Heritage Awards Reunite Women After 60 Years

H eritage Preservation Lifetime Achievement Awards presented at the thirty-fourth annual awards ceremony reunited two women who had not seen each other in 60 years. Winners Travis Nelson, for her work related to the Nara Visa Community Center; and Jenny Vincent, whose cultural activism through music and the arts has helped preserve northern New Mexico heritage since the 1930s, first met in the 1940s. Both were involved with 4-H youth services when they met in Taos.

Ms. Nelson remembered Ms. Vincent, who at the time was performing in Taos-area schools and working with youth on other projects. Ms. Nelson was traveling the state as part of a 4-H extension club to organize local clubs. Their reunion was one of several highlights of the May 19 ceremony at the Scottish Rite Temple in Santa Fe. Fourteen awards were presented to 32 individuals, organizations and businesses for outstanding achievements in the field of preservation. Capping the ceremony were three performances by Ms. Vincent, who at 93 sings and plays the accordion at the Taos Inn, festivals and other venues. For awards details, please see pages 4 and 5.

The awards ceremony and reception presented by the Cultural Properties Review Committee and HPD is the centerpiece of Heritage Preservation Month, which this year involved 43 cities, towns, organizations, parks and monuments that sponsored 68 community preservation events in May. A tour of cultural resources near Folsom, including two ranches that have operated for more than a century; hikes to stabilized Navajo pueblos; Cinco de Mayo celebrations; and special tours of state and national monuments are a sampling of the events listed in the Calendar of Events published to read historic markers along New Mexico highways might lead a motorist to believe the entire state was settled by men. Of the 500 Historic and Scenic Markers—the large, brown, monument signs that show maps on one side and history briefs on the other—only one fully mentions a woman’s contributions to state history and she is Maria Martinez, the renowned potter from San Ildefonso Pueblo, and it is the pueblo that is the subject of the marker.

But men of every walk of life—a hanged train robber named Black Jack Ketchum; Billy the Kid’s “gravesite,” the route Vasquez de Coronado took in search of the cities of gold; and Geronimo’s Spring—are represented throughout the state, along with markers denoting geographic formations, early transportation routes such as the Santa Fe Trail and El Camino Real, and numerous churches, pueblos and parks. In all, 174 of the markers are devoted to the accomplishments of men.

“When we traveled throughout New Mexico, we often stopped to look at the historic markers that dot the state’s roads,” said Pat French, who is chairwoman of New Mexico Historic Women’s Marker Initiative 2006 Selection Committee. “Rarely did any of the markers mention a woman, and when one did it usually was in the context of talking about the man who was the topic of the marker. Most of the women were unnamed.”

That is about to change. Thanks to a legislative initiative, the state’s 33 counties and the Apache, Navajo and Pueblo tribes will each have an opportunity to be represented by an historic marker denoting the contributions of local women. The Historic Preservation Division, as keeper of the program and historic marker text, and the Cultural Properties Review Committee, as the governor-appointed body that decides the
We’ve Moved!

HPD has moved. Readers learning the news for the first time, here, may want to note all phone numbers and e-mail addresses remained the same. Our new street address is: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, Bataan Memorial Building, 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Though we’d like to report an easy transition, such a statement would be misleading. HPD still operates its old Site File Room and its approximately 1,850 State Register of Cultural Properties listings out of boxes in hallways. But staff, and citizens who have visited in the last couple months, can rest assured the listings and documentation of the 6,000 contributing resources will be filed away in a new, highly efficient rolling file system. Thought unaffordable, HPD managed a property exchange with Albuquerque Metropolitan Courts at no cost. Installation began in early June and should be completed at the end of the month.

A bonus of the move is everyone on staff has individual offices. HPD had outgrown its space at La Villa Rivera, our Palace Avenue home of 20 years, and many employees shared what had been hospital rooms.

The Bataan once was the State Capitol Memorial Building is to the right.

1961 State Capitol complex. The Bataan Memorial Building is to the right.

Space History is Marked on Earth

Cultural Properties Review Committee Secretary Beth O’Leary and HPD Director Katherine Slick dedicated the first outer space cultural resource to be represented on Earth. They presided over the dedication of Laboratory of Anthropology Site 2,000,000, which represents Tranquility Base where humans first set foot on the Moon, July 20, 1969. O’Leary, an NMSU professor, said the project began when she was asked by a student in 1999 if U.S. preservation law applied to the Moon. She didn’t know, and applied for and received a grant to research the answer. Tranquility Base, with its detritus from the Apollo landing and because of its association with events significant to the nation’s history, qualifies to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and as a National Historic Landmark, she said.

HPD Makes National Media

The discovery of bones at least 100 years old on a ranch in southeastern New Mexico made USA Today. State Archaeologist Glenna Dean was mentioned in the May 2 edition in the 50-states section of the paper. The bones were discovered by a rancher’s son who notified Lea County authorities. Sheriff Keith Rice said if the bones were from a crime scene, “it wasn’t one from our century.”

SHPO Katherine Slick (l) and CPRC member Dr. Beth O’Leary point out the stake that marks L.A. 2,000,000.
for as many markers as possible completed by the end of the year and submitted to DOT so construction and installation can begin.

First Lady Barbara Richardson and Governor Bill Richardson became early supporters when French, Alexis Girard and Beverly Duran—both co-chairs of the marker initiative committee and members of the New Mexico Women’s Forum—began working with them 2005. First Lady Richardson, who is honorary chairwoman of the selection committee, advised them to seek Department of Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart Ashman’s support, which bore fruit with legislative funding secured earlier this year.

Representatives of the New Mexico Women’s forum, DOT, the All Indian Pueblo Council, the Association of Counties and HPD serve on the committee, which is seeking nominations from Indian tribes and all 33 counties. Local groups and individuals should come forward with nominations and text, providing biographical information for the committee.

Communities may turn to authorities on women’s history such as local charters of the New Mexico Federation of Women’s Clubs or the Daughters of the American Revolution. But French said after attending the 2006 Heritage Preservation Awards ceremony that groups like the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, which won a Heritage Publication Award, and other organizations should get involved.

Marker text commonly is limited to 50 words and the person commemorated must be deceased. Suggestions for the placement of the markers are accepted, and should be proximate to where the woman had her impact. HPD will review all text and research it for accuracy. Persons submitting names and stories must provide documentation, although such information may be limited for pre-Territorial women. Submissions must include the woman’s name, her county or lands, sources, documentation and the sponsor’s contact information. The deadline to submit a nomination is July 31.

All nominated women will be reviewed in the context of their times, and information on women not selected for the initial markers will be archived for later efforts. Mailed submissions can be sent to Patricia French, Chair, Historic Women’s Marker Initiative, 216 Washington Ave., Santa Fe, N.M., 87501. E-mailed submissions should be sent to patfrench@aol.com, cc: karren.sahler@sothebysrealty.com. For easy access to existing marker text, visit www.nmhistoricmarkers.newmexico.org. A downloadable nomination form is at www.nmhistoricpreservation.org in the “Forms and Documents” drop-down tab on the Home page.

Women played pivotal roles in establishing and stabilizing communities by fostering social service networks, establishing schools, libraries and businesses, and creating environments friendly to the appreciation of the arts. Every corner of the state owes a debt of gratitude to the early women of New Mexico.
**Lifetime Achievement**

**Jenny Vincent** for preserving the cultural heritage of northern New Mexico through music and activism. For seven decades, Ms. Vincent has worked at the grassroots level to preserve community and cultural identity. She arrived in San Cristóbal in 1936 at the invitation of Frieda Lawrence, widow of author D.H. Lawrence. A few years later she set aside school rules and began performing music for classrooms in both Spanish and English at a time when Spanish was banned in local schools. Classically trained, she performed with Paul Robeson during the 1948 Progressive Party campaign and participated in the New York folk music revival with Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie. She continues to record and has issued several compilations of Spanish-influenced music of New Mexico and the Southwest.

