# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: **Heights Community Center**

Other names/site number: **The Hills Community Center**

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: **823 Buena Vista Avenue SE**

City or town: **Albuquerque**  
State: **NM**  
County: **Bernalillo**  
Zip Code **87106**

Vicinity: 

Not For Publication: [ ]

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [ ] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

[ ] national  [ ] statewide  [ ] local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

[ ] A  [ ] B  [ ] C  [ ] D

---

**Signature of certifying official/Title:** ____________________________  
**Date:** ____________________________

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

---

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria.

**Signature of commenting official:** ____________________________  
**Date:** ____________________________

**Title:** [ ]  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

__ entered in the National Register
__ determined eligible for the National Register
__ determined not eligible for the National Register
__ removed from the National Register
__ other (explain:) _____________________

Signature of the Keeper: ___________________________  Date of Action: ___________________________

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private: ___________________________

Public – Local: __________

Public – State: ___________________________

Public – Federal: ___________________________

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s): __________

District: ___________________________

Site: ___________________________

Structure: ___________________________

Object: ___________________________
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures</td>
<td>Objects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Recreation and Culture: auditorium, music facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Recreation and Culture: auditorium, music facility
7. **Description**

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Pueblo

___________________
___________________
___________________
___________________
___________________

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: **Adobe, Stone, Wood, Stucco, Concrete**

**Narrative Description**
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

**Summary Paragraph**

The Heights Community Center, which is located on the East Mesa south of the University of New Mexico, is a one-story community center with classrooms and a Dance Hall organized around an open courtyard. The community center was built during the Great Depression by the National Youth Administration in 1940. The Heights is an excellent of the Spanish-Pueblo Revival-style, which includes elements of Pueblo and Spanish architecture. In the Heights community center this includes the Adobe walls, the central courtyard (Spanish), and the *vigas* (roof beams). Historic details and furnishings include the wrought-iron strap hinges on the front doors, benches built by the NYA that line the courtyard, and plank doors and flagstone floors throughout. The Dance Hall was doubled in size by an addition in 1949. Later additions built in 1980 and 2006 expand the center’s recreational opportunities. The building continues to provide a venue for dances and a safe place for children after school.
Narrative Description

The Heights Community Center is 100 by 100 feet and approximately fifteen feet tall with a flat roof. The plan is organized around a courtyard with offices and a large classroom across the (east) front. The north side comprises a kitchen and classroom and the south side includes an office and classroom. The west side features the large Dance Hall. The main façade is long and low with forty hewn viga ends (roof beams) across the front in a continuous row below the parapet (Photos 1-2). A small entrance porch features an irregular stepped parapet supported by projecting vigas and corbels. The double-leaf main entrance is painted wood, with small single lights and heavy-iron ornamental hinges (Figure 5). Youth camp participants carved a wood sign reading “Heights Community Center,” that hangs above the entrance.

Windows on the building are varied in style. The main entrance is flanked by two two-over-two wood, double-hung windows, which were part of a rehabilitation window replacement project completed in 2006. As part of this project, the original double-hung wood windows were replaced with similar wood sash windows. Windows on the on the north and south facades include some of the same two-over-two sash windows (Photo 2-3). Metal casements are also located on the north and south facades. When Dance Hall was expanded in 1949, the original two-over-two sash windows were retained and insulated with an interior single-pane, wood-frame shutter.

The plan is oriented around the square interior courtyard with portals (covered porches) on all sides (Photos 6-7). Hewn-log posts and vigas with carved corbels and wood beams support the portal. The portal encloses a paved open courtyard used for outdoor play. The flagstone floor has been replaced with concrete stamped in a flagstone pattern. The area beneath the portals is smooth poured concrete. Similar to earlier Spanish haciendas, the surrounding rooms are one rank deep, so they have access to light and air from the courtyard and interior windows. The interior rooms have exposed vigas and ceilings composed of flat boards. The ceilings are ten-to-twelve feet tall. Rooms have non-functional corner fireplaces (Photo 9, front of room), wood cabinets, and handcrafted wood benches. Some of these benches line the courtyard under the portal. Interior floors of most rooms are laid with the original flagstone.

