

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received DEC 3 1980

date entered MAR 17 1981

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic East Side School

and/or common Old Junior High

2. Location

off U.S. 30

street & number All of Block 212, Original Town of Laramie ___ not for publication

city, town Laramie ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Wyoming code 56 county Albany code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Albany County School District #1

street & number 1948 Grand Avenue

city, town Laramie ___ vicinity of state Wyoming 82070

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Albany County Courthouse

street & number 6th Street and Grand Avenue

city, town Laramie ___ vicinity of state Wyoming 82070

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wyoming Recreation Commission has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

date 1967 (revised 1973) ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records 604 East 25th Street

city, town Cheyenne ___ vicinity of state Wyoming 82002

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	1878 portion is altered	1928 portion is unaltered

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

East Side School was built in the exact center of Block 212 in the original town of Laramie. An account in the September 10, 1978 issue of the Laramie Daily Boomerang describes the proposed 1878 building:

The new school was to be 78' by 92' rising 74' to the top of a dome. The basement 11' clear was to be 5' below the surface and 6' above would contain 4 large rooms for janitor, the furnace, fuel and supplies. The first floor consisting of 4 classrooms with adjoining cloak and wash rooms was to be 15' in height. Two large classrooms, a general assembly hall, an apparatus room and office for the principal were to be on the second floor 16' high.

The building, to be Norman style, was similar in outward appearance to the (first) Court House built 6 years before. It was to be largely brick with stone for the basement and corners, white marble for the window caps, sills, and jams. Water pipes would be in every room (many are still there) and for safety, in the event of a fire, all the doors opened outward.

Illustration #21 shows how the building looked when completed.

By 1928 plans for an addition to the East Side School were complete. It would contain 67 rooms including a 5,635 square foot auditorium and a 5,310 square foot gymnasium. When the 1928 addition was built the distinctive architectural features of decorative brackets, round-headed windows with hood moldings, corner quoins, low pyramidal roof and lantern were removed from the 1878 structure. The old exterior brick was plastered over to match the asymmetry of the Gothic design used in the new addition. The large window panels of vertical window lights of the late English Gothic perpendicular style used in the new addition was simulated on the 1878 structure with the use of full building height plaster panels flanking brick work three stories high making a single panel around the windows giving the appearance of perpendicular Gothic window height.

Illustration #13 shows the three story 1878 structure redone to simulate the Gothic tudor style. Note the plain flat roof. This is the east facing wall.

Illustration #18 is of the south side of the 1878 structure and shows a portion of the south entrance tower after the 1928 remodeling. The 1939 addition destroyed the rest of the entrance design. Note the Gothic style stone work at the top of the tower.

Illustration #14 shows the west facing wall of the 1928 structure as it was built with the perpendicular emphasis of the windows of the classrooms. Note that the designer used brick to surround the plaster to get the perpendicular effect on the 1928 structure and reversed the use of brick and plaster on the 1878 remodeling to gain the same visual effect.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1878, 1928, 1939 **Builder/Architect** Peter Hanson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Through the education of the communities young people, including many state and local celebrities, and its use as a public meeting place, the East Side School has made a significant contribution to the development of the city of Laramie. Constructed in 1878 it is the oldest school building in the state and remained in continuous use for 100 years, until its temporary closure in 1979. Plans to rehabilitate the structure and use it as a civic center demonstrate the local concern for preserving the building.

*See Addendum, Item #8

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ADDENDUM

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one (see phone slip JHC) 3/17/81
Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

UMT References

A	1 3	4 5 0 8 9 0	4 5 7 3 0 8 0	B	1 3	4 5 0 8 8 0	4 5 7 2 9 9 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 3	4 5 0 7 9 0	4 5 7 3 0 0 0	D	1 3	4 5 0 8 0 0	4 5 7 3 0 9 0
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Addendum, Item #10, Page 1

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Matilda Hansen, Anthropologist, Educator, Administrator

organization Joint Powers Board, Laramie Plains Civic Center date November 17, 1979

street & number 1306 Kearney telephone 307-745-7296

city or town Laramie state Wyoming 82070

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: (see phone slip JHC) 3/17/81
 national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Jan R. Wilson

title State Historic Preservation Officer date October 10, 1980

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Thomas Bruce Dwyer date 3/17/81
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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Architect Peter Hanson describes the 1928 addition as:

"L" shaped and containing a picturesque, asymmetry, imitated battlements, crenellation of the parapets and simulation of high towers. This addition ingeniously uses the Gothic Tudor Arch as an ever reoccurring motif over exterior windows and entrances, over the auditorium to frame the ceiling as well as over the stage opening. It is also used to frame wall murals and above hallways. There exist also Gothic motifs in the exterior spandrel walls as well as in the window tracery. The masonry walls, the concrete beam and floor joist systems as well as the plaster wall surfaces throughout the building provide for an excellent fire resistant structure. Mosaic quarry tile flooring is in the north entrance lobby, in the east entrances to the principal's office, and in the principal's office suite.

