NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(1) NAME
COMMON: Pueblo
AND/OR HISTORIC: Pueblo of Santa Clara (Kapo' onwi)

(2) LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: S of Espanola, off NM 30
ON west side of the Rio Grande, two miles south
CITY OR TOWN: Espanola
STATE: New Mexico

(3) CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

OWNERSHIP
- Public
- Private
- Both

PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- In Process
- Being Considered

STATUS
- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
- Yes: Restricted
- Unrestricted
- No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Park
- Public Residence
- Religious
- State
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)
- Living Pueblo

(4) OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: Pueblo of Santa Clara (Office of the Governor)
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Santa Clara
STATE: New Mexico

(5) LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Rio Arriba County Clerk's Office
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Tierra Amarilla
STATE: New Mexico

(6) REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties
DATE OF SURVEY: 12/10/71
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Planning Office
STREET AND NUMBER: 200 W. DeVargas
CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe
STATE: New Mexico

(7) ENTRY DATE
NOV 3 1974
7. DESCRIPTION

<table>
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<th>(Check One)</th>
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<th>(Check One)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deteriorated</td>
<td>Ruins</td>
<td>Unexposed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Unaltered</td>
<td>Moved</td>
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

First visited by the Spanish in 1541, the Pueblo of Santa Clara today consists of one and two-story adobe homes surrounding two main plazas. The two rectangular above ground ceremonial kivas are located in the west plaza and in the southwestern corner of the village. In an attempted renovation of the church in 1909, the roof was removed from the 1758 building. However before a new one could be installed, a storm destroyed the structure, which was then replaced by the present adobe church in 1918. The pueblo has lost some of its compact design by the scattering of recently constructed homes although the present condition of the church, kiva and residences is good.

In 1776, Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez visited Santa Clara and noted:

The pueblo consists of a plaza which lies to the south of the convent and church, and it is composed of four small blocks with two passages on opposite corners. There is a fortified tower on one corner and five little houses outside the plaza on one side. The kind, decoration, and distribution of the houses are like those of the pueblo of Nambe to which I refer. (p. 118).

Since the U.S.G.S. Espanola Quad map is in error as regards the placement of structures in the Pueblo of Santa Clara, it was not relied upon in determining the boundaries for that area of the pueblo to be included on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1948, Stanley A. Stubbs conducted an aerial survey of all New Mexico living pueblos. In carrying out this project he limited himself to only the pueblo proper and ignored any recent scattering of residences. His architectural survey has been used as a guide in determining the historic area with the realization that some type of buffer zone is also needed.
The Tewa-speaking Pueblo of Santa Clara first visited by Captain Francisco de Barrionuevo of the 1541 Francisco Vasquez de Coronado Expedition received its name in 1598 from Juan de Ofiate, the Colonizer of New Mexico. The native name for the village is Kapo'onwi. About 1628, Fray Alonso de Benavides established a mission and convento at Santa Clara which he used as his custodial seat in the first attempt at conversion of the Navajo. Thirteen years later, the mission of Santa Clara, consisting of 553 persons, administered to the Pueblo of San Juan as a visita. The population by 1680 had decreased to about 300 persons and Santa Clara was then a visita of San Ildefonso.

The Pueblo of Santa Clara took an active part in the great Pueblo Revolt of 1680. On the morning of August 10th, the day the revolt broke out simultaneously in all the pueblos, the Santa Clara Indians attacked the military escort of Captain Francisco de Anaya, which was in the area, killing two soldiers Marcos Ramos and Felipe Lopez, and carrying off Anaya's wife and children. Anaya later reported the death of a young Spaniard named Bartolomé Griego.

On October 2, 1692, General Diego de Vargas Zapata Luján Ponce de León, on his peaceful reconnaissance entrada, entered the pueblo and obtained a promise of submission from the natives. However, when he returned the following year, the tribe once more pledged peace but soon defiantly entrenched themselves on the mesa of San Ildefonso along with most of the other Tewas as well as the Tanos. On January 30, 1694, Vargas visited the base of the mesa and ascertained that the natives would not return to their homes without a struggle. As a result, he set out from Santa Fe on February 25, with 60 fully armed soldiers, 30 militia and some Indian allies from the Pueblo of Pecos to storm the mesa. After a series of unsuccessful attacks, he returned to Santa Fe on March 19. He marched again on September 4th with all his available forces to remove the Tewas and Tanos from the mesa of San Ildefonso. By holding the fields planted in the river valley, Vargas was able to starve the defenders of the mesa into submission. On September 17, Vargas visited Santa Clara and the tribe pledged their allegiance to him. The pueblos again revolted on June 4, 1696 but Vargas was able to crush the revolt within a year's time.

(See Continuation Sheet)
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Adams, Eleanor B. and Fray Angelico Chavez. The Missions of New Mexico, 1776; A Description by Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez with other Contemporary Documents. Albuquerque: The University of New Mexico Press, 1937.