The Community Center is entered through an entry foyer, which has access to the reception room, Large Meeting Room, and courtyard. The rooms have flagstone floors and beamed ceilings. Eight rooms were heated with corner fireplaces. The Large Meeting Room includes a free-standing masonry furnace (Photo 8). Classrooms further west have been used to teach a variety of subjects from crafts to computer skills. Restroom are located in the north and south sides. The westernmost rooms included an office and kitchen. The Dance Hall, which located across the west end of the building, measures 50 by 150 feet with an area of 5,000 square feet (Photos 10-12). The Dance Hall has polished maple floor and a speaker system that was installed by airmen in the 1940s. The Dance Hall was doubles in size in 1949. The two rooms are joined through three large, cased openings. The addition includes a stage.
Heights Community Center

Bernalillo, New Mexico

The Community Center features a historic stucco-covered wall surrounds that surrounds the building to the front and north (Photos 1 and 3). The wall includes square corner posts, two of which flank the main entrance. The center also includes a concrete basketball court located north of the building (Photo 13).

In 2006, Heights Community Center was expanded to the west to include an indoor basketball court, additional restrooms, and workshops. This addition is not mistaken for the original building because it taller, set back from the historic building, and features an articulated connection (Photo 4). The new structure is tan stucco, like the Community Center, and is not visible from the front and sides of the historic building.

Historic Integrity

Heights Community Center retains a high level of historic integrity. The original building and its addition from 1949 have retained its historic design, materials, and workmanship, so that the aspects of feeling and association are evident. When the building was altered with new windows, the city replaced the windows in kind and saved the historic metal-framed windows. The center has its original and distinctive courtyard plan and much of the original hardware, furnishings, and finishes remain. A nonhistoric playground is located adjacent to the basketball court. It includes a pergola entrance, play structures, a grass lawn, and a manufactured classroom building, all surrounded chain-link fence.

Contributing and Noncontributing Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing Resource</th>
<th>Resource type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Center building</td>
<td>Building 1</td>
<td>The adobe building with enclosed courtyard with non-contributing addition to the west.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe wall</td>
<td>Structure 1</td>
<td>The stucco covered adobe wall that is located along the south and east property lines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Structure 1</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benches</td>
<td>Object 1</td>
<td>Wood benches made by NYA youth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Contributing Resources</th>
<th>Resource type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daycare building</td>
<td>Building 1</td>
<td>Manufactured building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground structures</td>
<td>Site 1</td>
<td>Children’s playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking lot</td>
<td>Structure 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Section 8 page 7
Heights Community Center                   Bernalillo, New Mexico  
Name of Property                          County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Entertainment/Recreation
Politics/Government
Architecture

Period of Significance
1940-1971

Significant Dates
1940

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
National Youth Administration (builder)
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Heights Community Center, complete in 1940, was the first community recreation center in Albuquerque, built through the cooperative efforts of city residents, civic organizations, and the National Youth Administration (NYA), a New Deal program to employ young men and college-age students. Heights Community Center is eligible for listing in the National Register at the local level under Criterion A in the area of entertainment/recreation, because it provided a safe place for young children and teens to learn crafts and play games and for adults who enrolled in classes and attended weekly dances. Heights Community Center is eligible for listing at the local under Criterion A in the area of politics/government because the center was built under the auspices of the NYA, a program of the New Deal. Heights Community Center is eligible for listing in the National Register at the local level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because it is an excellent example of the Spanish-Pueblo Revival style of architecture.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Heights Community Center served as a hub for school-age kids from the surrounding neighborhood. The community center also held dances. In the 1940s, neighborhood resident Cary Blair established a serviceman’s dance program for airmen from Kirtland Air Force Base. Regular dances were held on Wednesday nights and open houses on Sunday afternoons. The air base radio men built a public address system for the dances. The speaker housings for the system adorn the walls around the dance floor. A 1940 publication lists thirty-two groups associated with the facility. In 1943, the city signed a ninety-nine-year lease with the Albuquerque Public Schools, which agreed to provide maintenance and operational staff. Heights Community Center currently provides Friday night teen dances, square dancing, Red Cross first-aid classes, dance classes, crafts, and baton twirling. The center also provides after-school programs, including dance groups, student meals, and computer classes. The Heights was the first of seventeen community centers in Albuquerque. Since its construction, it has been in continual use as a community center.

