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Hovenweep National Monument

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**US Dept of Interior (NPS) Hovenweep National Monument Square
Tower Group: Hovenweep Memorandum**

National Park Service of the United States

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

Reed EXP
ans. drafted 11/25
File 1/28

November 19, 1949

Memorandum

To: Regional Director
From: Superintendent, Mesa Verde National Park
Subject: Mimeographed information sheet on Hovenweep

The rough draft for a new mimeographed leaflet on Hovenweep National Monument, that Regional Archeologist Reed sent for our review on November 3, has been checked and is returned herewith.

The changes suggested by Dr. Reed are certainly desirable for they add to the accuracy and clarity of the text. In addition, we feel that certain other changes should be made and we are listing them below.

1. Last paragraph, page 1. Perhaps the suggestion of "semi-circular" towers should be taken out. Frankly we doubt whether there is such a thing as a semi-circular tower. There are some in which the remaining portion appears semi-circular but originally the towers were round or D-shaped.

2. First paragraph, page 2. "The buildings are often constructed on inaccessible rocks..." Constructing a building on an "inaccessible" rock is a trick we can't figure out. Perhaps "towering" or "high isolated" would be better.

3. Second paragraph, page 2. In his survey of 1948, Ranger Riley found nineteen ruins in the Square Tower group. This figure might be substituted for the "twelve" in the text.

4. Second paragraph, page 3. The suggestion that the people who built the towers lived in "nearby outlying pueblos" cannot be supported. The "nearby outlying pueblos" do not exist. Al Lancaster has searched the adjacent areas extensively and has found only one late pueblo ruin; a small structure one-half mile north of Horseshoe House.

While the towers are the outstanding structures as far as preservation and interest are concerned there are, immediately adjacent to them, ruins of extensive pueblos that would have housed a large population. At Cajon there were two fair sized pueblos. At Hackberry there were, on the canyon rim and on the talus, extensive pueblo structures. Opposite Horseshoe House was a large