

HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION SPRING/SUMMER 2019 Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

The History and Process: HSFF's Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation
by Pete Warzel

The Pino Ranch House: Nominating a Historic Property
by Mara Saxer

Reprinting Old Santa Fe Today
by Melanie McWhorter



The Santa Fe Scottish Rite Temple, photo by Mara Saxer



HSFF MISSION

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area, and to educate the public about Santa Fe's history and the importance of preservation.

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Spanish Colonial Museum, aka The Laboratory of Anthropology, photo by Melanie McWhorter

A LETTER FROM HSFF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to Spring 2019, a very green one this year in Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico. Our events are in full swing having just presented the Heritage Preservation Awards and some extraordinary Salon El Zaguán talks and exhibitions in the past several months. The schedule will continue throughout 2019 so please make certain you are receiving our weekly email announcements and the monthly eZine.

This newsletter is one of singular purpose – to focus on the importance of our Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation. This was the first program established by HSFF at its founding some fifty-seven years ago, and one thing leads to another....

You will read about the new addition to the Register of the Pino Ranch House, an important and unusual building located at El Rancho de las Golondrinas. The count of properties now on the Register is at an even 100. The Pino House was added as part of a new program experiment that in the autumn of 2019 will become a formal and ongoing fellowship for grad students of the University of New Mexico, who will be hired on a per property basis to research and write a nomination to add properties to the Register. This allows real world working experience for the students and presents quality nominations for our Register.

You will also read about the origins of the Register and how it has always been tied to the four editions of the classic book *Old Santa Fe Today*. Finally, an article will present our project of revising and reprinting that book, adding in the properties listed since 1991. This is a 2019/2020 project that calls for considerable resources in staff and volunteer time, as well as capital for up-to-date photography, advertising and collaboration with the publisher.

We can use your financial help with these costs and hope you will consider a donation to get what will prove to be a valuable resource for the architectural and cultural history of Santa Fe and surrounding areas, back into print.

The Board of Directors and staff of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation thank you for all your support and hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

Sincerely,

Pete Warzel

The History and Process: HSFF's Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation

Pete Warzel

Elsewhere in this edition of our newsletter you will read about the nomination of the Pino Ranch House to our Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation, as well as an article exploring the project we have undertaken of revising our classic publication *Old Santa Fe Today*. Each of these endeavors has enhanced our normal course of business. The Pino Ranch House nomination to our Register was completed by a graduate student in the Historic Preservation Certificate Program at UNM. This was a paid fellowship, and a test for an ongoing program of collaboration with UNM and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division where selected grad students research properties for nomination. The re-do of *OSFT* will not only update the last edition of the book published in 1991, but will add all the existing properties on our Register, taking the researched information and new photographs from a count of 51 in that 4th edition to a total of 100 in the new version.

That is a very significant slice of Santa Fe architectural and cultural history.

So what is this Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation? It is not the state or national Register, although requirements for consideration are very similar to each of those official lists of important properties. It is the first project started by the Historic Santa Fe Foundation upon founding in 1961. From the board minutes of the first meeting of the board of directors, September 12, 1961: "The Board received a report from JOHN GAW MEEM as to the desirability of undertaking the design and production of plaques to be placed on landmarks determined by the Foundation." In a letter following the meeting Alan Vedder, Chairman of the Foundation, to John Meem, who was on the board of the Old Santa Fe Association at the time, advising him of the project: "It was agreed that perhaps the first and best project of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation to undertake would be the designing and erection of plaques on buildings and at sights (sic) important to Santa Fe."

That initial idea of a plaque became the iconic Register plaques that states, 'The Historic Santa Fe Foundation Finds This Building Worthy of Preservation.' The design of the physical plaque was engaged in conjunction with the first lists of target buildings and properties and on December 12, 1961. Alan Vedder sent a solicitation letter to prospective

members of the Foundation, asking to give membership dues to begin the work. Dues were set at \$2.00.

