

Fuller Lodge Interpretive Plan



Los Alamos Historical Society
and Los Alamos County
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Introduction

The most iconic and historic building in Los Alamos, New Mexico, is the Edward P. Fuller Lodge, an upright, three-story log building designed by famed Santa Fe architect John Gaw Meem. Originally built in 1928 as the dining hall and community center for the prestigious Los Alamos Ranch School, the Lodge served as a cafeteria and community center during the Manhattan Project, the top-secret World War II effort to create an atomic bomb. Along with dances and parties, the Lodge was the site of concerts, town hall meetings, and world-changing scientific discussions. Imagine six current and future Nobel Prize winners sitting together at lunch and what they may have written on their napkins! After the war, the Lodge was owned by the Atomic Energy Commission and served as the only hotel in Los Alamos through 1966.

Today, the building is owned by the local municipality, Los Alamos County. It still serves as a community center, with weddings, concerts, meetings, and parties of all types taking place in it throughout the year. While it is open to the public to admire the gorgeous architecture, visitors do not have an opportunity to realize the historic significance of the building and all that has happened there throughout the years. There is a great need to interpret the Lodge—without making into a museum with “books on the wall.” This interpretive plan is the first step in the process.

The plan came about through generous funding from the National Park Service’s Heritage Partnership Program as well as partnerships between Los Alamos County, the Los Alamos Historical Society, and a passionate group of stakeholders. We hired Candace Tangorra Matelic, Ph.D., CTM Professional Services, and Donna R. Braden, The Henry Ford (both of whom worked on the 2015 *Los Alamos Historical Museum Campus Strategic Interpretation and Program Plan*) to facilitate the planning process and develop the interpretive plan. It includes innovative and creative ideas for sharing stories about the building and its history without changing the building’s character. It also encourages and enables those who use Fuller Lodge to always consider how to keep it the “heart and soul” of the community of Los Alamos.

Garden, and these life-changing experiences have become beloved traditions. For many, it still is the place where happiness resides.

The Key Concepts and Theme Statements

Key interpretive concepts are provocative and emotive ideas that emerge from the research and link the content to the experience, interests and emotions of current and potential audiences. Theme statements express the relevant points within each key concept. Note that we offer three themes for each concept to illustrate their interpretive richness, but there are other possibilities. In addition, there are a number of narratives or stories that can be teased out from these statements to humanize and illustrate the concepts while offering multiple perspectives. We have noted the connection of each concept to those articulated in the larger Strategic Interpretation and Program Plan (SIPP) for the entire museum campus.

The three key interpretive concepts that emerged for Fuller Lodge are:

Interpretive Concept #1 - TANGIBLE LINK TO HISTORY

(Note: this concept corresponds to PEOPLE in the larger SIPP)

To walk through Fuller Lodge is to experience a microcosm of the unique history of Los Alamos. Every room, every object, and every detail reveals tangible evidence to all that has happened there throughout the years. The building itself is a rare survival of the Ranch School years, while the bell tower and dining room bell pull, the hand-carved lanterns, and the grand porch once used for graduation ceremonies are some of the other reminders of the building's origin. Standing in the Pajarito Room, one can only imagine a time when, amidst the strain, pressure, and feverish work of Project Y, Fuller Lodge served as a multi-purpose gathering place for important meetings, socializing, and rejuvenation. The Lodge's lesser-known history as the town's first and only hotel in postwar Los Alamos is still evident in such features as the newer wing additions, the vertical lettering of "The Lodge" on the chimney, and the plush, comfortable-looking chairs in the lobby. Finally, when the Lodge's very existence was threatened, citizen activism contributed to its being placed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and registered as a New Mexico Cultural Property—evidenced by plaques viewable at the Lodge's entrance. Today, Los Alamos residents are justly proud of the connection of this still-functioning community structure with its august past.

As the center of a campus of log-and-stone buildings during the Ranch School era, the Lodge embodied what director A. J. Connell wanted the boys at his school to aspire to—"rugged, close to nature, standing tall, and solidly planted in a firm foundation."

Described as beautiful, intimate, elegant, and majestic, Fuller Lodge still offers a welcoming atmosphere that is a source of pride for Los Alamos residents.

Interpretive Concept #3 - PART OF EVERYONE'S STORY, THE HAPPY PLACE

(Note: this concept corresponds to COMMUNITY in the larger SIPP)

Fuller Lodge holds a special place in the hearts of Los Alamos residents because it is connected to their personal history, stories, and cherished memories. Throughout its history people held their important "circle of life" events at the Lodge, including dances, recitals, weddings, parties, reunions, commemorations, and memorial services. Families have vivid and fond memories of celebrating their important milestone events in the Lodge and the nearby Rose Garden, and these life-changing experiences have become beloved traditions, passed from generation to generation. Since the Los Alamos Historical Society regularly holds events and programs at the Lodge, many people think of it as an extension of the museum campus. The Lodge is the *must see* stop in town for guests of residents, as they bring visitors to "soak up" Los Alamos and tell stories about the community. Inevitably, newcomers to Los Alamos hear about everyone's experiences at the Lodge, and they too want to connect to it. Fuller Lodge continues to be a valued community gathering space, used regularly by the Los Alamos County government and many local organizations for civic events, ceremonies, and meetings. Thinking about all of the wonderful and memorable events that happen at the Lodge brings smiles and good feelings to Los Alamos residents—they think of it as a place where happiness resides—their happy place!

Theme Statements

Since Los Alamos residents held their important "circle of life" events at Fuller Lodge, including dances, recitals, weddings, parties, reunions, commemorations, and memorial services, the place is connected to their personal history, stories, and cherished memories.

Fuller Lodge is the must see stop in town for guests of residents, as they bring visitors to "soak up" Los Alamos and tell stories about the community.

Fuller Lodge Historical Background

Chronology

- I. "History as Varied and Colorful as the Land": Site of Fuller Lodge before 1928
- II. "A Firm Foundation": John Gaw Meem, Fuller Lodge Architect, 1928-29
- III. "School Spirit": Fuller Lodge at the Los Alamos Ranch School, 1929-43
- IV. "Work and Play": Fuller Lodge during the Manhattan Project, 1943-46
- V. "The Lodge": 1947-66
- VI. "Beloved Community Center": 1967-today

First Era: "History as Varied and Colorful as the Land": Site of Fuller Lodge before 1928

Early Occupancy

Fuller Lodge, like the rest of Los Alamos, New Mexico, is situated on the Pajarito Plateau—a high plateau characterized by a series of narrow mesas and canyons that originated from several massive volcanic eruptions that occurred on its western edge.

Despite the high elevation, isolation, and rugged terrain, the land on which Fuller Lodge came to be located was the site of generations of inhabitants. In fact, the area's history is as varied and colorful as the layers of volcanic tuff and basalt on which it lies. Its history dates all the way back to the Paleo-Indian period, 11,500 to 7,500 years ago.

Near where Fuller Lodge is located now, a 13th-century Ancestral Puebloan site was built, believed to be connected with the pueblo of Otowi, near Pueblo Canyon.

Spanish farmers and herders were the earliest known occupants of the area during more recent times. By the 1880s, Hispanic homesteaders grew beans, worked vegetable gardens, and grazed animals during the summer months. Antonio Sanchez was the first homesteader to the area in 1885. Bencesiado Gonzales—a key later staff member of the Los Alamos Ranch School, then an employee of the Manhattan Project and the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory—recalled spending summers as a young boy on the plateau with his homesteader father. His wife was Antonio Sanchez's granddaughter.

infirmary, meeting rooms, and quarters for himself and a few masters. This plan would become Fuller Lodge.

John Gaw Meem, Architect of Fuller Lodge

Architect John Gaw Meem, known as the Father of the Santa Fe Style, was hired to design the new structure. Meem was well known by this time for his Pueblo Revival-style designs in the Santa Fe area—particularly residences. Although not the inventor of the Santa Fe style, Meem was considered the architect who brought the style to maturity.

Meem was particularly well-known for using regional traditions as his inspiration and for situating buildings within their natural settings—often commanding spectacular views of the New Mexico terrain. Meem was also known for using local materials, which he felt added authenticity and a rustic quality to his structures. These are all characteristics that he brought to the design of Fuller Lodge.

