

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



97

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Great Falls High School Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1900 Second Avenue South

N/A

not for publication

city or town Great Falls

N/A

vicinity

state Montana code MT county Cascade code 13 zip code 59405

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Mark F. Zumber / SHPO 1/23/2013
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

MONTANA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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:)

Don Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

3-20-13
Date of Action

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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 include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
	0	objects
3	3	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 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late
 Collegiate Gothic Revival

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete
 walls: Brick
 roof: Asphalt
 other: Terra Cotta

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

Dominated by the high school and Memorial Stadium and located just over one mile south and east of a bend of the Missouri River in Great Falls, the Great Falls High School Historic District is located on four city blocks between Second and Fourth Avenues South and between 20th Street and an unnamed alley to the west, south east of the Original Townsite of Great Falls. The Rocky Mountain front looms 60 miles to the west of town and the Big Belt and Little Belt mountains are south of town. Designed by the local architectural firm of Bird and Van Teylingen and the Minneapolis firm of Croft and Boerner, the Great Falls High School building reflects the Late Collegiate Gothic Revival style of the period 1910 to 1940. Completed on July 21, 1930 and opened in the fall of that year, defining architectural elements such as the typically crenelated parapets, Gothic arch window and door openings, tracery windows and tower are evidenced in the Great Falls High School design. The brick work incorporating five different bond patterns and the extensive use of cut sandstone details produced a structure of unmatched beauty and utility. Three additions have been added to the building. The building remains a much revered historic icon in the community and is the only example of Late Collegiate Gothic Revival in the city. In addition to the high school, the property includes Memorial Stadium located west of the school. Noncontributing resources include the Industrial Arts Building and two permanent maintenance buildings, one located north of Memorial Stadium and one located south of Memorial Stadium. Two smaller movable prefabricated ground sheds sitting on wheels are located near the northern grounds maintenance building.

Narrative Description

Circulation Pattern and Spatial Organization (one contributing site)

The Great Falls High School Historic District is delineated from the surrounding neighborhood by Second Avenue South to the north, 20th Street South to the east, Fourth Avenue South to the South, and 18th Street South, which more closely resemble a controlled access alley, to the west. Except for a small drive on the south end of the campus, which allows vehicle access to the Industrial Arts Building and the south end of the high school, all paths and walks exist to move pedestrian traffic. The walks extend along the entire perimeter of the north, east and south sides of the property. The west perimeter displays a small section of a walk extending from Second Avenue South to the north end of the west bleacher; 18th Street South parallels the walk and continues south to Fourth Avenue South. Pedestrian walks through the campus lead to either the high school or stadium and include three beginning along the north perimeter (Second Avenue South), four beginning along the east perimeter (20th Street South), and four beginning along the south perimeter (Fourth Avenue South). A comparison of a 1942 aerial photograph showing the southeast portion of the school and grounds and a photograph from the 1958 Great Falls High School Yearbook of the Great Falls High School Historic District campus to a recent aerial photograph indicates nearly all walks remain in the same location since 1942 and 1958. Two new paths were added since 1958 including a walk leading to the 1963 addition on the east side of the high school, and a walk leading to the 1998 addition on the north side of the high school, both which were likely constructed the same time as the additions. A diagonal northwest-southeast walk that leads from Second Avenue South toward the high school building overlays a trail apparent in the 1958 photograph.

The grounds are dominated by three general areas historically associated with the high school including the open area north of the high school and stadium, the area immediately east of the high school, and the plaza between the high school and stadium. The northern area has generally served as open space for the district, and except for the construction of two small grounds maintenance buildings immediately north of the northwest end of the stadium complex, it continues to serve in this capacity. Immediately northeast of the school (close to the gym entrance) and west of 20th Street South sat a tennis court; the school district paved over the tennis court around 1980 to create parking for the school, though the small cast-in-place concrete water fountain still remains. The plaza area remains substantially unchanged from its original design, with the exception of the Industrial Arts Building constructed at the far south end between the high school and stadium. Established rows Northern Ash and manicured Caragana hedges parallel the much of the perimeter walks and the walks crossing the campus. Grass covers all of the open areas.

Great Falls High School (one contributing building)

Facing west, the main building aligns north-south and measures 75' wide by 300' long. A 75' by 75' classroom wing extends to the east near the center of the main block connecting the main building to a smaller north-south classroom wing (40' feet wide by 175' long). The north end of the main building displays the east-west oriented, rectangular "Old Gym" wing, which measures about 175' wide by 100' long. Constructed to the north off the north elevation of the "Old Gym" is the wrestling addition. This single-story, east-west running rectangular addition measures 150' wide by 50' long. A

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classroom wing measuring 175' by 175' occupies the south end of the main building; an L-shaped addition housing music classrooms is constructed off the south half of the east elevation and the entire south elevation of this wing. West of the square south classroom wing sits the industrial arts annex, an east-west running building measuring 115' long by 135' wide.

The dark red brick building exhibits common exterior Collegiate Gothic detailing including formed-in-place concrete foundation, a low rise concrete base, a sandstone water table, contrasting sandstone window sills, soldier course window headers at the first floor, a sandstone belt course at the second floor window sill with decorative highly articulated brick continuous bracket, soldier course window headers, sandstone third floor window sills and continuous sandstone headers at each of the stepped-out pilaster flanked bays. The walls invoke the Gothic style with a crenelated parapet with terra cotta caps. The crenels are terra cotta and typically spaced at two per bay.

A typical wall section within a pilastered bay at the west elevation consists of a recessed upper concrete foundation wall beginning at grade providing a brick shelf. A continuous soldier course supports a 3/1 Flemish variation bond to one course of alternating recessed vertical header bond finished to the water table with one flush vertical header course. The projected continuous 8" sandstone water table features a drip edge and sloped top sill detail. Above the water table there are ten courses of alternating recessed header bond terminating at the first floor sandstone window sills. On the north and south elevations, the window sill is the water table and the panel of 10 alternating header courses is omitted. Soldier course headers are typical at the first and second floor windows. At west walls above the header coursing there is one course of diagonal vertical headers with a seven course extended brick bracket pattern supporting the continuous sandstone belt-course / cornice. Second and third floor walls are typical stretcher bond between pilasters with soldier course window headers on the second floor and continuous sandstone header and band at the third floor. Above the header / band to the terra cotta parapet cap is of English bond. Pilasters and wall sections between windows at the first floor are of Flemish bond and beginning with the first course above the water table there is one diagonal header course followed vertically by seven courses of Flemish bond which repeats to the head of the first floor windows. The diagonal header courses begin and end with one stretcher. Second and third floor section of the typical pilaster are uninterrupted English bond to a sandstone sloped transition block whose top is aligned with the top of the third floor windows and the bottom of the third floor continuous sandstone header between pilasters. Final stage of the pilasters are of English bond and feature two vertical brick spears formed by a stacked course of diagonal brick extending from inside the sloped face of the sandstone transition block to the bottom of the heightened parapet cap. Terra cotta shapes similar to the brick spears continue above the parapet cap and give the pilasters a sense of vertical height.

The most predominant architectural feature of Great Falls High School is the accentuated five stage west entrance bell tower. The tower has a rusticated stepped-out sandstone and brick one-story base with a further stepped-out decorative arched sandstone entrance with three doors and a stained glass transom light flanked by individual secondary entrance doors on both sides. Three center doors with stained glass transom light and two flanking doors are repeated at the interior vestibule. The second stage shaft extends through the second and third floors and is entirely of English Bond brick coursing and contains three sandstone framed narrow centered windows flanked by individual windows aligned vertically with the first floor secondary side entrance doors at both floors. Three modal relief panels depicting reading male and female nude figures and a like sized center panel with grape leaf design are positioned horizontally between the second and third floor windows of the tower shaft. A chamfered sandstone transition course serves as a header over the third floor windows and is lined with the sandstone header at the building's typical third floor windows. Above the center three windows are larger sandstone header blocks, each with a circular carved modal. Atop the header blocks is a full width sandstone panel with bronze letters, "Great Falls High School". A triple arched opening on each of four sides and balustrade completes the belfry stage of the tower.

The opening sills are supported by sandstone brackets, double brackets at the center accentuated sandstone mullions and single brackets at the outer mullions. Beginning at the elevation of the top of the balustrade, the belfry brick corners at stages three and five are of an open design with a transitional chamfered sandstone blocks. Stage four exhibits a compound open corner design. At the top of the belfry a transition band and sandstone arched opening headers extending above into the fourth stage complete the third stage.

The fourth stage masonry is of the typical English Bond and below the sandstone transition band incorporates three sandstone heraldic shield stones which line vertically on the trilogy of openings and windows.

The fifth stage of the tower is again stepped-back with an additional step-backed standard corner at 24". This final stage includes three full height rusticated, arch topped sandstone niches on each side, extending above the parapet. An inset pitched standing seam copper pyramidal shaped roof and copper finial complete the tower.

Great Falls High School is anchored on the south by an exquisitely designed Auditorium / Theatre seating 900 on the main level and 300 on the balcony level. The Theatre is accessed from a generous foyer with a ticket booth which is centered on the main hallway of the transverse portion of the formal "T". The Theatre is replete with ornate plaster work including

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perforated plaster grilles and original hanging light fixtures. Proscenium, stage and fourth wall are fine examples of period theatre design. The exterior entrance to the theatre is the second most distinctive entry to the school, displaying a shallow sandstone portico with a crenelated parapet and center arch. The entrance is approached by a broad 90 degree stairway that accesses four centered doors with a arched three light transom and two side doors reinforcing the architect's intent that the school was to be community centric. The entrance leads to a fore- lobby and then to the foyer of the theatre.

An interior stair tower with sandstone arched top windows on the north and west sides, indented upper story masonry corners with chamfered sandstone transition blocks similar to the west main entrance tower. The indented exterior wall from the water table to the parapet incorporates a sandstone and brick heraldic panel above the windows in a chequy pattern signifying "Constancy". The Chequy panels above single arched top windows also occur at northeast and north west entrances / stair towers to the gymnasium along with upper floor single arched top windows, indented upper floor wall corners and chamfered sandstone transition blocks.

The tallest structural feature of the building is the 8' square English bond brick chimney which extends 47' above the roof. Four sandstone corner transition blocks are incorporated at 16' above the roof deck to form open masonry corners extending to the sandstone chimney cap which is topped with an anchored cast iron weather ring.

Another notable feature is the cantilevered 25' x 8' greenhouse located at the south elevation of vertical leg of the "T" and supported by a continuation of the concrete floor slab and bond beam with an 8 5/8" leading edge and six ornate stepped brackets. Three stacked brick header panels with double alternating recessed pairs headed and footed by diagonally laid vertical headers beneath sill height are fielded in common stretcher bond. A soldier course beginning at one stretcher from the corners extends the width of the greenhouse above the projected concrete floor slab. The continuous sandstone sill extends around the corners and returns to the building. The south face of the greenhouse has four three light windows with operable three light transoms. East and west ends of the greenhouse also have triple light windows and transoms. The original and still present 45-degree sloped glazed roof has a curved leading edge, and was later covered with light gauge metal roofing due to leakage, or excess solar heat gain. Called the "Growing Room" on the original drawings, the greenhouse is complete with bedding tables, ventilation and water supply.

The original windows were a combination of 12 /12 and 9 / 9 wood double-hung sash, which were replaced (beginning in 1966 and programmed as a five year project) with Kalwall insulated translucent panels and a single aluminum tempered glass operating light. The window replacement project, scheduled for five years and budgeted at \$100,000, was initiated to minimize heat loss and glass breakage. The original wood window frames were found to be rotted through, allowing cold air to enter the building.

There have been three additions to the original building beginning in 1954 when a second floor was added to the southeast corner of the school above the Art, Journalism and Machine Shop classrooms to accommodate the expanded choir, orchestra and band facilities by the local architectural firm of McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa established in 1953.¹ The second floor addition was a congruent design and featured the reuse of original parapet caps and crenels from the existing first floor.²

A second three-story north-south addition designed in 1963 by McIver and Hess Architects projects off the original east elevation of the east projecting block of the school forming a "T". The addition parallels 20th Street and created classroom space on the first floor for Homemaking, Commercial, and History, on the second floor for the Library, and on the third floor for Chemistry and Biology. The architect's adherence to original detailing was exacting, well executed and included several of the brick bonds used on the original structure. The addition created a new "Main Entrance" to the school along the originally established east – west axis.³

The third addition consists of a 1998, 50' x 110' Wrestling Addition connected to the north elevation of the original Gymnasium designed by the local firm, Davidson – Kuhr Architects. The Wrestling Addition's designers attempted to incorporate a simplified interpretation of Collegiate Gothic Revival elements of original school, such as the pilaster design and belt-course of the original school.

Remarkably, Great Falls High School, including the first and second additions, has retained its original interior and exterior finishes and detailing with the exception of the later windows replacement. Oak trim and cabinetry, plaster ceilings and walls terrazzo and hard wood floors, and many original lighting fixtures are in excellent condition after 82 years of dedicated maintenance.

¹ "McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa", Architects' Roster, American Institute of Architects – Montana, New York, 1953.

² "School Trustees Award \$110,400 in Contracts", Great Falls Tribune, March 2, 1954.

³ "Federal Funds built HGHS Addition", Great Falls Tribune, September 8, 1963.

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Memorial Stadium (The stadium, including the track, bleachers, field, two buildings connected to and flanking the east bleachers, and associated features, are collectively referred to as Memorial Stadium and count as one contributing structure)

Constructed in 1930 at the same time as the high school, Memorial Stadium, honoring those who fought and served in World War I, was constructed featuring concrete bleachers on the east side of the football field and track, and clad in the same dark red brick on the upper west elevation of the seating. Two, two-story 256 square foot buildings, the southern which partially serves as a ticket booth, are connected to and flank both ends of the east bleacher seating with the northeast structure connected to the locker room level of the gymnasium by an underground tunnel. Nineteen forty-nine witnessed the construction of west bleacher, which was designed by A.V. McIver (later joined by William Hess comprising the firm of McIver & Hess who designed the 1961 east addition to the school). In 1957, a reinforced concrete grandstand that included a press box, concession area and restrooms was added at the west side of the stadium. The bleacher, concession area, and restrooms run nearly half the length of the stadium. Subsequently, several upgrades have been made to the west grandstand to improve exit stairs and railings, widen aisles, replace seating and upgrade and expand restrooms. By the fall of 2000, the east bleacher seating and track were replaced due to safety concerns and required ADA compliance work. The east bleacher replacement runs the entire length of the football field and track and sits in the original footprint of the earlier bleacher.

Industrial Arts Building (one noncontributing building)

Designed in 1975 by the local firm of Davidson – Kuhr Architects, the Industrial Arts Building measures 120' x 100' in size and is a two-story independently sited masonry building located between the southwest side of the school and Memorial Stadium, connected to the school via an enclosed sky bridge from the school's main east – west hallway adjacent to the Auditorium foyer. The building is inadequate and the School District is possibly considering its removal to restore the importance of the quad or commons area between the school and the stadium, and reestablish the school's west main entrance.

Maintenance Buildings (two noncontributing buildings)

Immediately north of Memorial Stadium, aligned with the west bleachers, sits a 24' x 20' modern prefabricated metal grounds maintenance building. A like building measuring 24' x 48' but used for track and field equipment and field maintenance equipment storage sits at the south end of the west bleachers. Both buildings rest on thickened edge concrete slabs and display 1/12 pitched galvanized metal roofs, uninsulated galvanized metal walls, and metal doors.