Distinctive features in the 1928 building are best described with the illustrations. Architect Peter Hanson wrote the following commentaries:

Illustration 1A: This exterior photo of the main entrance of the 1928 addition illustrates the late Gothic elements used by the architect. The entrance doors are slightly recessed below a pseudo four-centered tudor arch. Panels above the entrance consist of a series of beautiful curvilinear ogee shaped arches, all in stone. The panel is framed at the top with a stone cornice. The motif is repeated in the spandrel walls in the large window panel above the entrance which is also framed at the top with the same four-centered stone arch. The entire entrance composition is completed by flanking the door and window elements with towers whose engaged buttresses are covered with sloping copings to shed water. The use of vertical rectangles in the window lights follows the late English Gothic perpendicular style and their use is continued in all the large exterior windows of the building. Copings are crenellated also in keeping with the Gothic. A handsome custom designed light fixture carries the Gothic elements to the smaller details of the building illustrating the designer's thorough understanding of the chosen style. In the light of current construction techniques and economics, such elements might be duplicated today only with great difficulty - if at all.

Illustration #1: This photo views the balcony and upper ceiling of the beautifully designed auditorium. The salient features here that carry the Gothic motifs to the interior of the building are the four-centered arches that appear over the auditorium and form the bay system that frames the room, the wonderfully designed chandeliers with glass panels in the Gothic perpendicular style, and the well integrated colored and patterned acoustical ceiling tiles.

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Illustration #2: Clustered columns on high rounded plinths rise to the spring line of the arches above. The attention to detail given by the architect should also be noted in the grille located below the clock. The grille pattern was no doubt inspired by a Gothic diaper pattern.

Illustration #3: The well planned entrances to the auditorium consist of a group of three doors each having two leafs and placed in a four-centered arch opening.

Illustration #4: This photo, showing the underside of the balcony, illustrates the care taken when enclosing the supporting beam. A cymarecta plater molding has been introduced to make the transition from the sides of the beam to the ceiling. Note also the appropriate patterns used on the ceiling tiles.

Illustration #6: The proscenium carries the Gothic theme to completion within the auditorium by utilizing the four-centered, tudor-like arch over the stage opening. Handsome plaster bas-reliefs form gilded griffons and furnish the embellishment on the plinths.

Illustration #10: The main entrance lobby of the 1928 addition also serves the auditorium. A rhythmic play of space is established by the use of the Gothic arches spanning from column to column. The mosaic quarry tile flooring is practical from a maintenance standpoint, as it is visually beautiful. (The north entrance stairway is also in the illustration).

Three of the stairways from first to third floors are plain public building stairways. The fourth begins in the north entrance lobby between the auditorium and the gymnasium and leads to the spacious lobby off the balcony. This stairway gives one a feeling of elegance as one climbs the stairs. The banister is of oak supported by metal grille work. The stairways from second to third and third to fourth floors are broad. One gets the feeling of climbing up a tower because the exterior walls is curved and the windows are narrow and high.

Only one room comprises the fourth floor. It has 873 square feet and is a "tower" room. Large windows on the east, north and west give fascinating views of the town and a spectacular view across the broad Laramie plain to the Medicine Bow Mountains, 40 miles west and of the Colorado Rockies beginning 30 miles southwest.

In February, 1978, Interplan, Inc., of Denver, Colorado, prepared a Master (building) Plan Alternatives for the City of Laramie and Albany County. Their comments on the structural components of the 1878 structure and the 1928 addition are:

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...there are no known foundation settlements or cracks in the building caused by structural settlement except...(where the 1878 buildings joins the 1928 addition)...The original building...is constructed of masonry bearing walls and steel bar joists...The 1926 (1928) portion is two story and three story. Exterior walls are all bearing walls with interior columns. When there is a... high story such as the auditorium or gymnasium the structure is supported by columns on both exterior and interior with a roof system of concrete joist construction. The classroom portion is also concrete pan joist throughout... around the small gym approximately 15% of the stone coping is missing...the parapet on the east side...needs repointing...Exterior walls are either concrete or clay tile with brick veneer on the outside...The entire roof is built-up tar and gravel...

...Interior walls appear to be clay tile construction. Corridors in the old portion are imitation tile within the plaster which is painted. It is sturdy and has held up well over the years. Other corridors are marble (some of them)...Floors in the classrooms and corridors are resilient tile, asphalt tile, waxed concrete, or mosaic quarry tile.

Classroom doors into the corridors are panel doors, most of them with glass panels, fire doors, exterior doors, and doors at stairways are metal with metal frame. Windows are all steel, either an industrial sash or casement, single glazed. Hardware throughout the building is fairly new and operable...

The heating system is steam with a combination of ventilators and radiators throughout. Classrooms, depending on size, have one or two ventilators. A mechanical ventilation system in the remainder of the building takes in air near the north entrance (1928 structure) of the small gym. The gym and auditorium are ventilated from the main big system located in the basement of the building. Each classroom in the (1878 structure) has a unit ventilator of 1,250 CFM capacity...were made by an American Detroit firm called Universal Heating and Ventilating Equipment. These are no longer manufactured and have not been for 25 years. The heating system is quite adequate...Unit ventilators have direct access to outside air by an exterior grill under the windows. Some radiators are manual, but many are automatic. Controls are pneumatic, Johnson system. They seem to be operating sufficiently.

Boilers are fire tube Kewaunee Type CFE 189 66. Two boilers (of the three in the heating room) will heat the (entire building) in the coldest weather. Originally the boilers were stoker fired, but have now been converted to gas. The unused stokers remain in the building. One is a new stoker, never put into use. All equipment for ashes, including the hoist, is still available. If the coal system were reactivated it would probably be necessary to add pollution control devices for the flue. There is presently a small gas fired

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water boiler for domestic hot water...

