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Miss Laura Gilpin
409 Camino del Monte Sol
Santa Fe, NM 87501

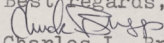
Dear Miss Gilpin:

I hope that you have fared well since I spoke with you last September. As for me, the move to Chicago was hardly scenic, and the weather has been far less than encouraging, but I hope to be back in New Mexico soon.

As you may remember, I contacted you with regard to a manuscript I was preparing on the wood-carvers of Córdoba, New Mexico. At this point the work is in the hands of the prospective publisher..

Last September I discussed with your assistant the possibility of using two of the photographs that you published in The Río Grande in my work. These were the portrait of George López and the photograph of the cemetery and courtyard of the Córdoba church. She indicated that she could not locate the prints at the time, but that she would let me know once she found them. I also discussed with her the fact that your photograph of the cemetery is, to my knowledge, the only one in existence which shows the appearance of the cross that José Dolores López carved for his own grave. (It was destroyed by children after World War II.) Since the cross is an important element in the sequence of development of López's work, it would seem important to obtain the best possible photographic representation of that object. For this reason I mentioned to your assistant the possibility of your blowing up the part of the photograph containing the cross so that it would become more clearly visible. I do not know whether or not she intended to mention this to you. I do realize that the request is somewhat unusual; however, if it would be feasible, it would seem a valuable contribution to the available material on López.

I thought that it might be wise at this time to write you with regard to the stage that I have reached with the manuscript and to let you know that I am still interested in obtaining reproduction prints of the two photographs. I also wanted to bring up the topic of the enlargement. If you should have any news with regard to the search for the prints, I would be most interested in learning of it, at your convenience of course. And I do thank you for your assistance with my research.

Best regards,

Charles L. Briggs