Because of their transitory nature and non-permanent status, two smaller removable sheds, which rest on wheels and are located near the northern grounds and maintenance building, are not included in the resource count in Section 5.

Integrity

The Great Falls High School Historic District possesses integrity of location, materials, workmanship, design, feeling and association. It displays good integrity reflecting the appearance and character of an evolving twentieth century educational facility. The underlying organization of space within the grounds as well as circulation and land use, reflect the period of significance. While the high school building itself displays several additions, they are an integral part of the function of the building and a response to educational pressures resulting from population increases of the area. Although the high school proper displays three additions, two were constructed during the period of significance and are generally compatible in scale and sympathetic in the use of materials with the original portion of the building. While displaying compatible and sympathetic additions, they do not attempt to replicate the original buildings allowing for a recognizable progression of construction. In each case, the construction of the additions was necessary to allow the building to continue to serve its original function; the physical demands placed on the building outgrew the size of the building itself. The building continues to retain integrity to impart its original design and use within its educational setting. In addition, the interior of the school, including the 1954 and 1963 additions, retain their original interior finishes with the exception of later window replacements. The plaster ceilings and walls, oak trim and cabinetry, terrazzo and hardwood floors, and many of the original lighting fixture are in excellent condition.

Memorial Stadium has undergone improvements over the years including the addition of a concrete grandstand, press box, concession area and restrooms on the west side of the structure in 1957. Subsequent safety upgrades, ADA compliance work, and the replacement of wooden and fiberglass seating with aluminum seating have occurred to west grandstand in 2001. Other upgrades included replacement of the east bleachers due to foundation and drainage issues

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and the replacement of the track. Most of these changes occurred as a result of safety issues related to the age of the structure. The structure continues to retain sufficient integrity to impart its original design and easily conveying its intended function.

The noncontributing Industrial Arts Building does not overly detract from the overall historical appearance of the Great Falls High School Historic District, nor do the small scale grounds and maintenance buildings immediately north and south of the stadium's west bleachers. Although the Industrial Arts Building and the maintenance buildings are all noncontributing, their construction reflects an evolving high school campus.

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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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION, ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1930-1963

Significant Dates

1930, 1954, 1963

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bird, George Washington

Van Teylingen, Johannes

Mclver, Hess & Haugsjaa

Croft, Ernest B.

Davidson-Kuhr Architects

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance extends from 1930, the completion of the high school, and includes 1954, the date of the first addition, and 1963, the date of the second addition terminating at the historic period.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Great Falls High School Historic District defines a distinct chapter in the development of Great Falls and Central Montana. While not the first high school in the city, its conception and construction reflects the beginning of the golden years in the development of the city resulting its desirable location and increase population.

The Great Falls High School Historic District is a pragmatic symbol of the growth of the city. The Great Falls High School Historic District is eligible for listing at a local level in the National Register under criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the construction of the school continued the previous community service to education. Its construction was a testament to the value of a new educational model that incorporated traditional learning environments with specialized instructional areas for science, industrial arts, creative arts and formalized athletics. Its role in the educational development of the city, its direct connection to significant figures and its display of current architectural evolution all contribute to its significance under Criterion A.

The Great Falls High School Historic District is also significant under Criterion C as the school itself reflects the Late Collegiate Gothic Revival style of the period 1910 to 1940 and is the only example of Late Collegiate Gothic Revival in the city. The school displays defining architectural elements of the style including crenelated parapets, Gothic arch window and door openings, tracery windows and tower. The brick work incorporates five different bond patterns and the extensive use of cut sandstone details produced a structure of unmatched beauty and utility.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Great Falls

The city of Great Falls was founded, surveyed and platted in 1883 and incorporated on November 28, 1888. Herbert Percy Rolfe and Robert Vaughn, a Sun River rancher, platted the Original Townsite. They followed the simple and symmetrical, Cartesian grid system. The influence of Paris Gibson, an early founder of the city and Minnesota businessman, was seen in the platting of a drive along the river, similar to Minneapolis, and broad streets in the business district, similar to Salt Lake City.⁴ By 1890, the first of the five run-of-river hydroelectric dams were built and Great Falls grew into a sizable transportation, commercial and manufacturing center. The hydroelectric power brought lights, machines and street cars to the prairie of Montana. Electrical applications constituted a dynamic growth industry and vital components made of copper were in demand everywhere and a new copper works in Great Falls was soon busy processing copper ore brought from Butte, Montana, "the richest hill on earth" via James Hill's railroad. By the 1890's, Great Falls residents enjoyed shaded streets, avenues, parks, electric lights and telephones.⁵

By the 1920s, most of the founding Great Falls planners and developers, including Paris Gibson, had died. The city experienced the negative impact of unemployment and a worsened, drought ridden, agricultural economy. The unemployment figures in the city increased to over 2,000 in 1921; the same year, 75,000 Montanans left the state. Between 1919 and 1925, 11,000 farms were abandoned dropping approximately 2,000,000 acres in the state from agricultural production. During that same time period, over one-half of Montana's banks failed. The high cost of production and poor conditions coupled with depressed copper prices on the world market produced a rapid decline of the economy of Great Falls; however, 4,500 new citizens moved into the city, many fleeing failed farms.⁶

An unexpected economic boost to the town occurred in 1922 after the greatest oil strike in Montana's history in the Kevin Sunburst Field, north of Great Falls. This strike resulted, six years later, in the establishment of large refineries in the city by Lincoln Oil and later, Philips Petroleum. The strike lured other companies such as the Mutual (Continental) Oil

⁴ Richard B. Roeder, "A Settlement on the Plains: Paris Gibson and the Building of Great Falls," *Montana the Magazine of Western History*, Vol. 42, No. 4, Autumn 1992, Page 4-19.

⁵ William and Elizabeth Lane Furdell, *The Late 1800's - Great Falls - A Pictorial History*, Kichigia-no Webdesign, Great Falls, MT. Viewed May 22, 2012.

⁶ Candi Zion, *Great Falls Central Business District National Register Nomination* (section 8, p. 8). On File at the State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 2003.

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Company who had interests in the area as well, to construct a Great Falls office in 1928. That same year, Great Falls obtained a license for mail service and became part of the only north-south airmail line north of the transcontinental route.⁷

The Wall Street Crash in 1929 caused a severe period of stagnation in the construction industry and economic difficulty. In January 1930, the Great Falls Family Welfare Association collected household goods and 27,000 pieces of clothing for 400 destitute families. The Cascade County relief rolls of December 1932 indicated 6,213 people received aid. That same year, the ACM Company closed its zinc operation and for the next eight years, struggled with closing and reopening the zinc units and the copper refinery.⁸

Building permits issued in 1930 amounted to \$1.1 million as compared to \$3.5 million in 1929. Revenues generated by housing permits dropped from \$384,870 in 1930 to less than \$15,000 in 1934. From 1930 to 1938, Great Falls witnessed the erection of few buildings, with buildings such as Great Falls High School being a rare exception. The decrease in building permits and revenue reflected the general slowdown of the community; from 1930 to 1940, the population of Great Falls increased just over 1000 people, from 28,822 to 29,928.⁹ The onset of the Depression brought the infusion of dollars from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Federal Works Projects including the CWA, PWA, WPA, NYA, FERA and CCC. The PWA and CCC provided the greatest contribution to Great Falls during this period assisting with the construction or improvement of several projects including, but not limited to, improvements to the airport and terminal, various park improvements, water and sewer systems improvements, and boulevards and street work.¹⁰

The entrance of the United States into World War II (WWII) resulted in the Seventh Ferrying Group of the Army Air Corps moving its wing of the Army's Air Transport Command to Great Falls. Massive amounts of supplies moved to bases in Russia through daily flights from Great Falls to Fairbanks and Anchorage beginning in 1941. To handle the additional activity and growth, additional runways, a control tower, and the Gillis Hangar, were constructed to accommodate the command at the base of this operation, the municipal airport. In 1942, the Army Air Services Command installed a sub depot at the WPA Administration Building. The wartime construction of East Base, currently referred to as Malmstrom Air Force Base, in 1942, partially supported the Great Falls economy. East Base eventually transformed into the Army Air Corps Service Command Headquarters after initial construction as a training center for service staff and bomber crews. The end of WWII witnessed an infusion of over 2400 military personnel into the base making it one of Great Falls largest employers.¹¹

Great Falls continued to grow throughout the period of significance, gaining almost 10,000 people between 1940 and 1950, bringing the population to 39,214. Additionally, housing trends changed after WW II and Americans desired homes of their own. The affordability of the automobile further allowed populations to expand outside of established business districts.¹² From 1950 to 1960, the population of Great Falls rose by an additional 16,000 people to 55, 244.¹³

Education in Great Falls

Montana Territory established the first public school districts in 1866. Continued growth in the Montana Territory and through statehood in the late 1880s reflected the continued growth of Great Falls, requiring the town to address its educational needs. Great Falls established its public school system in 1886 with the completion and opening of the Whittier Building, later known as Whittier Elementary School, and began un-graded education for all students. In 1893, city voters passed an initiative to sell bonds to build a high school, but the Panic of 1893 delayed construction until 1894.

⁷ Ibid. p. 8.

⁸ Ibid. p. 9.

⁹ Population of Incorporated Places* (Cities/towns) in Montana, 1890 to 2000. Found at: <http://ceic.mt.gov/Demog/historic/Censusplace1890-2000.xls>

¹⁰ Candi Zion, *Great Falls Central Business District National Register Nomination* (section 8, p. 9). On File at the State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 2003.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid. Section 8, p. 11.

¹³ Population of Incorporated Places* (Cities/towns) in Montana, 1890 to 2000. Found at: <http://ceic.mt.gov/Demog/historic/Censusplace1890-2000.xls>

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Local architect William White's Romanesque Revival three-story gray sandstone design was chosen over three other proposals and featured a small central circular anchor, two rectangular wings and an eight-story, four faced clock tower.¹⁴ The first class of 9 boys and 37 girls opened the school on November 1, 1896. To accommodate additional pupils, construction of an addition occurred on the south side of the building in 1913.

During the 1920s, construction tended to be slow in many parts of Great Falls; however, the continuing increase in the Great Falls population and concomitant increase in student population in the early part of the twentieth century necessitated increased educational space. In 1927, the Great Falls Public School system failed to gain voter approval to issue bonds to build a new high school. However, despite the poor economy, in 1928 a second try to issue bonds to build the new high school passed. Construction began on the landmark \$1 million school in 1928 and was completed on July 21, 1930 at a final cost of \$1.15 million.¹⁵ The design of the new Great Falls High School was a collaborative effort by the Great Falls architectural firm of George W. Bird and Johannes Van Teylingen and the Minneapolis, Minnesota firm of Ernest Croft and Francis C. Boerner. The 1929 Sanborn map indicates that at the time of construction of the new high school, the area remained largely undeveloped with only scattered houses and vacant lots surrounding the property.

The construction of the building generated strong debate regarding changing the high school's name, with former students suggesting the school's name be changed to "Charles M. Russell High School" after local artist Charles M. Russell, while businessmen in the city wanted the name to be "James J. Hill High School", the chief executive of the Great Northern Railroad and friend of Paris Gibson.¹⁶

Another debate erupted over the type of brick to be used in the building. The architects, primarily the consulting architectural firm of Croft and Boerner, specified that the exterior brick be dark red; however some business members of the school board desired use of a lighter local brick. Investigative trips with several school board members to Western Clay Manufacturing in Helena, Montana¹⁷ and Riddell & Watts brickyard in Missoula, Montana¹⁸ were promoted by the architects resulting in a successful compromise to use dark imported brick for the exterior and light, locally-made bricks for the interior. The locally made bricks cost twice the price of the imported brick.

The final cost of the building when completed on July 21, 1930 totaled \$1.15 million; the school opened in the fall of 1930 with 1,760 students, just under the 1,800 it was designed to accommodate. The three-story school reflects the symmetrical classic T-shape, 515' N-S, 152' E-W. The central corridor interior plan with classrooms opening on to generous hallways was designed to allow maximum fenestration for the classrooms and incorporates a Gothic detailed main entrance at the west elevation forming the top of the "T" and facing the stadium. The formal symmetry is further evidenced by the main entrance's position being centered on the east – west axis of Third Avenue South and the flag pole's placement at the intersection of the east – west axis and the north – south axis of Nineteenth Street. Twin elaborate angled staircases are located at the intersecting north-south and east west hallways adjacent to the main entrance and secondary staircases are located at the north and south ends of the main hallway. The strict orientation of the site plan and building location can most likely be credited to local civil engineer G.W. Bird. The building is anchored on the North by the gymnasium and on the South by an elaborate theatre / auditorium. The gymnasium contains two basement locker rooms and a hardwood basketball court surrounded by mezzanine seating that accommodates 1,200 spectators.

Constructed at the same time, Memorial Stadium sits immediately west of the high school. Named to honor those who served in World War I, the stadium contained concrete bleachers on the east side. A two-story brick building used for a meeting room, concessions, and restroom was built into the north end of the bleachers and an identical brick building was built into the south end of the bleachers; these remain but were enlarged, likely in the late 1950s.

The inclusion of a gymnasium in the original plans of the school and stadium proved timely, since in 1930, the Montana Supreme Court ruled in *McNair v School District no. 1 of Cascade County* that a gymnasium was a "necessary and essential part of a school plant" which was lacking in the original 1896 Great Falls High School.¹⁹

¹⁴ Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. http://www.the-square.org/About_History.html. Accessed May 22, 2012.

¹⁵ White's original Romanesque Revival high school (listed September 1976: NR# 76001120), is located less than ½ mile to the northwest and is now called Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art.

¹⁶ Ken Robison, *Cascade County and Great Falls*. Mount Pleasant, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

¹⁷ Western Clay Manufacturing Company, "Archie Bray Foundation I History", http://www.archiebray.org/about_us/abf_history.html

¹⁸ Riddell & Watts Brickyard, "Historic Missoula – Missoula Brick", <http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/>

¹⁹ "McNair v. School District No. 1 of Cascade County (Mont.)", 87 Mont. 423, 288 p. 188 (1930).

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Cascade, Montana

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Continued population growth (Great Falls population grew from just almost 29,000 in 1940 to over 39,000 in 1950 to over 55,000 in 1960), resulting in families moving further away from the central business district, required the construction of an addition on the high school in 1954 to support the burgeoning student population. The 1950 Sanborn map indicates that the majority of the lots on the east, west and north perimeter of the Great Falls High School Historic District vacant on the 1929 map sited buildings by 1950. The 1954 addition, designed by McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa, consisted of a second floor added to the southeast corner of the school above the Art, Journalism and Machine Shop classrooms to accommodate the expanded choir, orchestra and band facilities.²⁰ The second floor addition was a congruent design and featured the reuse of original parapet caps and crenels from the existing first floor. Construction contracts were awarded in March of 1954 and work completed later that year at a cost of \$110,400.²¹

The Great Falls High School campus functioned as more than an educational facility. The size of Memorial Stadium allowed visiting dignitaries and activities too large for a smaller venue to occur. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy presented a speech about conservation to 20,000 Great Fall attendees.²²

As the population of Great Falls continued to increase with commensurate increase in students at the school in the 1960s, a second three-story addition costing \$215,000 and designed in 1963 by McIver and Hess Architects was built at the east termination of vertical east-west "T" leg parallel to 20th Street; the addition created classroom space on the first floor for Homemaking, Commercial education, and History, on the second floor for the Library, and on the third floor for Chemistry and Biology. The architects adhered to the original detailing and included several of the brick bonds used on the original structure. The addition created a new "Main Entrance" to the school along the originally established east – west axis.²³

A third addition built in 1988 comprises a 50' x 110' Wrestling Addition connected to the north elevation of the original gymnasium designed by the local firm, Davidson – Kuhr Architects. The \$300,000 cost of construction, a gift from local attorney Zander Blewett and his wife Andy, was conditioned upon the selection of the architectural firm Davidson – Kuhr. Excavation and concrete work were donated by Robert McIntyre and United Materials of Great Falls.²⁴ The Wrestling Addition's designers attempted to incorporate a simplified interpretation of Collegiate Gothic Revival elements of original school, such as the pilaster design and belt-course of the original school.

