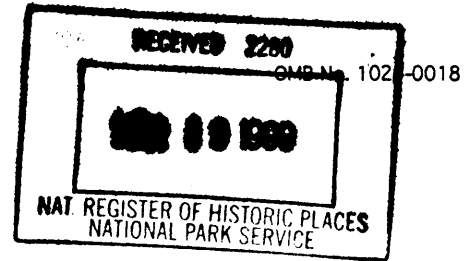


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### 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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate location or by entering the information requested. 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 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 GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL

other names / site number GREELEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL; 5WL2916

#### 2. Location

street & number 1515 14TH AVE. N/A not for publication

city or town GREELEY N/A vicinity

state COLORADO code CO county WELD code 123 zip code 80631

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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  nationally  statewide  locally. ([  ] See continuation sheet.)

*Alma Virginia Carls*  
Signature of certifying official

March 12, 1999  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ([  ] See continuation sheet.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

*Edson H. Beall* Signature of the Keeper  
4-15-99 Date of Action

GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL  
Name of Property

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO  
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION / school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION / school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS /

Late Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other TERRA COTTA

Narrative Description

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

GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL  
Name of Property

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO  
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more locations 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1927

Significant Dates

1927

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all locations 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 a 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

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

FRAZIER, SIDNEY G.

BOWMAN, WILLIAM N.

WILLIAMS, RAYMOND U.

TAMMINGA, WILLIAM M.

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 6  
GREELEY HISTORY MUSEUM

GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL  
Name of Property

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO  
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.3 ACRES

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	13	525280	4473630	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
						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 RON SLADEK, PRESIDENT

organization TATANKA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATES, INC. date 27 NOVEMBER 1998

street & number P.O. BOX 1909 telephone 970 / 229-9705

city or town FORT COLLINS state CO zip code 80522

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 WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 6

street and number 811 15TH ST. telephone 970 / 352-1543

city or town GREELEY state CO zip code 80631

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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Property GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY**

The 1927 Greeley High School occupies a 3.3-acre site in central Greeley, Weld County, Colorado. Fronting prominently toward the east onto 14th Ave., the remainder of the property is bordered by a parking lot on the west, 15th St. on the north, and 16th St. on the south. A large sloping expanse of grass and trees, broken only by a flagpole and the main entry walkway and stairs, extends along the entire east side of the building from 15th St. to 16th St. and wraps around the north and south ends of the structure. Mature trees dating from 1927 are found off the northeast and southeast corners of the structure, and shrubs and climbing vines planted just after the school was erected are found along the east facade. A small paved visitor's parking lot is located to the north of the school building.

To the west of the Greeley High School are several related but non-historic secondary school buildings and structures that are not included in this nomination. Among these are a one-story brick library/vocational shop building erected in 1953 and expanded in 1957, a one-story metal student union building erected in the early 1970s, and a three-story brick gymnasium/music classroom/cafeteria building erected in 1958 and expanded in 1975. Together with the 1927 Greeley High School, these secondary buildings surround a large student parking lot. To the west of this cluster of buildings and parking lots is a large outdoor athletic area consisting of a football field, bleachers, running track, baseball field, restrooms/concessions stand, and grounds maintenance shed predominantly dating from the 1970s and 1980s.

In general, the Greeley High School building is in excellent condition and exhibits a high degree of historic integrity through its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The building is still used for upper-level public education, although it is now known as Greeley Central High School. No significant changes to the property are found on the primary east side of the building, which appears almost exactly as it did in 1927, except for the natural maturation of the original landscaping. The non-historic features described to the west of the school are primarily located behind the building and do not detract from its historic character and appearance.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING**

The Greeley High School building is essentially a massive symmetrical three-story structure oriented on a north-south axis and measuring approximately 270' from north to south and 140' from east to west along the north and south elevations. With an irregular plan shape, the building is composed of a long central north-south block with a large east-west wing at each of its north and south ends. A three-story auditorium projection extends toward the west from

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Property GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

the center of the building, which together with the north and south wings form two light courts on the west elevation. The style of the Greeley High School is categorized as Late Gothic Revival, although it was described by the architect just after its construction as "simplified Tudor." (*Greeley Tribune-Republican*, 10 October 1930)

Rising from a below-grade poured concrete foundation, the walls are composed of blonde brick laid in common bond coursing. Numerous brick wall buttresses rise at regular intervals around the entire perimeter of the building, some reaching the third floor level to terminate in terra cotta canted molding, with those on the numerous corners extending slightly above the parapet walls and terminating in decorative terra cotta caps. The parapets are castellated and shaped around the entire perimeter of the structure. The projecting main entrance on the east and secondary entrances on the north and south are ornamented with terra cotta detailing, and the exterior walls are richly ornamented with terra cotta tiles, panels, canted molding, bands, rosettes, flattened Tudor arches, compound arches, and crest molding. The roof on the building is flat, and one heavy brick chimney capped with terra cotta blocks extends slightly above the roof in the northern light court. A short but massive square brick tower extends to the fourth floor level at the center of the east facade above the main entry bay.

