



# Landmarks & Urban Conservation Commission

Agent Leslie Naji, Historic Preservation Planner

Applicant City of Albuquerque, Dean Smith

Request Adoption of City Landmark Designation

Legal Description Lots 16-37, Block B, Springer Addition

Address/Location 501 Copper Ave NW

Size 1.72 Acres

**Zoning** MX-FB-UD

# Summary of Project

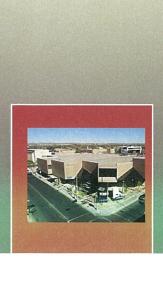
This application for Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation is to request a recommendation by the Landmarks Commission for City Landmark designation of the Main Public Library located at 501 Copper St. NW On June 13, 2019, the Albuquerque Main Library was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an example of Brutalist architecture in Albuquerque. The building was designed by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell (SMPC) Architects and was completed in 1975. The library is three stories, 104,577 square feet and occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras Ave and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque.

There are advantages to designating this significant public building as a city landmark so that guidelines can be established before major changes start to occur. Agenda Item: 5

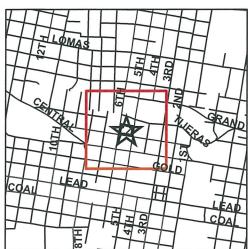
Case No.: SI-2019-00413

Project PR-2019-003159

January 8, 2020







# **IDO ZONING MAP**

Note: Gray shading indicates County.

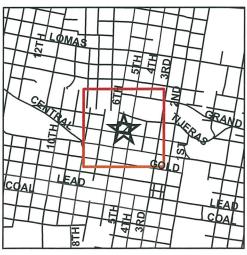


### 1 inch = 250 feet

Hearing Date: 1/8/2020 Project Number: PR-2019-003159 Case Numbers: SI-2019-00413

Zone Map Page: K-14





# LAND USE MAP

Note: Gray shading indicates County.

Key to Land Use Abbreviations APRT | Airport

MULT | Multi-family

COMM | Commercial Retail CMSV | Commercial Services

OFC | Office IND | Industrial

ED | Educational

LDRES | Low-density Residential TRANS | Transportation AGRI | Agriculture PARK | Parks and Open Space DRNG | Drainage VAC | Vacant UTIL | Utilities KAFB | Kirtland Air Force Base



1 inch = 250 feet

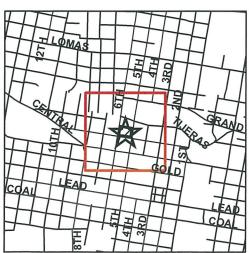
Hearing Date: 1/8/2020

**Project Number:** PR-2019-003159 Case Numbers:

Zone Map Page: K-14

SI-2019-00413





# **HISTORY MAP**

Note: Gray shading indicates County.



1 inch = 250 feet

Hearing Date: 1/8/2020 Project Number: PR-2019-003159 Case Numbers: SI-2019-00413

Zone Map Page: K-14

# SUMMARY OF REQUEST

Request	Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation
Historic Location	

### I AREA HISTORY AND CHARACTER

Surrounding architectural styles, historic character and recent (re)development

	# of Stories	Roof Configuration, Architectural Style and Approximate Age of Construction	Historic Classification & Land Use
General Area	3	Brutalism, Flat Roof, 45 Years	National Register of Historic Places, Library/Public
Site to the North	1	Brutalist, Flat Roof	
Site to the South	5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Renaissance Revival, Flat	
Sites to the East	2	Contemporary, Flat Roof	
Site to the West	4-5	Art Deco, Pitched with parapet	

#### *II INTRODUCTION*

### Proposal and History

The application for Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation is for a recommendation for designation of the Main Library in downtown Albuquerque as a city Landmark. On June 13, 2019, the Main Library was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an example of Brutalist style architecture in Albuquerque. The building was designed by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl, and Campbell (SMPC) Architects and completed in 1975 in Albuquerque's downtown area. The library is three stories, 104,577 square feet and occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque.

The Main Library is a three-level concrete-framed building with concrete-floor slabs supported by a grid of concrete columns placed at thirty-six feet on-center. The building, which is clad in brown bricks, is rectangle-shaped, oriented east to west, with cantilevered projections on each elevation. The main entrance is located at the corner of Copper Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> street in the shade of a cantilevered projection. A bush-hammered concrete sign directs patrons to the entrance.

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The Main Library is significant at the State Level under National Register Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development and politics/government because the library was the central component of urban renewal plans in Albuquerque in the 1960s and 1970s, which reshaped downtown to include Civic Plaza, a new city hall, police department, convention center as well as demolition of so-called blighted buildings.

The Library has achieved significance within the last fifty years and stands at a point where requests for changes, enclosures of patios, alternative energy production and other major façade changes are imminent. Contributing and Non-Contributing resources include: Main Library as contributing building, Albuquerque Public Library sign is counted as one contributing object, Landscape features are counted as one contributing site, Furniture purchased when the library was completed is counted as one contributing object.

The Landmark designation of this important site will give the Landmarks Commission the responsibility and opportunity to preserve this significant building from major change in the future.

# APPLICABLE PLANS, ORDINANCES, DESIGN GUIDELINES & POLICIES

### III ANALYSIS

Policies are written in regular text and staff analysis and comment in bold italic print.

# Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO)

In May 2018, the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) replaced the City's Zoning Code and the property was zoned MX-FB-UD.

The property is not located within any Historic Preservation Overlay Zone. The Integrated Development Ordinance Subsection 14-16-6-7(C)(3)(c) sets out criteria for reviewing an application for Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure.

# Subsection 6-7(C)(3)(c) Review and Decision Criteria

An application for designation of a landmark site or structure shall be approved if it is of particular historical, architectural, cultural, or archaeological significance and meets any of the following criteria:

14-16-6-7(C)(3)(c) Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure

- 1. It is the site of a significant historic event.
- 2. It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the history of the city, state, or
- 3. It portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- 4. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.
- 5. It possesses high architectural value.

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- 6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.
- 7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- 8. Its preservation is critical because of its relationship to already-designated landmarks or other real property which is simultaneously proposed as a landmark.
- 9. It has yielded or is very likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.
- 10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

The Main Library satisfies the following criteria:

5. The Main Library possesses high architectural value.

The Main Library is located in one of only two small concentrations of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico. It is a highly visible public building in the avant guard style that as promoted, largely by university professors, in the 1960s and 1970s. The rarity of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico makes the strong massing and monumental forms of the Main Library all the more significant.

6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work have influenced the development of the city.

There are a few names that readily come to mind when considering architects who have influenced the development of Albuquerque. George Clayton Pearl (1923-2003) was a leader of the regionally-responsive design and historic preservation movement and one of Albuquerque's most prolific architects. Pearl designed and estimated 1,550 buildings. He was also a founding member or member of several groups that led to the grassroots preservation movement in the late 1950s. The architecture building at the University of New Mexico is named after him.

7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.

Brutalist architecture is exemplified by a unification of structure and walls, often constructed of brick or poured in place concrete, which were cheap to construct. George Pearl focused on the needs of the library administration and the public. Rather than interior cast-concrete walls, Pearl designed a system of moveable walls for flexibility of use within the space. The interior wall finishes are brown brick, wood paneling, and wall-to-wall carpet. The result is a warm, inviting environment. Numerous courtyards are available for patrons to read outside as well.

10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

The Main Library is listed on both the New Mexico Historic Cultural Properties Register and the National Register of Historic Properties. By establishing the Main Library as a

city landmark at this early period of its history, the Landmarks Commission also has the responsibility to determine the elements of the site to be preserved and protected. The Landmarks Commission can prevent enclosure of open courtyards, construction of arbitrary interior walls and any changes to building materials that contribute to the exceptional qualities of the Albuquerque Main Library.

# Neighborhood Notification

The applicant was required to notify the following affected neighborhood associations: Citizens Information Committee of Martineztown, Sawmill Area Neighborhood Association, Downtown Neighborhoods Association, Barelas Neighborhood Association, Silver Platinum Downtown Neighborhood Association, Historic Old Town Property Owners Association, South Broadway Neighborhood Association, Huning Castle Neighborhood Association, Wells Park Neighborhood Association, EDo Neighborhood Association, Huning Highland Historic District Association, Raynolds Addition Neighborhood Association, West Park Neighborhood Association, The Lofts @ 610 Central SW Owners Association Inc., Martineztown Work Group, Santa Barabara Martineztown Neighborhood Association, Silver Hill Neighborhood Association, Spruce Park Association, Sycamore Neighborhood Association, University Neighborhood Neighborhood Association, and Victory Hills Neighborhood Association. and neighboring properties within 100 ft., excluding public rights of way. The requisite sign was posted at the property giving notification of this application. Staff received a letter from Huning Highlands Historic District Association in support of this request. Leslie Naji, Historic Preservation Planner also spoke at the Barelas Neighborhood Association at their meeting on November 14th, 2019 about this request.

# **Conclusions**

As discussed in the analysis, Staff concludes that the request meets the criteria for designation of a city Landmark per requirements in the IDO Subsection 6-7(C)(3)(c), subject to the recommended condition of approval.

Staff recommends the Landmark Commission recommend approval of the Main Library to the Mayor for final recommendation and final Approval by City Council.

FINDINGS for APPROVAL of a request to Recommend Adoption for City Landmark Designation of the Main Library - Case SI-2019-00413 / Project # PR-2019-003159, January 8, 2020

- 1. This application is a request for Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure located at 501 Copper Ave NW, Albuquerque Main Library, described as Lot 16-37, Block B, Springer Addition, zoned MX-FB-UD.
- 2. The subject site is approximately 1.72 acres.
- 3. On June 13, 2019, the Main Library was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an example of Brutalist style architecture in Albuquerque. The building was designed by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl, and Campbell (SMPC) Architects and completed in 1975 in Albuquerque's downtown area. The library is three stories, 104,577 square feet and occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque
- 4. The proposal is consistent with criteria #5, #6, #7 and # 10 for Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure as described in the IDO, Subsection 6-7(C)(3)(c).

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Case SI-2019-00413 / Project # PR-2019-003159, January 8, 2020

APPROVAL of Case SI-2019-00413 / Project # PR-2019-003159, a request to Recommend Adoption for City Landmark Designation of the Main Library, located at 501 Copper Ave NW described as Lot 16-37, Block B, Springer Addition, based on the above four (4) findings and subject to the following conditions.

A Recommendation of Approval will be forwarded to the Mayor's office for final Recommendation and then final Approval by City Council.

## **Recommended Condition of Approval**

1. LC staff will provide detailed design criteria for any proposed changes to the site to be submitted and approved by the Landmarks Commission and City Council.

Whitney Phelan, Historic Preservation Planner **Urban Design and Development Division** 

Whitney Phelan

# Albuquerque



# **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW APPLICATION**

Effective 5/17/18

Please check the appropriate box and refer to supplemental forms for submittal requirements. All fees must be paid at the time of application.			
Administrative Decisions	☐ Historic Certificate of App (Form L)	propriateness – Major	☐ Wireless Telecommunications Facility Waiver (Form W2)
☐ Archaeological Certificate (Form P3) ☐ Historic Design Standards		s and Guidelines (Form L)	Policy Decisions
☐ Historic Certificate of Appropriateness – Minor (Form L) ☐ Master Development Plan		n (Form P1)	☐ Adoption or Amendment of Comprehensive Plan or Facility Plan (Form Z)
☐ Alternative Signage Plan (Form P3)	☐ Site Plan – EPC including (Form P1)	g any Variances – EPC	Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation (Form L)
☐ WTF Approval (Form W1)	☐ Site Plan – DRB (Form F	22)	☐ Amendment of IDO Text (Form Z)
☐ Minor Amendment to Site Plan (Form P3)	☐ Subdivision of Land – Mi	nor (Form S2)	☐ Annexation of Land (Form Z)
Decisions Requiring a Public Meeting or Hearing	☐ Subdivision of Land – Ma	ajor (Form S1)	☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – EPC (Form Z)
☐ Conditional Use Approval (Form ZHE)	☐ Vacation of Easement or	Right-of-way (Form V)	☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – Council (Form Z)
☐ Demolition Outside of HPO (Form L)	☐ Variance – DRB (Form V	)	Appeals
☐ Expansion of Nonconforming Use or Structure (Form ZHE)	☐ Variance – ZHE (Form Z	HE)	☐ Decision by EPC, LC, DRB, ZHE, or City Staff (Form A)
APPLICATION INFORMATION		<b>经有限性的基础</b>	
Applicant: (1TY OF ALBUQUER	QUE/DEAN S	MITH	Phone: 748-5195
Address: 501 COPPER AV	E. NW		Email: dpsmith@calog.a
City: APIQ.		State: NM	zip: 87102
	NING DEPT/LE	sue Naji	Phone: 924-3927
Address: 600 2nd St. NW	·		Email: LNA-10 CAPA.G
City: ABQ		State: N	Zip: 0710 <u>/</u> _
Proprietary Interest in Site: List all owners:			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST			
for Main Publ	ic Library	City Lanam	ark designation
SITE INFORMATION (Accuracy of the existing I	egal description is crucial!	Attach a separate sheet if	necessary.)
Lot or Tract No.: 16-37		Block: B	Unit:
Subdivision/Addition: Sphnaer A	adition	MRGCD Map No.:	UPC Code: 101405712348024705
Zone Atlas Page(s): K'- A U	Existing Zoning: M	X-FB-VD	Proposed Zoning:
# of Existing Lots:	# of Proposed Lots:		Total Area of Site (acres): 1.72
LOCATION OF PROPERTY BY STREETS			
Site Address/Street: 501 Copper S. NW Between: 5th St NW and: Coth St. NW1.			
CASE HISTORY (List any current or prior project and case number(s) that may be relevant to your request.)			
Signature:			Date: 12 Ce , 19
Printed Name: LESUIE NAJI			
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY			
Case Numbers		Action	Fees
5I-2019-00413		COD Luce	Z Ø
-			
Marifine Marine Dates 7			
Meeting/Hearing Dates January			Fee Total:
Staff Signature.	8,2019	Date: 12-6-19	Project # PR-2019-003159

