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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Jones, Frank and Amelia, House

other names/site number Martinez-Hernandez Farm; Ness House

## 2. Location

Street & number 18000 Castillo Road ☐ not for publication

city or town La Mesa ☐ vicinity

State New Mexico code NM county Doña Ana code 013 zip code 88044

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

Ian V. Biella, Deputy SHPO 6/4/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

for Dr. Jeff Pappas, NM State Historic Preservation Officer
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:)

Dave Edson N. Beall 7·25·14
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [ ] 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.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | buildings |
| | | district |
| | | site |
| | | structure |
| | | object |
| 1 | 2 | **Total** |

**Name of related multiple property listing**
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**N/A**

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**
**None**

0

## 6. Function or Use

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

Domestic: Single Dwelling
Agriculture/Subsistence: Agricultural Field

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

Domestic: Single Dwelling

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Early twentieth-century adobe dwelling

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE
walls: ADOBE
roof: METAL
other:

## Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### Summary Paragraph

The Frank and Amelia Jones House is an example of a one-story vernacular adobe house built ca. 1904. Located in La Mesa in Doña Ana County, one mile west of the Rio Grande and ten miles north of the New Mexico-Texas Border, the house is long and narrow with two ranges of large rooms that run front to back. The house is covered with a high hip roof and includes a front porch. The interior plan, which includes nine rooms, is mostly unaltered and retains its original interior plan and finishes. The property, which no longer includes the agricultural fields historically associated with the property, features a shed and a well house that are noncontributing because of recent additions.

## Narrative Description

The Frank and Amelia Jones House is located among pecan orchards, alfalfa, and cotton fields in La Mesa, New Mexico, less than a mile west of the Rio Grande in south-central Doña Ana County. The Frank and Amelia Jones House is a large, one-story Territorial-period vernacular dwelling dating to ca. 1904 (figures 7.1-7.2).[1] The large house includes a substantial setback from the roadway (figure 7.3). The Castillo lateral ditch, part of the Elephant Butte Irrigation District, runs along the west side of the road. The acequias provide water for area crops, making this region productive and lucrative farmland. A patchwork of fertile and fallow fields is visible from the air.

The dwelling, measuring approximately 33 by 63 feet, is constructed of adobe with a stucco exterior finish. The house rests on a lava-rock foundation, likely quarried from the nearby volcanic formation known as Black Mesa. The house includes a crawl space and partial basement, which functioned as a root cellar and cold storage during the early part of the twentieth century. Boulders, visible in the crawl space, serve as piers, which support the house. The soil used to make the adobe bricks probably came from the Jones House site while excavating the cellar. Most likely, a local builder or craftsmen from the area is responsible for the actual construction.

The adobe dwelling stands on an east-west axis. The front porch spans the main façade, which faces west (photo 1). The porch has a flagstone patio and a shed roof supported by cedar posts with decorative corbels caps. The porch was constructed ca. 1998 and replaced the original deteriorated porch, which appeared similar to the current porch. An opening in the flagstone allows a juniper tree to tower over the front of the house. The façade includes a single-leaf Victorian-style door flanked by one large, two-over-two double-hung window. The single-light door is embellished with dentil rows and original hardware, including ornate hinges and a brass doorbell (photo 4). Both window and door have fluted wood surrounds and are the only ones that are stained rather than painted.

Moving counterclockwise around the house, the south elevation includes: four original two-over-two double-hung windows with molded wood surrounds, a single light wood-paneled door, and a smaller, two-over-two window that corresponds to a bathroom on the interior (photo 3). The large windows that are common to all elevations measure approximately 32-inches wide by 6-feet high. The windows are nearly flush with the exterior wall surface, but on the interior, they are deeply recessed about 14 inches, revealing the thickness of the adobe walls. On the interior, this depth provides the sills with a deep shelf. There is a ghost mark for a second exterior door that was originally located on the south elevation. This door, which was enclosed ca. 1940, forms a cabinet on the interior.

The east or rear elevation has two small additions. These were altered from their historic configuration when they were enlarged ca. 1998 (photo 2). The addition to the south is a bathroom/laundry off the master bedroom, which has one-over-one wood windows, a French door, and is covered with a shed roof. The other addition is a small wood-framed sun porch with one-over-one aluminum windows, which were added by the current owners ca. 1998. The sun porch replaced an

[1] Locally, the dwelling is often referred to as the Martinez-Hernandez Farm – significant later owners of the property. The ca. 1904 construction date is on record at the Doña Ana County Assessor's Office. In addition, a significant increased valuation of the property is found in the 1911 deed of sale. See bibliography for deed citation.

early, screened-in porch, which sheltered the cellar door. The sun porch, which also has a flat roof, follows the same footprint as the original porch. A stucco wall, added in the 1980s, encloses a small concrete patio adjacent to the rear elevation. Concrete sidewalks lead from the back exit to the gravel driveway, which is lined with railroad ties. The sidewalk continues along a portion of the north elevation to a side door.

The north elevation includes a six-paneled wood door, three two-over-two double-hung windows, and two paired double-hung windows (figure 7.4). Interior security bars may obscure the pattern of muntins in the windows (photo 4).

Corrugated tin covers the steeply pitched hipped roof, which is punctuated by two, large triangular-shaped dormer vents on the north and south elevations, as well as two interior corbelled brick chimneys. A tongue-and-groove wood soffit distinguishes the overhanging eaves.

The high-pitched hip roof of the Jones House is more indicative of houses in northern New Mexico, whereas houses in La Mesa are covered with mostly gable or flat roofs. There are two theories surrounding the steepness of the Jones roof. First, that it was influenced by the original owners/builders, Frank and Amelia Jones, who emigrated to the U.S. from Canada in 1900, where steep roofs were a common response to the climate and geography. The second theory is that the pitch helps deflect southern New Mexico winds that can be especially severe in the spring as they blow across the flat farmland. In the 1940s, salt cedars were planted in a row along the south side of the house to serve as a windbreak (figure 7.2).

The interior floor plan and many of the interior finishes remain intact. The original linear floor plan features large rooms arranged in two side-by-side ranges. With nine large rooms, a basement, and porches, this substantial, early twentieth-century house represents the prosperity of the Jones family. Originally, there were no hallways, however, in the later plan that dates to ca. 1940, a small interior hallway was added to the center of the house, linking the bedrooms on the south side and providing shared access to a bathroom. The addition of the hallway and closets created slightly smaller bedrooms on the south side. To further distinguish this change, the bedrooms have plain wood surrounds with transoms above the doorways to the hallway. The transoms allow natural light to enter the hallway. The bathroom between the bedrooms was updated in the 1970s with turquoise and Mexican tile laid in a vertical design. Hector Hernandez, Jr., a later resident of the Jones House, drew the attached floor plans to illustrate the changes that were made to the house (figure 7.5).

The public rooms, an entry, living room, dining room, and kitchen, are located on the north side of the house (photo 5). A den, formerly a bedroom, is located at the southwest corner, off the entry, at the front of the house. Many of the interior walls are covered with plaster and lathe, and the ceilings are ten-feet high. The early plan featured a secondary kitchen and small bathroom at the southeast corner of the house. This area and bedrooms 3 and 4 served as an “apartment” that was used by later resident Hector R. and Mariana (Mary) Hernandez before they built their own house nearby (photo 6).