Originally there were 2 boys and 2 girls restrooms for each floor...Tank type water closets installed in the system are an out-dated type, although replacement parts have been found to keep them in operation (invented by custodial staff!)

New outlets and new control panels were installed in the building sometime in the mid 1960's and early 1970's. They are sufficient throughout the building for all types of equipment such as electric typewriters, audio visual aids, etc. Outlets have not been installed in all locations if they are not needed in certain rooms. Generally, surface mounted wire mold with convenience outlets is used, but in some cases plug mold is used where additional capacities are required.

Electrical lighting varies throughout the building. New doors have been installed in the corridor at certain locations for fire breaks. The doors are set so that one leaf swings in one direction and the other leaf in the opposite direction. They are held open by magnets and close in case of fire. The doors, swinging as they do from opposite directions, provide egress and prevent a dead end corridor...

All exterior entrances are 2 and 3 steps above grade level. Ramps could easily be constructed adjacent to the building for safe (handicapped) entrance..The existing elevator is not operable. OSHA has condemned it, and the stops need replacing or rechecking. This is a freight-type elevator with by-parting doors; i.e., one up and one down. This could possibly be changed to a side sliding door if necessary. The elevator connects to all three levels.

Illustration #9 shows the stage lighting control panel. It is operational though old-fashioned.

Illustration #11 shows the thick walls in the 1878 structure. Doorways and window sills on the first floor are approximately 20 inches deep. The window sills are of a plater composition.

All window sills in the 1928 structure are marble. There are two light courts on either side of the 1878 structure, neither to be included in the National Register.

No outbuildings exist.. A few trees grow at the northwest corner of the lot between the sidewalk and the building. Two trees are at the southwest corner. The north side of the building east of the Gothic Tudor entrance has untrimmed honeysuckle bushes between the sidewalk and the building. Otherwise the building is surrounded by sidewalk. There is a four foot strip of mowed weeds between the sidewalk and the curb on all four sides of the building. The homes in proximity to Block 212 are both old and newer ones. Illustration #20 is taken from the north steps looking into the northeast intersection. It is representative of the area with the old stone house next to the apartment complex. The new public library will occupy the entire block

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north of the building. All houses on that block will be removed except one well-kept brick home built in the 1920's and a ramshackle wooden house built near the turn of the century.

While the 1928 and 1939 additions do not strictly adhere to the architectural style of the original 1878 building some sensitivity toward the original structure has been demonstrated and therefore the integrity of the original school has not been seriously jeopardized. The additions do contribute to the historical integrity of the structure because they demonstrate the growth of the community and the East Side School's important role in that community for 100 years.

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Laramie was one of the "end of tracks-hell on wheels" towns owing its initial existence to the Union Pacific Railroad. Territorial life focused on the railroad, cattle, provisioning travelers going west and east, Indians, the Army, and such recreational activities as drinking, prostitution, and gambling. History is replete with speculation and near-accounts of Laramie's vigilantes as law and order was a some times thing during the first decades of the Gem City's existence. Historian T.A. Larson recounts more genteel activities of dancing, women's clubs, and libraries. Some children and comparatively few women other than prostitutes were in the territory in the first decade. Robert G. Athearn in his Westward the Briton tells of an Englishman's opinion of the 12 year old son of his Wyoming hunting guide as:

...one of those ill-conditioned, never-corrected, western frontier cubs. They seem to think it incumbent upon them to air their smartness and impertinence at the expense of strangers.

In 1875 the Wyoming Institute, sponsored by the Baptist Church, closed its doors. Newspaper comments indicate a high school was especially needed. By 1877 Laramie's population was about 2600 with 230 pupils enrolled in the school on Third Street between A and B Streets (Grand and Iverson). This school was crowded even though one wing was added since its construction in 1869. By May 1877 there were no seats for 60 students.

East Side School was built in 1878 during the wild territorial days only ten years after the first train came to town and eight years before the University of Wyoming was authorized by the Legislature. An article in the September 10, 1978 issue of the Laramie Daily Boomerang gives this historical report of the then new East Side School:

...Nothing could be done to rectify the situation (lack of classroom space) until the Territorial Legislature would authorize the sale of school bonds by the First School District of Albany County. Such a bill was passed December 14, 1877 licensing the board to issue bonds up to \$30,000.00 for one building. Architectural drawings were unveiled February 4, 1878.

Architect Peter Hanson describes this original building as a handsome one, indeed, fitting into what architectural historians term the Second Eclectic Period (c. 1860 - c. 1930). In actuality, the period contained two main streams of design. The first related to a Gothic revival that evolved into a related Romanesque revival that was in essence a spring board to the modern movement in architecture. The second main stream was more academic in character. Influenced by the Ecole Des Beaux-Arts in Paris, its architecture was inspired by great periods of centuries past. It is interesting to note that the (East Side School) was inspired (as were many of the fine homes and county courthouses located in Wyoming towns situated along the Union Pacific Railroad) by the villa designs of rural northern Italy and introduced to America by way of England in the 1830's.

