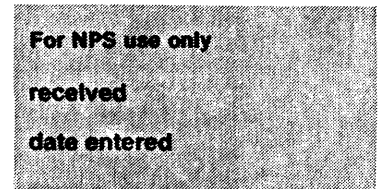


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Albuquerque Downtown Neighborhoods MRA:  
Continuation sheet La Glorieta

Item number

Page 1

Name: La Glorieta (individual nomination #10)

Location: 1801 Central Avenue, NW  
Albuquerque, NM

Name and address of owners:

Richard G. Elkins, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Manzano  
Day School  
1801 Central Avenue, NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Present and original appearance:

Home to some of Albuquerque's most important families and institutions over the years, La Glorieta is now a four-sided adobe building enclosing a placita in the center. The south and west wings remain from the original L-shaped building, built by 1860 and perhaps considerably earlier. The construction dates of the north and east wings are unclear; maps show the building as L-shaped in 1898 and U-shaped, with a north wing, in 1907. However, both Harvey Fergusson and Lina Fergusson Browne who grew up in La Glorieta state that the two later sides were added by their grandfather, Franz Huning, who ceased to own the building in 1889 and died in 1905.

The building expresses its age and history in the battered walls and flat roof, the three-foot thick adobe walls throughout, the sidelighted door which fills in the south zaguan. Some windows--particularly those on the east side of the placita--and many doors are set under Territorial pedimented lintels; other windows and the exterior doors are set under plain wood frames. Wood reveals at doors and windows are deep and panelled. The original walls of interior rooms have been retained and adapted to a variety of classroom uses.

La Glorieta, in its present use as the home of Manzano Day School, is one of the most serene and pleasant buildings in Albuquerque. Much of its effect comes from the green and quiet interior placita, which contains the trunk of a famous cottonwood tree, said to have been fertilized by the blood of slaughtered oxen during the Civil War. The tree succumbed to age and rot and had to be cut down, but the huge trunk still stands--at circa 20 feet high and 17 feet in circumference, a substantial anchor for the placita.

In regard to the additions to the building, the property nominated was basically built in three stages. As stated in the nomination, the south and west wings are the oldest; they appear on the 1898 survey map and all historic descriptions of the house indicate that they were standing in 1861 when Franz Huning bought the property. One source (Albuquerque Tribune, May 23, 1957, Pg. 34) states that part of the house was standing in 1803. This has not been verified.

The east and north wings were added by 1915, at the latest, since the rooms in these wings are clearly described by Lina Fergusson Browne, who did not know the building after the 1915 sale by Clara Fergusson. The elements found in the wings - windows, wall thicknesses, relationship to other rooms in the house, support an early 20th

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century date. A one-room addition on the southwest was built in the early 1970's. It is stuccoed to match the main building and does not essentially alter the placita-centered building. On the enclosed floor plan are indicated the dates of additions and original room uses during the Fergusson family residency.

Additional classrooms were built to the north of La Glorieta during the 1940's and again in the 1970's. These classrooms are not attached to La Glorieta and are not included within the nomination boundaries.

### Significance

La Glorieta, a focus of Albuquerque life and history for over 100 years, is the most important historic residence in the city. Two wings of the building not only date to the Civil War period, and perhaps earlier, but two of Albuquerque's most influential families, the Hunings, and the Fergussons, lived there as well. Franz Huning, one of the earliest Anglo settlers in Albuquerque, was instrumental in the founding of New Town and therefore in the beginnings of the modern city. Harvey Fergusson Sr. helped win statehood for New Mexico and his children, notably Erna, Harvey Jr. and Francis, all became nationally recognized writers. Erna, in particular, used her talents to foster a greater understanding and love of Albuquerque and its history as well as the Indian culture of New Mexico. No other building still existing in Albuquerque except San Felipe de Neri church has historic connections of such importance in the development of the city and its culture and of the state of New Mexico.

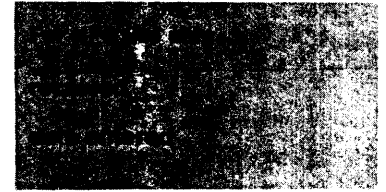
Franz Huning, German immigrant and Albuquerque merchant, purchased La Glorieta in 1861 from Fernando Louis Cremer, who had bought the property a year earlier from Felis de Jesus Garcia. It has not been possible to trace the earlier history of the property, though local legend connects it with Catholic priests. Huning, who was one of the key figures in land acquisition that paved the way for the growth of the modern City of Albuquerque, raised his family in the hacienda. In 1883, after the arrival of the railroad and the success of his subdivisions, Huning was able to build an elaborate three-story Italianate house, Castle Huning (since demolished) on land he owned south of Central Avenue. No firm record exists for the next six years, but the evidence makes it likely that La Glorieta became the residence of Huning's brother Carl.