Born in 1894, Meem grew up in Brazil, the son of an Episcopal missionary. He studied civil engineering at the Virginia Military Institute. When he contracted tuberculosis in 1920 (at only 25 years old), he sought a cure at the Sunmount Sanitarium in Santa Fe—just as the city was in the midst of its major architectural makeover into the Pueblo Revival style, also known as “Santa Fe style.”

During his stay at Sunmount Sanitorium—designed by foundational Santa Fe-style architects Rapp, Rapp, and Hendrickson—he was inspired to study architecture. In 1922, he went to Denver to pursue an apprenticeship with architects Fisher and Fisher. Returning to Santa Fe in 1924, he opened a partnership with Cassius McCormick, fellow Sunmount patient and accountant. This partnership lasted until 1928. Meanwhile, Rapp, Rapp, and Hendrickson had closed their office in 1921, leaving the door open to Meem to make his mark in Santa Fe-style architecture.

Beginning with designing homes for Sunmount patients, his reputation spread. Many of his clients were well-to-do women, including Hazel Pond, who appreciated his modest personality, inquisitive mind, erudite manner, and unusual ability to draw people out.

By the late 1920s, his business had expanded to designing buildings for private schools, including Los Alamos Ranch School, Fountain Valley School in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Sandia School for Girls in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

structural elements of the dining hall were covered with vertical logs, chinked with light-hued concrete, and sealed with oakum (a derivative of hemp, used in caulking the seams of wooden ships). When completed the two-story dining hall was spectacular. Its 19-foot ceiling was highlighted by exposed, non-structural trusses—a Meem trademark.

The dining room opened to a great porch or portico, affording a spectacular view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to the east—as Connell had envisioned. Meem wrote that, “The vertical columns of the east porch give dignity and an exciting impression of strength to the design of the structure.”⁴ He also designed hanging iron lanterns for the east portico that incorporated the Ranch School logo designed by famous woodcut artist Gustave Baumann.

A small bell tower topped the structure’s asphalt-tile roof. The bell in the tower, made by the Meneely Bell Company of Troy, New York, was considered unmatched for “sweetness of tone, ringing quality, and durability.”⁵ The structure was completed in January 1929. George Teats submitted a bill for \$33,450.

Philo Fuller, a wealthy lumberman/furniture manufacturer from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and long-time supporter and personal friend of Ashley Pond, Jr., paid for the lodge and donated it to the school. His son Edward had been a guest of the Ranch School since 1917. Edward had contracted polio and was slow to get around but the warm dry climate of the Pajarito Plateau had restored some of his health. He became a general supervisor of the young boys, eating meals with them, helping them learn horseback riding, and serving as a surrogate parent. Edward Fuller passed away in 1923 and, to honor his memory, Connell named the new structure the Edward P. Fuller Lodge.

Meem went on to design and remodel several other structures on the Los Alamos Ranch School campus. He came to be known as the school’s “official” architect.

Third Era: “School Spirit”: Fuller Lodge and the Los Alamos Ranch School, 1929-43

A Perfect Fit

Fuller Lodge embodied the spirit of the Los Alamos Ranch School. It fit the school’s combination of classical education and rustic, outdoor living. Fuller Lodge soon became the focus and symbol of the Ranch School and a central part of the larger campus of log-and-stone buildings. It embodied what

foyer, featuring a native rock fireplace. Sliding wooden doors separated this room from the main hall. At mealtime, houseboys (often residents of the nearby pueblos and homesteads) slid open the doors and students, faculty, and guests walked to their assigned tables.

A staff dietician scientifically planned the three daily meals, and the boys were expected to follow rigid dining rules. Boys wore their formal Scout uniforms, including neckerchiefs, to the dining hall. Eight students and a master sat at each table, and the teachers were required to lift the conversation to a high intellectual level. Students and masters were required to eat all the food that was put before them (apparently encouraging sneaky habits of disposing of unwanted food).

The Ranch School grew much of its own food, supplemented by fresh items from Santa Fe and local dishes like atole. Puebloan and Hispano waiters wore khakis but on formal occasions dressed in white pants, brightly colored silk shirts, and black cloth sashes tied at the waist. The stories of the workers in Fuller Lodge are important and should be told as we learn more about them. When not dining in the Fuller Lodge dining hall, students used the room for dances, concerts, and theatricals.

The dances were held with girls invited from schools in Santa Fe. At first, the girls came from the Santa Fe School for Girls, a school modeled after the Los Alamos Ranch School. After 1931, the girls came from Brownmoor, a private girls school in northern Santa Fe, the old Pulitzer family estate (now Bishop's Lodge). At an annual formal dance, the girls wore long dresses while the boys wore their standard uniform of short pants, khaki shirts, and neckerchiefs.

The boys put on plays as part of a drama group called the *Koshares*. The highlight of the later years was the annual Gilbert & Sullivan production, a community-wide effort. In 1940, young Ranch School student John Crosby made his theatrical debut on stage, performing in *H.M.S. Pinafore*. He would go on to found the Santa Fe Opera.

Perhaps the most unique and dramatic event to take place annually at Fuller Lodge was the graduation ceremony. The model for these ceremonies was established in 1920-1 at Graduation Canyon (an area northeast of the Big House). When moved to the east portal and front lawn of Fuller Lodge in 1928, the drama remained much the same. Meem had, in fact, designed the front porch "in such a way as to give it ample room in front, for the ceremonies incident to Commencement time."⁷

The Pajarito Room became a cafeteria/dining hall for project staff and visitors. It was considered the finest dining facility on the Hill, with more charm and elegance than other clubs, post exchanges, and mess halls in town.

As many as 13,000 meals per month were served there. Meals required reservations. They cost 50 cents for breakfast, 65 cents for lunch, and \$1.15 for dinner. Waitresses wore crisp white uniforms and the meals were served on Fiestaware dishes. Howard Archer was the manager of the dining hall.

At times, as many as six past and future Nobel laureates could be spotted enjoying dinner in the Lodge. Sometimes mealtimes resembled a scientific "Who's Who," including: Enrico Fermi, James Chadwick, Robert Oppenheimer, Ernest Lawrence, and Isador Rabi. Otto Frisch recalled often admiring the view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from the front windows of the Lodge at breakfast. He was also struck by how brilliant the sunshine was every morning. Frisch was a member of the British Mission, a group of preeminent scientists who joined their American counterparts on the Hill in December 1943, to work on the atomic bomb.

"Innocent Fun"

Under the strain, pressure, and feverish work of Project Y, the Lodge became a place to burn off steam, relax, and enjoy the company of others. On Saturday nights, particularly, it was often packed with people enjoying concerts, theatrical productions, dancing, and parties for every occasion. As Jean Bacher, wife of Robert Bacher, who led the Bomb Physics Division, recalled:

Fenced in as we were, our social life was a pipeline through which we let off steam—steam with a collegiate flavor. Large dances, which often turned into binges, were popular. They were rowdy and wet parties, but always pretty innocent fun. It is hard to understand why our group of mature, serious scientists and their wives behaved in this country club manner, so alien to us... We were isolated from the theaters and nightclubs and all other metropolitan delights. When a party came along, we attacked it with an abandon equal to our fantasies of what we would be doing if we were in New York. That ninety percent of us would have been in some quiet campus town, leading a faculty tea existence, was a point we all discreetly forgot.⁹

Legend has it that Enrico Fermi went to a square dance in Fuller Lodge and refused to join the dancers until he had worked out in his head every move he was expected to perform.

presented the Army-Navy "E" Award to Project Y participants for their contributions to the war effort. This date was chosen to coincide with J. Robert Oppenheimer's last day as Lab director.

Various people spoke at the podium that day, including University of California President Dr. Robert Sproul (this university oversaw the lab and its employees), General Leslie Groves, and civilians Albert E. Dhyre (purchasing agent for the Project) and Charlotte Serber (head of the scientific library and document room and representing female employees). Robert Oppenheimer also spoke that day, including the following excerpt: "It is our hope that in years to come we may look at this scroll, and all that it signifies with pride."¹²

Fuller Lodge played one final role with the scientists who had participated in the Manhattan Project. In August 1946, Los Alamos hosted a weeklong physics conference with over 300 scientists from several universities across the country in attendance. At the conference, new LASL director Norris Bradbury asked conferees for advice and consultation to help determine the future of the lab. Enrico Fermi and J. Robert Oppenheimer returned for the conference. Friendships were renewed and memories enjoyed as original Project members were reunited. Social activities during the conference took place at Fuller Lodge, including dinner and an evening cocktail party followed by dancing.

