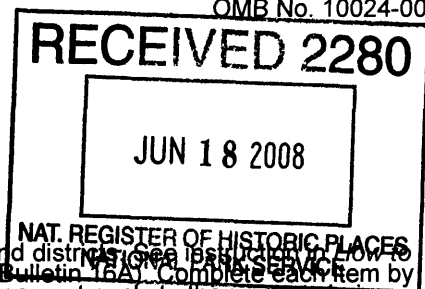


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name White School
other names/site number 5LA.11139

2. Location

street & number Intersection of CR 191 and CR 30 [N/A] not for publication
city or town Kim [X] vicinity
state Colorado code CO county Las Animas code 071 zip code 81049

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 [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally.
Signature of certifying official/Title: Mark Wolfe, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: 6/12/08
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of certifying official/Title:
Date:
State or Federal agency and bureau:

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
[X] entered in the National Register
[] determined eligible for the National Register
[] determined not eligible for the National Register
[] removed from the National Register
[] other, explain
Signature of the Keeper: Edison H. Beall
Date of Action: 8.1.08

White School
Name of Property

Las Animas County/ Colorado
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
--------------	-----------------	--

2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

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

New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains
Rural School Buildings in Colorado

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURAL: Storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements
Other: WPA Rustic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone
walls Sandstone

roof Metal
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

White School
Name of Property

Las Animas County/ Colorado
County/State

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.
- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance

1921-1949

Significant Dates

1936

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Works Progress Administration

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Colorado Historical Society

White School
Name of Property

Las Animas County/ Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 641215 4118730 (NAD27)
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

The UTM point was derived by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation from heads-up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHF by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Abbey Christman, Survey Coordinator (prepared for the property owner)

organization Colorado Preservation, Inc. date 12/7/2007

street & number 333 W. Colfax Ave. Suite 300 telephone 303-893-4260

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80204

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Brett and Nancy Balenseifen

street & number PO Box 133 telephone _____

city or town Kim state CO zip code 81049

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. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation Sheet

White School
Las Animas County, Colorado
New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS
Rural School Buildings in Colorado MPS

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The White School stands southwest of Kim at the northeast corner of the intersection of County Roads 191 and 30. Both are rural, dirt roads with limited traffic. An associated barn is located to the north of the school. A ranch house (circa 1970) lies to the west on the opposite side of the road. The school is surrounded by open range land and the barn and house are the only buildings within sight of the school.

School Building

The White School faces south. The rectangular plan building measures 50' x 24'. The foundation and walls are constructed of quarry-faced sandstone blocks laid in regular courses. The stones are of roughly uniform height but vary in width. Vertical wood boards cover the frame gables. The side gable roof is covered with corrugated metal panels.

The school is five bays wide. The three westernmost bays constitute the original 1921 building. The easternmost two bays of the building form an addition constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1936; the addition measures 12' x 24'. The stone work of the addition is similar to the original. The mortar is more prominent on the addition with somewhat sloppily applied mortar covering much more of the rock face. However, the joints of the WPA addition have beading along the center, apparently in an effort to neaten the appearance of the rough mortaring. Similar beaded mortar joints can be found on many other WPA projects in Las Animas County.

There are no openings on the north and west sides of the school. On the west end of the south side there is a single door opening filled with a wood door. There are also five large window openings on the south side covered with corrugated panels. On the original section of the school, the window openings originally held six-over-six, wood-framed sash windows. These remain mostly intact behind the exterior window coverings. On the WPA addition, one-over-one, wood-framed sash exist behind the exterior coverings. Another entrance with double wood doors is located on the south end of the east wall. There are two brick chimneys on the gable ridge: one at the east end of the building and one closer to the center.

The interior is divided into two rooms, corresponding to the original school and the WPA addition. A wide doorway that once held double doors connects the two rooms. The original wood floors remain largely intact. The walls are covered with plaster. Sections of the original beaded ceiling board remain intact with exposed wood ceiling beams elsewhere. A small closet and kitchen equipment have been installed in the WPA section.

