

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: October 28, 2025

TO: Historic Districts Review Board Members

VIA: Heather Lamboy, Planning & Land Use Department Director #LL
Maggie Moore, Assistant Land Use Director *MRM*
Gary Moquino, Historic Preservation Division Manager GM

FROM: Lani McCulley, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Division *LJM*

2025-011326-HDRB, 127 Duran St., Westside-Guadalupe Historic District, non-contributing, Gayla Bechtol, agent for Jenny Allen and Karen Kalat, owners, proposes to construct a 459 sq. ft. portal to a height of 9'-6" where the residence is 9'-8" high, replace windows and doors, install an eyebrow and skylights, stucco, and re-roof.

REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS (Sequentially):

CITY SUBMITTALS

- District Standards & yard wall & fence standards.
- Historic Inventory Form
- Zoning Review Sheet
- Other: status review board action letter

APPLICANT SUBMITTALS

- Proposal Letter
- Site Plan/Floor Plan
- Elevations
- Photographs
- Other:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed project, and finds that the application otherwise complies with Section 14-5.2(D) General Design Standards for all Historic Districts, and 14-5.2(I) Westside-Guadalupe Historic District Design Standards

Sample motions:

One motion will be required in this case to either approve or deny the request.

- a. In case 2025-011326-HDRB, for 127 Duran Street, approve or deny the application as submitted.

The property lies within the Historic Downtown Archaeological Review District. See Chapter 14, SFCC, Article 14-3.13(B)(1). There may be archaeological concerns associated with this project, and archaeological clearance may be required.

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY:

Streetscape:

Duran Street is narrow and lined with low yard walls with fencing on top, as well as a combination of coyote fencing, wrought iron, metal gates, and chain link fences. The residences sit an average of seven to ten feet from the street and are a combination of vernacular and Spanish Pueblo Revival styles with flat or hipped roofs and divided lite windows in earth-toned stucco.