# $A^{\text{City of}}_{lbuquerque}$



# **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW APPLICATION**

Effective 5/17/18

Please check the appropriate box and refer to supplemental forms for submittal requirements. All fees must be paid at the time of application.			
Administrative Decisions	☐ Historic Certificate of Ap (Form L)	propriateness – Major	☐ Wireless Telecommunications Facility Waiver (Form W2)
□ Archaeological Certificate (Form P3) □ Historic Design Standards		ds and Guidelines (Form L)	Policy Decisions
☐ Historic Certificate of Appropriateness – Minor (Form L)	☐ Master Development Pla	an (Form P1)	☐ Adoption or Amendment of Comprehensive Plan or Facility Plan (Form Z)
☐ Alternative Signage Plan (Form P3)	☐ Site Plan – EPC includin (Form P1)	g any Variances – EPC	Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation (Form L)
☐ WTF Approval (Form W1)	☐ Site Plan – DRB (Form F	P2)	☐ Amendment of IDO Text (Form Z)
☐ Minor Amendment to Site Plan (Form P3)	☐ Subdivision of Land – Mi	inor (Form S2)	☐ Annexation of Land (Form Z)
Decisions Requiring a Public Meeting or Hearing	☐ Subdivision of Land – Ma	ajor (Form S1)	☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – EPC (Form Z)
☐ Conditional Use Approval (Form ZHE)	☐ Vacation of Easement or	Right-of-way (Form V)	☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – Council (Form Z)
☐ Demolition Outside of HPO (Form L)	☐ Variance – DRB (Form \	/)	Appeals
☐ Expansion of Nonconforming Use or Structure (Form ZHE)	☐ Variance – ZHE (Form Z	(HE)	☐ Decision by EPC, LC, DRB, ZHE, or City Staff (Form A)
APPLICATION INFORMATION			
Applicant: ( ITY OF ALBUQUER	QUE/DEAN S	mITH	Phone: 748-5195
Address: 501 COPPER' AV	E. NW		Email: apsmith@caba.a
City: APIQ.		State: NM	zip: 87102
Professional/Agent (if any): 6.A / PLAN	NING DEPT/LE	SUE Naji	Phone: 924. 2927
Address: 600 2nd St. NW	, ,	0	Email: LELAN LE CAPAR. G
City: ABQ		State: NM	zip: 87101
Proprietary Interest in Site:		List all owners:	
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST			The state of the s
Request for recommendation Publisher	endation of	City Landm	ark designation
SITE INFORMATION (Accuracy of the existing I	egal description is crucial!	Attach a separate sheet if	necessary.)
Lot or Tract No.: 16-37		Block: 15	Unit:
Subdivision/Addition: Springer Addition		MRGCD Map No.:	UPC Code: 101405712348024705
Zone Atlas Page(s):	Existing Zoning: M	X-FB-VD	Proposed Zoning:
# of Existing Lots:	# of Proposed Lots:		Total Area of Site (acres): 1.72
LOCATION OF PROPERTY BY STREETS			
Site Address/Street: 501 Copper S. NW Between: 5th St NW and: Coth St. NW1.			
CASE HISTORY (List any current or prior project and case number(s) that may be relevant to your request.)			
Signature:	yan		Date: /2 (e , 19
Printed Name: LESUKE NAJ	/		☐ Applicant or ☑ Agent
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY			
Case Numbers		Action	Fees
5I-2019-00L	113	@ Lull	
-			
-			
Meeting/Hearing Date: January	8,2019		Fee Total:
Staff Signature:		Date: 12-6-19	Project # PR-2019-003159

# Form L: Historic Preservation and Landmarks Commission (LC)

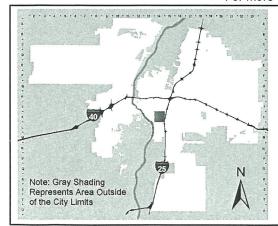
Please refer to the LC hearing schedule for public hearing dates and deadlines. Your attendance is required.

A single PDF file of the complete application including all plans and documents being submitted must be emailed to <u>PLNDRS@cabg.gov</u> prior to making a submittal. Zipped files or those over 9 MB cannot be delivered via email, in which case the PDF must be provided on a CD.

Туре о	f Request	Historic	Zone or Designation
☐ Alteration	☐ Sign (see note below)	☐ East Downtown – HPO-1	☐ Downtown Area
☐ Demolition	City Landmark Designation	☐ Eighth & Forrester – HPO-2	☐ Downtown Neighborhood Area —
☐ New Construction	☐ City Overlay Designation	☐ Fourth Ward – HPO-3	CPO-3
Number and Classification of Structures on Property		☐ Huning Highland – HPO-4	☐ East Downtown – CPO-4
Contributing Structures:		☐ Old Town – HPO-5	☐ Nob Hill/Highland – CPO-8
Noncontributing Structures:		☐ Silver Hill – HPO-6	☑ City Landmark
Unclassified Structures:			∃ Yes
*PLEASE NOTE: Approval of si	gns in the overlay zones may also	require a sign permit from Zor	ning in addition to LC approval.
HISTORIC CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – MINOR Administrative Decision  All materials indicated on the project drawing checklist and required by the Historic Preservation Planner  Letter detailing the scope of the proposal and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-5(D)(3)  Zone Atlas map with the entire site clearly outlined and labeled  Letter of authorization from the property owner if application is submitted by an agent  Required notices with content per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(K)(6)  Office of Neighborhood Coordination notice inquiry response and proof of emailed notice to affected Neighborhood Association representatives  Sign Posting Agreement  INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ALL LANDMARKS COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATIONS  Interpreter Needed for Hearing? if yes, indicate language:  Proof of Pre-Application Meeting with City staff per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(B)  Zone Atlas map with the entire site clearly outlined and labeled  Letter of authorization from the property owner if application is submitted by an agent  Required notices with content per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(K)(6)  Office of Neighborhood Coordination notice inquiry response, notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing  Proof of emailed notice to affected Neighborhood Association representatives  Buffer map and list of property owners within 100 feet (excluding public rights-of-way), notifying letter, and proof of first class mailing  Sign Posting Agreement			
<ul> <li>DEMOLITION OUTSIDE OF HPO Requires Public Hearing</li> <li>Proof of Neighborhood Meeting per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(C)</li> <li>Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-6(B)(3)</li> </ul>			
HISTORIC CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – MAJOR Requires Public Hearing  All materials indicated on the project drawing checklist (8 packets for residential projects or 9 for non-residential or mixed-use)  Letter detailing the scope of the proposal and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-(D)(3)			
HISTORIC DESIGN STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES Requires Public Hearing Proof of Neighborhood Meeting per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(C) Proposed Design Standards and Guidelines Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-6(E)(3)			
ADOPTION OR AMENDMENT OF HISTORIC DESIGNATION Requires Public Hearing  Proof of Neighborhood Meeting per IDO Section 14-16-6-4(C)  Letter describing, explaining, and justifying the request per the criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-7(C)(3)			
I, the applicant or agent, acknowledge that if any required information is not submitted with this application, the application will not be scheduled for a public meeting or hearing, if required, or otherwise processed until it is complete.			
Signature: (Que	and the second of the second o		Date: 12.6,19
Printed Name: LES VE	NA11		☐ Applicant or ☐ Agent
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY			
Project Number:	C	Case Numbers	
PR-2019-003	159 SI-2	09-00413	
Staff Signature:			
Dait. /1] _ / / ~			1



For more current information and details visit: www.cabq.gov/gis

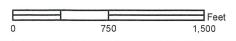


Address Map Page:

K-14-Z

Map Amended through: 3/17/2017

These addresses are for informational purposes only and are not intended for address verification.



# CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



November 13, 2019

J. Matt Myers, Esq., Chairman Landmarks Commission City of Albuquerque 600 Second Street NW Albuquerque, NM 87102

Re: Recommendation for City Landmark Status for the Albuquerque Main Public Library

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Landmarks Commission:

PO Box 1293

On June 13, 2019, the Albuquerque Main Library was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an example of Brutalist style architecture in Albuquerque. Designed by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell Architects (SMPC) and completed in 1975, the three story 104, 577 square foot library occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque.

Albuquerque

NM 87103

www.cabq.gov

The Main Library is significant at the state level in the area of architecture because the library is an excellent example of Brutalism, a style of architecture popular in the 1960s and 1970s that emphasized monumental forms built of brick and especially concrete. It is also significant under community planning and development and politics/government because the library was a central component of urban renewal plans in Albuquerque that reshaped downtown to include Civic Plaza, a new city hall, police department, convention center, and the demolition of so-called blighted buildings.

An advantage to designating this significant public building as a city landmark shortly after listing on the NRHP, is that guidelines can be established before major changes start to occur. Already questions have come concerning solar panel installation. Clear guidelines as are afforded to city landmarks, making evaluation of future projects mandatory and easier to justify.

In the IDO Section 14-16-6-7(C)(3)(c) the review and decision criteria for Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure it states

An application for designation of a landmark site or structure shall be approved if it is of particular historical, architectural, cultural, or archaeological significance and meets any of the following criteria:

- 1. It is the site of a significant historic event.
- 2. It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the history of the city, state, or nation.
- 3. It portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- 4. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.
- 5. It possesses high architectural value.
- 6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.
- 7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- 8. Its preservation is critical because of its relationship to already-designated landmarks or other real property which is simultaneously proposed as a landmark.
- 9. It has yielded or is very likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.
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The Main Library satisfies the following criteria:

5. The Main Library possesses high architectural value.

The Main Library is located in one of only two small concentrations of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico. It is a highly visible public building in the avant guard style that that was promoted, largely by university professors, in the 1960s and 1970s in the US. Brutalism embraced individual expression that addressed individual design programs rather than the uniform simplicity of the International style. The rarity of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico makes the strong massing and monumental forms of the Main Library all the more significant.

6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.

There are but a few names that readily come to mind when considering the architects who have influenced the development of Albuquerque. One of those is George Clayton Pearl (1923-2003), a leader of the regionally-responsive design and historic preservation movement and one of Albuquerque's most prolific architects. As the primary designer for the New Mexico firm of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell (now SMPC Architects), he designed an estimated 1,550 buildings, likely more than anyone else in the history of the state. He also was a founding member or instigator of numerous groups that led to the grassroots preservation movement in the late 1950s.

7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.

Brutalist architecture is exemplified by a unification of structure and walls, often constructed of brick or (more commonly) poured in place concrete which were cheap to construct. It embraced individual expression that catered to specific design programs rather than repetitive design elements.

George Pearl focused on the needs of the library administration and the public. Rather than interior cast-concrete walls, Pearl designed a system of moveable walls for flexibility. Each floor is readily navigated with large open spaces and easily located stairs and elevators. The interior wall finishes are brown brick, wood paneling and wall-to-wall carpet. The result is a warm, inviting environment. Numerous courtyards are available for patrons to read outside.

10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

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By establishing the Main Library as a city landmark at this early period of its history, the Landmarks Commission also has the responsibility to determine the elements of the site to be preserved and protected. You can prevent the enclosure

of open courtyards, the construction of arbitrary interior walls and the changing of building materials that have contributed to the exceptional qualities of the Albuquerque Main Library.

The City of Albuquerque Cultural Services Department hereby request a favorable review of this application for Land mark status for the Main Library and that a recommendation to that affect be forwarded to the mayor for further consideration.

Leslie Naji

Senior Planner

On behalf of Dean Smith, Associate Director, Library

# Naji, Leslie

From: Smith, Dean

Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 11:45 AM

To: Naji, Leslie
Cc: Sanchez, Shelle

Subject: Re: Main Library concern with registered status and battery pack

Leslie,

Thank you!

This has been on my list of things to do. Let me know if there is anything I can do to help. You do have the copies of the State and National nominations?

I am happy to be listed as the applicant.

And I'm happy to talk with Councilor Benton if we need a champion on the Council dependent on Tuesday results.

Dean

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 30, 2019, at 4:15 PM, Naji, Leslie < <a href="mail@cabq.gov">!naji@cabq.gov</a>> wrote:

Hi Dean,

I am hoping to submit the Main library to the Landmarks Commission in December for consideration as a City Landmark. This would be the initial introduction whereby, if approved, the LC would then send the recommendation to the Mayor, who would in turn, send it to Council.

I was not sure who to put as the applicant, you or Director Sanchez. I had planned to act as agent on the application. I will put together the application unless you have been working on it already.

Please let me know of your thoughts in this matter.

Sincerely,

<image005.jpg>

senior planner, landmarks commission o 505.924.3927

e Inaji@cabq.gov cabq.gov/planning From: Smith, Dean

Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 3:28 PM

**To:** Naji, Leslie **Cc:** Sanchez, Shelle

**Subject:** Main Library concern with registered status and battery pack

Leslie,

The Main Library is now also on the National Register of Historic Places as well as the State. We will start work on getting on the City.

I am still concerned about the proposed placement of the rather large battery pack in a lower level courtyard just off the Community Room. The courtyards for reading are one of the features mentioned in both the State and the National registration applications. The size of the battery pack is something like 9' long, 6' deep and 5' high. This will obliterate the remaining view from the community room and hide what is still visible of the north bush-hammer finished concrete retaining wall. (also mentioned in the nominations). This seems a measurable degradation of a feature of the building and not one done for necessity for safety or for code compliance. The argument for not placing this large box in the alleyway is a fear of it getting vandalized at street level, which does not seem like a strong enough reason when up against the National and State registrations.

Thank you.

Dean

<image004.png>

Dean P. Smith Library Director

The Public Library 501 Copper Avenue NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

505.768.5195 o. | 505.225.4244 m. | abglibrary.org

From: Naji, Leslie

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2019 7:37 AM **To:** Smith, Dean < <a href="mailto:dpsmith@cabq.gov">dpsmith@cabq.gov</a>>

Subject: RE: Crane Logistics for ABQ Main Library

Good Morning Dean,

Thank you for the insight into the equipment placing in the courtyard. It sounds as though they are going to look for an alternative location which I hope works out. I suggest we prepare documentation for the library to be made a City Landmark so it will have full protection and review for such projects. Do you think that is something you department would be in favor of?