The living room includes a massive fireplace that measures two-and-a half-feet deep (photo 7); the hearth, which is terra-cotta tile, is a modern addition. The cast-iron grate in the firebox is original to the house. A fitting for a former wood stove, which corresponds to the second chimney, remains near the ceiling in the dining room. Heavy wood thresholds separate the entry foyer, the living room, and the dining room. There is a mixture of lighting fixtures, both modern and historic, found within the house.

The kitchen has been modernized with granite counters and newer cabinets. An original swinging door separates the dining room and kitchen. Original built-in furniture constructed of bead board is located in the kitchen and dining room. There is a small niche adjacent to the dining room that was once used for the phone. French doors lead to the back sun porch and cellar.

Nearly every room in the house includes fir floors, bead-board ceilings, eight-and-a half-inch high baseboards, four-paneled wood doors, and, molded window surrounds. The wood used in the house was likely brought in by rail from either the Sacramento or Gila Mountains. The railroad also made milled woodwork and the sheets of glass used in the six-foot-high windows available. The exceptions to the standard details found on the interior are the painted wood floor in bedroom 3, and carpeting in the hallway and bedroom 2, which may mask original hardwood floors. Additionally, the ceiling in bedroom 4, the master bedroom, is wallpapered instead of covered with bead board.

This property also includes a well house/studio and a corrugated shed used as a carport and for storage (photo 8). The well house and the shed were early outbuildings that served the Jones farm. Both structures are noncontributing due to

additions ca. 1998, which have nearly doubled the size of each building. A large adobe-and-frame milking barn associated with the Jones House stands on an adjacent parcel, owned by Price Dairies (figure 7.6). The milking barn is not part of this nomination. A perimeter fence around the house defines the property boundaries. In 1991, the current owners purchased an adjoining parcel, part of the Jones farm, which brought their total holdings to roughly two acres.

## 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.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] 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.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] 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.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

### Period of Significance
ca. 1904

### Significant Dates
ca. 1904—Frank and Amelia Jones built their nine-room adobe house in rural Doña Ana County

### Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation
N/A

### Architect/Builder
Unknown

### Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is ca. 1904, when Frank and Amelia Jones built their house in rural Doña Ana County. No significant additions or alterations were made to the house in subsequent years.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Frank and Amelia Jones House is significant at the local level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because it is an excellent and rare example of an early twentieth-century adobe house in rural Doña Ana County. Built in ca. 1904, the house is representative of vernacular building traditions and practices found in many rural communities across New Mexico. The walls are constructed of adobe bricks and form two registers of interconnected rooms. The affluence of the Jones family is evident in the large size of the house with its nine rooms and the high level of interior finishes. The house has had few alterations and retains historic integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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

The Frank and Amelia Jones House is significant at the local level under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture because it is an excellent and rare example of an early twentieth-century adobe house in rural Doña Ana County. Constructed circa 1904, the Jones House retains its historic design, materials, and workmanship, including 14-inch-thick adobe walls, stucco exterior finish, a linear floor plan with two registers of interconnected rooms, and numerous exterior doors. The Jones house is covered with a high hip roof, which is unusual in the region where most adobe houses had flat or gabled roofs. Refinement is seen in the numerous six-foot high, two-over-two sash windows, hardwood floors, and the milled woodwork used for both interior and exterior window and door surrounds. The Jones House is representative of vernacular building traditions and practices found in many rural communities across New Mexico.

Frank and Amelia Jones purchased land in La Mesa, New Mexico that was part of the Jose Manuel Sanchez Baca Land Grant, which was eventually parceled into homesteads. The Jones's played an important role in the settlement of this rural community because the owners were connected to the cultural, socio-economic, and agricultural developments of the region, including irrigation rights and the development of the local *acequia* system of irrigation. Subsequent owners of the house, included Felix Martinez, a statesman, newspaper owner, and farmer, and his son-in-law, Matias P. Hernandez, a pharmacist, dairyman, farmer, and New Mexico State University Regent.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

Frank and Amelia Jones

The village of La Mesa is located in the Mesilla Valley, approximately 13 miles south of Las Cruces and about 45 miles north of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. The Mesilla Valley lies in the New Mexican portion of the Gadsden Purchase of 1854, which led to the issuance of land grants and the creation of agricultural villages of repatriated New Mexicans, many of whom formed settlements, such as La Mesa.

In February of 1896, Arthur J. Stewart, age 35, of Lincoln, New Mexico purchased two tracts of land conveyed by the corporation of the Jose Manuel Sanchez Baca Grant. With a quitclaim deed dated May 4, 1897, Arthur assigned the land to his father, Adamirom Stewart, age 63, also of Lincoln. According to the 1880 census records, Adamirom was a "dealer in cattle." In a hand-written deed, dated May 12, 1902, Adamirom Stewart, then of El Paso, deeded approximately 516 acres and water rights to Amelia M. Jones. The deed between Stewart and Jones further includes that ". . . premises situated and lying in the Jose Manuel Sanchez Baca Grant in the County of Doña Ana and the Territory of New Mexico."

Frank and Amelia Jones immigrated to the United States from Canada in 1900. The 1910 Federal Census lists Frank as a farmer with his own farm in La Mesa, presumably the Jones property. In 1910, the household consisted of Frank, Amelia, their 17-year-old daughter, Catherine, and a servant named John Fanner. Records at the Doña Ana County Assessor's Office indicate that the house built in 1904. In March 1911, Frank and Amelia Jones and the Elephant Butte Water Users

Association of New Mexico deeded the land to a partnership of Benjamin J. Viljoen, W.J. Viljoen, W. A. Fleming Jones, and Felix Martinez. In September 1913, B.J. Viljoen and his wife, Myrtle Viljoen, issued a quitclaim deed to Felix Martinez.

Felix Martinez (1857-1916)

Felix Martinez purchased the Jones property, along with Viljoen and others, in 1911. Born in Taos County on March 29, 1857, Martinez spent his early life in New Mexico. He attended St. Mary's College in Mora, New Mexico (Figure 8.1). Following his family's move to Colorado, he studied business at a private school. Before the turn of the 20th century, he moved to El Paso, Texas where he became a leading citizen, while maintaining his official residence and political interests in New Mexico. He entered business as a clerk and later became part owner of a mercantile business in Mora. By 1879, he moved to Las Vegas, New Mexico, where he bought and sold cattle and owned a mercantile store. In 1880, he married Virginia Buster. That same year a fire destroyed his store, which he rebuilt and sold in 1886. In 1890, he purchased a small Santa Fe newspaper, *La Voz del Pueblo* (The Voice of the Community), which he moved to Las Vegas.

Martinez entered politics and in 1886, he won the office of San Miguel County Assessor. In 1888, he was elected as a Democrat to the Territorial House of Representatives. Martinez led the San Miguel County delegation to the Territorial Democratic Convention in 1890. In 1892, he was elected to the Territorial Council. During his term he sponsored legislation calling for the creation of New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas. Also, in 1892, he was named chairman of the New Mexico delegation to the Democratic National Convention. In 1893, Martinez became a clerk for the United States and Territorial Courts for the Fourth Judicial District of New Mexico. He held that position until 1897, when he resigned and moved to El Paso, Texas.

