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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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- 1. Name: Aztec Main Street Historic District
- 2. <u>Location</u>: Generally bounded by Main (E), Chuska (S), the alley between Park and Main (W), and Chaco (N).
- 4. Owners:

#712	Eugene Stewart, 123 S. Main (all Aztec, NM 87410, unless noted)
#713	San Juan Post #9, American Legion, 121 S. Main
#714	Flavio Chavez, 119 S. Main
#715	Flavio Chavez, 119 S. Main
	Pearle Graham, 116 N. Wall St., Farmington
	Henry Goldenburg and Jack Cook, 113 S. Main
#718	Harfield Crane, c/o Jack Cook, 111 S. Main
#719	Hope Rebekah and IOOF Aztec Lodge, 107 S. Main
#720	Eleanor F. and Charles Buck, 105 S. Main
#721	Ruth Hubbard, 103 S. Main
#722	James A. and Elta Dugenberry Trustees, 101 S. Main

7. Description:

The Main Street Historic District of Aztec is a one-half block (one block front) area of commercial buildings. Nine of the eleven buildings were erected between 1900 and 1915; the remaining two were built after the Second World War. Of the historic buildings, only one (ill. 2, 3rd from left) has received a substantial detrimental remodeling; three have had minor first-floor facelifts. As a result, the district (ills. 2, 3) appears virtually as it did in 1915 and substantially as it appeared in 1908 (ill. 1). The majority of the historic structures are two story; all stand at the sidewalk's edge. The common bond brick walls of the rear of the buildings present a less uniform appearance (ill. 4). Stylish ornament is reserved for the street facades. Cast iron, pressed metal and decorative brick work details employ the Italianate, the Neo-Classical and a local Decorative Brick style. Fixed metal shades have replaced the earlier canvas awnings, as concrete sidewalks have replaced the earlier boardwalk.

Section 7, Description, of the Historic Resources of Aztec nomination discusses in more detail the physical character of the area, characteristics of architectural styles and local workmanship, and survey methodology. The following list of individual structures elaborates on particular examples of architecture, craftsmanship and the involvement of notable historical figures.

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Significant Structures

#715 J. M. Randall Building; 117 S. Main; ill. 6; Italianate/Decorative Brick style; 1907; common bond brick walls; projecting sills and segmental arches (sides and rear); (front) cast-iron posts, fixed windows with transoms; paired window bays with pressed metal cornices and rusticated piers; decorative brick dentils, zipper-brick and recessed panels; pressed metal cornice. Original interior with pressed metal ceiling.

Built and long operated as a dry goods store by one of the city's leading merchants, J. M. Randall. The Randall family occupied the second floor apartment.

#718 Townsend Building; 111 S. Main; ill. 10; Neo-Classical; 1908-1913; common bond brick walls; remodeled lst-floor facade; decorative Neo-Classical pressed metal sheathing and cornice (2nd).

Built for Fred W. Townsend, who operated a meat market/grocery through the 1930s with a variety of partners.

#719 Odd Fellows Lodge Building; 109 S. Main; ill. 5; Italianate/Decorative Brick style; 1903; common bond brick walls with stone sills and segmental arches (rear); cast-iron piers (lst, front); decorative zipper-brick, recessed panels, corbeling; stone sills and lintels (2nd); pressed metal cornice.

As the first major commercial building, with especially fine decorative brick details, the Odd Fellows building reflected the optimism which pervaded Aztec just before the arrival of the railroad.

#720 Citizen's Bank Building; 105 S. Main; ill. 11; Neo-Classical; 1910-13; common bond brick walls (sides and rear); brick piers with sandstone "capitals," zipper-brick frame and banded splayed lintel; recessed entry, bank (left), stairs to 2nd floor (right), window bay with zipper corners and rusticated stone sill (middle); stained glass transoms; understated brick work accents (2nd); pressed metal cornice with modillian brackets.

Built by T. A. Pierce, one of the leading railroad era newcomers, it functioned as a bank until the 1950s.

Contributing Structures

#721 Bailey and Howe Dry Goods Building; 123 S. Main; ills. 2, 7; Neo-Classical/decorative brick 1905-08; Flemish/common bond brick walls, rusticated sandstone sills, segmental arches, stepping Decorative Brick cornice (side and rear), remodeled (lst, front); pressed metal, Neo-Classical sheathing and cornice (2nd). NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81)

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#713 Taylor Building; 121 S. Main; ill. 8; Neo-Classical 1905-08; common bond brick walls (side and rear); remodeled (lst, front); pressed metal, Neo-Classical sheathing and cornice (2nd).

#721 Waring-Hubbard Building; 103 S. Main; ill, 9, left; Decorative Brick Style; 1908-1913; minor remodeling (1st, front); transom (above awning); decorative zipper-brick, panels and corbeled dentils.

#722 First State Bank; 100 S. Main; ill. 9, right; Decorative Brick style; pre-1908/facade post-1913; adobe with brick and board veneers; stone columns, keystone and two string courses; transoms (above awnings); decorative brick piers and cornice.

Non-Contributing Structures

#714 119 S. Main; ills. 1, 2, third from left; pre-1908; major facade remodeling; first funeral parlor operated by J. W. Dial.

---- (Rasco); 115 S. Main; post-1957.

---- 117 S. Main; 1957.

8. Significance:

The Main Street District is a particularly well-preserved segment of a typical New Mexican commercial street developed from 1900 to 1915. It reflects Aztec's position as the leading marketing center of northwestern San Juan County, an area including the fertile Animas River Valley in New Mexico. This small district includes two of the best preserved examples of Italianate commercial architecture in the state (ills. 5, 6), three less distinguished examples of the less widespread use of stock classical details (ills. 7, 8, 10), as well as numerous examples of local Panel Brick style ornament (ills. 2, side street cornier; 5; 6; 9; 11). The Citizen's Bank (ill. 11), in its understated handling of Neo-Classicism, is a cut above the average builder's work and was probably designed by a Colorado architect.

Section 8, Significance, of the Historic Resources of Aztec discusses in more detail the history of the area, categories of significance, district boundaries and the integration of this information into the city's planning process. The list of individual structures in Section 7 of this district nomination also touches on specific elements of significance such as architectural details and design, and involvement in construction by notable historic figures.

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10. Geographical Data:

$\frac{\text{Acreage: } l^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\text{Quadrangle name: Aztec, New Mexico}} \qquad \frac{\text{Scale: } l:625000}{\text{Scale: } l:625000}$							
Zone	•	Easting	Northing				
A	13	232625	4079175				
В	13	232575	407900				
Ĉ	13	232450	4079050				
D	13	232550	4079225				

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