

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 2 1975
DATE ENTERED	JUN 18 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Bursum House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

326 Church St.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Socorro

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

New Mexico

CODE

035

COUNTY

Socorro

CODE

053

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. David K. Shortess

STREET & NUMBER

326 Church St.

CITY, TOWN

Socorro

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Mexico

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Socorro County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Socorro

STATE

New Mexico

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties

DATE

9/21/73

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Planning Office - 200 W. DeVargas St.

CITY, TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The home of Holm O. Bursum was built in Socorro during the boom period of the late 1880's. The house is unique in that it is one of the few examples of the ornate "Eastlake Style" architecture to be constructed in New Mexico, although buildings of this style were much in vogue in other parts of the West during the late 19th century, especially in San Francisco. Unlike its counterparts elsewhere, however, the Bursum House was of brick rather than frame construction.

The main portion of the rectangular-shaped structure is two-story; a single-story kitchen and porch are attached on the rear. The east wall of the main portion forms a bay of both stories. A veranda runs across the front. A steeply ~~hipped~~ roof with center cross gables covers the two-story portion and a shed roof extends over the rear single-story portion, kitchen and porch. The veranda has a shed roof with twin secondary gables equally spaced from the sides. All roofing is of copper-plated steel sheeting.

Elaborate exterior wood ornamentation characterizes the building, including the finials and filigree insets of the four large roof gables, a small decorative railing atop the center of the roof, the filigree brackets of the east gable; and the eaves molding which encircles the structure. Similar veranda decoration includes the nine turned support posts and banister sections, the continuous decorative railing above the posts and the filigree inset of the two secondary gables.

Vertical, one-over-one double-hung windows with plain lintels and lugsills constitute the majority of the twenty-seven exterior windows. However, two small fixed windows flank the second story level of the bay; a pair of horizontal sliding windows are located below the eaves on either side of the front gable. The original twin front doors, with brass knobs and hinges, are set equi-distant from the sides. Simply designed and of wood panel construction, they contain hinged stained glass transoms. Rear doors are located at the southeast corner of the main portion and the east side of the kitchen. The doors, shutters and roof trim are painted dark green; other decorations are painted white.

The interior of the house is less distinctive in appearance and has been altered. The northwest corner consists of an original bedroom. A hall, containing the staircase to the second floor, is situated between this bedroom and the large living room which now forms the remainder of the front facade. The living room has been remodeled to include two original front rooms. The large room on the southeast corner behind the living room once served as Senator Bursum's office and has only recently been converted into a family room. A large walk-in closet was recently built facing the sliding doors which connect this room with the living room. The dining room, adjoining the family room on the west, has likewise been remodeled so as to provide for a bath and study which form the present southwest corner. The dining room opens into all other first floor rooms, including the kitchen and hall containing the staircase. At some period during the remodeling, the position of the staircase was reversed. The foot of the stairs, originally on the north, now lies on the south end of the hall adjacent to the dining room.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

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/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1887-

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

William Watson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One of the few examples in New Mexico of "Eastlake Style" architecture, the Bursum House was constructed in 1887 by Socorro builder William Watson and served as the home for two politically prominent Socorro County residents for more than fifty years. Since 1968 it has been the home of Dr. David K. Shortess, Professor of Biology at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology.

The house was built for Candelario Garcia, Territorial Socorro County politician and land owner. Between the years 1855 and 1878 he was one of the most frequently elected members of the Territorial legislature, serving nine terms in the House of Representatives and two terms in the Council or Upper House. Listed in the 1860 federal census as a merchant in the little village of Valverde, Garcia later moved to the county seat at Socorro and began buying town lots and nearby farming properties. He was recorded in the 1870 federal census as being married with two children, and listed his occupation merely as "Member of the Legislature."

The house is first mentioned in the 1887 Socorro County Tax Assessment Rolls as a "residence" and one of two Socorro houses owned by Garcia. Yearly assessments to Garcia follow thereafter until 1899 when he sold his Socorro properties and moved to holdings at the village of Bosquecito. The house was bought by Holm Olaff Bursum, leader of the Republican Party and one of the most powerful political figures in the territory. Since the property lay within the lands of the Town of Socorro Land Grant, title had to be confirmed to Bursum by the City of Socorro. This was done in 1910.

Holm O. Bursum was born in Ft. Dodge, Iowa in 1867, the son of Norwegian immigrants, both of whom died while he was still a child. In 1880 he wandered into Raton, New Mexico and two years later worked his way to the little village of San Antonio, some ten miles south of Socorro. From 1882 to 1886 he worked in the store of A.H. Hilton and in 1886 took out a business license in his own name as butcher. In 1890, although only 23 years old, he secured a freighting contract with the Federal Government at Ft. Wingate in the northwest part of the territory. By 1894 he was back in San Antonio where he was able to purchase two ranches and embark upon prosperous mining, sheep raising and ranching enterprises. In the same year he also began his political career with election to the first of two consecutive two-year terms as Socorro County sheriff. In 1899, he won a seat to the upper house of the territorial legislature representing Socorro and Sierra Counties. In that same year he was also appointed by Governor Miguel A. Otero as Superintendent of the Territorial Penitentiary in Santa Fe. Because of his involvement in controversial political affairs he was

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Contemporary New Mexicans file, L. Bradford Prince Papers. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
 Holm O. Bursum file, Elisha V. Long Papers. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
 Journal of the Legislative Council, 33rd Session, 1899-1901. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe. (See Continuation Sheet #2)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. .25 acres

UTM OK
HL

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 3	3 2 5 0 0 0	3 7 6 9 7 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael P. McCachren, Archivist I