Barn

A single-story, rectangular plan barn is located north of the White School. The barn measures 60' x 14' with a foundation and walls constructed of sandstone. The quarry-faced blocks of sandstone are laid in regular courses of varying heights. The mortar joints are heavy with center beading. Sheets of corrugated metal cover the side gable roof. The exposed wood roof framing on the interior rests directly on the stone walls.

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A single unglazed window opening is centered on the west wall. A hinged wood panel can be lifted up to cover the opening. There are no openings on the north or east sides of the building. On the south side, a small enclosed room (intended for coal storage) at the west end contains a single-width door opening with a wood door. The remaining roughly three-quarters of the south side is an open stabling area with no exterior stone wall; four wood posts support the southern edge of the roof. The barn is similar in design to Civil Works Administration (CWA) and WPA barns constructed at Andrix, Cedar Hill, and Prairie Star.

Integrity

The White School and associated barn are in good condition. The stone buildings remain unchanged from 1936. The window openings have been covered but the original windows are intact behind the exterior coverings. It is not known if the existing rough wood doors are original, but if not, they are likely similar to the original doors. The original roofing material is not known; the project file lists both shingles and steel sheet roofing in the list of materials. The current roof is likely a replacement, but is similar to metal roofs installed by the WPA on other buildings. The original roof framing is intact. On the interior, the original plaster is intact as well as most of the wood flooring and part of the wood ceiling.

The school retains a very high degree of integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling, and setting in relation to its 1921-1949 period of significance. The addition reflects an important aspect of the building's history and does not prevent the building from conveying its pre-1936 significance. The stonework exhibits the handcraftsmanship associated with the WPA and the rural setting is the same as when the school functioned.

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White School
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SIGNIFICANCE

The White School, constructed in 1921 and expanded in 1936 under the Works Progress Administration (WPA), is eligible for the National Register under the *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The White School meets the registration requirements of one property type delineated in the MPDF: *Educational Buildings (subtype: Primary and Secondary School Facilities)*.

The White School meets Criterion A in the area of *Social History* for its association with President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal legislative agenda to rescue the United States from the Great Depression. This agenda included the creation of an unprecedented number of policies, programs, and agencies to provide relief, employment, conserve natural resources, and assist in the construction of public works—all with the greater goal of stimulating the devastated economy. Constructed by the WPA, the White School addition and barn presents an important record of the federal relief programs administered in Colorado's eastern plains during the Great Depression. Though the dire economic conditions of the Depression affected all of Colorado, drought and dust storms hit the agricultural-based economy of the Eastern Plains especially hard. The construction of the school addition and barn provided much-needed employment in an isolated, rural area of Las Animas County where little other work was available.

Additionally, the Pleasant Valley School meets Criterion A for its significance in the area of *Education*. The school addition and its adjacent WPA-constructed barn are also excellent examples of New Deal efforts to improve rural education facilities in eastern Las Animas County. The WPA constructed new schools and barns for several rural school districts and repaired the facilities of many others. The White School project, constructed for a small school district with minimal matching funds, reflects WPA efforts to improve education and to help small communities with limited resources. School barns intended to store coal for the school and shelter student's horses during the school day are a New Deal resource that, at least within eastern Colorado, are unique to Las Animas County. CWA and WPA constructed school barns have been located at Shadel, Andrix, Cedar Hill, and Prairie Hill. There are no records for the construction of similar buildings in any other eastern Colorado counties.

The White School meets Criterion C in the area of *Architecture*. It is a good example of WPA Rustic architecture as applied to a simple school barn building and a school addition. The similarity of the stonework of the original school building and the WPA addition shows how WPA construction in the county drew strongly on local building traditions. The stonework displays the labor-intensive, hand-craftsmanship associated with the WPA. This craftsmanship is particularly characteristic of projects from rural Las Animas County with its limited access to construction machinery or pre-fabricated materials. The WPA work crew quarried and finished all the stone used in the building. Most of the WPA crew would have been farmers or ranchers with little previous construction experience who learned the necessary masonry skills on the job.

