

10-23  
(May 1929)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mesa Verde NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 740-02.2.6

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S. L. Palmer Collection

ARNO B. CAMMERER,

*Director.*

740-02.2.6

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

July 7, 1947

*noted  
PWB*

*Carpenter*

MEMORANDUM for the Custodian,  
Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Just a brief, and long delayed, answer to your memorandum of June 10, concerning artifacts that may have been found with the mummy in the Palmer collection.

The only record that came with the collection was a large sheet listing all of the articles. A photographic copy of this record sheet was sent to you and you will note (if you can read the fine print on this poor copy) that there is no mention of the point of origin or of the association of any of the artifacts. The photograph of the grave indicates where the mummy was found but unless this picture shows artifacts there is no way of knowing what was found with the mummy.

Dr. Palmer is dead and since his son was not on the expedition there is no possibility of learning anything from that direction.

Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

*[Handwritten scribbles]*

740-02.2.6

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION THREE  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

May 19, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Custodian, Montezuma Castle.

In reply to your query of May 10 as to the present status of the proposed transfer of a Palmer collection specimen from the Mesa Verde Museum to your area, you are referred to a memorandum from this office to the Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park, of January 22, of which you were furnished a copy, which states: "The material from Casa Grande, Montezuma Castle, and from the Kayenta district can be brought here, accompanied by copies of records covering them, the next time someone drives down, and turned over to Messrs. King and Steen for one of them to take to these areas on the next field trip to Arizona."

So far, it has not been convenient since then for anyone driving to Santa Fe from Mesa Verde to bring the specimens. On a trip to Mesa Verde later this month, Dr. Musbaum and I will confer with Park Naturalist Watson as to the most expeditious means of getting this collection, which is taking up needed storage space, out of the way there and distributed to the proper areas. We will bring back to Santa Fe at that time such material as can be carried in a passenger car.

ERIK K. REED  
Erik K. Reed,  
Regional Archeologist.

cc: Superintendent, Mesa Verde.

DISTRIBUTION	
1	Superintendent
	Chief Clerk
	Chief Ranger
2	Naturalist
	Accounts
	Personnel
	Storekeeper
	Gen. Foreman
	Mechanic
	Electrician
	Commissioner
	Engineer
3	Clerk, Steno.
	Files



files

740-02.2

all yeager

January 10, 1947.

*Pos Carpenter  
yeager*

Attention: Regional Archeologist.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director:

In 1938 Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., of San Francisco, loaned to the Mesa Verde Museum a collection of about 100 artifacts and 20 photographs which his father had collected in various National Park areas of the Southwest in 1894-5-6. At that time it was stipulated that the collection should be kept intact at Mesa Verde.

When the collection was received it was found that only a small portion was from the Mesa Verde, the major portion being from Chaco Canyon and Montezuma Castle with a couple of items from Casa Grande and eleven items under the general heading of Northern Arizona.

Because of the fact that the collection had little display value in the Mesa Verde Museum, a request was recently made of Mr. Palmer for permission to break up the collection and send the various pieces to their point of origin so greater use could be made of them.

In a letter of December 10, Mr. Palmer, who now lives in Hammond, Indiana gave his consent to this and the National Park Service is now free to break up the collection and return the artifacts to the areas from which they were taken. A copy of Mr. Palmer's letter is enclosed and it will be noted that he makes two requests. He would like the original records of the collection kept intact, so that as far as the Department of the Interior is concerned it will be known as the S. L. Palmer Collection. And wherever the articles are displayed he would like credit to be given to the S. L. Palmer Collection.

The collection consists of the following articles:

From Mesa Verde: 1 skull, 2 stone tools, 1 sandal, 1 photograph.

From Chaco Canyon: 50 pieces of pottery, 11 stone tools, 40 inches of beads, 2 bone tools, 1 clay pipe, 16 photographs.

From Montezuma Castle: 1 mummy, 1 skeleton, 1 skull, 1 bow, several arrow fragments, some cotton cloth and miscellaneous material, 2 photographs.

From Casa Grande: 2 strings of beads, 15 and 21 inches in length respectively, 1 photograph.

From Northern Arizona: 11 pieces of pottery from the Kayenta region.

Since storage space is at a premium in the Mesa Verde Museum and since this collection has little display value we would be very happy to send the artifacts to the Monuments from which they came. If you agree that this is desirable we should like to have your suggestions as to the best method of sending the articles to the various areas.

The original records of the collection can remain here in the Mesa Verde files and duplicate copies will be sent to the Monuments.

/s/ Don Watson  
Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

Enclosure - #1848994.

D. W. J. P.

740-02.2

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

November 8, 1946.

11/18/46  
noted  
W.A.R.

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

We have recently been studying our museum collections and the thought has come to us very strongly that we are not making the best possible use of the fine collection of artifacts that you loaned us back in 1938.

The problem that confronts us in regard to these articles is that most of them did not come from the Mesa Verde and as a result they do not fit into our story. In the carefully tabulated list that you sent with the collection there were 92 items and these came from the following places:

Mesa Verde .....	4 items.
Chaco Canyon .....	63 items.
Montezuma Castle .....	12 items.
Northern Arizona .....	11 items.
Casa Grande .....	2 items.

It is apparent from this list that most of the items do not fit into the Mesa Verde story and we can display only a few specimens in making comparisons between the ancient cultures in the various areas.

We would appreciate an expression of your feeling on the matter of our loaning some of the articles to the museums in the areas where they originated. Montezuma Castle National Monument has a small museum but only a limited number of artifacts from the ruins and they could make excellent display use of some of the artifacts from your collection. The same is true at Chaco Canyon National Monument. They have a small museum now and a larger one is planned but they have almost no artifacts from their ruins: they could make wonderful use of some of the fine Chaco items in your collection.

Our desire is to effect a greater utilization of these artifacts. Their highest value will be realized when they are displayed so that the greatest possible number of people can see and enjoy them.

Even if we should loan some of these items to the areas where they originated the collection will still be a unit as far as the records are concerned. We will keep your records and our original catalog cards here and duplicate catalog cards will be sent with the items.

Wherever the artifacts are displayed they will be credited to the S. L. Palmer Collection.

We regret having so many of these fine articles in storage instead of on display and loaning them to the areas where they can appropriately be displayed is one way in which we can realize their highest value.

We shall sincerely appreciate an expression of your feelings on this matter.

Yours very truly,

Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION THREE  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

April 16, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

The following is extracted from the report of the Museum Acquisitions Committee, approved by the Director, of which a copy was sent us by Mr. Burns on April 5.

"Mesa Verde National Park

Mesa Verde National Park recommends the transfer to other parks of:

- 2 pieces of pottery
- 13 pieces of Delft Chinaware
- 1 scrapbook (newspaper items latter 19th century)
- 315 sea shells
- 179 pieces old paper money and stamps
- 5 boxes of assorted sea shells

"All of these items are inappropriate to the park. Some are probably worthless. There are no restrictions as to disposal but it would be advisable to consult original donors. Recommend clearance be obtained from donors where necessary and material sent to the Museum Division, Chicago, for identification and distribution. If clearance cannot be secured the items should be returned to owners. The Montezuma Castle mummy, and possibly other material not listed here, could be distributed after the restrictions of the loans are cleared up.

"Montezuma Castle National Monument

"It is recommended that the six metates of vesicular basalt, which are surplus duplicates, be transferred to another area when further study indicates a more effective use elsewhere. Return the mummy from Mesa Verde when its status is cleared up."

/s/ Charles A. Richey  
Acting Regional Director.



Supt  
Mesa Verde

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

February 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three.

We note with satisfaction, in your memorandum of January 22, that the S. L. Palmer collection is being distributed by Mesa Verde National Park to the areas from which the material was originally collected. A continued effort toward more of this fine spirit of cooperation in distributing other museum collections and exhibits to Service museums with which they are closely related rather than keeping them permanently in the museums to which they were originally donated, often by mere chance, should be encouraged whenever circumstances permit.

DISTRIBUTION	
1	Supintendent
<i>in duplicate</i>	
	Ch. Clerk
	Ch. Range
2	Accounts
	Personal
	Storekeeper
	Gen. Foreman
	Mechanic
	Electrician
	Commissioner
	Engineer
	Clerk, Steno.
	File

(SGD) **HILORY A. TOLSON**  
Acting Director.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**WASHINGTON**

*Copy for Museum*

Chicago, Illinois,  
September 15, 1942.

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

	DISTRIBUTION	
	Superintendent	
1	Asst. Dir.	<i>Mohrman</i>
	Chief Clerk	<i>William</i>
	Accts. Personnel	
	Chief Ranger	
2	Naturalist	<i>Pass</i>
	Storekeeper	
	Mechanic	
	Maint. Foreman	
	Electrician	
	O.C.C. Office	
	Commissioner	
	Engineer	
	Secretary	
	Files	

**MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.**

We have noted with great interest your correspondence, as well as that of the Superintendent of the Southwestern National Monuments, on the transfer of the mummy excavated at Montezuma Castle back to that monument.

Since Mesa Verde is already liberally supplied with mummies and the specimen rightly belongs at its point of origin, we believe further efforts should be made to persuade the lender, Mr. Palmer, to agree to such a transfer. If he is approached in a tactful way, it seems reasonable to assume that he will offer no objections. Obviously his good will should be cultivated, and if the return of the mummy would create any possible antagonism, it would be better to allow it to remain at Mesa Verde but judging from the correspondence available, this does not seem to be likely.

*W. J. Burns*  
Chief, Museum Division.

cc: Superintendent,  
Southwestern National Monuments.

*Pass - See me. - jlu  
at your  
convenience.*

RECEIVED

SEP 17 1942

MESA VERDE NAT'L PARK

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

C

July 22, 1942.

O

P

Y

Dear Carl:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a memorandum from Jesse Nusbaum to Southwestern National Monuments regarding the return of the child mummy excavated at Montezuma Castle to that point of origin.

I recommended that the mummy be returned after the Museum Survey revealed its deposit at Mesa Verde. The survey card sent in by Don Watson or whoever made it out fails to note it as a loan with conditions.

Please ask Jesse to send us a copy of the agreement made by Franke with Palmer, Jr. If the agreement specifically states that the mummy must remain at Mesa Verde, all right. If not, it should be returned.

Thanks,

/s/ NED

August 18, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Southwestern National Monuments.

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 3 and mine to you of July 18 relating to your request for transfer of a child mummy to Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Park Naturalist Watson politely said "no" when the request was sent to him ; I lengthily said "no, not yet" in my memorandum to you of July 18, and in subsequent reply to Ned Burns' memorandum of July 28, as well as during my talks with Mr. Demray and you in the course of our recent travel together.

That "no, not yet" stands with respect to your request of August 3 for my concurrence in your wish to present this matter for Mr. Palmer's consideration at this time.

Jesse L. Nushbaum,  
Acting Superintendent.

cc Director  
Mr. Yeager  
Montezuma Castle N. M.

jln/bes

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SOUTHWESTERN NATIONAL MONUMENTS  
COOLIDGE, ARIZONA

August 3, 1942.

DISTRIBUTION	
Superintendent	<i>Williams</i>
Asst. Supt.	<i>Williams</i>
Chief Clerk	
Accts.-Personal	
Chief Ranger	
Naturalist	<i>Rae</i> <i>see me file</i>
Steno-Mechanic	
Maint.-Foreman	
Electrician	
C.C.C. Office	
Commissioner	
Engineer	
Secretary	
Files	

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM for the Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

Reference is made to your memorandum of July 18 in regard to the transfer of a mummy to Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Will it be possible, since a museum case for the deceased has been purchased, to secure an agreement by Mr. Palmer whereby the child could be exhibited at Montezuma Castle? Custodian Jackson is anxious to secure as many objects as possible of those removed from the Castle prior to the establishment of the National Monument. Many of these have been lost forever, but Mr. Jackson is trying to recover the few remaining artifacts whose provenience is definitely known.

As discussed with you briefly during my recent trip to Santa Fe, with your concurrence we would like to present this matter for Mr. Palmer's consideration.

*Charles A. Liskey*  
Superintendent.

cc: The Director.  
Asst. Museum Chief Yeager.  
Custodian, Montezuma Castle N. M.

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 6 1942  
MESA VERDE NAT'L PARK

August 6, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Chief, Museum Division.

Reference is made to your memorandum of July 28 requesting copy of the formal receipt covering the loan to Mesa Verde National Park Museum of the "child mummy" and other archeological materials comprising the S. L. Palmer collection.

I cannot understand why the museum survey made two years ago did not reveal the existence of this "permit" as it was executed by Mr. Palmer and returned in duplicate to us with his letter to Mr. Franke dated January 24, 1937 (received here January 27, 1937) and incorporated in the pertinent loan acquisition file.

In addition to a true copy of the executed loan agreement dated December 17, 1937 which the park museum holds, I have selected from the pertinent loan accession file for your information as to background the following:

1. Mr. S. L. Palmer's letter of August 16, 1937 to Acting Superintendent Franke, stating general conditions controlling the proposed loan to Mesa Verde National Park.
2. Mr. S. L. Palmer's letter of December 6, 1937 to Alden B. Stevens, stating no word received from Mr. Franke, and he does not want to make any disposition of collection contrary to wishes of Mr. Franke because of his (Mr. Franke's) desire of it for the Mesa Verde Museum.
3. Assistant Superintendent Franke's reply of December 17, 1937 stating newly proscribed Service policy on acceptance of loan or gift materials, and reaffirming the desire of the Mesa Verde Park Museum to accept the collection for exhibit and use at Mesa Verde.
4. March 22, 1938 - S. L. Palmer, Jr., to Assistant Superintendent Franke stating collection delivered to Service Museum Division at Berkeley as a loan to Mesa Verde National Park, and including pertinent history of its makeup and assembly.

*William*

5. March 26, 1938 - William J. Lippincott to S. L. Palmer, submitting receipt covering collection loaned to Mesa Verde National Park.

6. May 12, 1938 - Park Naturalist Watson's letter to Mr. S. L. Palmer, acknowledging receipt of collection loaned to Mesa Verde National Park, and commenting on method proposed for the handling and exhibition, etc.

The above documents, which for the most part are basic to the formal loan agreement later executed by Messrs. Palmer and Franke, appear to limit and condition use and exhibit of the collection solely to Mesa Verde National Park. I hoped that my memorandum of July 18 to the Acting Superintendent, Southwestern National Monuments, had cleared this point until such time as the collection may be more permanently established with Mesa Verde National Park by permanent loan or outright gift.

In passing, I still contend that the language of the third and longest paragraph of the formal loan agreement should be reconsidered and tempered either by adding to the second paragraph: "where your loan material will be given the same care and attention that is given to our own archeological (or whatever qualifying or descriptive adjective is proper) materials," or by incorporating language in the objectional third paragraph stating the same fact. If so revised it will prove reassuring both to potential lenders and donors as to the future care and security of their loan or gift materials, provided, of course, the accepting agency is properly qualified, housed, and organized to carry out the contract in an approved manner.

Jesse L. Nusbaum,  
Acting Superintendent,  
and Archeologist.

Enclosures.

JLN/bes

San Francisco, August 16, 1937.

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.  
Mancos, Colorado.

Dear Sir;-

Last April you wrote to me, regarding the loan of a collection of Cliff Dweller and Mesa Dweller relics that was excavated by my Father, S. L. Palmer, about forty years ago.

Since receiving your letter I have discussed the matter of this loan with my three sisters who jointly own this collection with me. We have decided that it would be a pleasure to us to have this collection exhibited at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum, there are however a few points that we would like to have understood before having the materials packed and prepared for shipment.

1. We would like to have the collection exhibited in the museum in the name of S. L. Palmer, who excavated and collected all the specimens of the collection.
2. The collection is to be turned over to the Mesa Verde Park Museum as an indefinite loan, with the probability that its return will never be requested. We do however, wish to reserve the right to recall the loan on one years notice, by Mr. Gaylord Palmer, my son, of San Francisco, California.
3. We would like to have it understood that the major portion of the collection at least, be placed on exhibition where it can be seen and not stored away for future use.
4. There will of course be some expense in properly packing and shipping the collection and we will expect this to be handled entirely by the Park Service.

The collection consists of one very well preserved mummy of a child, which was taken from Montezuma's Castle, numerous skulls bones etc. together with cloth and various materials found in cliff dwellings. Some thirty or forty pieces of pottery all in very good shape, most of which was excavated in Chaco Canon, also some miscellaneous stone tools.

As Mrs. Wetherill has explained to you, this collection was excavated by my Father about the years 1894-95 when he and his family made a tour of the Southwest with Richard Wetherill. We have a fairly good record of the place of excavation of most of the collection together with a number of photographs which may be of interest and we will gladly furnish as complete information as possible.

Yours very truly,

/s/ S. L. Palmer.



COPY

San Francisco, December 6, 1937.

C O P Y

Mr. Alden B. Stevens.  
Asst. Acting Chief,  
National Park Service,  
333 Hilgard Hall, Univ. of Calif.  
Berkeley, California.

Dear Mr. Stevens;-

Last May you wrote me, relative to the loan of a collection for the Mesa Verde National Park, as per letter from Mr. Paul R. Franke and I wrote you that I was making arrangements with my sisters who are joint owners with me.

On August 16, 1937, I wrote Mr. Franke as per the attached copy of letter, but never received a reply. Again on October 25, 1937 I wrote him and have had no reply to my second letter.

I am at a loss to know why Mr. Franke does not reply. I do not want to be unfair in making any disposition of the collection contrary to the wishes of Mr. Franke, for he originally wrote me that the Park Department was desirous of having the collection in the Mesa Verde Park Museum.

Possibly you can advise me if the National Park Service has any interest in securing the loan of this collection at this time.

Yours very truly.

/s/ S. L. Palmer.  
171 KENWOOD WAY  
San Francisco.

Encl.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado

C O P Y

December 17, 1937.

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Your letter of December 6 to Mr. Alden B. Stevens, Asst. Acting Chief, Museum Division, National Park Service, has been forwarded to this office for reply.

Answer to previous correspondence, including your letter of October 25, was delayed pending the release by our Washington office of The National Park Service of new regulations regarding loans and gifts of exhibits or other museum material. For your information I enclose a copy explaining this newly established policy.

Under section "B" acceptance by the Superintendent of this park is possible, but as stated such material can only be accepted, if it is offered without restrictions as to its use, display, or disposal by the National Park Service.

With reference to your letter of August 16 you stipulated certain restrictions, which if insisted upon will make it necessary for us to first refer the loan to the Director of the National Park Service. Experience has taught us that restrictions are often embarrassing to both Donor and museum staff. Materials placed on exhibit are usually accompanied by the name of the donor or lender. The amount of the material to be displayed, is of course, dependent upon available exhibit space, or upon its value in the story of the ancients, that the museum is attempting to present for public inspection. The scheme of museum exhibits often changes from year to year, and the acceptance of restricted material, often makes it mandatory to retain this material as a unit display, in which form it loses its value as part of the entire story. We do not believe that the material which you have, would be accepted by the Director with the restrictions imposed upon it as outlined in your letter.

A loan, of course, is subject to return or recall, and the one years notice is usual museum procedure.

We are very much interested in your collection, and desire to use it in our exhibit scheme. Further, never having seen the material and unacquainted with its condition, we, of course, cannot state how much of the collection will be on exhibit at any one time.

The Mesa Verde Museum is the recipient of many gifts and loans, and we have never had any differences with donors or lenders with reference to the exhibition or study use of collections. Materials not in exhibit cases are stored in fireproof metal cabinets, and periodic fumigations are conducted to insure preservation. Every care is exercised to protect a loan collection as though it was our own property.

We hope that you can realize the regulations under which we operate, and that these regulations are of mutual benefit. Trusting that we may have the pleasure of your favorable decision, we enclose herewith, three letters of standard form for the acceptance for loans of museum specimens and exhibits. It is requested that three copies of this letter be signed by you as lender, two of which should be returned to me for the Government records. Upon the receipt of these two letters we will instruct our Museum Division at Berkeley to carefully crate the material, and forward it at our expense.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

cc Director  
Mus. Div. Berkeley

COPY

San Francisco, March 22, 1938.

Mr. Paul R. Franke.  
Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

Dear Sir:-

In line with our correspondence, we have delivered to the Berkeley Field Division of the National Park Service, the collection of archeological specimens, as a loan to the Museum of the Mesa Verde National Park.

This collection consists of about 93 specimens, including a mummy, numerous pieces of pottery and stone impliments.

A general story of the history of this collection may be of interest to you in connection with its use.

During the fall of 1894 and the year of 1895, my father, S. L. Palmer of Burdett Kansas, who was somewhat of a student of archeology and particularly interested in the ruins of the southwestern part of the United States, made a tour of Southern Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Southern Utah.

This tour was made by team and wagon and he was accompanied by his family. At Mancos Colorado he made the acquaintance of Richard Wetherill who, with his brothers had but recently discovered and explored the ruins of the Mesa Verde district.

With Richard Wetherill as guide and companion my father and party visited a portion of the Mesa Verde Ruins, then traveled south and spent several weeks exploring and excavating in the ruins of the Chaco Canon District in New Mexico. Our camp and headquarters were established at the side of the Pueblo Bonita Ruins. During his visit here a number of specimens of pottery and stone impliments were found.

From Chaco Canon the party traveled to Santa Fe, then southwest into Arizona and to Montezumas Castle. Here considerable excavation was done in and around the ruins and it was in this ruin, that a burial place was found and the mummy discovered that is in this collection. From Montezumas Castle the party traveled north to the Moqui Indian Villages, and then into Southern Utah.

We are sending several photographs covering portions of this trip. These were taken mostly by my father. We have the negatives of these prints and should they be of any further interest to you, they will be available for copy or other use.

We hope that this collection will prove of value to your museum and we will appreciate it, if in its use, you can mention it as a loan from the family of S. L. Palmer.

Yours very truly,

/s/ S. L. Palmer, Jr.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

C O P Y

March 26, 1938.

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Enclosed you will find a receipt covering the collecting of artifacts and human remains which you are loaning to Mesa Verde National Park. This receipt covers the items as packed by us and checks exactly with the list which you furnished to us. We will make every effort to see that the entire collection arrives at Mesa Verde in good condition.

We appreciate the value of this collection and join with Mesa Verde National Park in thanking you for your generous loan of it.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

By William J. Lippincott  
Acting Assistant Chief

Receipt enclosed.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

COPY

May 12, 1938.

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

The archeological material that you recently loaned to Mesa Verde National Park has been received and I want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your generosity in turning this most interesting collection over to us.

Some of the articles are excellent and will be worked into our exhibits at the first opportunity. The mummy is of course a prize as it is certainly a splendid example of preservation. It will be put on display immediately and will add a great deal of interest to our burial exhibits. We are interested in the age of the little boy at the time of death and will have dentist and doctors endeavor to determine it from the teeth.

All of the articles reached us in good condition as they had been very carefully packed. We will catalog them and store them in our fireproof cases so that they will be preserved for all time. All articles that we place on exhibit will, of course, be credited to you.

In recent years many of these fine old collections have been returned to us and they all help in reconstructing the story of ancient man in this region. We feel, naturally, that they have the most value here where they are available to scientists for study and where thousands of people can see and enjoy them.

It is because of this that we feel deeply indebted to you. I am sure you have had a strong sentimental feeling about the collection because of the manner in which you obtained it, and I know you must have deliberated a great deal before you came to the decision to send it to us. We are deeply appreciative of your generosity and trust that you will visit us in the near future to see the collection in its new home.

You have Assistant Superintendent Paul R. Franke's acknowledgment of December 17, and Mr. William J. Lippincott's itemized receipt of March 26. Those two and this letter will serve as receipts for the collection.

Yours very truly,

Jesse L. Nusbaum,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson, Jr. Park Naturalist

COPY

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

December 17, 1937.

C O P Y

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

On behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Director of the National Park Service, I take pleasure in acknowledging your loan of Archeological material for the use of the Government, and desire to thank you therefor. Itemized receipt will be returned to you upon arrival of the collection.

This loan is greatly appreciated and will, I believe, prove a valued addition to the park.

It is understood that this loan is made for the mutual benefit of the lender and the National Park Service and that the Government is not bound by any agreement, of any kind whatsoever, regarding the use or display of the property, or loss or damage to same while in the custody of the National Park Service.

It is requested that three copies of this letter be signed by you as lender, two of which should be returned to me for the Government records.

/s/ Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Lender:

/s/ S. L. Palmer

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

July 28, 1942

DISTRIBUTION	
Supervisor	<i>Musmann</i>
Asst. Supt.	
Chief Clerk	
Acts. Personnel	
Chief Ranger	
Specialist	✓
Storekeeper	
Mechanic	
Mail. Foreman	
Electrician	
C.C.C. Office	
Commissioner	✓
Secretary	

**MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.**

With reference to the child mummy excavated some years ago at Montezuma Castle, we will appreciate receiving a copy of the agreement made between the lender of the collection to Mesa Verde and Mr. Paul Franke. The Museum Survey made two years ago did not reveal the existence of this agreement.

*W. J. Burns*  
Chief, Museum Division.

RECEIVED

AUG 1 1942

MESA VERDE NAT'L PARK

*Poss:  
need complete file on Mummy,  
as must send copy of agreement &  
well as letters on which it is based.  
Musmann*



July 18, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Acting Superintendent,  
Southwestern National Monuments.

Reference is made to Acting Superintendent Thomas's memorandum of May 21 for the Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park, stating that a proper case for the exhibit of mummies at Montezuma Castle National Monument would soon arrive and requesting that we send to Montezuma Castle, for exhibit, the child mummy now on exhibit at Mesa Verde which was found in excavations conducted at Montezuma Castle by Mr. S. L. Palmer of Burdette, Kansas, in 1894 or 1895. This mummy, and other materials assembled by Mr. Palmer, Sr., in excavations in Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde and now held under loan agreement executed for the park December 17, 1937 by former Assistant Superintendent Franke, are subject to recall by Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., upon one year's notice.

Mr. Thomas's comment that "the accepted policy of returning archaeological specimens as much as possible to their points of origin would, of course, provide for the transfer of the Mesa Verde specimen to Montezuma Castle" is qualified in this instance by the effective and controlling loan agreement, as well as prior related correspondence between Mr. Franke and Mr. Palmer, Jr., on the basis of which the loan was perfected.

