

Dylan,

My name is Raymond Nelson Hall, although everyone calls me Ray.

I've recently started spending quite a bit of time in Mesilla. I'm looking for a location to open an art gallery, and during those visits I've heard a surprising amount about the TRC Research Center and the work you and the others are doing with The Mesilla Files.

Now, you're probably wondering what any of that has to do with an art gallery.

Probably not much.

But there's another reason I'm writing.

I have an apartment in Juarez and work with several very talented Mexican artists who live there. Their work would make up most of what I intend to show in the new gallery, although I'm also a painter myself.

Okay, I'm drifting a little.

Over the last few years, I've heard several people in Juarez talk about a strange old story involving some kind of connection between New Mexico and northern Mexico. According to them, whatever the connection is, it may go back thousands of years.

I've always treated it as local folklore.

The story concerns several locations where there is supposedly evidence that **something was built that shouldn't have been there.**

Nobody I've talked to seems to know what it was.

I've heard everything from an ancient religious site to some kind of astronomical marker. One person even suggested the locations formed a target for aliens.

Yep. I'm almost embarrassed that I actually wrote that down.

But nobody really knows, so I suppose the guesses have gotten wilder as the story has been passed along.

Here's the part I thought might interest you.

Several people have described the locations as forming an enormous **X**, with part of it in New Mexico and part extending down into Mexico.

And according to the story, **Mesilla is at the center of the X.**

I probably wouldn't have given it much thought except that an elderly Mexican gentleman I met actually had a map showing what he claimed were the four locations.

I've enclosed a photograph of his map.

The upper portion of the X extends into New Mexico. One point is near **White Sands**. The other is supposedly near the small community of **San Lorenzo**.

The two lower points are in Mexico.

Draw lines between the four locations and they cross remarkably close to Mesilla.

What that means—if anything—I have absolutely no idea.

I'm an artist and hopefully soon a gallery owner. I'm certainly not an archaeologist, historian or investigator. I'm probably the least qualified person imaginable to determine whether any of this means something.

But after hearing about the work you're doing, I thought you might find it interesting.

There is more to the story than what I've included here. Some of the people I've spoken with in Juarez claim there are physical remains at or near the Mexican locations. I've never seen them myself, so I don't want to present that as fact.

Still, I'm curious.

And I thought you might be too.

As I mentioned, I expect to open the gallery somewhere in **Las Cruces or Mesilla within the next few months**. Once I'm settled, perhaps we could get together.

I'd be happy to tell you everything I've heard in Juarez, introduce you to a couple of the people who told me these stories, and show you whatever information I've managed to collect.

Maybe it's nothing.

But if there really is an enormous X stretching across New Mexico and Mexico—

why is Mesilla in the middle of it?

Best regards,

Raymond Nelson Hall

Ray