United States Department of the Interior
National Park 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 Menaul School Historic District

and/or common Menaul School

2. Location

street & number 301 Menaul Boulevard N.E.

city, town Albuquerque__vicinity of __ congressional district

state New Mexico code 35

county Bernalillo code 001

3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X district</td>
<td>public</td>
<td>occupied</td>
<td>__ museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ building(s)</td>
<td>private</td>
<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>__ park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ structure</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>work in progress</td>
<td>__ private residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ site</td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>X in process</td>
<td>__ religious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ object</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>X yes: restricted</td>
<td>__ scientific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____</td>
<td></td>
<td>X yes: unrestricted</td>
<td>__ transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>__ other:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Owner of Property

name Menaul School Board of Trustees

street & number 301 Menaul Boulevard N.E.

city, town Albuquerque__vicinity of __ state N.M. 87107

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bernalillo County Records

street & number 501 Central Avenue N.W.

city, town Albuquerque__state N.M.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Landmarks Survey title of Albuquerque __ State Reg.# 420

has this property been determined eligible? __ yes X no

date April 1982

depository for survey records Historic Landmarks Survey of Albuquerque

city, town P.O. Box 1293 Albuquerque__state N.M. 87103
### 7. Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th></th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>___ excellent</td>
<td></td>
<td>___ deteriorated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>X</strong> good</td>
<td></td>
<td>___ unaltered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ fair</td>
<td></td>
<td>___ ruins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>___ altered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>___ unexposed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check one:  

- **X** original site
- ___ moved date

---

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Menaul School Historic District is a compact campus of 28 buildings on an approximately 45-acre site. Its attractively wooded grounds lie on the eastern edge of the Rio Grande flood plain a few miles north of downtown Albuquerque. School buildings date from 1896 to the mid-1970's and exhibit a variety of styles, all with the modest detailing characteristic of mission school structures. To harmonize these varying buildings the school has stuccoed them the same warm coral color and has restricted their height to two stories. This treatment and the location of the buildings in relation to central grassy plazas results in a coherent and well-integrated campus. The main entrance to the campus is from Menaul Boulevard on the south; to the west the Alameda Lateral Canal curves between the school grounds and Broadway Boulevard. North and east are scattered homes, industrial buildings and open land. Most of the school buildings face grassed open areas. The notable exceptions are Donaldson Hall which opens toward the main entrance, Old Brick which faces Menaul, and a row of faculty homes along Edith Boulevard on the campus' eastern edge.
Menaul School has played a central role in the development of the Presbyterian Church's missionary presence within New Mexico. Between 1895 and the late 1950's the school was the apex of an educational and religious pyramid that had as its base the dozens of small, predominantly Hispano communities of northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado where the Presbyterian Church had established churches and grammar schools. Using this organizational structure the School significantly contributed to the development of the state, serving as a Hispano leadership training ground for nearly 50 years. The school's alumni have played an important role in New Mexico civic and educational affairs with many graduates returning to become leaders in their home communities.

The Menaul School District is locally significant as one of Albuquerque's oldest educational campuses and, with the University of New Mexico, the only one that has remained in continuous use since the 19th century. It has influenced the physical growth of the city because the campus, along with St. Anthony's Orphanage and the recently closed BIA Albuquerque Indian School, formed Albuquerque's northern boundary between town and country at the turn of the century. Today it still asserts a definite institutional and park-like effect on a part of the city that has become essentially urbanized.

