

THE  HISTORIC SANTA FE  
FOUNDATION

# HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION

## Winter 2022 Newsletter

*St. Joseph Apache Mission, HSEF's 2022 Mesquite Apache Tour, Melanie McWhorter*







*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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## A LETTER FROM HSFF'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We are ending a truly momentous year at the Historic Santa Fe Foundation and are grateful for your continued support during very unusual times. The pandemic did not leave us alone, and at the beginning of this year we spent various, intermittent times, where all of our staff isolated after exposure from family and friends. All are healthy and we remain diligent in taking care in our public roles.

2022 is the story of ongoing programs and events, and two major projects; one came to fruition, and the other started with a bang.

*Old Santa Fe Today*, 5th edition, is really more than we expected. The finished book is a substantial work, beautifully designed and printed by the Museum of New Mexico Press. The project started in 2019 and worked its way through the shutdown, supply chain delays, and arrived late this summer, much to our delight. It is a perfect holiday gift so please come visit us in person or online to buy for your friends and family. There is no better compendium available of Santa Fe architecture, history, and cultural history.

The El Zaguán Master Plan took flight, after several years of planning and a full year of fundraising. Our members and friends took to heart the iconic building, and its long history on the timeline of this city. The logo signpost with informational signage was installed on the front wall, a brick entryway was built giving dry and safe access through the front gate, blending perfectly with the old bricks that pave the zaguán proper. Our remnant of the Canyon Road Community Ditch was rebuilt and engineered so that we can demonstrate the irrigation process that has been a part of this land around us for centuries. Pricing and scheduling of Phase I construction of the interior is ready, and we will create a new, functional, Board/meeting/event staging room out of the former Apartment 1 on the Garden, and expanded and efficient office space for staff in the former Apartment 3.

The El Zaguán Capital Campaign that funds this Plan has been very successful to date with 12% funded by HSFF directly, 19% funded through generous grants, and a remarkable 69% by gifts from HSFF Board Directors, staff, members, and friends. 94% of the revised budget has been funded to date. We have never taken on a fundraising project of this magnitude and the results are empowering, and an affirmation that this building and its history are important to the community as a whole. Our sincere thanks to you all.

Personnel additions have helped us move forward with a complete schedule of programs and projects, events and tours. We have a dedicated corps of volunteers who not only help the foundation run properly, but add needed manpower on special projects. We added a valuable member of our staff: Education and Communications Coordinator Hanna Churchwell. She along with new Board Director Nick Wirth have expanded education programs including with local high school students and the Children's Museum. Tim Maxwell and Ken Stilwell have rejoined our Board, bringing their expertise and wisdom as we enter the final phase of the Master Plan and a new era for the Foundation.

In short, we are grateful for a productive year, a successful year, and one that allowed us to re-enter the public world, face-to-face once again. As it should be.

Sincerely,

Pete Warzel, Executive Director

### HSFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair - Anne McDonald Culp, Vice Chair - Tony Sawtell, Secretary - Graciela Tomé,  
Treasurer - Harlan Flint, At-Large - Ra Patterson  
Directors - Larry Good, Tim Maxwell, Ken Stilwell, Greg Walke, Nicholas Wirth

### HSFF STAFF

Executive Director - Pete Warzel, Preservation Projects Manager - Mara Saxer,  
Deputy Director - Melanie McWhorter, Education and Communications Coordinator -  
Hanna Churchwell

*Photo credit, left: St. Joseph Apache Mission, HSFF's 2022 Mescalero Apache Tour, Hanna Churchwell*



## *Acequias, Dams, and the Development of Santa Fe*

A Presentation by Acequia de la Muralla Mayordomo BC Rimbeaux at  
Historic Santa Fe Foundation Members Meetings on August 17 and 18, 2022

*Our annual garden party in 2022 was held on two consecutive days this past summer, to allow for the wonderful response in reservation requests. BC Rimbeaux, mayordomo of the Acequia de la Muralla, was our guest speaker, and his talk on the history of acequias and water in Santa Fe was met with many requests for copies of his lecture. We are happy to present it here, with BC's permission, and hope you have time to read it in full. BC did a wonderful job in his presentation, with our reconstructed section of the Canyon Road Community Ditch flowing in the background. He is a true friend of the Foundation and we thank him very much -- Introduction, Pete Warzel*

I'm here to talk about Santa Fe Acequias and the role they played in Santa Fe's early days, and also how poorly they fared after the County took control of the water in the Santa Fe River.

But first I should try to clarify the meaning of "acequia". In its simplest meaning, it is an irrigation ditch. It comes from an Arabic word that the Moors used during the centuries they occupied the southern part of what is now Spain. But Acequia, with a capital "A" has a broader meaning. It's used to include the community of people using the irrigation ditch and abiding by ancient Islamic principles of agriculture in arid lands.