Heights Community Center was built by the NYA, an agency first under the Works Progress Administration and later under the Federal Security Agency. It was formed between 1933 and 1941, when the federal government authorized emergency appropriations to alleviate nationwide unemployment. The NYA paid college youth from $306 to $400 a month for "work study" projects at their schools. Another 155,000 boys and girls from relief families were paid $10 to $25 a month for part-time work that included job training. Unlike the Civilian Conservation Corps, the NYA included young women. Young people were provided with work experience and learning-by-doing training in a wide variety of fields, including recreation, public service, education, the arts, research and development, agriculture, and construction. By
1937, more than 400,000 youth were employed or participating in occupational training under the NYA. The Heights provided youth with skills in a variety of building trades.

Heights Community Center is an outstanding example of the Spanish-Pueblo Revival that includes both Spanish and Pueblo influences and was made popular in New Mexico by Santa Fe architect John Gaw Meem. The plan reflects a historic Spanish house with a central, open courtyard surrounded by single file of rooms. The largest room, the Dance Hall, is akin to sala (living room or parlor) in Spanish and Hispano houses. The architect is unknown and it is thought that job foreman, Alvin Emerick, may have provided input based on his knowledge of early houses in Los Lunas, a Spanish settlement south of Albuquerque. Spanish-Colonial houses often surrounded the interior courtyard with single rank of rooms with a portal providing each room with covered access. These courtyard-centered houses were built by the wealthiest Spanish and Hispanics, but the concept was known from Spain and its diaspora of settlers in Mexico and New Mexico. Architectural Historian Christopher Wilson describes the Heights Community Center in an unpublished paper:

The large hall at the rear of the building, measuring 24 by 99 feet, in a sense is an oversized sala—the largest room in a Spanish house, traditionally used for social functions. As with a grand hacienda, the approach to the gathering room—through a small room, out under the portal and around the edge of the courtyard—is an informal procession, a short promenade. ¹

Heights Community Center retains other important elements of the Spanish-Pueblo Revival style, including adobe walls, vigas, plank ceilings, flagstone floors, corner fireplaces, and iron hardware throughout the interior. The portal is furnished with wood benches constructed by the NYA. The maple dance floor continues to serve community dances.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information**

By 1936, planning for the Heights Community Center began. Albuquerque had developed above the topographic barrier called the sand hills, which was located the eastern edge of the Rio Grande valley and the East Mesa. The East Mesa was the name given to a sloping, eight-mile-wide bench created by erosion and deposition of granite sediment from the Sandia Mountains. Several factors converged to overcome the sand hill barrier and begin Albuquerque’s growth to the east. Boosterism by the Anglo-American population, which led to the construction of the University of New Mexico campus on the East Mesa. In addition, the city emerged as a center for the treatment of tuberculosis. This resulted in the rise of modern hospitals and the city’s emergence as a center for healthcare.

Between 1910 and 1940, the East Mesa became a center of growth. Along with the economic influence of the railroad, which had been critical to Albuquerque since 1880, the University and the health care industry redirected Albuquerque to an economy centered on industry and services. The new community, with its related banks and industries, needed a place to grow. It was evident to a group of forward-thinking individuals that, with the river forming an even more formidable barrier to expansion on the west side, the sand hills must be managed to permit future growth on the East Mesa.