From 1899 to 1909, he owned and published the *El Paso Daily News*, while still operating *La Voz*. He founded the El Paso Realty Company and was the "organizer of the Southwestern Portland Cement Company, as well as a small railroad that served the El Paso area." In addition, he served as president of the Central Building and Improvement Company, a business involved in the construction and operation of the Paso del Norte Hotel, the Plaza Block, and the White House stores. Further, he was on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of El Paso, until he resigned to serve on the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Martinez played a significant role in bringing clean water to the region. Martinez sought to bring a reliable source of potable water to the El Paso area and a consistent source of irrigation to the Mesilla and El Paso valleys. The Rio Grande waters were often muddy and unsanitary and Martinez and Los Angeles-engineer Dr. W.J. Davis, demonstrated that deep wells were needed to bring clean water to the growing city. In 1902, deep wells provided El Paso with its first reliable water supply.

Felix Martinez's most lasting contribution to the history of southern New Mexico was the development of irrigation in the El Paso Valley and in the Mesilla and Rincon valleys of New Mexico through the construction of the Elephant Butte Dam. He was instrumental in bringing the 1904 National Irrigation Congress to El Paso. When the 12th National Irrigation Congress convened in El Paso in November of that year, Martinez was chairman of a committee of five Texans, matched by committees from Mexico and New Mexico. Each committee was in agreement on reaching a pact on irrigation in the El Paso region. Martinez favored construction of a dam at Elephant Butte and he worked tirelessly to make the dam a reality. The dam promised a reliable source of water to irrigate crops, while greatly reducing the effects of flooding from the Rio Grande. When completed in 1916, the dam was among the largest irrigation efforts in the world.

When New Mexico became a state in 1912, Martinez ran for U.S. Senator, but lost to Albert Fall. The next year, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan offered Martinez the presidency of the Panama-Pacific Commission, partly due to his fluency in English and Spanish (figure 8.2). Martinez attended the opening ceremonies of the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco in 1915. Martinez owned the Jones House from 1913 until he died of pneumonia on March 22, 1916.

Matias P. Hernandez (1873-1948)

Matias P. (M.P.) Hernandez was born in Gilroy, California, in 1873. His family moved to Las Vegas, New Mexico, when he was still a child. In the mid-1890s, he attended pharmacy school in St. Louis and later became certified by the New Mexico Board of Pharmacy.

On February 12, 1908, at the completion of his studies, he moved to El Paso, where he married Felix Martinez's daughter, Flora on October 25, 1898 (Figure 8.3). On February 12, 1908, at the completion of his studies, they moved to El Paso. Once in El Paso, he opened a pharmacy at the corner of Stanton and 2nd streets. He sold his El Paso pharmacy and, between 1902 and 1905, Matias opened the largest and most modern pharmacy of its time in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. There he bought a printing press and started a printing company at his Juarez pharmacy. In 1907, he expanded further by purchasing land outside Juarez in order to operate dairy farm and retail milk delivery business. He moved his wife and four sons to the farm in Juarez.

The unstable politics of Mexico forced the Hernandez family to return to the United States. He moved his family to La Mesa in 1913 to 1914 and began farming the 516 acres owned by his father-in-law, Felix Martinez. In interviews, Hernandez's grandchildren reveal that when the Hernandez family arrived in La Mesa and moved into this house, it was already built and completely furnished. "The house is pretty much the same as it was then."

Hernandez started his farming career growing wheat, but soon bought a dairy herd, which he watered from the Rio Grande and a system of irrigation ditches. The 516 acres were river bottomland covered with brush and cottonwoods. Hernandez's son, Estanislao, explained the "farming operations were of the most primitive type. We brought 120 horses and mules from Mexico; half of them were wild stock and we had to fight 'em every morning to get them in harness. Two Mexican cowboys from Chihuahua that brought the stock overland stayed and helped tame (more or less) some of these animals."

Hernandez participated in the Rio Grande Valley Dairy Association and added alfalfa and ensilage. He was innovative in his farming and marketing practices and consulted with his colleagues and experts at the New Mexico College of Agriculture & Mechanic Arts (now New Mexico State University). Dr. Fabian Garcia, the first director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at New Mexico A&M College (later NMSU), often visited the Hernandez home, "where they discussed the latest developments in agriculture." In 1935, M.P. Hernandez was named to the Board of Regents of New Mexico A&M College. He served as secretary-treasurer of the Board until 1940. Matias Hernandez owned the Jones House from 1920 to 1948. He died on April 20, 1948.

Hector R. Hernandez (1911-1970)

Hector Hernandez Sr., son of Matias P. and Flora Hernandez, was born in Juarez, Mexico on January 21, 1911. He attended Cathedral High School in El Paso, Texas, graduating in 1930. While he attended college in both Santa Fe and Sacramento, California, he returned to New Mexico to graduate from the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in 1938. He married Mariana Biel [1917-1997] (Figure 8.4). Their children have provided family photos, which depict themselves and relatives at the Jones property (figure 8.5-8.8). A hand-drawn site plan shows the chicken houses (no longer extant) immediately to the south of the farmhouse.

Hector served as an agricultural extension agent in Taos. He and Flora were married in 1938 and returned to the farm (Jones property) soon after the birth of Hector, Jr. They lived with his parents until Hector was able to build a small house south of the main house. Although Hector raised other crops, such as chile peppers and alfalfa, he raised chickens until the Newcastle disease devastated his flocks in the early 1950s. He then moved to Las Cruces. His daughter remembers: "Grandma (Flora) always made oxtail soup on Sundays. . . . On the farm, my brother would make little wooden boats that we would float on the irrigation ditches on the west side of the house. The ditches are no longer there. I remember the thick green grass on the north side of our house; it was like a carpet. Dad had a goat that I hated. This goat used to buck me around."

In 1949 and 1964 quitclaim deeds were issued among the family. Then in 1970, the house and the 1.15 acres allocated to it were specifically mentioned separately in a warranty deed by Felix Hernandez to his brother, E.A. Hernandez. The deed described: "one nine room dwelling and 1.15 acres on which the house is located. . . ." Also included were the "corrugated iron shed, pump house and electric pump and other equipment therein." The shed and pump house remain (figure 8.9).

In 1975, E.A. Hernandez gave the house to his young son, Alfonso Gonzalez, through his mother, Adelina Gonzalez. That same year, Adelina sold the property to James M. and Helene C. Phelan for $25,000. On June 12, 1979, James Phelan sold the property to his daughter, Helene Anna Phelan Cusack. Cusack then sold the property to Charles and Anita Barela

Wallace on July 8, 1980. The Wallaces upgraded the plumbing and electrical systems and built the back patio and adobe wall. In 1991, the Wallaces sold the property to the current owners, Howard and Virginia Ness. In 1999, The Ness's purchased an adjoining ½-acre parcel of land that had been part of the original Jones tract so that the historic property now totals approximately two acres.

