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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Pantall Elementary School
Other names/site number: Stevens Elementary School; 5LO.902
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



2. Location

Street & number: 1215 N. 5th Street
City or town: Sterling State: CO County: Logan
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 A B C D

 	
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date	
<u>Colorado SHPO</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official: Date	
Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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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:)

By Barbara Wyatt
Signature of the Keeper

7-9-15
Date of Action

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education / School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant / Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement / International Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Glass, Metal

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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Summary Paragraph

The Pantall Elementary School is located in a residential neighborhood in Sterling, north of downtown and southwest of the Northeastern Junior College campus. Designed by architects Eugene D. Sternberg and Robert J. Murrin, the school building is an irregularly-shaped, one-story building which displays modernist elements of the International Style of architecture. The architects designed the building in the summer of 1952. Construction began in October of that year and it was completed in August of 1953 with the Craftsmen Construction Company as the general contractor. Comprising some 30,200 square feet of space, the building consists of the following basic elements: an east (front-center) administration wing; a tall north wing, consisting primarily of the gymnasium/cafeteria a music room, and a boiler room; two classroom wings (identified as the southeast classroom wing and the southwest classroom wing); and a south-center wing, consisting of the kindergarten room, a short north-south oriented hallway, a life skills room, and a meeting room. The building's plan forms a small courtyard between the tall north wing, the administration wing, and the southeast classroom wing.

Within the building, the north wall of the administration wing intersects with the east end of the south wall of the gymnasium/cafeteria wing. The south end of the administration wing flows into the east-west oriented hallway of the southeast classroom wing. At the west end of this east-west oriented hallway, the southeast classroom wing intersects with the north end of the short north-south oriented hallway of the south-center wing. The east end of the east-west oriented hallway of the southwest classroom wing intersects with the short north-south oriented hallway of the south-center wing.

The east (front-center) administration wing contains the entry corridor, offices, staff restrooms, and a kitchen. The north wing primarily consists of a large, tall, room which functioned as the school's gymnasium, cafeteria, assembly room, and performance hall with a stage at the west end. The west end of the north wing is a 1977 addition which consists of a music room and a boiler room. The southeast classroom wing contains eight classrooms (one of which was converted to a boiler room), a center hallway, and boys' and girls' restrooms. The southwest classroom wing contains six classrooms, and a center hallway. The south-center wing contains the kindergarten room and a short hallway, as well as two additional rooms which comprise a 1977 modest infill addition.

In addition to the school, a noncontributing secondary building is also located on the property. Measuring 24' N-S x 36' E-W, the wood frame secondary building was primarily used to store audio visual and computer equipment.

The school property is sited on a flat parcel of land bordered by North 5th Street on the east, Pantall Street on the north, and North 6th Street on the west. The property comprises 4.65 acres (202,554 square feet) of land which takes up nearly sixty percent of an oversized city block. A grass lawn and concrete sidewalk are located between the school and North 5th Street to the east. Two deciduous trees and a metal flagpole are in this area east of, or in front of, the building. Grass athletic fields, historically including two baseball diamonds, and a playground, are located north and northwest of the school. Asphalt-paved basketball courts are located west of the school. A grass lawn, kindergarten playground, asphalt-paved playground, and asphalt-paved parking lot, are located south of the building. Portions of the property are enclosed by

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chain link fence. Residential lots, fronting onto Cleveland Street and North 6th Street are located south and west of the school property.

Narrative Description

School Building, (1952-1953, 1977 addition); photos 1-26, 31-37

*General Characteristics*¹

The school is supported by a cast-in-place reinforced concrete foundation with the top of the perimeter walls minimally exposed above grade. The floor is a concrete slab on grade with no basement.² The exterior walls are made of brick including areas laid in running bond, common bond, and stack bond.³ Roof forms include a flat roof over the administration wing and kindergarten wing, a very low-pitched gable roof over the gymnasium/cafeteria wing, and low-pitched monitor roofs with bands of clerestory windows over the classroom wings. The entire roof was originally covered with built-up gravel and tar composition roofing material; however, most of the roof surface has been re-roofed with a synthetic membrane material. The roof is supported by wood or steel rafters, steel beams and the brick masonry walls. A painted grey wood fascia board appears at the top of the walls, and the edges of the eaves are wrapped with painted grey galvanized metal. A large red brick chimney with a painted grey galvanized metal cap is located toward the front southeast corner of the building. Windows throughout the building are set in painted steel frames, with bands of three-light windows as the predominant glazing pattern. For each three-light window, the bottom pane is an inward swinging hopper window, the middle pane is an outward swinging awning window, and the upper pane is a fixed-pane window. Many windows have been painted over, and several are covered with plywood or particle board including some with broken glass. A vertically-oriented six-light window extends from grade to the roof eave near the north end of the east-facing side providing natural light for the gymnasium/cafeteria. Additional natural light is provided by bands of clerestory windows at the top of the north and south walls of the gymnasium/cafeteria. Clerestory windows incorporated into the monitor roofs provide natural light for the classrooms in the two classroom wings.⁴

Exterior doors throughout the building are primarily wood-paneled or solid wood. The main entry, leading into the administration wing on the east-facing side, contains two sets of paired

¹The foregoing architectural description is based on observations and notes taken during a field survey on January 26, 2015, on the "Historic Structure Assessment and Preservation Plan" completed by SLATERPAULL Architects in January 2015, and on "Specifications for New Elementary School for Colorado School District No. 12 Sterling, Colorado" prepared by Eugene Sternberg in August 1952.

²Architect Eugene Sternberg originally designed the building with basement levels under the administration wing and under the west end of the gymnasium/cafeteria, where the performance stage is located. Neither basement was excavated or built, however.

³Sternberg's "Specifications" required that: "brick for stack bond shall be smooth face buff Roman brick. All other brick shall be Princeton Specials, and all interior brick shall be Pink Pioneers as manufactured by the Denver Sewer Pipe and Clay Co. or equal." And further that the mortar was required to be: "one part cement, two part lime, and six part sand, no joint more than 1/2" thick."

⁴Sternberg's "Specifications" required: "steel windows mfg. by Truscon Steel Co., Detroit Steel Products Co., Ceco Steel Products Corp. or equal." And further, that: "all glass shall be Mississippi Glass Co., Libby-Owens-Ford Co., Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. make or approved equal."

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wood-paneled doors, each door with a long upper sash light, and each set of doors with a transom light. A solid door with a sidelight and two transom lights enters the gymnasium/cafeteria near the north end of the east-facing side. Two solid doors, each with a transom light, enter the music room/boiler room addition near the north end of the west-facing side. A set of wood-paneled doors, each with a long plywood-filled upper sash light, enter the north wing from within the courtyard on the south-facing side of the gymnasium/cafeteria. A plywood-covered door, with a transom light, enters the kitchen on the west-facing side of the administration wing from within the courtyard. The west-facing ends of the southeast classroom wing and the southwest classroom wing each contain a set of paired wood-paneled doors, with long upper sash lights, and with sidelights and transom lights (some of which are covered or filled with plywood). Solid wood doors, with transom lights, are also provided for each classroom.

Administration Wing

The administration wing forms the front (east) center section of the school. Its exterior walls are exposed on the east-facing and west-facing sides; its north end abuts the gymnasium/cafeteria; its south end flows into the southeast classroom wing. Measuring approximately 80' N-S x 45' E-W, this section of the school building contains the front entry foyer and hallway, offices, staff restrooms, and the kitchen. There are five offices including one for the principal, one for the school nurse, and three others. The kitchen is located in the northwest end of the administration wing. The kitchen's north wall is penetrated by openings for food service into the cafeteria. The exterior walls of this section of the school are made of brick, including pale red brick laid in running bond, and beige color brick below the windows laid in stack bond. The roof is flat and is cantilevered to project beyond the wall surface on the east facing side. Bands of three-light windows flank the main entry on the east-facing side. This entry contains two sets of paired wood-paneled doors, each door with a long upper sash light, and each set of doors with a transom light. A wood-paneled door, covered by a sheet of plywood, enters through the west wall of the kitchen from within the courtyard. This door is flanked by a band of windows with fixed-pane upper sashes and inward swinging hopper lower sashes.

Gymnasium / Cafeteria Wing

Forming the north end of the original school, this wing measures approximately 46' N-S x 95' E-W, and it is approximately 19' in height from the floor to the top of the walls. This portion of the school consists of a large single room which served as the gymnasium, cafeteria, assembly room, and performance hall. The walls of this wing are made of pale red brick laid in common bond, with headers every seventh course. The roof is a very low-pitched gable, supported by steel roof trusses which are exposed on the interior and project through the top of the north and south walls. Between the exposed roof trusses, the top of the north and south walls are penetrated by bands of clerestory windows. A painted blue wood door with a transom light enters this wing on the east-facing side. The primary access, however, is via the front entry hall in the administration wing. A low flat-roofed extension to this wing extends into the courtyard at the west end of the gymnasium's south wall.

