

THE MESILLA FILES

CASE FILE NO. 2

The Symbols in the Sand

Case Number: MF-002

Classification: Active Investigation

Status: Unresolved

First Reported: 1903 (Father Miguel Serrano)

Current Investigator: Dylan Carrillo

TRC Reference: CF-002

CASE SUMMARY

Across the deserts of southern New Mexico, witnesses have occasionally reported discovering large geometric symbols etched into the sand. Many are found in isolated locations where there are no nearby roads, trails, or signs of human activity.

Some disappear within hours as the wind shifts.

Others reportedly remain visible for days before vanishing without explanation.

No one has ever been conclusively identified as their creator.

WHAT WE KNOW

After reviewing historical journals, photographs, and field notes, investigators have identified several recurring observations:

- The symbols are often found near dry arroyos, mesas, or ancient trails.
- Many range from 10 to more than 100 feet across.
- Most appear overnight.
- Witnesses rarely report seeing anyone creating them.
- Several symbols have been documented more than once, years apart and miles from previous sightings.

Despite modern photography and satellite imagery, verified explanations remain elusive.

HISTORICAL RECORDS

1903

Father Miguel Serrano described discovering "large markings impressed upon the desert floor unlike any trail left by man or animal."

1936

Sheriff Tomas Ortega included sketches of unusual symbols while investigating disappearances west of Mesilla.

1958

Howard H. Hunter photographed several geometric designs near the Organ Mountains. His notes suggest the formations disappeared before a follow-up visit.

1968

Theodore Ray Mercer interviewed ranchers who claimed similar markings had appeared "for as long as anyone could remember."

THEORIES

Researchers have suggested many possibilities:

- Natural wind patterns.
- Forgotten Indigenous trail markers.
- Hoaxes created by modern visitors.
- Survey markers.
- Military testing.
- Messages left by unknown travelers.
- Symbols connected to the Mesilla Veil.

At this time, none of these explanations account for every reported incident.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Witnesses frequently describe:

- Perfectly straight lines.
- Precise circles.
- Repeating spiral patterns.
- Symbols unlike any known alphabet.
- No visible footprints leading into or away from the site.

Several observers also reported an unusual silence surrounding the locations, though this remains anecdotal.

PERSONS OF INTEREST

- Father Miguel Serrano
- Sheriff Tomas Ortega
- Howard H. Hunter
- Theodore Ray Mercer
- Dr. Thadius Malone

Each independently documented reports of desert symbols separated by decades.

CURRENT INVESTIGATION

The TRC Research Center continues to examine whether the symbols may be connected to:

- The Mark on the Wrist.
- The Mesilla Veil.
- Historical travel routes.
- Reports originating from the Old Desert.
- Recurring locations found in archived maps.

Researchers are also comparing symbol designs across more than a century of documented sightings.

DYLAN'S NOTES

"The symbols are one of the reasons I became interested in The Mesilla Files. Some can probably be explained by nature or human activity. Others are far more difficult to dismiss. When you see nearly identical designs appearing in journals written decades apart by people who never met, you have to ask whether we're looking at coincidence... or a mystery that has been quietly repeating itself for generations."

— Dylan Carrillo

CASE STATUS

OPEN

If you've discovered unusual symbols in the desert, photographed unexplained markings, or have family stories connected to similar sightings, the **TRC Research Center** welcomes your information for review.

Collect Everything. Verify What You Can. Question Everything Else.

The records have been preserved. The investigation continues.