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The Historical Society of New Mexico, 1859 - 1976

By Myra Ellen Jenkins

The Historical Society of New Mexico, the oldest organization of its kind west of the Mississippi River, was formally organized on December 26, 1859 when a number of New Mexicans, both Hispano and Anglo, including many officers, territorial officials, judges, lawyers, churchmen, politicians and merchants, signed the necessary corporation papers, adopted a constitution, and elected Col. John B. Grayson, U.S.A., as president. This meeting was held in the Territorial Council chambers at the Palace of the Governors. Two days later, the Society reconvened in the home of the president to adopt by-laws. When the second regular meeting was held in February, 1860, quarters had been rented from Bishop John B. Lamy, also a member, in an adobe building on the present St. Vincent's Hospital.

For more than a year a vigorous and active program was pushed with speakers on historical subjects featured at monthly meetings, and the launching of a collection program for historical objects and documents. Unfortunately, few of the latter have survived. The Civil War cut short this first endeavor as President Grayson, and several other military members, resigned their commissions and left the territory to join the Confederacy, joined by some of the leading territorial officials. The Society was adjourned *sine die* September 23, 1863.



Myra Ellen Jenkins "Dr. J" at the Historical Society of New Mexico Annual Conference in Santa Fe April, 1990 (Sculpture in foreground by Curtis Fort of Tatum, NM)

In December, 1880, on the 21st anniversary of the organization of the Society, pursuant to a published call issued by David J. Miller and Captain Louis Felsenthal, members of the old society, a large number of citizens from various parts of the territory gathered at the office of Secretary of the Territory W.G. Ritch in the Palace of the Governors, reorganized and reestablished the Historical Society of New Mexico, and elected Ritch president, and chief justice of the territorial

supreme court L. Bradford Prince (later Governor of New Mexico) as first vice president. Ten other vice presidents were also elected, including, among others, Antonio Joseph of Taos, William Kroenig of Mora County, Mariano S. Otero of Bernalillo County, Tranquilino Luna of Valencia and Judge Warren Bristol of Doña Ana. A few items from the previous collections were recovered, and again the Society embarked upon a vigorous program of acquisition of historical materials, and sponsored addresses by leading authorities, such as Adolph F. Bandelier, on pertinent topics.

With the completion of a new capitol in 1885, most territorial offices were moved to the new structure and the Society, through the direct appeal of Prince, who had succeeded Ritch as president, to the Secretary of the Interior resulted in the issuing of an order that the two east rooms of the Palace, as they were vacated, be turned over to the Society. Exhibit cases were installed to house the growing collections, and on September 24, 1885 the new quarters were formally opened in a grand reception with appropriate addresses being delivered by Prince and Territorial Governor Edmund G. Ross. Shortly thereafter, the adjoining hallway and room were also taken over by the Society.

By act of June 21, 1898 Congress gave the Palace of the Governors to the Territory of New Mexico, and the

Historical Society continued to use the east portion of the building and periodically to receive funds from the territorial legislature for the purchase of documents, books and artifacts.

The Museum of New Mexico was created by act of the 1909 territorial legislature under the control and management of a six-member board of regents appointed by the governor. However, the details were somewhat complex, since a compact was also entered into with the School of American Archaeology, a Santa Fe affiliate of the Washington, D.C.-based Archaeological Institute of America, a private institution. The Palace of the Governors was turned over to the new agency as headquarters for both the Museum and the School, and three regents were also to be members of the Managing Board of the School of American Archaeology, and the Director of the School, Dr. Edgar L. Hewett, was also the Director of the Museum of New Mexico. The law also specified: "That the rooms in the east end of the building which are now occupied by the Historical Society of New Mexico, shall be reserved for the use of said Society, free of rent, so long as the same is conducted in harmony with the management of the Museum of New Mexico herein established."

From this date until 1959 programs of the three organizations, the Museum,

...continued on page 2

Jane Sanchez Leaves Endowment to Historical Society of New Mexico



Jane Calvin Sanchez
(Photograph October 2003)

Jane Calvin Sanchez had a more than forty-year career as a New Mexico historian. Although she was born in Chicago, Illinois, on April 27, 1929, she considered herself a native of New Mexico. The daughter of a Chicago socialite, Ruth Goodkind Calvin and James Frank Calvin, she was raised on her parent's ranch near Cerrillos, New Mexico (now owned by W.H. Mee).

According to an article by Jan Jonas published in The Albuquerque Tribune, Friday, February 17, 2006, Jane spent hours on her father's ranch riding her horse, where she searched the ruins of the old San Marcos pueblo. Through this activity, she developed a lifelong passion for the history and culture of New Mexico.

A portion of her early education was spent at a boarding school in Monticello, New Mexico, where she was one of three graduates in her senior class. Jane attended the University of New Mexico, receiving her degree in languages in 1952. Well-known historians Eleanor Adams and Victor Westphall were two of her mentors and friends. She retained a close friendship with Westphall throughout his life.

After receiving her degree from the university, Jane married Manuel P. "Pat" Sanchez, who was finishing his college education as a midshipman at Annapolis. After their marriage, the couple lived on the east coast for a brief period before returning to New Mexico, where she resumed her research into the state's history. The private lives of the early Spanish explorers Juan Cabeza de Vaca and Francisco Vasquez de Coronado were only a couple of her special interests. After her son Philip graduated from high school, Jane took her family to

Salamanca, Spain. Coronado's birthplace. About three years ago, she returned to Spain to complete her research on the two early New Mexico explorers.

Not only was Jane interested in the Spanish Colonial period she also had a fascination with Territorial politics. In the July 1966 (Vol. 41: No 3), her article "Agitated, Personal, and Unsound .." was published by the *New Mexico Historical Review*. The topic of the article is about Governor and ex-General Robert Byington Mitchell, who was appointed Territorial Governor of New Mexico in 1866. It discusses his term, vote fraud, and the general inability of an "unswerving Democrat" to govern "the solidly Republican Territory." Further interests included play writing and directing.

In her will, Sanchez requested that her research be given to various New Mexico repositories. In addition, she bequeathed a generous endowment to the Historical Society of New Mexico, with the following stipulation: "The Historical Society of New Mexico (is) to establish a fund for publication of original research on New Mexico or Borderlands history. The research may include folklore, fiction or drama as well as traditional historical works." This important gift to the Society recognizes the high regard

Sanchez had for the organization. She was one of their most enthusiastic supporters and seldom missed attending the annual conferences.

Sanchez passed away on February 12, 2006. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1996 and is survived by her three children Philip, Sandra and Patricia Elena. Jane's children recalled their mother's home office, which had everything she needed, including a microfilm reader, numerous reels of microfilm and a computer where she kept her research data. Jane Calvin Sanchez had a deep passion for New Mexico and its rich history and culture. Her legacy will live on through publications of the Historical Society of New Mexico.

~CCL

Historical Society of New Mexico members who may be interested in making similar gifts to the Society can contact the Treasurer, Post Office Box 1912, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504.

