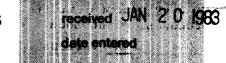
CAS NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

Type		s—complete app	ilicable se	CHOIIS				
<u>1.</u>	Nan	ne						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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2.	Loc	ation $_{\mathcal{R}_{o}}$	agh/v	bound	ed by			
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city, to	own g	Silver City			vicinity of	congressional d	listrict	#2
state	No	ew Mexico	code	35	county	Grant		code 017
3.	Clas	sification	n					
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4	Owr	ner of Pr	oper	tv		<u> </u>		
name		own of Silver Various privat				University		
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courth	nouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc.	Grant	County C	lerk's Off	ice		
street	& number	Grant Count	y Court	house		·		
city, to	own	Silver City					state	New Mexico 88061
6.	Rep	resentat	ion i	n Exi	sting \$	Surveys		
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7. Description

				1008 Santa Rita Street	
Condition		Check one	Check one	1010 Santa Rita Street	
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	_X_ original site	(both moved from Tyrone, ca. early 1930's).	N.M
good	ruins	X altered	x_ moved date	ca. early 1930's).	
fair	unexposed				
	X various				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The area north of College Avenue is characterized by larger blocks (300° x 300° rather than 200° x 200°) with fewer lots (12 rather than 16) than in the Silver City Historic District, which adjoins it to the south. It is a relatively flat area with a steep hill to the west, on which the Western New Mexico University Campus is situated. The San Vicente Arroyo (Big Ditch) borders the area on the east. Streets in this section follow a north-south, east-west grid pattern, as in the rest of the townsite, but offset from the streets to the south due to the larger size of blocks. One block of Tenth Street between Santa Rita and Grant Streets has a well-developed boulevard, the only one in Silver City. The area is presently and historically residential, with commercial development on the eastern edge of the district, beginning just west of Pope Street (which is a four-lane highway). Even in the commercial section, however, scattered residences still exist. This area of Silver City, which was part of that added as a north extension of Kidder's original townsite survey in the early 1870's, was not much developed until the early 1880's, representing a second-stage development for the young community of Silver City. John A. Miller's house, a mansion by Silver City standards, was one of the first of several elaborate, well-built two-storey residences to be constructed in that part of town. A number of attractive cottages of various styles were constructed around the turn of the century. The area north of College Avenue (originally Ninth Street) continued to be something of an exclusive neighborhood until 1919, when the first houses intended for low-cost rental purposes, a group of closely-spaced small frame houses built by the Silver City Home Builders, Inc., were constructed on block 202. Except for these and a group of small pre-fabricated houses on block 208, brought in during the housing shortage following World War II, not included within the district area, construction after the 1920's has mainly consisted of well-built, middle-class homes not intrusive in character.

See continuation sheet.

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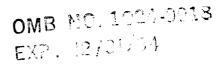
Two blocks, now numbered 207½ and 231½, were utilized originally as the city cemetary, with the first burial taking place in 1871 (that of the town's founder, Capt. John Bullard). The New Mexico Territorial Legislature in 1876 enacted a law prohibiting the use as a cemetary of any grounds within the limits of any city or town. The exhumation of the bodies buried on these two blocks apparently did not take place until after 1881, when John A. Miller made an agreement with the town council to remove the bodies at his own expense and re-inter them outside the city limits, providing the city would deed him the property.

Included in the proposed district are the two-storey houses, with Queen Anne detailing, of E.G. Shields, 1103 West Street; the John A. Miller double house, 318 11th Street; and the H.D. Gilbert house, 909 Santa Rita Street (the former two from the early 1880's and the latter dating from the early 1890's). All are of brick construction and generous proportions, each with distinguishing features - the carved keystone arches and oak Dutch door on the Shields house, the twin entrances and triple window arrangements on the Miller house, and the two-storey bay window and Queen Anne window lights on the Gilbert house. From the same period, in the eastern section of this district, are several smaller one-storey residences, including the four brick houses of the Potten Row on East College Avenue; the brick houses of George Benton, 111 E. College Avenue, and George W.M. Carvil, 910 Grant Street; and the C.A. Kelso house, 116 W. College Avenue, of frame construction with a large 1890's adobe addition.

A number of well-built hipped box residences dating from the turn of the century are located in the area described. The earliest example is the A.F. Nichol house, 203 Virginia Street, built in 1899 from adobe, and which includes Queen Anne-style detailing. The Joseph Thompson one-storey and two-storey houses at 904 and 902 Santa Rita Street respectively, and the C.C. Shoemaker cottage at 1050 West Street, were the products of local builder Hugh S. Gilbert, who did much to popularize the style in Silver City. The remodeling of the Orlando Stone house, at 415 W. College Avenue, into a two-storey hipped box residence; and the 1919 remodeling of the William Laizure house, 502 W. College Avenue, were also done by Gilbert. Other hipped box houses in the district include the two Manville Brothers houses at 1003 and 1015 Santa Rita Street, the Harry Burgess house at 418 Twelfth Street, the Susan Uhli rental houses at 904 and 906 Grant Street, and the J.D. Bright house at 114 W. College Avenue (pebble-dashed frame built by local contractor Mrs. O.S. Warren, who also constructed a number of houses in this style). Possibly also the work of Mrs. Warren is the house at 204 W. Tenth Street, which she owned for a time. The Gene Cosgrove house at 1121 West Street, of rusticated cast stone, includes both hipped box and Queen Anne detailing. Frank Coon's Craftsman house at 1019 Santa Rita Street could also fall under the hipped box classification. All of the above-mentioned houses, unless otherwise noted, are of brick construction; some are built with the soft locally-manufactured bricks, and others with pressed brick imported into the community.