The first incarnation of *OSFT* was a small publication termed the *First Historical Marker Pamphlet*, listing 25 buildings and cultural landscapes, starting with the City of Santa Fe, and then many of the buildings we know so well as our plaqued, Register properties. Following publication, at the Board of Directors meeting on January 8, 1962, "...a motion was made, seconded, and carried that a special meeting of the Board of Directors be set in the near future at which time the Historic Markers Committee would present at least two designs for consideration, and a list of at least ten buildings to be marked." The designs were for the plaques, and the list became the Register.

The initial list of properties for the HSFF Register to be "marked" consisted of iconic buildings in the city, some of which have changed over time, one being destroyed by fire and then carefully rebuilt: The Felipe B. Delgado House, Donaciano Vigil House, Gregorio Crespín House, St. Michael's Dormitory, Juan José Prada House, El Zaguán, Juan Rodríguez House, Francesca Hinojos House, Padre Gallegos House, Arias de Quiros Site. The instructions sent to the Builders Specialty Company to manufacture the plaques stated in its first directive that the "Helmet design is to be eliminated."

Builders Specialty Service is the same source for our plaques today. They coordinate with the manufacturer/foundry, A.R.K. Ramos. This may also be the original fabricator through acquisition (A. C. Beeman Company) as both are or were located in Oklahoma City. The notation on the helmet design refers to one sketch for the proposed plaques that would have had a conquistador helmet in relief on the bronze. The Board had voted unanimously at the May 2, 1962 Directors Meeting to include the design. We find no further discussion in the minutes or letters to shed light on the very wise decision to remove it. What was finally cast and added to the initial eleven locations is the same plaque we use today, sans helmet, and will add to the Pino Ranch House in the very near future.

The Register program became more and less important over the years in an ebb and flow of the Foundation's focus. By 1966, when the first edition of *Old Santa Fe Today* was pub-



Randall Davey House interior, Melanie McWhorter



The Arthur Boyle House, photo by Cornelia and Scott Tobey



San Miguel Chapel, photo by Melanie McWhorter

lished by the then School of American Research, the number of properties included was thirty-three, but only sixteen of those were sporting a plaque on the Register. Today we have an even 100.

This historic Register is integral to the history and mission of HSFF. By definition, it is also key to the history of the city and surrounding areas as it designates the cultural and architectural landmarks that have been, and certainly continue to be, important to the identity of this city. The last buildings, properties, and landscapes, added over the past several years highlight the diversity of style and use inherent in any city's history, but so specifically Santa Fe:

- La Fonda on the Plaza
- San José Hall/Sala de Galisteo
- The Church of the Holy Faith
- St. John's College Campus
- Acequia de la Muralla
- Pino Ranch House

Our additions increase as we institute the fellowship program for research and nomination of properties to the Register, hopefully at a pace of three to four annually.

Those additions will be focused on the diversity of our city and surrounding area – culturally, architecturally, and geographically. The historic districts of the city do not have a monopoly on importance, even though the density of recognized properties is greatest. In fact, one of the most densely plaqued areas of the city is the Barrio de Analco, a National Historic District in its own right, but one perhaps overlooked by local Santa Feans. San Miguel Chapel anchors the Barrio and is one of ten Register properties in a two block stretch of East De Vargas Street. San Miguel Chapel and HSFF are collaborating on events that will highlight the importance of this very old area of the city.

And that is the focus for the future of the Register – to research and recognize important properties to the history of

the area and then utilize this recognition for further education through events, tours, articles, or lectures. In reaching outside of the historic districts, we will help illuminate a larger history than visitors to the city might normally encounter. That, we think, is a very worthy endeavor, and one that takes the original purpose of this great Foundation to another level of participation and relevance in the community. In an introductory section to *OSFT*, 4th edition, titled 'Plaquing Santa Fe Historic Property', it states that "The plaquing of buildings that have been found to be of historic importance is central to the Foundation's mission of increasing public awareness of Santa Fe's heritage." We believe that in 2019, as we enter our 58th year of existence, that sensibility is more important than ever, and we will endeavor to present a cultural and architectural heritage that is diverse and inclusive of all areas of the city.



