

Bulletin...

*The
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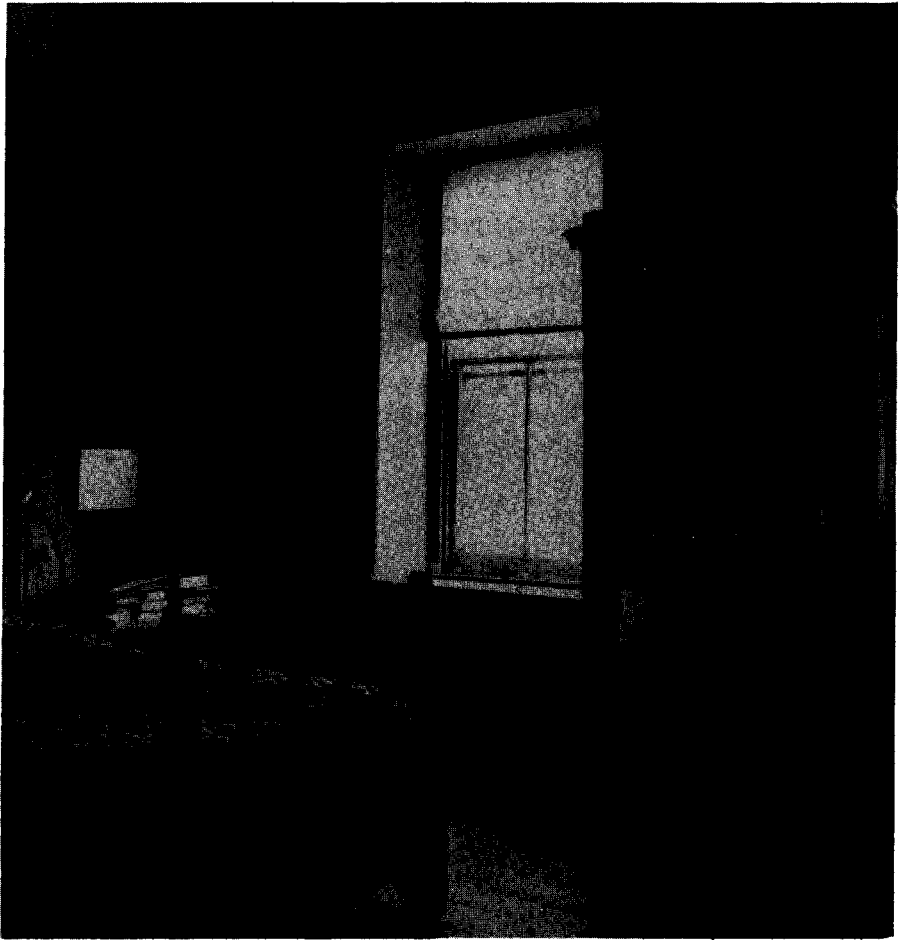


*Santa Fe
Foundation*

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THE EUGENIE SHONNARD HOUSE

1411 Paseo de Peralta

Cultural Properties Review Committee and State Planning Office Photo Files,
State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



THE EUGENIE SHONNARD HOUSE

1411 Paseo de Peralta

The Shonnard House is one of two extant Santa Fe residences built in the late 19th century by master-carpenter Philip Hesch. It has served as the home and studio of internationally-known sculptress Eugenie Shonnard since 1934.

The lot on which the house stands, and the 3-room adobe structure located at the rear and still standing, were purchased by a Rosa Gallegos from Santa Fe retail merchant José Abrán Ortiz and wife May 12, 1874. These holdings were mortgaged in 1882, and again in 1886, prior to being sold by Rosa Gallegos and her husband Bruno Romero, on February 27, 1890, to Nestora Lucero de Kirchner, the wife of August Kirchner, also a local wholesale and retail merchant, as well as a druggist.

