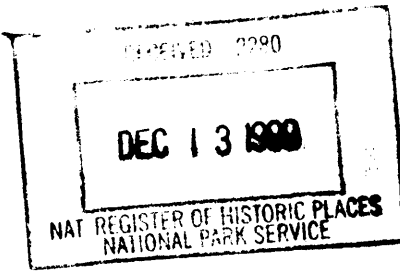


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1678

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hendren Building

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 3001 Monte Vista Boulevard NE  not for publication

city or town Albuquerque  vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county Bernalillo code 001 zip code 87106

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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State of Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Dorothy Victor, Acting SHPO 12/07/99  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Kathleen Anderson 1/27/00

Hendren Building

Bernalillo, NM

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Choose as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Choose only one box)

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

- private
public-local
public-State
public-Federal

- building(s)
district
site
structure
object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Auto-oriented Commercial Development
in Albuquerque, New Mexico 1916-1956

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/trade: business, professional,
specialty store

Commerce/trade: business, professional
specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement/Moderne

foundation concrete

walls ceramic tile

roof asphalt

other glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Hendren Building  
Name of Property

Bernalillo, NM  
County and State

**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.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1946-1956

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1946

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

T. Charles Gaastra

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Hendren Building  
Name of Property

Bernalillo, NM  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	113	3530510	38832910
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title David Kammer, Ph.D.  
organization consulting historian date August, 1999  
street & number 521 Aliso Dr. NE telephone (505) 266-0586  
city or town Albuquerque state NM zip code 87108

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

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

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

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Hendren Building  
Bernalillo County, NM

Description

The Hendren Building is a one-story building on Monte Vista Boulevard NE in Albuquerque containing offices and specialty stores. It has a flat asphalt roof and a parapet with a decorative bond. The foundation consists of concrete, and the frame of the building consists of steel and wood beams. Incorporating a variety of elements associated with the Streamlined Moderne Style, the building has cinder block walls faced with Carrara Glass and pink stone. A pair of inward-curving fixed windows form a recessed entry break in the curve of the building at its southwest corner. Entries to shops and offices flank the corner entrance and are also recessed and, in some instances, articulated by glass blocks. Fenestration consists of large fixed display windows with overhanging metal awnings topped by a horizontal aluminum molding. The building is located in a commercial node one half-block north of the commercial strip along East Central Avenue with the Monte Vista residential area to the north and east. It faces southwest and has an alleyway permitting access to rear entrances for each of the shops and offices within the building. Although the interior walls have periodically been altered to suit the changing needs of various tenants, the Hendren Building's exterior is unaltered and in good condition.

The building is situated in the southwest corner of the Monte Vista Addition, a largely residential subdivision located just to the east of the University of New Mexico campus. Like some of the city's other automobile-oriented suburban subdivisions, the periphery of the Monte Vista Addition contains two commercial nodes located at its northeast and southwest corners. Cater-cornered from a small triangle formed by the diagonal intersection of Monte Vista Boulevard with Central Avenue, the former alignment of U. S. 66, the Hendren Building is readily visible from Central Avenue as well as from Monte Vista Boulevard. Seen from Monte Vista Boulevard, the building is particularly striking with large white letters denoting "Hendren Bldg" that rise above the building's curved parapet at its southwest corner.

Characteristic of the Streamlined Moderne Style, the building is curved at its corner in an effort to conform to the acute angle of the intersection at which it is located. The façade's materials accentuate this curve. A parapet marked by alternating buff and black structural glass tiles, their contrasting colors hinting of crenellation, wraps around the front of the building. Below it, large black Carrara Glass tiles cover the cinder block walls, extending downward to meet a pink stone covering the lower walls. The stone, rising from approximately one to three feet above the sidewalk is stepped along the northeast side of the building to conform to Monte Vista Boulevard's drop in grade as it proceeds northeast.

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Hendren Building  
Bernalillo County, NM

Description (continued)

The entry to the largest interior space within the building is located at the southwest corner of the building. The smooth curve of the upper portion of the wall is broken by a recessed entry framed by two rounded cut glass display windows each flanked by two large fixed commercial windows. Similar fixed commercial windows appear at each of the entries to the other six shop and office units along the two sides of the building. In two instances along the west-facing façade, glass blocks are also included in the fixed window arrangements. All of the entries are slightly recessed and are topped by fixed or hopper transoms and by large-light commercial doors, many which retain their original hardware. A decorative horizontal aluminum strip located above a baked-enamel metal awning overhangs each entry and display window. Along the south wall of the building near the corner entry a plaque conveys the following information: "1946 Hendren Building, J.L. Hendren, owner; T. Chas. Gaastra, Architect; S.F. Whittmore, Builder."

The rear of the building, visible from the alleyway running along the north side of the building, is unadorned with cinder block walls broken by occasional metal casement windows and individual entries with wood doors opening to each of the discrete units within the building. A small loading dock is located at the rear of one of the shops located along the southeast-facing side of the building. The plan of the building is a widened V with the angle determined by the acute angle of the property's shape. The building encompasses approximately 7,000 square feet.

The Hendren Building retains a high degree of integrity as to location, setting, design, materials, feeling and association. One of the best examples of the Streamlined Moderne Style found among Albuquerque's commercial buildings, the building has had few alterations to its exterior and is in good condition. J. L. Hendren, the son of the original owner, has recently found a supplier of black tiles, which he hopes to use in replacing some of the cracked wall tiles.