Altar at the Church of the Holy Faith, photo by Melanie McWhorter

The Pino Ranch: Nominating a Historic Property

Mara Saxer with photography by Kelly Finley Davis



The Pino Ranch House is a product of the time in which it was built, merging disparate architectural styles from the two worlds which were converging in New Mexico in the first decades of the 20th century. It is built of adobe bricks, tying it to traditional building practices of the region, but has mirrored facade features – hipped roof, dormers and basement – all of which are elements more typical of American styles filtering in with the establishment of statehood in 1912.

The land, which is now El Rancho de Las Golondrinas was a rancho, used for sheepherding by generations of families, including that of Elfego Pino, who built and made the house his home starting in 1919. The property continued to be managed as a rancho by a variety of families until 1968, when then owners, the Curtins, decided to develop the site in to a living history museum, with historic buildings from other parts of Northern New Mexico moved and reconstructed as an 18th - 19th century village depicting frontier life in Spanish, Mexican and Territorial New Mexico. This change in use marks the end of the period of significance for the Pino Ranch House, a break with its traditional use, as the relatively newer history embodied by the house did not fit with the era depicted in the living history museum.

The house has stood since 1968 as something of an anachronism in its new-old surroundings, finding practical but not usually public-facing use within the museum, which is something of an irony given its ties to the cultural landscape of the La Cienega micro region. The



marshy area south of Santa Fe has long been a farming and ranching community, with a handful of tight knit families including the Pinos owning much of the land. Nearby are two other houses of interest in relation to the Pino House, the Lamy House in present day Sunrise Springs and the Viera House just south of that property. Both bear many similarities to the Pino House, such as the pitched roofs, which would have been new and impressive features in the nineteen teens and twenties when these houses were built. This speaks to a certain keeping up with the neighbors, particularly the Lamys – Bautista Lamy was the nephew of famed Bishop Jean-

Baptiste Lamy – a creation of local trends mirroring larger social patterns.

To be considered for the Historic Santa Fe Foundation Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation, a place must retain its historic character and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Embody the distinguishing characteristics of a type of architecture identified with the history of Santa Fe, or
- Be the site of significant events in that history, or
- Be associated with the lives of persons prominent in that history

In the case of the Pino Ranch House, after extensive research, it was determined that the house is indeed eligible for the register, making it the 100th property listed. This research was conducted by our first Register Fellow, Kelly Finley Davis, as a pilot of a new fellowship program established in 2018 by HSFF in partnership with University of New Mexico's School of Architecture and Planning

and the State Historic Preservation Office. This program has graduate students research properties with the potential to be added to our register, diving deep in to their history to give a complete picture of their architecture and story. Students are mentored by SHPO staff as well as HSFF board and staff as they learn how to craft a high quality nomination. It is our hope to help ensure that a new generation of preservationists enters the field with practical skills to make them effective professionals.

Kelly, our trailblazing first fellow, is working on a Graduate Certification in Historic Preservation and Regionalism as well as being a Master of Arts candidate in Educational Thought and Sociocultural Studies at UNM. She is a native of southwestern Utah, and passionate about the landscape, archaeology and history of the southwest region, as well as the way people and communities use that landscape. Through many hours spent at the site she developed an understanding of the building as it connected with its site and region, which ultimately shaped the nomination she submitted to our Board for consideration. We offer our appreciation to Kelly for this first successful project, and look forward to recognize many more interesting, worthy properties.



Old Santa Fe Today editions from left to right: second, 1982; first, 1966; and third, 1972.

