National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received NCT 3 | 1984 date entered

not for publication

code

001

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

Name

La Segunda Iglesia Presbyteriana Unida historic

and/or common Second United Presbyterian Church* (name for registration); Second Church

Location

812 Edith Boulevard N.E. street & number

Albuquerque city, town

_ vicinity of

code 35

county **Bernalillo**

state New Mexico

3,

Category

____site

_ object

_ district

X_____ building(s)

_ structure

- Classification **Ownership** Status _ public <u>X</u> occupied _X_ private
 - _ unoccupied work in progress **Public Acquisition** Accessible <u>X</u> ves: restricted being considered ves: unrestricted
- agricultu commer _ educatio __ entertain aovernm industria military

Present Use	
agriculture	museum
commercial	park
educational	private residence
entertainment	<u>X</u> religious
government	scientific
industrial	transportation
military	other:

Owner of Property 4

N/À

Х

both

in process

name Second United Presbyterian Church c/o Mrs. Alice Jones, Clerk of the Session

7725 American Heritage Dr., N.E. street & number

city, town Albuquerque vicinity of state N.M. 87109

Location of Legal Description 5.

Bernalillo County Courthouse Annex Dept. of Records courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

505 Central N.W. street & number

Albuquerque city, town

	state New	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_	

federal

Representation in Existing Surveys 6.

title Historic Landmark Survey of _yes _X_no has this property been determined eligible? Albuquerque

date June, 1980

depository for survey records Historic Landmark Survey, Community and Econmic Dev. Dept.

city, town P.O. Box 1293 Albuquerque

N.M. state

_____state ____ county _X___ local

Mexico

no

7. Description

Condition

excelle	nt	t	deteriorated	unaltered
_X good		1		<u>_X</u> altered
fair		4	unexposed	

Check one X original site moved date

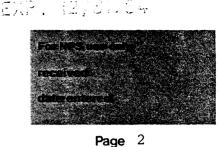
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Check one

Physical Description

Located less than a mile fron downtown Albuquerque, the Mission style Second United Presbyterian Church stands on Edith Boulevard, the "main street" of Martineztown, a late 19th century Hispanic settlement. Just to the south is the church parking lot which is located on the corner of Edith and Lomas Boulevard, a busy traffic arterial connecting the downtown area to the Northeast Heights. North, west and east are small adobe houses, irregularly clustered on the narrow streets of the barrio. On the east the number of houses dwindles near the rounded sand and gravel hills at the edge of the Rio Grande flood plain. The church, a beige-colored stucco over cement block, features a bell tower over its main entrance, round arched windows and curvilinear gables on the east and west.

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Continuation sheet Description Item number 7

The plan of the church is rectilinear with a projecting, two-story central bay on the west. Fitted into the space on either side of the bay is a taller bell tower on the south and a one-room 1-1/2 story wing on the north. At the base of the bell tower is the main entry to the church, set facing Edith. It is a double leaf wooden door topped by an arched stained glass window set into the tympanum beneath a simple rounded arch; the words "Iglesia Presbiteriana" are worked into the stained glass. A similar door is set into the base of the northern wing with a plain stained glass window placed above it.

The roof is broadly pitched with a curvilinear gable on the west and east. As the curve of the gable approaches the eaves, it becomes stepped. The roof is covered with red shingles instead of the red tile usually found on Mission style buildings; the projecting eaves display exposed wood rafters painted white. The bell tower is topped by a small projecting pitched roof hidden like the main roof behind curvilinear gables on the east and west. Three tall narrow round-arched windows echoed by "eyebrows" in the stucco wall above mark the front (west) facade of the tower; louvered round-arched windows appear on the other three sides. The north wing features a less elaborate curved gable and a single arched window.

Windows are round-arched wood 1/1 double hung. On the north and south sides of the nave are eight windows, six with stained glass given by church members. A larger stained glass window at the east end of the sanctuary was donated by members of the <u>Sociedad Missionera</u> in 1934; it depicts Christ as the Good Shepherd. The original wood window sills have all been stuccoed over.

The interior is painted plaster. The gable shape is visible, but the structural members are covered with acoustical tile. Pews and pulpit are original and are made of dark-stained wood. The choir loft, also panelled with dark wood, is placed above a "crying room" and an office on the west side; access to the loft is through the bell tower. Walls on the ground floor are approximately two feet thick.

