

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received AUG 1 1984
date entered AUG 30 1984

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

1. Name

historic Ricardo Alarid House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 534 Alarid Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Santa Fe

N/A vicinity of

state New Mexico

code 035

county Santa Fe

code 049

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Double Double U Partnership
Walter Drew, General Partner

street & number 535 Camino Cabra

city, town Santa Fe

N/A vicinity of

state New Mexico 87501

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Santa Fe County Courthouse

street & number Grant Avenue

city, town Santa Fe

state New Mexico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ricardo Alarid House is a one-story, ell-shaped structure, built primarily of adobe brick covered with cement plaster that has been painted white. A simple portal (long porch) extends along the entire main facade. The roof of the front section of the house is flat, that of a small addition at the back slightly pitched. The building is large in comparison with other houses in this modest residential neighborhood about a mile and a half from the center of town, and it is set well back from the street in the approximate center of a lot which is also larger than those in the immediate vicinity. The main front door enters into a large room which has retained its character despite the addition of a partial frame dividing wall. A wainscoting of dark-stained pine remains around much of its perimeter matched by similarly stained woodwork around the windows. Having been neglected for many years the building shows some deterioration; however, by the same token, with the exception of the window changes noted below, it has not been substantially altered in the last fifty years.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1902-1911; 1932 **Builder/Architect** Ricardo Alarid

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ricardo Alarid House represents two distinct areas of historical and social significance, in addition to its architectural merit. First, it is associated with the life of a man who played a leading role in the political life of his community. Ricardo Alarid, who built the house in the first years of the twentieth century and owned it until he died there in 1939, was a force in local politics from before the turn of the century into the 1930's. At one time, according to his obituary, he controlled the Republican party in Santa Fe, which was the capital of the Territory and then the State of New Mexico. Second, the house is associated with prostitution, an important and common but generally undocumented fact of life in Santa Fe from the earliest days of the frontier into the 1930's. The house itself, for which Alarid Street was named, is the oldest building in the vicinity. The 1912 King's Official Map of the City of Santa Fe shows it standing alone in a large unoccupied area southwest of the railroad depot. Still distinctive in a neighborhood of smaller homes built in the 1930's on smaller lots, it was thought of as grand in its day, and well befitting a local political chieftain. Architecturally it is a rare resource as an example of a Territorial style dwelling built late in the Territorial period in a primitive form of the style in an outlying area of town long after the coming of the railroad had brought with it other stylistic possibilities. It lacks totally the elegance of classical detailing usually associated with this style and by the accident of neglect has escaped the romanticization of the Territorial which has caused most such buildings to be redone to conform to a later vision of the style. Having undergone little alteration since before 1932, it effectively conveys its associations with Ricardo Alarid who was born in the early Territorial days of Santa Fe and played out his life and career against the backdrop of what was still very much a frontier town well into the twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Santa Fe

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References

A

1	3	4	1	3	8	6	1	0	3	9	4	8	9	3	5
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

See Continuation Sheet

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

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Corinne Sze, Ph.D

organization Research Services of Santa Fe

date May, 1984

street & number 1042 Stagecoach Road

telephone (505) 983-5605

city or town Santa Fe

state New Mexico 87501

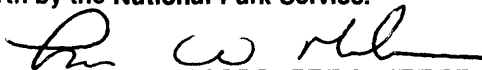
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

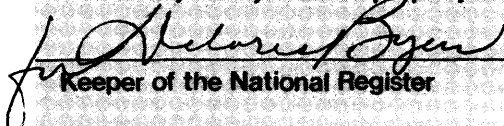


title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7-24-84

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 8/30/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Ricardo Alarid House

Item number 7

Page 1

Description:

Ricardo Alarid apparently built this dwelling between 1902 when he purchased the land and 1911 when he first leased the house. There is some evidence that the house once had a partial second story which was removed by the original owner before 1932. In 1914 when Alarid's divorced wife Emilia deeded the house to him it apparently had a second story. However, the second story had been removed by the time the property was deeded to Ricardo's step-son Jacabo in 1932.

The appearance of the building today is substantially the same as it was in the early 1930's when Ricardo Alarid controlled the Republican party in this the 4th Precinct and wielded city-wide power. The simple portal along the main facade is supported by round posts and its roof sheathed with terneplate. A high parapet wall extends along the front, stepping down once at the north end. At the back of the building some of what appears to have been a lower parapet has crumbled. On the north and south sides joists protrude from beneath the slightly overhanging flat roof.