## Chronology of Deeds

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Year** | **Grantor** | **Grantee** | **Type of Deed**<br>Warranty Deed | Quitclaim Deed |
| **1896** | Corporation of Jose Manual Sanchez Baca | Artur J. Stewart | x | |
| **1897** | Arthur J. Stewart | Adoniram Stewart | | x |
| **1902** | Adoniram Stewart | Amelia & Frank Jones | x | |
| **1911** | Amelia & Frank Jones | B.J. Viljoen, W.J. Viljoen, W.A. Fleming, Felix Martinez | x | |
| **1913** | B.J. Viljoen | Felix Martinez | | x |
| **1914** | Alfonso Martinez | Felix Martinez | x | |
| **1916** | Wynan J. Viljoen | Felix Martinez | x | |
| **1920** | Felix Martinez | M.P. Hernandez | x | |
| **1949** | E.A. Hernandez | Flora Hernandez | | x |
| **1949** | Felix Hernanez, Hector R. Hernandez, E.A. Hernandez | Flora Hernandez | | x |
| **1964** | E.A. Hernandez, Hector R. Hernandez | Felix H. Hernandez | | x |
| **1964** | Felix S. Hernandez | Felix H. Martinez | | x |
| **1970** | Felix Hernandez | E.A. Hernandez | x | |
| **1970** | E.A. Hernandez | Adelina Gonzales, trustee for Alfonso Gonzales (E.A.'s son) | | x |
| **1975** | E.A. Hernandez | Adelina Gonzales, trustee for Alfonso Gonzales (E.A.'s son) | | x |
| **1975** | Adelina Gonzales, trustee for Alfonso Gonzales (E.A.'s son) | James and Helene Phelan | x | |
| **1979** | James M. Phelan | Helen Anna Phelan Cusak | | x |
| **1980** | Helen Anna Phelan Cusak | Charles & Anita Wallace | x | |
| **1980** | Charles & Anita Wallace | James and Carol Ann Rogers | x | |
| **1981** | James and Carol Ann Rogers | Charles & Anita Wallace | x | |
| **1991** | Charles & Anita Wallace | Gustav & June Freyer | | x |
| **1991** | Charles & Anita Wallace | Howard & Virginia Ness | x | |

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Books

Croan, Charles, Ph.D., *A History of New Mexico,* Vol. II, Chicago, New York: American Historical Society, 1925. Copy in possession of Hector Hernandez, Jr.

DuToit, Brian M., *Boer Settlers in the Southwest,* Texas Western Press, The University of Texas at El Paso, Southwestern Studies No. 101, 1995.

Julyan, Robert, *The Place Names of New Mexico*, Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1998.

Thomas, David G *La Posta from the Founding of Mesilla to Corn Exchange Hotel, to Billy the Kid Museum, To Famous Landmark,* Mesilla Valley History Series, Vol. 1, 2013.

Deeds

Corporation of Jose Manuel Sanchez Baca Grant to Arthur Stewart, Dona Ana County, Book of Deeds, No. 18, page 5-6.

Arthur J Stewart to Adoniram J. Stewart, Dona Ana County, Quitclaim deed, Book of Deeds, No. 22, page 323.

Adamirom J. Stewart to Amelia Jones, Dona Ana County, copy of handwritten document dated May, 1902, WD 22/325.

Amelia Jones to B.J. Viljoen, et al. No. 14654. Dona Ana County, Warranty Deed, 1911.

B.J. Viljoen to Felix Martinez, No. 6383. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed, 1913.

Alfonso Martinez to Felix Martinez. No. 10694. Dona Ana County, Warranty Deed, 1914.

James. McNary, Executor Estate of Felix Martinez to M.P. Hernandez. No. 36627. Dona Ana County, Warranty Deed – Re-recorded. 1920.

Felix H. Hernandez to Flora M. Hernandez. No. 1239. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed. 1949.

Estanislao A. Hernandez to Flora M. Hernandez. No. 1240. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed. 1949.

Estanislao A. Hernandez and Hector R. Hernandez to Felix Hernandez. No. 347. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed. 1964.

Felix Samuel Hernandez to Felix H. Hernandez. No. 178. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed. 1964.

Felix Hernandez to E.A. Hernandez. No. 208. Dona Ana County, Warranty Deed, 1970.

E.A. Hernandez to Adelina Gonzales, trustee for Alfonso Gonzales. No. 210. Dona Ana County, Quitclaim Deed, 1970.

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**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): N/A

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Approximately 2 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 13 | 338121 | 3557779 | 3 | | | |
| 2 | | | | 4 | | | |

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

The National Register boundary matches the legal boundary of the Jones House. The house and outbuildings stand on Tract 18-76A3 (1.524 A Tract) in Section 11, Township 25 S, Range 2 E. In addition, the current owners purchased an additional ½-acre, consisting of Tract 18-76A2A and part of Tract 18-76A2B, which adjoin Tract 18-76A3 immediately to the south in 1999. See accompanying plat of survey, noted as Figure 10.1 on continuation sheet.

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

The nominated property includes the remaining acreage historically associated with the Frank and Amelia Jones House.

## 11. Form Prepared By


| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name/title | Heather Barrett, Architectural Historian (Section 7, Significance); Virginia Ness (Developmental History) | | |
| organization | | date | December 21, 2013 |
| Street & number | 945 Hess Terrace; 18000 Castillo Road | telephone | 575.523.1289; 575.233.3102 |
| city or town | Las Cruces; La Mesa | state | NM zip code 88005; |
| e-mail | hlbarrett@mindspring.com; | | |


**State Historic Preservation Office**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| name/title | Steven Moffson, State and National Register Coordinator | | |
| organization | Historic Preservation Division | date | November 4, 2013 |
| street & number | 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236 | telephone | 505-476-0444 |
| city or town | Santa Fe | state | NM zip code 87501 |
| e-mail | steven.moffson@state.nm.us | | |

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

## Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name | Howard and Virginia Ness | | |
| Street & number | 18000 Castillo Road | telephone | 575.233.3102 |
| City or town | La Mesa | state | NM zip code 88044 |

**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 18 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.

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** Frank and Amelia Jones House

**City or Vicinity:** La Mesa

**County:** Doña Ana **State:** New Mexico

**Photographer:** Heather Barrett (unless otherwise noted)
**Date Photographed:** December 2, 2013

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:** 8

Photo 1 of 8. South and west (front) elevations, looking northeast.

Photo 2 of 8. North and east (rear) elevations, looking southwest.

Photo 3 of 8. South elevation window grouping, looking north.

