

# EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS

Spanish Colonial Life in New Mexico

by Louann Jordan

This book is respectfully dedicated to those who love history; to those who study history; to those who preserve history; and to those who enjoy taking part in history by seeing how history was made.

This fourth edition is especially dedicated to the volunteers who put life in this living history museum.

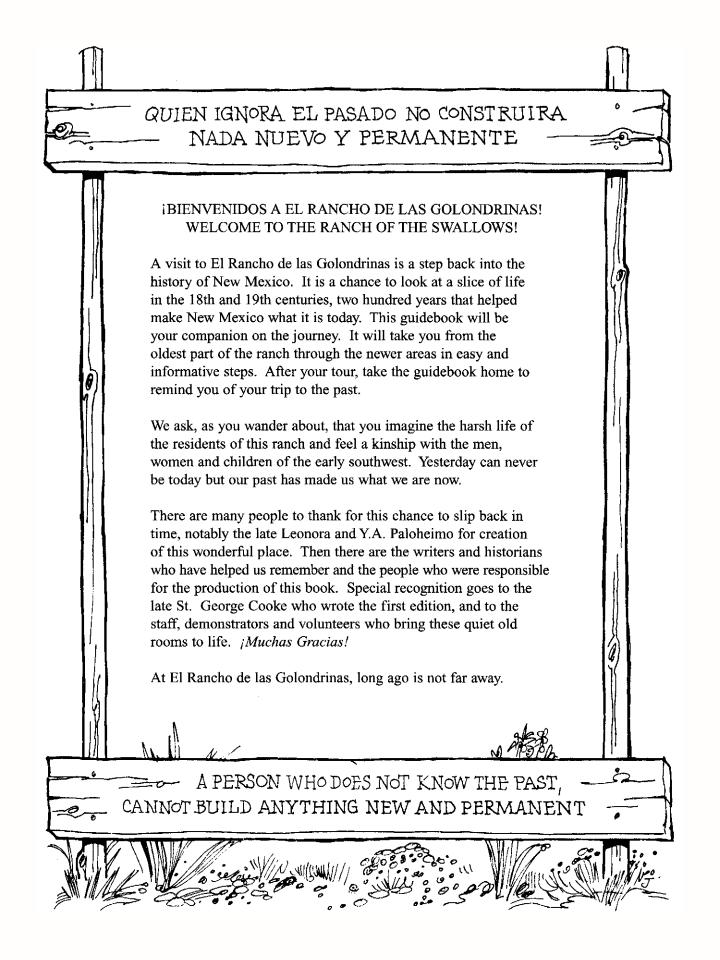
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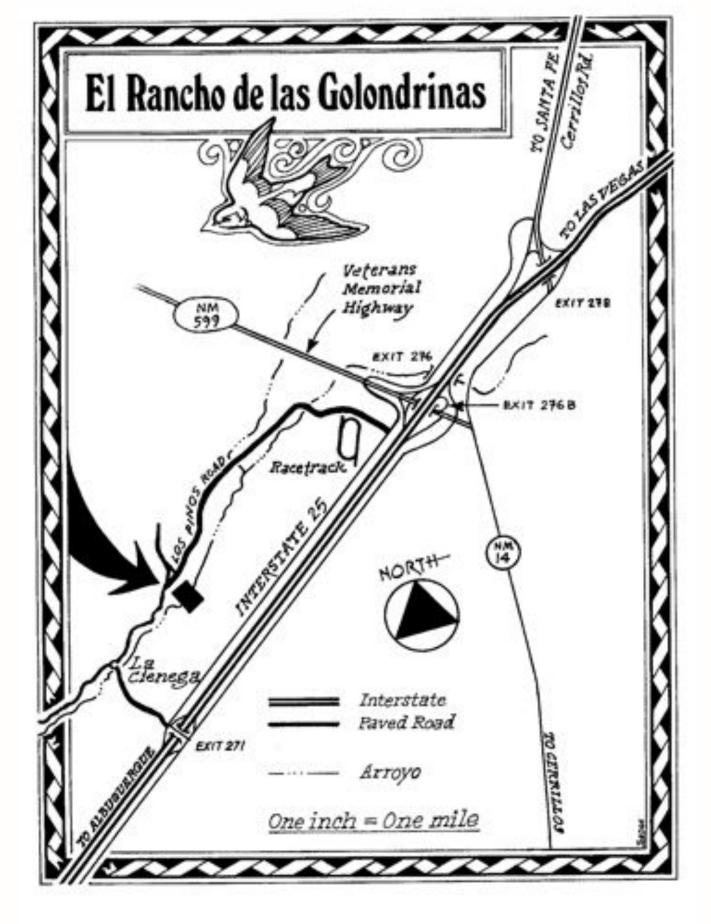
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#### HISTORY

Lying in the small valley of the Cienega stream some fifteen miles southwest of Santa Fé is El Rancho de las Golondrinas, the Ranch of the Swallows. Evidence of ancient habitation show that man lived in the area long before the Spanish *conquistadores* came into New Mexico. Their pueblos were located on nearby hills overlooking the valley where they planted corn, squash and beans, irrigated by water flowing from springs to form marshlands or *cienegas*. They adorned the lava rocks near their villages and in the canyon of the Santa Fé River with scores of petroglyphs, or drawings on the rocks, which can still be seen.

In 1598 Don Juan de Oñate led the advance guard of his colonizing expedition through the region on his way to establish the first Spanish settlement at San Juan Pueblo, while the caravan of the colonists took an easier route to the east. Later explorers and officials journeyed through the valley. After the founding of Santa Fé by Pedro de Peralta in 1610, enterprising settlers found the valley suitable for their farmsteads and pastures. One of these sites, known by its archaeological designation as LA 20,000, is on property owned by Las Golondrinas and has been researched and excavated by the anthropology field school program of a leading southwestern college. Tree ring dates and other data place its occupation between 1620 and 1680, ending with the Pueblo Revolt. While this site was not resettled after 1680, other Spanish settlers moved into the region following the reconquest of New Mexico by Don Diego de Vargas in 1693.

Unlike most Colonial settlements there are is no formal land grant to La Cienega. The first property owner of record is Miguel de la Vega y Coca who secured land "by royal purchase" (signifying only that it was a legal sale) in the area in the early 1700s. Several of his eight daughters and their spouses were the earliest settlers of the area after the reconquest.

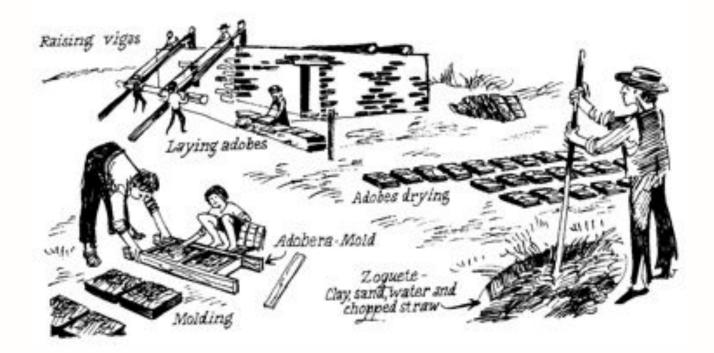
Throughout the early years the public road and single supply route from Mexico City to New Mexico, *El Camino Real*, passed through the region. El Rancho de las Golondrinas became one of the first *parajes* (camp sites) for travelers going south from Santa Fé and the last one for those going north.

A rancho, or estancia, depended upon itself for most of its necessities. The inhabitants raised stock, especially sheep, from which wool cloth was woven. They planted, irrigated, harvested and stored food for the long winter months. Grain was ground on *metates*, and later in small mills. Iron was imported from Mexico, but most tools were made in blacksmith shops. Produce was traded with neighboring Pueblo Indians, and some excess goods were sent by caravan down the dangerous Camino Real to Mexico. Houses were built of *adobe* bricks, made from the earth itself. But not all activity involved hard labor, for feast days and other special occasions were celebrated with joyous *fiestas*. While there was at least one family chapel, religious ceremonies were held in Santa Fé until the building of the church of San José de Guicù in about 1825.

The first documentation of El Rancho de las Golondrinas is the 1727 account of the will and settlement of the estate of Diego Manuel Baca. The property remained in his and Maria Vega y Coca's descendants' hands for more than 200 years.

The name "El Rancho de las Golondrinas" first appears in the journal of Juan de Anza for November 9, 1780 when he and his 151-man expedition spent their first night there on the way to find a direct route from Santa Fé to Arispe, Sonora. The monument and small plaza near the museum entrance, built in 1976, commemorate that visit. Juan de Anza was perhaps New Mexico's greatest colonial governor, serving from 1777 to 1787. Before that, he had led a colonizing expedition to California and founded San Francisco in 1775. After defeating the Comanche chieftain, Cuerno Verde, he signed a treaty with the Comanches in 1786 which lasted for many years, relieving one threat to La Cienega and Las Golondrinas from the danger of Comanche raiders. In the summer of 1776, Comanches struck the flocks of Cienega and Cieneguilla and killed nine shepherds.

In 1821 the Santa Fé Trail was opened by traders from the United States, bringing more and better goods into Santa Fé and down the Camino Real to Chihuahua. Brigadier General



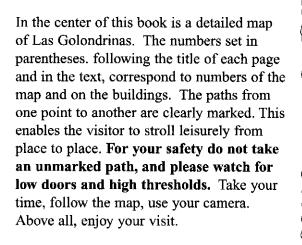
Stephen Watts Kearny, head of the Army of the West, took possession of New Mexico in the name of the United States in 1846, then pushed on to the conquest of California. The army did not visit Las Golondrinas, marching by way of the San Marcos arroyo, but several officers detailed to inspect the countryside did. One, Topographical Engineer Lt. J.W. Abert, was particularly impressed with the prosperity of the valley, the industry of its inhabitants and the skill of its shepherd dogs.

As new roads into Santa Fé were established, Las Golondrinas was largely bypassed by travelers. Gradually, the well-known ranch deteriorated as buildings fell into disrepair. In 1932 the last descendants of the Baca-Pino family sold the property to the Curtin family of California and Santa Fé. Mrs. Thomas Curtin is known for her study, *Healing Herbs of the Upper Rio Grande*. In 1946 Finnish consul Y.A. Paloheimo married Leonora Curtin. They lived for some years in California, but spent their summers in New Mexico. The Paloheimos devoted themselves to transforming the neglected ranch into a living history museum devoted to New Mexico's long Spanish Colonial heritage. Remaining buildings were reconstructed and repaired. Those in ruins were rebuilt on the original foundations, old log structures were grouped to reproduce a mountain village, and a Penitente *morada* was copied from the original in Abiquiu. Other structures were purchased in rural areas to replace those which had disappeared, or to illustrate specific activities of a Spanish rancho. Historically accurate livestock was reintroduced.