An elevated stage of wood frame construction forms the west end of the interior of this wing. Cafeteria tables and benches are folded into recessed panels on the interior of the north wall. The south wall contains openings for food service from the kitchen. Basketball backboards, hoops, and nets are suspended from the roof framing system at the east and west ends of the

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gymnasium/cafeteria. A large circular-shaped logo is painted in the center of the floor. The logo is blue in color, with a yellow border, a large five-pointed yellow star, and the words "STEVENS STARS."

Southeast Classroom Wing and Southwest Classroom Wing

This section of the school is divided into two wings with classrooms on either side of east-west oriented hallways. The southwest wing is offset approximately 35' farther south than the southeast wing, and the two wings are connected by a short north-south oriented hallway. The southeast classroom wing measures approximately 70' N-S x 133' E-W. It contains four classrooms on the north side of a center hallway, and another four classrooms on the south side of the center hallway.⁵ Boys' and girls' restrooms are at the west end of this wing, accessed from the short hallway between the two wings. The southwest classroom wing measures approximately 60' N-S x 110' E-W. It contains six classrooms - three classrooms on the north side of a center hallway and three classrooms on the south side.

The exterior walls of the classroom wings are made of red brick laid in running bond, with beige brick laid in stack bond below the windows. Each wing is covered by a monitor roof with a band of clerestory windows. The west end of each of the two hallways contain a set of paired painted blue wood-paneled entry doors with transom lights, and with clerestory lights in the end of the monitor roofs above the entryways. Each classroom has a door leading directly outside as well as a door leading into the hallway. The exterior classroom doors are typically painted grey wood with transom lights. The exterior wall of each classroom typically contains a band of six three-light windows in painted grey steel frames.

The hallway ceilings are made of acoustical tiles placed in a dropped wooden framework, with mechanical and utility systems in the attic space above.

Kindergarten Wing / South-Center Wing

The kindergarten wing measures approximately 33' N-S x 44' E-W. It is located beyond the south end of the short hallway between the two classroom wings at the far south end of the school. The kindergarten room's east and west walls are made of pale red brick laid in running bond, and extend beyond the plane of the south wall. The east wall is also curved outward from north to south. The south wall features beige color brick, laid in stack bond, west of an entry door and below a band of six three-light windows in steel frames. Three outward swinging awning windows appear at the top of the south wall. The roof is primarily flat; however, its south end flares slightly upward and it extends beyond the plane of the south wall.

Life Skills Room and Meeting Room (1977 Addition)

The life skills room and meeting room form a 1977 infill addition between the kindergarten room and the west end of the southeast classroom wing. This portion of the school measures approximately 34' N-S x 50' E-W. Its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond

⁵The classroom, at the southeast corner of this wing was originally the music room. It was converted into a mechanical room after the music room addition was built onto the west end of the gymnasium / cafeteria wing in 1977.

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and the roof is flat. The exposed east-facing side contains two painted grey metal doors and two bands of steel framed windows.

Music Room / Boiler Room (1977 Addition)

This section of the building was erected as an addition in 1977 at the west end of the gymnasium/ cafeteria. Measuring approximately 53' E-W x 25' N-S, it consists of a music room and a boiler room. Its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond, with headers every seventh course. The roof is flat. The west wall contains two entry doors and a band of six three-light windows in steel frames.

Interior Finishes and Features

The front hallway in the administration wing and the restrooms at the west end of the southwest classroom wing feature quarry tile floors. The tiles are 6" square and laid in a brickwork type pattern. The classrooms and gymnasium/cafeteria room floors feature asbestos vinyl tile. The hallways in the classroom wings are carpeted as are portions of several classrooms. The carpet is not original and was presumably laid over the asbestos vinyl tile. Interior walls include exposed brick, plaster, and gypsum board. The hallways and classrooms primarily feature pale red brick laid in running bond, while the gymnasium/cafeteria displays pale red brick laid in common bond. Partition walls between the offices in the administration wing are primarily made of gypsum board. Ceilings throughout are primarily consist of 12" x 12" acoustical tiles.⁶ Doors which enter the classrooms from the hallways are hollow-core birch doors set in painted metal frames.

Each classroom typically contains the following features: a small closet with a hollow-core door; a chalkboard with a chalk tray against an end wall; a corkboard (placed over the original chalkboards); painted metal shelving below the windows; cabinetry; a stainless steel sink with an adjacent countertop; wall-mounted coat hooks and shelves or cubbies near the exterior door.

Secondary Building, (unknown construction date); photos 27-30

Secondary Building

In addition to the school, one other building is located on the property. Considered noncontributing to the National Register, this is a modest wood frame building located near the west end of the courtyard. It measures 24' N-S x 36' E-W and is supported by a foundation of painted grey concrete block perimeter walls which extend approximately 2½' above grade. The exterior walls are clad with painted grey vertical wood siding. The roof is a low-pitched gable, covered with asphalt composition shingles. Painted grey rafter ends with a fascia board are exposed beneath the eaves. Three painted grey wood doors, each with a small square upper sash light, are respectively located at either end of the east-facing side and at the west end of the south-facing side. Each of these doors enter the building from a four-step wood porch with a wood railing. A small two-light horizontal sliding window is located near the west end of the north-facing side. A plywood-covered window is located near the center of the east-facing side.

⁶Sternberg's "Specifications" required: "acoustical (ceiling) tile ¾" thick 12" x 12" random perforation type C. I.R. acoustical tile as mfg. by the Celotex Corp. or equal."

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Although this building's date of construction is unknown, it may be the building reportedly moved from the Junior High School onto the Pantall School property in 1974, as referenced by the "Accountability Advisory Committee Report on Facility and Facility Needs" prepared by Principal Manley Stevens (n. d., ca 1975). In the report Manley writes: "In the fall of 1974 a cottage from the Junior High was moved to the area next to the front of the building on the south side." The building was utilized as additional classroom space in the late 1970s and was apparently later moved to the courtyard area at an unknown date. In its current location prior to 2007 the building was reportedly used to store audio visual and computer equipment.

Integrity

The Pantall Elementary School building displays a high standard of integrity relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and History Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation – location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Integrity of Location is defined as "the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred." The Pantall Elementary School has been located on the site where it was constructed throughout its existence, from when it was completed in 1953 to the present. The school, therefore, displays a high standard of integrity of location.

Integrity of Design is defined as "the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property." The school building's basic form, plan, spatial arrangement, massing, scale, and style remain very much intact. The building's original design was modified in 1977 by the construction of two modest additions. The additions are to the side and rear of the original building, and are architecturally compatible with and subservient to the original construction. Yet they are discernable as additions. The school building, therefore, retains a high level of integrity of design.

Integrity of Setting is defined as "the physical environment of a historic property." The school's setting consists of the school property itself, as well as the surrounding residential neighborhood. Both are little changed from the years when the school was in operation. Although no longer in use, features which comprise the school property's setting remain intact. These include athletic fields, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, a playground, parking lot, sidewalks, and landscaping features. Consisting primarily of modest single family homes, the setting of the neighborhood surrounding the school also remains intact.

Integrity of Materials is defined as "the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property." The physical elements created by the school building's original construction remain intact and visible on the exterior and within the interior spaces and therefore has a high level of integrity for materials.

Integrity of Workmanship is defined as "the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory." The school building's design and construction resulted from considerable expertise and skill brought to fruition by its architects and builders. This is evidenced in the high quality of the building's overall construction, in its numerous construction details, and in such innovative features as clerestory windows to allow

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natural lighting, education-oriented built-in elements within the individual classrooms, and state-of-the-art safety features including the one-story plan, and an exterior door for each classroom, which is all intact.

Integrity of Feeling is defined as "a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time." With its physical features present and intact, the Pantall School unquestioningly evokes an expression of its historic use as an elementary school during the years between 1953 and 2007.

Integrity of Association is defined as "the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property." The Pantall School provides a direct link to the theme of education within the community of Sterling, and it also provides a direct link to, and is highly representative of school buildings designed by architect Eugene Sternberg.

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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.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Education

Period of Significance

1952-1953 (Architecture)

1953-1965 (Education)

Significant Dates

1952-1953

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Eugene D. Sternberg

Robert J. Murrin

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Pantall Elementary School is locally significant in the area of Education under Criterion A. The school opened for the 1953-1954 school year, and remained in use as an elementary school until its closure at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. Throughout much of its history, Pantall was one of just four elementary schools which served Sterling and School District No. 12.⁷ The period of significance, relative to Education as an area of significance begins in 1953 when the school opened and ends in 1965, in keeping with the National Register guidelines.

The Pantall Elementary School is also locally significant in the area of Architecture under Criterion C. It was designed by renowned Denver architect Eugene D. Sternberg in partnership with Sterling architect Robert J. Murrin. In addition to being the product of a master architect, the building is a good example and also embodies the distinctive characteristics of an International style school. The period of significance relative to Architecture as an area of significance is 1952-1953, the time period during which the building was planned by the school board, designed by its architects, and constructed by its builders.

⁷Two other public elementary schools and one Catholic elementary school were in existence in Sterling when the Pantall School was built. These were Franklin School, Lincoln School, and St. Anthony's School. School District No. 12 is now known as the RE-1 Valley School District.

