 29, 1917

Memorandum for the First Assistant Secretary:

Reference being had to that portion of Commissioner Tullman's letter of August 15, 1917, reading —

"I know of no appropriation under which a custodian may be appointed to take charge of the springs and reservations to be made throughout as suggested by Mr. Adair unless it be made into a national monument, when it would come under the general jurisdiction of the National Park Service."

I would state that by Section 2 of the Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities approved June 8, 1906 (34 Stat., 225) the President is authorized —

"in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARKS

smallest area compatible with the
proper care and management of the
objects to be protected."

Copy of the Act is attached.

The area within which the Las Palomas
Hot Springs are situated could therefore be
proclaimed a national monument only under the
assumption that these springs are "objects of
scientific interest"; and then only under a very
broad application of the term "scientific inter-
est", as practically the only branch of applied
science which would be furthered even indirectly
by preservation of these springs is hydrotherapy.

No national monument heretofore created
has had for its purpose the preservation of any
hot, mineral, or curative springs. I have very
carefully read the attached record without find-
ing indication of purpose by those interested
in the springs to reserve them for the advance-
ment of science, but rather for making available
their curative qualities to the public. The
language of Section 1 of the above-mentioned Act
would seem specially to indicate that Congress
had in mind its application to other objects
than that now under consideration.

In the event a national monument were
created of this area, administration of the mon-
ument would become an immediate and pressing
charge upon the Federal Government as from this
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARKS

In 1917 Congress appropriated $3,000 and in 1918 $5,000 for the protection of the national monuments. Should such appropriation in similar sum be continued in the future it would of course be possible to provide for the salary of a custodian at a small salary, say $500 per annum, but nothing in the way of extensive improvement work could be promised in view of the demands upon the appropriation made by the twenty-two monuments now under the supervision of this Department. Accordingly, it would doubtless be necessary to estimate for an augmented amount for protection of the national monuments, assigning as a reason for the increased necessity of improving this reservation.

In view of the adverse decision of Congress upon the proposition of making the area including these springs a national park it could reasonably be expected that adverse action would be had upon an estimate such as above outlined, and the Department on that account might be criticized for doing by indirection a thing which Congress had refused to do. On the other hand were no improvement made upon the situation at Los Palamos as reported, criticism of the Federal Government would likely follow because of neglect to adequately care for a charge which it had assumed.

(Sgd.) F. W. GRIFFITH
Acting Director.
Las Cruces 012645 "K" TEM  
T. S. 2-688  

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON  
SEP 10 1917  

COPY FOR INFORMATION  
OF National Park Service  

My dear Mr. President:  

I inclose herewith a draft of an Executive Order for your consideration and action proposing the revocation of Executive Order No. 2459, dated September 23, 1916, which reserved Lots 1 and 2, the NE 1/4 SE 1/4, the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, and the NE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec. 25, T. 13 S., R. 4 E., N. M., for townsite purposes under section 2380 and for disposition under section 2381 United States Revised Statutes.

The occupants of Hot Springs, New Mexico, Townsite, involving the above described lands, have petitioned for the disposition of the lots therein under sections 2382 to 2386 inclusive, that they may be accorded a preference right of entry. It is proposed to survey the lands under section 2384 and to dispose of the same thereunder since this section provides for survey by the Government and for a preference right of entry of lots lawfully occupied.

I recommend the execution of the inclosed order.

Cordially yours,

(Sgd.) FRANKLIN K. LANE  

The President,  
The White House.  
Inclusion No. 13474.  
S-2, OEB
EXE C UTIVE ORDER

NEW MEXICO

It is hereby ordered that Executive Order No. 2489, dated September 22, 1916, reserving Lots 1 and 2, NE 1/4 of SE 1/4, SW 1/4 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, and NE 1/4 of SW 1/4, of Section 36, in Township 13 S., of Range 4 W., New Mexico Principal Meridian, for townsite purposes under Section 2380, U. S. Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, revoked, it appearing desirable to survey and dispose of said lands under Section 2384.