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This "Italiante" architecture enjoyed immense popularity and by the 1850's was large enough in scope to nearly constitute a national style. The style at its best had overhanging eaves with decorative brackets, round-headed windows with hood moldings, corner quoins, and low pyramidal roofs that were crowned with a cupola or lantern. It is interesting to note that the East Side School building possessed all of these features. (See illustration #21)

1878 With the plans accepted, the site for the building was hotly discussed. The September 10, 1878 Laramie Daily Boomerang account continues:

...Friday, February 12 (1878) the settlement of that problem attracted the largest attendance...The (school) board suggested it was interested in purchasing (from Union Pacific) Block 212 for \$1,675.00 or exchanging it for Block 161 which the school district already owned. Block 212 located at the extreme southeast section of the city was between Seventh and Eighth and South C and D (Garfield and Custer). Sixth and Seventh Streets formed the east and west sides of Block 161, north of Center and south of North A (Fremont Street).

The exchange was favorably considered by the railroad management, but as yet the final answer had not yet come from Omaha. Therefore the board wished the meeting to adjourn until next week when a definite statement could be made. Ignoring a murmur of disapproval from some people, Judge Pease moved for an immediate adjournment...The motion...was defeated...(Statements were made and tempers flared) including Mr. Wicks, representative of the railroad workers who protested, "I have come to four school meetings and been bamboozled by lawyers, doctors, and politicians long enough. Down back of the Round-house there are twenty-three families with seventeen children ready to go to school now, to say nothing of how many they would have by next summer. I don't want my children compelled to walk so far to school so therefore I urge the adoption of Mr. Holliday's resolution (for Block 161)...After much spirited argument they successfully voted Block 212 as the location for the new school.

The next day Editor Hayford of the Sentinel...complained, "We were not at the meeting last night but we understand the meeting located the new school house... out on the prairie southeast of the city, somewhere about or on the ground where vigilantes used to bury their dead...the new site, it seems to us, is farther away from nearly all the children in the district than the old and the school house located there will be about as much as ornament to Fort Sanders or Cheyenne as to our city."

The cornerstone was laid on June 24, 1878 before the "largest gathering of people in Wyoming Territory" and according to the Daily Sentinel "...not an intoxicated man was to be seen in Laramie that day." The cut stone and brick building would bring some formal education to the western frontier cubs.

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The Weekly Boomerang in an illustrated New Year's addition on January 3, 1884 describes the East Side School:

...Of the public buildings, the first deserving mention are the school houses. The larger one would (most) effectually disabuse the mind of the tenderfoot who, perhaps, imagines that we pay more attention to the details of impromptu neck-tie festivals than to the dissemination of education. It is the finest building of its kind in the Territory, and will compare favorably with any in the west, which was erected in 1878 at a cost of \$30,000.00. It occupies a commanding position and somewhat central site, and the school year embraces an entire block. The material is cut stone and brick, and the building contains nine rooms together with wash-rooms, cloak-room, library, etc. About six hundred pupils are enrolled.

This, the oldest school building in the state was in continuous use as a school until January 1, 1979.

By 1928 an addition was needed to the East Side School. A high school (Washington 1912), a north side school (Stanton), a south school (Nellie Iles) had been built to supplement the existing East Side and West Side (Lincoln) Schools. The addition and the changes to the 1878 structure cost \$325,000.00 in 1928. The design was by Wilbur A. Hitchcock. John W. Howard of Cheyenne was the contractor. Nearly 1000 people were in the auditorium for the dedication of the new-added-on structure and another 1000, unable to obtain seats, toured the 67 rooms with the seniors as tour guides taking the citizens to classrooms, laboratories, the electrical, ventilation, and heating rooms in the basement. These rooms in the basement remain essentially the same in 1979 with the heating room containing three huge boilers originally coal fired now converted to gas. Future plans include reconverting this 1928 heating equipment to coal.

A distinctive feature of the building is the nineteen foot oil-on-canvas murals in the auditorium. Begun in 1929 or 1930 the murals depict Wyoming history - Jim Bridger, Jacques La Ramie, Father DeSmet, Chief Washakie, the Overland Trail, Pony Express, U.S. Army, Indians, the Railroad, frontier living, cowboys on the range, and a panel of 1930 style transportation and communications.

Florence Ware of Salt Lake City, Utah, painted them in the West High School gymnasium in Salt Lake City on a special scaffolding built by her father for this purpose. When nearly finished the canvases (two were nineteen feet long and four smaller ones sized to fit beside and under the balcony) were rolled face out around stove pipes and transported to Laramie. In an August 13, 1979 letter to the Laramie City Council Mrs. Mae Powell Stone, only cousin of the artist wrote:

They were...hung in the then new and beautiful auditorium in the High School by Karl Svenson, the painter and paperhanger...Miss Ware painted the murals at a very low price, because she wanted to do something for Laramie and, also, in honor of her aunt Florence Hartler Powell who taught 15 years in the original

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East Side School building...Also in honor of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Ware who were Laramie residents at one time. Mr. Ware was one of the architects who drew plans for Old Main, the first building on the University of Wyoming campus. Also architect for the Edward Ivinson residence, now the Laramie Plains Museum. And when Mr. Wilbur Hitchcock was killed in an accident in California before the High School was completed, he being the architect for the building, Mr. Ware was called here by the school board to "iron out the wrinkles"...Mr. Ware, who was noted...for building buildings in Salt Lake (City) stated our High School...was so well built it would stand forever...