Leslie

# National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Govern  In my opinion, the property meets does not  Signature of commenting official:	
	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Govern	
		ıment
	Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
- 1	Dr. Jeff Pappas, New Mexico State Historic Preserv	
	nationalX_statewidelocal Applicable National Register Criteria:	
re	In my opinion, the property X meets does not me recommend that this property be considered significant level(s) of significance:	
tł	I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u> </u>	n the National Register of Historic
A	As the designated authority under the National Historic	Preservation Act, as amended,
3	3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
S	2. Location Street & number: 501 Copper Avenue NW City or town: Albuquerque State: NM County: Not For Publication: Vicinity:	Bernalillo Zip Code: 87102
	(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple proper	ty listing
	Other names/site number: <u>The Public Library Albuque</u> Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	rque and Bernalillo County
N		

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Main Library Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State Name of Property 4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that this property is: \_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 5. Classification **Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply.) Private: Public – Local Public - State Public - Federal **Category of Property** (Check only one box.) Building(s) District Site Structure

Object

Jnited States Department of the Interior lational Park Service / National Register of Historic PI IPS Form 10-900	aces Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018	
Main Library		Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State
ame of Property		County and State
Number of Description within Dron	outs:	
Number of Resources within Prop (Do not include previously listed res		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	2	structures
2	1	objects
4	3	Total
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) Education: library		
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)  Education: library		

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OMB No. 1024-0018

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Concrete

Main Library Name of Property	Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State
7. Description	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) Other: Brutalism	

# **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

The Main Library in Albuquerque was designed in the Brutalist style by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell Architects (SMPC) and completed in 1975. The three-story 104,577-square-foot library occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque. The library is built of concrete-floor slabs supported by a grid of concrete columns placed at thirty-six feet on center. The building is clad in brown brick, with floor-to-ceiling tinted glass on most elevations. The building is an east-to-west-oriented rectangle with large, open public spaces which can be reconfigured by moveable walls along tracks integrated into the system of coffered light modules. Offices, meeting rooms, and stairs are located along perimeter walls. Second-floor cantilevered projections house service functions. These projections are defining features of the design. The projection at the corner of Copper Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street shades the main entrance, which is also denoted by a bush-hammered concrete sign. Basement-level courts are located at each corner for outdoor reading, with the northwest court designed for truck deliveries. Space around the library that is dedicated to Southwest plantings. The interior is organized around the

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The interior finishes include brown-brick perimeter walls and interior wall panels of brown vertical boards. Some these panels are moveable. The concrete-slab floors are carpeted. Many of the original furnishings remain, including brightly colored wood-and-vinyl chairs on the first floor and throughout the public spaces of the library. Administrative areas include Eames Aluminum Group Executive Chairs, Eames Sofa Compact, Eames Tulip chairs and tables, and Eames Walnut Stools, manufactured by Herman Miller. The acquisitions department includes original steel desks and cabinets.

The library grounds, as the architect intended, were planted with native plants and deciduous trees. These are most apparent on the south side with thick plantings of yucca, chamisa, native grasses, and pine trees. A sycamore tree is located on the northeast corner and locust trees are planted along most elevations. The courts are planted with pine and cedar trees, butterfly bushes, and native grasses.

In 2006, the main entrance was modified by Cherry/See/Reames Architects to include a tinted-glass entrance lobby. In 2010, the firm reconfigured the space to include a coffee shop.<sup>1</sup> Later, a small, steel bus shelter, a large ART bus shelter with a canvas canopy, and a tall, steel sculpture were added to the library grounds.

### Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources

Main Library is counted as one contributing building.
Albuquerque Public Library sign is counted as one contributing object.
Landscape features are counted as one contributing site.
Furniture purchased when the library was completed is counted one contributing object.

Sculpture on the library grounds is counted as one noncontributing object.

ART bus shelter is counted as one noncontributing structure.

Metal-and-glass bus shelter on south side is counted as one noncontributing structure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> William A. Dodge, "A Survey of Albuquerque's Mid-Century Modernist Architectural Resources." (City of Albuquerque Planning Department, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2013).

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open public spaces, which are dominated by the system of coffered lights. The walls are brown brick and brown vertical paneling, and many original furnishings remain in public and administrative spaces.

# **Narrative Description**

The Main Library was designed by the Albuquerque architect George Pearl in the Brutalist style and completed in 1975. The library occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque, one block north of the Central Avenue, the city's principal commercial street. The library was a central component of the 1970 comprehensive plan for urban renewal that includes the Albuquerque Police Department, Albuquerque City Hall, Albuquerque Convention Center, and Civic Plaza.

The Main Library is a three-level concrete-framed building with concrete-floor slabs supported by a grid of concrete columns placed at thirty-six feet on center. The building, which is clad in brown brick, is rectangle-shaped, oriented east to west, with cantilevered projections on each elevation. The grand scale and bold massing are characteristic of the Brutalist style. The main entrance is located at the corner of Copper Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the shade of a cantilevered projection. A bush-hammered concrete sign directs patrons to the entrance.

The library's three floors feature flexible plans with moveable walls that allow for large, open public spaces. The walls slide along tracks that are integrated into the system of coffered light modules. Second-floor cantilevered projections house service functions. Offices, meeting rooms, and stairs are located along perimeter walls. The building encloses 104,577 square feet on mostly open floors that provide space for the public, administration, and the growing collection.

The first floor is mostly open public space with the circulation desk, stairs, elevators, and bathrooms located along the south wall and offices and meeting rooms situated along the north wall. This floor, which includes space for reading, computers, and stacks, is characterized by the egg-crate appearance of the coffered ceiling lights. The second floor is equally divided between public and administrative spaces by a moveable wall. Large cantilevered projections on each side contain ventilation equipment, administrative offices, and the staff lounge. Small cantilevers at the northeast and southeast corners serve as reading nooks.

The lower level is divided among a meeting room, a children's section, an auditorium, and space for book storage. This level includes three courts for out-of-doors reading. The courts, which are located at the northeast, southeast, and southwest corners of the library, are set below street level and are sheltered from the noise and "danger of the street." A fourth service court provides vehicle access to the library.

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Main Libra		Bernalillo, New Mexico
Name of Prop	perty	County and State
8. St	atement of Significance	
	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for land.)	National Register
X	A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant broad patterns of our history.	contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in ou	ır past.
X	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, peri construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses hi or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose con individual distinction.	gh artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important history.	nt in prehistory or
	ia Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
	A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes	
	B. Removed from its original location	
	C. A birthplace or grave	
	D. A cemetery	
	E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure	
	F. A commemorative property	
X	G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the pas-	t 50 years

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ain Library
ame of Property
Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture
Community Planning and Development
Politics/Government
Education
Period of Significance
1975
The second secon
Significant Dates
1975
1973
Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.
<u>N/A</u>
harden and the second
Cultural Affiliation
N/A
The state of the s
Management of Control and Cont
THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY
Architect/Builder
Pearl, George (architect)

8

Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because the library, designed by Albuquerque architect George Pearl of the firm Stevens, Mallory, Pearl, and Campbell, is an excellent example of Brutalism, a style of architecture popular in the 1960s and 1970s that emphasized monumental forms built of brick and especially concrete. The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development and politics/government because the library was a central component of urban renewal plans in Albuquerque in the 1960s and 1970s that reshaped downtown to include Civic Plaza, a new city hall, police department, convention center, and the demolition of blocks of so-called blighted buildings. The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion A in the area of education because it incorporates late-20<sup>th</sup>-century scientific principles of library design and because it represents the city's commitment to public educational institutions in response to the population boom in the decades after the Second World War. The Main Library meets criteria consideration G because it achieved significance within the last fifty years and is of exceptional importance.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because the library, designed by Albuquerque architect George Pearl of the firm Stevens, Mallory, Pearl, and Campbell, is an excellent example of Brutalism, a style of architecture popular in the 1960s and 1970s that emphasized monumental forms built of brick and especially concrete. The rectangular-shaped building is punctuated by second-floor cantilevered projections and surrounded on all side by lower-level courts. Its large size, grand scale, and sculptural form belies an interior planned around the needs of the public and library administration, with open floor plans, moveable walls, and clearly located library functions. Where many buildings of this style feature cold concrete interiors, the Main Library is finished with brown brick, brown-wood paneling, and wall-to-wall carpet.

The Main Library is located in one of only two small concentrations of Brutalist buildings in the state. These Brutalist nodes include downtown Albuquerque and the campus of the University of New Mexico. Downtown includes: Albuquerque City Hall, designed by James Liberty and completed in 1968; Albuquerque Police Department, designed by William Ellison and completed in 1972; the Albuquerque Convention Center, completed in the 1960s; and the Main Library.

The University of New Mexico has a significant concentration of Brutalist buildings. UNM and universities across the nation were adding new infrastructure in anticipation of increased in

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enrollment as the Baby Boom generation reached college age. In 1966, New Mexico voters passed a bond issue for over \$42 million for new academic buildings, land purchases, and other campus improvements for the university system. At UNM, George Pearl designed the Faculty Office and Classroom Building in 1971 as a fortress-like building with battered walls and cantilevered forms. Brutalist buildings on campus also include the Physics Building, designed by the firm Pacheco and Graham and completed in 1971; the Psychology Building completed in 1972; and the Farris Engineering Building, built in 1969. Smaller cities built one or more examples of the style, including Santa Fe with the Manuel Lujan Sr. Building built in 1974, and Taos, with the Courthouse and Administration Complex built in 1970.

# The Public Library System in Albuquerque

The first public library in Albuquerque opened in 1901 and was housed in Perkins Hall, a building donated to the city by prominent residents Joshua and Sarah Raynolds with collections provided by local business leaders.<sup>2</sup> After fire damaged this building in 1923, the main library was moved to a new Pueblo-Revival style building on the corner of Central Avenue and Edith Boulevard in 1925. In the decades following the Second World War, the city of Albuquerque experienced significant growth and development. Although manufacturing jobs in Albuquerque lagged behind other western cities, Kirtland Air Base and Sandia Lab continued to grow and employ thousands of residents. Effective booster campaigns promoting the clean air, pleasant climate, rugged beauty, and cultural attractions of New Mexico continued to draw people to Albuquerque throughout the mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century. The remarkable pace of residential development in the city led to the rapid expansion of city services, including new roads, hospitals, public transportation, recreation, schools, and libraries. To keep pace with this growth, the Albuquerque Public Library opened new branches in several newly built suburban neighborhoods, beginning with the Ernie Pyle Memorial Library in 1947, and followed by other satellite branches in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1970, city officials recognized the need for a new downtown branch and issued bonds in 1971 for construction of the Main Library.<sup>3</sup>

### The Promise and Problems of Brutalism

The Main Library is a highly visible public building constructed in the *avant guard* Brutalist style. Brutalism emerged in the United Kingdom and France after the Second World War as a reaction to the delicate and uniform buildings of the International Style. Concrete is its central element because in the war-ravaged economies of Europe, poured-in-place concrete buildings were cheap to build. In Marseilles, Swiss architect Le Corbusier designed a massive, boxframed apartment block. Its solidity is part and parcel of its method of construction. Where the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ronald Rozelle, "The Main Library," *Albuquerque Modernism: A Guide to Mid-Century Architecture in Albuquerque, New Mexico*, n.d. http://albuquerquemodernism.unm.edu/wp/downtown-urban-redevelopment/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

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International Style emphasizes the steel frame that supports a glass curtain wall, Brutalist buildings have no separate structure. The cast-concrete walls are the frame of the building. Some Brutalist buildings are built of brick, but the rough concrete exterior is its defining characteristic. The term, Brutalism derives from the French *beton brut*, meaning raw concrete. Another popular treatment was hand hammering or bush hammering the concrete into corrugated razor-sharp edges.

In the United States in the early 1960s and 1970s, Brutalism was promoted by a small group of mostly university architecture professors before the style was embraced by the public. Designed by Paul Rudolf, the Yale School of Architecture from 1963, with its soaring towers, is an early example of basic geometry and dramatic scale sometimes described as heroic or monumental. Cantilevered forms became a common feature of the style, as seen the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. Floor plans of Brutalist buildings were unique to each structure and were often expressed on the exterior, such as the façade of Boston City Hall.

Brutalism challenged the hegemony of the International Style and it represents a period of experimentation and risk-taking in American architecture. Brutalism embraced individual expression that catered to specific design programs, rather than the repetitive glass boxes of the International Style. In New Mexico, Brutalist buildings appear like those throughout the nation, with their solid, heavy, and monumental forms. The Manual Lujan, Sr. Building in Santa Fe was features a low profile, battered walls, narrow windows, and port cullis-style entrance are reminiscent of 16th-century Spanish star forts.

Brutalism is not without its critics. Inveighing against the style, Prince Charles said, "You have to give this much to the Luftwaffe, when it knocked down our buildings, it didn't replace them with anything more offensive than rubble." Architecture critic Paul Goldberger said of the FBI headquarters, "This building turns its back on the city and substitutes for responsible architecture a pompous, empty monumentality that is, in the end, not so much a symbol as a symptom—a symptom of something wrong in government and just as wrong in architecture." The public came to dislike the concrete architecture of the 1960s and 1970s, which it regarded as stark, uninviting, intimidating, and antagonistic. Its emphasis on concrete, especially interior spaces, made the buildings cold, dank, and unpleasant places to work.

Many Brutalist buildings were difficult to negotiate because of their complex floor plans. The Yale School of Architecture includes over thirty terraced floor levels, frustrating generations of architecture students. And Brutalist buildings do not usually include ceremonial entrances, but instead the entries are subordinate to the plan. That is, they are often located in unlikely places, resulting in frustrated visitors. The Yale school entrance is discretely tucked away in shadowy cleft on the front of the building and Boston City Hall is entered through a series of brick barricades. The rare architect, such as Louis I. Kahn, designed monumental forms in concrete, but used scale, materials, and light to create warm and inviting interior spaces.

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# Design of the Main Library

In his design for the Main Library, George Pearl focused on the needs of the library administration and the public, which obviated many of the problems that are characteristic of Brutalism. Rather than interior cast-concrete walls, Pearl designed a system of moveable walls for flexibility. Each floor is readily navigated with large, open public spaces and easy-to-locate stairs and elevators. Library functions, such as the circulation desk, reference desk, and the stacks, are obvious and intuitive to visitors. The interior finishes are not concrete, but brown brick, wood paneling, and wall-to-wall carpet for a warm, inviting environment. And the architect included courts for patrons to enjoy the New Mexico sun and read in the out-of-doors. The Main Library is a monumental, but its interior design transcends the problems of most, and the most famous, buildings built in the Brutalist style.

