

July 24, 2011

From: Mary Lopez
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Dear Katherine, Martha, Michael, Nic, and Tony –

I'm sure you have all been wondering how the walled city documentary has turned out. I turned in my thesis copy in May and it was accepted. I graduated with a MFA in media studies, film and video. The copy I am sending you is that thesis.

In the pursuit of this degree and thesis work, I have come to a decision to keep revising the work before sending it to public television and releasing it for public viewing. Keep in mind my thesis work is in film and video. As a visual documentarian, I am constantly challenged to be both artist and historian. There is no question that my degree is in fine ARTS; therefore the final image decisions had to be made on that side of the equation. Obviously, I have repurposed a number of images, both ancient and modern to that end. This is one area I might re-examine before releasing it.

What it means is, I would like to continue revisions. I recently completed a revision of my 2010 practicum documentary, HONEST, ABE. The piece is much more polished after I took extra time to improve it. I am now submitting it to film festivals. It screened at an arts conference in Greensboro and it is scheduled to screen at the University Film and Video Conference in Boston and the Southern Appalachian Film Festival in Kingsport, Tennessee. I believe taking the extra time with this piece will be worth the wait also.

Meanwhile, here is my thesis copy of The Walled City of CHARLES TOWN. You have my permission to use it for whatever purpose you need, including your own funding efforts, until I have a final revision.

Many, many thanks to all of you for your time and efforts in this project. I look forward to your comments and I will consider them as I go to the next stage of the project.

- Mary Lopez

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary', written in dark ink.