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White School
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Rural School Buildings in Colorado MPS

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The period of significance under the New Deal MPDF is 1935-36, the two-year period during which the WPA built the school addition and the barn.

The White School also meets the registration requirements of the schoolhouse property type as delineated in the Multiple Property Documentation Form *Rural School Buildings in Colorado*. The building is eligible to the National Register under Criterion C in the area of *Architecture* as an excellent local example of the early twentieth century rural schoolhouse and Criterion A in the area of *Education*. The building typifies masonry rural schools constructed in eastern Las Animas County during the homesteading boom of the 1910s and 1920s. The addition continued the local building tradition of the original. From its construction in 1921 through its closure in 1949, the school provided elementary education for the children of local families. The period of significance under this MPDF begins in 1921 with the construction of the school and ends in 1949, the year the school closed.

Historical Background

The population of eastern Las Animas County grew rapidly in the first few decades of the twentieth century. Land was available through various Homestead Acts including 1916 legislation that opened up land for ranching. In 1900, the Las Animas County population stood at 21,842. By 1910, the population had grown to 33,643 and in 1920 it reached 38,975. Proponents of dryland farming urged homesteaders into areas previously believed unsuitable for agriculture. Initially the homesteaders succeeded with the aid of higher than average rainfall in the 1920s.

As the homesteaders arrived in the county, they established many new school districts. Fifteen districts were established from 1900 to 1909, thirty-six districts from 1910 to 1919, and fifteen districts from 1920 to 1929. Residents established the White School District in 1921. The original stone school building likely dates to this time. The White School District, like the many other rural districts established in the 1910s and 1920s, provided education for children living on isolated farms and ranches. The high number of small districts scattered across eastern Las Animas County represents the fact that children could not reasonably travel more than five miles to school. Children attended first through eighth grades in these rural schools typically with just ten to fifteen students.

In the 1930s, these small school districts suffered. Already limited in resources due to their small size, the drought, dust storms, and Depression hit the districts hard. Many homesteaders defaulted on loans and could not pay school taxes. The harsh conditions of the 1930s drove other homesteaders out, reducing the number of residents supporting the schools. By 1940, the population of Las Animas County declined to 32,369. By 1950, it shrank to just 25,902.

New Deal programs first assisted these rural school districts under the Civil Works Administration (CWA). Organized in late 1933 and designed to be a public works program that put people to work quickly, the CWA provided immediate relief to help people through the winter of President Roosevelt's first year in office. Jobs were typically small, since the projects were intended to last only 90 days. In eastern Las Animas County many projects improved

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New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS
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roads and rural schools. School projects included repairing existing school facilities, constructing gymnasiums at Branson and Kim, and building a barn for the Prairie Star School.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA), established in May 1935, continued efforts to both improve schools and provide jobs in rural Las Animas County. The WPA served as the major source of public jobs for the unemployed during the latter part of the thirties. Its main goal was to remove the unemployed from the relief rolls by putting them back to work. The WPA encouraged "small useful projects" to provide employment for a maximum number of needy "employable" workers in the "shortest time possible." These jobs were especially vital in rural Las Animas County where there was no other work available for the farmers and ranchers devastated by drought. The WPA funded numerous road and school projects in eastern Las Animas County in order to provide jobs. In most areas, the WPA required that local sponsors of projects provide at least 20 percent of the project funding. That appears to have been often waived in this area where the need was so desperate. The WPA constructed one-room schools at Bunker Hill, Long Ridge, 7-D, and Pleasant Valley.

The White School District submitted a WPA project proposal (No. 65-84-1217) for the construction of a school addition and horse shed on August 31, 1935. The application simply stated that "shed and addition very badly needed." The project cost \$2,315. The federal government contributed \$1,974 and the White School District \$340. According to the application, the WPA Planning Board had prepared the plans for the project.