In the spring of 1972 El Rancho de las Golondrinas was opened to the public as New Mexico's first living history museum. A regular schedule of *fiestas* and other events was instituted. Men and women who remembered the old skills of cultivation, weaving, carpentry, blacksmithing and crafts were invited to the museum to show visitors how a *rancho* functioned.

Mr. Paloheimo died in 1986, just four years after title to the museum was transferred to the Rancho de las Golondrinas Charitable Trust to ensure that it would always be maintained for the public as a living example of Spanish Colonial patrimony. Mrs. Paloheimo died in 1999.

 Dr. Myra Ellen Jenkins with additional material by Louann Jordan







## ENTRADA PRINCIPAL, MAIN ENTRANCE (1) LIBBY'S GARDEN AND JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA MEMORIAL (2) PLAZAS ARTESANAS, ARTS AND CRAFTS BOOTHS (3)

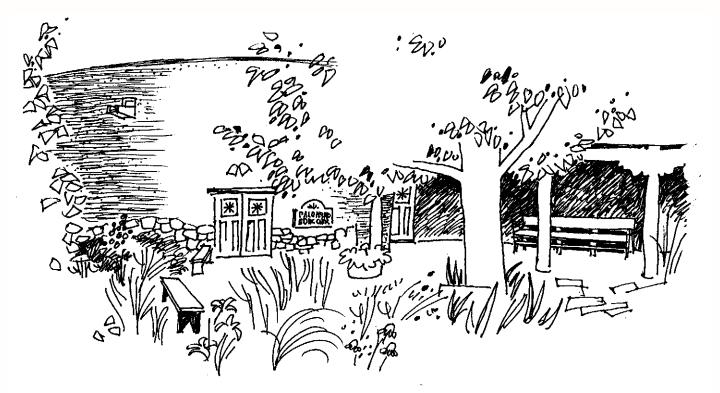
The visitor enters the museum grounds through the admission gates (1) into the beautiful Libby's Garden with the Juan Bautista de Anza Memorial (2). The memorial was dedicated in 1981 commemorating the 200th anniversary of Anza's visit to Las Golondrinas. A bronze plaque by Mexican sculptor Julian Martinez honors his memory. On the right is a modern *torreon*, which is not open to the public.

Also on the right are the Plazas Artesanas (Placita Padilla and Placita Ortiz) (3), where craftspeople show and sell their traditional work at Festivals. The crafts are handmade just as they were a century ago.



## FOOD SERVICE AND PICNIC AREA (4)

At the end of Plazas Artesanas is the food service and picnic area (4). Restrooms are nearby.



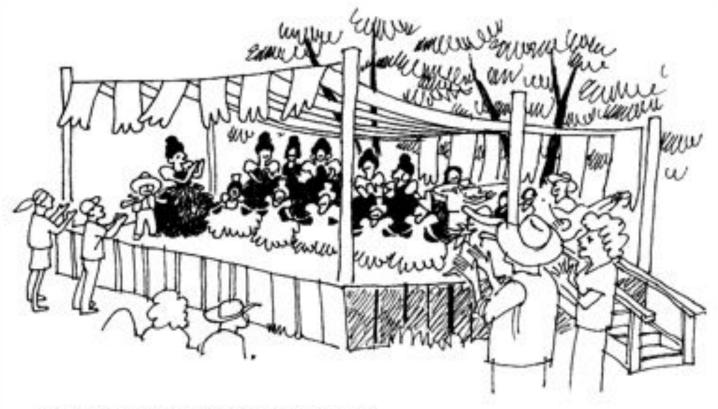
#### PALOHEIMO EDUCATION CENTER (5) HACIENDA EXHIBIT HALL (6) MUSEUM SHOP (7)

On the left at the entrance is the round Paloheimo Education Center (5). It is a good place to start your visit. Inside you can view an orientation video and see exhibits about the museum.

The Hacienda, adjoining the Education Center, is home to the Exhibit Hall (6) which features temporary exhibits. The placita and rooms off it are private. Also in the Hacienda is the Museum Shop (7) which sells museum publications, southwest books, one-of-a-kind regional antiques and contemporary crafts. Vintage textiles, distinctive jewelry, period clothing, traditional toys and bilingual children's books make this shop unique.



Next to the Hacienda is La Casita, the office and meeting place for guides and volunteers. It is not open to the public. Near La Casita are the restrooms.



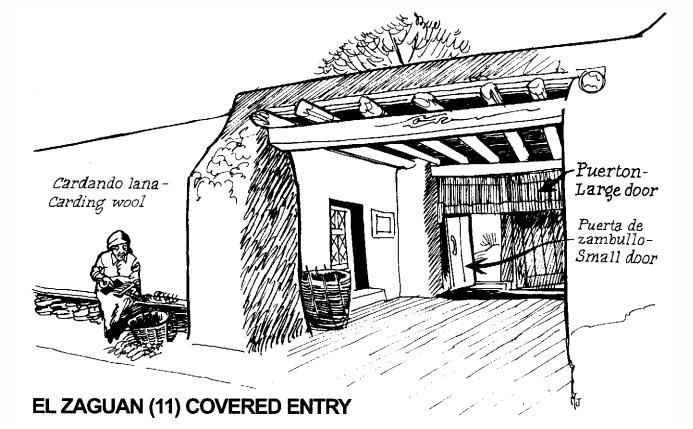
## ENTERTAINMENT PLATFORM (9)

Musicians and dancers in colorful costumes perform traditional music here during Festivals and special events. It is also the location of the San Ysidro masses at Spring and Harvest Festivals.

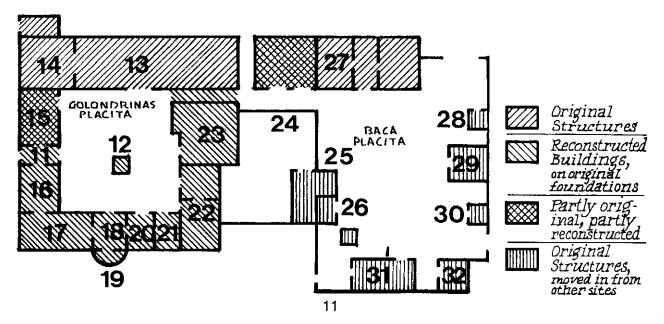
The Pino House (10), next to the platform, was the farmhouse in the early 1900s and, until recently, the museum office. The office and Lost and Found are now in the modern building east of the Pino House. It is open weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. all year.

## **GOLONDRINAS PLACITA (11-23)**





The earliest buildings of El Rancho de las Golondrinas were built in a defensive square to protect the residents from attack. There were two main entrances: a large door which could be swung open to admit wagons, animals and groups of people, with a smaller door for individuals. Inside was a *placita*, or little plaza, where on pleasant days chores were done outside in the open. Here was a well for drinking water and ovens, called *hornos*, constantly in use for baking. Flowers were planted about the well. Usually there was a saddled horse kept ready at a hitching rack in case a man had to ride for help in an emergency. And if someone wanted the comfort of prayer, there would be a small shrine, containing the patron saint of the *rancho*, set in a wall. The *placita* was where visitors were welcomed and Godsped on their way, where women worked and gossiped, and men performed their trades. Here on occasion, *bailes*, or dances, were held in the evenings. This was the heart of the ranch.



#### LA PLACITA, LA NORIA Y LOS HORNOS (12) COURTYARD, WELL AND OVENS

Cubo-bucket

The nancho's well was located in the placita where everyone had access to it. The women would gather about it in the mornings to exchange the greetings of the day and the gossip of the night. It was their central meeting place. Great care was taken to see that the well was always kept clean and free of debris, and that the water remained pure and sweet.



The hornos, or ovens, in the placita were often in use. The beehive shape came to Spain from Africa with the Moors and from Spain to this country with very little change in design. They were used to bake many foods, including regular bread; the dulces, or sweet breads; and the traditional sugar/anise cookie, the bizochito; panocha, a pudding made of sprouted wheat flour and brown sugar; and to bake cajeta, blended quince and sugar which is flattened, dried and eaten like candy.

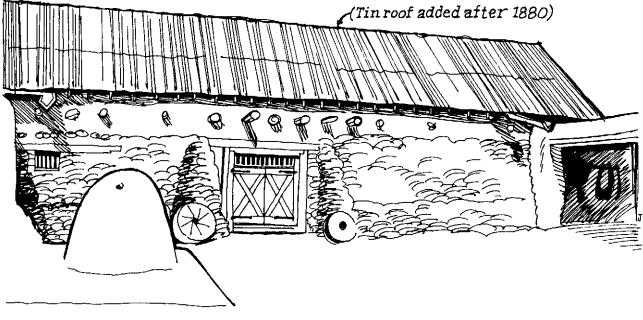
norig-The well

Ollg-Jar

Shaw

higuinuite - Bask

Hornos were also used to steam green corn for chicos and to roast chile.

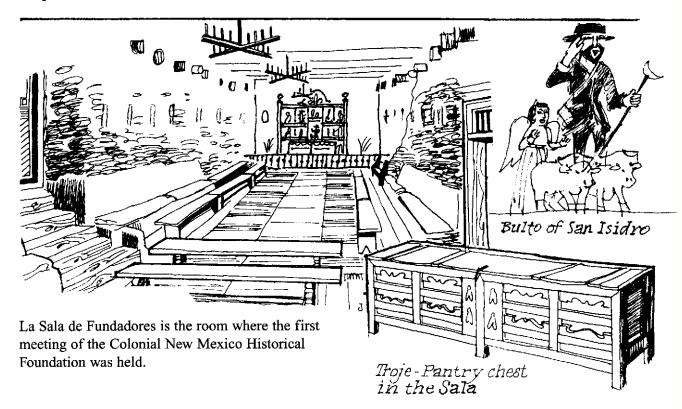


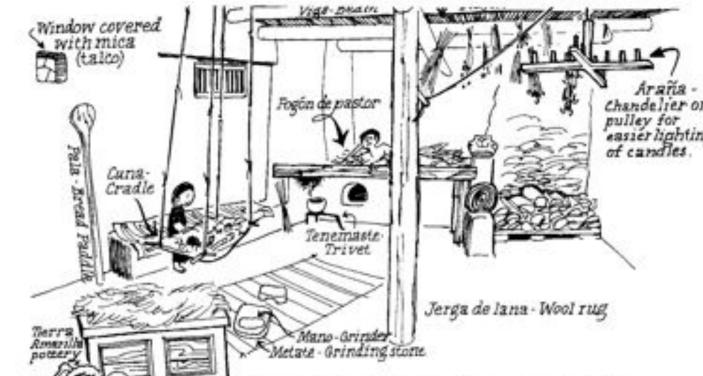
## SALON Y CAPILLA (13) LIVING ROOM AND CHAPEL

#### SALA DE FUNDADORES (14) FOUNDERS' ROOM

This was the *rancho's* first building and was probably the first family home. The ceiling was raised and the wood floor and metal roof added later. When room was available, the colonists would have liked to have a chapel because they were devout Catholics. The altar was decorated with handmade crosses, statues of the saints and candles. Sometimes the statue of *La Conquistadora* was brought from Santa Fé on her tours of New Mexico. When priests visited the ranch to perform their services, a *fiesta* usually followed.

