

# in the neighborhood

two local artists write about (and illustrate) a unique area of downtown Santa Fe

INSPIRED BY THEIR LOVE of and appreciation for their storied McKenzie neighborhood, longtime Santa Fe residents Victoria Rogers and Cal Haines turned their artistic eye to the buildings that make up the unique and somewhat anomalous part of the City Different they call home.

Filled with restrained yet vibrant prints of the residences found within this small downtown area, Rogers and Haines's book *Santa Fe's Historic McKenzie Neighborhood: A Contemporary Look at Old Architecture* (Sunstone Press) showcases both the architectural beauty of their

surroundings as well as its architectural diversity. In the introduction, Stuart Ashman, the former secretary of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the State of New Mexico, notes that

"the diversity of brick and adobe buildings, pitched and flat roofs, and elegant porches on cottage and territorial style homes . . . are not typical of the Santa Fe streetscape." Indeed, as David A. Rasch, from the city's Historic Preservation Division, notes in a section called "Historical Perspective," the McKenzie neighborhood "embodies the pressures placed on Santa Fe to look more American during the Statehood Period."

Rogers and Haines have made the images of the homes the centerpiece of their book, but they also provide historical information—from the year of construction for each of the residences (the earliest ones date back to the late 19th century) to the stories behind the individuals for whom McKenzie's streets were named. Taking this approach, the authors write, opens up their book to a wide-ranging audience: to "lovers of art, Santa Fe, historic architecture, guidebooks, and books as art."—Amy Hegarty



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