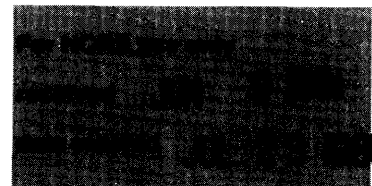


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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



1. Name

historic New Mexico - Arizona Wool Warehouse

and/or common Wool Warehouse, Bond Warehouse

2. Location

street & number 520 First St., NW _____ not for publication

city, town Albuquerque _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 1

state New Mexico code 35 county Bernalillo code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Albuquerque, Property Management Dept.

street & number P.O. Box 1293

city, town Albuquerque _____ vicinity of _____ state New Mexico

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bernalillo County Records

street & number 505 Central, NW

city, town Albuquerque _____ state New Mexico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Albuquerque Historic Landmarks Survey has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date December 1978 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records Historic Landmarks Survey, 419 Central N.W.

city, town Albuquerque _____ state New Mexico

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wool Warehouse, 520 1st Street N.W., Albuquerque, is a two-story, brick elongated cube, 100 by 200 feet. An exceptionally strong building, it has a concrete skeleton with double brick infill walls, varying in width from eight inches to 2 feet (the wider wall widths enable interior sliding doors to clear the two-foot columns of the skeleton while retaining the flush exterior wall). This structural skeleton is hidden on all sides by continuous courses of raked brick. A 3-foot smooth flush concrete wall anchors the base of the exterior.

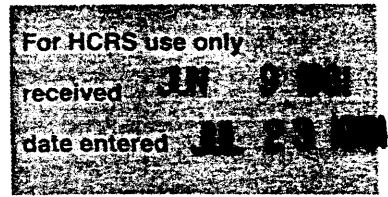
Set between the railroad tracks and First Street in downtown Albuquerque, the building's only ornamented wall is its public (west) facade on First Street. On this five-bay wall, the interior concrete columns flanking the large centered vehicle entrance are denoted by projecting brick work. The corner bays extend one foot from the facade and are further accentuated by projecting vertical courses of bricks forming a two-story frame around the centered first and second story windows. Paired concrete vertical ornaments, reminiscent of Prairie School ornamentation, are placed on either side of the second story windows flanking the vehicle entrance. The concrete ornamentation ties in with the continuous smooth concrete coping which wraps around the entire building. The roof is flat except for a one-story brick "penthouse" on the east end which houses the upper terminal of a large freight elevator.

Windows throughout are industrial steel windows, all with flush smooth concrete lug sills. Windows on the front facade are 20-light, set vertically and centered in each bay. On either side of the large entrance on the ground floor are two groups of three similar windows; one of the windows is replaced with a standard pedestrian entry door. Windows on the other three sides are placed horizontally, each containing 24 lights. These are evenly spaced around the building except on the east facade where they are grouped closer together above a painted Wool Warehouse sign. On the first floor in the northwest corner vertical windows denote interior office space. Above the loading dock at the railroad tracks are four large deeply recessed sliding doors and some smaller windows. Eight inch square downspouts running the full height of the building are evenly spaced along the north wall adding a geometric decorative accent to this otherwise severely plain surface.

The interior is equally straightforward: two huge storage rooms stacked on top of one another supported by four rows of nine concrete columns marching down the length of the building. The columns are 16'8" tall; those on the first floor are two feet in diameter and on the second floor 18" in diameter. They are topped by flared slightly fluted capitals. These flared capitals and the long rows of tall round columns suggest that the building's designer had an Egyptian temple in mind for this similarly constructed post and beam warehouse. The large interior space is minimally interrupted by a small group of offices in the northwest corner and a concrete stairway and two small concrete rooms (one for salt bins and one for brine vats) in the southeast corner. A 10'x18' freight elevator is centered on the rear (east) wall and a tightly curving steel spiral staircase used to stand just east of the front offices. This staircase has been replaced by a steel dog-leg stair. Metal pipe openings, 4" in diameter, are set in the floors and ceilings of both stories; these once held narrower floor to ceiling metal pipes to which the racks were attached on which the thousands of skins and hides were hung.

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Continuation sheet Description

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A one-story building has been built to the south, obscuring the first floor on that facade. Except for the replaced stairway, the removal of the metal pipes, and the erection of some fencing and shelves on the interior and the removal of one downspout and the addition of two slatted awnings on the exterior, the building stands as it was built in 1928-29.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1928-29

Builder/Architect T. Charles Gaastra

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Ever since the first Spanish settlers and missionaries brought flocks of sheep to New Mexico in the 17th and 18th centuries, sheep raising has been a major local industry. By the first half of the 19th century sheep and woolen textiles were the chief items of export from the New Mexico area. Thousands of sheep grazed on New Mexico's high grassy plateaus; flocks belonging to wealthy Spanish landowners numbered in the millions. Before the Civil War, major sheep drives involving 5000-25,000 sheep (often referred to as 'woolies' by writers about the sheep industry) were organized to bring food to the surging populations of the California mining camps. Other flocks went to feed the growing number of military battalions who served throughout the Southwest between the Mexican and Civil Wars. After the Civil War, the flocks were driven hundreds of miles to feed lots in Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas. An estimated 350,000 sheep were driven annually from New Mexico to these states during 1876-1878, a figure which rose to 1 million a year in 1883-1885.

During this period after the Civil War, the area around Albuquerque became one of the largest wool-producing districts in the Territory and the city became a major wool market center, being both convenient for shipping and offering higher prices than elsewhere in the New Mexico Territory. In 1890, 5 million pounds were handled in the city and by 1907 Albuquerque had become the chief shipping point for the area's wool production. The local wool industry continued to prosper in the first half of the 20th century until the combination of high labor costs, the growing popularity of synthetics, and greater restrictions on grazing lands contributed to sharp decline in wool production.