In 1994 eleven artists, working in traditional styles, constructed a beautiful *reredos*, or altar screen, in the Chapel. Later, 14 *santeros* and tinsmiths made the 14 Stations of the Cross on the side walls.





afa Chest

LOW DOORS! WATCH YOUR HEAD!

> Cutting tasajos- squash string to be dried for winter use.

## LA COCINA CON FOGÓN DE PASTOR (15) KITCHEN WITH SHEPHERD'S BED FIREPLACE

The kitchen is typical of those on the Spanish Colonial ranches of the 18th century. Note the architecture with the vigas (beams) and the rajas (rough codar sticks between the beams). This ceiling method is still used in New Mexico today. The pastor's (shepherd's) wife cooked in a corner of the fireplace. She used pots made of clay, she ground her own corn on the *metate* and she used local herbs kept handy by hanging them from the ceiling. Her blankets were of ranch-woven wool and her baby slept happily on a sheepskin in a swinging crib.

> Blan Pole

Manta-Blanket

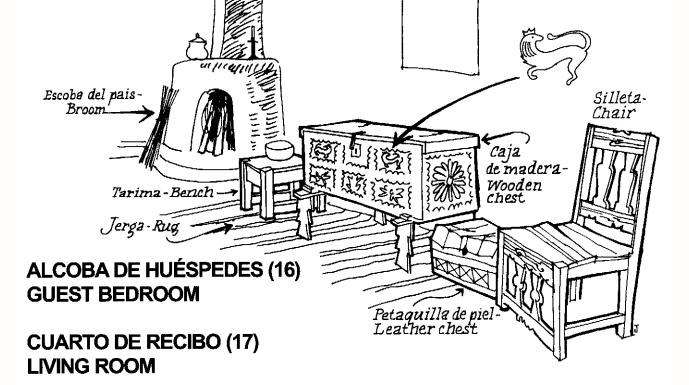
Storage log

for grain

Burro pack box

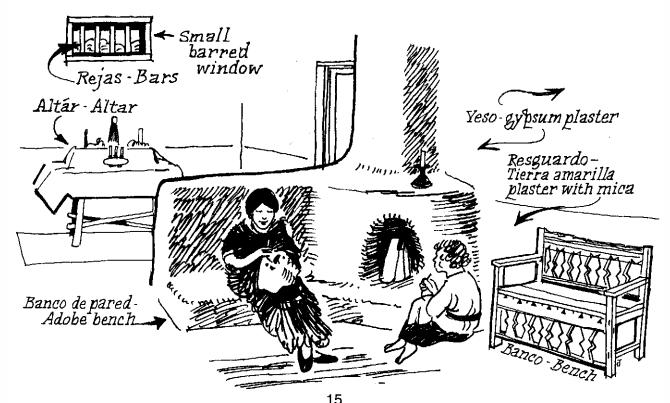
made of leather

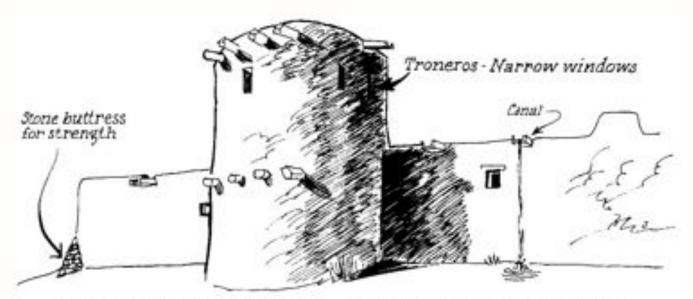
covered wood frame



The owner of the ranch put his best foot forward with the furnishing and decorating of the guest room. The Spanish expression, *Mi casa es su casa*, "My house is your house," had a sincere meaning. Nothing was too good for the guest. The guest room was as comfortable as it was possible to make it. The walls were painted with whitewash and trimmed with a wash made of yellow, red or brown earth. There would be plenty of *piñon* wood for the fireplace and the aroma would fill the room with a unique scent of the southwest.

The people of a *rancho* looked forward to guests as they brought the latest news from the outside world; what the government was doing, and what was the latest gossip in Santa Fé and Albuquerque.





## ZAGUÁN AL TORREÓN (18) EL TORREÓN DEFENSIVO (19) ENTRANCE TO THE TOWER DEFENSIVE TOWER

The torreón, or tower, was constructed by direct order of the King of Spain to protect the people of El Rancho de las Golondrinas. On the upper level a sentinel watched over the land and was ready to blow a horn, beat a drum, shout, or to ring a bell if he saw any trouble approaching. The field workers would run to the protection of the walled *hacienda* while others would enter the *torreón* to fight off the enemy. They had water, food and ammunition stored within the thick *adobe* walls. They also had a few gans, swords, bows, lances, and horsegear at the ready in the entrance to the tower. The Spanish Colonial knew how to fight to protect his family and his land.

tretas - Muskets (Ath tents

anza - Lance (18th tentury.



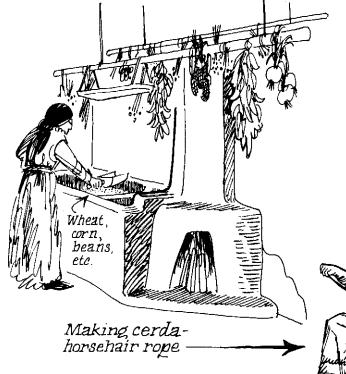
Holes in vigas where ropes were attached and dragged from mountains by oxen

> Small door with step up for protection, to keep in warmth, to keep out wind and cold. Visitors bowed as a sign of respect, and they were forced to bow when passing through these doors.

WATCH YOUR HEAD!

#### ALCOBA DE DORMIR (20) BEDROOM

Escalera-Ladder –



#### Horsehair rope was in demand for its strength and beauty. It was used mainly as decorative bridles, reins for horses and for hatbands called *toquillas*.

#### DISPENSA (21) STORAGE ROOM

Outside of the *dispensa*, herbs, vegetables and fruits were hung to dry. Inside, other foods such as beans, wheat and shelled corn was stored in bins. The food that was stored after harvest in one year had to feed everyone until harvest the next year!



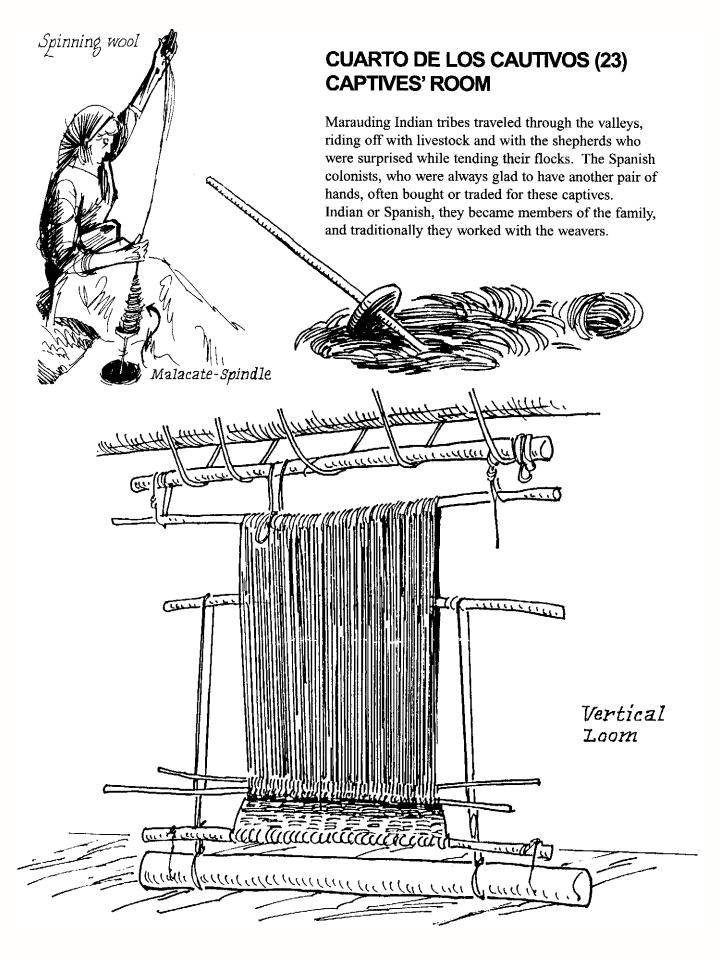
## TALLERES DE TEJER (22) WEAVING WORKROOMS

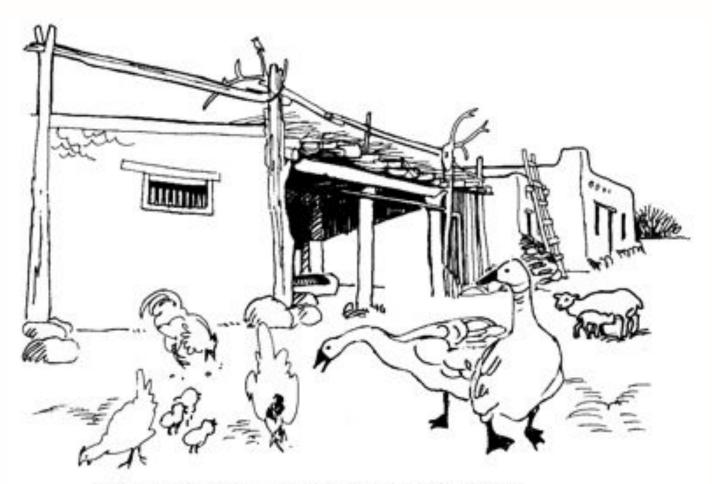
Spinners and weavers were very important to the rancho. They made most of the clothes the people wore, as well as all the blankets for beds and horses, and rugs for the floors. They mostly used wool because they were too far north to grow cotton. They often dyed their wool in warm colors with natural dyes and wove beautiful patterns. Some of the ranches were known for their fine weaving. The products of their handmade looms were widely sought after and were choice items for barter. An excellent, creative weaver was literally worth his weight in gold and most of the weavers were men!