**EAST (PRIMARY) ELEVATION OF THE BUILDING**

The east elevation of the Greeley High School faces onto 14th Ave. and contains the decorative front entrance, located at the center of the building and accessed from the sidewalk via a walkway and two sets of concrete steps with metal pipe handrails. Projecting 6.5' from the main wall of the building, the front entry vestibule is one story in height and constructed of blonde brick, with the side walls flaring slightly outward toward the base. The doorway enters the main floor of the building and contains two pairs of modern single-light metal doors separated by a terra cotta mullion, above which are modern single-light transoms in metal frames. Above these transoms are two bricked spaces that formerly contained the original transoms. Flanked by terra cotta surrounds, the doorway is further ornamented with a terra cotta compound flattened segmental arch containing an architrave band of eight evenly-spaced rosettes. Also flanking the doorway are two 1/1 double hung sash windows with brick slip sills, and two heavy ornamental wrought iron lamps with amber glass. At the center of the wall above the doorway is a terra cotta shield set into the brickwork (decorated with three-dimensional diagonal bands and a single square), and the entire projecting entry vestibule is finished with a stepped parapet capped with terra cotta crest molding.

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WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

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Dominating the entry vestibule is the central tower, rising to the fourth floor level above the remainder of the structure. The square tower projects slightly from the main wall of the building and is framed by brick corner buttresses ornamented with long vertical recessed panels and a small amount of decorative terra cotta tilework and canted molding. A single band of four 1/1 double hung sash windows is found on each of the second and third floor levels, with the entire wall around these windows clad in ornamental terra cotta mullions, sills, lintels and carved panels. Large metal letters in decorative Gothic font identify the structure as the Greeley Central High School (the word "Central" was added to the building in 1969). A terra cotta molding band runs between the corner buttresses at a level even with the third floor roof line. Above the third floor roof line, the four identical sides of the tower are finished with blonde brick walls, two narrow dark brick bands near the base, three round-arched narrow 10-light fixed windows with terra cotta sills and semi-circular brick lintels, another dark brick band near the top, terra cotta crest molding, and a pyramidal roof with an ornamental wrought iron lightning rod at the peak.

Windows on the east elevation include forty-two 1/1 double hung sash windows in metal frames on the first floor, forty-four 1/1 double hung sash windows in metal frames on each of the second and third floors, and the three narrow fixed windows already described in the fourth floor of the tower. Fenestration on this elevation is in bands of either three or four windows, most of which have brick slip sills and plain brick surrounds. Wide bands of blonde brick laid in soldier coursing are also present above many of these bands of windows.

The east elevations on the two identical north and south wings project 18' from the central block of the building and are each separated into three bays. The central bay projects slightly and is enframed by brick pilasters ornamented with terra cotta bases, canted molding on the outer edges, and terra cotta plaques flanking the third floor windows. These pilasters terminate above the third floor windows in a brick wall with a single centered diamond-shaped terra cotta rosette. Within this enframed bay is a band of four windows on each floor, with the individual windows separated by three brick pilaster mullions with terra cotta bases and capped with terra cotta blocks. Surrounding the entire group of windows are narrow bands of vertical terra cotta molding (forming the interior edge of the flanking brick pilasters) that terminate above the third floor windows with a flattened segmental compound terra cotta arch. The entire central bay is capped by an arched and battlemented brick parapet with terra cotta crest molding. The identical outer two bays each have a band of three windows on each floor, all of which have brick slip sills and are separated by brick mullions. First floor windows are decorated with terra cotta canted molding capping the mullions, and a flattened Tudor terra cotta arch over each band of windows. Above the third floor windows is a broken terra cotta molding band, capped by a brick stepped parapet and terra cotta crest molding. The corners of each wing are finished with three-story brick wall buttresses decorated with terra cotta canted molding and

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recessed vertical panels, projecting slightly above the roof line and terminating in ornamental terra cotta blocks. A cornerstone on the southeast corner of the building states "Erected AD 1926" (the year construction commenced).

**WEST (REAR) ELEVATION OF THE BUILDING**

The west elevation overlooks a large paved student parking lot and the non-historic secondary school structures and athletic fields. One primary entrance is present on this elevation, entering the building on the first floor level of the auditorium projection. A pair of modern metal doors with no lights is found in this entryway, which is ornamented with terra cotta surrounds and stepped label molding. Flanking the entry are low wing walls and wrought iron lamps. Several other modern metal doors with no lights or other decorative features enter the building in the north and south light courts.

Windows on this elevation include twenty 1/1 double hung sash windows on the first floor, along with twenty-eight 1/1 double hung sash windows on each of the second and third floors. All of these are set in modern metal frames and have brick slip sills. The majority of these windows are located within the north and south light courts. The auditorium projection has three very large bricked window spaces with terra cotta sills and Tudor arches (these originally contained lancet windows with tracery), and the south wall of the auditorium projection has six small bricked window spaces. Also in the south light court is a metal stairway rising to an entry door at the balcony level of the auditorium.

The west wall of the auditorium projection is ornamented with the oversize bricked window spaces separated by brick wall buttresses that are capped with terra cotta canted molding. A pair of buttresses is found at each corner, ornamented with terra cotta canted molding and recessed vertical panels, projecting slightly above the battlemented roof line to terminate in ornamental terra cotta blocks. The west walls of the north and south wings are virtually identical, except for the presence of a small original one-story projection on the north wing. These walls feature one 1/1 double hung sash window centrally located on each floor, flanked by brick wall buttresses with canted molding, along with similar buttresses on the corners that project slightly above the battlemented and shaped parapets to terminate in terra cotta blocks. A terra cotta molding course ornamented with small rosettes is found above the third floor windows, and the parapet is capped with terra cotta crest molding. The first floor projection on the north wing has a band of four 1/1 double hung sash windows with brick slip sills, above which is a stepped battlemented parapet capped with terra cotta crest molding.



