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Hovenweep National Monument

Colorado National Parks

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
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

reply refer to:
L11415 HOVE

MAY - 6 1950

Through: The Bureau of the Budget
Through: The Attorney General
Through: The Division of
the Federal Register,
The National Archives

My dear Mr. President:

I recommend that you sign the attached form of proclamation, which would effect the addition of approximately 124.02 acres in Colorado to the existing Hovenweep National Monument, an archeological area containing prehistoric towers, pueblos, and cliff dwellings of great scientific interest.

When the national monument was established by Presidential Proclamation No. 1654, on March 2, 1923, these public lands were unsurveyed. A survey, completed and approved in 1942 by the then General Land Office, indicated that one of the outstanding groups of prehistoric buildings, known as the Hackberry Ruin, had been inadvertently excluded from the monument boundary. Your approval of the attached draft of proclamation would rectify this error in land description, and would also include within the monument a small detached unit of 61.06 acres, known as the Goodman Point Ruins.

This unit contains the ruins of a main pueblo approximately 350 by 500 feet, part of which remains standing to second story height. The site is unexcavated, as are several other small archeological sites surrounding the main pueblo, all of which comprise the Goodman Point group. While this land was withdrawn from homesteading in 1877 by a Departmental Order, in the interest of protecting the ruins, it is recommended that it also be given national monument status in order that this rich archeological "reserve" may be afforded more complete protection under the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

The addition of these lands to Hovenweep National Monument, which would increase the present area from 285.80 to 409.82 acres, would not involve the expenditure of any additional funds on the part of the Federal Government. The Hackberry Ruin is adjacent to the existing monument, and the Goodman Point Ruins would be patrolled by personnel assigned to the main area.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) OSCAR L. CHAPMAN

Secretary of the Interior

The President

The White House

Enclosure

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Three (2), with

1 copy sent to Mesa Verde 5/15 copy proc.