



# HISTORIC SANTA FE

*The Newsletter of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation*

## As We Say Goodbye To 2008 . . .

This time of year always brings reflection. We remember events and accomplishments of the year we leave behind as we start making plans for the new one. We started the year under a cloak of sadness when Marvin Garcia, who had worked with us for many years, was killed by a drunk driver on New Year's Day. We must admit that we were all affected as we moved forward. In the following pages we highlight some of this year's endeavors.

Like many organizations we have a working board that guides our committees. Our chairwomen **Graciela Petronio Tomé** is tremendously dedicated, attending and actively participating in every committee especially Property. **Richard Martinez** has chaired the Property Committee which is so central to our mission. Also on that committee are **Joel Muller**, **Julia Berman** and **Mac Watson**. Another central committee is Research headed by **Stephen Post** and joined by **John Murphey**. Active on Property Management and Finance Committees are **Dan Shannon**, **Bill Templeman** and occasional pinch-hitter **John Schroeder**. **Kristin Watson** was a great help with our annual meeting and we thank **Paul Weideman** for being our unofficial editor.

**Marilyn Bane**, who serves as an ex-officio member of our Board, is the admired President of the Old Santa Fe Association, an organization that we encourage you to support. They are the voice of preservation and quality-of-life advocacy in Santa Fe.



*Our Property Committee meets with Pat Taylor of Cornerstones Community Partnership to seek advise on treatment of the entrance wall at El Zaguán. Left to right are Pat Taylor, Patricia Rojas, Graciela Tomé, Richard Martinez, Charles Coffman and Mac Watson. Photo by Hope Curtis.*

We often call upon our friends at Cornerstones Community Partnerships, another organization whose support we encourage, especially as they embark on the restoration of San Miguel Church here in Santa Fe.

We thank our dear friends **Hope Curtis** for all that she does for us including photo documentation of our work and **Deborah Post** for her valued design advise.

As we restore, conserve and rebuild our physical world we are aware of our role as community builders. As we watch old friends gather at El Zaguán (as we did many times this summer) and new friendships develop, we watch memories being born that are tied to place. With those memories comes a deeper appreciation for what has been preserved.

In a time of great challenge for our country and many in our community, we are particularly grateful for the generous support that we receive from contributors like you. Thank you.

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## Fountain Gurgles Again at El Zaguán



Late last year we announced plans to restore the fountain at El Zaguán. It is located in the middle of an oval-shaped orchard on the north side of the property. We know it dates to the Dietrich era because we have a 1930 clipping from the *New Mexican* that describes its dedication:

At the fiesta at El Zaguán Thursday night, this being 545 Canyon Road, the ancient Baca hacienda with its vast *placita* and gardens in dedication of the new fountain... The fiesta began at 5:45 and was going good all the evening. The gardens were a fairyland with colored balloons, colored paper streamers, *luminarias*, fireworks, and scores of gay and festive Indian, Spanish, Mayan, Mexican, Spanish-Colonial costumes of every hue and pattern.

This summer we began by clearing brush and trenching for water and electrical lines. We were lucky to meet Paul Zeir of Reflections Ponds and Fountains who completed the work in October. Replicas of the historic tiles were created by Jill Rounds. We are grateful to those who generously funded this effort: Nancy Lacy, Ross and Harriet Clem, Michael Dale, Alex G. Abell and L. Neil Williams Jr.

We are planning a party for its re-dedication on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> of next year, exactly 79 years after the first dedication.

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## The Story of Our Walnut Tree



*One of many photographs of the walnut tree in Sylvia Loomis' collection.*

Over last winter our old walnut tree died, it had been showing stress for years. Considered to be 150 years old, she has shaded many generations of inhabitants. A post-mortem revealed that she had been packed with lime, probably an attempt to heal a past scar.

Sylvia Loomis, who lived at El Zaguán for over 30 years and was the founding secretary of this organization, loved this tree. Viewing her photo collection depicting life at El Zaguán, more than half are of this tree – the mighty walnut in spring, summer and winter draped in snow. When Sylvia passed away in 1986, her ashes were scattered around its base where a plaque was installed to honor her memory.

We were all sad when the tree came down. We had large limbs cut into long sections and this summer it was milled into lumber. It yielded a trailer full of beautiful wide hardwood planks. The smaller limbs were retained knowing that they could be turned on a lathe.