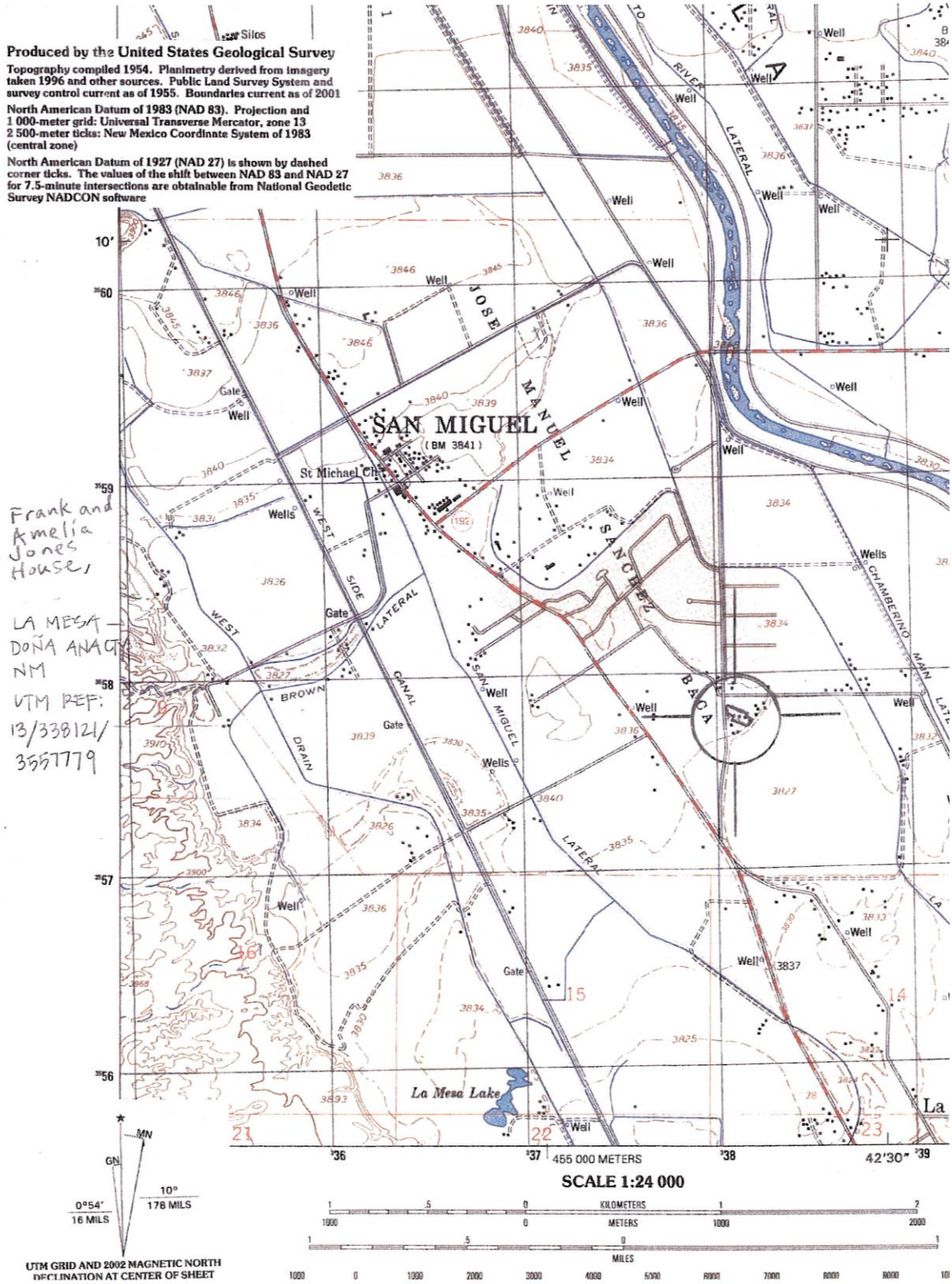
Photo 4 of 8. Front Door, looking southwest.

Photo 5 of 8. Living and dining rooms, looking east.

Photo 6 of 8. Master Bedroom (#4), looking southeast.

Photo 7 of 8. Living room fireplace, looking southeast.

Photo 8 of 8. Well house with shed in background, looking southeast.


Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1954. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1996 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1955. Boundaries current as of 2001
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 13 2 500-meter ticks: New Mexico Coordinate System of 1983 (central zone)
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software
SAN MIGUEL
(BM 3841)
St Michael Ch
JOSE MANUEL
SANCHEZ
BACA
WEST SIDE LATERAL
BROWN DRAIN
SAN MIGUEL CANAL
LATERAL
CHAMBERINO MAIN
RIVER
La Mesa Lake
Frank and Amelia Jones House,
LA MESA - DOÑA ANA CO NM
UTM REF: 13/338121/3557779
455 000 METERS
SCALE 1:24 000
KILOMETERS
METERS
MILES
UTM GRID AND 2002 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Figures

**Figure 7.1**

Aerial photograph, showing La Mesa farmland and setting for the Frank and Amelia Jones House
Photo taken by John Redig, ca. 2011, looking east towards the Rio Grande and the Organ Mountains

Figures

**Figure 7.2**

Aerial photograph, showing the Frank and Amelia Jones House
Photo taken by John Redig, ca. 2011, looking southwest

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

| |
|---|
| **Frank and Amelia Jones House** |
| Name of Property |
| Doña Ana County, NM |
| County and State |
| |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Figures

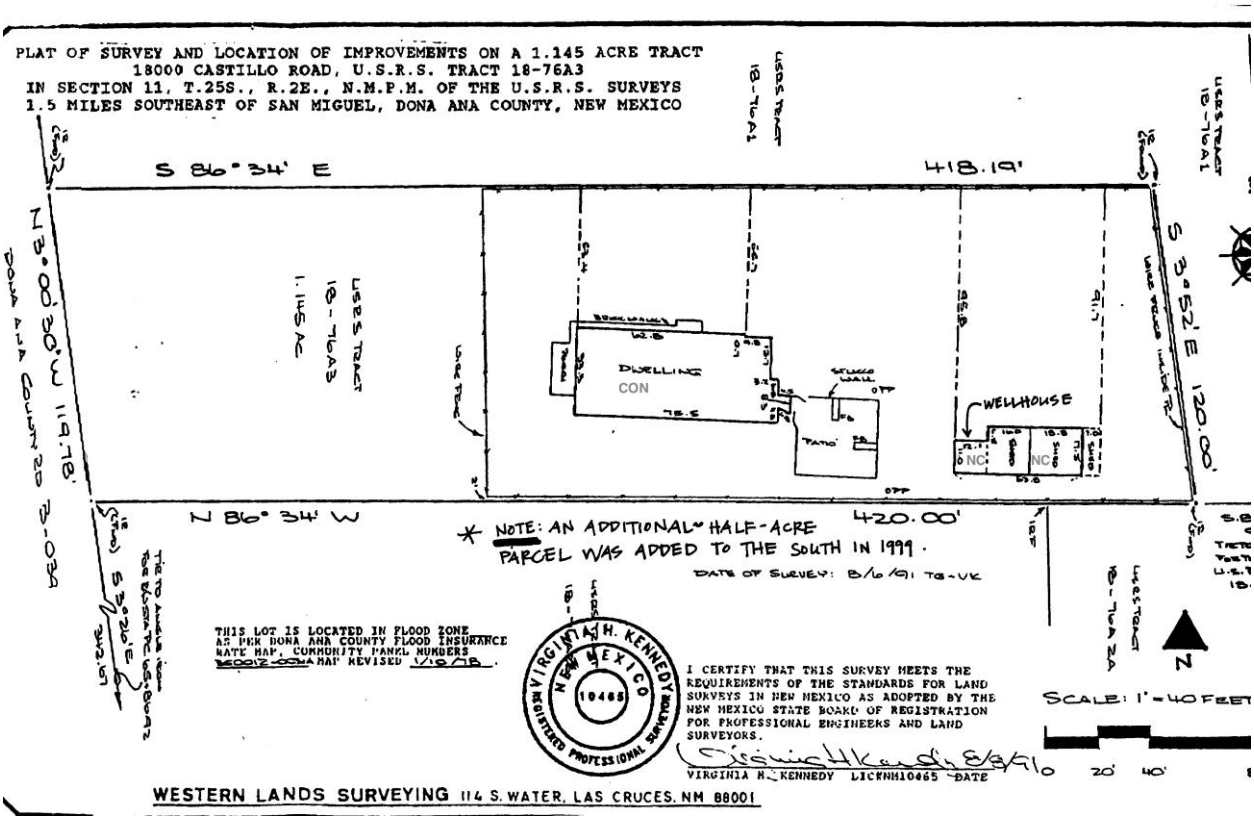



**Figure 7.3**

Land survey for the Frank and Amelia Jones House, conducted circa 1991. The building status (CON/NC) is labeled in grey on the above plat. Howard and Virginia Ness, the current owners, added approximately .5 acres to the south in 1999 (See Figure 10.1). Please note the total acreage is slightly different between the two surveys.

