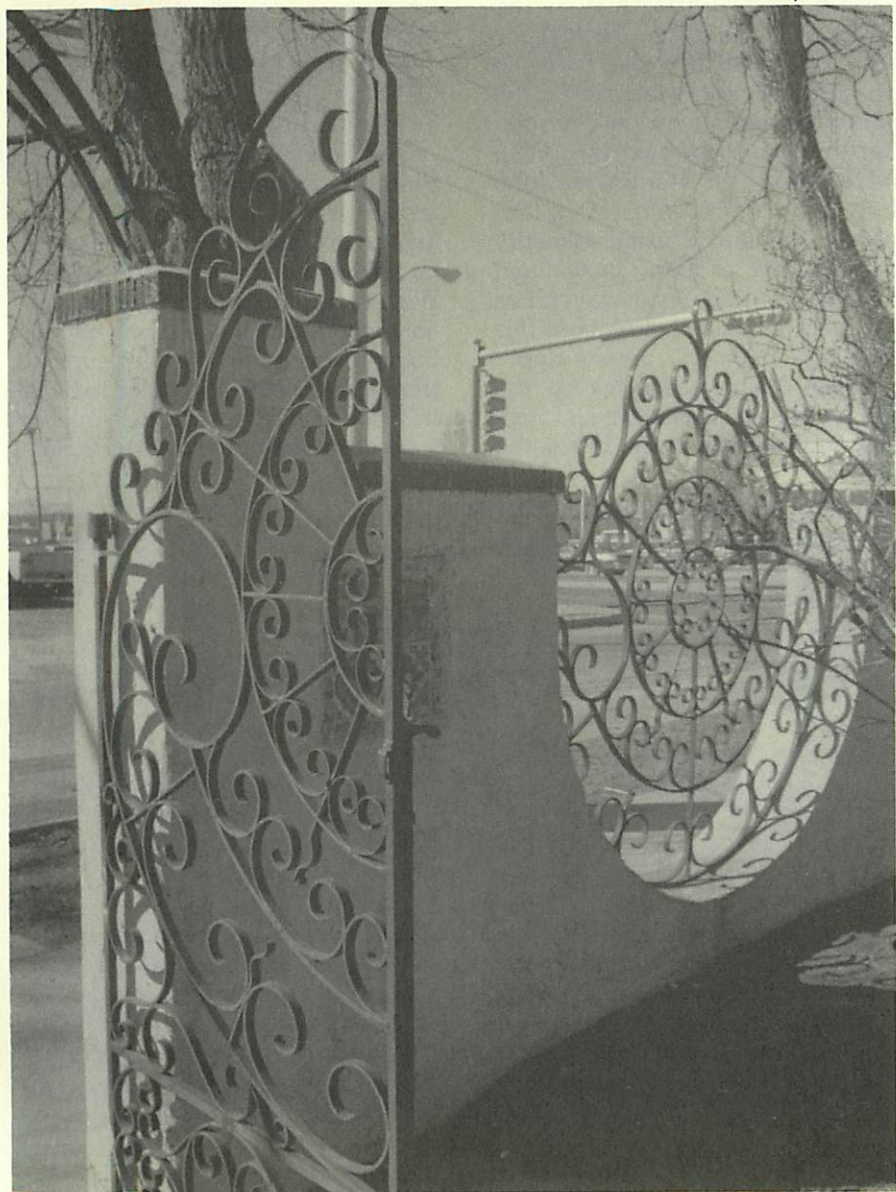


BULLETIN *Hsf*

OF THE HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION

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Walled Solidarity: the Salmon-Greer House

Just picture Zsa Zsa peacocking down those stairs in her bridal finery—and imagine gala parties drifting back and forth over the garden lawn behind the Chapultepec wall. The house that was home to two vibrant families successively, the Nathan Salmons who built it soon after the turn of the century (1909), and their daughter's family, the John Greers, who moved into it in the thirties, still stands in pleasant solidarity at the corner of Don Gaspar and Paseo de Peralta. Once again it has been called to public attention, this time as the home of a private club.