There is a sentimentality in how we treated the loss of our old tree but it is also practical because someday we'll find a special use for our harvested material. Whatever becomes of it, it will certainly hold a special meaning because of its history.



*Long-time neighbor Fremont Ellis depicted the tree in this undated painting.*

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Left, these things always seem to happen in the dead of winter. Rebuilding a drain line at the Vigil House was one of our first projects of the year.



Above, our remodeled kitchen was celebrated with a kitchen warming party in August. Thanks to all who contributed to our cupboard.

Right the Donaciano Vigil House received a fresh coat of mud plaster this summer. The work also included the installation of a drainage system to protect the foundation.



Right, between Artist-Residents at El Zaguán, apartment 5 was treated by restoration staff and photo documented by Hope Curtis. This cabinet it thought to be from the Dietrich era.



Michael Kastner and Charles Coffman install a plaque on the "Oldest House in May."



Charles Coffman installs stones set in lime which act as a key system to hold the lime plaster on the entrance wall at El Zaguán.

Fountain documentation drawing by Charles Coffman 2007.

SECTION C/A 1" = 1'-0"

## Properties Protected by the Historic Santa Fe Foundation

### Foundation-Owned Properties

- The James L. Johnson House  
545 Canyon Road (El Zaguán)
- The "Tudesqui" House  
135 East de Vargas Street
- The Oliver P. Hovey House  
136 Grant Avenue
- The Felipe B. Delgado House  
124 West Palace Avenue
- The Cross of the Martyrs  
Paseo de la Loma
- The Donaciano Vigil House  
518 Alto Street
- The Garcia House  
524 Alto Street
- The Rivera House  
524 ½ Alto Street

### Historic Preservation Easements Held by HSFF

- The Juan Jose Prada House  
519 Canyon Road
- The Original Trading Post  
201 West San Francisco
- The Irene von Horvath House  
728 Canyon Road
- The Sara Melton House  
601½ Paseo de Peralta
- The Shuster Mian House  
580 Camino del Monte Sol
- The Wm. Penhallow Henderson House  
555 Camino del Monte Sol

Learn how you can provide permanent protection to your historic property. Ask us about our historic preservation easement program by calling (505) 983-2567.

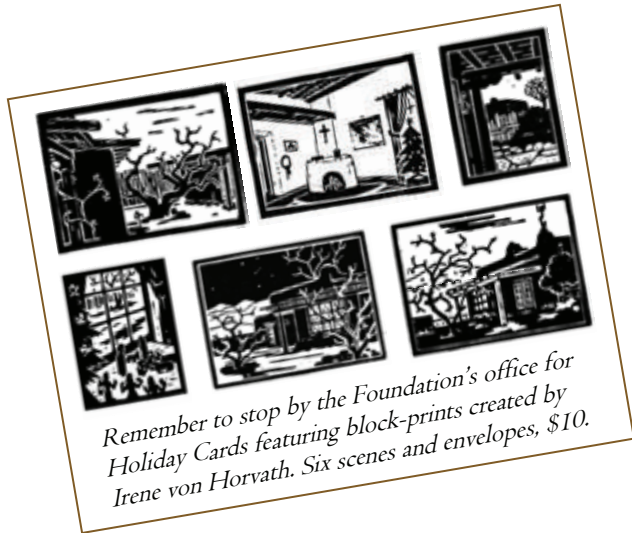
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*Remember to stop by the Foundation's office for Holiday Cards featuring block-prints created by Irene von Horvath. Six scenes and envelopes, \$10.*



*Work on the Oliver P. Hovey house at 136 Grant Avenue this year included re-roofing the bay window on the south side. Some plaster repair was required including recreation of the faux bricks finish. Below, the original raised wood panels were uncovered and restored as they appear in the circa 1890 photo on the left.*



**CONTRIBUTION FORM**

Make sure that our past is here in the future. Please make your annual contribution to the Historic Santa Fe Foundation today.

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Please return this form in the enclosed envelope.



Or consider an investment in the future of our historic past by contributing to the Historic Santa Fe Foundation Endowment Fund. Our Endowment Fund is managed by the Santa Fe Community Foundation (505) 988-9715.