To the south of the church is the House of Neighborly Service, a community center sponsored by the church. This was built in 1948 in a style similar to that of the church, most notably in its curvilinear Mission style gable on the front (west) facade. Since 1948 three other buildings have been connected to the eastern end of the House of Neighborly Service. These buildings, the House of Neighborly Service and the connecting structure are clearly distinct from the 1922 church and are designated a non-contributing addition in this nomination.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below		
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	archeology-prehistoric		Iandscape architectur Iaw Iterature	re_X_ religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)

Specific dates 1922

Builder/Architect Contractor - Marcus Sawtelle

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Significance

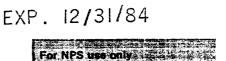
The Second United Presbyterian Church at 812 Edith N.E. is the second home of the oldest Protestant Spanish church in Albuquerque. Descendants of the first settlers of the mid-19th century community of Martineztown established the church in 1889 and it has continued to play a major role in the life of this cohesive Hispanic community. The present church building, erected in 1922, has been little altered since its construction and stands as an excellent and rare example of the Mission style in the city. As an important local institution and as one of only a handful of city buildings designed in the Mission style, the Second United Presbyterian Church is locally significant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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Continuation sheet Significance

Item number 8

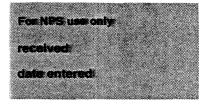
Page 2

The Presbyterians arrived in New Mexico to stay just after the Civil War. They first established churches and schools in the Santa Fe, Taos and Las Vegas areas and did not turn to the Albuquerque area until the arrival of the railroad in 1880. Here they established the First Presbyterian Church and soon after founded an Indian School; when this was later taken over by the federal government in 1886 they started another school which was also intended to serve Native Americans but in the 1890's was re-constituted to educate Hispanic boys from the Presbyterian mission schools in northern New Mexico. This was the Menaul School; its energetic founder, James Menaul, served as minister of the First Presbyterian church and was instrumental in the founding of the Second Presbyterian Church in Martineztown. The tie between Menaul School and "Second Church" has lasted for generations, the church keeping a close connection with students and faculty at the school.

The impetus for the establishment of a Protestant church in Martineztown came primarily from the residents. Neighborhood historians say that even the founding of the village stemmed from the disagreements some Old Town residents had with the Catholic fathers at San Felipe de Neri, the old church at the main plaza, in the 1850's when the disgruntled farmers moved their families and stock up onto the sandhills east of the main plaza. They remained Catholics until a native of Mexico, Epifanio Arreola, came to live among them, probably about 1885. Arreola had been converted while in prison in Mexico City after reading a Spanish Bible given him by a missionary. When he was released he came to America, settled in Martineztown and began to hold bible readings in the homes of his neighbors. Soon he was able to tell James Menaul that the citizens of Martineztown were ready to form a church. On January 27, 1889, Menaul and José Ynes Perea, an early and active Hispanic convert to the Presbyterian faith, met with the interested citizens at Arreola's house and organized the Spanish Presbyterian Church--now the Second Presbyterian Church. It had fifteen members and Mr. Arreola was elected elder. James Menaul served as minister until 1905. Later in 1889 a small traditional adobe chapel, now demolished, was built to house the congregation. Services were held in both English and Spanish, as they are to this day.

By 1920 the congregation had outgrown their small church and plans were made to build at another site farther south on Edith Boulevard. The new church was completed in 1922. Seven years later a basement was excavated by Menaul students and Reverend George Simonds for space to hold community activities. The church's neighborhood involvement was greatly extended by the work of its beloved long-term pastor, José Candelaria. Candelaria, who had begun his pastorate in 1935, was a native of northern New Mexico a graduate of Menaul School. After attending college in the midwest and in Denver, he taught at Menaul and worked in New Mexico and Colorado, spending twelve years at the Jerome Park Mission in Denver where he began an active neighborhood program. When he came to Albuquerque, he found a similar program was needed and

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Continuation sheet Significance

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obtained a small building at the back of the church for use as a nursery and clubhouse. In 1941 a full-time neighborhood worker was found, Izeyl Phelps, and in 1948 a separate new building was built for the House of Neighborly Service, the traditional name for Presbyterian community centers. Reverend Candelaria retired in 1962.

