



New Mexico Official Scenic Historic Marker Program

Application Form

Name of Marker: Myra Ellen Jenkins
1916-1993

County: Santa Fe

Review:

- New Marker Revised Text
 Original Text/Replacement Marker Move of Existing Marker

Text:

- One-sided Two-sided

Suggested Installation Site: South side of East Alameda along river; 35.685005° N, -105.939582° W (see attached)

Proposed Text: _____ **Word Count:** See below

Side 1 (91 words):

Historian and archivist Dr. Myra Ellen Jenkins played a pivotal role in developing New Mexico’s modern historic preservation movement. An original member of the Cultural Properties Review Committee—the body that approves historic markers—she became the state historian in 1967 by virtue of her position as senior archivist at the State Records Center and Archives. Dr. Jenkins served as the agency's deputy director in charge of the Spanish, Mexican, and Territorial archives for many years. She also helped develop many of the policies New Mexico uses to preserve its past.

Side 2 (84 words):

Dr. Jenkins was a leading expert on Spanish and Mexican land grants and water rights. In the 1970s, she intervened to keep land grant records in the state, thus retaining a vital component of New Mexico history. A professor and writer, she co-authored *A Brief History of New Mexico*, which became a widely used guide to New Mexico history often found in classrooms. Dr. Jenkins resigned her position with the state in 1980 having left a lasting impact on New Mexico scholarship and archives.

Applicant Name: International Women’s Forum — New Mexico

Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** info@nmwomensforum.com

Researcher/Author: Beverly Duran, Henrietta Christmas, David Pike, Tom Drake, Rick Hendricks, Rob Martinez, Matt Saionz

References/Source(s): Bullis, Don. *New Mexico: A Biographical Dictionary 1540-1980*, Volume I. Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM: Rio Grande Books, 2007.

Drake, Tom, e-mail correspondence.

Fort Lewis College Center of Southwest Studies. Website:
https://swcenter.fortlewis.edu/finding_aids/inventory/Jenkins.htm. Accessed March 14, 2017.

Gauntleroy, Gussie. “State Names New Chief Archivist” *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, September 11, 1995, A-7.

Grassham, John W. “In Passing: Myra Ellen Jenkins, 1916-1993.” *New Mexico Historical Review*, October 1993.

Hart, E. Richard, ed. *Zuni and the Courts: A Struggle for Sovereign Land Rights*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1995.

La Farge, John Pen. *Turn Left at the Sleeping Dog: Scripting the Santa Fe Legend, 1920-1955*. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2001.

Office of the State Historian, website: <http://www.newmexicohistory.org>. Accessed March 14, 2017.

Prabook (biographical directory). Website: <http://prabook.com/web/person-view.html?profileId=589556>. Accessed March 14, 2017.

Pueblo Central High School Hall of Fame. Website: <http://pueblocentral.org/HallOfHonor/2013/JenkinsMyra.htm>. Accessed March 14, 2017.

Santa Fe Living Treasures. Website: <http://sflivingtreasures.org/index.php/treasures/66-jenkins-myra-ellen-.html>. Accessed March 14, 2017.

Woodbury, Nathalie F. S., "Death Notices: Myra Ellen Jenkins," in *Anthropology Newsletter*, September 1993.

For HPD Staff:

Text Approved by CPRC Date: February 9, 2024

CPRC/Staff Comments:

Marker was originally approved in October 2017. CPRC has now approved revised text as well as location, which staff understands to have been negotiated between NMDOT and the City of Santa Fe for installation along the river.

NMDOT District: 5 **NMDOT Highway:** East Alameda Street

For Referral to: Andrew Gallegos, NMDOT

Previous Title & Text:

Myra Ellen Jenkins
1916-1993
Side 1 (98):
Historian and archivist Dr. Myra Ellen Jenkins played a pivotal role in developing New Mexico's modern historic preservation movement. A founding member of the Cultural Properties Review Committee—the body that approves these historic markers— she became the second official state historian in 1967, by virtue of her position as senior archivist at the State Records Center and Archives. She was also the agency's deputy director in charge of the Spanish, Mexican, and Territorial archives for many years. As a CPRC member she helped develop many of the laws and policies New Mexico uses to preserve its past.
Side 2 (98):
A leading expert on Spanish and Mexican land grants and water rights, Dr. Jenkins assisted pueblos and tribes in retaining their ancestral lands. In the 1970s she intervened to prevent the transfer of land grant records to federal repositories, thus retaining in the state a vital component of New Mexico history. A professor and writer, Dr. J, as she was affectionately known, co-authored *A Brief History of New Mexico*, considered the essential guide to New Mexico history for the state's schoolchildren. She resigned her position with the state in 1980 and focused her research on Indian land claims.

Send this form and any additional supporting documentation via email to matt.saionz@dca.nm.gov.

**Doña Teresa de
Aguilera y Roche**

Location #1

Myra Ellen Jenkins

Location #2

Dorothy McKibbin

Location #3

**Existing
Marker**