Annual Conference, April 26 - 29, 2007, Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona, Hon-Dah Resort. Held jointly with the Arizona Historical Society

2006 Historical Society of New Mexico Awards

The Historical Society of New Mexico presented the following awards at its annual conference, Albuquerque, April 21, 2006

Edgar Lee Hewett Award

Outstanding service to the public:

- David V. Holtby, Editor, University of New Mexico Press



David Holtby accepting Hewett Award

L. Bradford Prince Award

for significant work in the field of historic preservation:

- Rev. Monsignor. Jerome Martinez
- Rededication of St. Francis Cathedral in Santa Fe;
- Rebuilding church in El Rito;
- Designing and building Santa Maria de la Paz, Santa Fe;
- Redesigning the architectural responsibilities and initiating the first Archbishop's Commission for the Preservation of Historic Churches while Vicar General

Ralph Emerson Twitchell Award

Significant contribution to the field of history in the areas of fine arts, articles, books or exhibits:

- Gene Peach and Max Evans, *Making a Hand: Growing up Cowboy in New Mexico* (Museum of New Mexico Press)



Gene Peach and Max Evans accept Twitchell Award

- Mark L. Gardner and Ron Kil, *Jack Thorp's Songs of the Cowboys* (Museum of New Mexico Press)



Mark Gardner and Ron Kil, recipients of a Twitchell Award

Gaspar Perez de Villagra Award

Outstanding publication by an individual:

- Stanley Hordes, *To the End of the Earth* (Columbia University Press)



Richard Melzer, René Harris and Stanley Hordes

- Colleen O'Neill, *Working the Navajo Way: Labor and Culture in the Twentieth Century* (University Press of Kansas)

Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez Award

Historic survey and research:

- Richard Flint and Shirley Cushing Flint, *Documents of the Coronado Expedition, 1539-1542* (Southern Methodist University Press)

Lansing B. Bloom Award

Outstanding publication or series of publications by a society or institution:

- Bill Lockhart, *Fourth Street, Near Manzanares: The Carbonated Beverage Industry in Socorro, New Mexico* (Socorro County Historical Society)

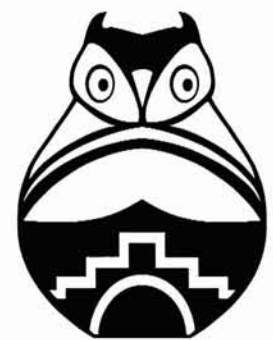
Dorothy Woodward Award

Advancement of education:

- New Mexico Humanities Council: Chautauqua Program and National History Day Competition



Craig Newbill, Director of NM Humanities Council and René Harris



The Historical Society continued...

the School of American Research and the Historical Society of New Mexico, were interrelated. Under the direction of Director Hewett a massive program of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the venerable old Palace, which had served as the seat of government from 1610 through most of the territorial period, was begun. In the process, conflict arose between the Director of the Museum - School of American Research and the leaders of the Historical Society over the use of space and jurisdiction. As a result, some of the Society's valuable collections were removed, or otherwise dispersed, and have remained in private hands. Other collections, however, continued to be acquired by gift or by state funds appropriated to the Museum. In 1922 a large number of official Spanish, Mexican and Territorial records, as well as private historical papers from these periods, some actually bearing the official stamp of the Historical Society, were sold by the estate of former Society president Ritch to the Huntington Library. During the 1960s an unsuccessful attempt was made by the State Records Center and Archives to replevin, from private hands, another large group of Spanish and Mexican period archives of the Santa Cruz area which had been bought by the Historical Society in the early 1900s with territorial appropriations.

By 1927 a critical problem had arisen with respect to the mounting records created by state agencies, due to the absence of any records management program and the lack of space in the state capitol. Storage areas were filled to overflowing. In an attempt to solve the problem, the legislature in that year passed HB 338 making the Historical Society of New Mexico "the official custodian and trustee for the State of New Mexico of the public archives of whatever kind which may be transferred to it from any public office..." The legislature, continued to make appropriations for the Historical Society,

but the funds were administered by the Museum of New Mexico. The situation was an impossible one, either for the Museum or the Society. As administrative agency for the Society, the Museum was charged with preserving records but had neither the space nor the personnel to take adequate steps towards organizing or even for properly housing the papers. Throughout 1927 - 1960 much good work was done, intermittently, in the description and listing of the individual collections, but nothing could be done with the non-current public records which by that time had become archival in nature and value.

For many years one of the chief functions of the Historical Society was the sponsorship of the *New Mexico Historical Review*, a professional journal, the first issue of which appeared in January, 1926 with Lansing B. Bloom as principal editor. Since 1917 Bloom had been on the staff of the School of American Research and the Museum of New Mexico. With his appointment to the History Department of the University of New Mexico in 1929 the *Review* became a joint publication of the Society and the University, with UNM providing the editor (Bloom) while the Society was responsible for its management and business affairs. Complications mounted, for while the state legislature allocated some funds for the Society, as a quasi-public organization, these funds were budgeted and administered by the Museum of New Mexico, and, hence, responsibilities were never fully defined. During the 1940s and 1950s, except for the *Review* the Society became relatively inactive. Following the death of Mr. Bloom, Dr. Frank D. Reeve, Professor of History at the University of New Mexico became editor and served in that capacity until his retirement.

In the meantime, two major changes had occurred with reference to the interlocking Museum of New Mexico - School of American Research - Historical

Society of New Mexico relationship. The 1959 legislature mandated the separation of the Museum of New Mexico, a state agency, from the School of American Research. It also passed the Public Records Act creating a new agency, the State Records Center, as the official depository for all public records, repealing the 1927 act giving any custodianship of those records to the Historical Society.

Because of these developments, the Historical Society reincorporated in 1959 as a private organization no longer directly connected with the Museum of New Mexico. Since state funds were no longer allocated to the Museum for the Society's use, that institution was hard-pressed to provide assistance and the *Review* became virtually an orphan. Under a three-way agreement by the Museum, the Society and UNM on July 1, 1963, ownership of the *Review* was turned over to the University, but one direct tie between the Society and University remained in that membership

was secured only by subscription to the *Review*, and \$1.00 of the subscription fee was returned to the Society as dues. In 1964 respected Spanish Colonial period scholar Eleanor B. Adams succeeded Dr. Reeve as editor, and upon her retirement in the summer of 1975 Dr. Manuel P. Servin of the University of New Mexico History Department became editor.

Following the reincorporation of the Society in 1959 several capable presidents attempted various projects to further its objectives, but interest lagged, partly because of the membership by subscription to the *Review* limitation. Beginning in 1973 an increasing number of individuals interested in a wide variety of aspects concerning New Mexico's rich, multicultural history, as well as historic preservation groups and local historical organizations, discussed plans for a reorganized and revitalized Society. At the last meeting, held September 17, 1975, a new constitution and by-laws were adopted. ~MEJ

Letter from the Editor

This year marks the 30th anniversary since the establishment of *La Crónica de Nuevo México* (June 1976) No. 1. In recognition of this important event, we have reprinted "The Historical Society of New Mexico, 1859-1976" written by then State Historian Myra Ellen Jenkins (1916-1993). Before she retired in 1981, Jenkins held the dual position of Historian/Archivist.

During the mid-1970s, a core group of Society members undertook the task of revitalizing the organization. Some of the members of that group included Myra Ellen Jenkins, John P. Conron, Albert H. Schroeder, Lorraine Lavender, Michael Weber, Fern Lyon, Spencer Wilson and Austin Hoover. They developed a plan, which included two important innovations, one of which was to initiate a publication, which

would print scholarly articles and information of historical interest. For the first issue of the publication, there was no title on the masthead just "What Should We Call It?" Therefore, a contest for naming the publication ensued. The winner of the competition was Pedro Ribera-Ortega.

Secondly, their plan called for an annual three-day conference to be held at various towns throughout the state. The first such conference was held in April 1978 at the Holy Cross Franciscan Monastery at Mesilla Park, a small community adjacent to Las Cruces. The quadrangle style campus of the monastery provided a retreat-like atmosphere, which was a perfect setting. At that conference, J. Paul and Mary Taylor hosted a dinner party at their sprawling historic hacienda on the Old La Mesilla Plaza. ~CCL

Mexican integration, immigration and assimilation within the aftermath of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

By Corina Bejan



Corina Bejan accepts \$1000 check from Margaret Espinosa McDonald. Bejan was the recipient of the Myra Ellen Jenkins graduate scholarship

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848 not only added vast territories in what is now the U.S. Southwest, from California to New Mexico, to the United States but also shaped the socio-economic position of the Mexicans within these territories. This paper will address the question if the United States has fulfilled its obligation under the Treaty with respect to property rights held by traditional communities and individuals in New Mexico, how it affected their socio-economic integration into the new American society and which factors contributed to native New Mexicans out- and inter-migration movements.