In the museum files on the Palmer loan, I can find but two memorandums, other than Mr. Thomas's of May 21, proposing or discussing such a loan, namely, Custodian Jackson's memorandum of November 22, 1941 to the Superintendent, attention of Don Watson, requesting measurements of the child mummy due to "our wish to incorporate a little future planning (of exhibit cases) at the same time, having in mind the possibility, in the near or far future, of obtaining the mummy in your possession for this monument," and Don Watson's reply of December 1, 1941, submitting requested measurements and stating significantly that "you are naturally hopeful that this mummy will sooner or later return to its ancient home. It, however, seems to prefer the Mesa Verde and we are somewhat hesitant about hurting the feelings of a child."

I have discussed the matter of the transfer of the child mummy with Acting Assistant Naturalist Ross and Museum Assistant Jean Pinkley (Mrs. Addison Pinkley), who have worked so closely with Don Watson. Both state that, despite the mummy's origin at Montezuma

*William*

Castle and the accepted museum policy of returning exhibits to places of origin, Don felt that the effective and controlling loan agreement would preclude transfer or loan of the mummy to another Service agency.

If, in the future, the Palmer collection should be converted to an outright gift (and it may be), this park subsequently would have freedom of action with respect to the disposition of elements of the Palmer collection.

I regret the delay in responding to Mr. Thomas's memorandum of May 21, due largely to the great urgency of other matters and the necessity of reviewing the files regarding the loan and discussing it with members of the interpretive staff. You, of course, realize that I have been absent from the park over the period that this matter of transfer of the mummy has been under consideration.

Jesse L. Husbaum,  
Acting Superintendent.

cc Museum Chief Ned Burns, Washington  
Asst. Museum Chief Yeager, Berkeley.  
Custodian, Montezuma Castle N. M.

Don Watson

JLN/bes

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SOUTHWESTERN NATIONAL MONUMENTS  
COOLIDGE, ARIZONA

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 21, 1942.

DISTRIBUTION	
Superintendent	<i>W. Williams</i>
Asst. Superintendent	<i>W. Williams</i>
Chief Clerk	
Accts.-Personel	
Chief Ranger	
Naturalist	<i>R. B. B.</i>
Storekeeper	
Mechanic	
Maint.-Foreman	
Electrician	
C.C.C. Office	
Commissioner	
Engineer	
Secretary	
Files	

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

Word has reached us that our especially designed exhibit case for the mummies at Montezuma Castle National Monument will arrive at that area within the next few days.

Dimensions of this case were figured so it will hold both the mummy now at the monument and the child mummy from Montezuma Castle now in the Mesa Verde museum. The accepted policy of returning archeological specimens as much as possible to their points of origin would, of course, provide for the transfer of the Mesa Verde specimen to Montezuma Castle, and in several oral discussions with former Park Naturalist Don Watson, we have been assured he would recommend the transfer as soon as we obtained a proper case for preservation of the mummy.

Could you make arrangements to have the mummy shipped direct to Montezuma Castle at your convenience so we could pay shipping charges this fiscal year? We happen to have sufficient funds now, but might have difficulty after July 1.

*Chester A. Thomas*  
Acting Superintendent.

cc: Museum Chief Ned Burns, Washington.  
Asst. Museum Chief Yeager, Western Museum Labs.  
Custodian, Montezuma Castle N. M.

*Pass:-  
See me ref. above  
J. H.*

RECEIVED

MAY 25 1942

MESA VERDE NAT'L PARK

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

December 1, 1941.

MEMORANDUM for the Custodian,  
Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Reference is made to your letter of November 22, requesting the measurements of the mummy that was found in Montezuma Castle.

This mummy is nine inches wide and twenty-nine inches long. The height, or thickness, probably isn't important but in case you should wonder about it the measurement is five and one-half inches. The mummy is that of a child, stretched out full-length on its back. All is in good condition except one leg which is missing below the knee.

You are naturally hopeful that this mummy will sooner or later return to its ancient home. It, however, seems to prefer the Mesa Verde and we are somewhat hesitant about hurting the feelings of a child.

Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

DW:rlw

*Watson*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle ..... NATIONAL MONUMENT

..... Camp Verde, Arizona

..... November 22, 19 41

The Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park,  
Colorado

ATTENTION: Don Watson, Park Naturalist

Dear Sir:

In reference to a letter to this office from the Superintendent, Southwest National Monuments, Coolidge, Arizona, request is made for information relative to approximate dimensions as to overall length and width of the mummy you have which originated from this monument.

It is planned to obtain a new case to house the mummy now in our museum, but we wish to incorporate a little future planning at the same time, having in mind the possibility, in the near or far future, of obtaining the mummy in your possession for this monument. By our purchasing a case that would efficiently and esthetically house both mummies, a future problem of encasement would be 'nipped in the bud' so to speak.

An early reply to this query would be sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully,

*Earl Jackson*

Earl Jackson, Custodian  
by John E. Baczuk, Ranger

cc: Dale S. King  
via Sup't, SWNM

RECEIVED

NOV 26 1941

MESA VERDE NAT'L PARK

740-06.1

May 12, 1938.

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kneewood Way  
San Francisco, Calif.

MAY 16 1938 *gmu*

Dear Mr. Palmer:

The archeological material that you recently loaned to Mesa Verde National Park has been received and I want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your generosity in turning this most interesting collection over to us.

Some of the articles are excellent and will be worked into our exhibits at the first opportunity. The mummy is of course a prize as it is certainly a splendid example of preservation. It will be put on display immediately and will add a great deal of interest to our burial exhibits. We are interested in the age of the little boy at the time of death and will have dentist and doctors endeavor to determine it from the teeth.

All of the articles reached us in good condition as they had been very carefully packed. We will catalog them and store them in our fireproof cases so that they will be preserved for all time. All articles that we place on exhibit will, of course, be credited to you.

In recent years many of these fine old collections have been returned to us and they all help in reconstructing the story of ancient man in this region. We feel, naturally, that they have the most value here where they are available to scientists for study and where thousands of people can see and enjoy them.

It is because of this that we feel deeply indebted to you. I am sure you have had a strong sentimental feeling about the collection because of the manner in which you obtained it, and I know you must have deliberated a great deal before you came to the decision to send it to us. We are deeply appreciative of your generosity and trust that you will visit us in the near future to see the collection in its new home.

You have Assistant Superintendent Paul R. Franke's acknowledgement of December 17, and Mr. William J. Lippincott's itemized receipt of March 26. Those two and this letter will serve as receipts for the collection.

Yours very truly

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson  
Junior Park Naturalist.

740-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

March 26, 1938

Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Dear Mr. Franke:

On March 25 we shipped to you, by freight, one crated geology case and two boxes containing the Palmer collection. The Palmer collection was described as being "Fossils" on account of the great difference in freight rates.

With regard to your night letter of March 25: As the mummy was already completely packed and since Ansel Hall's trip was uncertain, the mummy was enclosed in one of the boxes. On your receiving this shipment you will find on one end of the mummy case two screws which allow a small end piece and the end pane of glass to be taken out. The mummy is covered with cheese cloth over which are two layers of cotton. Over this is more cheese cloth and then a line of excelsior to hold the contents of the case entirely firm. We did our best to pack the entire collection as safely as possible, but shall be very anxious to hear of its arrival in good condition.

We have given Mr. Palmer an itemized receipt, covering his entire collection. We enclose this receipt to you for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

*William J. Lippincott*

By: William J. Lippincott,  
Acting Assistant Chief

Enclosure 1659900 - Itemized  
description of Palmer Collection,  
copy of letter to Mr. Palmer, and  
B/L I-379896 covering shipment of  
Palmer collection, in dup.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

APR 4 1938

**RECEIVED**

740-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

March 26, 1938

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Enclosed you will find a receipt covering the collecting of artifacts and human remains which you are loaning to Mesa Verde National Park. This receipt covers the items as packed by us and checks exactly with the list which you furnished to us. We will make every effort to see that the entire collection arrives at Mesa Verde in good condition.

We appreciate the value of this collection and join with Mesa Verde National Park in thanking you for your generous loan of it.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

By William J. Lippincott  
Acting Assistant Chief

(Receipt enclosed)

**COPY**

3. COPY  
4. FILE  
5. FOR

NO. 10  
EX-10



LIST OF OBJECTS RECEIVED FROM S. L. PALMER AND PACKED  
BY WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES FOR MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

- |                       |                             |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mummy              | 46. Bowl                    | 91. Pottery Jug  |
| 2. Skeleton, Baby     | 47. Flat Grinding Stone     | 92. Pottery Bowl |
| 3. Bow                | 48. Pitcher                 | 93. Bowl         |
| 4. Arrows             | 49. Bowl                    | 94. Bowl         |
| 5. Cloth              | 50. Bowl                    | 95. Bowl         |
| 6. Various Materials  | 51. Corrugated Dish         | 96. Pitcher      |
| 7. Skull              | 52. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 8. Pottery Bowl       | 53. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 9. Timber Section     | 54. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 10. Timber Section    | 55. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 11. Tied Stones       | 56. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 12. Roof Plastering   | 57. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 13. Pitcher           | 58. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 14. Small Tray        | 59. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 15. Small Jug         | 60. Bowl                    |                  |
| 16. Bowl              | 61. Lamp                    |                  |
| 17. Bowl              | 62. Bowl                    |                  |
| 18. Jug               | 63. Bowl                    |                  |
| 19. Bowl              | 64. Bowl                    |                  |
| 20. Bowl              | 65. Bowl                    |                  |
| 21. Bowl              | 66. Bowl                    |                  |
| 22. Bowl              | 67. Image                   |                  |
| 23. Bowl with Handle  | 68. Pipe                    |                  |
| 24. Pitcher           | 69. Small Dish              |                  |
| 25. Cover for Pitcher | 70. Spoon                   |                  |
| 26. Pitcher           | 71. Skull                   |                  |
| 27. Vase              | 72. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 28. Mug               | 73. Pr. Sandals             |                  |
| 29. Lamp              | 74. Grinding Stone          |                  |
| 30. Lamp              | 75. Grinding Stone          |                  |
| 31. Duck Shaped Dish  | 76. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 32. Duck Shaped Dish  | 77. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 33. Ladle             | 78. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 34. Pitcher           | 79. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 35. Pitcher           | 80. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 36. Jug               | 81. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 37. Bowl              | 82. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 38. Bowl              | 83. Grinding Tool           |                  |
| 39. Bowl              | 84. Shell Beads             |                  |
| 40. ---               | 85. Shell Beads             |                  |
| 41. Canteen           | 86. ---                     |                  |
| 42. Dish              | 87. Bone Tools (6)          |                  |
| 43. Bowl              | 88. ---                     |                  |
| 44. Pitcher           | 89. ---                     |                  |
| 45. Pitcher           | 90. Shell & Turquoise Beads |                  |

STANDARD FORM No. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7134

FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

BUREAU NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY

CHG. APPROPRIATION REGULAR

WESTERN UNION

NIGHT LETTER

BERKELEY, CALIF. MARCH 24, 1938

SUPERINTENDENT  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLORADO

MAR 28 1938

REURLET JANUARY TWENTYNINTH PALMER COLLECTION NOW  
PACKED IT IS QUITE HEAVY BUT A NUMBER OF ARTIFACTS ARE EXTREMELY FRAGILE AND  
MUMMY WILL NOT STAND MUCH JARRING (STOP) AS THE BILL OF LADING IS CHARGED  
TO YOU PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR EXPRESS OR FREIGHT

Confirmation  
File  
Yellow

LIPPINCOTT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

MAR 28 1938

RECEIVED

833

P

~~833-05.1~~  
San Francisco, March 22, 1938. 740-06.1

Mr. Paul R. Franke.  
Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

Dear Sir:-

MAR 26 1938

In line with our correspondence, we have delivered to the Berkeley Field Division of the National Park Service, the collection of archeological specimens, as a loan to the Museum of the Mesa Verde National Park.

This collection consists of about 93 specimens, including a mummy, numerous pieces of pottery and stone impliments.

A general story of the history of this collection may be of interest to you in connection with its use.

During the fall of 1894 and the year 1895, my father, S. L. Palmer of Burdett Kansas, who was somewhat of a student of archeology and particularly interested in the ruins of the southwestern part of the United States, made a tour of Southern Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Southern Utah.

This tour was made by team and wagon and he was accompanied by his family. At Mancos Colorado he made the acquaintance of Richard Wetherill who, with his brothers had but recently discovered and explored the ruins of the Mesa Verde District.

With Richard Wetherill as guide and companion my father and party visited a portion of the Mesa Verde Ruins, then traveled south and spent several weeks exploring and excavating in the ruins of the Chaco Canon District in New Mexico. Our camp and headquarters were established at the side of the Pueblo Bonita Ruins. During his visit here a number of specimens of pottery and stone impliments were found.

From Chaco Canon the party traveled to Santa Fe, then southwest into Arizona and to Montezumas Castle. Here considerable excavation was done in and around the ruins and it was in this ruin, that a burial place was found and the mummy discovered that is in this collection. From Montezumas Castle the party traveled north to the Moqui Indian Villages, and then into Southern Utah.

We are sending several photographs covering portions of this trip. These were taken mostly by my father. We have the negatives of these prints and should they be of any further interest to you, they will be available for copy or other use.

We hope that this collection will prove of value to your museum and we will appreciate it, if in its use, you can mention it as a loan from the family of S. L. Palmer.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

Yours very truly,

*S. L. Palmer Jr.*

S. L. Palmer Jr.

MAR 26 1938

RECEIVED

940-06-1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

January 29, 1938

Western Museum Laboratories  
National Park Service  
331 Hilgard Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Mr. ~~Ball~~, *Yeager*

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter from Mr. S. L. Palmer, 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, concerning a collection of artifacts and human remains that he is loaning to Mesa Verde National Park.

This collection consists of a mummy, miscellaneous skeletal fragments, pottery and other artifacts that were collected by Mr. Palmer's father in the Southwest back about 1895. Many of these objects are very fragile and in order to be shipped by freight will need to be very carefully packed. Since we can not come out to supervise it we will appreciate it very much if you can take care of the packing and shipping of this collection.

Enclosed is a bill of lading that will cover the shipment and we will take care of any expense you incur in the packing.

In his letter Mr. Palmer states that he has some photographs and data relating to the places where the things were found. These are extremely important to us so will you get everything of this nature and include it with the shipment.

We are instructing Mr. Palmer today that you are going to call for the collection so I am sure that you will find everything in readiness.

If this collection proves to be large the packing may turn into quite a job and you may be sure that we will feel deeply indebted to you for taking care of it for us.

Sincerely yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson,  
Junior Park Naturalist.

740-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

January 29, 1938

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Your letter of January 24, stating that you are desirous of loaning your father's collection of southwestern archeological material to this park, has been received and we are today instructing Mr. Dorr Yeager, of our Western Museum Laboratories in Berkeley, to call for the collection and supervise the packing and shipping.

The Laboratory has excellent facilities for such work and you may feel sure that the collection will have the best of care. Mr. Yeager will probably take the things to the laboratory and do the packing there.

The photographs and data that you mention are extremely important to us as archeological material is rather meaningless unless we know where it came from. If you will turn this material over to Mr. Yeager he will send it to us.

As soon as we receive the collection we will send you an itemized list of the articles as a receipt.

In the early days many such collections were made and every year more and more of them come back to us. We have a fine museum, the largest in the National Park Service, with splendid facilities for storage and display. From what you say about the collection I am sure that much of it will be suitable for display purposes and I sincerely hope that you will be able to visit us and see the collection in its new home.

Our attendance last season was 28,171 and each season it grows a few thousand so you can see how many people will see and enjoy your collection in the years to come. It is for this reason that we feel such collections belong in museums instead of in private hands where they are seen by only a few people.

I cannot tell you how much we appreciate your generosity in this matter. The collection will mean much to us and will add to our knowledge of the ancient inhabitants of this region. We only hope that you will be able to visit us in the near future so we can express our appreciation in person.

Yours very truly,

Paul R. Franke,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson, Junior Park Naturalist.

San Francisco, Jan. 24, 1938.

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Asst. Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park,  
Colorado.

Dear Sir;-

We have your letter of December 17, 1937, explaining the conditions under which loans are received by the Park Department and as these conditions are satisfactory to us we are returning herewith two signed copies of the loan agreement.

In previous correspondence we had mentioned that we were desirous that the specimens be placed on exhibition and we now feel quite sure that you will find a considerable portion of the collection of interest and value in your museum.

We have some photographs together with data relating to the location where this archeological material was found, all of which we will gladly furnish you if desired.

The materials of this collection will be available to your Berkeley Museum Division for packing at any time convenient to you.

Yours very truly,

*S. L. Palmer*  
S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco,  
California.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

JAN 27 1938

RECEIVED

740-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

December 17, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

On behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Director of the National Park Service, I take pleasure in acknowledging your loan of Archeological material for the use of the Government, and desire to thank you therefor. Itemized receipt will be returned to you upon arrival of the collection.

This loan is greatly appreciated and will, I believe, prove a valued addition to the park.

It is understood that this loan is made for the mutual benefit of the lender and the National Park Service and that the Government is not bound by any agreement, of any kind whatsoever, regarding the use or display of the property, or loss or damage to same while in the custody of the National Park Service.

It is requested that three copies of this letter be signed by you as lender, two of which should be returned to me for the Government records.

*Paul R. Franke*  
Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Lender: *S. L. Palmer*

740-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

December 17, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

On behalf of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Director of the National Park Service, I take pleasure in acknowledging your loan of Archeological material for the use of the Government, and desire to thank you therefor. Itemized receipt will be returned to you upon arrival of the collection.

This loan is greatly appreciated and will, I believe, prove a valued addition to the park.

It is understood that this loan is made for the mutual benefit of the lender and the National Park Service and that the Government is not bound by any agreement, of any kind whatsoever, regarding the use or display of the property, or loss or damage to same while in the custody of the National Park Service.

It is requested that three copies of this letter be signed by you as lender, two of which should be returned to me for the Government records.

*Paul R. Franke*  
Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Lender: *S. L. Palmer*



740-061

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

December 17, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Your letter of December 6 to Mr. Alden B. Stevens, Asst. Acting Chief, Museum Division, National Park Service, has been forwarded to this office for reply.

Answer to previous correspondence, including your letter of October 25, was delayed pending the release by our Washington office of The National Park Service of new regulations regarding loans and gifts of exhibits or other museum material. For your information I enclose a copy explaining this newly established policy.

Under section "B" acceptance by the Superintendent of this park is possible, but as stated such material can only be accepted, if it is offered without restrictions as to its use, display, or disposal by the National Park Service.

With reference to your letter of August 16 you stipulated certain restrictions, which if insisted upon will make it necessary for us to first refer the loan to the Director of the National Park Service. Experience has taught us that restrictions are often embarrassing to both Donor and museum staff. Materials placed on exhibit are usually accompanied by the name of the donor or lender. The amount of the material to be displayed, is of course, dependent upon available exhibit space, or upon its value in the story of the ancients, that the museum is attempting to present for public inspection. The scheme of museum exhibits often changes from year to year, and the acceptance of restricted material, often makes it mandatory to retain this material as a unit display, in which form it loses its value as part of the entire story. We do not believe that the material which you have, would be accepted by the Director with the restrictions imposed upon it as outlined in your letter.

A loan, of course, is subject to return or recall, and the one years notice is usual museum procedure.

We are very much interested in your collection, and desire to use it in our exhibit scheme. Further, never having seen the material and unacquainted with its condition, we, of course cannot state how much of the collection will be on exhibit at any one time.

The Mesa Verde Museum is the recipient of many gifts and loans, and we have never had any differences with donors or lenders with reference to the exhibition or study use of collections. Materials not in exhibit cases are stored in fireproof metal cabinets, and periodic fumigations are conducted to insure preservation. Every care is exercised to protect a loan collection as though it was our own property.

We hope that you can realize the regulations under which we operate, and that these regulations are of mutual benefit. Trusting that we may have the pleasure of your favorable decision, we enclose herewith, three letters of standard form for the acceptance for loans of museum specimens and exhibits. It is requested that three copies of this letter be signed by you as lender, two of which should be returned to me for the Government records. Upon the receipt of these two letters we will instruct our Museum Division at Berkeley to carefully crate the material, and forward it at our expense.

Sincerely yours,



Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

PRF:jf

Enc. # 516002

cc: Director  
Mus. Div. Berkeley

740-06.1

COPY

San Francisco, Dec. 6, 1937

Mr. Alden B. Stevens.  
Asst. Acting Chief,  
National Park Service,  
333 Hilgard Hall, Univ. of Calif.  
Berkeley, California.

DEC 11 1937 *gan*

Dear Mr. Stevens;-

Last May you wrote me, relative to the loan of a collection for the Mesa Verde National Park, as per letter from Mr. Paul R. Franke and I wrote you that I was making arrangements with my sisters who are joint owners with me.

On Aug. 16, 1937, I wrote Mr. Franke as per the attached copy of letter, but never received a reply. Again on October 25, 1937 I wrote him and have had no reply to my second letter.

I am at a loss to know why Mr. Franke does not reply. I do not want to be unfair in making any disposition of the collection contrary to the wishes of Mr. Franke, for he originally wrote me that the Park Department was desirous of having the collection in the Mesa Verde Park Museum.

Possibly you can advise me if the National Park Service has any interest in securing the loan of this collection at this time.

Yours very truly.

(Signed)

S. L. Palmer.  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco.

Encl.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

DEC 11 1937

RECEIVED

San Francisco, Oct. 25, 1937.

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park,  
Mancos, Colorado.

Dear Sir;-

On August 16th, 1937, I wrote you as per attached copy of letter, regarding the loan of a collection of cliff dweller relics.

I have had no reply to this letter and have thought possibly for some reason it did not reach you,

Yours very truly,

*S. L. Palmer*  
S. L. Palmer.  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco,  
California.

FROM	TO
Superintendent	
Asst. Supt.	
Chief Clerk	
Accts - Personnel	
Chief Ranger	
Naturalist	
Steno-keeper	
Mechanic	
Maint. Foreman	
Engineer	
E. C. W. Office	
Secretary	

Initial - Date - Return	
Same - to Files	
Prepare Reply	
Comment Memo	
See Me	

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

OCT 28 1937

RECEIVED

FROM	TO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Superintendent	
Asst. Supt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Clerk	
Accts - Personnel	
Chief Ranger	
Naturalist	
Steno-keeper	
Mechanic	
Maint. Foreman	
Engineer	
E. C. W. Office	
Secretary	

Initial - Date - Return	
Same - to Files	
Prepare Reply	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comment Memo	
See Me	

740-06.1

San Francisco, Aug. 16, 1937.

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.  
Mancos, Colorado.

AUG 23 1937

RECEIVED  
AUG 23 1937 *gms*

Dear Sir:-

Last April you wrote to me, regarding the loan of a collection of Cliff Dweller and Mesa Dweller relics that was excavated by my Father, S. L. Palmer, about forty years ago.

Since receiving your letter I have discussed the matter of this loan with my three sisters who jointly own this collection with me. We have decided that it would be a pleasure to us to have this collection exhibited at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum, there are however a few points that we would like to have understood before having the materials packed and prepared for shipment.

1. We would like to have the collection exhibited in the museum in the name of S. L. Palmer, who excavated and collected all the specimens of the collection.

2. The collection is to be turned over to the Mesa Verde Park Museum as an indefinite loan, with the probability that its return will never be requested. We do however, wish to reserve the right to recall the loan on one years notice, by Mr. Gaylord Palmer, my son, of San Francisco, Calif.

3. We would like to have it understood that the major portion of the collection at least, be placed on exhibition where it can be seen and not stored away for future use.

4. There will ofcourse be some expense in properly packing and shipping the collection and we will expect this to be handled entirely by the Park Service.

The collection consists of one very well preserved mummy of a child, which was taken from Montezuma's Castle, numerous skulls bones etc. together with cloth and various materials found in cliff dwellings. Some thirty or forty pieces of pottery all in very good shape, most of which was excavated in Chaco Canon. also some miscellaneous stone tools.

As Mrs. Wetherill has explained to you, this collection was excavated by my Father about the years 1894-95 when he and his family made a tour of the Southwest with Richard Wetherill. We have a fairly good record of the place of excavation of most of the collection together with a number of photographs which may be of interest and we will gladly furnish as complete information as possible.

Yours very truly,

*S. L. Palmer*  
S. L. Palmer.

COPY

740-06.1

San Francisco, Aug. 16, 1937.

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park,  
Mancos, Colorado.

Dear Sir:-

Last April you wrote to me, regarding the loan of a collection of Cliff Dweller and Mesa Dweller relics that was excavated by my Father, S. L. Palmer, about forty years ago.

Since receiving your letter I have discussed the matter of this loan with my three sisters who jointly own this collection with me. We have decided that it would be a pleasure to us to have this collection exhibited at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum, there are however a few points that we would like to have understood before having the materials packed and prepared for shipment.

1. We would like to have the collection exhibited in the museum in the name of S. L. Palmer, who excavated and collected all the specimens of the collection.

2. The collection is to be turned over to the Mesa Verde Park Museum as an indefinite loan, with the probability that its return will never be requested. We do however, wish to reserve the right to recall the loan on one years notice, by Mr. Gaylord Palmer, my son, of San Francisco, Calif.

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Yours very truly,

S. L. Palmer.

740-06.1

August 4, 1937

AUG 6 1937  
AUG 7 1937

Mrs. Richard Wetherill  
P.O. Box 572  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Wetherill:

I inclose herewith a letter dated July 8 which we have received from our Berkeley headquarters at California, regarding the mummy which is in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco. The copy of the letter is forwarded to you for your information.

We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,


Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

Inc

740-06.1

July 13, 1937 

Mrs. Richard Wetherill  
Tucson, Arizona P.O. Box 572

Dear Mrs. Wetherill:

I inclose herewith a letter dated July 8 which we have received from our Berkeley Headquarters at California, regarding the mummy which is in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco. The copy of the letter is forwarded for your information.

