

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Historic Resources of Downtown Gallup McKinley County, New Mexico

1. Name: Palace Hotel
2. Location: 236 West 66th Avenue
Gallup, New Mexico
3. Classification:
Category building
Ownership private
Status unoccupied
Accessible yes: unrestricted
Present Use vacant
4. Owner of Property:
Perry Null
c/o Richardson's Trading
222 West 66th Avenue
Gallup, NM 87301
5. Location of Legal Description:
McKinley County Courthouse
205-209 West Hill Street
Gallup, New Mexico
6. Representation in Existing Surveys:
New Mexico Historic Building Inventory
August 1985
New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
228 E. Palace Avenue, Rm 101
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
7. Description:
Condition good
altered
original site

The 1912 Palace Hotel is a hipped-roof, two-story building in modified Richardsonian Romanesque Style. Located on a prominent corner of 66th Avenue, it acts as an anchor for the entire block of row buildings between Second and Third Streets.

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The hipped-roof of this sandstone building is hidden from street view by a parapet. A dentilated cornice tops the parapet, behind which three chimneys rise in the southwest corner. The upper floor of the facade retains its original window configuration, but not its original windows. The configuration consists of two arched windows separated by a small rectangular window. The arched windows are Romanesque in style, and have an added entablature on the outside of the arch. The upper portion of these arched windows has been enclosed and the original double-hung wooden windows with fanlights have been replaced with metal casements. The small rectangular central window has a heavy stone lintel, is enclosed on the top half, and the original double-hung wooden window has been replaced with a metal casement. All three windows have stone lug sills. The west side of the building has identical arched windows, one at the north end and two at the south end, as well as three rectangular windows in the middle.

The street level of this structure has recently been rehabilitated to a form which retrieves the existing historical fabric. The north facade consists of two, large arched openings, below a dentil course. The eastern opening was originally a window and small door, the western arched opening was originally part of the walk through corner arch. Both of these arches are Romanesque, with an added entablature on the outside of the arch. The upper, inside portion of these arches has been closed-in, and a steel tie beam was added between the imposts. The piers of the arches are sandstone and define the sides of the storefront glass. The rehabilitation work locates the building entrance through the east arch, and rebuilds the central pier. The door is oak with a large lite and small panel below. Surrounding this entry are seven small 2'x2' fixed lites in dark aluminum framing. The western arch will be a display window consisting of nine 2'x2' lites in dark aluminum framing. The portion of the arches which have been enclosed and held together with the tie beam will be hidden from view by a quarter sphere bullnose awning.

The west side of the building at the street level echoes the upper portion in terms of arched versus rectangular openings. The arch at the north end was originally the other portion of the walk-through corner entry, and will be rehabilitated to look identical to the western arch of the front facade. Traveling south along the west wall there are three rectangular windows similar to the upper floor windows, and then two arched doorways separated by a thin, rectangular doorway.

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The main floor interior of the Palace Hotel is now one large room with a stairway at the rear leading to the basement. The basement is unfinished and very damp.

One of the two doorways at the south end of the west side leads to the upper floor, still separated into small rooms currently used as apartments. The other door leads to the office of a dental lab

The building is constructed entirely of locally quarried sandstone, and has sustained significant water damage through the years from the foundation level up to about 3 feet above ground. This situation may be corrected by repairs to the storm sewer and by replacing adjacent sidewalks. The upper portion of the building is severely cracked. The sandstone has been surface coated with a light layer of sprayed stucco: the rehabilitation work will repair and repeat this process.

The rehabilitation of this property reinforces some of the feeling of old Railroad Avenue, and adds immeasurably to the sense of history visible from a busy street corridor.

8. Significance:

Area of significance architecture
commerce

Period of significance 1912

Criterion A association with second coal boom

Criterion C Richardsonian Romanesque styling

The 1912 Palace Hotel is historically significant for its association with the second coal related economic boom period and the Gallup tourist industry and architecturally significant for its Richardsonian Romanesque styling.

The Palace Hotel occupies a unique place in Gallup's early tourist history. It was one of the first hotels on the street, and was built during the second coal related economic boom and attendant building flurry, and before the railroad deeded Front Street (Railroad Avenue) to the city and clinched the tourist industry.

Architecturally, this structure is the only example of Richardsonian Romanesque building in Gallup. Built on a prominent corner, it is a grand structure of locally quarried sandstone. Currently being rehabilitated, the Palace Hotel will soon look very much like it did in 1912.

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9. Major Bibliographical References;
See continuation sheets

10. Geographical Data: The nominated property consists of all of Lot 17, west 7.4' of Lot 16 and the east 20.5' of Lot 18 in Block 30 of the Original Townsite.

Quadrangle Name: Gallup East

Quadrangle Scale: 7.5 minute

Acreage: less than one acre

UTM References:

Zone 12 Easting 704615 Northing 3933680