Owing design allegiance to the Mission Revival Style which originated in California in the 1890s, the

Salmon-Greer house adheres closer to the style today than it did when first built, now that its original red brick has been stuccoed white. However, the arcaded porch and "tile" roof (actually tin molded to ape tile) have always left no doubt as to its Mission Revival inspiration.

The house's builder was Nathan Salmon, an immigrant boy who arrived in the United States in 1887, arrived in Santa Fe in the 1890s, and by 1909 had made very good indeed. With varied business interests, notably merchandising and real estate, Salmon was quite aware of current trends, and when he decided to build this house he chose a fashionable style of the day - the Santa Fe Rail-



Entrance to the Salmon-Greer House.



The deep arched porch is tall enough to accommodate windows.

road's Alvarado Hotel in Albuquerque, a prominent New Mexico example of Mission Revival, had been built only a few years earlier.

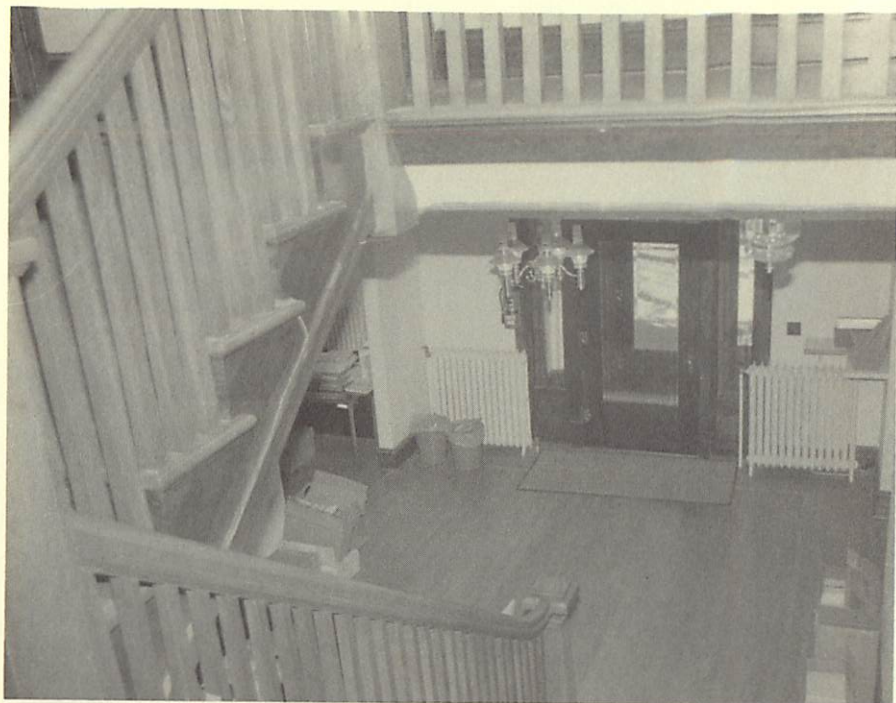
Surrounding the house and its grounds is a striking feature, a wall with inset tiles and wrought iron arabesques which was built in the 1920s after Salmon had made a visit to Mexico City. During his stay in the City, he had happened to see, in Chapultepec Heights, a very beautiful wall surrounding an elegant residence. With the same initiative that characterized his business activities, Salmon had the tiles and ironwork copied in Mexico and sent to Santa Fe, where he erected just such a wall around his own fine residence.

Protected by the Chapultepec wall is an exceptionally large garden with

towering pine trees, a grape arbor, a pond, and a stone fireplace. Included in the garden's social history is the 1980 wedding reception for Nathan Salmon's great-granddaughter, Nanette Greer. The house had seen another wedding reception some years earlier when a friend of the family, Conrad Hilton, Jr., celebrated his marriage to Zsa Zsa Gabor.

