



New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
Department of Cultural Affairs
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Large Home Near Camino Real May Have Been Destroyed in Pueblo Revolt



Dr. Trigg's graduate students backfilling an excavation that revealed some of the home's adobe walls. A whitewashed floor and fragments of Spanish ceramics were excavated.

A large Spanish Colonial home that may have been a stop on the Camino Real and later destroyed in the 1680 Pueblo Revolt was excavated in July by a University of Massachusetts Boston professor and her graduate students. Dr. Heather Trigg and four historic archaeology students have spent the last month at the site in La Cienega. They unearthed a wealth of artifacts that when combined with information from earlier digs provide evidence that a 16-room house, barn, corral and outbuildings stood on the site.

Trigg is exploring the possibility this was a *paraje* settled by a large extended Spanish family, with servants, possibly related to one of the local *ecomenderos*. She says excavations have revealed peas, corn, either apricot or peaches, and perhaps wheat were grown by the family. Trigg students recovered fish bones among the remains of domestic animals in a midden excavated south of where the house stood, and she speculated the catch came out of Cienega Creek.

Dendrochronology samples taken from wood posts associated with the house indicate the site was occupied by 1629. A clear ash layer across the site and the discovery of discolored and hardened soils and carbon staining suggest the settlement was burned in 1680. The lack of cultural sediments, or a layer of material associated with humans, above the ash line indicates the site never was rebuilt, she said. The team also found fragments of Spanish ceramic ware, bones from horses, cows and sheep, all commodities brought up El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.

La Cienega is south of Santa Fe and was named for the marshy wetland along Cienega Creek. Nearby Rancho de las Golondrinas, established in the early 1700s, was a common stop for people traveling the Royal Road before and after the pueblo uprising. The archaeological site, Laboratory of Anthropology Site 20000, is owned by Rancho de las Golondrinas, which operates as a living history museum.

Cordelia Snow, Richele Lake, Kendall McGowan, and Nicole Ramirez Thomas, of HPD's Archaeological Records Management Section toured the site with Cultural Properties Review Chairman Rick Hendricks. Tom Drake, HPD Public Relations, also visited the site with Thomas during the field-season wrap-up. Several representatives of nearby Rancho de las Golondrinas, including Daniel Goodman, the museum's curator, were part of the tour. Goodman said ongoing research will develop a richer image of 17th century life in the area.

Trigg believes the property is one of six similar settlements in the area, although much larger than the others which likely had three to five-room houses. She is a researcher at the Andrew Fiske Memorial Center for Archaeological Research at the Boston campus, and was awarded a multi-year National Science Foundation research grant to study the site.



Trigg believes the wall to her left is part of a large barn. The dark line around the perimeter is manure, indicating corrals were built adjacent to it. Adobes in the excavation appear to have been scorched in a fire.

Photos: Tom Drake

National Register – Oliver Lee Ranch & Gran Quivera



Gran Quivera with Abo and Quarai form the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument in Torrance County. NPS photo.

Gran Quivera is the largest of the Salinas Pueblo Missions and was designated a national monument in 1909. Logan Simpson Design expanded a 1966 National Register nomination for Gran Quivera's National Park Service managing unit. NPS announced the revised nomination was listed on June 15. LSD, of Tempe, Arizona, clarified contributing structures to the district

and established two periods of significance, 800–1672 and 1875–1859. The first period addresses cultural traditions, architectural ruins, archaeology and religious institutions that shaped the area until it was deserted due to drought, famine and disease. The introduction of livestock in the late 19th and early 20th centuries created a ranching culture, which creates the second period of significance. Estancia Valley still has many working ranches.

In southeastern New Mexico, Oliver Lee was a rancher, politician and gunfighter who was accused of the murders of Albert Fountain and his nine-year-old son in 1896 after Fountain got a grand jury to indict Lee on charges of cattle rustling. The Fountains bodies were never found but authorities discovered their empty buckboard at what now is White Sands Missile Range and bloody tracks that led to Lee's ranch. Lee had powerful connections and a jury acquitted him of the crimes after deliberating only seven minutes.

