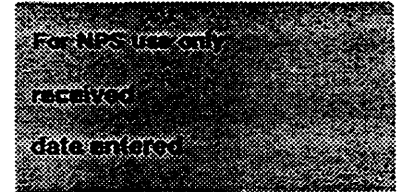


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1. Name: San Juan Historic District

2. Location: Generally located on either side of S. Highway 61 in San Juan from the old Neudert Store (2291 S Highway) to the old Norero House (2261 S. Highway).

4. Owners: Owners list.

7. Description:

San Juan is located at approximately 5620 feet on a slightly raised terrace on the west side of the Mimbres river. Buildings are located irregularly one or two deep on the west side of the main road which now serves as New Mexico Highway 61. On the east side of the highway, the church and one house stand close the highway, while two houses and a barn are located at the end of a short lane. Just beyond these houses (approximately where the eastern edge of the district boundary is located) is the San Juan Acequia and beyond it fruit orchards and cultivated fields. Shade trees are planted beside many houses although only those near the acequia thrive, and arid plants such as the cholla cactus and the yuccas grow throughout the District.

All of the buildings in the district belong to the New Mexico Vernacular type. All are built of adobe and all have corrugated metal roofs save two with roll asphalt roofs. There are seven gabled roofs, five hipped, two combining hipped and gables and two shed roofs. Except the story-and-a-half Carlos Norero House, all buildings are one story. Nine of the houses have single file plans, two L-shaped and one a rectangular plan. The pedimented lintels of the Norero House (photo 25) are the only architectural ornamentation in the district.

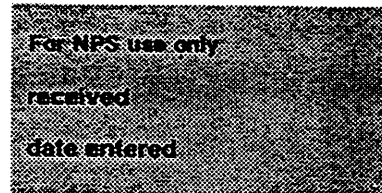
For National Register counting purposes there are fourteen contributing and two non-contributing buildings in the District. The first number listed below is the field survey number which is keyed to the district map.

Contributing buildings:

99. Rosalio Leiva House; photo 27; 2291 S. Highway 61; ca. 1875/1935; single file plan with shed roofed front addition; hipped roof; wooden sliding windows; shed porch with log

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posts and brackets. The core, hipped-roofed portion of the house was the home of Leiva, who homesteaded the area, and therefore may date to the 1870s. There was originally a flat roof on this portion of earth with manure as a binding agent. The front portion was added in the 1930s by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Neudert who operated a store here. Adobe shed to the rear.

100. House; 2291B S. Highway 61; pre-1937; gable roof; wooden sliding windows.

101. House; photo 30; 2287 S. Highway 61; pre-1937, possibly pre-1900; L-shaped; roll asphalt gabled roofs over original flat roof (vigas showing); metal casement and aluminum sliding windows; 2 single doors.

104. House; photo 21, second from left; 2279 S. Highway 61; pre-1937; single file with shed roofed front and rear additions; gabled roof; wood and aluminum sliding windows.

105. House; photo 21, left; 2277 S. Highway 61; pre-1937, ca. 1900; single file; asphalt roll shed roof; 2/2 double hung windows; single door; window/door/window symmetry.

106. House; 2275 S. Highway 61; pre-1937, ca. 1900; rectangular plan; shed roof; 1/1 double hung windows; 2 single doors.

107. San Juan School; photo 26; 2271 S. Highway 61; 1895/1917; concrete foundation skirt; unstuccoed adobe; hipped and gabled roofs; 2/2 double hung windows; 3 single doors. The first, hipped roof portion was built in 1895 on land reportedly donated by Luz Leiva. The gable-roofed portion was added in 1917.

108. Anastacio Archuleta House; 2263 S. Highway 61; ca. 1890; single file; unstuccoed adobe; gabled roof; 2/2. 4/4 double hung windows; 2 single doors. Descendents of Carlos Norero say he helped Archuletas build house.

109. Carlos Norero House; photos 24,25; 2261 S. Highway 61; ca. 1890; single file, story-and-a-half; stone foundation to window sills; unstuccoed adobe; hipped roof with wall dormers; 2/2 double hung windows and single door with pedimented lintels. Poor condition. Remnants of adobe-walled compound to rear.

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111. House; photo 29; 2296 S. Highway 61; pre-1937, ca, 1935; concrete foundation; stuccoed walls material unknown; gabled roof; wooden sliding windows.

112. Cayetano Leiva Moonshine House; 2290A S. Highway 61; ca. 1920; single file; stucco over adobe (original portion) and frame (side, shed-roofed addition); hipped roof; 1/1 double hung windows, fixed windows. Original portion was built about same time as house (# 113) to house a still during Prohibition. Subsequently used as a tack room (for storing horse equipment, harnesses, tackle) and a residence. Adobe barn to rear.

113. Cayetano Leiva House; photos 28, original rear, 22 extreme right; 2290 S. Highway 61; ca. 1920; L-shaped with porch in L and on rear; concrete foundation skirt; hipped roof with gablets; 1/1 double hung windows.

114. San Juan Church; photos 22,23; 2282 S. Highway 61; 1901; cruciform plan; stone foundation; gabled and hipped roofs with cupola; 6/6 double hung windows with cut-out wooden arches; double doors.

Non-contributing buildings:

102. House; 2283 S. Highway 61; pre-1937; aluminum sliding windows and new porch with wrought iron supports.

103. House; photo 31; 2281 S. Highway 61; post-1937; single file; gabled roofs; adobe; 1/1 double hung windows; enclosed porch with sliding aluminum windows.

8. Significance:

The San Juan District meets National Register Criterion A as one of two typical, well-preserved, Hispanic farming village in the Mimbres valley, the leading agricultural area of Grant County. It also meets Criterion C for its unmodified examples of the New Mexico Vernacular type: thirteen residences, a school, a church and a barn.

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San Juan was not founded as decisively in a single year as San Lorenzo had been in 1869. Instead it coalesced gradually, starting in the mid-1870s, around two successful homesteads. Italian Carlos Norero, who had been among the first settlers of Pinos Altos, established his homestead on the south side of what would become San Juan in 1872. Chihuahuan brothers Luz and Rosalio Leiva (also spelled Leyba and Leyva) settled just to the north about the same time. In 1873, another homesteader in the area, Cosme Guadiana, began construction of an acequia on the west side of the river which would develop into the Llano or San Juan Ditch. The following year Norero enlarged this system. The population around San Juan grew steadily, for in 1880 Norero and Celso Gonzales constructed a new ditch on the east side of the river, the San Juan East Ditch. And, sometime between 1880 and 1885, the San Juan Ditch, west of the river, was substantially expanded.

Surveying the valley for archeological remains in 1883, Adolph Bandelier noted in his journal:

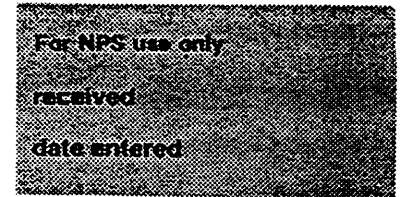
At Norero's ranch, the valley is nearly a mile wide, the mountains are high on the west, steep and rocky; on the east their slopes line the river. Between the foot of the mountains and the river bottom, there are two terraces on the west side. . . . On the lower terrace, the [Mimbres Indian] ruins are situated, and nearly all the stones used in building the house of Norero and the three rent-houses south of it, are built of the walls of the ruins.

Few, if any, buildings remain from this period: some back rooms of one house (photo 27) are reported to date to the 1870s, another house (photo 30) appears to be old by virtue of its L-shaped plan and exposed viga ends which imply it originally had a flat roof.

The first buildings firmly dated in the oral tradition are the second Carlos Norero House (photos 24, 25) and the Anastacio Archuleta House, both said to have been built about 1890. The main, hipped-roofed portion of the old School (photo 26) was erected in 1895 and the church (photo 23) in 1901. Clearly San Juan was prospering by the 1890s and its residents had the time and resources to begin building substantial residences and to attend to educational and

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religious needs. These four buildings from 1890 to 1901 are among the most notable examples of the New Mexico Vernacular type in the valley. Two buildings (photo 28) were erected about 1920 by Cayetano Leiva, a descendant of Luz Leiva. The remaining contributing buildings all appear on a 1937 aerial photograph of the valley, but their dates of construction have been no more precisely determined. All are modest examples of the New Mexico Vernacular type, which could have been built anytime during the District's period of significance, 1872-1937.

Most of the buildings viewed individually may be unimpressive, lacking as they do any architectural pretensions. But the repetition in all structures of adobe and corrugated roofing, of linear plans and simple hipped or gabled roofs, gives a unified coherence to the village. Together they provide a good sense of the historical appearance of a not-overly-prosperous Hispanic farming village in southwestern New Mexico.

The district boundary has been drawn to include all remaining buildings which were present in 1937 and have not been greatly modified. This includes most of the building in the community at that time. Across the highway from buildings 108 and 109, an area has been excluded from the district where one of two historic building has been demolished, the other is a ruin and one new building has been erected. Another area north of the district boundary has been excluded where two historic buildings have been demolished, another two greatly modified and six new buildings erected.

10. Geographical Data:




Approximate Acreage: 23 acres

Quadrangle Name: San Lorenzo, N.M. Scale: 1: 62,500

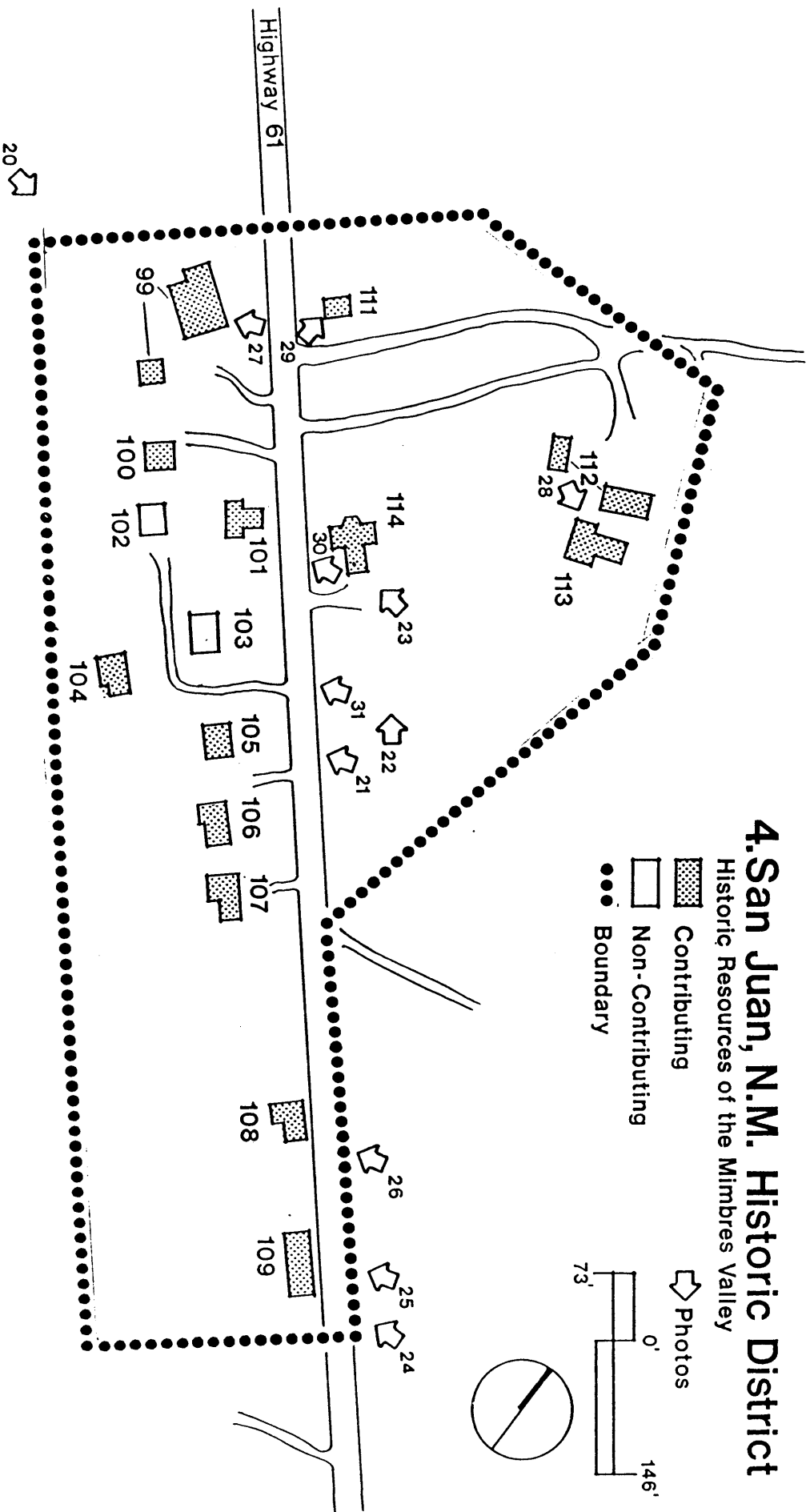
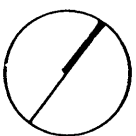
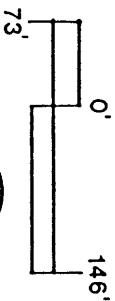
UTM References: E 13 227850 3628575 F 13 228175 3628125
G 13 227900 3627950 H 13 227575 3628400

4. San Juan, N.M. Historic District

Historic Resources of the Mimbres Valley

-  Contributing
-  Non-Contributing
-  Boundary

 Photos



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San Juan Historic District, Historic Resources of the Mimbres Valley

Owners List

Juniper S. Bowers Trust
c/o Harry Stamler
Rt. 15 Box 2439
San Lorenzo NM 88057

Irving & Saletta M. Schwartz
6006 Balcones #28
El Paso, TX 79912

Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces
Box 16318
Las Cruces, NM 88004

Barbara & Craig Wheaton-Smith
c/o Thomas Foy Jr.
Box 266
Bayard, NM 88023

Dolores M. & Arthur A Fletcher
Sherman, NM 88060

Jennifer Ann Johnson
Box 611
Silver City NM 88062

Arturo L. & Magdalena Misqueuz
Sherman, NM 88060

Teodoro L. & Cecilia B. Misqueuz
Rt. 15, Box 1975
San Lorenzo, NM 88057

Carlos J. Norero
Rt. 15, Box 1875
San Lorenzo, NM 88057

Felix C. Norero
Box 820
Bayard, NM 88023

Rufina Padilla
Mimbres, NM 88060

Manuel & Frances V. Salaiz
Rt. 15, Box 1900
San Lorenzo, NM 88057

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Mimbres Valley MRA
State Grant County, NEW MEXICO

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
Cover <u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper <u>Beth Boland 5/16/88</u>
1. San Lorenzo Historic District <u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper <u>Beth Boland 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
2. San Juan Historic District <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
3. Sibole, George, Store <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
4. Redding, William, House <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
5. Hooks--Moore Store <u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper <u>Beth Boland 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
6. Mimbres School <u>Substantive Review</u>	Keeper <u>Beth Boland 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
7. Valencia, Ysabel, House <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
8. Huechling, Otto, House <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5/16/88</u> Attest _____
9. Wood, Dr. Granville, House <u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper <u>Helena Byers 5-16-88</u> Attest _____
10. McGregor, Elizabeth and Alex, House <u>Substantive Review</u> DOE/OWNER OBJECTION	Keeper <u>Carey Shull 8-5-88</u> Attest _____