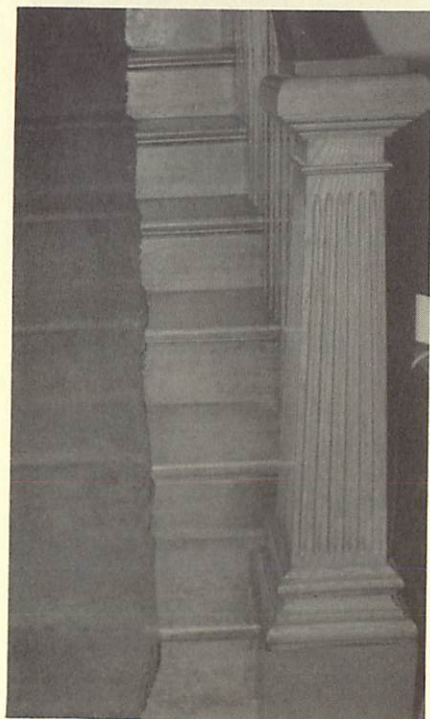
The house was built with eight bedrooms, perhaps a large number for the Salmons with their one daughter, Salome, but certainly not too large for Salome's family of six children. The architectural elements of the Salmon-Greer house are grouped in a straight-forward composition. The floor plan does not reflect Mission Revival influence, as

(Continued)



Top: The entrance hall.

Left: Newel balustrade.



it is a center-hall plan, with the addition of a garden room across two-thirds of the rear. From the generous entrance hall, the living room opens to the right, dining room to the left, and an open stairway rises to the second floor. The balustrade is composed of a molded handrail supported by square balusters ending in a neat fluted newel.

The dining room, larger than the living room, is embellished with a handsome built-in sideboard with storage drawers and a mirror flanked by leaded-glass-paned doors. With as busy and diversified a business life as he had, Salmon would have required ample accommodations for entertaining. Although the house was not just across Paseo de Peralta from the capitol as it is today, it



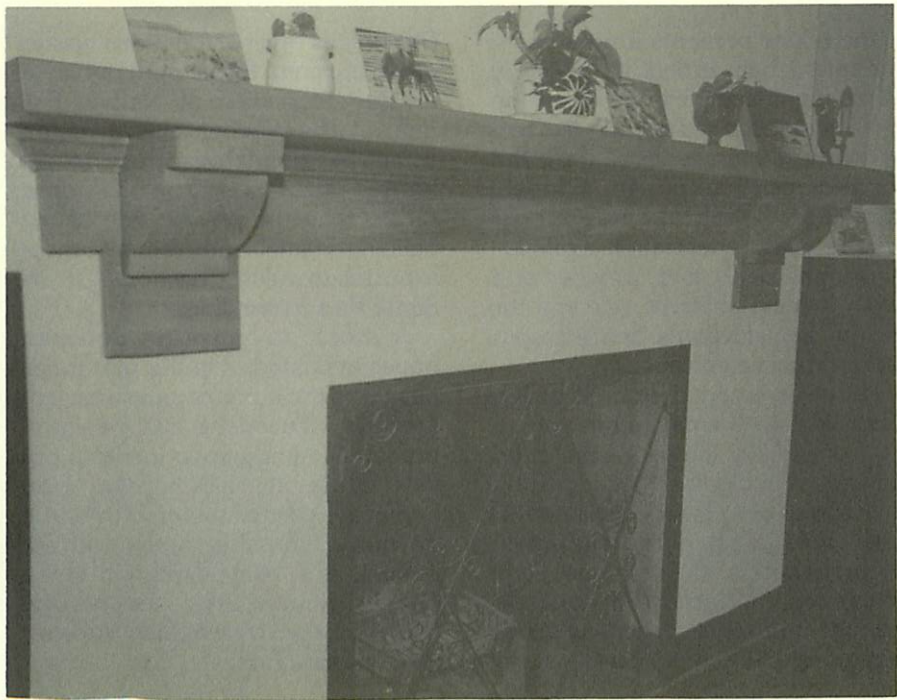
was nevertheless, convenient as well as hospitable for members of the state administration and legislature.