The architect, George Pearl, spent his career in Albuquerque blending modernism and traditional New Mexico architecture. Pearl arrived from Texas in 1949 and quickly embraced the state's building traditions and culture. He spent his forty-year career as the principal designer for Stevens Mallory Pearl & Campbell, now known as SMPC Architects. Among his early designs was the Albuquerque Civic Auditorium in 1957 in which he used a sand hill to form the massive poured-in-place concrete dome. Later projects include the National Radio Astronomy Observatory on the New Mexico Tech campus in Socorro, Simms Fine Arts Center and theater at Albuquerque Academy. His Brutalist buildings include the college of business on the campus of Eastern New Mexico University in Portales and the Faculty Office and Classroom Building on the campus of New Mexico in Albuquerque.<sup>4</sup>

### Main Library and Urban Renewal in Albuquerque

The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development and politics/government because the library was a central component of urban renewal plans in Albuquerque in the 1960s and 1970s, which reshaped downtown to include Civic Plaza, a new city hall, police department, convention center, and the demolition of blocks of so-called blighted buildings. The Main Library was commissioned in accordance with the 1968 Tijeras Urban Renewal Project. Urban renewal efforts in the United States from the late 1960s to early 1970s provided Albuquerque with \$20 million in federal funds to revive the downtown-central business district with modern public facilities. In 1971, the city issued bonds to finance and support the construction of the new downtown library.

The Main Library was to be completed as part of the first phase in a series of urban renewal projects to revitalize the city's flagging downtown. Albuquerque's downtown core was the heart of New Town, established after the arrival of the AT&SF Railway in 1880. For roughly eighty years downtown served as the residential, commercial, and civic center for most residents in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Katie Burford, "Architect Left Indelible Mark on Landscape of State," *Albuquerque Journal*, 18 August 2003.

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Albuquerque. The rapid expansion in population following the Second World War led to a boom in residential construction on the undeveloped mesas to the northeast and west of the central business district. Residential neighborhoods sprang up in these outlying regions, and downtown maintained its status as the central district for shopping, dining, and conducting business through the 1950s as seen in prominent hotels, department stores, and curio shops.<sup>5</sup> However, the shift in population to the surrounding mesas, combined with downtown's narrow streets, traffic congestion, and limited parking drove many city businesses to relocate to the suburbs by 1960.

The pattern of urban flight to the suburbs happened later in Albuquerque than in many Eastern cities, but the city's response to the deterioration of its downtown with a program of urban renewal was the same as elsewhere in the nation. Urban renewal was a practice established by the Federal Housing Act of 1949 to provide funding for the improvement of cities plagued with any number of undesirable conditions that fell under the blanket of "blight." Max Boruff of the University of New Mexico, School of Architecture and Planning explains:

Often blight was used to describe otherwise healthy urban neighborhoods inhabited by a single ethnic group; historic and dilapidated buildings whose owners were either uninterested in renovation or unable to secure funding to do so; heavy, poor, or inefficient traffic flow through central business districts; and nearly any other sociological or psychological issue that was affecting the urban area. A blunt instrument, "blight" provided ready justification for planners' redevelopment aspirations in the postwar period.

By the early 1960s downtown Albuquerque was showing signs of deterioration as businesses followed the residential flight to the suburbs. High vacancy rates and neglect of the city's oldest buildings gave downtown a "blighted" appearance. In 1962, Albuquerque established the City Building Removal Team to address the issue of deteriorated buildings. The Team surveyed approximately ninety buildings and condemned thirty-one. By 1963, the city had demolished twenty-four downtown buildings.8 Several casualties were local landmarks, which were demolished to make way for parking lots and new development.9

The close partnership between city boosters and the city commission had helped to drive the sprawling growth in the years immediately after the Second World War. The chamber of

<sup>5</sup> Carleen Lazzell and Melissa Payne, *Historic Albuquerque: An Illustrated History* (San Antonio, TX: Historical Publishing Network, 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Max Boruff, "Downtown Urban Renewal," Albuquerque Modernism: A Guide to Mid-Century Architecture in Albuquerque, New Mexico, n.d. http://albuquerquemodernism.unm.edu/wp/downtownurban-redevelopment/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> David E. Ferro, "An Overview: The History of Preservation Activity in Albuquerque, New Mexico" (University of Florida, 1976), http://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00102020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Lazzell and Payne, 64. Demolitions included the Hotel Franciscan (1923) and the Alvarado Hotel (1902), built by the Fred Harvey Company.

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commerce pursued a strategy of annexation to include the emerging suburbs with the city's rapidly increasing boundaries. Albuquerque boosters had also embraced the construction of the Interstate highways that crisscrossed the city in the 1960s as another "big city" improvement. This decades-long partnership between business and government contributed to the pattern of Albuquerque's rapid suburban development and the resulting deterioration of the central business district. Disagreements over the management of Albuquerque's growth led to a reconfiguration of city government to include a mayor and city council structure in 1972, but the pro-growth partnership survived. The tension between the allied local business owners and city government and the primarily Hispanic downtown residents reached a climax over the issue of urban renewal in the 1960s.

Local business owners funded a study of the downtown area in 1957, seeking to improve traffic congestion and access to the local businesses, which resulted in an unimplemented plan that would have accommodated high pedestrian traffic and displaced the traditionally Hispanic residential population in the Tijeras neighborhood.<sup>11</sup> With the continuing decline of downtown in the years that followed, the city commission established the Albuquerque Metropolitan Development Committee in 1964 to "study the issue of 'sprawlitis,' in relation to 'core' development."<sup>12</sup> The Committee published a plan for the redevelopment of downtown in 1966, but resistance from local businessmen prevented its implementation.

Many cities accepted federal urban renewal funds for urban revitalization projects by the 1950s, but Albuquerque initially declined to seek these grants, in part because local politicians and business owners resisted federal involvement in the city's development. By 1968, despite these objections, and after considerable debate, the city finally received \$25 million in federal urban renewal funds for the "Tijeras Urban Renewal Project." In Albuquerque, city officials targeted the historically Hispanic ethnic neighborhood of Tijeras for urban renewal, labeling it a slum. The plan called for the city to acquire most residential buildings in the downtown Tijeras neighborhood and raze them for commercial development. In response to this plan, residents of Tijeras formed the Citizen Improvement Committee and successfully petitioned for a voice in the Urban Renewal Agency. Their resistance altered plans for downtown and resulted in the retention of most of the Tijeras neighborhood.

Criticism of the Tijeras plan led city planners to quickly rework their initial plans, creating a comprehensive plan in 1970 that focused on the renewal of the central business district. The city plan identified several goals, including the creation of Albuquerque as a leading metropolitan center, catering to pedestrians, developing a sense of place in the downtown region through the use of gateways, and "stimulate interaction between government and citizens to form a better

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Michael Farley Logan, *Fighting Sprawl and City Hall: Resistance to Urban Growth in the Southwest,* 1945-1965 (Ann Arbor, Michigan: UMI Dissertation Services, 1994), 196.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Logan, Fighting Sprawl and City Hall: Resistance to Urban Growth in the Southwest, 1945-1965.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Ibid., 262.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ibid., 268.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ibid., 257.

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functioning downtown."<sup>15</sup> Central to the plan was a large Civic Plaza "fronted by government and institutional buildings that would invite community interaction with city officials."<sup>16</sup> The first phase of the plan called for the construction of a new main library and parking garage and a pedestrian bridge to the Civic Plaza. This comprehensive plan reflects a modernist planning philosophy based on the goal of restoring the downtown to its former central role in commerce, government, finance, and residential activities.<sup>17</sup> A study by the city in 1972 elaborated on the 1970 plan, adding goals to encourage lifelong learning, promote tourism, and preserve culturally significant architecture.<sup>18</sup>

Many aspects of the 1970 comprehensive plan were not realized, but the Main Library, city hall, police department, convention center, and the Civic Plaza were built. In preparation for the remaining projects outlined in the 1970 plan, the city demolished many buildings in the downtown corridor, including half-a-dozen local landmarks. When these projects failed to get implemented, downtown was left with even less potential to entice businesses and residents to return.

# The Science of Libraries in the Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century

The Main Library is significant at the state level under National Register Criterion A in the area of education because it represents the leading edge of library science in the third quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The parameters of the design space for 500 patrons and 500,00 volumes. After visiting "twenty of the most conspicuous new libraries in the country," the architects "talked to librarians, the architects, and library users about the good and the bad aspects of their libraries." The principal issue shared by these libraries was that "change in library media was rapid and omnipresent and that flexibility of interior space is the preeminent requirement for providing continuously adequate and creative library services." <sup>19</sup>

The architects responded with secondary and administrative functions placed along the perimeter walls, leaving a block-long open, public space interrupted only by structural columns set at thirty-six feet on center. Many of the walls were designed to be moveable for greater flexibility. The coffered ceiling lights included tracts for the walls, air supply and return, and connections to electrical, telephone, and video systems. Flexibility provides patrons with the choice to read out-of-doors in one of three lower-level courts "sheltered from the noise and danger of the busy streets." The fourth court is devoted to vehicular services, including bookmobiles. The building's flexible design includes space for future growth in the lower level for collections and

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.; Judy Mattivi Morley, *Historic Preservation and the Imagined West: Albuquerque, Denver, and Seattle* (Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Press, 2006), 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Boruff, "Downtown Urban Renewal."

<sup>16</sup> Thid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture (September-October 1975): 12.

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in the second floor for administrative functions. The architects provided for a future third floor with adequate structural support and stairs to the roof, which are now concealed.<sup>20</sup>

County and State

# Criteria Consideration G: Properties that achieved significance within the last fifty years

The Main Library in Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico meets National Register Criteria Consideration G because the property has achieved significance within the past fifty years. The library is an exceptional example of the Late Modern architectural style known as Brutalism. The bold, monumental forms constructed of brick and concrete were sensitively incorporated into a modern library with flexible, open floor plans to accommodate a variety of educational functions and lower-level courts to permit reading out-of-doors. The library, a centerpiece of the city's urban renewal efforts in the 1970s, is a rare example of Brutalism in New Mexico. It is located in one of only two small concentrations of Brutalist buildings in the state. These Brutalist nodes include downtown Albuquerque and the campus of the University of New Mexico and total roughly a dozen Brutalist buildings.

Name of Property

16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid.

Main Library	
Name of Property	

Bernalillo, New Mexico	
County and State	

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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- Smith, Dean P. Interview with authors. Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2017 October 6.

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Main Library Name of Property		Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State
Previous documentation on file	e (NPS):	
	of individual listing (36 CFR 67) h	as been requested
recorded by Historic Amer	ible by the National Register	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property1.72 a	cres	
Use either the UTM system or la		
Latitude/Longitude Coordinate Datum if other than WGS84:  (enter coordinates to 6 decimal p		
1. Latitude: 35.086156	Longitude: -106.653127	
2. Latitude:	Longitude:	
3. Latitude:	Longitude:	
4. Latitude:	Longitude:	

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## Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary appears on the sketch map as a red line drawn to scale and corresponding with the point of latitude and longitude in Section 10.

## Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The National Register boundary includes the intact property historically associated with the Main Library.

11. Form Prepared B	1	1.	<b>Form</b>	Prepa	ared	By
---------------------	---	----	-------------	-------	------	----

name/title: Katie Dix, Heidi Pierce, and Ale	x Rodriguez	
organization: University of New Mexico, So	chool of Architecture an	d Planning, Certificate
Program in Historic Preservation and Region	nalism	
street & number: 1 University of New Mexi	ico	
city or town: Albuquerque	state: NM	zip code: <u>87131</u>
e-mail: N/A	telephone: N/A	
date: December 2017		

#### **State Historic Preservation Office**

name/title: Ste	even Moffson, Sta	ate and	National Register (	Coordinator
organization:	New Mexico His	storic P	reservation Divisio	<u>n</u>
street & number: 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236				
city or town:	Santa Fe	state:	New Mexico	zip: <u>87501</u>
email: steven.moffson@state.nm.us telephone: 505.476.04444				
date: July 30.	, 2018			

## **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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## Maps

- 1. Location Map
- 2. National Register Boundary Map

#### **Figures**

- Figure 1. Site Plan and Street Level Plans, "Albuquerque Public Library." *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 16.
- Figure 2. Upper and Lower Plans, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 17.
- Figure 3. Section A-A (North-South), "Albuquerque Public Library." *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 15.
- Figure 4. George Pearl, Albuquerque Public Library, ca. 1972. "Albuquerque Public Library: Bound sketch book preliminary sketches, diagrams and notes," Box 6, Folder 8, George Pearl Papers (MSS 782 BC), Center for Southwest Research, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.
- Figure 5. East and north sides, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 14.
- Figure 6. West and south sides, "Albuquerque Public Library." *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 14.
- Figures 7. First floor (above) and second floor, *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 13
- Figure 8. Downtown Albuquerque, 1940s.
- Figure 9. Urban Renewal in Downtown Albuquerque.

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Figure 10. "Central Avenue and Fourth Street Mall," 1970. City of Albuquerque Planning Department, *Downtown Plan* (Albuquerque: City of Albuquerque Planning Department, December 1970).

Figure 11. "Staging of Central Ave. Area," 1970. City of Albuquerque Planning Department, *Downtown Plan* (Albuquerque: City of Albuquerque Planning Department, December 1970).

Figure 12. Albuquerque/Bernalillo Comprehensive Plan, 1975. Max Boruff. "Downtown Urban Redevelopment." *Albuquerque Modernism: A Guide to Mid-Century Architecture in Albuquerque, New Mexico*, n.d. http://albuquerquemodernism.unm.edu/wp/downtown-urban-redevelopment/

Figure 13. Civic Plaza (center), one block northeast of Main Library, with Convention Center (upper right), Albuquerque Inn (upper left), Plaza del Sol upper left corner), and City Hall (lower left), 1980s.

## **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

#### Photo Log

Name of Property:

Main Library

City or Vicinity:

Albuquerque

County:

Bernalillo

State: NM

Photographer:

Harvey Kaplan

Date Photographed:

July 17, 2017

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 31. South and east sides, photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 31. South side with glass entrance additions from Copper Avenue, photographer facing northwest.
- 3 of 31. Northeast corner from 5<sup>th</sup> Street, photographer facing southwest.
- 4 of 31. North side with service court in foreground, photographer facing south east.
- 5 of 31. Rear (west) elevation with landscaping from 6<sup>th</sup> Street, photographer facing east.
- 6 of 31. South side with ART bus shelter, photographer facing north.
- 7 of 31. Southwest corner with court in foreground, photographer facing northeast.
- 8 of 31. Southwest corner, with court and landscaping, photographer facing northwest.
- 9 of 31. Southwest court along Copper Avenue, photographer facing east.
- 10 of 31. Main entrance with entrance sign, photographer facing northwest.
- 11 of 31. Interior, first floor, reading room, photographer facing northwest.
- 12 of 31. Interior, first floor, reading room, photographer facing east.
- 13 of 31. Interior, first floor, reading room, offices and meeting rooms, photographer facing north.
- 14 of 31. Interior, first floor, meeting room with original furniture, photographer facing southwest.
- 15 of 31. Interior, first floor, reading room, circulation desk, photographer facing south.
- 16 of 31. Interior, first floor, stairs to second floor, photographer facing west.
- 17 of 31. Interior, second floor, reading room, photographer facing north.
- 18 of 31. Interior, second floor, administrative offices with moveable walls, photographer facing northwest.

