

Pushmataha building donated to KSB

Keep Sedona Beautiful has become the new owner of the Pushmataha building and the one and a half acre of wooded land that surrounds it on Brewer Road.

The title was transferred to Keep Sedona Beautiful (KSB) in December by Susan Coleman, a long-time resident with strong environmental beliefs.

Some deed restrictions are:

- The gifted property must be held by Keep Sedona Beautiful for a period of not less than three years from the date of the gift.

- The gifted property must be used for environmental purposes in that no development or expansion of the existing structures may be undertaken other than to repair, refurbish or replace the same, but, in no way,

prohibiting any landscape improvement thereon.

- If KSB decides, in the future, that it can no longer keep the parcel, transfer of ownership may be made only to some type of environmental organization, and the deed of transfer must include the conditions stated in the above paragraph.

"IN THESE days of increasing development and resultant strains on the infrastructure of the area, it is truly beautiful to have a parcel which is zoned for heavy residential density turned over to the public as open space," said outgoing KSB president Joan McClelland. "The donor is a far-sighted person who loves Sedona and is willing to give to Sedona such a magnificent gift. We give

to Susan Coleman our heartfelt thanks and the promise that we will preserve and take care of the property as the donor desires," she said.

The early history of the Pushmataha building is somewhat uncertain. It might have been a trading post, as the Brewer Road location was one of the main routes into Sedona.

In the early 70s the building housed antiques and was named "Et cetera." Then, it became an art gallery and the owners call it Pushmataha. According to a June 23, 1971 story in the *Sedona Red Rock NEWS* written by Bill Howard, the name was the actual name of a Choctaw Indian Chief who lived in the early 1880s. The Choctaw Nation Tribe is located in southern Oklahoma.

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