

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: November 18, 2025

TO: Historic Districts Review Board

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

FROM: Paul A. Duran, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Division PAD

2025-010495-HDRB, 439 Camino del Monte Sol Lot 1-A, Downtown & Eastside Historic District, Significant, Hoopes Architects, agent for Chris Greulich and Mathew Boland, owners, request approval to construct a 504 sq. ft. detached garage to a height of 10'-3" where the max allowable is 14'-0".

REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS (Sequentially):

CITY SUBMITTALS

- District Standards & yard wall & fence standards.
- Historic Inventory Form
- Zoning Review Sheet
- Other: Previous Case Documents

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 complies with Section 14-5.2(D) General Design Standards for all Historic Districts, and 14-5.2(E) Downtown and Eastside Design Standards.

Sample motions:

- a. Approve or deny Case #2025-010495 to allow these alterations to 439 Camino del Monte

Sol Lot 1-A.

- b. Approve or deny Case #2025-010495 to allow these alterations to 439 Camino del Monte Sol Lot 1-A subject to conditions.

Should the Board deny the application request, the applicant shall return with an alternative proposal for review and approval prior to proceeding to building permit.

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY:

The single-family residence at 439 Camino del Monte Sol Lot 1-A is listed as significant to the Downtown and Eastside Historic District. The main residential structure was built in 1925 on a 0.73-acre parcel and comprises of 5,894 sq. ft. of roofed area. The 1991 New Mexico Historic Building Inventory (HBI) survey form records the architectural design style as Spanish-Pueblo Revival as seen by the adobe block and wooden viga construction material, recessed doors and windows, and flat roof with rounded parapets. The structure has undergone several alterations and additions in the 1990s as noted below, however the core structure maintains the original inception of design and character to the streetscape and district in which it resides. The proposed detached garage addition will not impact the current status and integrity of the structure.



Figure 1. East Facade I.



Figure 2. East Facade II.



Figure 3. East Facade III.



Figure 4. Proposed Site Plan.

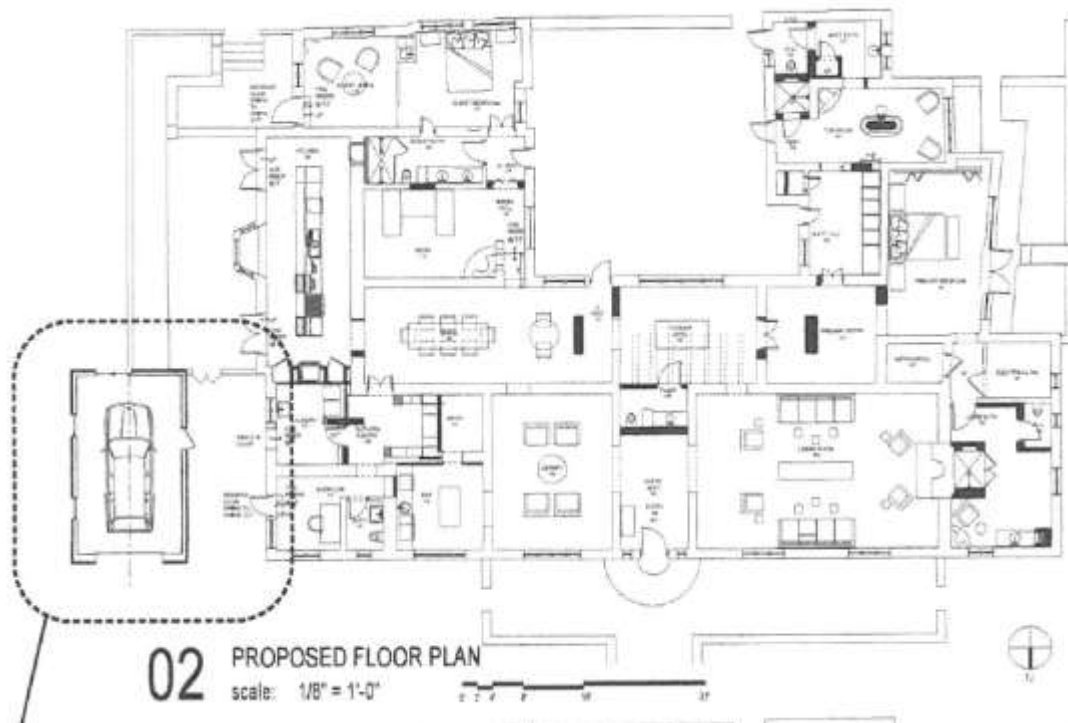


Figure 5. Proposed Floor Plan.

