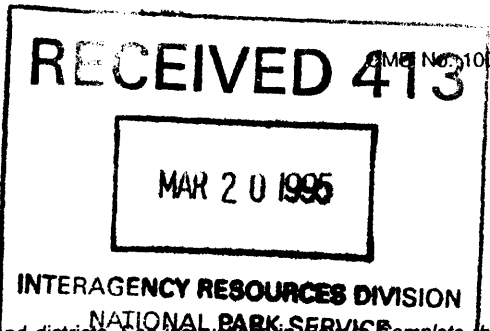


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in ~~Form~~ **How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form** (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Webster, John M., House
other names/site number Shepard House, Robinson House

2. Location

street & number SE corner Main Street and Fifth Avenue Not for publication
city or town Hillsboro Vicinity
state New Mexico code NM county Sierra code 051 zip code 88042

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
[Signature] 12/14/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
NM Historic Preservation Division
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action Entered in the National Register 4/20/95

Webster, John M., House

Name of Property

Sierra County, NM

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Architectural and Historic Resources of Hillsboro, NM. Part 1: Domestic Architecture

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Other: Late Victorian Vernacular

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Not visible

walls Stuccoed adobe

roof metal

other N/A

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Webster, John M., House

Name of Property

Sierra County, NM

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c.1893-1944

Significant Dates

c.1893

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Webster, John M., House
Name of Property

Sierra County, NM
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	3
---	---

2	5	9	5	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	6	4	5	1	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Corinne P. Sze, Ph.D.
organization Research Services of Santa Fe date September 1994
street & number 1042 Stagecoach Road telephone (505) 983-5605
city or town Santa Fe state NM zip code 87501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

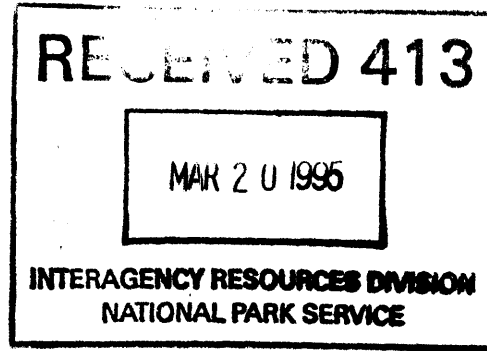
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1



NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

This is a single-story, Late Victorian Vernacular, adobe dwelling with a front-gable roof and two short side gables. At the back is a shed-roofed extension. The building faces north onto Main Street across Fifth Avenue from the Will M. Robins House which it resembles in siting, general massing, and some detailing. Just one room wide at the street, it is set back on a long, narrow lot. The roofs are metal covered and the historic windows are wooden with 1/1 panes and pedimented lintels.

On the main facade is a three-sided, canted bay composed of four, 1/1 windows. On the west facade, the side gable extends out no farther than the width of one 1/1 window. On the east facade a corresponding side gable projects out about twice as far. Within the L created by this gable is a raised, uncovered, east-facing porch, with an iron railing. Looking out on the porch are an east-facing door which enters the front room and a new window. Sliding glass doors face north, above which are windows with a border of small colored-glass panes, apparently reused from elsewhere in the house. A picket fence extends along the street line on Main Street and Fifth Avenue. A noncontributing garage/apartment was built at the rear of the property after the Period of Significance.

The 1893 Sanborn Map shows the original, T-shaped building with two short cross gables, an east-facing side porch, and a front bay window. By 1898 a rectangle had been added at the back and by 1930 the back section had been extended to the east.

The house has been somewhat altered. The roofless front porch has apparently been stripped of whatever Victorian elements it may have once had and sliding glass doors and a new window were added facing it. At an unknown date a porch of plastered cinder block was added on back of the house. In the 1970s sliding doors were added from the bedroom to the back porch. On the interior two doors were removed, and some of the ceilings lowered. The tongue and groove oak ceiling of the master bedroom is still visible in the attic.¹ In the living room a partition was removed creating one room. A bathroom was put into bedroom closet space.²

1. John Yarbrough, interview.
2. Alice Jones, interview.

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SIGNIFICANCE

This building is architecturally significant as an example of the realization in locally obtainable materials of an imported style which incorporates the form, siting, and decoration characteristic of vernacular building in the Victorian era. Typical elements are the front and cross gables forming the original T-shape, the front bay window, the side porch, and side front entrance.