We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

Inc.

cc Jager



2740-067

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
FIELD DIVISION OF EDUCATION  
333 HILGARD HALL, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

May 5, 1937

Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

*P*

Dear Mr. Nusbaum:

Attention: Mr. Paul Franke

In reply to Mr. Franke's letter of April 26 concerning the mummy now in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco, I spoke to Mrs. Palmer and learned that Mr. Palmer is out of town and will not return until about the middle of the month. At that time I will communicate with him again and try to get the mummy off to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Acting Chief  
Field Division of Education

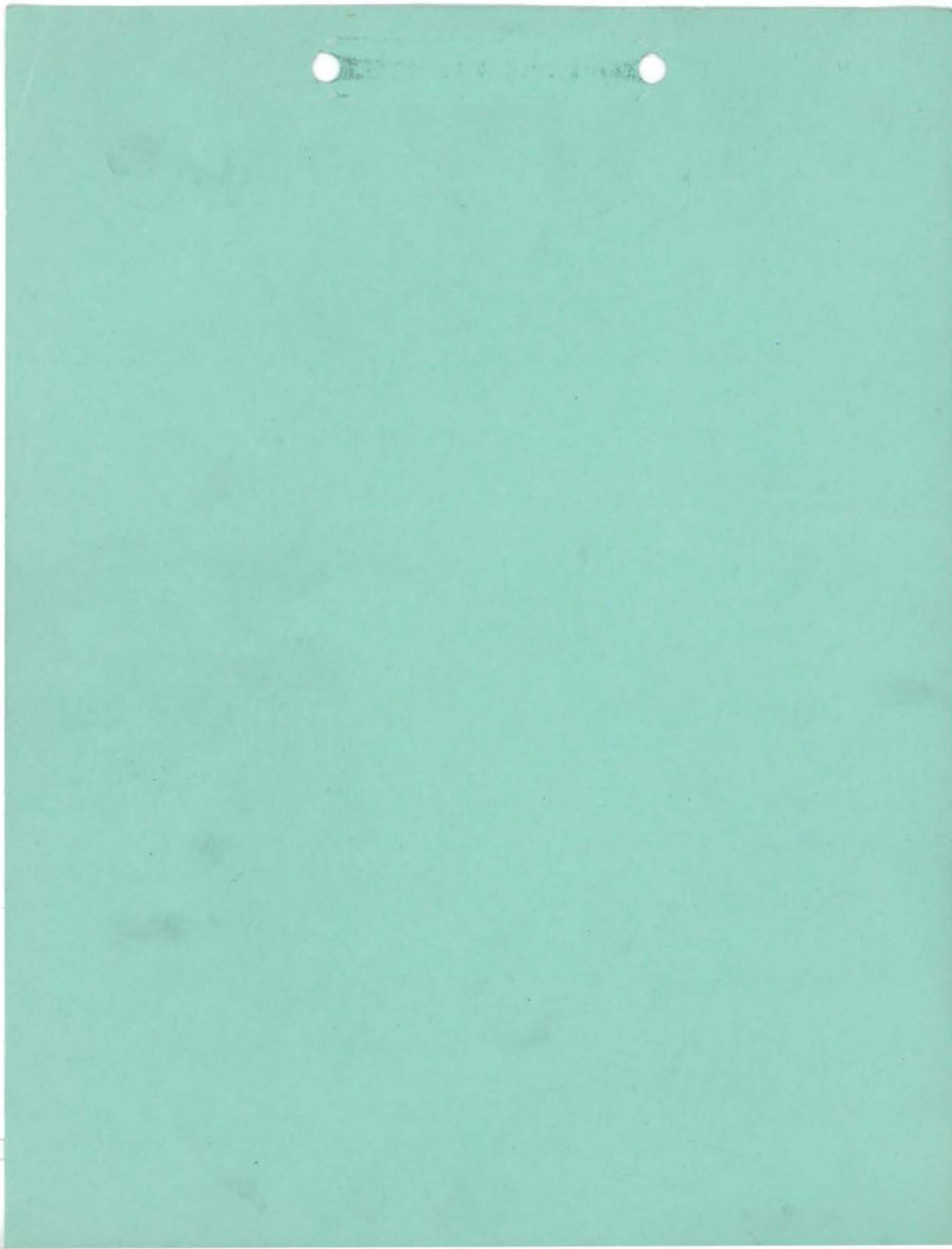
*Alden B. Stevens*

By: Alden B. Stevens  
Assistant Acting Chief

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

MAY 10 1937

RECEIVED



10-23  
(May 1929)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Meas. Verde..... NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 853-05  
Palmer Relics

April 11, 1937 to March 26, 1938

Re: Palmer Relics

**IMPORTANT**

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room.

Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,  
*Director.*

*Re - Palmer's Papers*

WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

March 26, 1938

Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park 833-05  
Colorado

*Palmer's collection*

Dear Mr. Franke:

On March 25 we shipped to you, by freight, one crated geology case and two boxes containing the Palmer collection. The Palmer collection was described as being "Fossils" on account of the great difference in freight rates.

With regard to your night letter of March 25: As the mummy was already completely packed and since Ansel Hall's trip was uncertain, the mummy was enclosed in one of the boxes. On your receiving this shipment you will find on one end of the mummy case two screws which allow a small end piece and the end pane of glass to be taken out. The mummy is covered with cheese cloth over which are two layers of cotton. Over this is more cheese cloth and then a line of excelsior to hold the contents of the case entirely firm. We did our best to pack the entire collection as safely as possible, but shall be very anxious to hear of its arrival in good condition.

We have given Mr. Palmer an itemized receipt, covering his entire collection. We enclose this receipt to you for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

By: William J. Lippincott,  
Acting Assistant Chief

Enclosure 1659900 - Itemized  
description of Palmer Collection,  
copy of letter to Mr. Palmer, and  
B/L I-379896 covering shipment of  
Palmer collection, in dup.

WJL: DJ

FILE COPY



# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7154

WESTERN UNION

NIGHT LETTER

SUPERINTENDENT  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLORADO

ATTENTION DON WATSON REURLET JANUARY TWENTYNINTH PALMER COLLECTION NOW  
PACKED IT IS QUITE HEAVY BUT A NUMBER OF ARTIFACTS ARE EXTREMELY FRAGILE AND  
MUMMY WILL NOT STAND MUCH JARRING (STOP) AS THE BILL OF LADING IS CHARGED  
TO YOU PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR EXPRESS OR FREIGHT

Confirmation

→ File  
Yellow

Phoned W.U. 4:50 3/24/38 DJ

*Mesa Verde*  
FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT 833-05  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BUREAU 331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY

CHG. APPROPRIATION REGULAR

BERKELEY, CALIF. MARCH 24, 1938

LIPPINCOTT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## FILE COPY

Mesa Verde  
833-05  
(Re Palmer)

WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

March 26, 1938

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Enclosed you will find a receipt covering the collection of artifacts and human remains which you are loaning to Mesa Verde National Park. This receipt covers the items as packed by us and checks exactly with the list which you furnished to us. We will make every effort to see that the entire collection arrives at Mesa Verde in good condition.

We appreciate the value of this collection and join with Mesa Verde National Park in thanking you for your generous loan of it.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

By William J. Lippincott  
Acting Assistant Chief

(Receipt enclosed)

KJL:DJ

cc: Supt. Mesa Verde Nat'l Park

RECEIVED  
MUSEUM DIVISION  
MARCH 28 1938

LIST OF OBJECTS RECEIVED FROM S. L. PALMER AND PACKED  
BY WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES FOR MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

- |                       |                             |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mummy              | 46. Bowl                    | 91. Pottery Jug  |
| 2. Skeleton, Baby     | 47. Flat Grinding Stone     | 92. Pottery Bowl |
| 3. Bow                | 48. Pitcher                 | 93. Bowl         |
| 4. Arrows             | 49. Bowl                    | 94. Bowl         |
| 5. Cloth              | 50. Bowl                    | 95. Bowl         |
| 6. Various Materials  | 51. Corrugated Dish         | 96. Pitcher      |
| 7. Skull              | 52. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 8. Pottery Bowl       | 53. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 9. Timber Section     | 54. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 10. Timber Section    | 55. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 11. Tied Stones       | 56. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 12. Roof Plastering   | 57. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 13. Pitcher           | 58. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 14. Small Tray        | 59. Corrugated Dish         |                  |
| 15. Small Jug         | 60. Bowl                    |                  |
| 16. Bowl              | 61. Lamp                    |                  |
| 17. Bowl              | 62. Bowl                    |                  |
| 18. Jug               | 63. Bowl                    |                  |
| 19. Bowl              | 64. Bowl                    |                  |
| 20. Bowl              | 65. Bowl                    |                  |
| 21. Bowl              | 66. Bowl                    |                  |
| 22. Bowl              | 67. Image                   |                  |
| 23. Bowl with Handle  | 68. Pipe                    |                  |
| 24. Pitcher           | 69. Small Dish              |                  |
| 25. Cover for Pitcher | 70. Spoon                   |                  |
| 26. Pitcher           | 71. Skull                   |                  |
| 27. Vase              | 72. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 28. Mug               | 73. Pr. Sandals             |                  |
| 29. Lamp              | 74. Grinding Stone          |                  |
| 30. Lamp              | 75. Grinding Stone          |                  |
| 31. Duck Shaped Dish  | 76. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 32. Duck Shaped Dish  | 77. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 33. Ladle             | 78. Stone Tool              |                  |
| 34. Pitcher           | 79. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 35. Pitcher           | 80. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 36. Jug               | 81. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 37. Bowl              | 82. Stone Hammer            |                  |
| 38. Bowl              | 83. Grinding Tool           |                  |
| 39. Bowl              | 84. Shell Beads             |                  |
| 40. ----              | 85. Shell Beads             |                  |
| 41. Canteen           | 86. ----                    |                  |
| 42. Dish              | 87. Bone Tools (6)          |                  |
| 43. Bowl              | 88. ----                    |                  |
| 44. Pitcher           | 89. ----                    |                  |
| 45. Pitcher           | 90. Shell & Turquoise Beads |                  |

Received  
(By) William J. Leppert



Re Palmer relics

FEB 2 1938

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK 833-05

COLORADO

January 29, 1938

YEAGER	
Hastings	
ANSWERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FILE	

Western Museum Laboratories  
National Park Service  
331 Hilgard Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Mr. Yeager:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter from Mr. S. L. Palmer, 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, concerning a collection of artifacts and human remains that he is loaning to Mesa Verde National Park.

This collection consists of a mummy, miscellaneous skeletal fragments, pottery and other artifacts that were collected by Mr. Palmer's father in the Southwest back about 1895. Many of these objects are very fragile and in order to be shipped by freight will need to be very carefully packed. Since we can not come out to supervise it we will appreciate it very much if you can take care of the packing and shipping of this collection.

Enclosed is a bill of lading that will cover the shipment and we will take care of any expense you incur in the packing.

In his letter Mr. Palmer states that he has some photographs and data relating to the places where the things were found. These are extremely important to us so will you get everything of this nature and include it with the shipment.

We are instructing Mr. Palmer today that you are going to call for the collection so I am sure that you will find everything in readiness.

If this collection proves to be large the packing may turn into quite a job and you may be sure that we will feel deeply indebted to you for taking care of it for us.

Sincerely yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Superintendent.

Ship ped

Enclosures - copy of Palmer  
1/24/38 letter to mesa verde

Mesa Verde B/L I-379896  
(held at 331 Hilgard Hall)

Please advise shipping method,  
and number and kind of packages,  
and whether express or freight  
shipment desired. - E.W. 2/2/38.

BY Don Watson  
Don Watson,  
Junior Park Naturalist.

PLS -12 1938

*encl 1/29/38*

COPY

San Francisco, Jan. 24, 1938.

Mr. Paul R. Franke  
Asst. Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of December 17, 1937, explaining the conditions under which loans are received by the Park Department and as these conditions are satisfactory to us we are returning herewith two signed copies of the loan agreement.

In previous correspondence we had mentioned that we were desirous that the specimens be placed on exhibition and we now feel quite sure that you will find a considerable portion of the collection of interest and value in your museum.

We have some photographs together with data relating to the location where this archeological material was found, all of which we will gladly furnish you if desired.

The materials of this collection will be available to your Berkeley Museum Division for packing at any time convenient to you.

Yours very truly,

S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, Calif.

San Francisco, Aug. 16, 1937.

enclosure  
12/6/37

Mr. Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park,  
Hancos, Colorado.

Dear Sir:-

Last April you wrote to me, regarding the loan of a collection of Cliff Dweller and Mesa Dweller relics that was excavated by my Father, S. L. Palmer, about forty years ago.

Since receiving your letter I have discussed the matter of this loan with my three sisters who jointly own this collection with me. We have decided that it would be a pleasure to us to have this collection exhibited at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum, there are however a few points that we would like to have understood before having the materials packed and prepared for shipment.

1. We would like to have the collection exhibited in the museum in the name of S. L. Palmer, who excavated and collected all the specimens of the collection.

2. The collection is to be turned over to the Mesa Verde Park Museum as an indefinite loan, with the probability that its return will never be requested. We do however, wish to reserve the right to recall the loan on one years notice, by Mr. Gaylord Palmer, my son, of San Francisco, Calif.

3. We would like to have it understood that the major portion of the collection at least, be placed on exhibition where it can be seen and not stored away for future use.

4. There will ofcourse be some expense in properly packing and shipping the collection and we will expect this to be handled entirely by the Park Service.

The collection consists of one very well preserved mummy of a child, which was taken from Montezuma's Castle, numerous skulls bones etc. together with cloth and various materials found in cliff dwellings. Some thirty or forty pieces of pottery all in very good shape, most of which was excavated in Chaco Canon, also some miscellaneous stone tools.

As Mrs. Wetherill has explained to you, this collection was excavated by my Father about the years 1894-95 when he and his family made a tour of the Southwest with Richard Wetherill. We have a fairly good record of the place of excavation of most of the collection together with a number of photographs which may be of interest and we will gladly furnish as complete information as possible.

Yours very truly,

Signed ( S.L.Palmer )

JUL 19 1937	
YEAGER	
ANSWERED	
FILE	

July 13, 1937

Mrs. Richard Wetherill  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Wetherill:

I inclose herewith a letter dated July 8 which we have received from our Berkeley Headquarters at California, regarding the mummy which is in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco. The copy of the letter is forwarded for your information.

We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By Paul R. Franke  
Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

Inc.

*Eto Yeager ✓*

Mesa Verde 3305

0177

R. Palmer

WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

July 6, 1937

Acting Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Dear Mr. Franke:

Some time ago we received a communication from you regarding a mummy which is in the possession of Mr. S. L. Palmer of San Francisco and is intended for the Mesa Verde Museum. While Mr. Stevens was in Mesa Verde you made further reference to this matter and since his return we have contacted Mr. Palmer in regard to it.

Mr. Palmer tells us that he is waiting to hear from his sister, Mrs. Wetherill, concerning the mummy and does not wish to make any decision on it until he has heard from her. He states further that it is his understanding that the mummy will be a loan to the National Park Service and not an outright gift.

Mr. Palmer will contact us when he is ready to complete the negotiations and we will inform you when this takes place.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

ARS FF

FILE COPY

JUN 8 1937

YEAGER

6  
[Handwritten initials]

ANSWERED

FILE

San Francisco, June 7, 1937.

Mr. Alden B. Stevens,  
Asst. Acting Chief.  
National Park Service.  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Sir;-

Upon my return from the East I found your letter of May 5, regarding the transfer to Mesa Verde National Park, certain cliff dweller relics that I have in my possession.

I am communicating with my sisters who jointly own this small collection and when I learn their wishes in this matter, I will be pleased to communicate with you again.

Yours very truly,

*S. L. Palmer*

S.L. Palmer.  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco.

Mesa Verde  
833-25

May 5, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

I spoke with Mrs. Palmer on the telephone yesterday and learned that you would be out of town until about the middle of the month.

We have a letter from Mr. Paul Franke, Acting Superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park, requesting us to obtain from you a mummy which, we understand from Mrs. Richard Wetherill, is to be given to the museum.

If you will be so good as to communicate with us on your return, we can consult further about this matter. The telephone number of this office is Ashberry 5000, local 412.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Acting Chief  
Field Division of Education  
National Park Service

By: Alden B. Stevens  
Assistant Acting Chief

ABG:IL

FILE COPY

May 5, 1937

Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

833-05

Dear Mr. Nusbaum:

Attention: Mr. Paul Franke

In reply to Mr. Franke's letter of April 26 concerning the mummy now in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco, I spoke to Mrs. Palmer and learned that Mr. Palmer is out of town and will not return until about the middle of the month. At that time I will communicate with him again and try to get the mummy off to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dorr G. Yeager, Acting Chief  
Field Division of Education

By: Alden B. Stevens  
Assistant Acting Chief

ABS:EL



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

April 26, 1937

Dorr Yeager, Acting Chief,  
Field Division of Education,  
National Park Service,  
333 Hilgard Hall,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California.

APR 30 1937	
YEAGER	
	<i>068</i>
	<i>465-55-37</i>
ANSWERED	
FILE	

Dear Mr. Yeager:

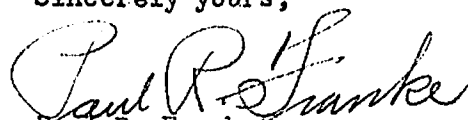
I enclose herewith copies of correspondence from Mrs. Richard Wetherill, of Tucson, Arizona, and our letter to Mr. S. E. Palmer, of 171 Kemwood Way, San Francisco, California.

We should appreciate it very much if your office will arrange to obtain the museum material (mummy) as described in this correspondence, and prepare it for shipment to Mesa Verde. Upon notice from your office, we shall prepare bill of lading and send it to you immediately.

It would be appreciated if you could give this your early attention, as I understand that the museum at the University of Arizona has already approached Mr. Palmer and is making an effort to obtain the mummy for their own display.

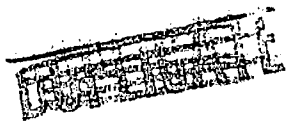
As you will note, the mummy was found at Montezuma Castle, and our intention, of course, is to obtain it for the Service and in time, when the proper situation develops, it will be returned to its original resting place at Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Sincerely yours,

  
Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent.

Encl-405371

APR 30 1937



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

April 26, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter of April 11, 1937, from Mrs. Richard Wetherill, of Tucson, Arizona, which is self-explanatory.

As we are desirous of having the mummy in our park museum here, I am instructing the Berkeley office of the National Park Service to contact you and receive the mummy for packing and shipping to Mesa Verde. A copy of Mrs. Wetherill's letter is being sent them, and it will be presented to you as their authority for receiving the mummy for this park.

Very truly yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent.

JST:IMC

Tucson, Arizona,  
April 11, 1937

COPY

Mr. Paul Franke,  
Mesa Verde,  
Colorado.

433-0  
Palmer

Dear Mr. Franke:

When I was at Mesa Verde I told you of a mummy (of a child) that belonged to my Father's Estate. It is now arranged that the family are willing to have the museum at Mesa Verde have this mummy. It was found at Montezumas Castle. Write to G. L. Palmer, 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, Calif., and he will make the arrangements about it. He also has photographs and data. Mr. Wetherill was with Father when the mummy was found. I understand the Museum here is much interested in getting the mummy, but I want it at Mesa Verde. I believe I told you the specimen was of a small child perhaps three years old "boy" brown hair, has on shirt woven of cotton and I believe has a bow and arrow. There are also some bones of skeletons, but the child is a well preserved mummy and has been in a sealed glass case all these years - 92 or 1893 when it was found.

I know it will be an interesting addition to the museum, so if you want this mummy write as soon as convenient to the address on card inclosed. Mr. Palmer is my brother and will want to let it be in the museum as a loan I imagine and will want proper mention for our Father and Mr. Wetherill.

I am telling you this to give you an idea how to approach Mr. Palmer so he will see fit to let it go to the museum (as I wish also). It is still the property of the Palmer Estate with four heirs and after this long time I have the consent to send it to the Mesa Verde Museum. So do write soon, before the Arizona Museum writes him, as I understand they plan on doing, as my Father was bringing it to me here to give to this museum when he died, but personally I feel that Father and Richard Wetherill both loved the Mesa Verde best.

Thanking you for the very interesting Mesa Verde Notes that are sent to me from time to time.

I have been on the Rio Grande Rio in New Mexico, near Bernalillo where there are some very interesting ruins as well as others "still unexplored" up at seven and eight thousand ft. in the Jones mountains. I have been there all of this past year, and seen some very interesting work in excavating and restoration: there is so much "yet to learn".

Pardon the lengthy letter of explanation, but I am so anxious for the mummy to find a suitable resting place.

Very sincerely,  
(sgd) Mrs. Richard Wetherill,  
P. O. Box 578, Tucson, Arizona.

Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Date Sept. 7, 1960

Memorandum

To: Museum Accession Files

From: Chief Park Archeologist

Subject: Government Ownership of Accession No. 231

The material in this accession has been:

Donated ✓  
Placed on Permanent Loan \_\_\_\_\_  
Placed on Indefinite Loan \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposited by Federal Seizure Order \_\_\_\_\_

in the Mesa Verde National Park Museum.

The terms of this donation ✓ loan \_\_\_\_\_ are:

Records on this collection are to remain as a unit and the material is a donation to the Mesa Verde Nat'l. Park Museum. which has the authority from the donor to loan material to other Service Museums.

Date Received: April 1, 1938

Received from: S. L. Palmer by S. L. Palmer, Jr.

Address: Southmore Apt. Hotel, Hammond, Ind.

Remarks: With the exception of Cat. Nos. 2287, 2283 + 2445, all items have been transferred to Casa Grande, Chaco Canyon, Montezuma's Castle + Navaho Nat'l. Monuments.

Jean M. Pinkley

(Mrs.) Jean M. Pinkley  
Chief Park Archeologist

Catalog numbers on following page

## ACC. 231

Catalog #	Object
<u>Transferred to Montezuma's Castle National Monument:</u>	
2404 3171 3230 3236 - 1	piece retained
2452 3178 3231 3237	
2454 3207 3232 3238	
2484 3229 3233 3289	
<u>Transferred to Casa Grande National Monument:</u>	
2388 2389	
<u>Transferred to Navajo National Monument:</u>	
1992 2400 2443 2738	
2395 2438 2717 3203	
2397 2441 2725	
<u>Transferred to Chaco Canyon National Monument:</u>	
2385 2402 2415 2427 2440 2711	
2386 2403 2416 2428 2442 2746	
2387 2405 2417 2429 2444 2899	
2390 2406 2418 2430 2446 3227	
2391 2407 2419 2431 2447 3228	
2392 2408 2420 2432 2448 3234	
2393 2409 2421 2433 2449 3235	
2394 2410 2422 2434 2450 3288	
2396 2411 2423 2435 2453	
2398 2412 2424 2436 2478	
2399 2413 2425 2437 2479	
2401 2414 2426 2439 2485	
<u>Mesa Verde Material:</u>	
2217	Sandal, yucca cord
2383	Sandal, yucca cord
2445	Stone axe, notched, single-bitted
3236	Cloth fragment, cotton (Retained 1 of 5)

J 33-00.1

May 12, 1938.

Acc 231

Mr. S. L. Palmer  
171 Knewood Way  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

The archeological material that you recently loaned to Mesa Verde National Park has been received and I want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your generosity in turning this most interesting collection over to us.

Some of the articles are excellent and will be worked into our exhibits at the first opportunity. The mummy is of course a prize as it is certainly a splendid example of preservation. It will be put on display immediately and will add a great deal of interest to our burial exhibits. We are interested in the age of the little boy at the time of death and will have dentist and doctors endeavor to determine it from the teeth.

All of the articles reached us in good condition as they had been very carefully packed. We will catalog them and store them in our fireproof cases so that they will be preserved for all time. All articles that we place on exhibit will, of course, be credited to you.

In recent years many of these fine old collections have been returned to us and they all help in reconstructing the story of ancient man in this region. We feel, naturally, that they have the most value here where they are available to scientists for study and where thousands of people can see and enjoy them.

It is because of this that we feel deeply indebted to you. I am sure you have had a strong sentimental feeling about the collection because of the manner in which you obtained it, and I know you must have deliberated a great deal before you came to the decision to send it to us. We are deeply appreciative of your generosity and trust that you will visit us in the near future to see the collection in its new home.

You have Assistant Superintendent Paul R. Franke's acknowledgement of December 17, and Mr. William J. Lippincott's itemized receipt of March 26. Those two and this letter will serve as receipts for the collection.

Yours very truly

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson  
Junior Park Naturalist.

833-007

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

January 29, 1938

888-0511

Western Museum Laboratories  
National Park Service  
331 Hilgard Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Mr. ~~Smith~~; Yeager

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter from Mr. S. L. Palmer, 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, concerning a collection of artifacts and human remains that he is loaning to Mesa Verde National Park.

This collection consists of a mummy, miscellaneous skeletal fragments, pottery and other artifacts that were collected by Mr. Palmer's father in the Southwest back about 1895. Many of these objects are very fragile and in order to be shipped by freight will need to be very carefully packed. Since we can not come out to supervise it we will appreciate it very much if you can take care of the packing and shipping of this collection.

Enclosed is a bill of lading that will cover the shipment and we will take care of any expense you incur in the packing.

In his letter Mr. Palmer states that he has some photographs and data relating to the places where the things were found. These are extremely important to us so will you get everything of this nature and include it with the shipment.

We are instructing Mr. Palmer today that you are going to call for the collection so I am sure that you will find everything in readiness.

If this collection proves to be large the packing may turn into quite a job and you may be sure that we will feel deeply indebted to you for taking care of it for us.

Sincerely yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson,  
Junior Park Naturalist.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

January 29, 1938

MR. S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Francisco, Calif.

883-051  
Acc. 231

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Your letter of January 24, stating that you are desirous of loaning your father's collection of southwestern archeological material to this park, has been received and we are today instructing Mr. Dorr Yeager, of our Western Museum Laboratories in Berkeley, to call for the collection and supervise the packing and shipping.

The Laboratory has excellent facilities for such work and you may feel sure that the collection will have the best of care. Mr. Yeager will probably take the things to the laboratory and do the packing there.

The photographs and data that you mention are extremely important to us as archeological material is rather meaningless unless we know where it came from. If you will turn this material over to Mr. Yeager he will send it to us.

As soon as we receive the collection we will send you an itemized list of the articles as a receipt.