The White House,

September 1917.
MEMORANDUM FOR MR ALBRIGHT

Las Palomas Hot Springs, New Mexico

61st Congress, H.R.10274, provided for reservation of certain lands in New Mexico. This included practically all the lands already withdrawn for reclamation purposes by the Reclamation Service for the Rio Grande Project, New Mexico. The Las Palomas Hot Springs were included in this area.

62nd Congress, H.R.3020, provided for the withdrawal of said lands, and S. 6714 provided for the creation of the Rio Grande National Park, New Mexico, including said lands. The Department reported adversely on these bills on the recommendation of the Reclamation Service.

63rd Congress, H.R.12050 provided for the reservation of Lots 1 and 2 section 33, township 13 south, range 4 west, on which are located Las Palomas Hot Springs. Recommended by the Department and reported out May 28, 1914. Report No 721. Passed the House Dec,21,1914. Introduced in the Senate Dec,22,1914 and reported out, Jan.12,1915, with the amendment, which granted the said springs to the State of New Mexico. Passed the Senate with the amendment Feb 19,1915. Did not become a law.


See opinion of Chief Law Clerk, Nov 9,1912, on Theo.N.Espe's suggestion that a National Monument be created.

On Sept 10, 1917 a draft of an Executive order, was sent to the President, to revoke Executive order No 2459, dated Sept 22, 1916 reserving Lots 1 and 2, NW/2 of SE 1/4, S 1/2 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 NE 1/4 of SW 1/4, of section 33, township 13 south, range 4 west, for townsite purposes. The said land to be surveyed and disposed of under 2384 U.S.Revised Statutes.
In reply please refer to or 92666 "K" Hm
T. 2. 2-688

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GENERAL LAND OFFICE
WASHINGTON

July 27, 1920

ADDRESS ONLY THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Relative to Government reserves in Hot Springs Townsite, New Mexico.

The Secretary
of the Interior.

Sir:

Hot Springs Townsite in Sierra County, New Mexico, has recently been opened under the regulations approved by the First Assistant Secretary, April 21, 1920, and contains in office number 56,686. The opening was conducted under the provisions of Secs. 2382 to 2386 Revised Statutes, the subdivisional survey of the townsite having been made by the government as per Secs. 2384. The preemption rights were exercised prior to the date set for the public sale of the remaining lots (June 19, 1920), some 200 lots having been disposed of at the minimum price by virtue of
settlement established prior to the commencement of the subdivisional townsite survey in the field. On June 19, under the supervision of Mr. John T. Murphy, Chief of Field Division, Santa Fe, New Mexico, the remaining lots in said townsite were offered for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, at which sale 511 lots were sold. Mr. Murphy's report of June 30, 1920, shows that all unreserved lots in the townsite were disposed of either as preemption claims or at public auction, except 74 lots, and these of the poorest quality and the least desirable. He further reports that practically every penny of the money used in the purchase of such lots was local money, thus showing the confidence of the people in the future growth and importance of the town.

In the south portion of the townsite three Government reserves were made by reason of the fact that they contain hot mineral springs, which have gained some notoriety for their alleged curative properties. It is reported that about 400 people are now at Hot Springs drinking these waters and taking mineral baths
the town itself having a population of approximately 1,200.

The nature of the springs in question has been known for a number of years, and, that the benefit from the use of the waters might be received by the public, the reserves were created that the Government might forever exercise control over the use thereof. It is understood that by reason of the fact that they are Government reserves, an unsatisfactory condition exists in that the town, which is incorporated, cannot exercise jurisdiction over the same.

From the above it will appear that these springs, and the lands on which they are situated, are now merely withdrawn and reserved public lands, subject to the jurisdiction and control of this office. I do not doubt but that, through the field service of this office and on that appropriation, we might properly do whatever is necessary to preserve and protect the springs and incidently keep them in a condition available for public use. Further, I think we might properly authorize the town council to represent and become the agency of the department to accomplish these purposes. In this connection see letter of June 25th of the Board of Village Trustees. In case one of the steps hereinafter referred to is not taken, I recommend that,
authority and permission be given to the town to improve and manage these springs, at the sole expense of the town, under the general supervision of the Chief of the Santa Fe Field Division.