While the main entrance to Great Falls High School remains in the center of the west elevation, modifications to the campus plan resulted in the unadorned east entrance serving as another principle access. A tradition since 1931, only seniors are allowed to use the original west entrance.²⁵

Although maintenance and improvements occurred to Great Falls High School, Memorial Stadium received little physical attention until 2000. By the late-1990s, a study committee noted numerous issues with the stadium including lack of IDEA compliance, crumbling sidewalks and steps, damage to the east bleacher foundations from poor drainage, and general disrepair of the structure. Following consultation with the school board, numerous repairs occurred in 2000 and 2001 including east bleacher drainage improvements, east bleacher replacement, west bleacher improvements, adding handicap accessible areas to the east and west grandstands, replacement of the track, improving the long-jump paths and pits, and enlarging the meeting/concession building.²⁶

Architects

George W. Bird was born (February 4, 1861) and educated in Philadelphia and arrived at the confluence of the Missouri and Sun rivers by stage coach in 1882. Eventually, Bird associated himself with Jonannes Van Teylingen, a young native Hollander. The partnership produced such Great Falls buildings as the Masonic Temple, the Emerson and Washington schools, the original Roosevelt School, the Largent School (originally designed as a junior high), and the Christian, St

²⁰ "McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa" Architects' Roster, American Institute of Architects—Montana, New York, 1953.

²¹ "School Trustees Award \$110,400 in Contracts", Great Falls Tribune, March 2, 1954.

²² Paula Wilmot, "Great Falls Remembers Favorite Son." *Great Falls Tribune*. October 6, 2001.

²³ "Federal Funds Built HGHS Addition", Great Falls Tribune, September 8, 1963.

²⁴ Peter Johnson, "Blewetts Give \$300,000 for Wrestling Addition at GFHS", Great Falls Tribune, October 14, 1997.

²⁵ "First Class Remembers Graduating From GFH." *Great Falls Tribune*. April 25, 1999.

²⁶ Peter Johnson "Trustees OK More Money for Memorial Stadium Work." *Great Falls Tribune*. March 15, 2001.

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John's Lutheran, and First Baptist churches, as well as many other projects.²⁷ The 1910 Census documents from Cascade County, Montana indicate, by Bird's admission, that he was a civil engineer, probably more accurately by today's definition, an urban planner; he was hired as the first City Engineer of Great Falls by Mayor Paris Gibson at the suggestion of James Hill to lay out the new city's streets, parks and boulevards.

Van Teylingen, born in 1892 in Holland, was one of the most prominent architects in Montana at the time. He designed the Masonic Temple in Great Falls, the Great Falls Civic Center and Turner Hall on the campus of the University of Montana. Other projects associated with Van Teylingen include the Art Deco Butte High School with J.G. Link & Company, and the Great Falls Art Building. In addition to his architectural pursuits, Van Teylingen was a noted internationally acclaimed chess player. He passed away in 1956.²⁸

Van Teylingen and Bird's association on Great Falls High School was Bird's last commission and after its completion he retired from active practice at the age of sixty-nine. He lived to the age of 100 and passed away in Great Falls, the city to which he was instrumental in giving birth.²⁹

Ernest B. Croft (1889 – 1959), of Croft and Boerner Architects, Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born November 19, 1889 in Herman, Minnesota and practiced with Francis C. Boerner (1889 – 1937), the firm's business manager, from 1916 to 1920.³⁰ Croft, a graduate of the University of Minnesota (U. of M.) in 1911, was affiliated with several firms and spent 3 years in New York City before partnering with fellow U. of M. graduate Boerner, who provided the business acumen to the firm, in 1916.³¹ The firm was widely respected having designed the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium and particularly noted for their high school design experience with many projects across Minnesota and Iowa. It is believed that Croft's Elk River Senior High School, Elk River, Minnesota, and Great Falls High School, both completed in 1930 were outstanding examples of an evolution in secondary school design by the firm.

Angus Vaughn McIver, born in Great Falls, MT in 1892, graduated in 1910 from Great Falls High School. He studied both Architecture and Civil Engineering at the University of Michigan. He studied with Chandler Cohagen of Billings and upon their return in 1915 they formed *McIver, Cohagen and Marshall*. McIver served in World War I as a 1st Lieutenant with the 109th Engineers 34th Division.³² Upon his return from the War, McIver partnered once again with Cohagen; the two opened two offices with the Billings office supervised by Cohagen and the Great Falls office supervised by McIver. World War II found McIver serving as a liaison for the Corps of Engineers, Fort Peck District, coordinating the work of architects and engineers in five states. In 1950, McIver and Associates disbanded and McIver, Hess and Haugsjaa formed; this partnership lasted until 1959 when Haugsjaa passed away resulting in McIver and Hess Architects. In 1968, McIver retired. Both Cohagen and McIver pushed to certify architectural credentials and to license professionals. McIver was a charter member of the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was the sixth architect to ever be licensed in the state of Montana.³³

William J. Hess, born in 1914 in Teton County in Montana, graduated from Montana State College earning a B.S. architectural degree in 1937. His first professional job occurred as a draftsman for Chandler C. Cohagen from 1937 to 1939. He next worked for A. V. McIver as an employee through 1953, when he became a partner in McIver, Hess & Haugsjaa. Partner Knute Haugsjaa died in 1959, after which the firm became McIver & Hess, headquartered in Great Falls. After the retirement of McIver, the firm rebranded as Hess, (Robert) Gillis and Lawrence) Vigessaa in 1969.

Knute S. Haugsjaa, born in 1915 in Pekin, North Dakota, graduated from North Dakota State College with a B.S. architectural degree in 1939. Prior to becoming a practicing architect, Haugsjaa received training in the offices of Angus McIver and J.J. Van Teylingen. He served as a member of the city-county planning board and various civic groups in

²⁷ Anonymous, *Early Day Architects in Great Falls*. Great Falls Public Library.

²⁸ "Noted Architect, Chess Player Dies". Billings Gazette. November 14, 1956.

²⁹ Ironically, a predecessor, George Washington Bird, also an architect with a distinguished career in Iowa, Kansas and Utah with William Thomas Proudfoot, was born September 1, 1854 in New Jersey and received his training at the T-Square Club in Philadelphia, a Beaux-Arts styled academy founded by John Stewardson sometime after 1883, most likely the same atelier at which the younger Bird had studied. Separated by only 7 years and a few hundred miles, this G.W. Bird also lived to be almost 100 years old, passing away in Los Angeles in 1953.

³⁰ "Croft, Ernest B.", Who's Who In Minnesota, 1941.

³¹ "Boerner, Francis C." obituary, *NW Architect*, v. 1 #3, January 1937, p. 15 (Board of Registration).

³² Great Falls Tribute; July 25, 1974; *Great Falls Architects; Vol. I Early Architects*, Special Collections, Great Falls Public Library.

³³ Architect File on Angus McIver. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

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Great Falls as well as the Montana chapter of the A.I.A.³⁴ He is credited with contributing to the designs of the KFBB TV Building, Our Savior's Lutheran Church Classroom Addition, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut Bank, East Junior High School in Great Falls, and the Culbertson, Fairview and Power schools.

David Scott Davidson was born in Great Falls in 1925, where he attended elementary and high school. He attended the University of Utah in the early 1940s and Pasadena City College in 1944. After serving in the Army from 1943 to 1946, he graduated from Montana State College in Bozeman with a degree in architecture. Prior to his association with William Kuhr, Davidson worked for Shanley and Shanley Architects from 1950 to 1952, and Van Teylingen, Knight and Van Teylingen from 1954 to 1956. From 1956 to 1999 he was a partner and president of Davidson & Kuhr Architects of Great Falls and between 2000 and 2007 he served as a partner and principal in Civic Design. Davidson was a past director of the Montana Institute of the Arts and belonged to the American Institute of Architects, National Merit in Architecture, AIA National College of Fellows, was a past president of both the Montana AIA and Judicial Review Board of the AIA.³⁵ Davidson's best known work occurred during his association with William Kuhr (presented below). He died in 2008.

Born in Chinook, Montana in 1927, William Kuhr attended Chinook High School and graduated with a degree in architecture from Montana State College in 1950. His early career included time with H.E. Kirkemo of Missoula and Bordeleau-Pannell. In 1956, Kuhr joined with David Scott Davidson to form Davidson & Kuhr. Davidson and Kuhr's work includes the Great Falls US Bank building, the McLaughlin Research Center in Great Falls, the south campus of Great Falls High School, the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Great Falls, and the terminal at Great Falls International Airport. They also designed an office building for D. A. Davidson, a financial company owned by Davidson's father. Numerous schools, churches and office buildings throughout Montana are credited to the firm as is the addition to the Montana Veterans & Pioneers Memorial Building in Helena. Their Bethany Lutheran Church and Farmers & Stockmen's Bank won awards from the Montana Chapter of the AIA in 1964. Kuhr served as president of the Montana AIA in 1971.³⁶

Architectural Significance

Great Falls High School was designed in the Collegiate Gothic style, an evolution of the Late Gothic Revival period which in turn was an extension of the English Perpendicular style, reinterpreted by such influential architects as Walter Cope and John Stewardson.³⁷ The two first introduced this architectural idiom to America on the campus of Bryn Mawr in the 1890's. Collegiate Gothic soon found its voice at Ivy League schools such as Yale and Princeton, where President Woodrow Wilson once commented, "Gothic architecture has added a thousand years to the history of the university, and has pointed every man's imagination to the earliest traditions of learning in the English-speaking race". The ascendance of Collegiate Gothic coincided with a rapid expansion of college campuses that occurred after the turn of the 20th century, making it the style of choice among campus architects throughout the country. The style soon filtered down to secondary and elementary schools and enjoyed a long-standing popularity among American architects.

Collegiate Gothic was employed in either symmetrical, or asymmetrical building forms, with the unifying feature being the emphasis on mass and the Gothic detailing on key building elements. Great Falls High exhibits its stylistic references to the formal symmetry of the façade, a vertically proportioned entrance tower, gothic arched door openings, its detailed brick work and crenelated parapet.

Great Falls High School's architects found a perfect balance between the more highly stylized elements of the Collegiate Gothic's polite architecture and the school district's resources. The technical execution of the beautifully designed brick details, sandstone and terra cotta elements, and interior plaster work exhibit high levels of craftsmanship and engineering making it Montana's most notable example of the Collegiate Gothic style. The building's reinforced concrete foundations have stood the test of time without evidence of movement despite an environment with highly expansive clay soil conditions.

³⁴ Architect File on Knute S. Haugsjaa. On file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

³⁵ "David Scott Davidson" obituary. Great Falls Tribune, January 26, 2008.

³⁶ American Architects Directory, Third Edition (1970). Found online at:
<http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/1970%20American%20Architects%20Directory.aspx>

³⁷ "Late 19th & 20th Century Revival Period", Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide – Collegiate Gothic Style 1890 – 1940: Duke University
http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.ptcommunity/late_19th_&_early_20th_century_revival_period.

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The school also met the needs of a new developing educational model, providing specialized space for the sciences, chemistry and biology, along with shops for industrial arts, athletic facilities for both men and women and performing arts venues.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

In 2009, the Great Falls School District appointed a Task Force "comprised of local experts in architecture and engineering as well as District personnel" to examine 23 District buildings for possible upgrades in lighting, heating, ventilation and more. As a result of the examination, Great Falls High School was recognized as a "Historic Icon" by the community and singled out for a Master Plan project which would look more sensitively at the school regarding upgrades and future campus evolution. This nomination and listing of Great Falls High School will further recognize the school's importance and place within the historic fabric of Great Falls, Montana, the Electric City.

Great Falls High School Historic District
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Duke University <

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.ptcommunity/late_19th_&_early_20th_century_revival_period

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[http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/...](http://historicmissoula.org/History/BuildingMaterials/MissoulaBrick/)

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Western Clay Manufacturing Company, "Archie Bray Foundation I History",
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Zion, Candi, *Great Falls Central Business District National Register Nomination*. On File at the State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT, 2003.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx 16.77 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>12</u>	<u>479245</u>	<u>5260866</u>	C	<u>12</u>	<u>479503</u>	<u>5260628</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>12</u>	<u>479502</u>	<u>5260866</u>	D	<u>12</u>	<u>479245</u>	<u>5260628</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

GREAT FALLS TENTH ADDITION, S07, T20 N, R04 E, BLOCK 733, GF3 BK 399-400, GF10 BK 733,734,735,745 & 746, HUY BK 1 & 8, VAC STREETS & ALLEYS

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Four complete city blocks as described comprise the historic boundaries of the school as they existed at its completion in 1930.