In the early days many such collections were made and every year more and more of them come back to us. We have a fine museum, the largest in the National Park Service, with splendid facilities for storage and display. From what you say about the collection I am sure that much of it will be suitable for display purposes and I sincerely hope that you will be able to visit us and see the collection in its new home.

Our attendance last season was 28,171 and each season it grows a few thousand so you can see how many people will see and enjoy your collection in the years to come. It is for this reason that we feel such collections belong in museums instead of in private hands where they are seen by only a few people.

I cannot tell you how much we appreciate your generosity in this matter. The collection will mean much to us and will add to our knowledge of the ancient inhabitants of this region. We only hope that you will be able to visit us in the near future so we can express our appreciation in person.

Yours very truly,

Paul R. Franke,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson, Junior Park Naturalist.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

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883-0511  
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Yours very truly,

Paul R. Franks,  
Superintendent.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Watson, Junior Park Naturalist.

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7134

Day letter govt paid

Acting Chief,  
Western Museum Laboratory,  
332 Hilgard Hall, University of California,  
Berkeley, California.

Retel 24 Suggest you immediately contact Ansel Hall who is due at Park soon  
requesting he bring mummy along or on later trip period Ship balance Palmer  
collection via freight

FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

BUREAU

*Acc 231*

CHG. APPROPRIATION

Mancos, Colo. March 25, 1938

*883-051*

Franke

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7134

FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

BUREAU \_\_\_\_\_

CHG. APPROPRIATION \_\_\_\_\_

Berkeley, Calif. March 24, 1938.

883-05,1

Superintendent - Attention Don Watson

Reyourlet January 29 Palmer collection now packed It is quite heavy but a number of articles are extremely fragile and mummy will not stand much jarring. As the bill lading is charged to you please indicate your preference for express or freight

Lippincott

Dorr G. Younger

883-05,1

Don

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7134

FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

BUREAU .....

CHG. APPROPRIATION .....

Berkeley, California. March 15, 1938

Superintendent

Palmer relics will be shipped within few days on bill lading furnished by you  
some time ago stop Unless you wire us to contrary we will include on(e)  
geology case recently completed for you in same shipment

Dorr G. Yeager. 

833-05.1

*Done*

STANDARD FORM No. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

FROM INTERIOR DEPARTMENT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BUREAU WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES  
WESTERN UNION

CHG. APPROPRIATION CCC

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6-7184

NIGHT LETTER

BERKELEY, CALIF. MARCH 15, 1938

SUPERINTENDENT  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

833-05.1

PALMER RELICS WILL BE SHIPPED WITHIN FEW DAYS ON BILL OF LADING FURNISHED  
BY YOU SOMETIME AGO (STOP) UNLESS YOU WIRE US TO CONTRARY WE WILL INCLUDE  
ONE GEOLOGY CASE RECENTLY COMPLETED FOR YOU IN SAME SHIPMENT

Dorr G. Yeager  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

File Copy  
Yellow Copy  
Confirmation

DGY:DJ

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

MAR 13 1938

ТЕГЕСВАМ

БЕРКЕЛИ  
BERKELEY MUSEUM  
MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
1. KOW IN LEKICK DEBYKLEWENI

3-5-1

August 4, 1937

AUG 5 1937 *JRF*

Mrs. Richard Wetherill  
P.O. Box 572  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Wetherill:

I inclose herewith a letter dated July 8 which we have received from our Berkeley headquarters at California, regarding the mummy which is in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco. The copy of the letter is forwarded to you for your information.

We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

Inc

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

*Mr. [unclear]*  
*7/27*  
*Mr. [unclear]*  
*Mr. [unclear]*  
July 13, 1937



Mrs. Richard Wetherill  
Tucson, Arizona

*P.O. Box 572*

JUL 28 1937

*Lester*

Dear Mrs. Wetherill:

I inclose herewith a letter dated July 8 which we have received from our Berkeley Headquarters at California, regarding the mummy which is in possession of Mr. Palmer of San Francisco. The copy of the letter is forwarded for your information.

We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum  
Superintendent

By *Paul R. Franke*

Paul R. Franke  
Assistant Superintendent

Inc.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

July 13, 1937

3-5-1

Mrs. Richard Wetherill,  
Tucson, Arizona.

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We are very much interested in obtaining the mummy and await your further instructions.

With very kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jesse L. Nusbaum,  
Superintendent

By

Paul R. Franke,  
Assistant Superintendent.

Encl.  
cc-Dorr Yeager



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WESTERN MUSEUM LABORATORIES  
331 HILGARD HALL, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

3-5-1

July 8, 1937

Acting Superintendent  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

Dear Mr. Franke:

Some time ago we received a communication from you regarding a mummy which is in the possession of Mr. S. L. Palmer of San Francisco and is intended for the Mesa Verde Museum. While Mr. Stevens was in Mesa Verde you made further reference to this matter and since his return we have contacted Mr. Palmer in regard to it.

Mr. Palmer tells us that he is waiting to hear from his sister, Mrs. Wetherill, concerning the mummy and does not wish to make any decision on it until he has heard from her. He states further that it is his understanding that the mummy will be a loan to the National Park Service and not an outright gift.

Mr. Palmer will contact us when he is ready to complete the negotiations and we will inform you when this takes place.

Sincerely yours,

Derr G. Yeager, Assistant Chief  
Museum Division

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

JUL 12 1937

RECEIVED

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

April 26, 1937

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, California.

APR 26 1937

Dear Mr. Palmer:

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter of April 11, 1937, from Mrs. Richard Wetherill, of Tucson, Arizona, which is self-explanatory.

As we are desirous of having the mummy in our park museum here, I am instructing the Berkeley office of the National Park Service to contact you and receive the mummy for packing and shipping to Mesa Verde. A copy of Mrs. Wetherill's letter is being sent them, and it will be presented to you as their authority for receiving the mummy for this park.

Very truly yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent.

JHW:LMG

COPY

Tucson, Arizona,  
April 11, 1937

Mr. Paul Franke,  
Mesa Verde,  
Colorado.

Dear Mr. Franke:

When I was at Mesa Verde I told you of a mummy (of a child) that belonged to my Father's Estate. It is now arranged that the family are willing to have the museum at Mesa Verde have this mummy. It was found at Montezuma Castle. Write to S. L. Palmer, 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, Calif., and he will make the arrangements about it. He also has photographs and data. Mr. Wetherill was with Father when the mummy was found. I understand the Museum here is much interested in getting the mummy, but I want it at Mesa Verde. I believe I told you the specimen was of a small child perhaps three years old "boy" brown hair, has on shirt woven of cotton and I believe has a bow and arrow. There are also some bones of skeletons, but the child is a well preserved mummy and has been in a sealed glass case all these years - 92 or 1893 when it was found.

I know it will be an interesting addition to the museum, so if you want this mummy write as soon as convenient to the address on card inclosed. Mr. Palmer is my brother and will want to let it be in the museum as a loan I imagine and will want proper mention for our Father and Mr. Wetherill.

I am telling you this to give you an idea how to approach Mr. Palmer so he will see fit to let it go to the museum (as I wish also). It is still the property of the Palmer Estate with four heirs and after this long time I have the consent to send it to the Mesa Verde Museum. So do write soon, before the Arizona Museum writes him, as I understand they plan on doing, as my Father was bringing it to me here to give to this museum when he died, but personally I feel that Father and Richard Wetherill both loved the Mesa Verde best.

Thanking you for the very interesting Mesa Verde Notes that are sent to me from time to time.

I have been on the Rio Grande Rio in New Mexico, near Bernalillo where there are some very interesting ruins as well as others "still unexplored" up at seven and eight thousand ft. in the Jemez mountains. I have been there all of this past year, and seen some very interesting work in excavating and restoration: there is so much "yet to learn".

Pardon the lengthy letter of explanation, but I am so anxious for the mummy to find a suitable resting place.

Very sincerely,

(sgd) Mrs. Richard Wetherill,

P. O. Box 572, Tucson, Arizona.

COPY

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April 11, 1937

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Very sincerely,

(sgd) Mrs. Richard Wetherill,  
*P.O. Box 272, Tucson, Arizona*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
MANCOS, COLO.

April 26, 1937

Dorr Yeager, Acting Chief,  
Field Division of Education,  
National Park Service,  
333 Hilgard Hall,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California.

APR 27 1937

Dear Mr. Yeager:

I enclose herewith copies of correspondence from Mrs. Richard Wetherill, of Tucson, Arizona, and our letter to Mr. S. E. Palmer, of 171 Kenwood Way, San Francisco, California.

We should appreciate it very much if your office will arrange to obtain the museum material (mummy) as described in this correspondence, and prepare it for shipment to Mesa Verde. Upon notice from your office, we shall prepare bill of lading and send it to you immediately.

It would be appreciated if you could give this your early attention, as I understand that the museum at the University of Arizona has already approached Mr. Palmer and is making an effort to obtain the mummy for their own display.

As you will note, the mummy was found at Montezuma Castle, and our intention, of course, is to obtain it for the Service and in time, when the proper situation develops, it will be returned to its original resting place at Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Sincerely yours,

Paul R. Franke,  
Acting Superintendent.

Encl-405371

PRF:MMG

ITEM  M.V. MUSEUM Acc. No. 231  M.V. Cat. No.	WHERE FOUND AND DATE  1894-5-6.	GENERAL DIMENSIONS				CONDITION	GENERAL DESCRIPTION  COLLECTOR	
		LENGTH	WIDTH	DIAM.	HEIGHT			
MUMMY	3337	MONTENZUMA CASTLE				28"	GOOD	
SKELETON, BABY	3230 3229	" "					FAIR	
BOW	3207	" "	22"				GOOD	
ARROWS	3171	" "					POOR	
CLOTH	3236	" "					GOOD	
VARIOUS MATERIALS	2452	" "					GOOD	
SKULL	3231	" "					GOOD	
POTTERY BOWL	2454	" "			8 1/2"	3 1/2"	POOR	Red Pottery Bowl. In fragments.
TIMBER SECTION	2484	" "	6"		3"		GOOD	TAKEN FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, SHOWING
TIMBER SECTION	3289	" "	12"		7"		GOOD	" " " "
TIED STONES	3178	" "	7"	4 1/4"		3 1/4"	GOOD	White stones tied together with Yucca
ROOF PLASTERING	2404	" "	5 1/2"	5"		1 1/2"	OK	Red mud plaster from roof. Shows finger
PITCHER	2407	CHALO CANON			2 3/4"	1 1/4"	GOOD	White pottery. Black painted design. with
SMALL TRAY	2432	CHALO CANON	5"	3"		1 5/8"	FAIR	Rectangular dish with 2 handles, white
SMALL JUG	2410	CHALO CANON			3 1/2"	4"	GOOD	Black design. Handle.
BOWL	2414	CHALO CANON			5 1/2"	3 1/2"	GOOD	White with black design. Drilled for
BOWL	2430	CHALO CANON			4 3/4"	2"	GOOD	White with black design inside. Two
JUG	2408	CHALO CANON			3"	3 1/2"	GOOD	Jug with handle white with black
BOWL	2412	CHALO CANON			5 3/4"	2"	GOOD	White with black design inside
BOWL	2411	CHALO CANON			5 3/8"	2"	GOOD	Gray. Black design. Restored. Pa
BOWL	2431	CHALO CANON			5 1/2"	2"	GOOD	White with brown painted design
BOWL WITH HANDLE	2442	CHALO CANON	13 1/2"		6 3/8"	3"	GOOD	White with brown design in bowl. Is
PITCHER	2422	CHALO CANON			5 1/2"	7 1/2"	GOOD	Pitcher with handle white, black de
COVER FOR PITCHER	2402	CHALO CANON			4"	1/4"	GOOD	Stone cover for No 24.
PITCHER	2419	CHALO CANON			5 3/4"	7 1/2"	FAIR	White with brown paint design. Pau
VASE	2416	CHALO CANON			6 1/2"	5 1/2"	GOOD	White with black design inside & ou
MUG	2406	CHALO CANON			4 3/8"	3 1/2"	GOOD	Black & White Painted, with painte
LAMP	2435	CHALO CANON	4 1/2"	2 1/2"		3 1/2"	GOOD	Plein, unpainted, very crude duck sh
LAMP	2436	CHALO CANON	4 1/2"	3 1/2"		2 1/2"	GOOD	Plein white pottery lamp. Duck sh
DUCK SHAPED DISH	2424	CHALO CANON	6 3/4"	6"		5 1/2"	FAIR	Duck shaped with odd handle. No
DUCK SHAPED DISH	2415	CHALO CANON			5"	7"	POOR	Brown design. Handle missing
Ladle	2429	CHALO CANON			5"	2 1/2"	POOR	Handle missing. inside decora

## DIMENSIONS

## CONDITION

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

## COLLECTION OF S. L. PALMER

DIAM. HEIGHT

28"

GOOD

FAIR

GOOD

POOR

GOOD

GOOD

GOOD

8 1/2"

3 1/2"

POOR

Red Pottery Bowl. In Fragments.

3"

GOOD

TAKEN FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, SHOWING CUT BY STONE AXE

7"

GOOD

3 1/2"

GOOD

White stones tied together with Yucca.

1 1/2"

OK

Red mud plaster from roof. Shows finger prints and impression of timber.

2 3/4"

1 1/4"

GOOD

White pottery, Black painted design, with handle

1 9/8"

FAIR

Rectangular dish with 2 handles, White with black painting inside Restored from fragments.

3 1/2"

4"

GOOD

Black design, Handles.

5 1/2"

3 1/2"

GOOD

White with black design. Drilled for string handles.

4 3/4"

2"

GOOD

White with black design inside. Two small handles

3"

3 3/4"

GOOD

Jug with handle. White with black design.

5 3/4"

2"

GOOD

White with black design inside

5 3/8"

2"

GOOD

Gray. Black design. Restored. Painted inside

5 1/2"

2"

GOOD

White with brown painted design inside

6 3/8"

3"

GOOD

White with brown design in bowl. Black design on handle

5 1/2"

7 1/2"

GOOD

Pitcher with handle. White, black design. Handle decorated. Partly restored.

4"

1/4"

GOOD

Stone cover for No 24.

5 3/4"

7 1/2"

FAIR

White with brown paint design. Painted handle.

6 1/2"

5 1/2"

GOOD

White with black design inside &amp; outside. Drilled for string handle.

4 3/8"

3 1/2"

GOOD

Black &amp; White Painted, with painted handle.

3 1/4"

GOOD

Plain, unpainted, very crude duck shaped. Handle restored from fragments.

2 1/2"

GOOD

Plain white pottery lamp. Duck shaped with handle.

5 1/2"

FAIR

Duck shaped with odd handle. No painted design. small portion missing.

5"

7"

POOR

Brown design. Handle missing

5"

2 1/2"

POOR

Handle missing, inside decoration

Front of Card does not contain information on human remains.

ACCESSION RECORD

CLASSIFICATION OF ITEMS	CATALOG NUMBERS	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
1 blk. on w. ladle, rattle handle.	2442	Large bowl type.
1 large, brownish water bottle.	2443	Recent Hopi type--may be ancient
1 stone axe, black, $\frac{3}{4}$ grooved, s.B.	2444	single bitted.
1 polished black stone axe, notched.	2445 M.V.	Single bitted.
1 worked stone implement, use unknown	2446	Long, round--bluntly pointed.
1 paint grinder.	2447	Dish shaped of red sandstone.
1 Sandstone hammer. Entire grooved.	2448	
1 " " " " " "	2449	
1 Hammer stone.	2450	
CONDITION OF GIFT-LOAN-EXPEDITION, ETC.	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	DOCUMENT FILE
1 grooved arrow smoother.	3227	
1 very broad mano.	3228	
1 skeleton of tiny baby.	3229	Skull and 1 scapula missing.
Fragments of cotton blanket.	3230	Painted.
1 skull of 6 or 7 yr. old child.	3231	Lower jaw missing.
3 lower jaws of children.	3232	
Desiccated forearms of young child.	3233	
52 misc. stone, shell, bone and turquoise beads.	3234	

10-253

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1932

6-5221

Back of Accession Card:

1500 tiny black beads.	3235	Restrung, 40 inches long
Fragments of cotton cloth.	3236	
1 mummy of a 2 yr. old child.	3237	In glass jar.
Cotton blankets from child mummy.	3238	Pueblo, male--well preserved.
1 metate--open end, shallow trough.	3239	Thin rectangular stone.



Back of last card:

CONDITION OF GIFT-LOAN- EXPEDITION, ETC.	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	DOCUMENT FILE
<p><u>Indefinite loan</u> Donated, following Dr. Palmer's death, and permission given by his son to transfer the items from Casa Grande, Montezuma's Castle, Navaho and Chaco Canyon to the national monuments now in charge of those areas</p>	<p>By letter</p> <p>All items marked CC in pencil to the left of the catalog numbers are boxed and being held in basement of Nat. Hist. Mus. for transfer to Chaco Canyon Nat'l. Mon. <u>Five</u> boxes, all items listed in envelopes stapled to sides of boxes.</p>	<p>Naturalist file A 231</p>

S. L. PALMER COLLECTION

ITEMS FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, ARIZONA.

Mesa Verde National Park Museum Accession Number 231.

S.L. Palmer Collection No.	Mesa Verde Museum Catalog No.	Object.
12	✓ 2404 ✓	Roof plaster, 2 pieces.
96	✓ 2452 ✓	Miscellaneous weaving materials.
68	✓ 2454 ✓	Bowl, large red; in fragments.
99	✓ 2484 ✓	Wood, showing axe cuts.
44	✓ 3171 ✓	5 fragments of arrows.
11	✓ 3178 ✓	2 stones tied together with yucca.
43	✓ 3207 ✓	Bow, small; broken.
62	✓ 3229 ✓	Skeleton of baby; skull and scapula missing; wrapped in fragments of cotton cloth, MV.Cat.No. 3230.
63	✓ 2725 ✓	
32	✓ 3230 ✓	Blanket, cotton; fragmentary; wrapped skeleton MV.Cat.No. 3229.
95	✓ 3203 ✓	Bowl, b/r; broken.
7	✓ 3231 ✓	Skull; deformed; child's; jaw missing.
?	✓ 3233 ✓	Dessicated forearms of a child.
?	✓ 3232 ✓	Three jaws of children.
5	✓ 3236 ✓	Fragments of cotton cloth.
1	✓ 3237 ✓	Mummy of 2 year old boy.
1	✓ 3238 ✓	Cotton blankets; wrappings for 3237.
10	✓ 3289 ✓	Piece of wood showing stone axe marks.

Box 1

Box 2

In Box No. 2.

Also:

Two photographs of Montezuma Castle.

Sent to Region III  
& transhipped by  
them to Montezuma's  
Castle  
National Mon.

S. L. PALMER COLLECTION

ITEMS FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, ARIZONA.

Mesa Verde National Park Museum Accession Number 231.

<u>S.L. Palmer Collection No.</u>	<u>Mesa Verde Museum Catalog No.</u>	<u>Object.</u>
12	2404	Roof plaster, 2 pieces.
6	2452	Miscellaneous weaving materials.
8	2454	Bowl, large red; in fragmen ts.
9	2484	Wood, showing axe cuts.
4	3171	5 fragments of arrows.
11	3178	2 stones tied together with yucca.
3	3207	Bow, small; broken.
2	3229	Skeleton of baby; skull and scapula missing; wrapped in fragments of cotton cloth, MV.Cat.No. 3230.
2	3230	Blanket, cotton; fragmentary; wrapped skeleton MV.Cat.No. 3229.
7	3231	Skull; deformed; child's; jaw missing.
?	3233	Dessicated forearms of a child.
?	3232	Three jaws of children.
5	3236	Fragments of cotton cloth.
1	3237	Mummy of 2 year old boy.
1	3238	Cotton blankets; wrappings for 3237.
10	3289	Piece of wood showing stone axe marks.

*Other artifacts in Box No 1*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

July 7, 1947

MEMORANDUM for the Custodian,  
Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Just a brief, and long delayed, answer to your memorandum of June 10, concerning artifacts that may have been found with the mummy in the Palmer collection.

The only record that came with the collection was a large sheet listing all of the articles. A photographic copy of this record sheet was sent to you and you will note (if you can read the fine print on this poor copy) that there is no mention of the point of origin or of the association of any of the artifacts. The photograph of the grave indicates where the mummy was found but unless this picture shows artifacts there is no way of knowing what was found with the mummy.

Dr. Palmer is dead and since his son was not on the expedition there is no possibility of learning anything from that direction.

Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

June 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

This is to report that the mummy and other artifacts from the S. L. Palmer collection was delivered in good condition to this monument by Photographer George Grant and Archaeologist Charlie Steen on June 7. The care with which the mummy and other material was wrapped and careful handling enroute effected delivery of all items in fine shape.

The efforts of Naturalist Watson and of the Mesa Verde National Park staff in this matter are thoroughly appreciated and we wish to express our thanks.

We would like to display the mummy with its accompanying artifacts and would like to know if there is any way of learning just what was found with it.

cc: Regional Director,  
Region Three.  
Archaeologist Steen

*Homer F. Hastings*  
Homer F. Hastings,  
Custodian.

DISTRIBUTION	
1	<i>Palmer</i>
	<i>George</i>
	Chief Clerk
	Chief Ranger
2	Naturalist
	Accounts
	Personnel
	Storekeeper
	Gen. Foreman
	Mechanic
	Electrician
	Commissioner
	Engineer
	Clerk, Steno.
	Files



140-06.1

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

January 10, 1947.

Attention: Regional Archeologist.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director:

In 1938 Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., of San Francisco, loaned to the Mesa Verde Museum a collection of about 100 artifacts and 20 photographs which his father had collected in various National Park areas of the Southwest in 1894-5-6. At that time it was stipulated that the collection should be kept intact at Mesa Verde.

When the collection was received it was found that only a small portion was from the Mesa Verde, the major portion being from Chaco Canyon and Montezuma Castle with a couple of items from Casa Grande and eleven items under the general heading of Northern Arizona.

Because of the fact that the collection had little display value in the Mesa Verde Museum, a request was recently made of Mr. Palmer for permission to break up the collection and send the various pieces to their point of origin so greater use could be made of them.

In a letter of December 10, Mr. Palmer, who now lives in Hammond, Indiana, gave his consent to this and the National Park Service is now free to break up the collection and return the artifacts to the areas from which they were taken. A copy of Mr. Palmer's letter is enclosed and it will be noted that he makes two requests. He would like the original records of the collection kept intact, so that as far as the Department of the Interior is concerned it will be known as the S. L. Palmer Collection. And wherever the articles are displayed he would like credit to be given to the S. L. Palmer Collection.

The collection consists of the following articles:

From Mesa Verde: ~~1 skull~~, 2 stone tools, 2 sandals, 1 photograph.

From Chaco Canyon: 50 pieces of pottery, 12 stone tools; 40 inches of beads, 2 bone tools, 1 clay pipe, 16 photographs.

From Montezuma Castle: 1 mummy, 1 skeleton, 1 skull, 1 bow, several arrow fragments, some cotton cloth and miscellaneous material, 2 photographs.

From Casa Grande: 2 strings of beads, 15 and 21 inches in length  
respectively, 1 photograph.

From Northern Arizona: 11 pieces of pottery from the Kayenta region.

Since storage space is at a premium in the Mesa Verde Museum and since this collection has little display value here we would be very happy to send the artifacts to the Monuments from which they came. If you agree that this is desirable we should like to have your suggestions as to the best method of sending the articles to the various areas.

The original records of the collection can remain here in the Mesa Verde files and duplicate copies will be sent to the Monuments.

Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

Enclosure - #1848994.

DW/jp

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION THREE  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



April 17, 1946.

Park Naturalist Watson,  
Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

Dear Don:

How feels it to be back as the old man of the Mesa? I'll bet you are no gladder to be a civilian than I am, however, for I'm pretty happy about the whole thing.

The other day/<sup>a</sup>suspense precipitated the old Montezuma Castle mummy deal into my diffident custody again, and after talking it over with Jesse we decided that I write you to find out the situation.

Now that I've reviewed the file, I see that we went off half-cooked by understanding Jackson to say he'd cleared the transfer with you in conversation, and by not realizing the case hinged on whether or not the Palmer loan could be converted into a gift.

What do you think should be done? Could you approach Mr. Palmer to obtain permission for the mummy to be displayed at Montezuma? The case for it is there, and the mummy would add to their none too impressive museum.

Surely wish we could have a gabfest--I've got a lot of dreams, particularly concerning Association publications, to talk over with you.

As ever,

Dale S. King,  
Associate Naturalist.



COPY

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Chicago, Illinois

September 15, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

We have noted with great interest your correspondence, as well as that of the Superintendent of the Southwestern National Monuments, on the transfer of the mummy excavated at Montezuma Castle back to that monument.

Since Mesa Verde is already liberally supplied with mummies and the specimen rightly belongs at its point of origin, we believe further efforts should be made to persuade the lender, Mr. Palmer, to agree to such a transfer. If he is approached in a tactful way, it seems reasonable to assume that he will offer no objections. Obviously his good will should be cultivated, and if the return of the mummy would create any possible antagonism, it would be better to allow it to remain at Mesa Verde but judging from the correspondence available, this does not seem to be likely.

*Huh!*  
*Says*  
*Who?*

Ned J. Bruns,  
Chief, Museum Division.

cc: Superintendent,  
Southwestern National Monuments.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D6215

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona



Superintendent	
Asst. Supt.	
Adm. Asst.	
Chief Ranger	
Park Archeologist	
Files	
Secretary	

June 11, 1958  
Wade

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park

From: Superintendent

Subject: Documentation on Palmer Collection for Museum Records

We appreciate Archeologist Pinkley's thoughtfulness in furnishing us with a copy of the 1896 Mancos Times article on Richard Wetherill's trip to Montezuma Castle, and the discovery of the Palmer mummy. The copy sent by Mrs. Pinkley in 1953 is in the files here, but we are glad to have a second copy for cross-filing under Area History.

We are attaching a copy of a 1939 letter to Frank Pinkley from S. L. Palmer, Jr., parts of which may have some interest to Mesa Verde area history.

*Foy L. Young*  
Foy L. Young  
Superintendent

Copy to: Regional Director w/attachment  
Southwest Archeological Center w/attachment

C  
O  
P  
Y

San Francisco, Aug. 28, 1939.

