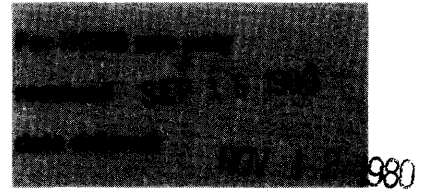


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Belen Hotel

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 200 Becker Avenue _____ not for publication

city, town Belen _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 81st

state New Mexico code 35 county Valencia code 061

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 Carol Thomas

street & number P. O. Box 1252

city, town Los Lunas _____ vicinity of _____ state NM

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Valencia County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Los Lunas _____ state NM

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Register of Cultural Properties has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 8-29-80 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Bureau

city, town Santa Fe, _____ state NM

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 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 Belen Hotel is a two-story, red brick building located in a small commercial district. The hotel, like the other businesses in the district, primarily caters to Santa Fe Railroad personnel. The flat-roofed, L-shape plan building has a chamfered corner. This corner, the Decker St. facade, and one bay of the 2nd Street facade are articulated with pilasters. The top of the pilasters and the cornice have corbeling.

Along the 1st story of the front portion of the building are display windows which mark the public areas of the hotel. The left front bay has an inset door and display windows angling into it. The second story of this front section has round arch, double hung windows, grouped asymmetrically. Above the left store front is a group of three openings, the center of which was a door, now cemented in. Above the door and in the right front bay are single windows, as is the case at the corner. The front bay along second story has a round window and a round arch window. All the windows for the rear sections are double hung topped by segmental arches. Two doors leading to office space also have segmental arches and tall transoms. The simple cornice of the rear section is broken by chimneys.

Comparison of a photo taken shortly after the building was completed in 1907 indicates that there have been few exterior changes. In the 1940s the corner door leading into the lobby was added. Originally there was a window, of a configuration similar to the others. A second story door, originally used when furniture was hoisted up, has been concreted in. The major alteration, made in the mid 1930's, is a two-story, stuccoed, cinder block addition to the rear. The first story has a laundry room and addition to the kitchen and the second story another guest room. The addition is relatively unobstrusive because it is not in plain view from the front.

More changes have been made to the interior of the hotel. The lower story rooms, at one time, included a cafe, a lobby, two shops, a kitchen, and guest rooms. Now in use solely as a boarding house, the hardwood floors have been tiled and carpeted over and the ceiling material replaced with accoustical tile. All of the doors, except the front center one, have been covered over. Most of the original doors are retrievable underneath. The front stairway has its original banister, but the railings have been added.

Upstairs are 18 guest rooms and several baths. Above the stairway and a central space is a large skylight, which gives the upper story an airiness. Although the tongue-in-grove ceilings remain upstairs, the floors have been carpeted.

The only other structure on the property is an unobtrusive, one story garage to the rear of the hotel. The garage is constructed of adobe and has a flat roof. There are four stalls.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1907 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Belen Hotel is significant because it is one of Belen's best examples of the Decorative Brick Style. Mrs. Bertha Rutz built the hotel in 1907 to serve employees of the AT & SF Railroad. She continued to run the hotel and cafe until her death in 1953. Having run the hotel for so many years, she was a well known figure in Belen and with railroad employees.

1907 was an important year for Belen because it was then that the Belen cut-off was completed and the town became a division headquarters. Prior to 1907 the main line of the Santa Fe went from Raton to Las Vegas to Albuquerque and then south along the Rio Grande. Belen was simply another stop. To serve West Texas, and to avoid mountain passes, the Belen cut-off left the main line in western Kansas and rejoined it at Belen. It was this rerouting of freight traffic that brought prominence to both Albuquerque and Belen. The cut-off also necessitated services, such as that provided by the Belen Hotel.

Mrs. Rutz was a German immigrant who arrived in Belen at age 16. For seven years she worked as housekeeper to the president of the First National Bank. In 1907 she purchased the land and built the hotel. She paid \$ 16,000.00 for a mortgage at 8% interest. Mrs. Rutz owned the property until 1953. From 1953 to 1972 Mr. and Mrs. Calloway owned the building. Until the present owners purchased this year, Mr. and Mrs. Hall owned it.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carol Thomas, information from abstract and local interviews.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Belen

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 3	3 3 7 9 0 0	3 1 8 3 1 6 5 1 6 1 0
	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

Beginning at the northwest corner of 2nd and Decker, proceed west on the north side of Decker for approximately 15 meters to the fence marking the west property line,

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 Ellen Threinen, Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Bureau date _____

street & number 505 Don Gaspar telephone (505) 827-2108

city or town Santa Fe state NM

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 Thomas W. Oberman

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 9-9-80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Bill Grosvenor</u>	date <u>11/12/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 18 1980

NOV 12 1980

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Belen Hotel

Verbal boundary description and justification

proceed north along the fence for approximately 30 meters to the alley; proceed east along the south side of the alley for approximately 15 meters to 2nd; proceed south along the west side of 2nd for approximately 30 meters to the starting point.

Justification

The boundary encloses only the hotel building. There is no potential for a district.