Great Falls High School Historic District
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip M. Faccenda, Architect, and Darrell A. Swanson, Architect
organization Great Falls High School Heritage Foundation, Inc. date April 30, 2012
street & number 3 Anaconda Hills Drive telephone 406-727-6670
city or town Black Eagle state Montana zip code 59414
e-mail Philip M. Faccenda phil@straymoose.com Darrell A. Swanson darrells@swansonarchitects.com

Assisted by:

name/title John Boughton
organization MTSHPD date December 2012
street & number 1410 8th Avenue telephone (406) 444-3647
city or town Helena State MT zip code 59620
e-mail jboughton@mt.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Please see "continuation Sheets"

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Great Falls High School
City or Vicinity: Great Falls
County: Cascade State: Montana
Photographer: Darrell A. Swanson
Date Photographed: 2011
Description of Photograph(s) and number:

See Continuation Sheets

Property Owner:

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

name Great Falls Public School District
street & number 1100 Fourth Street South telephone 406-268-6000
city or town Great Falls state Montana zip code 59403

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. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Great Falls High School Historic District

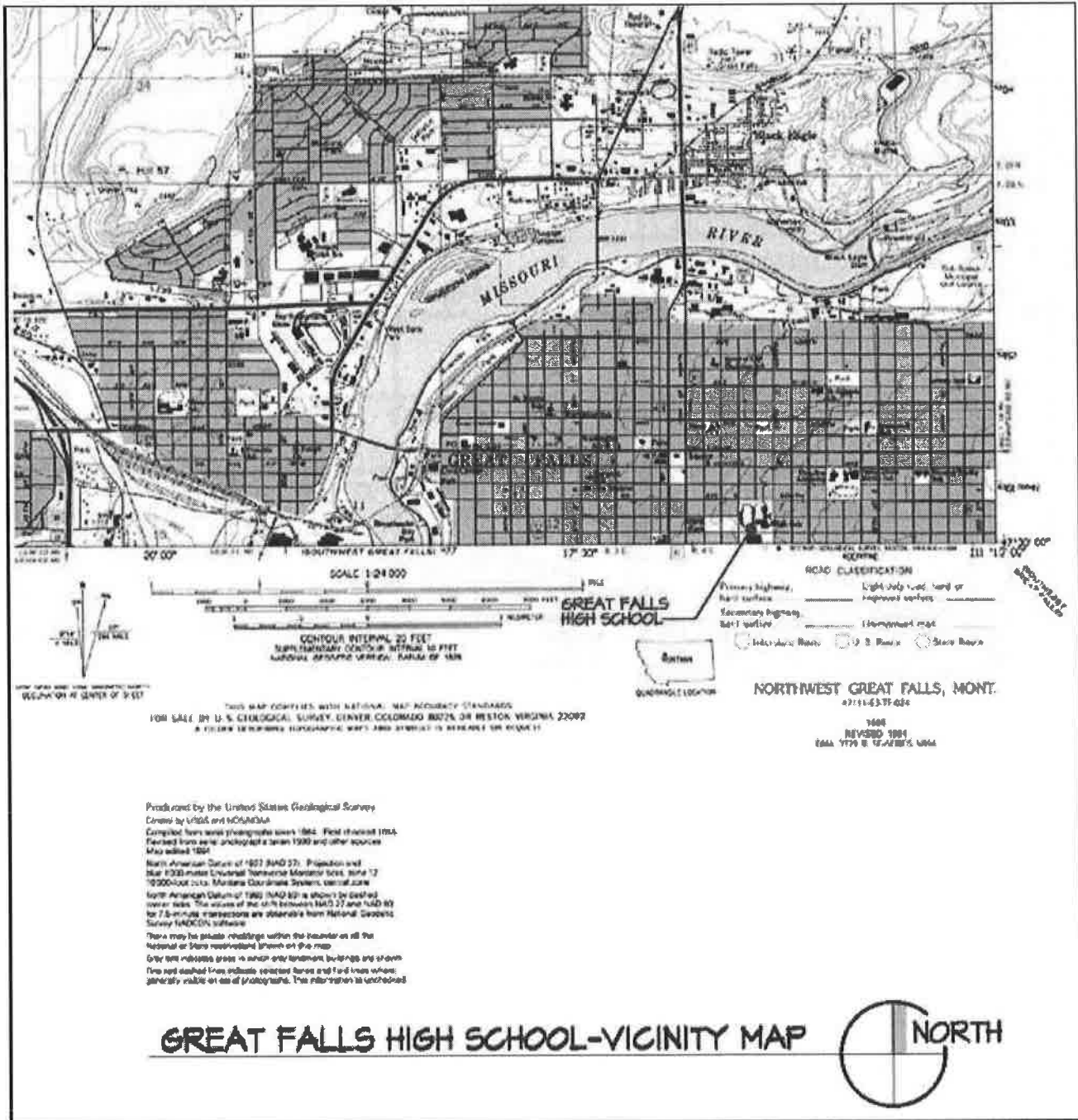
Name of Property
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Section number Additional Documentation

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GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL Historic District
Found on the Northwest Great Falls 1965 (photorevised 1994) 7.5' topographic map

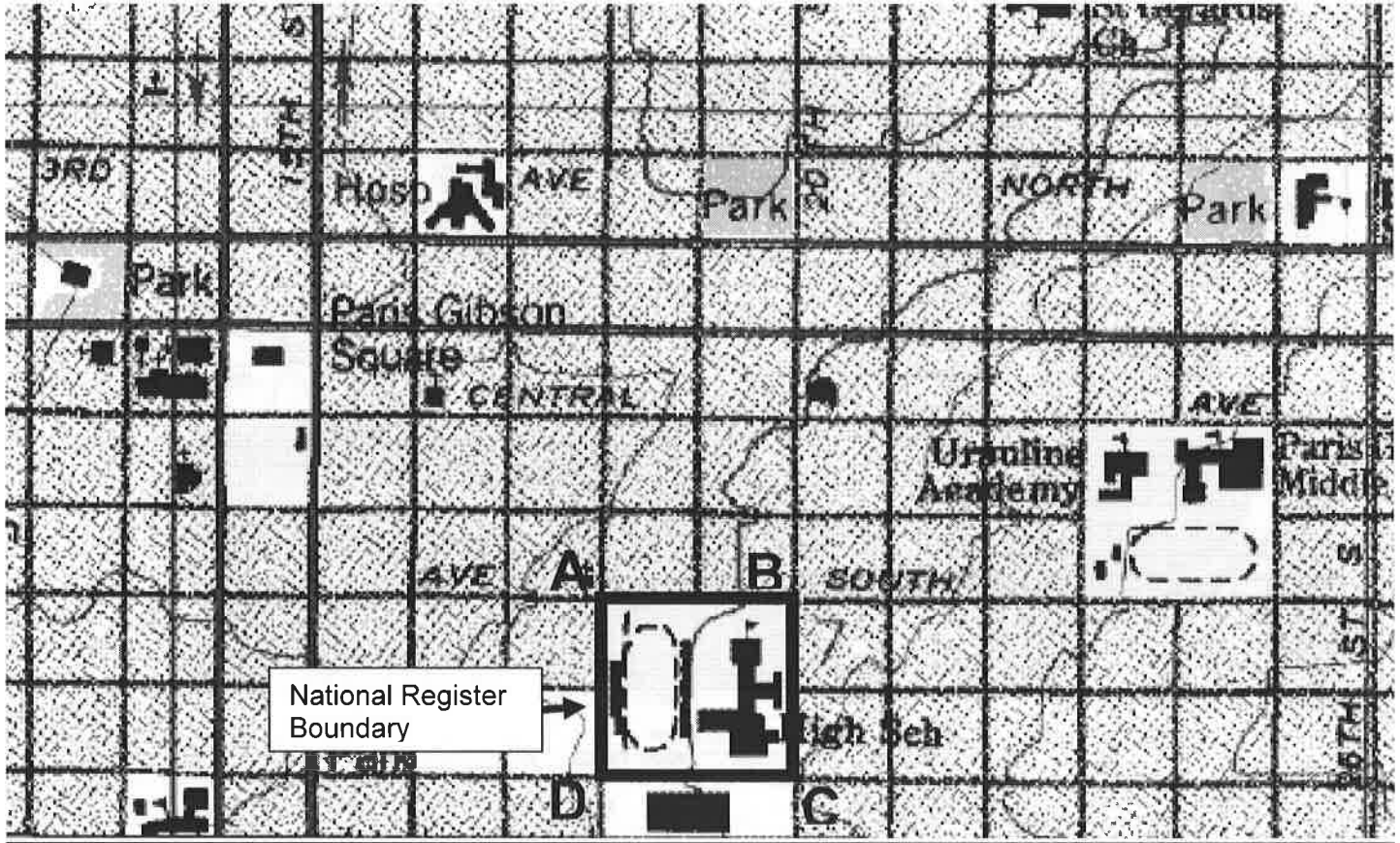


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
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Close up of Great Falls High School Historic District
Found on the Northwest Great Falls 1965 (photorevised 1994) 7.5' topographic map



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Great Falls High School Historic District

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

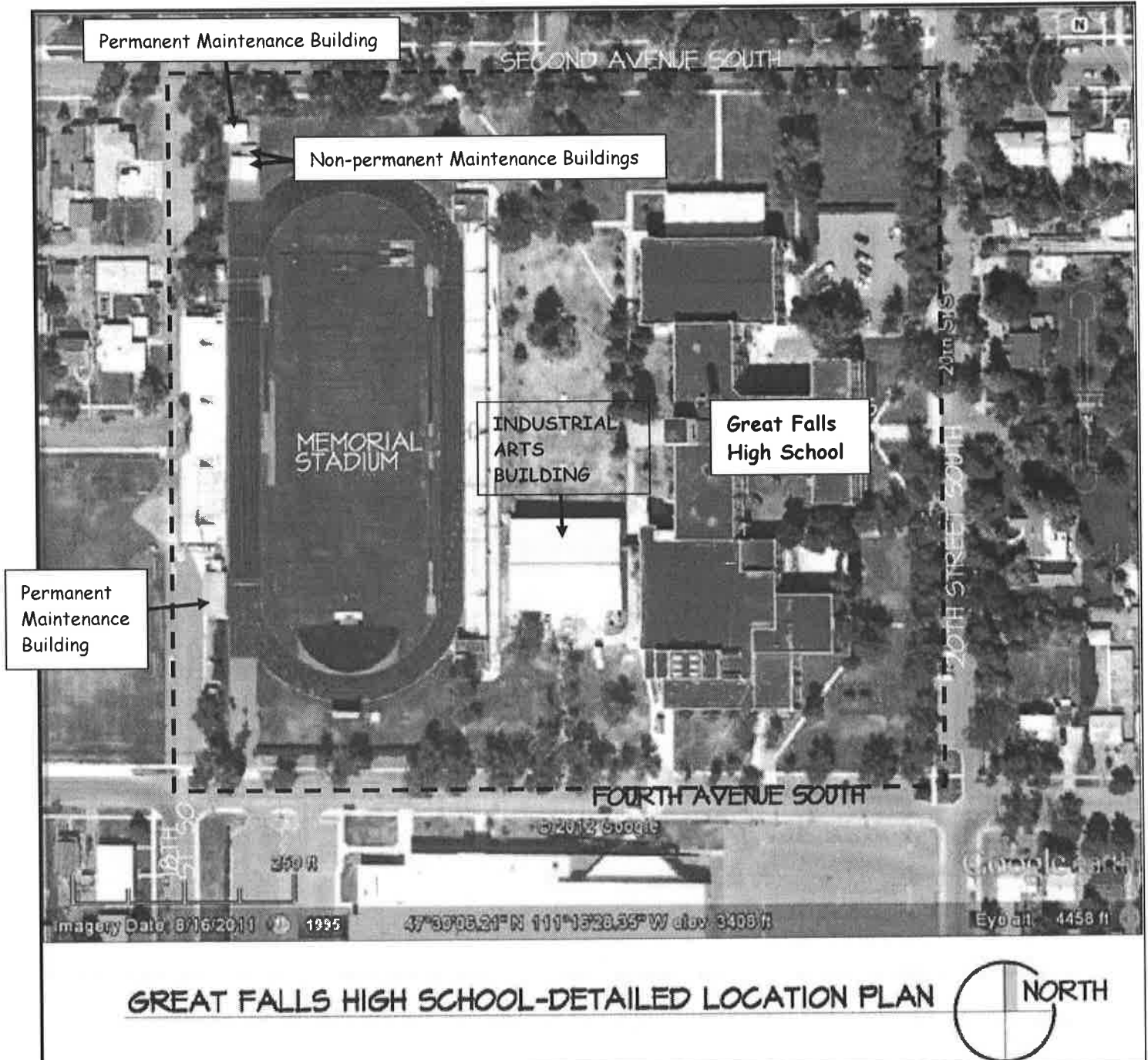
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

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DETAILED LOCATION PLAN

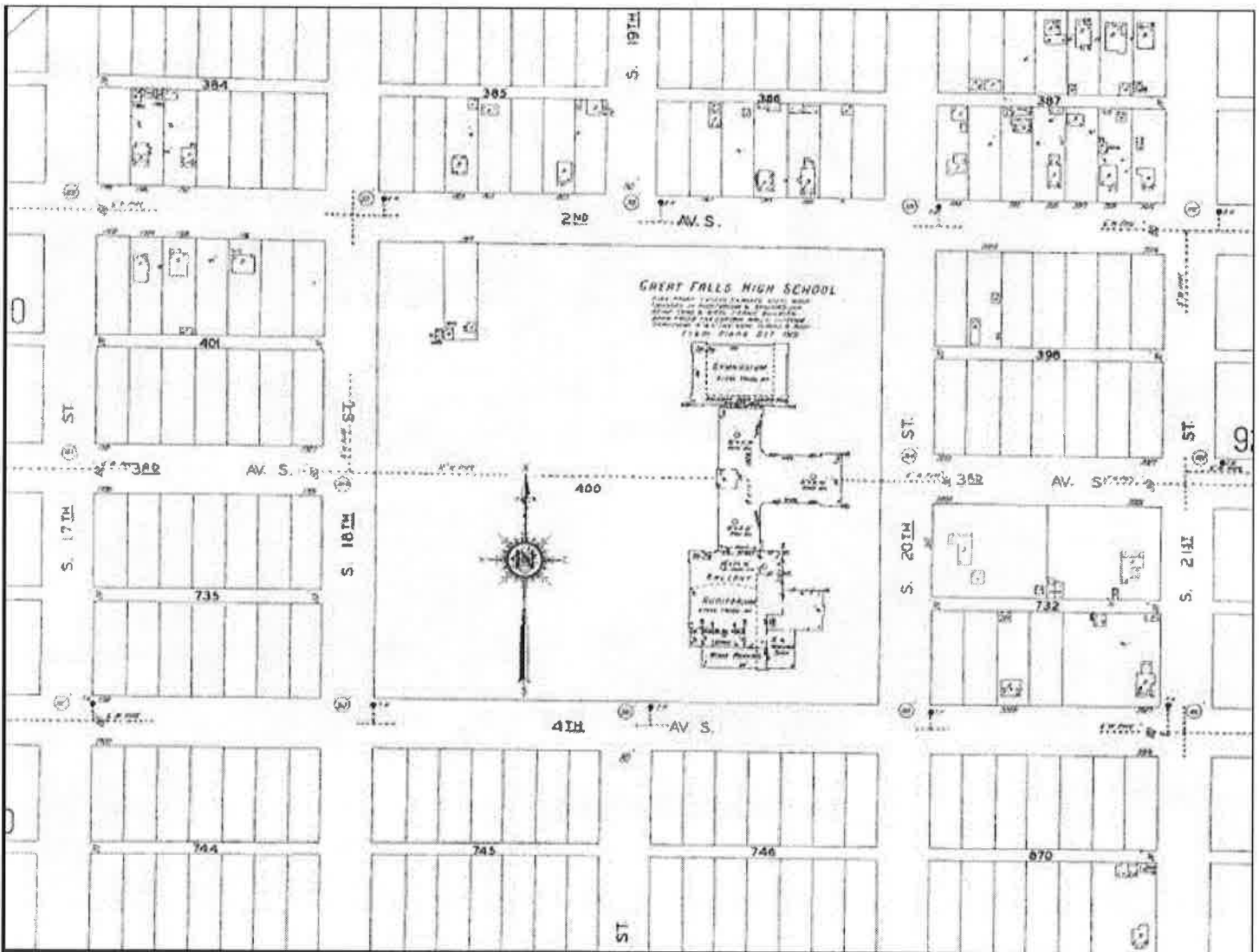


Dashed Line around perimeter of property indicates National Register boundary.

