HALS News Release

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Documenting the American Latino Landscape 2012 Results &
New 2013 Challenge: Documenting the Cultural Landscapes of Women

The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) was created in 2000 as a federal program to document historic landscapes in the United States and its territories. Documentation is critical to preserving these significant sites for the benefit of future generations. Like its companion programs, the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), HALS produces written and graphic records used by educators, land managers, and preservation planners as well as the general public. The National Park Service (NPS) administers the planning and operation of HALS, standardizes formats and develops guidelines for recording landscapes, and catalogs and/or publishes the information when appropriate (www.nps.gov/history/hdp/standards/halsguidelines.htm). The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) provides professional guidance and technical advice for the program through its Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network. The Library of Congress (LOC) accepts and preserves HALS documents, furnishes reproductions of material, and makes records available to the public (www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/).

Results of the 3rd annual HALS Challenge were announced at the HALS Meeting of the Phoenix, Arizona ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo on Saturday, September 29, 2012. Congratulations to the winners! Sponsored by the National Park Service, cash prizes were awarded to the top 3 submissions. This challenge has resulted in many valuable donations to the HALS collection.

2012 HALS Challenge: Documenting the American Latino Landscape, Sponsored by HALS-NPS
1st Place: Mission San Francisco de Asís HALS CA-83, San Francisco, CA by Denise Bradley.
2nd Place: El Tiradito HALS AZ-8, Tucson, AZ by Barry Price Steinbrecher.
3rd Place: Exemplary Communal Effort of the HALS Northern California Chapter to document 16 of the California Missions, HALS CA-66; 71-75; & 79-88, California Statewide by contributing members of The HALS Northern California Chapter:

The other wonderful short form history entries for 2012 included: Sunnyside Addition HALS MI-5; Village of Chimayo HALS NM-7; and Chicago and North Western Railroad Passenger Depot (La Estacion Restaurante) HALS WI-14. The HALS office is continuing the challenge again in 2013 with a new theme, Documenting the Cultural Landscapes of Women. Short format histories should be submitted to HALS at the National Park Service no later than July 31, 2013 (c/o Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS, 202-354-2116, Paul_Dolinsky@nps.gov). Sponsored by HALS, cash prizes will again be awarded to the top three submissions. Results will be announced at the Boston September 2013 ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo during the HALS Meeting. Good luck and thank you for helping to preserve American landscapes!