I - The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848

From the end of the 17th century to the mid 19th century, Spain, and later Mexico, made land grants to individuals, groups, and towns to promote development in the frontier lands that today constitute the American Southwest. The land grants were issued for various purposes: To encourage settlement, reward patrons of the Spanish government, establish and exploit mines and to create a buffer zone between Indian tribes and the more populated regions of its northern frontier. Even after its independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico continued to adhere to the land policies adopted by Spain. In New Mexico, there were two types of land grants made: "Community land grants" and "individual land grants". Both Mexican and Spanish law usually authorized the local governor to make such land grants, and the size of each grant was a matter within the governor's discretion. (GAO-45-59 4)

In 1783, the United States formally acquired its independence from England in the Treaty of Paris, and with the establishment of a federal government in 1789, the U.S. steadily acquired more land and expanded south to Florida and west to California (GAO-45-59 4-5). The United States' "land hunger" (Priestley 229) was rooted in economic reasons, prestige and the doctrine of "Manifest Destiny" claiming that the United States was a superior nation, stronger, peopled by more enterprising population, and better able than Mexico to develop the new land (Zeleny 105). American nationalism, ethnocentrism and

sectional interests³ thus lead to expansionist aims (ebd. 107). Consequently, when Texas achieved statehood in 1845, U.S. and Mexican territorial interests collided leading to the Mexican-American War from 1846 - 1848 which ended with the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits and Settlement, commonly referred to as the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (GAO-04-59 4). By this treaty, New Mexico, Nevada and parts of Arizona, Utah, Texas and California were ceded to the United States (Gonzalez 43). Besides, the United States agreed to recognize and protect property rights of Mexican citizens living in the newly acquired areas.

In New Mexico, Congress established two different and successive mechanisms for recognizing and confirming Spanish and Mexican land claims. First, in 1854 the Office of the Surveyor General of New Mexico within the Department of the Interior was established. The Surveyor General was charged with investigating Spanish and Mexican land grant claims and submitting to Congress recommendations on their acceptance or rejection. The Surveyor General was directed to examine the claims by applying Spanish and Mexican laws, customs, and usages, and to treat the prior existence of a city, town, or village as clear evidence of a grant. In 1891, the Court of Private Land Claims (CPLC) was established which only confirmed grants where title has been "lawfully and regularly derived" under the laws of Spain or Mexico. (GAO-04-59 4 ff.)

Both acts included a number of regulations which rendered it difficult for Mexicans to claim, prove and preserve their lands. Not only was the deadline for the filing of land grant claims two years, but the land grant claims also had to be submitted in written form and include details about the authority from which the original title was derived, the quantity of land claimed, the name of the original and present claimant and the concrete location of the grant. The fulfilment of these requirements proved to be very difficult for the majority of the New Mexicans, as most were unfamiliar with the English language, the U.S. legal system, and American culture (GAO-04-59 4 ff.). For example, Mexicans had a

different understanding of land tenure and ownership patterns than Americans had. The Spanish/Mexican land system was not based on fee simple ownership and on land as a commodity which could be bought and sold but land was more viewed in relationship to the community, and boundaries were defined with reference to terrestrial landmarks or the adjoining property. As these markers were often difficult to locate, Spanish and Mexican land records sometimes lacked the geographic precision of the U.S. system (ebd. 4 ff). Thus, Mexicans claiming their land, had not only to pay for expensive surveys to measure their lands but also engage lawyers to assist them in dealing with the land claim procedures. The hereof resulting costs amounted in many cases to more than the cash value of the land claimed, thus the claimants not only lost their land to the U.S. based on incomplete claim submissions due to lack of required documents, but also to the lawyers who had to be paid for their services. (GAO-04-59 5 ff.)

Particularly in the context of the 1851 Act, three core reasons for rejection of claims for New Mexico land grants occurred. Under United States v. Sandoval⁵ the courts confirmed grants but restricted them to their so-called "individual allotments", ruling that ownerships of town lands in New Mexico had remained with the sovereign (Mexico/Spain), concluding that the claimed land passed under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo to the new sovereign - the United States. Consequently, with regard to this decision the courts ignored the Spanish/Mexican customs and laws that cities and communities could be owners of land. Additionally, under United States v. Cambuston⁴ and United States v. Vigil⁵ the American courts rejected grants claiming that the grants had been made by unauthorized officials. In this context, the Supreme Court only recognized provincial governors, provincial *diputaci3ns* and town councils (and this only for certain periods) as officials authorized to grant land. Although it might be true that it would have been difficult to trace the respective authorized official due to the frequently changing legislation passed by the Spanish and Mexican governments and the lacking of records, the courts' ruling of the limited containment of the authorized officials did not respect "laws, usages, and customs" of Spain and Mexico under which local governors or persons appointed by them could authorize land claims. Finally, in Hayes v. United States⁶, grants were rejected because they were supported solely by copies of documents that had been made by unauthorized officials. (GAO-04-59 8 ff.)

The above outlined acts and regulations, as well as the reversing of already approved land and a newly introduced property tax led to the fact that from the 9.38 million acres of land claimed by New Mexicans only 5.96 million acres (63.5 %) were awarded and 3.42 million acres (36.5 %) became part of the U.S. public domain available for settlement by the general population. (GAO-04-59 8)

II - Impacts of Land Loss under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

The United States considered all land in the New Mexico territory from the very first beginning to be part of the public domain unless proven otherwise (GAO-04-59 8 ff.). This attitude is not only reflected in the above outlined acts of 1854 and 1891 but also in the government's practice to patent claimed

land under its regular land-grant legislation, including the Homestead Act of 1862.

The introduction of large numbers of Anglo-Americans into an area occupied for centuries by a single ethnic group with long-established and carefully-balanced economy resulted in ethnic and socio-cultural conflicts between the old settlers and the newcomers and the disruption of the life of the older residents (Zeleny 148). Anglo-American political officials, traders, contractors and homesteaders were soon followed by a more important Anglo-American migration movement which was rooted in the Reconstruction Program in the South which caused many ex-Confederates to turn their eyes toward the Southwest. Additionally, promotions to develop the West and financial interests in the East boosted the Anglo-American influx (ebd. 143). The building of the railroad not only profited East investors but also served as a crucial instrument in bringing to New Mexico many "fortune-hunting Americans" (ebd. 143) who considerably engaged in stock-raising, agriculture, and mining. Being displaced from their land and forced into an economic competition with the Anglo-Americans, a competition in which they were severely handicapped, many Mexicans could no longer make their livelihood based on agriculture and stock-raising. In search of new resources of income and untrained for other pursuits most of them have been forced to work as unskilled laborers in the new American enterprises. Many found work in mining and railroad, in the cattle-raising industry as "vacqueros" or "pastors", which from the beginning were largely in Anglo-American hands - or moved to newly established towns along the railroad to find work in the service and informal sector. Consequently, many native New Mexicans have systematically been reduced to a subordinate dependent position as second class citizens (Zeleny 175; Gonzalez 39 ff.). Along with the new fields of work new settlement patterns developed as well. Many who left their families in order to find work lived in segregated districts on the mining and lumbering camps (Twitchell 1991-1917) and their exploitation was easy as the mobility of cheap labor from Mexico created a large floating of labor force in New Mexico, willing to work at subsistence wages or less (Zeleny 194). In search of new job opportunities, some New Mexicans left for fields and mines in Colorado, moved to lumber camps of Arizona, to the fruit-producing areas of California, and to ranches and sheep-camps throughout the West. Additionally, occupational segregation was also a product of group-prejudice (ebd. 207). Beliefs of Mexican inferiority and race-antagonism led to New Mexicans' employment in predominantly industrial and low-paid jobs (ebd. 210).

Based on the racial discrimination in the U.S. borderlands and Anglo-American intolerance toward Mexicans as well as them being subjected to continuous harassment, miscarriages of justice, land invasions, swindles, thefts, rapes, murders, and lynchings in the early 1850s about two thousand native New Mexicans left their homes and crossed the border into Mexico when Anglos encroached upon their lands (Martinez 48). Thus, disappropriation not only led to inter- but also to out-migration.