The Simplified Queen Anne style is well-represented in this district. The William Laizure house, 502 W. College Avenue, is an early 1890's example, and the L.C. Parker rental house at 306 W. Tenth Street dates from the late 1890's; both houses are brick. Early twentieth-century examples include the W.B. Walton house, 903 West Street, and the A.E. Atkins house, 915 West Street. These brick houses have a variety of detail, including intricate frame porches, leaded lozenge windows, and some etched glass.

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Most of the remaining houses in the district would fall under the bungalow or bungaloid heading. Probably the most outstanding bungalow structure is the R.B. Powell house, 1123 Santa Rita Street, a stuccoed frame house built in 1914 by Mrs. O.S. Warren. From the same period is the Dr. R.S. Gudger house at 1002 Santa Rita Street, another stuccoed frame bungaloid house. Also distinctive is the wood-shingled house at 1010 Santa Rita Street, moved in about 1930 from the Phelps Dodge mining community of Tyrone, N.M., located a short distance from Silver City. The Capt. E.B. Eno house, 910 Pope Street, is stuccoed frame, a 1906 bungaloid cottage located in the eastern end of the district. The group of houses constructed by the Silver City Home Builders, Inc., on Tenth and Santa Rita Streets, also fall into the bungaloid category, although most of these have been poorly remodeled. A well-built 1930's brick bungalow is the David Robertson house, 912 Grant Street.

The James S. Ryan house at 1017 Santa Rita Street, built in 1932, is one of the few Mediterranean-style houses in the district. Designed by architect Guy Frazer, and built by Morris and Sons, both of El Paso, the house is of hollow tile construction with stucco finish, and features a large arched window with stuccoed keystone arch surrounding it. The Adessa B. Walton house at 314 W. College Avenue, originally a hipped-box structure, was quite thoroughly remodeled into Mediterranean style.

Just within the western boundary of the district area is the old Silver High School building, built in 1938, a large structure with Art Deco cornices and panels set into brick-clad walls. At the time of this writing, however, it is being demolished.

Structures which may be considered significant within the district are:

- 1. William Laizure house, 502 W. College Avenue, built in 1891 by contractor William Laizure. This one-storey brick house reflects several additions, including a major remodeling done in 1919 by contractor Hugh S. Gilbert for then-owner W.E. Burnside. Multiple roofs include hipped, truncated hipped, gable and flat. Front entrance has double leaf wood doors with lights in each, and a hipped hood with wood brackets.
- 2. Orlando P. Stone house, 416 W. College Avenue. Originally a 1½-storey Simplified Queen Anne style house, built in 1904, this residence was remodeled to its present two-storey, hipped box appearance in 1908 by builder Hugh S. Gilbert for second owner A.F. Kerr. Double-hung windows have twenty lights over one. An attached front porch has square wood posts over a stuccoed lower enclosure. Also on the property is a 1917 brick carriage house built for a later owner, George H. Utter.
- 3. W.B. Walton house, 903 West Street, built ca. 1905. This brick Simplified Queen Anne house has multiple hip and gable roofs, with cut wood shingles in the gable-ends. Some windows have leaded upper sash. The front entrance door has elaborate etched glass, and a spindle screen door. The L-shaped veranda has turned wood posts. Originally the house had a brick cupola with a pyramidal roof; this was removed over twenty years ago by the present owners, and a shed roof put over the base of it.
- 4. A.E. Atkins house, 915 West Street, built in 1902 by owner/contractor A.E. Atkins for his family residence. A Simplified Queen Anne style, this brick house is one storey with basement. The roof is truncated hip with front and side gables, with cut wood shingles in the gable-ends. Front windows have leaded stained glass in transom bands. The attached front veranda has turned posts and original wood brackets, and square wood balusters.