Fifth Era: "The Lodge": 1947-66

Hotel

As the townsite and lab transferred to the Atomic Energy Commission in 1947, the Zia Company assumed operation of Fuller Lodge. The building was rechristened "The Lodge" and it functioned as a hotel for official visitors to the lab.

Remodel

The Zia Company undertook extensive remodeling to the building. W. C. Kruger & Associates (the major architect of postwar Los Alamos) modified the structure and modernized the rooms. In 1948, three new wings were added to the original structure (north, south, and west). These wings were constructed of native stone, matching the regional rock in the fireplace and chimney of the original building. The letters of the new hotel, "The Lodge," were mounted vertically in iron on a new chimney.

That same year, the Big House was torn down as part of a shopping center development.

County operation of the Lodge was a success but it took the government until October 24, 1974, to cut through red tape and finally transfer ownership of Fuller Lodge to Los Alamos County.

Preservation

Citizen support for the building continued in the 1970s, with petitions to save the Lodge and some of its surrounding grounds at a time when it was being encroached upon for such things as the new post office, roads, and a business center.

In 1975, fledgling Colorado congressman Tim Wirth, was enlisted by local preservationists to help keep in place nine Navajo rugs that had long been on display there. But this effort was unsuccessful and they were moved to the new Atomic Energy Commission's Resource Study Center.

A series of sensitive upgrades and careful but partial restorations have taken place since 1974. Supported by the public, these have included replacing the elevator, and restoring the windows (protecting Fuller Lodge from the elements), logs (restoring the structure to look remarkably like its World War II appearance), and lighting (fixtures restored on the back portal).

A Green Room space adjacent to the Pajarito Room was created in 1968, and improved during the renovations in 2016. Originally advocated for and used by Peggy Pond Church, this space has been beneficial for many speakers, performers and brides to prepare for their events in the Lodge (there is a label that documents the Green Room history in the space).

A major renovation and redecoration in the 1980s brought rugs from Chimayó, Tierra Amarilla, and Truchas into the Pajarito Room, drapes from Ortega weavers in Chimayó, and commissioned artworks from New Mexico artisans.

Functions

Today Fuller Lodge functions as an important social center for the Los Alamos community. It is used for a variety of purposes, including the Fuller Lodge Art Center and gallery (since 1977) and the offices of the Los Alamos Historical Society and the Los Alamos Arts Council. It serves as a meeting place for the community, from civic groups to county government functions, as well as the site of public lectures, musical performances, proms, recitals, and dances. It has hosted generations of weddings, funerals, parties, concerts, town meetings, receptions, conferences, and other social events.

See Appendix 3 for the Sources and Endnotes for the History Summary

Plan for Interpretation, Programs, and Public Use

This section articulates how Fuller Lodge will present interpretive content to target audiences, and implement the strategic directions through exhibits, public programs, and exemplary visitor amenities and orientation.

What is the Best and Highest Use of Fuller Lodge?

Throughout this plan we have repeatedly articulated the strong belief of Los Alamos residents that Fuller Lodge is the heart and soul of the community. As stated in the Big Idea (the complete expression of the Big Idea or Statement of Interpretive Significance can be found in the Interpretive Content Framework):

Los Alamos residents are proud of the connecting and nourishing role that Fuller Lodge played throughout its history.

The Lodge holds a special place in the hearts of Los Alamos residents because it is a significant part of their personal history, stories, and cherished memories.

Literally and figuratively, the Lodge is the focal point for community life. Deeply valued as a gathering place, a community anchor, and a beloved community treasure, the Lodge is a source of fierce community pride.

If Los Alamos was starting its community planning from scratch, and Fuller Lodge was a big, empty building, what would the community say should be housed in its beloved and majestic landmark structure? Another way of expressing this question is to ask: what is the best and highest community use for Fuller Lodge?

With this line of inquiry in mind, it is important to examine how all of the spaces in Fuller Lodge are currently being used, and explore how the facilities could best be used as a focal point for community life:

- How can Los Alamos best preserve the national and state historic landmark and interpret its long and important history to residents and visitors?
- What community functions can best assist residents in using Fuller Lodge as the “must see stop in town,” as they bring their guests to “soak up” Los Alamos and tell stories about the community?

- **Other storage areas and room uses:** There are a number of other rooms in the building that seem to be random storage areas for a variety of things, some of which may be necessary, and some of which may be forgotten and not important to keep. Room 233 is a good case in point (old 8-foot tables, shovels, ice melt, lots of old and possibly broken things, when education/program supplies are crammed into a small closet nearby). If the building is to function as an effective facility for a variety of community programs and functions, it is important to utilize every available space, nook, and cranny for its most valuable use. This means cleaning out junk and broken equipment, determining what needs to be stored in the building (as opposed to other County facilities) to support building functions, and getting things in order to establish a future standard for proper use.
- **Building manager:** Given that so many people use the historical building, and for a variety of purposes, it may be prudent that County designates an individual to serve as the Building Steward and Manager. This person can be trained to understand the particular conditions of upkeep required for a historic structure (a national and state historic landmark), and meet regularly with a representative of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board to address issues and concerns. This person can oversee the ongoing stewardship and maintenance of the building, address safety concerns, enforce aesthetic standards, ensure that equipment and furnishings are properly stored, and work with vendors, caterers, and organizations that rent or use the facilities to meet their needs while protecting the historic fabric of the building. This person should be regarded as a site steward, mandated to coordinate care, use, preservation, and maintenance, and empowered to take care of Fuller Lodge as the very special gem that it is. Our point is that Fuller Lodge is not just another County building—it is closer to the Los Alamos Historical Society buildings than other modern County facilities. As such, it demands a different set of criteria for care and standards for operation, and a newly defined stewardship position.

Public Access to Fuller Lodge: In response to the public survey about Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos residents expressed that they want **access to the Lodge on weekends**. As mentioned in the Tourism Strategic Plan, residents expressed that **visitors should have access to some part of the building**

- **WHO:** Will the experience be self-guided or facilitated by a museum staff member or volunteer? Who will they learn about? Is their family a part of the Fuller Lodge story?
- **HOW:** How will visitors learn about Fuller Lodge? What are the methods we are using to convey the history and stories framed through the interpretive concepts?

The display window in the lobby (currently used by the Los Alamos Arts Council) should be used for orientation and interpretation of the building, providing the basic information listed above.

Multiple Interpretive Methods

Tours—guided and self-guided: Fuller Lodge is currently part of the historic district guided tours offered by the History Museum, but there are no stand-alone tours of the Lodge. These historic district guided tours of Fuller Lodge should be continued. However, the Lodge portion of the tour should be revised to convey the big idea and key interpretive concepts that are outlined in the Interpretive Content Framework. This can be accomplished by establishing a task force comprised of the current staff and volunteers who have extensive experience with Fuller Lodge and the historic district tours.

Los Alamos residents think that visitors should be able to visit Fuller Lodge on their own, and not have to be on a tour. This can occur outside as well as inside the building. This research finding would suggest that we provide some interpretation for self-guided tours, remembering that respondents want to bring their guests to the Lodge to soak up the essence of Los Alamos.

Hence, the top priority task at hand is to take the new tour material and develop it into a set of tools to assist Los Alamos residents in guiding their own tours of Fuller Lodge. Once these self-guided tour materials are written, they can be translated into tools for visitors to use in exploring the Lodge, in printed form (think **laminated gallery guides that visitors borrow and return**) or a **revised printed tour booklet or brochure that is readily available** (rather than doled out only a few at a time). The interpretation could also become **available as an app that visitors access on their mobile devices, as a tool that can be downloaded from the museum and county websites**. Imagine downloadable self-guiding tour booklets that can be

themselves only tell part of the story and depend on a viewer's prior knowledge of the subject matter. So, we may need to think carefully about what themes we portray through the photographs, and also decide on the most appropriate location within the building for them. Some ideas for photograph exhibits include:

- There may be locations where we want to focus on the Ranch School and Manhattan Project; for example, we discussed showing **large photographs of the Manhattan Project in the Throne Room**.
- There may be other locations where we could **focus on activities that residents remember, such as dances, concerts, New Year's Eve celebrations, and other community events**.
- Are there photographs that portray the Lodge as a **"meeting place of great intentions and great minds"** (a provocative title could be "Great Minds Still Gather Here") or document the important historical moments that took place there, and have continued up to the present day with renowned authors, speakers, and other public figures?
- On the door to the third floor, we could **show a photograph of A.J. Connell's room** that was once up there.
- Are there interesting photographs of men and women at dances and other special occasions that could be displayed in the **restrooms**?
- Think about a space where changing photo exhibits could be presented, for example, **photographs of John Gaw Meem's Sacred Spaces** (if Fuller Lodge is a "sacred space" to Los Alamos, photos of churches/cathedrals designed by Meem might illustrate that idea).

