

Dept. of Interior  
Washington, D.C.

Please  
of old  
to this letter

Attn: Stuart Udall

Gentlemen:

The ruins of old Fort Cady still lie next to the Mojave River and adjacent to lands owned by the U.S. Government where the Old Mormon Trail can still be seen. This is Township 10 North, Range 4 East of San Bernardino Meridian and can be pinpointed in your Newberry Quadrangle.

This is the place in the desert where the Mojave River comes to the surface and forms lakes. Some of these lakes are a mile long right out in the middle of the scorching desert between two interstate highways — one to Las Vegas + one following old Route 66.

You can probably condemn the old Fort and camp, including all the lakes for about \$500<sup>00</sup> per acre, up. There is about 1000 acres in all which joins about 100,000 acres of land you own already. For little expense and with all this water in the middle of the desert you can have a tremendous National Park. The old fort can be restored as well as the battlegrounds.

TOXEY H. SMITH

1230 W 2<sup>nd</sup> ST LOS ANGELES 90026

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 R. YOUNG 3-21  
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Mr. Toxey H. Smith  
 1230 W. 2nd Street  
 Los Angeles, California 90026

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Secretary of the Interior has asked us to reply to your recent letter regarding the remains of Fort Cady, California.

We certainly understand and appreciate your desire to restore this old fort. Generally, buildings such as this, which are important in State and local history, rather than being of national significance, are owned and maintained by either the State, community, or some private or patriotic organization. As you can appreciate, there are a great number of important historic sites associated with every period of American history, and it is impossible for the Federal Government to acquire and administer all of them. Only a limited number of outstanding sites representing the different phases of history are administered by the National Park Service.

To obtain further information on this particular site, we are forwarding a copy of your letter to our Regional Director in San Francisco and requesting him to provide you with his comments on your proposal.

Your interest in writing to us about this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) HOWARD R. STAGNER

Assistant Director

cc:  
 Regional Director, Western, with a copy of Mr. Smith's letter  
 DCCO  
 RH - w/c inc.  
 RH, Mr. Cullen - w/c inc.  
 SLR

*tw*  
*htg*

JPCullen:FM:lm 3/25/66

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