

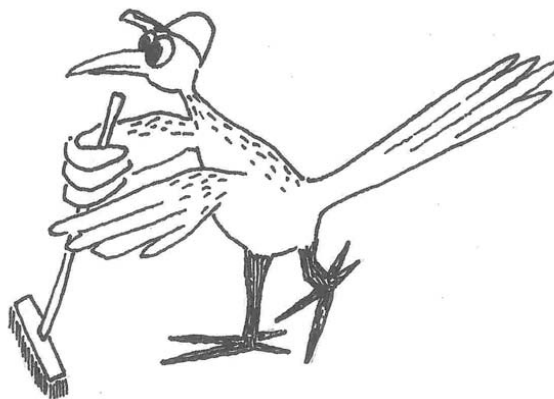
# Dusty Roadrunner Visits New Mexico's National Monuments



# Dusty Roadrunner Visits New Mexico Monuments

Every state has a unique history with special places to visit. Dusty Roadrunner, the official New Mexico cleanup mascot, took a road trip to visit our state's amazing national monuments and parks. Here is a collection of postcards he wrote from each site he visited. Dusty was amazed at how unique New Mexico is and these three things impressed him the most:

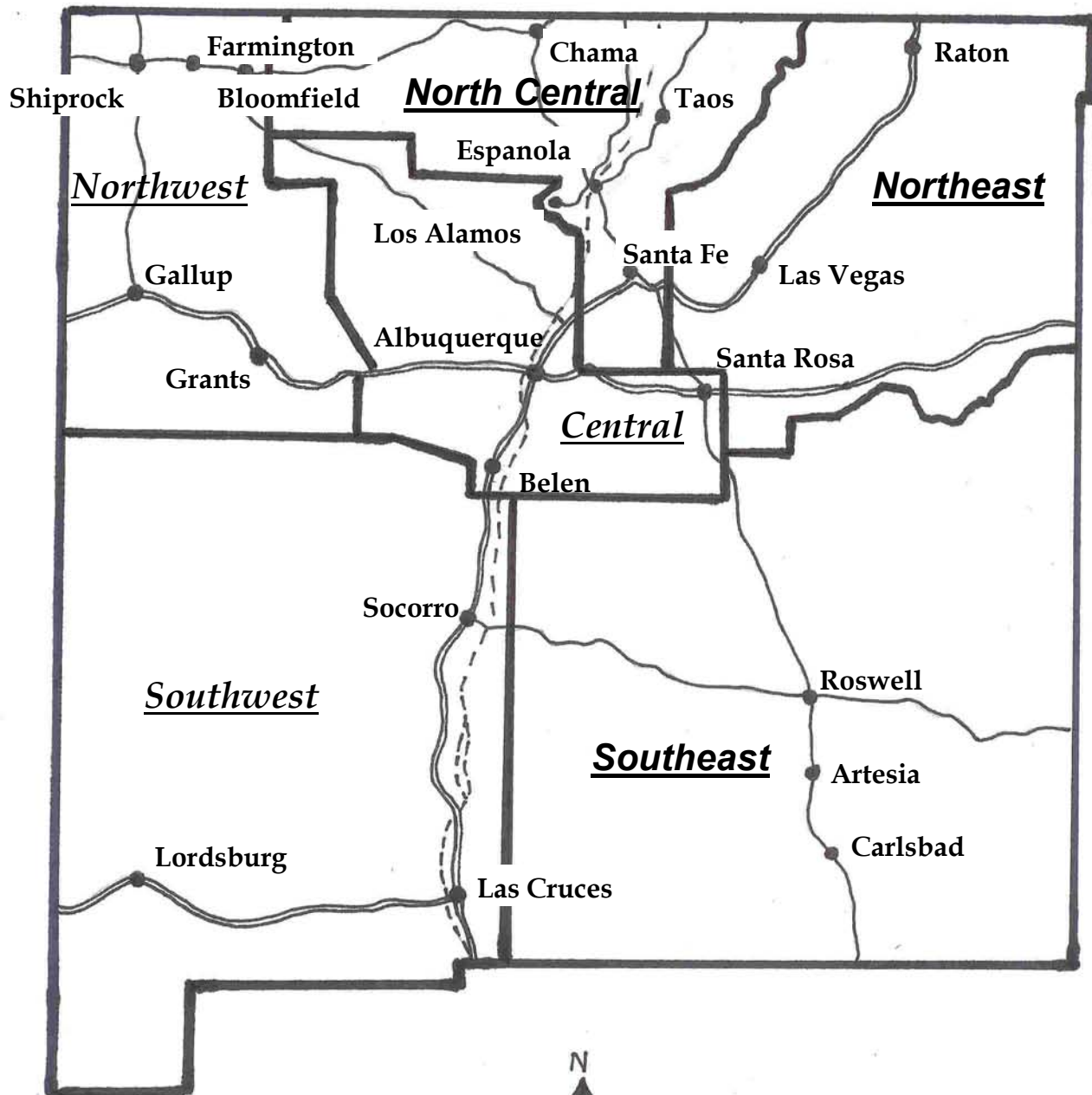
- New Mexico is called the “Volcano State” because we have so many different kinds of volcanoes including calderas, lava flows, and cinder cones.
- New Mexico has incredible natural places to visit, such as ice caves in Grants, an artesian well in Santa Rosa where you can scuba dive, and hot springs in the Jemez mountains.
- New Mexico is considered a multi-cultural state with strong influences from Native American, Hispanic, and Anglo ethnicities.



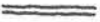

Where is your favorite place in New Mexico? Write it down here: \_\_\_\_\_

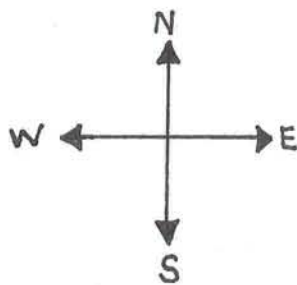
Use the map of regions on the next page to answer Dusty's questions throughout this booklet.

