



New Mexico Historic Preservation Division

Department of Cultural Affairs

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Monthly Report – October 2015

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Sustainability at Santo Domingo



The completed exterior of the 1922 trading post. L-r:



The nearly completed interior. Harwood floors similar to the original ones are beneath a protective covering.



The “warehouse,” as seen from the second floor of the trading post, was the 1880 trading post. Its façade was preserved with an HPD grant.

Santo Domingo Trading Post is about ready to re-open. HPD Preservation Planning Manager Pilar Cannizzaro and Tom Drake, HPD Public Relations, were part of a walk through to mark the close of Phase II construction which neared completion at the end of summer. The restoration is seen as a catalyst for the economic rejuvenation of the pueblo and its arts economy. The iconic two-story building will again be the pueblo’s headquarters for selling jewelry and crafts, plus house a coffee shop and be a venue for community events. Cannizzaro told James Horn, of Spears Horn Architects and Mona Angel, the pueblo’s planner, the restoration meets preservation guidelines and the goals of the economic development grants that helped fund it. A grand opening is planned for late October.

Once the trading post re-opens, the pueblo wants to raise funds to restore the “warehouse” next door, and is developing plans to convert it to a multi-use building and grocery store.

Patrick Bailon, construction foreman on the trading post project and a lifelong Santo Domingo resident, was excited for the pueblo’s future. He said the warehouse building, known for the “Most Interesting Spot ... Real Indians” sign painted on its façade, fits into plans to diversify the pueblo’s economy. Currently the pueblo farms 100 acres of land. Bailon said locally grown crops—chile, watermelon, native melons, corn, squash, lettuce, cabbage, legumes and pumpkins—could be retailed out of the new store.



A former school house and other buildings at the townsite. The artists' homes would be built to the left of them. Santo Domingo photos: Tom Drake

In conjunction, Bailon said, the pueblo is developing an art training program and will build 45 artist-in-residence homes and studios through a Housing and Urban Development grant. The homes will be on the other side of the railroad tracks and a stretch of old Route 66 that run in front of the trading post.

In 1880, a small railroad town variously known as Thornton, Wallace,

and Domingo existed there and the foundation of a roundhouse that serviced locomotives traveling the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe from Chicago to Los Angeles is still in evidence. HPD archaeologist Andy Wakefield and Deputy SHPO Jan Biella have negotiated an agreement with the pueblo to document the site through excavation, historical research and oral history. The townsite is registered with the Laboratory of Anthropology as an historic archaeological site. The town's history hopefully will be drawn into sharper focus as part of the agreement and information about the site made available to the public.

Santo Domingo Trading Post was established in 1880 in the warehouse building. The two-story trading post built by the renowned Seligman trading family is from 1922. By 1926 the road in front of the buildings was designated as part of the first alignment of Route 66 through New Mexico. The trading post stayed in business until 1995 when Fred Thompson, who had owned it since 1946, passed away.

The trading post was known for its fine jewelry and crafts, featured in *Look and Life* magazines and visited by President John F. Kennedy. Listed in the State and National registers in the late 1990s, a fire in 2001 destroyed all the interiors and the Pueblo lost a meeting and trading place that had been a part of its culture for 115 years.

More than \$1 million has been invested into bringing the trading post back to life. The National Park Service, U.S. Economic Development Administration, HPD and Cornerstones Community Partnership have provided several grants to make it possible. Today Amtrak's Southwest Chief still passes by and the RailRunner commuter train makes a stop there.

Six New Mexico historic sites make the National Register in a month

Three relate to transportation, one to education, another to religion and all but one to architecture. Although it is rare for New Mexico to have six historic sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places in one month, it's not all that unusual for one state to receive the lion's share of Register listings the National Park Service announces each month, according to Steven Moffson, HPD's State and National register coordinator. What is unusual, he said is the amount of work by the nominators the CPRC and staff the nominations represent and the diversity of the New Mexico history they seek to preserve.

All the nominations were listed in the State Register of Cultural Properties earlier this year.

