

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: April 14, 2026
TO: Historic Districts Review Board Members
VIA: Heather Lamboy, Planning & Land Use Department Director #LL
Maggie Moore, Assistant Land Use Director *MM*
Gary Moquino, Historic Preservation Division Manager *GM*
FROM: Lani McCulley, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Division *LJM*

2025-011228-HDRB, 927 Canyon Rd., Downtown & Eastside Historic District, non-contributing, Innovative Design Construction, agent for Joseph Gonzalez, owner, proposes to construct a 576 sq. ft. carport addition to a height of 10'-0" where the maximum allowable is 18'-1".

REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS (Sequentially):

CITY SUBMITTALS

District Standards & yard wall & fence standards.

Historic Inventory Form

Zoning Review Sheet

Other: previous case documents and previous design 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:

One motion will be required in this case. One motion is required for approval or denial of the remodel application to construct an attached carport.

- a. In case 2025-011228-HDRB, for 927 Canyon Road, 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.



Figure 1: Property Location

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY:

Streetscape:

The streetscape for the property is defined as extending from the intersection at Acequia Madre to just past Palace, approximately halfway to Camino del Monte Sol. The streetscape consists of a park and a combination of residential and commercial properties. The street has a sidewalk on the north side of the road at the eastern end, and a walking path at the side of the road through the remaining streetscape. There is no walking area on the south side of the road. Fencing is a combination of styles with a wood fence at the park, rock walls, stucco walls, combinations of stone and stucco, wire, and non-stuccoed CMU walls, coyote fencing, and some walls with latillas on top. There are some taller walls and fences at 88” in height, as well as some very low walls and fences at 35” to 40”. The street average is 60”.

The lots in the subject streetscape vary in size. The buildings are set back from the street by three to ten feet, with most of them within five feet of the street. The commercial structures are located at the western end of the streetscape, with the residential at the eastern and central. The south side of the road is mostly Spanish Pueblo Revival style buildings with a few Territorial style buildings. The north side is characterized by primarily vernacular buildings with a few pitched roofs and a few Spanish Pueblo Revival style.



Figure 2: Street View of Residence

Site Description:

The residence at 927 Canyon Road is a non-contributing vernacular style two-story structure in the Downtown and Eastside Historic District. The 2,368 sq. ft. home that was constructed in 1967 is located on 0.18 acres surrounded by non-historic yard walls that were constructed as part of a 2015 (case H-15-086) approval.

The residence faces south and contains an enclosed portal with large windows and an outdoor roofed room on the southwest corner. The east elevation has the primary entrance with sidelights on either side of the door. Each window varies in size. The eastern elevation is under a portal. The north elevation has a second floor with various windows. The only two matching windows on this façade are on the upper floor, on either side of the chimney bump out on the eastern end. The residence is stuccoed in Parex “buffalo,” which is a light tan. The windows are trimmed in beige, and the wood stain on the property is a light walnut color.

PREVIOUS CASE SUMMARIES:

ARC:

No Archaeological clearance has been issued for this property.

HDRB:

In case H-15-086, the residence was approved for several window and door replacements including adding additional openings and changing sizes of others, demolition of the portals and construction of the new entry portal on the east façade wrapping around to the south, construction of the stucco yard wall at 61” maximum allowable at the east side of the front courtyard, new stone walkway, create the outdoor room at the southwest corner from the existing lean-to shed, replace HVAC units, demolish and rebuild exterior wooden staircase at the west elevation, and stucco.

In case H-13-074, the residence was approved to demolish a non-contributing garage that was located in the rear of the site, which is now addressed as 929 Canyon Road.

In case H-02-040, the residence was approved for the work that was red-tagged on March 12, 2002, for raising an existing 6’-0” masonry wall with wood fencing to a height of 8’-0” without a permit. The applicant chose to request an exception to have the fence at a height of 5’-9”, which is the maximum allowable height.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

In case 2021-004197-ADMIN, the residence was approved for the wrought iron and wood vehicular gate at the driveway entrance.

In case 2021-003507-ADMIN, the residence was issued an extension for the work listed under case H-15-086 with design changes to seven windows, removal of the demolition of the porches, and replacement of the roof on the porches.

In an approval issued on November 9, 2016, the residence was approved for fencing and exterior lights.

In an approval issued on June 6, 2016, the residence was approved to construct an 875 sq. ft. concrete parking pad. The color of the concrete is “San Diego buff”.

APPLICANT’S REQUEST:

The applicant proposes to:

1. Construct a 576 sq. ft. carport addition to a height of 10’-0”, where the maximum allowable is 18’-1”. The carport will be located on the existing concrete parking pad and attached to the existing north portal roof in the southeast corner and will be open on all four sides. The framing will be painted light brown, and the roof will be TPO in a tan color.

The applicant came before the board on October 28, 2025, and the decision of the Board was to postpone the case for a redesign that takes into consideration the character of the streetscape and the prominent placement of the publicly visible structure. They also recommended that the applicant meet with the building division to make sure that the design will meet the engineering requirements, meet with the Terrain Management team to ensure that the slope of the roof meets

the drainage requirements, and see if any ponding is required for the additional roof coverage. The applicant is currently discussing the design with both the Terrain Management team and the Building Division. The applicant has submitted a new design as recommended by the Board.

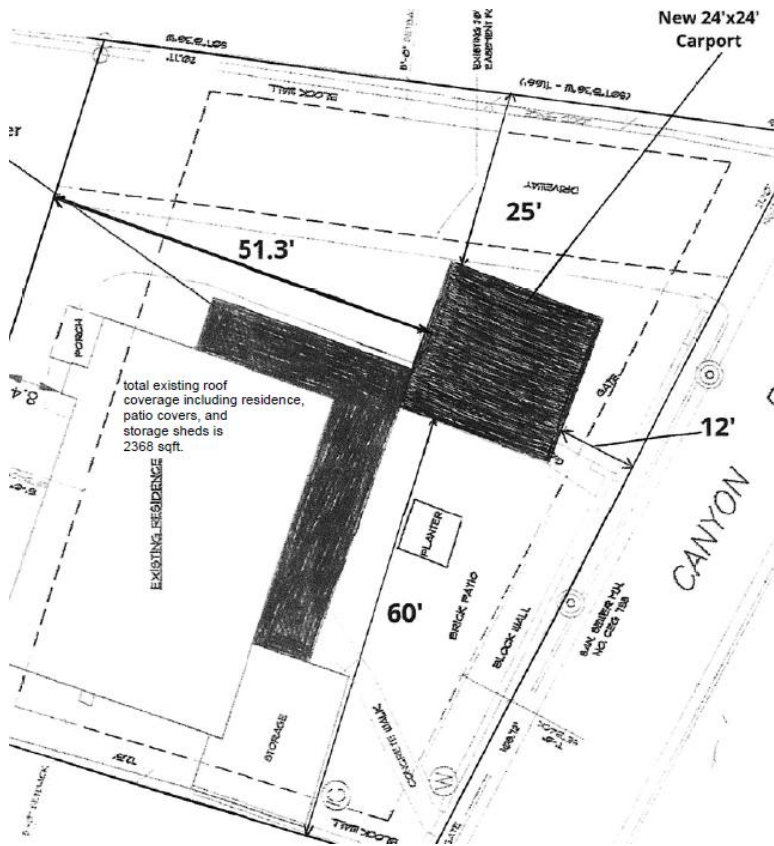


Figure 3: Carport Location



Figure 4: Carport Design

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*, *there* 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*, *there* 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 that are *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*, *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 above 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 Stepbacks

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 stepback 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 a 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 complementary 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.