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- 19 of 31. Interior, second floor, window above main entrance, photographer facing southeast.
- 20 of 31. Interior, second floor, acquisitions department with original desks, photographer facing southwest.
- 21 of 31. Interior, second floor, acquisitions department with projecting window and original chairs, photographer facing southwest.
- 22 of 31. Interior, second floor, administration with original furnishings, photographer facing southwest.
- 23 of 31. Interior, second floor, administration with moveable wall, photographer facing east.
- 24 of 31. Interior, second floor, administration, conference room, photographer facing east.
- 25 of 31. Interior, lower level, children's area, photographer facing south.
- 26 of 31. Interior, lower level, auditorium, photographer facing southeast.
- 27 of 31. Interior, lower level, meeting room, photographer facing west.
- 28 of 31. Lower level, northeast court, photographer facing north.
- 29 of 31. Lower level, southeast court, photographer facing east.
- 30 of 31. Lower level, southwest court, photographer facing southwest.
- 31 of 31. Lower level, northwest service court, photographer facing west.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seg.).

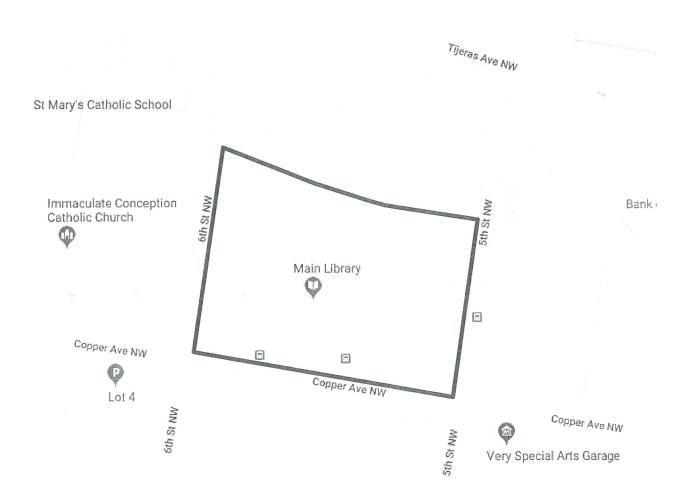
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Location of Property

Approximate Scale: one inch = 2,300 feet

Main Library Bernalillo, New Mexico Name of Property County and State 7 Mountain Rd NW CI PLAZA VIEJA 72th St Nly Mountain Rd NE NORTHERN Lomas Blvd NW ADDITION DOWNTOWN Lomas Blvd NE MANDELLS CITIZENS IMP 0 COMM OF 3rd St Mly 2nd St Nly MARTINEZTOWN SPRUCE PARK HUNING CASTLE RAYNOLDS ADDITION 3rd St SW 2nd St SW (3) Presbyterian Hospital Central Ave SE Central Ave 5 Coal Ave SE Broadway Blyd SE SILVER H Albuquerque Zoo Roosevelt Park 3rd St Sty Ø SOUTH BARELAS BROADWAY Fa ORCHARD GARDENS Avenida Cesar Chavez Bridge Blvd SW CLAYTON HEIGHTS-LOMAS (47) DEL CIELO WEST SIDE Main Library Bernalillo County, New Mexico

Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State



Main Library

Bernalillo County, New Mexico

National Register boundary



Approximate Scale: one inch = 100 feet

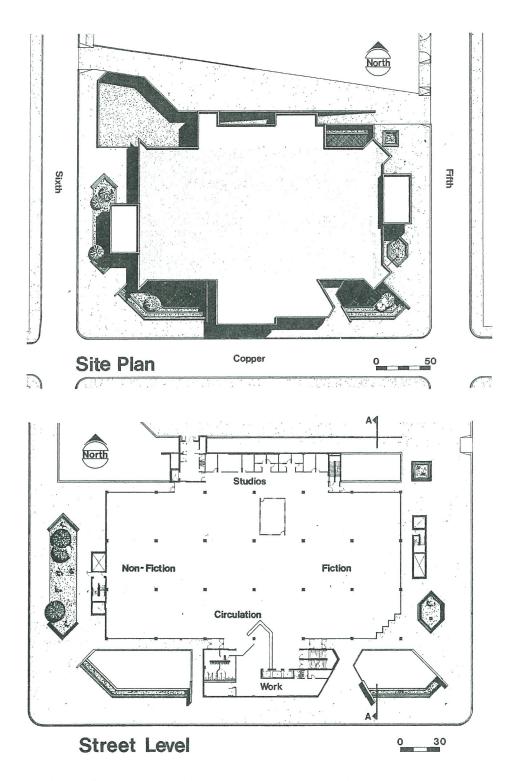
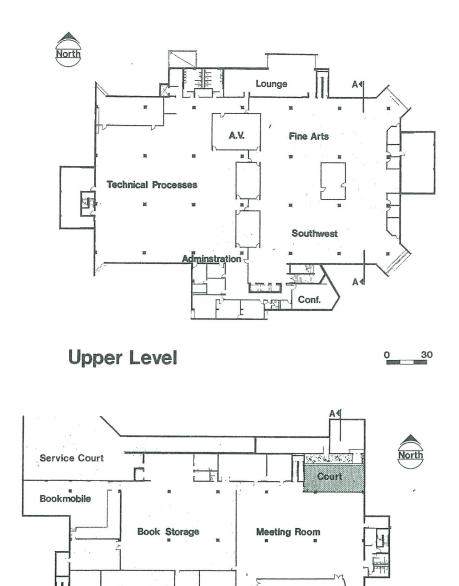


Figure 1. Site Plan and Street Level Plans, "Albuquerque Public Library." *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 16.



Children Auditorium Court

Court

Lower Level 0 30

Figure 2. Upper and Lower Plans, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 17.

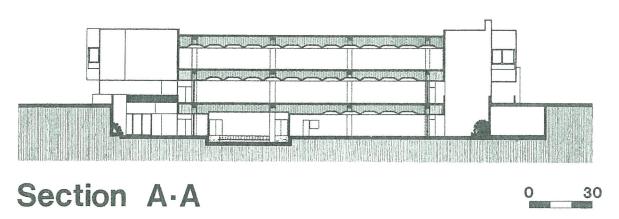


Figure 3. Section A-A (North-South), "Albuquerque Public Library." *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 15.

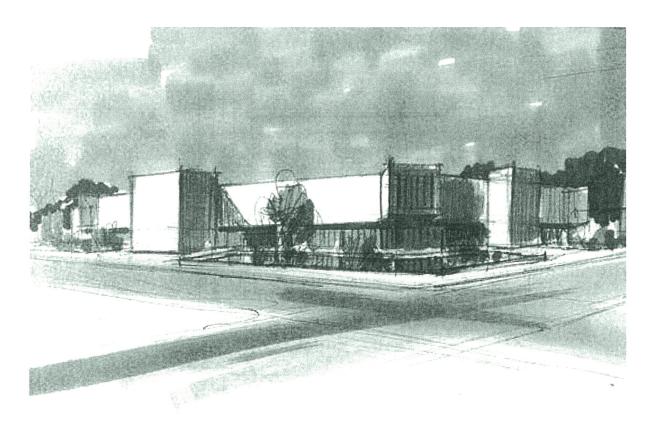


Figure 4. George Pearl, Albuquerque Public Library, ca. 1972. "Albuquerque Public Library: Bound sketch book preliminary sketches, diagrams and notes," Box 6, Folder 8, George Pearl Papers (MSS 782 BC), Center for Southwest Research, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.

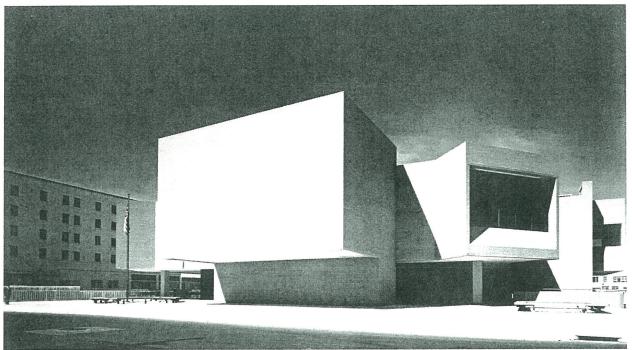


Figure 5. East and north sides, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 14.

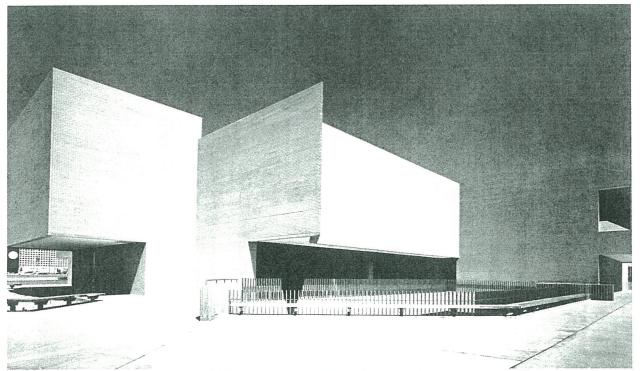
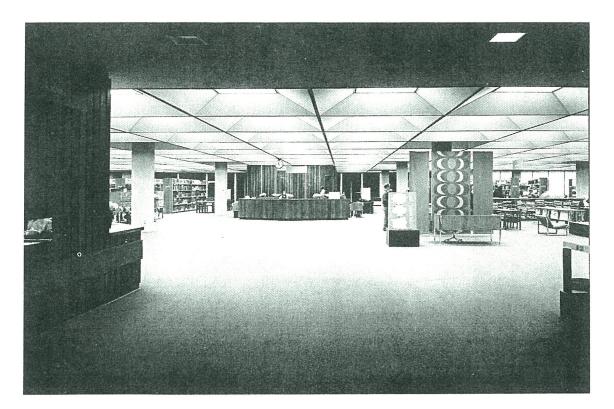


Figure 6. Rear and south side, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 14.





Figures 7. First floor (above) and second floor, *New Mexico Architecture* 17 (September-October 1975): 13.



Figure 8. Downtown Albuquerque, 1940s.



Figure. 9. Urban Renewal in Downtown Albuquerque.

Main Library	
Name of Property	

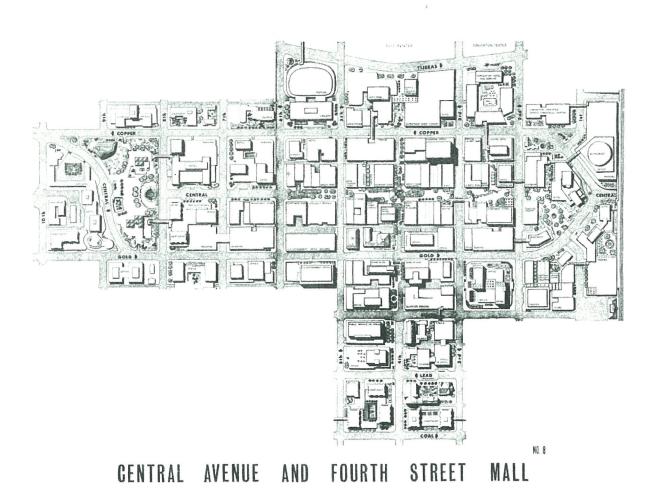


Figure 10. "Central Avenue and Fourth Street Mall," 1970. City of Albuquerque Planning Department, Downtown Plan (City of Albuquerque Planning Department, 1970).

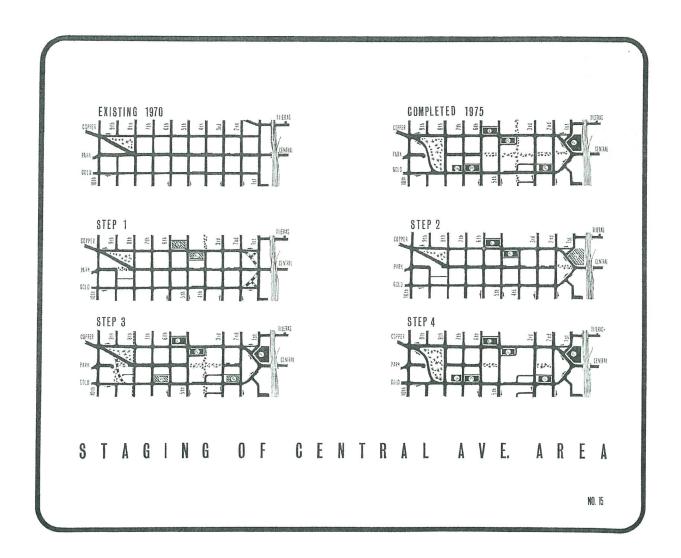


Figure 11. "Staging of Central Ave. Area," 1970. City of Albuquerque Planning Department, Downtown Plan (City of Albuquerque Planning Department, 1970).