During the years 1910 to 1920, the city’s population had increased only 37 percent, from 11,020 to 15,157, but from 1920 to 1930, growth was 57 percent. This increase can be partly attributed to more aggressive land annexations. Annexations were part of a campaign by Albuquerque’s City Commission Chairman and de facto mayor, Clyde Tingley, to ensure that population figures reflected the numbers of people in new areas of the city. In June 1925, the city approved its largest annexation, and newly annexed residents, including East Mesa residents, were immediately added to Albuquerque’s “official” population.

Annexation made city services available to Mesa residents. The city and its broader tax base, agreed to purchase an early private water system and to extend sewers through the area west to Gerard Avenue. With more water pressure, fire insurance rates were decreased by fifty percent. Annexation also resulted in improved roads leading to the mesa, police protection to the area, and home mail delivery. Within a year, developers began platting subdivisions on the mesa south of the university. By 1931, the number of houses with federal loans increased to more than 400 to almost 70 percent of houses on the East Mesa. In the 1930s, the availability of FHA loans and the construction of a fire station on Central Avenue greatly accelerated growth. By the beginning of World War II, the development of East Mesa neighborhoods was mostly completed east to Girard Avenue.

**Building a Community Center**

In 1934, the American Legion Auxiliary organized a community clean-up which evolved into the Civic Improvement League. The CIL received positive publicity from the editor of the Albuquerque Tribune. The CIL investigated or sponsored investigations of conditions at city and county jails, the ratification of the Child Labor Committee, and recreation for the Heights area east of Broadway. Recreation Committee members Cary Blair and Nora Dixon, residents of the University Heights saw the need for a playground for area children. Few public facilities were available to the neighborhoods besides the Heights Grade School at Buena Vista and Oxford Streets. News of the project reached the National Youth Administration, which realized that a community playground fulfilled their mandate to provide service to the city. The NYA provided a building crew for the project. Cary Blair located an old house in which to store tools, and she badgered the city for grading equipment, a water pipe, and 100 elm trees.

Blair and Dixon worked with Erma Bobo, principal of University Heights School, and John Milne, superintendent of Albuquerque Public Schools. They formed an alliance in which they
leased twelve acres south of the school to build a tennis court. The first funds for the project were raised at a carnival held at the school. The newly formed NYA, a New Deal work program, committed to work on a new community center. The NYA sought to teach construction skills to youth between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five. The Heights project, under the direction of project foreman Alvin Emerick, employed seventy boys whose families had been on relief. This project was aimed at teaching the boys construction skills to prepare them for the future.

The Citizen’s Committee located a run-down house and engaged Schufflebarger House Moving to move the structure from South Edith Boulevard to Buena Vista Avenue. The neighbors were displeased with battered building and demanded its removal. The Committee and residents agreed to move the building to the rear of the property. The NYA agreed to make limited repairs to the house.

The original funds were insufficient to build the tennis courts. Subsequently, the NYA built courts needing less costly preparations. These included horseshoes, miniature golf, baseball, and softball. By winter 1937, when NYA projects had disbanded, the Heights Community Center building committee was able to collect the cement needed to build the tennis courts. Foreman Alvin Emerick, without money for the structural steel needed for the tennis courts, took the NYA boys to scour the mesa for scrap metal. They collected old bed springs, car bodies, and other discarded metal items. Then they straightened wires and preparing enough metal to reinforce the tennis courts.

In November of 1937, the NYA applied for a building permit for the building, but it was several months before any action was taken. John Milne, Superintendent of Schools, gave the NYA permission to salvage materials from the soon-to-be demolished First Ward School on South 4th Street (now Coronado School). Windows, window frames, and glass were reused in the Heights Community Center. The school also provided red sandstone lintels that were refashioned into benches for the ball fields; flooring that was used as forms for the foundation; and bricks that were used in community center fireplaces. By the end of the year, the NYA completed the playground, basketball courts, baseball field, grandstand, and a children’s playground.