But, primarily, it is not the business of this office to manage and conduct parks and health resorts; we have a bureau of this department whose business it is to exercise such functions. It would appear that jurisdiction and control over these springs may be placed in the National Park Service, in one of two ways, viz., (1) by an Executive Order creating the areas in question into a national monument under the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat., 225); or (2) create a national park out of these reservations, by a special act of Congress. The latter, while more desirable, is uncertain and at best will require time.

I have, therefore, to suggest that a recommendation be submitted to the President that the reserved areas in the government townsite of Hot Springs, New Mexico, be set aside as a national monument under said Act of June 8, 1906, supra.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner.
The Director of the
National Park Service.

Dear Mr. Director:

By his letter of July 27, 1920 (921628 "K" REM -
TS 2-688), the Commissioner of the General Land Office
recommends that three tracts of land reserved and belong-
ing to the United States in the townsite of Hot Springs,
Sierra County, New Mexico, containing mineral hot springs,
be made a national monument under the act of June 6, 1906
(34 Stat., 225), and as such placed under your jurisdic-
tion.

Your recommendation as to the advisability of
creating such a national monument is desired. The papers
are inclosed to be returned with your report.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]
Acting Secretary.

Inclosure 1951.
Memorandum for Mr. Demarey:

Pls. note attached correspondence, particularly letter from Commissioner Tallman, and letter of June 25, 1920, from the Board of Village Trustees of Hot Springs. The big question is whether these springs are of sufficient importance to be set aside for national monument purposes. I will want to talk this over with Director Mather when he returns. It will probably need an inspection, too.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON
January 7, 1921.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 4, 1920, transmitting two samples of water from the Government Reservation at Hot Springs, New Mexico. These samples were collected in connection with an official investigation conducted by the Field Service of the General Land Office.

Complete analyses of these samples, with the exception of a determination of radioactivity, are enclosed.

The quantity of water submitted was too small to permit the determination of radioactivity. If this determination is desired, additional samples consisting of one gallon each should be forwarded to the Water and Beverage Laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry, of this Department.

Respectfully,

(Sgd) E.D. Ball
Acting Secretary.

Enclosures.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GENERAL LAND OFFICE
WASHINGTON January 22, 1921.

Transmitting copies of letter and analysis.

Mr. John T. Murphy,
Chief of Field Division,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Sir:

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, together with the analysis by the Bureau of Chemistry of samples of mineral water taken from the Government reservation springs, Hot Springs, New Mexico. The said samples were transmitted to this office July 16, 1920, by Mr. Robert Martin of Hot Springs, upon your request and you will furnish him with one of the copies herewith. You will note that the quantity of water submitted was too small to permit of a complete analysis, and should further analysis be desired, additional samples in the amount requested should be forwarded direct to the Water and Beverage Laboratory, Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, calling attention to the Assistant Secretary's letter of January 7, 1921.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd) C.M. Bruce
Assistant Commissioner
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

January 25, 1937

The Secretary of the Interior

Hot Springs Reservation

Sir:

I have this day transmitted to you for the

attention of the Assistant Secretary, a letter

from the Acting Chief of the Village Board, of Hot Springs,

relating to the installation of the hot springs and the

facilities for the same. I therefore respectfully

submit for your consideration the following

memorandum:

On June 30, 1930, the City of the Santa Fe

Field Service Division transmitted a report to this

office as to the necessity for some accommodation to care

for the hot springs and the village. On July 7, 1930, the

City of the Santa Fe submitted to you a resolution

relating to the care and custody of the Hot Springs Reservoir

in said Village.

On the 25th instant I transmitted a copy of the

resolution of the City of the Santa Fe to the

Assistant Secretary, and I trust that the resolution

will be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Name]
am hereby enclosing the Chief's, Mr. Murphy's said report
and recommend that it have immediate consideration.

Very respectfully,

Clay Ballman
Commissioner.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

January 28, 1921.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This Service has been requested by the Department for its recommendation as to the advisability of creating a national monument at Hot Springs, Sierra County, New Mexico, to include three tracts of land, containing mineral hot springs, now reserved and belonging to the United States in the townsite of Hot Springs.