What the Moors believed and passed on to the Spanish was that water was not a commodity to be owned, and it was to be shared equitably among those who needed it. The water was to be put to beneficial use, and water was not to be wasted. Ditches were to be constructed and managed communally. There were penalties for infractions, such as, allowing livestock into the acequia, taking more than one's share of water, or polluting the water. Remember, acequias were supplying drinking water as well as irrigation water. And the person responsible for enforcing these rules would be elected by the Acequia members, and given the title of Mayordomo.

It was these democratic self-governing principles that would be so important as the early Spanish settlers were establishing small townholds here in this arid frontier of Spain's colony. These communal acequia groups would provide what little government and order existed in the small villages being established.

But I want to focus now on Santa Fe's Acequias, and how the development of Santa Fe affected these Acequias.

Pedro de Peralta founded Santa Fe as the capital of this northern

frontier province of Nueva España in 1610. Peralta had succeeded Juan de Oñate as governor of the province after Oñate had led a large expedition to the region 12 years previously. When the location of the capital was chosen, plans were made for the construction of acequias so crops could be planted to feed a growing population that probably numbered near a thousand at that time. The building of other public structures would come later.

Two main acequias were dug in the beginning: One on the south side of the Santa Fe River, which was the beginning of what was called Acequia Madre, and one on the north side of the river, which was the beginning of what became known as Acequia de la Muralla.



As years went by, waves of immigrants kept moving up the Camino Real from as far south as Mexico City, and they settled throughout what is now New Mexico and southern Colorado. In Santa Fe, the acequia system grew along with the population. The original acequias were lengthened, and new ditches

were dug to reach land being settled by the new arrivals. But the Santa Fe River had a fairly limited amount of water to serve all the incoming settlers.

The population of Santa Fe had grown to 2,000 people by the time the colonies on the east coast were breaking away from England. By then, in 1776, there wasn't always enough water left in the Santa Fe River to reach the farms below Agua Fria Village. As more immigrants came up the Camino Real looking for water and arable land, they began looking elsewhere, and villages began springing up in many of the other drainages of the Sangre de Cristos where it was easier to find good water and decent land.

Santa Fe continued to grow slowly over the next few decades, as did the many isolated agricultural communities in the area. But the population of Santa Fe was about to grow much more quickly.

By 1821, the Santa Fe Trail had been created connecting Missouri with Santa Fe. A new commerce link now connected the United States to Santa Fe in the newly independent Republic of Mexico.

Once the Santa Fe Trail was completed, more and more Anglo-Americans arrived in Santa Fe. But these new immigrants were different from the poor farmers who had come to Santa Fe in



## *Acequias*, cont.

previous centuries from the Spanish colonial communities to the south. These new immigrants were coming from more urban areas to start businesses and to trade with the cities back East. They were coming with different ideas of development and economics than those already living in Santa Fe. It was a completely different culture from the rural Hispanic Catholics who valued their centuries-old traditional way of living. The newcomers were English-speaking Protestants coming from towns and cities, and I'm sure when they saw the mud houses and dirt streets of Santa Fe, they saw a place they could improve upon; a place they could bring into the 19th century. In other words, they could bring "progress" here to Santa Fe.

This conflict between the agrarian self-sufficient Hispanic culture and the arriving Anglos would grow over the following decades and would finally result in the virtual elimination of the acequia culture in Santa Fe. Over time, other factors would play a role in this demise, but it all began with the American settlers arriving in increasing numbers over the Santa Fe Trail in the mid-1800s.

In 1848, Santa Fe became part of the United States, and the commercial traffic with the States increased. By 1880, the power structure in Santa Fe had shifted from the traditional Spanish *Nuevo Mexicanos* to the Anglo-Americans.

The conflict that had been growing for decades came to a head with the proposal by businessmen and politicians to dam the Santa Fe River. The proponents of a dam cited the benefits of flood control, stored water in times of drought, and water for fire protection. There had been talk of damming the river for years, but it's likely that a disastrous fire in nearby Las Vegas in 1880 triggered this dam proposal. Damming the river and creating a reservoir was seen by some as modernizing the city, which by now numbered over 6000 residents.

But for those long-time Santa Fe residents whose lives revolved around the communal acequia culture, the damming of the river meant losing their life blood and their way of living. It was inconceivable that anyone could take away the water that they had relied on for generations for their existence. No longer would the local acequia users govern the distribution of water among themselves. Now some civic authority or corporate entity would determine where and to whom the river water would go. In this case, it would be the Santa Fe County Commissioners granting this right to build dams and create reservoirs to a utility corporation, the Santa Fe Water and Improvement Company.

The Acequias in Santa Fe had been using water from the Santa Fe River for hundreds of years at that point. According to the water law of the western U.S. under the doctrine of "prior appropriation", this meant that the Acequias had very senior water rights. The problem for the Acequias was getting those rights recognized and enforced.

