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

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

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: