

Las Esperanzas, Inc.  
PO Box 16261  
Las Cruces, NM 88004



Dear Home Owner,

Do you own a house that is important to the Mesquite Historic District? Has anyone who lived in your home over the years made interesting contributions to the culture or history of Las Cruces? Have you seen memorial plaques displayed on houses around the neighborhood and thought that your home or that of someone else deserved a plaque, too?

Las Esperanzas presents memorial plaques to the owners of homes in the Mesquite Historic District which have played an important part in the history of Las Cruces' oldest neighborhood. You could be one of those recipients. Just complete the nomination form below this announcement to begin the nomination process.

Thank you for your interest in preserving our Mesquite Historic District.

Sincerely,

Las Esperanzas Plaque Committee

Freda Flores, (575) 650-8596, [fredafirefly@aol.com](mailto:fredafirefly@aol.com)

Paul Mach, (586) 601-6378, [MachBelyan@gmail.com](mailto:MachBelyan@gmail.com)

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## HISTORICAL PLAQUE NOMINATION FORM

ADDRESS TO BE CONSIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE AND/OR EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for wanting to preserve historic adobe buildings in the Mesquite Historic District. **This area has one of the largest, concentrations of original adobe buildings in the Southwest.** Las Esperanzas' mission is to preserve the history, culture and architecture of the South Mesquite Historic District. The plaques will be awarded bi-annually over the next several years to the owners of adobe buildings within the South Mesquite Historic District. Our intention in awarding the plaques is threefold –

- 1) Recognizing and helping others to identify adobe buildings within the historic, original town site of Las Cruces, New Mexico.
- 2) Collecting and preserving oral history from this area – the stories behind the buildings. These stories, passed to us from our elders, are the heart of our history – the history of Las Cruces and the Mesilla Valley.
- 3) Recognizing and rewarding current residents or building owners who well-maintain and carefully restore the historic adobes of our very special neighborhood.

In order to be considered for one of the limited number of plaques available, we require that you research, write and submit to Las Esperanzas (at the address above) a 1 to 2 paragraph history of the building and its occupants. We strongly encourage you to ask the elders associated with the house or those who live nearby for information (oral history), as well as researching through the census and other historical documents.

Additionally, Las Esperanzas will consider the following and more in awarding the plaques -

- Historic integrity (Many changes over the years, some exterior remodeling, or maintains the original look and feel)
- Age of the building
- Known facts written about the building
- Known stories about people who worked or lived in the building
- Current physical appearance or condition
- Owner interest and commitment to display plaque as required
- Selection committee member has strong opinion about awarding the plaque

Finally, you will need to agree to paint and mount the plaque in a timely manner and in a conspicuous place of honor.

If you have questions, please contact: Paul Mach, (586) 601-6378 ; Freda Flores, (575) 650-8596.