Architecturally, the district's importance comes from the fact that the school has managed to combine varying architectural styles into a coherent and well-integrated campus. Many of the buildings were constructed entirely by the school's staff and students, an attempt at hands-on building and economic self-sufficiency rare in this century. It should be noted that Menaul School's significance does not derive from its architecture but from its sense of community and its cultural contribution to the State of New Mexico.
9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property **approx. 45 acres**

Quadrangle name **Albuq. west**

**Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

**UMT References**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>388810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>351180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>388610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>351200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>388620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>350380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>388620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

**name/title** John Norton, Historical Architect and Mary Davis Architectural Historian

**organization** Historic Landmarks Survey

**date** August 23, 1982

**street & number** P.O. Box 1293

**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
- [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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

**State Historic Preservation Officer signature**

**title** State Historic Preservation Officer

**date** 1-5-83

For HCPS use only

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

**Keeper of the National Register**

**date** 2-14-83

**Chief of Registration**
Originally the school's campus included over 200 acres that spread eastward from the railroad tracks to University Boulevard on the east side of what is now the intersection of Interstates 25 and 40. Through gradual sales of its land the school has reduced its property by more than half in the past 25 years so that today the school owns roughly 70 acres and occupies a 45 acre campus to the east of Broadway.

Despite these transactions the Menaul campus itself, including all of its buildings and much of its open space, has been relatively unaffected by the city's growth around it. The formal entrance to the campus from Menaul Boulevard, established in the 1920's, still serves as the main access to the school although a mission style archway that dated from 1924-25 no longer remains, having been taken down in 1958 when Menaul Boulevard was widened. The lush campus that appears today is a result of a program of elm tree planting undertaken in the 1930's when the city, under the encouragement of Mayor Tingley, gave the trees away. Before that time there were few shade trees on the campus since the school's agricultural program used most of the available water. The areas between the conservancy ditch and the railroad tracks, the south edge of the campus alongside Menaul Boulevard, and between the few buildings bordering Edith Boulevard were used as alfalfa fields.

The buildings fall into several distinct categories. Three date from the turn of the century; these are Old Brick (1896) and two early 20th century cottages. The city's largest grouping of 2-story Mission style structures, built during the 1920's, are the most stylistically coherent buildings on the campus. A classically styled cottage built in 1926 and the gymnasium were built from designs drawn at the church home office in New York. Post-1940 buildings include several simple functional single-story structures exhibiting some southwestern detailing, faculty housing in Pueblo Revival and pitched roof styles, and a shed-roofed modern building built in 1975 as a media center. A number of buildings (see list at end of item 7) are less than fifty years old and are undistinguished architecturally. Although usually buildings that are both of marginal interest and less than fifty years old are usually not eligible for the National Register, eight of these post-World War II structures can be considered as contributing to the district. All are integral parts of the school's history, built in response to the needs of staff and students. The grouping of these buildings helps to complete the school's campus and therefore contributes directly to its overall integrity. They in no way detract from the campus as a whole. A list of the contributing and significant buildings is given at the end of this section.
Menaul's original school building, a four-story red brick classroom and dormitory structure, was destroyed by fire in 1888 just two years after its completion. Bricks from this building were reused in the construction of Old Brick in 1896, built after the school reopened in 1895 after it was closed for several years. Although now stuccoed and with a rear Annex addition, Old Brick retains its original and significant configuration and doors and windows. Two other large classroom and dormitory buildings were built early in the 20th century, McSparrin and Pierson Halls, but these were demolished in the 1950's. Both sites and, in one case, the foundations, were used for new buildings, thus retaining the campus' sense of community and physical compactness.

Also from this period and still standing are the Superintendent's Home (circa 1905) and Ross Cottage (1909), the latter originally constructed to house a 5-room school hospital. Later Ross Cottage was renamed Orchard Cottage for the school's orchard which stood to the northeast of the building. Both are modified Queen Anne cottages with hipped roofs, decorative gable ends and narrow segmental 1/1 arched wood windows. Except for being stuccoed, these brick buildings remain essentially as they were built.