Illustration #7 shows the handsome murals depicting western pioneer scenes which decorate each bay on the south wall of the auditorium. Architect Peter Hanson points out that the murals are framed with plaster moldings and the same tudor-like arch is used across the top of the panels.

In 1928 University of Wyoming President, Dr. A.G. Crane dedicated the building:

To truth that shall make men free;
 To knowledge in combat against ignorance and superstition;
 To America's search for and development of genius; and
 To the great posterity of Laramie.

The City Council, Albany County Commissioners, Board of Trustees of Albany County School District #1 and citizens old and young of Albany County are the current great posterity of Laramie. We would like this building, the 1878 East Side School, the 1928 Gothic Tudor structure, and the 1939 addition to become the Laramie Plains Civic Center where the auditorium can be used for public affairs and conventions, the gymnasium used for recreation and large public gatherings and the classrooms used for offices for human service community agencies, for space for creative arts classes, for activity space for Golden Agers and others, for hobby space for model railroaders and others, for garden clubs to hold informational meetings. We want the building to be used by everyone in the County. We want the little ones left in the day care center when mom and dad come in from the ranch for shopping. We want the boys and girls to use the recreational space and creative arts classes after school, on weekends, and during vacations. We want adults to do their indoor mid-morning jogging or tennis games there. We want the senior citizens to enjoy an evening of old-time dances.

The current posterity of Laramie also wants the building kept for future generations to use and to enjoy the distinctive architectural features and space utilization innovations. Block 212 should continue to be a vital part of the life of Albany County. Along with the new library, the Courthouse, Ivinson Mansion, and City Hall the Laramie Plains Civic Center will focus citizen attention on the center of town. What used to be way out southeast on the prairie has become mid-town Laramie.

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A Joint Powers Agreement has been signed by the City and County creating the Laramie Plains Civic Center. The school board has agreed to transfer title without consideration to the Joint Powers Board. The actual realization of the Civic Center depends on many actions as this project is like a multi-piece puzzle that takes patience, perseverance, and imagination to fit together. The request for nomination as an historic site is just one part.

More than any other single structure in Albany County this building is intrinsically bound in the history of Laramie and Albany County. The building portions are sound 101, 51, or 40 years after construction. The structure is replete with features worth saving. It is the hope of the community that as the new Laramie Plains Civic Center, the building can continue to have a vital and effective part in the affairs of the area.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Addendum

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BIBLIOGRAPHYBOOKS:

Athearn, Robert G. Westward the Briton. The Far West, 1865-1900. As Seen by British Sportsmen and Capitalists, Ranchers, Homesteaders, Lords and Ladies. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1953.

Larson, T.A. History of Wyoming. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1965.

BULLETINS, PROFESSIONAL PAPERS, REPORTS:

Interplan, Inc. Laramie and Albany County Phase 2 Master Plan Alternatives. Interplan Incorporated. The RNL Building, 1576. Sherman, Denver, Colorado 80203, February, 1978.

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"The Wideawake and Prosperous Gem City of the Rockies, A Glance at the Industries, Public Buildings, Business Blocks, etc., First Among the Cities of the West as Regards Natural Advantages and Resources, The Home of the Stock Dealer, the Miner, the Mechanic-Our Business Men" Laramie City. (Wyoming Territory). The Weekly Boomerang. January 3, 1884. Illustrated Year's Edition, 16 pages.

Laramie (Wyoming) Republican Boomerang. February 1, 1930, page 5.

Laramie (Wyoming) The Laramie Daily Boomerang. Laramie Sunday Boomerang, 98th year, September 10, 1978, page 2.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Hanson, Peter. Architect, Professor, Civil and Architectural Engineering University of Wyoming Letter to Matilda Hansen, November 9, 1979.

Stone, Mae Powell Mrs. 1017 Harney, Laramie, Wyoming, Letter of Laramie City Council, August 13, 1979.