This replica of a 400-year-old loom was made by our museum volunteers.

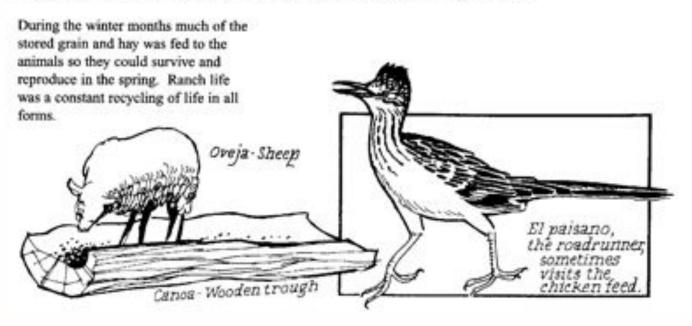


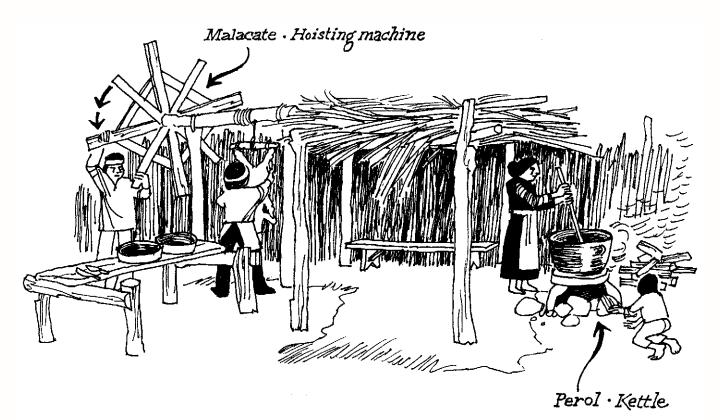




#### CORRALES, GALLINERO Y CABALLERIZA (24) CORRALS, CHICKEN COOP AND BARN

A person visiting Las Golondrinas in the colonial period would be sure to find more animals than humans. The animals provided food for the table, fertilizer for the gardens and fields, and skins for leather. On a large ranch nothing was wasted and everything was used.

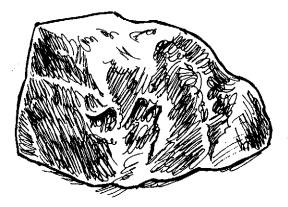




#### MATANZA DE ANIMALES (25) BUTCHERING AREA

Sheep, goats, pigs and cattle provided the meat on the *rancho's* tables. The wheel which raised the carcasses for skinning and quartering was so efficient a small man could easily pull up over three hundred pounds. Nothing of the animal was lost except the sounds! The skins were tanned for use or barter, the meat was eaten fresh or was 'jerked'' (dried and salted) and stored, the horns were fashioned into drinking cups or signaling horns, and the bones were carved into tools and buttons. The animal blood was made into *morcilla* (blood sausage). Blood was also mixed with clay for a harder floor finish!

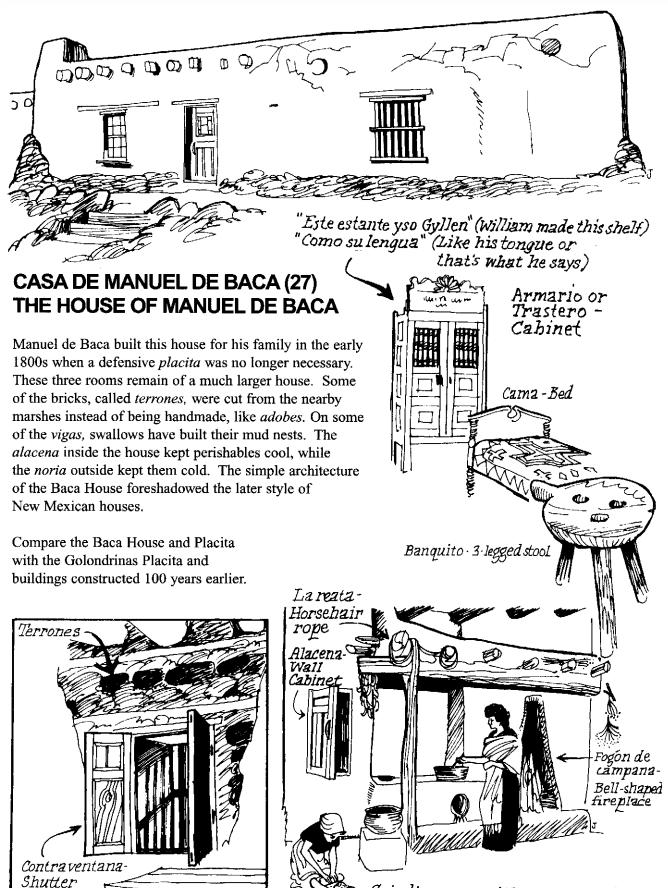
A large kettle was essential to render lard for cooking, tallow for candles and to make soap. The butchering was usually scheduled for cool fall mornings just after sunrise, so a hot day would not spoil the meat.



#### MAKING SOAP

Soap made on the *rancho* was of the curd variety, a combination of fat and alkali. The soap was made by boiling fat and wood ashes in a large kettle until it thickened. The lye was then drained off. It is said that the ash of the cottonwood tree makes the softest soaps. Some soapmakers would add fragrances by using the juices pressed from aromatic plants. Heavy blankets, clothes and mattresses were cleaned with this strong lye soap but people bathed and washed their hair with *amole* or yucca root solution.





#### FUERTE (28), DISPENSA (29) Y SOTERRANO (30) STORAGE BUILDING, WORKSHOP AND ROOTCELLAR

Fuerte

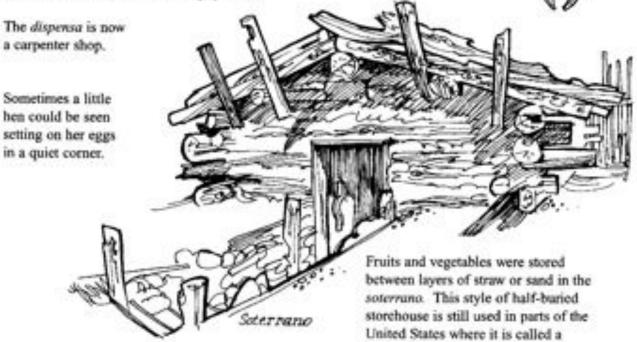
personalla

Dispensa

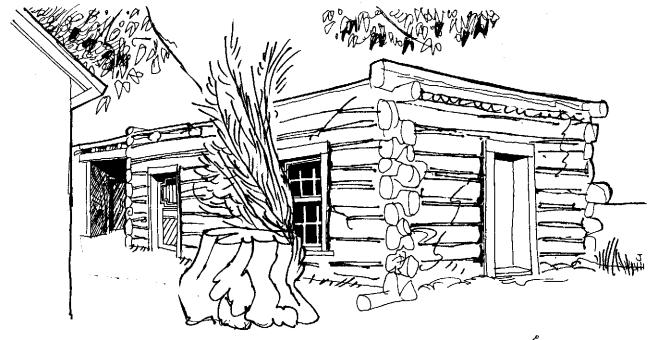
Soterrano

You may notice that some buildings have numbered metal discs attached to the logs. These buildings were dismantled and moved to the museum. The numbers were a guide to their reassembly.

For the long winters, it was necessary to build storehouses. Foodstuffs such as vegetables, fruits and grains had to be put away. Hides and skins were stored for tanning and rooms were needed for tool storage and workshops. Large woodpiles were built to fuel the stoves and fireplaces. The logs were hauled from forests and wooded areas miles away to be cut to size and split. A lot of storage space was required to feed and care for the *rancho's* population.



rootcellar.





## LA TIENDITA (31) THE COUNTRY STORE

La tiendita was a small store that sold a variety of items to the ranch people. Travelers on the Camino Real could buy things produced on the ranch, like rope, blankets, tinware, religious items, candles and food needed for their journey. You could also buy hard candies, cotton and wool cloth, tools, grain, eggs, fruits, vegetables and tobacco. Sometimes items brought from Mexico over the Camino Real would be available in the store, such as ceramic dishes, cotton, silk and satin fabrics, ribbons, buttons and silk stockings for men and women. Sales would be made mostly by barter or for what little money the customers could accumulate.

Later, metal cans containing such things as fruit, meat, evaporated milk, calico fabric, baking soda and coffee (all with labels in English) were brought here over the Santa Fé Trail and added to the store's inventory.





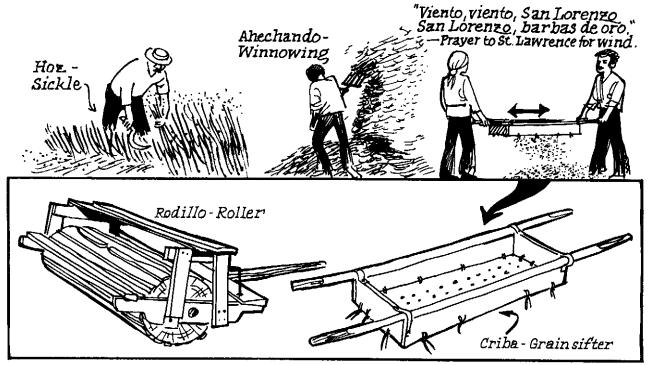
Tin-coated metal, "the poor man's silver," was made into useful items by colonial blacksmiths. When the American army and traders came to New Mexico in the 19th century, they brought food and oil in large tin cans which were free and easily worked by anyone into frames, candleholders and decorative boxes.

