

Grazing

L-1417

The area, mentioned by Mr. Thomas, in the northeast part of the Otowi detached section has, in my opinion, little value for woodcutting or grazing. Because of the lack of water, it can only be utilized for grazing during the winter months when there is snow on the ground. However, for administrative reasons, I would strongly favor eliminating this area from the National Monument.

C. Thomas proposed diagram $\rightarrow$

The Bacon Vigil Grant was purchased by the Resettlement Administration a

number of years ago and turned over to the Indian Service temporarily for administration. Later, the administration was placed under the Forest Service. Immediately, an effort was made to adapt the land for grazing and place it under permit. Most of this grant is not too valuable for grazing land as, due to the scarcity of water, a large part of it can be used only during the winter season when there is snow on the ground. Over a year ago, the Army Engineers recommended the elimination of grazing on a part of the former grant and paid the permittees a sum for their grazing rights. At that time, most of the grazing was eliminated and the area will probably continue in this status until after the war. Should the National Park Service ever take over a part of this grant, it would appear that after the war would be the logical time since practically all grazing use has been temporary eliminated.

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In triplicate.

cc: Custodian, Bandelier.