

# FINAL SENT TO NMDOT

## Official Scenic Historic Marker Program



CPRC meeting: CPRC June 5, 2009

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**Name of Marker:**

**Peggy Pond Church  
1903–1986**

**County:** Los Alamos

**Review:**  Original Text/Replacement Marker  
 Move of Existing Marker

Revised Text  
 New Marker

**NMDOT District:** 5, Dee Beingessner

**NMDOT Highway:** TBA

**Suggested Site for Installation:** Ashley Pond, Los Alamos

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**Existing or Proposed Text:**

Peggy Pond Church, author of the Southwest classic *The House at Otowi Bridge* and daughter of Los Alamos Ranch School founder Ashley Pond, will forever be “The First Lady of New Mexican Poetry.” As she rode the Pajarito Plateau and camped beneath tall pines, she came to understand that “it is the land that wants to be said.” She captured it in her sensitive poems.

**Word Count:** 65

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**Previous Title and Text:**  N/A

**Researcher/author:** Sharon Snyder, Los Alamos Historical Society

**Source(s):**

*At Home on the Slopes of Mountains* (working title, upcoming biography of Peggy Pond Church by Sharon Snyder

*The House at Otowi Bridge* by Peggy Pond Church, UNM Press, 1960

*When Los Alamos was a Ranch School* by Fermor S. Church and Peggy Pond Church, Los Alamos Historical Society, 1998.

**Note:** David Laird, librarian for the University of Arizona and noted force in Southwest literature, was the reviewer who called Peggy “the First Lady of New Mexican Poetry.”

“It is the land that wants to be said” is one of Peggy's most identifiable quotes.

**Text Approved by CPRC on Date:** June 5, 2009

**For Referral to:**

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