Personal observations, recollections, or memories instead of didactic labels enhance these types of exhibits.

Digital "Scrapbook:" Los Alamos residents thought that an interactive digital presentation, available in the building lobby or another room (the Kiva Room that is currently used as the office of the Los Alamos Arts Council could work well for this) could be an effective way to interpret the Lodge's history to visitors. If we can find a place where this will work, it provides an opportunity for visitors to experience a lot of interpretive material, both historical and more

For the development of a historically furnished hotel room, based on Donna Braden's expertise in this area, we recommend the following steps:

- 1. Develop the project framework** – Review institutional goals, target audiences, and visitor outcomes, how it fits into the Fuller Lodge big idea and key interpretive concepts. Determine the collections (artifacts) that the museum or County already has (check maker's marks on hotel furniture currently in Fuller Lodge). Is it possible that there is hotel era furniture in other County businesses, at the Lab, or in local businesses?
- 2. Historical research** – Review existing archival photos and community oral histories. Issue a call to the community for furniture and furnishings from the hotel era of the Lodge—there might be a bunch of things that residents own that they would be willing to donate to the museum. Similarly, issue a call to the community for photos of the hotel, families and friends who have stayed at the hotel. Look at furnishings from other western lodges and hotels from the era, both for comparative purposes and to determine whether similar furnishings are still being manufactured (sources for reproductions).
- 3. Create the hotel room** – Determine the room location. Determine whether it is a specific room copied from a snapshot or a more composite space. Develop a furnishings rationale and inventory, with artifacts, reproductions, and props needed. Articulate installation details like lighting, window, floor and wall treatments. Develop a layout plan, and schedule the installation.
- 4. Interpret the room** – Decide on what techniques will be utilized, e.g., labels, audio, part of self-guided walking tour, part of staffed walking tour? Develop interpretive text and training. Develop a plan for cleaning and maintenance.

Interpretation in the Pajarito Room: Clearly the Pajarito Room is the crown jewel of Fuller Lodge. Just walking into the space is a memorable experience, and the view from the upstairs balcony is just as spectacular. It is not surprising that stakeholders want to preserve the purity of this grand space and do not want to see any interpretive material in the Pajarito Room. However, almost two thirds of respondents to the community survey are neutral about this issue or do not feel that it is an important concern (or they would not mind seeing interpretive material in the Pajarito Room).

local wedding, or even a museum lecture. When the presentation is over, the room goes back to its natural appearance, but the memories linger with participants for a very long time.

Could a creative, memorable, and sophisticated immersive audio-visual experience be created in the Pajarito Room that conveys its use throughout history without being tacky and overly commercial? The technology is certainly available, and could be powerful if handled by a filmmaker or digital producer that understands the nature of the place and the importance of the history and stories, under the guidance of a project team of stakeholders, exhibit designers, and interpretive planners.

Program Ideas

There are a multitude of program ideas that can focus more directly on Fuller Lodge interpretive themes and stories. Since the Lodge is used so regularly for community events and programs, some residents and stakeholders may take it for granted (at least until asked how they feel about it). Programs that highlight the Lodge can also serve as continual reminders about the offerings at all of the museums and attractions in town.

Noting that **there are a number of program ideas that could highlight or include Fuller Lodge in the Program Matrices of the larger SIPP** (Strategic Interpretation and Programs Plan), we offer suggestions for a number of collaborative interpretive programs at the Lodge:

- **Welcome programs for newcomers:** this is a natural target audience to serve since they are already seeking out the Lodge informally to learn about the unique history of Los Alamos. Perhaps on a quarterly basis, work with the County, the Lab, and other employers to offer a welcome reception and program for newcomers (they can help to provide names of people to invite). Make it feel like a special invitation so that newcomers feel acknowledged and welcomed. Provide a bit of history, information about available resources around town, health and recreation, jobs and volunteer opportunities, annual events and activities, and of course, information about the museums and cultural institutions in town. Call on the Chamber and a number of community partners to participate in these events. Offer a free pass to visit LAHM, a coupon for shop purchases, and discounted memberships. This sort of

- **Scout programs:** work with local scout troops (boys and girls) to develop a series of badges that are focused on Fuller Lodge history and current events. This could include a family history aspect if the scout's family has used the Lodge for their family memory-making events.
- Hold regular **photo contests** for events and activities that happen at the Lodge. These can be themed on an annual basis. The winning entries could be put on display at the Lodge each year (dedicate an area for this). This is a way to continue to gather documentary evidence of how the community uses the Lodge, especially the activities that have become traditions, passed on from generation to generation. Themes could include weddings then and now (multiple generations of families using the Lodge), welcoming visitors to Los Alamos, memorable meetings and gatherings, the Lodge in changing seasons, and civic pride. It may also help to continue to encourage residents to donate their Lodge related photographs and other ephemera.
- Start a **column in the newspaper** and online about Fuller Lodge history, a "did you know?" approach. This could be a fun way to revisit past events like the New Year's parties that folks remember. It is also a way to highlight the archive collections, and parts of the Lodge's history, e.g., hotel era, music recitals, that older residents remember but people don't know anything about. Eventually these ramblings could be published in a book.

There are many more possible interpretive approaches and program ideas that can be explored to help Los Alamos residents and visitors to learn about Fuller Lodge. The interpretive concepts and themes around the Lodge as a tangible link to history, the iconic structure in Los Alamos, and a part of everyone's story, the happy place, as well as the big idea of Fuller Lodge as the heart and soul of the Los Alamos community, are rich in relevance and appeal to current and future audiences. All of these ideas can be phased in as resources become available, and stakeholders set priorities.

Next Steps and Plan Implementation

As we wrap up this planning project, we recognize that Los Alamos County is in the midst of beginning the implementation of the *Tourism Strategic Plan*, and making big decisions about important components of community life, for

Fuller Lodge Interpretive Plan, June 2018

- Approach the development of digital components as recommended within the plan, and offer solutions that reflect current (and future) advancements and trends in digital exhibits for museums, historic sites, and community centers with modest budgets and resources.
- Demonstrate deep and varied competence with digital exhibits and interactive components, as well as the successful execution of similar projects, completed on time and within budget.
- Demonstrate a history of successfully working with multiple stakeholders to complete similar projects, and a willingness to work with Los Alamos Historical Society staff, County staff, and community stakeholders on this project.

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- No changes to the structure without great care and oversight
- Leave Pajarito Room as is: no interpretive panels in there, maybe just in the entryway?
- No “things” on the beautiful walls
- No only flat displays on walls
- The period /methods of informing should not look different from the period of the building
- Don’t take away the squeaky stairs
- No interpretation on building walls
- No tours interpreting community use
- Not a museum
- No physical modifications to the structure
- No books on the wall
- No small fonts

Assets and Challenges:

What are the assets we have to work with to interpret Fuller Lodge?

