

EXHIBITS AND PROGRAMS RELATED TO
LASTING IMPRESSIONS ARE OFFERED BY OUR LITERACY PARTNERS:

New Mexico State Library, showing *Lasting Impressions: A Library Legacy*, in Santa Fe, and featuring Summer Reading Programs and driving Bookmobiles all over New Mexico

New Mexico Highlands University, presenting the Virtual Print Shop at <http://www.privatepress.org>

Museum Outreach Department, sending the Van of Enchantment to events around the state

New Mexico Coalition for Literacy and Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe, responsible for this Lasting Impressions guide developed to further adult literacy

TREX, traveling these shows to museums, monuments and libraries in New Mexico:

Making History: Contemporary Handmade Books on New Mexico's Past

Native American Picture Books of Change:

The Art of Historic Children's Edition

Rebirth of a Craft: Paper Marbling in New Mexico

Word Art: Poetry Broadside Series

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INSTITUTE of MUSEUM
and LIBRARY SERVICES

Palace of Governors
The New Mexico History Museum

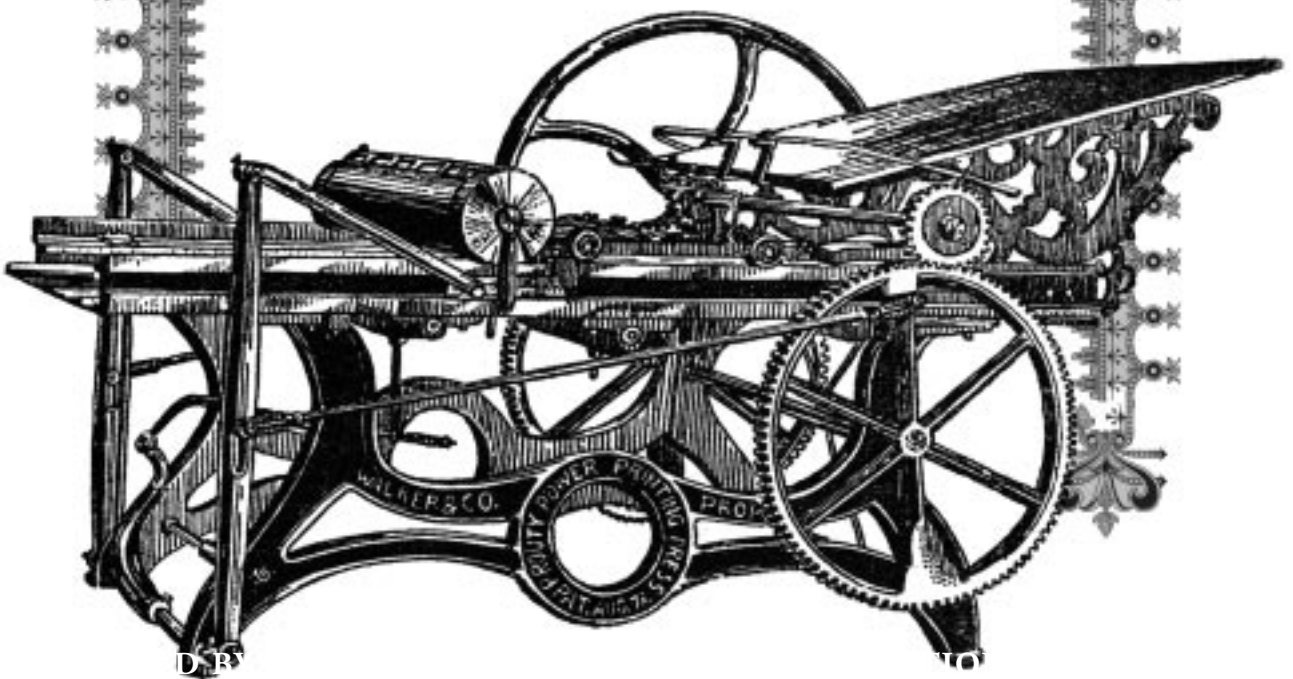
NEW MEXICO
FEBRUARY 18, 2005 – FEBRUARY 7, 2007

LASTING IMPRESSIONS

The Private Presses of New Mexico

ADULT LITERACY GUIDE

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LASTING IMPRESSIONS

The Private Presses of New Mexico

VOCABULARY

Literary:

Things related to books.

Press:

A machine that applies pressure to letters so that the ink prints on paper.

Woodcut:

An artistic carving made in wood. After it is covered with ink, it will press the design onto paper.

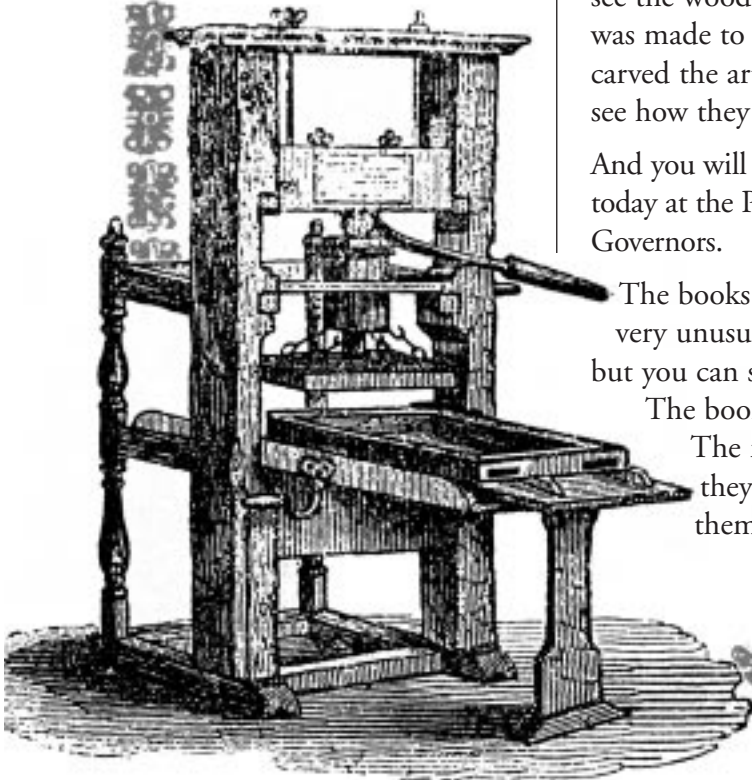
LASTING IMPRESSIONS takes you through 200 years of literary history. Literary history is the history of books and how they were made. Literary history is also about the history of writing and writers. The exhibit you will see introduces you to the people of New Mexico who worked with private presses. The exhibit shows you the tools they used and how beautiful their work was.

Lasting Impressions is about artists. It's about the technology artists used to make books a long time ago. You will see the letterpress shop, where they put each letter on the press to make words. You will see the bookbindery, where the books were put together. You will see the woodcut artist's studio, where the art was made to put in the books. The artist carved the art in wood for printing. You will see how they did it.

And you will see how this technology is used today at the Press at the Palace of the Governors.

The books you will see in the exhibit are very unusual. You can't buy many of them, but you can see some of them in libraries.

The books were made for the sake of art. The makers didn't make them so that they could sell many. They made them to be creations of art.



ALL ABOUT THE BOOKS

VOCABULARY

Industrial Revolution:

It began in 1848, when power-driven machinery changed our economy and the way we lived.

