

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE New Mexico		2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. Theme VIII "Contact with the Indians"	
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Abó Pueblo and Mission (Abo State Monument)			4. APPROX. ACREAGE 10
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) Torrance County, 10 miles west of Mountainair on the north side of U.S. Highway 60			
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) State of New Mexico, administered by Museum of New Mexico			

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Abó Pueblo, possibly referred to by the Spanish entrada of Chamuscado and Rodriguez in 1581, probably was first visited by Antonio de Espejo with a small group of men in 1583, at which time it was estimated to contain 800 inhabitants. In 1598, Juan de Oñate, the first governor of New Mexico, assigned Father San Francisco de Miguel to Pecos Pueblo, from where he also administered neighboring pueblos, including Abó. After three years Father Miguel returned to Mexico, and what, if any, imprint he left on Abó is not known. Evidently he accomplished little, since the people of Abó killed two soldiers who had deserted and were making their way to Mexico in the same year Father Miguel departed. Oñate sent one of his lieutenants, Vicente de Zaldivar, to chastise the people of Abó for these killings, the actual battle occurring at a neighboring pueblo.

Known missionary work began at San Gregorio de Abó about 1622, but the first guardian, Father Francisco Fonte, was not assigned until 1626. Other guardians were assigned to the large pueblo, which was reported to have 1,580 people in 1641, off and on up to the time of the abandonment of the pueblo around 1672. The missionaries brought about several changes in the Indian way of life through the introduction of the new religion, improved agriculture, new domestic animals and plants, new ideas in architecture, and Spanish goods.

The church at Abó is presumed to have been constructed by Father Francisco de Acevedo, beginning in 1629, and served these Tompiro-speaking Indians until drought and Apache attacks brought about the abandonment of the pueblo in the early 1670's. The inhabitants joined their Piro-speaking relatives on the Rio Grande, and at the time of the Pueblo Rebellion of 1680, a number of them joined the Spaniards in their retreat south to settle at El Paso del Norte.

Sandstone walls of the mission structure still stand roof-high in many places. Preserved as a state monument since 1938, the church was excavated and stabilized in 1938 and 1939. Only a small part of the nearby pueblo has been excavated, but ceramic

(Continued on Supplementary Sheet)

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works) Joseph H. Toulouse, Jr., The Mission of San Gregorio de Abo, School of American Research Monograph No. 13 (Albuquerque, 1949); George Kubler, The Religious Architecture of New Mexico (Colorado Springs, 1940); Paul A. F. Walter, The Cities that Died of Fear (Santa Fe, 1931).

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

Erik K. Reed, Special Report on Abo State Monument, New Mexico (Santa Fe, NPS, Dec. 1940).

(See Historian's Inventory Form)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		11. CONDITION Ruins - good	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) State Park	13. DATE OF VISIT June 1959
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <i>Robert H. Schroeder</i>		15. TITLE Archeologist	16. DATE June 13, 1962	

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/4 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

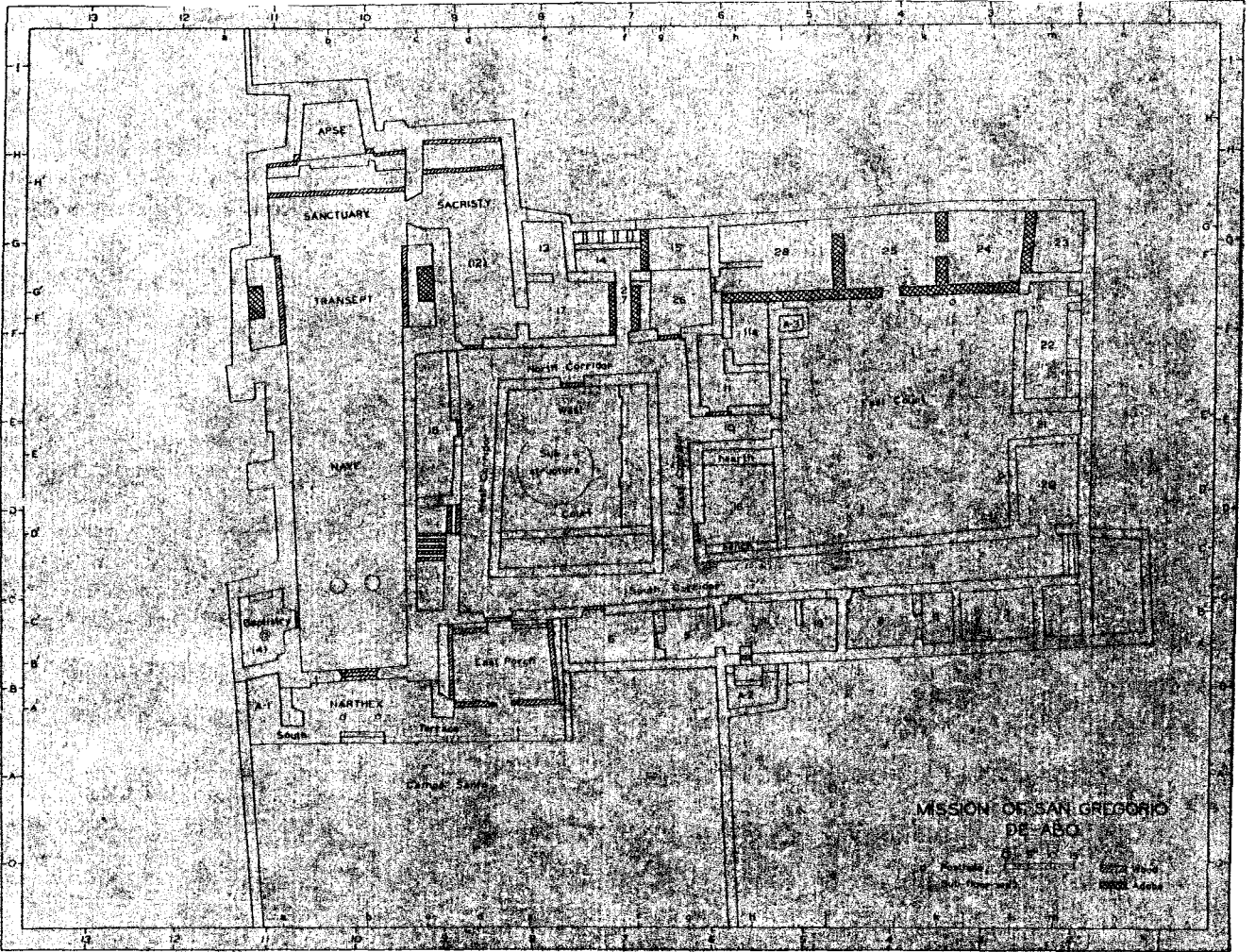
This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
New Mexico	Abó Pueblo and Mission (Abo State Monument)

7. Importance and Description (Continued)

evidence indicates occupation from about the late 1200's.

(This site was recommended by the General Land Office in 1916 for a National Monument. An adverse report was submitted by the National Park Service on April 19, 1933, and the project was disapproved by the Director on May 5, 1933. This site, however, retains a high potential toward contributing to our knowledge of Indian acculturation of Spanish culture in the 17th century, since the pueblo ruins have not been excavated.)



Reproduced from J. P. Toulouse, The Mission of San Gregorio de Abco, p. C.