Lee died in 1941, and his ranch became part of an NPS unit that is today's Oliver Lee Memorial State Park. Disney Studios filmed *Scandalous John* there in 1971 and after that the ranch was left to fall to ruin. In 1983, the New Mexico Parks Division acquired the property and gained NPS permission to rebuild it. The roof had caved in and the walls nearly collapsed. The home—much of it rebuilt with the original adobes—can be toured. Two state park employees, Christy Tafoya and Robert Stokes, wrote the nomination approved by the CPRC in February and listed in the National Register on May 26.



Lee's ranch house was restored in 1984. It is the only standing building on the ranch. HPD Register photo

Hope for Lordsburg High



EL CLUB ESPANOL

The Spanish Club sits on the front steps of Lordsburg High in 1927. HPD Register photo

The New Mexico Architectural Foundation has written a letter to the mayor of Lordsburg and the Lordsburg Municipal School superintendent urging them to find ways to preserve historic Lordsburg High School. The CPRC recommended in June the building—Trost and Trost Architects added classroom wings, an auditorium and redesigned the building in 1927—for listing in the National Register. The decision was publicized by HPD's Tom Drake resulting in an *Albuquerque Journal* story on the building's plight that prompted foundation president Cara

McCulloch to write Mayor Arthur Clark Smith and Superintendent Randy Piper.

The listing grew out of a 10-year grassroots effort in Lordsburg to save the high school, which has been vacant since the late 1970s. Holes in the roof let in rain that has severely damaged plaster walls and hardwood floors on both floors. McCulloch's letter urges the mayor and the superintendent to consider transferring ownership to investors who can use the building for a new purpose. She writes the building is too important to lose and that Lordsburg could build part of its future around the 99-year-old high school building.

HPD Tops 2014 Performance

HPD surpassed previous outreach in State Fiscal Year 2015, making contact with 42,027 people outside the division. The 2014 number was 10,137. Facebook accounted for the majority of the increase although the total for Heritage Preservation Month, SiteWatch, historic markers, archaeology-related events, the Building Creative Communities Conference, newsletters, press releases, Culture Day events with the transportation department totaled 6,000 more than in the previous year. Project reviews completed in 30 days increased from 70% percent in 2013, 86%

percent in 2014, to 90% percent in 2015. There were 32 tax credit projects that infused the state's economy with \$8.6-million, and \$389,000 in grants were issued including for the Preservation Grants, Certified Local Governments and Permian Basin. The ARMS backlog has dropped by nearly 37 percent. All staff submitted information that was compiled into a report by Barbara Zook and issued by SHPO Jeff Pappas to the Department of Cultural Affairs.

HPD Green Lights Bus Rapid Transit in Albuquerque

HPD concurred with the City of Albuquerque's plans to establish a rapid bus transit line down the historic Route 66 corridor of Central Avenue. Architectural reviewer Barbara Zook completed final review of the project in July. Out of preservation concerns, HPD conditioned its approval by negotiating the bus stop's tent-like canopies not be installed at stops in the historic downtown, Huning Highlands Historic District and Old Town. The city will begin construction in 2017 using federal transportation funds and a capital grant. (*Aug. 24 Calendar for more*)



The Dekker Parrish Sabatini firm's conception of a transit stop at the George Pearl Building on Central. Courtesy Abq Ride

Fort Bayard Veterans Hospital

Final documentation of the Fort Bayard Veterans Hospital begins in August. HPD is requiring the highest form of survey and recordation for the state-owned building before it is torn down later this year. Known as a HABS/HAER, the Historic American Building Survey and Historic American Engineering Record documentation will mitigate the loss of the Modernistic-style hospital. HPD's architectural planning manager Pilar Cannizzaro is reviewing the project.

When the 250-room hospital was completed in 1922 it was written up as the nation's largest facility treating U.S. serviceman with tuberculosis. The hospital altered the original fort's parade ground and necessitated construction of numerous cottages for hospital staff, which changed the appearance of the fort and gave it much of the look it has today. The U.S. Army established the fort in 1866 to protect miners and settlers in southwestern New Mexico Territory along the Apache Trail. It was a Buffalo Soldier outpost and an early assignment for newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant John J. Pershing in 1886. Fort Bayard was nearly shuttered in 1899 but was re-established the same year as the U.S. Army's first tuberculosis sanatorium. A National Historic Landmark, the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society holds public events throughout the year including several Heritage Preservation Month tours each May.