Mr. Frank Pinkley, Superintendent.  
Headquarters, Southwestern Monuments.  
National Park Service,  
Coolidge, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Pinkley;

Your letter was received several days ago, asking for further information regarding my early visit to Montezuma Castle. Mr. Earl Jackson, Custodian of Montezuma Castle Monument has also written me for similar information so I will answer your letters jointly and attempt to give such information as I can definitely remember over this long period of time.

My Father, Mother and three children of Burdett Kansas, started about the year 1895 on a trip through Colorado and the southwest purely for the purpose of sight seeing. We traveled in a wagon built especially for the trip and it was constructed somewhat similar to the present auto trailers, however it was powered with four mules.

We visited southwestern Colorado and at Mancos made the acquaintance of Richard Wetherill, who with his brothers had but recently discovered the Mesa Verde cliff dweller ruins. With Richard Wetherill as companion and guide we visited a portion of the Mesa Verde ruins, then traveled south to Aztec New Mexico, and from Farmington visited the Chaco Canyon ruins where we did some excavating. We found at this location a number of pieces of pottery in the small mounds opposite Pueblo Bonita.

From Chaco Canyon we traveled southwest to Phoenix and Prescott Arizona. In the early spring of 1896 we camped for about two weeks on the Verde River among the trees directly in front of Montezuma Castle. We came in by way of Camp Verde and as I recall some soldiers were stationed there at that time. We explained at Camp Verde that we expected to visit and probably do some excavating in Montezuma Castle, but we were told that excavation would be useless since the ruins had been completely excavated years before and nothing but the walls remained.

The ruin as we first saw it in 1896 appeared to have been well excavated, however we removed some accumulated rocks and loose material in the rooms but found nothing of interest other than fragments of ears of corn, broken animal bones, charcoal, feathers, and fragments of pottery. We had about decided that excavation was useless when we noticed that the dirt was undisturbed on a small ledge along the side of the ruin at the point where the upper ladder now enters. A shallow excavation revealed the burial of a number of bodies. This burial place was in rather an exposed position and had the appearance that part of the original space may have possibly broken away and

fallen below.

It was impossible for us to determine just how many bodies were buried in this spot for most of the remains were fragmentary and almost completely decomposed, only those immediately adjacent to the cliff were preserved. There were however probably eight or ten bodies buried here, these were all small and undoubtedly children. There was but one preserved mummy and that was photographed in the exact position that it was found. The depth of the excavation probably did not exceed two or three feet, a good idea of this can be had from the photograph as the ground under the shovel and at the foot of the mummy had not been disturbed when the picture was taken. Next to the head of the mummy was found a red pottery bowl about 8 or 9 inches in diameter, fragments of cloth were wrapped about the body and several sticks one of which was intact were laying across the body as shown in photograph. Also found with the mummy was a well preserved bow and several reed arrows, these can be seen in the larger photograph of the mummy and the bow is also noticeable in the picture showing the location of the mummy before removal. The dirt that covered the burials contained charcoal and fragments of pottery indicating that part of it at least was sweepings from the rooms. Some of the material however appeared to have fallen from above, possibly from crumbling walls or, thrown there by earlier excavations.

There was no evidence that the burials had ever been disturbed since the bones appeared to be in their original burial position. The pottery bowl was the only one found in the entire burial place and there were no other fragments to indicate that other complete pottery pieces had been buried there.

The general appearance of Montezuma Castle as we saw it in 1896 and as I saw it this summer is almost unchanged. I recall that one or two of the upper interior rooms had fallen roofs. From one of the fallen roof timbers we sawed a short cross section which is now with out collection in Mesa Verde Park, apparently these loose timbers have since been removed as they were not apparent when I saw the ruin this summer. At the time of our early visit to this location we found it necessary to build crude ladders to gain access to the ruin. These ladders and their location can be seen in the photograph of the ruin.

I was greatly surprised this summer to see the rather extensive ruins that have been excavated and restored at the base of the cliff nearby. These ruins were entirely overlooked by us in 1896, probably concealed by debris from above.

The persons shown in the photograph are my father and his three children. The older sister later married Richard Wetherill and now lives in Tucson Arizona, PO Box 572. As she is several years my senior it is probable that she may recall details of our trip that I have omitted and I am sure that she would gladly furnish any information possible.

In a previous letter to Mr. Alberts at Montezuma Castle I explained that the mummy together with a number of specimens found at Montezuma Castle and a considerable collection of pottery collected elsewhere were loaned to the Mesa Verde Park. Mr. Jackson has explained the desire to have the part of the collection from Montezuma Castle transferred to that local museum, but we do not care to have such a division made at the present time. The entire collection was highly prized by our father and he often expressed a desire to have it ultimately placed in a museum where the greatest number might enjoy it, so for sentimental reasons his children do not care to have it divided.

In your letter you mentioned interest in the photographs sent to Mr. Alberts so for this reason I am enclosing additional copies for any disposal you may choose.

I hope that this meager narrative will serve as an answer to the information requested by you.

Yours very truly

(sgd) S. L. Palmer Jr.

cc; Mr. Earl Jackson

C  
O  
P  
Y

For Jean Pinkley.

Thanks for the in-  
formation on the  
~~the~~ theville. Am  
glad that you  
remembered my  
interest in the  
matter after all  
these years. Hope  
to get over your way  
by for I go back to  
Charg

Sincerely,  
Homer

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

1	Superintendent	<i>pm</i>
	Asst. Dir.	<i>7</i>
	Chief	
	Chief	
2	Park	
	Forest	
March 13, 1953		
Files		

*Acc 231*

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Montezuma Castle National Monument  
From: Archeologist Pinkley  
Subject: Mummy of a two-year old child from the S. L. Palmer Collection

Following the break-up of the S. L. Palmer Collection in 1947, and the transfer to Montezuma Castle of the article taken from there by Dr. Palmer in the 1890's, Superintendent Hastings wrote for information concerning the mummy of the two-year old child. We were unable at that time to offer any information other than that contained in the original catalog records.

Yesterday I ran across the newspaper account of the finding of the mummy, a copy of which is enclosed, while searching the files of the Mancos Times for items pertaining to Mesa Verde history. It certainly answers Superintendent Hastings' questions of June 10, 1947, and should assist you in making a correct display of the artifacts accompanying the child burial.

Jean McWhirt Pinkley  
Archeologist



THE MANCOS TIMES  
(Weekly)

Mancos, Colorado  
Friday, March 20, 1896

A CLIFF HOUSE IN ARIZONA

Richard Wetherill writes us as follows concerning a visit he made, on the 6th inst., to a celebrated Cliff House located about two and one-half miles from Camp Verde, Arizona:

"Today I visited the old Cliff Dwellings known as 'Montezuma Castle.' It is on the north side of Beaver Creek and nearly three miles from the old fort, and is the one so graphically described by Charles Lumis.

"The cave in which the ruin is found is a small one, being not more than 70 feet long, 50 feet high and 20 or 30 feet deep. The house is a tier of rooms five stories high, and reached at the present time by ladders placed at convenient points on the face of the cliff by some enquiring investigator.

"The lower tier of rooms are small and unconnected, dug out of the solid cliff, with the fronts walled up, as are the cave dwellings of the lower Mancos.

"The second tier consists of but two small rooms, side by side, through which we have to ascend to reach the next, or third floor.

"This one has six small, rectangular rooms, except the west one, which was used as an estufa. In this room is a fire-place, in which the household baking was done. This is at the west side of the room and not in the center, as we usually find them. The smoke escaped through a small hole in the wall next to the cliff. At the east end of this tier of rooms is a small ledge 25 feet long and 4 or 5 feet wide. It adjoins the row of rooms, and over it all have to pass to ascend to the rooms above. In this small space I found, after a few minute's work, the remains of at least half a dozen children, one of which is a very fair mummy. All of these, except the mummy, were in a promiscuous mass and nothing with them. The mummy was the lower burial, and it rested in a very small excavation next to the rock on the floor of the cave. It was laid straight out; head to the east; face up; hands at its sides. A bowl was found at the left of the head, and a small bow and arrows were lying lengthwise at the right side. The body is wrapped in cotton cloth, which is still in a state of good preservation. The grave was covered with small, round sticks placed three or four inches apart and parallel with each other, supporting a rush mat which had been spread over the grave. Over all this was about two feet of debris, among which was found so many other remains.

"The fourth floor contained eight rooms similar to those below. The roofs of these rooms are in good condition. The longer floor joists are supported by timbers or posts set in the middle of the rooms. The doors are all of an irregular shape, being nearly a foot wider at the top than at the bottom.

"The fifth floor contains four small rooms connected by door-ways. The roofs and floors of these rooms are in good condition. There are no loop-holes



from these rooms looking out, and but one outside opening.

"The sixth, or upper floor, is a cave 60 feet long, the front of which has a parapet three and a half feet high extending almost the entire length of it. There are two large rooms in the rear of this part, one of which contains a great amount of debris, which cannot be moved unless something could be contrived to settle the dust. In the front of these rooms is a space about 6 feet wide in which there is about a foot of debris, containing all such things as the Cliff Dwellers used in their work, but covered by sweepings from these rooms. Many loop-holes are in these upper walls, covering all approaches to the river below.

"I am highly elated at my success in finding relics here where so many have visited, and in a ruin that has always had especial mention made of it in works upon this deeply interesting subject.

"I have finished the work of today, and if I meet with further success tomorrow, the report will be sent in.

/s/ Richard Wetherill.

Note: Richard Wetherill was the oldest of the five Wetherill Brothers. He guided S. L. Palmer, his wife and daughters, and later married one of the Palmer girls.

15 January 1971

<b>RECEIVED</b>	
Chaco Canyon Nat'l Monument	
Superintendent	
Administrative	
JAN 19 1971	
Director	
Chief of Park	
Chief of Administration	
Chief of Interpretation	
Chief of Maintenance	
Chief of Planning	
Chief of Resources	
Chief of Safety	
Chief of Training	
Chief of Visitor Services	
Chief of Wildlife	
Chief of Youth	
Chief of Zoology	
Chief of Botany	
Chief of Geology	
Chief of Paleontology	
Chief of Archaeology	
Chief of Anthropology	
Chief of History	
Chief of Art	
Chief of Music	
Chief of Theater	
Chief of Film	
Chief of Photography	
Chief of Printing	
Chief of Publications	
Chief of Records	
Chief of Communications	
Chief of Information	
Chief of Library	
Chief of Museum	
Chief of Archives	
Chief of Preservation	
Chief of Conservation	
Chief of Research	
Chief of Education	
Chief of Outreach	
Chief of Public Affairs	
Chief of Public Relations	
Chief of Media	
Chief of Advertising	
Chief of Marketing	
Chief of Sales	
Chief of Distribution	
Chief of Logistics	
Chief of Operations	
Chief of Management	
Chief of Administration	
Chief of Finance	
Chief of Accounting	
Chief of Auditing	
Chief of Tax	
Chief of Insurance	
Chief of Legal	
Chief of Compliance	
Chief of Ethics	
Chief of Governance	
Chief of Policy	
Chief of Strategy	
Chief of Planning	
Chief of Evaluation	
Chief of Research	
Chief of Innovation	
Chief of Development	
Chief of Growth	
Chief of Expansion	
Chief of Diversification	
Chief of Globalization	
Chief of Internationalization	
Chief of Localization	
Chief of Regionalization	
Chief of Nationalization	
Chief of Globalization	

Mr. Richard B. Hardin  
Superintendent  
Chaco Canyon Nat. Monument  
Bloomfield, New Mexico, 87413

Dear Mr. Hardin:

On 15 Jan., 1971, I received your letter of 12 Jan. with an enclosed report by Archeologist, Navajo Lands Group re: S.L. Palmer Collection. I am pleased with your efforts to obtain at least portions of the collection for the Chaco Canyon Museum.

Mr Hardin, I am in complete agreement with both the report, and your letter. I thoroughly understand the National Park Service's position in not wanting to be tied down to restrictions regarding display of collections such as this one. I understand why the collection is not being displayed and I appreciate the efforts that the government has made for 30 some years to keep the collection as a unit insofar as records are concerned.

The one concern that I do have results from a visit I made to Montezuma Castle a couple of years ago. The mummy was prominently displayed in the museum as the focal point for the story of the ruins. The employees in the museum were extremely proud of the mummy and went to great lengths to tell visitors that it is one of the few items in their display that actually came from the Castle. Yet, when I questioned them regarding my Grandfather, S.L. Palmer, they had to refer to the files in the office to check me when I said that he had excavated the mummy. I realize that administration of the Montezuma Castle is no concern of yours, yet, if the government will not credit S.L. Palmer under an agreement I am sure that if I donate the collection, without restrictions, my Grandfather's name will not be identified to any part of the collection, or to his part in the early day excavations.

I feel that the plaque idea for giving credit is excellent. Under the present museum display concept, I would never expect his name to be identified with individual pieces. However, since this collection meant so much to him and my father, I feel that some form of credit should be given him in each museum that displays any part of this collection.

I would be willing to donate this collection to the National Park Service without the restrictions of recall, if I could have some type of written agreement whereby my Grandfather's name would be displayed in any National Park Museum displaying any part of the collection.

If this type of arrangement cannot be made, I guess that no changes can be made at this time. I can, however, assure you that I have no intention of recalling any part of the collection. I think my letters and discussions with you have made clear my feelings regarding use of the materials in the collection. I want them put to the best use possible for study and/or display. I am particularly interested in the Chaco Canyon part of the collection because of the Wetherill family and I know that this is the area that interested my Grandfather the most.

I sincerely hope that satisfactory arrangements are made so that Chaco Canyon items of the Palmer collection can be readily available to you for study and/or display. I am writing only to you regarding my feelings concerning the loan or donation of the collection. If you feel that I should make other contacts, please advise me. I have no objections to your sending copies of this letter to other headquarters. I will be interested in knowing what action can be taken concerning the Palmer collection. Please give my regards to Mr. Adkisson.

Sincerely,

*Gaylord L. Palmer*

Gaylord L. Palmer

Chaco Canyon National Monument  
Star Route  
Eloomfield, New Mexico 87413

January 19, 1971

D-6223-CHCA

Gaylord L. Palmer  
Box 341  
McQueeney, Texas 78123

Dear Mr. Palmer;

Thank you for your prompt reply to my January 12 letter. I have forwarded copies to Montezuma Castle National Monument for their consideration and to others concerned with the Palmer collection.

I will continue to pursue the possibilities of having the Park Service make wider use of the Palmer collection and giving the Palmer family full credit for their generosity and interest. As you are fully aware, I cannot speak or act for other Superintendents or other museums, however, I will bring the subject to their attention.

Please consider this as an interim reply. I will keep you posted on any progress or use of the Palmer Collection materials.

Best wishes to Mrs. Palmer.

Sincerely,

*Richard B. Hardin*

Richard B. Hardin  
Superintendent

cc:  
Director, Southwest Region  
General Superintendent, NALA  
Superintendent, Montezuma Castle N.M.  
Superintendent, Mesa Verde NP  
Chief, Southwest Archeological Center

RECEIVED  
JAN 22 1971  
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

	TO	DATE
1	C. Sect. <i>RM</i>	1/22
	Adm. Off.	
	C. Insp.	
2	C. Arch. <i>SM</i>	1/25
	M. Sect.	
	W.S.C.	
	Per.	
	Prod.	
	Sec.	



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Navajo Lands Group  
Box 588  
Chinle, Arizona 86503

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D-6215

Jan 6, 1971

RECEIVED  
RECEIVED  
JAN 07 1971

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

	TO	NAME	DATE
1	G. Supt.		
2	Adm. Off.	Daye	1-7-71
	C. Ranger		
13	C. Arch.	192	1/8
	M. Supt.		
	W S C		
	Pers.		
	Proc.		
	Sec.		

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park

From: Archeologist, Navajo Lands Group

Subject: S. L. Palmer Collection

Enclosed are a memorandum about the S. L. Palmer collection and copies of all the National Park Service Catalog Cards for this collection. There is no need to read the enclosures, but they should be filed in your accession file for Accession 231, as Mesa Verde is supposed to have a complete record of this collection.

*Charles B. Voll*  
Charles B. Voll

Enclosures

cc: Superintendent, Chaco Canyon National Monument  
Chief, Preservation Lab, Southwest Archeological Center

Mineral

Clay

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT  
(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

731

ACCESSION NO.

65

OBJECT

Pottery sherds, Tuzigoot Red

LOCALITY Montezuma Castle (Palmer Collection). Found at head of mummy (Cat. No. 1352) - see  
8/28/39 letter from S. L. Palmer, Jr.

DESCRIPTION

Palmer No. 8  
Mesa Verde No. 2454/231  
MOCA Old No. 1/65

Almost a complete bowl. Restorable, polished red, heavily fireclouded.

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947.

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address)	HOW ACQUIRED
June 1947	Mesa Verde National Park, Colo.	Permanent loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION	DETERMINED BY
	SMAC	E J Ladd
CATALOGUER	DATE	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
E J Ladd	10/19/59	
		DATE

CLASSIFICATION

Vegetal

Wood

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEMONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT  
(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

733

ACCESSION NO.

65

SUBJECT

Bow

LOCALITY  
Montezuma Castle (Palmer Collection). Found with mummy (Cat. No. 1352). See 8/28/39  
letter from S. L. Palmer, Jr.

DESCRIPTION

Palmer No. 3  
Mesa Verde No. 3207/231  
MOCA Old No. 3/65Bow 24" long with one end broken. Yucca cord fragment tied on one end. Each end  
grooved for bow string.

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address)	HOW ACQUIRED
June 1947	Mesa Verde National Park, Colo.	Permanent Loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION	DETERMINED BY
	SWAC	E. J. Ladd
CATALOGUER	DATE	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
E. J. Ladd	10/19/59	
		DATE

CRM 13-254 (July 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1957 O 7-452810

CLASSIFICATION

Vegetal

Fiber

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL. MON.

(AREA)

MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

739

ACCESSION NO.

65

SUBJECT

\*  
Textile - 6 fragments of cloth

LOCALITY

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy Cat. No. 1352 (See op. cit.))

DESCRIPTION

All fragments with weaver of under one over one. No painted cloth. No open work.

\* see also #1505 thru 1509

*Dimensions: 11" x 10" (#729)*

Old Cat. #s: Palmer #5

Mesa Verde #3236

Old MOCA #9/65

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address)	HOW ACQUIRED
June 1947	Mesa Verde NP, Colorado	Permanent Loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION	DETERMINED BY
	SWAC	E J Ladd
CATALOGUER	DATE	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
E J Ladd	10/19/59	
		DATE

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1957 O-P-432810



Vegetal

Wood

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT

(AREA)

MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

746

ACCESSION NO.

65

## OBJECT

Arrow shaft

## LOCALITY

Montezuma Castle; found with mummy (Cat. #1352) - see 8/28/39 letter from S.L. Palmer, Jr.

## DESCRIPTION

Arrow shaft with portion of wrappings on end. One of three arrow shafts found with mummy #1352. See also Cat. Nos. 1516 and 1517.

*Reed (broken at proximal end) and wooden foreshaft (split); length 11 3/4"*

Old Cat. Nos.: Palmer #4  
Mesa Verde #3171/231  
Old MOCA #16/65

See document file #620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP, Colo.	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan	
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION SNAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd	DATE
CATALOGUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL	DATE

## CLASSIFICATION

Vegetal

Fiber

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL. MONUMENTS

(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

1353

ACCESSION NO.

65

## OBJECT

Textile, cotton cloth fragment

## LOCALITY

Montezuma Castle NM

## DESCRIPTION

Cotton blankets, wrapping for #1353. No provenience. This specimen has never been cataloged. Old Cat. #s are: Palmer #1, Mesa Verde #3238/231

See File 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address)	HOW ACQUIRED
June 1947	Mesa Verde NP, Colorado	Permanent loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION	DETERMINED BY
unknown	no still on #1353	E J Ladd
CATALOGUER	DATE	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
E J Ladd	10/19/59	

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1957 O - 432810

## CLASSIFICATION

Human Remains

Inhumation

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL. MONUMENT

(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

1352

ACCESSION NO.

65

## OBJECT

Mummy (Palmer collection)

## LOCALITY

Montezuma Castle NM; see in situ photograph, Cat. No. 737

## DESCRIPTION

Mummy of 2-year old child found in Montezuma Castle by Palmer. This specimen was never assigned a Cat. #. Old Cat. #s are: Palmer #1 (including cotton wrap)  
Mesa Verde #3237/231  
Listed on DI-102

(See also Cat. Nos. 731, 733, 739, 746)

See file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address)	HOW ACQUIRED
June 1947	Mesa Verde NP, Colorado	Permanent loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION	DETERMINED BY
	MOCA Case #2	E J Ladd
CATALOGUER	DATE	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
E J Ladd	10/19/59	

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1957 O - 432810

Fiber

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT

1508

(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOG RECORD

ACCESSION NO.

65

Textile, cotton cloth fragment

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy. Cat. #1352)

Fragment with one over one under weave. No painted cloth, no open work.  
Separated from Cat. #739.*Overall dimensions of fragment approx. 10" x 14"*Old Cat. Nos.: Palmer #5  
Mesa Verde #3236  
Old MOCA #9/65

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan
OFFICE SWAC	PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd
ALLOQUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL DATE

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957 O-7-422910

CLASSIFICATION Vegetal Fiber	U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	CATALOGUE NO. 1508
	MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT (AREA) MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD	ACCESSION NO. 65

Textile - fragment of cotton cloth.

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy Cat. #1362)

Fragment of cloth, one over, one under weave. Separated from Cat. #739

Old Cat. Nos.: Palmer #5  
Mesa Verde #3236  
MOCA #9/65*Salvage on one side, 12" long  
width of fragment approx. 6"*

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan
OFFICE SWAC	PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd
ALLOQUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL DATE

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957 O-7-422910

Fiber

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT

1507

(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

ACCESSION NO.  
65

Textile - fragment of cotton cloth

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy Cat. #1352)

Fragment of cotton cloth. Over one under one weave. Separated from Cat. #789.

Old Cat. Nos. Palmer #5  
Mesa Verde #3236  
MOCA #9/65

*Approx. overall measurements 15" x 12". Includes section showing 2 selvage edges sewn together.*

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947.

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan	
PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd		DATE
CATALOGUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL	DATE

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957 O-7-432510

CLASSIFICATION

Vegetal  
Fiber

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT  
(AREA)  
MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.	1508
ACCESSION NO.	65

Textile - fragment of cotton cloth

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy Cat. #1352)

Fragment of cotton cloth, over one under one weave. Separated from Cat. #789

Old Cat. Nos. Palmer #5  
Mesa Verde #3236  
MOCA #9/65

*I include one 4" section of selvage.  
Approx overall measurements of fragment, 7" x 18"*

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan	
PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd		DATE
CATALOGUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL	DATE

FORM 10-254 (May 1957)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957 O-7-432510

Vegetal

Fiber

MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT

(AREA)

MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD

CATALOGUE NO.

1509

ACCESSION NO.

65

SUBJECT

Textile - fragment of cotton cloth.