Damming the river and piping the water into town to people who could afford to pay for the water, instead of letting the water flow through to the acequias and farms, posed an existential threat to the Acequia communities. Their centuries-old claims to the water were now being threatened by the damming of the river, and the Acequias fought for their water rights. They signed petitions, wrote declarations in the *Santa Fe New Mexican* newspaper, and they confronted construction crews who had started laying water pipes below the proposed dam. The local newspaper took the side of the new water utility company and attacked the Acequias for their opposition to dam building and progress. Then the paper stopped printing its Spanish language pages.

But the opposition to the dam failed, and the following year, in



1881, what became known as The Old Stone Dam was built. Luckily, it was a small dam, and the 25 acre-feet of storage it provided was small enough that there's a good chance that the Acequias weren't greatly affected. But the writing was on the wall... Santa Fe's agrarian economy was on the way out.

A second dam, called the Two Mile Dam because it was 2 miles from the Plaza, was built 12 years later, in 1893. It was a significantly larger dam, and in addition to the water storage and flood control, this reservoir would provide hydroelectric power for Santa Fe via turbines in a powerhouse located up the road from here on Upper Canyon Road. The City of Santa Fe was continuing to modernize, and the Plaza was about to be lit up with electric bulbs.

This Two Mile Dam affected Santa Fe's Acequias much more than the Old Stone Dam, and the Acequias became even more adamant that the water company recognize their prior rights to Santa Fe River water and allow water to be released to them. This dam-building was indeed threatening their very existence. The Acequias were angry and frustrated as they were continually ignored by the series of water companies that controlled the water flow from the dams.

And more dams were coming... In 1926, Granite Point Dam, later named the McClure Dam, was built. Then in 1943, Nichols Dam was completed. It's hard to imagine how difficult it must have been for Santa Fe farmers and Acequias. They received less and less water as more dams were built. Fewer and fewer families could survive on the food they could grow with the little water the water companies were releasing into the river. Then the final blow to Santa Fe's acequia culture came, and it didn't come from the

water company or the City's boosters. It was World War II that decimated our Acequias.

Acequias in Santa Fe were already drying up by the time the U.S. entered the war. With most able-bodied men now gone from the farms in Santa Fe, there wasn't the manpower or experience among those who were left to operate the farms or to fight PNM, the Public Service Co. of New Mexico. At the time, PNM was the water company that owned and operated the dams. So the farms dried up. The land went fallow. Post-war veterans returned to dry fields and no water releases from the dams. They had no choice but to look for jobs off their land to earn a living, some going as far away as Los Angeles to find work. Over the years, the anger and frustration over their loss of access to water turned into resignation.

And so the Santa Fe acequias shriveled, along with the acequia lifestyle and the acequia communities. At the turn of the 20th century, after many acequias had been lost already to urban development, there were still 40 acequias operating in Santa Fe with maybe 1,200 acres of land under cultivation in corn, wheat, beans and orchards. (Where we're gathered right now was likely irrigated at the time by the Canyon Road Acequia.) By 1977, seven Acequias remained. And today, Santa Fe has 4 functioning acequias with irrigated land now probably less than 50 acres of residential gardens and remnant orchards.

Throughout most of the 20th century, one of the ways the Acequias fought to get their water rights recognized was by trying to force the New Mexico State government, through the courts, to adjudicate the water rights of the Santa Fe River watershed. The adjudication process would determine the validity of all water right claims, and the earliest date that water was first used by the claimants. The Acequias hoped this process would vindicate their senior claims. If the courts would decide that the Acequias had earlier water rights than the water company, the water company would have to release enough water to the Acequias to satisfy those claims. PNM took the stance that Santa Fe County had given it all rights to the water in the river; that they, in fact, owned the water.

This adjudication process, which the State of New Mexico should have completed many years before, was finally begun in 1977 with a survey by the State Engineer of all irrigated land in the Santa Fe watershed. But then, once again the political process stalled for years.

Finally, in 1990, two of Santa Fe's Acequias, Acequia Madre and Acequia Cerro Gordo, got fed up with the delays and sued PNM in court to force them to recognize that the Acequias had more senior water rights than PNM had, and therefore, PNM had to release water to them from the dams.

And lo and behold, after more than a century of struggling with the water companies to recognize their claims, the Acequias won their lawsuit! The Acequia Davids did indeed beat the PNM Goliath.

In deciding in favor of the Acequias, District Judge Art Encinias wrote to both parties:

*the preservation of these water rights is important to the vitality of a culture over three centuries old. The people, the land and the water are intricately bound together and will be until Santa Fe is entirely paved over. It is this culture which is our greatest pride...*

PNM did appeal the verdict to the New Mexico Supreme Court but they lost again there.