Shortly afterwards, Nestora Kirchner made a series of verbal contracts with Philip Hesch for the construction of a house. Hesch was a Canadian-born master-carpenter of German extraction who had come to New Mexico about 1880 and had opened a lumber firm known as the Santa Fe Planing Company. Building materials were purchased by Mrs. Kirchner on credit from Gerard D. Koch, dry goods and hardware retailer, and the house was completed by August 20, 1890. However, debts incurred by the Kirchners in the construction of the house, including a quarter of beef promised to Hesch, remained unpaid beyond the agreed period, causing both Koch and Hesch to file liens on the property on October 31 of that year.

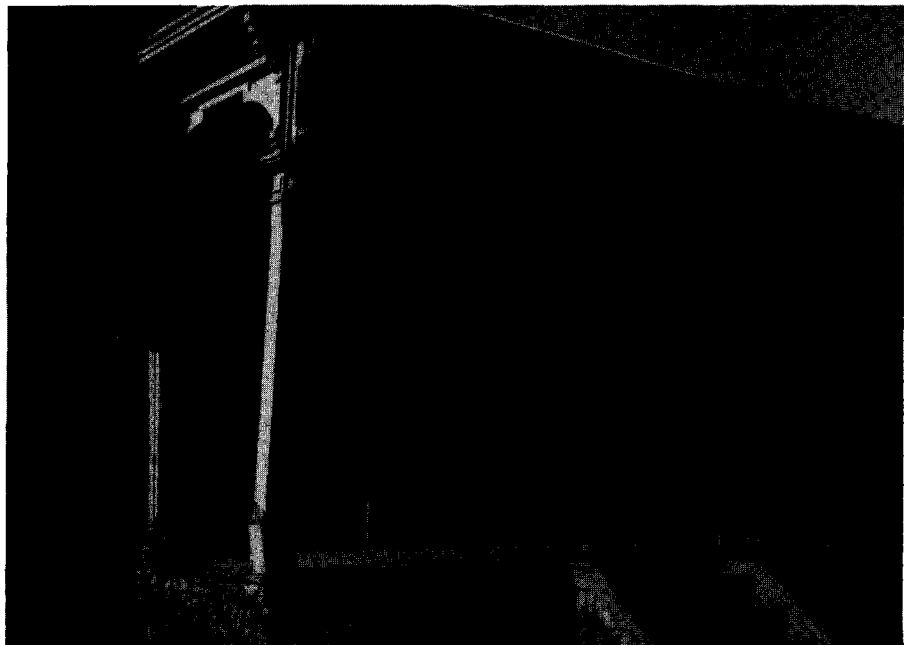
Action taken in late January, 1891, to foreclose on these liens eventually led to the opening of civil cases in Santa Fe District Court #2848 between Koch and the Kirchners, and #2849 between Hesch and the same defendants. Testimony for both cases was heard in January, 1892, by Santa Fe attorney J. H. Crist, who had been appointed the Special Master for these actions by Territorial Supreme Court Associate Justice Edward P. Seeds of the first judicial district. The recommendations of the amended reports of the Special Master, as found in the separate final decrees for the two cases issued August 9 and September 2, 1892, respectively called for the sale of the land and appurtenances at public auction to satisfy the liens and the accumulated court costs. The highest bid at the auction was placed by none other than Philip Hesch, who was given a Master's Deed to the property by Crist on September 6.

A quit claim deed to the property for the full amount of both liens and all court costs for both cases was filed by Philip Hesch and his wife Katharina on August 1, 1893. The Kirchners temporarily

satisfied this claim with a promissory note and a mortgage deed to the property filed the same date, though they later defaulted and the land and appurtenances sold to Philip's brother, Albert Hesch, for one dollar on February 4, 1894, through Charles A. Spiess, attorney for Philip Hesch.

Albert Hesch returned the property to Philip for the same amount in a quit claim deed filed February 12, and the house and lot conveyed under a mortgage deed to Eleanor Seymour Sea on February 21, 1895, which was satisfied on December of that year. The house and lot had been sold in the meantime on October 28 to Charles Kiesov, a local dealer in general merchandise, and passed to his wife Emma with his death on June 23, 1918. Emma Kiesov sold the property to Mrs. Eugenie Shonnard on March 3, 1927, who presented the lot and house to her daughter, Eugenie, as a wedding gift on January 23, 1934.