- LAHS, LA county
- Elevator
- County staff, events, etc.
- Popularity of the building
- Beauty of the building
- Location of the building
- FL Advisory board
- FL/Historical Districts Advisory Board, now renamed Historic Preservation Board
- Docents and the staff of LAHS, as well as the NM Division of Historic Preservation, to provide education and preservation
- Many trained docents who are knowledgeable about the Lodge
- All of the residents in the building: Historical Society, Arts Center, Arts Council
- FL event attendees
- Volunteers
- Sharon Snyder and Rebecca Collingsworth as resources
- Recent renovations to the Lodge and Museum by the /county
- Organizations—County, Lab, LACAC to help, LAHS and Associations
- Love of the building
- Architecture—the building almost overwhelms every other asset, so we need to interpret as fully as possible
- Photos
- LA County owns the building so they should provide significant financial support
- Great archives, LAHS historical archives
- Oral histories
- County collections
- Existing display windows
- Townspeople caring for the Lodge and community usage
- People—families and locals to draw on their experiences and wealth of knowledge
- Community loyalty
- Deep historic roots; long community history—public
- Community memories
- Historical Society collections

Fuller Lodge Interpretive Plan, June 2018

- Working within a plaqued building (on the National Register)
- Thousands of stakeholder ideas, each with their own agenda
- No UV protection in the Lodge

How do we **weight the different stories** about Fuller Lodge? (answers adding up to 100%)

| STORY | 10% | 20% | 30% | 35% | 40% | 50% | 60% | 70% | 80% | 90% | 100% |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Los Alamos Ranch School | | | xxxxx xxxx | xx | x | xx | x | | | | |
| Manhattan Project | | xx | xxxxx xx | xx | xxxxx | | | | | | |
| Post War: hotel, AEC ownership | xxxx | xxxxx xxx | xxxx | | | | | | | | |
| Modern City, including contemporary use | xxxxxxx xxxxxxx xxx | x | | | | | | | | | |

Comments:

- It's a community center and always has been!

Collecting Community Memories: We are thinking about community events/meetings, individual story cards, and an electronic survey. Like these ideas? Do you have other suggestions?

- All of the above! Coordinated multifaceted campaign, multiple styles
- LA Daily Post
- At events at the Lodge
- Invite schools to devise art classes that encourage kids to make models of the Lodge using unorthodox materials (for example, I once saw a perfect replica of the Lodge built from sugar cubes!). These models could be on display somewhere during the Fair and Rodeo, for instance.
- Good ideas already!
- Website or place to enter in stories (by typing them) would be easy on everyone
- What are our priorities in collecting stories? What stories/eras do we not have enough information on currently? That may drive how we collect/ask for memories
- What questions do you have about the Ranch School?
- Use the Growing Up in Los Alamos Facebook page for input
- Visits to civic clubs
- Have an event for generational families or people who have a 50+ year connection with Los Alamos to tell their stories
- Organize a photo/art contest to record the Lodge in various uses and in a variety of seasons—display at FLAC or LAHS
- FL photo contest in various seasons
- Story and photo contest (upload online)
- Love the individual story cards
- Collect artifacts that link people to the Lodge (we may even get back some historic furniture from Ranch School times). Need a way for people to sign up to be interviewed: email, phone numbers, addresses

Fuller Lodge Interpretive Plan, June 2018

- Bridge tournaments
- Prom
- Dinners, eating
- Winter Farmers' Market
- Reunions
- Scottish Country Dancers, Kolymeka Folk Dancers
- "Roaring Jelly" Irish band
- Coffeehouse concerts
- All kinds of dances
- Daddy-daughter dances
- Candidate Fairs
- Los Alamos Historical Society special events
- Los Alamos Historical Society lectures
- Cookie Walk fundraiser
- Conferences
- Musicals (Gilbert & Sullivan)
- Birthday parties
- People who stayed in the hotel
- County recognition events

Q3 How has Fuller Lodge been an important part of your life? Please share your stories/memories.

- Circle of life events held at the Lodge: weddings, dances, recitals, funerals, parties, reunions
- Museum events and lectures (seen as an extension of the LAHM)
- Family events: fond memories of family history made at the Lodge
- Place to discover Los Alamos history: note that newcomers want to connect to it!
- Residents bring visitors to the Lodge to “soak up” Los Alamos as they tell stories about the community: the MUST SEE stop in town for guests of residents
- The Rose Garden was also mentioned in response to this question
- People miss the New Year's Eve party that was held in the Lodge
- Respondents have VIVID MEMORIES of the Lodge: people can still “see” events happening there

Q4 Are there aspects of the Lodge's history that you would enjoy learning more about?

The response to this question may surprise some stakeholders. In order of response, they want to learn more about the Lodge's history during:

1. The Post War period, and the use of the Lodge as a hotel (50%)
2. The Manhattan Project (26%)
3. Los Alamos Ranch School (18%)
4. Recent history, since administered by Los Alamos County (5%)

The use of the Lodge as a hotel is kind of a secret history for many residents, so it makes sense that this would pique people's interest. This provides an exciting opportunity for a new interpretive experience.

Q5 Please share your opinion about the following statements (Indicate your choice on the following scale): Answered by 98% of respondents.

This question is focused on INTERPRETATION (METHODS) and PUBLIC ACCESS. When one initially looks at the responses to this question, no discernable patterns jump out. They seem to want everything! So we must dig into the data a bit deeper.

Importantly, some responses are different than the opinions expressed by stakeholders at our initial meeting.

We intentionally mixed up the order of questions when they were asked. I have rearranged (grouped) the observations about questions here to help us make more sense of the responses.

The Pajarito Room should not contain any interpretive exhibits about the building.

Interestingly, the responses to this question were mixed. While 30% of respondents agreed with this statement (I suspect that many stakeholders fall into this category), meaning that they do **not** want to see any interpretive material in the Pajarito Room, 44% of people are neutral about this statement, and 27% of respondents do not feel that it is an important concern (or they would not mind seeing interpretive material in the Pajarito Room. **MAYBE**

There may be interpretive exhibit methods that are available to visitors but can be rolled up, turned off, or removed when the room is being used for events and activities where this material would not be desirable. Before completely dismissing the idea, we may want to explore some best practice options. It may also be possible to locate interpretive materials in other parts of the building, or utilize other methods to provide adequate access to the stories.

An interactive digital presentation, available in the building lobby, is an effective way to interpret the Lodge's history to visitors.

75% of respondents like this idea. While 16% were neutral, 18% said it was very important and 52% said it was important. If we can find a place where this will work, it provides an opportunity for visitors to experience a lot of interpretive material, both historical and more contemporary. This can increase ACCESS to the Lodge on weekends, and even potentially during other uses.

Information in Fuller Lodge should direct visitors to learn more at the History Museum, the Bradbury Science Museum, and the Manhattan Project National Historic Park Visitor Center.

This is a no-brainer. 91% of respondents are in favor of this idea, with 53% saying it is very important, and 38% saying it is important. This reinforces the concept of the Lodge as a place for orientation to other cultural resources in town. This information can be presented in a number of ways, including as a part of an interactive digital presentation.

Q6 Are you interested in being interviewed about your experience(s) at Fuller Lodge?

There were a number of respondents who offered to be interviewed about their experiences and personal history in Fuller Lodge. Obviously LAHS staff should follow up with these individuals.

Fuller Lodge Interpretive Plan, June 2018

C. Building Walk Through, May 23, 2018:

Consultant Candace Matelic did a building walk through with Heather McClenahan, Los Alamos Historical Society and Linda Matteson, Los Alamos County on Wednesday morning, May 23, 2018. The purpose was to look at all spaces in the building and discuss potential locations for new interpretation. With the framework of the best and highest use of the building in mind, we also discussed the current occupancy of the entire building and the spaces needed for proper stewardship and public use, including storage of building furnishings and supplies. The following notes reflect our observations:

1. Organize the table storage room. Make it efficient and map it (labels where everything goes permanently) so it's always stored the same and access to the Green Room is always open. [Added in section on maximizing storage in the building]
2. Display cases in Pajarito Room are rather useless as they are behind the pianos. Make them into "big windows," perhaps outdoor scenes from the Ranch School era. [Added this as an option to plan]
3. Put big photos around the walls in the Throne Room illustrating the buildings history [Noted that we said this should be MP era so that all eras are represented on second floor]
4. Door to 3rd floor: Have a sign that includes a picture of AJ Connell's Room that includes "No Public Access" rather than a torn, taped paper sign. [Added into the plan]
5. Room 233 is a disaster. Why are ice melt and snow shovels stored there? Why are the old 8-foot tables that are no longer in use stored there? What is a better use for the room than storage? Where can the items in there be stored? [Included a comment about this in section about better storage]
6. Display window currently in use by the Los Alamos Arts Council needs to be used to display interpretation of the building [Added into plan]
7. Add historic photographs to the bathroom walls (such as in the museum) [Added into plan]
8. Perhaps use Kiva Room (currently Arts Council office!) for digital displays/orientation [added into plan]
9. Just because a room is used for one purpose now does not mean that purpose/use cannot change. Be willing to be creative, to think about the needs that need to be met (visitors, community, etc.), and how the building can help meet those needs. Don't leave anything off the table when it comes to change. [These comments incorporated into last section on best and highest use of building]

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Wilson, Chris. *Facing Southwest: The Life & Houses of John Gaw Meem*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2001.