**United States Department of the Interior
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1929 Sanborn map Showing the Great Falls High School Historic District (Memorial Stadium not yet constructed)

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Continuation Sheet

Great Falls High School Historic District

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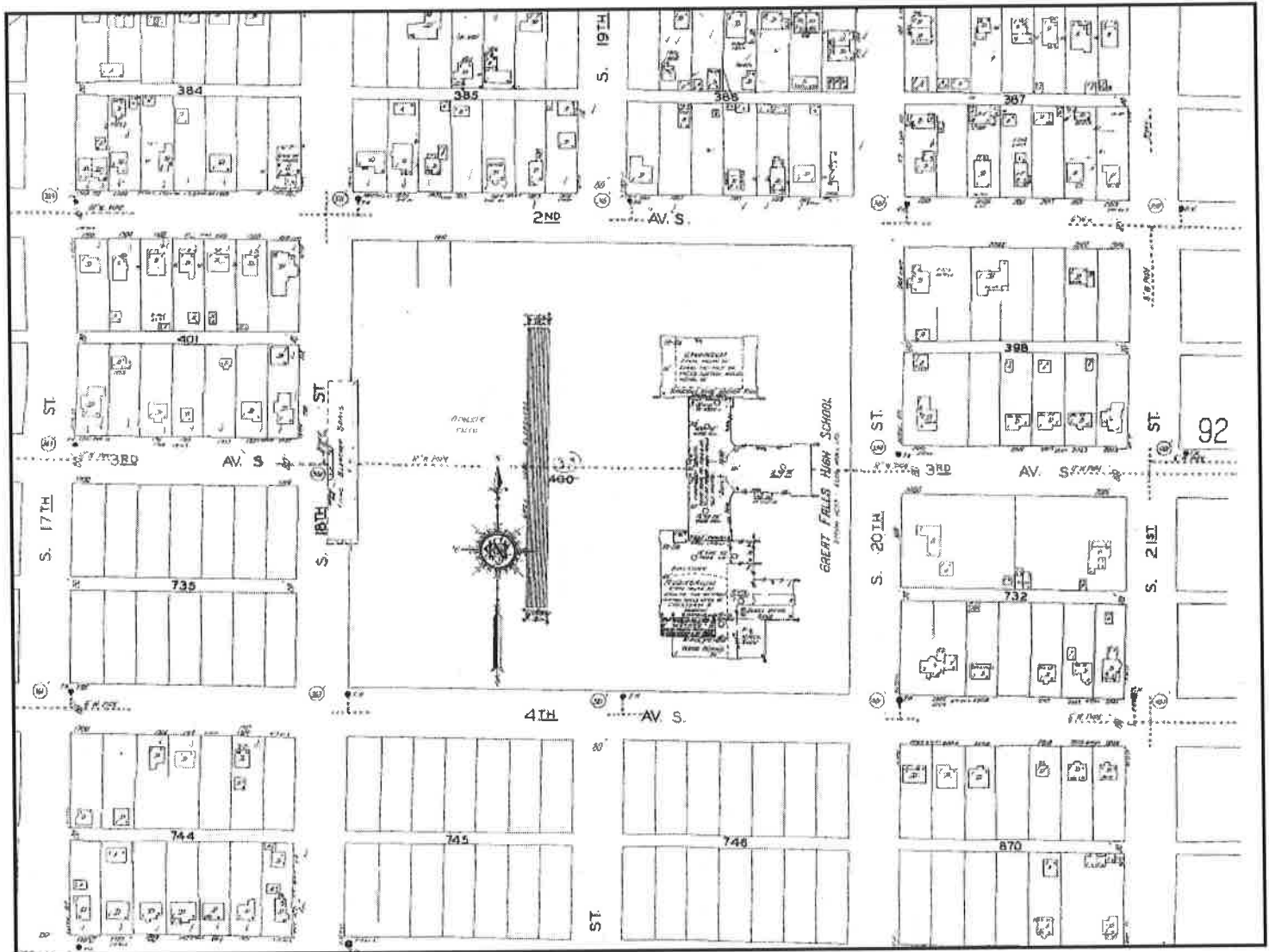
Cascade, Montana

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 23



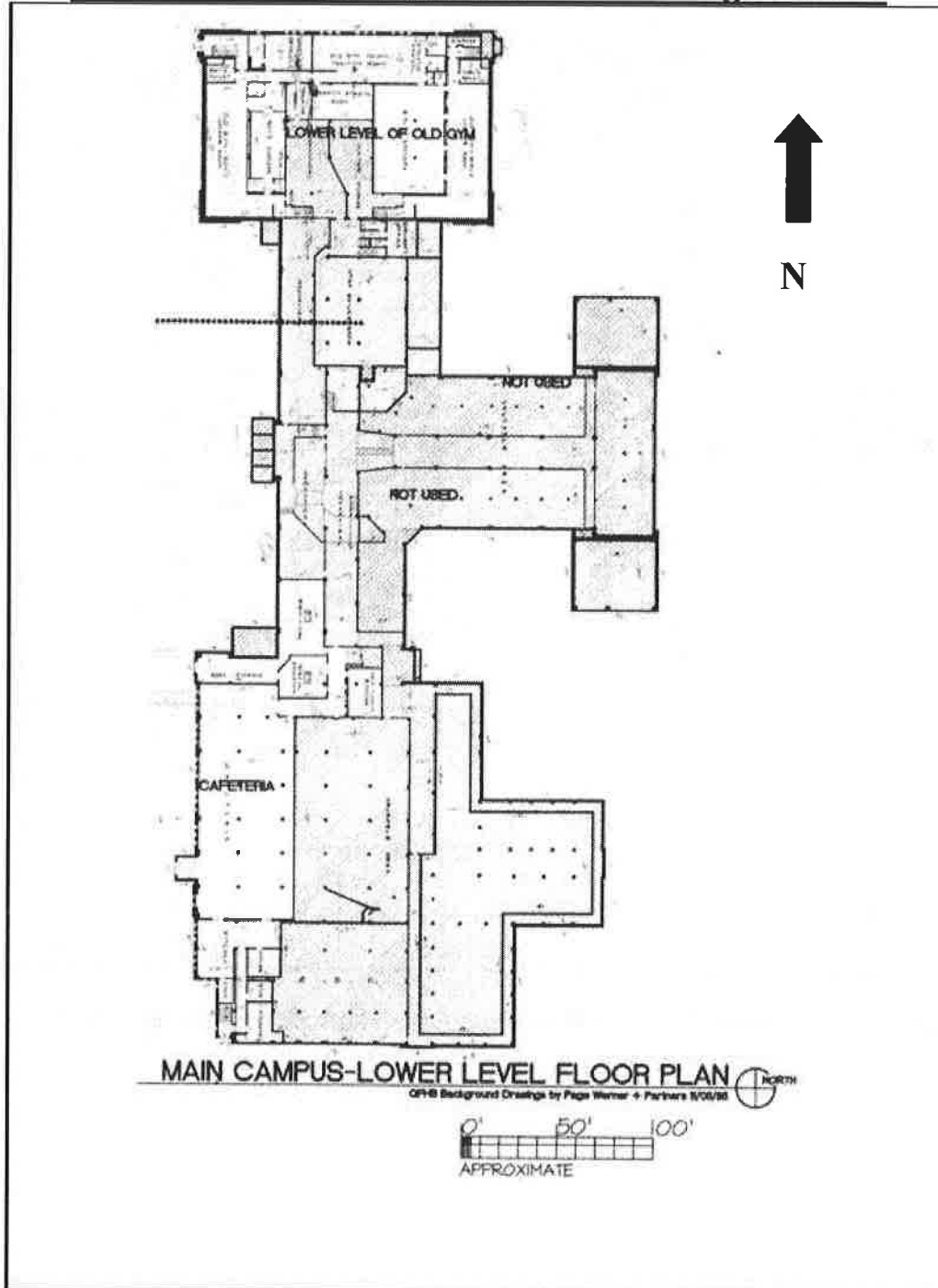
1950 Sanborn map Showing the Great Falls High School Historic District

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School Historic District
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Lower Level Floor Plan of Great Falls High School



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Great Falls High School Historic District

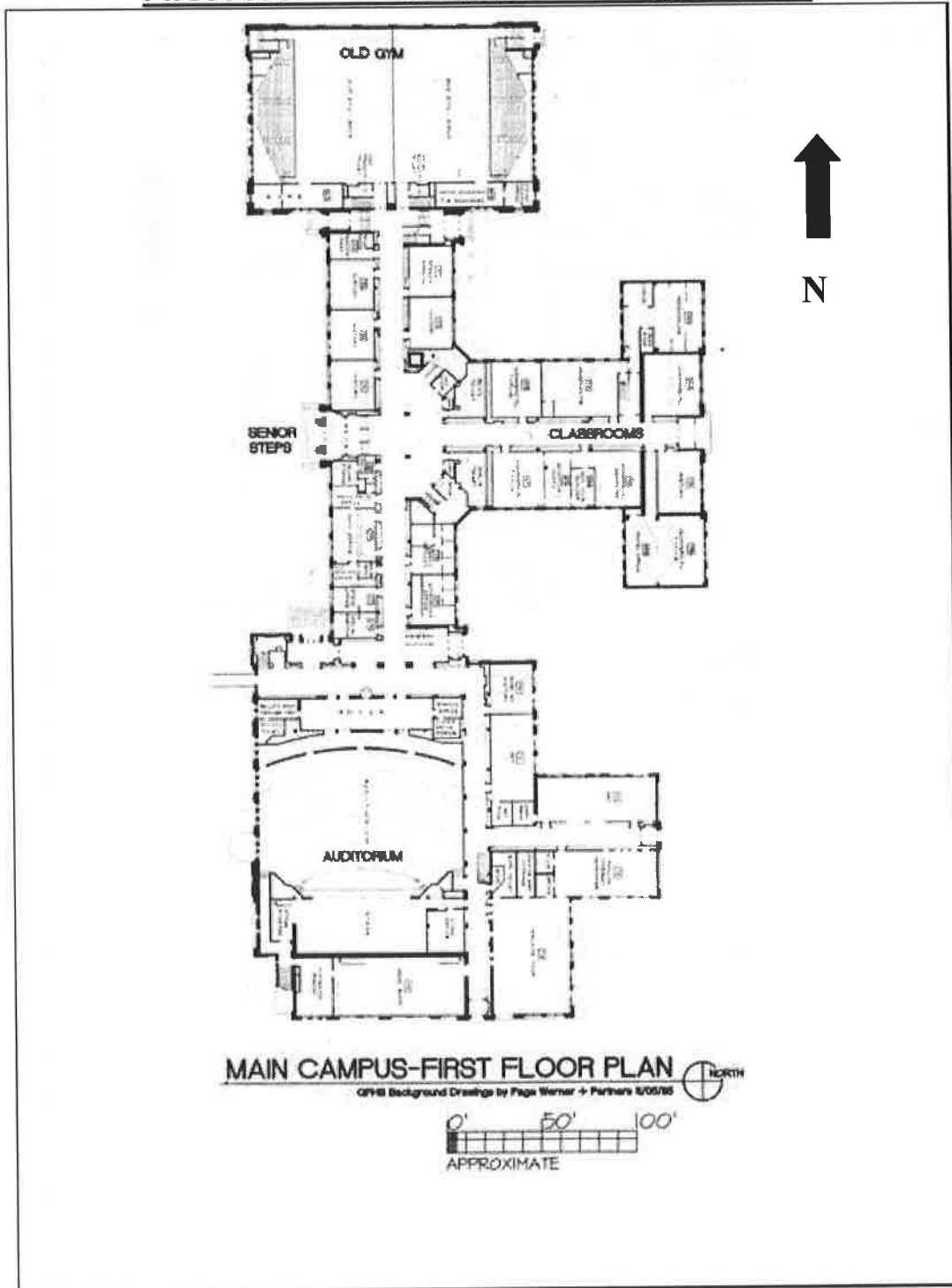
Name of Property
Cascade, Montana
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 25

First Floor Plan of Great Falls High School

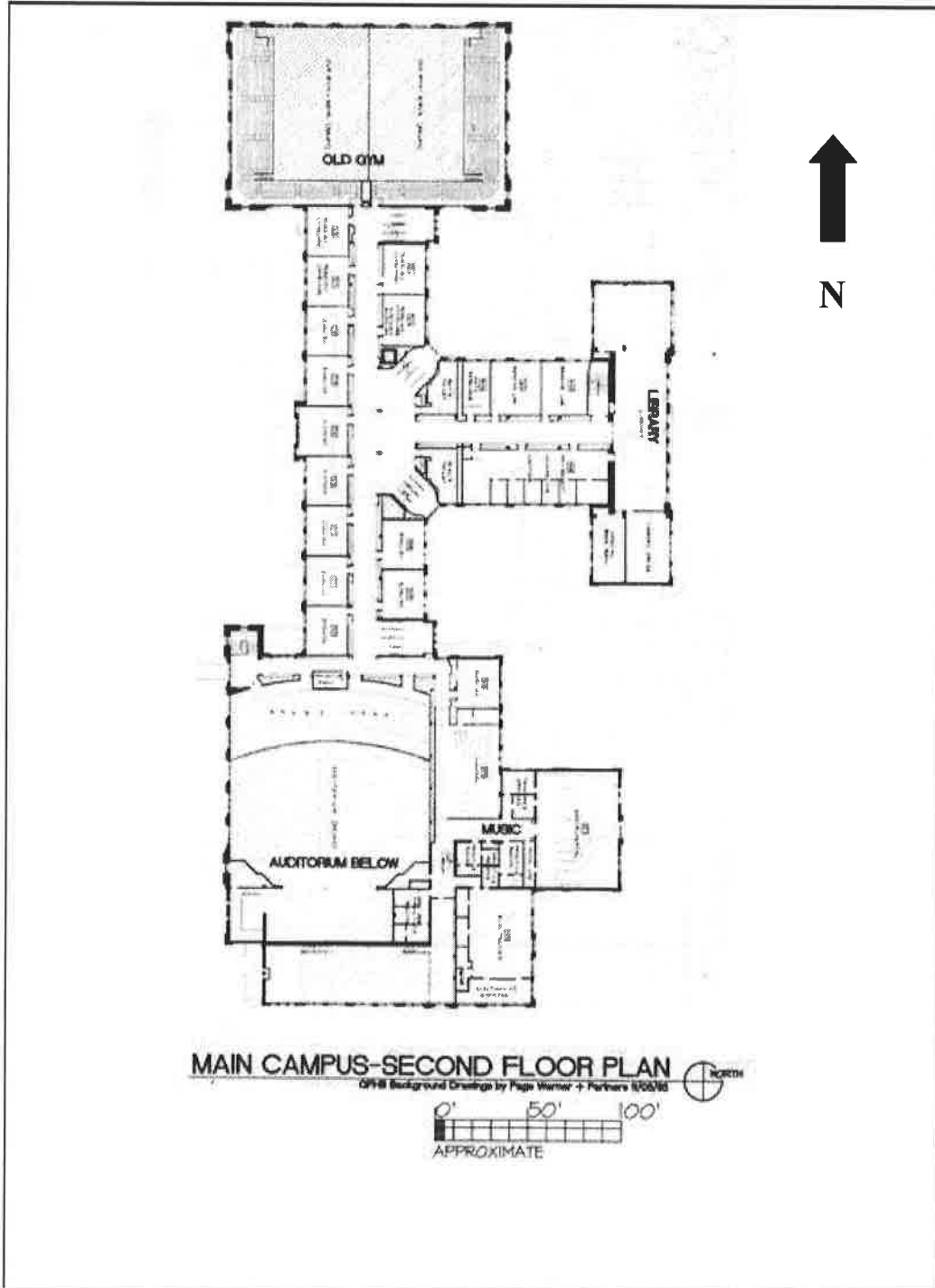


United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

Great Falls High School Historic District
Name of Property
Cascade, Montana
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 26

