

Los Alamos Senior Activity Center Security Gate



By:

Modern Steel and Fence

Jonathan Watson

Introduction

Artwork name: Los Alamos Heritage Gate

The Los Alamos Heritage Gate was inspired by the natural beauty of Los Alamos and the surrounding New Mexico landscape. The design of the gate is meant to showcase the unique cultural background of the area while also providing a durable and long lasting gate that will serve the community for years to come.

Detailed Description

The Los Alamos Heritage Gate will be fabricated out of steel tubing and plate with plasma-cut designs inspired by the culture and background of Los Alamos. The designs, cut with a CNC plasma cutting table from $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick plate, will be separated into three distinct layers; one centered on the inside of the tubing gate frame, one closer to the outer edge of the frame (spaced $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the centered plate), and one laid on top of the frame. The planar differentiation of the layers is intended to add depth and complexity to the design.

In the attached images of the layout of the work, the layers can be identified by their colors. The tan layer is the plate centered on the gate frame, the black layer is the plate closer to the edge of the frame, the green layer is the gate frame itself, and the gray layer is the overlay on the gate frame. The colors shown are intended to represent the final colors but may be subject to change.

The design itself features two distinct themes: patterns inspired by Pueblo Native American artwork, and a view of a natural scene with themes specific to Los Alamos.

The bottom section of geometric designs will contain spiraling patterns inspired by Acoma and Laguna Pueblo pottery, which share roots with Los Alamos' ancient Pueblo heritage, as well as zig-zagging lines inspired by petroglyphs found at Bandelier National Monument. The designs will feature a unique relationship between the centered layer of plate (tan) and the outer layer (black). Each of the two layers will only fill the negative space of the other layer, giving the effect of no visible gaps in the design when viewed from the front, but some visibility through the design when viewed at an angle.

The top section of the design will consist of a scene featuring trees in front of a mountain range with the sun of New Mexico above. The trees are specifically intended to be species found in the Los Alamos area, with ponderosa pines in the middle, white pines on the sides, and fir trees beneath. The mountain range above the trees is a silhouette of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range as seen from Los Alamos (looking east-by-southeast), with the sun of New Mexico rising over them.

The layer overlaid on the frame will consist of a line zig-zagging around the entire frame, on both the front and back. Like the zig-zagging design in the bottom section of the gate, the overlay was inspired by the petroglyphs found in Bandelier National Monument, which exemplify the very roots of Los Alamos.

The frame of the gate itself will feature a unique stair-stepping pattern at the top edge, which is reminiscent of ancient Pueblo architecture, and continues the theme of zig-zagging lines found throughout the gate.

The solely steel construction of the Los Alamos Heritage Gate, with a powder-coated finish, ensures that it will be extremely durable and will require very little upkeep. The high durability of the gate paired with the plasma-cut designs will offer a clear and unyielding representation of the themes and culture of Los Alamos for decades to come.

-Brendan Lanicek

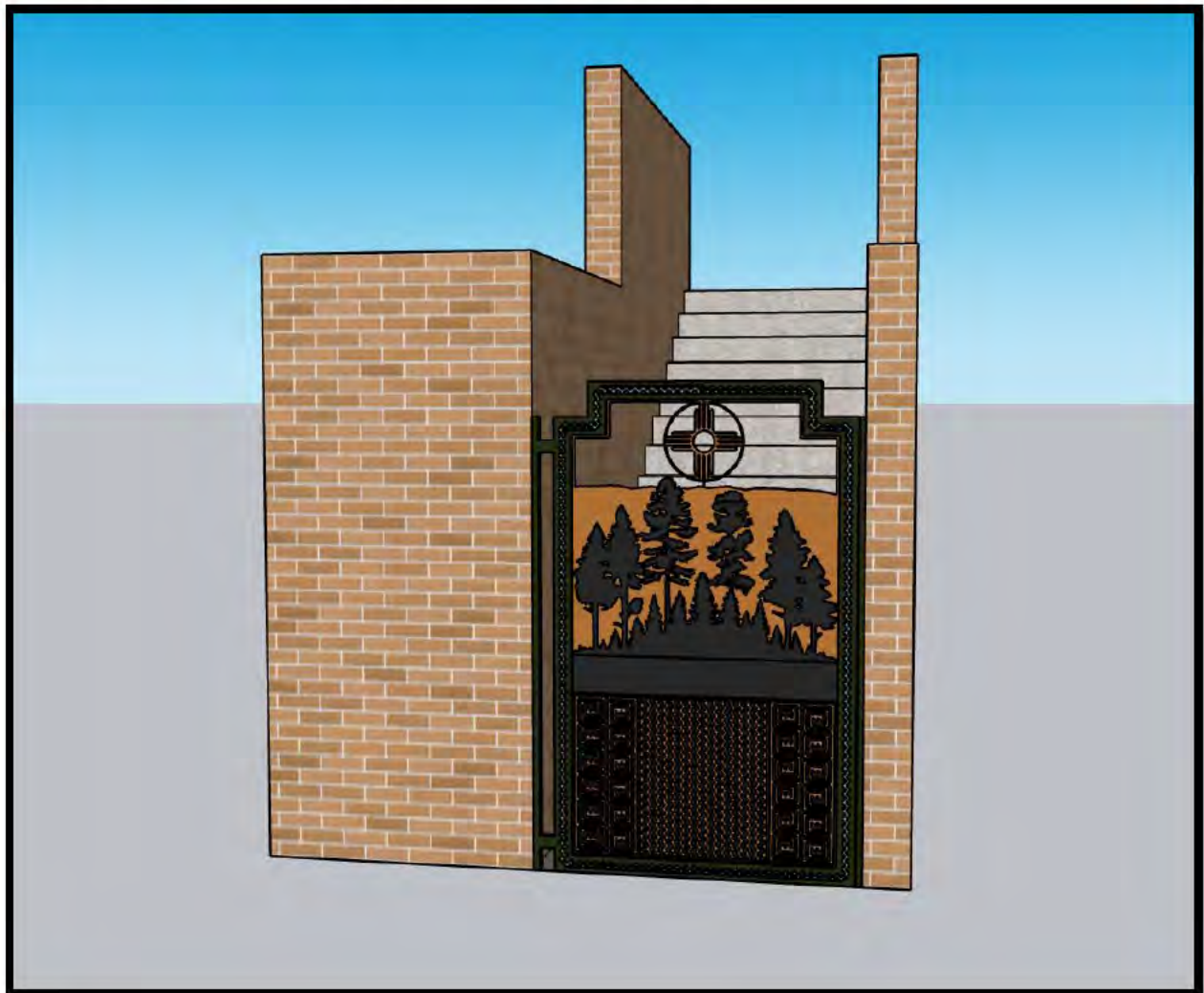
Artist's name: Brendan Lanicek, Modern Steel and Fence.

