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 5th and 6th 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.
LAND USE MAP

Key to Land Use Abbreviations

LDRES | Low-density Residential
MULT | Multi-family
COMM | Commercial Retail
CMSV | Commercial Services
OFC | Office
IND | Industrial
INSMED | Institutional / Medical
ED | Educational
APRT | Airport
TRANS | Transportation
AGRI | Agriculture
PARK | Parks and Open Space
DRNG | Drainage
VAC | Vacant
UTIL | Utilities
CMTY | Community
KAFB | Kirtland Air Force Base

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

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

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 5th and 6th 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 5th street in the shade of a cantilevered projection. A bush-hammered concrete sign directs patrons to the entrance.
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 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 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 Neighborhood Association, Sycamore Neighborhood Association, University Heights 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 5th and 6th 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).
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
City of 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Decisions</th>
<th>Policy Decisions</th>
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<td>☐ Historic Design Standards and Guidelines (Form L)</td>
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<td>☐ Master Development Plan (Form P1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Alternative Signage Plan (Form P3)</td>
<td>☐ Adoption of Amendment of Comprehensive Plan or Facility Plan (Form Z)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ WTF Approval (Form W1)</td>
<td>☐ Site Plan – EPC including any Variances – EPC (Form P1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Minor Amendment to Site Plan (Form P3)</td>
<td>☐ Amendment of IDO Text (Form Z)</td>
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Decisions Requiring a Public Meeting or Hearing

| ☐ Conditional Use Approval (Form ZHE) | ☐ Subdivision of Land – Major (Form S1) |
| ☐ Demolition Outside of HPO (Form L) | ☐ Amendment to Zoning Map – EPC (Form Z) |
| ☐ Expansion of Nonconforming Use or Structure (Form ZHE) | ☐ Vacations of Easement or Right-of-way (Form V) |

Appeals

| ☐ Decision by EPC, LC, DRB, ZHE, or City Staff (Form A) |

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicant: **CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE/DEAN SMITH**
Phone: 768-5195
Email: dspsmith@cabq.gov

Address: **501 COPPER AVE. NW**
City: **APQ**
State: **NM**
Zip: **87102**

Professional/Agent (if any): **CQ/A/PLANNING DEPT/LESLEY NAJI**
Phone: 924-3127
Email: LNaji@cabq.gov

Address: **100 2nd ST. NW**
City: **APQ**
State: **NM**
Zip: **87102**

Proprietary Interest in Site: List all owners:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

Request for recommendation of City Landmark designation for **Main Public Library**

SITE INFORMATION (Accuracy of the existing legal description is crucial! Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

Lot or Tract No.: **16-37**
Block: **B**
Unit:

Subdivision/Addition: **Springer Addition**
Existing Zoning: **MX-FB-UD**
Proposed Zoning:

MRGCD Map No.: **120140517-24-8024705**

Zone Atlas Page(s): **K-40**

Total Area of Site (acres): **1.72**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY BY STREETS

Site Address/Street: **501 COPPER NW** Between: **5TH ST NW** and: **6TH ST. NW**

CASE HISTORY (List any current or prior project and case number(s) that may be relevant to your request.)

Signature: [Signature]
Date: **12/01/19**

Printed Name: **LESLEY NAJI**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Case Numbers | Action | Fees
--- | --- | ---
**SI-2019-00413** | **LUCC** | **0**

Meeting/Hearing Date: **January 8, 2019**
Fee Total: **0**

Staff Signature: [Signature]
Date: **12-6-19**
Project #: **PR-2019-003159**
**City of 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.

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<td>□ Amendment to Zoning Map – EPC (Form Z)</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Vacation of Easement or Right-of-way (Form V)</td>
<td>□ Amendment to Zoning Map – Council (Form Z)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Demolition Outside of HPO (Form L)</td>
<td>□ Variance – DRB (Form V)</td>
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<td>□ Variance – ZHE (Form ZHE)</td>
<td>□ Decision by EPC, LC, DRB, ZHE, or City Staff (Form A)</td>
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**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Applicant: **CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE/DEAN SMITH**  
Phone: **768-5195**  
Email: dp smith@cabq.gov

City: **Amarillo**  
State: **NM**  
Zip: **87102**

Professional/Agent (if any): **CO/A/PLANNING DEPT/LESLIE NAJI**  
Phone: **924-3927**  
Email: lnaji@cabq.gov

Address: **501 Copper Ave. NW**  
City: **Abilene**  
State: **NM**  
Zip: **87102**