Second Floor Plan of Great Falls High School



**United States Department of the Interior
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Great Falls High School Historic District

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

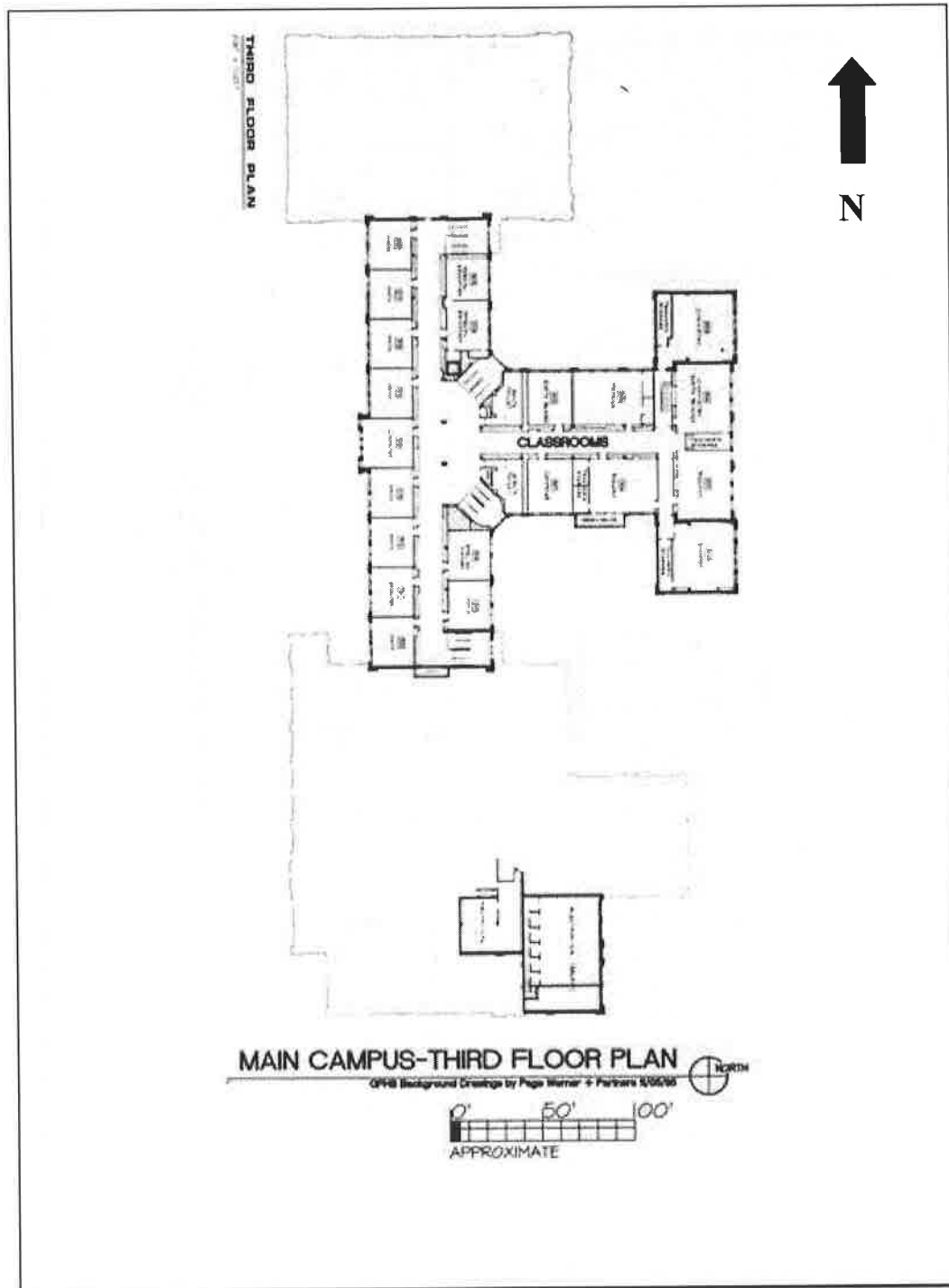
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 27

Third Floor Plan of Great Falls High School

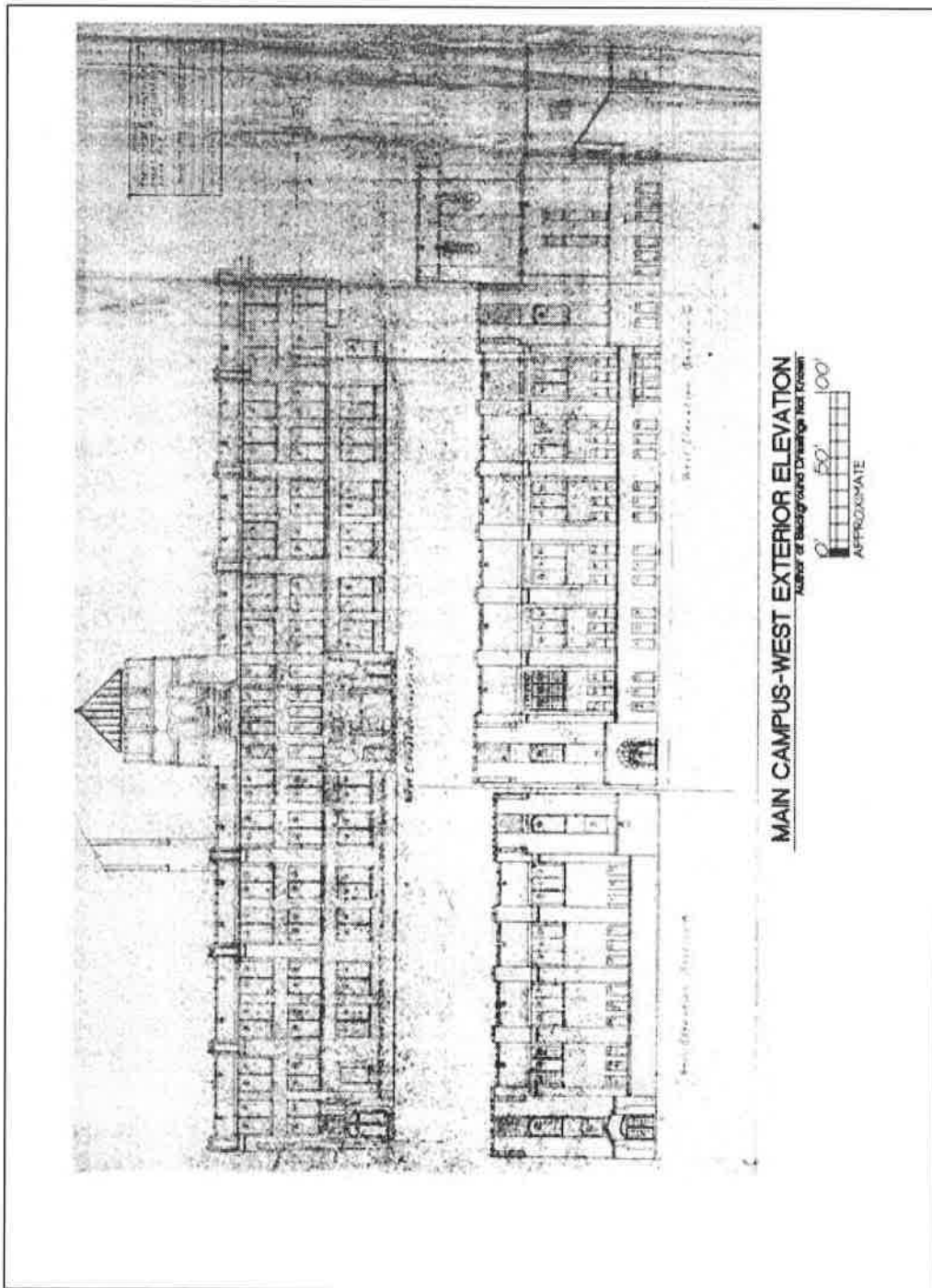


**United States Department of the Interior
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Great Falls High School Historic District
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ARCHITECTURAL WEST ELEVATION



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Great Falls High School Historic District

Name of Property

Cascade, Montana

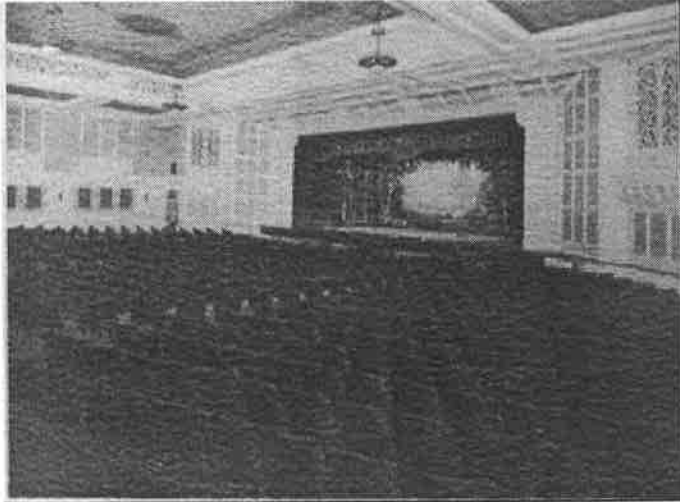
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

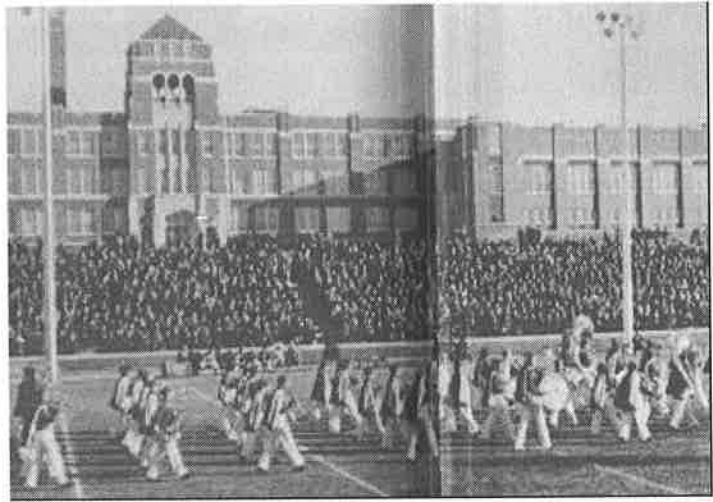
Section number Historic Photographs

Page 29

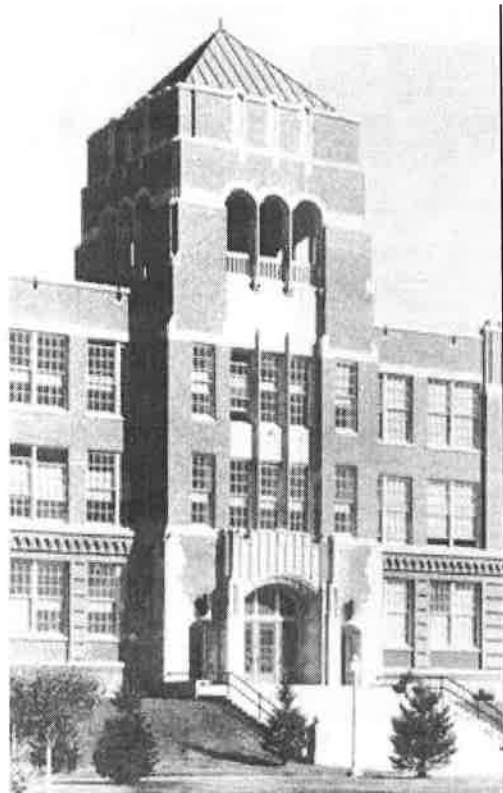
**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School Historic District from the
Round Up Yearbooks**