The 1920's brought a second stage of growth and architectural styling to the campus which still exists today. Teachers Hall (1920), a two-storied hip-roofed structure constructed with the same kind of proportions and roof as Old Brick, differed from the campus' earlier architecture stylistically: the windows are less elongated and include simplified detailing; the exterior is stucco-covered and most importantly, three curved arches appear on the facade and on the rear porch. It appears as a transition structure between the early buildings and the significant Mission style buildings constructed during the next few years. In 1921-22 an Administration Building, later named after Superintendent Donaldson (who was in charge of the school from 1916 to 1953) was located south and west from the campus' other structures. With Donaldson Hall there was introduced a new style of architecture that broke with the school's tradition of constructing buildings influenced by east coast styles. Donaldson Hall is the district's earliest example of simplified California Mission style architecture. The building includes an arched portico, steeply pitched tile hipped roof and banks of continuous windows. The vague references to Georgian Revival and military institutional styling seen in Old Brick, Pierson Hall and to a lesser extent Teachers Hall are missing. This use of the California Mission style, popular at the time,
was thought to have been the work of a local architect by the name of Ross, perhaps the brother of J.C. Ross, long time superindent at Menaul prior to the Donaldson tenure. Bennett Hall, built in 1924 still further to the west as a boys dormitory and dining/kitchen facility, is the district's second and finest Mission Style building. It has a red barrel tile roof and dominant arches as well as fan lights on the ground floor.

The Twin Cottage (1926), by contrast, was thought to have originated with the Board of National Missions New York office architectural consultants. It is a one-story modified Queen Anne style house with classical detailing that served as housing for two married faculty couples. Menaul's second Gymnasium were built at this time also. The present gym, a two-story building constructed in 1928 in a style that also was solicited from the New York office, established the north side of the campus as an athletic area. Two years later the old Barn was toppled over and, because of its massive foundations, it was buried in trenches that now lie in the southern end of the football field.

In 1934 Old Brick was renovated into a girls' dorm and a nearly identical building, known as The Annex, was added at right angles to the original structure in 1935. Together Old Brick and The Annex form the district's earliest significant structure since they occupy the school's original building site and record the school's earliest nineteenth century architecture. These buildings attach to each other in a sympathetic way and retain their integrity as one structure. In 1941 Helen Porter Childs Memorial, a low U-shaped building with a hipped roof, was completed entirely through student and staff labor. It was constructed as a home economics building for the school's girls and as a health clinic.

Although there were alterations to several of the older contributing buildings after World War II, the campus has retained its architectural integrity. A fire necessitated the reconstruction of the roof and interior of Donaldson Hall in 1947. The school was required by city building code to remodel the interiors of Bennett Hall, Ross Cottage, the Superintendent's House and Teachers Hall when it became incorporated into the city in 1953. McClure Library building was built the same year to replace the old Menaul Historical Library lost in the fire. In the early 1950's the school entered its third and most recent building phase. McSparrin Hall, Pierson Hall, Hart Memorial Gym, and the original Barn all were sacrificed. Predominantly flat-roofed, one-story buildings with a few Territorial Revival touches were built to house boys and girls dormitories, a dining hall, and a shop and arts building.
The three cottages built after World War II that lie to the north of Ross Cottage on the east side of Edith Boulevard are also contributing structures. They appear to be built in an earlier Bungaloid style and interestingly their interiors are exact replicas of the homes built at other Presbyterian Mission Schools in Georgia and Utah. They continue the scale and materials of the earlier campus. Although the modernistic 1975 Media Center designed by the school's architectural consultant Flatow, Moore, Bryan and Associates manages to contrast sympathetically with the campus's other buildings it is not contributing since it denotes the beginning of a new style of campus architecture. Future plans include a new gymnasium and girls' dormitory that will continue Menaul School's tradition of growing around its core campus.