The WPA approved the project on September 20, 1935. Work seems to have begun soon after. The WPA paid unskilled laborers \$44 per month. Mason helpers, plaster helpers, and truck drivers made \$50 per month. Masons, carpenters, plasterers, and painters received \$63 per month. The timekeeper earned \$108 per month and the foreman \$120 per month. The project employed an average of 25 men per month. The WPA completed the project by February 1936, and a project inspector described the work as "a fair job."

As noted in the Rural School MPDF, many Colorado schoolhouses share a number of physical characteristics in respect to scale, proportion, massing, and window and door placement. The most common schoolhouse built in the state during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century was one-story, wood frame with a gable roof and a rectangular plan. It had a central entry in the gabled end; large, double-hung sash windows evenly spaced on the side walls; a single undivided interior space; and often included a belfry.

The White School exhibits some of these characteristics in its one-story size, rectangular plan, and gable roof. Its windows are grouped on the south side, less common than other window locations but a pattern found throughout Colorado. Stone construction is less common statewide but fairly typical in southeast Colorado where sandstone outcroppings provide opportunities for local quarrying. Given the building philosophy of the WPA in regard to its unemployment relief mission, stone represented a logical choice for the school addition and barn construction. Architecturally, the White School is a good representative example of rural school buildings in southeastern Colorado.

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Las Animas County, Colorado
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The School Reorganization Act of 1949 recommended that the White School District consolidate with the Kim School District to the northeast. White School District residents voted for consolidation and their school closed in 1949, its last enrollment being 15 students. At the time of the completion of the WPA addition in 1936, the school served 24 students. The current property owner's father, Jack Goode, taught at the White School in the 1940s. He arrived in the area in 1926 when his family moved from Texas to homestead the land currently owned by his daughter. By the 1960s, the White School had become a community building used for gatherings of the Sunshine Needleworkers, a local sewing club. Since about 1970 the building has been used for storage.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Doggett, Suzanne and Holly Wilson. *Rural School Buildings in Colorado Multiple Property Listing*. Denver, CO: Colorado Historical Society - Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, March 1999.

Wolfenbarger, Deon. "New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2005. On file in the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, Colorado.

Works Progress Administration project file. National Records and Archives Administration, College Park, Maryland.

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Rural School Buildings in Colorado MPS