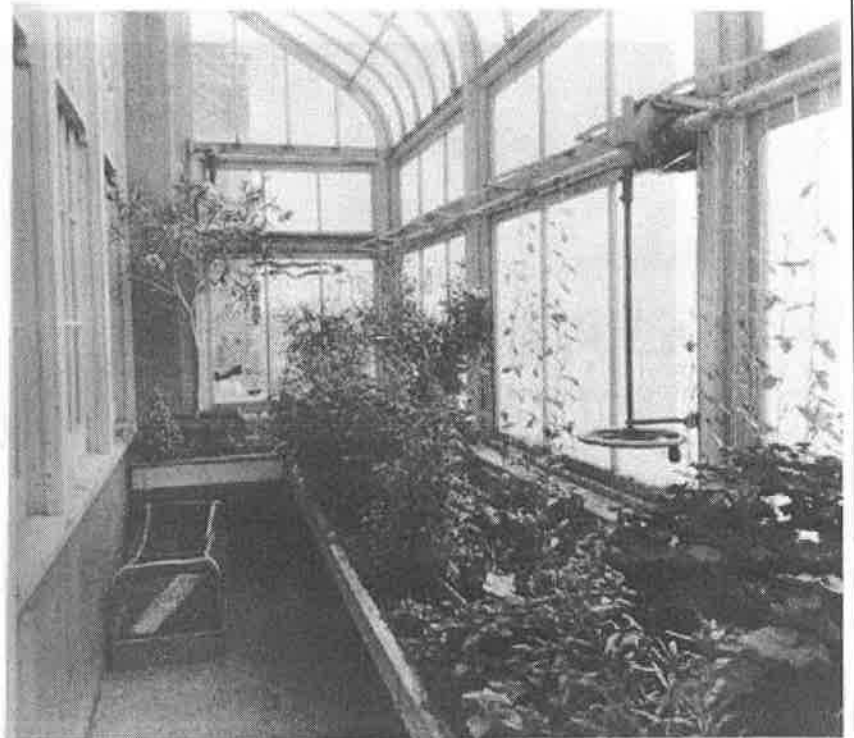
AUDITORIUM-1936



**MEMORIAL STADIUM and WEST
SIDE OF SCHOOL-1937**



WEST SIDE OF TOWER-1940



Biology Greenhouse

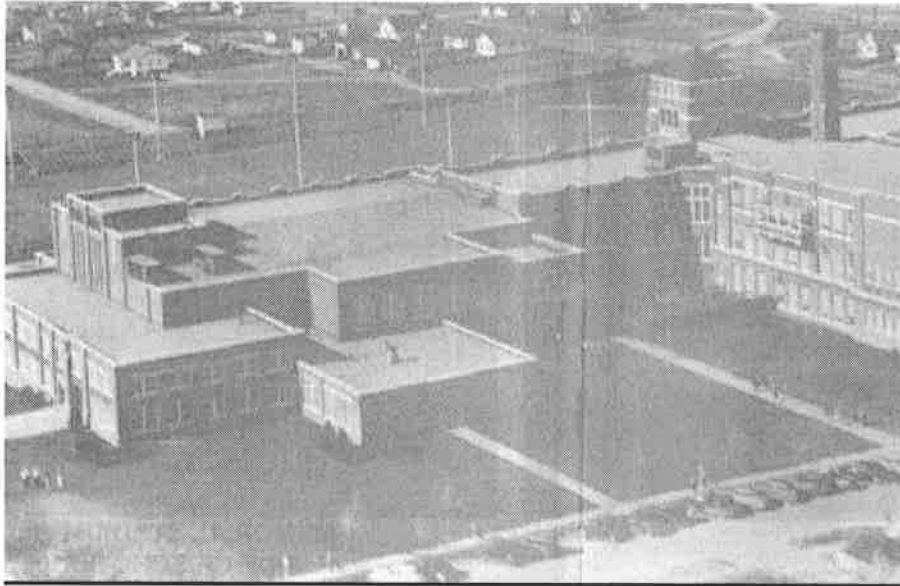
3RD FLOOR BIOLOGY GREENHOUSE-1940

**United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

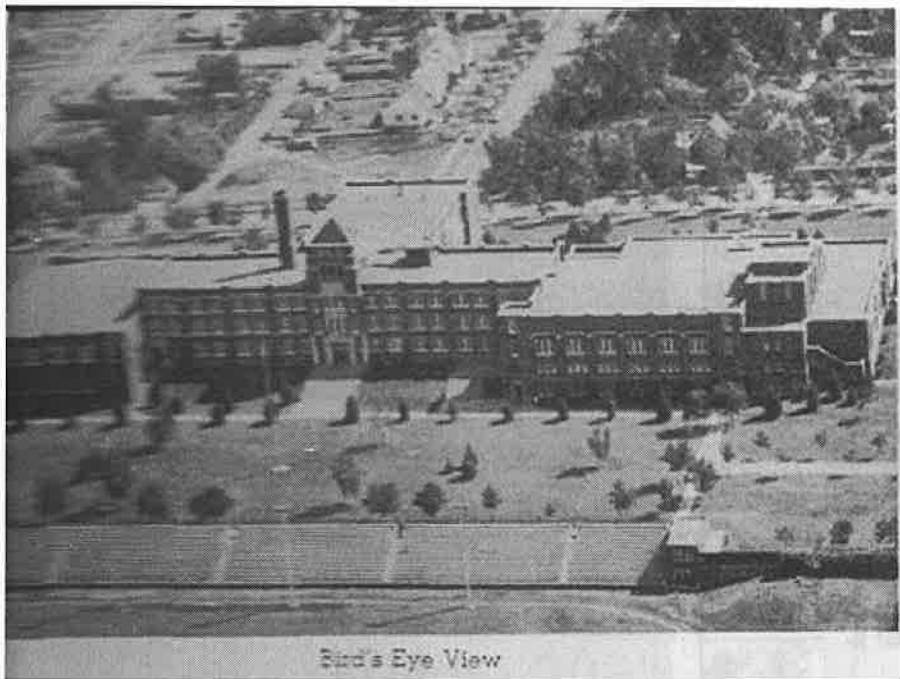
Great Falls High School Historic District
Name of Property
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SOUTHEAST SIDE OF SCHOOL-1942



WEST SIDE OF SCHOOL AND EAST SIDE OF MEMORIAL STADIUM-1953

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Section number Historic Photographs

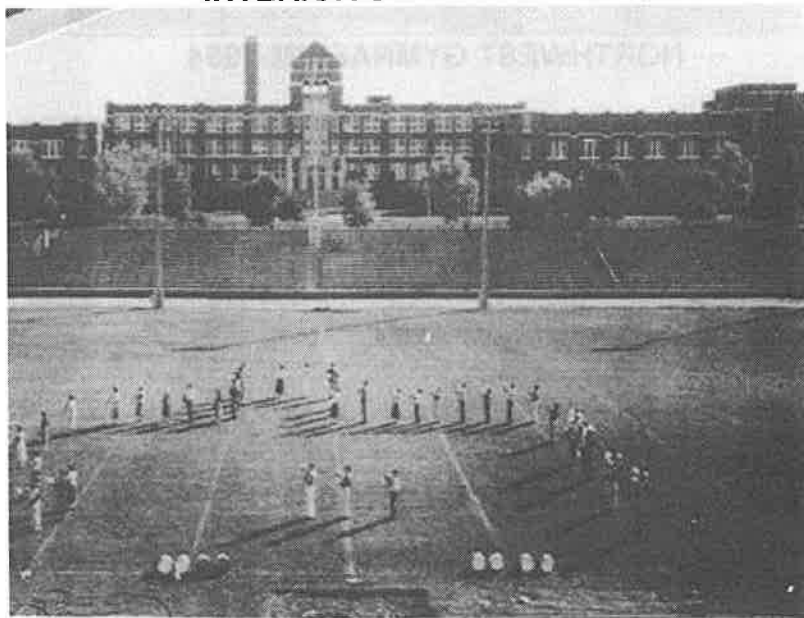
Page 31

**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School Historic District from the
Round Up Yearbooks**



Hallowed Halls

INTERIOR STAIRWAY-1953



Fall Daze with the Band

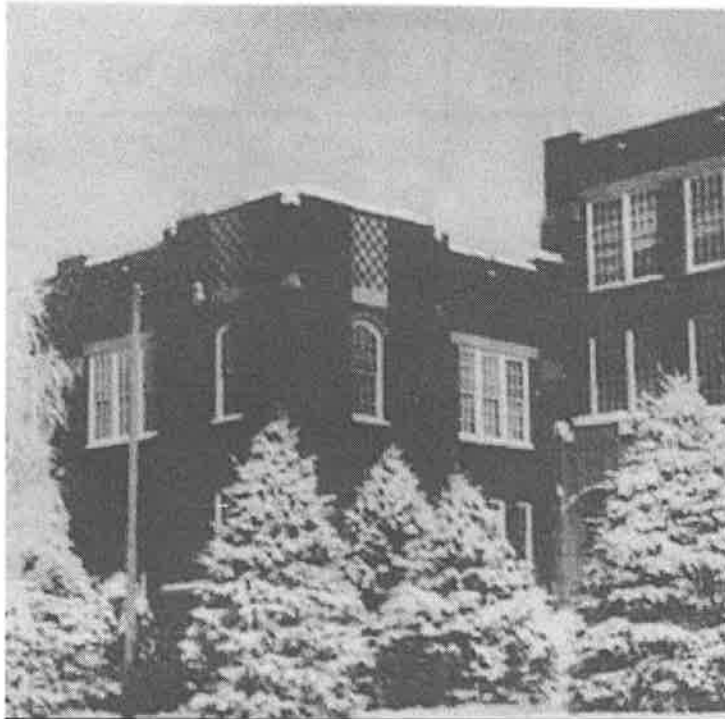
**WEST SIDE OF SCHOOL AND EAST
SIDE OF MEMORIAL STADIUM-1954**

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NORTHWEST GYMNASIUM-1954



EAST MEMORIAL STADIUM - 1954

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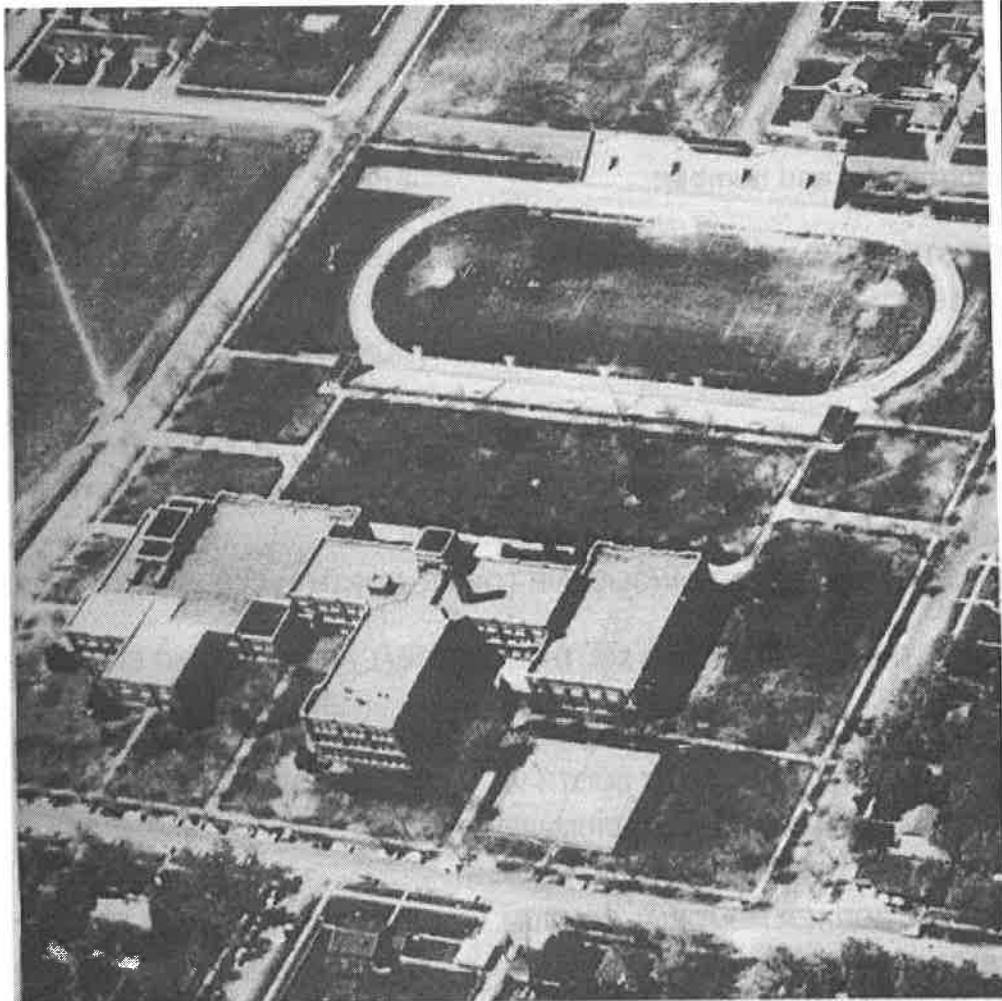
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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**Historical Photos of Great Falls High School Historic District from the
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CAMPUS

GREAT FALLS

HIGH SCHOOL

AERIAL CAMPUS FROM NORTHEAST-1958

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Great Falls High School Historic District

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Section number National Register Photographs Page 34**Phototlog**

All photos:-

Name of Property: Great Falls High School Historic District
 City or Vicinity: Great Falls
 County: Cascade State: Montana
 Photographer: Darrell A. Swanson
 Date Photographed: 2011 and 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

PHOTO 0001: SENIOR STEPS AND WEST TOWER-VIEW TO THE EAST

PHOTO 0002: WEST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST

PHOTO 0003: SOUTHWEST THEATRE ENTRANCE, WEST ELEVATION / STAIR TOWER
VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST

PHOTO 0004: 1963 ADDITION, EAST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE WEST

PHOTO 0005: EAST AND SOUTH ELVATIONS OF "T" (Greenhouse in top right corner)—VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

PHOTO 0006: SOUTH GREENHOUSE ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTH

PHOTO 0007: SOUTHWEST THEATRE ENTRANCE/STAIR TOWER, NORTH and WEST ELEVATIONS (Industrial Arts Building to Right)-VIEW TO THE SOUTH

PHOTO 0008: WEST THEATRE ELEVATION AND SOUTH INDUSTREAL ARTS BUILDING ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTH

PHOTO 0009: 1998 WRESTLING ADDITION, NORTH and EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE SOUTHWEST

PHOTO 0010: HALLWAY AND THEATRE TICKET BOOTH-VIEW TO THE EAST

PHOTO 0011: WEST ELEVATION MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE EAST

PHOTO 0012: EAST MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE WEST

PHOTO 0013: NORTHWEST CORNER MEMORIAL STADIUM, WEST BLEACHERS—VIEW TO THE SOUTH

PHOTO 0014: EAST BLEACHER, FIELD, and NORTHERN FLANKING BUILDING WITH HIGH SCHOOL IN BACKGROUND-VIEW TO THE EAST

PHOTO 0015: FLANKING BUILDING OF EAST BLEACHER, SOUTH AND EAST ELEVATIONS (Industrial Arts Building to Right)—VIEW TO THE NORTH-NORTHWEST

PHOTO 0016: EAST BLEACHER, FIELD, and SOUTH FLANKING BUILDING—VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST

PHOTO 0017: CLOSE-UP OF MEMORIAL STADIUM DEDICATION PLAQUE

PHOTO 0018: INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING, WEST and SOUTH ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST

PHOTO 0019: INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING, NORTH ELEVATION—VIEW TO THE SOUTH

PHOTO 0020: PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (SOUTH OF WEST BLEACHERS), EAST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

PHOTO 0021: NONPERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDINGS (TWO) and PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (ONE) [NORTH OF WEST BLEACHERS], EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

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PHOTO 0022: OVERVIEW OF NONPERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDINGS (TWO) and PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (ONE) [NORTH OF WEST BLEACHERS] WITH TRACK IN FOREGROUND, EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE WEST

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PHOTO 0001: SENIOR STEPS AND WEST TOWER-VIEW TO THE EAST

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PHOTO 0002: WEST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST

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**PHOTO 0003: SOUTHWEST THEATRE ENTRANCE, WEST ELEVATION / STAIR TOWER
VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST**

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PHOTO 0004: 1963 ADDITION, EAST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE WEST

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PHOTO 0005: EAST AND SOUTH ELVATIONS OF "T" (Greenhouse in top right corner)—VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

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PHOTO 0006: SOUTH GREENHOUSE ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTH

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PHOTO 0007: SOUTHWEST THEATRE ENTRANCE/STAIR TOWER, NORTH and WEST ELEVATIONS (Industrial Arts Building to Right)-VIEW TO THE SOUTH

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PHOTO 0008: WEST THEATRE ELEVATION AND SOUTH INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTH

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PHOTO 0009: 1998 WRESTLING ADDITION, NORTH and EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE SOUTHWEST

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PHOTO 0010: HALLWAY AND THEATRE TICKET BOOTH-VIEW TO THE EAST

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PHOTO 0011: WEST ELEVATION MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE EAST

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PHOTO 0012: EAST MEMORIAL STADIUM-VIEW TO THE WEST

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PHOTO 0013: NORTHWEST CORNER MEMORIAL STADIUM, WEST BLEACHERS—VIEW TO THE SOUTH

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PHOTO 0014: EAST BLEACHER, FIELD, and NORTHERN FLANKING BUILDING WITH HIGH SCHOOL IN BACKGROUND-VIEW TO THE EAST

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PHOTO 0015: FLANKING BUILDING OF EAST BLEACHER, SOUTH AND EAST ELEVATIONS (Industrial Arts Building to Right)—VIEW TO THE NORTH-NORTHWEST

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PHOTO 0016: EAST BLEACHER, FIELD, and SOUTH FLANKING BUILDING—VIEW TO THE SOUTHEAST

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PHOTO 0017: CLOSE-UP OF MEMORIAL STADIUM DEDICATION PLAQUE

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PHOTO 0018: INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING, WEST and SOUTH ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE NORTHEAST

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PHOTO 0019: INDUSTRIAL ARTS BUILDING, NORTH ELEVATION—VIEW TO THE SOUTH