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- 5. E.G. Shields house, 1103 West Street. Built in 1882, this two-storey residence is of brick construction with cross-gable roofs and elaborately bracketed eaves. Windows have carved stone keystone arches. An early addition on the north side of the house includes a three-section window with stained glass lozenge transom band. Front door is a wider that usual oak Dutch door, with one light, transom, and keystone arch. A bay window stands on the south side of the house. Originally an L-shaped two-storey porch was attached to the house, but this was later removed. The interior features of this structure include two walnut and tile fireplace fronts, and a walnut staircase of sweeping lines. An early interior alteration, which transformed the entry hallway, parlor and dining room into one large room, was done by Col. J.W. Carter, reportedly using a massive steel girder from a railroad bridge wrecked in one of the Big Ditch floods in the early 1900's as the means of support when the interior walls were removed. A bronze Art Nouveau figure of a woman, in use as a newel post ornament, was also reportedly rescued by the Carters after one of the floods. Interior walls in the upper storey rooms are curved.
- 6. Gene Cosgrove house, 1121 West Street. Built in 1908 by I.W. Salle & Co. of rusticated cast stone, this one-storey house has intersecting truncated-hip roofs with gable extensions, with wood shingles and moulded fascias. The house has three bay windows. This is one of a very few "artificial stone" houses in Silver City.
- 7. A.F. Nichol house, 1203 Virginia Street. This stuccoed one-storey house was built in 1899 for the superintendent of the local waterworks. The truncated hip roof has a center front gable with finely-detailed wood spindle gable ornament. Front door has Queen Anne lights and transom. An attached veranda covers most of the front of the house.
- 8. John A. Miller double house, 318 11th Street. This two-storey brick house, now stuccoed, was originally built as a double house, divided down the center with entrances at either end, for rental purposes. It was built in 1883, either during or following the construction of Miller's own residence on the southeast corner of the same block. The house has cross-gable roofs. Windows are narrower than usual, double-hung, arranged in threes with distinctive raised segmental arches. A bay window on the west side has a bellcast-hipped metal top. The design of this structure is unique among early Silver City buildings.
- 9. C.C. Shoemaker cottage, 1050 West Street. Built in 1907 by H.S. Gilbert as rental property for C.C. Shoemaker, this is a one-storey brick hipped box cottage. Double-hung windows have multiple (nine- and twelve-) lights over one; the house also has wood casement windows. The front French door is flanked by multi-light sidelights. An attached gabled porch has built-in benches on sides, and wood shingles in the gable-end.
- 10. H.D. Gilbert house, 909 Santa Rita Street. This two-storey brick house with Queen Anne detailing was constructed in 1892 by William Laizure. It has a bellcast truncated hip roof with ornamental wood brackets. Windows are double-hung with Queen Anne lights in the upper frames. A two-storey bay window with semi-turret roof is attached to the east side of the building (one of only two such examples in Silver City). This house has many of its fine interior features intact.

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- 11. L.C. Parker cottage, 306 W. 10th Street. Built in 1898 by Black & Atkins for "Lord" Lindsay Cole Parker, an Englishman who owned much property in the Silver City area, this was one of two originally identical rental houses (the other, one door west, was remodeled in the late 1920's). Of Simplified Queen Anne design, this house is built of brick, 1½ storeys. The main roof is truncated hip with gable extensions. An attached hipped porch has chamferred posts and wood brackets.
- 12. Van T. Manville house, 1003 Santa Rita Street. Van and Richard Manville, local contractors, built this house in 1903, presumably as their family home, shortly after completing the construction of the house one door north of this one (now stuccoed, with front porch removed). The house is brick, with hipped, hipped gablet, and truncated hipped roofs. A large brick addition was added to the rear (west) when the Manvilles sold the house to their relative, W.C. Calkins, in 1910. The house has an angled three-sided porch with brick columns.
- 13. Frank R. Coon house, 1019 Santa Rita Street. This one-storey brick Craftsman-style house was built in 1906 by Black & Atkins, and according to Coon's daughter, Helen Coon Lynch, was designed by Gustav Stickley. The roof is hipped. Windows are double-hung, twelve lights over one, arranged in pairs but not connected, with continuous concrete sills. There are also eight-light casement windows. The front entrance is inset, having a brick arch with concrete keystone, and brick lower enclosures, framing the front door with six small lights and two long vertical panels, flanked by two six-light windows. The Silver City Enterprise, August 3, 1906, in reporting on the construction in progress on the house, stated, "One of the attractive architectural features of the house is an old-fashioned outside chimney of blue limestone. The brick is laid in tinted mortar, which gives it a pressed brick appearance." Interior woodwork is varnished pine with wall panels covered in burlap (original still in place, though now painted). An inglenook fireplace, built-in window seat, and two screened-in porches are other features. Helen Coon Lynch recalls that all of the furniture originally in the house, and even the fabric from which the curtains were made, was designed by Stickley.
- 14. Robert B. Powell house, 1123 Santa Rita Street. Local contractor Mrs. O.S. Warren built this stuccoed frame bungalow for attorney Powell in 1914. Windows have three vertical lights over one, in triple arrangements. The front door, which has six lights, is surrounded by sidelights and transom. The offset gabled porch has a simple half-timbering effect in the gable-end, square wood posts resting on stuccoed lower piers, and dentil frieze.
- 15. Dr. R.H. Gudger house, 1002 Santa Rita Street. Built in 1913, this bungaloid house is stucco over frame. Its cross-gable roof has exposed rafters and bracketed purlins. Windows have nine and fifteen lights over one in multiple arrangements, with two suspended bay windows.
- 16. Judge Joseph Thompson cottage, 904 Santa Rita Street. Built the same time as Thompson's residence (#17) in 1908 by contractor H.S. Gilbert, this pressed brick onestorey hipped box house is similar in style to the main dwelling next door. It features an inset front porch with center front gable with Palladian window, and Doric wood columns. Windows have heavy concrete sills and lintels.