A. The following buildings may be considered as significant features in the district:

#9 Old Brick (1896) and #8 Annex (1935). (see map)

Old Brick is partly built of bricks salvaged from Menaul School's original building destroyed by fire in 1888. The building's architect is unknown but the design probably originated with the office of the Presbyterian Home Board of Missions in New York. A bell tower was once located on the flat top of the Mansard hip roof and announced the day's schedule. Old Brick was stuccoed in 1920-21 and later was remodelled including a continuous front porch. The building still retains its fine proportions and antique windows and doors including the corbelled segmental arches. The Annex, also built by the staff and students, matches Old Brick in all its essential details including, most notably, battered exterior chimneys on its west facade facing Hart Park.

#1 Donaldson Hall (1921-22)

A fine example of simplified Mission Style architecture that was possibly the result of local architect Ross' involvement with the school. This administration building, situated at the terminus of the school's main entrance, defines the campus' first impression from Menaul Boulevard. Although gutted by fire in 1947, Donaldson Hall was faithfully rebuilt within 14 months with emergency funds raised by the the Presbyterian Board of Missions.
The only Mission Style building on campus that retains its original red barrel tile hip roof, Bennett Hall is an elegantly detailed example of its style that includes five ground floor fan-lighted 9/1 and 15/1 double hung wood windows. The arched portico, horizontal molding and stepped exterior chimneys are notable. Bennett Hall is also interesting for having been built out of concrete block cast by the school's staff and students. Side emergency fire stairs were attached in 1953 when the school was incorporated within the city.

The following buildings may be considered as contributing features in the district:

#12 Superintendent's Cottage (c. 1905) and #14 Ross Cottage (1909)

Both buildings are built out of brick, now covered with stucco, and are fine examples of simplified Queen Anne style homes that were so popular at the turn of the century. Hipped gabled roofs, decorative gable ends, and narrow segmental arched windows all remain. Each was remodelled and stuccoed in the past but these two buildings remain as the only examples of their styles in the district.

#10 Teachers Hall (1920)

An interesting building for its arched and indented facade, low hipped roof, squared and simplified windows and horizontal foundation wall which all suggest the beginnings of Menaul School's California Mission Style architecture.

#25 Twin Cottage (1926)

Twin Cottage is a classically detailed, double-winged residence that includes boxed soffits, 6/6 double hung paired sets of windows, and brick chimneys. It was designed by the New York office of the Home Board of Missions.

#31 Gymnasium (1927)

...constructed by staff and students from blueprints provided by the New York Office of the Home Board of Missions. The Gym, like Bennett Hall, was built with concrete block cast...
on campus. A broad and low dormered hipped roof covers the
two-story basketball gym while a shed roof addition is
attached on the south side over the locker rooms. Large
multilight wood sash windows still exist but have been
painted over.

#11 Helen Porter Childs Memorial (1941)
One of the first southwest vernacular style buildings built
on the campus, necessitated when the school became
coeducational in 1935, Childs Memorial was built entirely
out of materials manufactured by the school's staff and
students; adobe walls, wood casement windows, heavy
rectilinear vigas in the building's central space and the
square-posted quasi-Territorial style front porch facing
Edith Boulevard are essentially all New Mexican details.

#15 2704 Edith Boulevard, Los Angeles Cottage (1947-51)
#16 2708 Edith Boulevard, Iowa Cottage (1947-51)
#17 2712 Edith Boulevard, New Jersey Cottage (1947-51)
New Jersey, Iowa Cottages, Los Angeles Cottage were named
after the cities whose Presbyterian boards raised the money
for their construction. They are simple bungalow struc­
tures. Although they differ from the later non-contributing
flat-roofed vernacular style residences along Edith Boule­
vard they are of the same scale. The interior plans are
reported to be identical to residences at Presbyterian
Mission Schools in other parts of the country.

#13 McClure Library (1947)
A territorial revival style buildings that was built to
replace the library previously located in Donaldson Hall
and destroyed by fire. McClure Library's styling is
typical of local influences on the buildings that were
constructed after World War II.

