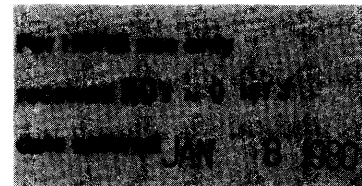


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Adele Ilfeld Auditorium

and/or common

2. Location

street & number New Mexico Highlands University Campus not for publication

city, town Las Vegas vicinity of congressional district

state New Mexico code 35 county San Miguel code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name New Mexico Highlands University ATTN: Dr. Juan Aragon, President

street & number

city, town Las Vegas vicinity of state New Mexico

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. San Miguel County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Las Vegas vicinity of state New Mexico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Cultural Properties has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date November 4, 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Bureau

city, town Santa Fe vicinity of state New Mexico

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ilfeld Auditorium is located at the center of the New Mexico Highlands University campus. It is the most architecturally significant structure on the campus and for that reason is critical to the appearance of the campus. The only other architecturally significant structure is Rogers Hall, a Renaissance Revival structure built in 1937 by the WPA. Rogers Hall and Ilfeld Auditorium are not, however, visually related.

In 1914 the New Mexico State Legislature appropriated \$75,000 for New Mexico Highlands to construct a badly-needed auditorium. The University Regents contracted with E. W. Hart, a Las Vegas architect, for design of a brownstone building in a Romanesque Revival style, similar to that of Springer Hall. Because of delays in construction caused by World War I, the appropriated sum was inadequate to cover the lowest bid. On October 19, 1919 Charles Ilfeld contributed \$25,000 in memory of his wife Adele, for construction of the building.

Construction was begun immediately; however, the sum was insufficient to complete the interior. After the June 1922 fire in Springer Hall, the Ilfeld Auditorium was put into use. On April 11, 1928 the building was dedicated, though it took an additional appropriation from the legislature in 1929 and an additional donation from Charles Ilfeld's sons to finally complete the interior. It was February 7, 1931, seventeen years after the initial appropriation, before the building was entirely completed and furnished.

The Adele Ilfeld Auditorium is constructed of brown brick with a brownstone front facade. The building is two stories and has three roof levels, a raised stage section, gable-roofed auditorium section, and a facade section. The side facades are articulated with corbels along a string course and brick fan lights over two of three paired, stained glass windows. The rear facade has buttresses.

The front facade is in the Romanesque Revival. It has rock-faced brownstone facing on the two-story facade. The ground story lobby projects and there are three round arch portals with linteled doors. Supporting the arches are modified Doric columns and there are circular panels and lanterns within the fan lights above the doors. Flanking the portals are projecting polygonal pavilions with round arch niches. The roof of this lobby is tile-covered and there are brackets along the eaves.

The second story portion of the front facade is also predominated by round arch fenestration and has rock-faced brownstone. It reflects a portion of the gable which is flanked by parapet walls which give the appearance of towers. The towers are defined by pilasters and a triple arch. Along the gable are arched corbels and at the center is a round arch panel with three arches within it.

Because the completion of the interior was delayed for so long and was done as inexpensively as possible, it is quite austere. The Romanesque motifs of the front facade are repeated in the lobby. The auditorium itself has very little articulation. The interior has been allowed to deteriorate over the years. Attempts are now being made to refurbish both the stage and auditorium sections.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1914-present

Builder/Architect E. W. Hart

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ilfeld Auditorium is significant because it is the oldest building on the New Mexico Highlands University Campus and because it is a good example of the Romanesque Revival. NMHU, originally New Mexico Normal School, was founded in 1893 as a teachers college. Its first building, Springer Hall, was begun in 1898 and was in the Romanesque style. In 1914 design of an auditorium in a similar style was begun. The building was still not complete when Springer Hall was destroyed by fire. Thus, the Ilfeld Auditorium remains as the oldest structure and the only one in the original Romanesque Revival.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Perrigo, Lynn I. "Ilfeld Auditorium, Las Vegas", unpublished manuscript, 1974.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 1

Quadrangle name Las Vegas

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UMT References

A

7	1	3	4	8	10	1	4	10	3	19	3	18	8	12	10
Zone			Easting			Northing									

B

Zone			Easting			Northing					

C

Zone			Easting			Northing					

D

Zone			Easting			Northing					

E

Zone			Easting			Northing					

F

Zone			Easting			Northing					

G

Zone			Easting			Northing					

H

Zone			Easting			Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary encloses the building itself with five feet on the east, north and west sides. To the south the boundary is the street. The boundary is limited in this way because the building has landscaping and street furniture only at the front.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen Threinen

organization State Historic Preservation Bureau date 28 September 1979

street & number 505 Don Gaspar telephone 505-827-2108

city or town Santa Fe state New Mexico

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Thomas W. Mead

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 11-14-79

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Sally G. Mead</u>	date <u>1/8/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Penelope O'Connell</u>	date <u>1/2/80</u>
Chief of Administration	