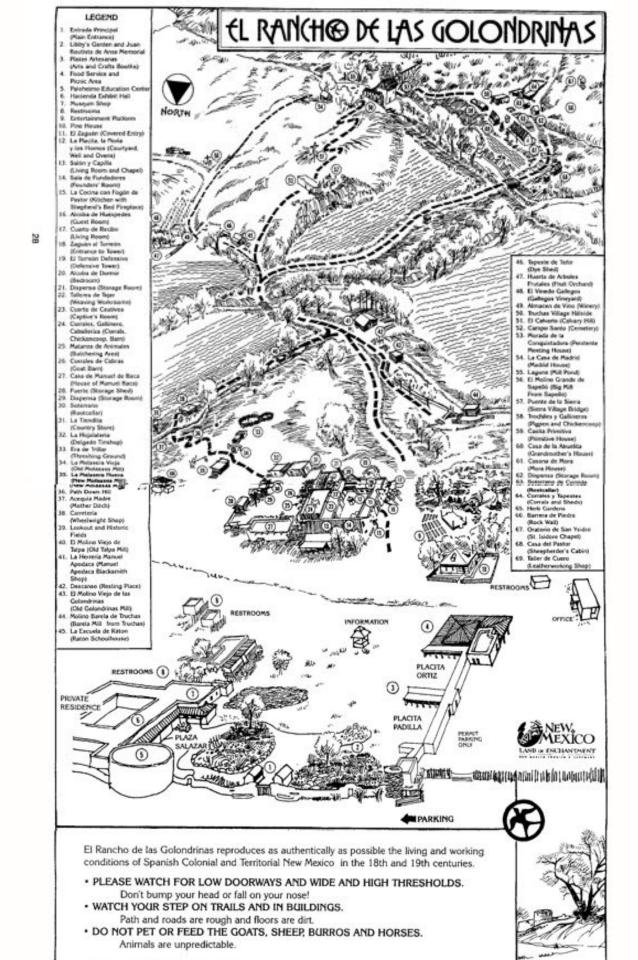
Although the art declined by the end of the century, there was a resurgence in tinworking in the 1930s. One of the most talented tinsmiths of this period was Francisco Delgado, to whose memory the shop is dedicated. Most of the tin displayed here is from this period.



#### ERA DE TRILLAR (33) THRESHING GROUND

The most primitive method of threshing was used at Las Golondrinas. Grain, grown on the ranch, was spread in the corral. Goats, sheep, horses or burros were made to walk about the corral constantly until their hooves had separated the grain from the stalk. Sometimes a slatted roller was used. Then the corral was raked and the grain was separated from the chaff by winnowing. The grain was sifted to remove the dirt. It was then taken to the mill for grinding into flour, or was stored for winter. This method of threshing was used by ancient cultures before written records. It is still used in remote parts of the world.





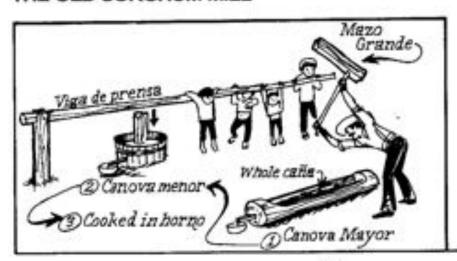
1000 Horno ia - Sorghum

## LA MELASERA NUEVA (35) THE NEW SORGHUM MILL

Cucharón Scoop

cacharon broop

#### LA MELASERA VIEJA (34) THE OLD SORGHUM MILL

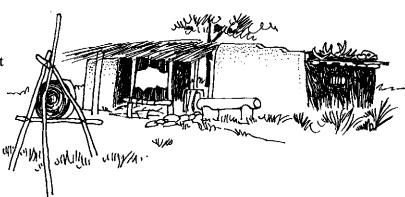


Syrup made from sorghum cane, was important to the ranch. It provided the sweetening necessary for cooking. In the old mill the cane was pounded in a trough to release the juice; in later years it was squeezed between metal rollers. The juice was then rendered by boiling. In earlier days the syrup was pressed through a sieve to remove impurities. Today it is strained before pouring into containers.

Cones of dark brown sugar, or *piloncillo*, were imported from the south. To the children, it was candy.

## TALLER DE CUERO (69) LEATHERWORKING SHOP

Tanning of animal hides was a normal part of colonial life. Tanned deer, elk and buffalo hides were used to make pants, shirts, jackets, *botas* (leggings), moccasins and blankets. These tanned hides became a major trade item between colonists and Indians.



The traditional hide-tanning process involves

four basic steps: (1) Scraping, to remove hard connective tissue and hair, (2) Application of a softening agent by soaking and/or rubbing with animal brains or plant material, (3) Stretching, to break down and continue to soften the fiber, and (4) Waterproofing and/or coloring by suspending

over a fire. Resin from the smoke will adhere to the hide and somewhat waterproof it. Smoke from different types of wood produced different colors. Coloring may also be achieved by soaking in plant material or rubbing with clay and soils.

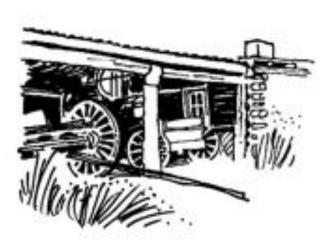


## PATH DOWN HILL (36), ACEQUIA MADRE (37) MOTHER DITCH

Take the path down the hill from the hide tanning and sorghum mill to the Wheelwright Shop. On the way you cross a tiny bridge over the *acequia madre*, or mother ditch, that runs through Las Golondrinas. Small lateral ditches cut perpendicular to this main ditch are called *sangrias* and are used to irrigate the field. This *acequia*, named *Acequia de la Cienega*, was built prior to 1739 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Washington D.C.

Water has been called the lifeblood of New Mexico. Some of the earliest community organizations were devoted to the distribution and use of irrigation water. Each community's main *acequia* has its own name and is the common property of the *parciantes*, who are members of that *acequia* association. Each member has a responsibility to share the cost and labor involved in maintaining the ditch, according to established rules, customs and *acequia* laws. Spring cleaning the *acequia* is an important event shared by all water users, because a clean *acequia* is essential for the efficient use of a very limited and valued resource.



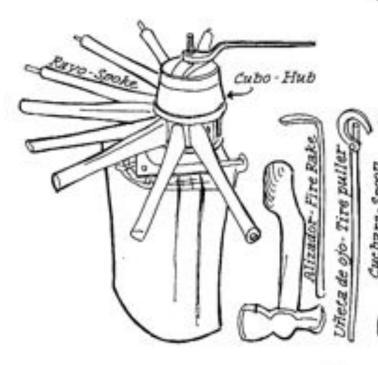


## CARRETERÍA (38) WHEELWRIGHT SHOP

Separate shops kept ranch equipment in good repair. The cart, carriages and wagons were sent to the Wheelwright Shop where wheels were tightened or replaced, bodies were strengthened and iron rims were replaced.

The men who worked in the shops were experts at their trades. Wheelwrights, carpenters and apprentices were always in demand. Often these workmen were artisans rather than laborers.

This carreteria was built in the mid-1800s.



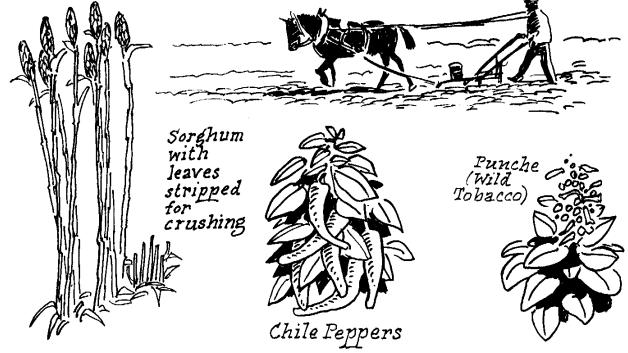


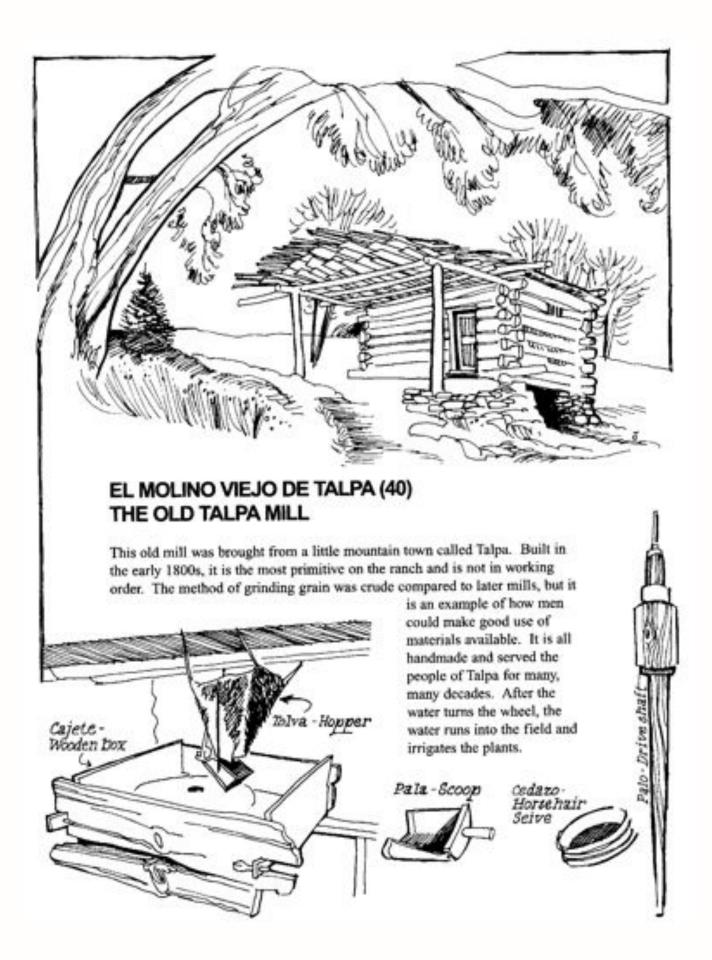


#### WOODWORKING SHOP AND HISTORIC FIELDS (39)

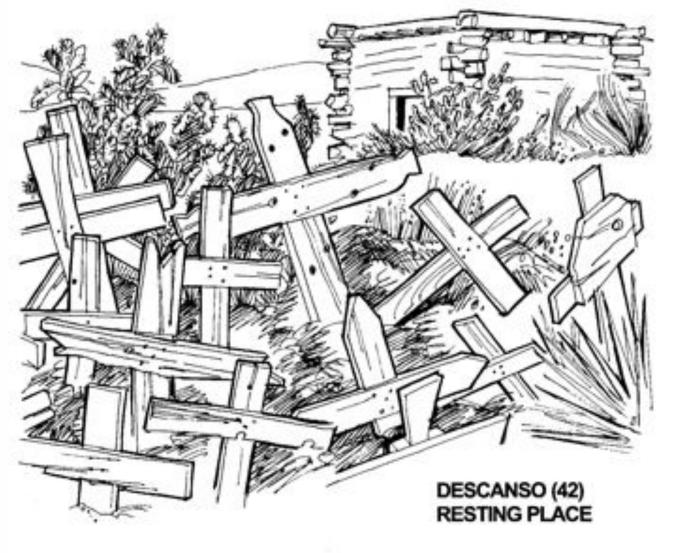
Before the Americans came in the 1840's New Mexico had no saw mills. Crafting wood into useful products all had to be done by hand. At this exhibit visitors can watch craftsmen using old tools to change rough wood into everything from furniture to wagon wheels and spokes.