In 1968 the administration of the church and the House of Neighborly Service was divided and a year later a building and development fund was started with the result that the church buildings were painted and some interior remodeling done. In 1978 the church managed to purchase the lot to the south for a parking lot. Although only ten families in the church still live in Martineztown, many who used to live there still return to the church on Edith to attend services. The membership has recently dropped slightly from 322 in 1978 to 298 in 1982. It continues to be the only bi-lingual Presbyterian church in the city and the House of Neighborly Services continues its active community work; presently this includes food assistance for the elderly, recreation and adult education programs, camping clubs and emergency assistance.

The church's architectural significance lies in its comparative rarity. Only it, the Santa Fe Railroad depot and two small railroad office buildings and the gymnasium at the Albuquerque Indian School remain in the city representing this once-popular style. Albuquerque's "flagships" of the style - the Alvarado Hotel and the YMCA building at 1st and Central downtown - were demolished in the 1970's. Second Presbyterian features the curvilinear gables and the broadly pitched roof common to Mission buildings; the customary arches appear here in the consistently round-arched windows. Since it is located near a busy thoroughfare, the church is one of the more widely recognized Mission style buildings in the city.

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84 NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Continuation sheet References

Major Bibliographical

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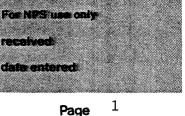
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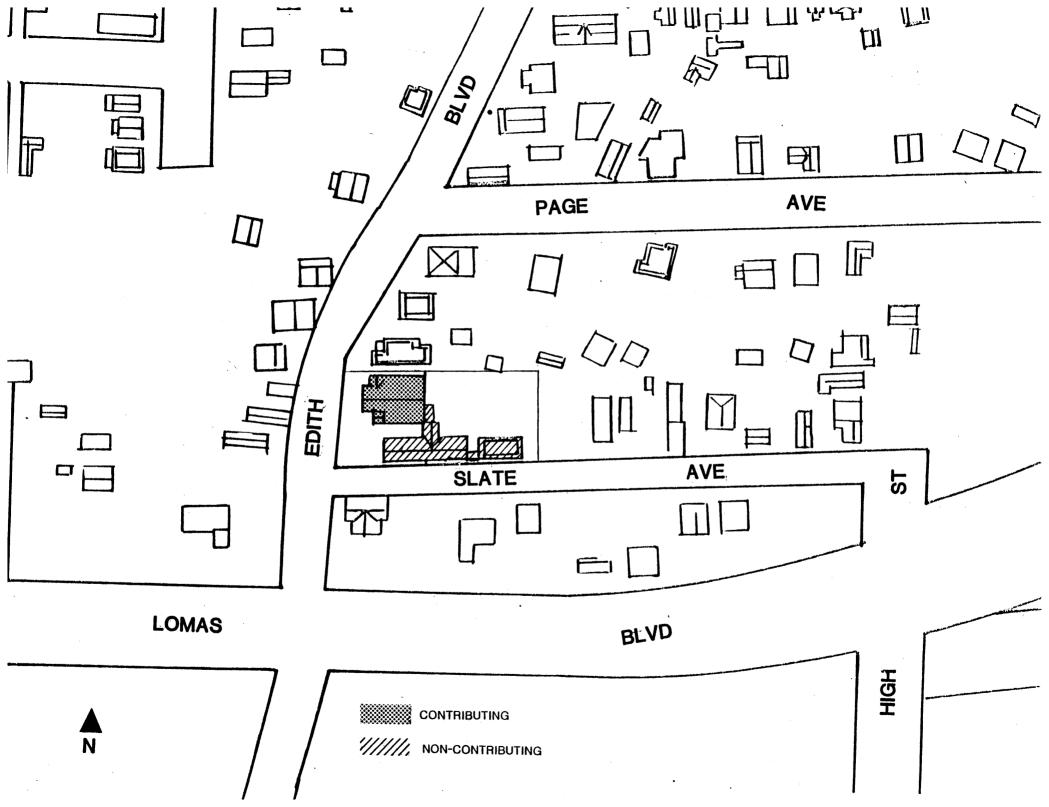
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