**United States Department of the Interior
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

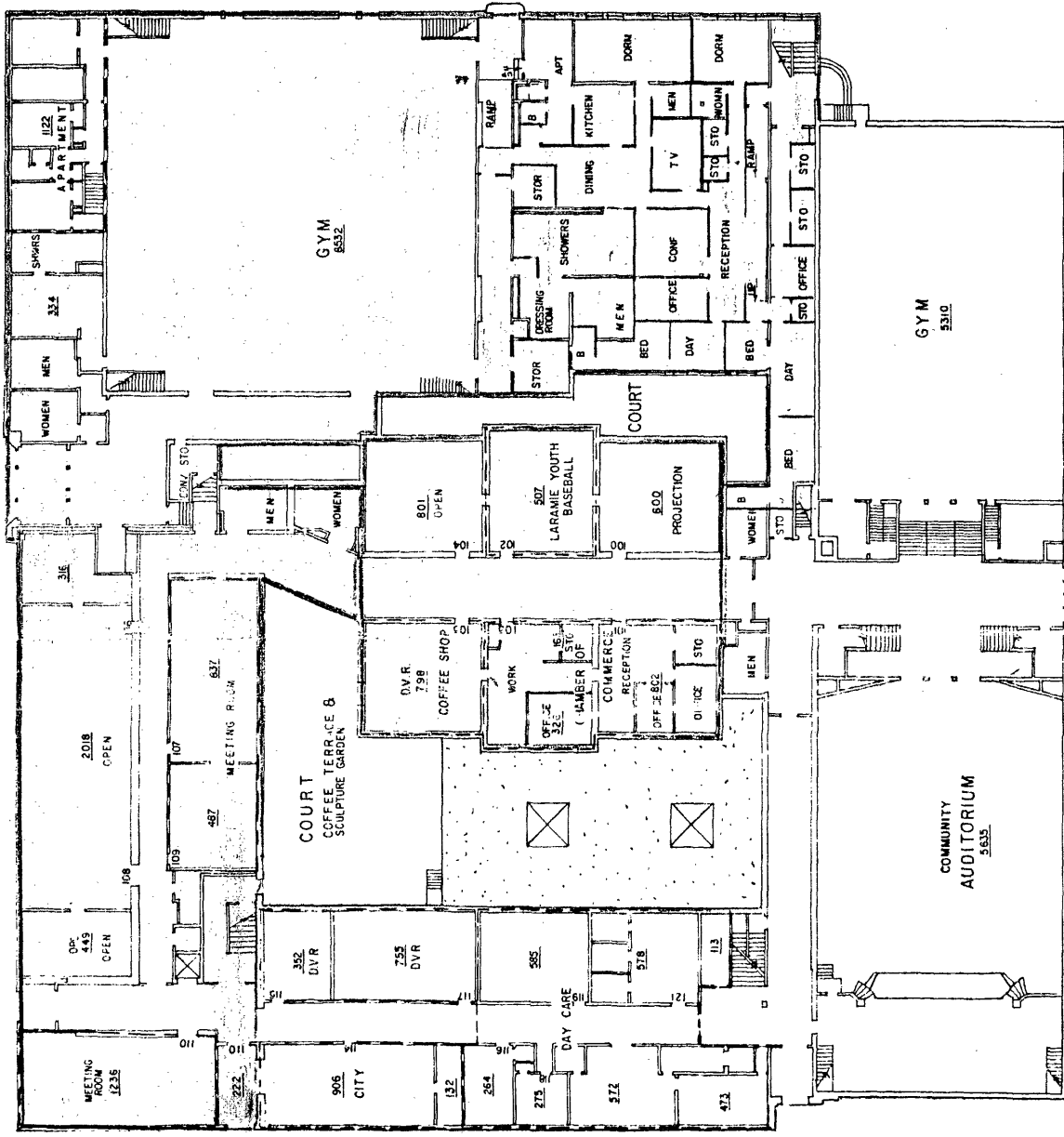
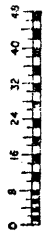
This nomination is to include only Block 212 of the original city of Laramie. This is the lot originally assigned for construction of the East Side School and encompasses only the building and school grounds as a buffer. The lot is bounded by 8th on the east; 7th on the west; Garfield on the north and Custer on the south.

*Corrected
by annotation
W/S B-W
3/13/81*

17 1981

1939
1878
1929

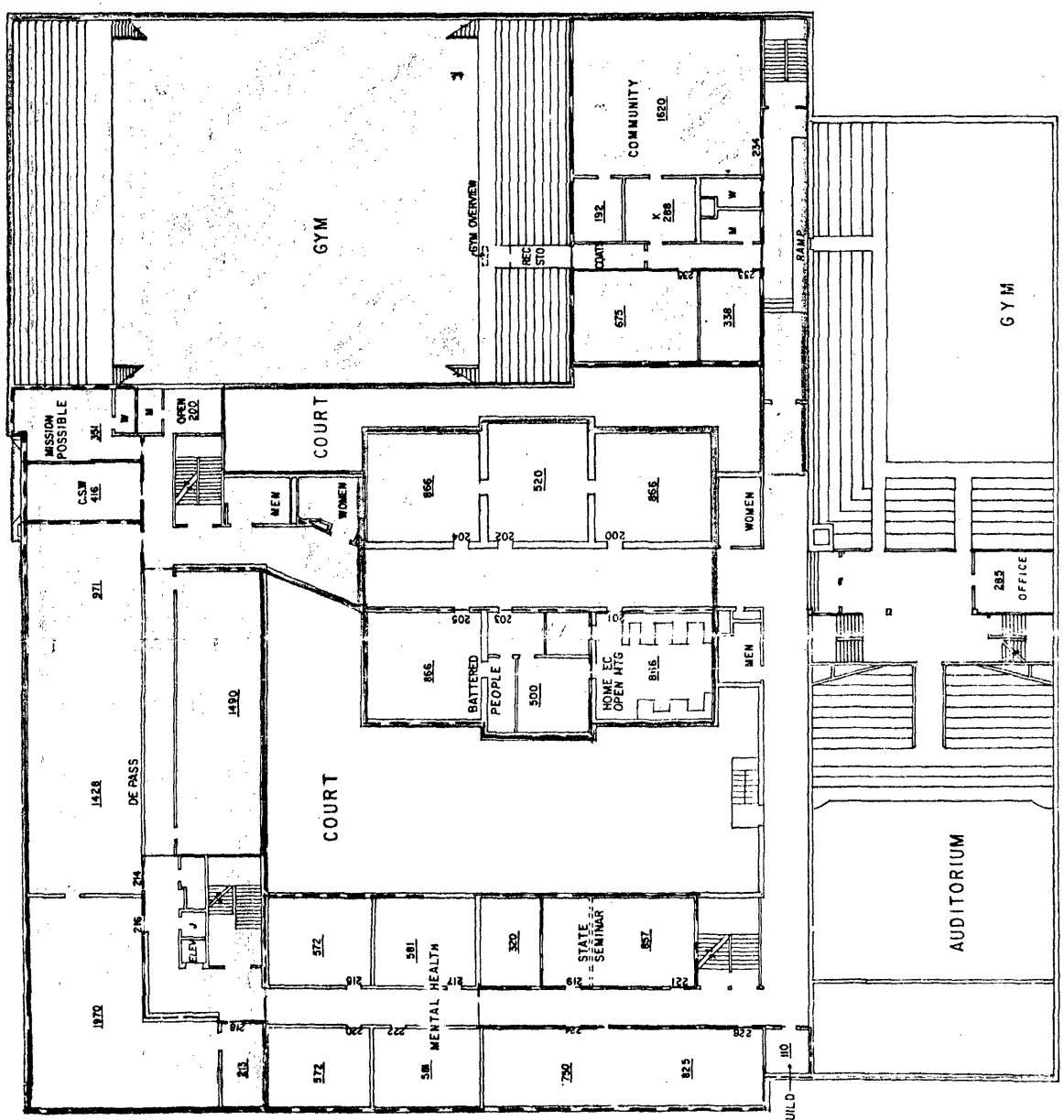
5310 = AREA IN SQ. FT.