#5 Davidson Dining Hall (1956), #3 Allison Hall (1959), #4
Rendon Hall (1955) and #6 Barber Hall (1959).
Typical of the school's modest southwest vernacular style
buildings, the Dining Hall is a combination of flat and
shed-roofed structure with Territorial style brick coping,
rectilinear proportions and hopper-style metal casement
windows. This building is typical of the style that
predominated in the 1950's including Rendon Hall, a class­
room building, Allison Hall, a boys dormitory and Barber
Hall, a girls dormitory.
C. The following are examples of buildings that do not contribute to the district.

#23 S. Jackson Cottage (1955)

This building is typical of post-war residential styling seen throughout Albuquerque and includes metal casement windows and simplified southwestern vernacular details. This style is repeated in all the other non-contributing faculty homes along Edith Boulevard.

#32 Maintenance Shed (1960's)

Non-contributing functional building built to house equipment that makes no effort to match in styling or detail the rest of the district.

#26 Health Center (1960's)

Same as #23, a standard tract house which does not contribute to the district's institutional appearance.

#33 Media Center (1975)

Designed by the local firm of Platow, Moore, Bryan & Associates, this building occupies the Old Pierson Hall site in the center of the campus. Although only recently constructed, it is a strongly simplified and geometrical modern structure that manages to contrast sympathetically with Menaul's other buildings.

D. Open Spaces

Hart Park, the historical center of the school formed in 1903 between Pierson Hall and Old Brick, was planted with symmetrical rows of elm trees in the 1930's and has been the scene of graduation exercises since that time.
### MENAUL SCHOOL HISTORIC DISTRICT: LIST OF BUILDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Historic Name</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1921-22</td>
<td>California Mission</td>
<td>Donaldson Hall</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>California Mission</td>
<td>Bennett Hall</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Allison Hall</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Rendon Hall</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Davidson Dining Hall</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Barber Hall</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Institutional Style After Old Brick</td>
<td>Annex</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1894-5</td>
<td>Institutional Style</td>
<td>Old Brick</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>California Mission</td>
<td>Teachers Hall</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Helen Porter</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>c.1905</td>
<td>Modified Queen Anne</td>
<td>Childs Memorial Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>McClure Library</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Modified Queen Anne</td>
<td>Ross Hospital/</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1947-51</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Ross Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1947-51</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Los Angeles Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>1947-51</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Iowa Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1947-51</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>New Jersey Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1960's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Hyson Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>1960's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Vasquez Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1960's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Candelaria Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1931-2</td>
<td>Barn (Outside District)</td>
<td>Hart Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Jackson Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Dutton-Richmond Cottage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Twin Cottage</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Bungalow</td>
<td>Clinic (Health Center)</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>1960's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Plumbing Shop</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>1930's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Gymnasium</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>1960's</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Media Center</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>1974-5</td>
<td>Modern</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Menaul School is part of a larger Presbyterian involvement in New Mexico which dates to the days before the coming of the railroad. Menaul and a grade school in Chimayo are the modern survivors of over 60 mission schools that were started soon after the Civil War. In 1878 Reverend Sheldon Jackson, sensing that there was an educational vacuum in the Territory, made recommendations to the Presbyterian Church's Home Board of Missions to establish missionary schools and hospitals in the Rocky Mountain Region. The same year the Church formed the Women's Executive Committee expressly to oversee the recruitment of money and volunteer teachers for the pioneering regions of the country. For years New Mexico's county schools received inadequate staffing and funding which encouraged the spread of the Presbyterian mission schools, along with the Methodist, Congregationalist, and Catholic schools. These schools together with the missionary churches that populated the territory, acted as community centers. They provided practical education within an evangelical context. Health, nutritional, sanitation and agricultural assistance was dispensed to the small communities within New Mexico. The Presbyterians created residential boarding schools as well. As early as 1869 a boys boarding institution had been established in Las Vegas. The Allison School for Spanish-speaking girls in Santa Fe was begun in 1880, followed in 1881 by the establishment of an Indian boarding school in the Duranes community two miles north of the railroad boom town of Albuquerque. This school was the forerunner of Menaul School.

