

**Monday, July 9, 2018**

**For Immediate Release**

**Blackwell School Alliance Seeks Old Building Photos**

**Marfa, Texas**

The Blackwell School Alliance is asking the community to go through your closets, drawers, and boxes. Do you have any old photographs of the Blackwell School building? If so, they could prove useful to the architect hired to produce the Alliance’s Historic Structures Report.

The Alliance already has a number of historic photos of what was known as the Harper Building at the Blackwell School. Yet images from different angles and from different years could add to the understanding of the building’s construction and the changes made over time.

The Historic Structures Report brings together document research, hands-on building investigations, personal stories, and photographic evidence to fully understand the building’s history for the purpose of making a plan for restoration—in a way that honors that history and follows historic preservation standards, and allows the Alliance to make necessary upgrades in utilities, safety, and accessibility.

You can bring your photos to the Blackwell School any Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers will scan your photos on to a computer while you wait and give you your photos back. You keep your photos! If you would prefer to mail photos to us, donate photos, or just can’t make it in on a Saturday, call Gretel Enck at 432.295.3359.

The Blackwell School is located at the corner of Abbott and Waco Streets in south Marfa. You can read more about the Historic Structures Report at www.theblackwellschool.org/current-activities.

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Photo Credit: In what is believed to be the oldest photo of the Blackwell School, circa 1910, Mary Shannon and her students stand in front of exposed adobe walls and brick piers at the porch opening showing the original construction. Photo courtesy of the Marfa & Presidio County Museum.