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

Criterion A - Education

Over the course of more than a half century, thousands of children were educated in the building, from kindergarten through the sixth grade. It was here that they were taught, developed new skills, participated in athletics, engaged in extracurricular activities, established friendships, and matured through their formative years. In Sterling as elsewhere, a child's elementary school was a primary institution in his or her life.

The school's planning and construction was in response to a population and housing boom which occurred during the late 1940s and early 1950s. On a local level, the boom was fueled by an expanding post World War II economy, anchored by the robust sugar beet industry, the railroad, local governments, and other industries, including oil and gas.⁸ On a broader level, the school's construction was influenced by factors which were impacting the entire nation. These were an unparalleled increase in America's birthrate, the rise of suburban neighborhoods, and an increased emphasis on education, particularly in science, at the beginning of the Cold War era.⁹ With the first wave of "baby boom" children reaching school age in the early 1950s, existing schools were filled to capacity. New elementary schools were being planned and built throughout the country, including Pantall Elementary in Sterling.¹⁰

Criterion C – Architecture

Utilizing a modernist approach, Sternberg and Murrin designed the building in the International style of architecture. Influenced by the construction of Depression-era WPA Modernist schools, this style dominated school design into the 1960s. Pantall, and other schools like it across the country, were designed to embrace and convey progress, modernity, safety, and efficiency. They appeared in sharp contrast to older school buildings which seemed antiquated by comparison. The design of such schools evolved from decades of progressive reforms and from massive government-funded school construction undertaken as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal policies¹¹

Elements of the International style seen in the Pantall School's design include its asymmetrical plan, horizontal lines, smooth wall surfaces, flat or very low-pitched roofs, horizontally-oriented window arrangements, and a clear emphasis on function rather than ornamentation. The school was designed entirely on one level, with no stairs, and with each classroom having its own door to the outside. Other notable design elements included natural light by way of clerestory windows, a state of the art intercom system, and thoroughly modern mechanical and electrical

⁸Major employers in the region included the Great Western Sugar Company, Logan County, the City of Sterling, the Union Pacific Railroad, and Northeastern Colorado Junior College. Northeastern Colorado experienced an oil and gas boom in the mid-1950s.

⁹"In the Hallowed Halls of Learning: The History and Architecture of Poudre School District R-1." Historic context report prepared by Adam Thomas, Historitecture LLC, August 2004, p. 25.

¹⁰"Baby boomers" are generally defined as Americans born between 1946 and 1964. The nation's population increased by 19 million people during the 1940s, more than double the rate of the 1930s. In the 1950s, the nation's population grew by nearly 30 million.

¹¹"In the Hallowed Halls of Learning..." pp. 23, 24. As reported by this source, the Public Works Administration (PWA) financed seventy percent of school construction nationwide between 1933 and 1939, while the Works Progress Administration (WPA) built or improved over 5900 schools nationwide between 1935 and 1943.

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systems. Considered as a whole, the school was designed to provide a safer and more positive learning environment relative to schools built in earlier decades.

Historic Context

The Founding of Sterling and its Earliest Schools

Platted in 1881 and incorporated in 1884, Sterling had its start as a railroad town, at a key junction of the Union Pacific (UP) and Chicago Burlington and Quincy (CB&Q) lines. The UP line from LaSalle (south of Greeley) to Julesburg was completed in 1881, and not coincidentally Sterling's original townsite along the route was platted that same year. Completed six years later, the CB&Q line from Cheyenne, Wyoming to Holdrege, Nebraska, intersected the UP line at Sterling, further assuring the town's future as an important rail center. The railroad brought new settlers as well as lumber, other building supplies, and general merchandise, all of which enabled the town's growth and cemented its role as the region's commercial hub. Sterling's designation, in 1887, as the county seat of newly-formed Logan County led to the construction of the town's first public buildings, and helped establish a more permanent citizenry. Sterling's permanence was ensured in 1905 with the construction of a Great Western Sugar factory. Dominating the region's economy, the sugar factory promoted new agricultural practices, spawned other industries, and ushered in a new and sustained era of prosperity.

Filed by Minos C. King, Sterling's original town plat provided lots for two schools, a church, and for public buildings such as a courthouse and city hall. The community's first school was erected in 1883, southeast of downtown, in the block bordered by Lincoln Street on the south, 2nd Avenue on the west, Phelps Street on the north, and Division Avenue on the east. It was known simply as the "Public School," until circa 1910 when it was renamed "Lincoln Elementary School." Sterling's second school was erected in 1888, north of downtown, in the block bordered by Broadway Street on the north, 4th Street on the east, Pine Street on the south, and 5th Street on the west. Known as the "Broadway School," it existed until 1910 when it was razed to make way for a new high school named the "Logan County Industrial Arts High School."¹² By 1910, another primary school, named "Franklin Elementary School," had been erected. It was located in the block bordered by Walnut Street on the north, 4th Street on the east, Oak Street on the south, and 5th Street on the west.

Along with St. Anthony's Catholic School, the three public schools - Lincoln Elementary, Franklin Elementary, and the Logan County High School - adequately served the community's educational needs for the next several years.¹³ In time, a new high school was built at the west end of town, while the existing high school on the site of the old Broadway School was converted into a junior high school.¹⁴

¹²High school students from Sterling and the surrounding rural areas of Logan County had consolidated in 1901.

¹³Still in existence, the Catholic school is located across the street from St. Anthony's Church at the corner of Cedar and 3rd Streets.

¹⁴There was no junior high school prior to that time, as apparently grades one through eight were taught at the elementary schools, and grades nine through twelve were taught at the high school.

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Construction of Pantall Elementary School 1952-1953

By 1950, enrollment at Sterling's elementary schools exceeded capacity, and based on demographic projections, the need for a new elementary school was abundantly clear. In 1952, School District No. 12 acquired land in the twelve hundred block of North 5th Street, just outside the Sterling city limits. The site was strategically located on the northern periphery of Sterling's newest neighborhood east of the new high school, and southwest of the Northeastern Colorado Junior College.¹⁵ In early summer of 1952 the school board contracted with architects Eugene D. Sternberg of Denver, and Robert J. Murrin of Sterling, to design a new elementary school to be built at that location.¹⁶ The board members at that time were: James H. Walker, President, Armilda Dowis, Secretary, John Lebsack, Sherman Hoar, Edna Gaines, Norman Tripp, and Phil Campbell.

Eugene D. Sternberg was born in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia on January 15, 1915.¹⁷ He earned a degree in architectural engineering at the Czech Technical University in Prague. Highly regarded as an avant-garde program, the University's school of architecture was significantly influenced by the Bauhaus movement. While pursuing graduate work in architecture at Cambridge University in England, World War II began. Architectural philosophies at Cambridge were more traditional compared to Prague; however the English university was at the forefront of community planning as it related to architectural design. Sternberg remained in London during the war, teaching part time at Cambridge. He then joined the firm of Sir Abercrombie, where he was involved in rebuilding many of the homes and buildings destroyed by German bombing. While in England, he met and married his wife, Barbara Edwards. In 1945, the couple immigrated to the United States, where Sternberg had accepted an offer to teach at Cornell University in Ithaca New York. However, when Sternberg learned that Cornell would not allow its full time architecture instructors to also practice architecture, he determined to seek employment elsewhere. He applied to architectural programs at universities throughout the United States, and was ultimately offered positions at the University of Florida at Gainesville and at the University of Denver. Taking the advice of Lewis Mumford and other colleagues, Sternberg accepted the Denver offer to become a founding faculty member at the University of Denver's School of Architecture and Planning.

In 1949, Sternberg became associated with developer Edward Hawkins in the creation of the Arapahoe Acres development in Englewood (NRIS. 9800149). Sternberg was attracted to the project because of his interest in the creation of "socially conscious modern housing, combining quality architectural design and economical construction." A prolific and highly-regarded architect, Sternberg designed over 400 buildings in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska. In addition to Arapahoe Acres, Sternberg is best known for the design of many civic, educational,

¹⁵The property was annexed into the City of Sterling while the school was under construction.

¹⁶Sternberg's and Murrin's precise roles in designing the school are not entirely clear, although Sternberg appears to have been the primary architect. His name alone appears on the building's written specifications, and each of the 13 blueprints are stamped "Eugene D. Sternberg, Licensed Architect." During the course of construction, Murrin met with the Board of Education more frequently than Sternberg, presumably because he was located in Sterling.

¹⁷Biographical information regarding Eugene Sternberg was obtained from four sources: the "Eugene Sternberg Architectural Records," WH1003, Box 21, Western History Collection, Denver Public Library; *Arapahoe Acres: An Architectural History*, by Diane Wray; an interview with Barbara (Edwards) Sternberg; and "Architects of Colorado Biographical Series," accessed January 28, 2015 at <http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/architects-colorado-biographical-series>.

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and commercial buildings. The following table contains a list of many of the buildings that Sternberg designed, many of which were built. However for some buildings, it is unknown whether they were actually constructed. As the table illustrates, Pantall Elementary was among the first of many education-related buildings designed by Sternberg. Sternberg died on June 5, 2005.