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

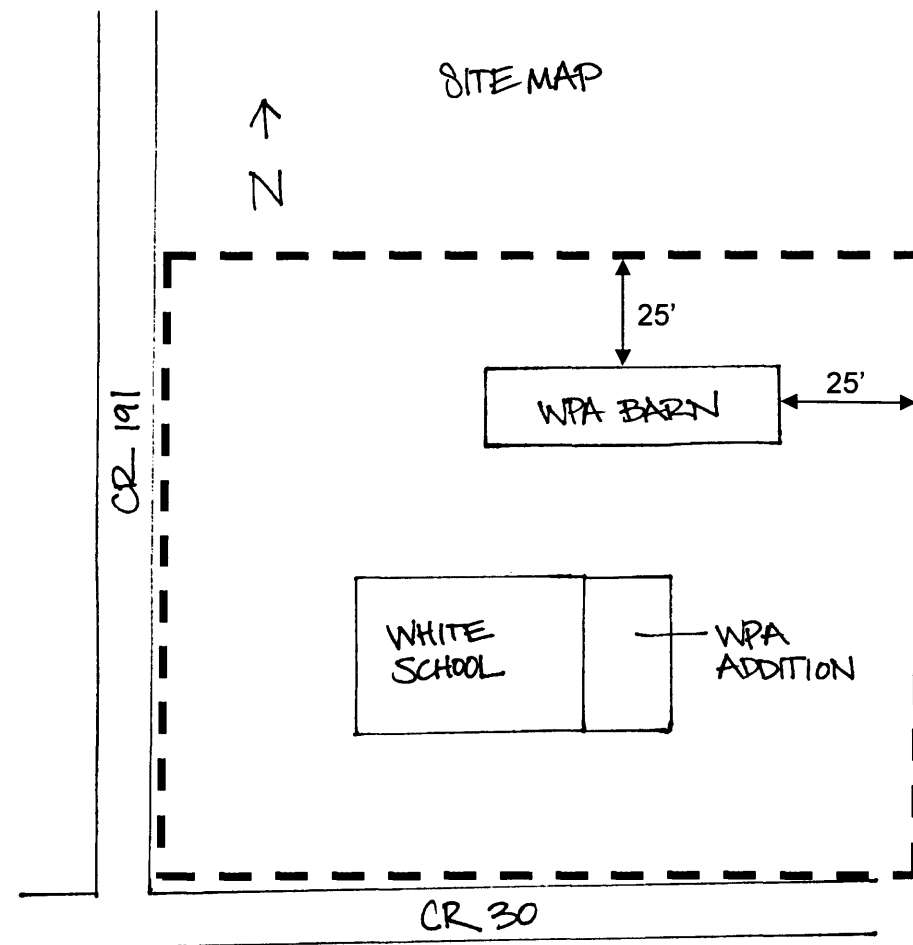
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The rectangular boundary includes only the immediately surrounding land. It extends 25' from the White School Barn on the north and the east. The west boundary follows the east edge of CR 191 and the south boundary follows the north edge of CR 30.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes all land historically associated with the school and barn.

