

## Mission Statement

SiteWatch is a statewide volunteer program coordinated by the State Historic Preservation Division and funded by public and private partnerships. It is founded upon the belief that the preservation of New Mexico's cultural heritage is essential to our state and nation's knowledge and quality of life. SiteWatch seeks to conserve and protect cultural properties by coordinating the efforts of New Mexico's citizens and landowners as they serve as stewards and educational docents of their own cultural resources. By reducing the degradation of cultural treasures due to vandalism, theft, and natural processes through monitoring and education, SiteWatch ensures that irreplaceable heritage resources can be appreciated by current and future generations of New Mexicans.

## Statement Of Purpose

Prevention of cultural resource destruction due to acts of nature, theft, or vandalism

Utilization of the knowledge, skills, and abilities of New Mexico's citizens

Raising public awareness of the value of historic preservation through education and outreach

Promoting cooperation between communities, agencies, and individuals throughout the state

Organizing citizens into a group that makes a measurable difference in their own quality of life

Stewardship of an irreplaceable resource in perpetuity

Enhancing our knowledge of New Mexico's unique history

## **Historic Preservation Division Department of Cultural Affairs**

*New Mexico*

### **SiteWatch**

*Protecting the Enchantment*

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### **New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs**

Secretary of Cultural Affairs: Veronica  
Gonzales

Deputy Secretary: Michael Delello

### **Historic Preservation Division**

State Historic Preservation Officer

Dr. Jeff Pappas

New Mexico SiteWatch Coordinator:

Jessica Badner

### **Questions about DCA/HPD activities and programs may be directed to the NM SiteWatch Coordinator:**

Dept. of Cultural Affairs

Historic Preservation Division

Bataan Memorial Building

407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236

Santa Fe, NM 87501

(505) 827-6320

[dca-hpdsitewatch@state.nm.us](mailto:dca-hpdsitewatch@state.nm.us)

Applications are located at: <http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org> and

[http://bit.ly/SiteWatch\\_appl](http://bit.ly/SiteWatch_appl)



*New Mexico*

## **SiteWatch**

*Protecting the Enchantment*



Photo: <http://www.nmhistoricpreservation.org>

SiteWatch is a statewide volunteer program coordinated by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division in cooperation with federal, state, and local government, land & resource agencies, and private land owners.

## Protecting the Land of Enchantment

New Mexico's citizens know that our state is special. Our people, land, and history come together to create a unique place that we are proud to call home and which others are excited to visit. We also know that a large part of New Mexico's character is entwined with its old places and things - its cultural resources. Due to a combination of dry climate, low population density, and unique history, New Mexico is blessed with thousands of cultural resources that remain in extraordinary condition: from one-of-a-kind archaeological sites to unique historic buildings, and extensive National Historic Trails. Unfortunately, New Mexico is not immune to the pressures of development, increased access, and fluctuating economies. Indeed, there has been real tension between our State's vision for the future and conservation of its past. Compounding that tension is the significant growth that has been seen in the illegal market for prehistoric antiquities. The result has been willful destruction of our State's special heritage.

### **Our goals:**

**FIND IT, RECORD IT, AND REPORT IT.** Our duty is to monitor and report natural and human-made impacts on cultural resources to those authorities trained to deal with such eventualities. SiteWatch volunteers are the vital leading edge of a much larger process that includes land managers, archaeologists, investigators, district attorneys, judges, and more.

## Selection

### **Signing-Up: The Basics**

New Mexico SiteWatch is open to people who have an interest in the preservation of archaeological sites, historic buildings, and other cultural resources and are willing to abide by the Stewards' Code of Conduct.

To become a NM SiteWatch Site Steward, an individual must submit an application and agreement (subject to background check), and complete the *Introduction and Orientation to Site Stewardship* class.

The State SiteWatch Coordinator recommends new stewards with the advice and input of chapter coordinators and agency managers.

Acceptance and continuation in the program rest upon an individual's willingness to fulfill each element of the Site Steward's Code of Conduct.

No person, referred from a court-approved program, who has been convicted of a violent crime, crime against a person, cultural resource crime, crime involving the use of a weapon, or any felony will be utilized as a volunteer in any aspect of the program.

### **SiteWatch Application and Agreement:**

applications are located at: [http://bit.ly/SiteWatch\\_appl](http://bit.ly/SiteWatch_appl). Send as an attachment to: [dca-hpdsitewatch@state.nm.us](mailto:dca-hpdsitewatch@state.nm.us) or by U.S. Mail.

## Training

### **Mandatory Training: *Introduction to Site Stewardship***

Successful completion of this class is required for SiteWatch participation. Basic training consists of four hours of classroom instruction, followed by two to three hours of field orientation. The primary goals of this basic training are to provide an introduction to:

- 1) the skills and awareness necessary to be a successful site steward
- 2) the history of the region where the Site Steward will be volunteering

Upon successful completion of this class, new site stewards will receive a certificate, issued by the Historic Preservation Division (HPD), as official evidence that this prerequisite has been met.

Each class features presentations given by the State SiteWatch Coordinator and may incorporate presentations by land manager representatives, law enforcement, and professional archaeologists with diverse specialties. Even the most experienced site stewards benefit from the "Introduction to Site Stewardship". The class is current, informative, and we can learn from your experiences.