

Anna Muller

501 11th Street NW

Anna Muller has owned the Kate Nichols Chaves House for the past 43 years. During that time she has made a huge contribution to Albuquerque businesses and Albuquerque's Downtown. Along with architect Antoine Predock, she was a founding member of the Downtown Neighborhoods Association, reacting to new zoning ordinances that had at that time zoned most of the neighborhood as office space. Homes were being chopped up into units that became slums. Anna and the DNA got the city planners to begin work on what became, the first sector development plan. It included provisions for historic designations and rewarded those owners who repaired their homes. One serious issue that faced the neighborhood was the closure of Lew Wallace School in the 1970's. The school board (continued)



had told the DNA that it was closed for good, but Anna and the DNA worked ten years to get the school reopened, and today it is one of the best elementary schools in the city.

Anna Muller was also instrumental in getting the Downtown Growers Market established in Robinson Park and the bi-annual Mother's day home tours were established under Anna's presidency.

Under Anna's leadership the DNA was a real factor in the infill and development of the area, welcoming new projects such as the Palms redevelopment and opposing others such as a private jail that was the subject of a RICO (racketeering) investigation that had been overlooked by the city officials.

Today Anna continues to work for DNA acting as liaison between the neighborhoods and City Hall.



Anna Muller

The Kate Nichols Chaves House

This home is the only documented instance in Albuquerque of early work by a woman architect. Kate Nichols Chaves learned the craft of architecture from her father, an architect/builder who died when she was 18. In 1908 Kate, then married to Amado Chaves declared that she “would build a hone for us” and purchased the land. The house she built is a graceful Tudor Revival notable for the half-timbering gables. The original design and qualities of the house show little evidence of remodelling, with the possible exception of the front porch.