Proprietary Interest in Site:  
List all owners:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST**

Request for recommendation of City Landmark designation for Main Public Library

**SITE INFORMATION** (Accuracy of the existing legal description is crucial! Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

- **Lot or Tract No.:** 10-37  
- **Block:** B  
- **Unit:**  
- **Subdivision/Addition:** Springer Addition  
- **MRGCC Map No.:**  
- **Zone Atlas Page(s):** K-10  
- **Existing Zoning:** MX-FB-UD  
- **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 Ave NW  
- Between: 5th St NW and: 60th St. NW

**CASE HISTORY** (List any current or prior project and case number(s) that may be relevant to your request.)

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

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Meeting/Hearing Date: **January 8, 2019**  
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 PLNDRS@cabo.gov prior to making a submittal. Zipped files or those over 8 MB cannot be delivered via email, in which case the PDF must be provided on a CD.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Historic Zone or Designation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Alteration</td>
<td>☐ Sign (see note below)</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Demolition</td>
<td>☑ City Landmark Designation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ New Construction</td>
<td>☐ City Overlay Designation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Number and Classification of Structures on Property

Contributing Structures: ☐ Old Town – HPO-5 | ☐ Nob Hill/Highland – CPO-8
Noncontributing Structures: ☐ Silver Hill – HPO-6 | ☑ City Landmark
Unclassified Structures: Residential Property? ☐ Yes ☑ No

*PLEASE NOTE: Approval of signs in the overlay zones may also require a sign permit from Zoning 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

☐ DEMOLITION OUTSIDE OF HPO 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 14-16-6-6(B)(3)

☐ 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 14-16-6-6(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: [Signature]
Printed Name: [Leslie Najeri]
Date: 12-6-19

☑ Applicant or ☑ Agent

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Project Number: PR-2019-003159
Case Numbers: SI-2019-00413

Staff Signature: [Signature]
Date: 12-6-19

Effective 5/17/18
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:

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 5th and 6th 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.
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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.

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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
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, Najj, Leslie <lnaji@cabq.gov> 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>

LESLIE NAJI
senior planner,
landmarks commission
o 505.924.3927
e lnaji@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. | abqlibrary.org

From: Naji, Leslie  
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 7:37 AM  
To: Smith, Dean <dpsmith@cabq.gov>  
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 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.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Main Library
   Other names/site number: The Public Library Albuquerque and Bernalillo County
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   Street & number: 501 Copper Avenue NW
   City or town: Albuquerque  State: NM  County: Bernalillo  Zip Code: 87102
   Not For Publication:  Vicinity: 

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
   the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
   Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
   recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
   level(s) of significance:

   ___ national  ___ statewide  ___ local
   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   ___ A  ___ B  ___ C  ___ D

   __________________________________________
   Dr. Jeff Pappas, New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
   Signature of certifying official/Title:  Date

   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

   __________________________________________
   Signature of commenting official:  Date

   Title:  State or Federal agency/bureau
   or Tribal Government
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:) __________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of the Keeper</th>
<th>Date of Action</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5. **Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [ ] Private:  
- [X] Public – Local  
- [ ] Public – State  
- [ ] Public – Federal  

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- [X] Building(s)  
- [ ] District  
- [ ] Site  
- [ ] Structure  
- [ ] Object
**Number of Resources within Property**
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education: library

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**Current Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education: library
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Other: Brutalism

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Concrete

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 5th and 6th 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 5th 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
The interior finishes include brown-brick perimeter walls and interior wall panels of brown vertical boards. Some of 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.¹ 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.

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 5th and 6th 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 5th 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.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “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

7
Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture
Community Planning and Development
Politics/Government
Education

Period of Significance
1975

Significant Dates
1975

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Pearl, George (architect)
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-20th-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
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. 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-20th 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.

The Promise and Problems of Brutalism

The Main Library is a highly visible public building constructed in the avant garde 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, box-framed apartment block. Its solidity is part and parcel of its method of construction. Where the


3 Ibid.
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 *béton 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 Manuel 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 discreetly 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.
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 the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.4

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

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. 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. Several casualties were local landmarks, which were demolished to make way for parking lots and new development.

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

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7 Ibid.
9 Lazzell and Payne, 64. Demolitions included the Hotel Franciscan (1923) and the Alvarado Hotel (1902), built by the Fred Harvey Company.
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. 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.” 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...”

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12 Ibid., 262.
13 Ibid., 268.
14 Ibid., 257.
functioning downtown.” Central to the plan was a large Civic Plaza “fronted by government and institutional buildings that would invite community interaction with city officials.” 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. 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.