Interior detail throughout is not ornate, but neither does it allude to the rustication of some Mission Revival models. In fact, in the original house there were no Western-inspired elements. In the garden room, an addition of the 1920s, however, there are carved beams, and a large fireplace with a mantel supported by corbel-type brackets. Salmon's grandson, Nathan Greer, remembers that during his childhood the family always ate in this room, seated at a marble table centered by a fountain.

Excluding a square two-story addition at the rear, the main block
(Continued)

Left: Leaded glass-paned doors.

Bottom: Mantel with corbel brackets.





Deep hip roof sheathed in tile and by wide dormers.

of the house presents a mass more horizontal than vertical, its two-story height minimized by the deep hip roof sheathed in red pseudo-tile, and by wide dormers breaking the second story expanse. Closely spaced straight brackets support broad eaves. Fenestration is primarily symmetrical, and window and door framing minimal, except for rectangular sidelights and transom at the principle entrance.

The deep arcaded porch is bulky, its shallow segmental arches springing from heavy impostes which cap the wide rectangular piers joined by balustrades of square posts and rails. The whole is set on an extremely high foundation of sandstone. This foundation, tall enough to accommodate windows, encloses a full basement, a fairly unusual feature in New Mexican houses of the period.

(Among its original functions was to provide room for a pool table, a favorite recreation of Nathan Salmon's.) The shadowy piazza lends a somewhat ponderous grace to the house, and although on the public rather than the private side of the building, is sufficiently reminiscent of a portal to relate the house to its Santa Fe surroundings.

A much stronger tie between house and city lies in the part it has played as the home of early and continuingly influential Santa Fe entrepreneurs. Although no longer a private home, its walls represent an important part of the growth of the Territory, and this, along with its interest as a local adaptation of the Mission Revival Style, assures the house a place in the architectural history of Santa Fe.

Annual Meeting, Historic Santa Fe Foundation Anita Gonzales Thomas Remembers

The Historic Santa Foundation held its annual meeting for the general membership at Palen Hall of the Holy Faith Episcopal Church. New Board Members and Officers were elected. The highlight of the evening was the delightful reminiscences of Anita Gonzales Thomas a native Santa Fean who told about her childhood memories in her charming storyteller manner. Following is an extract of some of her memories:

When I was about five years old I was deemed old enough to accompany my grandmother, Dona Agripina Delgado de Gonzales (Mama Pinita, to all her grandchildren) when she went on her weekly visit "a la plaza" to see her daughter, Aunt Mela. Mama Pinita lived on Garcia Street across from the red brick Public School House (now galleries). As we walked down Canyon Road it was fun to watch the water purling down the small acequia which ran along the side of the road and which was later covered over by the present sidewalk. This little acequia which originated upriver and ran alongside of the river bank made a turn toward Canyon Road between the Rael and Martinez properties across from and just above Gormley's store, then ran either in front of or behind the houses which bordered Canyon Road. Property owners used this little ditch to water gardens and orchards, alfalfa and corn fields between their homes and the river. Water that had not been used for irrigation rejoined the river at the

foot of Canyon Road by the bridge. The ditch was a constant delight to all the children who lived by it.

As Grandmother and I approached the old black iron bridge that spanned the river then, I would ask permission to run ahead "a ver los patitos" (to see the ducks) in El Jardin del Obispo (the Bishop's garden). The Alameda Street corner and the now Paseo de Peralta Street side of the garden were enclosed by an old plank fence with many convenient knot holes and, as children, we loved to peep through these holes to see if we could catch a glimpse of the ducks in the pond.