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**NORTH (SIDE) ELEVATION OF THE BUILDING**

The north elevation overlooks a small paved parking lot and landscaping. A one-story entrance vestibule projects from the main wall of the building, and contains a pair of modern metal doors with single vertical lights and horizontal transoms. The doors have terra cotta surrounds and a terra cotta flattened compound segmental arch above a brick tympanum. Flanking the doorway are ornamental wrought iron lamps and short brick buttresses with terra cotta bases, recessed vertical panels, and terra cotta canted molding. A recessed vertical brick panel is centered above the doors and the roof line of the vestibule is finished with a shaped parapet with terra cotta crest molding. Above the vestibule is a two-story six-light fixed window in a metal frame, with terra cotta surrounds, sill, and Tudor arch. This window space formerly held a lancet window with tracery.

Other windows on this elevation include eighteen 1/1 double hung sash windows on the first floor and fifteen 1/1 double hung sash windows on each of the second and third floors. All of these are set in modern metal frames and have brick slip sills and wide brick soldier lintel bands. A secondary doorway near the northwest corner of the building contains a pair of modern metal doors with a single vertical light in each and a brick soldier lintel, accessed by way of three concrete steps with a metal pipe handrail. The three-story brick wall of the building is ornamented with brick wall buttresses that include terra cotta canted molding and terminate slightly above the battlemented roof line with terra cotta blocks. A terra cotta band is present above the third floor windows, a shaped parapet is found near the northeast corner of the building, and the roof line is finished with terra cotta crest molding.

**SOUTH (SIDE) ELEVATION OF THE BUILDING**

The south elevation overlooks a landscaped area and the east end of the adjacent gymnasium building, which is separated from the high school building by a distance of twenty-seven feet. This elevation is virtually identical to the north elevation, except that it contains seventeen 1/1 double hung sash windows on the first floor and nineteen 1/1 double hung sash windows on each of the second and third floors.

**INTERIOR OF THE BUILDING**

The interior of the Greeley High School contains some of the original finishes. Most notable among these are the built-in wood display cases, base plates, and oak molding in the first floor main hallway, the metal banister sheets on the stairways, the arched classroom entries

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throughout the building, and the ornamental pilasters supporting arches in the second floor east-central classrooms originally occupied by the school library. The auditorium also contains decorative Tudor arches on the side walls and on the proscenium arch above the stage. Aside from these items, the interior of the building has been fully renovated and contains interior finishes dating from the 1950s and 1970s.

**ALTERATIONS TO THE BUILDING**

Alterations to the exterior of the Greeley High School are limited to replacement of the original 3/1 double hung sash windows with 1/1 double hung sash windows during the 1970s, replacement of the original lancet windows on the north and south elevations with multi-light fixed windows during the 1970s, and filling of the large arched auditorium windows with brickwork in 1950. None of these changes have seriously diminished the historic integrity of the building, and restoration plans include reversal of the described alterations to return the building to its 1927 appearance based upon photographs dating from the construction period.

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Property GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL

WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Greeley High School is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for embodying the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction. Erected in 1926-27, the three-story blonde brick structure exhibits rich use of architectural detail and ornamentation evocative of the Late Gothic Revival style, which when applied to school buildings during the first decades of the 20th century was referred to as Collegiate Gothic style. Ornamental details of note on this building include its numerous brick wall buttresses with terra cotta canted molding, corner buttresses that project above the roof line and end in decorative terra cotta blocks, terra cotta tiles set into the brickwork featuring rosette patterns, segmental arches over windows and enframed window walls, a short square central tower, battlemented and shaped parapets, lancet windows, terra cotta molding courses, and the three one-story projecting entry vestibules.

The building is also eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of the collaborative design work of prominent architects William N. Bowman of Denver and Sidney G. Frazier of Greeley, with landscaping designed by Greeley landscape architect Raymond U. Williams and construction completed by prominent Denver contractor William M. Tamminga. This building, together with its surrounding grounds, is an excellent representative example of the Late Gothic Revival style applied to a prominent early-twentieth century public educational institution erected to serve the growing community of Greeley. The property is important on the local level as one of the few landmark Late Gothic Revival buildings in the town. For the purpose of this nomination, the period of significance is limited to 1927, the year the building was completed and opened for use.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Completed in 1927, the Greeley High School has served for seven decades as the center of upper-level public school education in this medium-sized Colorado community, whose economy was largely centered during the early 20th century upon regional agricultural production and the presence of the Colorado Teachers College (now the University of Northern Colorado). The building's origins reflect the evolution of Greeley from a pioneer late-1800s utopian agricultural colony to a growing early 20th-century city that increasingly served as the commercial, governmental, and educational center for the surrounding region. With a history that serves as testimonial to its integral place in the community, the building is important as a structure that has served the public well and is representative of the development and evolution of infrastructure designed for educational purposes. This prominent and highly decorative building, and the activities that it contained over the decades, contributed significantly to the education of thousands of Greeley students, fulfilling the town founders' central goal of education and

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Property GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL

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enhancing the town's growth and stability. The structure is a notable landmark that attests to the fundamental importance of education in American communities during the early decades of the century. Today the Greeley High School continues to be utilized as one of two such facilities in the city, and it stands as a prominent landmark evocative of the community's historic willingness to invest heavily in the education of its youth.