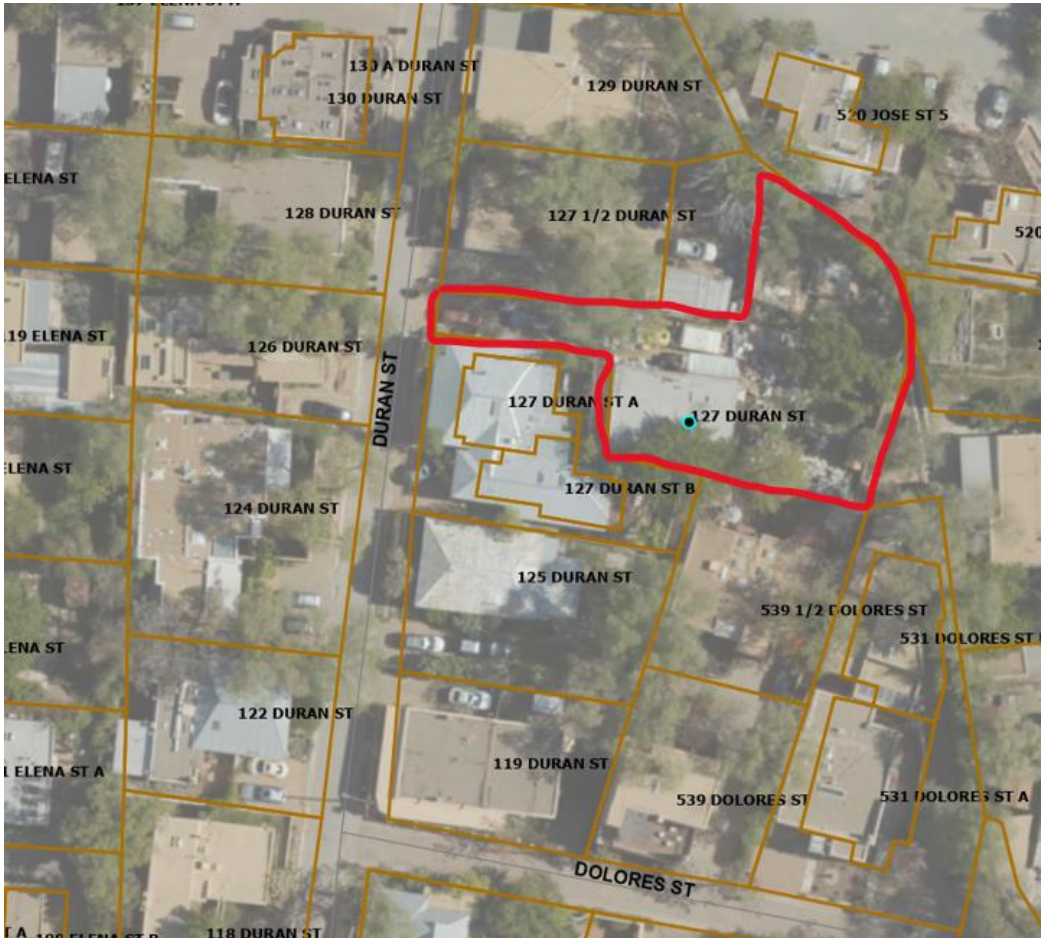


Figure 1: Property Location

Site Description:

According to the HCPI, the 1,189 sq. ft. residential structure was constructed originally in the late 1930s. The structure started out as a square building, as is evidenced by the 1966 aerial photograph in the HCPI. The structure almost doubled its size with the 406 sq. ft. 1985 addition. The HCPI indicates that a 90 sq. ft. porch was also installed in the 1980s, but has since been removed. As shown below in Figure 2, remnant roofing material from the porch remains on the exterior wall. While the original structure was constructed of 12” thick adobe, the 1985 addition was constructed of concrete block. The windows in the adobe portion of the structure are inset into the wall, where the newer construction windows are not. The windows are a combination of metal, aluminum, and vinyl. According to the HCPI, none of the windows appear to be original to the structure. The HCPI also indicates that the wood doors, one six-panel and the other faux plank, appear not to be original to the structure.



Figure 2: The main residence (Source: 2024 HCPI, John Murphy)

Based on evidence provided in the HCPI, the lot was once used for farming, and has a remnant acequia, thought to be part of the *Acequia Publica*, across the east edge of the property.

According to the HCPI, a Duran family descendant subdivided a portion of the large estate into the Duran Addition (also called Duran Subdivision) in the 1920s. Elena, Duran, Candelario, and Quintana streets are all a part of this subdivision. The homes in this area were constructed as simple adobe structures topped with tin roofs. The roads were unpaved, and sidewalks were not brought in until the 1970s. By the late 1930s, Duran Street had mostly filled in with homes. All the primary residences were owner-occupied, and the street was entirely populated by families with Spanish surnames. The 1938 city directory indicates the presence of "rear" houses, smaller homes built at the back of properties that were rented out to generate additional income. The primary residential structure at 127 Duran appears to be one of those smaller four-room homes built at the back of the property to generate income. After being used as a rental property, the home was split off from the front house, creating the "flag lot" configuration. From the late 1970s to her death in 2022, the property was owned by Martha Baca, who donated the proceeds of the sale of the property to local charities.

PREVIOUS CASE SUMMARIES:

ARC:

No Archaeological clearance has been issued for this property.

HDRB:

The property was reviewed by the Historic Districts Review Board for historic status on February 11, 2025, under case number 2025-009773-HDRB. The decision of the Board was to retain the residential structure and the accessory structure as non-contributing and designate the wall at the acequia as contributing.

The property was reviewed by the Historic Districts Review Board for the demolition of the accessory structure on September 9, 2025, under case number 2025-011031-HDRB. The decision of the Board was to allow demolition of the accessory structure.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

No administrative approval cases are on file for this property.

APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

The applicant proposes the following exterior alterations:

- 1) Construct a 459 sq. ft. portal to a height of 9'-6" where the residence is 9'-8" high. The portal will be on the east elevation and will consist of a Brai roof over wood decking, local pine vigas and columns, and brick on sand flooring. The wood will be stained and sealed with natural stain.
- 2) Replace all windows with aluminum-clad wood windows with simulated divided lites in blue.
- 3) Install an eyebrow over the door on the north elevation at 3'-6" deep.
- 4) Install two skylights. The skylights shall not be publicly visible.
- 5) Stucco the residence in cementitious "buckskin" stucco.
- 6) Re-roof the residence with foam roofing.
- 7) Construct a 4'0" high coyote vehicle gate at the street to replace the existing chain link gate.

RELEVANT CODE CITATIONS:

14-5.2 HISTORIC DISTRICTS

(A) General Provisions

(1) General Purpose

In order to promote the economic, cultural, and general welfare of the people of the *city* and to ensure the harmonious, orderly and efficient growth and *development* of the *city*, it is deemed essential by the *governing body* that the qualities relating to the history of

Santa Fe, and a harmonious outward appearance, which preserve *property* values and attract tourists and residents alike, be preserved, some of these qualities being:

- (a) The continued existence and *preservation* of historical areas and *buildings*;
- (b) The continued construction of *buildings* in the historic styles; and
- (c) A general harmony as to style, form, color, height, proportion, texture, and material between *buildings* of historic design and those of more modern design.

(D) General Design Standards for All H Districts

In any review of proposed additions or alterations to *structures* that have been declared significant or contributing in any historic district or a *landmark* in any part of the *city*, the following standards shall be met:

(1) General

- (a) The status of a significant, contributing, or *landmark structure* shall be retained and preserved. If a proposed alteration will cause a *structure* to lose its significant, contributing, or *landmark* status, the *application* shall be denied. The removal of historic materials or alteration of architectural features and spaces that embody the status shall be prohibited.
- (b) If a proposed alteration or new construction will cause an adjacent *structure* to lose its significant, contributing, or *landmark* status, the *application* may be denied.

(2) Additions

- (a) Additions shall have similar materials, architectural *treatments* and styles, features, and details as the existing *structure*, but shall not duplicate those of the existing *structure* in a manner that will make the addition indistinguishable from the existing *structure*.
- (b) Additions to *buildings* that meet the standards of Subsection 14-5.2(E) shall continue to meet those standards set forth in Subsection 14-5.2(E) in addition to the standards set forth in this section.
- (c) Additions are not permitted to *primary façades*.
- (d) Additions are not permitted to the side of the existing footprint unless the addition is set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the primary facade. The addition shall not exceed fifty percent of the square footage of the existing footprint, and shall not exceed fifty percent of the existing dimension of the primary facade. To the extent architecturally practicable, new additions shall be attached to any existing noncontributing portion of *structures* instead of attaching them to the significant or contributing portion.
- (e) The height of additions:
 - (i) For significant and *landmark structures* shall be a minimum of six (6) inches less than the parapet or equivalent roof-feature of the existing adjacent connecting facade.

- (ii) For contributing *structures* shall be no more than one additional *story* higher than the existing *structure*. To the extent architecturally practicable, two-story additions shall be set to the rear or the side rear of the *structure*. When an additional *story* is to be placed upon an existing contributing *structure*, that footprint may be no greater than fifty percent of the footprint of the existing *structure*, subject to the provisions of Subsection A(1) above. For the purposes of this paragraph, an additional *story* shall not exceed twelve (12) feet from the existing rooftop to the highest point of that *story*.
- (3) Remodeling to Increase Height; Rooftop Appurtenances
 - (a) For *remodeling* of existing significant and *landmark structures*, no increase in height of the *structures* is permitted. (For standards relating to additions to existing *structures*, see paragraph (2) above.)
 - (b) For significant and *landmark structures*, *publicly visible* rooftop appurtenances, including but not limited to solar collectors, clerestories, decks, or mechanical equipment, shall not be added, nor shall the parapet be raised to conceal the *rooftop appurtenances*. For contributing *buildings*, solar collectors, clerestories, decks, or mechanical equipment if *publicly visible* shall not be added.
- (4) Porches and Portals