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
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<td>N35° 58' 09&quot;</td>
<td>W106° 05' 21&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>N35° 58' 09&quot;</td>
<td>W106° 05' 11&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>N35° 57' 56&quot;</td>
<td>W106° 05' 11&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>N35° 57' 56&quot;</td>
<td>W106° 05' 21&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 24 acres

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

STATE: CODE: COUNTY:
STATE: CODE: COUNTY:
STATE: CODE: COUNTY:
STATE: CODE: COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: James H. Purdy, Archivist I

ORGANIZATION: State Records Center & Archives

STREET AND NUMBER: 404 Montezuma

CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe

STATE: New Mexico CODE: 35

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [x] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name: DAVID W. KING

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

FEBRUARY 26, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DAVID W. KING

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

FEBRUARY 26, 1974

ATTEST: Keeper of The National Register

11/5/74

10-31-74
In 1706, Fray Juan Alvarez noted that although the church was in the process of being constructed, the pueblo was under the charge of Fray Juan de Tagle of the Pueblo of San Ildefonso. This church collapsed and a new one, begun in 1758, shared the same fate in 1909 as its predecessor. The present structure dates from 1918. In 1760, Bishop of Durango Pedro Tamarón cited 257 Indians as living at Santa Clara. Fray Francisco Atanasio Domínguez visited Santa Clara in 1776 and listed 229 inhabitants. He also credited Fray Mariano Rodriguez de la Torre with having constructed the 1758 church noting that the ruins of the previous building "serves as a stable for dumb beasts that gather in it of their own accord." (p. 114). The great smallpox epidemic of 1782 decimated the pueblo. At this time, Santa Clara had a resident priest who administered San Ildefonso as a visita. By 1808, Fray Josef Benito Pereyro listed 213 Indians at Santa Clara. The drop in population has been attributed to the tribal practice of executing alleged sorcerers.

In common with other pueblos, Santa Clara suffered from Spanish encroachment on its agricultural and grazing lands. In 1786, Santa Clara and San Ildefonso jointly brought charges before Governor Juan Bautista de Anza through their special Protector, Carlos Fernandez. Governor Anza upheld their claim and the two pueblos were placed in possession of the disputed lands on June 19, 1786. In spite of this decision, non-Indians continued to encroach on both pueblos. On December 22, 1858, the United States Congress confirmed a 17,368.52 acre grant to the pueblo which was patented November 1, 1864. However, much of the patented land was held by encroachers. Indian Agent W.F.M. Arny was well aware of this situation and reported concerning Santa Clara in 1870:

They [the Santa Clara people] also complained that people are living on their lands who have no right, and they wanted the government to see about it. They said they were willing to let the citizens continue to occupy the lands they bought from their forefathers, but no others, and they wanted their agent to regulate about their aceques [sic] and water, which the citizens had taken from them. They complained that their agent never visited them, and that they wanted him to come and make the citizens prove their titles to the land they held as they should do. (pp. 41-42)

At present, pueblo grant and reservation lands consist of 45,742 acres.

Until recently, the Santa Clara potters made only a polished black pottery but now, however, an excellent polychrome style resembling the pottery of San Juan is also produced. The Indians of Santa Clara have kept their (See Continuation Sheet #2)
8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

traditional dances and each August 12 hold an annual ceremonial at their ancestral Pueblo of Puye, located a few miles to the west.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued


New Mexico Commission on Indian Affairs Papers, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Santa Clara
PLATE VII

Bird's-Eye View
of the
### National Register of Historic Places Property Map Form

**State:** New Mexico  
**County:** Rio Arriba  
**City or Town:** Española

**Location:** On west side of the Rio Grande two miles south of the Pueblo of Santa Clara (Kapowin).  
**Street and Number:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>State Code</th>
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<tr>
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<td>35</td>
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**Source:** Stanley A. Stubbs, *Bird's-Eye View of the Pueblos, 1950.*  
**Scale:** 1 inch = 200 ft.  
**Date:** 1948  
**ENTRY NUMBER DATE:** 1972

**Instructions:**
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
United States Department of the Interior  
Form No. 10-301  
Rev. 7-72
Eye View of the Pueblos

LEGEND
- 1 STORY
- 2 STORY
- KIVA
- ABANDONED ROOM
- CHURCH

Santa Clara

FIGURE 9
Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Attach to or enclose with map)
New Mexico
COUNTY
Rio Arriba
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
1
COMMON: Pueblo of Santa Clara (Kapo^onwi)
AND/OR HISTORIC:
STREET AND NUMBER:
On west side of the Rio Grande two miles south of
CITY OR TOWN:
Espanola, New Mexico
STATE:
New Mexico
CITY OR TOWN:
Espanola
STREET AND NUMBER:
On west side of the Rio Grande two miles south of
SCALE:
1 inch = 200 ft.
DATE:
1948
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.
4. Requirements
SOURCE:
Stanley A. Stubbs, Bird's-Eye View of the Pueblos, 1950.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Form No. 10-301
REV. 7-72