Facing social, economic and judicial injustice, some Mexican Americans fought back which resulted in their

branding as bandits and outlaws (Gonzalez 101). For example in New Mexico, around 1887, a militant group of social bandits called *Las Gorras Blancas* began fending off land grabbers. During the San Miguel County land wars of 1889 - 1890 they masked their faces with white bandannas, mounted their horses, and raided jailhouses, railroad properties, and stolen landholdings. With justice as their watchword, they claimed 1,500 members and enjoyed the support of most of northern New Mexico's Mexican Americans. Of course, such activities increased in return discriminatory actions, killings and lynchings from Anglo-Americans toward the Mexicans. (Zeleny 180 ff.; Rosenbaum 139 ff.)

Nevertheless, compared to for example California, politics was the only field in which the New Mexican Mexicans had achieved anything like equal status with the Anglo-Americans as many Mexicans have fairly filled sizable number of political positions before the first Anglo-American settlers arrived and were able to sustain their positions (Zeleny 212).

III - Conclusion

With regard to the above outlined implementation of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in which the United States promised respect and protection of the property rights of Mexican citizens living in the newly acquired New Mexican territory it could be argued that the United States did not fulfil its obligations stated under the treaty. Instead of protecting its new protégés, federal land grants and water reclamation projects favoured railroad owners and corporate farmers (Cockcroft 29). This behaviour reflected that the United States were only interested in the newly required land for economic, political and prestigious reasons while they rejected the native inhabitants considering them as inferior and as a "vast population which seemed incapable of incorporation" (Loyola 172).

The disposessions of many Mexicans of their land not only turned a former urban population into a rural one but also resulted in their degradation to second and lower class citizens enforcing segregated work and housing patterns (Zeleny 340) as well as racial discrimination. These measurements not only marginalized the Mexican population from the mainstream American society but also led to the fact, that the majority of the Mexicans themselves were not interested in acculturation and integration facing these discriminations. Consequently, the acts based on the Treaty, the American governmental and judicial behaviour as well as the exploiting and discriminatory approach toward Mexicans by Anglo-Americans led to intense interethnic conflicts, racial sentiments and rejections on both sides and the socio-economical marginalization of the new Mexican-American citizens - as New Mexico gained statehood in 1912 - within the American society. Additionally, resulting inter- and out-migration led to family and community disruptions thus weakening the Mexican-American communities in general.

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Footnotes

1. Community land grants were typically organized around a central plaza, where each individual received an individual allotment for a household and a tract of land to farm, and common land was set aside for use by the entire community.
2. The South hoped to gain increased weight in Congress for the slavery bloc by the acquisition of territory in the Southwest.
3. See *United States v. Sandoval*, 231 U.S. 28 (1913).
4. See *United States v. Cambuston*, 61 U.S. 59 (1857).
5. See *United States v. Vigil*, 80 U.S. 449 (1871).
6. See *Hayes v. United States*, 170 U.S. 637 (1898). ~ CB

Ms. Bejan's application letter below speaks for itself.

Dear Members of the Historical Society of New Mexico,

My name is Corina Bejan and I am a fourth year student majoring in American Studies and minoring in Anthropology and Political Science at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn [Germany]. Since August 2005 I am enrolled at the University of New Mexico as a non-degree exchange student which offers me the outstanding opportunity to learn more about the American culture in general, but also about the unique and diverse culture of New Mexico in particular.

Excellent classes with the History Department, Chicano Studies and the Department of Anthropology offered me detailed insights into the past and multicultural character of the 'Land of Enchantment', as New Mexico is lovingly called by its inhabitants. Influenced by the ancient Clovis civilization, the Pueblo cultures, the Apaches and the Navajos, the Spanish settlements after 1540, and 'Nuevo Mexico's' annexation after the Mexican-American War in 1846 - 1848, New Mexico is not only a place of a rich cultural heritage but also a place shaped by shifting identities, dynamism and cultural interactions - a place, a state and a borderland which developed a unique New Mexican identity.

New Mexico's cultural diversity and its singular landscape not only arose my personal affection and interest in this state but also strengthened my aspiration to write my Master's Thesis with the University of Bonn about Mexican-American border issues in the context of U.S. identity formation and immigration. Therefore I am very glad and honoured to have given the opportunity to share my interest in New Mexico with your society and submit my research paper about the Mexican integration, immigration and assimilation within the aftermath of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in the context of the Myra Ellen Jenkins Prize Competition as history not only defines New Mexico's past but also its future.

Yours sincerely,

Corina Bejan

Camp Capitan: A Depression Era Camp for Unemployed Young Women

By Lynn Adkins

During the 1930s, when many families in this country were on relief and young people were unemployed, New Deal programs were established by our national government to help the people most in need. President Roosevelt established the well known Civilian Conservation Corps program to put young men to work performing manual labor on conservation projects and other useful community endeavors, while being housed in group camps. Much less known are the residential camps for young women, which were established with strong support from Eleanor Roosevelt. There were numerous such camps, funded through the New Deal's National Youth Administration, spread throughout the United States. In these camps young women spent several months learning a variety of useful skills such as typing, stenography, and modern homemaking techniques, and enjoying healthful recreational activities, while being housed and fed at government expense.

New Mexico had one such camp,

Camp Capitan, one of the most successful and long-lived, located at a former CCC camp site in the Lincoln National Forest, near Capitan and Lincoln. During its 5 years of existence, from 1935 to 1940, over 2000 girls and young women went through the Camp Capitan program. Many other people worked there as well, such as teachers, cooks, and recreational leaders. It was unique among the women's camp programs in that there was an emphasis on teaching Hispanic arts and crafts such as weaving, colcha embroidery, and tin work to the enrollees.

Very little research has been done on this subject. I am a New Mexico historian, doing a major research project on Camp Capitan, and would like to communicate with anyone who attended the camp, or had family members there, or has any other knowledge about the camp. Please contact me, Lynn Adkins, at 4415 Night Hawk Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114, (505)899-4557, or e-mail me at ladkins@cybermesa.com. ~LA

Friends Acquire the Dorman Photograph Collection

Posted By: Curt Bianchi <curtbianchi@cumbrestoltec.org> Date: Apr 12, 2006

Last week the Friends took a major step toward expanding its mission by completing the first stage in acquiring the Richard L. Dorman Narrow Gauge Photograph Collection. The collection, assembled by Mr. Dorman over a period of more than 30 years, consists of approximately 22,000 black and white prints depicting the Denver & Rio Grande Western, Rio Grande Southern, and Colorado & Southern narrow gauge railroads in Colorado and New Mexico. In addition, Mr. Dorman has generously donated several thousand color transparencies of narrow gauge images to the Friends.

The Dorman Collection is unique in its combination of size and regional scope. The prints fill 180 notebooks. You could view one notebook every evening for six months before having to repeat yourself. Perhaps only the Phillip R. Hastings and Gerald M. Best collections, both housed at the California State Railroad Museum, and the M.D. McCarter collection are larger in number, each representing a broad range of railroads throughout the North America. In terms of narrow gauge subject matter, it is likely that the Dorman Collection is the largest extant narrow gauge photograph collection by a wide margin, and one that very likely cannot be duplicated.

Richard Dorman is best known in the railroad enthusiast community for the ten books that he has authored and published on narrow gauge railroading. His first book, *The Southern: A Narrow Gauge Odyssey*, was published in 1986. He dates the start of his photograph collection to a 1973 trip to Durango, Colorado, where he happened upon a 20-page tourism guide that had a photograph of RGS locomotive no. 25 on the cover. Smitten by the image, he inquired as to where it came from. That led to the widow of former RGS locomotive engineer Walter Virden, a locomotive engineer who started on the RGS early in the twentieth century. He and his fellow trainmen took a lot of pictures of each other at work, and Mrs. Virden had about 300-400 photographs. Mr. Dorman was able to make copy

negatives of them, and upon a return trip to Durango, she informed him that she had more, and ultimately offered to sell her entire set of prints and negatives to him. That led to other contacts, including the widow of former RGS engineer Winfred Laube, who had another 250 pictures. "That's how I got started," recalls Dorman. "I was continually looking for pictures. One person led to another."