Including documentation, 1.5 years has been set aside to demolish the Veterans Hospital. HPD file photo.

Branigan Cultural Center Preservation



Alice Branigan. HPD file photo.

The Branigan Cultural Center is closed for two months to complete rehabilitation of the 1935 Spanish-Pueblo Revival style building in downtown Las Cruces. HPD architectural reviewer Barbara Zook has reviewed plans to stabilize the second floor and repair historic doors. A news brief in the *Las Cruces Sun News* mentioned the project is being completed with the “guidance” of HPD.

Listed in the State and National registers, the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library is a large, one-story stucco building on Main Street, and considered a local landmark. It is one of the few historic buildings retained when a mall was built downtown in the early 1970s. It is historic as a regional example of a library completed in a Southwest architectural style and initiated by a local women’s club.

The project was possible during the Great Depression because of a large bequest left by Alice Branigan to the Las Cruces Women’s Improvements Association. Her death in 1932 circumvented using New Deal funds to build the library, which were used in most towns for similar projects, and permitted the library to open with a complete collection. A large mural by El Paso artist Thomas Lea interpreting the role of the Spanish in bringing printed books to New Mexico is in the foyer.

Scottish Rite Ceremonial Burning

Fifty members of the Santa Fe Scottish Rite Temple gathered for the ceremonial burning of a real estate listing to sell the building earlier this summer. The June event was posted on Facebook and marks a milestone for the Lodge of Perfection and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Orient of New Mexico. The masons are diligent preservationists of the 103-year-old building, but costs were exceeding coffers and the Santa Fe landmark was put up for sale. A strong faction in Santa Fe resisted the decision and a suitable buyer was never found. The qualifying broker from Sotheby’s International Realty, which listed the building, participated in the event.

A dinner followed with desert prepared by a cooking school that uses the building’s commercial-scale kitchen. HPD this year provided a grant to complete a HABS/HAER documentation of the building, which has been home to the Cultural Properties Review Committee’s annual Heritage Preservation Awards ceremony at least ten of the last 12 years. The masons are actively promoting the building as an events venue. This spring, Tina Fey’s new movie based on the book *The Taliban Shuffle* was filmed on location at the center.



Masons Josh Lightle and Wesley Thornton with Greg Antonsen of Sotheby’s. Photo: Facebook.

SHPOs Convene in Salt Lake City

SHPO Jeff Pappas assumed his position on the board of the National Council of State Historic Preservation Officers meeting that was held in Salt Lake City last month. He reports members had a lively discussion with U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop, of Utah, about reauthorizing the Historic Preservation Fund, which is renewed every three years. A bill including the appropriation is in a House committee and scheduled for a vote later this fall. Board members also heard a report from the National Park Service and took a tour of the historic pubs of Salt Lake City.

The board of directors is elected by SHPOs from every state and U.S. territory. Twelve states are represented on the board and an additional five are on the executive committee. NCSHPO is a 501(c)(3) that facilitates communication between the nation's historic preservation offices and represents SHPOs with federal agencies and national preservation organizations.

Meet the Interns

There is lively camaraderie edged with friendly competitiveness between HPD's two new interns, Mahmoud Amer Ahmed Mohammed and Ben Craske. Both are working on master's degrees in different areas of preservation and both have an affinity for watching and playing "soccer," which Ben insists is properly referred to as football; Amer plays soccer. Ben's screen saver is an emblem featuring a canary, the mascot of the Norwich City Football Club chosen for the birds' role in coal mining. Amer has a sign near his computer that reads "Egypt" in Arabic, hieroglyphics and English.

Ben is from Norwich, England, a medium-sized city about two-and-one-half hours northeast of London on the coast. A student at New Mexico State University, he is helping develop parameters and goals for a roundtable discussion—historians, preservation law experts, Congressional staff, public officials, and representatives of DCA, CPRC and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will participate—schedule for this fall in Santa Fe. The topic is the lack of Hispanic representation in the State and National registers and how that history could be better documented.



l-r: Amer, Ben and Amer, Ben. Photos: Tom Drake.