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- 17. Judge Joseph Thompson house, 902 Santa Rita Street. This 2½-storey hipped box house is built of pressed brick on a stone foundation. It was built in 1908 by H.S. Gilbert. According to a contemporary newspaper account, "The entire interior features will be of special design, having a grand stairway with stained art glass windows." An L-shaped porch is partially inset, with brick columns and balustrade; an upstairs porch is now framed and glassed in. In 1920 a fire caused damage of around \$15,000 worth, completely gutting the house. Sheriff Herbert J. McGrath, who then owned the house, hired original contractor Gilbert to rebuild the structure to its present appearance.
- 18. George W.M. Carvil house, 910 Grant Street. Built in 1883, this stuccoed brick house has a high-pitched gable roof. An attached veranda on the front has chamferred wood posts and sawtooth wood moulding on the frieze. Carvil, a blacksmith, built a larger home on the same block in 1886 to accomodate his growing family; it has since been demolished.
- 19. Maud Fielder house, 110 W. College Avenue. This house was built ca. 1899, probably as a rental property, by the widow of lawyer Idus L. Fielder. This is one of the latest construction dates for a Mansard-style house in Silver City. The house is 12 stories, of adobe construction, with gabled dormers in the wood-shingled Mansard roof. It has two front entrances, side by side.
- 20. George Benton house, 111 E. College Avenue. Construction date on this house is probably early 1880's. Block 200 on which this house and the Potten Row stand was deeded jointly to George Potten and George Benton in 1876. This house is a one-storey brick structure with cross-gable roofs. There is a bay window on the front of the west wing. The present appearance of the house, including pebble-dash finish, reflects a 1916 remodeling done by later owner, Alvan N. White. [Note: addresses on this block are somewhat confused. While this house should actually be #105, it is marked #111].
- 21.-24. Potten Row, 115, 109, 105, 113 E. College Avenue [addresses are those in present use. The actual addresses for these houses should be 109, 111, 113, and 115]. This group of four houses was built ca. 1883 (some of the group may be earlier; absence of tax records prior to 1884 makes date impossible to pinpoint) - the Silver City Enterprise of October 13, 1883, makes reference to "...Mr. Potten's new brick cottages on Ninth Street". The houses are stuccoed brick, one storey, with shed roofs hidden by flat front parapets and stepped side parapets. The front parapets have raised brick cornices. The three houses on the west end of the row are identical; the house on the east end is slightly smaller with fewer windows. Windows in this house are flat-topped, while in the western three the double-hung two over two windows have arched tops. This group, which was known as Utter Row in the early 1900's when owned by George H. Utter, is a rare local example of the detached rowhouse.

Structures which may be considered contributing to the district are:

20 103 E. College Avenue 24 114 W. College Avenue 116 W. College Avenue 314 W. College Avenue 904 Grant Street

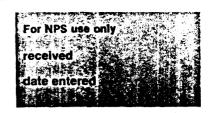
3 906 Grant Street

3 912 Grant Street 30 915 Grant Street 35 910 Pope Street 922 Santa Rita Street 1006 Santa Rita Street 1101 Santa Rita Street

36 1008 Santa Rita Street 2/ 1010 Santa Rita Street 33 1015 Santa Rita Street 39 1017 Santa Rita Street

continued ...