"I'm quite pleased to see this collection go to the Friends," he says. "I think a lot of the organization and I've been a member for a long time. They'll do a good job with it. I think it will put the Friends in a stronger position as a source of narrow gauge information. It also brings some real synergy to the Southwest, and could give Albuquerque some real prominence in the field."

It is the Friends' objective to manage the collection as a permanent archive. To that end, the first priority is to establish secure, archival storage for the collection, and to develop a comprehensive cataloging system that will include scans of the photographs. The Friends intend to make the collection available to its members and others, the details of which will be announced at a later date.

Funding for the acquisition of the Dorman Collection has come entirely from grants and donations specifically for this purpose, as will funding for its ongoing storage and servicing. Completion of acquisition is planned for April 2007, and the Friends continue to seek grants and donations. Individuals interested in contributing to the Dorman Collection are encouraged to contact Tim Tennant at timtennant@cumbrestoltec.org, or by calling the Friends office at (505) 880-1311.

The Friends also seeks volunteers to assist in the process of cataloging and archiving the material. To this end, the first work session conducted at the Friends library in Albuquerque will take place this summer. Interested individuals should contact Spencer Wilson at spencerwilson@cumbrestoltec.org. ~CB

Lansing Bartlett Bloom (1880-1946)



Photograph from
New Mexico Historical Review (April 1946)

The Historical Society of New Mexico presents awards of excellence at their statewide conference each year. One of the awards is for the best publication by an individual or a series of publications by a society or institution, which is named in honor of Lansing Bartlett Bloom (1880-1946). Who was Lansing B. Bloom?

Born in Auburn, New York in 1880, Bloom intended to spend his life as a

minister. When he was in his mid-thirties, however, he began a new career when he devoted himself to the study of the American Southwest. The son of an Old New England family, Bloom could trace his lineage back to the *Mayflower*. As a young man, he attended both Williams College and Auburn Theological Seminary. Stricken with tuberculosis, he came to New Mexico, where in 1907, he married the daughter of John R. McFie, Associate Justice on the Territorial Supreme Court. Bloom and his wife went to Saltillo, Mexico, where he served as a Presbyterian missionary. Later he was transferred to a church at Jemez Pueblo, where he developed an intense interest in the traditions and past of the Pueblo people. After leaving Jemez, he served as a pastor in Magdalena, New Mexico, from 1915 to 1917.

Bloom exchanged his ministerial duties in 1917 for a position in the School of American Research and the Museum of New Mexico in Santa Fe. In 1924, in recognition of his scholarly contributions, Lansing B. Bloom was elected a Fellow of the Historical Society of New Mexico. In 1929, Bloom became a member of the department of history at the University of New Mexico, where he remained until his retirement in 1945. Being very active in the Historical Society of New Mexico, he was associate editor of

the historical journal *Old Santa Fe* and principal editor (Paul A.F. Walter, Jr. served as co-editor) of the *New Mexico Historical Review* from its founding in 1926 until his death.

The state of New Mexico recognized his extraordinary competence as a dedicated scholar by sending him on several extensive research trips during the late 1920s and 1930s, where he gathered material pertinent to New Mexico's historical heritage in Spain, Italy, France, and Mexico. During these excursions, Bloom took approximately thirty thousand microfilms, including photographs of the famous "Sahagun," a manuscript about the Aztecs, which was written by Friar Bernardino de Sahagun. The manuscript had been lost for two centuries, but Bloom found it at the Laurentine Library in Florence. His wife, Maude McFie Bloom, bilingual from childhood in Las Cruces, accompanied and assisted her husband on many of his research trips. Bloom was quite interested in the often neglected Mexican period. His article "Mexican Administration in New Mexico," published in the first issue of *Old Santa Fe*, was a pioneering effort. His study of the *Franciscan Missionaries of New Mexico* was published after his death.

According to an obituary Paul A.F. Walter, Jr. wrote, which was published in

the *New Mexico Historical Review* (April 1946), Lansing Bloom was a founder of the Quivira Society, a member of the American Historical Association and the Archaeological Institute of America. He was also a Kiwanian, a Phi Alpha Theta and 32nd degree Mason, faithfully attending Scottish Rite Masonic reunions in Santa Fe. At his funeral, a Presbyterian service was conducted at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Santa Fe and interment took place at Fairview Cemetery in Santa Fe.

To learn more about the life and career of Lansing B. Bloom, read "The Historical Society of New Mexico, 1859-1976" by Myra Ellen Jenkins in this issue of *La Crónica de Nuevo México*. For a thorough biographical tribute, see *New Mexico Historical Review Vol. XXI, No 2* (April 1946), pp. 93-113. Articles in this issue include "Lansing Bartlett Bloom" by Paul A.F. Walter; "Lansing Bartlett Bloom" by Edgar L. Hewett; "Research Activities of Lansing B. Bloom in Foreign Archives" by France V. Scholes and "Epilogue, Lansing B. Bloom." In addition, Robert W. Larson wrote a brief biography of Bloom in the *American Encyclopedia of the West*, Howard Lamar, editor (c. 1977). ~CCL

Bloom's son, John Porter Bloom is currently secretary of The Historical Society of New Mexico.

Endangered Places of New Mexico 2006

During the decade of service, the focus of the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance has been protecting and preserving that which is historically significant to New Mexico, to make certain we do not destroy that which cannot be replaced, and enriching the quality of life for us today and for our children tomorrow.

Instigated in 1999, the Most Endangered Places program promotes awareness about threatened historic, archaeological, and cultural resources. This program has 70 places throughout the state on its list. Each selection holds a special place in our collective memory and helps to define who we are as a people. Forty percent of the previously designated places have experienced positive changes, in the form of public awareness and funding for maintenance and repair.

The first of two 2006 selections is the Santa Fe Downtown, contained within Paseo de Peralta. The Downtown/Eastside Historic District is on the National Register of Historic Places. The selection was greatly influenced by the current long-term planning and concerns that historic preservation and significant heritage found in its buildings remain a strong factor in the vision for Downtown Santa Fe.

It calls for vigilance on the part of the planners and for active participation by Santa Fe residents and businesses, to insure that their voices are heard.



Santa Fe Plaza
Santa Fe County

Downtown Santa Fe is one of the oldest inhabited areas in the United States. The site of a pueblo since the twelfth century, it remains the oldest capital city in the United States. It is also one of the first cities to recognize the

importance of historic preservation, first through its original master plan in 1912 and later, in the 1950s, through its Historic Styles Ordinance, one of the first preservation laws in the United States.

This area has been able to maintain a significant amount of historic scale and structure through the years, despite constant forces of development. The downtown is a repository of many historic buildings, including the Palace of the Governors, the Museum of Fine Arts, and historic plaza.

The present concern involves potential private economic development, governmental, and political pressures interested in redevelopment of existing building, and thus the historic district.

Santa Fe is a 'mecca for tourism and art' because it retains what many comparable cities have lost: a sense of place, scale, culture and history.

It is a time when the soul of Santa Fe may be threatened, when for the 'sake of progress', this historic downtown can be eroded. The voice of the community, if not engaged in the Vision Plan, will leave its future to a limited group of decision makers.



McMillan Dam
Eddy County

The next selection moves us to a historic dam in southeastern New Mexico on the Pecos River between Ft. Sumner and Carlsbad.

Long before expeditions crossed these plains, Native Americans made this area their home. Descendents of the Four Corners Anasazi-Pueblo culture had moved south. Coronado, in the 16th century while he was searching for gold in the southwest, counted three villages on the Pecos River.

Around 1600, the Spanish irrigated the land when they settled in the Pecos River Basin. It then flourished in the early 19th

century and continued after 1850 by American settlers. Early irrigation systems were community ditches. One of first promoters of the irrigation in the 'Great American Desert' was Pat Garrett, known primarily as the sheriff who shot Billy the Kid in 1881.

During the 1890s, the McMillan Dam complex was built. In 1905, the Bureau of Reclamation was authorized to purchase the lower Pecos irrigation system.