Figures

**Figure 7.4**

Frank and Amelia Jones House, north elevation, ca. 1957
Note: Screened in porch in location of present-day sun porch.

*Historic photographs in this nomination are courtesy of Flora Diane Hernandez Giron and Hector Hernandez Jr. (Great grandchildren of Felix Martinez, grandchildren of Matias P. Hernandez, and children of Hector and Mary Hernandez – all important people in the history of the Jones House. See Section 8 for further details.)*

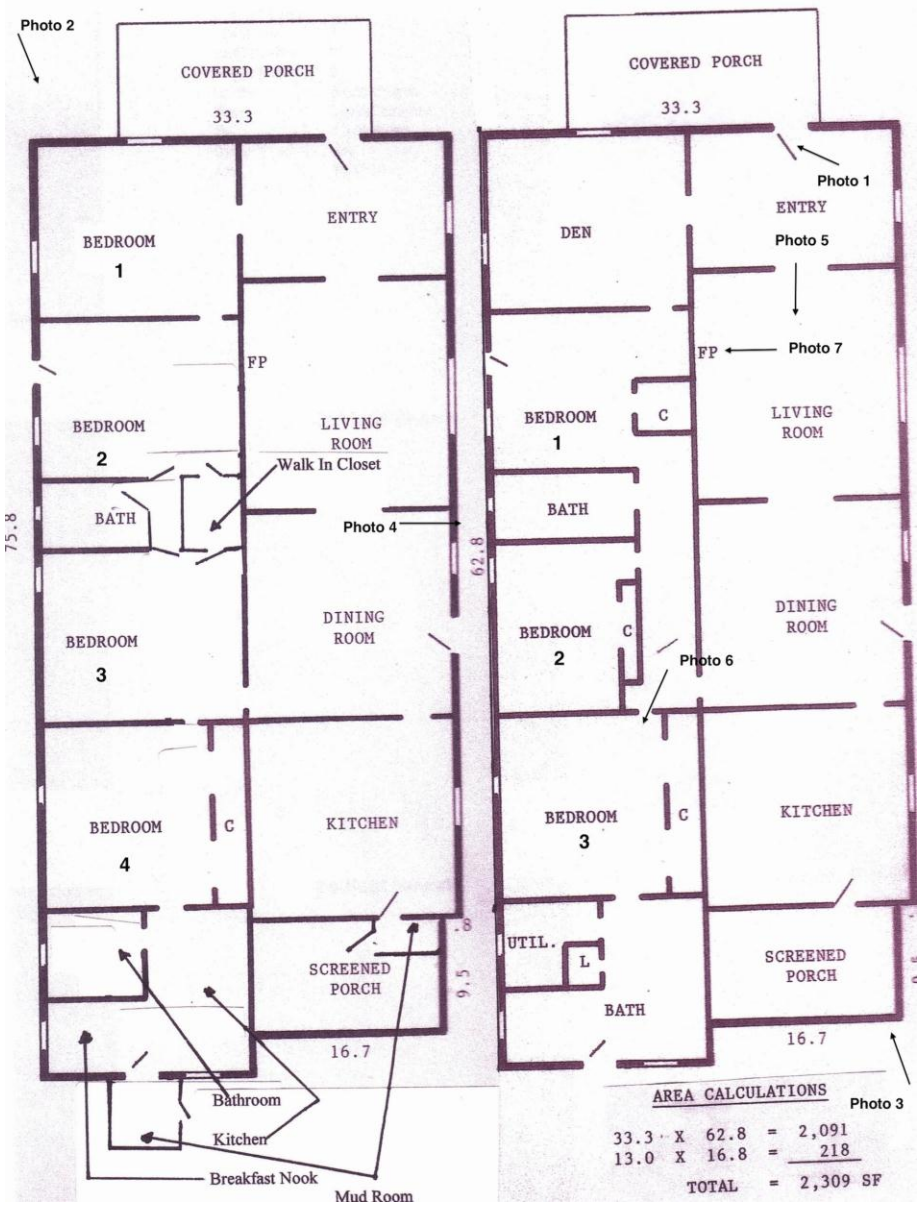



**Figure 7.5**
Frank and Amelia Jones House, La Mesa
Original floor plan (left); Present floor plan (right)
Drawn by Hector Hernandez, Jr., December 2013
*(Great grandson of Felix Martinez and grandson of Matias P. Hernandez)*

**Figure 7.6**
Ca. 1945 photograph of Hector Hernandez Jr. in front of the milking barn, which stands approximately 500 yards to the northeast, and was historically associated with the Frank and Amelia Jones House. Today, this outbuilding is located on an adjoining parcel that belongs to Price Dairies.