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 20th 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 20th 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.”

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

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15 Boruff, “Downtown Urban Renewal.”
16 Ibid.
18 Boruff.
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.\textsuperscript{20}

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.

\textsuperscript{20} Ibid.
9. Major Bibliographical References

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


“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, New Mexico.


Smith, Dean P. Interview with authors. Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2017 October 6.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:
- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
- ___ Other State agency
- ___ Federal agency
- ___ Local government
- ___ University
- ___ Other

Name of repository: _____________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ___1.72 acres___

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)
Datum if other than WGS84: __________
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 35.086156  Longitude: -106.653127
2. Latitude:                      Longitude: 
3. Latitude:                      Longitude: 
4. Latitude:                      Longitude: 

18
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 By

name/title: Katie Dix, Heidi Pierce, and Alex Rodriguez
organization: University of New Mexico, School of Architecture and Planning, Certificate
Program in Historic Preservation and Regionalism
street & number: 1 University of New Mexico
city or town: Albuquerque state: NM zip code: 87131
e-mail: N/A telephone: N/A
date: December 2017

State Historic Preservation Office
name/title: Steven Moffson, State and National Register Coordinator
organization: New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
street & number: 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
city or town: Santa Fe state: New Mexico zip: 87501
e-mail: steven.moffson@state.nm.us telephone: 505.476.0444

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.)
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.


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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property:</th>
<th>Main Library</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City or Vicinity:</td>
<td>Albuquerque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County:</td>
<td>Bernalillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State:</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographer:</td>
<td>Harvey Kaplan</td>
</tr>
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<td>Date Photographed:</td>
<td>July 17, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 5th 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 6th 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.
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.


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 seq.).

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.
Main Library
Bernalillo County, New Mexico

Location of Property

Approximate Scale: one inch = 2,300 feet
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.
Figure 2. Upper and Lower Plans, "Albuquerque Public Library." New Mexico Architecture 17 (September-October 1975): 17.
Section A-A

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

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Figure 9. Urban Renewal in Downtown Albuquerque.
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).
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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 5th Street, photographer facing southwest.

4. North side with service court in foreground, photographer facing south east.
5. Rear (west) elevation with landscaping from 6th Street, photographer facing east.

6. South side with ART bus shelter, photographer facing north.
7. Southwest corner with court in foreground, photographer facing northeast.

8. Southwest corner, with court and landscaping, photographer facing northwest.
Main Library
Name of Property

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

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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.
APPLICANT: City of Albuquerque - Library

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT AT MEETING:

☐ Leslie Naji
☐ Angela Behrens
☐ Others  Whitney Phelan

1. WHAT IS THE ADDRESS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY?
   501 Copper St. NW

2. WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE PROJECT
   landmark 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)

Whitney Phelan
STAFF / DATE 11/13/19

Whitney Phelan
APPLICANT OR AGENT / DATE
Map Changed. Center latitude: 35.0859 \textdegree N \times 80\textdegree W. Center longitude: 106.6453 \textdegree W \times 80\textdegree E. Visible Features: 647 features visible on BernCo Parcels & 118 features visible on Municipal Limits.

Identify Results (6)

27 result(s) added to 'Identify Results'

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<td>McKeogh</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please note that you may utilize these contact details if you have any questions. Thank you.

The link provided will give you additional details about the new Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO) requirements. In addition, we have included links below that may be of interest.

Leslie,
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Email</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:victoriabarris@comcast.net">victoriabarris@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:victoriabarris@comcast.net">victoriabarris@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:victoriabarris@comcast.net">victoriabarris@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td><a href="mailto:victoriabarris@comcast.net">victoriabarris@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Karen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:victoriabarris@comcast.net">victoriabarris@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| David                 | victoriabaris...
State: Albuquerque
City: 600 2nd St NW
Company Address: City of Albuquerque
Company Name: Albuquerque
Email Address: 924-3927
Telephone Number: Leslie
Resist Name:
Contact Name:

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

Public Notice Inquiry For:

Subject: Public Notice Inquiry Sheet Submission
CC: Office of Neighborhood Coordination <once@gov
To: Niji, Leslie <niji@albuquerque.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 10:14 AM
From: webmaster=once@gov or <mailto:webmaster=once@gov>

Records Act: If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of this message.
Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail, including all attachments is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited under the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act. Please notify the sender if you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail.