Ben has gone through all 2,016 HPD register nominations. Only 208 relate to Hispanic heritage, he says, and several of those are recent nominations about the Camino Real and Santa Fe Trail. New Register nominations and updating existing ones are possible outcomes of the roundtable discussion, "Building a More Inclusive Preservation Program: American Latino Heritage," in October. The earliest Register nominations are more than 45-years old and Ben

believes some no longer meet current academic standards. The work builds on his concern that minority cultures and narratives are underrepresented. Ben is working on his M.A. in Public History and will return to NMSU when his HPD internship ends on August 14.

Amer returned to New Mexico specifically to study petroglyphs after an initial visit last year. Drawn by the state's unique topography and well-preserved archaeology sites, they are the qualities that which made New Mexico his choice over California, Washington and New York, three other states he visited as part of the 2014 U.S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program. Anna Naruta Moya, of HPD-ARMS, and her husband, Daniel Moya, worked with the State Department to facilitate his internship with the division.

Amer is from the Abydos area in the province of Sohag in central Egypt. He is working towards a second M.A. in Cultural Heritage Management at the Université Francaise d'Égypte, where he returns in mid-September under a UNESCO funded scholarship.

Amer began his three-month, HPD internship in June by spending a week at Mesa Prieta's Wells Petroglyph Site. An archaeologist, he studies New Mexico's petroglyphs as an early form of written language, much as he approached hieroglyphics in Egypt. Amer has completed site steward training in HPD's SiteWatch program and joined the Saudi Royal family on the HPD-led tour of Taos Pueblo.

Amer is an antiquities inspector for the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities and Heritage, a position where he works to raise awareness of the importance of preserving Egyptian antiquities and its culture. His HPD work is increasing his exposure to U.S. preservation practices and enabling him to better compare them—perhaps incorporating some—to those used in Egypt.

The interns activities are numerous and coordinated by HPD's Susie Hart. In the first week of August they will participate in Santo Domingo Pueblo Feast Day, tour the New Mexico History Museum and the Museum of International Folk Art, attend CPRC subcommittee sessions, and visit the Office of Archaeological Studies. They visited the Agua Fria School House Site with Michelle Ensey and Steve Moffson, and Amer went to Pecos National Historical Park with SHPO Jeff Pappas.

Coming Up

- **August 7**—The Cultural Properties Review Committee holds its regular, bi-monthly meeting at 1 P.M. in Room 321 of the Roundhouse.
- **August 24**—Albuquerque Bus Rapid Transit is the focus of an HPD panel discussion at the Annual Transportation Board Conference. SHPO Jeff Pappas, Deputy SHPO Jan Biella, Register coordinator Steven Moffson, architectural reviewer Barbara Zook and archaeologist Bob Estes discuss cultural landscapes within an urban setting at 1 P.M.
- **September 7**—Hana Crawford is HPD's fall intern and will begin working here the first Monday of September. Hana is from Albuquerque and part of a joint internship in oral history with the Historic Santa Fe Foundation. She graduated from Columbia University with an M.A. in oral history where she cofounded the Oral History Collective and completed projects for the Brooklyn Historical Society, Columbia Center for Jazz Studies, the Apollo Theater and the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation.

She will live at El Zaguán, the property of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation which is partnering with HPD on the internship.

- **October 14.**—The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation hosts a roundtable discussion to engage the Hispanic community in a conversation about historic preservation. The focus is to identify how the federal government can build a more inclusive national preservation program (see “Interns” story). HPD, the CPRC, former SHPO Katherine Slick and New Mexico ACHP advisor Teresa Leger are participating. Time to be announced.
- **November 4-6**—The second Building Creative Communities Conference will be held at La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe. HPD and New Mexico MainStreet are among the conference planners. Conference details online and on Facebook.
- **November 13** —“Fire and Archaeology in the Southwest:” is the title of this year’s New Mexico Archaeological Council fall 2015 conference. The conference opens at 7:30 p.m. Friday, at the University of Mexico’s Hibben Center in Albuquerque, and runs from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., **Saturday**. Contact the Maxwell Museum for more information. The registration form is on the HPD web site.