# Regions of New Mexico

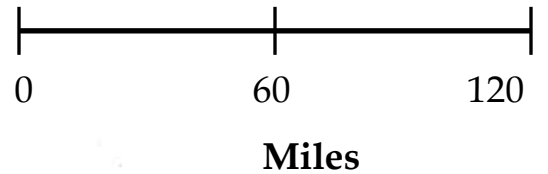


## Legend

-  Interstate
-  State highway
-  River

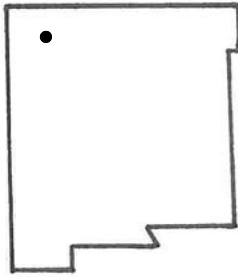


## Scale



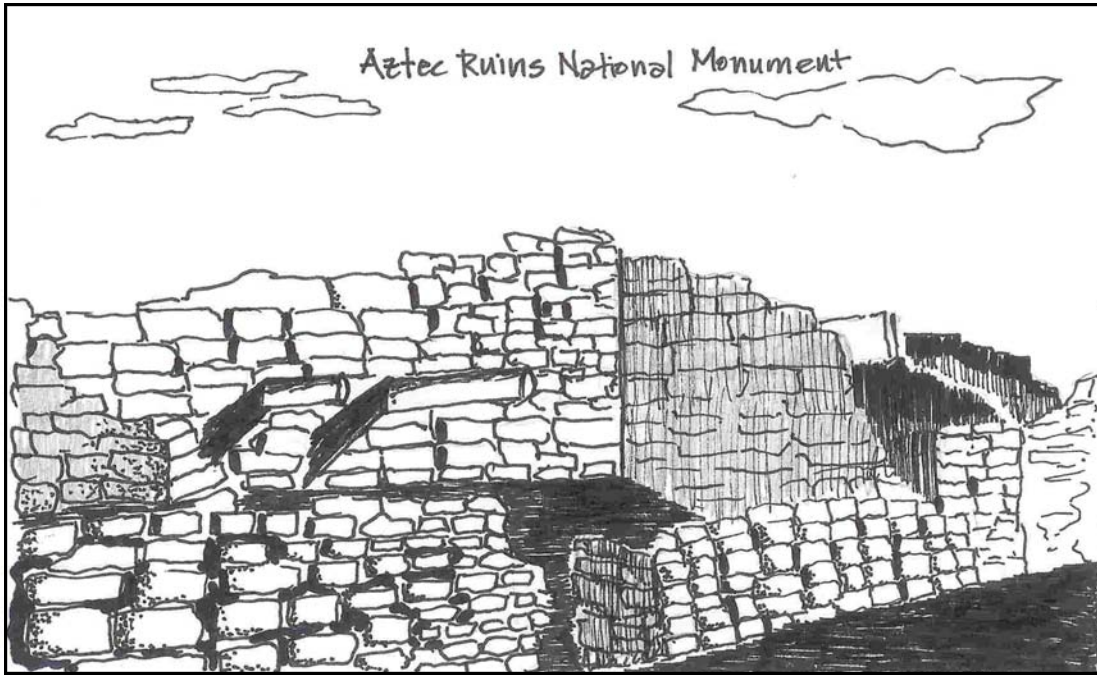


Northwest



# Aztec Ruins National Monument

What city is near Aztec Ruins?

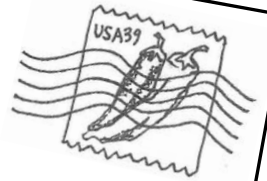


Aztec ruins was our first stop. It's a beautiful national monument in northern New Mexico near the Animas river.

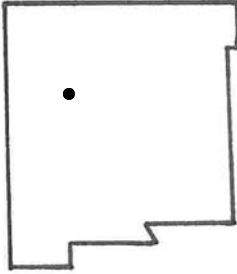
Archeologists think Chaco people lived here first, and after they left, they were followed by the Mesa Verde People. There is a distinct difference in their wall building styles.

Next stop is Chaco Canyon. Wish you were here.

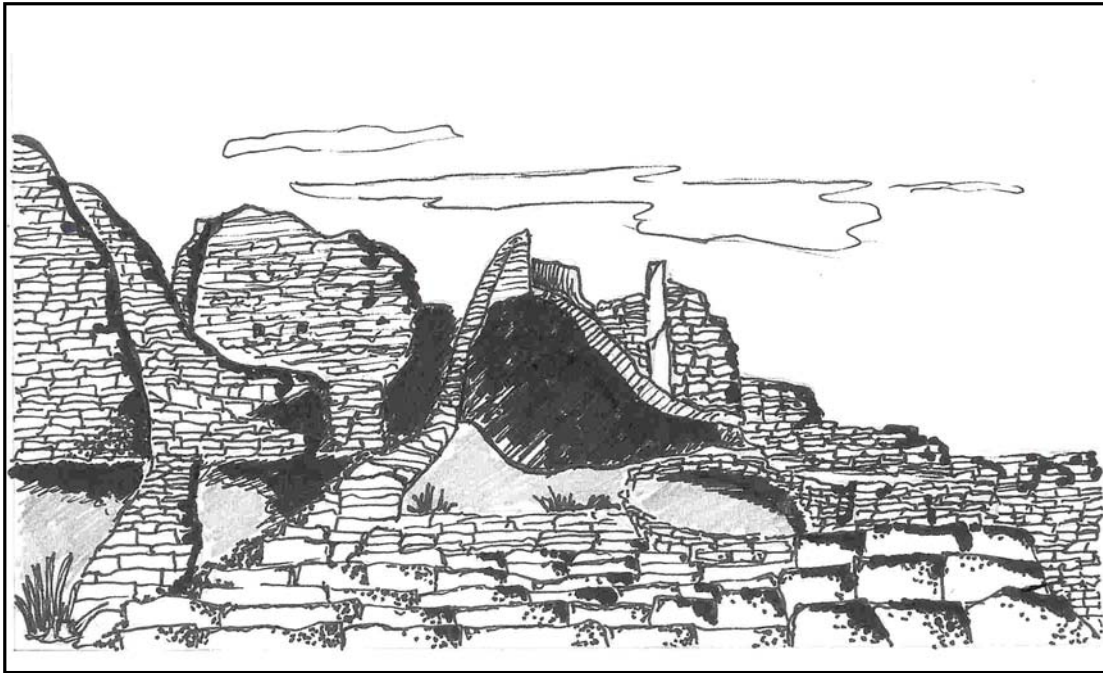
Your friend,  
DRR



To My great friend  
who Keeps New  
Mexico Beautiful  
NM 88888



# Chaco Culture National Park



Chaco Culture National Park is also known as Chaco Canyon. It is a remarkable site along an ancient trading network that stretched as far as modern day California and Mexico. The roads along this trade route were planned and engineered in a sophisticated way. Other evidence of the culture are in the construction of kivas and “great houses” with rooms larger than any that had previously been built.

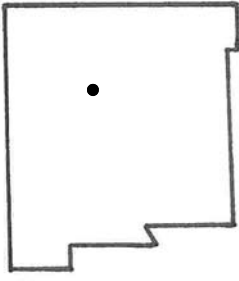
Pueblo Indian descendants say that Chaco was a center for sharing traditions, knowledge, and ceremonies among clans and people. By the 1300’s Chaco’s importance had shifted and people had migrated out.