Slightly off center to the north on the east-facing facade is the main entrance doorway, embellished by sidelights extending two thirds of the way down from the top of the door. To the right of this door is a large wooden frame window divided into six long, narrow, casements having three double panes each. To the left of the main doorway are an aluminum sliding window installed relatively recently to replace a larger wooden window, another more modest entrance, and a similar aluminum window. On the south side of the front section two additional aluminum sliding windows have been inserted in place of larger wooden windows. However, on the north side two wooden windows remain each having two casements of four panes. (These aluminum windows will be changed to appropriate wooden windows in the anticipated rehabilitation of the building.) At the back of the house beginning at the south corner the west wall, there is a small portal supported by two round posts and roofed with terneplate. To the north of this portal a small section of the back wall of the main house is missing and a room is visible which at present can be seen only here, but was originally entered from the rest of the house through four doors. Two original four-paneled doors are in place in two of these doorways. The floor of this room has been partially removed and beneath the floor joists can be seen what appears to be a brick wine cellar.

Of note on the interior is the large main room, entered through the larger of the doors on the main facade, with its dark wooden wainscoting and window frames. In this room there is also an fireplace with a square opening which before the addition of a partial frame partition was in the center of the north wall of a very large room. Apparently, the top of the chimney was removed with the second story, and the opening used for a stove.

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Continuation sheet Ricardo Alarid House Item number 7 Page 2

At an undetermined date before 1932 a kitchen was added at the back of the house with a ceiling height which is considerably lower than that of the main part of the house. Entered from the back of the large main room, this kitchen has wooden wainscoting which has been painted white with green trim. This kitchen can also be entered from the outside through wooden French doors on its south wall. The small square addition at the back of the house is completed by another kitchen behind the first and a room to the north of both kitchens. The second kitchen has one wooden casement window; the room has two 2/2 double-hung wooden windows and an empty window frame which appears to have held a wooden casement window. A small portal supported by three square posts extends from east to west covering the exterior entrance doors of the two kitchens. According to Santa Fe business directories an apartment was rented at the house as early as 1928-29.

A small bathroom, entered from the back of the south wall of the large main room was constructed using brick for the added walls. This may be the bathroom mentioned in a 1932 deed.

The property has no landscaping of note and is entirely surrounded by a high chain link fence. A non-contributing, unfinished addition was begun at the back of the square addition in about 1970 by the present owner. Intended as a garage, it is roofless and consists of two unfinished cement block walls.

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Continuation sheet Ricardo Alarid House Item number 8 Page 1

Significance:

Ricardo Alarid was born about 1862 in Santa Fe to Benito Alarid and Refugio Sanchez. In 1883 he married Emilia Justice (both names are spelled various ways in the records). They had several children, among whom were Ricardo, Jr. and Jacobo J., and divorced in 1909. She was eventually committed to what was then called the Insane Asylum at Las Vegas where she died in 1941. In January of 1910 Ricardo married Socorro Silva whom seems already to have had children of her own, one of whom was the Jacobo D. Alarid who owned the property under consideration at various times after 1928 and lived in a section of it during the last ten years of his step-father's life.

Ricardo Alarid belonged to a family whose long history in Santa Fe began with the arrival of a Frenchman in that city in the eighteenth century. Ricardo's generation was very active in local Republican (the dominant party of the time) politics. His older brother Canuto, a printer by trade, was elected Probate Judge several times and also held other local elected offices such as Justice of the Peace for eight years, City Council member for twelve years, and President of the Board of Education. His younger brother Lauriano was convicted of the 1892 politically motivated murder of former Sheriff and Democratic leader Francisco Chavez for which Lauriano and three others were hanged in 1897. Known as the Borrego Case, this was one of an infamous series of political murders and assassinations. The lawyer for the defendants was long-time leader of the Republican party in New Mexico and the state's first United States Senator, Thomas Benton Catron. The vigor of his defense which included a personal appeal to President McKinley provoked a lingering suspicion among his detractors that he was personally involved.