Website: www.once.gov/neighborhoods
(505) 768-3332
City of Albuquerque - City Council
Office of Neighborhood Coordination
Neighborhood Liaison
Victor M. Guerro, MCRP
Respectfully,
This message has been analyzed by Deep Discovery Email Inspector.

K14
This site is located on the following zone alias page:
Main Public Library
Other subject site identifiers:
Copper Between 51st and 61st Streets
Subject site cross streets:
501 Copper Ave NW
Physical address of subject site:
Lots 16-37 Block B Spring Addition
501 Copper Ave NW
Main Public Library
Legal description of the subject site for this project:
87102
ZIP NM
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. NW 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
Albuquerque
NM 87103
www.cabq.gov

Sincerely,

Leslie Naji
Senior Planner, Landmarks Commission
505.924.3927
lnaji@cabq.gov
600 2nd St. NW
3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102
November 8, 2019

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Albuquerque Main Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. NW

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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.

The application for City Landmark designation will be scheduled for hearing on for January 8, 2020, at 3:00 PM, Plaza del Sol 600 2nd 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).

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
lnaji@cabq.gov
600 2nd St. NW
3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102
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West Park NA
ElaineFaust
St: 200 Gallup Avenue SW
City: Albuquerque
NM 87104

Silver Platinum Downtown NA
LeonGarcia
St: 205 Silver Avenue SW#419
City: Albuquerque
NM 87102

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State: 

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Wells Park NA
DoreenMcKnight
St: 1426 7th Street NW
City: Albuquerque
NM 87102

Santa Barbara Martineztown NA
IanColburn
St: 1002 Arno NE
City: Albuquerque
NM 87102

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State: 

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Victory Hills NA
ErinEngelbrecht
St: PO Box 40298
City: Albuquerque
NM 87196

University Heights NA
DonHancock
St: 105 Stanford SE
City: Albuquerque
NM 87106

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<td>Alicia Chavez</td>
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<td>Deborah Allen</td>
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<td>87104</td>
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<td>Citizens Information Committee of Martineztown</td>
<td>Richard Martinez</td>
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<td>501 Edith Boulevard NE</td>
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<td>Kathy Hiatt</td>
<td>110 San Felipe Street NW</td>
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505 Dartmouth Drive SE
AlbuquerqueNM87106

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Downtown Neighborhoods Association
JimClark
516 11th Street NW
AlbuquerqueNM87102

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The Lofts @ 610 Central SW Owners Association Incorporated
Karinvan der Gaarden
610 Central Avenue SW3E
AlbuquerqueNM87102

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Huning Highland Historic District Association
BonnieAnderson
321 High St. SE
AlbuquerqueNM87102

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Sycamore NA
RichardViglano
1205 Copper NE
AlbuquerqueNM87106

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Martineztown Work Group
RosalieMartinez
507 Rosemont NE
AlbuquerqueNM87102

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<td>Dorothy Chavez</td>
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Huning Highland Historic District
Association
Ann Carson
416 Walter SE
Albuquerque NM 87102

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Citizens Information Committee of Martineztown
Richard Martinez
501 Edith Boulevard NE
Albuquerque NM 87102

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Alicia Chavez
808 Santa Fe Avenue SW
Albuquerque NM 87102

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Catherine Mescal
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Albuquerque NM 87102

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Historic Old Town Property Owners Association
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Bob Tilley
806 Lead Avenue SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

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Harvey Buchalter
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Albuquerque, NM 87104

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EDO NA Incorporated
Rob Dickson
PO Box 27439
Albuquerque, NM 87125

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Huning Castle NA
Deborah Allen
206 Laguna Boulevard SW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

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November 8, 2019

RE: Application for City Landmark Designation
Albuquerque Main Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. NW

Dear Neighbor to the Main Library:

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The application for City Landmark designation will be scheduled for hearing on for January 8, 2020, at 3:00 PM, Plaza del Sol 600 2nd 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).

Any comments you may wish to make can either be emailed to lnaji@cabq.gov or made at the LC hearing on January 8, 2020.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Leslie Naji
Senior Planner, Landmarks Commission
505.924.3927
lnaji@cabq.gov
600 2nd St. NW
3rd Floor
Albuquerque, NM 87102
LA CORONA REAL LLC
C/O EDWARD T GARCIA
PO BOX 26207
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87125-6207

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

500 TIJERAS LLC
500 TIJERAS AVE NW
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102
December 11, 2019

Leslie Naji  
Landmarks and Urban Conservation Commission  
600 2nd 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.
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 charrette (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.
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
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:

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 5th and 6th 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 garde 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