LOCALITY

Montezuma Castle NM (Probably found with mummy Cat. #1352)

DESCRIPTION

Fragment of cotton cloth, over one under one weave. Separated from Cat. #739

Old Cat. Nos. Palmer #5  
Mesa Verde #3236  
MOCA #9/65

*Twisted rag, approx. 1 1/2" long*

See document file 620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan
VALUE	PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd
CATALOGUER E J Ladd	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL DATE

Vegetal	MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT (AREA) MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD	CATALOGUE NO. 1516
Wood		ACCESSION NO. 65

**Arrow shaft**  
 LOCALITY: Montezuma Castle; found with mummy (Cat. #1352) - see 8/28/39 letter from S.L. Palmer, Jr.

**DESCRIPTION:**  
 Arrow shaft with portion of wrappings on end. One of three arrow shafts found with mummy #1352. See also Cat. Nos. 1517. Separated from Cat. No. 746.  
*Reed shaft, bearing # 4; 12 1/2" long.*  
 Old Cat. Nos.: Palmer #4  
 Mesa Verde #3171/231  
 Old MOCA #16/65

See document file #620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP, Colo.	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan
	PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd
	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
ACQUISITION AGENT E J Ladd		DATE

Vegetal  Wood	U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	CATALOGUE NO. 1517
	MONTEZUMA CASTLE NATL MONUMENT (AREA) MUSEUM CATALOGUE RECORD	ACCESSION NO. 65

**Arrow shaft**  
 LOCALITY: Montezuma Castle; found with mummy (Cat. #1352) - see 8/28/39 letter from S.L. Palmer, Jr.

**DESCRIPTION:**  
 Arrow shaft with portion of wrappings on end. One of three arrow shafts found with mummy #1352. See also Cat. No. 1516. Separated from Cat. No. 746.  
*Fragment of reed shaft, notch in one end;  
 7 1/2" long.*  
 Old Cat. Nos.: Palmer #4  
 Mesa Verde #3171/231  
 Old MOCA #16/65

See document file #620-46, July 7, 1947

DATE RECEIVED June 1947	RECEIVED FROM (Name and address) Mesa Verde NP, Colo.	HOW ACQUIRED Permanent loan
	PRESENT LOCATION SWAC	DETERMINED BY E J Ladd
	DATE 10/19/59	MANNER OF DISPOSAL
CATALOGUER E J Ladd		DATE

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
1.	Mummy	MOCA 1352	Mummy	MOCA
		MOCA 1352	Mummy Blanket	MOCA
2.	Skeleton, Baby	MOCA 732	Bone, infant	SWAC
		MOCA 742	Bone, infant, humerus	SWAC
		MOCA 1514	Bone, infant, humerus	SWAC
		MOCA 1515	Bone, infant, humerus	SWAC
3.	Bow	MOCA 733	Bow	SWAC
4.	Arrows	MOCA 746	Arrowshaft	SWAC
		MOCA 1516	Arrowshaft	SWAC
		MOCA 1517	Arrowshaft	SWAC
5.	Cloth	MOCA 739	Textile	SWAC
		MOCA 1505	Textile	SWAC
		MOCA 1506	Textile	SWAC
		MOCA 1507	Textile	SWAC
		MOCA 1508	Textile	SWAC
		MOCA 1509	Textile	SWAC
6.	Various materials	MOCA 744	Yucca sandal	SWAC
		MOCA 1596	Corn stalk	SWAC
		MOCA 1597	Yucca fiber	SWAC
		MOCA 1598	Yucca cord	SWAC
		MOCA 1599	Yucca leaves knotted	SWAC
		MOCA 1600	Yucca feather wrapped cord	SWAC
		MOCA 1601	Grasses	SWAC
		MOCA 1602	Corn cobs - 4	SWAC
		MOCA 1603	Reed	SWAC
		MOCA 1604	Stick, charred, worked	SWAC
		MOCA 1605	Stick, worked	SWAC
		MOCA 1606	Feather quill, turkey	SWAC
		MOCA 1607	Feather quill, turkey	SWAC
		MOCA 1608	Fruit, barrel cactus	SWAC
		MOCA 1609	Cucurbit stem	SWAC

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
6. (Cont'd)		MOCA 1610	Rope, braided yucca leaves	SWAC
		MOCA 1611	Corn husk knot	SWAC
		MOCA 1612	Arrowshaft fragment	SWAC
		MOCA 1613	Wooden crook w/ cotton cord	SWAC
		MOCA 1614	Cucurbit stem	SWAC
7.	Skull	MOCA 734	Skull, child	SWAC
8.	Pottery Bowl	MOCA 731	Bowl, Tuzigoot Red	SWAC
9.	Timber section	MOCA 736	Wooden beam end	SWAC
10.	Timber section	MOCA 735	End of timber	SWAC
11.	Tied stones	MOCA 743	Tied stones	SWAC
12.	Roof Plastering	MOCA 745	Clay with stick impressions	SWAC
13.	Pitcher	SWAC 886	Pitcher, miniature, B/W	SWAC
14.	Small tray	SWAC 887	Bowl, Chaco B/W	SWAC
15.	Small jug	SWAC 888	Canteen, Gallup B/W	SWAC
16.	Bowl	SWAC 889	Bowl, Chaco B/W	SWAC
17.	Bowl	SWAC 922	Bowl, Chaco B/W	SWAC
18.	Jug	SWAC 890	Pitcher, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC
19.	Bowl	SWAC 919	Bowl, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC
20.	Bowl	SWAC 921	Bowl, Gallina B/W	SWAC
21.	Bowl	SWAC 923	Bowl, Kiatuthlanna B/W	SWAC
22.	Bowl	SWAC 918	Bowl, Mancos B/W style	SWAC



Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
23.	Bowl with handle	SWAC 917	Ladle, Tularosa B/W	SWAC
24.	Pitcher	SWAC 891	Pitcher, Chaco B/W	SWAC
25.	Cover for pitcher	SWAC 963	Disc, jar cover	SWAC
26.	Pitcher	SWAC 892	Pitcher, Chaco B/W	SWAC
27.	Vase	SWAC 893	Jar, Puerco B/W ?	SWAC
28.	Mug	SWAC 894	Mug, Mesa Verde B/W	SWAC
29.	Lamp	SWAC 895	Pitcher, duck body, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC
30.	Lamp	SWAC 896	Pitcher, duck body, Gallup B/W	SWAC
31.	Duck shape dish	SWAC 897	Pitcher, duck body, Escavada B/W	SWAC
32.	Duck shape dish	SWAC 898 SWAC 940	Pitcher, duck body, Gallup B/W Pitcher, effigy, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC SWAC
33.	Ladle	SWAC 899	Ladle, Gallup B/W	SWAC
34.	Pitcher	SWAC 900	Pitcher, Gallup B/W	SWAC
35.	Pitcher	SWAC 901 SWAC 902	Pitcher, Gallup B/W Pitcher, miniature, ?? B/W	SWAC SWAC
36.	Jug	SWAC 903	Jar, small-mouth, B/W	SWAC
37.	Bowl	SWAC 920	Bowl, Kiatuthlanna B/W ?	SWAC
38.	Bowl	NAVA 377	Bowl, Kana-a B/W	SWAC
39.	Bowl	SWAC 916	Bowl, McElmo B/W	SWAC
40.	No Item	--	--	--

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
41.	Canteen	NAVA 386	Canteen, Hopi, Jeddito Plain	SWAC
42.	Dish	SWAC 904	Jar, McElmo B/W	SWAC
43.	Bowl	NAVA 376	Bowl, Mancos B/W ?	SWAC
44.	Pitcher	SWAC 905	Pitcher, Gallup B/W	SWAC
45.	Pitcher	SWAC 936	Pitcher, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC
46.	Bowl	NAVA 380	Bowl, Tsegi Orange	SWAC
47.	Flat Grinding Stone	SWAC 964	Slab, sandstone	SWAC
48.	Pitcher	SWAC 939	Pitcher, Gallup B/W	SWAC
49.	Bowl	SWAC 933	Bowl, McElmo B/W	SWAC
50.	Bowl	SWAC 932	Bowl, Mancos B/W	SWAC
51.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 906	Jar, Corrugated	SWAC
52.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 907	Jar, neck banded	SWAC
53.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 908	Jar, corrugated	SWAC
54.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 909	Jar, banded and corrugated	SWAC
55.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 911	Jar, Corrugated	SWAC
56.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 910	Jar, plain rough surface	SWAC
57.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 924	Jar, corrugated	SWAC
58.	Corrugated dish	Never received by the National Park Service		--
59.	Corrugated dish	SWAC 912	Jar, neck banded	SWAC

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
60.	Bowl	SWAC 934	Bowl, McElmo B/W	SWAC
61.	Lamp	SWAC 913	Jar w/ two mouths, Red Mesa B/W	SWAC
62.	Bowl	SWAC 935	Bowl, Mancos B/W	SWAC
63.	Bowl	NAVA 378	Bowl, Tsegi B/O	SWAC
64.	Bowl	NAVA 384	Seed Bowl, Keet Seel Poly	SWAC
65.	Bowl	NAVA 383	Bowl, Dogoshi Poly	SWAC
66.	Bowl	NAVA 382	Bowl, Homolovi Poly	SWAC
67.	Image	SWAC 965	Carved oval discoid	SWAC
68.	Pipe	SWAC 966	Pipe, tubular	SWAC
69.	Small dish	SWAC 914	Jar, miniature	SWAC
70.	Spoon	SWAC 915	Ladle, miniature, B/W	SWAC
71.	Skull	Never Received by the National Park Service		--
72.	Stone tool	SWAC 973	Arrowshaft straightener	SWAC
73.	Pair Sandals	MEVE 2217 MEVE 2383	Sandal Sandal	MEVE MEVE
74.	Grinding stone	SWAC 975	Metate	SWAC
75.	Grinding stone	SWAC 974	Mano	SWAC
76.	Stone tool	SWAC 971	Polishing stone	SWAC
77.	Stone tool	SWAC 967	Stone cylinder w/ tapered end	SWAC

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
78.	Stone tool	SWAC 968	Mortar	SWAC
79.	Stone hammer	SWAC 970	Maul, full-grooved	SWAC
80.	Stone hammer	SWAC 976	Axe, 3/4 grooved	SWAC
81.	Stone hammer	MEVE 2445	Stone axe	MEVE
82.	Stone hammer	SWAC 969	Maul, full-grooved	SWAC
83.	Grinding tool	SWAC 972	Mano	SWAC
84.	Shell beads	CAGR 1196	Shell Beads	CAGR
85.	Shell beads	CAGR 1197	Shell Beads	CAGR
86.	No Item	---	---	--
87.	Bone tools (6)	SWAC 925	Worked bone tool	SWAC
		SWAC 926	Worked bone	SWAC
		SWAC 927	Awl	SWAC
		SWAC 928	Awl	SWAC
		SWAC 929	Awl	SWAC
		SWAC 930	Whistle	SWAC
		SWAC 961	Spatulate tool	SWAC
		SWAC 962	Awl	SWAC
88.	No Item	---	---	--
89.	No Item	---	---	--
90.	Shell & turquoise Beads	SWAC 941	Stone disc beads	SWAC
		SWAC 942	Turquoise beads	SWAC
91.	Pottery jug	NAVA 379	Jar, miniature, Tsegi Orange	SWAC
92.	Pottery Bowl	NAVA 381	Bowl, Tsegi Orange	SWAC

Palmer Number	Palmer Description	NPS Number	NPS Description	Present Location
93.	Bowl	SWAC 938	Bowl, Tusayan B/W	SWAC
94.	Bowl	SWAC 937	Bowl, Mancos B/W	SWAC
95.	Bowl	NAVA 385	Bowl, Hopi, historic	SWAC
96.	Pitcher	SWAC 931	Jar, fillet rim	SWAC
No Number For These 11 Items	No description	MOCA 741	Mandible, infant	SWAC
		MOCA 1512	Mandible, infant	SWAC
		MOCA 1513	Mandible, infant	SWAC
		SWAC 943	Shell disc beads	SWAC
		SWAC 944	Stone disc beads	SWAC
		SWAC 945	Carved shell ornament	SWAC
		SWAC 946	Shell pendant	SWAC
		SWAC 947	Turquoise pendant	SWAC
		SWAC 948	Stone bead	SWAC
		SWAC 949	Stone bead	SWAC
		SWAC 950	Stone disc bead	SWAC

Navajo Lands Group  
Box 588  
Chinle, Arizona 86503

D-6215

January 6, 1971

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Chaco Canyon National Monument  
From: Archeologist, Navajo Lands Group  
Subject: S. L. Palmer Collection

Last May you asked me to find out what I could about the S. L. Palmer collection. The following is my report:

On December 17, 1937 the S. L. Palmer collection was accepted as a loan of "Archeological materials for the use of the Government", by the Assistant Superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park from Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr.

On March 26, 1938 the collection was delivered to the National Park Service at its Western Museum Laboratories in Berkley, California, and by May 12, 1938 it arrived at Mesa Verde National Park.

On December 10, 1946 Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr. gave his permission to, "loaning parts of the collection to other museums of the National Park Service", and stipulated that, "the collection remain a unit so far as records are concerned within the Department of the Interior."

During 1947 the collection was broken up with items being sent to Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, Coolidge, Arizona; Montezuma Castle National Monument, Camp Verde, Arizona; Navajo National Monument, Tonalea, Arizona, but stored at Walnut Canyon National Monument, Flagstaff, Arizona because of lack of space at Navajo National Monument; and Chaco Canyon National Monument, New Mexico, but stored at Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado because of lack of space at Chaco Canyon National Monument. Three items were retained at Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado.

In 1957 the Southwest Archeological Center was established by the National Park Service at Globe, Arizona. One of the duties of the Southwest Archeological Center was and is to provide professional

museum curatorial service including cataloguing, preservation and storage of museum collections for the National Monuments in the Southwest. As a result, excess collections and collections which the areas are unable to maintain properly are maintained and stored at the Southwest Archeological Center until such time as the areas have proper equipment, space and personnel to properly maintain their collections.

In 1958, except for two (2) items at Montezuma Castle National Monument, the Chaco Canyon, Montezuma Castle and Navajo National Monument's Palmer collection items were sent to the Southwest Archeological Center. The Casa Grande Ruins National Monument and Mesa Verde National Park Palmer collection items remained in those areas, as these areas have proper facilities for their safe keeping.

During 1961 and 1962, as part of the National Park Service project to bring all of its museum collections in to proper order, the Southwest Archeological Center re-catalogued the Palmer collection items from Chaco Canyon, Montezuma Castle, and Navajo National Monuments. Casa Grande Ruins National Monument and Mesa Verde National Park re-catalogued their own collections.

On the original list of Palmer collection items, 96 items are listed. Four (4) of the numbers on the original list are blank. These are items numbered 40, 86, 88 and 89. In addition, two (2) items, number 58, a corrugated dish from Chaco Canyon, and number 71, a skull from Mancos Canyon were never received.

Of the remaining 90 items on the original list, several were found to be multiple items and eleven (11) were unlisted and unnumbered. The multiple items are number 1, two (2) items; number 2, four (4) items; number 4 three (3) items; number 5, six (6) items; number 6, twenty (20) items; number 32, two (2) items; number 35, two (2) items; number 73, two (2) items; and number 87, eight (8) items. Thus the 90 original items are actually 142 items.

The following chart details the present condition of the S. L. Palmer collection:

CAGR = Casa Grande Ruins National Monument  
MEVE = Mesa Verde National Park  
MOCA = Montezuma Castle National Monument  
NAVA = Navajo National Monument  
SWAC = Southwest Archeological Center

All items catalogued with SWAC numbers are Chaco Canyon National Monument items.

Generally speaking, it is not the policy of the National Park Service to accept loans, for loans obligate the U.S. Government and are difficult to administer. Furthermore, museum designers do not like to use loaned materials in their displays for loaned materials may be recalled and the display is then without its display material and not infrequently must be replaced, remodeled or destroyed.

In the case of Chaco Canyon National Monument, which has very, very few items from the monument, it is easy to understand why the National Park Service accepted the Palmer loan. It is, also, easy to understand why the Palmer collection items have never been used in the Chaco Canyon Museum displays.

I do not wish to promise anyone in anyway, shape or form that if the Palmer collection items were donated to the National Park Service that some of them would be used for display, but I do wish to state that it is much more likely that some of the items would be used if they were not loans but were donated to the National Park Service.

It is my opinion that we should ask Mr. Gaylord Palmer to donate the Palmer collection to the National Park Service. Under the standard procedures of the National Park Service, we can only accept an unrestricted donation, but we can assure Mr. Palmer that the collection will be properly and professionally maintained, we can credit him or his grandfather for items displayed, and we must maintain a perpetual record of the collection.

In the past several years promises have been made to the Palmers concerning their collection. These promises are:

1. In a letter of August 16, 1937 the National Park Service, in my opinion, at least, tacitly, agreed to:

A. Exhibit the collection, or at least a major portion of it, in a National Park Service Museum in the name of S. L. Palmer.

B. Accepted the collection as an indefinite loan, subject to recall on one (1) years notice.

C. Pay all packing and shipping costs,

11. In a letter of December 10, 1946 the National Park Service, again in my opinion, at least, tacitly agreed to:



- A. Display the artifacts, and
- B. Keep the Palmer collection as a unit so far as records are concerned.

Now how well has the National Park Service done in living up to its agreement?

First, it got Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr. to sign an agreement, dated December 17, 1937, that the "loan is made for the mutual benefit of the lender and the National Park Service and that the Government is not bound by any agreement, of any kind whatsoever, regarding the use or display of the property, or loss or damage to same while in the custody of the National Park Service." Legally, I guess, this got the National Park Service out of its first agreement to exhibit the collection, or at least a major part of it, in a National Park Service Museum. In spite of this, two (2) items, MOCA 1352 and 1353, a mummy and its blanket, Palmer number 1, have been displayed at Montezuma Castle National Monument, Arizona, but they are not credited to Dr. S. L. Palmer.

Second, the collection remains a loan subject to recall on one (1) years notice.

Third, the National Park Service has paid all packing and shipping charges, and has maintained the collection at Government cost.

Fourth, the National Park Service has displayed only two (2) items in museums, but all the items are available for display and study, and

Fifth, the National Park Service has kept the collection as a unit insofar as records are concerned. These records are now maintained not only at Mesa Verde National Park, but also Chaco Canyon National Monument and the Southwest Archeological Center.

A sixth promise also has been made and that is that the various items should be retained at their home areas. This is an understandable and reasonable promise, but one which circumstances have not allowed the National Park Service to keep and still maintain the collection properly, that is, according to professional standards. Because of many factors, primarily lack of space and professional personnel, the Chaco Canyon, Montezuma Castle and Navajo National Monument items have been stored at the Southwest Archeological Center. They are subject to return to the areas if and when these areas are able to maintain them properly.

The Casa Grande Ruins and Mesa Verde National Park Palmer collection items have been retained at these areas for they are able to maintain them properly.

There is one anomaly with this situation, and that is that all the Chaco Canyon National Monument Palmer collection items are catalogued as one (1) accession (accession 7) in the Southwest Archeological Center Museum catalog. I will not explain the reasons for this, except to say that it involved personalities and that the museum Accession record states that these items are to be transferred to the area when the area wants them.

It is my opinion, despite the fact that you have a storeroom of sorts, some museum cases and shelves, and a Park Technician, that until such time as the Chaco Canyon Center actually comes into existence that the Chaco Canyon items remain at the Southwest Archeological Center.

Enclosed with this memorandum, which you are free to quote in part or total, are the National Park Service Museum Catalog Cards for all the Palmer collection items and various correspondence on the collection.



Charles B. Voll

Enclosures: Museum Catalog Cards and Accession Records

cc: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park  
Chief, Preservation Laboratory, Southwest Archeological Center  
Chaco Canyon Research Project, University of New Mexico  
Museum Curator, Southwest Region

DI-104  
(Approved April 1942)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

No. TP149050003

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
(Service)

Date recorded:

TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

01/14/85  
(Property section)

(Accounts section)

From Superintendent  
At Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado 81330

To Superintendent  
At Montezuma Castle National  
Monument Camp Verde, AZ 86322

PROPERTY No.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES	VALUE*	AGE AND CONDITION	REMARKS
<u>2404</u> <u>231</u>	1	Roofing clay			Museum collection
<u>2452</u> <u>231</u>	1	Misc. weaving fibers			" "
<u>2454</u> <u>231</u>	1	Bowl, Redware			" "
<u>2484</u> <u>231</u>	1	Beam			" "
<u>3171</u> <u>231</u>	5	Arrow fragments			" "
<u>3178</u> <u>231</u>	1	Tied stones			" "
<u>3207</u> <u>231</u>	1	Bow			" "
<u>3229</u> <u>231</u>	1	Skeleton			" "
<u>3230</u> <u>231</u>	1	Cotton cloth			" "
<u>3231</u> <u>231</u>	1	Skull			" "

\* Use value carried on property records.

Shipped via Parcel post

Bill of lading No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date shipped April, 1947

Date received \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Robert C. Hayden  
(Transferor) 1/31/85

Signature Alan E. Henderson  
(Transferee)

Official title Superintendent

Official title Superintendent

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

DI-101  
(Approved April 1942)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

No. TP149050003

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

(Service)

Date recorded:

## TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

01/14/85

(Property section)

(Accounts section)

From Superintendent To Superintendent  
 At Mesa Verde National Park At Montezuma Castle National  
Colorado 81330 Monument, Camp Verde, AZ 86322

PROPERTY No.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLES	VALUE*	AGE AND CONDITION	REMARKS
<u>3232</u> <u>231</u>	3	Jaws			Museum collection
<u>3233</u> <u>231</u>	2	Dessicated arms			" "
<u>3236</u> <u>231</u>	3	Cotton cloth fragments at Mesa Verde National	(1 piece retained Park)		" "
<u>3237</u> <u>231</u>	1	Mummy			" "
<u>3238</u> <u>231</u>	1	Cotton cloth			" "
<u>3289</u> <u>231</u>	1	Beam fragment			" "

\* Use value carried on property records.

Shipped via Parcel Post Bill of lading No. ....Date shipped April, 1947 Date received .....Signature Robert C. Hayden Signature Alan E. Anderson  
(Transferor) (Transferee)Official title Superintendent Official title Superintendent

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

H2017 (MEVE-S)

January 16, 1985

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Montezuma Castle National Monument

From: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park

Subject: Loan of museum specimens

We are in the process of reviewing our outstanding loans of museum collection objects and updating all documentation. A number of objects are listed as being on permanent loan to other Service areas. We are formally transferring these whenever it is appropriate. Our records related to the Dr. S. L. Palmer collection (MEVE Acc. #231) are somewhat confusing and have not been brought up-to-date.

This material was collected from various locations throughout the Southwest and was originally loaned to Mesa Verde National Park in 1938. In 1947, Dr. Palmer's son subsequently gave the Service permission to transfer, on a permanent loan basis, portions of the accession to the areas from which collection was made. Our documentation indicates that the collection was donated to the Service in 1971 by Gaylord L. Palmer with the understanding that the material from Montezuma Castle National Monument would go there.

Our records show that the items on the enclosed Transfer of Property forms are on permanent loan to Montezuma Castle National Monument. Your accession number for this material is listed as Number 65. We wish to clear our loan records of this transaction and have enclosed formal transfer papers for your signature. Please sign and return two copies of the DI-104 for our records. The other copies are for your records.

If you have further questions on the above, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your cooperation.

Robert C. Heyder

Enclosures (4)

ASBOHNET:lc 01/16/85:529-4510

bcc:  
Supt.  
R&CRM



# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle/Tuzigoot National Monument

P. O. Box 219

Camp Verde, Arizona 86322

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H2017

January 25, 1985

RECEIVED	
MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK	
JAN 31 '85	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	G. SUPT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MGMT. ASST.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADMIN. OFF.
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROC.
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERS.
<input type="checkbox"/>	FISCAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CH. PK. ARCH.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CH. PK. RGR.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CH. PK. INT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CH. PK. MTCE.
<input type="checkbox"/>	SEC.
<input type="checkbox"/>	FILES

### Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park

From: Superintendent, Montezuma Castle/Tuzigoot N.M.

Subject: Loan of Museum Specimens

Enclosed are two signed copies of the DI-104 for the museum specimens previously transferred to Montezuma Castle as referenced by your January 15, 1985 memorandum.

The three skull fragments (Catalog #28924/706) indicated as being on loan to Tuzigoot National Monument by your January 10, 1985 memorandum, are not in the Tuzigoot collection. We have checked our records and there is no correspondence, accession records, or other documentation to indicate the skull fragments were ever received by Tuzigoot National Monument. We have moved a substantial part of the Tuzigoot collection to the Western Archeological Center, but the transfer records do not indicate any skull fragments.

We regret not being able to be more helpful. Please call if there are additional questions.

*Glen E. Henderson*

Glen E. Henderson

Enclosures

10-28  
(June 1941)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Montezuma Castle NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. ~~D 6223~~

The Palmer Collection

(M.C. catalog accession no. 65)

**IMPORTANT**

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,  
*Director.*



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

June 17, 1958

## Memorandum

To: Archeologist, Montezuma Castle National Monument

From: Archeologist, Mesa Verde National Park

Subject: Status of the Palmer Collection

When items from the Palmer Collection were transferred to Montezuma Castle in the spring of 1947, a statement regarding its acquisition and history was attached. In case this has been lost from your files, we are enclosing a thermofaxed copy of the statement for your use.

You will note that the stipulation regarding the records being kept at Mesa Verde precludes your being able to catalog the items as a gift. Our accession records carry this collection as a permanent loan, with authority being granted this museum by the deceased loaner's son to transfer individual items to areas from which they were collected. This transfer is on the basis of a permanent loan from the Mesa Verde National Park Museum.

Mrs. Richard Wetherill was Dr. Palmer's daughter. On two occasions when she visited the park prior to her death, she felt the service could consider her father's collection as a permanent loan but stated she could not make it a gift even though she knew that none of the family had any interest in the return of the material. Her sister, who accompanied her, concurred. The son, while stating only that we could loan items to other areas, did not intimate that he would ever be interested in the return of the material.

A thermofaxed copy of Mr. S. L. Palmer's letter authorizing us to loan the material is enclosed for your files.

*Jean M. Pinkley*  
Jean M. Pinkley  
Archeologist



Hammond, Indiana, Dec. 10, 1946.

Mr. Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist  
United States Department of the Interior,  
National Park Service,  
Mesa Verde Nat'l. Park, Colo.

Dear Mr. Watson:-

Referring to your letter of November 8, 1946 regarding wider use of the collection of artifacts loaned in 1938 to the Department of the Interior as the S. L. Palmer Collection, and to be used at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum.

I appreciate your thoughts regarding greater utilization of this collection and I have no objection to your loaning parts of the collection to other museums of the National Park Service, if in your opinion they could be displayed to better advantage.

Purely for sentimental reasons my family would like to have the collection remain as a unit so far as records are concerned within the Department of the Interior.

It would be desirable of course if you would have the articles displayed, credited to the S. L. Palmer collection, or whatever museum you may decide to use them and as a matter of personal interest, we would be interested and pleased to know at what points and in general, what articles are displayed at the various museums.

At some time in the near future I plan to again visit the National Parks in the Southwest area and hope that I may have the opportunity of meeting you at that time.

Yours very truly,

S. L. Palmer.  
Southmor Apt. Hotel,  
Hammond, Indiana.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MESA VERDE NATIONAL MONUMENT

THE S. L. PALMER COLLECTION

The material in the S. L. Palmer Collection was collected by Dr. S. L. Palmer, of San Francisco, in 1894-5. The collection was loaned to the Mesa Verde National Park museum in 1938, with the stipulation that it be kept intact there.

In a letter of December 10, 1948, Mr. Palmer agreed that the collection's greatest value would be realized if the various artifacts were returned to the area from which they came. His only request was that, when displayed, credit be given to the S. L. Palmer Collection and that the original records be retained at Mesa Verde. A copy of Mr. Palmer's letter is enclosed.

The only record received with the collection is a large sheet listing all articles, with measurements, locality and a brief description. A photostatic copy of this record sheet is enclosed.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
REGION THREE  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

January 22, 1947.

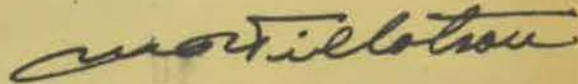
MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent, Mesa Verde.

We are very glad to learn from Park Naturalist Watson's memorandum of January 10 that the consent of Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., has been obtained for the distribution of artifacts of the S. L. Palmer Collection to the areas from which they were originally collected. Mr. Watson is to be commended for his action in clearing the way for this distribution and for his effective cooperation with other, related areas for the best interests of the Service.

Material can be transferred on an indefinite loan basis to appropriate areas, and wherever displayed will be labeled as part of the S. L. Palmer Collection. We concur fully also in Mr. Watson's suggestion that the original records of the whole collection be retained intact at Mesa Verde, copies being furnished other areas as needed.

The material from Casa Grande, Montezuma Castle, and from the Kayenta district (general vicinity of Navajo National Monument) can be brought here, accompanied by copies of records covering them, the next time someone drives down, and turned over to Messrs. King and Steen for one of them to take to these areas on the next field trip to Arizona.

