

# el Presidio



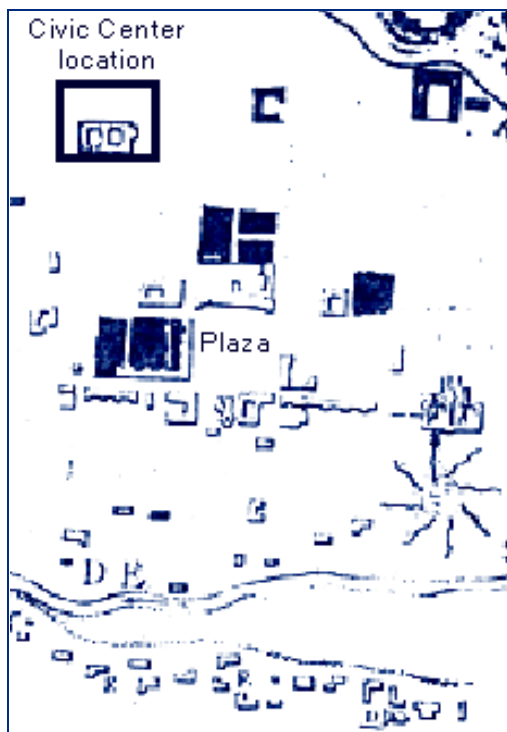
## THE OLD SANTA FE ASSOCIATION

### ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE PROPOSED CIVIC CENTER

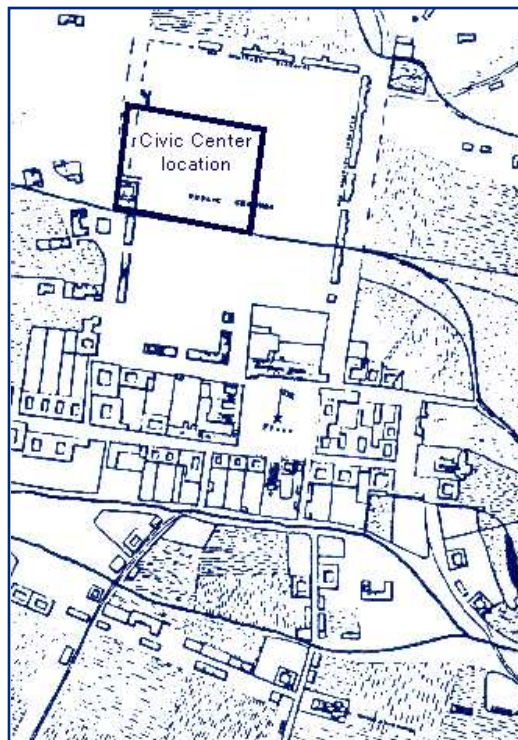
On Thursday, October 20 (5:30 pm, Santuario de Guadalupe), state archaeologists will discuss the archaeological project at the proposed Civic Center. Tim Maxwell, director of the state Office of Archaeological Studies, and Stephen Lentz, archaeologist in charge of the project, will talk about what has been found at the site and what they expect to find as excavation continues. The archaeologists have found evidence for

an 800-year-old prehistoric village near Sweeny Center, as well as remains of the 1700s Spanish Presidio and U.S. military Fort Marcy.

For over 100 years, archaeologists have suspected that a prehistoric village is buried below downtown Santa Fe. Utility trenching and building construction almost always reveal tantalizing clues about Santa Fe's past residents. The archaeological project at the



Detail from earliest known map of Santa Fe, drawn by Urrutia in 1766.



Detail from 1846-1847 map by Lt. Gilmer.

Civic Center is a rare opportunity to open a large block of downtown land and take a look under the ground. Recently, excavation of a prehistoric semi-subterranean home near the Federal Courthouse offered strong evidence for an early village and work at the Civic Center may expose more of the same village.

Archaeologists suspect that Santa Fe was a preferred location for prehistoric people for some of the same reasons as today—one being the environment. Archaeologists examine prehistoric pollen, plant parts, and soils to figure out what the past environment was like. Some preliminary study of this information suggests

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR! OSFA Presentation

"Archaeology at the Civic Center"

Thursday, October 20, 5:30 p.m.  
Santuario de Guadalupe

that the area around City Hall once held a much higher water table. Not only would a higher water table have aided farming, but a wetter environment would have also attracted an assortment of wildlife.

The proposed Civic Center project has created a number of controversies and one is related to the archaeology. Several Pueblo tribes, notably Tesuque Pueblo, have expressed an objection to the disturbance of the ancestral burials known to be at the site. They argue that in their culture, the disturbance of burials is disrespectful and there is no way to sensitively remove the interred individuals. Until this matter can be resolved, the archaeologists are avoiding any impact to possible burial locations.