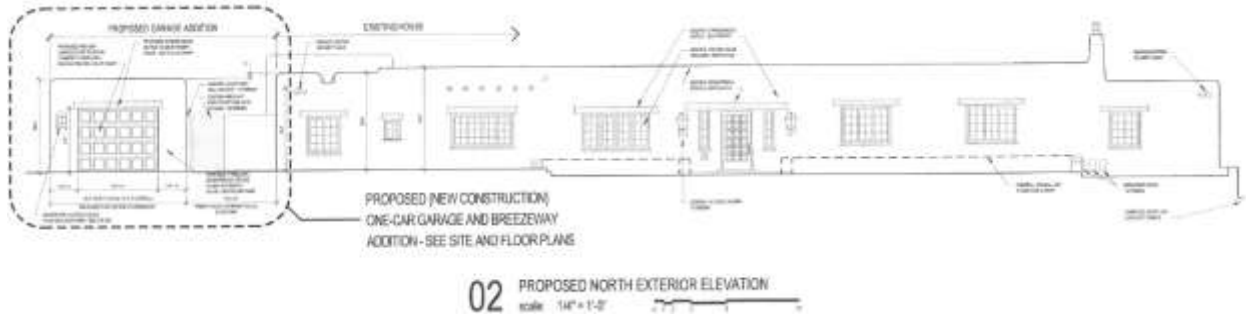


Figure 6. Proposed North Elevation.

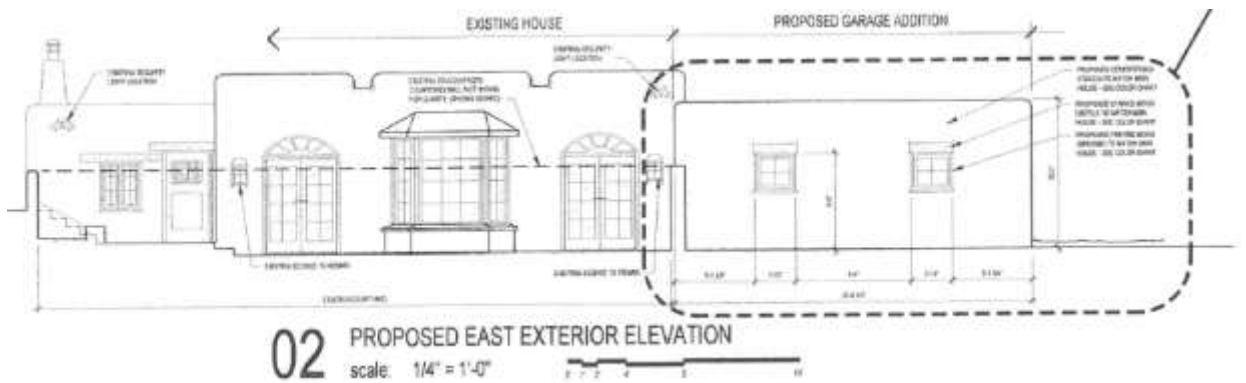


Figure 7. Proposed East Elevation.



Figure 8. Proposed South Elevation.

The proposed detached garage will be finished with stucco to match the existing house and have a wooden garage door. The structure will be set back to the east by 10 feet from the existing east elevation. The proposed garage structure will be comparable to and compatible with the existing architectural style of the structure.