ORGANIZATION

State Records Center and Archives

DATE

3/19/75

STREET & NUMBER

404 Montezuma St.

TELEPHONE

827-2321

CITY OR TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4-25-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/18/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

JUN 17 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY		
RECEIVED	MAY 2	1975
DATE ENTERED	JUN 18 1975	

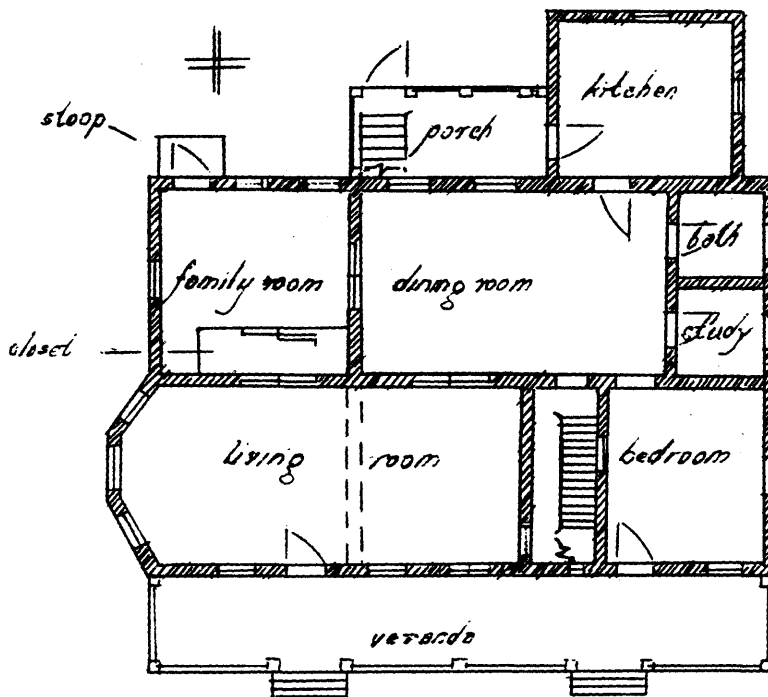
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET #1 ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

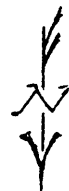
The original wood-paneled full length sliding doors, complete with brass knobs and hinges, leading from the dining room into the present family and living rooms are still in place, as are those connecting the living room with the family room through the modern closet. (See attached sketch of first story plan). The wooden floors and embossed tin ceilings throughout the first story are also original; the kitchen wainscoting is still in place.

The second story has been remodeled several times under later owners and contains little of the original floor plan. Large bedrooms have been built and rebuilt at the east and west ends, with the middle for the stairwell, a large closet, bath and an unfinished room under the south cross gable forming the middle section.

The Bursum House is in excellent condition and the exterior little changed in appearance since its construction in 1887.



H.O. Bursum House Socorro N.M. 1887
First Floor Plan - M.P. McCachren A.P.
March, 1975 Scales 0" = 0' 0"



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 2 1975
DATE ENTERED	JUN 18 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET #2 ITEM NUMBER 8. PAGE 5

removed from that office in 1906 by Otero's successor, H. J. Hagerman. Still an important political figure, he returned to Socorro in that year to run for mayor and won the first of four consecutive, two-year terms to that office. In the meantime he had been elected chairman of the Republican Party Territorial Central Committee in 1904 and held that post until 1911. He was New Mexico delegate to the 1904, 1908 and 1912 national party conventions. Bursum, a leading proponent of statehood for New Mexico was elected to the Constitutional Convention of 1910 which drafted the constitution by which New Mexico entered the Union on January 6, 1912. In the latter year, and again in 1916, he was the unsuccessful Republican Party candidate for governor of the new state. He was made a member of the Republican Party National Committee in 1920 and served until 1924. In 1921 he was appointed by Governor Merritt C. Mechem to fill the U.S. Senate seat resigned by Albert B. Fall, but later failed to win a second term in a special election held for that seat in 1925. He served on the Republican State Executive and State Central Committees for most of the time from 1928 through 1942, and was appointed by President Herbert Hoover to the federal commission to study the question of ownership of public lands in the eleven western states.

During these years the Bursums resided in their Socorro home when not living in Santa Fe. The house and lot were deeded by Bursum to his wife, Lulu M. Bursum on June 23, 1931. Senator Bursum died in 1952. The house and lot were sold two years later by Mrs. Bursum and resold several times by successive owners until purchased by the present owner on December 17, 1968.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Continued:

- Socorro County Tax Assessment Rolls, Precincts 1 and 24, 1886 through 1912. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives.
- Territorial Auditor Papers, Audited Reports of County Commercial Licenses for Socorro County, 1886 to 1888. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives.
- Abstract of Property, 362 Church Street, Socorro, New Mexico.
- U.S. Federal Census, 1860, Socorro County, Precincts 1, 24 and 26. Schedules 1 and 2. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
- _____, 1870, Socorro County, Precincts 1 and 24. Schedules 1 and 2. New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
- Larson, Robert W. New Mexico's Quest for Statehood. Albuquerque, 1968.
- Niemann, Charles L. Spanish Times and Boom Times: Toward An Architectural History of Socorro, New Mexico. Socorro, 1972.
- Ritch, W. G. The Legislative Blue Book of the Territory of New Mexico. Santa Fe, 1881.
- Secretary of State, The New Mexico Blue Book, State Official Register 1919, 1921-22, 1923-24, 1929-30, 1931-32, 1933-34, 1937-38, 1939-40. Santa Fe.
- Twitchell, R.E. Leading Facts of New Mexico History, Vol. IV. Cedar Rapids, 1917.
- Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1969, pp. 124-126.