Dusty Roadrunner

To my favorite student  
NM, 88888





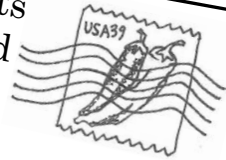
# Bandelier National Monument



Bandelier is a sight to see! It's in the mountains near Los Alamos, where there are pinon-pine and juniper forest. The Anasazi Indians that used to live in the canyon were so skilled they built dwellings in the cliffs! We had to climb ladders to reach their homes and kivas. They were excellent masons, potters, weavers, and farmers. They were great

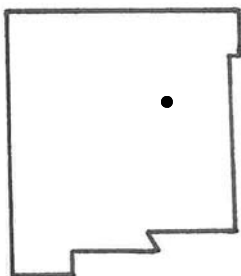
conversationalists  
and never wasted  
anything-

Your friend,  
DRR

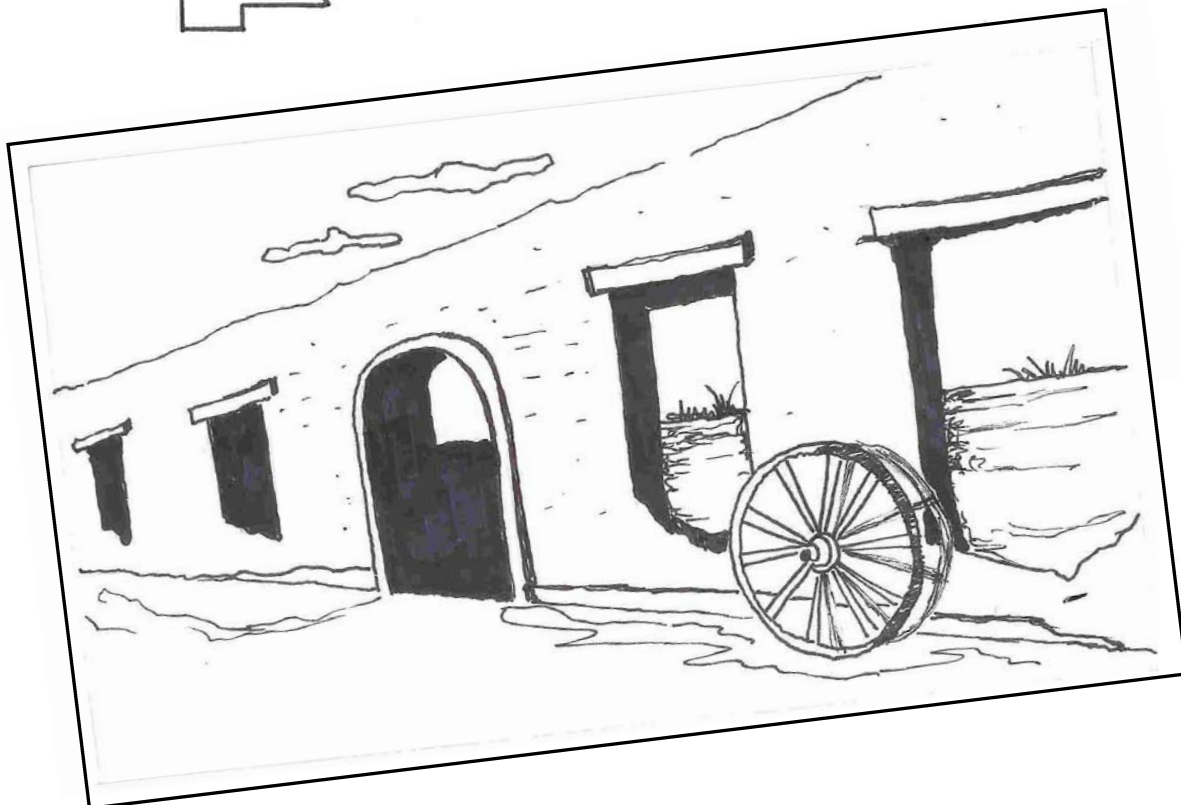


To My great friend  
who never litters  
NM, 88888

Northeast



# Ft. Union National Monument



We're at Ft. Union, part of the Santa Fe Trail. The US Army built it to protect European settlers from Apache and Navajo Indian raids. This fort was built before NM was a state and it's a part of our history. Back then people had very different views.

Today we encourage peace and harmony between groups. This site stands as a reminder of New Mexico's past. We're

visiting Pecos next.

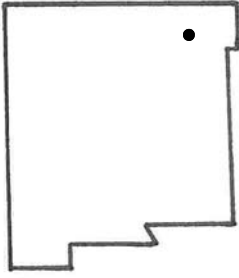
Your buddy-  
DRR

To My great friend  
who is litter-free  
NM, 88888

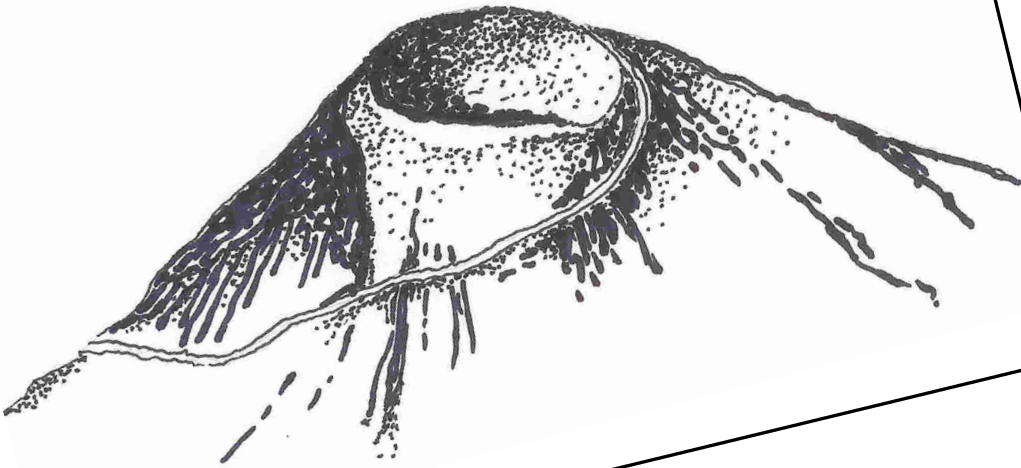




Northeast



# Capulin Volcano National Monument



Name another volcanic site in New Mexico

(Hint: use the NM Dept of Tourism website [www.newmexico.org](http://www.newmexico.org))

Capulin Volcano is in the upper northeast corner of New Mexico, close to Raton. It is a wonder of geology, as its cone is the remains of an extinct volcano. The crater was created by hot magma from below the earth's crust bubbling up to the surface. There are other areas in the State that were created as a direct result of volcanic activity.