K'uuyemugeh was a large, complex pueblo settlement from ca. 850–1150 A.D. and the site of one of the region's earliest great kivas measuring 52-feet in diameter. It is one of 10

excavated kivas used by the pre-Columbian community along the Rio Grande near Pojoaque about 15 miles north of Santa Fe. Archaeology at the site revealed “unusual ceremonial animal burials,” further indicating the site’s importance as a religious center, according to Tamara J. Steward, of TAMARCH CRM, who wrote the nomination.

The **Gutiérrez-Hubbell House** was an important stop on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and is significant architecturally as one of the first homes in New Mexico built with a center hall. Today the former home, mercantile, trading post, post office and travel stop established by successful trader James Lawrence Hubbell and prosperous New Mexican Juliana Gutiérrez y Chávez is a history and cultural center owned by Bernalillo County.

The house and related businesses were built around a *placita*, or courtyard, between 1855 and 1859. It became the commercial center of Pajarito. The property’s 285 acres were grazed by 100,000 sheep and the land supported prized vineyards and orchards planted by the family. Fifteen acres remain and largely are leased by the county to organizations that grow community gardens and maintain the surviving fruit trees. Moffson wrote the nomination.

The **Grants-Milan Flight Station** improved safety for transcontinental air travel when it was established in 1953. For 20 years it radioed weather data and other information during the Los Angeles-Amarillo leg of their flights. The building is being restored as part of the Western New Mexico Aviation Heritage Museum by the Cibola County Historical Society. Built of prefabricated panels for quick assembly and re-assembly at multiple locations, it is one of the last remaining modular buildings of its sort.

The **Los Alamos Post Office** was part of a multi-million-dollar civic complex funded by the Atomic Energy Commission to replace wartime housing used by people employed by the Manhattan Project. Most of the buildings were commercially developed and have since lost the Territorial Revival and Modernist architectural elements that distinguish the post



The Gutierrez-Hubbell house’s center hall. Popular in most of the U.S. for over a century, center-hall construction was rare in New Mexico before the Civil War. The decision to build one underscored the family’s affluence and status. Photo: Steven Moffson



The flight services station at Grants. Photo: Steven Moffson



Los Alamos Post Office. Photo: Harvey Kaplan

office. Built in 1946, it was designed by W.C. Kruger, the architect of the capital building in Santa Fe. The post office is notable for its massing and seven large windows distinguished by their thunderbird grilles.

St. John's College in Santa Fe is the first New Mexico college campus to be designated in its entirety as an historic district. Marking its 50th anniversary, it is the sister campus to the Annapolis, Maryland school established in 1784. The Santa Fe campus is historic for its association with architect John Gaw Meem, Modernist landscaping by Garret Eckbo and interior design and art by Alexander Girard. The school's library director, Jennifer Sprague, wrote the nomination with assistance from Moffson.

The **Delgado Street Bridge** is the oldest motor vehicle bridge in Santa Fe. Built in 1928, it replaced a bridge swept away when the Santa Fe River flooded in 1904. The length of time it took to fund a new bridge was emblematic of New Mexico's financial struggles in the early years of statehood. The bridge also signaled the expansion of the city to the south and its commitment to modernizing infrastructure. The bridge connects Canyon Road to Alameda Street and is still one of a handful of bridges crossing the river. An excellent example of 1920s urban bridge design, its distinctive paneled railings create a gateway effect by wrapping away from the entrances. The nomination was written by John Murphey, of FirstLight Consulting.

HPD and the Media

New Mexico's six National Register nominations announced in August made national news. The recommendation by the CPRC to include the historic and abandoned Lordsburg High School building in the National Register also received considerable media play as did several Official Scenic Historic Markers recently approved by the committee. The media coverage not only boosts the public profiles of HPD and the CPRC but builds enthusiasm with the public and professionals preserving historic sites. Flora Sanchez, chairwoman of the Hubbell House Alliance Board of Directors, recently thanked Register coordinator Steven Moffson for writing the National Register nomination of the Guitierrez-Hubbel House. The resulting publicity, she said, dramatically increased visitorship at the history and cultural center. Bernalillo County leases farmland associated with the house and crops raised there are sold at farmer's markets in Albuquerque. A Hubbell House vendor at the Albuquerque Railyard Market recently told Tom Drake, who writes HPD's Register press releases, that everyone associated with the property is proud of and excited about the recent historic designation.