**Travis Nelson** for preserving historic buildings that form the heart of the community of Nara Visa. Ms. Nelson spearheaded efforts to save the handsome school, built in 1921, and a gymnasium added in 1937 during the New Deal. In 1967, upon returning to town, she learned the Clayton School District wanted to tear down the building. Ms. Nelson’s work eventually led to the school becoming the Nara Visa Community Center. At age 86 she continues to seek grants and legislative allocations for the buildings, paints the trim, fixes plumbing and trims and cares for the landscaping. Her efforts turned the once-empty building into the heart of Nara Visa.

**Dr. John Kessel** for outstanding research and extensive publication of New Mexico’s Spanish Colonial History. Dr. Kessel has spent 30 years sharing a wealth of knowledge with generations of students. Kessel has written numerous books, including *Kiva, Cross and Crown: The Pecos Indians and New Mexico, 1540-1840*. He was editor-in-chief of the *The Journals of Diego de Vargas*, a multi-volume publication of the papers of de Vargas. Mr. Kessel currently lives in Durango, Colorado, and is professor emeritus at the University of New Mexico.

**Heritage Publication**

**The Antiquities Act: A Century of American Archaeology, Historic Preservation & Nature Conservation** for the timely publication of a book commemorating the nation’s founding preservation law and in recognition of the authors’ efforts to feature New Mexico’s pivotal role in the establishment of the 1906 Antiquities Act. The authors are New Mexico State University History Professor Dwight T. Picatilley, of Las Cruces, who also served as chief historian of the National Park Service and worked in Santa Fe, Boston and Washington, D.C.; Dr. Francis P. McManamon, National Park Service chief archaeologist, has developed policy for government archaeological programs since 1986; and David Harmon, executive director of the George Wright Society of scientific and heritage professionals working in parks and other protected areas headquartered in Hancock, Mich.

**New Mexico Jewish Pioneer Video Project** for extensive documentation and a multi-media publications that reveal the extensive contributions of Jewish pioneers living in New Mexico. Recognized are the following from left: Dr. Durwood Ball, New Mexico Jewish Historical Society historical consultant; Anita Miller, NMJHS chairperson; Dr. Henry Tobias, historical consultant; Judy Basen Weinreb, archivist; Dr. Noel Pugach; lead historical consultant; Lisa Witt, project director from Avista Video. Dr. Rael-Gálvez and HPD Director Katherine Slick are to the rear at right.

**Architectural Heritage**

**Ortiz de Velarde Compound** for preserving a Santa Fe tradition, the family compound. Compounds rapidly are disappearing in the face of development, but the Ortiz de Velarde family was able to preserve the historic fabric of their compound by working with architects Hoopes + Associates, Clemens Construction and Design with Nature landscapers. A privacy wall was strategically lowered to restore part of the historic homes’ facades to the streetscape. The dwellings were expertly rehabilitated down to the windows, which were disassembled, restored and re-installed. Santa Fe TREND featured the project. Pictured from left are Donna Bone, landscaper; Ursulo Velarde Ortiz; his granddaughter Cristianna; his wife Carlotta; son Reynaldo; Randy Mulkey, builder; and Craig Hoopes, CPRC.

**Individual Achievement**

**Ronald Fields** for his enthusiasm and boundless energy in sharing his expertise with the public. Fields is an environmental scientist with PNM, the Public Service Company of New Mexico. He does double duty as a volunteer with HPD each year during the division’s annual Archaeology Fair, where he spends hours teaching youth and adults traditional practices, including the finer techniques of rapidly propelling a spear with an atlatl—a launching device at least 20,000 years old. Mr. Fields was unable to attend.

*photos: Peter Weinreb, Robyn Pow*
A w a r d s

Heritage Organization

**AMY BIEHL HIGH SCHOOL** for organizing and designing the perfect fit of an enlightened educational program into Albuquerque’s historic federal building. Built between 1908 and 1911 before New Mexico statehood, Albuquerque’s old federal post office and courthouse represented a bygone era of grand, public spaces; it was considered one of the crowning achievements of downtown Banker’s Row. Now Albuquerque’s first downtown high school in 30 years, the building immediately fascinated faculty and students, who enhance their educational experience with nearby cultural resources downtown. The school, U.S. General Services Division and Hartman + Majewski Design Group consulted with HPD on a rehabilitation that makes the Mediterranean Revival-style architecture with its wide, marble hallways, steep, twisting staircases, elegant crown molding and hand-carved wood doors an integral part of the educational experience. From left to right are Dr. Rael-Galvez, GSA architect Steve Kline, Ms. Slick, school CEO Tony Monfiletto and Gregory Hartman, architect.

