



County of Los Alamos

Council Meeting Staff Report

February 1, 2023

Agenda No.:	B.
Indexes (Council Goals):	
Presenters:	Patrick Moore; Sobia Sayeda; Anita Barela
Legislative File:	17006-23

Title

Discussion regarding establishing Historic Districts within Los Alamos County Certified Local Government

Body

Background and History

During the 1960s Los Alamos County commemorated its significant history through several initiatives including the following:

In 1976 the Manhattan Project Tech Area and Bathtub Row buildings were recognized as a National Historic Landmark District. A marker was placed on the south side of Ashley Pond near the old Ranch School Icehouse where atomic bomb parts were assembled during the Manhattan Project.

In 1976 the buildings of the historic district were placed on the National Register of Historic Places and registered as a New Mexico Cultural Property; this district encompasses the area of Manhattan Project. The Ranch School (district) was listed with the NM State Cultural Properties in 1976 and includes nine buildings see Attachment .

In addition to this, in Los Alamos County the only individual buildings on National Register are the Bandelier Buildings, the Frijoles Canyon Lodge and the Post Office.

Description of Attachments

Attachment A is a portion of the Los Alamos County Development Code, Section 16-9 as the historic district ordinance. Also, part of Attachment A is the application for designation for Historic Landmarks or Districts.

Attachment B is a spread sheet that list all the properties that have been registered both Federally and by the State of New Mexico.

Attachment C are copies from MicroFiche that are the original applications to the National Register and the State of New Mexico. The National Registry reflects that the nomination for Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and was accepted as an historic district and Landmark in 1976. The state of New Mexico shows the Ranch School buildings as part of the historic district based on the second application.

Attachment D is the collection of the maps from the 1976 designation and the area that was proposed in 2016 to be designated by Los Alamos County. We would like to continue to have this area as a historic district, but we may need to modify it after discussing with HPAB.

Attachments

A - Sec 16-9 Historic Protection Overlay District Ordinance_Application for Historic District

B - State/National Registries for Los Alamos County

C - Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and Ranch School Applications
D - 1973 LA Historical site map and proposed Historic District