New discoveries are being made daily at the site. Come and hear about the findings and what archaeologists suspect Santa Fe looked like in the past.

### State Should Comply with City Preservation Regulations

It is ironic and disappointing that the State of New Mexico, in its official capacity, fails to comply with carefully crafted protective ordinances developed by and for our historic

city. Santa Fe is at once our capital city, the seat of state government and one of the most precious and historic inhabited places in our nation. Indeed, this has been a locus of government for some 400 years. Is it any wonder that so many of us—per the OSFA mission statement—are “devoted to protecting the unique charm, distinction, and heritage of Old Santa Fe?”

Santa Fe is more than just this small urban place; it is as much or more a part of the history of the state and the region. It is fitting, therefore, that our state government acknowledge its own role in preserving the heritage of New Mexico as expressed in the fabric of the capital.

We continue our call for the State to model willing respect for and compliance with the intent, as well as the letter, of City historic building regulations. The State is a major player in the physical as well as social and economic character of this city; it is an owner of some of the most elegant and historic public buildings as well as some structures which do not blend harmoniously with their neighbors.

Clearly, the State has jurisdiction over the City and not the other way around, so there is no expectation that the City will dictate to the State. At the

same time, while one state agency (the Historic Preservation Division of Cultural Affairs) works diligently to preserve our state’s heritage, is it too much to ask that other agencies support its mission? This vital heritage should not and cannot be allowed to dwindle into nothingness.

### OSFA Board Wants You!!

Through normal attrition, the Board of Directors of the Old Santa Fe Association has a few openings for dedicated, energetic, talented and committed members. We are looking among the members of the Association, who have demonstrated their interest

in protecting what is most unique and valuable in our city.

We seek colleagues who can give some time and creativity to one meeting a month, plus a modest but critical amount of time and energy to work on standing and special committees. Experience in publicity, writing, public policy, rabblousing and event planning are all needed. If you wish seize this opportunity for community service, please contact our esteemed President Karen Walker at 988-1105.



### Book Corner

#### Ambassador Ortiz: Lessons from a Life of Service

Frank V. Ortiz was truly a Santa Fe legend. Born in the city in 1926, Frank served his country for over four decades as a diplomat in the U. S. Foreign Service. His memoir, *Ambassador Ortiz: Lessons From a Life of Service*, published shortly before his death earlier this year, is fascinating and entertaining. A World War II veteran and a graduate of Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Ortiz began

his career with the U.S. State Department in 1952. His assignments took him to the far corners of the world, including Egypt, Ethiopia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, the Caribbean, Panama, Guatemala, and Argentina. He served under six presidents and worked directly for Henry Kissinger who remained a close friend throughout his life. Not bad for a local boy from Santa Fe.

In his captivating book,



# THE OLD SANTA FE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1055, Santa Fe, NM 87504  
(505) 455-1055

## It's Renewal Time for OSFA Members

Dear Members and Friends,

The time comes around every year, and now the time is here for 2005--and 2006. For the Old Santa Fe Association and its supporters, membership renewal time has come.

For everyone in OSFA, the membership period is one and the same: the calendar year. The dues are low--just \$25 for individuals and slightly more for businesses, patrons and a couple of other categories--and all membership terms begin Jan. 1 and end Dec. 31. But here's a little bonus: For members who joined or renewed in 2005 in July or later, your membership remains in effect through 2006.

This simple system efficiently reduces bookkeeping for OSFA volunteers, and is easily kept in mind by the membership as well: The year runs January through December.

We ask you now to send in your renewals for 2006. All renewals received after this newsletter goes out remain in effect through the year 2006.

OSFA had a problem with the U.S. Postal Service in 2004. Trying to save money, we mailed renewal notices under the less expensive non-profit rate. But then we learned that an uncounted number of mailings never reached their destinations; and under the rules of this classification, were not returned to us. Our renewals dropped noticeably--but not alarmingly--and we finally traced the decline to members who were just not notified.

Well, now we're trying to notify *everyone* in this newsletter, sent out by first-class mail. If you're reading this, you received it. For all who support OSFA's longtime efforts to preserve what is historically unique in Santa Fe, the City Different, we ask you now to return the enclosed renewal card. Dues are the funds we live on, and you are the people.