In 1869, Nathan C. Meeker, agricultural editor of the *New York Tribune*, was sent west by his employer, founder and editor Horace Greeley, to report on the condition of agriculture in the western states. After traveling through several states and the Colorado Territory, Meeker published an article in New York entitled "A Western Colony" on 14 December 1869, encouraging temperance-minded individuals to move west and settle on what he hoped would become a utopian agricultural community in the territory of Colorado. With encouragement and financial backing from Horace Greeley, along with several thousand inquiries streaming in, Meeker established the Union Colony of Colorado in New York City only nine days later with the initial fifty-nine members purchasing stock in the colonization company for a fee of \$155.00 per person. In February 1870, a committee arrived in Colorado Territory to locate and purchase land for their new community. The Union Colony shifted from concept to reality with the purchase of 12,000 acres of arid Colorado plains land west of the confluence of the Cache la Poudre and South Platte Rivers. With Nathan Meeker's vision for his utopian community serving as their guiding light, the initial settlers built their colony upon the principals of temperance, education, religion, cooperative effort, and irrigated agriculture.

In his December 1869 article that sparked the Union Colony into existence, Nathan Meeker stated that "one of the very first institutions should be a first-class school," underscoring an emphasis upon public education that would persevere into the next century. Although conditions were harsh during the first decade, the colonists were determined to stay and erected a massive brick school building in 1873 (the first Meeker School, demolished in 1922). In addition, they built houses and commercial buildings, graded streets, established a cemetery and parks, excavated irrigation ditches, and installed fencing to keep free-ranging cattle out of their gardens. The Union Colony was incorporated as the town of Greeley in May 1871, became the county seat in 1877, and grew quickly into a supply and shipping center for a thriving agricultural region. Just fifteen years after its founding, the town had a population of more than 2,100 persons. Growth was steady through the turn of the century, and Greeley continued to develop its infrastructure, including the construction of more school buildings. By the mid-1880s, the Meeker School was already becoming overcrowded and new ward schools were erected in the neighborhoods. Hoping to have first pick at newly-trained teachers, the community successfully lobbied the state legislature to establish the State Normal School in Greeley in 1893. This institution was renamed Colorado State Teachers College in 1911, Colorado State College of Education in 1935, and the University of Northern Colorado in 1970.

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A new city high school (listed in the National Register) was built in 1895 as the town's population was pushing 3,000 citizens. By 1910, Greeley had grown to a population of just under 8,200 and crowding at the 1895 high school was relieved with the construction of the new Meeker High School in 1912 (razed in 1968). Hundreds of children were also taught at a permanent school established within the State Teachers College, with the upper grade students attending what was known as "Te-Co-Hi-So," short for the "Teachers College High School." During the very early 1920s, the Board of Education of Weld County School District 6 (established in 1870 and encompassing the town of Greeley) was again studying expansion needs. A committee was established in November 1921 to look into purchasing grounds for new schools, and the following April the board elected to acquire virtually all of Blocks 7 and 8 in Moore's Addition on the southwest edge of the town. Negotiations took three years to purchase these blocks, which were already divided into urban lots and occupied by a number of small houses and outbuildings. In the meantime, local architect Sidney G. Frazier was hired in 1923 to study possible expansion of the existing high school to at least temporarily provide for the growing number of students.

By the middle of the decade, the city of Greeley had reached a population of 12,000 residents and the school district was doing its best to keep up with the resulting expansion of the student population. Estimates prepared at the time concluded that enrollment in District 6 had increased by an average of sixty-six students per year between 1915 and 1927. Between 1925 and 1926 alone, enrollment jumped by 190 students, presenting a distinct challenge to the district board. On 18 January 1926, a crisis erupted when the president of the Colorado Teachers College, Dr. G.W. Frazier, informed the board of Weld County School District 6 that the college planned to reduce the number of high school students attending its on-campus program, and was considering the possibility of totally eliminating the classes within the next year. The district board was suddenly faced with the likelihood of having to accommodate an additional 167 students in a building that was already filled to capacity.

Superintendent G.E. Brown was instructed by the board to contact architect William N. Bowman of Denver (known locally for his work on the Weld County Courthouse) as soon as possible to discuss collaboration with Greeley architect Sidney Frazier to prepare plans and specifications for a new high school building designed to handle an anticipated 1100 to 1200 students. In February 1926, the board voted to proceed rapidly with the process of erecting a new high school, calling for a public election on a bond issue of \$350,000 to finance the project. Associated architects William Bowman and Sidney Frazier were hired to proceed with the project through a sole source award, with Bowman preparing the general plans and specifications (and supervising bids and contracts), and Frazier preparing detailed plans and overseeing construction.

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William Norman Bowman was born in Carthage, New York in 1868 and was forced by circumstances to leave school and enter the work force at the age of eleven to support his family. Determined to become an architect, he studied at night with a local school teacher, eventually landing jobs with architectural firms in Michigan and Indiana. Moving to Denver in 1910, Bowman opened an architectural office and was soon retained to design a variety of buildings. Included among his most notable structures in Denver are the Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church (1910), State Office Building (1921), El Jebel Shrine and Clubhouse (1925), Cosmopolitan Hotel (1926), Mountain States Telephone Building (1927), Continental Oil Building, Norman Apartments, Denver Theater, Byers Junior High School, Cole Junior High School, and Denver School Administration Building. Across the states of Colorado and Wyoming he designed a number of county courthouses, high schools, college buildings, and numerous other public structures. In Greeley, Bowman became well known for his work on the Classical Revival Weld County Courthouse in 1915, after which he went on to design the Gymnasium/Gunter Hall of Health and President's Residence at the State Teachers College, the Macy Mortuary, the First Presbyterian Church, and the Masonic Temple. His designs for Byers Junior High School in Denver, the Gymnasium/Gunter Hall of Health at the State Teachers College, and the Greeley First Presbyterian Church all utilized the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture. William Bowman served as president of the Colorado chapter of the AIA from 1917 to 1919, and was appointed to the State Board of Architectural Examiners by Governor Alva Adams in 1927.