Previous cases at 439 Camino del Monte Sol Lot 1-A include:

On August 26, 2025, in Case No. 2025-010871-HDRB, the Board adopted staff's recommendation that the historic status of the structure be upgraded to significant for all the reasons set forth in the staff report and for some of the additional specific reasons that were flushed out in the discussion

tonight including the fact that this was one of the very earliest if not earliest design inspirations at least of John Gaw Meem in 1925 for what was then being developed as the Spanish Pueblo Revival style, that Mary Austin, herself seemed to be involved in this with the assistance of another very important figure Frank Applegate, so if there are modifications that were made from the original Meem drawings it's fair to assume that they were made by Mary Austin, herself and Frank Applegate, that the house was the center of cultural activities in Santa Fe for nearly a decade at one of the most significant periods in Santa Fe's history including the origin of the Santa Fe preservation movement and the origin of the Old Santa Fe Association as founded by Mary Austin and others in that circle that revolved around this very house, that it was deeded by Mary Austin to be continued as a cultural property under the ownership of the Indian Arts Fund and was for several years, that it was then a school of fine arts, that included all the faculty who were very important Santa Fe artists, and that most of the modifications that have been made to the property since the time it was originally built were made in the historic era and are more than 50 years old and show the evolution and accretive style of Santa Fe architecture and therefore find that it does retain a high level of historic integrity and its important associations with local notable community members and also a finding that there is information in the record that some of the modifications to the exterior may be non-historic and that would be taken into consideration by the Board in any future applications.

On June 10, 2025, in Case No. 2025-010945-HDRB, the Board postponed the case in favor of obtaining a new Historic Cultural Properties Inventory report for this building so they could review the status before reviewing the design that was proposed. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote for and one against.

On November 5, 1997, in Case No. H-97-171, the Historic Districts Review Board (Board) moved to approve the application as submitted which included the removal of bay windows and French doors on the east elevation creating a portal and restoring the historic profile of the east elevation, and the insertion of French doors beneath the proposed portal, and the construction of a dividing courtyard wall at the same height as the existing walls at the south of the building. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote for and none against.

On November 25, 1997, in Case No. H-97-172A, the Board moved to approve the application as submitted which included the construction of a new single-bay garage at the northwest section of the main house to a height of 9'-6" to 11' from grade. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote for and none against.

On November 25, 1997, in Case No. H-97-172B, the Board moved to approve the application as submitted which included the construction of a new single-bay garage on the east elevation of the main house to a height of 10' to 11' from grade. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote for and none against. The garage was never constructed by the gallery.

APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

The applicant proposes the following exterior alterations:

- 1) Construct a detached one-car garage on the east elevation to a height of 10'-3" where the maximum allowable is 14'.

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.

(4) Compliance with General and Specific Design Standards Required

All *development* located within the historic districts and subject to this Section 14-5.2 shall comply with all applicable general *development* standards set forth in Subsection 14-5.2(D), as well as any applicable specific *development* standards set forth in Subsections 14-5.2(E) through (I).

(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* roof top 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 an 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*, *yardwall*, or fence is located in a *streetscape* that includes no *buildings*, *yardwalls*, or fences, the height of the proposed *building* shall not exceed sixteen (16) feet. *Yardwalls* 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* setbacks 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 Setbacks

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*, *yardwall*, fence, or proposed setback 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.

(E) Downtown and Eastside Design Standards

The *governing body* recognizes that a style of architecture has evolved within the *city* from the year 1600 to the present characterized by construction with *adobe*, hereafter called "old Santa Fe style", and that another style has evolved, hereafter called "recent Santa Fe style", which is a *development* from, and an elaboration of the old Santa Fe style, with different materials and frequently with added decorations.