In 1889, Huning deeded the building to his daughter, Clara, after her marriage to Harvey B. Fergusson, a southern lawyer who established practice in Albuquerque in 1883. Fergusson made his mark as a successful courtroom orator, and moved into politics as a Democrat in what was then a heavily Republican state. Shifting political balances aided his career, and as Territorial delegate to the U.S. Congress, Fergusson was one of the major forces in the drive for New Mexican statehood. He became the new State's first Congressman, a fitting close to his impressive career.

Fergusson raised his four children, Harvey, Erna, Francis, and Lina in La Glorieta, which also served as a local political and social center. The family lived in a grand style; servants made up for the house's lack of modern convenience; surrounding land was maintained as farm and garden, dairy herds, the Huning vineyard,

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Albuquerque Downtown Neighborhood MRA:  
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and the carefully tended land produced most of the family's needs.

Harvey, Lina, and Erna Fergusson, who had left memoirs of the childhood in La Glorieta, agree on the beauty and warmth of their home. All the Fergusson children achieved some renown as writers: Erna is well known as one of the finest interpreters of the Southwest. Harvey, a prolific writer and novelist, also concentrated on New Mexico in such books as Rio Grande; Francis is well known as a literary and dramatic historian. Lina, the last child, edited the autobiography of her grandfather, adding a long memoir on life in La Glorieta.

After H. B. Fergusson's death, Clara Huning Fergusson sold the "Fergusson Place" to David Twichell in 1915; he in turn sold it to Isabella Fyfe Peters, who owned the house for approximately 20 years.

In about 1939-1940, La Glorieta was purchased as a new home for Manzano Day School, a primary private school under the patronage of Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms, a former congresswoman and a very influential figure in New Mexican politics and society. The house has since been the campus for this school which serves about 300 students from preschool through the sixth grade.

Geographical data:

Acreage: 1.6 acres

UTM References: 13/348180/3884400

USGS Map: See Albuquerque Downtown Neighborhoods Multiple Resource Area  
Bernalillo County, NR: 12/1/80.

Boundary Description and Justification:

Starting at the intersection of west lot line, Tract 112A (MRGCD Map 38) with the north right of way line of Central Avenue, NW; thence north along west lot line 255 ft., thence east along the lot line 50 feet, thence south 7.5 feet along north wall of La Glorieta, thence east 75 feet along north wall of building and extending additional 75 feet east, thence 55 feet south in a line connecting the east lot line of the property, thence south along east lot line to intersection with north right-of-way line of Central Avenue, NW, thence northwest along north right-of-way of Central to the point of beginning.

This property outlined above includes the original building and the landscaped area to the south.

HISTORIC LANDMARKS SURVEY OF ALBUQUERQUE INVENTORY

Number 10

Name: La Glorieta

Location: 1801 Central Avenue N.W.

Name and address of owner:

Robby Roberson, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Manzano Day School  
1801 Central Avenue N.W.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104

Present and Original Physical Appearance:

Home to some of Albuquerque's most important families and institutions over the years, La Glorieta is now a four-sided adobe building enclosing a placita in the center. The south and west wings remain from the original L-shaped building, built by 1860 and perhaps considerably earlier. The construction dates of the north and east wings are unclear; maps show the building as L-shaped in 1898 and U-shaped, with a north wing, in 1907. However, both Harvey Fergusson and Lina Fergusson Browne who grew up in La Glorieta state that the two later sides were added by their grandfather, Franz Huning, who ceased to own the building in 1889 and died in 1905.

Similarly, though alterations to the building have clearly been made over the years, their nature and extent is not easily interpreted. A portal which once covered the south wing on the interior has been removed, a portal on the east wing exterior is relatively recent. The rounded archway through the north wing--now the entry into the placita from the exterior--is recent.

The building expresses its age and history in the battered walls and flat roof, the three-foot thick adobe walls throughout, the sidelighted door which fills in the Architectural Style:

Date of property: uncertain, by 1860; late 19th-early 20th century additions, additions from 1940-1980.