Statement of Significance

Constructed in 1946 as building materials began to become more widely available after World War II, the Hendren Building represents the efforts of J.L. Hendren to develop a commercial property that would cater to the residents of the rapidly expanding automobile-oriented suburbs located on Albuquerque's East Mesa. While much of the automobile-oriented commercial construction in the post-war years appeared along long arterial strips, it was not uncommon for concentrations of buildings to

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Continuation Sheet

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Hendren Building  
Bernalillo County, NM

Statement of Significance (continued)

extend onto side streets, creating commercial nodes such as the immediate area in which the building is located. The acute angle of the building and its general appearance as to setting, design and materials reflect Hendren's recollection of a photograph of a similar commercial building he had seen and architect T. Charles Gaastra's efforts to incorporate that vision into the plans he drew for the building. The result was one of the finest examples of the Streamlined Moderne Style found in Albuquerque. Well maintained and largely unaltered, the Hendren Building is eligible for listing under Criteria A and C as a notable example of automobile-oriented commercial construction in Albuquerque as well as the Streamlined Moderne Style.

J. L. Hendren was a grocer and building contractor who had moved from Oklahoma to Albuquerque in 1942, seeking a healthier climate for his son, the present owner of the building. Settling in the city's growing suburbs located on the East Mesa and straddling Central Avenue, then the alignment for U.S. 66, he saw the potential for automobile-oriented commercial buildings in the area. Representing what historian Chester Liebs has referred to as "taxpayer strips," the commercial buildings that had begun to appear along East Central Avenue in the late 1930s attracted both automobile tourists and residents of the new suburban subdivisions appearing both to the north and south of the highway. During the early 1940s, Hendren operated a grocery store across the street from the parcel of land on which the Hendren Building is located and felt that the area could support a commercial building that offered both specialty shops and medical offices catering to local residents.

Hendren's belief in the area's potential was based upon the development that had occurred during the 1930s and early 1940s when the Monte Vista subdivision's residential streets became lined with houses and the nearby Monte Vista Elementary School was completed. Running diagonally through the subdivision, Monte Vista Boulevard intersected with Girard Drive and Central Avenue forming a triangle on which a gas station was located and around which other commercial buildings had already appeared. Hendren felt that the site, only a short block removed from Central Avenue, was convenient to local residents and that the wide boulevard offered sufficient diagonal parking for customers. He also felt that with the growing number of subdivisions on the East Mesa, a commercial building offering spaces for doctors' offices and a pharmacy held a great likelihood for success.

The property that J.L. Hendren sought to develop was irregularly shaped and contained an acute angle where Dartmouth Drive intersects with Monte Vista Boulevard. According to his son, Hendren recalled having seen

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Hendren Building  
Bernalillo County, NM

Statement of Significance (continued)

a photograph of a modernistic building in the Midwest located on a similarly shaped lot that solved the problem posed by the acute angle by employing a plan that mirrored the angle in the footprint of the building. Employing T. Charles Gaastra, a local architect with a reputation for versatility in working with a variety of styles, Hendren presented his ideas about the building. By March 1946, Gaastra had prepared drawings, and Hendren obtained a building permit listing the building as costing \$45,000 and engaged S.E. Whittmore as the contractor. Construction took approximately nine months, and in 1947, Albuquerque Progress included a photograph of the completed building in its January issue. Shortly after the completion of the building, Gaastra died.

Consistent with Hendren's vision of the building's potential, during its first year of operation the building quickly filled with tenants. The Lobo Pharmacy (Lobo is the nickname of the University of New Mexico's athletic teams.) occupied the central store with its entry at the rounded corner of the building, and a gift and luggage shop, barber shop and electrical supply company occupied the spaces along the northeast wing. J.L. Hendren also notes that, as his father anticipated, physicians soon occupied the offices along the north wing of the building. While the list of tenants has changed over five decades, the building continues to house specialty shops and galleries as well as offices. And while the Nob Hill commercial area does draw pedestrian customers from the area's surrounding neighborhoods, the majority of customers doing business in the Hendren Building continue to be motorists who park on streets near the building.

According to J.L. Hendren, the building that Gaastra designed for his father captured the elements that he recalled from seeing the photograph of a similar building in the Midwest. With its shining black upper walls meeting the pink stone lower walls and the smooth flow of its curved corner at the acute angle of the property, it is strikingly modern both in its materials and design. This modernity is reinforced with the graceful curving of the paired display windows flanking the recessed entry at the corner store as well as with the building's lettering rising above the parapet and the fixed metal awnings overhanging the building's large display windows and other recessed entries. While there are other more modest examples of the use of these materials and modernistic design in Albuquerque, the Hendren Building is the best example of the Streamlined-Moderne Style remaining in the city.

With the recent interest directed toward the East Central Avenue commercial strip through a Main Street Project and local efforts to preserve buildings associated with historic Route 66, several buildings



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Hendren Building  
Bernalillo County, NM

Statement of Significance (continued)

in the area in which the Hendren Building is located have been refurbished. This renaissance of the area has led to more interest in the building as a good example of a property that has been well maintained and remains largely unaltered.

Bibliography

Albuquerque Progress. March, 1946; January 1947.

Bergman, Edna H. "The Fate of Architectural Theory in Albuquerque, New Mexico: Buildings of Four Decades, 1920-1960." Unpublished Master of Architecture Thesis, University of New Mexico, 1978.

Hendren, J. L. Interview with David Kammer, August 1999.

Longstreth, Richard. The Buildings of Main Street. Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1987.

Wilson, Chris. "Auto-oriented Commercial Development in Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1916-1956." Multiple Property Listing listed in The National Register of Historic Places, 1997.

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 1,12, and 13 of Block 13 of the Monte Vista Addition

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Hendren Building.