The Indian School, known as the Presbyterian Training School, was predominantly comprised of Pueblo students who ranged in age from 6 to 24 years and whose growing numbers soon necessitated the school's relocation to a new 66 acre campus in 1882. The land, now the site of the recently closed Albuquerque Indian School, was donated by members of Albuquerque's Presbyterian community. The school was operated by missionaries under a contract with the federal government in Washington, with the Home Board of Missions providing staff and labor and the government supplying all other necessary funding. When the Office of Indian Affairs decided to terminate the contract with the Presbyterian Church in 1886 and run the school itself, Albuquerque's First Presbyterian Church raised funds to purchase a new school site of 267 acres of barren land a quarter mile to the northeast alongside the recently-laid Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad tracks.
The new property of the Presbyterian Training School was deeded to the Presbytery of Santa Fe in 1887 by R.W.D. Bryan, who had served as Superintendant of the Indian School from 1882 to 1886. He acquired the property for $400 from Charles W. Lewis, a native New Mexican entrepreneur. Lewis appears to have put together a package deal since he had bought the property in several parcels just a month before the sale to Bryan. The land, described as la vega (meadow) and el llano (plain), was previously owned by the Candelaria, Lopez and Santillanes families. It stretched east from the railroad tracks for 2500 varas (one vara = 33 inches) and was bordered on the south by "the main road to Duranes town." There is no information to indicate whether or not the land was bought with the intent of using it for another Presbyterian training school but this is a distinct possibility considering Bryan's prior involvement with the Indian school.

Through gradual sales of its land the school has reduced its property by more than half in the past 25 years so that today the school owns roughly 70 acres and occupies a 45 acre campus to the east of Broadway.

Menaul School's northern and southern boundaries have remained essentially unaltered since the original purchase, except for land taken when Menaul Boulevard was widened in both the 1940's and 1950's. In the mid-1920's the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District claimed a drainage ditch easement just to the west of Bennett Hall which severed the western agricultural land from the central campus. However, the one event that most changed the campus itself was the city's vacation of Edith Boulevard in 1967 to the school in exchange for the right to extend Broadway Boulevard north from Menaul Boulevard to Candelaria Boulevard along the MRGCD ditch. This trade resulted in the district being consolidated within its present boundaries.

The Presbyterians continued to recruit Indian students to their new campus although the conditions were crowded and the school was suffering, along with the first Indian School to the west, from decreased enrollment due to disfavor by the Pueblos. By 1891 the boarding school had become so unpopular that the Home Board of Missions decided to abandon it, and with it the attempt to evangelize the Indians of the area. After a period of vacancy the campus was used as a military training facility, but by 1895 Albuquerque's Presbyterians had decided to reopen the school, this time as an institution for Spanish-speaking boys. The new boarding school was funded after James
Menaul, Synodical Missionary for New Mexico and Arizona and pastor of Albuquerque's First Presbyterian Church, personally presented his proposal for a new school before the Home Board of Missions in New York. The school was later named for Menaul after his death in 1897. The stated purpose of the new training school was reported in the newspaper of the Synod of New Mexico:

"The purpose of Menaul is to give a practical grade and high school education to the Spanish-speaking boys and young men under the influences of Christian home life and amid industrial activities with the hope of training them to become active Christian citizens."

Initially Menaul School's students transferred from the boys' boarding school in Las Vegas which had closed in 1895. These new students were enrolled in grades 1-6 though they ranged in age tremendously. They came from the small towns and villages of the New Mexico Territory where the Presbyterian mission churches were becoming firmly established. Known as "mexicans," the school's students were far more open to the 4 R's (reading, writing, arithmetic and religion) than the Pueblo students before them had been. By 1902, Menaul School's Superintendent J.C. Ross reported to the Synod of New Mexico that the school numbered 74 students and that an additional 147 students had to be turned away for lack of space. Menaul did not actually graduate a senior class until 1906.