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO** for exemplary recovery of critical archaeological resources from a Jornada Mogollon Village. The city worked closely with HPD and hired SWCA Archaeological Consultants when trenching for a new waterline led to the discovery of seven pit houses and surface rooms, trash middens, hearths and eventually the remains of 13 villagers at the prehistoric site. Not only were resources expertly recovered, but as public interest grew the city made information available to the media and began work on an interpretive display of the recovery. The city lent its equipment and staff to the effort. When it was learned later that construction of a desalination plant would impact 16 additional prehistoric sites, project engineers successfully redesigned the facility to avoid them. Arthur Alterson, Alamogordo community development director; and Peter Castiglia, SWCA, attended.

**NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO SITE STEWARDS PROGRAM** for engaging hundreds of volunteer citizens in historic preservation while establishing the state’s premiere site steward program. The regional program is highly successful in large part because of Jim Copeland, an archaeologist with the Farmington Bureau of Land Management field office; and Larry Baker, executive director of Salmon Ruins Museum. They have worked with Northwest site steward Tom Whitson, also honored but unable to attend the ceremony, to create a volunteer network of 150 stewards who monitor more than 100 rock art sites, Navajo Pueblos and historic homesteads.

**SCHOOL OF AMERICAN RESEARCH** for nearly 100 years of providing a dynamic educational and research institution focused globally and on the American Southwest. SAR was one of the first centers established for the studies of archaeology and ethnology following passage of the Antiquities Act of 1906. Established in 1907, its first director, Dr. Edgar Lee Hewett, had worked to establish the 1906 Act, revived Santa Fe Fiesta and helped create “Santa Fe Style”. Shown from the school are Diane McCarthy, Carol Sager, President James Brooks, Susan Foote, Chair of the Board of Managers, Mary Crouchet, Rita Irigan, Jennifer Day and Sharon Tison.

Tribal Heritage

**U.S. COURTHOUSE PROJECT, SANTA FE**, for Tesuque Pueblo and the U.S. General Services Administration’s model tribal consultation during a routine construction project. GSA and the pueblo were honored for harmoniously working together when unmarked, ancestral burials were discovered during trenching for new drainage. Each time remains were encountered, the groups engaged in consultation, which included HPD, often meeting at the site to map out a new course for the drainage. By proceeding together, the parties avoided moving any of the burials, and met the requirements of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act.

**DR. SCOTT RUSHFORTH** for documenting Chiricahua Apache Prisoners of War and preserving and recording the language of the Mescalero Apache. Because of Dr. Rushforth’s work with the Mescalero, the Apache language is preserved and used today in schools and hospitals. A professor at New Mexico State University, he worked with tribal members to compile a dictionary of the Apache language. He produced a documentary based on the 27-year imprisonment of the Chiricahua Apache, whose leader Geronimo, died at 89 while still in captivity.

Archaeological Heritage

**DR. EDWARD STASKI** for dedicated research and outreach on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro. Dr. Staski assembled one of the key bodies of research on El Camino Real, and has shared it with more than a generation of students and the public. His work helped reveal the diverse cultures that traversed El Camino Real, the Americas’ first transcontinental trade route. A professor at New Mexico State University since 1983, he took students to repositories and taught procedures to identify and access documents that illustrate land-development patterns. The survey identified several sites associated with El Camino Real; the most significant being the possible location of El Paraje La Salinera within the town boundaries of Vinton. Drs. Rael-Galvez, Staski and O’Leary are shown with Polly Staski at the reception.
very five years, HPD embarks on a collaboration with partners and friends to reevaluate our state preservation vision, accomplishments and goals. Provisions in the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act require states and U.S. territories to revise and develop a comprehensive, historic preservation plan covering five-year periods. New Mexico Historic Preservation: A Plan for 2002-2006, was formulated with the help of New Mexicans throughout the state who offered their insights and responded to questionnaires.