Name ¹⁸	Location	Date	Status
Ames Elementary School Media Center Addition	7300 Clermont Drive Littleton, CO	c1975	
Arapahoe Acres (nine homes) (5AH.1434) (NRIS.98001249)	Englewood, CO	c1949-1955	National Register Listed District
Arapahoe Community College	5900 S. Santa Fe Drive Littleton, CO	c1972	
Arapahoe County School District Number 1, Administration Building (5AH.1338)	5334 S. Prince Street Littleton, CO	c1960	
Aurora Public Library – North Branch (5AH.3276)	1298 Peoria Street Aurora, CO	1964	
Chamber of Commerce Building (5RT.2616) (NRIS.08001010)	1201 Lincoln Avenue Steamboat Springs, CO	1960	National Register Listed – 2008
Cherry Knolls (Carl Sandburg Elementary School	S. Columbine Way and S. Elizabeth Street Littleton, CO	c1965	
Clayton Elementary School	4600 S. Fox Street Englewood, CO	c1957	
Court House Annex ~ Professional Building (5AH.1994)	2009 W. Littleton Boulevard Littleton, CO	c1959	
Craig Middle School	915 Yampa Avenue Craig, CO	c1959	
Crawford Elementary School	908 5 th Street Crawford, NE	c1957	
Delta County Courthouse	501 Palmer Delta, CO	1958	
Denver General Hospital Building (addition)	W. 7 th Avenue Denver, CO	c1965	
Duncan Elementary School	S. Pennsylvania Street and Layton Avenue Englewood, CO	c1952	

¹⁸ For a complete list of the designed buildings, see “Eugene Sternberg Architectural Records,” WH1003, Box 21, Western History Collection, Denver Public Library; and http://eadsrv.denverlibrary.org/sdx/pl/toc.xsp?id=WH1003&qid=sdx_q0&fmt=text&idtoc=WH1003-pleadetoc&base=fa&n=6&ss=true&as=true&ai=collection-cat.

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East Elementary School	600 Texas Avenue Craig, CO	c1959	
Edwin A. Bemis Public Library	6014 S. Datura Street Littleton, CO	1965	
Elementary School (addition)	Kimball, Nebraska	c1958	
Elementary School	Lusk, Wyoming	c1955	
Englewood Public Schools Administration Building	4101 S. Bannock Street Englewood, CO	c1960	
Faith Congregational Church	Littleton, CO	1962	
Geneva Village (5AH.1343)	5444 S. Prince Street Littleton, CO	1964	
Heritage High School	1401 W. Geddes Avenue (7109 S. Gallup Street), Littleton, CO	1970	
Intermountain Rural Electric Association – addition (5AH.1997)	2100 W. Littleton Boulevard Littleton, CO	1975	
Littleton Law Center ~ The Miller Building (5AH.1990)	1901 W. Littleton Boulevard Littleton, CO	c1974	
Littleton Clinic ~Littleton Community Center (5AH.1991)	1950 W. Littleton Boulevard Littleton, CO	1950- 1951	
Marion L. Lasley Elementary School	1401 S. Kendall Street Lakewood, CO	c1959	
Mile High Housing Association Cooperative – South Dahlia Lane	2401 – 2465 S. Dahlia Lane Denver, CO	1949- 1952	Officially eligible for National Register
Moffat County High School (addition)	900 Finley Lane Craig, CO	c1957	
National Jewish Hospital (addition) (5DV.1632)	3200 E. Colfax Avenue Denver, CO	c1953- 1957	
Niobrara County High School	Lusk, Wyoming	c1952	
North Ward Elementary School	434 16 th Avenue Sidney, Nebraska	c1954	
Northeastern Junior College, Women’s Dormitory – Dowis Hall (5LO.909)	100 College Lane Sterling, CO	c1952	Locally landmarked
Pantall Elementary School ~Stevens School (5LO.902)	1215 N. 5 th Street Sterling, CO	1952	Subject to this National Register nomination
Peter Pan School (additions)	1275 High Street Denver, CO	c1955	
Roaring Fork High School (Carbondale Union High School) (gymnasium and classroom addition)	Carbondale, CO	c1953	

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Sheridan High School (music, crafts, and garage building repair and remodeling)	3201 W. Oxford Avenue Sheridan, CO	c1961	
Sheridan High School	3201 W. Oxford Avenue, Sheridan, CO	c1971	
Sidney Middle School	Sidney, NE	c1954	
South Ward Elementary School	2000 12 th Street Sidney, NE	c1955	
Steamboat Apartments (5RT.2624) (NRIS.11000877)	302 11 th Street Steamboat Springs, CO	1958	National Register Listed – 2011
Steamboat Springs Elementary School (addition)	Steamboat Springs, CO	c1960	
Sunset Elementary School	800 W. 7 th Street Craig, CO	c1954	
VFW #3541, Jake Uhrig Post (5LO.787) (NRIS.13000592)	229 Ash Street Sterling, CO	1954	Contributing building to Downtown Sterling NRHD listed 2013
Yampa Valley Electric Association Building (5RT.2391) (NRIS.14000387)	32 10 th Street Steamboat Springs, CO	1956	Contributing building to Downtown Steamboat Springs NRHD listed 2014

Robert J. Murrin was a graduate of the University of Denver School of Architecture, where he was presumably one of Sternberg's students.¹⁹ He was born Robert J. Facka at North Platte, Nebraska on January 19, 1923. Following his mother's death in 1924, Robert was raised in Sterling by his aunt and uncle, Elizabeth and Charles Murrin. He joined the U. S. Navy in 1942, and at that time legally changed his surname from Facka to Murrin. He served in the Pacific theater, aboard the battleship USS Pennsylvania, during World War II. After the war, Murrin attended Park College in Kansas City, prior to graduating from the University of Denver School of Architecture. Murrin then established an architectural firm in his hometown of Sterling, and it was during this time that he and Sternberg partnered to design the Pantall Elementary School. In 1956 Murrin co-founded the architectural firm of Murrin, Kasch and Associates, which in 1959 became Murrin, Kasch, Kahn, and Associates. The firm maintained offices in Denver and Sterling.

Murrin was married to Pauline Mohan on March 30, 1951. The Murrin family, including three children, lived in Sterling until 1969 when they moved to Denver. Mr. and Mrs. Murrin moved to Ojai, California in 1972 where Mr. Murrin continued to practice architecture until his retirement in 1988. He passed away on January 22, 2012 at the age of 89.

¹⁹Biographical information regarding Murrin was obtained from his obituary accessed online, January 28, 2015, at www.camarillomortuary.com.

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Murrin designed numerous residential, commercial, and public buildings in Sterling during the 1950s and 1960s, including other schools. Notable examples include: the College Union building and Humanities and Fine Arts building, on the Northeastern Junior College campus; Hagen and Campbell Elementary Schools; the Grandstand and Pavilion at the Logan County Fairgrounds; the City of Sterling Municipal Complex; the First Baptist Church; First Christian Church; Peace Lutheran Church; and Trinity Lutheran Church.²⁰

On July 14, 1952, Sternberg and Murrin presented plans for the new elementary school to the Board of Directors of School District No. 12. The Board discussed the plans and formally accepted them on August 6, 1952. A bid for the school's construction was then advertised, with prospective contractors invited to review the plans at the architects' offices in the Foote Building in downtown Sterling. The plans included thirteen blueprints and seventy-nine pages of detailed specifications. Prepared by Sternberg, these were titled: "Specifications For New Elementary School For Colorado School District No. 12, Sterling, Colorado."²¹ The specifications were divided into 25 sections. The sections were respectively labeled Part 1 through Part 24, with Part 19 repeated under two separate headings.²² These were: 1. Invitation to Bid; 2. Proposal Form, 3. Information for Bidders; 4. Supplemental General Conditions; 5. Demolition and Excavation and Grading; 6. Concrete Work; 7. Damproofing [*sic*] and Water Proofing; 8. Structural and Miscellaneous Steel; 9. Masonry Work; 10. Tile Work; 11. Sheet Metal; 12. Roofing; 13. Steel Windows; 14. Glass and Glazing; 15. Plastering, Lathing and Furring; 16. Carpentry and Millwork; 17. Finish Hardware; 18. Calking [*sic*]; 19. Metal Equipment; 19. Acoustical Work; 20. Floor Coverings; 21. Painting and Decorating; 22. Heating and Ventilation; 23. Plumbing; 24. Electrical Work.

Six bids were subsequently submitted and were opened in a public meeting held on September 23, 1952:

Busboom and Rauh	\$392,000
Craftsmen Construction Company	\$358,672
George O. Teats & Sons	\$382,549.50
Glenn R. Best	\$440,385
Mellwin Construction Company	\$374,950
Parton & Rister	\$399,865

Craftsmen Construction Company, the low bidder, was formally awarded the contract one week later, on September 30, 1952.²³ Frank Hall, President of the Craftsmen Construction Company, served as the company's official representative while a Mr. Lucas (first name unknown) served as the project's construction supervisor. Allen Yost, the excavation subcontractor, soon excavated the basement level per the architects' plans. Concrete footings were then poured but

²⁰ These Murrin-designed buildings in Sterling apparently have not been previously surveyed as no site numbers for them were located in the History Colorado / OAHP COMPASS database.