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(Contributing structures, continued...)
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4/ 116 W. Tenth Street
42 203 W. Tenth Street
43 204 W. Tenth Street
44 205 W. Tenth Street
45 404 W. Twelfth Street (outbuildings only)
46 418 W. Twelfth Street
47 904 West Street
48 1002 West Street
49 1015 West Street
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The remaining structures in the proposed district area, which are listed below, are considered neutral to the district. These structures are more recent or remodeled than those constituting the significant or contributing parts of the district.

```
/ 101 E. College Avenue
                                  // 914 Pope Street
                                                            2/ 404 W. Twelfth Street
2 106 W. College Avenue
                                                           22 409 W. Twelfth Street
                                  12 912 Santa Rita Street
                                                            23 414 W. Twelfth Street
3 210 W. College Avenue
                                 13 915 Santa Rita Street
                                 μ 918 Santa Rita Street
                                                           24 W.N.M.U. Computer Center
15 108 W. Tenth Street
5 500 W. College Avenue
                                                           25 W.N.M.U. Home Ec. Building
6 213 W. Tenth Street
                                                           12 1205 Virginia Street
                                 17 217 W. Tenth Street
502½ W. College Avenue
                                                           27 907 West Street
3 514 W. Eleventh Street
                                15 313 W. Tenth Street
                                                          28 1111 West Street
                                 /9 315 W. Tenth Street
                                                          1113 West Street المر
3 315 W. Eleventh Street
                                 2º 411 W. Tenth Street
                                                           30 1205 West Street
10 907 Pope Street
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8. Significance

prehistoric a 1400-1499 a 1500-1599 a 1600-1699X a 1700-1799 a	griculture rchitecture rt ommerce ommunications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	 science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Specific dates 1882-	-1914 B uil	der/Architect Seve	ral - see text	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The area north of College Avenue contains some of the most outstanding architectural contributions from the early development of Silver City, beginning in the early 1880's when the local mines were showing great promise. Because this area, particularly between West and Santa Rita Streets, was something of an exclusive suburban neighborhood when first developed, the buildings here are of good quality construction and attractive design equal to that in the finer houses in the Silver City Historic District, lying immediately to the south. Several houses here, including the Frank R. Coon house (built from Gustav Stickley plans), were designed by architects from "back East." The neighborhood also included the private residences of several of Silver City's successful builders. Good examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses stand on wide, tree-lined streets. The eastern end of this area contains more modest early dwellings, some intended for rental use, including a series of detached rowhouses, dating from the early 1880's. The entire area is closely associated architecturally with the Silver City Historic District which adjoins it, but is distinctly separated from that district through its differences in street layout and lot plan.

See continuation sheet.

14. 1.262.0

TO BE STORY OF BUILDING A POPULAR

9. Major Bibliographical Refer	rences
The New Southwest (newspaper), April 23, 1881 - De Silver City Enterprise (newspaper), 1882 - 1924 Silver City Independent (newspaper), 1898 - 1924 Deed records, Grant County Clerk's Office, Grant	See continuation sheet
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of nominated property <u>36 acres (approx.)</u> Quadrangle name <u>Silver City Quad</u> UMT References	Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000
A 1 2 7 5 4 6 6 0 3 6 2 9 8 2 0 B 2 0 Zone Easting Northing Z	12 7515 11210 316 219 71610 one Easting Northing
C 1,2 7 5,4 7,2,0 3,6 2,9 4,0,0 D F F G H	12 751531010 316121931610 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Verbal boundary description and justification Commencing at the intersection of the San Vicente thence in a northwesterly direction along College edge of A Street; thence in a northwesterly direction along the college edge of A Street; thence in a northwesterly direction along the college edge of A Street; thence in a northwesterly direction and counties for properties overlapping state.	Avenue to a point opposite the west
state N/A code county	N/A code
state code county	code
name/title Susan M. Berry, Assistant Curator	0/10/01
organization Silver City Museum	date 8/10/81
street & number 312 W. Broadway	telephone (505) 538-5921
city or town Silver City	state New Mexico 88061
12. State Historic Preservation	n 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 665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Reaccording to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Pa	gister and certify that it has been evaluated
title 8the 14stnew Prenervature Officer	date 1-14-83
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Reg Mintered in the National Register Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: Chief of Registration	date