Sidney George Frazier was born in Denver in 1889 and entered the field of architecture in 1909 as a draftsman for the prominent firm of Baeresson Brothers after attending architecture school at Columbia University. Later that year he moved to the firm of William Ellsworth Fisher and Brother, where he worked for the next eight years. Occasionally loaned to the firm of Roeschlaub & Son, Frazier worked on the designs for the 1912 Meeker High School in Greeley, improvements to the Centennial High School in Pueblo, and the Isis Theater in Denver. In 1917 he opened his own architectural practice in Casper, Wyoming and although the office prospered, Frazier's career was interrupted when he was drafted to serve with the 109th Engineers during World War I. At the end of the war, he became superintendent of construction on the Auditorium Building in Pueblo for architect William Stickney. After receiving his Colorado architect's license in 1919, Frazier opened his own office in Greeley, where he practiced for the next four decades. During his long career, Sidney Frazier designed a number of notable buildings, including the Ault High School (1921), Pierce High School (1923), Greeley High School Gymnasium (1925), Burlington State Armory (1926), St. Peter's School in Greeley (1926), St. Joseph's School in Denver (1926), Greeley Tribune Building (1928), Eaton Town Hall (1928), Greeley Junior High School (1938), Arlington Grade School (1941), Greeley Baptist Temple (1945), and Weld County Public Hospital (1949). In addition, he designed the Fort Lupton High School, the Loveland State Armory, and the Greeley Osteopathic Memorial Hospital. Also in

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1949, Frazier designed the Veterinary Hospital at Colorado A & M in Fort Collins (now Colorado State University), which was hailed as an excellent prototype for animal hospitals around the country. In all, he prepared designs for forty-five schools as well as a good number of churches and public buildings in northern Colorado, in addition to serving as associate architect on the Colorado State Capitol Annex (1939) in Denver. During World War II, Frazier was instrumental in designing the Remington Arms Ordnance Plant in Salt Lake City and the Atomic Bomb Plant in Richland, Washington.

In April 1926, Greeley voters approved the bond issue for a new high school. The following month, Blocks 7 and 8 in Moore's Addition were cleared of the existing houses and outbuildings while the architects were busily preparing their plans. On 21 June 1926, William Bowman presented his plans and specifications to the school district for the design of the new Greeley High School. The board was pleased with the Late Gothic Revival design and instructed the architect to proceed with advertising for bids as quickly as possible. Contracts were awarded in mid-August to William Tamminga General Contracting of Denver for \$249,170 (the firm was also constructing the National Register-listed Brighton High School at this time), J.D. Potter Plumbing & Heating Co. of Greeley for \$53,400, and Silver State Electric Co. of Denver for \$10,620. The grounds and foundation were prepared over the following month, during which time the district board explored the question of which type of brick to use on the landmark structure. By the middle of September, a decision was made to use Number One Buff Texture Brick, to be purchased at a price of \$27 per thousand from the Golden Fire Brick Co. Also under discussion was the need to have electrical outlets placed throughout the new building to accommodate use of an increasing variety of electric classroom and maintenance equipment. In addition, the board ordered the contractors to bury all telephone and electrical lines underground rather than employing the more common and unsightly practice of stringing them along telephone poles. The cornerstone of the building was placed in October 1926 with no formal ceremony, and construction proceeded rapidly through the fall and winter months.

In April 1927, the school board awarded a landscaping contract for the Greeley High School property to Williams Landscaping Co. of Greeley. Little is known about Raymond U. Williams, a Greeley landscape architect, other than that he was born in Hyde, Colorado in 1890 and died in Greeley in 1978. Williams prepared landscape plans for numerous buildings and parks in the area during the period from the 1920s through the 1940s. Among the more notable examples of his work are many of the early parks in Greeley, as well as Linn Grove Cemetery, Sunset Memorial Gardens, portions of the University of Northern Colorado campus, and the grounds of a number of Greeley-area churches, public buildings, golf courses, libraries, businesses and schools. During the summer of 1927, the grounds of the new high school were graded using equipment pulled by teams of horses, and sidewalks were installed under Williams' supervision. Williams continued to improve the landscaping over the next year, planting an expanse of grass along with climbing

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vines, shrubs, and mixed clusters of coniferous and deciduous trees off the northeast and southeast corners of the building. Most of the plantings installed in accordance with Williams' landscaping plan have matured and are still present on the site today.

The new Greeley High School was completed during the summer of 1927, opening for classes that September with a student enrollment of 600 and a capacity of 1100. This represented a 102-student increase from the number enrolled at the earlier high school the previous year. By the early 1950s, the Greeley High School building was reaching its capacity and space was required for extra classrooms. To accommodate this need, the district erected the Agricultural Building in 1953 to the northwest to house vocational shop classes that included woodworking, metalworking, and equipment repair. In 1958, the Gymnasium Building was erected to the southwest to house a gym, cafeteria and instrumental and vocal classrooms. With these structures complete, the interior of the Greeley High School building was remodeled in 1958.