In 1938, major assistance came from the National Youth Administration. The Heights Community Center, according to *Albuquerque Progress*, was the largest NYA building project in the country. The NYA took out a building permit for a $20,000 community center building, but lack of funds hampered construction. The NYA boys made adobe bricks on site. Cary Blair and her committee succeeded in scrounging windows, flooring, doors, and bricks. The wainscoting was first used as cement formwork, then scaffolding, and lastly subflooring for the dance floor. The old Third Ward School in Barelas yielded a furnace. The NYA boys cut pine vigas and quarried flagstone in the Sandia Mountains. Fund raising included collecting and selling scrap paper. Local donations enabled them to complete the roof, construct a dance floor (still one of the best in the city), install plumbing, wiring, and heating.
Electrical and plumbing unions provided design services and installation of materials acquired by the Committee. The Committee acquired the lumber for the dance floor. The Kiwanis Club contributed $800 for building materials and then convinced the bear the remaining debt for the materials.

Walls for the new center were made from adobe bricks made by NYA youth from a pit of adobe and caliche which was found in the mesa southwest of the new ball fields. Wood for the vigas was cut and barked by the NYA with the permission of the forest service. They NYA was also permitted to harvest rock for the flagstone floors. Historic photos (Figures 2 and 4) depict the adobe wall across the front and south sides.

The roof was built with wood traded from NYA camp buildings. The remaining funds were used for stucco to cover the adobe walls, but there were not enough funds for the needed metal lath, chicken wire, and nails to support the stucco. In search of the materials, Alvin Emerick took NYA boys to a municipal airport that was under construction. There, they set about collecting discarded and dropped nails until they had enough to cover the adobe walls and form a surface for the stucco.

Heights Community Center was completed in July 1940. The NYA boys then went down to Barelas to work on its community center. The Heights and Barelas community centers were the only two community centers in the city as late as 1960. The Heights Community Center was operated by the Albuquerque Public School system. In 1969, the owner of land to the north came forward to claim the property at the corner of Coal Avenue and Buena Vista Drive. KANW public radio then built studios on the land where the tennis courts had been located. In 2009, the property was again reduced in size when the baseball field was donated for the campus of Central New Mexico Community College.

Multiple Property Documentation Form Registration Requirements

The contributing buildings and associated resources at Heights Community Center meet the Property Type Registration Requirements established in the MPDF, “Architectural and Historical Resources of the New Deal in New Mexico, 1933-1942.” To be eligible under Criterion A, a property must have been created under the auspices of one of the New Deal programs that carried out engineering, construction, and conservation projects in New Mexico. In addition to possessing this association with New Deal programs under the significance category of social history, most properties may qualify under another area of significance pertinent to the property’s historic purpose such as, but not limited to, recreation, education, or politics/government. To be eligible under Criterion C, a property must exhibit a high degree of integrity based upon the considerations of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Properties with additions that do not detract from the integrity of the original building, especially its principal facade; are considered eligible if they possess an otherwise high degree of integrity (Kammer. 52-53). The Heights Community Center meets the registration requirements for Criteria A and C at the local level of significance.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)


Cary Blair, Personal notes on the history of Heights Community Center, c. 1960.


---

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
  Name of repository: ________________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ______________
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  2.41

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84:  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)
1. Latitude: 35.075099  Longitude:-106.622076
2. Latitude:  
Longitude:
3. Latitude:  
Longitude:
4. Latitude:  
Longitude:

Or

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927  or  ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 13  Easting: 351900  Northing: 3882200
2. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
3. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:
4. Zone:  Easting:  Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property is indicated by a heavy red line on an attached sketch map drawn to scale and corresponding to the points of latitude and longitude on the location map.
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary includes the intact resources historically associated with the Granada Heights subdivision.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Leslie Naji, Christopher Wilson, John Murphey
organization: City of Albuquerque, Planning Department
street & number: 600 2nd ST. NW
city or town: Albuquerque state: NM zip code: 87102
e-mail lnaji@cabq.gov
telephone: (505) 924-3927
date: May 20, 2021

State Historic Preservation Office
name/title: Steven Moffson, State and National Register Coordinator
organization: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
street & number: 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
city or town: Santa Fe state: NM zip: 87501
telephone: 505.476.0444
date: September 1, 2001

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps**: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items**: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
Photographs
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn’t need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Heights Community Center

City or Vicinity: Albuquerque

County: Bernalillo State: New Mexico

Photographer: Steven Moffson

Date Photographed: August 10, 2021

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 12. Main façade and wall, photographer facing west.