Born in Yonkers, New York, in 1886, Eugenie Shonnard studied art in New York City, turning from a design artist to sculpture in 1903-04. She continued her studies in Paris under the sculptor Emile Bourdelle and received favorable criticism of her work from the great French sculptor August Rodin. After returning to New York Miss Shonnard produced numerous excellent pieces of sculpture in marble, granite and bronze, many on commissions for leading families. She



Front porch of the Shonnard House. Cultural Properties Review Committee and State Planning Office Photo Files, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

has exhibited in the foremost galleries throughout her long creative life and samples of her work are in such galleries as the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Luxembourg Palace.

An exhibit of her work at the Museum of New Mexico's Fine Arts Division in 1927 brought Miss Shonnard to Santa Fe. Attracted by the Pueblo Indian culture of the area, she returned with her mother, following an exhibit of her work in Paris later in the same year, to live permanently in the New Mexico capital. Upon learning of the availability of the Kiesov property from Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, the former Director of the Museum of New Mexico, the Shonnards purchased the house at 226 Hickox [now 1411 Paseo de Peralta].

At the age of 89, Eugenie Shonnard still lives in her own house. Her latest work, a four-sided, bas-relief monument dedicated to Don Diego de Vargas, the Spanish governor who successfully reconquered New Mexico thirteen years following the Great Pueblo Indian Revolt of 1680, was unveiled in Santa Fe on January 20, 1973.

Sources

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Editor's Note: The above documentation was prepared by Michael P. McCahren, then an archivist with the State Records Center and Archives, for the nomination of the Eugenie Shonnard House to the National Register of Historic Places, and as a result the building was entered on the National Register September 5, 1975. Miss Shonnard, now 91, still occupies her home.



The Shonnard House as it appears today. Cultural Properties Review Committee and State Planning Office Photo Files, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Portion of the living room in the Shonnard House. Cultural Properties Review Committee and State Planning Office Photo Files, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

TERMS TO KNOW IN HISTORIC SANTA FE

acequia madre. "Mother ditch"; main irrigation ditch from which water is diverted into laterals.

castrense. Military chapel.

estofado. Type of sculpture or painting in which surface is covered with whitewash made of powdered gypsum (yeso) and painted. A coat of gold leaf is finally applied. The processes were often executed by different individuals.

genízaros. Indians captured by nomadic tribes who had lost their identity and were captured or ransomed by the Spaniards or wandered into the settlements. They agreed to live in a Europeanized status and settlements were granted to them.

placita. A small plaza or square serving a complex of buildings or located in the center of a private home.

pretil. Defensive parapet on top of a building; firewall.

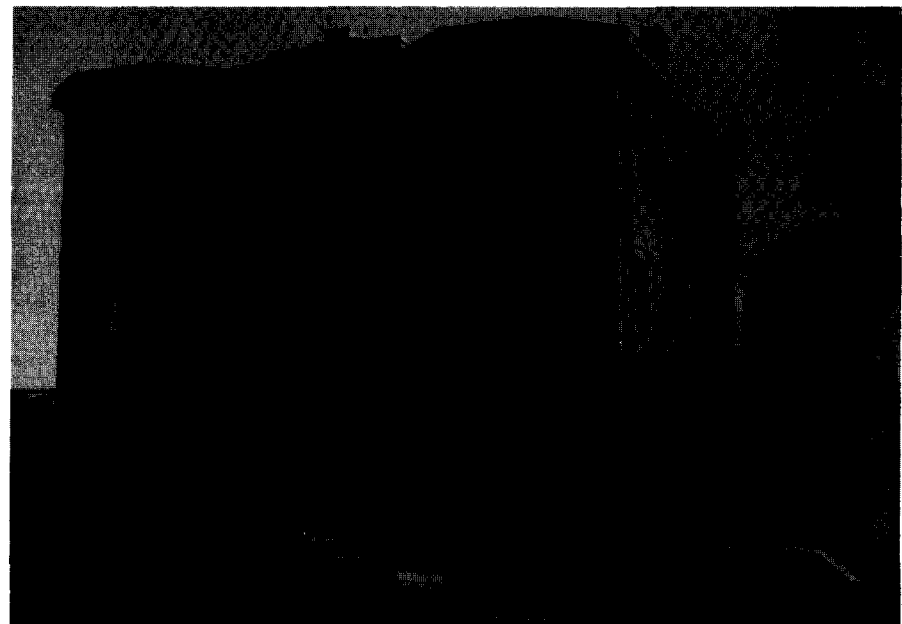
trastero. Hand-carved wooden cupboard.