Existing *porches* or *portals* shall not be enclosed.
- (5) Windows, Doors, and Other Architectural Features
 - (a) For all facades of significant and *landmark structures* and for the primary facades of contributing *structures*:
 - (i) Historic windows shall be repaired or restored wherever possible. Historic windows that cannot be repaired or restored shall be duplicated in the size, style, and material of the original. Thermal double pane glass may be used. No opening shall be widened or narrowed.
 - (ii) No new opening shall be made where one presently does not exist unless historic documentation supports its prior existence.
 - (iii) No existing opening shall be closed.
 - (b) For all façades of significant, contributing, and *landmark structures*, architectural features, finishes, and details other than doors and windows shall be repaired rather than replaced. In the event *replacement* is necessary, the use of new material may be approved. The new material shall match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. *Replacement* or duplication of missing features shall be substantiated by documentation, physical, or pictorial evidence.
- (6) Roofs

The existing roof styles and materials shall be maintained or replaced in kind if necessary. The addition of dormers or other roof features should only be considered when they are an existing or historical feature of the *structure*.

(8) Archaeological Resources

Discovery of archaeological resources made during the historic districts review process shall be referred to the archaeological review committee.

(9) Height, Pitch, Scale, Massing, and Floor Stepbacks

The height, pitch, *scale*, and massing of any *structure* in a historic district, as defined in this section, shall be limited as provided for in this section, unless further restricted within this chapter.

(a) Applicability

The following sections identify specific areas and specific *projects* subject to this section. Planning and land use department staff shall determine whether or not properties are included within this section. (Ord. No. 2007-45 § 30; Ord. #2020-22, § 16)

- F. When the proposed *building*, *yard wall*, or fence is located in a *streetscape* that includes no *buildings*, *yard walls*, or fences, the height of the proposed *building* shall not exceed sixteen (16) feet. *Yard walls* and fences in this *streetscape* shall not exceed five (5) feet in height.

(c) Height

(ii) In exercising its authority under this section, the board shall limit the height of *structures* as set forth in this section. Heights of existing *structures* shall be as set forth on the official map of *building* heights in the historic districts.

- A. If a proposed *building* has a parapet, the façade shall not be in excess of two (2) feet of the average of the height of the façades in the *streetscape*.
- B. If the proposed *building* has a pitched roof, the ridge height of the proposed *building* shall not be in excess of two (2) feet of the average of the ridge height of the pitched roofs in the *streetscape*.
- C. *Yardwalls* and fences shall be limited to a height that does not exceed the average of the height of other *yardwalls* and fences in the *streetscape*.
- D. Pursuant to Section 14-7.4(C), the height of any other *structure* shall be limited to the allowable *building* height within the applicable *streetscape*, as defined in this section. (Ord. No. 2002-37 § 26)
- E. The height and dimension of signage are as set forth in Section 14-8.10(H).
- F. The board may increase the allowable height for proposed *buildings* and additions located on a sloping site where the difference in the natural *grade* along the *structure's* foundation exceeds two (2) feet. In no case shall the height of a façade exceed four (4) feet above the allowable height of the applicable *streetscape* measured from

natural or finished *grade*, whichever is more restrictive. This increase in height shall be constructed only in the form of *building* *stepbacks* from the *street*.

(d) Pitch

If the determined *streetscape* includes over fifty percent of *buildings* with pitched roofs, the proposed *building* may have a pitched roof. A pitched roof is defined as a *gable*, *shed*, or *hipped roof*. The pitch of the roof shall match the predominant pitch extant in the *streetscape*.

(e) Scale

The height of a proposed *building* or addition, its façade length, and its roof form and pitch shall appear to be in proportion to the height, façade length, and roof form and pitch of *buildings* in the applicable *streetscape*, or the *building* on which the addition is proposed.

(f) Massing and Floor Step backs

The Board may require that upper floor levels be stepped back, to carry out the intent of this section; provided that the board in making such determinations shall take into account whether the height of the proposed *building*, *yard wall*, fence, or proposed step back of upper floor levels is in harmony with the massing of the applicable *streetscape* and *preservation* of the historic and characteristic visual qualities of the *streetscape*. The Board shall also require that the *publicly visible* façades of the *structure* be in conformance with Subsections 14-5.2(E) through (H), and in meeting those requirements, may require that different floor levels be stepped back.