Main Library	
Name of Property	

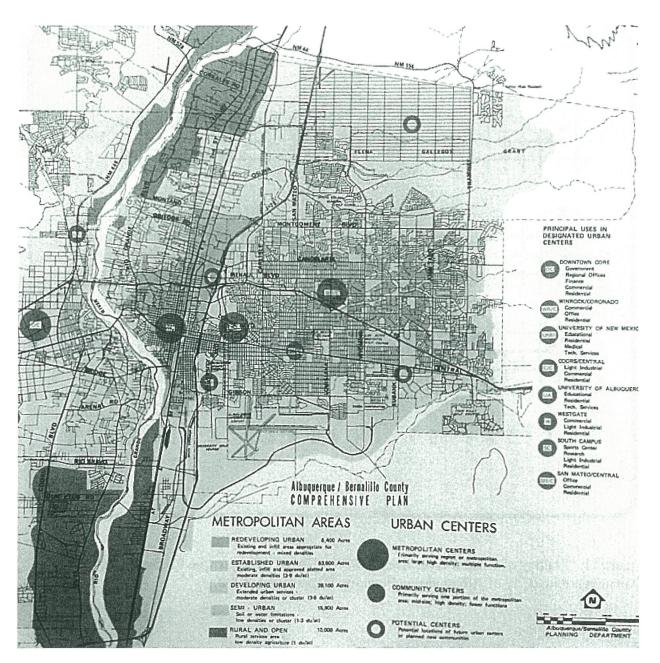


Figure 12. Albuquerque/Bernalillo Comprehensive Plan, 1975. Boruff, Max. "Downtown Urban Redevelopment." *Albuquerque Modernism: A Guide to Mid-Century Architecture in Albuquerque, New Mexico*, n.d. http://albuquerquemodernism.unm.edu/wp/downtown-urban-redevelopment/



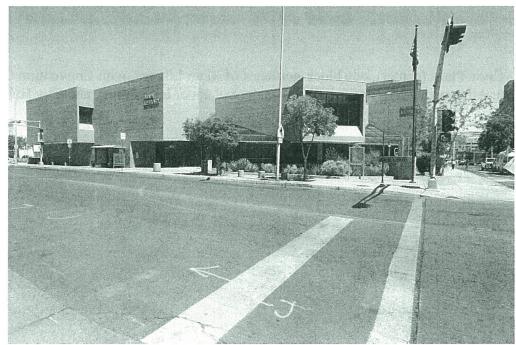
Figure 13. Civic Plaza (center), one block northeast of Main Library, with Convention Center (upper right), Albuqueque Inn (upper left), Plaza del Sol upper left corner), and City Hall (lower left), 1980s.

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

# **Photographs**



1. South and east sides, photographer facing northwest.



2. South side with glass entrance additions from Copper Avenue, photographer facing northwest.



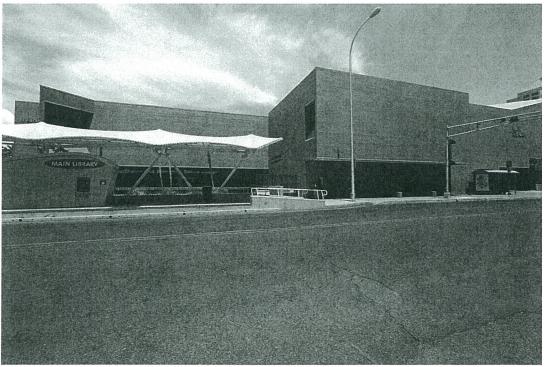
3. Northeast corner from 5<sup>th</sup> Street, photographer facing southwest.



4. North side with service court in foreground, photographer facing south east.

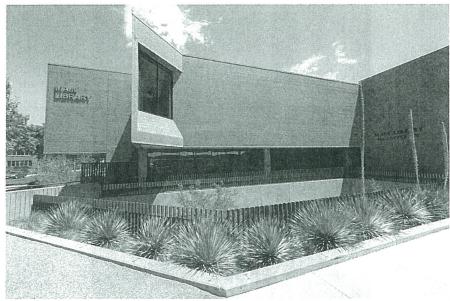


5. Rear (west) elevation with landscaping from 6<sup>th</sup> Street, photographer facing east.

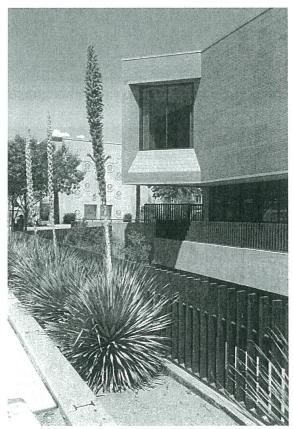


6. South side with ART bus shelter, photographer facing north.

Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State

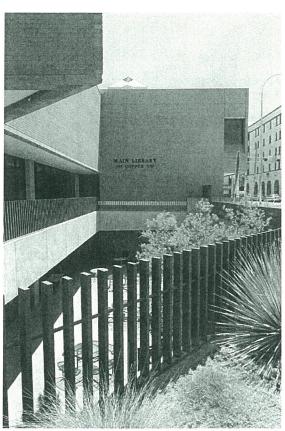


7. Southwest corner with court in foreground, photographer facing northeast.

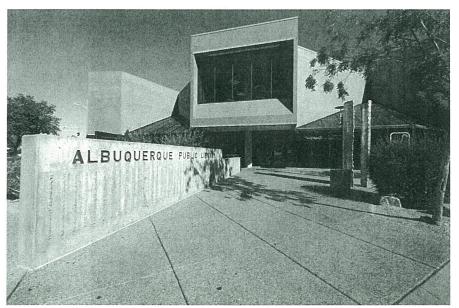


8. Southwest corner, with court and landscaping, photographer facing northwest.

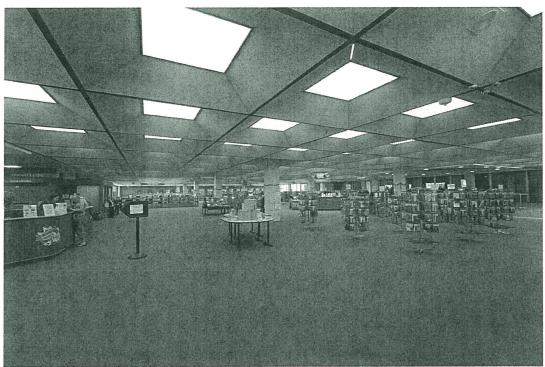
Bernalillo, New Mexico
County and State



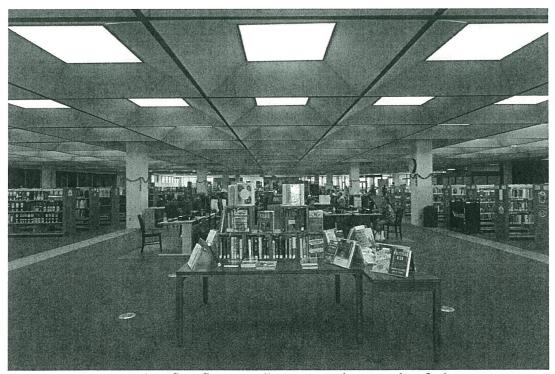
9. Southwest court along Copper Avenue, photographer facing east.



10. Main entrance with entrance sign, photographer facing northwest.



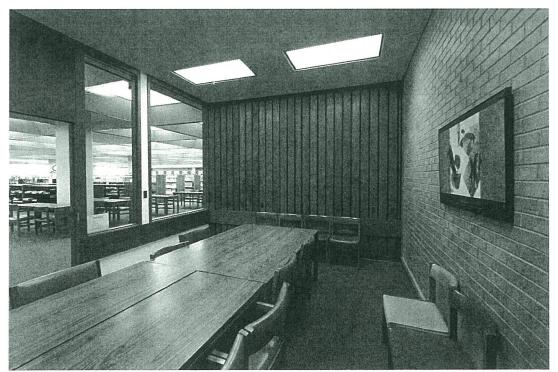
11. Interior, first floor, reading room, photographer facing northwest.



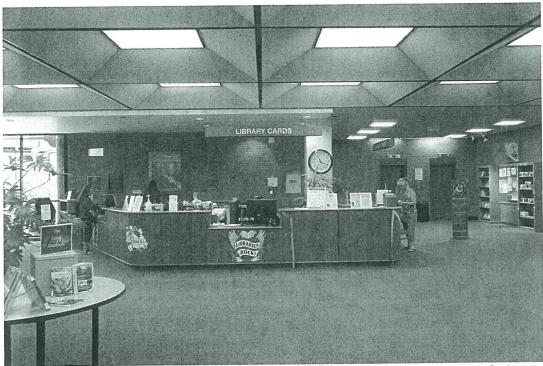
12. Interior, first floor, reading room, photographer facing east.



13. Interior, first floor, reading room, offices and meeting rooms, photographer facing north.



14. Interior, first floor, meeting room with original furniture, photographer facing southwest.



15. Interior, first floor, reading room, circulation desk, photographer facing south.



16. Interior, first floor, stairs to second floor, photographer facing west.

Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State



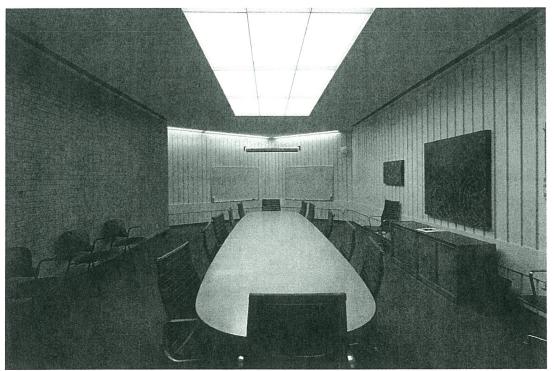
21. Interior, second floor, acquisitions department with projecting window and original chairs, photographer facing southwest.



22. Interior, second floor, administration with original furnishings, photographer facing southwest.



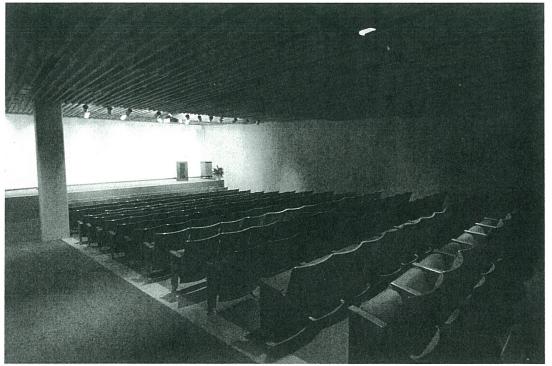
23. Interior, second floor, administration with moveable wall, photographer facing east.



24. Interior, second floor, administration, conference room, photographer facing east.



25. Interior, lower level, children's area, photographer facing south.



26. Interior, lower level, auditorium, photographer facing southeast.



27. Interior, lower level, meeting room, photographer facing west.



28. Lower level, northeast court, photographer facing north.



29. Lower level, southeast court, photographer facing east.



301. Lower level, southwest court, photographer facing southwest.



31. Lower level, northwest service court, photographer facing west.

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Main Library Name of Property		Bernalillo, New Mexico County and State





## LC PRE-APPLICATION MEETING

APPLICANT:	City of Albuquerque - Library, DATE
AGENCY REPRES	SENTATIVES PRESENT AT MEETING:
Leslie Naji	
☐ Angela Behren ☑ Others///	hitney Phalen
1. WHAT IS THE A	ADDRESS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY?
50/	Copper St. NW
2. WHAT IS THE N	NATURE OF THE PROJECT
Land	Amark Designation - Main Library
3. SUMMARY OF	DISCUSSION (continued over)

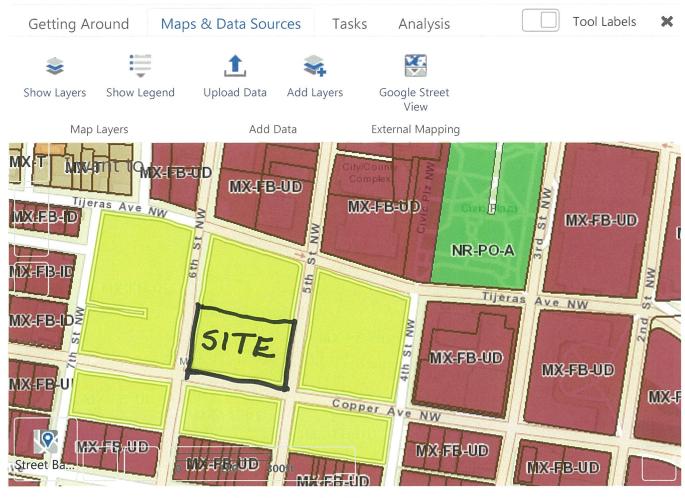
NOTE: Pre-application discussions are provided to assist applicants in acquiring information on process, guidelines and requirements pertaining to their request. Interpretation of zoning requirements is the responsibility of the zoning enforcement officer, as provided for by the comprehensive zoning code. Any statements regarding zoning at the pre application discussion are intended solely to direct the applicant to seek further information.

4. SIGN AND DATE TO VERIFY ATTENDANCE & RECEIPT OF THIS SUMMARY (PRE-APPLICATION DISCUSSIONS ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE NON-BINDING)

STAFF / DATE APPLICANT OR AGENT / DATE

1 / 13 / 19
APPLICANT OR AGENT / DATE

Map Changed. Center latitude: 35.0859 \xB0 North. Center longitude: 106.6453 \xB0 West. Visible Features: 647 features visible on Bern on Marcel Micros visible on Meritingh Limits. 118 features visible on IDO Zaigng in



Identify Results (6)

27 result(s) added to 'Identify Results'

IDOZoneDistrict	IDODistrictDefinition	IDOZoningDescription	IDOCateg
MX-FB-UD	Form-based Urban Development		Mixed-Use
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MX-FB-UD	Form-based Urban Development		Mixed-Use
MX-FB-UD	Form-based Urban Development		Mixed-Use
MX-FB-UD	Form-based Urban Development		Mixed-Use
MX-FB-UD	Form-based Urban Development		Mixed-Use

## Naji, Leslie

Sent: From: Quevedo, Vicente M.

