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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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Individually Nominated Structures:

- #704 American (currently Aztec Residential) Hotel, 300 S. Main; ill. 30.
- 4. Owner: Mabel Lester, 300 S. Main, (all Aztec, N.M. 87410, unless noted)
- 6. <u>In Existing Surveys:</u> State Register #878
- 7. Description: Stone foundation; Flemish/common bond walls; projecting buff brick sills (new), splayed segmental arches with red mortar; zipper-like and dentil cornice with corbeled pilasters; single door with transom. New front porch: lathe-turned rail and columns.

This hotel is located in a commercial area one block south of the proposed Main Street District.

The refurbishing of the hotel in 1981 was a mixed, though generally positive project. A good approximation of the original porch was reconstructed and the bricked-in second story windows were reopened. The introduction of shorter windows on the first floor, however, required an awkward raising of the window lintels.

- 8. Significance: The boosters of Aztec, like those in other western railroad boom towns, wanted a substantial hotel for visitors, especially prospective investors; it was a matter of civic pride. Their desire was satisfied in 1906 and 1907 when G. W. Stone erected the American Hotel. The building with its decorative cornice is one of the best examples of the local Decorative Brick style. The reconstruction of its porch and reopening of bricked-in windows in 1981 by Mrs. Mabel Lester has reasserted the building's original appearance.
- 10. Acreage: under 1. UTM Reference: 13 232525 4078750

 Boundary: Lots 23 and 24 of Block 11 of the original town site.