Though the two Acequias did win in court, what they won was

a recognition of their water rights to the land currently being irrigated at that time; not the water rights to the hundreds of acres, of course, that had been irrigated before the first dams were built in the late 1800s. But one has to wonder how Santa Fe might have evolved if the Acequias' water rights had been recognized decades earlier before the dams had been built. Would the farms and fields of the 1880s have survived? Would the population of Santa Fe have grown much more slowly? Probably not. More likely, I think, the City would have negotiated a settlement with the Acequias under threat of taking their water rights for the greater good of the growing Santa Fe community. And I doubt the Acequias would have received much out of any negotiations. In the end, I believe the Acequias and farms of Santa Fe were doomed to disappear under the pressures of population growth and increasing real estate values.

But as I said earlier, there are still remnants of those original Acequias here in town. And these remnants are still under development pressure, even in some cases from Acequia members themselves. Also, for reasons I've never discovered, Acequia de la Muralla was not part of that 1990 lawsuit. And the City to this day will not release water from the dams to satisfy our water rights. So the struggle continues.

So here is the question I would pose to you all now, "Is there value today in preserving these Acequias?" I would say yes. (And of course, that may be why the Historic Santa Fe Foundation invited me to speak here today!)

The Acequias and Acequia communities played a vital role in establishing and sustaining our community for hundreds of years. They thrived in a time when people had a strong relationship with the land and water. And these remnants that we have today—Acequia Madre, Acequia Cerro Gordo, Acequia del Llano, and Acequia de la Muralla—are the legacy that has been left to us. We should honor the defining role these Acequias have played throughout centuries of Santa Fe history.



*Photo credits: Page 3, Acequia de la Muralla, photo by Simone Frances (top), BC Rimbeaux speaking at the 2022 garden party; Page 4, Pete Warzel speaking about the acequia interpretation in HSSF's garden; Page 5, Acequia Madre, photo by Simone Frances.*



# 2022 HSFF UPDATES



This summer, Historic Santa Fe Foundation (HSFF) facilitated adobe brickmaking workshops for Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) members and Breakthrough Santa Fe students.

## *Youth Education Update*

Hanna Churchwell

On July 8, the Children’s Museum invited HSFF to lead YCC members through the adobe brickmaking process. Executive Director Pete Warzel, Preservation Projects Manager Mara Saxer, Education and Communications Coordinator Hanna Churchwell, and Preservation Trades interns Sarah Habib and Matt Kelly were all present to work alongside YCC members.

On July 12, YCC Members took a walking history tour from the museum to El Zaguán led by HSFF Board Director Nicholas Wirth. At El Zaguán they received a history of the compound from Deputy Director Melanie McWhorter and assisted Mara and Matt with mud plastering El Zaguán’s back wall, repairing a large portion.

On September 10, Mara and Hanna led an adobe brickmaking workshop for Breakthrough Santa Fe students on Santa Fe Prep’s campus. Alternating groups of students also participated in a scavenger hunt, led by Nicholas Wirth, where they were tasked with taking photos of significant architectural elements inside the historic Meem Art Building on campus.

Next year, HSFF will continue our expansion of educational programming and share our mission to preserve, protect and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area with Santa Fe’s youth through hands-on experiences.



## *El Zaguán Capital Campaign Update*

Pete Warzel

As you saw in our introductory letter to this newsletter, the Campaign for El Zaguán has been gratifyingly successful to date. The revised budget of \$642,000 has been met with \$602,000 in funding to date, from grants, Directors, staff, and individual private donations. The effective work staging and hosting events by the Campaign Committee — Karl Horn, Jim Baker, Jim Hutson-Wiley, and Larry Good with significant help and support from Susan Horn, Victoria Addison, Olga Echevarria, and Barbara Good — allowed us to present the Master Plan to their like-minded friends and associates. The end is in sight, and the first phase of major interior construction is slated for a January 2023 start. The acequia reconstruction has been a major draw in the Garden at El Zaguán, and serves as the first component of our history interpretation of the property and its place in Santa Fe. We are highly confident that the \$40,000 gap to full budget funding will be completed successfully before Phase II construction—the sala, expanded welcome area and gift shop, and the history interpretation room—begins in summer 2023.

However, opening up a very old building for renovation does not come without surprises.