19th Century:

1800 – 1900

20th Century:

1900 – 2000

Rare:

Hard to find; valuable

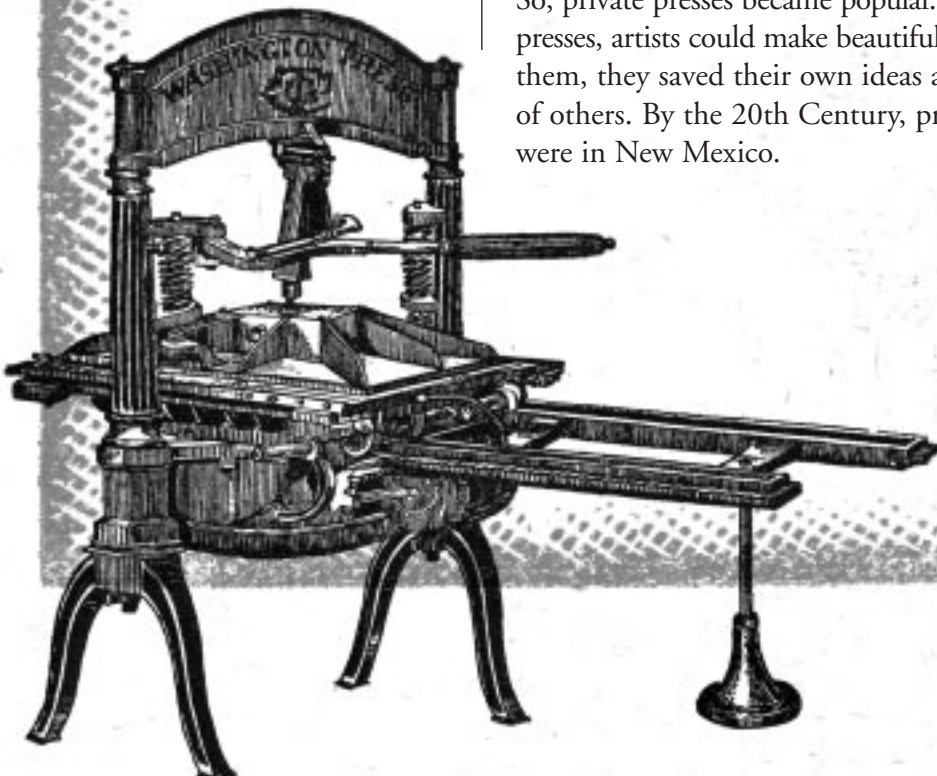
Mass-produced:

Large numbers of a product made by machine

THE BOOKS YOU SEE in the exhibit are not like the books you know and have held in your hands. They are different because an artist made them. They were made with love, passion, and care. The paper is different, too. The paper was made by hand. The presses you will see were not in factories. They were in private studios. The books are valued for their beauty. They are rare.

Some people think that the idea for using private presses began because of religious monks. The monks wanted to save important ideas by writing them down. They printed their books by hand because the press was not invented yet.

After the Industrial Revolution in the 19th Century, books made on printing presses were not of good quality. They were mass-produced. So, private presses became popular. With private presses, artists could make beautiful books. In them, they saved their own ideas and the ideas of others. By the 20th Century, private presses were in New Mexico.



THE FIRST PRESSES

VOCABULARY

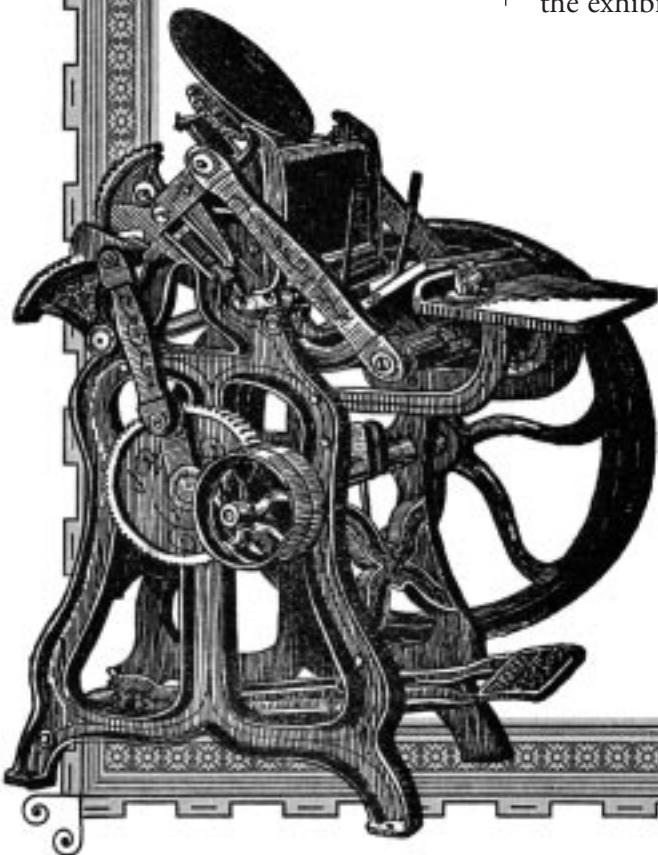
Translation:

Usually changing the words from one language into another so you know what the words mean.

THE FIRST BOOKS made in New Mexico were from the church. Padre Antonio José Martínez, in Taos, got the first private press in 1834. It was the first press in New Mexico.

Another minister, named John Menaul, printed the first English translation of the language from Laguna Pueblo. Their language is called Keres. In those days the books were for information, not for art.

Later, when artists moved to New Mexico, books became art. The artists made them beautiful. You will see the artists' work at the exhibit.



ARTISTS AND CRAFTSMEN

VOCABULARY

Silkscreen:

A process artists use to print their drawings on paper. They force different colored ink through sheets of silk that they have prepared to look like the drawing they want to print.

A GROUP OF ARTIST and craftsmen made woodcuts and silkscreen illustrations for art. The artwork showed beautiful pictures of New Mexico.

After World War Two, when everything began to change in New Mexico, people wanted other kinds of art. They wanted to see different art and read about different things from around the world.

Even while things changed, all the artists and all the writers shared one thing: They loved books.



IN THE EXHIBIT

The exhibit is divided into 5 sections:

TWO PRESSES OF THE 19TH CENTURY

In Section 1 you'll see an old Ramage Press on exhibit and also information about 2 private presses from the 19th Century that produced educational books in Spanish, English, and Keres. You can hear these languages at the listening stations in the Activity Room.

1. The Press of Padre Antonio José Martínez
2. Laguna Mission Press

BETWEEN THE WARS

In Section 2 you'll see 2 presses on exhibit — a Midget Reliance and a Kelsey Star — and information about 6 private presses that produced books and pamphlets from 1918–1939:

1. The Press of Artist Gustave Baumann
2. Clark's Studio
3. Ranchos Press
4. Laughing Horse Press
5. The Rydal Press
6. Seton Village Press

WAR TO PEACE

In Section 3 you'll find information about 5 private presses that operated from 1940–1955:

1. The Laboratory of Anthropology
2. Hazel Dreis Editions
3. Libros Escogidos
4. Pictograph Press
5. Motive Book Shop

CHANGING TIMES

In section 4 you'll see a Bobcat Press and a Mimeograph Machine on exhibit, along with information about 6 private presses that operated from 1956–1975:

1. Stagecoach Press
2. The Lightning Tree
3. Thistle Press
4. The Bobcat Press
5. Rini Templeton
6. Vinegar Tom Press

INTO THE PRESENT

In section 5 you'll find information about 7 private presses that operated from 1976–2003. Some are still operating:

1. The Press of the Palace of the Governors
2. Tooth of Time Books
3. Rydal Press Revival
4. Amaranth Press
5. Running Women Press
6. Weaselsleeves Press
7. Desert Rose Press

SUGGESTED READING

Bulletin in Bold Characters, by Maurice Taylor

Gustave Baumann: Nearer to Art, by Martin F. Krause,
Madeline Carol Yurtseven, and David Acton

The Heart's Precision, Judson Crews and His Poetry,
by Wendell Anderson

Reflections in the Lizard's Eye, by John Brandi

Santa Fe and Taos, The Writer's Era 1916–1941,
by Marta Weigle and Kyle Fiore

Spud Johnson & Laughing Horse, by Sharyn Udall

Willard Clark, Printer and Printmaker, by David Farmer