

The State of New Mexico recognizes the First Space Heritage Site on the Moon

The State of New Mexico has agreed to recognize the Apollo 11 Tranquility Base Site on the Moon as an historic archaeological site as part of their ARMS database in the Laboratory of Anthropology (LA) in Santa Fe, NM. A marker was placed at the New Mexico Museum of Space History in Alamogordo, NM Saturday, May 6, commemorating the July 20, 1969 Landing on the Moon as LA 2,000,000.

LA 2,000,000 represents the site on the Moon with the New Mexico Museum of Space History serving as its host on Earth. The location of this marker in NM at UTM Coordinates Zone 13 E 413969/N3642735 will be linked forever to Lunar Coordinates 0.67266 degrees N latitude 23.47298 degrees E longitude, the first human landing site on the Moon.

LA 2,000,000 is now in the State of New Mexico ARMS database which is the largest archaeological database in the United States. This action makes New Mexico the first state to recognize the significance of the historic archaeological assemblage and international heritage status of Tranquility Base on the Moon.

The marker was placed at the Space Museum by Dr Beth O'Leary, Associate College Professor of Anthropology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM and Secretary of the New Mexico Cultural Properties Review Committee and Katherine Slick, State Historic Preservation Officer.

Dr. O'Leary is a recognized expert in the emerging field of Space Heritage. Her research on this project was initiated with a grant from the New Mexico Space Grant Consortium [website: <http://spacegrant.nmsu.edu/lunarlegacies>]. The event was done with the cooperation of the New Mexico Museum of Space History, New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs, Historic Preservation Division and Dr. William Doleman, Director of ARMS.

LA 2,000,000 is now the first space heritage site in the world.

Three pictures follow this text:





May 6, 2006. Dedication of LA 2,000,000 – the first Space Heritage Site. L-R: Katherine Slick, State Historic Preservation Officer of New Mexico; Mark Santiago, Director of New Mexico Museum of Space History, Dr. Beth O'Leary, New Mexico State University



LA 2,000,000 - Site Marker linking the New Mexico Museum of Space History, Alamogordo, New Mexico with the Apollo 11 Tranquility Base Site on the Moon.