²¹ Eugene Sternberg Architectural Records, WH1003, Box 21, Western History Collection, Denver Public Library.

²² Apparently due to an inadvertent numbering error.

²³ In the 1950s, the Craftsmen Construction Company was based in Denver with offices at 1337 East 18th Avenue. The company was listed under the "Contractors" heading in *the Colorado State Directory of Business and Industry*.

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quickly failed, apparently due to unstable soil. All work was stopped at that point, and the Board retained an engineer, Nat Sachter, to conduct soil tests and provide a report. Sachter's report evidently contained discouraging news. The Board, architects and contractors met in a special meeting on October 27, 1952 to discuss the findings and ascertain the best course forward. At that time, plans for a basement level were abandoned, and the building site was moved 40' to 50' north "to avoid the excavations previously made and to raise the building 18 inches to take advantage of better soil for footings."²⁴ The Board further "agreed to return to 'spread footings' as recommended by the architects rather than 'raft-type footings' as requested by the Board."²⁵

Sternberg revised the plans accordingly, and they were approved by the Board on December 23, 1952. At that time, the Board also approved an additional payment of \$27, 232.23 to the Craftsmen Construction Company, and granted the company an additional 51 days to complete the project. Sternberg and Murrin, meanwhile, agreed to pay the \$1531.05 due to excavation contractor Allen Yost. This covered Yost's original excavation costs as well as his cost to refill and grade the original building site. Work on the school then began in earnest and it was completed on schedule with no other major setbacks. The Board inspected and formally accepted the school on August 6, 1953. A few weeks later it opened for the 1953-1954 school year.

The Pantall Elementary School was formally dedicated on Sunday afternoon, October 4, 1953. Board President James Walker served as the master of ceremonies. Manley H. Stevens, the school's first principal, formally accepted the building, an invocation was read by Reverend F. N. White of the First Presbyterian Church, and the 5th grade chorus sang "Our Country" and the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." R. R. Knowles, former Superintendent of Schools, gave the keynote address, while current Superintendent of Schools, Elmer L. Burkhard, spoke in tribute of those who had played a role in planning and building the school.

Myrta J. Pantall, the School's First Namesake

The subject of what to name the new school was an ongoing topic of conversation at School Board meetings during the winter and spring of 1953. Some Board members favored naming it "Washington Elementary School" to be consistent with the two existing public schools which were named for famous Americans Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln. Other Board members, however, favored naming the school in honor of a deserving local citizen either living or dead. The Board ultimately decided to ask the general public to provide suggestions for the new school. Some twenty responses were received, the majority of which asked that the school be named in honor of revered educator Myrta Pantall. Accordingly, on June 17, 1953, the Board unanimously voted to name the new school "Pantall Elementary School."²⁶

Myrta Julia Pantall was born in Sun Prairie, Dane County, Wisconsin, in 1870, the second of four children and the only daughter of Oliver and Rosalia (Taylor) Pantall. As with so many

²⁴Board minutes, October 27, 1952.

²⁵Ibid. Sternberg had originally proposed "spread footings," but had switched to less expensive "raft-type footings" when the Board requested that he reduce construction costs. The *Dictionary of Building Preservation* (Ward Bucher ed., 1996) defines "spread footing" as "A footing that is wider than the wall or column it supports in order to spread the vertical load over a wider area." A relevant definition for "raft-type footings: was not located.

²⁶"Board Asks Residents to Help Name New School," *The High Plains Daily Journal*, June 9, 1953, pp. 1, 2. "New School is Named for Myrta Pantall," *The High Plains Daily Journal*, June 18, 1953, pp. 1, 4. See also Board minutes dated June 17, 1953.

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people at this time, Oliver Pantall supported his family through farming. Myrta attended Whitewater Normal School in Wisconsin, followed by Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee. Upon relocating to Colorado in the early 1900s, Miss Pantall first lived in Colorado Springs, before taking a teaching position with the Sterling Public Schools as early as 1907, teaching at the Franklin School. In 1919, she became Principal of Franklin Elementary School, a position she held until 1925, when she became Principal of Lincoln Elementary School. She then served the rest of her professional career at Lincoln Elementary, retiring in 1938. She never tired of learning, and, in 1935, received a Bachelor's in Education from the Colorado State College of Education (now University of Northern Colorado) in Greeley. In 1953, Miss Pantall was recognized for her many years of service to Sterling's children, when the newly constructed Pantall Elementary School was named in her honor. She passed away in September of 1958 at the age of 88.

Manley H. Stevens, the School's Principal from 1953 to 1977, and its Second Namesake

Manley Stevens served as principal of Pantall Elementary School from 1953 until his retirement in 1977. Following his retirement, the school was renamed "Stevens Elementary" in his honor. Stevens was born in the small town of Ault, Colorado, in Weld County, on December 30, 1911, the son of Charles A. and Ora E. Stevens. He grew up in Ault, where his father owned a barbershop. He received a Bachelor's of Education degree, and later a Master's of Education degree, both from the Colorado State Teachers College in Greeley (now University of Northern Colorado), and began his teaching career with the Logan County School District in 1937. Stevens first taught at the Padroni School, in rural Logan County, soon becoming that school's principal, a position he held through 1942. That year, he transferred to the Franklin School in Sterling as its principal. He served as principal of the Franklin School for eleven years. He then served as principal of the Pantall School for the next 24 years.²⁷ Mr. Stevens passed away in Fort Collins in December 2002 at the age of 91.

The Pantall / Stevens Elementary School 2007 – Present

The Pantall / Stevens Elementary School closed its doors following the 2006-2007 school year. A victim of declining enrollment, and of too much deferred maintenance, it was determined that keeping the school open was cost prohibitive and not in the School District's best interest. For the next several years, the building was used minimally for storage and housed excess library materials, as well as for police recruit training by the Sterling Police Department. In 2014, the RE-1 Valley School District deeded the property to Creative Rural Initiatives (CRI) in consideration for one dollar. A local nonprofit entity, Creative Rural Initiatives is headed by Bernice Artzer-Mills. Broadly stated, CRI's goal is to encourage the development of creativity in rural Colorado. Ms. Mills states the CRI's goals as follows: "There is very little in the way of cultural opportunities for the young people as well as the adults of Logan County. The intent is to fill that void not only through education but also by sponsoring concerts, theatre productions, art shows and other creative venues."²⁸

For the Pantall/Stevens School, Ms. Artzer-Mills envisions a high-caliber school for the arts, with a prairie arboretum on the surrounding 4.65 acres of land. Toward these goals, she has begun

²⁷Marilee Johnson. "Stevens Rings Final Bell," *The South Platte Sentinel*, May 9, 2007, accessed January 28, 2015 at www.southplattesentinel.com/issue2007-05-09/1.pdf

²⁸Interview with Bernice Artzer-Mills, January 24, 2015.

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the process of stabilizing and restoring the building's functionality while maintaining its architectural and historical integrity. Ms. Mills is also actively engaging with staff and administration at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling and with staff at the Denver Botanic Gardens in Denver. In 2014, CRI obtained a Historic Structure Assessment grant from the Colorado State Historical Fund. SLATERPAULL Architects completed the Historic Structure Assessment in January 2015. Their work was then followed by completion of this National Register of Historic Places nomination.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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"Board Asks Residents to Help Name New School." *The High Plains Daily Journal*, June 9,
1953, pp. 1, 2.

"New School Is Named for Myrta Pantall." *The High Plains Daily Journal*, June 18, 1953, pp. 1,
4.

"Pantall School To Be Completed End of This Month." *The High Plains Daily Journal*, July 15,
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"Pantall School Ready August 5." *The High Plains Daily Journal*, July 31, 1953, p. 7.

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"Sternberg, Eugene D., Colorado Architects Biographical Sketch." History Colorado, Office of
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www.historycolorado.org/sites/default/files/files/OAHP/Guides/Architects_sternberg.pdf.

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Reference Myrta J. Pantall, Robert J. Murrin, Manley Stevens.

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Artzer-Mills, Bernice. Personal interview with Carl McWilliams at the Pantall Elementary School, January 24, 2015. Transcript on file with preparer.

"Board of Education School District No. 12." (Meeting Minutes), July 14, 1952, August 11, 1952, September 23, 1952, September 8, 1952, September 30, 1952, October 20, 1952, November 6, 1952, November 10, 1952, November 21, 1952, December 23, 1952, January 12, 1953, March 9, 1953, April 14, 1953, May 4, 1953, June 8, 1953, June 17, 1953, August 26, 1953,

"Dedication Program Pantall Elementary School Sterling, Colorado." October 4, 1953.

Sternberg, Eugene D. "New Elementary School, School District No. 12." (Thirteen sheets of architectural drawings dated August 26, 1952.)