Thursday, October 24, 2019 11:02 AM

Naji, Leslie

Subject: Attachments:

<u>.</u>

Public Notice Inquiry\_501 Copper Ave NW\_LC

501 Copper K-14-Z.PDF; Public Notice Inquiry\_501 Copper Ave NW\_LC.xlsx

Leslie,

notification templates that you may utilize when contacting each association. Thank you. will provide you with additional details about the new Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) requirements. The web links also include See list of associations below and attached regarding your Landmarks Commission submittal. In addition, we have included web links below that

	Association Name	First Name	Last Name	Email
\	Citizens Information Committee of Martineztown	Frank	Martinez	
N	Citizens Information Committee of Martineztown	Richard	Martinez	lizzie10@q.com
W	Sawmill Area NA	Julie	Henss	juliehenss@hotmail.com
4	Sawmill Area NA	Ralph	Roybal	ralphroybal67@gmail.com
51	Downtown Neighborhoods Association	Daniel	Gutierrez	zoning@abqdna.com
6	Downtown Neighborhoods Association	Jim	Clark	treasurer@abqdna.com
5	Barelas NA	Dorothy	Chavez	baca3221@hotmail.com
a	Barelas NA	Alicia	Chavez	alicia_chavez77@yahoo.com
S	Silver Platinum Downtown NA	Leon	Garcia	leon@silverplatinumdowntown.org
10	Silver Platinum Downtown NA	Ronald	Casias	rc@silverplatinumdowntown.org
-	Historic Old Town Property Owners Association	Jim	Hoffsis	
7	Historic Old Town Property Owners Association	Kathy	Hiatt	historicoldtown@gmail.com
G1	South Broadway NA	Frances	Armijo	fparmijo@gmail.com
	South Broadway NA	Tiffany	Broadous	tiffany.hb10@gmail.com
5	Huning Castle NA	Deborah	Allen	debzallen@ymail.com
6	Huning Castle NA	Harvey	Buchalter	hcbuchalter@gmail.com
~	Wells Park NA	Doreen	McKnight	doreenmcknightnm@gmail.com
-				

ide	Wells Park NA	Catherine	Mexal	cmexal@gmail.com
33	EDo NA Incorporated	John	Freisinger	john@innovateabq.com
SE	Huning Highland Historic District Association	Bonnie	Anderson	andersonbonnie505@gmail.com
31	Huning Highland Historic District Association	Ann	Carson	a.louisa.carson@gmail.com
3 6		Bob	Tilley	tilleyra@hotmail.com
53	Raynolds Addition NA	Margaret	Lopez	raynoldsneighborhood@gmail.com
Si !		Sarah	Mandala	sarah.mandala.14@gmail.com
8	West Park NA	Elaine	Faust	efaust@swcp.com
			van der	
24	The Lofts @ 610 Central SW Owners Association Incorporated	Karin	Gaarden	kvandergaarden@gmail.com
Se Constitution	The Lofts @ 610 Central SW Owners Association Incorporated	Gary	Illingworth	gillingworth@hoamco.com
B	Martineztown Work Group	Loretta	Naranjo Lopez	lnjalopez@msn.com
Bis	Martineztown Work Group	Rosalie	Martinez	rosalimartinez06@gmail.com
ف	Santa Barbara Martineztown NA	lan	Colburn	colburn.ian@gmail.com
: is	Santa Barbara Martineztown NA	Loretta	Naranjo Lopez	lnjalopez@msn.com
22	Silver Hill NA	James	Montalbano	ja.montalbano@comcast.net
th	Silver Hill NA	Jill	Marley Berry	jmarleyberry@gmail.com
SH	Spruce Park NA	Peter	Feibelman	pjfeibe@msn.com
En	Spruce Park NA	James	Tolbert	jamestolbert81@gmail.com
B	Sycamore NA	Mardon	Gardella	mg411@q.com
38	Sycamore NA	Richard	Vigliano	richard@vigliano.net
35	University Heights NA	Julie	Kidder	juliemkidder@gmail.com
8	University Heights NA	Don	Hancock	sricdon@earthlink.net
70	Victory Hills NA	Erin	Engelbrecht	e2brecht@gmail.com
F	Victory Hills NA	Patricia	Willson	info@willsonstudio.com

IDO - Public Notice Requirements & Template: https://www.cabq.gov/planning/urban-design-development/public-notice

requirement-in-the-integrated-development-ordinance IDO - Neighborhood Meeting Requirements & Template: https://www.cabq.gov/planning/urban-design-development/neighborhood-meeting-

IDO - Administration & Enforcement section: http://documents.cabq.gov/planning/IDO/IDO-Effective-2018-05-17-Part6.pdf

Respectfully,

# Vicente M. Quevedo, MCRP

City of Albuquerque – City Council Office of Neighborhood Coordination **Neighborhood Liaison** (505) 768-3332

Website: www.cabq.gov/neighborhoods







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From: webmaster=cabq.gov@mailgun.org [mailto:webmaster=cabq.gov@mailgun.org] On Behalf Of ISD WebMaster

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 10:14 AM

To: Naji, Leslie < Inaji@cabq.gov>

Cc: Office of Neighborhood Coordination < onc@cabq.gov>

**Subject: Public Notice Inquiry Sheet Submission** 

Public Notice Inquiry For:

Landmarks Commission

If you selected "Other" in the question above, please describe what you are seeking a Public Notice Inquiry for below: Contact Name

Leslie Naji

Telephone Number 924-3927

**Email Address** 

lnaji@cabq.gov

Company Name
City of Albuquerque

Company Address 600 2nd St NW

City

Albuquerque

State

M

ZIP

Legal description of the subject site for this project: Main Public Library

501 Copper Ave NW

Lots 16-37 Block B Springer Addition

Physical address of subject site: 501 Copper Ave NW

Subject site cross streets:

COPPER BETWEEN 5TH AND 6TH STREETS

Other subject site identifiers:

Main Public Library

This site is located on the following zone atlas page:

This message has been analyzed by Deep Discovery Email Inspector.

#### CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



November 8, 2019

RE:

Application for City Landmark Designation

Albuquerque Main Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. NW

Dear Neighborhood Association representative:

Earlier this year, the Albuquerque Main Public Library at 501 Copper Ave. We was accepted for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This honor acknowledges the library as a significant architectural work within the city, not only for its Brutalist architecture but for its successful functioning as a community-serving library. Its nomination also explains its significance as an element in the civic policy of Albuquerque relating to urban renewal of the 1970s.

In order to maintain the library's special qualities, the Landmarks Commission will review application for designating the Main Public Library a City Landmark. This will be the first step in a process which will then go to the Mayor and City Council.

PO Box 1293

The application for City Landmark designation will be scheduled for hearing on for January 8, 2020, at 3:00 PM, Plaza del Sol 600 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW, in the basement hearing room. You are invited to view the proceedings or make comment. The LC is to either deny the application or recommend to the Mayor that the property be designated as a City Landmark pursuant to IDO criteria for landmarks designation under Section14-6-6-7(C)(3)(c) (See enclosed ordinance).

Albuquerque

NM 87103

Prior to that application, we are prepared to meet with your neighborhood association to discuss this action should you request it. Please make your desire for a community meeting known to this office before November 25, 2019 by mail, email or telephone, to the contact below.

www.cabq.gov

Sincerely,

Leslie Naji
Senior Planner, Landmarks Commission
505.924.3927
Inaji@cabq.gov
600 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102

November 8, 2019

RE: Application for City Landmark Designation

Albuquerque Main Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. NW

Dear Neighborhood Association representative:

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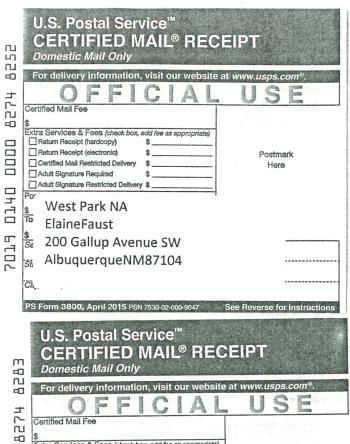
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Prior to that application, we are prepared to meet with your neighborhood association to discuss this action should you request it. Please make your desire for a community meeting known to this office before November 25, 2019 by mail, email or telephone, to the contact below.

Sincerely,

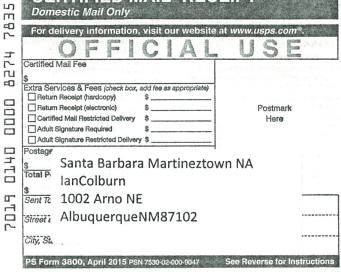
Leslie Naji
Senior Planner, Landmarks Commission
505.924.3927
Inaji@cabq.gov
600 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102



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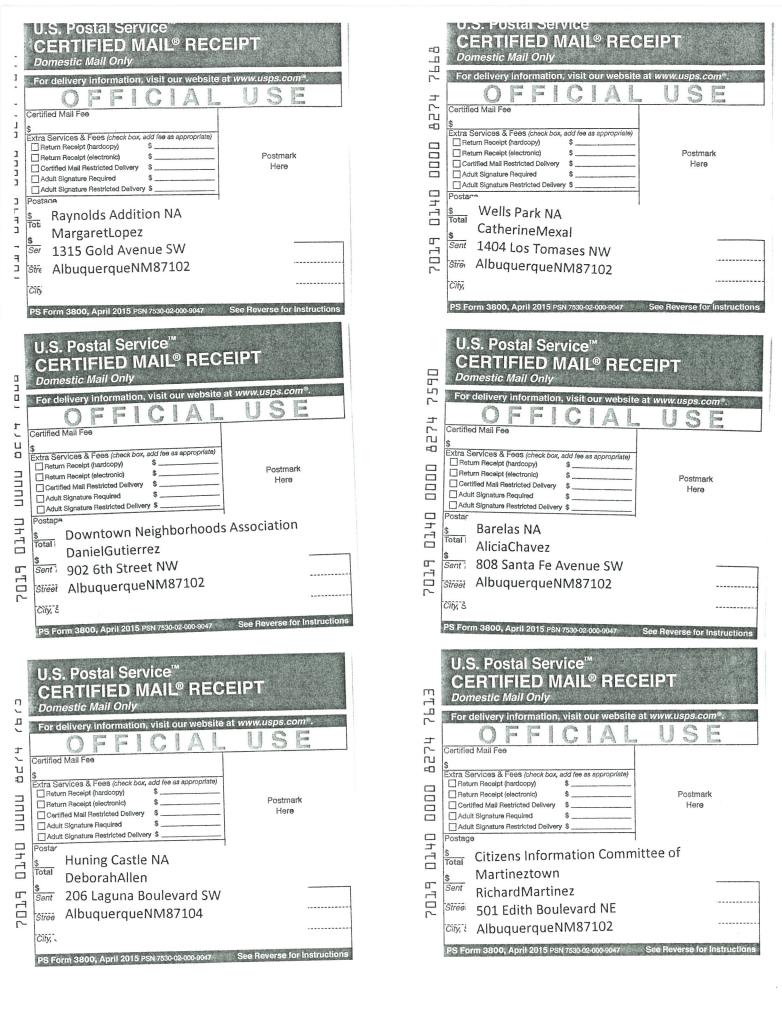
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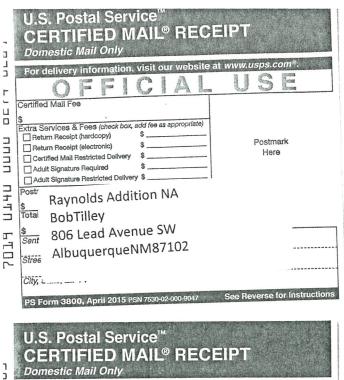
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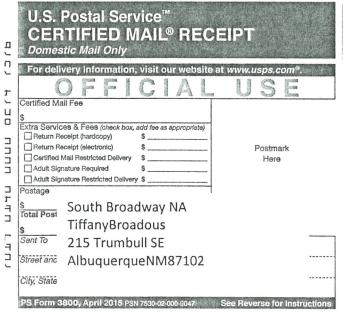




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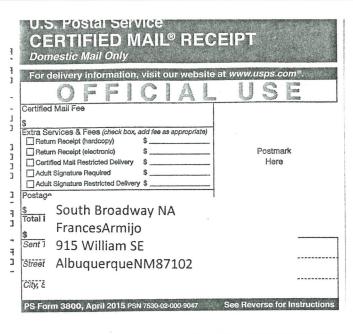


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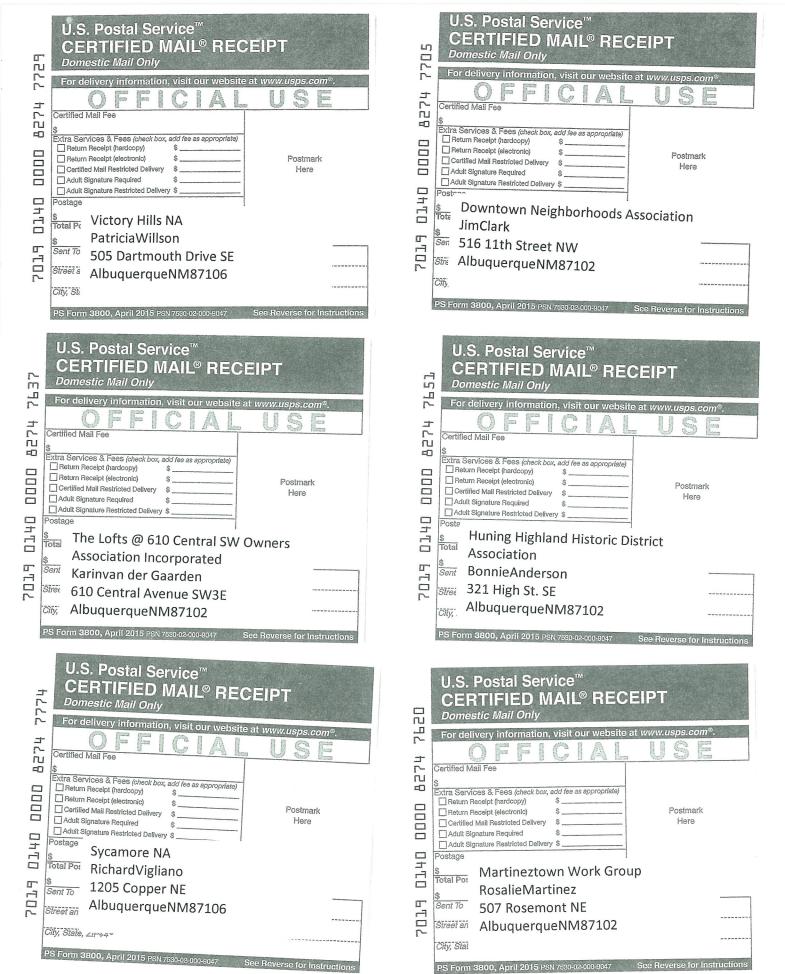
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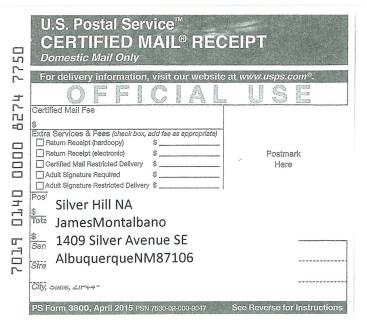
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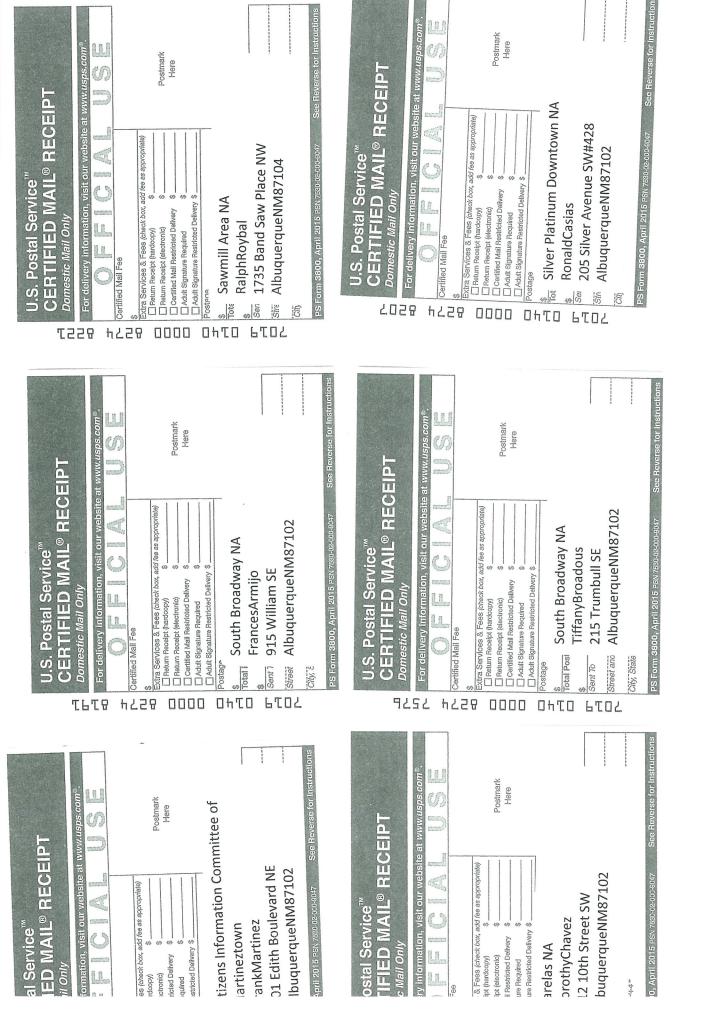
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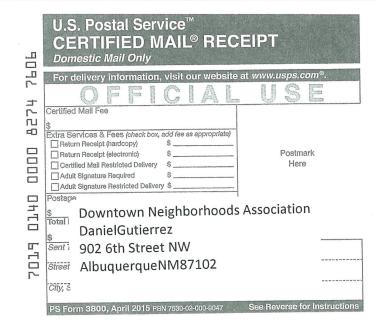
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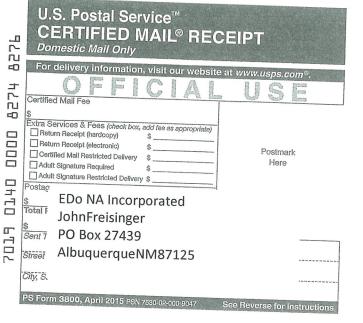
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#### CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