In the process of pricing the construction of Phase I, plumbing had to be taken into consideration. The heating and plumbing systems as we know about them today are nearing 100 years in age, and caused us to pause, as well as the plumbers looking at the Master Plan pieces, and consider redoing the entire plumbing system in this long, linear building. As I write this, invasive exploration is being conducted on the extent of redo necessary for the system. Heat and hot water are currently provided by a boiler system, that also is nearing the end of its lifespan. The Property Committee and Executive Committee have discussed and agreed that this capital expense is not part of the Master Plan, rather a function of maintenance, deferred, of the building itself. The condition of the plumbing is not unexpected as problems over the past several years have allowed us to see the condition of the old pipes in specific areas. The Finance Committee of the Board is analyzing the best way to fund what most likely will be a substantial expense. Staging any repair or replacement will be coordinated with the overall construction schedule, and it is most likely that we will take the boiler offline and replace heating with mini-split systems in all the apartments, office, and public space, along with instant hot water devices. Given this could then be an all electrical system, we are starting a process of investigating solar energy panels as the way of the future for El Zaguán, if feasible, and where the place of the panels would be most appropriate to maintain the architectural integrity of this iconic property.

It is time to look at modern solutions to the old problems in our home.

Photos by Hanna Churchwell: Mara Saxer leading YCC group mudding at El Zaguán, YCC group making adobe bricks at Children’s Museum.

Photo credits, this article: Los Pinos Ranch by Pete Warzel; Ken Stilwell and Tim Maxwell by Hanna Churchwell; Candace Bonham (supplied by Bonham); Linda Williams' going away party.

At the August 25, 2022 Board of Directors meeting, the Education, Research, and Archives Committee recommended to the Board that Los Pinos Ranch be added to the HSFF Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation. The ranch was approved, adding another property with a fascinating history to the Register. Many of the guest ranches that once checked northern New Mexico have now disappeared, as have many of the Spanish Log construction buildings in the region. Still operational and with great architectural integrity,

## Los Pinos Ranch Now on HSFF's Register

Hanna Churchwell



Los Pinos Ranch is an enduring emblem of the economic activity and architectural typology that characterized the region during the early to mid 1900s.

Los Pinos Ranch, founded in 1912 by Amado Chaves, has operated as a guest ranch for a century. Part of the phenomenon of wealthy and educated individuals from the East Coast seeking outdoor recreation in a rustic yet cultivated atmosphere, Los Pinos Ranch was home to and the place of respite for many historically significant people. Notable figures who occupied the ranch include Charles Lummis, Marc Simmons, Paul Horgan, and Robert J. Oppenheimer. Oppenheimer frequented the ranch over a period which spanned decades, starting when he was a teenager. His horseback rides with Amado's daughter Kia Chaves, a lifelong friend, eventually led Oppenheimer to the site of the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos.

Alan "Mac" Watson researched and wrote the nomination for the property on behalf of the ranch's owners Alice M. McSweeney and William J. McSweeney. The McSweeney family is one of two families who owned and operated the ranch. The McSweeney and Chaves families both meticulously maintained guest registers, diaries, letters, photographs, and videos which provided Mac with a wealth of details on the ranch's history. The property and its facilities, the history of its use through today, as well as the significance of the people associated with Los Pinos Ranch over a century, position Los Pinos Ranch as a place worthy of preservation and recognition. It is an honor to include such a remarkable property on HSFF's Register.



## New Board Directors and Staff Changes

HSFF is pleased to welcome new members to its team.



**Ken Stilwell** was born into a third generation Durango, Colorado banking family. He graduated from the University of Colorado in 1973. Ken retired in 1996 following eighteen years working in military defense subcontracting, specializing in information systems and business systems analysis. After retirement Ken devoted himself to advancing civil rights first in New England and then as Georgia's ACLU board treasurer and president from 1998-2011.

With his move to Santa Fe in 2011, he re-established his Southwestern roots and began volunteer work at SAR, School for Advanced Research, where he serves as Chair of SAR President's Circle. In 2013, Ken became involved with the HSFF eventually joining the Board, chairing the Development Committee and serving as Board Chair in 2020 and 2021. After a one-year hiatus, Ken rejoins the HSFF Board in November, 2022.



### Timothy Maxwell, Ph.D

A career archaeologist, he has been active in historic preservation since the early 1980s when he served on the Historic Design Review Board and co-authored Santa Fe's archaeological protection ordinance. He is Director Emeritus of the Museum of New Mexico's Office of

Archaeological Studies and was a member of the state's Cultural Properties Review Committee. Various boards on which he was a member since the early 2000s include the Old Santa Fe Association, the Santa Fe Archaeological Society, and the Friends of Archaeology. He and his wife, Ann, play music and enjoy camping.

### New Staff and Staff Changes

HSFF is pleased to welcome aboard our new bookkeeper **Candace Bonham** (pictured right).



Linda Williams left HSFF to return to Florida in August 2022. We will miss Linda!



# 2022 Internship Recap

Mara Saxer

2022 was the first year that Historic Santa Fe Foundation's expanded preservation trades internships program hosted multiple interns in one season, with three interns working overlapping sessions throughout this summer. Traditionally the Faith and John Gaw Meem Preservation Trades Internship has afforded one student or recent graduate in a related field to spend 10 weeks working hands-on in various preservation trades such as adobe plastering and window restoration. Beginning in 2021, in part to address difficulties with staging a full internship during a pandemic and in part to expand the program in a way that offered a greater variety of tailored opportunities to emerging professionals.

