

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE 2012 NEW MEXICO HERITAGE PRESERVATION ALLIANCE'S "MOST ENDANGERED PLACES" LIST

Since 1999, the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance has annually requested nominations to its "MOST ENDANGERED PLACES (MEP)" list. The MEP program is a statewide initiative that promotes awareness of threatened cultural resources, including important historic, architectural, and archeological sites and significant landscapes and open spaces. In addition cultural heritage and other intangible cultural resources such as the New Mexico Night Sky have been nominated in the past and continue to be eligible. As a program coordinator noted, "each of the endangered resources holds a special place in our collective memory and helps to define who we are as a people, a culture, and a State."

More than 80 sites have been added to the MEP list to date. Threats to their continued preservation have included ignorance, neglect, abandonment, and urban sprawl. A high percentage of the listed sites have been saved through the efforts of concerned individuals and organizations, once their endangered status became apparent. Nominations to the MEP list raises public awareness of the threat, creates support for the site's preservation, and makes property owners aware of available resources, financial and otherwise, for the preservation and continued use of the site.

Nominations to the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance's 2012 MEP program are now being accepted. The deadline for submitting a completed nomination March 31, 2012 The nomination form and guidelines are found on a separate form.

The completed form, and required attachments, should be emailed to MEP Committee Chair Lois Snyderman, blueskiesnm@gmail.com. A "paper copy", with all attachments, should also be mailed to Lois at 912 Los Lovatos, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Be sure to include digital images (jpegs or tiff files) along with the printed images as part of the hard copy nomination package.

Questions? Call Lois at 505-820-2402, or email to blueskiesnm@gmail.com