Although built late (1929) in the era of New Mexico's ranking position in American wool production, the Wool Warehouse is an appropriate symbol of the heyday of the New Mexican wool industry. It is the only building left in the city as a reminder of this once-thriving business; other city buildings related to wool sales and handling, such as the Wool Scouring Mills, the Rio Grande Woolen Mills and several large warehouses (Ilfield Co. Warehouse, Gross-Kelly Warehouse), have all been demolished. During the 1930's and '40's, the last high production period of the wool industry, the Wool Warehouse was a center for wool and hide sales and storage. Gordon Bond, grandson of the man who had the warehouse built, described the warehouse era: "At peak production times, five million pounds of wool would go through here. Also at its peak, 30 to 40 carloads of sheep wool, 40 to 50 carloads of cowhides and thousands of coyote, deer, elk, beaver and rabbits pelts... would be sold to wool and fur merchants in the east."¹

The designer of the warehouse, T. Charles Gaastra, took advantage of the necessarily large spaces to create a columned hall reminiscent of an Egyptian temple on the interior. The exterior design, a striking two-story elongated red brick cube, probably reflects the new architecture Gaastra had seen as a young man in Holland where he worked with his father, a

¹ Unsigned Article, The Albuquerque News, n.d., n.p.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property ca. .5 acre

Quadrangle name Albuquerque West

Quadrangle scale 1:2400

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1-4, Block 15 and the railroad frontage east of Lots 1-4, Block 15.
Armijo & Otero Addition, Albuquerque, New Mexico

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary P. Davis, Historian

organization Historic Landmarks Survey

date Sept. 28, 1980

street & number P.O. Box 1293

telephone (505) 766-4720

city or town Albuquerque

state New Mexico

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

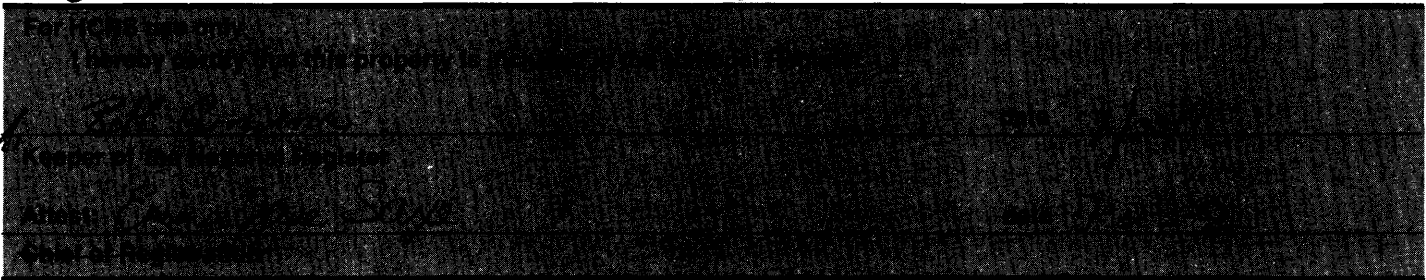
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6-4-81



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date entered	JUL 23 1981

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Significance

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contractor, in the second decade of the 20th century. Gaastra first appears in New Mexico in 1926 when he was working in Santa Fe with the firm of

Gladding and Gladding. The Wool Warehouse was one of several buildings in Albuquerque which he designed. In a more regional style are the Monte Vista and Eugene Field elementary schools and a group of buildings on the University of New Mexico campus.

The owner of the Wool Warehouse was Frank Bond, a well-known figure in the New Mexico wool industry. Born in Quebec in 1863, he came west in 1883 and settled in Espanola, New Mexico; shortly thereafter he got into the sheep business and for 42 years ran his vast empire from his headquarters in Espanola. As Towne and Wentworth describe him in their book Shepherd's Empire, "In addition to being interested in breeding, they (Frank and George Bond) expanded as dealers, selling ewe bands in Colorado, Wyoming, and western Kansas, and wether bands to feed lots of the Middle West. As the business expanded, they opened headquarters in Albuquerque, from which they serviced their increasing number of merchandise stores. At the peak, the Bonds owned 25,000 head and handled between 100,000 and 200,000 as traders. They occasionally had as many as 50,000 to 60,000 head on feed in Colorado and Nebraska, and annual wool sales attained a peak of 500,000 pounds."²

When Frank Bond moved his headquarters to Albuquerque in 1925, he not only moved to the market center of the wool industry in the Southwest, he also moved to Albuquerque for his daughter Hazel's health. Tragically it was his other daughter, Amy, who died suddenly the following year; as if this were not enough, Hazel died two years later. In the same year as Hazel's death, work on the Wool Warehouse was begun; perhaps these two tragic losses so close upon one another motivated him to start work on this new project. By 1930 the warehouse took its first clip of wool and continued as a center for wool and hide sales and storage until 1972 when the sharp decline in wool production caused the Bonds to lease the building to other tenants. They continued to own the building until 1976 when they sold it to the City of Albuquerque, which is using it for records storage.

²Towne and Wentworth, Shepherd's Empire, p. 331

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date entered

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Oppenheimer, Alan J., The Historical Background of Albuquerque New Mexico, Planning Department, City of Albuquerque, 1962.

Towne, Charles Wayland and Wentworth, Edward Norris, Shepherd's Empire, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla., 1945.

Original building plans by Gaastra, Gladding, Johnson

Unsigned article, The Albuquerque News, n.d. (circ 1976)