At the same time, the all-girls Allison School in Santa Fe was also becoming a full high school. A second Presbyterian boys boarding school, the Mary James School, was begun in Santa Fe in 1908 and eventually merged with the Allison School, becoming the coed Allison-James School. However these boys students later transferred to Menaul in 1913 so that by 1916 the Albuquerque school had 154 students, all boys, in grades 3-12 (although only a fifth of these were high school students). The school also employed a staff of 17.

The construction of Pierson Hall and McSparrin Hall, (both later demolished), and the Superintendents Cottage and Ross Hospital were all begun under the direction of Superintendent Ross. The construction was primarily completed by the school's students who participated in a joint construction-farming work program. The agricultural part of the school's work program was initiated in 1902 with the planting of acres of alfalfa, orchards, gardens, and the establishment of a dairy farm.
Each junior high school student was required to put in a full day per week in the work program and high school students labored 1/2 day per week. Consequently Menaul students developed valuable skills and the school had a large free labor source for its ongoing construction program.

Menaul's earliest well was dug in 1905 and was dependant on mule-driven power which was an improvement over a hand carried method of supplying water from a neighboring well. A second well was dug near the orchard and finally a mechanized pump well was added in the 1920's. A barn was built in 1914 that occupied part of what is now the football field and a gym was added two years later and named after the school's original dorm mother, Maude Hart. Hart Gym was reported to have been the earliest of its kind in the city and was used by the University of New Mexico athletic teams. Later it was converted into a shop and classrooms before being demolished in 1955 to make way for the present Dining Hall.

The Women's Committee of the Home Board of Missions continued to fund new construction projects. When the National Board's Department of Medical and Educational Work decided in the early 1930's to close their girls' schools in Logan, Utah and Los Angeles, presumably because of the financial pressures of the depression, both the Santa Fe and Albuquerque boarding schools became coeducational, with Menaul being converted to a four year high school and Allison-James becoming a junior high school. Menaul's Old Brick was renovated and an Annex building, built to match Old Brick's 19th Century proportions and details, was constructed as a girls' dormitory (it was later used as a dormitory for Menaul graduates who lived on campus and commuted daily to the University of New Mexico). Menaul School existed entirely as an extension of the Home Board of Missions until 1958-59 when National Presbyterian support began to be reduced. The church deeded the school and its land to a Board of Trustees in 1971.

Menaul School today is a secondary school with over 200 students that emphasizes a multi-cultural approach to education and considers itself to be part of the worldwide United Presbyterian community. It, and the day school at Chimayo, are the last survivors of the earlier mission school system in the state. The key to the Presbyterians' missionary success within the Hispano communities of northern New Mexico was their ability to offer advanced secondary education to students regardless of their local origins. As part of the wider Presbyterian network that included social services, community impact projects and local churches, the missionary schools were
essentially leadership training centers with Menaul being, as historian Charles Biebel has described it, the "tip of a pyramid." Through the 1930's Menaul School was an important part of this Presbyterian network. It was a place where both the rich and the poor from the region's Spanish-speaking communities were encouraged, in the words of Menaul's long term President, Harper C. Donaldson, to "Get right with God and make something of yourself." Apparently, many of Menaul's graduates have done just that, having become leaders in the state's educational and civic affairs.

Among the more notable of Menaul School's graduates are:

Manuel Garcia, ex-Insurance Secretary of the State of New Mexico; Dr. Ambrosia Ortega, Director of University of New Mexico's Latin American Projects in Education program and consultant to the U.S. Agency for International Development; neurosurgeon Dr. Philip U. Martinez, a Regent of the University of New Mexico; Abel McBride, former State Representative and Majority Whip in the New Mexico State House of Representatives and also Director of Community Education for the Albuquerque Public Schools; Albert Gonzales, an attorney, former Regent at New Mexico State University, State Representative, Santa Fe School Board Member, and Chairman of the Santa Fe County Board of Supervisors; and Luis Saavedra, President of Albuquerque's Technical and Vocational Institute. In 1980 32 teachers and 9 administrators within the Albuquerque Public School System were graduates of Menaul; Robert Gutierrez, the 1982 recipient of the Albuquerque Tribune Distinguished Teacher Award, is also an alumni of the school.