The historic field is used to grow crops that were common in this area from pre-Columbian times through the American Territorial period. Corn, beans, squash, chile, melons, tomatoes, garlic, onions and tobacco are some of the plants we grow each season. Wild plants that would thrive in and around the cultivated fields were also considered very valuable and were harvested for their edible as well as medicinal benefits.







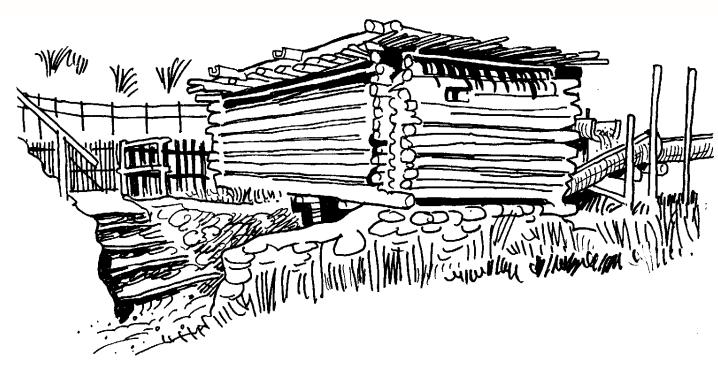


#### EL MOLINO VIEJO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS (43) THE OLD GOLONDRINAS MILL

After the functal service of a resident of the rancho, the body was carried by pallbearers to the burial ground, or campo santo, borne on a door or ladder (palajuelo) and wrapped in a cloth. The mourners would stop along the way to rest and pray a sudario for the soul of the departed. Here they would erect a cross in memory of the deceased and add a rock to the growing mound. The cross and rocks were reminders that it was necessary, even on the last journey, to rest, to pray and to meditate.

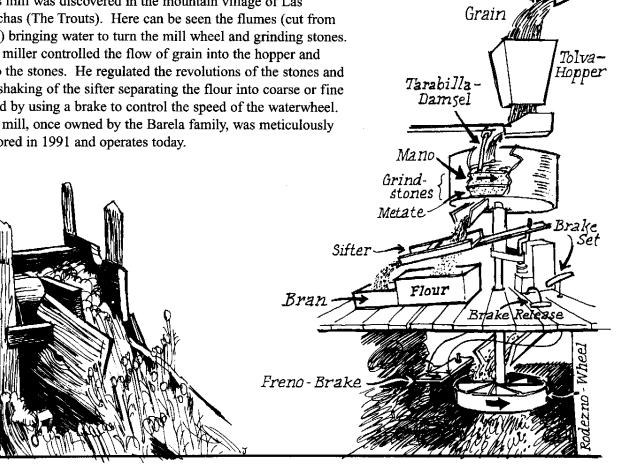
Behind the *descauso* is the Golondrinas Mill. It was rebuilt on the site of the original mill which is mentioned in old wills.





## **MOLINO BARELA DE TRUCHAS (44)** THE BARELA MILL FROM TRUCHAS

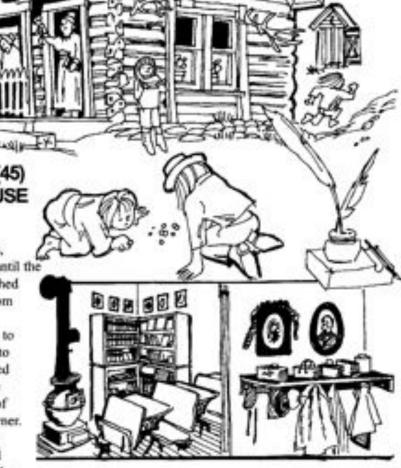
This mill was discovered in the mountain village of Las Truchas (The Trouts). Here can be seen the flumes (cut from logs) bringing water to turn the mill wheel and grinding stones. The miller controlled the flow of grain into the hopper and onto the stones. He regulated the revolutions of the stones and the shaking of the sifter separating the flour into coarse or fine grind by using a brake to control the speed of the waterwheel. The mill, once owned by the Barela family, was meticulously restored in 1991 and operates today.



LA ESCUELA DE RATÓN (45) THE RATÓN SCHOOLHOUSE

Spanish children were taught in their homes by their parents, in the churches, or in Mexican boarding schools. Not until the late 1800s was a school system established in northern New Mexico. This two-room cabin was built in Ratón in 1878 as a private home. When the railroad came to New Mexico in 1880 it was converted to Ratón's first schoolhouse. Later, unused and deteriorating, it was donated to the Museum by Delores Noel in memory of her mother, Ida Atwater, the former owner. In 1980 the 102-year-old structure was rebuilt at Las Golondrinas. The school room was furnished by donations and the second room is the school teacher's bedroom. The adobe addition is a private apartment.





the well ways

### TAPESTE DE TEÑIR (46) DYE SHED

An outdoor or summer kitchen was often used as a dye shed for coloring wool yarn. After the sheep were sheared, the wool was cleaned, carded, spun on the malacate, washed and dyed, before being rolled into balls and woven.

At the dye shed the yarn was bathed with a mordant to prepare it. Natural dyes were dissolved with water in native clay ollas and the yarn was colored. Following another mordant bath, the yarn was draped on racks to dry.

It was important to take care of your clothes because they were not easy to replace! HUERTA DE ARBOLES FRUTALES (47) FRUIT ORCHARD

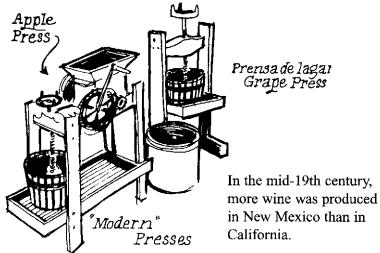
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## EL VINEDO GALLEGOS (48) THE GALLEGOS VINEYARD

snotter

## ALMACEN DE VINO (49) WINERY

Las Golondrinas had many fruit trees: apple, apricot, quince, peach, cherry, pear and plum. The fruit was eaten fresh or dried and stored for winter. The vineyard was carefully tended, overseen by an experienced vinter. Wine was made in traditional ways from the picking of the grapes to the casking in wooden kegs or ceramic jars for fermentation and aging. The wines were served from *botas*, containers made from sheepskins, because glass bottles were few and expensive. The guests of the *rancho* were served the best of the wines, which were stored for special occasions.



Colador-Strainer Embudo-Funnel Crushing grapes

## TRUCHAS VILLAGE HILLSIDE (50)

The old village of Nuestra Señora del Rosario de Truchas on the High Road to Taos perches on a high plateau with steep slopes down to the river far below. It is approached on a twisting road which passes a holy descanso and the tiny log barns and tapestes that mark the entrance to the town. This exhibit tries to capture the mood of the tranquil, brooding village of Our Lady of the Trouts, Las Truchas.

The house left of the road is not part of the Museum's exhibits. It is built around an old torredn, and is called the Torredn House. From the descanso you may take the path to the right which goes to the Morada, the Madrid House and the Big Mill. At the hilltop is a view in all directions, perfect for picture taking.



assi.



#### CAMPO SANTO (52) CEMETERY

## MORADA DE LA CONQUISTADORA (53) PENITENTE MEETING HOUSE

On a hill overlooking Las Golondrinas is a reproduction of a morada (meeting house) of Los Hermanos de Nuestro Padre Jesus Nazareno, or Penitentes. It is dedicated to Our Lady of Peace, La Conquistadora, and is a copy of the south morada at Abiquiu. Inside are three rooms: the chapel with traditional crucifix, candelabras and santos; the dining room and the small inner storeroom where the

Brothers of Light cleaned up after their Holy Week flagellation rites. The *Penitentes* were lay members of the Catholic Church who did the social work in outlying communities where there were no priests.

Visitors are asked not to photograph inside.

The hillside is symbolically called *El Calvario* (Calvary). At the top is a large cross. Next to the *morada* are old *campo santo* crosses.



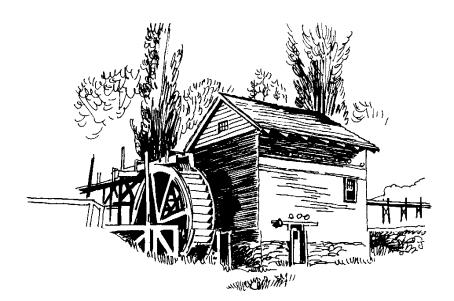
Doña Sebastiana



#### LA CASA DE MADRID (54) THE MADRID HOUSE

Built in 1978 by 20th Century Fox for the filming of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid; The Early Years, the house represents a Madrid, New Mexico mine manager's home of the 1880s. Unique features of this "new house made to look old" are the aging of the fireplace and the cabinetry inside the house. The back of the house was not finished because no filming was done there and the inside stairs go nowhere.