Artwork title: Los Alamos Heritage Gate

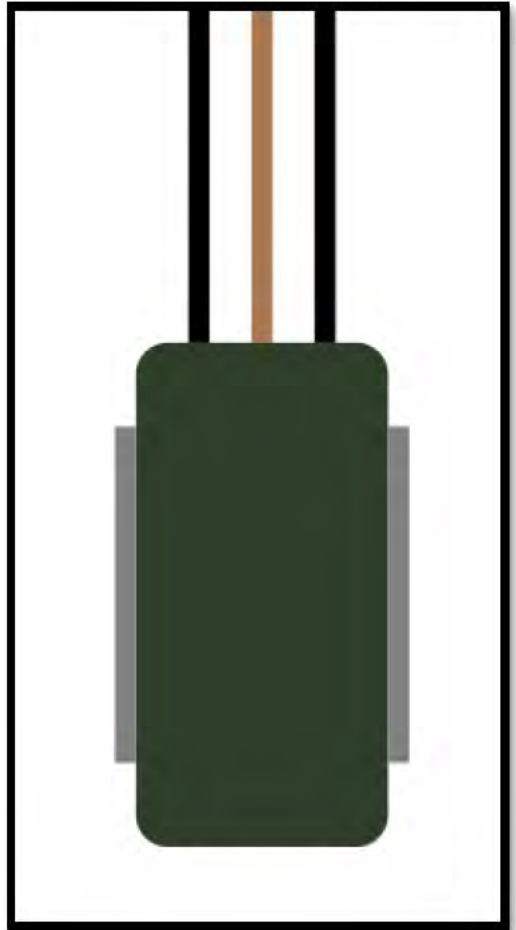
Size: 104" tall, 51" wide, 1 3/4" deep. Height and width are subject to minor change.

Approximate weight: 260 lbs.

Materials used: 1 1/2" x 3" rectangular steel tubing, 1/8" steel plate.



Example Photos



Previous Work







Installation Specifications

[Additional installation plans and documentation can be provided if the proposal is accepted. Additional documentation can include shop drawings with measurements and installation drawings with measurements.]

1. Locate the two 2x1 steel posts with base plates sent with the gate. The post with the hinges attached will go on the left side of the gate (standing at the bottom of the staircase looking up) and the post without the hinges will be the latch post on the right side of the gate. Make sure that the L-brackets on the posts are on the inside of the gate opening and flush against the brick.
2. Place each post against the brick on the left and right side of the opening. Mark the locations of the concrete anchors from the base plates onto the concrete. There will be (4) concrete anchors per base plate. Mark the locations of bolt holes in the L-brackets going up the posts on either side of the gate. Move the posts out of the way and use a hammer drill with a ¼" bit to make the concrete anchor holes. Do the same for the L-brackets going up the brick walls.
3. Put the posts back in place and install the anchor bolts in the base plate but do not tighten them all the way. Check each post for plumb in both directions. Add composite shims

under the base plate as needed to ensure posts are plumb. Finish fastening the base plate bolts on each post. Once the base plates are secured, fasten the L-brackets on the back side of the gate to the brick walls.

4. With each post properly secured, move the gate into place and align the hinge halves on the gate with the halves on the post. Put the gate into place and secure hinges with the provided hardware.
5. Use the provided mounting area on the backside of the gate to mount the exit crash bar. Follow manufacturer specifications for proper installation of crash bar. If needed, loosen hinge bolts to adjust latch opening to required length and tighten hinge bolts.

Anticipated Timeframe

- Gate fabrication: Approximately 1 week
- Gate Powder Coating: 1-1.5 weeks
- Shipping: Approximately 3-4 days
- Installation: 1-2 days

Total= 3-4 Weeks from start to finish

Recommended Maintenance

- Finish: Regularly clean the surface with mild soap and water. Avoid using any harsh chemicals or abrasives. Occasionally inspect for any scratches or damage to the powder coat and touchup with a matching exterior paint as needed.
- Hinges: Proposed hinges are sealed bearing hinges so routine maintenance should not be required. Occasionally inspect hinges for proper functionality and replace if they are not operating correctly.
- Panic Bar and Latch: Refer to manufacturer specifications regarding maintenance.
- Frame and Posts: Occasionally inspect for any signs of corrosion or rusting. Sand down the affected area and repaint with a matching exterior paint.

Purchase Price

Total Price= \$15,504.15

Price includes...

- Finished gate
- Gate posts
- Gate hinges
- All necessary fasteners
- One can of powder coat touchup per color
- Shipping from our shop to Los Alamos
- Completed shop drawings
- Completed installation drawings
- Remote support if needed for installation help