Figures

**Figure 8.1**

Felix Martinez

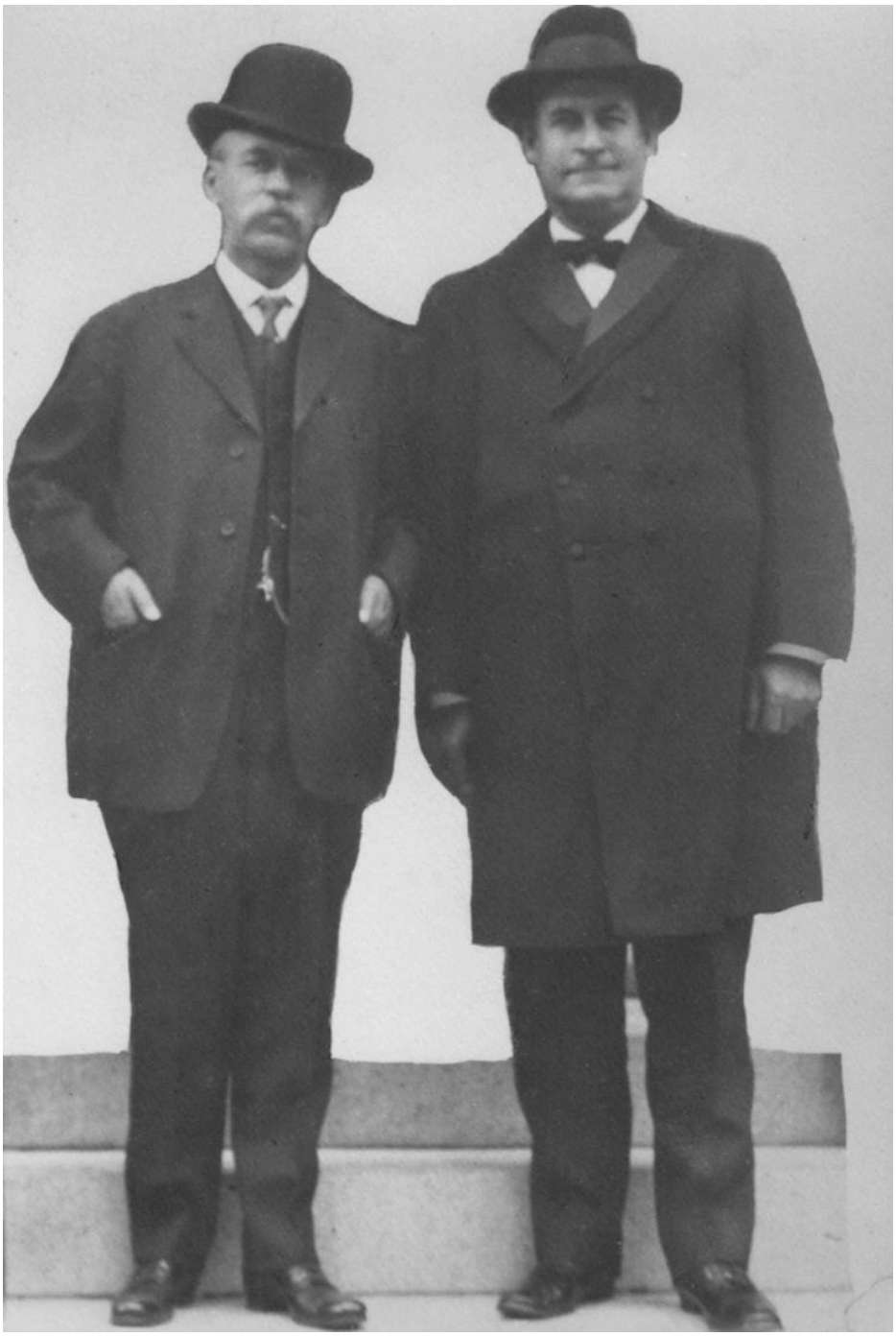


**Figure 8.2**

Undated photo, likely ca. 1913-1915, of Felix Martinez and William Jennings Bryan (left to right)

**Figure 8.3**

Wedding portrait of M.P. Hernandez and Flora Martinez Hernandez, ca. 1898

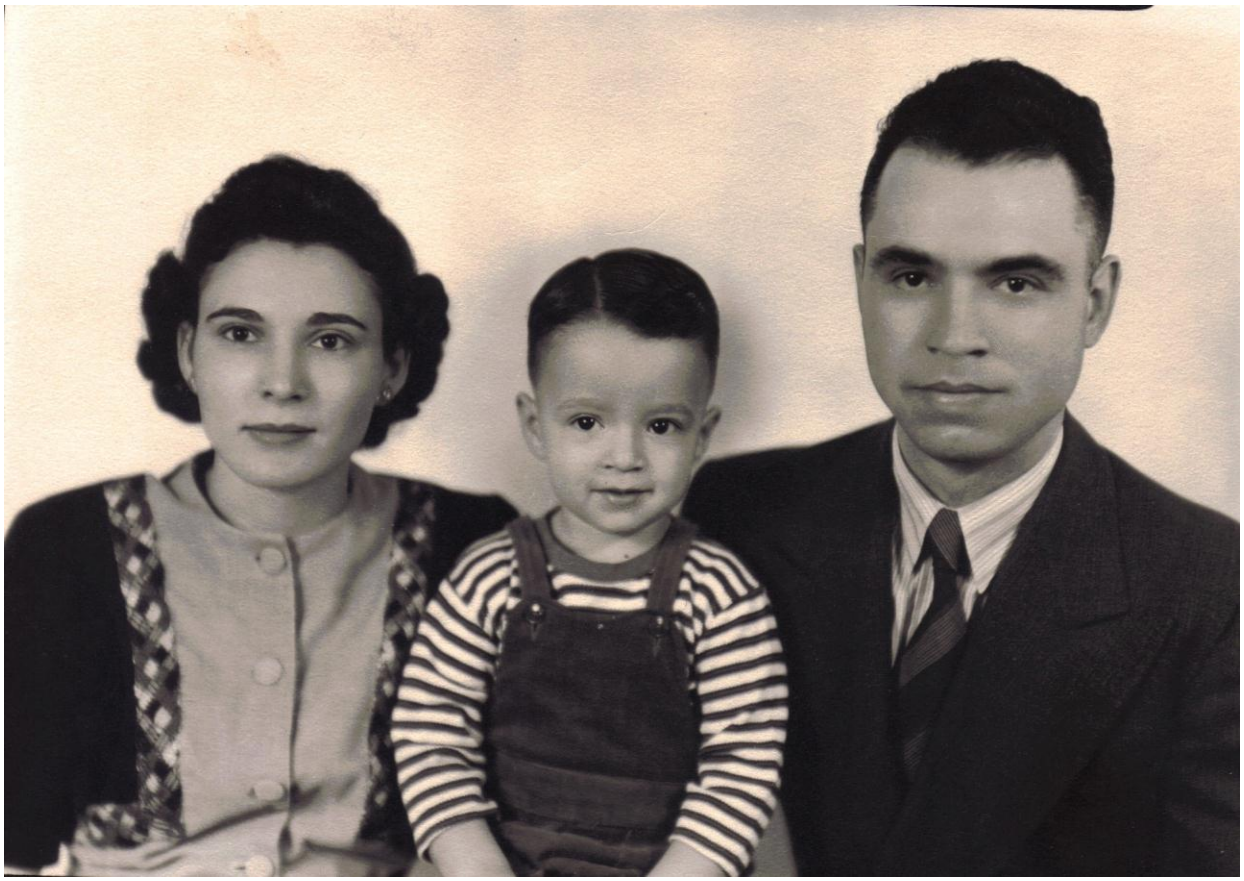


**Figure 8.4**

Hector and Mary Hernandez with Hector Jr., ca. 1944 (prior to Diane Hernandez's birth).