If such a monument should be created, it would be placed under the jurisdiction of this Service, and we have felt that before we could submit an appropriate recommendation in the premises it would be necessary for one of our officers to make a personal investigation on the ground. We had hoped to do this before now, but, owing to limited funds, which are provided by Congress for the administration and protection of national monuments we have not been able to have this investigation made. We realize, however, that it is necessary that some plan of operation and maintenance be provided in order to insure a more beneficial use of the waters on the present reserve, but the lack of funds, which has prevented our making an examination has deterred us from submitting a recommendation that a monument should be created because this very lack of funds would prevent us from establishing proper jurisdiction and control of the area. A number of the national monuments, which are under our jurisdiction are under the direct supervision of a custodian, who, in most cases, receives a nominal salary of $12 a year. These custodians usually take these positions because of their interest and desire to see that the monuments are properly cared for and protected. This is practically all the administration and protection which this Service can give to these monuments, but we note in your letter, addressed to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, that you make several recommendations regarding the improvements that
are necessary to work out a proper and more beneficial distribution of the water and that you propose that this work be done and maintained with funds donated by the town for this purpose and that the benefits derived therefrom will be free to the public except perhaps for a nominal fee to pay for small current expenses.

We wish that you would outline to us the situation as it exists and what the town proposes to do and will do if the area is proclaimed a national monument in order that we can study the proposition and submit to the Department our recommendation. If it is decided that it would be advisable to create a national monument, what is your suggestion for an appropriate name?

For your information we are inclosing a copy of the rules and regulations regarding the Hot Springs Reservation, Arkansas, which this Service administers.

Cordially yours,

(Sgd) STEPHEN T. MATHER

Stephen T. Mather
Director.

Mr. Jeff Johnson, Clerk,
Board of Trustees,
Hot Springs, Sierra County,
NEW MEXICO.

Inclosure 5220 AED: FSC -2-
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MASSEY.

The creation of a national monument reserving three tracts of Government reserved lands containing mineral hot springs in the townsite of Hot Springs, New Mexico, is one of several proposed monuments, which this Service has under consideration. We feel that these proposed monuments should be examined in the field before submitting recommendations to the Department regarding them. With our limited funds for national monument purposes we have been unable to take up as yet any of these investigations.

Because of the apparent urgency of devising a plan of operation and maintenance to insure a more beneficial use of the water on the reservations at Hot Springs we are writing to the Board of Trustees, asking them to outline a definite plan whereby, if these reservations are made a national monument under the jurisdiction of this Service, the town will improve and manage these springs at its own expense under the general supervision of this Service. When we receive a reply to our letter we will be in a position to make a definite recommendation as to the desirability of the creation of a national monument.

(Sgd.) ARNO B. CAVANAH
Assistant Director.
Mr. Jeff Johnson,
Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the
Village of Hot Springs,
Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 5, 1921, inclosing a resolution by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hot Springs, New Mexico, requesting that some way be provided to relieve the situation surrounding the reserves containing hot springs in said village and to prevent further delay in the matter of caring for said springs. In reply you are advised that the matter will have due and early consideration.

You state that a similar application was made and sent to the United States land office at Las Cruces, some time in July or August 1920, but no such application has been received in this Department.

On June 30, 1920, the Chief of the Santa Fe Field Division reported to the General Land Office that it was necessary that some plan of operation and maintenance be provided in order to insure a more beneficial use of the water on the reserves and for the purpose
of determining the nature and extent of the bathing facilities necessary to accommodate the public.

July 27, 1930, the Commissioner of the General Land Office called attention to the conditions surrounding the springs and suggested that the control over these springs be placed in the National Park Service by Executive Order or by special Act of Congress. The recommendation is still under consideration by this Department.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) ALEXANDER T. VOGELSANG.
First Assistant Secretary.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

COPY FOR INFORMATION

Hon. A. A. Jones,
United States Senate.

My dear Senator:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 12, 1921, inclosing a letter from Jeff Johnson, Clerk of the Village Board of Trustees of Hot Springs, New Mexico, requesting that some way be provided to relieve the situation surrounding the reserves containing hot springs in said village and to prevent further delay in the matter of caring for said springs. In reply you are advised that the matter will have due and early consideration.