Approximate boundary location



Not to Scale

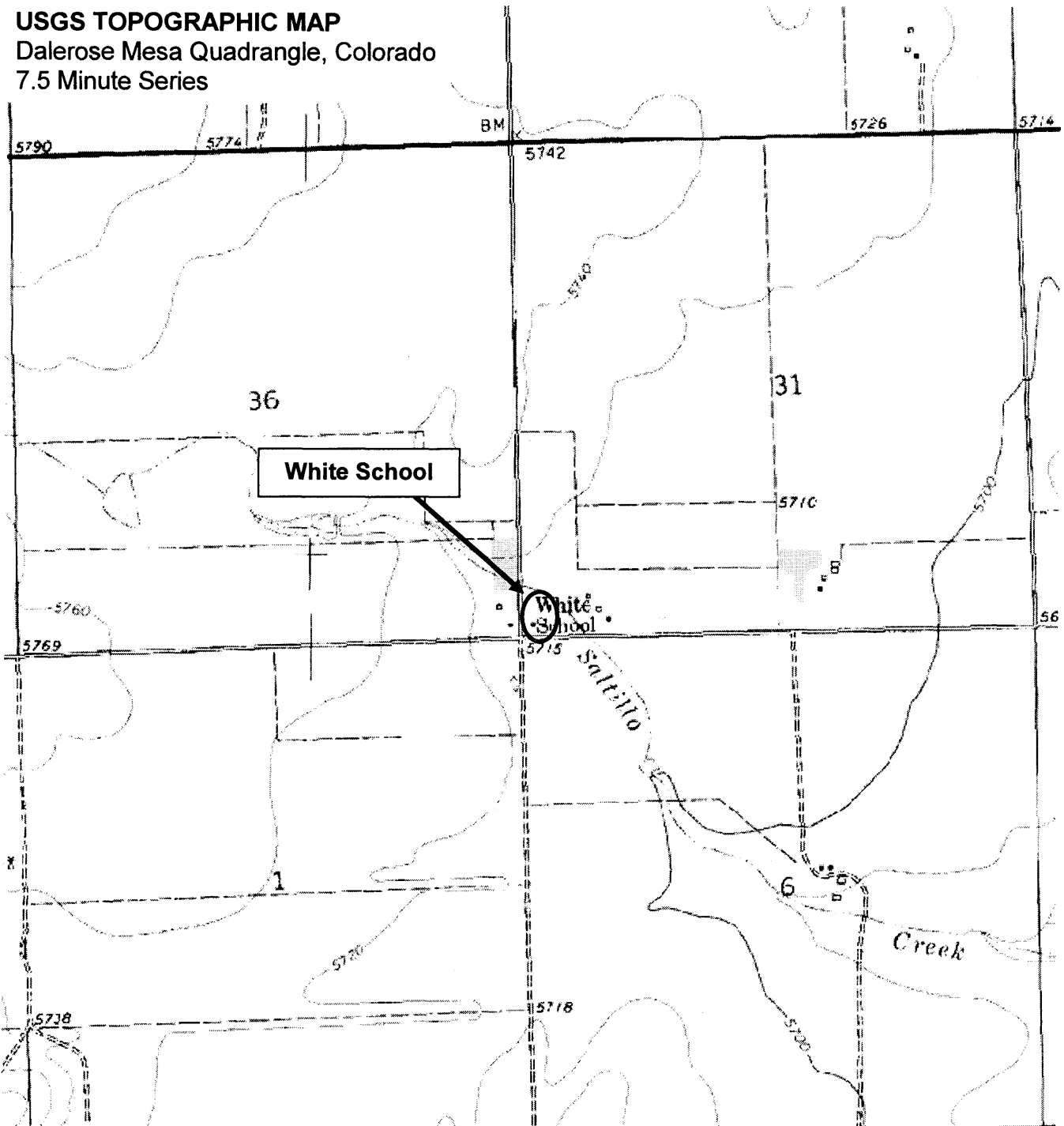
Abbey Christman
10/24/07

United States Department of the Interior
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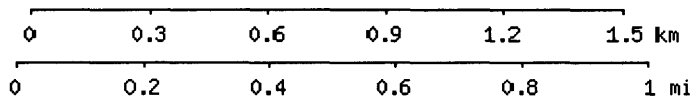
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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Dalerose Mesa Quadrangle, Colorado
7.5 Minute Series



topozone
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White School, USGS Dalerose Mesa (CO) Quadrangle
Projection is UTM Zone 13 NAD83 Datum