Nationally involved Menaul graduates include Dr. Juanita Duran Montoya, the first Spanish American woman to receive a doctorate degree; Susie Spinoza, Head Nurse in Labor and Delivery at Orange Division Hospital, Orlando, Florida; Arturo Madrid II, Associate Dean and Executive Officer of the College of Fine Arts of the University of Minnesota who is also active with the Ford Foundation's Graduate Fellowship Program for Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans; Arturo Garcia, President of the International Academy of Lawyers; Novella Nied, U.S. State Department Diplomatic Foreign Service; and Jesse Castenada, world marathon endurance walking champion.
In addition numerous Menaul graduates have returned to their communities in a ministerial capacity. In 1948 Albuquerque's House of Neighborly Service in the Martineztown/Santa Barbara community, was established by Menaul graduates active with the city's Second Presbyterian Church. During the mid-1950's a survey of Menaul alumni revealed that over 20 graduates had become ministers within the state.

The Menaul School Campus also is an example of strong campus planning and development. Although there is no particular dominant architectural style to the campus there is a cohesiveness to the district that is created by both the uniformly stuccoed appearance of the buildings and their one-to-two-story scale. Much of the campus' unique quality comes from its consistent plan which includes the clustering of inward-facing architecture around a campus center comprised of interconnected open spaces. The school's grounds, landscaping and agricultural fields show signs of an ordered if undermaintained land-use plan which dates to the turn of the century. Menaul has experienced almost 90 years of continuous use as a boarding school. Its buildings and grounds span the years gracefully and cohere as a unified district.

The school's original abundance of land has proven to be a boon to Menaul's stability. Through shrewd use of its land the school has withstood a turn of the century economic depression which necessitated the beginnings of the school's work program, the great depression of the 1930's when Menaul was forced to become coeducational, and the transition period of the late 1950's when the school was separated from its Presbyterian funding and came within Albuquerque's city limits. The present finds it in the midst of a redefinition of purpose as an experimental private secondary school.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


2. Menaul School Centennial; 100 Years From The Founding of The Menaul School, 1881-1981.

3. Menaul School; Seventy Five Years of Service, 1881-1956.


5. Atkins, Jane C. and Biebel, Charles D.; The Role of Non Public Schools in New Mexico, 1800-1950; Education—New Mexico; Fall 1981, Vol. 12, Issue 2.

6. Interviews with Menaul School Staff: Cornelius Schans, farm and work program director; Mark Banker, Dean of students; Mrs. Dorothy Stephenson, Librarian, James Wormley, School President; Randy Gaylor, ex-librarian and ex-staff member; Caroline Atkins, school historian and President of the Presbyterian Historical Society.


8. Atkins, Carolyn; Menaul School: 1881-1930...not leaders, merely, but Christian leaders; Journal of Presbyterian History; Vol. 58, No. 4, Winter 1980.

Despite the fact that no legal surveyed boundaries have been established at Menaul School the accepted district boundaries are described as follows:

From Point A at northeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and Menaul Boulevards, east along Menaul Boulevard to a metal stake delineating the southwest corner of Broadbent Corporation lands; thence N. 10° 53' 40" E a distance of 1615.58 feet to northwest corner of Broadbent Corporation lands; thence N. 81° 1' 19" E along south line of said Tract E a distance of 118.9 feet until junction with an extension of the Claremont Avenue alignment; thence west on Claremont Avenue to the southeast corner of Claremont Avenue and Broadway Boulevard; thence south on east side of Broadway Boulevard to original Point A.