Ricardo Alarid was himself elected Justice of the Peace for Precinct 4 from 1901 until 1917. At some point before 1905 and again in 1918 he was Marshall, a mayoral appointment. Justices of the Peace were elected from each precinct at a general election in January of odd-numbered years and held office for two years. They handled small civil suits and petty misdemeanors, and received no salary but were paid fees fixed by the State Legislature. In criminal cases there was no fee without a guilty verdict. Justices were not required to have any legal education but had to reside and hold office in the precinct in which they were elected, although until 1942 their jurisdiction was countywide. In areas away from the center of town, court was likely to be held in the front room of the Justice's home. Since Alarid claims in a 1911 lease to have previously occupied the Alarid Street house as a residence, it is possible that the large front room of this house was the site of the Justice of the Peace Court for Precinct 4 at some point during his tenure as Justice.

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Before 1910 Alarid listed his occupation as laborer. The District Court Criminal records for Santa Fe County for the years between 1888 and 1906 contain a number of cases in which he was charged with such offenses as flourishing and discharging a pistol as well as assault both verbal and physical. In 1905, while he was serving as Justice of the Peace, he was convicted in the shooting and wounding of Policeman Camilo Martinez, stemming from an altercation over the adequacy of a surety bond which Martinez has presented in Alarid's court. (Martinez was fatally shot in the head six months later by a Narario Alarid, apparently Ricardo's nephew, who was sentenced to 99 years in the State Penitentiary.) Ricardo's political ties are apparent in the records of his trial and appeals. Among his sureties were leading politicians of day including Holm O. Bursum, then chairman of the Republican Central Committee of New Mexico and Superintendent of the Penitentiary, later mayor of Socorro, New Mexico and United States Senator, as well as Democrat Arthur Seligman a future mayor and governor. His defense was handled by prominent Republicans Charles A. Spiess and A.B. Renehan. The former had been mayor of Santa Fe and was Catron's law partner at the time they defended the Borrego case. Alarid's lawyers complained that leading Democrat Napoleon Bonaparte Laughlin, former associate justice of the Territorial Supreme Court and long-time political foe of Catron, was chosen special prosecuting attorney because Alarid was a Republican. Alarid was convicted and sentenced to one year in the Territorial Penitentiary. He lost all of his appeals through the Territorial Supreme Court. However, in 1912 Governor William J. Mills commuted his sentence to three months in the County Jail and a fine of \$100 upon the recommendation of Arthur Seligman, then Mayor of Santa Fe, who asked for executive clemency on the grounds that Ricardo Alarid had been elected Justice of the Peace since his conviction, had been of great assistance to the District Attorney in the prosecution of criminals, was hard working, industrious, and was leading a good life.

Evidently the latter was true as the court record shows no further indication of violent crime, although in 1931 a J.P. case of selling liquor to an Indian was bound over to District Court and two years later dismissed with many other cases in the common practice of clearing the docket. A 1912/13 Business Directory lists his occupation as insurance agent. In the late nineteen twenties and early nineteen thirties he was Superintendent of the State Highway Department.

From 1911 to 1927 Ricardo Alarid did not live in the Alarid Street house, but leased it to a succession of three women. There is a strong oral tradition that the house was used for prostitution during this period. Stories are told of ghosts of women fluttering in the doorway at midnight, gold buried in the front yard, and a tunnel from the wine cellar. The wording of the leases Alarid made with the women combined with other evidence supports the contention that the house was, for at least some of this period, a brothel. The first of these agreements was made with a Mona Bell, recently of Las Vegas, New Mexico, who apparently had definite plans

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for the building. Her lease specified that she could make any changes in the interior arrangements of the dwelling house, such as cutting doors, windows, and tearing down partitions. An indication of what these plans might have been is given in Santa Fe County District Court Civil Case #8185. Alarid's divorced wife Emilia sued him in 1914 for a share of the property they had acquired while married. The case was quickly dismissed at her own lawyer's request, but in the papers that were filed, this property is described as "having located thereon at the present time a house occupied for immoral purposes, as Plaintiff is informed and believes". Later in the same year Emilia deeded to Ricardo this property described as "presently leased to Mona Bell".

The second lease was signed with a Leona Dodge in 1918 and extended to 1925. She agreed to give the property back in good condition and was not given any option to make interior alterations. The third lease, with a Mabel Walker, was signed in 1925 and apparently ran no longer than its initial two-year term. Significantly, this document specifies that the house is to be used as a "rooming house" and that the leasee "will not use it or permit it to be used for purposes prohibited by the laws of the United States or the State of New Mexico".

When this lease expired in 1927 Ricardo Alarid moved back into the house with his wife Socorro. In the 1930's Jacobo D. Alarid and his wife and child also lived in a part of this large house and an unrelated tenant occupied the small apartment which had been added at the back. During this period ownership of the property was passed back and forth between Socorro, Ricardo, and Jacobo several times.

A Poll Book for 1927 and Voter Registration Books for 1928 and 1930, recently found in the house, suggest that the house may have been used as a polling place at some point or may simply be another indication of Alarid's continuing political involvement.

In 1939 Ricardo Alarid died at the Alarid Street house at the age of about seventy-seven. His obituary on page one of the Santa Fe New Mexican for September 9, 1939, describes him as "a life long resident of Santa Fe and for many years a colorful figure in local politics..." and goes on to say that "at one time years ago, Ricardo Alarid and the late Marcelino A. Ortiz, his close personal friend, were virtually in control of the Republican party in Santa Fe".

Thus, this house provides a setting for two areas of life in Santa Fe in the first third of the twentieth century, grassroots politics and prostitution. The large front room with its "mahogany-colored walls" which impressed more than one informant as a child, may have been the site of the Justice of the Peace Court, may have been a polling place and certainly was both the parlor of a house of pleasure and, not necessarily simultaneously, the site of political gatherings where decisions were taken which affected the course of local and no doubt state politics.

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Major Bibliographical References:

Santa Fe County Records

Contracts, Books C, D.

Deeds, Various books.

District Court, Civil Cases 1882-1941.
Criminal Cases 1883-1940.

Marriages, Books 1, 2.

Mortgages, Books P-2, 14.

Probate, #1763 Will of Ricardo Alarid.,

Census Records

U.S. Territorial, City of Santa Fe, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910.

Business Directories

Various editions, Santa Fe, for the years, 1906, 1912-13, 1913-14, 1915, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1922, 1923, 1928-29, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1934-35, 1936-37, 1938, 1940,

Books

Bloom, Lansing M. and Thomas C. Donnelly, New Mexico History and Civics, Albuquerque: The University Press, 1933.

Donnelly, Thomas C., The Government of New Mexico, Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1947.

Larson, Robert W., New Mexico's Quest for Statehood 1846-1912, Albuquerque: The University Press, 1968.

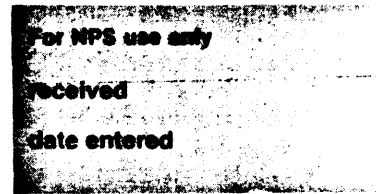
Twitchell, Ralph Emerson, Leading Facts of New Mexico History, V.4, Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1917.

Twitchell, Ralph Emerson, Old Santa Fe, (reprint), Chicago: The Rio Grande Press, 1963.

Westphall, Victor, Thomas Benton Catron and his era, Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 1973.

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Newspapers

Santa Fe New Mexican, Various issues.

Maps

1912 King's Official Map of the City of Santa Fe.

Interviews

Luis Gonzalez	4/11/84
George Carrion, Jr.	4/12/84
Marie Larragoite	4/24/84
Ramon Montez	5/1/84
Mrs. Florentino Ortiz	5/7/84

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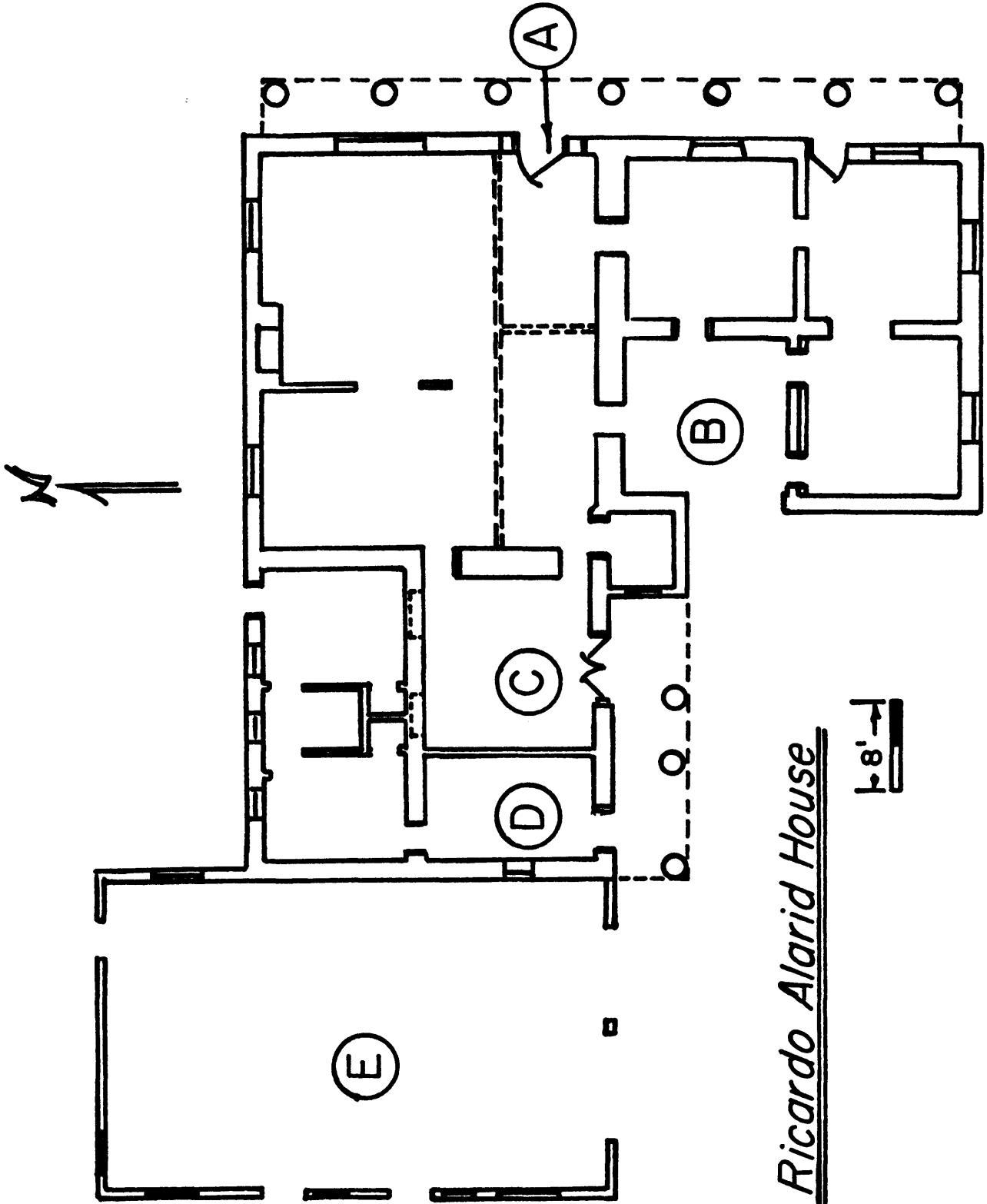
Verbal boundary description and justification:

Beginning at a point from which sanitary sewer manhole number A 12-13 in the intersection of Montez Street and Alarid Street bears North $28^{\circ} 18' 17''$ E, 64.70 feet and from said point and place beginning South $0^{\circ} 45'$ East 103.79 feet to the Southeast corner, a point marked by a number 4 rebar; thence South $88^{\circ} 11' 32''$ W, 147.21 feet to a point being the Southwest corner of this parcel marked by a 1/4 inch pipe; thence North $0^{\circ} 54' 9''$ East, 106.08 feet to a point; thence North $1^{\circ} 04' 03''$ East, 23.79 feet to a point, the Northwest corner of this parcel; thence North $86^{\circ} 46'$ East 143.51 feet to a point marked with a T on top of a wall, being the Northeast corner of this parcel thence South $0^{\circ} 45'$ East 29.53 feet to the point and place marked by a 2 inch pipe.

The boundary given is the legal description of the property's lot.

Key to Ricardo Alarid House Plan

- A *Main Entrance*
- B *Wine Cellar*
- C *Kitchen*
- D *Kitchen*
- E *Non-contributing
Addition*



Ricardo Alarid House

1/8" = 1'