



NEWS

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THE HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION ADDS LA FONDA AND SAN JOSE HALL TO ITS REGISTER OF PROPERTIES WORTHY OF PRESERVATION

SANTA FE –August , 2015 The Board of Directors of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation is pleased to announce that it has added two important buildings to its Register of Properties Worthy of Preservation. The Historic Santa Fe Foundation’s Register began in 1962 in an effort to preserve and protect those aspects of this area that make it special. The two additions – La Fonda on the Plaza and San Jose Hall in Galisteo – represent two important and different periods of this area’s history.

Constructed around 1905, San Jose Hall, also known as La Sala de Galisteo, is a prominent local landmark within the village of Galisteo. It has functioned not only as a meeting space for the lay religious organization but later as a site for community dances, performances and family celebrations.

The building is owned by la Sociedad de San Jose de Galisteo. In the fall of 2008, La Sala de Galisteo, a non-profit organization, was formed to restore, preserve and maintain the building and it entered into a 30-year lease in exchange for the building’s restoration. The board of the non-profit raised over \$90,000 in grants and donations during 2012 and 2014 and completed the majority of the significant repairs.

John Murphey, the architectural historian who prepared the application to include the San José Hall on the National Register, made the following findings: San Jose Hall retains a high degree of historic integrity in regard to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. San Jose Hall is significant because it is an important example of vernacular architecture in Santa Fe area from over 100 years ago. The building should be considered "worthy of preservation" as it represents a tradition of vernacular architecture that is rapidly disappearing from New Mexico’s historic districts.

The “San Jose Hall” was listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties on February 20, 2015 and on the National Register of Historic Places on May 26, 2015.

La Fonda on the Plaza is one of Santa Fe's most important buildings. It is one of the few buildings that exemplifies all of the criteria the Historic Santa Fe Foundation uses to determine if a building qualifies for its Register. First, as exemplified by the many awards it has received recently, the renovations to the building have retained and honored the historic character of the building and continue to convey the historic associations for which the building is significant

Second, not only does La Fonda on the Plaza embody the distinguishing characteristics of the Spanish-Pueblo Revival style, but it is one of the buildings that became an important example of the style, that is it embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a type of architecture identified with the history of Santa Fe. The distinctive historic structure also reflects the regional architecture termed "Santa Fe Style" adopted as part of their Historic Preservation Code by the city of Santa Fe in 1957.

Third, La Fonda is associated with the railroad's impact on New Mexico, the growth of tourism as an important basis of economic development in the region, and, more particularly, the importance of Fred Harvey and the Harvey Girls to New Mexico's history.

And Fourth, La Fonda is significant to the history of Santa Fe because of its association the architects who help develop the Spanish-Pueblo Revival style and designed La Fonda including Rapp, Rapp & Hendrickson , John Gaw Meem, and Mary Colter.

Copies of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation's Determination of Eligibility documents with photographs are available from the Historic Santa Fe Foundation, info@historicsantafe.org.

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La Fonda: Looking southeast at the North and West Elevations of La Fonda on the Plaza – Photo from 1930's, showing original 1920 building and 1929 addition at the northwest corner

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Photographs from National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, pages 22, 23, and 24



