

Sublette County Historic Preservation Board
“Honor the Past, Enrich the Future”

The Historic Preservation Board is continuing to encourage preservation by developing the Sublette County Preservation Award. Beginning in 2005 and lasting 5 years the Board will create a systematic documentation of the historic assets of the county and give the Preservation Award to up to 10 properties each year that are historically significant and are being preserved.

The purpose of the Historic Preservation board is to:

- Review National Register Nominations.
- Compile and maintain a list of structures and sites having historical significance.
- Encourage and aid in preservation of historic assets.

Historic Preservation Award Project

2004 – Established the Pinedale Historic District and honored it with a 36 x 24 inch bronze plaque mounted at the corner of Pine Street and Franklin.

2005 – Homesteads have been chosen as the first theme for the Preservation Award. Extensive research will produce a complete list of remaining homestead assets and up to 10 properties will be awarded for preservation.

2006 – Ranches

2007 – Public & Government

2008 – Residential

2009 – Commercial

2010 – Sites



Preservation Award Project

Sublette County Historic Preservation Board

Goals & Benefits

- **Develop List of Historic Assets** – The project will produce a comprehensive list of historic assets including photographs, surveys and documentation of current conditions and history. Documenting historic structures and sites increase the chance that current and future owners will preserve them instead of destroying them. Even assets that eventually deteriorate or are destroyed will be preserved in pictures and documentation.
- **Encourage Preservation** – It is fairly rare to find a structure or site that is historically significant enough for public funds or donations to be found to preserve it. This generally leaves preservation to the owner. These efforts by owners should be recognized and rewarded to encourage preservation by other owners.
- **Public Education** – Buildings provide a long-term presence that everyone in the community can relate to. This makes them a great platform to use for public education of local history. Awards will also bring press attention to significant historic properties. The more people appreciate our history the more likely it will be preserved.
- **State or National Recognition** – This award does not represent any state or national recognition for a property. However, the research as part of the nomination report may aid a property in nomination for other recognition.

Outline

- **Yearly Theme** – The project is too large to do all at once, so a theme will be picked each year and completed before a new theme is started. The theme for 2005 is Homesteads. Future themes will include but may not be limited to Ranches, Public/Government, Residential, Commercial, and Sites (trails, roads, rock art, archeological sites, etc).
- **Research** – A local contractor will be hired to conduct extensive research for the yearly theme and will attempt to systematically identify and document all remaining historic structures or sites in the County based on the selected theme. Documentation will include any historical references, historic photos, current photos, GPS of current structure or remains (with owner approval), and interviews.
- **Nominations** – Once research is complete, the Preservation Board will nominate properties from the theme research list that are historically significant, are being preserved, and have the approval and support of the owner. Nominated properties will be further researched, by the contractor, to collect as much history as possible and produce a nomination package.
- **Award Committee** - An award committee will be formed for the yearly theme, and award selection criteria will be developed. The committee will include Preservation Board members, but will also include members of the community

considered to have a good knowledge of the history and have a connection to the theme. The award committee will review all nominated properties and select 5 to 10 to be given the Sublette County Preservation Award. Judging will primarily be based on historical significance and active preservation.

- **Awards** – Preservation Awards for the yearly theme will be given to the property owners at a public presentation. The awards will be a 16 inch bronze plaque in the shape of Sublette County with the property name and a brief description. .
- **Public Education & Research Materials** - An informational pamphlet and website will be created for each theme highlighting the history of all awarded properties and listing all nominated properties. All properties from the research list will be placed in the County mapping system from the GPS information collected during research. The research list, all documentation, and all photos will be computerized, placed on CD-ROM, and made available to the libraries and museums for reference. The original materials will be archived at the Museum of the Mountain Man.
- **Preservation** – While developing the historic asset list, it is likely properties will be found that should be preserved through restoration or even just stabilization. If the owner is not able to preserve them, but wants to, attempts to find funding and help will be pursued. This could include an adopt-a-site type program as well as grants and donations.

Notes

- Most historic properties will have private owners. Sites will not be surveyed, nominated or given an award without full support of the property owner.
- The award does not provide any kind of formal or legal protection for the property. This is an honorary award and the owner will have no restriction on use of the property because of it.
- A historic asset will be defined as older than 50 years and National Register guidelines will be used as a basis to evaluate historical significance.