Great background on Meem's experience, work, and personality though no specific references to Fuller Lodge.

Wilson, Jane S., and Charlotte Serber, eds. *Standing By & Making Do: Women of Wartime Los Alamos*. 2nd ed., Los Alamos: Los Alamos Historical Society, 2008.

Fascinating personal accounts of women in Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project – occasional references to Fuller Lodge

Wirth, John D., and Linda Harvey Aldrich. *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years, 1917-1943*. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2003.
The most in-depth descriptions of Fuller Lodge during the Ranch School years, along with a few personal accounts of Fuller Lodge during the Ranch School years as well as later reunions and preservation.

¹ Craig Martin and Heather McClenahan, *Of Logs and Stone: The Buildings of the Los Alamos Ranch School* (Los Alamos: All Seasons Pub., 2008), 17.

² John D. Wirth and Linda Harvey Aldrich, *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years, 1917-1943* (Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2003), 111-12.

³ Wirth and Aldrich, *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years*, 111.

⁴ Wirth and Aldrich, *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years*, 112.

⁵ Martin and McClenahan, *Of Logs and Stone*, 28.

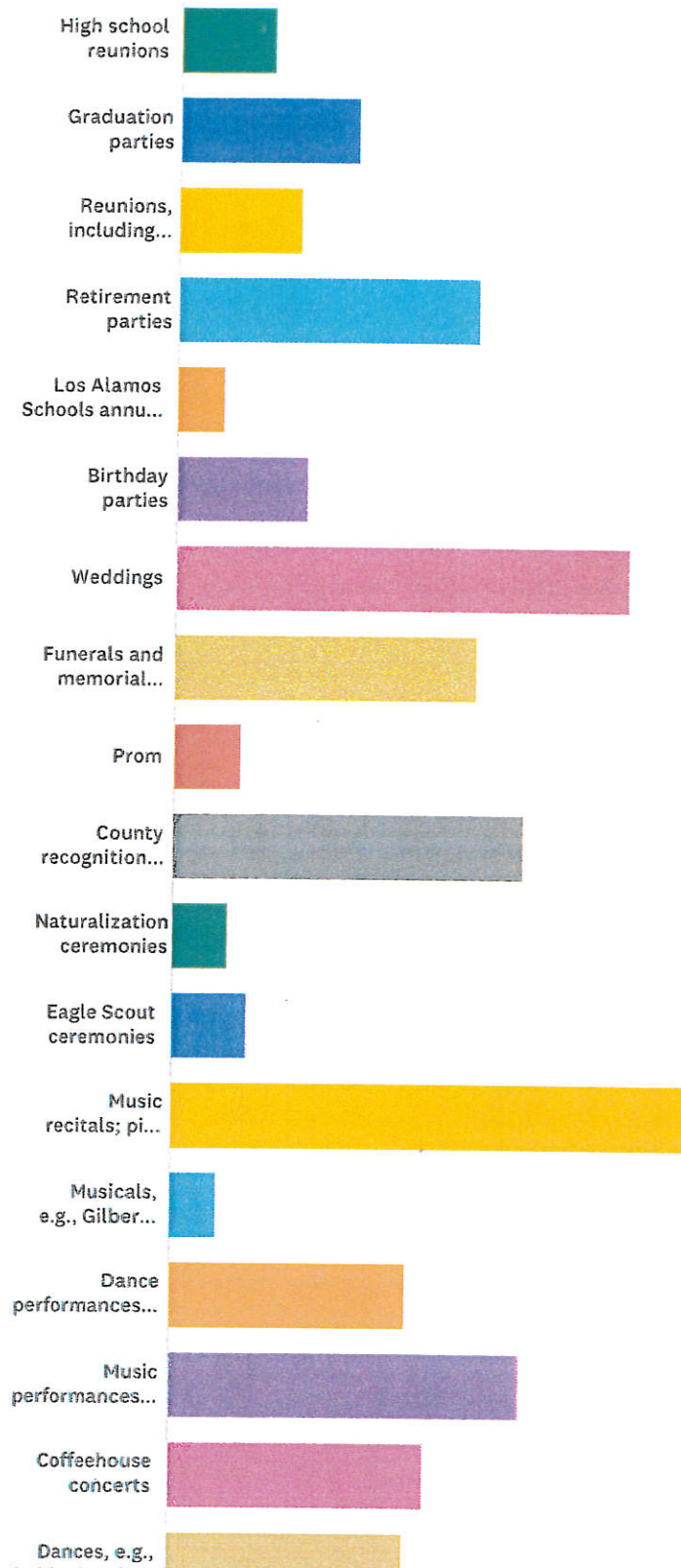
⁶ Martin and McClenahan, *Of Logs and Stone*, 3.

⁷ Wirth and Aldrich, *Los Alamos: The Ranch School Years*, 111.

⁸ Martin and McClenahan, *Of Logs and Stone*, 29.

Q1 Fuller Lodge has been used by the Los Alamos community for many activities. How have you used it? Please check all that apply, and feel free to add items to the list at the end under "other."

Answered: 89 Skipped: 4



Fuller Lodge Community Input

SurveyMonkey

| | | |
|---|--------|----|
| Eagle Scout ceremonies | 8.99% | 8 |
| Music recitals; piano recitals | 61.80% | 55 |
| Musicals, e.g., Gilbert & Sullivan | 5.62% | 5 |
| Dance performances, e.g., Scottish Country dancers, Kolymeka Folk dancers | 28.09% | 25 |
| Music performances, e.g., "Roaring Jelly" Irish band | 41.57% | 37 |
| Coffeehouse concerts | 30.34% | 27 |
| Dances, e.g., daddy-daughter dances, mixers | 28.09% | 25 |
| Professional conferences | 28.09% | 25 |
| Los Alamos Historical Society special events | 55.06% | 49 |
| Los Alamos Historical Society lectures | 52.81% | 47 |
| LANL seminars and classes | 14.61% | 13 |
| LANL parties | 21.35% | 19 |
| Corporate or business annual parties | 14.61% | 13 |
| Bridge tournaments | 2.25% | 2 |
| Dinners, eating | 35.96% | 32 |
| Winter Farmers' Market | 46.07% | 41 |
| Candidate Forums | 33.71% | 30 |
| Fundraisers, e.g., Cookie Walk | 25.84% | 23 |
| People who stayed in the hotel | 7.87% | 7 |
| Total Respondents: 89 | | |

| | | |
|----|---|--------------------|
| 30 | Civic center. Craftsmanship and architecture | 1/24/2018 7:46 PM |
| 31 | It is a beautiful grand lodge in the center of town with historical significance | 1/24/2018 6:37 PM |
| 32 | Historical background | 1/24/2018 6:09 PM |
| 33 | I think the sentence above says it well. Not many communities have a building that historical that is still so suitable and available for events. | 1/24/2018 5:14 PM |
| 34 | It is beautiful in a way that a new building could never be. | 1/24/2018 4:52 PM |
| 35 | Beautiful, historic building that is a pleasure to spend time in | 1/24/2018 4:38 PM |
| 36 | It's part of what is left from the Ranch school | 1/24/2018 4:12 PM |
| 37 | It is indeed our heart and soul, and its historical significance is critical. | 1/24/2018 2:22 PM |
| 38 | It is true that the Lodge is the iconic heart & soul of our community we call Los Alamos. The importance includes a crosscut of the heritage that brought most of us to this place. | 1/24/2018 7:24 AM |
| 39 | The history of the building extends to far before the use of the area by the government. A key and essential component of the town. | 1/23/2018 9:55 PM |
| 40 | It's a very special place. | 1/23/2018 8:59 PM |
| 41 | Significant reminder of LA history; beautiful building designed by famous NM architect John Gaw Meem | 1/23/2018 3:20 PM |
| 42 | History and location in center of downtown by Ashley Pond | 1/23/2018 1:35 PM |
| 43 | Centrally located large space with green space adjacent with a long local history. | 1/23/2018 11:12 AM |
| 44 | The historical background of the lodge as it pertains to the school and the Manhattan Project. | 1/23/2018 10:40 AM |
| 45 | It's one of the oldest building in Los Alamos | 1/23/2018 10:16 AM |
| 46 | It is a part of our history. We have few historical buildings in Los Alamos. | 1/23/2018 9:24 AM |
| 47 | Because I enjoy history. | 1/23/2018 9:19 AM |
| 48 | Its heritage encompasses much of the history of this place and it is there for the community to use. | 1/23/2018 8:54 AM |
| 49 | Built in 1925 it was the place where fun happened, into the Manhattan era...parties...until today. It is the place where parties and happiness resides. | 1/23/2018 8:19 AM |
| 50 | Historic value | 1/22/2018 10:38 PM |
| 51 | It's elegance, beauty, amazing architecture, size, and historical memories of famous scientists eating meals in the Pajarito Room. Lectures, meetings, centrally located. | 1/22/2018 10:28 PM |
| 52 | Historic; nice structure | 1/22/2018 9:42 PM |
| 53 | It's historical value and it's value as a place for people to come together today. | 1/22/2018 7:05 PM |
| 54 | History, beauty, uniqueness, large space that isn't overly huge and doesn't feel like a "convention center" venue | 1/22/2018 6:37 PM |
| 55 | Unique and iconic architecture, connecting history boys ranch thru Manhattan Project-era | 1/22/2018 6:04 PM |
| 56 | Historical significance, a focal point for community life. | 1/22/2018 5:54 PM |
| 57 | Fuller Lodge is THE iconic structure in this community and it represents the Ranch School, was extremely useful during the Manhattan Project years, and has retained its immense status in the hearts of our residents because it is still a functional historic structure not just something to look at. | 1/22/2018 4:27 PM |
| 58 | I think it's important because of its historical significance; its location, and its architectural beauty | 1/22/2018 4:24 PM |
| 59 | Historic architecture from Ranch School days by a famed architect; so many community events held here. | 1/22/2018 4:16 PM |
| 60 | It represents our foundation. We're proud of our heritage & this building represents that. | 1/22/2018 4:06 PM |
| 61 | Because of its historical significance and the importance to the community as a gathering place. | 1/22/2018 4:05 PM |
| 62 | Nice space with a great history. | 1/22/2018 3:55 PM |
| 63 | It is one of the only pieces of history left in the town prior to the Manhattan Project. | 1/22/2018 3:54 PM |

Q3 How has Fuller Lodge been an important part of your life? Please share your stories/memories.

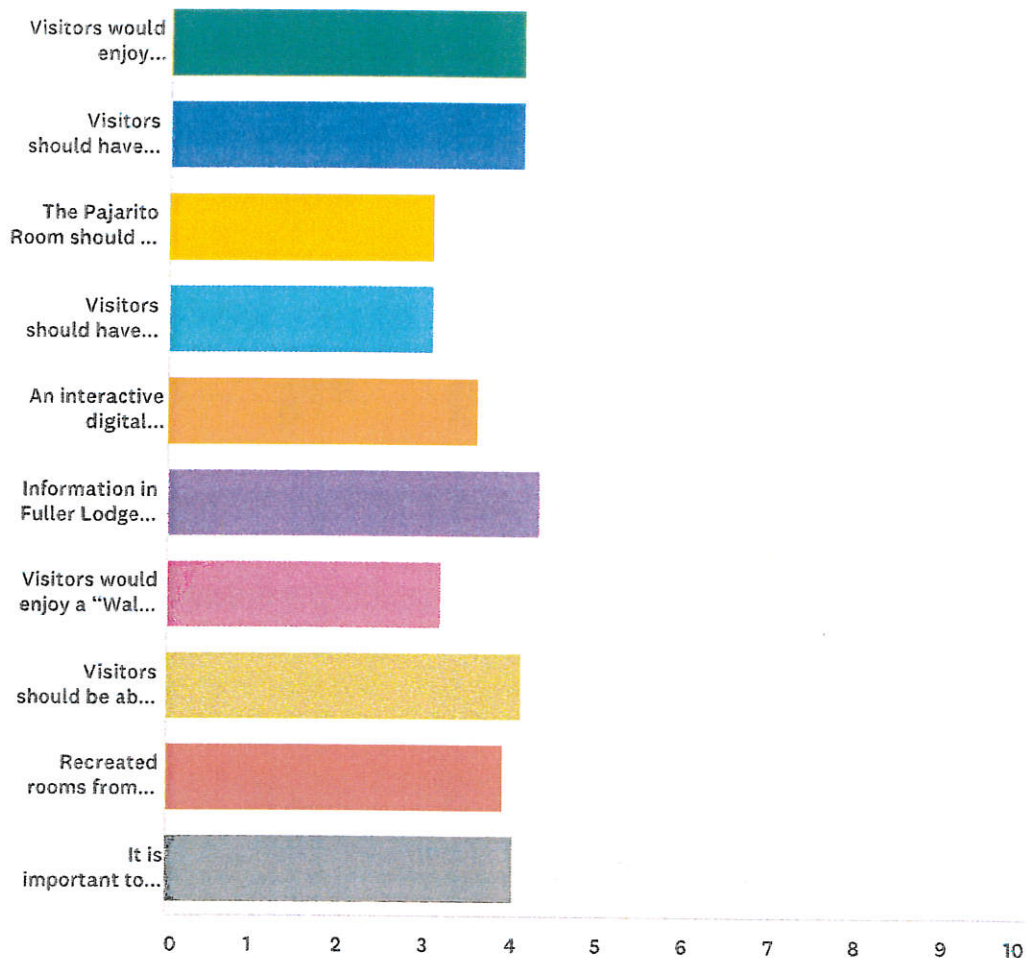
Answered: 75 Skipped: 18

| # | RESPONSES | DATE |
|----|---|--------------------|
| 1 | It was always where I dreamed of getting married and it happened | 2/3/2018 3:45 PM |
| 2 | Historical symbol of Los Alamos, one wedding, two wedding receptions, ate there when it was a restaurant | 2/3/2018 2:24 PM |
| 3 | Enjoy all the performances, lectures, meetings, activities that take place there. My husband stayed there when they still had boarding. I am in favor of historical preservation. | 2/3/2018 12:43 PM |
| 4 | It provided an inspiring environment for our museum conference. | 2/3/2018 12:01 PM |
| 5 | Seeing my friend perform at a recital as well as being on a panel with the Hiroshima director after my study abroad in Japan | 2/3/2018 9:55 AM |
| 6 | Friday night Folkdancing, first with my parents, later as an adult. Eating lunch on the patio during the summers. Always there -- sometimes busy, sometimes silent. A place unlike any other in Los Alamos. | 2/3/2018 9:53 AM |
| 7 | I played a recital in there, I remember it being larger than it really is, childhood perspective! | 2/3/2018 9:39 AM |
| 8 | I have attended a wedding and memorial services there as well as many interesting forums. | 2/2/2018 1:00 PM |
| 9 | Dances for our children | 1/27/2018 9:16 PM |
| 10 | Dined there growing up. Relatives stayed at the hotel. Parties, concerts, performances, crafts fairs, sitting on the lawn to sketch and paint, art classes, Art center shop and gallery shows. | 1/27/2018 3:23 PM |
| 11 | Weddings and county issues. | 1/27/2018 10:05 AM |
| 12 | I haven't lived here long enough for it to become an important part of my life, unfortunately (just 2 years). | 1/26/2018 7:34 PM |
| 13 | Memories of my own wedding reception, many other weddings and consequent receptions, graduation parties, community gatherings | 1/26/2018 7:23 PM |
| 14 | Many celebrations are held there. My daughter had a music recital there. Many Senior photos are taken there - very beautiful! | 1/26/2018 5:28 PM |
| 15 | Nothing noteworthy for me. | 1/26/2018 5:03 PM |
| 16 | Not especially. Interesting construction. | 1/26/2018 5:00 PM |
| 17 | Our son and daughter-in-law's wedding receptions | 1/26/2018 3:51 PM |
| 18 | Grew up having piano recitals, prom, father/daughter dances, funerals and weddings in the building. | 1/26/2018 12:42 AM |
| 19 | Daughters wedding. Garden Club bell ringing. Old Costume party in 1946. | 1/25/2018 2:10 PM |
| 20 | There used to be an annual NYE party. I was too young to afford a ticket (let alone get a date) but we always got tice tips catering this fun event. | 1/25/2018 11:40 AM |
| 21 | It is an anchor to the community. | 1/25/2018 11:05 AM |
| 22 | Too many to share; Fuller Lodge has been a major and vitally important part of our lives for 50 years now. | 1/25/2018 10:44 AM |
| 23 | I bring my out of town guests here | 1/25/2018 7:48 AM |
| 24 | Taken people there, taken pictures there, enjoyed functions there. | 1/25/2018 7:32 AM |
| 25 | I've had many memories made there. Good location. | 1/24/2018 7:55 PM |
| 26 | Discovery of the history | 1/24/2018 7:46 PM |