Interns worked at three locations: El Zaguán, HSFF's home base on Canyon Road; the Randall Davey House at the Audubon Center and Sanctuary; and El Rancho de las Golondrinas. The latter two sites are operated by organizations with which HSFF has had ongoing and fruitful partnerships for some years.



Jamie DeAngelo spent just three weeks at HSFF, but she dove in right from the start. After some plastering orientation in the form of work on the mud-coated adobe wall at the entrance to El Zaguán, her primary project was to remove, assess and

replace failed lime plaster at the Randall Davey House. Interior lime plaster had been damaged over numerous years along the narrow stairs from the first floor to the Davey-added second story, and was bubbled and cracking off in places. In the course of removing damaged material, numerous waves of repairs ranging in material from latex paint to tape were removed, which should help the wall's breathability in the long term. Repairs consisted of a lime plaster mixed with small amounts of sand to match the original material of the wall, and several coats of limewash over the entire area to finish it off.

Sarah Habib had the longest term of any of the interns this summer, working from mid-June through mid-October. She worked at all three of the sites both alongside the other two interns and solo. Coming in with hands on preservation experience meant Sarah worked to a high standard from the start. After some weeks alongside Jamie at the El Zaguán entrance and Randall Davey stair-



case, Sarah focused in on Las Golondrinas, replastering several hornos as well as a two story mill building. The mill had been previously rebuilt using stabilizing material (likely some concrete) in the mortar, which is nontraditional and meant that applying a pure mud plaster coating over the surface would be somewhat experimental as the two do not always bond well, but the experiment worked out well and the plaster layer held well.



Matt Kelly joined HSFF for two separate sessions this summer, first attending the TICRAT workshop and Terra 2022 Conference in June alongside Preservation Projects Manager Mara Saxer, then taking several weeks to participate in a window restoration workshop with the National Parks Service before returning to Santa Fe to get his hands dirty. His primary focus was to repair and mud plaster the north wall of El Zaguán, a long stretch along the back of HSFF's offices, with a few rainy days of completing the final layers of limewash inside the Randall Davey House interspersed. The mud plastering project also involved a visit from a group of Youth Conservation Corps students from the Santa Fe Children's Museum, who did a great job re-coating a portion of the exterior of the sala.

It has been a productive and educational summer, and we look forward to seeing a new batch of interns develop their skills in the next warm season.



Photos by Mara Saxer: Clockwise from top left: DeAngelo at Randall Davey; Kelly back wall El Zaguán; Kelly prepping for mudding back wall; YCC group with Kelly; DeAngelo remudding the front wall at El Zaguán.



# Old Santa Fe Today, 5th Edition in Stock at HSFF's offices

Melanie McWhorter

the Board and staff have tried to create the new edition. With the assistance of Dr. Audra Bellmore who wrote 96 Register Property essays along with two others on Santa Fe's built environment and another on its architectural styles we have reached our goal. The volume includes over 200 new photographs by Simone Frances, and eight maps designed by Deborah Reade. The book's intention was to be an academic resource, a beautiful 'coffee table book', and a vehicle for touring around the city and finding out about Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico's history told through the homes, buildings, structures, and associated personalities. This is truly a wonderful addition to the your personal library and would also make a fantastic gift. Each book purchase supports HSFF in its mission. Pick one up at the shop on Canyon Road or order online at [historicsantafe.org/osft](http://historicsantafe.org/osft).

With the advent of the holiday season, come our newest edition of *Old Santa Fe Today*. The last edition was published in 1991 and many iterations of



## HSFF app development Support us now for 2023 Re-lease

Melanie McWhorter

*Santa Fe Today* book. The app will feature limited texts from the book and additional photos as well as other features including video and audio elements and accessibility features including the ability to access with larger text and in Spanish. We are still in the initial stages of development and hope to launch the beta version around the end of 2023. The app will also be another way to explore the El Zaguán Interpretation/History Space after the Master Plan is complete. We will send out more announcements when we are closer to launching. We hope you will support us in this exciting venture to offer a new way to tour around Santa Fe and learn about our history. Find our more or donate to the app at [historicsantafe.org/osft](http://historicsantafe.org/osft).