Although the 1950s construction of additional buildings and interior remodel of the original school building opened up additional space for classrooms, enrollment at Greeley High School reached 1600 students by 1964. The strain of educating this many students in a building designed for 1100 led to the construction of Greeley West High School, which was opened in January 1965. A portion of the student body was transferred to the new school, and the original building was renamed Greeley Central High School to distinguish between the two institutions. Finally, in 1975 the Greeley Central High School building underwent a \$2.2 million renovation that included replacement of the original wood frame 3/1 double hung sash windows with metal frame 1/1 double hung sash windows, along with redecoration of the interior and upgrading of the electrical and mechanical systems. Other than the window replacement, no other significant alterations were made to the exterior of the building during either the 1958 or 1975 renovations.

The 1927 Greeley High School represents the rapid growth of Greeley during the first half of the century, provides a case study in the response of an early 20th-century public school district to large increases in enrollment, and underscores the local community's emphasis upon providing quality venues for quality education. Overcrowded conditions and limited facilities were viewed as detrimental to the proper education of children, and the district acted quickly to replace the 1912 Meeker High School with a larger, more versatile structure. The new Greeley High School was designed as a massive, horizontally-expansive structure designed to handle a student population of 1100 and offering amenities not found in the old building, including more classrooms, a gymnasium, and an auditorium. Vocational and agricultural shop classes, along with gym and music classes, were offered in the 1927 building, however these were moved during the 1950s to the newly-constructed agricultural and gymnasium buildings to make room for needed classrooms.



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The Greeley High School is one of the few landmark examples of the Late Gothic Revival style of architecture in Greeley, and rates well in comparison to similar buildings throughout the state. In addition to its practical function, the building has also served the growing town of Greeley as a source of community pride for several generations. William Bowman and Sidney Frazier designed a prominent high school building for this site that is to this day viewed as an inspiring early 20th-century educational structure that accomplished the goal of Weld County School District 6 to erect a facility that could handle the rapid increase in student numbers and in which they could provide quality upper-level education for the community's students.

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"New Name." 3 September 1969, p. 2.

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The boundaries are defined by the west edge of the sidewalk along 14th Ave. on the east, the south edge of the sidewalk along 15th St. on the north, the north edge of the sidewalk along 16th St. on the south, and a north-south line drawn parallel to and 20' west of the west wall of the north wing. This western boundary line intersects near the southwest corner of the building with an east-west boundary line drawn parallel to and 20' south of the south wall of the south wing, which then intersects with a north-south line drawn along the west edge of the sidewalk just east of the Gymnasium Building that leads from the south entrance of the Greeley High School to the sidewalk along 16th St. The placement of these boundaries are indicated on the diagram accompanying this nomination (*see page 19*). The nominated property is located in Block 7, Moore's Addition to the City of Greeley, Weld County, Colorado.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries include the Greeley High School building and the grounds that are important to the historic integrity of the property.

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**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information applies to all photographs submitted with this registration form:

Name of property:	Greeley High School
City, county and state:	Greeley, Weld County, Colorado
Photographer:	Ron Sladek
Date of photograph:	19 November 1998
Location of negative:	Tatanka Historical Associates Inc. P.O. Box 1909 Fort Collins, CO 80522

- Photograph #1: View of the bronze commemorative plaque in the Greeley High School.
- Photograph #2: View of the main entry vestibule and central tower on the east (primary) elevation of the Greeley High School. View to the west.
- Photograph #3: View of the east elevation of the Greeley High School, showing the original landscaped grounds. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #4: View of the east elevation of the Greeley High School, showing the original landscaped grounds. View to the southwest.
- Photograph #5: View of the central block of the east elevation of the Greeley High School. View to the southwest.
- Photograph #6: View of the south elevation on the south wing of the Greeley High School, showing the south projecting entry vestibule. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #7: View of the east elevation on the south wing of the Greeley High School. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #8: View of the east elevation on the north wing of the Greeley High School. View to the southwest.
- Photograph #9: View of the south projecting entry vestibule on the south wing of the Greeley High School. View to the north.

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- Photograph #10: View of the west (rear) elevation of the Greeley High School, with the student parking lot in the foreground. View to the east.
- Photograph #11: View of the west elevation of the Greeley High School, with the auditorium projection at center. View to the southeast.
- Photograph #12: View of the upper west elevation of the north wing on the Greeley High School. View to the southeast.
- Photograph #13: View of the interior main hallway in the central block of the Greeley High School, with the built-in display cases to the left. View to the north.
- Photograph #14: View of the interior second floor hallway in the central block of the Greeley High School, with arched classroom entries to the right. View to the north.
- Photograph #15: View of a typical interior stairway in the Greeley High School, showing the original decorative sheet metal banisters and handrails.