Sincerely,

President



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Wolff, Gary  
Wyant, Deborah



Frank recounts the many interesting characters and places he encountered along the way. One of the most amusing is when he served in the embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during the reign of Emperor Haile Selassie. Frank and his wife Dolores attended a friend's wedding and as Ethiopian custom has it, friends of the new couple are invited into the bridal chamber after the wedding to serve as witnesses to the consummation of the marriage. Custom or not, Dolores would have no part of it and yanked Frank out of the room. Frank protested that it was part of his official duties, but Dolores prevailed.

After serving in various posts for twenty-four years - mainly in Latin America - Frank received his first Ambassadorship in 1976 from President Jimmy Carter. His posting was to someplace he never imagined - the Caribbean. Officially his title was Ambassador to Barbados and Grenada, but this also included the islands of Antigua, Anguilla, Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent. There Frank met whom he recalled as the strangest person he met during his career - the Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy. According to Frank, Gairy was basically "mad". "He believed he talked to God, that he had encountered a

flying saucer, and that he had spoken with little green men. When I presented credentials, he insisted that all the unfortunate people in attendance at the ceremony go to a bar he owned called the Gold Room. He kept ordering champagne, expecting me to pay for it. We were being eaten alive by mosquitoes. It was a terrible night". Weeks later, after tiring of hearing Gairy complain that Grenada had no money, Frank suggested that the country issue a series of postage stamps with pictures of UFOs. Gairy did so and the impoverished country made a fortune as stamp collectors worldwide snapped up the unusual issue. Gairy

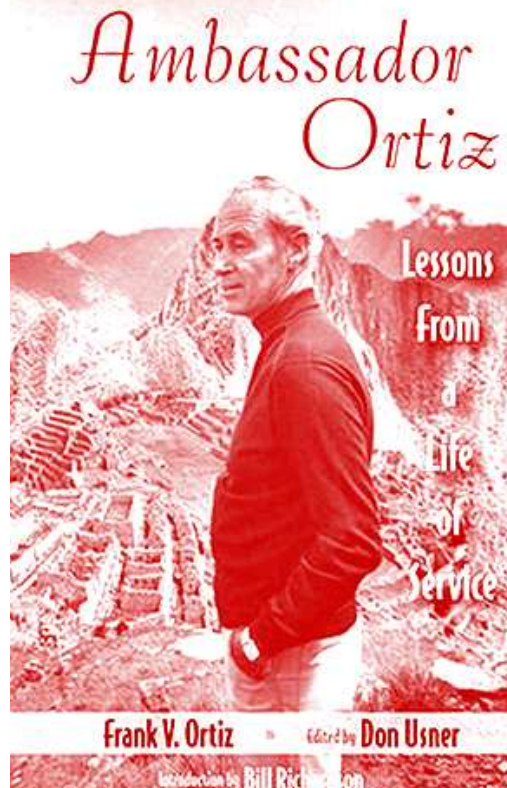
always thanked Frank for saving his country from bankruptcy.

Another amusing encounter Frank had with Gairy occurred when he was presented to President Jimmy Carter at the White House. Gairy began the conversation by saying that he had talked to God prior to his arrival. Carter responded that he was not good enough to talk to God, but that his sister Ruth, a preacher, had. From there the conversation became more bizarre. Gairy told Carter he had once seen a flying saucer and spoke with the beings inside. Carter replied that he too had once seen a flying saucer but hadn't met

with any alien beings. The conversation, which was only to last a few minutes, went on for over thirty minutes. Frank recounts that the meeting was one of the most bizarre he had ever witnessed as a diplomat.

Aside from UFOs and little green men, Frank relates stories of government coups in Uruguay and dodging bullets in Guatemala. The book is fascinating and a must for anyone wishing to learn about international affairs in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but also about a Santa Fe boy who did good.

-Ed Archuleta



(UNM Press; Albuquerque, NM; 2005; edited by Don J. Usner)

### City Councilors' Numbers

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David Pfeffer 983-5834

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Rebecca Wurzburger  
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# el Presidio



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## THE OLD SANTA FE ASSOCIATION

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## OUR MISSION

*“To promote the prosperity and welfare of the City and County of Santa Fe and their inhabitants, to preserve and maintain the ancient landmarks, historical structures and traditions of Old Santa Fe and to guide their growth and development in such a way as to promote that unique charm and distinction, born of age, culture, tradition and environment, which are the priceless assets and heritage of Santa Fe.”*

### OSFA CONTACTS

Karen Walker, *President*  
982-0118

Ed Archuleta, *Vice President*  
820-7452

Bob Jones, *Secretary*  
989-8558

Richard McCord, *Treasurer*  
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