Historic Santa Fe Foundation is partnering

with local app developer Digital Ant Media to produce an application for Apple and Android phones that is a supplement to the *Old*



Top: Cover of *Old Santa Fe Today*, 5th edition. Bottom: App mock-ups by Digital Ant Media

## 2022 event recap

Melanie McWhorter and Hanna Churchwell

### Exhibitions

In 2022, we started hosting our monthly exhibitions and in-person Salons in full force. As the El Zaguán Master Plan progresses, we may host some events at HSFF's El Zaguán on Canyon Road and look for wonderful alternatives and partner venues for our talks. We started our no-admission artist talk series with curator Aaron Payne on *How I see it: African American Abstraction (1960-1980)*; Sally Blakemore on the Santa Fe Book Arts 12-foot book on the history of Santa Fe; Judith Lanios on her book *Mortal Highway* and exhibition on New Mexico descendants; and Scott Parker's *Keeping the Lights On* featuring 28 linoleum block prints of natural, architectural, and vernacular cultural icons and scenes around Santa Fe and New Mexico.



### Salons

Our Salon talk included Kat Bernstein on artist Pansy Sunshine Stockton; Scott Ernst on *Technologies and Use Cases of 3D Digital Documentation on Historic Structures*; Bruce Bernstein on *100 Years of Indian Market*; and Mark Cross on Edgar Lee Hewett and Will Shuster; among many other amazing talks. We look forward to the December 15 event with Deputy State Historian Nicolasa Chavez. ([historicsantafe.org/nicolasa-chavez-2022](http://historicsantafe.org/nicolasa-chavez-2022)). For those of us lucky enough to attend the performance with State Historian Rob Martinez in 2022, the knowledge that this event which will be held in San Miguel Chapel is a real treat. Mark your calendars for December 15 at 6pm and sign up for this event with Nicolasa Chavez as soon as we announce it as it will fill up. While many of these events are free or discounted for HSFF members, this will be a fundraiser for HSFF and San Miguel Chapel.



### Stewards

The Stewards members also enjoyed the re-launch of a full calendar of 2022 Stewards events. We had four locales – the Bishop Jones House with speakers homeowner Michael Avery, Senator Peter Wirth, and Nancy Meem Wirth; Dorothy McKibbin House with

speakers homeowner Mary Brennan and Ellen Bradbury Reid, daughter for the former director of Los Alamos Laboratories Norris Bradbury; A Betty Stewart House with homeowner Shelby Smith and author Mark Cross; and finished out the year with the fourth event at the Donaciano Vigil House with speakers homeowner Christopher Watson, founder of Lightfoot Scott Cherry, and Maurilio E. Vigil with Helene Boudreau—authors of the *Donaciano Vigil: The Life of a Nuevomexicano Soldier, Statesman, and Territorial Governor*. This membership provides for the opportunity to attend four events during the calendar year

with a speaker and refreshments at each event. Next year is set to be equally as enthralling and engaging.

For more information or to sign up as a member, contact Melanie McWhorter at [melanie@historicsantafe.org](mailto:melanie@historicsantafe.org) or 505.983.2567 or visit [historicsantafe.org/stewards](http://historicsantafe.org/stewards). Please note that membership is include in the list on the attached membership envelope.

The membership was structure to include admission for two people. For single admission, please send half of the listed membership rate. This will change in 2023 and the rate will be per person. **SIGN UP NOW TO GET THIS MEMBERSHIP RATE.**

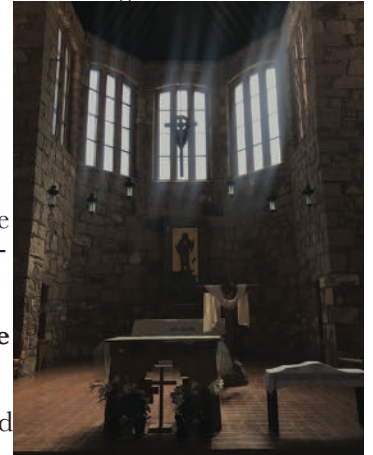
### Tours

In April of 2022, Historic Santa Fe Foundation had the pleasure of hosting an architectural and cultural history **tour of three churches on the Mescalero Apache Reservation** with Frank Graziano, founder of Nuevo Mexico Profundo and author of *Historic Churches of New Mexico Today*.

We were accompanied by 16 tour attendees and two speakers in addition to Graziano: Harry Vasile and Father Dave Mercer. The tour commenced with a dinner and presentation by Graziano on the history of the Mescalero Apache and St. Joseph Apache Mission which provided context for the tour the following day.

We first visited St. Joseph Apache Mission: a tall Romanesque church in between Sierra Blanca and the Sacramento Mountains, two of four mountains sacred to the Mescalero Apache. Vasile, Graziano, and Mercer told us about the past, present, and the future of the chapel. Built over the course of 20 years, starting in 1920 under the guidance of Father Al Braun and with help from Mescalero Apache and Franciscan volunteers, St. Joseph was constructed from materials that were locally sourced. Apache traditions and values are incorporated into St. Joseph Apache Mission through paintings, stained glass, sculpture, seasonal décor, and performance.