1908 brought the renovation of the McMillan Dam. Later New Deal public works projects lead to expansion of McMillan Dam and other area dams.

McMillan Dam represents the evolution of dam technology. It exemplifies the rock fill composite design popular at the turn of the last century. Adding to its unique architectural value, its floodgates were the first to represent 20th century technology. The dam displayed the evolution of private irrigation efforts in to public-sponsored water resource management and the creation of water districts.

Today's natural and man-made threats include erosion, site protection, and lack of maintenance funding.

Efforts by the US Bureau of Reclamation need greater support to preserve the important and forgotten role the McMillan Dam Complex played in the history of New Mexico and water management in the southwest.

Examples of past Most Endangered Places follow which show signs of hope after designation.

Listed in 2003, committed community leaders for the La Bajada Mesa have successfully deterred industrial and mining development attempts.

Since the 1500s La Bajada has been a landmark where Spanish colonists trudged beside oxcarts to 20th century American tourists driving Model A automobiles. With then 23 hairpin turns, in 1932 a new route was laid out which became Interstate 25.

This historic area is unique in its natural New Mexico backcountry and breathtaking vistas. Numerous petroglyphs are found on volcanic rock along the sides of the mesa.

The locally lead Rural Conservation Alliance has been active and vigilant in protecting this cultural landscape and

opposing mining developments. As a result, La Bajada Mesa is safer today.

Mesilla Historic District, was selected as Most Endangered in 1999. It was designated endangered because historic adobe structures were being restored, but not by knowledgeable craftsmen or appropriate techniques.

As a result, the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance instigated educational events about proper restoration of earthen architecture. During the past two years, a dozen specialists from Cornerstones Community Partnerships, National Park Service, NM Historic Preservation Division, NM Construction Industries Division, and NMHPA have researched and updated the State's Adobe Building Code. It was adopted by the State early January 2006.

Also in 1999, the New Mexico Night Sky was selected for the Most Endangered list. Facing a growing light pollution caused by increased population and poor outdoor lighting practices, a movement subsequently lead by NMHPA successfully passed the State's first Night Sky Act. It required shielded lighting and lighting design approval. Since that time, some 20 communities have passed local night sky ordinances. Two years ago NMHPA inaugurated the first statewide Night Sky program. Program Director Lazlo Lazowska conducts training and provides lighting ordinance support to communities across New Mexico. Support for the program has come from NM State Parks, Thaw Charitable Trust, McCune Foundation, Moody Foundation, Healy Trust, and NMHPA members.

The annual statewide Preservation Conference is another program of NMHPA. This year's conference was held in Gallup, May 24-27. It featured a half-day workshop on 'heritage tourism' lead by leaders from New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, and Arizona. Best practices will help state and local efforts better package their historic assets and heritage for economic development, education, and tourism. Former Secretary of Interior Stewart Udall keynoted at the Awards banquet, during the three-day event featuring 30 educational sessions and area historic sites tours. ~GW

Luis Jimenez, Jr. Killed in Tragic Accident



Luis Jimenez 1940-2006
Photograph from El Paso Times

Noted New Mexico artist Luis Jimenez, Jr. was killed in a freak accident at his studio in Hondo, New Mexico, on June 13, 2006. The 65 year old artist was best known for his monumental and colorful fiberglass sculptures.

Jimenez, born in El Paso, Texas, learned his skill by helping his father, a Mexican immigrant, weld and spray paint at the family's electric sign company. After leaving El Paso, he studied with muralist Francisco Zuniga in Mexico City. Jimenez was also a great admirer of Jose Clemente Orozco. Although Jimenez developed his own unique style, the influence of the Mexican muralists is evident in his work.

Jimenez went to New York City in the early 1970s where he worked for about ten years. In 1979, Jimenez returned to his southwestern roots by moving from the east coast to Hondo, New Mexico, where he opened his studio. The Smithsonian Institution recognized his work when they included his sculpture "Man on Fire," in the Smithsonian National Collection of Fine Arts in 1979.

Jimenez described "Man on Fire" as an attempt to explore his Mexican roots. The National Endowment for the Arts commissioned a twenty-foot-tall "Vaquero" of a Mexican cowboy riding a bucking horse. That piece is now on display in El Paso in front of the El Paso Art Museum. His work has appeared in exhibitions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, Chicago Art Institute and the Hirshhorn Museum to name only a few.

In addition to his sculptures, Jimenez was also known for his powerful paintings and lithographs. First Lady Laura Bush purchased a lithograph "Texas Waltz" for the Bush's ranch home in Crawford, Texas.

Albuquerque is home to two of Jimenez's monumental sculptures. On a recent visit to Albuquerque Hillary Rodham Clinton called the "La Pieta del Suroeste," which is located at Martineztown/Longfellow School Park, a national treasure. The flamenco dancers "Fiesta Jarabe" stands outside the east entrance to Popejoy Hall at University of New Mexico. "Sodbuster/San Isidro" was on temporary display at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque's Barelas Neighborhood.

Because of the size and cost of Jimenez's sculptures, they are generally public art pieces, which stand in cities throughout the United States. At the time of his death, Jimenez was working on a 32-foot-tall "Mustang" for the Denver International Airport. While moving the gigantic piece, it broke free of the hoist and the sculpture fell pinning Jimenez against one of the steel supports.

Jimenez has been widely recognized for his unique and innovative creativity.

Frontier Historian Sam Arnold Contributed Greatly to the Knowledge of The Old West

Sam'l P Arnold was the founder of the renowned Fort Restaurant, a castle-like replica of the 1834 Bent's Fort in southeastern Colorado. While looking through the regional books in the Denver Public Library in 1962, Arnold found a picture of Bent's Fort. He was so enchanted by the image, that he vowed to recreate such a fort for his restaurant, which he opened in 1963. The restaurant is located against the scenic red rocks near Morrison, Colorado, near Denver. For 19 years, Arnold kept a black bear named "Sissy" at the restaurant, a unique mascot, to be sure. The establishment is famous for its 1840s menu selections, which include buffalo dishes, rattlesnake cakes, Rocky Mountain oysters, grilled quail, elk chops and cedar-plank roasted salmon. In 1997, The Fort hosted a dinner for President Bill Clinton with the heads of state of the eight leading industrial nations of the world during the World Leaders Summit of the Eight Conference, held in Denver. This honor was only one of many that Sam Arnold received during his lifetime.

Arnold's death occurred on June 7, 2006, in Scottsdale, Arizona, only a few days before his 80th birthday. The raconteur, a graduate of Yale University was recognized nationally as one of the leading authorities on foods of the Southwest and the early West. He was the author of the popular *Eating Up the Santa Fe Trail*, which is a historic gastronomic journey westward. Handsomely illustrated by his late wife, Carrie, the highly entertaining informative cookbook was the result of Arnold's painstaking research of the diaries and journals kept by early 19th century settlers, trappers and traders. His most recent cookbook, *The Fort Cookbook: New Foods of the Old West from the Famous Denver Restaurant*, is peppered (no pun intended) with Arnold's exuberant notes on the history of the Old West and wisdom about food and ingredients. This latest book presents The Fort's earliest days throughout its more than forty-year history. The prolific cookbook historian also authored *Frying Pans West*. He was an author/historian



Photograph of Sam'l P. Arnold from
www.thefort.com

spokesperson for the *Coor's Taste of the West* cookbook for eight years.

A popular speaker on the food and travel circuit, Arnold addressed - and prepared a buffalo dinner - for the James Beard Foundation in New York City and was the keynote speaker at the 7th Symposium on American Cuisine in Santa Fe. At one time or another, he hosted and produced regional and national television shows such as "Food for Thought," "Frying Pans West TV," and "Feast of Life." He also hosted "Eating Up the West" on KOA, Denver's top-rated news/talk radio station.

Throughout his long career, Sam Arnold was an active participant in the Western History Association. At the 1984 annual conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, Arnold brought his mandolin and entertained his friends with ballads from the Santa Fe Trail and Fur Trapper periods. In 1995, a dinner for the Western History Conference, Denver, was held at The Fort with Sam and Carrie Arnold entertaining their guests in grand style.