Sternberg, Barbara. Interview with Carl McWilliams, May 15, 2015

Sternberg, Eugene D. "Specifications For New Elementary School For Colorado School District No. 12 Sterling, Colorado." (Seventy-nine pages dated August 1952), Eugene Sternberg Architectural Records, WH1003, Box 21, Western History Collection, Denver Public Library.

Stevens, Manley. "Accountability Advisory Committee Report on Facility and Facility Needs." (n. d., circa 1977).

"Stevens Elementary School 1215 North 5th Street Sterling, Colorado 80751 Historic Structure Assessment and Preservation Plan." Prepared by SLATERPAULL Architects for Creative Rural Initiatives, January 2015.

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 # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: History Colorado

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5LO.902

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 4.65

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

- NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

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

1. Zone: 13 Easting: 651687 Northing: 4500077

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

The property's legal description is: the N 434'.2" Lots 1 & 2 EXC TRACT DESC BK 539 129 BLK 1 G A ROE ADDN, in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of the northeaster quarter of Section 29, Township 8 north, Range 52 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Sterling, Logan County, Colorado. This legal description encompasses land in the block bordered by Pantall Street on the north, North 5th Street on the east, Cleveland Street on the south, and North 6th Street on the west, excluding residential parcels fronting onto Cleveland Street and North 6th Street and is more particularly described as 1215 N. 5th Street.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

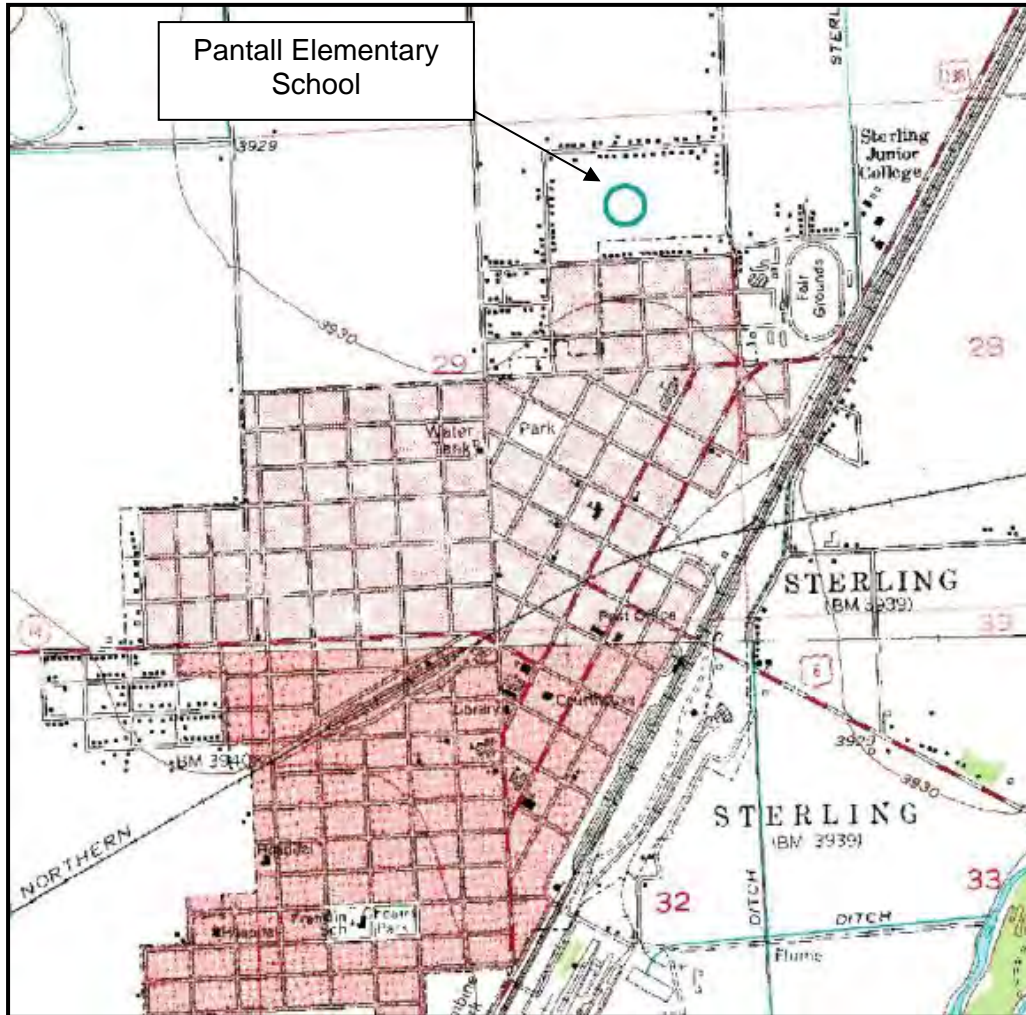
The selected boundaries encompass the school building, the noncontributing secondary building, and the adjacent land historically associated with the school and owned by the school district. The adjacent land comprises athletic fields and a playground north and northwest of the school building, an asphalt-paved parking lot, grass lawn, and kindergarten playground south of the building, a grass lawn, concrete sidewalk, and landscape features east of the building, and a concrete sidewalk immediately west of the building. The selected boundaries exclude those residential parcels fronting onto Cleveland Street south of the school property and fronting onto North 6th Street west of the school property.

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**USGS Topographical Map
Sterling North Quadrangle
7.5 Minute Series**

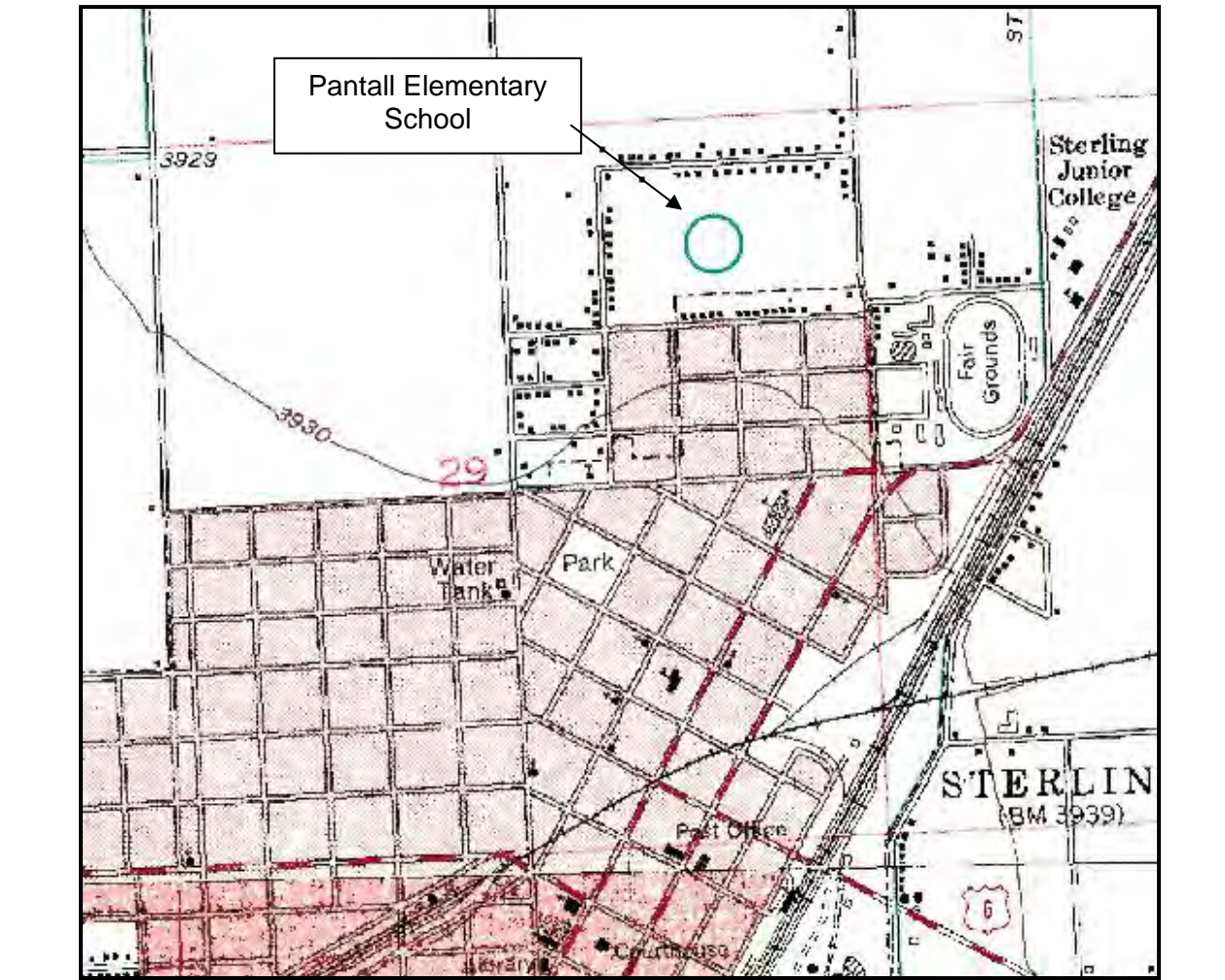
**PLSS: T 8N, R52W,
Section 29
Elevation: 3529'**