| | | |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 54 | In addition to all the ways I've been there for the events listed in Question 1, I was also part of the New Year's Eve party planning committee back in the late 1990s, and went to 3 or 4 of those parties. I miss them. | 1/22/2018 3:55 PM |
| 55 | Attended many community functions there. | 1/18/2018 4:04 PM |
| 56 | It brought the community together after Cerro Grande- the prom that year! | 1/14/2018 8:43 AM |
| 57 | I worked there for 20 years | 1/10/2018 5:01 PM |
| 58 | I went to and helped organize high school dances in Fuller Lodge, I worked at the Historical Society Archive when it was located in the Lodge in the late 1990s and grew to deeply appreciate its historical roots, especially as one of the few extant Ranch School buildings. I was also married at Fuller Lodge, with a ceremony in the Rose Garden and our reception in the main hall of the Lodge. I have attended other family and friend wedding receptions at Fuller Lodge. I know a lot about how the Lodge was constructed and used in Ranch School days. I think the fact that it has changed so little in 100 years or so makes history come alive. I can almost still see the students eating there. | 1/9/2018 3:43 PM |
| 59 | I have attended many events there and I think that this community comes together there more than any other venue. | 1/7/2018 10:53 AM |
| 60 | Events are special and I see many people I know at them. | 1/7/2018 9:44 AM |
| 61 | As above, we stayed there. We know its history, and it continues to be an important venue for our town | 1/6/2018 4:01 PM |
| 62 | I have attended Music events and Los Alamos Big Band dances at Fuller Lodge. | 1/5/2018 3:12 PM |
| 63 | Take visitors there | 1/5/2018 1:40 PM |
| 64 | I enjoy going to events at Fuller Lodge and taking visitors there | 1/5/2018 12:59 PM |
| 65 | My introduction to Los Alamos was staying at Fuller Lodge in 1953. It was also the only restaurant. | 1/5/2018 12:21 PM |
| 66 | On August 16, 2008 Joan McClelland and I (Steve Glick) married in the Rose Garden and had our two family's merge for a wonderful gathering and reunion. We note that still today, all the nephews and neices talk about the wedding, especially the cool site, and want to have a wedding at the Fuller Lodge just like ours. Aside from the personal story, we see the Fuller Lodge as a "must see and visit" place whenever we have out of town guests visiting. Invariably, the conversations drift to the history of the town, the Boys Ranch, etc. It's simply a great place! | 1/5/2018 12:14 PM |
| 67 | In 1951-58 enjoyed dates over Lodges Chef, Corky's candlelit Italian dinners ending in marrying my soulmate, Doug Lier dinner | 1/5/2018 11:12 AM |
| 68 | We were married there more than 42 years ago and held our reception there. | 1/5/2018 10:19 AM |
| 69 | I was Married and had our reception in the great hall, nothing but good memories in that building | 1/5/2018 8:33 AM |
| 70 | It is a beautiful and historic building. | 1/5/2018 8:26 AM |
| 71 | NA | 1/5/2018 8:25 AM |
| 72 | Back in the early 1960s, I had a Sunday lunch there, and I still recall the elegance and warmth of the experience. | 1/5/2018 7:30 AM |
| 73 | my father stayed at the lodge for a short time upon his arrival in Los Alamos at the beginning of the Manhattan project. We appreciated being able to hold his memorial service there. | 1/5/2018 7:00 AM |
| 74 | We have attended/had many circle of life events at the Lodge including our daughter's wedding. | 1/5/2018 6:57 AM |
| 75 | I love Fuller Lodge! | 1/5/2018 6:45 AM |

Q5 Please share your opinion about the following statements (Indicate your choice on the following scale):

Answered: 91 Skipped: 2



| | NOT IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | NEUTRAL | IMPORTANT | VERY IMPORTANT | TOTAL | WEIGHTED AVERAGE |
|---|---------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------|------------------|
| Visitors would enjoy photographs of activities in Fuller Lodge throughout its history. | 1.12% 1 | 3.37% 3 | 12.36% 11 | 48.31% 43 | 34.83% 31 | 89 | 4.12 |
| Visitors should have access to Fuller Lodge on the weekends. | 2.25% 2 | 2.25% 2 | 12.36% 11 | 46.07% 41 | 37.08% 33 | 89 | 4.13 |
| The Pajarito Room should not contain any interpretive exhibits about the building. | 17.98% 16 | 7.87% 7 | 43.82% 39 | 8.99% 8 | 21.35% 19 | 89 | 3.08 |
| Visitors should have access to some part of the building even during facility rentals. | 17.05% 15 | 14.77% 13 | 23.86% 21 | 31.82% 28 | 12.50% 11 | 88 | 3.08 |
| An interactive digital presentation, available in the building lobby, is an effective way to interpret the Lodge's history to visitors. | 12.09% 11 | 2.20% 2 | 16.48% 15 | 51.65% 47 | 17.58% 16 | 91 | 3.60 |

Q6 Are you interested in being interviewed about your experience(s) at Fuller Lodge? If so, please leave give us your e-mail address (we will not share this information with third parties).

Answered: 24 Skipped: 69

| # | RESPONSES | DATE |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1 | hcdove@gmail.com | 2/3/2018 9:53 AM |
| 2 | No thank you | 1/28/2018 7:16 PM |
| 3 | I'm not--but I wanted to clarify an answer on #5--I think there should be an oversight committee of Fuller Lodge, but I think it needs to be bigger that LAC employees | 1/26/2018 7:23 PM |
| 4 | I have several scrapbooks during years gone by and would be glad to share them. | 1/25/2018 2:10 PM |
| 5 | No. | 1/25/2018 11:05 AM |
| 6 | No | 1/25/2018 7:32 AM |
| 7 | No | 1/24/2018 4:52 PM |
| 8 | The county and the council should return Fuller Lodge to the community, and keep their money grubbing finger out! | 1/24/2018 4:12 PM |
| 9 | Sure. erickson.djml@comcast.net. | 1/24/2018 7:24 AM |
| 10 | d.r.machen@ieee.org | 1/23/2018 9:55 PM |
| 11 | no | 1/23/2018 8:59 PM |
| 12 | No | 1/23/2018 11:12 AM |
| 13 | No | 1/23/2018 9:24 AM |
| 14 | I still think there should be a hologram of a ranch student, and Oppie talk about the history | 1/23/2018 8:19 AM |
| 15 | Yes. I served on the Fuller Lodge/Historic Districts Advisory Board for 10 years while serving at the Los Alamos Historical Society President. | 1/22/2018 10:28 PM |
| 16 | No thank you | 1/22/2018 6:37 PM |
| 17 | shankland@post.harvard.edu | 1/22/2018 4:16 PM |
| 18 | orthf@yahoo.com | 1/22/2018 3:55 PM |
| 19 | ecampbell@newmexico.com | 1/5/2018 12:21 PM |
| 20 | Steve Glick la2la@att.net | 1/5/2018 12:14 PM |
| 21 | rlrier@juno.com | 1/5/2018 11:12 AM |
| 22 | mikekatko@msn.com | 1/5/2018 8:33 AM |
| 23 | no | 1/5/2018 8:26 AM |
| 24 | I don't think that I have anything unique to share but I'm willing to participate. jfavorite.ne93@gtalumni.org | 1/5/2018 6:45 AM |