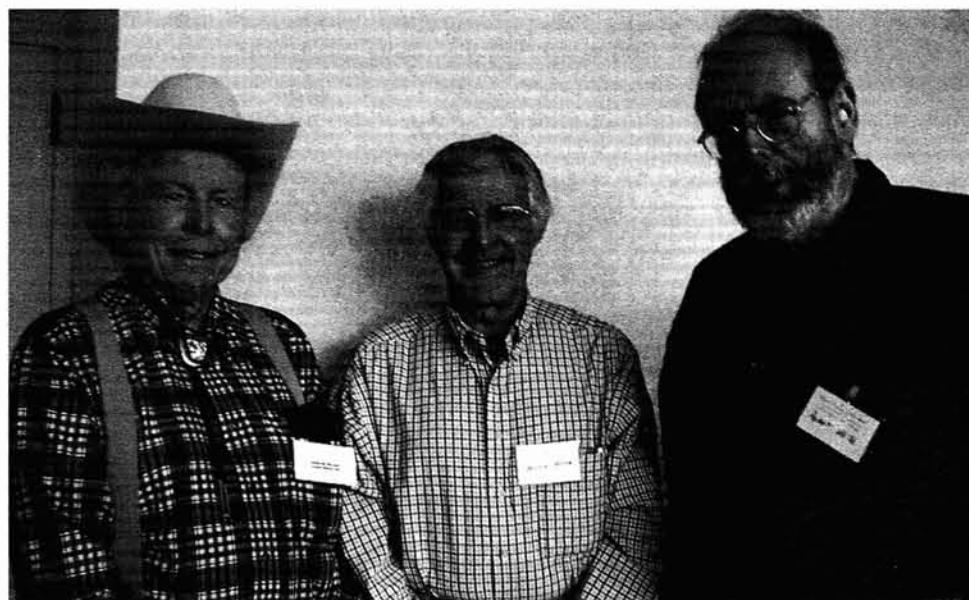
Waugh! Arnold's mantra was his calling card. He had an affinity for closing a toast, e-mail or radio commercial for The Fort with "Waugh!," a Lakota word, which loosely translates as "right on."

~CCL

Photographs from the 2006 Historical Society of New Mexico Albuquerque Conference



The above photograph taken at the 2006 Albuquerque Conference features New Mexico State Historians: Stanley H. Hordes (1981-1985), Robert Tórréz (1987-2000), and Estévan Rael Gálvez, (2001-Present)



Spencer Wilson, a past president of the Society (on left), Austin Hoover (center) has served as a board member for much of the time since the mid-1970s and Robert R. White also a past president.



Presidents of the Historical Society of New Mexico (back row), Robert Tórréz and Margaret Espinoza McDonald, (front row), current president Richard Melzer and Rick Hendricks. The Albuquerque Museum in background. Photograph taken at the annual conference 2006



Book Review:

Inventing Los Alamos: The Growth of an Atomic Community
by Jon Hunner,
University of Oklahoma Press, 2004
Review by Michael Stevenson

As Jon Hunner begins this examination of the early development of the town of Los Alamos as well as of what is now the Los Alamos National Laboratory, he says that "Los Alamos invented itself as a modern model community, an atomic utopia for America." This is a theme of the book, suggesting that there was a deliberate attempt by the government to soften images of mushroom clouds with images of an ideal American town. As background to this theme, Hunner provides considerable information on the development of Los Alamos town, including some from interviews of residents and former residents, and there is also considerable coverage of what was happening on the scientific and technical front.

For those who have read any of a number of accounts of the World War II Manhattan Project efforts at Los Alamos to research, design, and build the first nuclear weapons, this part of Hunner's story will be redundant, even though well told. The social elements of this period of Los Alamos' history have also received attention from other writers, but Hunner does provide some fresh perspectives and stories from nonscientist civilian participants in this military camp. Also, there is considerable information on the building of the community's housing and infrastructure during the war years and afterwards.

An important part of Hunner's story, and one not very well known, is that of the tremendous influence of Los Alamos' scientists and their spouses in affecting decisions of the federal government in moving from military control of both Los Alamos town and of the American nuclear weapons program and its facilities. The formation of the Association of Los Alamos Scientists and its leading role in establishing the Federation of American Scientists was central to establishing civilian control of nuclear weapons design and development through the Atomic Energy Commission, which itself quickly became the governing authority for the Laboratory and the town. Although Hunner notes that "...many scientists with the Manhattan Project advocated for civilian control," he leaves out the important national role of Robert Oppenheimer, the Director of the Manhattan Project work at Los Alamos, in helping to develop and advocate the Baruch plan of 1946, which proposed international control of all atomic energy and weapons information and development. The Baruch plan was presented by the U.S. to the United Nations but was thwarted by the Soviet Union, by then well on its way to its own first nuclear device test.

The postwar development of the hydrogen bomb and the Cold War and the resulting continued growth of the Laboratory and the town until its opening up in 1957 is the heart of the book. Hunner goes through the oft-told story of the development of the "Super" (the hydrogen bomb) and Edward Teller's role in this, and rightly credits Stan Ulam for the breakthrough idea leading to the "success" of the hydrogen bomb. The virtual character assassination of Oppenheimer by Teller during Oppenheimer's clearance revocation hearings in 1953 is also touched on, as is the resulting impact on the town and the open dissent of Los Alamos scientists in support of Oppenheimer. Interestingly, Hunner leaves out the departure of Teller from Los Alamos and his role in the

formation of Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and the consequent bitter competition between the two Laboratories.

The book comes into its own with descriptions of the building of postwar Los Alamos and particularly the development of new housing areas, such as the Western Area, built shortly after the end of the war. Hunner acknowledges that the Laboratory and government leadership knew that there was a need for "...modern homes and shopping facilities in order to retain and attract necessary personnel." But, because the Laboratory was off limits to outsiders, the national media attention focused on this "model community...perhaps to counter the stark images from Japan." Hunner contends that "The Western Area (and subsequent neighboring residential areas) existed mainly for purposes of staff recruitment and retention and for their publicity value in heralding atomic living and culture." Hunner implies that building the "model community" was at least in large part a deliberate public relations ploy on the part of the Washington government.

Hunner does not address the largely parallel development of other key Manhattan Project "atomic cities," particularly Oak Ridge, Tennessee, another invented and much larger community (at least during the war years). This would be an interesting comparison to study, with the industrial production (uranium enrichment) aspects at Oak Ridge being a much larger component of the activities than the scientific as compared to Los Alamos, but with the town also being developed as a new civilian community much along the lines of Los Alamos. Oak Ridge opened up earlier than Los Alamos, and from this reviewer's memories of visiting Oak Ridge in the early 1950s it had the appearance of a model community, and the Atomic Museum there certainly touted the wonders of the atom. A comparative analysis of the development of these towns in the postwar years would be interesting and might provide more insight into the community "invention" processes and the extent to which the government used these town developments as public relations fodder. Another interesting comparison would be that of the health, as communities, of the two towns today. Hunner discusses to a very limited extent more recent happenings at Los Alamos National Laboratory (particularly the negative ones, including the Wen Ho Lee debacle), but does not provide any view of how the town is faring. Most surprisingly, he does not mention the Cerro Grande Fire of 2000, which happened well before some of the other events he discusses, and its devastating effect on Los Alamos.

In any case, Hunner's book overall is a good addition to an ever growing collection of books on Los Alamos as a scientific institution in a constructed environment and town. His telling of the technical aspects of the development of "the bomb" is well crafted, accurate (aside from a few relatively insignificant errors), and also quite readable for the layman. Particularly for those who have not yet read these tales or are interested in how Los Alamos town developed, this is a fine place to start.