The Bishop's garden and orchard which had been laid out by Archbishop Lamy occupied the area now covered by St. Francis school and playground and to the corner of Cathedral Place and Alameda. Through the knot holes we could see the small rock-bordered ponds and walks, many kinds of fruit trees, berry bushes and flowers. A few of the ancient fruit trees still exist in the area between the school and the Cathedral. Sometimes besides seeing the ducks we would catch a glimpse of a frog or a toad sitting on on the big boulders on the edge of the pond. The springs which fed the ponds eventually dried up after the river was impounded in Santa Fe Canyon.

As I rushed ahead of grandmother she would always call out a warning not to step on the clumps of weeds that edged the fence as there might be

(Continued)

Anita Gonzales Thomas Remembers *continued*

an ajolote (a kind of salamander) there, I was as scared of these as I was of the occasional water snake we would see in the acequia.

After watching awhile I would reluctantly leave the old plank fence with its interesting knot holes and we would walk sedately along the old adobe wall (now hard plastered) which still borders what was once El jardin del Obispo. When we reached the Cathedral we would stop to go in for a few moments "hacer una visita." We would then pass the old red brick Parochial School (now La Fonda parking lot) which I was to attend when I got older. Some of the stores we passed on the south side of San Francisco Street were Seligman Brothers, the Capital Pharmacy, Gerdes Dry Goods, Wood Davis Hardware, Kaune's, Beacham Mignardot's, Andrews Number Four, Ilfeld's and Blaine's. There were others which I do not recall. About where Dendahl's is now stood great-uncle Filipe B. Delgado's dry goods store and sometimes grandmother stopped there.

Aunt Mela and Uncle Emilio Delgado lived in part of the house which belonged to his father Don Felipe S. Delgado. The house stood where the Lensic and the extension of the Palace Avenue are now. It was a large one-story house with two placitas and portals and looked very much like the Sena Plaza. While grandmother and Aunt Mela visited, my cousins Leo and Benigna and I had a lot of fun playing in the front placita around the well that stood in the middle and in the back placita near the barn and corral.

Sometimes, instead of going down San Francisco Street, Mama Pinita

would say "vamos por el rio chiquito" which was the old name for Water Street. I liked this because it meant passing the Alarid Blacksmith Shop which stood where the One Hour Martinizing Cleaners are now. We would often see horses being shod and irons being heated in the forge. Across the street, where El Centro is now, stood the placita house of Dona Agapita Nolan. It too had a long portal and a well in the middle of the placita. Next to this was the Santa Fe Water and Light Plant with its two tall smokestacks. (Coal was used then to run the generators.) The plant would blow a loud whistle at noon and the Cathedral and Loretto bells would ring the Angelus every day. Santa Fe was small enough that these could be heard all over town.

On one memorable occasion we stopped to visit Dona Mercedes Chavez de Lamy, Archbishop Lamy's niece-in-law, at the Lamy home on Cathedral Place. This home was one of the buildings razed for the La Fonda Hotel addition and parking lot. Dona Mercedes served us chocolate in beautiful little (small cups). At home we were not allowed to touch grandma's pocillos, so I sat on the edge of my chair and prayed that I would not disgrace Mama Pinita by spilling the chocolate. All went well and I remember Dona Mercedes kindly patting my head when we left. The house had four box elder trees in front, and Mr. Lamy had these trimmed back to the trunk every fall. I had never seen any other trees trimmed like that and it wasn't until I was much older and read about pollard trees and saw pictures of the French countryside that I knew why

Mr. Lamy had his trees trimmed as is done in his native France.

Sometimes on our way back, when we reached the bridge, I would ask permission to go into the field at the corner of Canyon Road and Paseo de Peralta where the Mountain Wolf Agency stands. There were some springs and it was marshy in the corner of the field and a lot of watercress grew there. We liked to pick it and bring home to use as salad. If I didn't have my best shoes on then, Mama Pinita would say yes and I would go in, holding by breath

that I wouldn't step on a water snake. But the cress tasted so fresh and good that I usually came home with a large bunch in spite of my fears.

Grandmother died a few years later, but my memories of the many times she said "Vamos a darle vuelta a tu tia Mela" remain with me.