We are revising the plan this year, and HPD once again is asking New Mexicans to participate in crafting the state's historic preservation plan. As a first step we are asking you to help us identify and formulate priorities for statewide preservation action over the next five years and into the future.

Gathering citizen opinion is the first step in revising the historic preservation plan. Our goal is to develop an integrated, forward-thinking document to identify and prioritize needs, guide statewide preservation planning, highlight preservation accomplishments, and protect our treasured resources well into the future.

We would appreciate a few moments of your time so we can learn your opinions. Please return the questionnaire by July 15, 2006. The questionnaire also is available for electronic submission on the HPD Web site at www.nmhistoricpreservation.org by clicking on the Forms and Documents tab on the Home page. Forms can be sent to Jan Biella, Preservation Services manager, at jan.biella@state.nm.us. The current state plan, a summary of its goals, objectives and highlights, some of which are reprinted here, also is available at our Web site.

Current Vision Statement:
"Together we discover, celebrate and safeguard New Mexico's wealth of cultural heritage to enhance the quality of life for the state's residents and visitors."

### Updating Preservation Goals
**HPD wants to know your thoughts about historic preservation**

**GOALS**

- Expand and strengthen public knowledge about the protection and preservation of our cultural resources.
- Strive for greater cost effectiveness, fuller funding and knowledge about funding for historic preservation.
- Incorporate historic and cultural preservation into community planning.
- Strengthen advocacy and legal protections that further protect the cultural resources New Mexicans want to preserve.
- Expand and strengthen the network of preservation organizations and individuals throughout the state, including those representing various ages, abilities, and cultural and ethnic groups.

A new State Preservation Plan must be developed with goals in place for the five-year period 2007-2011.

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1. The preservation of New Mexico's historic and cultural resources is important for the following reasons (check your top three choices):

___ improves quality of life
___ provides learning opportunities
___ strengthens communities
___ interprets prehistory and history
___ supports downtown revitalization
___ enhances economic development
___ provides a sense of place
___ promotes tourism
___ highlights architecture and art
___ recognizes aesthetic value
___ other __________________________

2. Which of the following best describes the most pressing challenges to historic preservation in New Mexico (check your top three choices):

___ demolition or neglect of historic structures
___ lack of general information/education
___ publicly funded infrastructure projects (road projects, energy development...)
___ lack of shared vision
___ maintaining publicly owned historic sites
___ lack of economic incentives to stimulate private preservation/rehabilitation
___ deterioration of town centers
___ sprawl
___ lack of sensitivity to archaeological resources
___ other __________________________

3. What do we need most to do a better job of protecting historic and cultural resources in New Mexico (check your top three choices):

___ improves quality of life
___ provides learning opportunities
___ strengthens communities
___ interprets prehistory and history
___ demolition or neglect of historic structures
___ lack of general information/education
___ publicly funded infrastructure projects (road projects, energy development...)
___ lack of shared vision
___ maintaining publicly owned historic sites
___ lack of economic incentives to stimulate private preservation/rehabilitation
___ deterioration of town centers
___ sprawl
___ lack of sensitivity to archaeological resources
___ other __________________________

4. Which of the following financial incentives do you think would be most effective for historic preservation in New Mexico (choose one):

___ incentives to encourage rehabilitation of privately owned property
___ incentives to encourage preservation of open space and rural resources
___ incentives to encourage urban and small town redevelopment (rehabilitations, restorations...)
___ funding for bricks & mortar projects, restoration of structures

5. Of the choices below, which are best able to protect historic and cultural resources (check your top two choices):

___ federal government
___ state government
___ city/county government
___ tribal government
___ nonprofit groups
___ private individuals and businesses

6. The most pressing challenge to historic preservation in your community is (check your top two choices):

___ retail/commercial development
___ residential development
___ lack of economic incentives
___ lack of community interest
___ lack of understanding by town or tribal officials
___ lack of funding
___ other __________________________

7. The resources most important to preserve in your community are (check your top three choices):

___ main streets/downtown
___ churches and cemeteries
___ neighborhoods
___ schools
___ public buildings
___ acequias
___ industrial sites & commercial signage
___ houses
___ bridges and roadways
___ farms and ranches
___ forts and battlefields
___ parks
___ archaeological sites
___ open space/natural resources
___ other __________________________