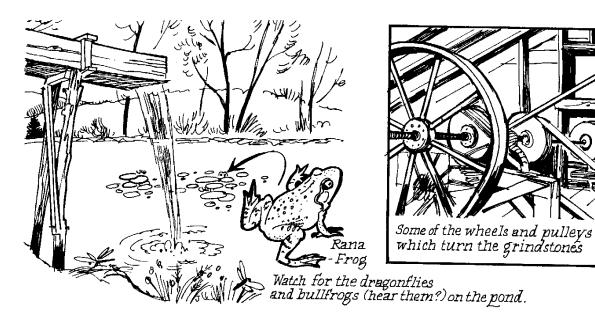
Furnishings of the Victorian bedroom have been donated by friends of the Museum and the dolls with costumes from the Ranch were made by Marye Garcia. <u>Grades of Flour:</u> Fine: *Flora fina* Medium: *Semita* Coarse: *Harina despajada* Remainder: *Salvado* (bran for animal feed)



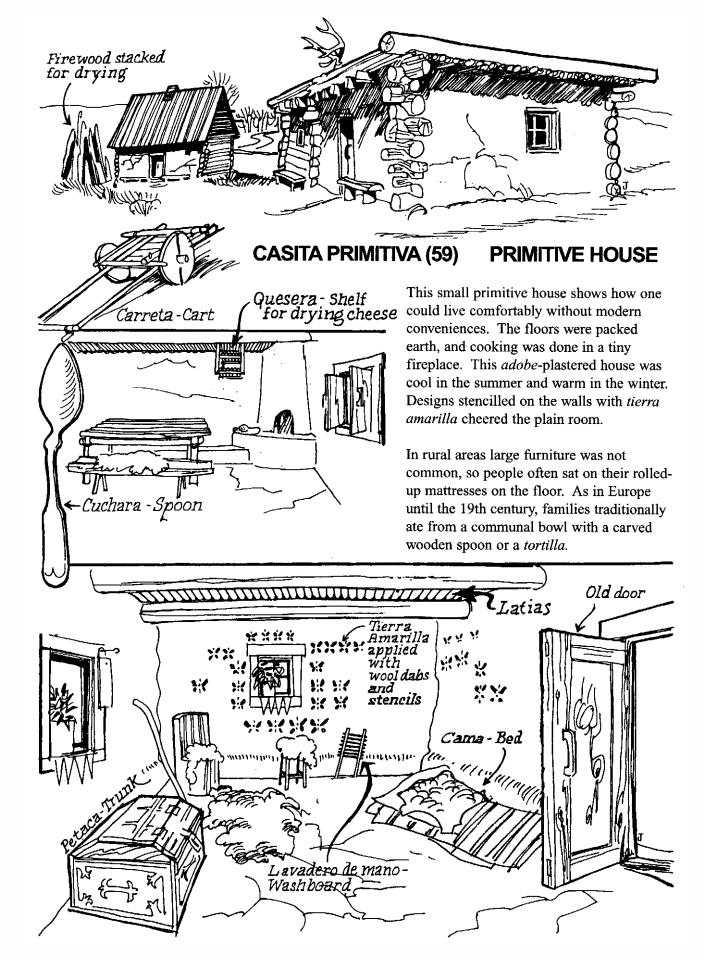
#### LAGUNA (55) POND

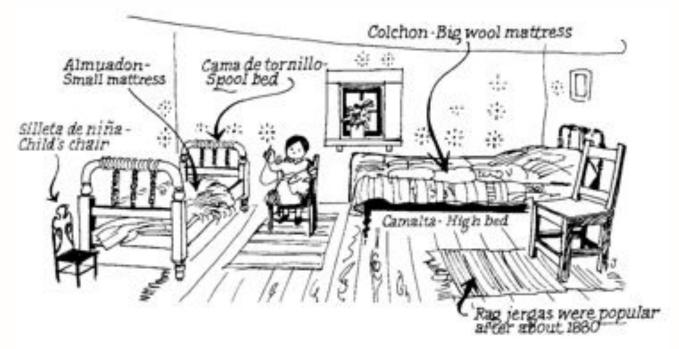
#### EL MOLINO GRANDE DE SAPELLÓ (56) THE BIG MILL FROM SAPELLÓ

The largest mill at Las Golondrinas was originally built and used by the Pacheco family in Sapelló, New Mexico, and later operated by the Legers. Its machinery, which was manufactured in Buffalo, New York, was shipped to New Mexico by railroad in the 1880s. The miller made flour for the soldiers at Ft. Union until the fort closed in 1891. The mill began operating at Las Golondrinas in 1972. In 1991 a new, handmade oak wheel replaced the old, rotting pine wheel. Flumes and aqueducts bring water from springs in the hills. After turning the wheel, the water flows into a small *rio*. When the mill is not in use the water is diverted into the tree-lined mill pond. On Festival days the mill grinds flour from wheat.



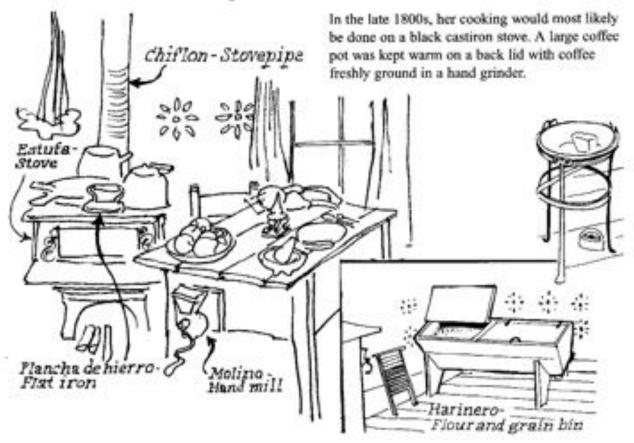






#### CASA DE LA ABUELITA (60) GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE

Simplicity is the word for Grandmother's House. The old lady still worked hard, but she was supplied by her children and grandchildren. She was up with the sun and asleep with the moon. Her material needs were not many; a tight house with a peaked roof for the snows, a comfortable hand-carved bed, basic furniture, a pantry for her herbs and foods, and a few handmade rugs on the wood floor. She taught the old traditions and domestic skills to the grandchild who lived with her.





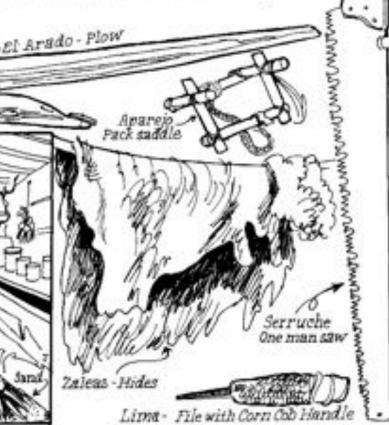


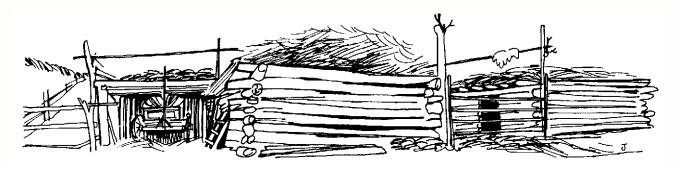
### DISPENSA (62) STOREROOM SOTERRANO DE COMIDA (63) ROOTCELLAR

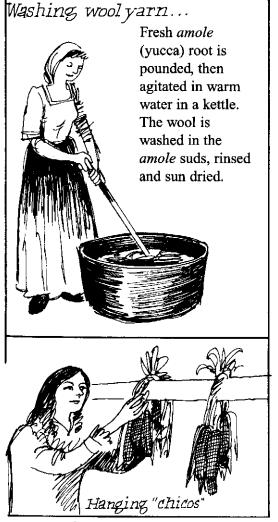
This barn was used to store tools and the hides of the sheep raised in the mountain meadows. Herbs were hung inside to dry. The rootcellar was packed with jars of preserved vegetables and fruits. Some foods, such as squash, carrots, potatoes, apples and other garden products, were stored fresh, covered with layers of sand to preserve them. In the good years, when the snows came, there was comfortable survival until time to begin the spring planting.







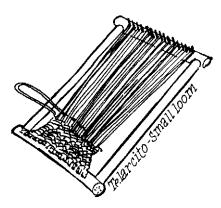




### CORRALES Y TAPESTES (64) CORRALS AND SHEDS

There was always work to be done in a village. The animals in the corrals and barns needed constant care. Spring was a busy time. It was not only lambing season, but also time to shear the sheep and prepare the wool for the weavers. Dyes were made to color the wool. There were fields to plow, crops to plant and weed. In the fall the harvest was made. If life in a village was simple and consisted of work, work, work, there was time also for visiting relatives and friends, parties and village *fiestas* and the keeping of the Saints' Days. And, for a real celebration, there were the weddings and christenings!

*Chicos* are sweet corn roasted in husks in the horno and hung to dry.



Cottoritails like to visit the corral



Vagón - wagon with logs for vigas

#### HERB GARDENS (65)

People have searched the world for herbs and spices to savor their foods and heal their bodies. In New Mexico a crude salt came from salt flats; black pepper was almost unknown. Therefore, the Spanish colonial depended upon those herbs he could find growing wild at his front door. Almost every flower and weed was used as a seasoning or medicine of some sort. And since there were few doctors in those times, the curandera who knew the curative powers of herbs was important to the well-being of the community. The most common way of administration was by herbal tea. There were herbs for heart disease, headaches, chest colds, stiff joints - for almost every ailment. People in those early days were expert in using what nature provided. Herbs were a most important part of their lives, not only as medicine but as a seasoning for food and as dye for wool.

## POÑIL (Apache Plume)

The liquid from its boiled roots dissipates a persistent cough. Dry, ground leaves are mixed with native tobacco to make a soothing rub for rheumatic joints, and the plumes are useful to drive away witches.

## ALEGRIA (Cockscomb)

These important plants are used to treat heart trouble, tuberculosis and jaundice, and the crimson juice was smeared on the faces of the elegant Spanish ladies as a sun screen.

# YERBA DE LA TUSA

The finely powdered root, placed upon an aching tooth, should reduce the throbbing.

#### CANUTILLO DEL LLANO (Scouring Rush)

A useful substitute for a dishmop. Children made whistles from the segments.

## CHAMISO BLANCO (Rabbit Brush)

The flowers from this common bush yield a rich yellow dye, and when mixed with guaco, makes a yellow paint. Its white galls are strung as beads and hung around babies' necks to stop their drooling.

## PUNCHÓN (Mullein)

A substitute for tobacco, the inhaled smoke is good for asthma. A beverage made from its leaves is a mild sedative to the lungs.

#### YERBAS IMPORTANTES IMPORTANT HERBS

MARIOLA

(Sagebrush)

**Aster Family** 

Used as a tea, or in a bath to cure high blood pressure. A common herb and spice for *chile*, meats and other foods. Given to babies for colic or stomach ailments.

**ORÉGANO** 

(Hare Mint)

Drunk for stomach disorders and mixed with *oshá* and *manzanilla* for fever. A *remedio* for mouth blisters. Used in soap and perfume.