(I) **Westside-Guadalupe Historic District**

(1) District Standards

Compliance with the following structural standards shall occur whenever those exterior features of *buildings* and other *structures* subject to public view from any public *street*, way, or other public place are erected, altered, or demolished:

- (a) Slump block, stucco, brick, or stone shall be used as exterior *wall* materials. Wood and other materials may be used for details. Aluminum siding, metal panels, mirrored glass, and unstuccoed concrete block or unstuccoed concrete shall not be used as exterior *wall* materials;
- (b) The color of stuccoed *buildings* shall predominantly be in browns, tans, local earth tones, and soft pastels. Surfaces of stone or brick shall be in the natural color. Entryways, and *portales* or *porches* may be emphasized by the use of white or other colors. Painting of *buildings* with a color that causes arresting or spectacular effects, or with bold repetitive patterns, or using *buildings* as signs is prohibited. Murals, however, are permitted and may be referred to the *city* arts board for an advisory recommendation.

- (c) Roof form, *slope*, and shape. It is intended that *buildings* be designed to be "wall-dominated". "Wall-dominated" means that the *building's* geometry is more defined by *walls* than by roofs. *Buildings* with flat, gabled, shed, or *hipped roofs* can be designed as "wall-dominated" solutions and are allowed. The height of the roof above the *wall* shall be no greater than the height of the *wall*. Folded plate, hyperbolic, or mansard roofs are not allowed.
 - (d) The use of solar and other energy-collecting and conserving strategies is encouraged. The use of large glazed areas on south-facing *walls* for trombe *walls* or other solar collectors, direct gain, or other energy-collecting purposes is allowed. When in view from any public *street*, way, or other public place, solar equipment shall be screened as follows:
 - (i) raising the parapet;
 - (ii) setting back from the edge of the roof;
 - (iii) framing the collector with wood;
 - (iv) in the case of pitched roofs, by integrating the collector into the pitch;
 - (v) in the case of ground solar collectors, by a *wall* or vegetation;
 - (vi) in the case of *wall* collectors, by enclosing by end or other *walls*;
 - (vii) other means that screen the collector or integrate it into the overall *structure*.
Non-glare materials shall be used in solar collectors.
 - (e) Mechanical, electrical, telephone equipment, microwave satellite receiving dishes, and other obtrusive equipment shall be architecturally screened with opaque materials by raising the parapet, boxing in the equipment, or other appropriate means. The equipment shall be of a low profile to minimize the *screening* problems.
 - (f) *Walls* and fences shall be of brick, *adobe*, masonry, rock, wood, coyote fencing, or similar materials. Wrought iron fences and slump block *walls* are allowed. *Walls* of unstuccoed concrete block, unstuccoed concrete, chain-link, metal wire, or similar materials are prohibited, except where the *wall* or fence is not in the *street* frontage.
 - (g) *Greenhouses*
 - (h) Attached *greenhouses* that front on the *street* shall give the appearance of being integrated into the *structure* of the *building* or of being a substantive addition rather than having a lean-to effect. The use of corrugated fiberglass or rolled plastic for the external surface of attached or freestanding *greenhouses* that front on the *street* is prohibited. *Greenhouses* with slanting sides shall be bracketed at the ends, and that *greenhouses* made from enclosed *porches* or *portales* maintain the shape of the *porch* or *portal*.
 - (i) *Porches* and *portales* are encouraged;
 - (j) When parking spaces are required for commercial or multi-family *residential buildings*, they shall be placed to the rear or side of the building.
- (2) Walls; Fences; Solar Collectors; Administration

Applications for the erection, alteration, or demolition of *walls*, fences, and solar collectors and required submittals shall be reviewed by the planning and land use department. Approval, disapproval, or referral shall be indicated by the division on the *application* for the building *permit* and on each of the required submittals, all of which shall be signed by the division staff assigned to the review. The division shall report approvals, disapprovals, and referrals to the board at its next regular meeting as an informational item. (Ord. No. 2007-45 § 30; Ord. #2020-22, § 16)