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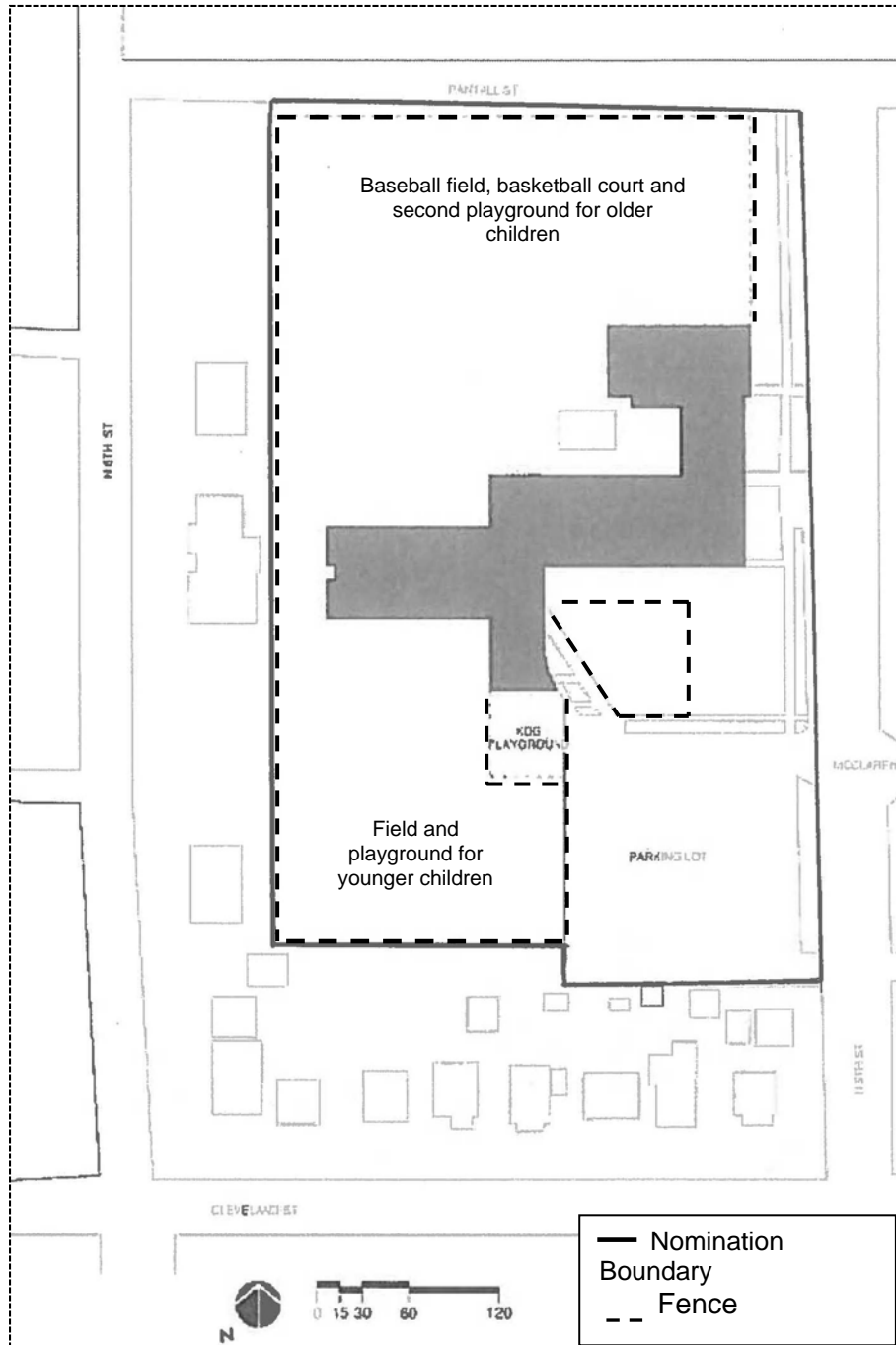
USGS Topographical Map - Close-up perspective



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Site Plan

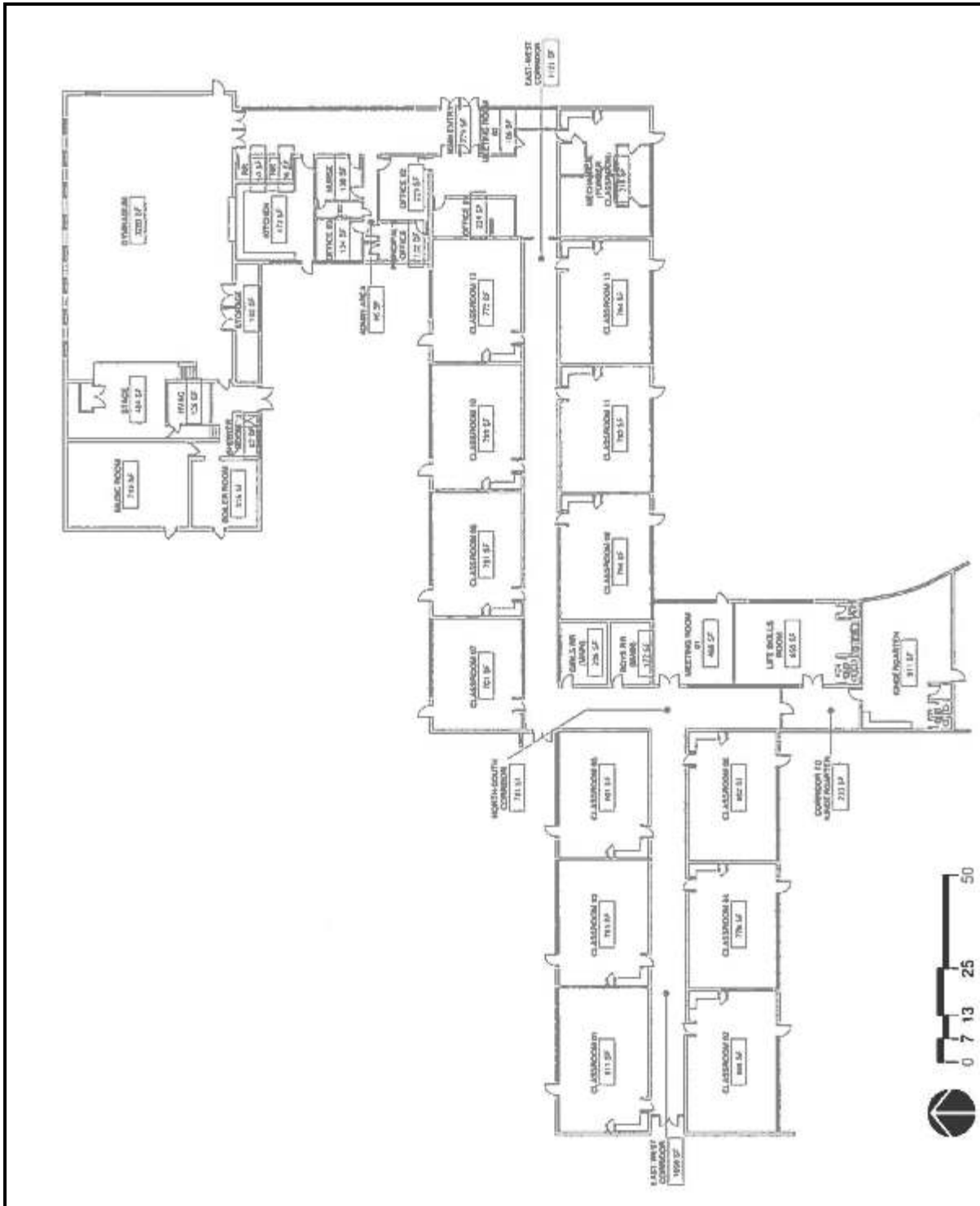


Based on Stevens Elementary School Historic Structure Assessment and Preservation Plan by SLATERPAULL Architects, January 2015

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Floor Plan



From Stevens Elementary School Historic Structure Assessment and Preservation Plan by SLATERPAULL Architects, January 2015

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Carl McWilliams (for property owner)
organization: Cultural Resource Historians LLC
street & number: 1607 Dogwood Court
city or town: Fort Collins state: CO zip code: 80525
e-mail: historians@frii.com
telephone: (970) 493-5270
date: January 30, 2015; revised May 19, 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Pantall Elementary School

City or Vicinity: Sterling

County: Logan

State: CO

Photographers: Carl McWilliams (photos 3-6, 9-23, 25-30, 33-37)
 Martha Foxhoven (photos 1, 2, 7, 8, 24, 31, 32)

Dates Photographed: January 26, 2015 (Carl McWilliams); September 16, 2014 (Martha Foxhoven)