Suggested Reading List

For those readers interested in further reading there are many options, but some of the best available in major libraries or from booksellers include:

1. *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*, Richard Rhodes, New York, Simon & Schuster, 1986, the most authoritative story of the international nuclear science research leading into the Manhattan Project and the subsequent Los Alamos development of the first "devices" used at Trinity, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki,

2. *On Rims & Ridges, The Los Alamos Area Since 1880* (paperback edition), Hal K. Rothman, University of Nebraska Press, 1997, an excellent history of land use in the Los Alamos area including the homesteading era, the development of Bandelier as a National Monument, and the appropriation of the Los Alamos mesas for the Manhattan Project,
3. *Children of Los Alamos: An Oral History of the Town where the Atomic Age Began*, Katrina R. Mason, New York, Twayne Publishers, London, Prentice Hall International, 1995, a view into what growing up in Los Alamos was like during the postwar years, showing that for children in this unique, closed community it seemed to be a very normal existence,
4. *Gatekeeper to Los Alamos: Dorothy Scaritt McKibbin* (paperback), Nancy C. Steeper, Los Alamos Historical Society, 2003, the story of how this "great lady of Santa Fe" served as the congenial Santa Fe concierge for so many Los Alamos scientists entering a strange new world and how McKibbin provided almost the only interface between those isolated on the Los Alamos mesas and the cultural community in Santa Fe,
5. *109 East Palace: Robert Oppenheimer and the Secret City of Los Alamos*, Jennet Conant, Simon & Schuster, 2005 (also available in a paperback reprint, 2006), another version of the Dorothy McKibbin story and much more on the scientists of Los Alamos, their human frailties and their successes during the Manhattan Project, extending to the Oppenheimer/Teller conflicts in the early 1950s,
6. *American Prometheus, The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, Kai Bird and Martin Sherwin, Knopf, 2005, an exhaustive if not definitive biography of one of the most complex and important scientific figures of the twentieth century,
7. *Norris Bradbury, 1909-1997*, Virginia Nylander Ebinger, editor, Los Alamos Historical Society, 2006, a valuable compilation of reprinted articles and interviews that, along with the editor's narrative, tell the story of how this very important successor to Oppenheimer as the first Director of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory from 1946 until

- 1970 was responsible for the Laboratory's survival and growth to prominence in the postwar years,
8. *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years, 1917-1943*, John D. Wirth and Linda Harvey Aldrich, University of New Mexico Press, 2003, the story of this extraordinary institution on the Los Alamos mesas that preceded and was evicted for the Manhattan Project,
9. *Secret Mesa: Inside Los Alamos National Laboratory*, Jo Ann Shroyer, John Wiley & Sons, 1998, a very insightful and generally nonjudgmental placing of Los Alamos National Laboratory in the context of its community and the post-Cold War world, based on extensive interviews in the 1990s with a number of Los Alamos scientists and weapons developers.

Further Suggestions

Worth pursuing for those interested in more research on Los Alamos history are a number of other books and monographs published by the Los Alamos Historical Society, including:

1. *Los Alamos, the First Forty Years*, Fern Lyon and Jacob Evans, editors, 1984. A wonderful compilation of (mostly) newspaper articles that collectively provide more insight into the development of Los Alamos as a town than most of the more formal histories,
2. *Los Alamos, New Mexico, a Survey to 1949*, Marjorie Bell Chambers and Linda K. Aldrich, 1999. This is drawn from the very well researched history of the early development of the Los Alamos community as given in Chambers unpublished dissertation, *Technically Sweet Los Alamos: The Development of a Federally Sponsored Scientific Community*, 1974, available in hard copy (from microfilm) at the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives,
3. *Robert Oppenheimer, 1904-1967*, Robert R. Bacher, 1999. A look at Oppenheimer from an important scientist who worked with him during the Manhattan Project.
4. *The Battle for Civil Rights or How Los Alamos Became a County*, Marjorie Bell Chambers, 1999, (also drawn from Chambers' dissertation), and
5. *Quads, Shoeboxes and Sunken Living Rooms: A History of Los Alamos Housing*, Craig Martin, 2000.

~ MS

Senator Domenici Speaks at the Historical Society of New Mexico Annual Conference



Senator Pete V. and Nancy Domenici at banquet held at Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, April 22, 2006. Photograph by Jan Dodson Barnhart. (JDB Photograph)

The Historical Society of New Mexico was honored to have United States Senator Pete V. Domenici speak at their 2006 annual conference banquet held at Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town. Elected to the Senate on November 7, 1972, Domenici is New Mexico's Senior Senator. The honor of introducing Domenici went to Fred Harris a past United States Senator from Oklahoma and now a resident of Corrales, NM. Domenici gave a personal talk about his roots "Looking Back: My Family's Century In Albuquerque". His father came to Albuquerque in 1906 where he and an older brother eventually owned the Montezuma Mercantile Company.

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TO:

“Mariachi Guerreo” Performance at La Fonda del Bosque



Female vocalists Samantha Arellano, Lisa Bareleau, Mara Banderas, JoAnn Ureno with Frank Rivera, Band Director

On Saturday, April 1, 2006, the Santa Teresa High School mariachi band gave an impromptu performance at La Fonda del Bosque cafe at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque. Frank Rivera, Director, and thirteen students entertained their audience with numerous musical selections. The four

female vocalists and two male vocalists were accompanied by 2 guitars, 2 vihuelas, 1 guitron, 2 soprano saxophones and 2 trumpets. The students range from 9th through 12th grades and were in Albuquerque for a Mariachi Conference. Santa Teresa High School, which is located near the



Adrian Porras, soloist wears the traditional Mexican Traje Mariachi attire

border with Mexico, is part of the Gadsden Independent School District. The group often performs for weddings and fiestas.



Luis Soto, guitarist wears a festive Mexican wedding shirt

Call for Papers

Arizona-New Mexico Joint History Conference
 April 26 - 29, 2007
 Hon-Dah Resort, Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona

The program committee invites proposals for papers on any aspect of Arizona history or New Mexico history for presentation at the Arizona-New Mexico Joint History Convention, which will be held at the Hon-Dah Resort at Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona. We encourage proposals for complete sessions on a related topic as well as individual submissions.

Barry M. Goldwater Award

A panel of judges will award a \$750 prize to the best convention paper on Arizona history. All accepted papers (except those by college students) are eligible.

Valeen T. Avery Collegiate Award

A \$500 prize goes to the best paper on an Arizona topic by a college or junior college student (graduate or undergraduate). Indicate the advising professor and institution on the proposal and completed paper.

Don Bufkin Prize

The \$500 prize will be awarded for the best paper dealing with the territorial period of Arizona history. Papers dealing with Arizona geography, broadly defined, or cartography are particularly encouraged. Anyone wishing to contribute to this memorial can send a check, made out to the Arizona History Convention, Inc., to Chairman William C. Porter, 820 E. Beale Street, Kingman, AZ 86401.

FAZA Award

The \$250 prize sponsored by the Friends of Arizona Archives (FAZA) will be awarded to the paper that demonstrates the best use of archival research.

Proposals must be submitted by October 1, 2007, to Bruce J. Dinges, c/o Arizona Historical Society, 949 E. Second Street, Tucson, AZ 85719. Only one proposal per author. Include name, address, phone number, and biographical information, along with title of presentation and no more than one-page of description.

Following notification of acceptance, presenters wishing to be considered for a prize must submit a completed paper of no more than twelve double-spaced, typed pages (exclusive of notes) to Bruce Dinges by February 1, 2007. Papers not being submitted for a prize must be in hand no later than March 1, 2007. Presentation length will be strictly limited to twenty minutes maximum.

Information on meals, tours, and lodging will be mailed in February, 2006. For more information, contact Bruce Dinges, 949 E. Second Street, Tucson, AZ 85719, (520) 628-5774, or visit our web site: www.arizonahistory.org.



The above illustration is the official logo for the Arizona Historical Society. The logo is the alchemic symbol for copper, one of the seven metals of the art of alchemy that reaches back in time to ancient Egypt. Selected because copper plays such a prominent role in Arizona's development, it was first used in 1955 on Arizona Historical Society's publications and became the Society's official logo in 1962.

Please visit the Historical Society of New Mexico web site!

www.hsnm.org