3 of 12. South elevation, photographer facing north.

4 of 12. South elevation with 2006 addition (left) and 1949 addition (right), photographer facing north.

5 of 12. Main entrance with wrought-iron strap hinges, photographer facing west.

6 of 12. Central courtyard, photographer facing north.

7 of 12. Central courtyard view from portal, photographer facing northwest.

8 of 12. Large Meeting Room with furnace, photographer facing north.

9 of 12. Classroom, photographer facing east.
10 of 12. Dance Hall/Assembly, photogrpaher facing south.

11. Dance Hall/Assembly, 1949 addtion (right), photogrpher facing south.

12 of 14. Dance Hall/Assembly, 1949 addtion with stage (right), photgraher facing south.


Heights Community Center
Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, NM
National Register Boundary
Approximate Scale: 1 inch = 2000 feet

Location Map: Heights Community Center
Heights Community Center
Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, NM
National Register Boundary
Approximate Scale: 1 inch = 100 feet

Sketch Plan: Aerial Site Plan of Heights Community Center, 2017
Heights Community Center
Bernalillo, New Mexico

Floor Plan

1. Entrance
2. Reception
3. Office (created after 1940)
4. Classroom
5. Toilet
6. Kitchen
7. Assembly/Dance Hall
8. Assembly/Dance Hall Expansion (1949)
9. Stage
10. Office
11. Toilet
12. Classroom
13. Large Meeting Room
14. Courtyard
Floor plan with additions from 1949, 1980, and 2006.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Figure 1. Heights Community Center under construction.

Figure 2. Heights Community Center nearing completion.
3. Figure 3. NYA youth build courtyard pool and lay flagstone floor.

4. The completed Heights Community Center with athletic field and bleachers.
Heights Community Center  
Name of Property  

Bernalillo, New Mexico  
County and State

Figure 5. Students compete in the long jump.

Figure 6. Cultural dance group, one of many activities for children
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Figure 7. Unicycle group, 1950s.

Figure 8. Dance Hall with 1949 addition (right).
Heights Community Center                  Bernalillo, New Mexico
Name of Property                             County and State

Figure 9. Weekly teen and youth dance, 1946.

Figure 10. Dance with live music and airmen from Kirtland Airfield, 1940s.
Heights Community Center
Bernalillo, New Mexico
Name of PropertyCounty and State

Photographs

Photo 1. Main façade and wall, photographer facing west.

Photo 2. North side, photographer facing southwest.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Photo 3. South elevation, photographer facing north.

Photo 4. South elevation with 2006 addition (left) and 1949 addition (right), photographer facing north.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Photo 5. Main entrance with wrought-iron strap hinges, photographer facing west.

Photo 6. Central courtyard, photographer facing north.
Heights Community Center  
Bernalillo, New Mexico  

Name of Property: Heights Community Center  
County and State: Bernalillo, New Mexico

Photo 7. Central courtyard view from portal, photographer facing northwest.

Photo 8. Large Meeting Room with furnace, photographer facing north.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Photo 9. Classroom, photographer facing east.

Photo 10. Dance Hall/Assembly, photographer facing south.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Photo 11. Dance Hall/Assembly, 1949 addition (right), photographer facing south.

Photo 12. Dance Hall/Assembly, 1949 addition with stage (right), photographer facing south.
Heights Community Center
Name of Property

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Photo 13. Basketball court, photographer facing southwest.

Photo 14. Playground, photographer facing south.