The material from Chaco Canyon is too large a collection to exhibit or store at that area. The only way it can be handled, for the time being, will be in dead storage here. Consequently, the Chaco Canyon material, especially the pottery, should be well packed and crated, with carbon copies of the records inside the box or boxes, and labeled on the outside "Chaco Canyon material, Palmer Collection." This Chaco Canyon collection can be brought here, whenever convenient for you to prepare it for storage and send it with someone driving down.



M. R. Tillotson,  
Regional Director.

cc: Director, w/c Mesa Verde memo 1/10/47,  
and S. L. Palmer's letter 12/10/46.

Custodian, Casa Grande.  
" Chaco Canyon.  
" Montezuma Castle.  
" Navajo.

(list of collection to each custodian.)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

D6215

Access. 46
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED
JUN 11 1958
FBI - MESA VERDE

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

June 11, 1958

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park

From: Superintendent

Subject: Documentation on Palmer Collection for Museum Records

We appreciate Archeologist Pinkley's thoughtfulness in furnishing us with a copy of the 1896 Mancos Times article on Richard Wetherill's trip to Montezuma Castle, and the discovery of the Palmer mummy. The copy sent by Mrs. Pinkley in 1953 is in the files here, but we are glad to have a second copy for cross-filing under Area History.

We are attaching a copy of a 1939 letter to Frenk Pinkley from S. L. Palmer, Jr., parts of which may have some interest to Mesa Verde area history.

Foy L. Young  
Superintendent

Copy to: Regional Director w/attachment  
Southwest Archeological Center w/attachment

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Superintendent, Montezuma Castle      DATE: 6/2/53

FROM : Archeologist Pinkley, Mesa Verde

SUBJECT: Palmer Collection

Supt.
Sup. Ranger
Asst. Ranger
Ranger
Clerk
File

Yesterday we sent Regional Chief of Interpretation Reed and Archeologist Turney, S. A. C., copies of all records in our files on the Palmer Collection. This article, sent to Montezuma Castle in 1953, was found today. Since Erik states the records have been lost, we thought you might like a copy of the enclosed

Jean

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Mesa Verde National Park  
Colorado

March 13, 1953

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Montezuma Castle National Monument

From: Archeologist Pinkley

Subject: Mummy of a two-year old child from the S. L. Palmer Collection

Following the break-up of the S. L. Palmer Collection in 1947, and the transfer to Montezuma Castle of the articles taken from there by Dr. Palmer in the 1890's, Superintendent Hastings wrote for information concerning the mummy of the two-year old child. We were unable at that time to offer any information other than that contained in the original catalog records.

Yesterday I ran across the newspaper account of the finding of the mummy, a copy of which is enclosed, while searching the files of the Mancos Times for items pertaining to Mesa Verde history. It certainly answers Superintendent Hastings' questions of June 13, 1947, and should assist you in making a correct display of the artifacts accompanying the child burial.

Jean McWhirt Pinkley  
Archeologist

Museum.  
845

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK  
COLORADO

July 7, 1947



MEMORANDUM for the Custodian,  
Montezuma Castle National Monument.

Just a brief, and long delayed, answer to your memorandum of June 10, concerning artifacts that may have been found with the mummy in the Palmer collection.

The only record that came with the collection was a large sheet listing all of the articles. A photographic copy of this record sheet was sent to you and you will note (if you can read the fine print on this poor copy) that there is no mention of the point of origin or of the association of any of the artifacts. The photograph of the grave indicates where the mummy was found but unless this picture shows artifacts there is no way of knowing what was found with the mummy.\*

Dr. Palmer is dead and since his son was not on the expedition there is no possibility of learning anything from that direction. \*

Don Watson  
Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist.

\* See letter of 8/23/39 from son, who was  
on the "expedition" - and  
who gives a good account  
of the family's trip thru  
the Southwest

See also copy of 1894 Mancos Times  
article, listing artifacts found  
with the mummy. PV

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

June 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

This is to report that the mummy and other artifacts from the S. L. Palmer collection was delivered in good condition to this monument by Photographer George Grant and Archaeologist Charlie Steen on June 7. The care with which the mummy and other material was wrapped and careful handling enroute effected delivery of all items in fine shape.

The efforts of Naturalist Watson and of the Mesa Verde National Park staff in this matter are thoroughly appreciated and we wish to express our thanks.

We would like to display the mummy with its accompanying artifacts and would like to know if there is any way of learning just what was found with it.

cc: Regional Director,  
Region Three.  
Archaeologist Steen

Homer F. Hastings,  
Custodian.



620-46

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

June 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the files.

The attached papers were received with the S. L. Palmer collection delivered to this monument June 7, 1947 from Mesa Verde National Park. See acknowledgement of June 10, 1947, File 845.

H. H.

S. L. PALMER COLLECTIONITEMS FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, ARIZONA.

Mesa Verde National Park Museum Accession Number 231.

S.L. Palmer Collection No.	Mesa Verde Museum Catalog No.	Object.
12	2404 ✓	Roof plaster, 2 pieces.
6	2452 ✓	Miscellaneous weaving materials.
8	2454 ✓	Bowl, large red; in fragments.
9	2484 ✓	Wood, showing axe cuts.
4	3171 ✓	5 fragments of arrows.
11	3178 ✓	2 stones tied together with yucca.
3	3207 ✓	Bow, small; broken.
2	3229 ✓	Skeleton of baby; skull and scapula missing; wrapped in fragments of cotton cloth, MV.Cat.No. 3230.
2	3230	Blanket, cotton; fragmentary; wrapped skeleton MV.Cat.No. 3229.
7	3231	Skull; deformed; child's; jaw missing.
?	3233 ✓	Dessicated forearms of a child.
?	3232 ✓	Three jaws of children.
5	3236 ✓	Fragments of cotton cloth.
1	3237	✓ Mummy of 2 year old boy.
1	3238 ✓	Cotton blankets; wrappings for 3237.
10	3289 ✓	Piece of wood showing stone axe marks.

In box no. 2

Also:

Two photographs of Montezuma Castle. Note: letter, 8/28/39

S.L. Palmer, jr. to Mr. Pinkley, transmits 2 photographs - had previously sent 2 to Alberto at M.C.M.M. - i.e. these photos are not loaned by M.V. BV

S. L. PALMER COLLECTIONITEMS FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, ARIZONA.

Mesa Verde National Park Museum Accession Number 231.

<u>S.L. Palmer Collection No.</u>	<u>Mesa Verde Museum Catalog No.</u>	<u>Object.</u>
12	2404	Roof plaster, 2 pieces.
6	2452	Miscellaneous weaving materials.
8	2454	Bowl, large red; in fragments.
9	2484	Wood, showing axe cuts.
4	3171	5 fragments of arrows.
11	3178	2 stones tied together with yucca.
3	3207	Bow, small; broken.
2	3229	Skeleton of baby; skull and scapula missing; wrapped in fragments of cotton cloth, MV.Cat.No. 3230.
2	3230	Blanket, cotton; fragmentary; wrapped skeleton MV.Cat.No. 3229.
7	3231	Skull; deformed; child's; jaw missing.
7	3233	Decalcified forearms of a child.
7	3232	Three jaws of children.
5	3236	Fragments of cotton cloth.
1	3237	Mummy of 2 year old boy.
1	3238	Cotton blankets; wrappings for 3237.
10	3289	Piece of wood showing stone axe marks.

*In Box No. 2*

Also:

Two photographs of Montezuma Castle.

COPY

Hammond, Indiana, Dec. 10, 1946.

Mr. Don Watson,  
Park Naturalist  
United States Department of the Interior,  
National Park Service,  
Mesa Verde Nat'l Park, Colo.

Dear Mr. Watson;—

Referring to your letter of November 8, 1946 regarding wider use of the collection of artifacts loaned in 1938 to the Department of the Interior as the S. L. Palmer Collection, and to be used at the Mesa Verde National Park Museum.

I appreciate your thoughts regarding greater utilization of this collection and I have no objection to your loaning parts of the collection to other museums of the National Park Service, if in your opinion they could be displayed to better advantage.

Purely for sentimental reasons my family would like to have the collection remain as a unit so far as records are concerned within the Department of the Interior.

It would be desirable of course if you would have the articles displayed, credited to the S. L. Palmer collection, at whatever museum you may decide to use them and as a matter of personal interest, we would be interested and pleased to know at what points and in general, what articles are displayed at the various museums.

At some time in the near future I plan to again visit the National Parks in the Southwest area and hope that I may have the opportunity of meeting you at that time.

Yours very truly,

/s/ S. L. Palmer.  
S. L. Palmer.  
Southmoor Apt. Hotel,  
Hammond, Indiana.

S. L. PALMER COLLECTIONITEMS FROM MONTEZUMA CASTLE, ARIZONA.

Mesa Verde National Park Museum Accession Number 231.

<u>S.L. Palmer Collection No.</u>	<u>Mesa Verde Museum Catalog No.</u>	<u>Object.</u>
12	2404	Roof plaster, 2 pieces.
6	2452	Miscellaneous weaving materials.
8	2454	Bowl, large red; in fragments.
9	2484	Food, showing axe cuts.
4	3171	5 fragments of arrows.
11	3178	2 stones tied together with yucca.
3	3207	Bow, small; broken.
2	3229	Skeleton of baby; skull and scapula missing; wrapped in fragments of cotton cloth, MV.Cat.No. 3230.
2	3230	Blanket, cotton; fragmentary; wrapped skeleton MV.Cat.No. 3229.
7	3231	Skull; deformed; child's; jaw missing.
?	3233	Dessicated forearms of a child.
?	3232	Three jaws of children.
5	3236	Fragments of cotton cloth.
1	3237	Mummy of 2 year old boy.
1	3238	Cotton blankets; wrappings for 3237.
10	3289	Piece of wood showing stone axe marks.

*Other artifacts are in Box No 1.*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK, COLORADO

THE S. L. PALMER COLLECTION

The material in the S. L. Palmer Collection was collected by Dr. S. L. Palmer, of San Francisco, in 1894-5. The collection was loaned to the Mesa Verde National Park museum in 1938, with the stipulation that it be kept intact there.

In a letter of December 10, 1948, Mr. Palmer agreed that the collection's greatest value would be realized if the various artifacts were returned to the area from which they came. His only request was that, when displayed, credit be given to the S. L. Palmer Collection and that the original records be retained at Mesa Verde. A copy of Mr. Palmer's letter is enclosed.

The only record received with the collection is a large sheet listing all articles, with measurements, locality and a brief description. A photostatic copy of this record sheet is enclosed.

ITEM	WHERE FOUND	DATE	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICKNESS	WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Monterey Castle Nat'l Monument,  
Camp Verde, Arizona. \_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO.

A Cliff House in Arizona

by

Richard Wetherill

Mancos Times (Weekly)

Mancos, Colorado

Friday, March 20, 1896

**IMPORTANT**

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge.

All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room.

Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

NEWTON B. DRURY,  
*Director.*



from these rooms looking out. THE MANCOS TIMES is opening.  
(Weekly)

"The sixth, or upper floor, is a cave 50 feet Mancos, Colorado of which  
has a parapet three and a half feet high extending Friday, March 20, 1896  
of it. There are two large rooms in the rear of this part, one of which con-  
tains a great amount of A CLIFF HOUSE IN ARIZONA  
be continued to settle the dust. In the front of these rooms is a walk about  
6 feet

Richard Wetherill writes us as follows concerning a visit he made, on the  
6th inst., to a celebrated Cliff House located about two and one-half miles  
from Camp Verde, Arizona:

"Today I visited the old Cliff Dwellings known as 'Montezuma Castle.' It  
is on the north side of Beaver Creek and nearly three miles from the old fort,  
and is the one so graphically described by Charles Lumis.

"The cave in which the ruin is found is a small one, being not more than  
70 feet long, 50 feet high and 20 or 30 feet deep. The house is a tier of rooms  
five stories high, and reached at the present time by ladders placed at conven-  
ient points on the face of the cliff by some enquiring investigator.

"The lower tier of rooms are small and unconnected, dug out of the solid  
cliff, with the fronts walled up, as are the cave dwellings of the lower Mancos.

"The second tier consists of but two small rooms, side by side, through  
which we have to ascend to reach the next, or third floor.

"This one has six small, rectangular rooms, except the west one, which was  
used as an estufa. In this room is a fire-place, in which the household bak-  
ing was done. This is at the west side of the room and not in the center, as  
we usually find them. The smoke escaped through a small hole in the wall next  
to the cliff. At the east end of this tier of rooms is a small ledge 25 feet  
long and 4 or 5 feet wide. It adjoins the row of rooms, and over it all have  
to pass to ascend to the rooms above. In this small space I found, after a  
few minute's work, the remains of at least half a dozen children, one of which  
is a very fair mummy. All of these, except the mummy, were in a promiscuous  
mass and nothing with them. The mummy was the lower burial, and it rested in  
a very small excavation next to the rock on the floor of the cave. It was  
laid straight out; head to the east; face up; hands at its sides. A bowl was  
found at the left of the head, and a small bow and arrows were lying length-  
wise at the right side. The body is wrapped in cotton cloth, which is still  
in a state of good preservation. The grave was covered with small, round  
sticks placed three or four inches apart and parallel with each other, sup-  
porting a rush mat which had been spread over the grave. Over all this was  
about two feet of debris, among which was found so many other remains.

"The fourth floor contained eight rooms similar to those below. The roofs  
of these rooms are in good condition. The longer floor joists are supported  
by timbers or posts set in the middle of the rooms. The doors are all of an  
irregular shape, being nearly a foot wider at the top than at the bottom.

"The fifth floor contains four small rooms connected by door-ways. The  
roofs and floors of these rooms are in good condition. There are no loop-holes

from these rooms looking out, and but one outside opening.

"The sixth, or upper floor, is a cave 60 feet long, the front of which has a parapet three and a half feet high extending almost the entire length of it. There are two large rooms in the rear of this part, one of which contains a great amount of debris, which cannot be moved unless something could be contrived to settle the dust. In the front of these rooms is a space about 6 feet wide in which there is about a foot of debris, containing all such things as the Cliff Dwellers used in their work, but covered by sweepings from these rooms. Many loop-holes are in these upper walls, covering all approaches to the river below.

"I am highly elated at my success in finding relics here where so many have visited, and in a ruin that has always had especial mention made of it in works upon this deeply interesting subject.

"I have finished the work of today, and if I meet with further success tomorrow, the report will be sent in.

/s/ Richard Wetherill.

Note: Richard Wetherill was the oldest of the five Wetherill Brothers. He guided S. L. Palmer, his wife and daughters, and later married one of the Palmer girls.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Montezuma Castle NATIONAL MONUMENT  
Camp Verde, Arizona

September 12, 1939

19.....

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Have just received my copy of your letter addressed to Superintendent Pinkley, along with the photographs of the excavation you aided in performing at Montezuma Castle in 1896.

Your account is just the sort of thing I had hoped for, and is remarkably complete. It, and the photographs, will form a valued addition to our records, and will be kept permanently in the museum here.

Am deeply grateful for the painstaking care to which you have gone on our account. Since Superintendent Pinkley is undoubtedly also writing you, I will close with the wish that you may see many more summers under the western sun before you go to the Happy Hunting Grounds.

Sincerely yours,

Earl Jackson,  
Custodian

cc Sup't Pinkley

Pictures are in Reprint Holder  
(Black Box) marked Pictures.

San Francisco, Aug. 28, 1939.

Mr. Frank Pinkley, Superintendent.  
Headquarters, Southwestern Monuments.  
National Park Service,  
Coolidge, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Pinkley;

Your letter was received several days ago, asking for further information regarding my early visit to Montezuma Castle. Mr. Earl Jackson, Custodian of Montezuma Castle Monument has also written me for similar information so I will answer your letters jointly and attempt to give such information as I can definitely remember over this long period of time.

My Father, Mother and three children of Burdett Kansas, started about the year 1895 on a trip through Colorado and the southwest purely for the purpose of sight seeing. We traveled in a wagon built especially for the trip and it was constructed somewhat similar to the present auto trailers, however it was powered with four mules.

We visited southwestern Colorado and at Mancos made the acquaintance of Richard Wetherill, who with his brothers had but recently discovered the Mesa Verde cliff dweller ruins. With Richard Wetherill as companion and guide we visited a portion of the Mesa Verde ruins, then traveled south to Aztec New Mexico, and from Farmington visited the Chaco Canyon ruins where we did some excavating. We found at this location a number of pieces of pottery in the small mounds opposite Pueblo Bonita.

From Chaco Canyon we traveled southwest to Phoenix and Prescott Arizona. In the early spring of 1896 we camped for about two weeks on the Verde River among the trees directly in front of Montezuma Castle. We came in by way of Camp Verde and as I recall some soldiers were stationed there at that time. We explained at Camp Verde that we expected to visit and probably do some excavating in Montezuma Castle, but we were told that excavation would be useless since the ruins had been completely excavated years before and nothing but the walls remained.

The ruin as we first saw it in 1896 appeared to have been well excavated, however we removed some accumulated rocks and loose material in the rooms but found nothing of interest other than fragments of ears of corn, broken animal bones, charcoal, feathers, and fragments of pottery. We had about decided that excavation was useless when we noticed that the dirt was undisturbed on a small ledge along the outside of the ruin at the point where the upper ladder now enters. A shallow excavation revealed the burial of a number of bodies. This burial place was in rather an exposed position and had the appearance that part of the original space may have possibly broken away and fallen below.

It was impossible for us to determine just how many bodies were buried in this spot for most of the remains were fragmentary and almost completely decomposed, only those immediately adjacent to the cliff were preserved. There were however probably eight or ten bodies buried here, these were all small and undoubtedly children. There was but one preserved mummy and that was photographed in the exact position that it was found. The depth of the excavation probably did not exceed two or three feet, a good idea of this can be had from the photograph as the ground under the shovel and at the foot of the mummy had not been disturbed when the picture was taken. Next to the head of the mummy was found a red pottery bowl about 8 or 9 inches in diameter, fragments of cloth were wrapped about the body and several sticks one of which was intact were laying across the body as shown in photograph. Also found with the mummy was a well preserved bow and several reed arrows, these can be seen in the larger photograph of the mummy and the bow is also noticeable in the picture showing the location of the mummy before removal. The dirt that covered the burials contained charcoal and fragments of pottery indicating that part of it at least was sweepings from the rooms. Some of the material however appeared to have fallen from above, possibly from crumbling walls, or, thrown there by earlier excavations.

There was no evidence that the burials had ever been disturbed since the bones appeared to be in their original burial position. The pottery bowl was the only one found in the entire burial place and there were no other fragments to indicate that other complete pottery pieces had been buried there.

The general appearance of Montezuma Castle as we saw it in 1896 and as I saw it this summer is almost unchanged. I recall that one or two of the upper interior rooms had fallen roofs. From one of the fallen roof timbers we sawed a short cross section which is now with our collection in Mesa Verde Park, apparently these loose timbers have since been removed as they were not apparent when I saw the ruin this summer. At the time of our early visit to this location we found it necessary to build crude ladders to gain access to the ruin. These ladders and their location can be seen in the photograph of the ruin.

*near* I was greatly surprised this summer to see the rather extensive ruins that have been excavated and restored at the base of the cliff ~~near~~ by. These ruins were entirely overlooked by us in 1896, probably concealed by debris from above.

The persons shown in the photograph are my father and his three children. The older sister later married Richard Wetherill and now lives in Tucson Arizona, PO Box 572. As she is several years my senior it is probable that she may recall details of our trip that I have omitted and I am sure that she would gladly furnish any information possible.

In a previous letter to Mr Alberts at Montezuma Castle I explained that the mummy together with a number of specimens found at Montezuma Castle and a considerable collection of pottery collected elsewhere were loaned to the Mesa Verde Park. Mr Jackson has explained the desire to have the part of the collection from Montezuma Castle transferred to that local museum, but we do not care to have such a division made at the present time. The entire collection was highly prized by our father and he often expressed a desire to have it ultimately placed in a museum where the greatest number might enjoy it, so for sentimental reasons his children do not care to have it divided.

In your letter you mentioned interest in the photographs sent to Mr Alberts so for this reason I am enclosing additional copies for any disposal you may choose. Account  
103

I hope that this meager narrative will serve as an answer to the information requested by you.

Yours very truly

*A. L. Palmer Jr.*

cc; Mr. Earl Jackson.

THE MANCOS TIMES  
(Weekly)

Mancos, Colorado  
Friday, March 20, 1896

A CLIFF HOUSE IN ARIZONA

Richard Wetherill writes us as follows concerning a visit he made, on the 6th inst., to a celebrated Cliff House located about two and one-half miles from Camp Verde, Arizona:

"Today I visited the old Cliff Dwellings known as 'Montezuma Castle.' It is on the north side of Beaver Creek and nearly three miles from the old fort, and is the one so graphically described by Charles Lumsden.

"The cave in which the ruin is found is a small one, being not more than 70 feet long, 50 feet high and 20 or 30 feet deep. The house is a tier of rooms five stories high, and reached at the present time by ladders placed at convenient points on the face of the cliff by some enquiring investigator.

"The lower tier of rooms are small and unconnected, dug out of the solid cliff, with the fronts walled up, as are the cave dwellings of the lower Mancos.

"The second tier consists of but two small rooms, side by side, through which we have to ascend to reach the next, or third floor.

"This one has six small, rectangular rooms, except the west one, which was used as an estufa. In this room is a fire-place, in which the household baking was done. This is at the west side of the room and not in the center, as we usually find them. The smoke escaped through a small hole in the wall next to the cliff. At the east end of this tier of rooms is a small ledge 25 feet long and 4 or 5 feet wide. It adjoins the row of rooms, and over it all have to pass to ascend to the rooms above. In this small space I found, after a few minute's work, the remains of at least half a dozen children, one of which is a very fair mummy. All of these, except the mummy, were in a promiscuous mass and nothing with them. The mummy was the lower burial, and it rested in a very small excavation next to the rock on the floor of the cave. It was laid straight out; head to the east; face up; hands at its sides. A bowl was found at the left of the head, and a small bow and arrows were lying lengthwise at the right side. The body is wrapped in cotton cloth, which is still in a state of good preservation. The grave was covered with small, round sticks placed three or four inches apart and parallel with each other, supporting a rush mat which had been spread over the grave. Over all this was about two feet of debris, among which was found so many other remains.

"The fourth floor contained eight rooms similar to those below. The roofs of these rooms are in good condition. The longer floor joists are supported by timbers or posts set in the middle of the rooms. The doors are all of an irregular shape, being nearly a foot wider at the top than at the bottom.

"The fifth floor contains four small rooms connected by door-ways. The roofs and floors of these rooms are in good condition. There are no loop-holes

from these rooms looking out, and but one outside opening.

"The sixth, or upper floor, is a cave 60 feet long, the front of which has a parapet three and a half feet high extending almost the entire length of it. There are two large rooms in the rear of this part, one of which contains a great amount of debris, which cannot be moved unless something could be contrived to settle the dust. In the front of these rooms is a space about 6 feet wide in which there is about a foot of debris, containing all such things as the Cliff Dwellers used in their work, but covered by sweepings from these rooms. Many loop-holes are in these upper walls, covering all approaches to the river below.

"I am highly elated at my success in finding relics here where so many have visited, and in a ruin that has always had especial mention made of it in works upon this deeply interesting subject.

"I have finished the work of today, and if I meet with further success tomorrow, the report will be sent in.

/s/ Richard Wetherill:

Note: Richard Wetherill was the eldest of the five Wetherill Brothers. He guided S. L. Palmer, his wife and daughters, and later married one of the Palmer girls.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle  
----- NATIONAL MONUMENT  
Camp Verde, Arizona

July 31, 1930

19

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kennwood Way,  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Palmer:

An taking this opportunity of writing you in regard to the mummy you found at Montezuma Castle in 1896, enclosing my letter with that of Ranger Edwin C. Alberts.

As Mr. Alberts has assured you, your letter and the excellent photographs of the excavation and the Castle are of real value to our records of Montezuma Castle National Monument. It is rare, indeed, that we are able to check reliably on early excavations at this site.

We would deeply appreciate it if you would take the trouble to write out as complete an account as possible of your visit to the Castle in 1896. Such an account could include description of any unusual features you saw, or features which existed in 1896 and which you did not see on your recent trip; the extent of the excavations you performed in the building and vicinity, with approximate designation of specific rooms in which work was done; and a detailed account of what was found in the grave of the mummy. For instance, I see by the photograph that by the side of the mummy is a pottery vessel, which I suppose was buried with it. Leaning over the grave in the picture I see two or three sticks. Were they buried with the body? How deep was the body buried? Was it buried in dirt which the Indians had carried in, or in trash which they had dumped over the cliff from the rooms above? Do you think the Indians disturbed previous burials in order to bury the baby? (That was frequently the case in this vicinity, where they were evidently short on burial space). You could judge about disturbance of previous burials by remembering how the bones were found, whether scattered or in burial position. How many specimens, if any, appear to have been disturbed so that the baby could be buried? Did you find other undisturbed burials on that same ledge?

Of course, it would take considerable time to write out information asked about in the above paragraph. Possibly you do not wish to or do not have the time to do it. But if you can write as detailed an account as memory allows over that long period of time that has elapsed, we would be genuinely grateful, and would consider your paper as a contribution to science.

I understand you have the material you found at Montezuma Castle now on loan to the Mesa Verde National Park Museum. If that material is marked so it can be separated from the material you recovered from other parts of the Southwest, and is still in a good state of preservation, it would be a mighty fine thing if we could have the Montezuma Castle material back at this site. We also have a museum collection, to which that would be very worthwhile additional material. In a few days our museum will be located in the government building which is located in the center of the parking turn-around, a hundred feet east of where you saw the collection recently.

If we could obtain your permission to ask for the Montezuma Castle material to be moved from Mesa Verde to this museum, on loan or gift basis from you, I believe there would be no trouble in securing it from the Mesa Verde Superintendent. The policy between all our parks and monuments is one of cooperation, and it is generally agreed that specimens are of more interest and value usually if they can be shown in the vicinity where found.

May I hope to hear from you in regard to all these favors we are asking of you? And again, thanks for what you have already done.