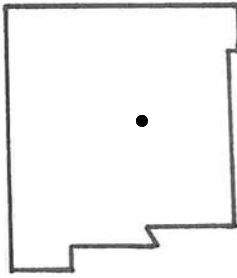
It's explosive-  
Your pal DRR



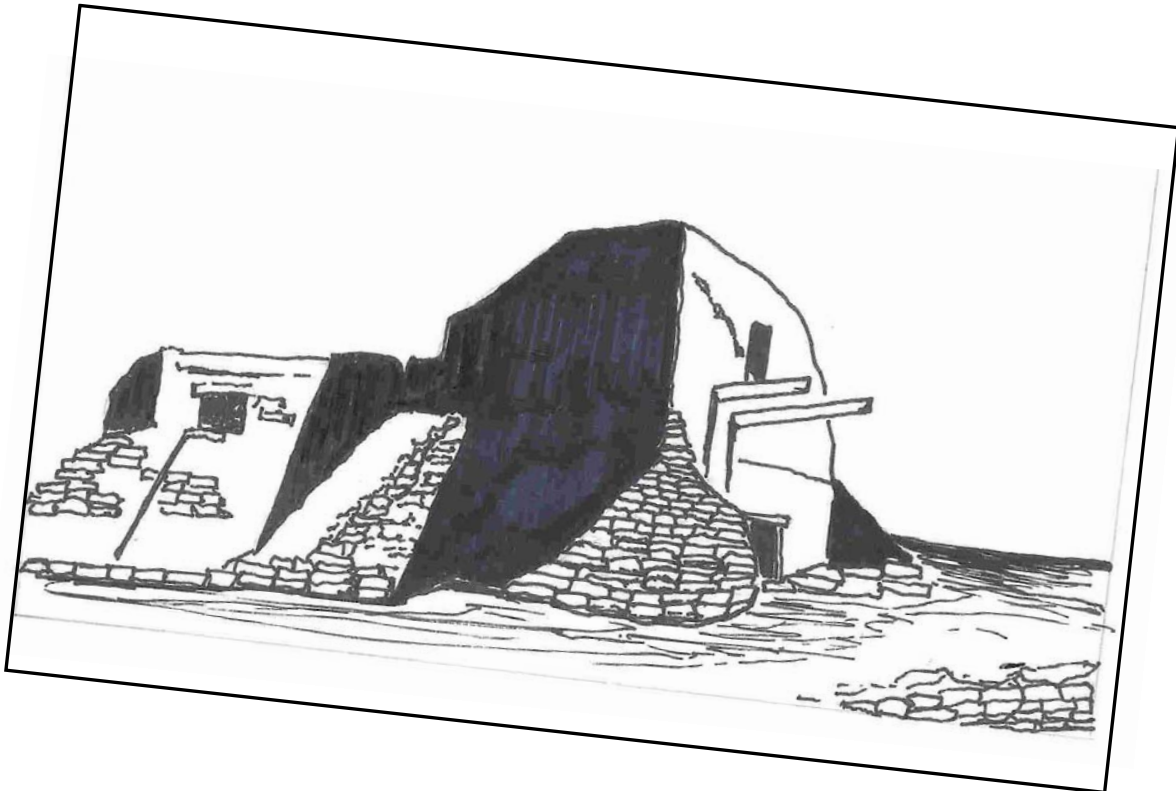
To My great friend  
who recycles  
NM, 88888



Northeast



# Pecos National Monument



Pecos National Monument is a pueblo that was built near the Pecos River. At one time 1,500-2,000 people lived in the area.

Later on a church was built at the same site. There was a clash of cultures and religious practices between the Spanish and Native Americans. The Pecos site was also important to the Santa Fe Trail and it was the location where there was a civil war battle at Glorieta Pass.

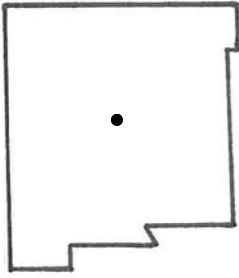
This historical site has 12,000 years of important history behind it.

-Dusty

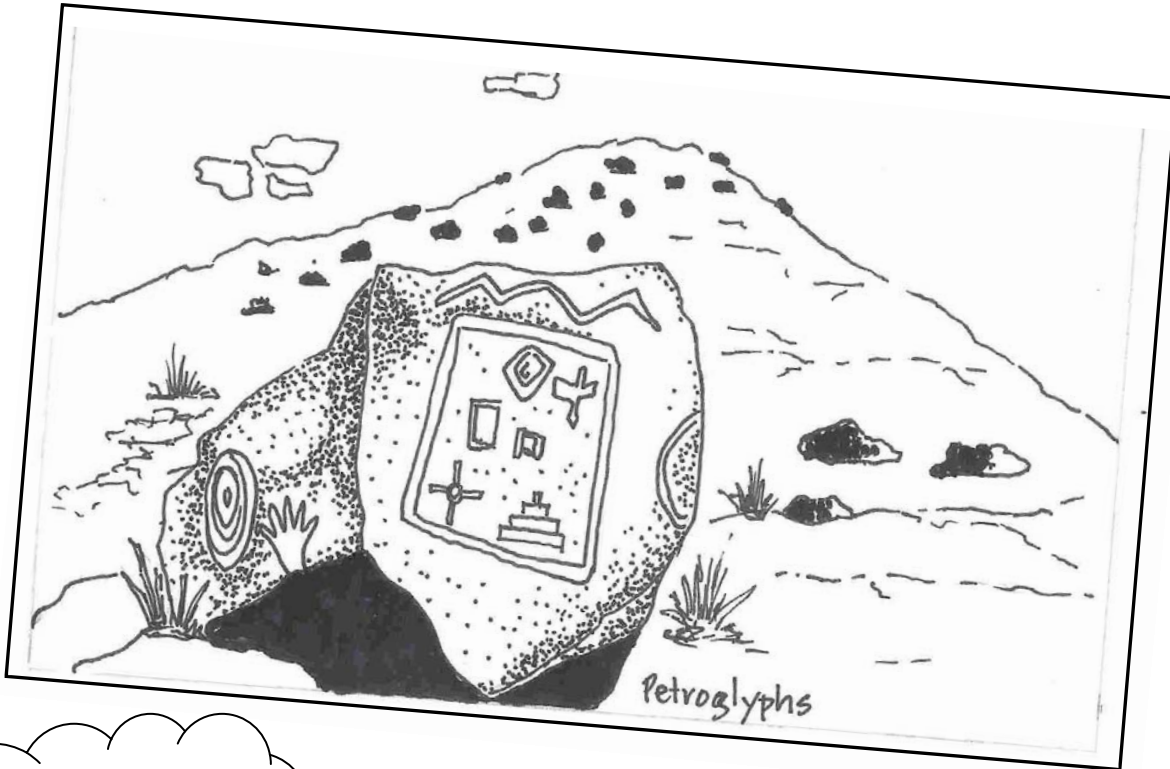


To My great friend  
who respects nature  
NM, 88888

Central



# Petroglyph National Monument



Wherever I go, I take care of the area. I only take pictures...and leave only footprints.



We're in Albuquerque, the largest city in NM, at their own national monument, the Petroglyphs. Petroglyphs are rock carvings whose meaning is still a mystery. What we do know is that these volcanic rocks are an important cultural and archeological resource. This monument has several trails where you can hike to the top of a lava escarpment and view the entire city.