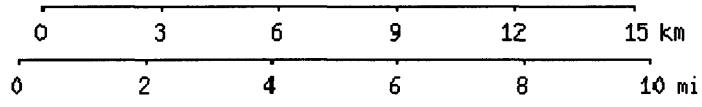
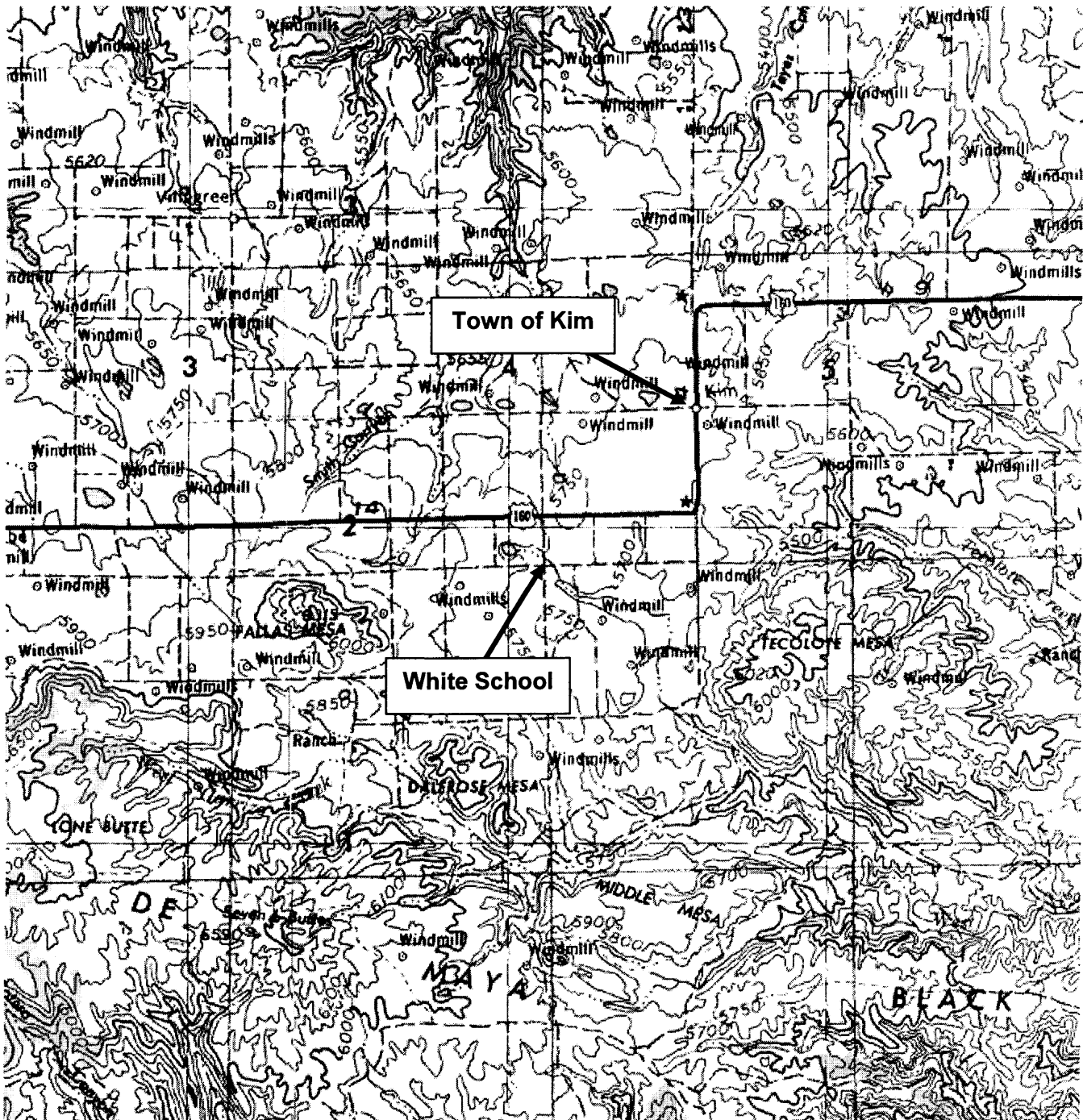


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White School, USGS Dalerose Mesa (CO) Quadrangle
Projection is UTM Zone 13 NAD83 Datum



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 Las Animas County, Colorado
 New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS
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PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to all photographs:

Photographer: Abbey Christman
 Dates of Photographs: 7/21/2006- #1, 3, 7
 10/24/2007- # 2, 4-6, 8-16
 Location of Negatives: Digital files submitted to National Register, Washington, D.C.
 Photographs printed on HP Premium Photo Paper with HP 100
 gray photo cartridge

