

For immediate release

Contact:
Jessa Tumposky, Curator of Education
Silver City Museum
575-538-5921
jessa@silvercitymuseum.org

"Built to Last: The Eclectic Architecture of Silver City," a Free Presentation at the Museum Annex: Monday, February 13, 2012, 12 pm



The Silver City Museum presents Susan Berry giving a talk called "*Built to Last: The Eclectic Architecture of Silver City*" at the Museum Annex on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 12 noon. The presentation is part of the Museum's ongoing series of free New Mexico Centennial Brown Bag lunchtime presentations, which will focus on New Mexico Statehood themes through December 2012. The Museum Annex is located at 302 West Broadway, on the northwest corner of Broadway and Arizona, in the former PNM building.

"*Built to Last: The Eclectic Architecture of Silver City*" will trace the development of Silver City's unique architectural character in the years leading up to New Mexico statehood. It's a story as interesting as the town's early residents, whose cultural influences, bold personalities, and visions for the future shaped a place with a vibrant and enduring identity. Illustrated with historic and present-day images, this talk explores the stories that shaped Silver City architecture. "Unlike many Southwest mining camps, Silver City was built with a lasting future in mind," Berry said. "We are participants in that future, and still benefit from the decisions and work of our predecessors. We have much to appreciate and enjoy from this community's rich and varied architectural heritage."

Historian, preservationist and writer Susan Berry has been exploring the stories and characters of southwest New Mexico for more than three decades. Her long career with the Silver City Museum provided her with a rich appreciation for the heritage embodied in communities, buildings, objects, photographs, written accounts, and the memories of individuals. Since retiring as Museum Director in 2010, Berry has been immersed in historical research and writing projects. She is co-author of *Built to Last: An Architectural History of Silver City, New Mexico*, and has published numerous articles on regional history.

The Silver City Museum creates opportunities for residents and visitors to explore, understand and celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage of southwestern New Mexico by collecting, preserving, researching and interpreting the region's unique history. For more information, please contact the Museum at (575) 538-5921, info@silvercitymuseum.org, or go to the Museum's website www.silvercitymuseum.org.

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