-Your great pal

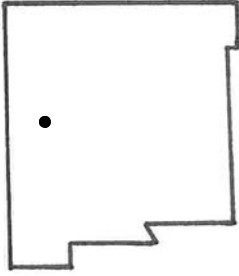


Dusty Roadrunner

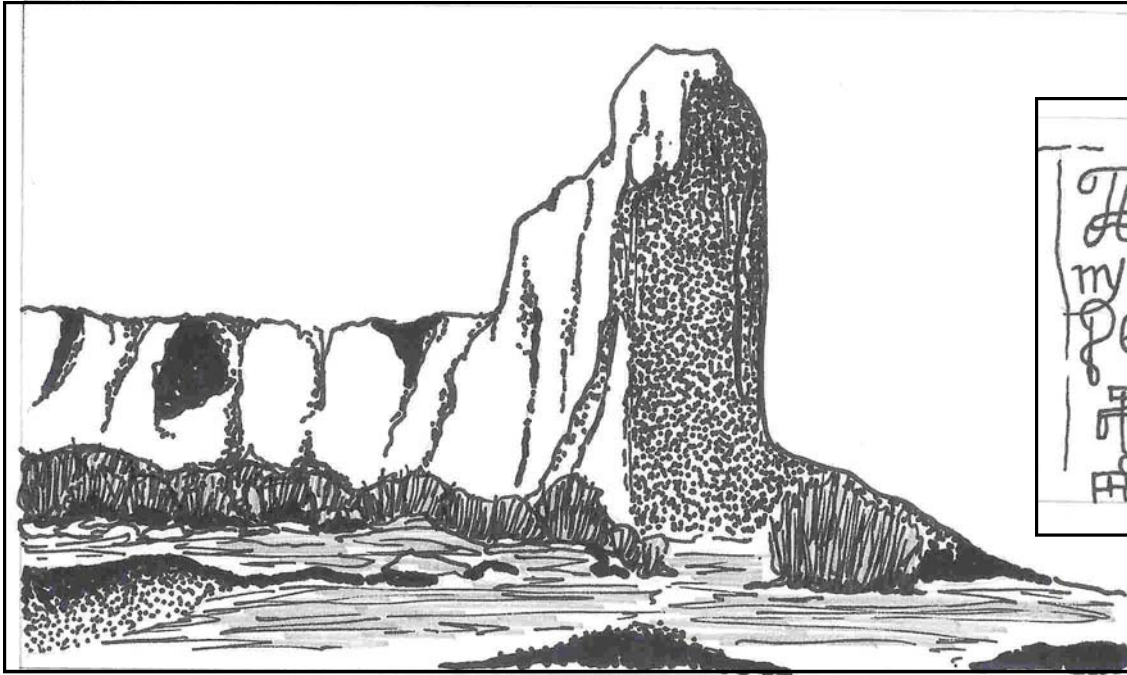
To My great friend  
who cares for the  
environment

NM, 88888

Northwest



# El Morro National Monument



El Morro is a Spanish word for "the peak." This national monument has carvings from both Native Americans and Spanish conquistadores; because of this modern visitors call this site "Inscription Rock."

We treasure this site for its history, which is very different than the impact inscribing has on our towns today. Writing your name on or defacing property is graffiti,

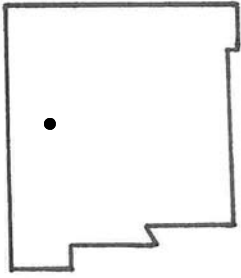
something that hurts the community.



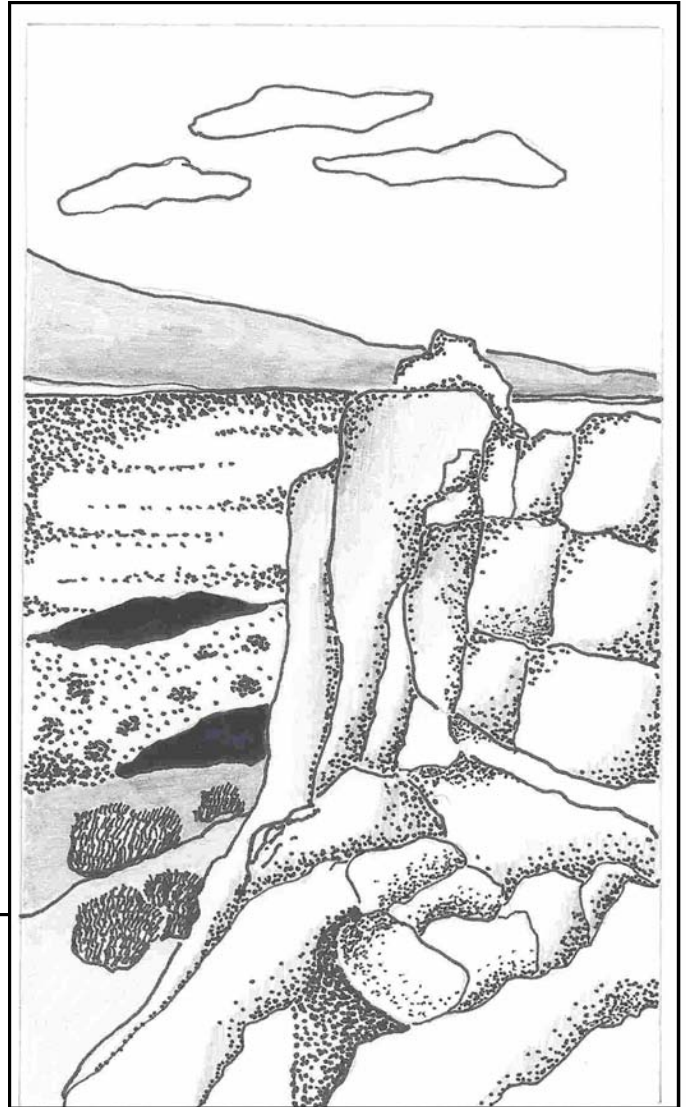
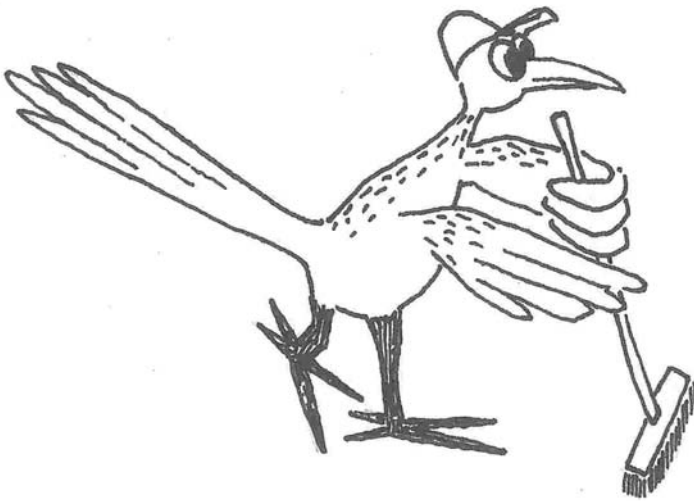
-Your buddy DRR

To My great friend  
Who never vandalizes  
NM, 88888

*Northwest*



# El Malpais National Monument



El Malpais National Monument is called the “badlands” of New Mexico. The area is very dry and the soil is volcanic and rocky. There are many interesting land formations that resulted from volcanic activity here. Lava tubes and lava flows are some of those formations. Even though it is rugged terrain, there are signs of past human habitation, such as prehistoric ruins and

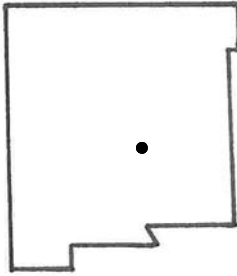
homestead sites. This place is uniquely beautiful and worth protecting.

-DRR

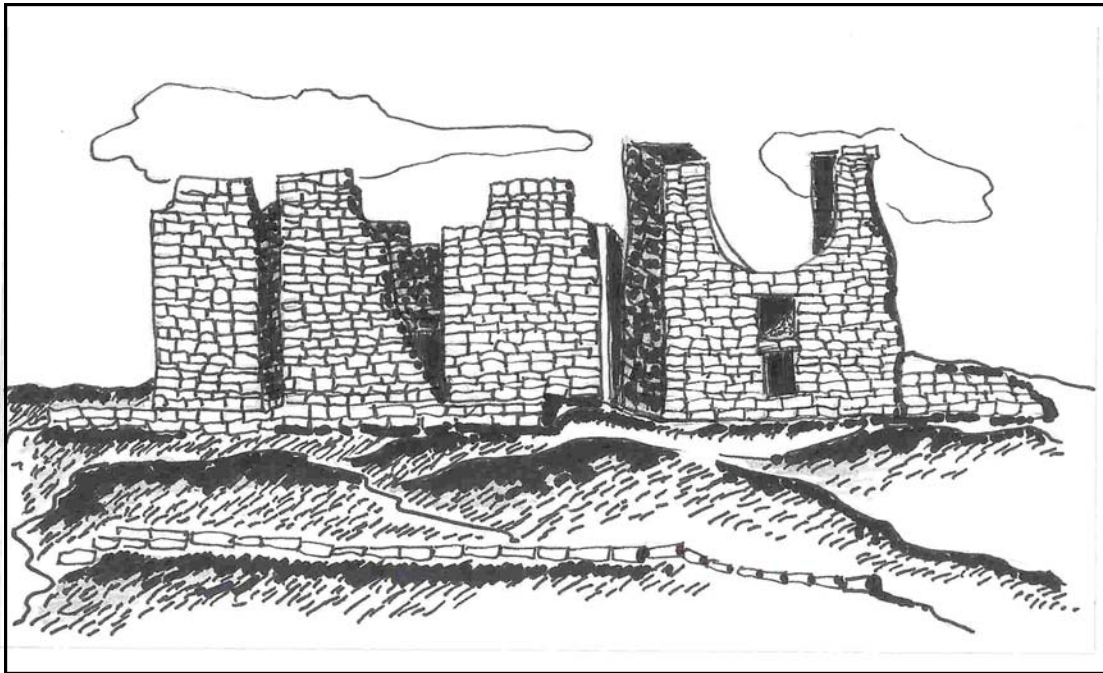
To My great friend  
Who picks up litter  
NM, 88888



Southwest



# Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument



The Salinas Pueblo Missions preserves three Pueblo Indian ruins and four Spanish missions. The site is located in the foothills of the Manzano mountains in an area known as the Estancia Basin. The basin was once a lake, which later dried up, and the rich soil that remained was used by Pueblo Indians to cultivate crops like corn, beans, and squash. Similar to Pecos National Monument, Salinas is a place where Pueblo Indians and colonial Spanish were in contact. By 1677 the Salinas Pueblo Missions were abandoned.



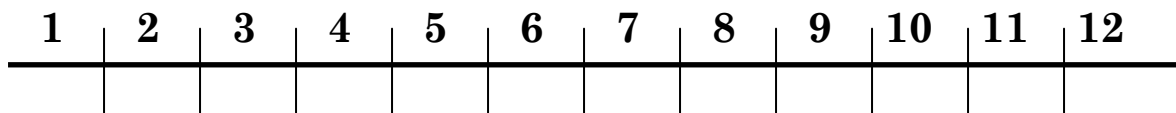
-Dusty

To My great friend  
Who never vandalizes  
NM, 88888

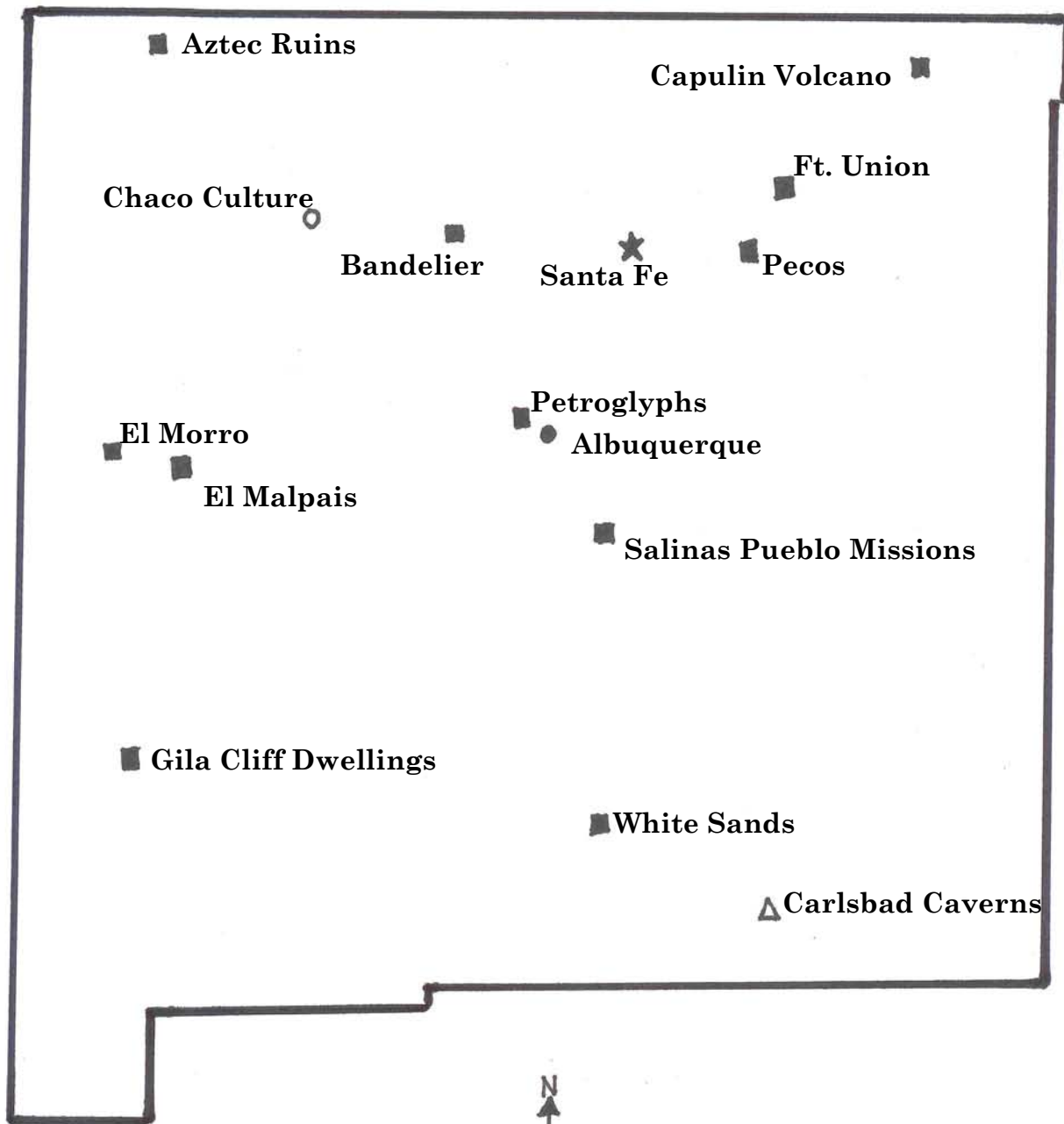
# Help Dusty Roadrunner Clean Up Our State!