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The original developers of the area north of College Avenue included some of the elite of Silver City. John A. Miller, who initiated construction in that section after removing the city cemetary to a new location, was a pioneer resident of Grant County, having come to Pinos Altos in 1866. Miller, who was born in Prussia, soon established himself as a responsible citizen, serving as postmaster at Pinos Altos (its first, in 1867), Fort Bayard (1871) and Lake Valley (its first, in 1880). When Grant County was formed out of Dona Ana County in 1868, Miller was elected its first treasurer. Miller was elected as a senator to the New Mexico Territorial Legislature in 1881 (re-elected in 1882), and while a part of that body secured appropriations for the first Silver City hospital (his wife, Martha C. Miller, was very active in the organization and running of this hospital). He also served a term on the Silver City town council in 1883. Miller was a successful enterreneur in a number of fields, being involved, among other things, in mining and smelting, ranching, and building. He owned the sutler store at Fort Bayard and served as purchasing agent for the fort (in 1870 he was in partnership with Franz Huning in a Fort Bayard store). Miller's business sense is evidenced by his sale, in 1881, of his Lake Valley ranch and mining claims for \$100,000.00. In 1882 Miller purchased a lumber yard in Silver City, and in early 1883 erected a planing mill, going into a brief partnership in the construction business with J.F. Adams, formerly of Las Vegas, N.M., and builder of the bath house of the famed Montezuma hotel there. In 1884 Miller organized the Peacock Mining Company, with himself as president, and did a great deal of development work on the company's mine at Alma, N.M., building a mill there in 1885. It was this venture which proved Miller's financial undoing, his failure at least partially due to the distance from reliable transportation. His fortune lost, Miller later went to Mexico to pursue mining. Miller's residence, built in 1882 on the north half of what had been the cemetary block, was of a scale and design befitting a man of his stature. An elaborate 21-storey Queen Anne style structure designed, the local newspaper reported, by an eastern architect, the house apparently went through several long periods of being empty after Miller was forced to sell it. The Miller house was finally demolished in 1928, and the materials used to build a new residence (1101 Santa Rita Street). Miller's 12-storey barn still stands on the property, now remodeled into a garage with upstairs apartment. Miller's double house (318 W. Eleventh Street), constructed on the southwest corner of the same block at about the same time as his own residence, is significant as the earliest and largest example of a double dwelling in Silver City.

Constructing a residence on the block west of Miller's at about the same time was Edmund G. Shields, a civil engineer, who had recently arrived in Silver City from Missouri. Shields soon became chief engineer of the Silver City, Deming & Pacific Railroad project, and oversaw the bringing of the A.T. & S.F. branch into Silver City in 1883. A photograph taken the day the silver spike was driven upon completion of the railroad shows the decorated engine, with E.G. Shields' name lettered upon the side of the car. Shields was also involved in mining ventures in the Silver City area. He left Silver City in 1886 to assume his duties as registrar of the Las Cruces, N.M., land office, and in 1888 was admitted to the bar.

Another civil engineer, who also worked on the Silver City, Deming & Pacific railroad, Edgar L. Swaine, built a house just north of Shields! in 1883. He also did surveying in the area. Swaine and his family left Silver City in 1885 for

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Colorado, and his house was eventually torn down in the late 1920's and replaced with a duplex. To the south of Shields' house stood the home of Harry Booth, which was also built around 1883. Booth, like Miller, was involved in a number of different trades. served as a director of the Telegraph Mountain & Gila River Mining Co. (an ill-fated venture) and of the Silver City Concentrating & Smelting Co., and as treasurer of the Silver City Independent School District. Later he went into the beer and ice business. Booth's residence was a 1½-storey Queen Anne brick house with wood cresting on roofs and bay window and much other wood ornamentation. This detailing was destroyed by a 1922 fire which burned the upper storey of the house; rebuilt as a one-storey building, the house now reflects 1920's styling, but still retains its bay window and original contours.

The H.D. Gilbert family came to Silver City in the early 1870's and opened their Cash Store, which dealt in dry goods, millinery supplies and handmade articles. Their business continued into the twentieth century. The Gilbert residence on Santa Rita Street is one of the better-preserved dwellings from the initial construction period of this neighborhood.

Little construction took place in this or any part of Silver City in the mid-1890's, due to a general economic slump in the locality. By the early 1900's, however, people were again having new residences built. The families residing in the area north of College Avenue tended to be the professionals, the "leading citizens," of the community.

Frank R. Coon, originally from Nebraska, came to Silver City in 1905 in the hopes that the climate would be of benefit to his wife's health, and became associated with the American National Bank. In 1906 he had a residence constructed on Santa Rita Street from plans by Gustav Stickley, the founder of the American Craftsman movement. While a relatively small and simple brick cottage, the house embodied Stickley's philosophy. According to Stickley, Craftsman houses were "...all designed with regard to the kind of durability that will insure freedom from the necessity of frequent repairs; to the greatest economy of space and material, and to the securing of plenty of space and freedom in the interior of the house by doing away with unnecessary partitions and the avoidance of any kind of crowding. For interst, beauty, and the effect of home comfort and welcome, we depend upon...the charm of structural features such as chimneypieces, window-seats, staircases, fireside nooks, and built-in furnishings of all kinds, our object being to have each room so interesting in itself that it seems complete before a single piece of furniture is put into it." Coon and his family moved to Lordsburg in 1907, where he was a cashier and president of the First National Bank for over ten years. before moving to Deming and organizing the Mimbres Valley Bank, of which he was also president.