(1) Old Santa Fe Style

Old Santa Fe style, characterized by construction with *adobe*, is defined as including the so-called "pueblo" or "pueblo-Spanish" or "Spanish-Indian" and "territorial" styles and is more specifically described as follows:

- (a) With rare exception, *buildings* are of one *story*, few have three stories, and the characteristic effect is that the *buildings* are long and low. Roofs are flat with a slight *slope* and surrounded on at least three sides by a firewall of the same color and material as the *walls* or of brick. Roofs are never carried out beyond the line of the *walls* except to cover an enclosed *portal* or *porch* formed by setting back a portion of the *wall* or to form an exterior *portal*, the outer edge of the roof being supported by wooden columns. Two- *story* construction is more common in the territorial than in other sub-styles, and is preferably accompanied by a balcony at the level of the floor of the second *story*. Façades are flat, varied by inset *portales*, exterior *portales*, projecting vigas or roof beams, canales or water-spouts, flanking buttresses and wooden lintels, architraves and cornices, which, as well as doors, are frequently carved and the carving may be picked out with bright colors. Arches are almost never used except for nonfunctional arches, often slightly ogive, over gateways in freestanding *walls*;
- (b) All exterior *walls* of a *building* are painted alike. The colors range from a light earth color to a dark earth color. The exception to this rule is the protected space under *portales*, or in church-derived designs, inset panels in a *wall* under the roof, in which case the roof overhangs the panel. These spaces may be painted white or a contrasting color, or have mural decorations;
- (c) Solid *wall* space is always greater in any façade than window and door space combined. Single panes of glass larger than thirty (30) inches in any dimension are not permissible except as otherwise provided in this section;
- (d) The rule as to flat roofs shall not be construed to prevent the construction of skylights or installation of air conditioning devices, or any other necessary roof *structures*, but such *structures* other than chimneys, flues, vents and aerials, shall be so placed as to be concealed by the firewall from the view of anyone standing in the *street* on which the *building* fronts;
- (e) True old Santa Fe style *buildings* are made of *adobe* with mud plaster finish. Construction with masonry blocks, bricks, or other materials with which the *adobe* effect can be simulated is permissible; provided, that the exterior *walls* are not less than eight (8) inches thick and that geometrically straight façade lines are avoided. Mud plaster or hard plaster simulating *adobe*, laid on smoothly, is required; and
- (f) It is characteristic of old Santa Fe style commercial *buildings* to place a *portal* so that it covers the entire sidewalk, the columns being set at the curb line.

(2) Recent Santa Fe Style

Recent Santa Fe style intends to achieve harmony with historic *buildings* by *retention* of a similarity of materials, color, proportion, and general detail. The dominating effect is to be that of *adobe* construction, prescribed as follows:

- (a) No *building* shall be over two stories in height in any façade unless the façade shall include projecting or recessed *portales*, *setbacks* or other design elements;
- (b) The combined door and window area in any *publicly visible* façade shall not exceed forty percent of the total area of the façade except for doors or windows located under a *portal*. No door or window in a *publicly visible* façade shall be located nearer than three (3) feet from the corner of the façade;
- (c) No cantilevers shall be permitted except over projecting vigas, beams, or wood corbels, or as part of the roof *treatment* described below;
- (d) No less than eighty percent of the surface area of any *publicly visible* façade shall be *adobe* finish, or stucco simulating *adobe* finish. The balance of the *publicly visible* façade, except as above, may be of natural stone, wood, brick, tile, terra cotta, or other material, subject to approval as hereinafter provided for *building permits*;
- (e) The *publicly visible* façade of any *building* and of any adjoining *walls* shall, except as otherwise provided, be of one color, which color shall simulate a light earth or dark earth color, matte or dull finish and of relatively smooth texture. Façade surfaces under *portales* may be of contrasting or complimentary colors. Windows, doors and *portals* on *publicly visible* portions of the *building* and *walls* shall be of one of the old Santa Fe styles; except that *buildings* with *portals* may have larger plate glass areas for windows under *portals* only. Deep window recesses are characteristic; and
- (f) Flat roofs shall have not more than thirty (30) inches overhang.

DEFINITIONS:

14-12 Significant Structure:

A structure located in a historic district that is approximately fifty years old or older, and that embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction. For a structure to be designated as significant, it must retain a high level of historic integrity. A structure may be designated as significant:

- (A) for its association with events or persons that are important on a local, regional, national or global level; or
- (B) if it is listed on or is eligible to be listed on the State Register of Cultural Properties or the National Register of Historic Places.

14-12 Primary Façade:

One or more principal faces or elevations of a building with features that define the character of the building's architecture.