Note: Anita Gonzales Thomas is secretary of the Colonial New Mexico Historical Foundation and a former board member of the Old Santa Fe Association.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is the only national private, non-profit organization encouraging public participation in the preservation of sites, buildings and objects significant in American history and culture. Support for the National Trust is provided by membership dues, endowment funds, contributions and matching grants from federal agencies, including the National Park Service.

Following are examples of national trust activities in New Mexico:

630 National Trust members (individuals, organizations, corporations and libraries).

Member of National Trust's Board of Trustees Robert O. Anderson, Atlantic Richfield Company, Roswell.

Members of the National Trust's Board of Advisors George C. Pearl, FAIA, Stevens, Mallory, Pearl & Campbell Architects, Albuquerque Katherine Ann Slick, Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas.

Advisory and Technical Services

The Trust's Mountains/Plains Regional Office, located in Denver, Colorado, and the Texas/New Mexico Field Office located in Fort Worth, Texas, assists preservation efforts in New Mexico. The staff receives and responds to approximately 20 preservation inquiries each month from New Mexico. In the past three years, more than 30 site visits were made to New Mexico communities.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

Clark J. Strickland, 1407 Larimer Street, Suite 200, Denver, Colorado 80202, (303) 844-2245

FIELD OFFICE COORDINATOR:

Libby Barker, 500 Main Street, Suite 606, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, (817) 334-2061

Specific examples to detailed preservation services are: workshops on preservation ordinances, neighborhood conservation, survey

(Continued)

Historic Preservation *continued*

ervation of theaters for the *City of Tucumcari*.

- Researched and provided testimony to the Albuquerque City Council on the value of preserving the historic *Sunshine Building* in downtown Albuquerque.
- Assisted in national publicity about local preservation efforts to save the city owned old *Waterworks Building* in Silver City, New Mexico.
- Made presentation to interagency council of *State of New Mexico* concerning a statewide Main Street Program.

Conferences and Workshops.

- Co-sponsored with the *New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office* a regional conference entitled, "Archaeology: A Partnership in Preservation"
- Financially aided *Preservation Law Seminar* in Albuquerque.
- \$600.00 matching grant to *The Historical Santa Fe Foundation* to co-sponsor a one day workshop identifying preservation as an economic alternative to demolition in the downtown.

Preservation Services Fund

- \$5,000 matching grant to the *Women's Community Association, Inc.* of Albuquerque for the rehabilitation of an historic property as a shelter for victims of domestic violence.
- \$2,500 matching grant to *Citizens' Committee for Historic Preservation* in Las Vegas, New Mexico for hiring a market analyst to survey the business district of Las Vegas.
- \$700 matching grant to the *Socorro County Historical Society* to assist in hiring a planner to advice

and planning, downtown revitalization and the historic landmarks survey of Albuquerque. Site visits of an advisory nature were made to the communities of Acoma, Zuni, Santo Domingo, Cochiti, San Felipe Pueblos, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, Belen, Springer, Watrous, Santa Fe, Aztec and others.

- Assisted *Neighboring Housing Services of Albuquerque* in developing a revolving fund program for purchase and rehabilitation of properties in historic areas of Albuquerque.
- Assisted the *Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation* in Las Vegas in developing a revolving fund program to aid in the rehabilitation of the Plaza/Bridge Street Historic Districts.
- Conducted field trips to *Aztec* for consultation about the economic benefits and historic preservation assistance of the Main Street Program and to *Los Ojos* for consultation on fundraising for maintenance of community historic buildings.
- Provided information on model ordinances for mandatory maintenance of historic buildings on *Gallup Downtown Development Group*, Gallup, New Mexico.
- Provided information on tourism generated by historic preservation in preparation for *University of New Mexico* conference on tourism and planning for historic preservation.
- Made presentation on the Main Street Program to members of the *Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation* in Las Vegas.
- Researched and provided model ordinances for historic preservation zoning to the *City of Tucumcari*.
- Provided information on the pres-

on the revitalization of the Plaza, the town's commercial center.