Significance of property:

Home of Franz Huning, almost the founding citizen of the City of Albuquerque and certainly its foremost real estate entrepreneur; home to Harvey B. Fergusson, U.S. Congressman and major advocate of New Mexican statehood; home to the Fergusson children, Erna, Harvey, Lina, and Francis, two of them important regional writers, and finally, home to one of Albuquerque's oldest and finest private schools, La Glorieta has been a focus of Albuquerque life and history for over a hundred years. No other building still existing in Albuquerque except San Felipe de Neri church has historic connections of such importance in the development of the city and its culture and of the state of New Mexico.

Franz Huning, German immigrant and Albuquerque merchant, purchased La Glorieta in 1861 from Fernando Louis Cremer, who had bought the property a year earlier from Felis de Jesus Garcia. It has not been possible to trace the earlier history of the property, though local legend connects it with Catholic priests. Huning,

Condition: good

Altered? yes

Moved? no

Acreage: ca. 3 acres

Boundary Description: Tract 112a on Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Map #38; bounded on the north by Lomas Blvd, on the south by Central Ave., on east and west BTM reference point: by irregular lines.

Z: 13 E: 348180 N: 3884400

Thematic classification (N.M. State Register)

Inventory form by:

Date:

OCT 20 1980

Present and Original Physical Appearance, cont.

south zaguan. Some windows--particularly those on the east side of the placita--and many doors are set under Territorial pedimented lintels; other windows and the exterior doors are set under plain wood frames. Wood reveals at doors and windows are deep and panelled. The original walls of interior rooms have been retained and adapted to a variety of classroom uses.

Various outbuildings have been added to accomodate the needs of Manzano Day School; two buildings were added to the north of the original hacienda, one about 1940 and the other in 1970; in 1974, a room was added to the southwest corner of the original house. This nomination encompasses the four-sided building and excludes those later additions.

La Glorieta, in its present use as the home of Manzano Day School, is one of the most serene and pleasant buildings in Albuquerque. Much of its effect comes from the green and quiet interior placita, which contains the trunk of a famous cottonwood tree, said to have been fertilized by the blood of slaughtered oxen during the Civil War. About four years ago, the tree succumbed to age and rot and had to be cut down, but the huge trunk still stands--at circa 20 feet high and 17 feet in circumference, a substantial anchor for the placita.

Significance of Property, cont.

who was one of the key figures in land acquisition that paved the way for the growth of the modern City of Albuquerque, raised his family in the hacienda. In 1883, after the arrival of the railroad and the success of his subdivisions, Huning was able to build an elaborate three-story Italianate house, Castle Huning (since demolished) on land he owned south of Central Avenue. No firm record exists for the next six years, but the evidence makes it likely that La Glorieta became the residence of Huning's brother Carl.

In 1889, Huning deeded the building to his daughter, Clara, after her marriage to Harvey B. Fergusson, a southern lawyer who established practice in Albuquerque in 1883. Fergusson made his mark as a successful courtroom orator, and moved into politics as a Democrat in what was then a heavily Republican state. Shifting political balances aided his career, and as Territorial delegate to the U.S. Congress, Fergusson was one of the major forces in the drive for New Mexican statehood. He became the new State's first Congressman, a fitting close to his impressive career.

Fergusson raised his four children, Harvey, Erna, Francis, and Lina in La Glorieta, which also served as a local political and social center. The family lived in a grand style; servants made up for the house's lack of modern convenience; surrounding land was maintained as farm and garden; dairly herds, the Huning vineyard, and the carefully tended land produced most of the family's needs.

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After H.B. Fergusson's death, Clara Huning Fergusson sold the "Fergusson Place" to David Twitchell in 1915; he in turn sold it to Isabella Fyfe Peters, who

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La Glorieta, page 3

Significance of Property, cont.

owned the house for approximately 20 years.

In about 1939-1940, La Glorieta was purchased as a new home for Manzano Day School, a primary private school under the patronage of Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms, a former congresswoman and a very influential figure in New Mexican politics and society. The house has since been the campus for this school which serves about 300 students from preschool through the sixth grade. While new classrooms have been added, the original house has been carefully preserved, and Headmaster Anthony Pino feels that the cool and quiet adobe rooms have a beneficial effect on Manzano students.

OCT 20 1980

La Glorieta, 1801 Central NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

#13

Aerial view

Bohannon, Huston; March, 1980  
4125 Carlisle NE, Albuquerque