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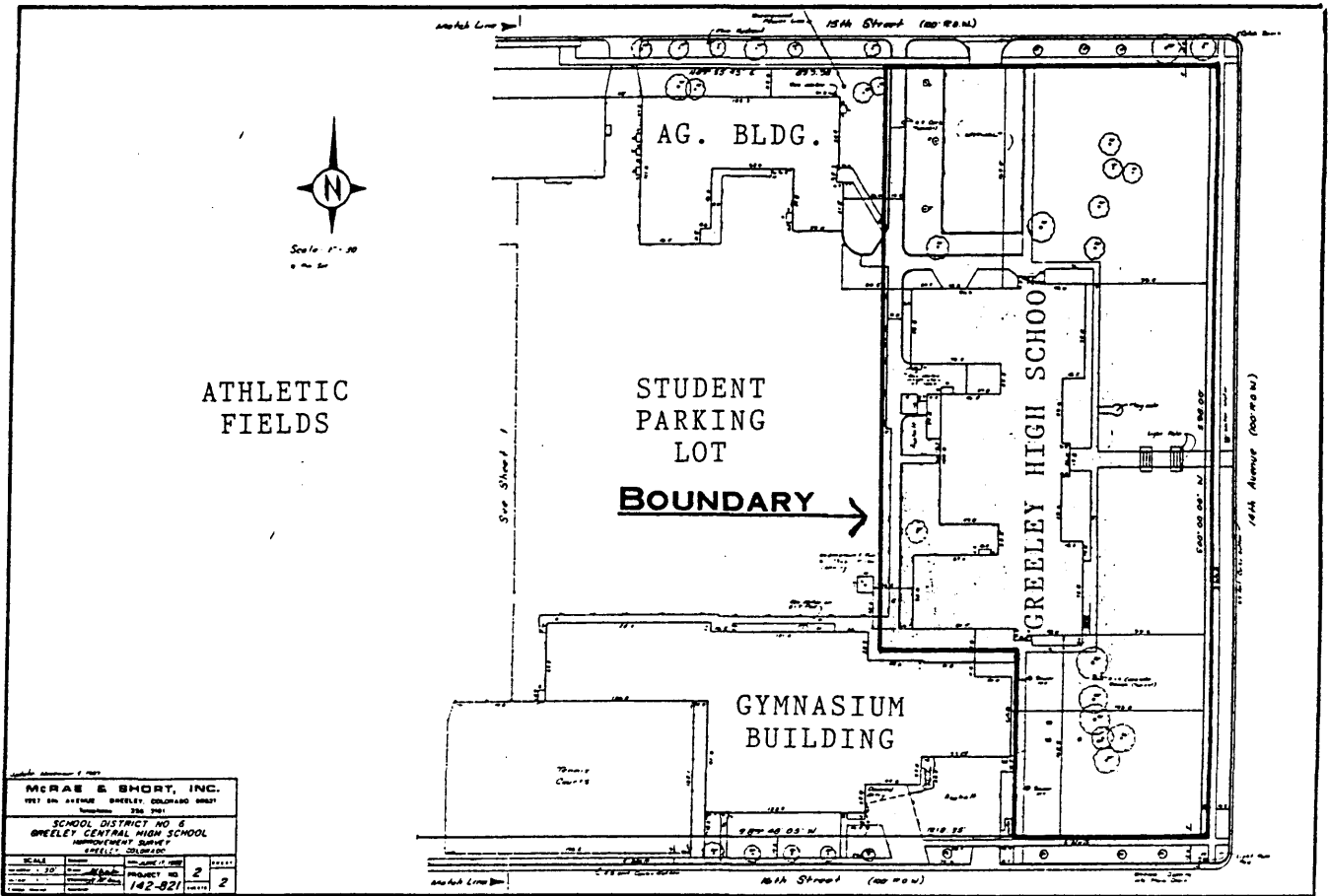
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GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL PROPERTY