- \$900.00 matching grant to the *City of Santa Fe* to assist with an architectural survey of Upper Canyon Section of Santa Fe.

National Preservation Loan Fund

- \$100,000 low-interest loan to the *Citizen's Committee for Historic Preservation* and the *Mora-San Miguel-Guadalupe Development Corporation* to establish the Plaza/Bridge Street Revolving Fund. The fund will assist historic commercial property owners citywide with building rehabilitation projects.

The Administration's proposal to Congress is to eliminate federal support for this program, as well as the State preservation offices which identify, register and plan for historic sites and properties. Additional proposals would eliminate charitable deductions for money spent on rehabilitation of historic buildings and tax credits for historic preservation, both of which have been a driving force in attracting private dollars into certified rehabilitation expenditures. As a result, preservation work now exceeds \$2 billion annually. Elimination of the tax credits for rehabilitation would severely curtail, if not completely halt, this privately-financed economic development. Interested preservationists should contact their Congressman for additional information about these proposals, which will be considered in the current year.

In a letter to President Reagan, Jack Walton, President of the National Trust said:

In addressing a National Trust videoconference two months ago on September 18, 1984, you noted that

the tax credits were "a major innovation that our Administration put into effect" as part of the 1981 Economic Recovery Tax Act. Emphasizing the programs's effectiveness, you went on to say:

Our tax credits have made the preservation of our older buildings not only a matter of respect for beauty and history but of economic good sense.

We heartily agree.

By any measure, the rehabilitation tax incentives have been enormously successful, particularly in revitalizing older urban areas and their rural counterparts where the effects of the larger economic recovery have lagged. The tax incentives leverage billions of private investment dollars to create jobs in construction and related trades. Adaptive use of historic resources has increased available housing for low and moderate income families. By resuscitating old, underutilized properties and returning them to the tax rolls, the credits have bolstered local sales and property taxes. They provide solid investment opportunities in neighborhoods, in communities and in our cultural and architectural heritage.

Since their enactment, the tax credits have been a driving force in attracting private dollars into certified rehabilitation expenditures. As a result, preservation work now exceeds \$2 billion annually. Elimination of the tax credits for rehabilitation would severely curtail, if not completely halt, this privately-financed economic development.

Your continuing commitment to the preservation tax credits will ensure a vibrant role for economic revitalization and in improving the quality of life for all Americans.

Looking for a place to visit within driving distance?

A black army outfit of the Indian Wars period will be re-created when bunks, footlockers, uniforms and arms racks again fill 1869 barracks at Fort Davis National Historical Site in the Davis mountains of Texas, about 200 miles southeast of El Paso. Friends of Fort Davis will soon finish interior restoration, boosted towards \$130,000 by Dallas's Meadows Foundation, the National Park Service and visitors. Meanwhile friends raise money to bring back

1884 barracks furnishings recalling the Tenth U.S. Cavalry, comprised of black enlisted men who served from 1875 to 1885 at the fort, which consists of 100-plus adobe and other structures established in 1854. The Fort is in an excellent state of preservation with some reconstruction. For more information contact Jim Cullen at Box 1281, Alpine, Texas 79831.

—from *PRESERVATION NEWS*, May 1985

Preservation Week

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation observed Preservation Week May 12-18, 1985 with a luncheon on Thursday May 16 at the Inn at Loretto. The Theme of the luncheon was "What's happening in Preservation in New Mexico". Agnesa Lufkin, Chairman of the Foundations Board of Directors, chaired the program.

The speakers were Rick Berardinelli, Chairman, Historic Design Review Board, City of Santa Fe; Kathleen Brooker, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Cultural Affairs; Margo Cutler, Realtor, Ltd.; and Filmore E. Rose, attorney, White, Koch, Kelly and McCarthy, PA.