In 1884 John William Ellis purchased from John Donahoe, probate judge and Hillsboro townsite trustee, two narrow lots stretching from Main Street back to Elenora. About a month later Ellis purchased an additional 12-foot strip taken from the road and extending back along the west side of the property its full length. In 1886 Ellis sold the lots to John and Annie Webster who held them until 1905 and presumably built this house.³ From 1888 until 1890 and 1891 the Websters also owned the corner property across Fifth Avenue from this one.

In addition to other lots in Hillsboro, Webster had extensive land and mine holdings and was a local politician. Reared in New Hampshire, he was involved in mining in Arizona before coming to New Mexico in 1882, as one of the first settlers in Kingston, and to Hillsboro in 1885. He was considered an expert in estimating the value of mine properties and in the best methods of their development. In politics he served as chairman of the Sierra County Republican Central Committee, as probate clerk in 1885-1892 and 1905-1908, as county commissioner in 1909-1910, and also as Hillsboro's postmaster. He was United States commissioner of New Mexico to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.⁴ It was he who as probate clerk filed the Hillsboro townsite map in 1887. Further afield he served as a regent of the A. & M. College at Mesilla Park (today's New Mexico State University).⁵

3. Sierra County Deeds, B:73; B:75; B:136; E:40.

4. Sierra County Advocate 14 March 1885. *Santa Fe New Mexican* 3 February 1899. George B. Anderson, *History of New Mexico: Its Resources and People*, vol. 2 (Los Angeles: Pacific States Publishing Company, 1907) 763. *History of Sierra County, New Mexico* (Truth or Consequences, N.M.: Sierra County Historical Society, 1979) 37.

5. Sierra County Advocate 1 June 1906.

Name of Property

County and State

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From 1905 to 1915 this was the home of Aggie and W. A. Shepard, the latter proprietor of a saloon called the Silver Leaf. In 1911 he and the Bolander brothers purchased the Hillsboro Mercantile Store with the intention of housing the saloon in one corner of the building and remodeling the rest as a garage and repair shop for automobiles and wagons.⁶ The next owner was Charles H. Johnson, who sold the house to James Andrew (Andy) Robinson in 1933.⁷ Robinson, who moved to New Mexico from Texas in 1911, was a businessman with a varied career in merchandising. In 1918 he came to Hillsboro where he was employed by Miller and Knight. He managed the store for the heirs of the owners until 1922 when he opened his own store on Main Street offering groceries, billiards, cigars, and tobacco. In the mid 1930s he sold electrical appliances, including Electrolux refrigerators, Maytag washers, and Philco radios from an office in the Green Lantern Cafe, while Mrs. Robinson ran a restaurant, and in the late 1930s and early 1940s sold groceries. Ill health forced him to retire in 1957.⁸

6. Sierra County Deeds, E:409. *Sierra County Advocate* 22 June 1906. *Sierra Free Press* 19 October 1911.

7. Sierra County Deeds, F:368; L:424.

8. Frank D. Reeve, *History of New Mexico*, vol. 3 (New York: Lewis Publishing Company, Inc., 1961) 523-524. *New Mexico State Business Directory* 1923, 1931, 1936, 1938, 1942-1943. *The Hillsboro News* 2 August 1935.

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Continuation Sheet

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SOURCES

History of Sierra County, New Mexico. Truth or Consequences,
N.M.: Sierra County Historical Society, 1979.

New Mexico State Business Directory, various years.

Reeve, Frank D. *History of New Mexico*. Vol. 3. New York: Lewis
Publishing Company, Inc., 1961.

Sanborn Maps 1893, 1898, 1930.

Santa Fe New Mexican 3 February 1899.

Sierra County Advocate 14 March 1885; 1 June 1906.

Sierra County Deeds.

Sierra Free Press 19 October 1911.

Interviews

Jones, Alice 30 April 1994

Yarbrough, John 29 April 1994

Webster, John M., House

Sierra County, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

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Section 10 Page 5

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 29: lots 4, 5, 9, and 10. Hillsboro original townsite.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Lot and block numbers of the historic property as shown on the map filed for the record 14 December 1887 and on the 1930 Sanborn map.

Webster, John M., House

Sierra County, New Mexico

Name of Property

County and State

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Continuation Sheet

Section Photos Page 6

INFORMATION COMMON TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Webster, John M., House
2. Sierra County, New Mexico
3. Corinne P. Sze
4. August 31, 1993
5. Historic Preservation Division
Santa Fe, New Mexico

INFORMATION ON INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

6. North and west facades. Camera facing southeast.
7. Photo #1

6. North and partial east facades. Camera facing south.
7. Photo #2