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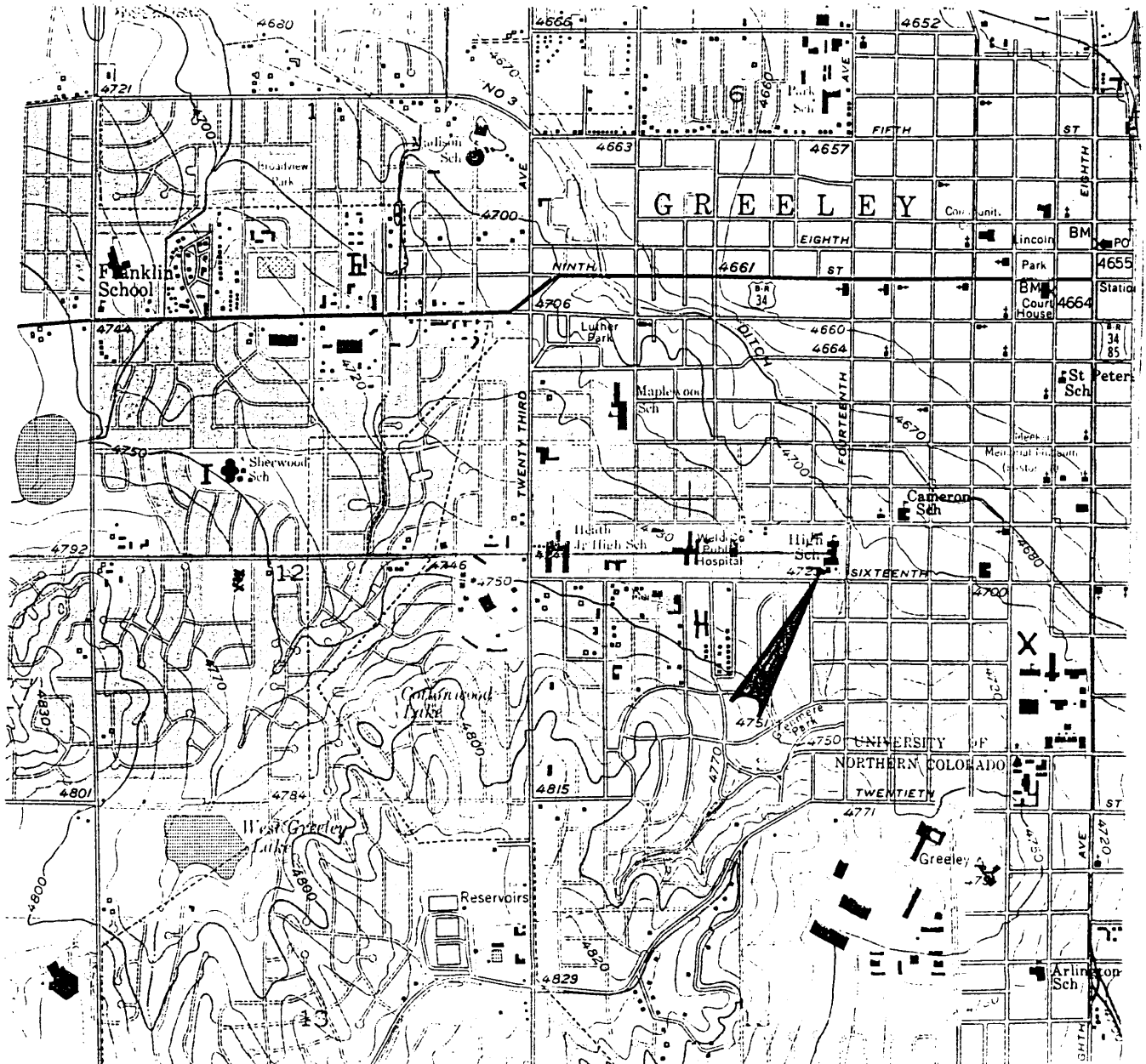
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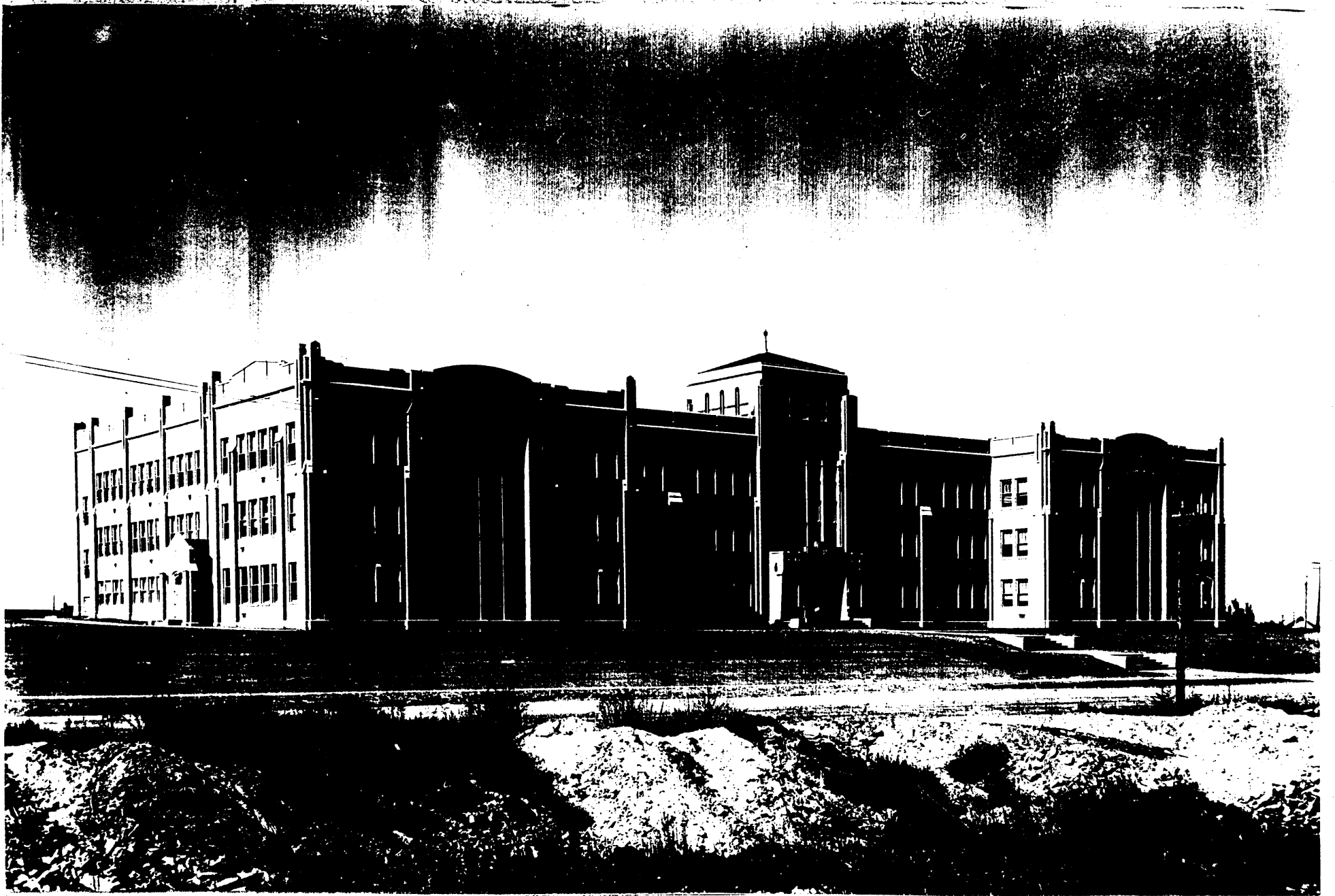
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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP  
GREELEY, COLORADO  
7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLE  
1950, PHOTOREVISED 1980







GREELEY HIGH SCHOOL - 1927