Reprinting Old Santa Fe Today

Melanie McWhorter

In the early winter months of 2019, we embarked on a venture to reprint the Historic Santa Fe Foundation classic publication *Old Santa Fe Today*. This book is the culmination of all the efforts of this who nominated, researched, and listed properties and resources on HSFF's Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation, one of the first initiatives of the foundation since the incorporation in 1962. Pete Warzel and Mara Saxer both discussed the Register including the nomination, research, and approval process for each property in the previous articles. The list now has 100 properties at the time of writing of this article with more suggestions and potential listings for 2019. The call for applicants for the running program with University of New Mexico's grad students will go out in June and we hope that at least one more property will be listed in 2019 with expectations that the program will ramp up in the upcoming years. There are many properties in Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico that deserve this attention and recognition. Our efforts in listing these historic structures and resources brings attention and awareness to the need for their continued preservation and maintenance.

We promote these properties today on our website, but we find that we need additional vehicles to communicate about the multi-cultural and layered history of Santa Fe and

to foster more awareness and passion for our preservation efforts. The way that the foundation presented this information in the past was through a user-friendly book with citations, images, and maps for self-guided tours. The last edition that was published in 1991 included entries on 51 Register properties. For many years, HSFF board and staff have seen the need to revise and expand this important resource to include the additional properties. In late 2018, we had a serendipitous encounter with UNM professor and writer Audra Bellmore who sparked a realistic discussion about embarking on this momentous task.

Bellmore is the Associate Professor for University of New Mexico's Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections, the Curator for The John Gaw Meem Archives, and an instructor in the Museum Studies Program at UNM. She visited HSFF's El Zaguán with students from UNM's Museum Studies program to look at El Zaguán as a historic home that is used as a public space. After developing a relationship with Bellmore, we asked her to join our Education, Research, and Archives Committee and, as part of her tenure at UNM, she offered to take on the task of writing of the new vision of *Old Santa Fe Today*. This is a formidable effort and one that is suited to Bellmore and her expertise.

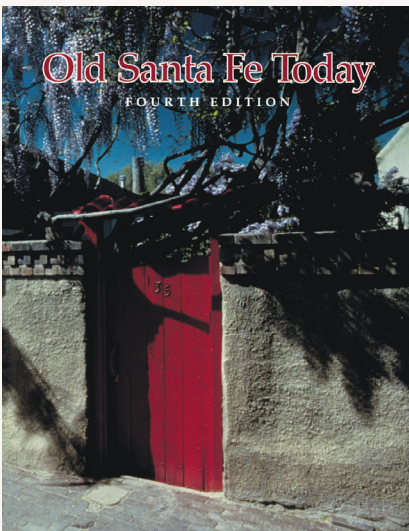
• *Why Is Old Santa Fe Today Important?* •

HSFF was established in 1961 by preservationists, architects and other professionals including noted New Mexico architect John Gaw Meem. The Foundation's Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation was one of the first initiatives of the organization.

The subject of the book, HSFF's Register of the Properties Worthy of Preservation (Register), is a unique listing of historic properties that the Foundation thoroughly researched and established as important to Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico's history and culture according to its criteria for historic homes and buildings. This is a vetted and specific list created over many years, and it reaches into the broader history of New Mexico, the United States, Mexico, Spain and Native American cultures. This book focuses on these historic structures to tell the stories of former owners and connects their lives and personal narratives to a larger story. The homes and buildings on this list were often used, lived in, or owned by women pioneers who rejected restrictive social norms prevalent in the Eastern United States at the time in favor of the more open, egalitarian ethos then extant in the West. In addition, these homes were built by business owners and entrepreneurs in association with the emergent railroad and tourist industries and by artists who found inspiration in the glorious New Mexico light. Immigrants from many nations who arrived in Santa Fe seeking opportunities in our open spaces helped handcraft many of the homes and buildings on the list and Native Americans whose families have resided in New Mexico for millennia contributed to the design and construction of these unique buildings.

This revised book will prove to be an important academic resource in extending the intellectual narrative linking lives lived in Northern New Mexico and their expression in the unique built environment of this region.