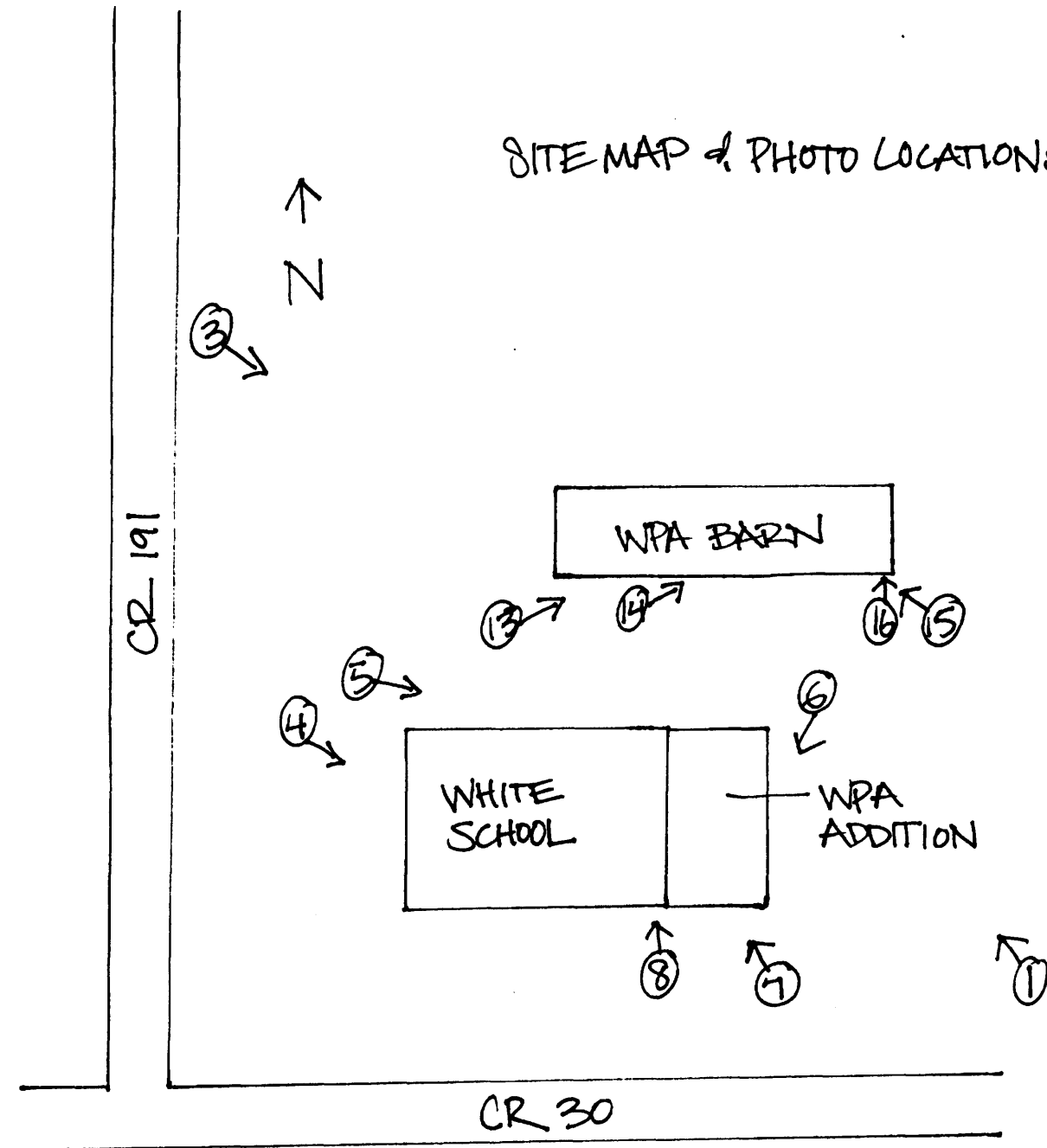
<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
1	View of White School (left) and barn (right). Facing northwest.
2	View of barn (left) and school (right). Facing northeast.
3	View of barn (left) and school (right). Facing southeast.
4	West side of school. Facing southeast.
5	North side of school. Facing southeast.
6	East side of school. Facing northwest.
7	South and east sides of school showing WPA addition. Facing northwest.
8	Detail of stone showing the original school building on the left and the WPA addition on the right. Facing north.
9	Interior of the original section of the school. Facing east.
10	Interior detail showing the windows in the original section of the school. Facing southeast.
11	Interior of the WPA addition. Facing northwest.
12	Interior detail showing the windows in the WPA addition. Facing southwest.
13	West side of the barn. Facing northeast.
14	Interior of the barn. Facing northeast.
15	South and east sides of the barn. Facing northwest.
16	Detail of the stonework on the barn. Facing north.

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SITE MAP & PHOTO LOCATIONS



② ↗

Not to Scale

Abbey Christman
10/24/07