In awe and slightly behind schedule, we continued to Three Rivers Petroglyph Site for lunch. As we headed back on the road, we observed several crosses perched on steep hilltops with well-worn trails before arriving at Santo Niño de Atocha Chapel. The small, white chapel is minimalist from the outside, but packed with religious paintings and votives on the inside. Santo Niño de Atocha is uncommon among New Mexican churches because much of the material culture contained within its walls alludes to the practices of Mexican Catholics. Only a few





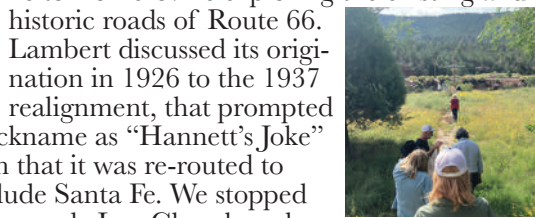
miles from Santo Niño de Atocha Chapel, the final church on our tour was St. Patrick Chapel (also known as San Patricio). St. Patrick Chapel stands beautifully in front of Sierra Blanca, its small arched windows bracketing the entryway. St. Patrick was constructed in the late 1920s after being commissioned by two sisters from New York; it was named in honor of their parents. The chapel has since been associated with the Klinkole family who live nearby. This tentative tour or other comparables ones are on the list for 2023.



Webber Street, Don Gaspar Avenue, Gildersleeve Street, and many adjacent streets noting the 20th century history of this neighborhood filled with brick homes and bungalows.



In September 2022, we finally held the long-awaited **Route 66 Tour** with Willie Lambert. Mara and Melanie went on the Jeep version of this tour in January 2020, but we all know what happened to delay the event in that year. We were delighted to host this event and load up 24 participants on a Santa Fe Valet shuttle to head from Santa Fe to Romeroville exploring the existing and historic roads of Route 66. Lambert discussed its origination in 1926 to the 1937 realignment, that prompted



Route 66's nickname as "Hannett's Joke" for one reason that it was re-routed to no longer include Santa Fe. We stopped at Nuestra Senora de Luz Church and Cemetery in Cañoncito, Gettysburg of the West monument, and Pigeon Ranch—a former tourist spot that had tamed bears and what was known as the 'oldest well in the United States' and marketed as a fountain of youth. He thread in historical tidbits, many about the eastern migration with the advent of the railroad and, later, the car which resulted in both the expansion and eventual decline of the tourism industry along the historic route. It was a fantastic day and we hope to work with Willie more in the future for pop-ups at HSFF's El Zaguán on Canyon Road or another driving tour.



The third October tour was perfectly suited to the month dedicated to spookiness and the macabre. Dr. Alysia Abbott, an archaeologist who has been researching the known and lost cemeteries and graveyards of Santa Fe for a decade, lead the **Lost but Not Forgotten: A Walk Through Some of the Many Unmarked Graveyards**. The tour started at the Cross of the Martyrs Park where many Mexican and American military graves are hidden amount the rolling landscape down Kearny Street to La Garita, a hidden graveyard under the homes in the triangle lined by Magdalena Street, then finally to the Scottish Rite Temple and the adjacent La Secoya where Abbott did extensive excavation of the established Masons and Old Odd Fellows cemetery. We are delighted to announce that both guides, Dr. Horn and Dr. Abbott, are working with us to plan to have other tours in 2023.



Sign up for our emails and look for more fun walking, self-driving, or bus tours in 2023 at [historicsantafe.org/events](http://historicsantafe.org/events).



October was tour month at HSFF. It was perfect fall weather even with the day of welcomed rain for the **Barrio de Analco Tour**. This tour included a wonderful and well-researched history of San Miguel Chapel and the barrio by Oliver Horn, a Ph.D historian and co-founder of Sunmount Consulting along with his wife, Dr. Robynne Mellor. HSFF Preservation Projects Manager Mara Saxer added some fascinating details on architecture, municipal governance, and our preservation easement program.



We followed with a second tour led by Horn of the South Capitol area. Horn lives in this neighborhood in the HSFF Register Property, the Grill-Lucero House (See our Summer/Fall 2021 printed newsletter for an article on this home). He led the group along Santa Fe Avenue,

Photos (clockwise from top) p. 10: Book Arts Group artist talk by Sally Blakemore; St. Joseph Apache Mission; Three Rivers Petroglyphs; Peter Wirth speaking to Stewards at Bishop Jones House. Page 11: St. Patrick's chapel; Willie Lambert on Route 66 Tour; walking to memorial on Route 66 tour; Kate Nelson on Route 66 Tour; Oliver Horn at San Miguel Chapel for Barrio Tour; all attendees on the Route 66 Tour; members, volunteer, and staff at the Scott Andrews Salon; Alysia Abbott speaking at the Cross of the Martyrs; Oliver Horn discussing bungalows on South Capital tour. Photos by Melanie McWhorter, Hanna Churchwell and Will Lambert.



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