November 8, 2019

RE:

Application for City Landmark Designation

Albuquerque Main Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. NW

Dear Neighbor to the Main Library:

Earlier this year, the Albuquerque Main Public Library at 501 Copper Ave. NE was accepted for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This honor acknowledges the library as a significant architectural work within the city, not only for its Brutalist architecture but for its successful functioning as a community-serving library. Its nomination also explains its significance as an element in the civic policy of Albuquerque relating to urban renewal of the 1970s.

In order to maintain the library's special qualities, the Landmarks Commission will review application for designating the Main Public Library a City Landmark. This will be the first step in a process which will then go to the Mayor and City Council.

PO Box 1293

The application for City Landmark designation will be scheduled for hearing on for January 8, 2020, at 3:00 PM, Plaza del Sol 600 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW, in the basement hearing room. You are invited to view the proceedings or make comment. The LC is to either deny the application or recommend to the Mayor that the property be designated as a City Landmark pursuant to IDO criteria for landmarks designation under Section14-6-6-7(C)(3)(c) (See enclosed ordinance).

Albuquerque

NM 87103

Any comments you may wish to make can either be emailed to <a href="mailto:lnaji@cabq.gov">lnaji@cabq.gov</a> or made at the LC hearing on January 8, 2020.

www.cabq.gov

Sincerely,

Leslie Naji<sup>1</sup>

Senior Planner, Landmarks Commission

505.924.3927

Inaji@cabq.gov

600 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Albuquerque, NM 87102





LA CORONA REAL LLC C/O EDWARD T GARCIA PO BOX 26207 ALBUQUERQUE NM 87125-6207

### CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



POMONIS PHILLIP D & KAREN & RAZATOS DAN & BENERANDA PO BOX 246 TESUQUE NM 87574

## Planning Department

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

500 TIJERAS LLC 500 TIJERAS AVE NW ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102





ESPARZA PROPERTY ENTERPRISES LLC 423 COPPER AVE NW ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102-3231



#### CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE REAL ESTATE CORPORATION 4000 ST JOSEPHS PL NW ALBUQUERQUE NM 87120-1714



#### CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

OMNINET TIJERAS LLC 9420 WILSHIRE BLVD FLOOR 4 BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

HERNANDEZ B C & EVANGELINE C DE BACA (ESTATE OF) 3405 AVENIDA CHARADA NW ALBUQUERQUE NM 87107-2601



December 11, 2019

Leslie Naji Landmarks and Urban Conservation Commission 600 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Ms. Naji:

The Board of Huning Highlands Historic District Association supports the proposed designation of the downtown library as a City landmark. We appreciate its unique design and the long service it has provided to City residents. Preservation of remarkable buildings like this are critical to the character of Albuquerque.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Anderson President, HHHDA

321 High SE, ABQ, 87102

andersonbonnie505@gmail.com



#### Barelas Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 153 Albuquerque, NM 87103

www.barelas.org

barelasna@gmail.com

Barelas Neighborhood Association Agenda Barelas Community Center Thursday, November 14, 2019 6-7:30 pm

- 1. Meeting Called to Order
- 2. Board Members:

Dorothy Chavez (P) (P)
Alicia Chávez (VP) (A)
Cristina Rogers (T) (P)
Chad Young (S) (P)
Michael Ouellette (Film
Liason) (A)
Julia Archibeque-Guerra
(resigned)
Anthony Havens (A)

Henry Chávez (A – not excused Maria Jose Ramos (P) Daniel Madrid (P) Renee Ortiz (P) Rebecca Baca (A – not excused) Elena Gonzales (P)

- 3. Approval of Agenda Agenda approved
- 4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (October) Minutes approved
- 5. Introduction of new attendees
  - a. Deacon Robert Vigil Dorothy speaking on his behalf as he was unable to attend: Request for donation for Sacred Heart posadas. Board approves \$500 donation.
  - b. Jeremy Oswalt and Elizabeth Gutierrez 707 Santa Fe SW. Jeremy's number is 505 217 4553 if there are questions. Asking price will be around \$325k to \$350k. Dorothy requests that the design keeps the character of the neighborhood.
  - c. Leslie Naji Albuquerque Landmarks Commission. Here to outreach and let citizens know about the office. Barelas Community Center can be placed on national register of landmarks. Two pieces of legislation in the works: 1. Extension of demolition review to entire City, beyond properties with a city protection overlay or if it's a City landmark. 2. Write a demolition by neglect protection of historic properties into City landmarks code. Ms. Naji is requesting support from the BNA to attend the Landmarks Commission meeting to voice support for the legislation tentatively happening in January 2020.



#### Barelas Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 153 Albuquerque, NM 87103

www.barelas.org

barelasna@gmail.com

#### 6. Officer Reports

- a. President Railyard liaison position available that offers 10 to 20 hours per week employment. Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 28) run, Turkey Trot, at Kit Carson Park/Tingley Beach area. Several area improvement projects in Raynolds Addition requests our participation in a planning charette (date TBD). Railyards support potluck tomorrow at Barelas Community Center on 11/15, 5-7 PM.
- b. Vice President (absent)
- c. Treasurer Sent via email in Cristina's absence: The current BNA balance is \$1,790.67 (this includes the photo exhibit and potluck expenses).

Michael Ouellette said that we should be receiving at least one film donation from Deputy. We're trying to fix the process - still a few kinks.

When Cristina deposited the Homewise check, she asked the credit union if there's any way we can change over the signers on the account WITHOUT everyone having to be there at the same time. There is! People can DocuSign!

Cristina will have to take in meeting minutes signed by the Executive Board (that list who is being taken off, and who is being added), copies of IDs for new signers. social security numbers, and email addresses so they can send the DocuSign thing out. Chad will coordinate with Cristina.

d. Secretary - nothing to report

#### 7. Old Business

- a. Rail Yards Advisory Board update
  - i. The next RYM mediation meeting is Dec 2 at 5:30pm at the Hispano Chamber of Commerce, all are invited and encouraged to attend. We will review the newly drafted bylaws again and the first draft of the neighborhood agreement. Benefits agreement outreach plan being worked on by sub-committee.
- b. Barelas Community Coalition nothing to update at this time.



#### Barelas Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 153 Albuquerque, NM 87103

www.barelas.org

barelasna@gmail.com

- c. Casa Barelas trying to re-form. Seeking board members. Planning to work on community garden and greenhouse. Grant received, waiting for funds to come in. Seeking volunteers to help out on urban Barelas Veterans Tribute About 100 people attended. Event went well. Microgrant Impact Report submitted. Dorothy asks the board to think of guidelines for attending meetings that may have a Barelas nexus so the board is aware. Chad to email out Veterans Day event report to Board
- d. Film donations updates See Treasurer's update above.
- e. Homeless Advisory Council Update With Julia's departure, another person is needed to fill her spot and Dorothy requests another volunteer.
- f. Barelas Community Center Grinchmas. Charlene requests donation for 75 gift bags. Nightmare on Barelas Road: event went well.
- g. Homewise Elena states that property tax freeze applications for folks over 62 or with disabilities will start integrating application guidance in technical assistance workshops. Orpheum holiday market at First Friday in December.

#### 8. New Business

- a. City Council District 2 runoff November 19 until December 7 early voting. Day of election is Dec. 10. Isaac Benton and Zackary Quintero are vying for the seat in a runoff.
- b. Petition for State Representative Garcia available for signing. Petition is to get Representative Garcia on the ballot.
- 9. Announcements and Public Comment
- 10. Meeting Adjourn

J. Matt Myers, Esq., Chairman Landmarks Commission City of Albuquerque 600 Second Street NW Albuquerque, NM 87102

Re: Recommendation for City Landmark Status for the Albuquerque Main Public Library

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Landmarks Commission:

On June 13, 2019, the Albuquerque Main Library was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as an example of Brutalist style architecture in Albuquerque. Designed by George Pearl of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell Architects (SMPC) and completed in 1975, the three story 104, 577 square foot library occupies the south half of the city block bounded by Copper and Tijeras avenues and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Albuquerque.

The Main Library is significant at the state level in the area of architecture because the library is an excellent example of Brutalism, a style of architecture popular in the 1960s and 1970s that emphasized monumental forms built of brick and especially concrete. It is also significant under community planning and development and politics/government because the library was a central component of urban renewal plans in Albuquerque that reshaped downtown to include Civic Plaza, a new city hall, police department, convention center, and the demolition of so-called blighted buildings.

An advantage to designating this significant public building as a city landmark shortly after listing on the NRHP, is that guidelines can be established before major changes start to occur. Already questions have come concerning solar panel installation. Clear guidelines as are afforded to city landmarks, making evaluation of future projects mandatory and easier to justify.

In the IDO Section 14-16-6-7(C)(3)(c) the review and decision criteria for Designation of a Landmark Site or Structure it states

An application for designation of a landmark site or structure shall be approved if it is of particular historical, architectural, cultural, or archaeological significance and meets any of the following criteria:

- 1. It is the site of a significant historic event.
- 2. It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the history of the city, state, or nation.
- 3. It portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- 4. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.
- 5. It possesses high architectural value.
- 6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.
- 7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- 8. Its preservation is critical because of its relationship to already-designated landmarks or other real property which is simultaneously proposed as a landmark.
- 9. It has yielded or is very likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.
- 10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

The Main Library satisfies the following criteria:

5. The Main Library possesses high architectural value.

The Main Library is located in one of only two small concentrations of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico. It is a highly visible public building in the avant guard style that that was promoted, largely by university professors, in the 1960s and 1970s in the US. Brutalism embraced individual expression that addressed individual design programs rather than the uniform simplicity of the International style. The rarity of Brutalist buildings in New Mexico makes the strong massing and monumental forms of the Main Library all the more significant.

6. It represents the work of an architect, designer, or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.

There are but a few names that readily come to mind when considering the architects who have influenced the development of Albuquerque. One of those is George Clayton Pearl (1923-2003), a leader of the regionally-responsive design and historic preservation movement and one of Albuquerque's most prolific architects. As the primary designer for the New Mexico firm of Stevens, Mallory, Pearl and Campbell (now SMPC Architects), he designed an estimated 1,550 buildings, likely more than anyone else in the history of the state. He also was a founding member or instigator of numerous groups that led to the grassroots preservation movement in the late 1950s.

7. It embodies elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.

Brutalist architecture is exemplified by a unification of structure and walls, often constructed of brick or (more commonly) poured in place concrete which were cheap to construct. It embraced individual expression that catered to specific design programs rather than repetitive design elements.

George Pearl focused on the needs of the library administration and the public. Rather than interior cast-concrete walls, Pearl designed a system of moveable walls for flexibility. Each floor is readily navigated with large open spaces and easily located stairs and elevators. The interior wall finishes are brown brick, wood paneling and wall-to-wall carpet. The result is a warm, inviting environment. Numerous courtyards are available for patrons to read outside.

10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

The Main Library is listed on both the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register and the National Register of Historic Properties.

By establishing the Main Library as a city landmark at this early period of its history, the Landmarks Commission also has the responsibility to determine the elements of the site to be preserved and protected. You can prevent the enclosure

of open courtyards, the construction of arbitrary interior walls and the changing of building materials that have contributed to the exceptional qualities of the Albuquerque Main Library.

The City of Albuquerque Cultural Services Department hereby request a favorable review of this application for Land mark status for the Main Library and that a recommendation to that affect be forwarded to the mayor for further consideration.

Leslie Naji Senior Planner On behalf of Dean Smith, Associate Director, Library