Figures

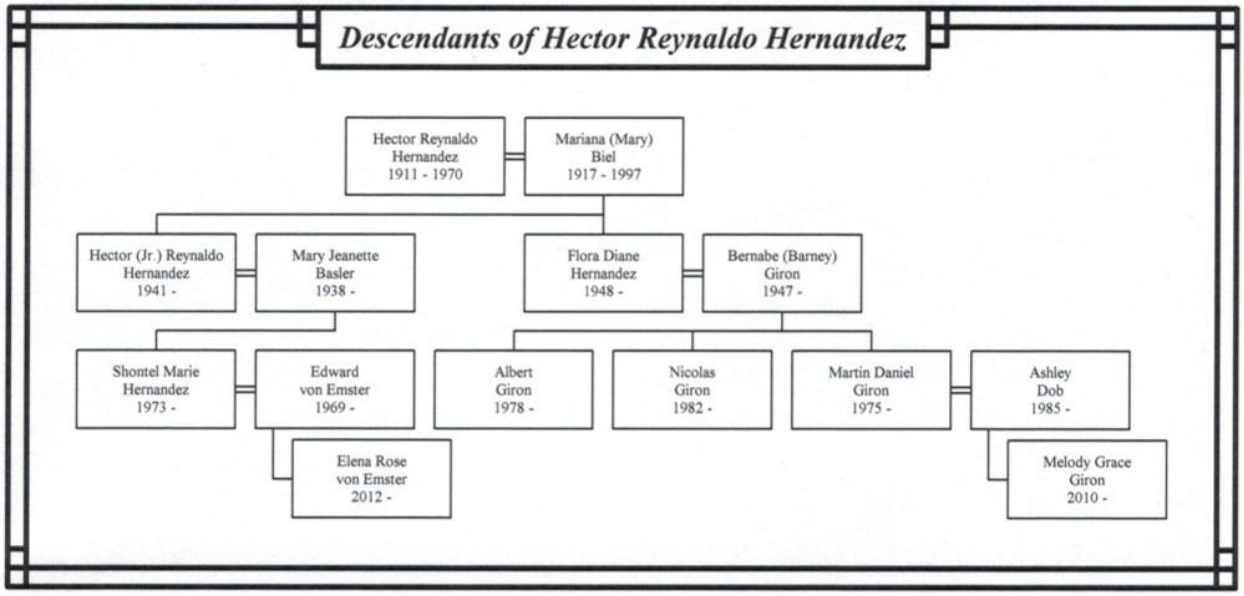



**Figure 8.5**

Descendants of Hector Reynaldo and Mariana Biel Hernandez

**Figure 8.6**

Mary Hernandez with Hector Jr., ca. 1944, taken along the south side of the farmhouse.
Note: The original window and door configuration is still intact today.

**Figure 8.7**

Hector Hernandez Jr. in front of crates of chile peppers that were harvested for market at the La Mesa farm, ca. 1944.

**Figure 8.8**

Flora Diane Hernandez Giron and her grandmother Flora Hernandez exiting the screened porch (now sun porch) to the back yard, ca. 1961.

**Figure 8.9**

Hector Hernandez Jr., ca. 1942. Well house, water tower (no longer extant), and shed housing a 1940 Chevy truck in the background. The well house was expanded to the north with a small addition for a studio for the current owner (ca. 1998). The shed was partially enclosed at some point, and the current owners extended it to the east. The salt cedar in the photograph still survives near the pump house today, making it approximately 75 years old.

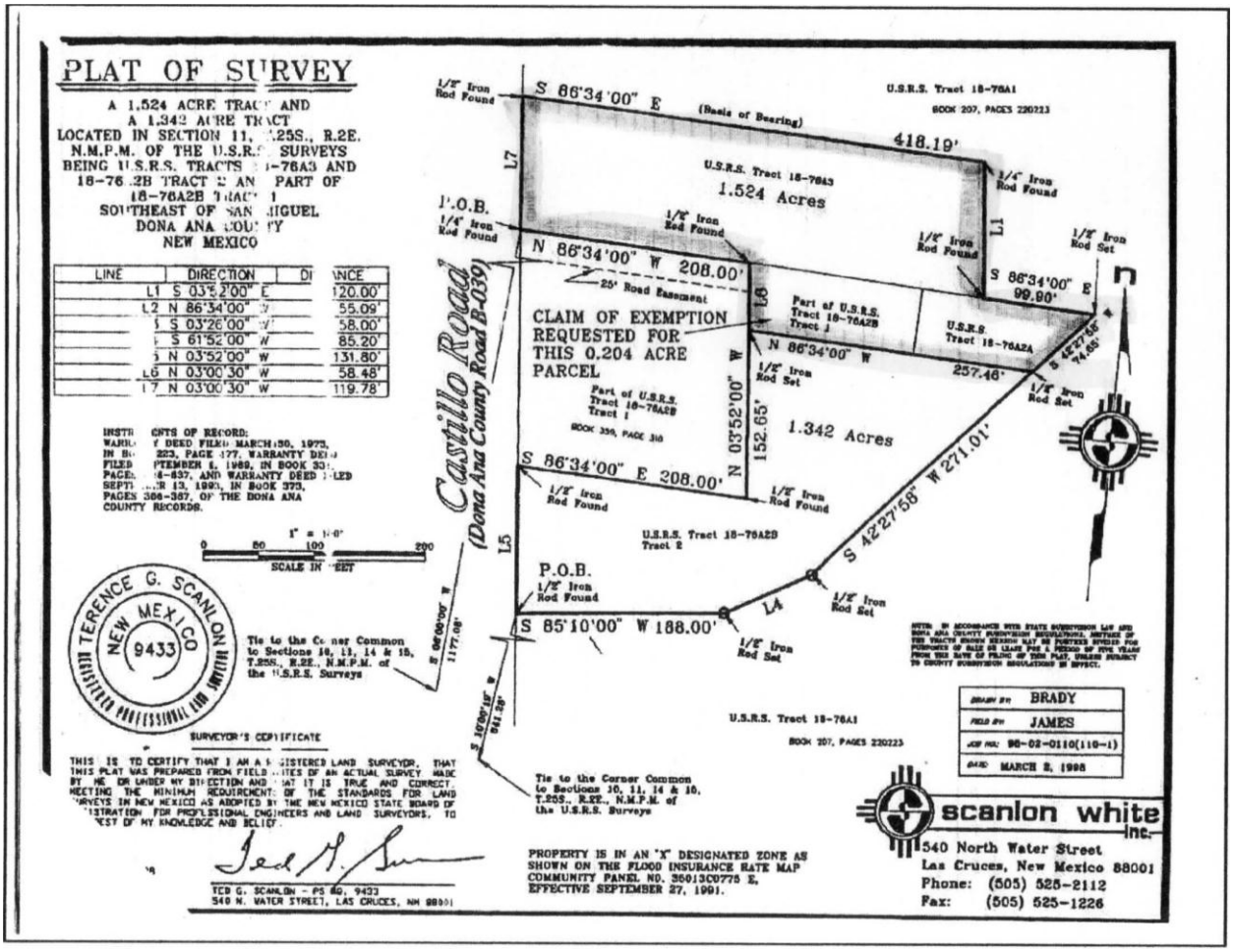



**Figure 10.1**

Sketch Map with National Register Boundaries

Plat of Survey, 1998
The area outlined in grey is the current property associated with the nominated house.

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

| |
|---|
| **Martinez-Hernandez Farmhouse** |
| Name of Property |
| Doña Ana County, NM |
| County and State |
| |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

## Photographs

Photo 1 of 8. South and west (front) elevations, looking northeast.

Photographs

Photo 2 of 8. North and east (rear) elevations, looking southwest.

Photo 3 of 8. South elevation window grouping, looking north.

Photographs

Photo 4 of 8. Front Door, looking southwest.

Photographs

Photo 5 of 8. Living and dining rooms, looking east.

Photographs

Photo 6 of 8. Master Bedroom (#4), looking southeast.

Photographs

Photo 7 of 8. Living room fireplace, looking southeast.

**United States Department of the Interior**
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

| |
|---|
| **Martinez-Hernandez Farmhouse** |
| Name of Property |
| Doña Ana County, NM |
| County and State |
| |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

## Photographs

Photo 8 of 8. Well house with shed in background, looking southeast.

CENTRAL ALARM
CENTRAL ALARM