Sincerely yours,

Karl Jackson,  
Custodian

cc Sup't. Pinkley

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle ..... NATIONAL MONUMENT

Camp Verde, Arizona

July 31, 1939

19.....

Mr. S. L. Palmer,  
171 Kenwood Way,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Palmer:

I am in receipt of your recent letter with enclosures of pictures of Montezuma Castle and of the exhumation of a mummy at this place in 1898. These pictures are of intense interest, and are valuable documents for our interpretation of the ruin to our numerous visitors. May I thank you most sincerely for your graciousness in sending them.

I have turned the pictures over to Earl Jackson, Custodian of this National Monument, and he has expressed extreme interest in them, feeling as I do that they represent an invaluable accession to our museum here. I have no doubt but that he will communicate with you personally in regard to this matter.

Thanking you again,

Respectfully,

Edwin C. Alberts,  
Park Ranger.

cc: Custodian Jackson.

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

January 25, 1957

Memorandum

To: General Superintendent, S.W.N.M.

From: Superintendent

Subject: Listing archeological material from Montezuma Castle

That part of the S. L. Palmer Collection which was transferred to Montezuma Castle National Monument from Mesa Verde National Park in 1947, is recorded on the Palmer Collection list as coming from the Castle.

Corroboration of the provenience of this material (our accession number 65) is found in an article from the Mancoos Times, March 20, 1896 (copy in our files) quoting Richard Wetherill's account of the finding of the mummy on a ledge of Montezuma Castle. "The mummy was the lower burial, and it rested in a very small excavation next to the rock on the floor of the cave. It was laid straight out; head to the east; face up; hands at its sides. A bowl was found at the left of the head, and a small bow and arrows were lying lengthwise at the right side. The body is wrapped in cotton cloth, which is still in a state of good preservation. The grave was covered with small, round sticks placed three or four inches apart and parallel with each other, supporting a rush mat which had been spread over the grave."

It is desirable, eventually, to exhibit the Palmer mummy as found, with accompanying artifacts. The abovementioned bowl is probably that now cataloged number 65/1, as broken but restorable; the bow and arrows are listed in the catalog ledger as numbers 3 and 16.

Foy L. Young  
Superintendent

in duplicate

ACCESSION 65

See Accession 103 (established 1/16/59 for 2 photographs of Castle during Palmer visit; pictures given to Montezuma Castle National Monument in 1939, by S.L. Palmer, Jr.--are not part of the Palmer Collection loaned to Mesa Verde). Photographs are in this Accession Folder.

ACCESSION <sup>65</sup>~~103~~, New# 737 & 738, 3/2/60

See Accession folder 65, letter of August 28, 1939 from S.L. Palmer, Jr., for record of acquisition of these two photographs.

*These were not a part of original loan from  
Mesa Verde. 3/2/60 - Ed Ladd.*

Accession # 88

Provenience: Montezuma Castle

Donor: Mesa Verde NP (Palmer collection)

Date: 6/47

Items: ~~32~~ 50

Clay - 731, 745

Human - 732, 734, 736, 741, 742, 1352, 1512-1515

Vegetal - 733, 735, 739, 740, 744, 746, 1353, 1505-1511, 1516, 1517, 1596-1605, 1608-1614

Photo - 437, 438 737 - 738

Stone - 743

Animal - 1606, 1607, ~~1608~~

deaccessioned # 1353

Palmer, S. L. Donor

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Accession No. 65

Hammond, Indiana Address

Montezuma Castle NATIONAL PARK

Date Received June 10, 1947

ACCESSION RECORD

CLASSIFICATION OF ITEMS	CATALOG NUMBERS	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
Artifacts and skeletal material	1 16 65 through 65	Weaving materials, pottery, wood fragments, arrow fragments, blanket fragment, skeletal material, and complete skeleton of a baby.
CONDITION OF GIFT-LOAN-EXPEDITION, ETC.	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	DOCUMENT FILE
Unrestricted loan from Mesa Verde National Park	File 620-46, correspondence unit July 7, 1947.	

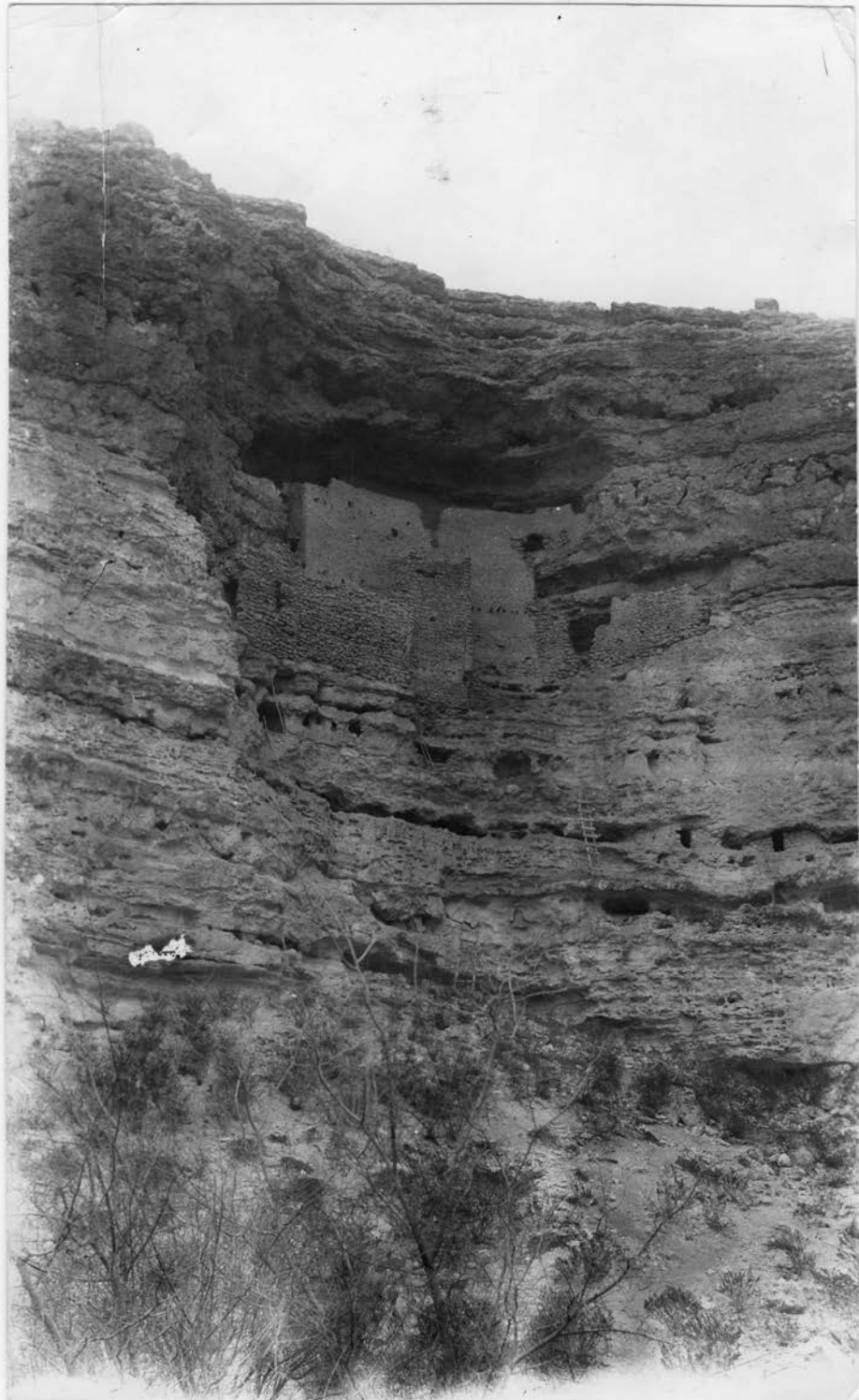


S.L. Palmer Collection and Records

S.L. Palmer's granddaughter visited Montezuma Castle June 23rd, 1960. Her address  
*Mrs. I.J. McBride*  
is 131 X El Paseo, Millbrae, California. She stated that she has glass negatives of  
the Indians of this area, some of which bear dated notations. In addition she has a  
diary kept by SL Palmer, Jr. , then 14, ~~evidently~~ on the trip in ~~1897~~<sup>1896</sup> or before.  
She has been considering copying the diary, but evidently has also been considering  
offering the glass negatives to NPS. She wondered who to write.

If the items at Mesa Verde have not been given to the park service or if certain  
of them have not, title should, she felt be vested in her brother, Gaylord Palmer  
218 Covina, San Antonio, Texas . Both S. L. Palmer and S.L. Palmer Jr are now  
deceased. S.L. Palmer died in 1948.

B. Harvey



Montezuma Castle in 1895.

Mummy was taken from the front part  
of this ruin.

9  
65





UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

*[Handwritten signature]*  
IN REPLY REFER TO:  
H 2215  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

January 25, 1957

Memorandum

To: General Superintendent, SWNM

From: Superintendent

Subject: Listing archeological material from Montezuma Castle

That part of the S. L. Palmer Collection which was transferred to Montezuma Castle National Monument from Mesa Verde National Park in 1947, is recorded on the Palmer Collection list as coming from the Castle.

Corroboration of the provenience of this material (our accession number 65) is found in an article from the Mancos Times, March 20, 1896 (copy in our files) quoting Richard Wetherill's account of the finding of the mummy on a ledge of Montezuma Castle. "The mummy was the lower burial, and it rested in a very small excavation next to the rock on the floor of the cave. It was laid straight out; head to the east; face up; hands at its sides. A bowl was found at the left of the head, and a small bow and arrows were lying lengthwise at the right side. The body is wrapped in cotton cloth, which is still in a state of good preservation. The grave was covered with small, round sticks placed three or four inches apart and parallel with each other, supporting a rush mat which had been spread over the grave."

It is desirable, eventually, to exhibit the Palmer mummy as found, with accompanying artifacts. The abovementioned bowl is probably that now cataloged number 65/1, as broken but restorable; the bow and arrows are listed in the catalog ledger as numbers 3 and 16.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Foy L. Young  
Superintendent

in duplicate

*1 copy in N.M. Lab. Files*



9-1-93 *Photo of this burial in site w/ Mr. Palmer & family during excavation is in rock box #4 Folder "C (box)" 7410 Was Wetherill the photographer?*

913.791.70c  
Steen 9/15  
file-

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Montezuma Castle National Monument  
Camp Verde, Arizona

June 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Superintendent,  
Mesa Verde National Park.

This is to report that the mummy and other artifacts from the S. L. Palmer collection was delivered in good condition to this monument by Photographer George Grant and Archaeologist Charlie Steen on June 7. The care with which the mummy and other material was wrapped and careful handling enroute effected delivery of all items in fine shape.

The efforts of Naturalist Watson and of the Mesa Verde National Park staff in this matter are thoroughly appreciated and we wish to express our thanks.

We would like to display the mummy with its accompanying artifacts and would like to know if there is any way of learning just what was found with it.

cc: Regional Director,  
Region Three,  
Archaeologist Steen

Homer F. Hastings,  
Custodian.

Duplicated for Charles Mueser Records 1/23



Excavation of mummy at Montezuma Castle by S.L.Palmer Sr.  
in 1896.





Photograph of Mummy taken from Montezuma  
Castle in 1896.

S. L. Palmer  
171 Kenwood Way  
San Fran.

see correct  
8-1-39

MUSEUM CATALOG RECORD-CR

REGISTRATION DATA

CATALOG DATA

CLASSIFICATION ARCHEOLOGY		OBJECT LOCATION		CONTROLLED PROPERTY N	
PREHISTORIC		OBJECT STATUS AND YEAR LOAN OUT - NPS 1986		PARK ACRONYM CATALOG NUMBER MOCA 1352 -	
HUMAN REMAINS		ACQUISITION TYPE TRANSFER FROM NPS		ACQUISITION DATE 06/1947	
MUMMIFIED				ACCESSION NUMBER MOCA-00065	
OBJECT HUMAN REMAINS				LOT QUANTIFICATION ITEM COUNT   STORAGE UNIT 1   EA	
DESCRIPTION MUMMIFIED SUBADULT (2-3 YEARS) MALE, NATIVE AMERICAN W/ GRAVE OBJECTS. COVERED IN TISSUE AND WRAPPED IN COTTON CLOTH. PALMER COLLECTION, PALMER # 1, MESA VERDE NUMBER 3237/231. AFOS INCLUDE MOCA 731, 733, 739, 746, 1505-1509, 1516, 1517.					
SITE OF ORIGINAL COLLECTION/PROVENIENCE AZ 0:05:014(ASM) YAVAPAI __ __AZ __USA MONTEZUMA CASTLE			SITE OF ORIGIN		
CULTURAL IDENTITY SINAGUA, SOUTHERN			OBJECT DATE		HISTORIC / CULTURAL PERIOD HONANKI-TUZIGOOT
DIMENSIONS/WEIGHT __ __			PHOTO NUMBER		OTHER NUMBERS OLD CAT # 737
MEDIUM/MATERIALS COTTON				CONDITION COM/GD	MAINTENANCE CYCLE /
IDENTIFIED BY AND DATE			EMINENT FIGURE ASSOCIATION		ARTIST/MAKER
CATALOGUER AND DATE LADD 10/19/59		VALUE AT ACQUISITION, BASIS		CURRENT VALUE, DATE, BASIS \$0 10/19/59	
RESTRICTION Y	REPRODUCTION N	PUBLICATION CITATION N	PRESERVATION TREATMENT N	CATALOG FOLDER	SIGNIFICANCE N

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**MUSEUM CATALOG RECORD - CULTURAL RESOURCES**

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
FORM 10-254  
REV. 7/84

**MONTEZUMA CASTLE  
NATIONAL MONUMENT**

**NAGPRA INVENTORY**

**Human Remains and  
Associated Funerary Objects**

**Elaine A. Guthrie  
Western Archeological and Conservation Center  
National Park Service  
August 1995**

are included in this accession. Both individuals were identified as Native American and Southern Sinaguan.

**ACCESSION 28 (MOCA 403).** In the accession record, this collection is described as "miscellaneous material from unknown proveniences and unknown date received". The provenience for this inhumation is listed as the Verde Valley Area, not Montezuma Castle National Monument. The catalog card indicates the remains date to the "late Pueblo". No other items belong in this accession. No cultural identity is listed and the biological affinity is indeterminate.

**ACCESSION 65 (MOCA 732, 734, 741, 742, 1352, 1512, 1513, 1514, 1515).** The "Palmer Collection" consists of material collected by S. L. Palmer and family in 1895 at Montezuma Castle (Palmer 1940; Wetherill 1896). These materials were stored at Mesa Verde until 1947 at which time they were returned to MOCA. Only two inhumations in this accession have associated artifacts. Objects associated with **MOCA 742** include **MOCA 740, 1510, and 1511**, while artifacts associated with **MOCA 1352** include **MOCA 731, 733, 739, 746, 1505-1509, 1516, and 1517**. All of the human remains and associated artifacts are Southern Sinaguan, but only MOCA 734 and 1352 were identified as Native American. The biological affinity of the others is indeterminate.

**ACCESSION 73 (MOCA 966, 974).** The accession record describes this collection as "archeological material from stabilization work at Castle A and Cave 319.9 in 1953 by Lloyd

MOCA 1265/101		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 1266/101		Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 1267/101		Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 1268/101		Southern Sinagua	Native American
✓MOCA 1352/65	MOCA 731, 733, 739, 746, 1505- 1509, 1516, 1517	Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 1360/22		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 1512/65		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 1513/65		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 1514/65 M		Southern Sinagua	?
MOCA 1515/65 M		Southern Sinagua	?
✓MOCA 1521/21	MOCA 126, 127, 128, 129, 134, 154, 1364-1368, 1369	Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
✓MOCA 1528/106	MOCA 1529	Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
✓MOCA 1529/106	MOCA 1528	Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 1562/109		unknown	indeterminate
MOCA 1686/121		Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 1758/122		Southern Sinagua	Native American
✓MOCA 1764/122	MOCA 1748	Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
✓MOCA 1901/14	MOCA 81, 177	Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2091/148		unknown	indeterminate
MOCA 2092/148		unknown	indeterminate
MOCA 2093/148		unknown	Native American
MOCA 2094/148		unknown	Native American
✓MOCA 2261/145	MOCA 1909, 2104, 2262-2266	Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 2712/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2731/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2732/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2733/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2734/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2736/2		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2737/2		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2738/2		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2739/2		Southern Sinagua	Native American
MOCA 2740/2		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2741/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2742/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2743/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2744/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate
MOCA 2745/25		Southern Sinagua	indeterminate

MONTEZUMA CASTLE (CONT.)

*Earl Jackson*

Personnel

On August 5, Roy Young, of Camp Verde, was given employment as a per diem guide. On August 15, Ed and Carey Alberts left for Headquarters. This marked his transfer from the position of ranger at this post to that of relief ranger out of Headquarters. It is anticipated that Roy Young will remain as guide here until replaced by a man from the Civil Service register, or until September 9, at which time he returns to the University of Arizona. On August 4 the custodian was required to take half a day of sick leave.

Museum and Education

Not long ago a Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., of San Francisco, California, was guided through Montezuma Castle by Ranger Edwin C. Alberts. As a result of this trip, Mr. Palmer very kindly sent to us, after his return home, some excellent photographs of some excavation that was done by his father and Richard Wetherill in Montezuma Castle in 1896. One of the photographs is an excellent view of Montozuma Castle, another is a very good view which was taken of a portion of the ledge at the base of the present top ladder leading into the Castle. The photograph shows the mummy of a baby in position where it was uncovered on this ledge. The body had evidently been buried in some trash which had accumulated on this ledge, and from the photograph, we judge some pottery was buried with it. We have written Mr. Palmer thanking him for the photos, and asking him for any data on the find which he can give us from memory. The mummy is now on exhibit in the museum of Mesa Verde National Park. Naturally, we are going to learn if it is possible to have this mummy transferred back to Montezuma Castle's museum, where it logically belongs as part of the culture pattery here.

Publicity

The Arizona Daily Star for August 4, 1939, carried a column-long article on the donation to the Montezuma Castle museum by Mr. S. L. Palmer, Jr., of San Francisco, California, of some photographs of an excavation performed here in 1896 by Mr. Palmer Sr., and Richard Wetherill. The article described what the photographs revealed of an excellent mummy which was found at the base of the top ladder leading into the Castle.

On August 14, The Arizona Republic Publishing Company ran an article in at least one of its two daily papers describing the violent storm which hit Montozuma Castle National Monument on August 13. On the same day a news brief on this storm was broadcast over Radio Station K-T-A-R, Phoenix, Arizona.

Miscellaneous

The flurry and rush of getting moved into the new administration and museum location during the busiest season of the year is now over, and we are pretty well organized again. From the custodian's point of view, the monument is getting along satisfactorily. Of course, there are always little jarring notes, like one that occurred five minutes ago. I was busily pecking away at the typewriter on these immortal lines when I heard a car drive up. I went out to greet them, and found three well-dressed people sitting in a brand new shiny Ford, looking at our checking station sign which says "25 cents admission". I tipped my hat and said "Howdy". The only answer I got was "If you

## THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (Cont'd.)

field trips are, of course, considered highly important, for through them, the naturalists are able to show first hand, objects which can only be discussed during the evening lectures.

Generally speaking, the museum is the nucleus from which radiates and around which revolves the educational work. Here it is that the visitor comes for his information; here he is permitted to browse at his leisure; and from here many of the field trips begin. Gradually the museums in the national parks and monuments are taking shape. Money for such projects is slow to materialize; and the recent programs such as Public Works, C.C.C., and W.P.A., have assisted immeasurably.

The ranger naturalists constitute the faculty of the world's largest summer school. Whether the visitor's interest lies in the field of geology, ornithology, entomology, botany, zoology, or related subjects, he is always sure to find an outlet for his interest in some part of this great school of nature. The aim of the educational work is not alone to teach. I have always felt that if we succeed in stimulating an interest in the out-of-doors--an interest which the visitor will take home with him--an interest which will encourage him to go farther and seek out further truths, the work is worth while.

No attempt should be made to herd the park visitors into the educational field. Those who wish to take advantage of the opportunities which are offered are welcome; those who prefer other forms of diversion are free to seek out their own interests. The number of educational contacts during the 1938 season speaks for the success of the program. During that period, in the western areas, 4,348,861 such contacts were made. To be sure a large number of these are "repeaters." The same person may visit a museum, attend a lecture, and accompany a naturalist afield, but even so the number of visitors taking advantage of the opportunities offered is little short of staggering.

Certain it is that because of this new service Americans are returning home with a broader conception of the national parks and with a better knowledge of the wonders that lie within their boundaries.

(Paper read at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums at San Francisco, June 26-28, 1939.)

\*\*\*SVM\*\*\*

## MONTEZUMA CASTLE IN 1896

By S. L. Palmer, Jr.

My father, mother and three children of Burdett Kansas, started about the year 1895 on a trip through Colorado and the Southwest purely for the purpose of sight-seeing. We traveled in a wagon built especially for the trip and it was constructed somewhat similar to the present auto trailers, however, it was powered with four mules.

We visited southwestern Colorado and at Hancoes made the acquaintance of Richard Wetherill, who with his brothers had but recently discovered the Mesa Verde ruins. With Richard Wetherill as companion

## MONTEZUMA CASTLE IN 1896 (Cont'd.)

and guide we visited a portion of the Mesa Verde ruins, then traveled south to Aztec New Mexico, and from Farmington visited the Chaco Canyon ruins where we did some excavating. We found at this location a number of pieces of pottery in the small mounds opposite Pueblo Bonito.

From Chaco Canyon we traveled southwest to Phoenix and Prescott, Arizona. In the early spring of 1896 we camped for about two weeks on the Verde River among the trees directly in front of Montezuma Castle. We came in by way of Camp Verde and, as I recall, some soldiers were stationed there at that time. We explained at Camp Verde that we expected to visit and probably do some excavating in Montezuma Castle, but we were told that excavation would be useless since the ruins had been completely excavated years before and nothing but the walls remained.

The ruins as we first saw it in 1896 appeared to have been thoroughly excavated, however we removed some accumulated rocks and loose material in the rooms but found nothing of interest other than fragments of ears of corn, broken animal bones, charcoal, feathers, and fragments of pottery. We had about decided that excavation was useless when we noticed that the dirt was undisturbed on a small ledge along the outer side of the ruin at the point where the upper ladder now enters. A shallow excavation revealed the burial of a number of bodies. This burial place was in rather an exposed position and had the appearance that part of the original space may have possibly broken away and fallen below.

It was impossible for us to determine just how many bodies were buried in this spot for most of the remains were fragmentary and almost completely decomposed, only those immediately adjacent to the cliff were preserved. There were however probably eight or ten bodies buried here, these were all small and undoubtedly children. There was but one preserved mummy and that was photographed in the exact position that it was found. The depth of the excavation probably did not exceed two or three feet, a good idea of this can be had from the photograph\* as the ground under the shovel and at the foot of the mummy had not been disturbed when the picture was taken. Next to the head of the mummy was found a red pottery bowl about eight or nine inches in diameter, fragments of cloth were wrapped about the body and several sticks one of which was intact were laying across the body as shown in photograph.\* Also found with the mummy was a well preserved bow and several rock arrows, these can be seen in the larger photograph of the mummy and the bow is also noticeable in the picture showing the location of the mummy before removal. The dirt that covered the burials contained charcoal and fragments of pottery indicating that part of it at least was sweepings from the rooms. Some of the material however appeared to have fallen from above, possibly from crumbling walls or thrown there by earlier excavations.

There was no evidence that the burials had ever been disturbed since the bones appeared to be in their original burial position. The pottery bowl was the only one found in the entire burial place and there were no other fragments to indicate that other complete pottery pieces had been buried there.

The general appearance of Montezuma Castle as we saw it in 1896 and as I saw it this summer (1939) is almost unchanged. I recall that



MONTEZUMA CASTLE IN 1896 (Cont'd.)

one or two of the upper interior rooms had fallen roofs. From one of the fallen roof timbers we sawed a short cross section which is now with our collection in Mesa Verde National Park, apparently these loose timbers have since been removed as they were not apparent when I saw the ruin this summer. At the time of our early visit to this location we found it necessary to build crude ladders to gain access to the ruin. These ladders and their location can be seen in the photograph\* of the ruin.

I was greatly surprised this summer to see the rather extensive ruins that have been excavated and restored at the base of the cliff nearby. These ruins were entirely overlooked by us in 1896, probably concealed by debris from above.

The persons shown in the photograph\* are my father and his three children. The older sister later married Richard Wetherill and now lives in Tucson, Arizona, P.O. Box 572. As she is several years my senior it is probable that she may recall details of our trip that I have omitted and I am sure that she would gladly furnish any information possible.

\*Photographs on file at SWNM Headquarters, Coolidge, Arizona.

\*\*\*SWNM\*\*\*

## ARROWS RECOVERED FROM LONG HOUSE RUIN, BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT

By Robert Lister, archeologist foreman

A number of interesting arrow fragments have been recovered from the Long House ruin in Bandelier National Monument. The first of these pieces of arrows was found in March, 1939, during the ruins stabilization work on Long House, and several more have been found since that time.

While repairing the walls of Rooms 143 and 145 of Long House, it was necessary to remove some of the dirt adjacent to the walls. In this dirt, just a few inches below the surface, a number of the arrow fragments were recovered, and several were found on the surface of the two rooms. The wooden fragments were in such condition as to indicate that they had not been exposed to the weather for a very long period of time, probably due to the fact that they had fallen or had been blown from some sheltered cave or crack in the cliff. The Long House ruin is built along the base of an almost vertical cliff that is from 100 to 150 feet high. In this cliff there are many cracks and caves where caches of such things as arrows would be preserved, but, strange to say, the only likely place from which the arrows could have dropped is a very small crack about half-way up the face of the cliff. It seems hardly possible that the arrows could have come from this very small crack, but it is the only possible source that can be seen from the ground. It would be almost impossible

## MONTEZUMA CASTLE IN 1896 (Cont'd.)

and guide we visited a portion of the Mesa Verde ruins, then traveled south to Aztec New Mexico, and from Farmington visited the Chaco Canyon ruins where we did some excavating. We found at this location a number of pieces of pottery in the small mounds opposite Pueblo Bonito.

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