The Railyards Market attracts hundreds of people to a Sunday arts and foods market held each weekend in the Blacksmith shop, part of the AT&SF Railway Locomotive Shops historic district listed in the National Register in 2014. photo: Tom Drake

Petroglyph National Monument



Preserving the monument and adjacent historic district has been challenged by growth and road construction on Albuquerque's west side. Photo: NPS

A large Del Webb subdivision planned for an area adjacent to Petroglyph National Monument prompted a meeting of monument staff and HPD. Deputy SHPO Jan Biella and archaeologist Michelle Ensey encouraged the monument to complete a visitor use plan it started in 2012 but never completed. They said because the monument's unplanned trails forged by visitor traffic already are well used that the development could impact cultural resources at the monument. Completing the report would help the monument decide which trails should be kept open. Biella and Ensey also suggested using trail monitors to record the number of visitors.

Del Webb plans to build 550 homes in its Mirehaven subdivision and provide an open gate for residents to access one of the largest petroglyph sites in the U.S. An estimated 24,000 images etched into rocks long a 17-mile stretch of Albuquerque's west mesa form the monument. The monument is administered by the National Park Service and City of Albuquerque, although the city owns two-thirds of the site and does not patrol it. The monument's superintendent, Dennis Vasquez and archeologist Ron Fields met with HPD to discuss the subdivision and trail maintenance.

Uranium Mining Update at Mt. Taylor



Mt. Taylor as seen from Acoma Pueblo. Photo: Tom Drake

Cibola National Forest has been asked to take a broader look at the way it evaluates historic properties that may be affected by uranium mining on Mount Taylor. HPD met with Cibola staff several times this summer and recommended additional criteria for evaluating properties that may be affected by uranium mining. Several pueblos and tribes have advised the forest to include more sites related to rock art and migration patterns of Native Americans who have ascribed significance to Mount Taylor for

thousands of years. The forest is consulting with HPD, tribes and other parties under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act for Energy Fuels Inc.'s Roca Honda Project, one of the largest uranium mining proposals in the U.S. The resulting draft report is being reviewed by HPD, pueblos and tribes and must be finalized before mining — some of it within the boundaries of the Mount Taylor traditional cultural property — begins.

HPD archaeologist Michelle Ensey and Deputy SHPO Jan Biella met with Cibola National Forest archaeologist Jeremy Kulischek and other forest representatives. They also met with Gaylord Siow, Laguna Pueblo's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer; Susan Jordan, the pueblo's

attorney; and Adam Ringia, the pueblo's director of natural resources. Laguna Pueblo completed an ethnographic study in relation to the mining project, which has informed the Cibola and HPD about the types of sites eligible for historic consideration. SHPO Jeff Pappas and Register coordinator Steven Moffson participated in some of the meetings.

New Mexico Outdoor Expo

Hundreds of people stopped by to learn how to make and use primitive weapons as demonstrated by HPD archaeologists Bob Estes and Andrew Zink at New Mexico Outdoor Expo. They were part of a crew in the Ancient Hunters exposition of the two-day event that highlighted prehistoric practices such as hunting with an atlatl, basket making, flint knapping and making primitive bows and arrows. Estes and Zink helped numerous participants of all ages use bows and arrows and master the art of shooting spears with an atlatl, a device similar to a slingshot used to propel spears. Deer, bears, cougars and javelina—all built of foam—were the targets and are among the animals hunted in the area using the devices before firearms replaced them. HPD was among many organizations represented at the event sponsored by New Mexico Game and Fish. The Office of Archaeological Studies, El Morro and Petroglyphs National monuments, and the National Park Service also participated.



HPD SiteWatch Utilizes Partnerships



Copper arrow tips at Coronado Historic Site. photo: NM Historic Sites

Twenty-one new site stewards were trained through a partnership between HPD and Coronado Historic Site with historic site staff assisting in a summer training. Among the trainees was HPD intern Mahmoud Amer Ahmed Mohammed, who worked at HPD for three months as part of his studies in Cultural Heritage Management through the Université Francasie d'Egypte. He'll be able to use aspects of the training in his thesis, which involves outreach to university students.