## POLEO (Penny Royal)

A common seasoning, it is roasted, placed in water with sugar and boiled. The water is strained and drunk for curing stomach and intestinal disorders.



Dissolved in water for dry or sore scalp. A fine shampoo, tea and a dye for wool.

> MALVAS (Mallow Family)

## $rac{1}{2}$ OSHÁ (Parsley Family)

The local wonder drug. The dry root is chewed for stomach and headaches, mixed with flour and other *remedios* for a poultice, or used as an enema. The leaves are cooked with meat, beans and soup as seasoning and health food. The herb was carried in packets to repel rattlesnakes.

#### Amole suds are excellent for washing hair and the raw wool. Amole is also used as a cure for chest ailments. A stimulant, brewed from the young shoots, was drunk by the *Penitentes*.

#### AMOLE (Yucca Root)

#### PAGUÉ (Field Marigold)

Chewed raw or drunk as a tea for stomach disorders. Also good for baby's colic.

#### COTA (Wild Tea) Aster Family

Drunk regularly as a tea. A good laxative. For circulation and high blood pressure. A rust-color wool dye.

#### MORADILLA (Verbena)

"The little purple one" is powdered and made into poultice for an aching back.

#### PLUMAJILLO (Yarrow)

Used for fever, chills and almost any stomach ailment. A yellow dye for wool.

#### (Spearmint)

YERBA

**BUENA** 

"Es muy bueno para todo y cuesta muy poco." Anyway, it won't hurt you. The most popular remedio, it is commonly used for all stomach ailments, as a poultice, an enema, or as a suppository. It is also a useful green dye for wool.



#### BARERA DE PIEDRA (66) ROCK WALL

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E.

R

Palio - Canopy

## ORATORIO DE SAN YSIDRO (67) SAINT ISIDORE CHAPEL

Just beyond part of the *rancho's* old rock wall stands the small *oratorio*, or private family chapel of *San Ysidro*, the patron saint of farmers and of Madrid, Spain. The chapel is decorated simply and tastefully. The reredos was made by famous santero Charlie Carrillo.

At Spring Festival the people of the ranch, the nearby village, and the countryside form a procession to carry

> a carving (bulto) representing San Ysidro to the Oratorio. They want the Saint to bless and guard the growing fields.

At Harvest Festival, the bullo tours the fields in thanks for a bountiful harvest.

San Isidro procession in May

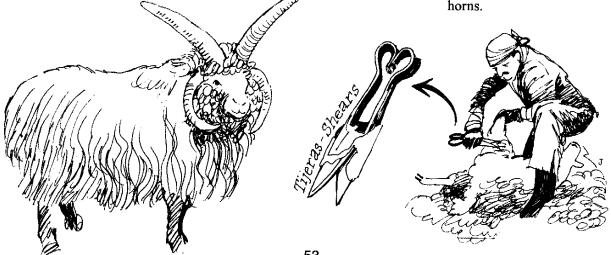
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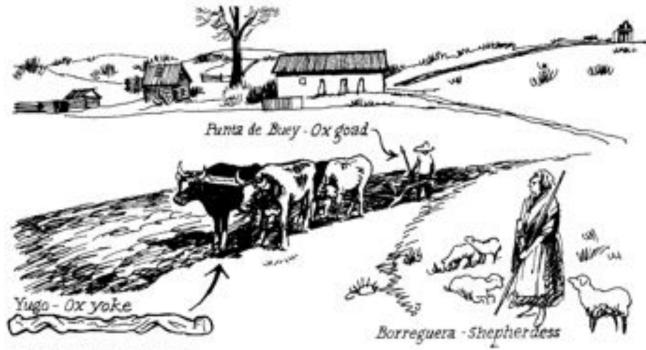


They provided a welcome drink of milk, and every year their wool was sheared to make clothes, blankets, rugs and stuffing for mattresses. Although they were too valuable to kill for food, they were eaten when nothing else was available. And the colonists didn't forget to tan the hide for leather!

Shepherds took their flocks into the high mountains to graze on the tender grass in the summer. Some herders had snug little cabins to protect them from the cold nights. This cabin was built in southern Colorado and eventually moved to Las Golondrinas.

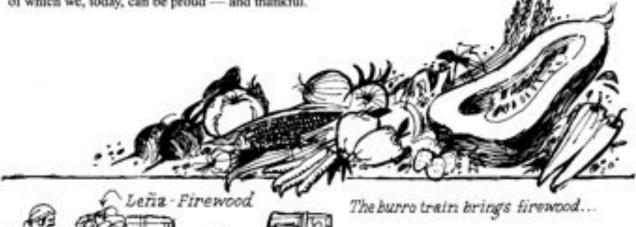
The Spanish Colonial settlers raised flocks of churro sheep (brought from Spain) whose fleece was low-lanolin, long and silky, ideal for handspinning. The museum flock is being backbred to return to the traditional churros who often have more than two horns.





#### MILPAS (69) FIELDS

The land! That is what it was all about. The *pobladoves* (colonists) came to New Mexico after the soldiers. They needed land: a place of their own where they could settle, combat the seasons, and raise their families in peace. It didn't matter whether they were rich or poor — as long as they were able to live in some comfort and come out ahead after a year of work, there was little more they could ask for. They placed their future in the hands of God, thanked Him for His bounty, and asked that it might increase. They persevered with hard work, determination and faith. They put down roots and sired a hardy people. Those pioneer New Mexicans passed on a heritage of which we, today, can be proud — and thankful.



The burros wait patiently to be relieved of their loads of *pillon* logs for firewood. It is the end of the day; the end of their trail. Soon they will be in stables where they will be fed, and where they can rest.

Récua-Burro or mule train

## LOS AMIGOS DEL MUSEO

The Friends of Las Golondrinas was created to provide financial, community and volunteer support for the Museum's historic preservation and educational programs. Members receive free admission during regular operating hours along with the Museum newsletter, *El Paraje*, Museum Shop discounts and other benefits. Memberships are valid for one year from date of purchase and are available in several categories, by mail or at the Museum.

Las Golondrinas is open April through October with guided and self-guided tours, theme weekends, festivals and other special events throughout the season.

Volunteers are always welcome to interpret exhibits and assist with many other special projects. Tour guides to lead adult and student tours are hired in the spring. An interest in New Mexico history is important, and bilingual persons are encouraged to apply. Both volunteers and guides receive a series of comprehensive classes on the history of Las Golondrinas and New Mexico.

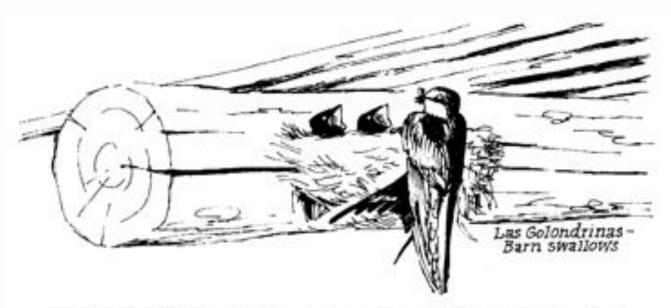
El Rancho de las Golondrinas is affiliated with the Association for Living History, Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) and the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association (CARTA).

For information on memberships, schedules, volunteers and guides, write: El Rancho de las Golondrinas, 334 Los Piños Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507 or call (505) 471-2261.



### THE COLONIAL NEW MEXICO HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Colonial New Mexico Historical Foundation was incorporated in 1971 to promote the study and preservation of Spanish Colonial New Mexican history and culture. It was instrumental in the establishment of Las Golondrinas but was disbanded in 1997. The Foundation seal was designed by Mrs. Leonora Paloheimo and was presented to the Foundation at their first meeting in 1971.



LOUANN JORDAN is the Curator of Programs and Publicity at El Rancho de las Golondrinas. She became a volunteer soon after the Museum's opening and has been affiliated with it ever since as volunteer, tour guide and employee. Louann is responsible for *El Paraje*, the Museum newsletter, other museum books, publications and advertising. She is curator of the temporary exhibits in the Hacienda Exhibit Hall.

#### RECOMMENDED BASIC READING

	AUTHOR
Brothers of Light, Brothers of Blood (One of the best books on the Penitente religious movement)	Marta Weigle
Coronado's Land (Highly recommended essays on daily life in early New Mexico)	Marc Simmons
Cuentos from my Childhood: Legends and Folktales of Northern New Mexico (Bilingual collection of folktales from a professional storyteller)	Paulette Atencio
New Mexico: An Interpretive History (Excellent general history of New Mexico)	Marc Simmons
New Mexico Village Arts (Readable social history of village life)	Roland Dickey
Santa Fe: History of an Ancient City (Great book of essays with wonderful illustrations)	David G. Noble
Spanish Pathways: Readings in the History of Hispanic New Mexico (12 essays on everyday life in colonial New Mexico)	Marc Simmons
The Eden of La Cienega (Informative history of La Cienega)	George C' de Baca
The Last Conquistador, Juan de Oñate and the Settling of the Far Southwest (Biography of Oñate)	Marc Simmons
The Penitentes of the Southwest (Another excellent book on the Penitentes)	Marta Weigle

These and many other southwest books, CDs, and videos are available in the Museum Shop.



#### BIENVENIDOS AMIGOS AL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS WELCOME FRIENDS, TO THE RANCH OF THE SWALLOWS

Si algati dia cuentas Bendiciones, Seran como piedras en la arena. Hallaras que el Hispano fue bien escojido Para Guiarte, a esta Prometida Tierra.

La vida fué dura en las golendrinas, Del amanacer, al anochecer, y más de prisa. ¡ Mucho trabajo, para el niño y el anciano, Pero tenían tiempo, para una sonrisa?

Tenemos que ahondar en el pasado, Para en el futuro poder sobrevivir. Esa es la razón de este museo viviente, Enseñando el pasado, para el porvenir.

Para la juventud es muy interesante, y educacional, que por ai es virtud. Para nuestros Ancianos, ver su antepasado. Es tomar agua de la fuente de la juventud. If someday you stop to count your Blessings, They are like pebbles on the sand. You will see the Spanish were well chosen, To guide you to this promised Land.

Life was hard at Las Golondrinas. From sump to sundown, and a while. Lots of work for young and old. Yet they had time to smile!

We have to dig into the past. So that in the future we can survive. Showing the past for the future is the reason, Our museum is Active and Alive!

For youngsters it is very interesting. And educational in truth. For our Elders to see once more, Is like drinking from a fountain of youth.

- Rafael Lobato, Vadito, New Mexico