

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 *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 Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number SW corner Elenora and First Avenue N/A not for publication
city or town Hillsboro N/A 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.)

Walter R. G. [Signature] Director 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]
Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall
Entered in the Date of Action
National Register 4/20/95

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), 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)

Other: New Mexico Vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Not visible

walls Stuccoed adobe

roof Asphalt

other N/A

Narrative Description

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

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), 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:

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), 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	8	8	0	3	6	4	5	0	8	0
Zone		Easting					Northing							

2

Zone		Easting					Northing							

3

Zone		Easting					Northing							

4

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.)

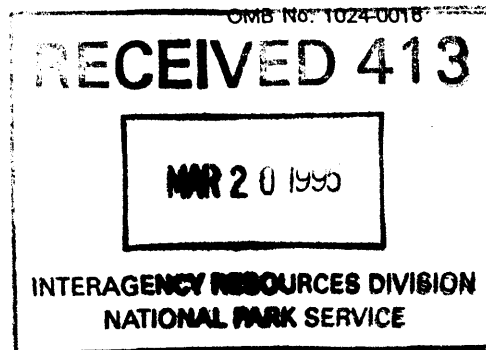
name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.

Name of Property

County and State

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Cornelius (Neil) Sullivan House is a one-story, L-shaped, New Mexico Vernacular, adobe dwelling. It faces north and overlooks the town from the slopes of Elenora Street, just east of the Union Church and across First Street from the former high school. Its shed roofs slant toward the west and south. On the main facade an L-shaped porch lies within the L of the building and has a metal roof supported by square posts. Under the porch are two windows and a front door around which are wooden surrounds and simple pedimented lintels. The door faces north and enters into a small hall. Other window openings in the original house have concrete sills and no surrounds. Most windows have been changed to white-enameled, metal sashes, placed in earlier openings. On the west facade is a brick, outside chimney. Interior walls are thick adobe. An addition across the back of the house lies under a continuous roof. A low rock wall marks the front of the property at the street. Slightly farther back is a picket fence in line with the front of the house.

The original L-shaped adobe house and front porch appear on the 1893 Sanborn map. By 1930 a small, frame room was added at the back.¹ Originally the room east of the entrance hallway was the kitchen. West of the hallway were a bedroom and living room separated by a no longer extant archway.² In the 1960s a bathroom and kitchen were added on the back. A brick fireplace was built on the west wall of the living room. In 1990 the windows were changed, a new metal roof put on the porch, and the entire building restuccoed. A noncontributing trailer guest house was placed on the property in 1991.

1. Sanborn Maps 1893, 1898, 1930.

2. Emma Sullivan Lett, interview.

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SIGNIFICANCE

The Sullivan House is architecturally significant as an example of a New Mexico Vernacular dwelling that illustrates the incorporation into adobe construction of elements suggestive of imported styles such as the L-shaped front porch, pedimented lintels over some fenestration, an entrance hall, and slanted roofs; but without the pitched roofs, decorated front window, and wooden ornamentation typical of more fully realized examples of the Late Victorian Vernacular.

Cornelius (Neil) Sullivan moved into this house after his marriage to Ida Arden Ellis in 1900 and before the birth of their second son, Fred in 1903.³ Initially the Sullivans lived there with relatives of Sullivan's mother, Constantia Tafoya.⁴ After the Tafoyas passed away, the Sullivans assumed ownership and raised a family of six children in the house.⁵

John Sullivan, Neil's father, was a Sierra County pioneer. Born in Ireland he emigrated to the United States and soon volunteered for the Union army. He was sent to New Mexico with a New York regiment and after the War took up freighting, ranching, and farming in southwestern New Mexico. Neil, his first son, was born in 1876 and at age 13 upon his father's death went to work in mining and freighting. For 18 years he was a stagecoach driver for Sadie Orchard on the line between Lake Valley and Kingston. In 1913 he was a partner in a Hot Springs bar. Later he was county road foreman and State Highway Department foreman. Active in Democratic politics, he was elected county sheriff in 1917-1920 and 1921-1922, and county commissioner in the early years of statehood. After Sullivan's death in about 1937, his widow stayed in the house until forced by ill health to move to

3. Marriage Certificate, Sierra County Records, F:588. Emma Sullivan Lett, interview.

4. Emma Sullivan Lett, interview. Ralph Emerson Twitchell, *The Leading Facts of New Mexico History*, vol. 4 (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1917) 276.

5. Emma Sullivan Lett, interview. No record of this transfer has been found.

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), House

Name of Property

Sierra County, New Mexico

County and State

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Hot Springs. Various Sullivan children lived there until it was sold by LeRoy, the youngest, in 1959.⁶ The present owner is a nationally known western artist.

6. Emma Sullivan Lett, interview. Charles F. Coan, *History of New Mexico*, vol 2 (New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1925) 140-141. Ralph Emerson Twitchell, *The Leading Facts of New Mexico History*, vol. 4 (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1917) 276. *History of Sierra County, New Mexico* (Truth or Consequences, New Mexico: Sierra County Historical Society, 1979) 258-259. *Sierra County Deeds*, 28:570-571.

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SOURCES

Coan, Charles F. *History of New Mexico*. Vol. 2. New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1925.

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

Sanborn Maps 1893, 1898, 1930.

Sierra County Deeds.

Sierra County Records.

Twitchell, Ralph Emerson. *The Leading Facts of New Mexico History*. Vol. 4. Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1917.

Interview

Lett, Emma Sullivan 30 September 1993.

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), House

Sierra County, New Mexico

Name of Property

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 5: lot 1. 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.

Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil), House

Name of Property

Sierra County, New Mexico

County and State

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Section Photos Page 6

INFORMATION COMMON TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Sullivan, Cornelius (Neil) 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 facade. Camera facing south.
7. Photo #1

6. West and partial north facades. Camera facing southeast.
7. Photo #2