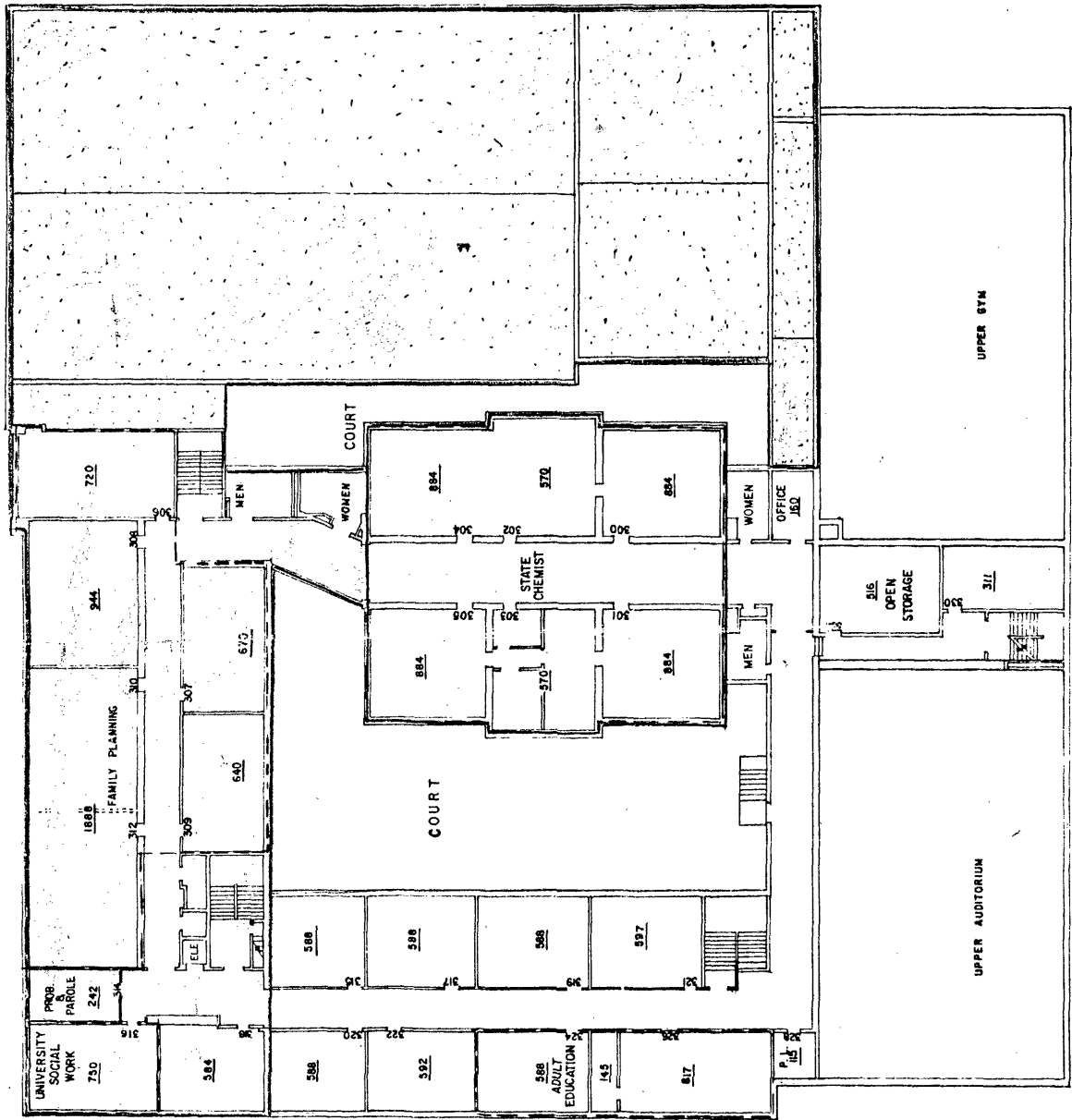
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