• *What is the new edition?* •



Old Santa Fe Today, fourth edition, 1991 HSFF will be working with the Museum of New Mexico Press and their award-winning designer David Skolkin who has applied his talents to many of their recent publications including Daniel Kosharek and Alicia Romero's *New Mexico's Palace of the Governors: Highlights from the Collection*; Scott Ortman and Joseph Traugott's *Painted Reflections: Isomeric Design in Ancestral Pueblo Pottery*; and Wendy Waszut-Barrett and Jo Whaley's *The*

Santa Fe Scottish Rite Temple.

OSFT's contents listing may/will include a preface, reproduction of a previous edition's introduction, listing of all properties by geographic location, a list of non-citation illustrations including the maps, glossary of architectural terms, biography page for the author, photographer and other contributors, an index, a self-guided tour map, and may include a list of properties that were once on the Register and have been removed. The new version will be printed in both a full-color hardbound and softbound edition of 2,500 copies including images and texts on the properties added since the last printing.

The resulting publication will contribute to the dialogue about Santa Fe's history and preservation efforts in a well-researched, yet easily digestible and beautiful package.

• *What can you do to help fund the reprint?* •

VOLUNTEERS - In the upcoming months, we will look for volunteers to help with the book. We will reach out to individuals who may have the expertise to help edit, promote, and sell the books once they are published. If you want to be considered for this volunteer opportunity, contact HSFF Development Coordinator Melanie McWhorter at 505.983.2567 or melanie@historicsantafe.org.

INDIVIDUAL OR BUSINESS DONORS - Initially, what we need now is a fund to start the process of photographing each property for its respective citation. HSFF's staff wrote two grants in 2019 that we hope to receive. With or without the funding from the grantors, we ask for generous donations from our members and other individual or business contributors so that we can start the photography in summer 2019.

All donors who contribute to the *Old Santa Fe Today* campaign will be listed in the acknowledgements of the reprint of the book.

Contributors over \$1000 will have a logo printed in the back and in much of our promotion of the book that is sent out to our email list of over one thousand Santa Feans, Northern New Mexicans and beyond.

If you know of businesses to suggest or are interested in donating as a business, please contact HSFF Development Coordinator Melanie McWhorter at 505.983.2567 or melanie@historicsantafe.org.

Please use the envelope included for your ***Old Santa Fe Today*** donations or give online at historicsantafe.org/join-give with a note on the donation page that this gift should be used for the reprint of ***Old Santa Fe Today***. Thanks!



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2019 Summer Historic Santa Fe Foundation Events

JUNE

- June 7, 5-7pm • Exhibition El Zaguán Opening: Joseph M. Sánchez. Continues through June 28.
- June 20, 3pm • Salon El Zaguán: Rob Martinez on *Brujería: A History of Witchcraft in New Mexico*. RSVP required.
- June 27, 5:30pm • Annual Garden Party and Members' Meeting. RSVP required.

JULY

- July 5, 5-7pm • Exhibition El Zaguán Opening: Sally Hayden von Conta, Plein Air Pastels. Continues through July 26.
- July 11, 3pm • Salon El Zaguán: Susan Williams on El Zaguán Garden. RSVP required.

AUGUST

- August 2, 5-7pm • Exhibition El Zaguán Opening: Sarah Stark and Jack Stark Dudzik. Continues through August 30.
- August 21, 3pm • Salon El Zaguán: Ray Sandoval on Zozobra. RSVP required.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For all events & to sign up for our newsletters, visit historicsantafe.org/events. Salon El Zaguán talks are free for members and have a \$10 admission for non-members. More info on historicsantafe.org/salons. There is no admission for Exhibition El Zaguán openings. Stewards group events dates are pending and are included in a Stewards membership. More info on historicsantafe.org/stewards.

MEMBER BENEFITS historicsantafe.org/join-give

- Free admission to monthly Salon El Zaguán talks
- Special invitation to Annual Garden Party and Members' Meeting
- Three complimentary printed newsletters annually
- Priority access to Foundation special tours and events
- Contribute to preservation of & education about Santa Fe and its historic properties