villa. Town or city in Spanish colonial period designated as a center of administration.

OLD SANTA FE YESTERDAY AND TODAY



This building located at 236 Montezuma Avenue served until recently as La Casa Hotel. Prior to that it was known as the Capitol Hotel. When the above photograph was taken during the 1890's, the structure was leased as two apartments with one 13 room unit renting for the unbelievable sum of \$11 per month! Photograph reproduced from *New Mexico Magazine*, August, 1952.



The former hotel at 236 Montezuma Avenue as it appears today. Cultural Properties Review Committee and State Planning Office Photo Files, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
OF CATHEDRAL PARK ISSUED BY THE
NEW MEXICO CULTURAL PROPERTIES REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The park area bounded on the north by Palace Avenue, on the west by Cathedral Place, on the south by St. Francis Cathedral and on the east by Marian Hall was originally purchased on May 26, 1856, from José Francisco Baca Y Terrus by Bishop Jean Baptiste Lamy for \$1,000. Lamy sold this along with adjoining parcels again for \$1,000 to Sister Mary Vincent, Superior of the Sisters of Charity, on April 16, 1868. The deed contained a restrictive clause specifying that if a hospital was not maintained on the property, then the land would revert to the bishop or his successor. In a later quit claim deed of October 12, 1880, Archbishop Lamy again conveyed the property to the Sisters of Charity, deleting the restrictive clause.

Cathedral Park comprises the same grounds laid out for the original St. Vincent's Sanatorium, opened for patient occupancy in 1883. When construction was begun in 1878, the building was intended as an industrial school for girls, but the need for additional space to care for tuberculosis patients caused the Sisters of Charity to change their plans. An 1887 photograph shows the area enclosed by sandstone pillars, interconnected by an ornamental iron fence placed on top of a sandstone base. Two such impressive pillars, surmounted by carved spheres of the same material, formed the driveway into the grounds, which circled a fountain directly in front of the building. Two lower pillars framed a gate for pedestrians at the corner of Palace Avenue and Cathedral Place. The pillars and fence are still in situ, except that by 1935 the corner had been slightly rounded and the pedestrian gate moved back to accommodate the widening of the sidewalk at the corner of Palace and Cathedral Place. The sphere atop the north large gatepost has also disappeared. A photograph taken ca. 1890 shows several trees of varying height, indicating that the park was well established by that date.

The first sanatorium was destroyed by fire in 1896, but twelve years later (1908) construction of a new sanatorium was begun on the same site. This building was remodeled in 1954 for use as a convent and school for nurses and renamed *Marian Hall*. Ever with the Church's extensive building program in the surrounding area throughout the years, the large park forming the southeast corner of Palace Avenue and Cathedral Place has, for some ninety years, been preserved as an open air space to be enjoyed by Santa Fe citizens and forms an important piece of the fabric of the Santa Fe Historic District. It would seem, therefore, to be most fitting since Santa Fe citizens through their efforts and donations have largely made possible the construction of a new and larger hospital that this old park be conveyed to the City of Santa Fe. This should be done however, only if the City Council guarantees that the tract of land continue to be maintained as a public park.