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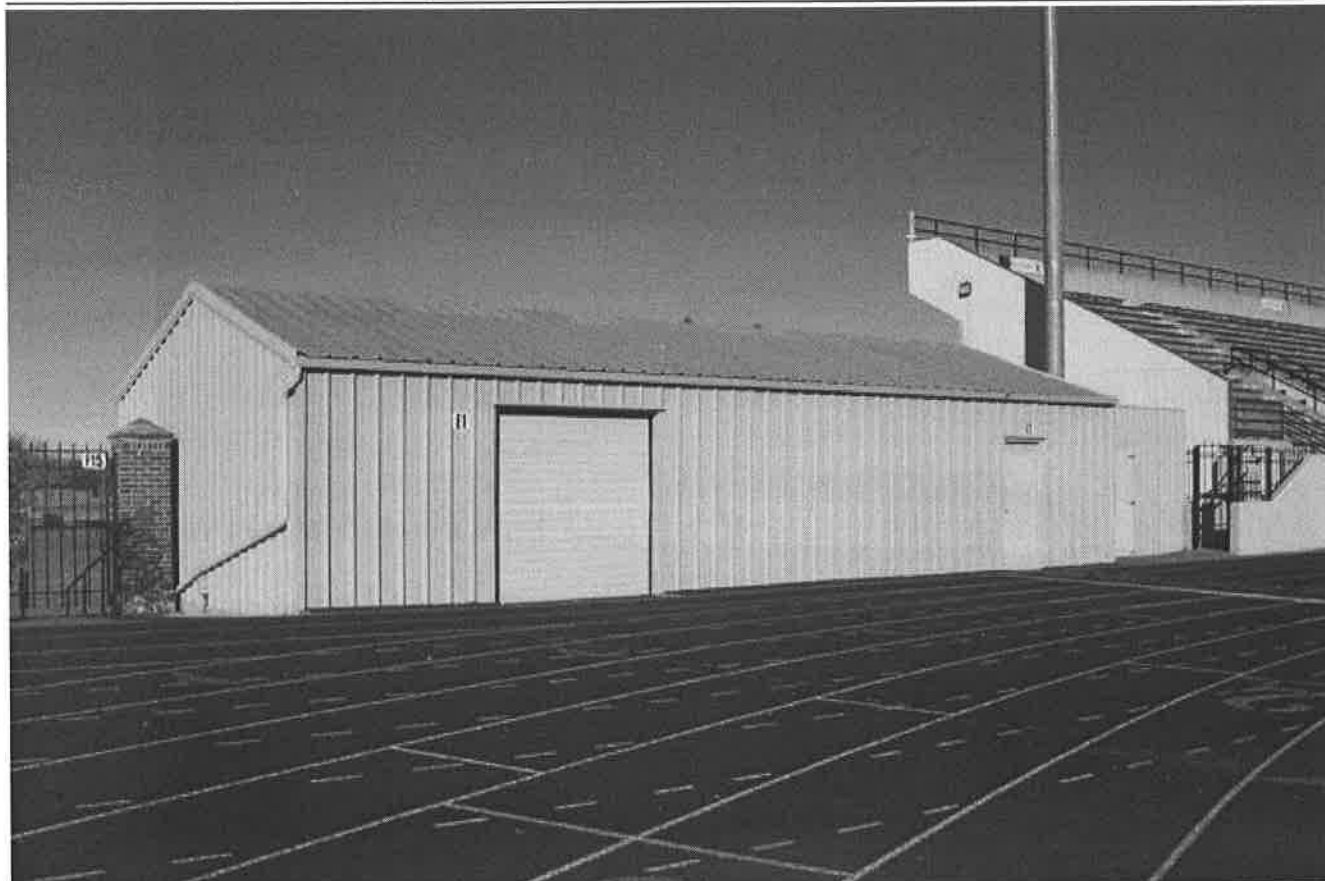


PHOTO 0020: PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (SOUTH OF WEST BLEACHERS), EAST ELEVATION-VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

**United States Department of the Interior
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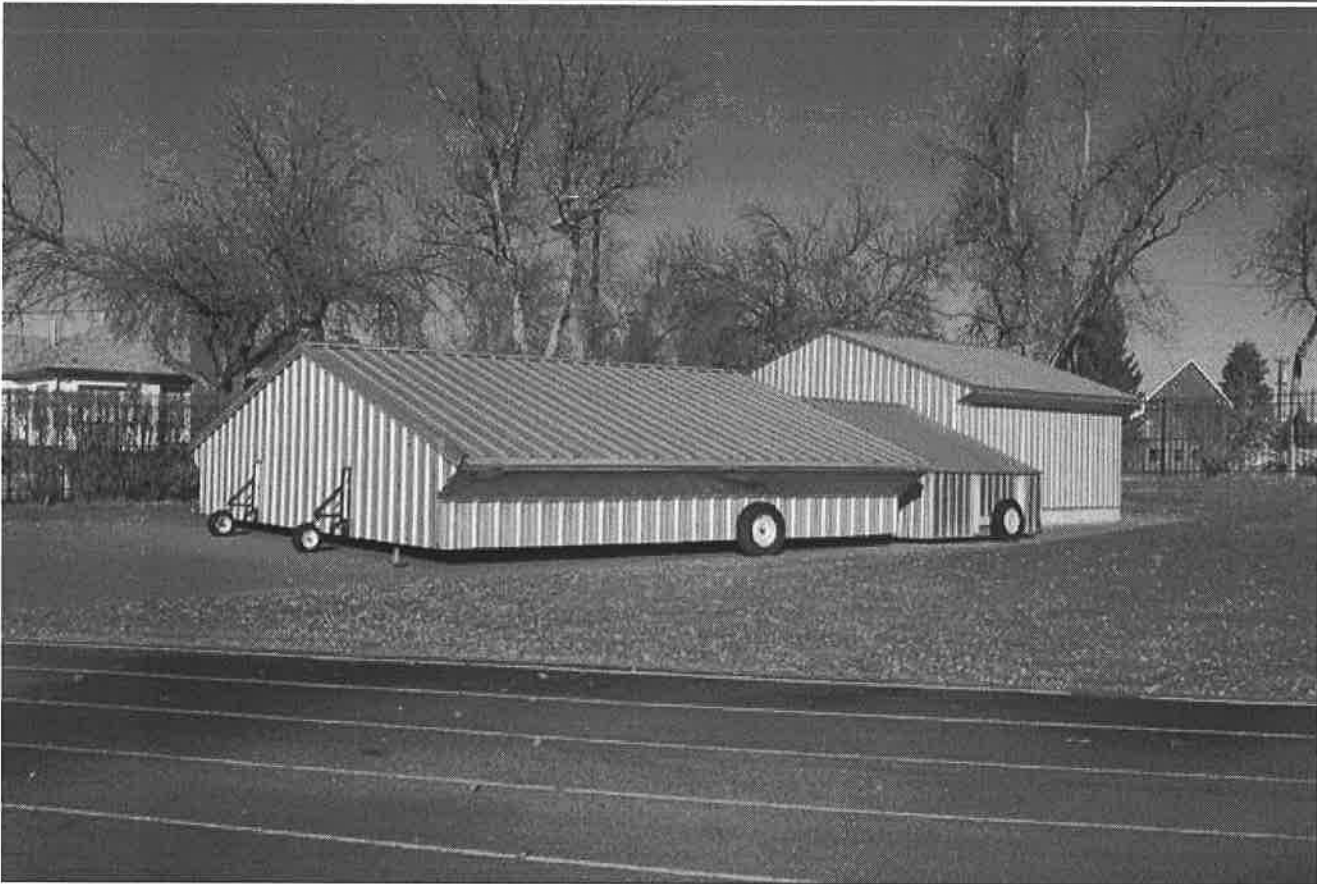


PHOTO 0021: NONPERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDINGS (TWO) and PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (ONE) [NORTH OF WEST BLEACHERS], EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE NORTHWEST

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet**

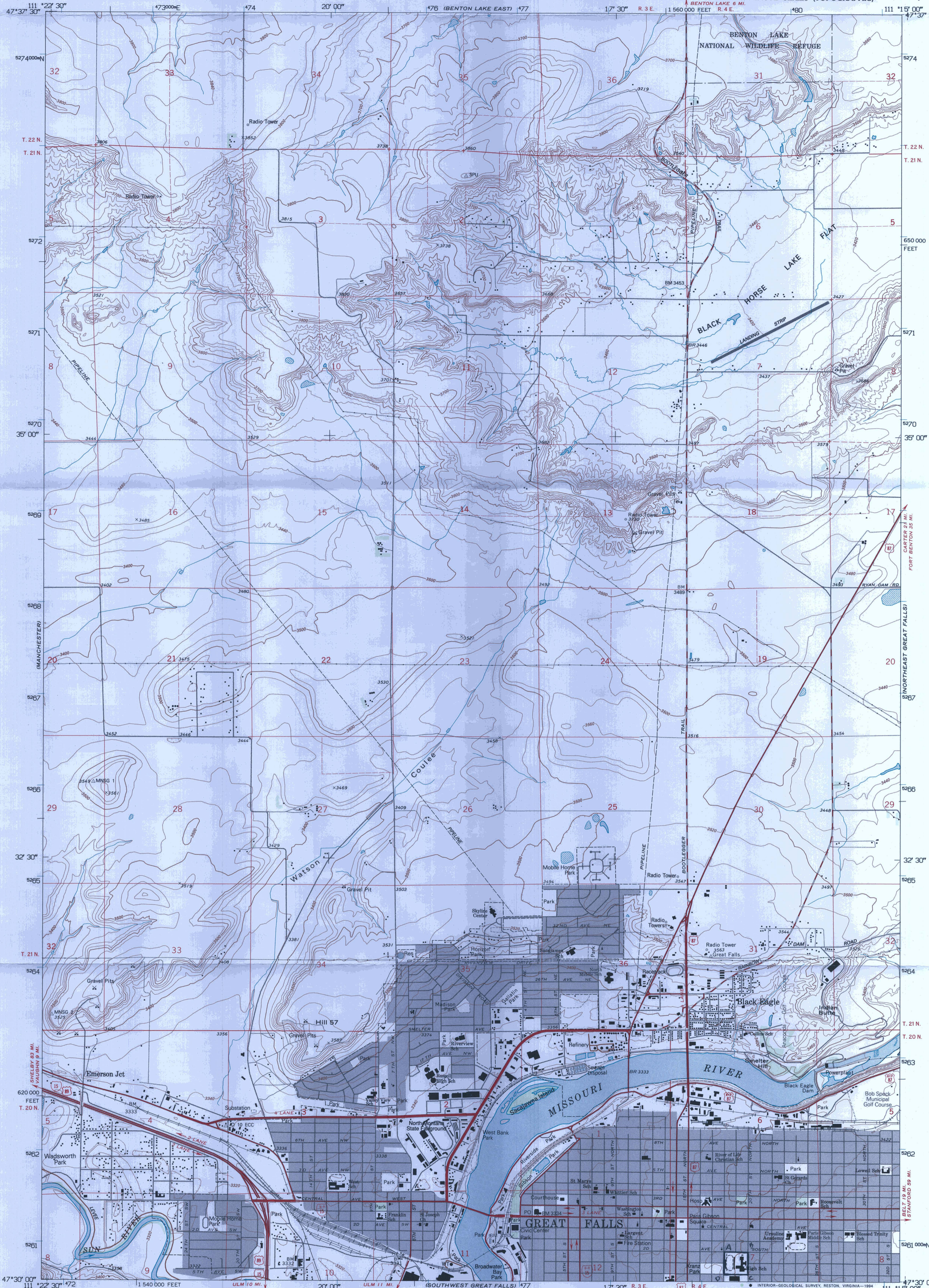
Great Falls High School Historic District
Name of Property
Cascade, Montana
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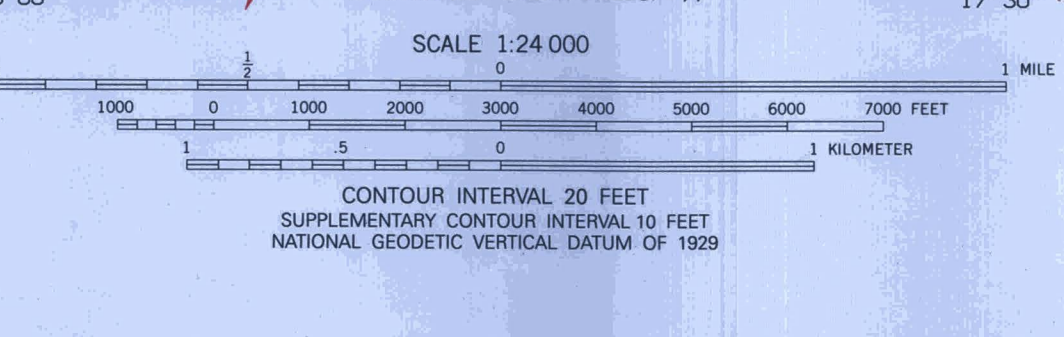
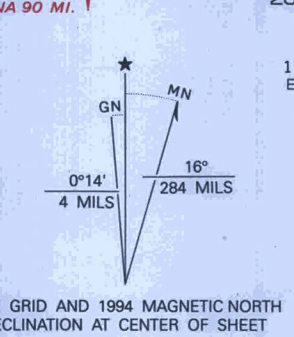
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PHOTO 0022: OVERVIEW OF NONPERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDINGS (TWO) and PERMANENT MAINTENANCE BUILDING (ONE) [NORTH OF WEST BLEACHERS] WITH TRACK IN FOREGROUND, EAST ELEVATIONS—VIEW TO THE WEST



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Compiled from aerial photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1965
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1990 and other sources
Map edited 1994
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and
blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 12
10000-foot ticks: Montana Coordinate System, central zone
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed
corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83
for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic
Survey NADCON software
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map
Gray tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route



NORTHWEST GREAT FALLS, MONT.
47111-E3-TF-024

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1965
REVISED 1994
DMA 3779 III SE-SERIES 1894



GREAT BUILDING
GREAT BUILDING
GREAT BUILDING

100

Secret
Trust







GREAT FALLS
HIGH SCHOOL

20th St S







M10





17







MEMORIAL STADIUM











★ ★
MEMORIAL FIELD

DEDICATED NOVEMBER 11, 1930,

— **IN MEMORY** —

OF THOSE MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS
OF GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE WORLD WAR
AND OFFERED THEIR LIVES
THAT WE MIGHT LIVE.

★ ★
"GREATER LOVE HATH NO WAR THAN THIS,
THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE
FOR HIS FRIENDS."

DIED IN SERVICE

FRED C. CAMPBELL	HERBERT J. McNAMARA
JOHN B. CASCADEN	CLAIR MARSH
FRANCIS K. DUCAN	SVERRE O. MONSOS
JOHN B. FRENCH	GEORGE S. REISZ
HARLEY A. HAMILTON	CHARLES L. WATKINS







115

E1

E2

SECTION A

SECTION B





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Great Falls High School Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MONTANA, Cascade

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/05/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/20/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/20/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000097

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3-20-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



January 23, 2013

Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye St. NW
8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull,

Enclosed please find the following nomination for your consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

The Great Falls High School Historic District, Cascade County, Montana

Please be advised that I submit the enclosed nomination under your revised procedures. I notified the owners and public officials in excess of 30 days prior to the Preservation Review Board meeting.

Please note that a request for postponement of the nomination's presentation to the Preservation Review Board was submitted by the Great Falls Public Schools. The request was declined by the Montana State Historic Preservation Office as the nomination was prepared by an outside party who wished to proceed with the presentation. The property was originally and continues to be publically-owned.

The Review Board unanimously recommended that this property be nominated and I concur with its recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Baumler, PhD
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure