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7.	DESCRIPTION							
				(Che	ck One)			
	CONDITION	🔀 Excellent	🗌 Good 🔄 🗌 Fair	📋 Det	eriorated	🗌 Ruins	Unexposed	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Occupied for at least 700 years, the Pueblo of Cochiti, the most northern of the Keresan linguistic groups, possesses a central plaza and a mission church, San Buenaventura de Cochiti. Situated around the plaza are a number of one and two-story adobe homes. Two ceremonial kivas are located north of the plaza which still serves as the focal point of communal life, although the newer houses are being built some distance from the center of the pueblo. The original compact pattern of settlement, as in other pueblos, was a defensive measure employed against raiding bands of Indians. Adobe was the main building material, although, stone was also employed in the construction of foundations.

The adobe mission, San Buenaventura de Cochití, was constructed in the eighteenth century possibly incorporating remnants of an earlier seventeenth century structure.

Little is known of the fate of this church during the Pueblo Revolt in 1680 and the subsequent reconquest by Vargas in 1693-1696. Although a certain Laureano Gómez, killed at Cochití in 1696, was buried in the Pueblo Church. During the seventeenth century, Cochití was a visita of Santo Domingo. In 1706, Fray Juan Alvarez reported that a church was in the process of being constructed at Cochití. Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez visited the mission of San Buenaventura de Cochití in 1776 and described the church as follows: S

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"The Church is adobe with walls about a vara [1 vara equals 32 2/3 inches] thick, single naved, with the outlook and main door east. It is 30 varas long from the door to the ascent to the sancutary, 7 wide, and 8 high as far as the bed molding. The ascent to the sanctuary consists of three steps made of wrought beams that mark it off, and it measures 6 varas to the center, with the same width as the nave because it is not closed in like the head of a transept as has been said of others. It is as much higher as is necessary because of the clerestory. There is no choir loft. On the Gospel side there are two poor windows facing south. The roof of the nave consists of thirtyfour wrought and corbeled beams, and the clerestory rises all along the one opposite the sanctuary. The roof of the latter continues with eight beams like those mentioned.

The main door is squared with a strong wooden frame instead of masonry. It has two roughly paneled leaves and a crossbar for a lock. It is about 3 varas high by 2 wide. There is a little belfry over it with a good middle-sized bell that the king gave. The cemetery runs from the front corners with an adobe wall more than a vara high with three gates. It is 9 varas wide and 12 long. The church floor is the bare earth, its interior very gloomy. . . (pp. 155-156).

The church was remodeled in 1819 and a pitched roof was added in 1910. In the mid-1960's, significant alterations including a return to a flat roof were initiated.. The present condition of the church and pueblo is excellent.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
🔀 Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1250	·	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropriat	e)	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early inhabitants of the Pueblo of Cochiti migrated from a series of pueblos the ruins of which are now encompassed within Bandelier National Monument to the north. Sherds found in various refuse mounds at the present pueblo disclose inhabitation of the pueblo from 1250 to the present. Juan de Oñate, the Colonizer of New Mexico, found the Cochiti in 1598 and on the ninth of September of that year, Fray Juan de Rozas was assigned to the Keres Indians which included the pueblos of San Felipe, Santo Domingo, Santa Ana, Zia and Cochiti. Eventually, a church was constructed and served as a visita of Santo Domingo.

On August 10, 1680, the pueblos united in a general revolution against Spanish rule. The Pueblo of Cochití willingly took part in the revolt and killed the Spaniards in the pueblo and surrounding area. The Cochití fled to nearby Potrero Viejo, located on a mesa in Cochití Canyon, because of the resulting turmoil among the various tribes. It was at this location that General Diego de Vargas Zapata Lujan Ponce de León, who reconquered the area for Spain, visited the Cochití between September 13 and 29, 1692. The Indians after much discussion finally consented to re-occupy their pueblo and submit to Spanish authority.

During Vargas' second entrada of 1693, he once again found the Cochiti fortified at Potrero Viejo. The Indians once more promised to submit to Spanish rule and return to their pueblo. However, early in April of 1694, Vargas received information that the Cochiti along with some of their allies had once again assembled at Potrero Viejo and were preparing to attack the colonists. He left his headquarters in Santa Fe with 70 soldiers and 20 settlers on April 12 in an attempt to prevent the planned raid. Before reaching Cochiti Canyon, Vargas' forces swung southward to the Pueblo of San Felipe where they were joined by 100 Indian allies from the Pueblo of Santa Ana and Zia. Bartolomé Ojeda, the governor of the Pueblo of Zia, disclosed trails leading up to the location of the insurgents. On the morning of April 17, the Cochiti were defeated. Twentyone of their number were killed and 342 women and children were captured. Four days later, the Indians in a surprise attack freed half of the captives. In retaliation, Vargas destroyed (See Continuation Sheet)

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