OLD JUNIOR HIGH BUILDING	
LARAMIE WYOMING	
108 MITCHCOCK & MITCHCOCK SHEET NO.	4
108 JUNIOR HIGH WYOMING NO.	1
LARAMIE WYOMING	107 S. 3 RD ST. PHONE 745-3182
DRAWN 7-2-79	REV 8-1-79

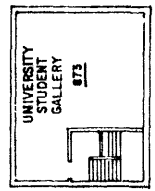
OLD JUNIOR HIGH BUILDING LARAMIE WYOMING	
JOB NO.	HITCHCOCK & HITCHCOCK ARCHITECTS LARAMIE WYOMING 1075 5th ST. PHONE 745-3183
SHEET NO.	2
DATE	7-12-79 REV. B-7-79



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



THIRD FLOOR PLAN



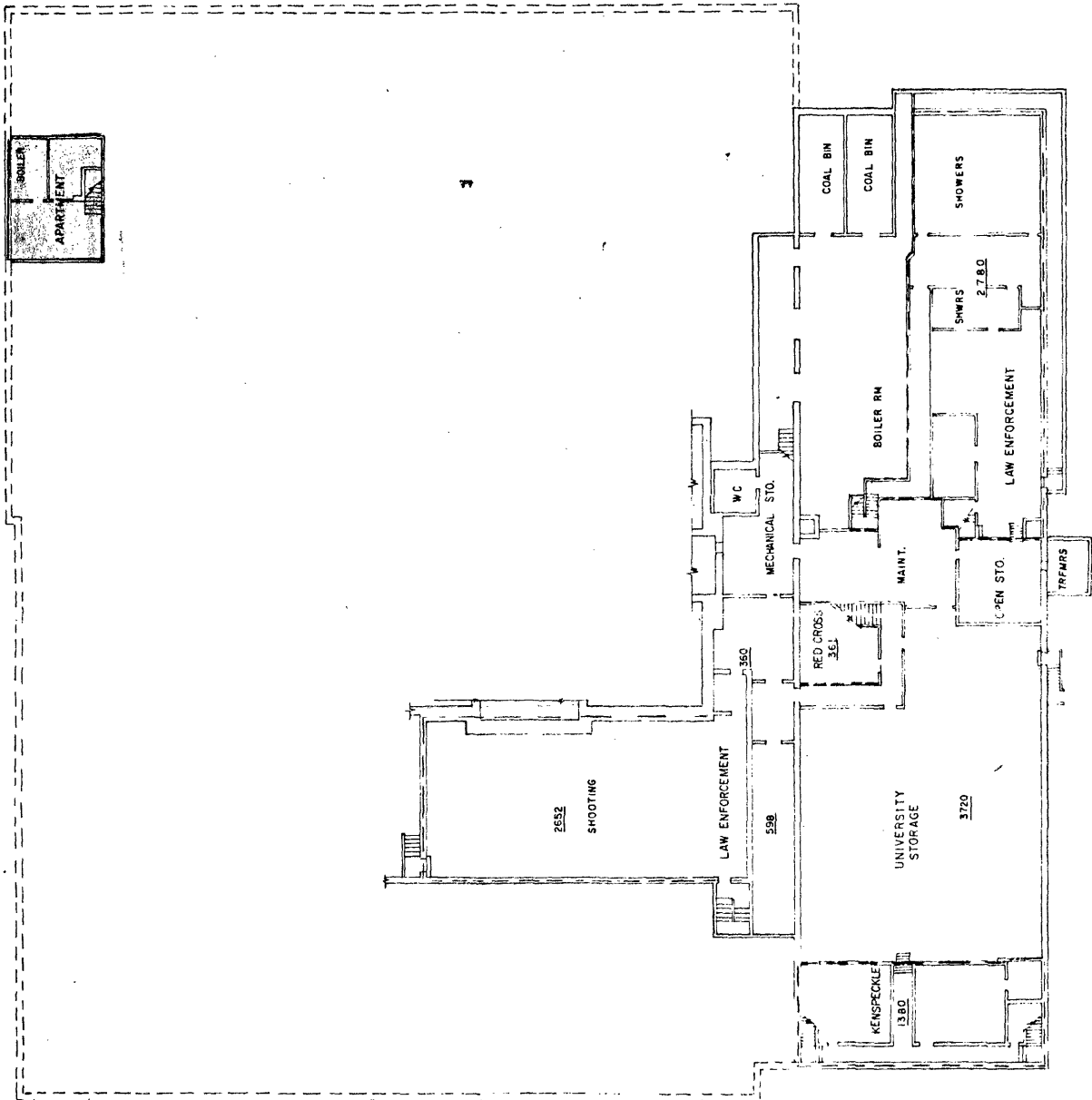
4TH FLR



MAR 17 1981



OLD JUNIOR HIGH BUILDING	
LARAMIE WYOMING	
JOB NO.	HITCHCOCK & HITCHCOCK SHEET NO. 3
A R C H I T & E C T S	
LARAMIE WYOMING	
107 S. 3 RD ST. PHONE 760-3183	
DESIGNER	T. D. 78 BIV 8-17-78



BASEMENT PLAN

C B 16 24 36 48



JOB		HITCHCOCK & HITCHCOCK ARCHT	
NO		LARAMIE WYOMING	
NO		107 S 3rd ST. PHONE 745-2183	
DRAWN		4	

OLD JUNIOR HIGH BUILDING