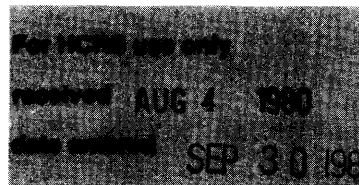


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Pacific Desk Building

and/or common Andreas Romero Building

2. Location

street & number 213-215 Gold Avenue S.W. ___ not for publication

city, town Albuquerque ___ vicinity of congressional district #1

state New Mexico code 35 county Bernalillo code 001

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 checked="" 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 Thomas L. Popejoy, Jr.

street & number 1905 Avenida Las Campanas N.W.

city, town Albuquerque ___ vicinity of state New Mexico 87107

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bernalillo County Clerk's Office

street & number 505 Central Avenue N.W.

city, town Albuquerque state New Mexico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date July 25, 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Landmarks Survey of Albuquerque, c/o Planning, P.O. Box 1293

city, town Albuquerque state New Mexico

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Among the older buildings of downtown Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Pacific Desk Building is one of the handful which has escaped modernizing or extensive remodeling. A fairly straightforward brick commercial building erected in 1914, it is distinguished by its first-floor cast-iron facade (one of only two remaining in the CBD), its handsome second-story fenestration, and the fine stamped metal ceiling of its open interior.

The Pacific Desk Building is 50 feet wide by 142 feet long, facing south. Both sides of the building were originally party-walled with adjoining structures; the structure to the west has since been demolished. On the street facade, the first floor has full-width display windows supported by the cast metal framework from a local foundry. The four columns have simple circular ornaments and a stylized flower design on the capital. The centered entrance is set back about five feet from the facade in a recessed bay. On the west side, a glass door with a transom above leads to the second story.

The second story has an evenly spaced band of eight windows; cast iron hoods are placed over the three windows at either end. In the center, the coped parapet rises about a foot over the pair of centered windows to emphasize the entry; a plaque, now blank, presumably once displayed the building name. The 1/1 wood sash windows, set under molded concrete lintels and sills, are framed at the sides by a row of stepped-in bricks. A concrete molding connects all the windows at the bottom of the lintel. On the east and west sides, the second floor has a row of plainly framed wood windows. On the alley facade, windows on both floors are set under arched frames, probably segmental brick with a stucco coating.

The open first-story interior space retains the original hardwood floors, as well as the unusually elaborate cast metal ceiling. A row of cast iron columns connect with a heavy molding in the center of the space to support the second-story and roof. This molding, also sheathed in stamped metal, vees out to connect with the exterior cast iron supports framing the entrance, creating a dramatic and effective pattern.

The second story interior space, originally open, now has some removable partitions added during World War II, when the Soil and Water Conservation Service occupied the floor. Since 1954, the second floor has been used only for storage, and is in need of considerable rehabilitation if it is to be put in use again. A forty-foot long basement runs the full width of the building.

The Pacific Desk Building is located on a block of continuous buildings of similar age; it is the only building on the south side of Gold to have escaped remodeling. Across the street at the corner of Gold and 3rd is the B Building, an 1881 adobe commercial structure which has also retained many early features. Gold Avenue, appropriately, was the financial and government street in the early years of the city; now most of the larger buildings to the east have been demolished, and only this block and the next block to the west retain some of the early atmosphere of railroad-era Albuquerque.

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 1914

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Pacific Desk Building is important primarily as one of the very few examples of substantially unaltered early 20th-century architecture in downtown Albuquerque, New Mexico. Built in 1914, it reflects the taste of the times in its cast-iron store front, brickwork, and fine interior stamped metal ceiling. Built in the era just before the rediscovery of native Southwestern architectural forms, it typifies the simplified adaptation of eastern forms seen in most architecture of the period. As one of the earliest automobile sales rooms in Albuquerque, it also reflects the 20th century transformation of the city from a railroad town to a car town.

The Pacific Desk Building was erected for Andreas Romero, who owned a butcher shop down the street at 211 Gold when he acquired the property in 1907. When the building was built, a party wall agreement called for "rubble stonework of good sound mountain granite laid in good lime and sand" for the foundation, and walls of "local sand-mould brick laid in good lime mortar in regular courses and regularly bonded." The first tenant, for two years, was the Faber Furniture Store, but by 1918 the building had become the home of the Albuquerque Motor Company and Barber Wholesale Automobiles. By 1922, it was rented to Livingston Furniture, who continued as tenants until 1928.

Andreas Romero died in 1925, willing the property to his wife Eduvigen. In 1927, she transferred title to her daughter Catrina Romero de Sanchez who held title until 1942, when it was purchased by Charles and Helen Hoit, the proprietors of the Pacific Desk Company. Between 1928 and 1943, when Pacific Desk Company opened shop in the building, it continued to be leased to furniture companies.

Charles Hoit's business and property passed to his daughter and son-in-law, Thelma and R.G. Lee, Jr., who have continued to run Pacific Desk Company, an office furniture sales company, in the building. The building has now been sold to Thomas L. Popejoy, Jr., a local attorney interested in historic preservation, who plans rehabilitation for legal offices. Happily, the transfer of ownership comes at a time when rehabilitation can prevent serious structural problems with this little-altered building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Albuquerque City Directories
Bernalillo County Records
Conversations with R.G. Lee, Jr.
Unpublished paper by George E. Bennett in Historic Landmarks Survey files.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property .16 acre
Quadrangle name Albuquerque West, New Mexico
UMT References

UTM NOT VERIFIED
Scale 1:24,000

A

1	3	3	4	9	6	3	1	0	3	8	8	3	3	4	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

Lots 19 and 20 of Block 16 of the Original Townsite, City of Albuquerque; the lots together measure 50' x 142'. This boundary includes the land occupied by the building.

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 Susan Dewitt, Coordinator

organization Historic Landmarks Survey of Albuquerque date May 21, 1980

street & number 419 Central Avenue N.W. telephone (505) 766-4720

city or town Albuquerque state New Mexico

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. Mc...

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 8-1-80

For NCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is historic.

[Signature]

Keeper of the National Register

Att: *[Signature]*