St. Vincent's Sanatorium, completed in 1883 and destroyed by fire in 1896, was situated approximately where Marian Hall is located today. Department of Development Collection, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT SANTA FE LOOKED LIKE
DURING THE LATTER HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY? THEN**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

TIME: 8:00 P.M.

DATE: January 16, 1978

PLACE: Auditorium, Folk Art Museum, Old Santa Fe Trail

PROGRAM: Following a brief business meeting, Dr. Richard Rudisill, Curator of Photographic History for the Museum of New Mexico, will conduct a visual tour of Santa Fe as the city appeared during the U.S. Territorial Period.

Good Luck Jody!

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Jody Ellis plans to move to Springfield, Missouri, and has tendered her resignation from the Board of Directors of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation,

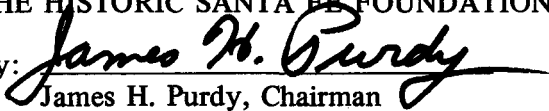
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors accepts her resignation with deepest regrets and with unanimous best wishes for a safe journey and happy life in her new home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board conveys its deepest appreciation to Jody for the many hours of dedicated support she has given the Foundation. Her willingness to participate and her friendly good humor will be sorely missed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board expresses its thanks and appreciation to Jody and Marcia Muth for offering the hospitality of their home to members of the Board on numerous occasions.

Signed this 22nd day of September, 1977.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION

By: 
James H. Purdy, Chairman

TO OUR MEMBERS:

Since 1961, when The Historic Santa Fe Foundation was established, the dues for membership have remained the same.

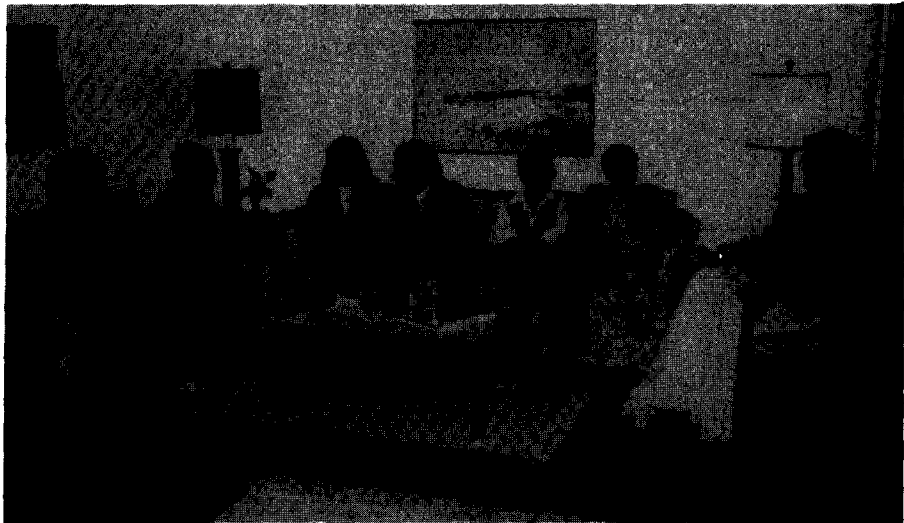
We regret that we must now increase the fee as of 1978. We have no alternative as our costs have risen tremendously during this period.

Even a non-profit organization must break even.

We are pleased to announce that The Historic Santa Fe Foundation now has an office located in the Tully House at 136 Grant Street. (Rear)

Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Fridays 12:00 n. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 983-2567



On October 13, 1977, the Executive Board of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation held a reception for resigning board member Jody Ellis and friend of the Foundation Marcia Muth. L to R: Executive Secretary Mary Gilliland, Jody, Rita Purdy, Board Chairman James Purdy, Marcia, Vice Chairman Donna Quasthoff and Glo Sawtell who, along with her husband Bill, graciously provided their home for the reception. Photo courtesy of Hope Curtis.



Foundation Treasurer Bill Sawtell and Alan Vedder enjoying the reception under the portal. Photo courtesy of Hope Curtis.