In other SiteWatch news, program coordinator Norm Nelson is updating the handbook and PowerPoint that trainees use when they enter the program. Florida has initiated SiteWatch and the New Mexico and Arizona programs are providing assistance for Florida's first training. The Archaeological Society of New Mexico and SiteWatch are working together to better utilize courses offered by ASNM. They are looking for instructors and classrooms in different parts of New Mexico.

SHPO in Action



SHPO and HPD Director Jeff Pappas gives a Ted-style talk on preserving earthen architecture at on the of the “CreativeMornings” events at the Palace of the Governors. Photo: Harvey Kaplan

In October, SHPO Jeff Pappas began sporting two hats on a daily basis when he became interim director of New Mexico Historic Sites. He is replacing Richard Sims, who is stepping down after three years at the helm to join his wife in Montana. Pappas has met with DCA Secretary Veronica Gonzales, who named him to the interim post, and Sims to discuss transitions. He also attended a Museum of New Mexico Board of Regents meeting where a hiring committee including Pappas was named to find Sims’ permanent replacement. The committee expects to select a successor within six months.

Legislation 2016

In his capacity as SHPO, Pappas has been working closely with Secretary Gonzales’s office and HPD tax credit coordinator Harvey Kaplan on major changes to the state preservation tax credit. For the first time the credit would be entirely refundable. In addition, legislation for the 2016 session would establish a new state preservation tax credit limit of \$285,000. The largest credit available now is \$50,000. The maximum credit would apply only to projects of more than \$1 million on income producing historic buildings located in one of the state’s so-called enhancement districts. These include designated Frontier Communities, Arts and Cultural Districts, and MainStreet districts. The new credits work on a sliding scale based on the amount of the project and constitute the first wholesale changes to the program since its inception in 1984. Owner occupied residential properties located outside enhancement districts will remain eligible for the current \$25,000 maximum credit but available for the first time as a refund.

Currently, the credit is taken over five years against annual state income taxes, which often are less than the awarded credit. Any remaining allotment is retained by the state. Proposed changes would see owners of historic properties getting a check to cover the balance of awarded credits that remains after tax obligations are met. Pappas and Kaplan are working with Wade Jackson, an attorney with state Economic Development, and MainStreet Director Rich Williams on the revisions.

More activities:

- Pappas is working with the state Public Schools Facility Authority to draft a streamline consultation process that will be used when addressing the future of historic schools. Communities statewide are faced with costly and emotional decisions about the fate of older school buildings which often are seen as community anchors, but challenging to maintain to current code and educational standards.

- Publishing the first international journal on public history was discussed at this summer's National Council of Public History meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky, earlier this month. Pappas is a board member and participated in discussions that would see the Council working with the International Federation for Public History to publish the journal in multiple languages. Articles would address ways applied history is used to encourage historic preservation, museum studies, documentaries and historical analysis. The Council is responding to an increased need to publish articles by international public history partners.
- Pappas is part of a team of 18 professionals serving on California State Parks' Natural and Cultural Resources Committee. The panel is re-examining methods for managing natural and cultural resources. The committee met in Sacramento earlier this summer.

Coming Up

- **October 15.**—The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation hosts a roundtable discussion about historic preservation with the Hispanic community. Building a federal preservation program more inclusive of minority communities is the focus. SHPO Jeff Pappas, the CPRC, former SHPO Katherine Slick and New Mexico ACHP advisor Teresa Leger are participating. The listening session is at begins at 8:30 A.M. at Meem Hall in the Laboratory of Anthropology on Museum Hill in Santa Fe.
- **October 16**—The Cultural Properties Review Committee holds its regular, bi-monthly meeting at 1 P.M. in the Old Senate Chambers in the Bataan Memorial Building.
- **October 17**—HPD surveys the public at the Office of Archaeological Studies' "International Archaeology Day" about the future of historic preservation in New Mexico. Look for the survey on the HPD website in the coming weeks. We'll also hand out posters. Stop by at the Center for New Mexico Archaeology, 10 A.M.–4 P.M.
- **November 4-6**—The Building Creative Communities Conference will be held at La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe. HPD, New Mexico MainStreet and New Mexico Arts are among the conference planners. Details online and at Facebook. The preservation focus is on cultural landscapes and the arts in New Mexico, historic roads and historic landscapes.
- **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.