



THE OLD SANTA FE ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 1055, SANTA FE, NM 87505-1055

November 1, 2010

Dr. Jan Biella, Interim State Historic Preservation Officer
State of New Mexico
Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Dr. Biella,

The Old Santa Fe Association respectfully seeks your opinion on the eligibility of St. Catherine's Industrial Indian School, in Santa Fe, to the National Register of Historic Places. Currently, the property is on the New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties (File # 1804) and has been given Landmark Status by the City of Santa Fe. This property has received public attention at various times since its sale by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in 2005. Different proposals for reuse of the property have been made in the past five years, but none have moved forward. As other proposals will undoubtedly emerge, the Old Santa Fe Association would like to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the possibilities for protecting the property while encouraging appropriate reuse.

The Santa Fe city council listed this property as a Landmark in 2006 based upon public testimony and the recommendations of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the State Cultural Properties Review Committee, the Historic Santa Fe Foundation, the Old Santa Fe Association, and the City of Santa Fe Historic Design Review Board. Given the recognized importance of the school and its grounds, my organization would like to know if it would be eligible for National Register status.

Also, as we look at the State Register listing it is unclear where the boundaries of the area included in the listing lie. Can your office clarify those boundaries?

If you would like to discuss my request further, please feel free to call me at 820-1299. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Maxwell, President