Another banker, Col. J.W. Carter, was also strongly associated with the neighborhood, having purchased the E.G. Shields residence in 1899. Carter came to Silver City in 1881 and accepted a porition in the Meredith & Ailman bank. He was later instrumental in organizing the Silver City National Bank and served as cashier and manager of that institution for 35 years. Active in civic affairs, Col. Carter served 65 years as treasurer of the Masonic Lodge and 47 years as treasurer of the Elks Lodge.

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Attorneys were well-represented in this neighborhood, with William B. Walton foremost among them. Walton was a young man of twenty years when he came to New Mexico in August, 1891. Locating at Deming, he was editor and manager of the Deming Headlight, and read law under S.M. Ashenfelter, being admitted to the bar in 1893. About that time, he located in Silver City, having been appointed clerk of the Third Judicial District Court, an office he held until the close of the Cleveland administration in 1897. He then bought the Silver City Independent, and practiced law until 1903, when he entered upon his duties as clerk of the Probate Court and ex-officio recorder of Grant County, an elected office which he filled until 1907. During 1901-02 he was a member of the Lower House of the Territorial Legislature, being one of the four democrats in that House. In 1911 he was chairman of the Democratic Central Committee of New Mexico, and the same year was elected one of the four delegates from Grant County to the Constitutional Convention. He was elected to the first State Senate, serving from 1912 to 1916. This was a republican Senate, and he had the distinction of being the only democrat chosen to a chairmanship of the committee on revision. He introduced bills relating to workman's compensation, free text books, inheritance tax and other important measures. Walton was elected a member of Congress in 1916, taking his seat just before America entered World War I. In 1918 he was nominated by the democratic party for the United States Senate, narrowly losing to Albert B. Fall. Walton's daughter, Eda Lou, achieved a name for herself in the literary field, both through her own poetry and translations of Indian songs. Walton's own home and several rental properties were located in this area.

Other attorneys in the neighborhood included R.P. Barnes, R.B. Powell, Charles C. Royall, Frank Vellacott, and Alvan N. White. Richmond P. Barnes, who was a subsequent owner of the Harry Booth house, began his practice in Silver City in 1885, and remained there thirty years, moving to Albuquerque in 1915. He served as District Attorney of the Third Judicial District of New Mexico in 1899 and 1900 and was a member of the Thirty-third Territorial Legislature and served in the New Mexico State Legislature in 1917 and 1919. In 1928 Barnes was appointed to the New Mexico Supreme Court to complete the unexpired term of Judge Davis, but retired from this office at the expiration of that term to resume private practice.

R.B. Powell came to Silver City for his health in 1912, at first a patient of the New Mexico Cottage Sanatorium. In 1914 he had a house constructed on Santa Rita Street, and formed a law partnership with James Royall. His health apparently failed him again, as he died in 1920, a year after leaving Silver City for Riverside, California.

Another health seeker, Charles C. Royall, came to Silver City in 1906 from Chicago, where he had been studying law. He was admitted to the bar and served two years as assistant district attorney, later going into private practice. He was a member of the State Senate in 1937-39. Royall purchased the Dr. R.H. Gudger house on Santa Rita Street in 1920.

Frank Vellacott came to Silver City from Arizona in 1906, and established a law practice which was to last fifteen years, before going to Albuquerque where he became the junior member of the firm of Mechem & Vellacott. While in Silver City, Vellacott served three terms as president of the Chamber of Commerce and was active in local republican politics. He resided for a time in the C.C. Shoemaker cottage on West Street, and later purchased the Orlando Stone house on College Avenue.

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Also prominent in the law field was Alvan N. White, who came to Silver City from Tennessee in 1896, and, after meeting the statutory requirements as to residence, was admitted to the bar of New Mexico. He served as City Attorney in 1897 and 1898. From 1901 until 1907 White was Superintendent of Schools in Grant County; in 1911 he was elected the first State Superintendent of Public Instruction in New Mexico and held that office until January 1917. He returned to the practice of law in Silver City and in 1926 was elected a member of the New Mexico House of Representatives, in which he served nine terms. White was the Democratic floor leader of the House in 1929 and Speaker of the House in 1931 and again by unanimous vote in 1933, 1935 and 1937. He became a member of the State Bar Commission in 1931 and the following year was named assistant district attorney for the Sixth Judicial District. White's family residence was, from 1911 on, the George Benton house on College Avenue.

Several builders made their homes in the neighborhood under discussion. William Laizure built his home on College Avenue (then Ninth Street) in 1891, adjoining what was to become the Normal School campus. He was a prominent builder in Silver City in the 1880's and '90's, in partnership with Richard Grabe for much of that time, also operating the Silver City Planing Mill. The H.D. Gilbert house was constructed by Laizure. Alvin E. Atkins came to Silver City in the early 1880's and established himself in the building trade. He formed a partnership with Robert Black in 1895 which was to last until Black's death in 1910. Atkins constructed a number of dwellings for himself and family. Two of these are located, side by side, on West Street, the first a Simplified Queen Anne cottage built in 1902, and the second a stuccoed brick of simple lines, constructed in 1932. Like Laizure, Atkins also operated a planing mill as well as a lumber yard. Van T. and Richard Manville were prominent Silver City builders in the early 1900's. The brothers built two hipped box brick houses on Santa Rita Street in 1903, presumably for family use. In 1907, a new family residence was constructed on Twelfth Street in similar style. This house later became the property of Melvin H. Porterfield, and the house was razed, with the materials retained for the construction of a new home on the same site. The original outbuildings, however, including a woodshingled water tower and hipped-gablet garage, still stand on the property along with a 1911 playhouse moved in at a later date.

George H. Utter, a mining engineer, was a subsequent owner of the Orlando Stone house, and also owned the Potten Row, known in the early 1900's as Utter Row. He came to Silver City in 1886 and built the town waterworks, serving as president and manager of the Silver City Water Co. from 1886-1891. Also actively involved in mining operations, Utter was discoverer and owner of the Cleveland Group of mines outside Silver City.

Also involved in mining was James B. Gilchrist, who bought the Robert B. Powell house in 1919. Gilchrist came to the Silver City area in 1891 as chief engineer in charge of construction on the Silver City & Northern Railroad, which connected the mining camps of Hanover and Fierro to the rail system. The following year, he became superintendent of the Graphic Mine at Hadley, N.M. In 1896 he became lessee of the copper mines at Santa Rita, N.M. A partnership was formed in 1899 with A.E. Dawson in the mining and mercantile business, with headquarters at Fierro and stores at Hanover and Santa Rita. The company was largely concerned in the development of iron and copper

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mines. In 1904 Gilchrist additionally became involved in the cattle business as a member of the large and well-known G.O.S. Ranch. Gilchrist served two years as a county commissioner, and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

The area north of College Avenue also served as home to a number of wealthy health-seekers and people who came to "winter" in the mild climate of Silver City. Judge Joseph Thompson and family, of Atlantic City, N.J., spent their winters in Silver City, building a large and imposing brick residence on Santa Rita Street in which the parents and two sons and their wives resided, as well as a small house which was rented out. Orlando Stone, whose residence was a few blocks west of the Thompsons', on College Avenue, reportedly spent only winters in his home. Dr. Charles B. Penrose, who had been coming to Silver City on vacations since the early 1890's, purchased the John A. Miller house in 1907 and occupied it for short periods off and on for years thereafter. The son of a prominent surgeon who founded several hospitals in Philadelphia and a respected physician in his own right, Penrose was a brother of U.S. Senator Boise Penrose, Colorado mining magnate Spencer Penrose, and noted geologist R.A. Penrose, Jr.

Three presidents of the local university had residences in the proposed district area, the first two serving during the time that institution was known as New Mexico State Normal School, and the third when it was New Mexico State Teachers College.

C.M. Light, president (and early guiding force of the Normal School) from 1896-1914, owned the John A. Miller house from the late 1890's to 1907. W.O. Hall, president from 1919-1921, rented the Orlando Stone house in 1919 as his family residence. Haddon W. James, president from 1936-1952, resided in the late 1930's in the residence at 1010 Santa Rita Street. The George Benton house, at the time owned by Alvan N. White, was occupied in 1914 as a boys' dormitory for the Normal School, due to the school's overflow housing situation at that time. A President's House was constructed by the University on College Avenue, within the district area, in the 1950's.

The buildings in the area under discussion are for the most part well preserved, with little remodeling (or, as in the cases of 1015 West Street and 1002 West Street, early remodelings). Two houses were moved into the neighborhood in the early 1930's, but their bungalow styling is entirely in keeping with the existing architecture in that area of town, and they give no appearance of having been transplanted. The architecturally-rich area north of College Avenue was regarded, from the time of its initial development, as a distinctly separate neighborhood from the earlier section of Silver City, and with its different street layouts is clearly separated visually as well.

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Building permits, Silver City, N.M., 1917-1923, collection of Silver City Museum

Building permits, Silver City, N.M., 1917-1923, collection of Silver City Museum. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Silver City, N.M., 1893, 1898, 1902, 1908, 1917, 1930, collection of Silver City Museum.

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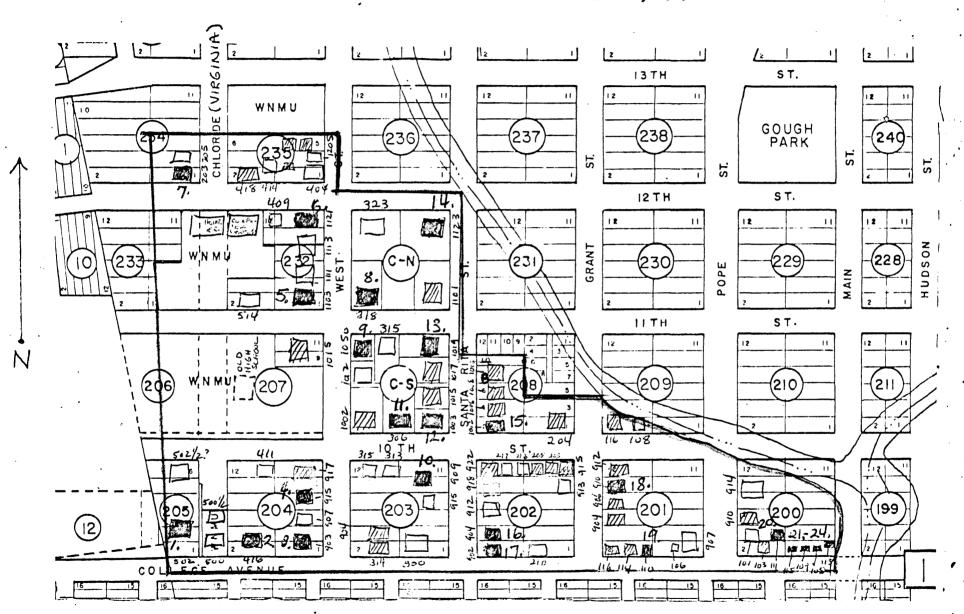
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...(crossing unsubdivided land owned by Western New Mexico University, and following the east line of the even-numbered lots in blocks 233, 234) to the northwest corner of lot 5, block 234; thence in an easterly direction along the north lines of lot 5, block 234, and lots 6 and 5, block 235, to West Street; thence in a southerly direction to Twelfth Street; thence easterly to Santa Rita Street; thence southerly to the northwest corner of lot 10, block 208; thence easterly to the northeast corner of the same lot; thence south to the northwest corner of lot 3, block 208; thence easterly to the San Vicente Arroyo; thence southeasterly along the lines of the San Vicente Arroyo to the point of beginning. Refer to city map attached.



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