Symposium on New Mexico's Old Churches

The Symposium on the fate of New Mexico's old churches was held Sunday February 24th in St. Francis Auditorium. The symposium entitled "Rubble or Restoration" was co-sponsored by the Museum of Fine Arts and the Gerald Peters Gallery. Featured speakers during the afternoon included University of New Mexico History Professor and

Author Dr. John L. Kessell; architect Victor Johnson; and artist Harold Joe Waldrum. They discussed the history, preservation, restoration and maintenance of these cherished old churches. We had a very good response from our membership at this symposium and a great deal of interest and enthusiasm was evident.

1985 Committee Assignments

Memberships and Communications:

Jordie Chilson, Chairman

Membership Activities:

Pen LaFarge, Chairman

Historic Research:

John Baxter, Chairman

Property Management:

Fred D. Shellabarger, Chairman

Publications:

Ed Ortega, Chairman

Loretto Chapel:

D. Don Van Soelen, Chairman

Volunteers:

Barbara Martin, Chairman

Endangered Properties:

Kathleen Brooker, Chairman

Finance Committee:

Paul Gerber, Chairman

Education Committee:

Margaret B. Alcock, Chairman

Publicity Committee:

Richard C. Davis, Chairman

A Message From The Membership Committee

Dear Member:

We are always pleased to have suggestions from our members and would liked to have responded to your note, but unfortunately it was not signed and there was no return address on the envelope. We do have several activities to promote more memberships and we would like very much to hear from you.

Jordie Chilson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1985

Executive Committee	Address	Telephone	Term Ending*
Agnesa Lufkin Chairman	Old Arroyo Chamisa Road, Box 30 - 87505	988-3713	1987 (2)
Myra Ellen Jenkins Vice-Chairman	1022 Don Cubero - 87501	982-2904	1986 (2)
Don D. Van Soelen Treasurer	Route 1, Box 85A - 87501	455-3177	1987 (1)
Jordie Chilson Secretary	112 Camino Escondido #2 - 87501	983-1664	1985 (2)
Members At Large			
Margaret B. Alcock	P.O. Box 787, 87504	982-4374	1987 (1)
John Baxter	225 La Cruz Road, 87501	983-5836	1985 (2)
Kathleen Brooker	Old Arroyo Chamisa Box 31-B - 87505	827-8320	1987
Richard C. Davis	127 East Lupita Road - 87501	988-1885	1987 (1)
Paul Gerber	P.O. Box 2325, 87504	988-9646	1986 (1)
Pen LaFarge	647 Old Santa Fe Trail - 87501	983-8377	1985 (1)
Barbara Martin	P.O. Box 453, 87504	983-2134	1986 (2)
Ed Ortega	825 Gonzales, 87501	988-6427	1985 (2)
Fred B. Shellabarger	1009 Paseo de la Cuna - 87501	983-3754	1986 (1)**
Suzanne Watkins	1325 Don Gaspar - 87501	983-4592	1987 (1)
Dale F. Zinn	P.O. Box 756, 87504	982-8690	1985 (2)**

* Term Expires December of year indicated

** Elected to complete vacated term

Louise d'A. Fairchild Executive Secretary	545 Canyon Road #5	983-2567
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Membership Drive for 1985

Although we have had a wonderful response to our Membership renewal drive for 1985—for which we are most grateful—there are still over 300 members who have not as yet sent in their dues. As you know, the Foundation depends on this help to finance their work in Historic Research, Publications, Mailings, Property Management and Activities.

It would be greatly appreciated by the Foundation if those of you who have not yet renewed would mail in your check and application card sent to you with the Annual Meeting notice.

Thank you.

Membership Committee

THE HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 2535 . . . Santa Fe, New Mexico . . . 87501

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES, 19 _____

Individual	\$ 6.00 _____
Husband and Wife	10.00 _____
Commercial	15.00 _____
Sustaining	50.00 _____
Life	1,000.00 _____

To help preserve the historic buildings and sites of Santa Fe \$ _____

TOTAL (Income Tax Deductible) \$ _____

I would like to volunteer

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____