8. What county do you live in? _____________________________________

9. New Mexico Historic Preservation: A Plan for 2002-2006 established five statewide preservation goals to support the plan’s vision. Should these goals be incorporated into the revised plan? (see goals in picture box, page 6)

___ yes  ___ no  Goal 1
___ yes  ___ no  Goal 2
___ yes  ___ no  Goal 3
___ yes  ___ no  Goal 4
___ yes  ___ no  Goal 5

Briefly list new goals or explain revisions:

10. Please use the space below or attach extra paper to comment on any regional or statewide preservation concerns not addressed elsewhere in this questionnaire:

Return completed forms to Historic Preservation Division, Jan Biella, Bataan Memorial Building, Suite 236, 407 Galisteo St., Santa Fe, NM 87501
July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Children’s Saturday Storytelling in Spanish. Coronado State Monument, Bernalillo, 10 a.m.—Noon. 505-867-5351.

July 15
6th Annual Cuentos de la Frontera—Tales of the Frontier. Bilingual stories of the Pecos Valley and Llano Estacado. 1–4 p.m., Bosque Redondo Memorial/Fort Sumner, 505-355-2573.

July 25 – 27
MainStreet Summer Institute and Awards. The coalition of New Mexico MainStreet projects gathers in Farmington for workshops, informational sessions and awards. State office: 505-827-0363.

July 28
Deadline for HPD to receive State Cultural Property Tax Credit applications for consideration at the August 11 CPRC meeting. Robyn Powell: 827-4057; Harvey Kaplan: 827-3971.

August 3 – 8
Libyan archaeologists say their field of study is the primary fuel for tourism in Libya. They visit Santa Fe and HPD the first week of August. HPD: 505-827-6320.

August 4 – 6
Old Lincoln Days and State Monuments 75th Anniversary. The 1939 Billy the Kid Pageant depicts the Lincoln County War. Fiddler’s contest, live demonstration, parade and food. Lincoln State Monument, Lincoln, 505-653-4372.

August 5
The Las Vegas Citizen’s Committee for Historic Preservation hosts the annual “Places with a Past” tour, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Maps for self-guided tour available at CCHP headquarters, 127 Bridge Street. $15 cost benefits preservation.

August 11
Cultural Properties Review Committee bi-monthly meeting. 1 p.m. Room 310, State Capitol Building. Tax Credits and Permits subcommittees at 9 a.m., Room 311 and 310 respectively. HPD: 505-827-6320.

August 12
Horno Baking at Coronado State Monument. 1–3 p.m.

August 11 – 13
West of the Pecos Art Show. Local artwork on display at Bosque Redondo Memorial at Fort Sumner, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. 505-355-2573.

August 13
Pueblo Independence Day and State Monuments 75th Anniversary commemorates the Pueblo Revolt with traditional footrace, music, dance, food and arts. Ceremonies start 10 a.m. Jemez State Monument, Jemez Springs. 505-829-3530.

August 22
What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings in New Mexico. Albuquerque city attorney Robert M. White and John Paper, Angel Fire village administrator, review the Open Meetings Act, answer questions pertaining to inquiries and related matters. 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. State Bar Center of New Mexico, 5127 Masthead Northeast, Albuquerque. Register: www.lorman.com.

September 4
Mountain Spirits/Plains People. Mescalero Apache demonstrate traditional skills. 10 a.m.—5 p.m., Bosque Redondo Memorial at Fort Sumner. 505-355-2573.

September 6
Adventures in Anthropology Trips and Tours features Spanish Missions of the Zia and Jemez pueblos. Meet at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, 7:45 a.m & return 7 p.m. Register early; limited space: 505-476-1258. Museum of New Mexico Foundation members get a $10 discount off the $95 registration price.

September 15 & 16
13th annual New Mexico Archaeology Fair. HPD brings together archaeologists, preservationists, re-enactors and live demonstrations of traditional practices. Centennial Park, Clayton. Noon–5 p.m., Friday; and 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Saturday. HPD State Archaeologist Glenna Dean: 505-827-3989.