You state that a similar application was made and sent to the United States Land Office at Las Cruces, some time in July or August 1920, but no such application has been received in this Department.

On June 30, 1920, the Chief of the Santa Fe Field Division reported to the General Land Office that it was necessary that some plan of operation and maintenance be provided in order to insure a more beneficial use of the water on the reserves and for the purpose
of determining the nature and extent of the bathing facilities necessary to accommodate the public.

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Cordially yours,

(Signed) ALEXANDER T. VOGELSANG.

First Assistant Secretary
His Simple rates have slipped as stated by Murphy. And how it now seems for Analysis. 4/17

1/31/21

[Signature]
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON February 2, 1921.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MASSEY:

Please note attached copies of correspondence regarding samples of the water from the Hot Springs, New Mexico, being analyzed under request of the Land Office, which now has jurisdiction of that area.

(Sgd.) ARNO E. CAMMERER

Assistant Director.

(Inclusion 4584.)
My dear Mayor: 

Your letter of March 7th has been received with regard to the administration of the three small reservations within the town of Hot Springs which contain hot springs.

I realize the necessity of adequate supervision and control over these areas from the town's standpoint, but do not think it practicable to have them raised to national monument status. The town of Hot Springs can, however, be designated custodian of these reservations with authority and permission to improve and manage the springs at its expense under the general supervision of the Chief of the Santa Fe Field Division of the General Land Office, which I believe will solve your problems and enable development along proper lines.

If this arrangement would be acceptable to you, please let me know and I will be glad to issue instruction to carry it into effect.

Respectfully,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

3-16-21

Memo for Mr. Safford,-

Town of Hot Springs, N.M., desires development and supervision of three small hot springs reservations within town limits either as national monument or otherwise.

Advised not practicable to create national monument, but under general supervision of Land Office the town can be created custodian and assume development and police powers.

[Signature]

F. A. Sigel
Letter 6/25/30 from Coey
Citation 5/26/30
Letter 3/7/21

Returned to G.C.O.

Toronaia Peake
Hot Springs Townsite, New Mexico.

Relative to maintenance of the Hot Springs Reserves.

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

January 25, 1921, I transmitted to you a letter to the Clerk of the Village Board of Hot Springs Townsite, New Mexico, in reply to his letter of January 5, 1921, inclosing a resolution of the Village Board of said town, relative to the care and custody of the reserves.

I have not been advised as to any action taken on the resolution and I herewith transmit for consideration with said resolution a petition from the citizens and residents of Hot Springs, requesting that some action be taken on said resolution.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd) CLAY TALLMAN
Commissioner.
My dear Mayor Goetz:

Your letter of March 7th has been received with regard to the administration of the three small national reservations within the town of Hot Springs which contain hot springs.

I realize the necessity of adequate supervision and control over these areas from the town’s standpoint, but do not think it practicable to have them raised to national monument status. The town of Hot Springs can, however, be designated custodian of these reservations with authority and permission to improve and manage the springs at its expense under the general supervision of the Chief of the Santa Fe Field Division of the General Land Office, which I believe will solve your problems and enable development along proper lines.

If this arrangement would be acceptable to you, please let me know and I will be glad to issue instructions to carry it into effect.

Respectfully,

First Assistant Secretary

Hon. Otto Goetz,
Mayor of Hot Springs,
Hot Springs, New Mexico.

ABC-175
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1921.

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

The Mails and Files Division of the Secretary's Office has just called to my attention your letter of March 16th to the Secretary of the Interior, inclosing a resolution of the Village Board of Hot Springs Townsite, New Mexico, relative to the care and custody of the three small reservations containing hot springs within the town's limits.

First Assistant Secretary Finney, on March 24th, signed a letter that was prepared after conference with Mr. Walker, Chief of Division K of the Land Office, as to the most practicable solution of the problem. I am inclosing a copy of this letter, which has just been signed, for your information and file. You will see from this that a reply is expected from the Mayor of Hot Springs before further steps are taken.

Cordially yours,

Acting Director.

The Commissioner,
The General Land Office.

(Inclosure 1731.)

ABC-1FD