

TRAVEL

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Cattle call: In Oklahoma City, a century of stock you can count on. **L3**

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NEW MEXICO



CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS Los Angeles Times

LOOKING AHEAD: This Native American maiden has gazed down from Santa Fe's St. Francis Cathedral Basilica since 2002.

Ageless allure

Santa Fe marks its 400th birthday this year, and its bustling art and tourist districts, one newly revitalized, add to its legacy.

CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS REPORTING FROM SANTA FE, N.M. >>> "Oldest house," panted Robert Chavez, steering his pedicab past a 17th century adobe. ¶ "Oldest church," he added a moment later, nodding left toward the 17th century San Miguel Mission Church. ¶ Santa Fe — rich, tan, relentlessly artsy and frequently artificial — is really old, by American standards. The city turned 400 this year. ¶ When I visited recently, my mission wasn't really to chase after old buildings, odd galleries and new restaurants. I wanted a look at Santa Fe's newest downtown neighborhood, a once-blighted railroad zone whose revival is nearly complete. But in the middle of such history and atmosphere, a tourist gets distracted. ¶ Before long, I was seated in Chavez's pedicab, hurtling down a historic alley near the ditch that carried the city's original water supply. ¶ And then I was in front of a jewelry shop on San Francisco Street, where a cowboy guitarist named Wily Jim yodeled like a coyote who'd put in a semester at Juilliard. A few blocks over on Marcy Avenue, the Mira! Boutique was offering a stylish patio chair, crafted in Togo from an old oil barrel [See Santa Fe, L4]