

San Miguel Church
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Santa Fe, Co.

HABS No. 36-NM-14

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NM
25-SANFE
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 36
Utah, Colorado and New Mexico

Historic American Buildings Survey
A. Leicester Hyde, District Officer
Box 902, Santa Fe, N. M.

HABS
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25 - SAN FE

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San Miguel Church
Corner DeVargas and College Streets
Santa Fe, Santa Fe County
New Mexico

Owner: St. Michael's College.

Date of Erection: 1635-50.

Architect and Builders: Franciscan Fathers.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: One.

Materials of Construction: Adobe.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

SAN MIGUEL CHURCH
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

San Miguel Church is located on the corner of College and De Vargas Streets in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This Church was built between 1636 and 1650 as a place of worship for the Tlascalcan Indians, who were servants of the Spanish colonists then in Santa Fe. From Bancroft, it is found that the probable Governor at that time was Fernando de Arguello.

San Miguel was partially destroyed during the Pueblo uprising of 1680 and allowed to go into partial ruin during the Indian occupancy of Santa Fe in 1680-1693.

Shortly after the recapture of Santa Fe by Don Diego De Vargas Zapata Lujan Ponce de Leon in 1693 he ordered the Church of San Miguel repaired and made suitable as a place of worship. This, however, was not completed that winter. The Church was finally restored under the direction of Governor Jose Chacon Medina Salazar y Villanueva Marquis de la Peñuela and finished in 1710 as is evidenced by the carved beam under the choir loft so dated.

In 1830 a new roof was placed over the Church by Don Simon Delgado of Santa Fe. The Christian Brothers

took possession of the Church in 1859 and legally purchased it from Archbishop Lamy, July 31, 1881. In 1887 the Christian Brothers rebuilt the tower of the Church, reroofed and reinforced the falling walls with cut stone buttresses. The Church is still in possession of the Christian Brothers and it serves as a chapel for St. Michaels College, which is conducted by the Brothers.

Old photographs of the Church are in possession of St. Michaels College and the Wittick collection of photographs taken circa 1880 are in possession of the Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

References: "Bancroft's Works Vol. XVII Arizona and New Mexico" Hubert H. Bancroft.
"Leading Facts of New Mexican History" R. E. Twitchell
"Spanish Archives of New Mexico" R. E. Twitchell
"Old Santa Fe" R. E. Twitchell
"Missions and Pueblos of the Old Southwest" E. R. Forrest
"Spanish Mission Churches of New Mexico" L. Bradford Prince

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