

San Jose de Laguna Mission  
Old Laguna Pueblo, New Mexico

Valencia Co

HABS No. 36-NM-3

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31-LAGUP

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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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SAN JOSÉ DE LAGUNA  
Laguna Pueblo  
Valencia County  
New Mexico

Owner: Roman Catholic Church.

Date of Erection: About 1700. Hallenbeck<sup>1</sup> states 1699.

Architect:

Builder: Padre Antonio Miranda.

Present Condition: Fair.

Number of Stories: One.

Materials of Construction: Adobe.

Other Existing Records: See text.<sup>1</sup>

Additional Data: See following pages.

<sup>1</sup> See Hallenbeck, C., Spanish Missions of the Old Southwest, 36.

SAN JOSE DE LAGUNA  
Old Laguna Pueblo,  
Valencia County, New Mexico

Laguna Pueblo is situated upon a rock formation rising from the San Jose River, Valencia County, N. M., and was founded in July 1699. Laguna Pueblo was made up of groups of Indians from Acoma, Zuñi, San Felipe, Zia, Oraibi, Sandia and Jemez.

It is presumed that the Mission Church of San Jose de Laguna was started at that time under the direction of Padre Antonio Miranda. Records show that Padre Antonio Miranda was stationed at Laguna in 1700. The bell bears the inscription 1710. In 1782 Acoma was made a visita of Laguna.

The Church was reroofed and in general renovated in 1818 by Don Jose Manuel Aragon, alcalde of Acoma and Laguna. This is evidenced by the date on the back of the reredos and by tree ring analysis of beams over the Chancel. The tree ring analysis was made by W. S. Stallings of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

There followed a decline in the activities of the Mission and the Convento was allowed to deteriorate and go into partial ruin. From photographs taken about 1890 it clearly shows that the Convento was a two story

structure but to-day there remains but one story. The Church, however, with the sacristy and baptistry has been kept in excellent repair. A new composition roof was added over the Church, baptistry and sacristy and a part of the Convento at a recent date by the Society for the Preservation and Restoration of New Mexico Mission Churches. The Church is still used by those of the Roman Catholic faith.

Very valuable old photographs taken by Charles Lummis circa 1890 are deposited with the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles. The Laboratory of Anthropology at Santa Fe, New Mexico has the collection of photographs taken by Wittick circa 1883. The State Museum at Santa Fe and the Bureau of Ethnology in Washington have later photographs.

References: "Bancroft's Works" Vol. XVII Arizona and New Mexico, Hubert H. Bancroft.

"Spanish Archives of New Mexico" R. T. Twitchell.

"Missions and Pueblos of the Old Southwest" E. R. Forrest.

"Spanish Mission Churches of New Mexico". L. B. Prince.

Leading Facts of A. P. H. Twitchell

*A. Leicester Hyde.*

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Selected by Mr. C. ...

Reviewed 1936, H.C.F.