Follow Dusty Roadrunner on his trip to New Mexico's National Monuments and other cultural sites. Fill in the blanks below by using the coordinates on the map (Hint: use a ruler).

1. (A,2) \_\_\_\_\_ has the largest restored kiva in the world. It is in the northwest corner of the state.
2. (A,11) \_\_\_\_\_ is an extinct volcano.
3. (C,4) \_\_\_\_\_ was the center of a trading system for the Anasazi people.
4. (F,1) \_\_\_\_\_ is a huge rock that has been carved on by conquistadors and ancient Indians.
5. (F,2) \_\_\_\_\_ means "the badlands" in Spanish. It is located 75 miles west of Albuquerque.
6. (C,9) \_\_\_\_\_ preserves a 14th century pueblo as well as an 18th century church.
7. (B,9) \_\_\_\_\_ is located northeast of Santa Fe, and it was once part of the old Santa Fe Trail.
8. (J,7) \_\_\_\_\_ has dunes of gypsum that lie near the site of the space shuttle landing.
9. (I,2) \_\_\_\_\_ are a group of Indian dwellings that were built inside caves.
10. (G,7) \_\_\_\_\_ saves Pueblo Indian ruins and Franciscan churches built over 300 years ago.

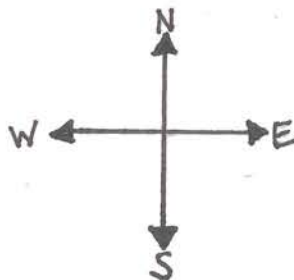


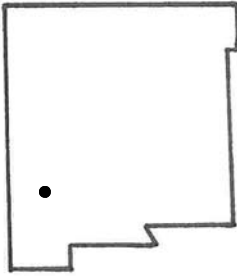
A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F  
G  
H  
I  
J  
K  
L  
M



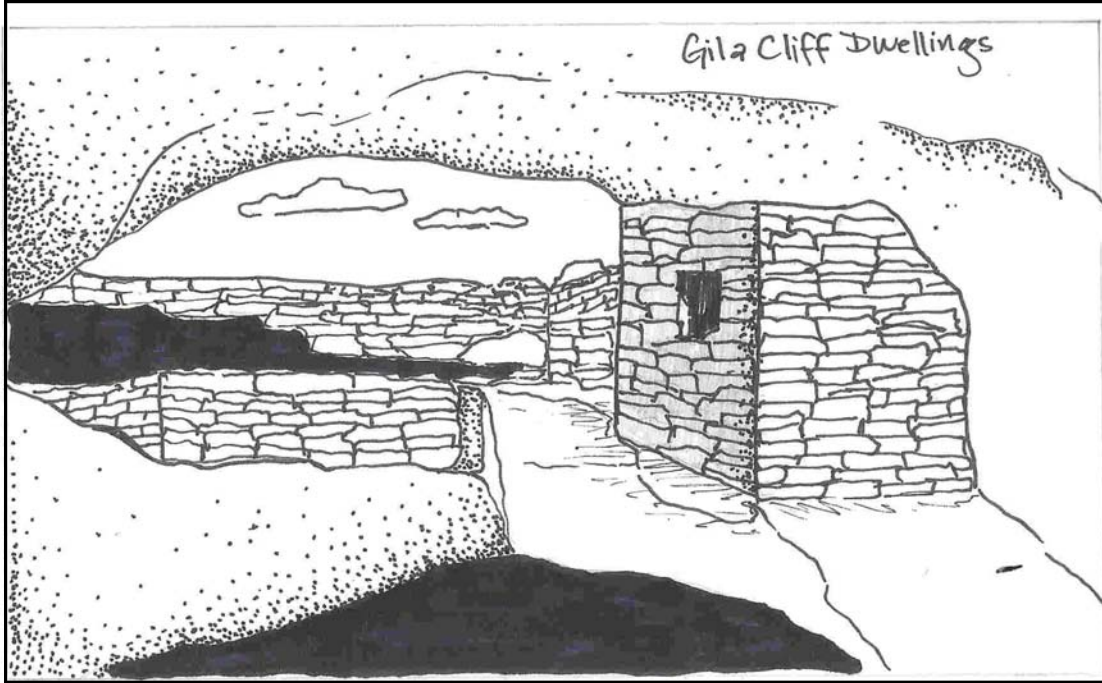
**Legend**

- △ National Park
- National Monument
- City
- ★ State Capital
- National Historic Park





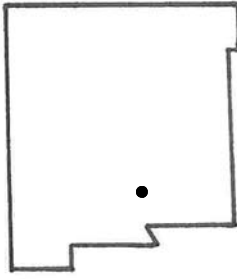
# Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument



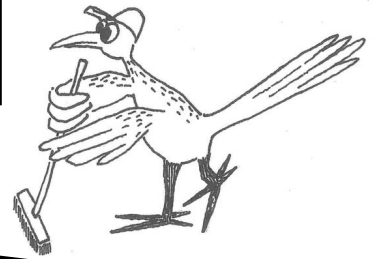
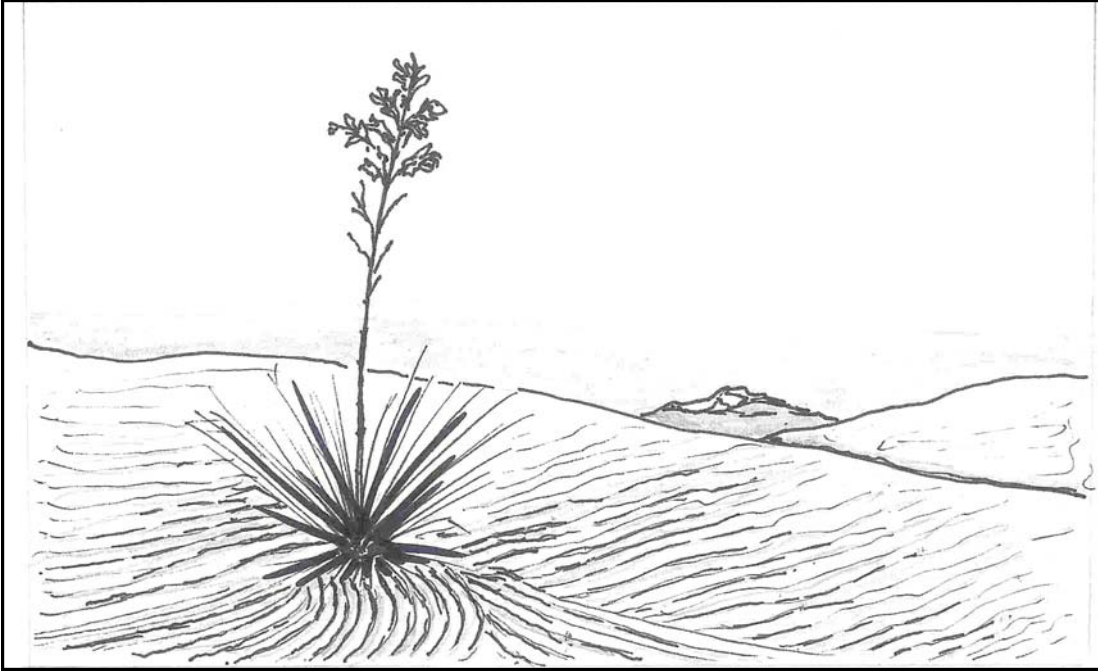
Did you know a roadrunner's feet are unique, as you can see by Dusty's tracks? They have two toes in front and two in back, unlike other birds that have three in front and one in back.

<p>We're in southern New Mexico, amongst some of the most amazing forests in the state. The Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument is outside of Silver City in a series of caves that were home to the Mogollons. These people were farmers who grew crops on nearby mesas. The Mogollon people left the area before Columbus ever sailed to America.</p> <p>We also went hiking in the</p>	<p>forest, brought our lunches and packed all of our trash out.</p> <p>-DRR</p> <p>To My great friend Who protects nature NM, 88888</p> <div data-bbox="1088 1270 1323 1438"> </div>
--	--





# White Sands National Monument



White Sands is a national monument near Alamogordo. It is a vast area of gypsum sand dunes, the result of a huge lake that evaporated.

Plants and animals like the earless lizard and Apache pocket mouse have adapted to the dry, white environment in order to survive.

This place is a completely unique ecosystem, it is found no where else in the

world!

We're off to  
our last stop,  
Carlsbad Caverns.

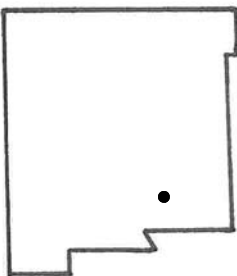
Best wishes-  
DRR

To My great friend  
and environmental  
protector

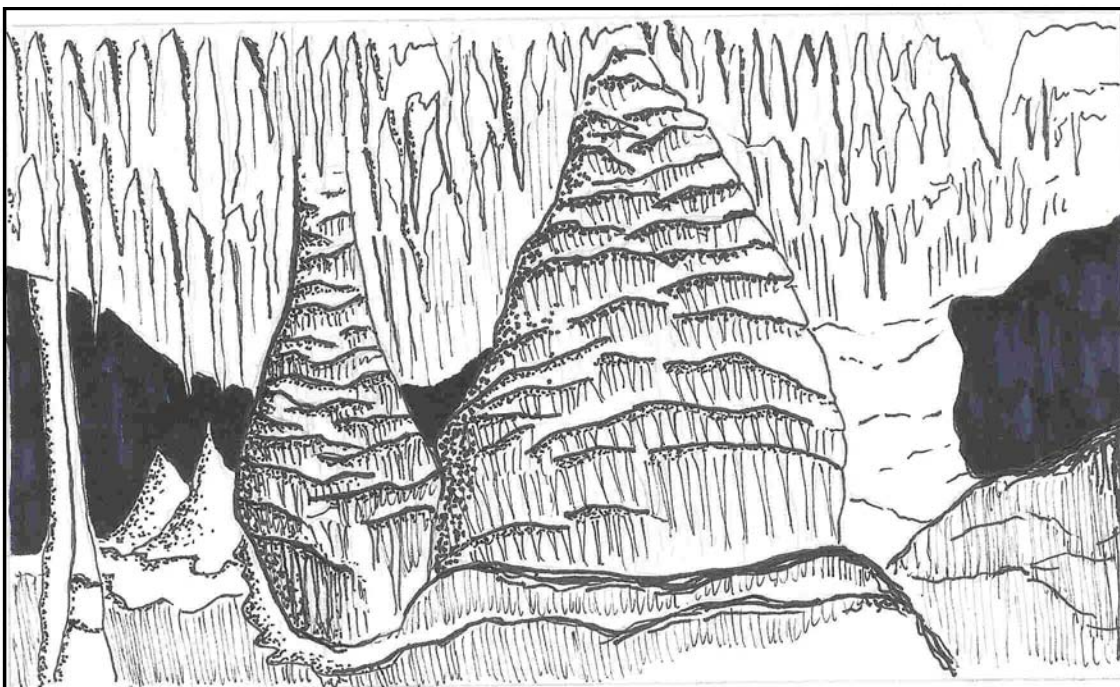
NM, 88888



Southeast

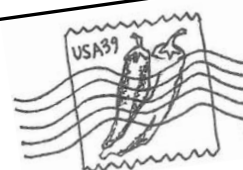


# Carlsbad Caverns National Monument



Carlsbad Caverns has been a national park since 1930. It is world renowned for its huge caves with limestone formations, stalactites and stalagmites. Large colonies of Mexican free-tailed bats live in the caves, which are dark and remain a constant temperature, providing a perfect place for them to roost. At night when they emerge, mosquitoes and bugs beware! They can eat hundreds of

insects in one night, a great help to all farmers who dislike insects eating their crops.



To My great friend,  
a cave-explorer and  
protector  
NM, 88888

Now its your turn! Below are two postcards that you can send to someone like a family member or a friend. Here are some ideas to help you get started: you can write about what you like best about your town, write about a place you want to visit someday in New Mexico, or you can write about something interesting you learned from this booklet.

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**Visit the New Mexico Clean and Beautiful website to learn more:  
[www.nmcleanandbeautiful.org](http://www.nmcleanandbeautiful.org)**

Other web resources: Keep New Mexico Beautiful, Inc. [www.knmb.org](http://www.knmb.org)  
New Mexico Tourism Department [www.newmexico.org](http://www.newmexico.org)  
Keep America Beautiful, Clean Sweep [www.kab.org/](http://www.kab.org/)





Booklet created by Keep New Mexico Beautiful, Inc., funded by the NM Department of Transportation, and project coordinated by New Mexico Clean & Beautiful a program of the NM Tourism Department.  
All illustrations drawn by Sherry Gwyn, Executive Director of Keep New Mexico Beautiful, Inc.



A program of the NM Tourism Department