Tiffs on file with the National Register in Washington, D.C.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo No.	Description	View to:
1	View of the east-facing side (façade) showing main entry, administration wing and gymnasium / cafeteria	WNW
2	View of the east-facing and north-facing sides of the gymnasium / cafeteria	WSW
3	View of the southeast corner of southeast classroom wing	NW
4	View of the east-facing side of southeast classroom wing (south end of the east-facing side)	West
5	View of the east-facing side of gymnasium / cafeteria (north end of the east-facing side)	SW
6	View of the east-facing side of the gymnasium / cafeteria (north end of the east-facing side)	West
7	View of the east-facing side of the gymnasium / cafeteria and the administration wing	SSW
8	View of the north-facing side of the gymnasium / cafeteria and music room addition	SW
9	View of the north-facing side of the gymnasium / cafeteria and music room addition	SE
10	View of the north-facing side of music room addition	South
11	View of the west-facing side of music room addition and west-facing side of upper portion of gymnasium / cafeteria	East
12	View of the south-facing side of gymnasium / cafeteria (photo taken from within courtyard)	North
13	View of west-facing side of administration wing (photo taken from within courtyard)	East
14	View of north-facing side of southeast classroom wing	ESE
15	View of west-facing end of southeast classroom wing	ESE

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16	View of entry into west-facing end of southeast classroom wing	East
17	View of west-facing end of southeast classroom wing	ENE
18	View of north-facing side of southwest classroom wing	ESE
19	View of west-facing end of southwest classroom wing	SSE
20	View of entry into west-facing end of southwest classroom wing	East
21	View of southwest corner of southwest classroom wing	NE
22	View of south-facing side of southwest classroom wing	NE
23	View of kindergarten room	NE
24	View of kindergarten room	NW
25	View of meeting room and life skills room addition between kindergarten room and southwest classroom wing	West
26	View of south-facing side of southeast classroom wing	North
27	View of secondary building in courtyard	NE
28	View of secondary building in courtyard	NW
29	View of secondary building in courtyard	West
30	Window hardware detail, front hallway in administration wing	East
31	Interior view of gymnasium / cafeteria and stage	NW
32	Interior view of tables and benches folded against north wall of gymnasium / cafeteria	North
33	Interior view of kitchen service windows between gymnasium / cafeteria and kitchen	SE
34	Interior view of music room addition	North
35	Interior view of classroom	East
36	Interior view of classroom	West
37	Interior view of hallway in southwest classroom wing	West

Historic Image Log

Figure No.	Description – all are from the Historic Structure Assessment report by SLATERPAULL Architects, January 2015
1	Undated photo of the Pantall (Stevens) School
2	Undated photo of the Pantall (Stevens) School – front (east) façade
3	Undated photo of the Pantall (Stevens) School – interior view of gym
4	Undated photo of the interior of the kindergarten room
5	Stevens Stars Logo in the middle of the Gymnasium floor

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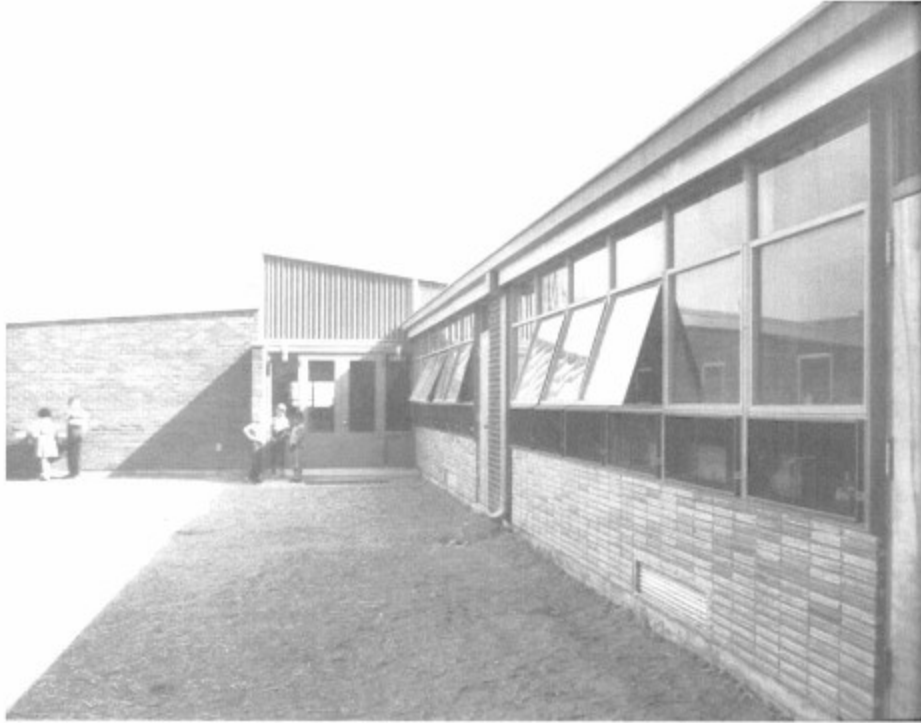


Figure 1: Undated photo of the Stevens School Building.

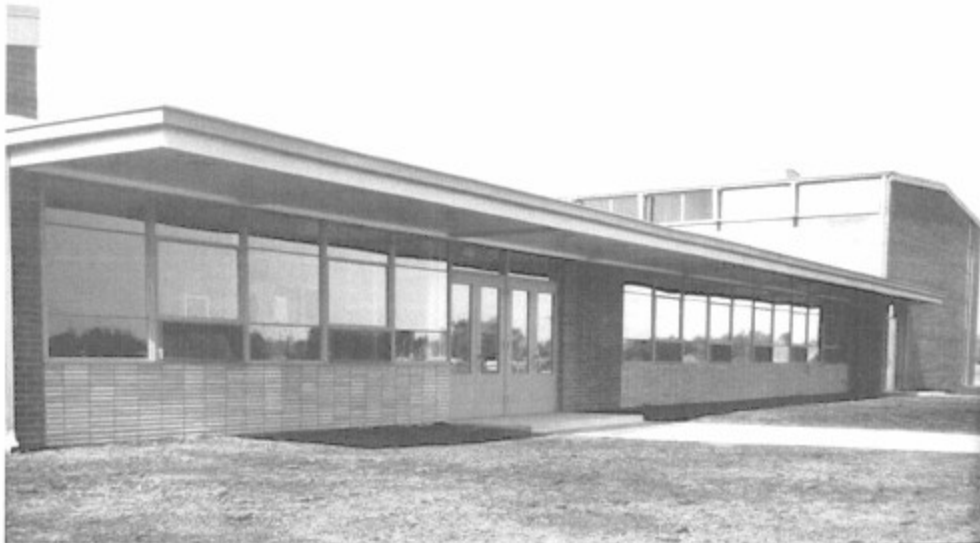


Figure 2: Undated photo of the Stevens School Building.

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Figure 3: Undated interior view of the Stevens School gym.

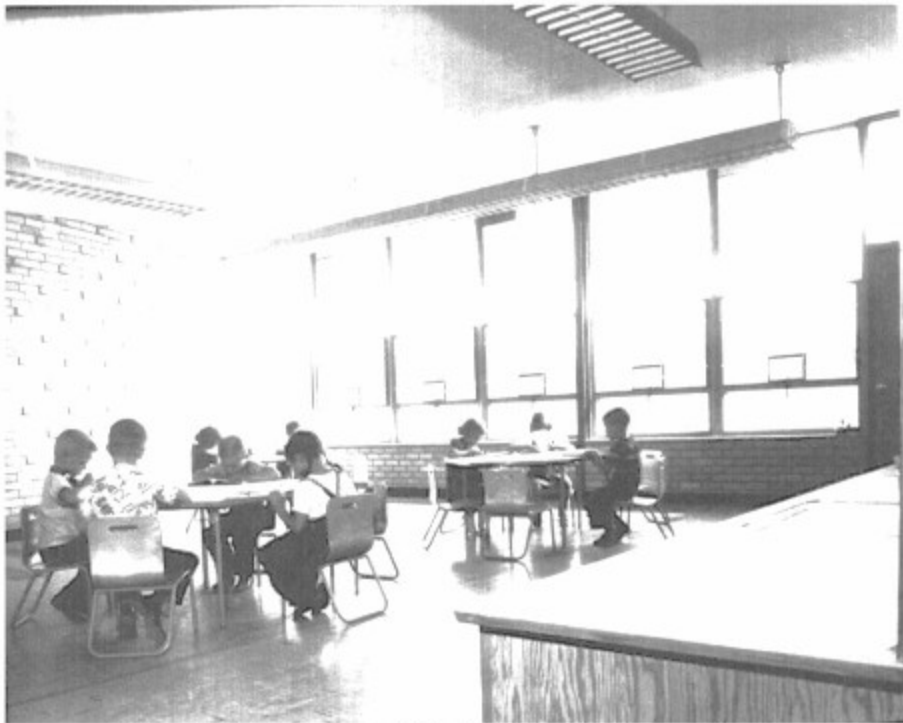


Figure 4: Undated photo of the interior of the kindergarten room.

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Figure 5: Steven Stars logo in the middle of the gymnasium floor



STEVENS SCHOOL

10000









STEVENS SCHOOL

14-575



STEVENS SCHOOL

1215 N. 5th St.



STEVENS SCHOOL



STEVENS SCHOOL

























NOTICE
Tobacco Policy
Welcome to [unclear] school













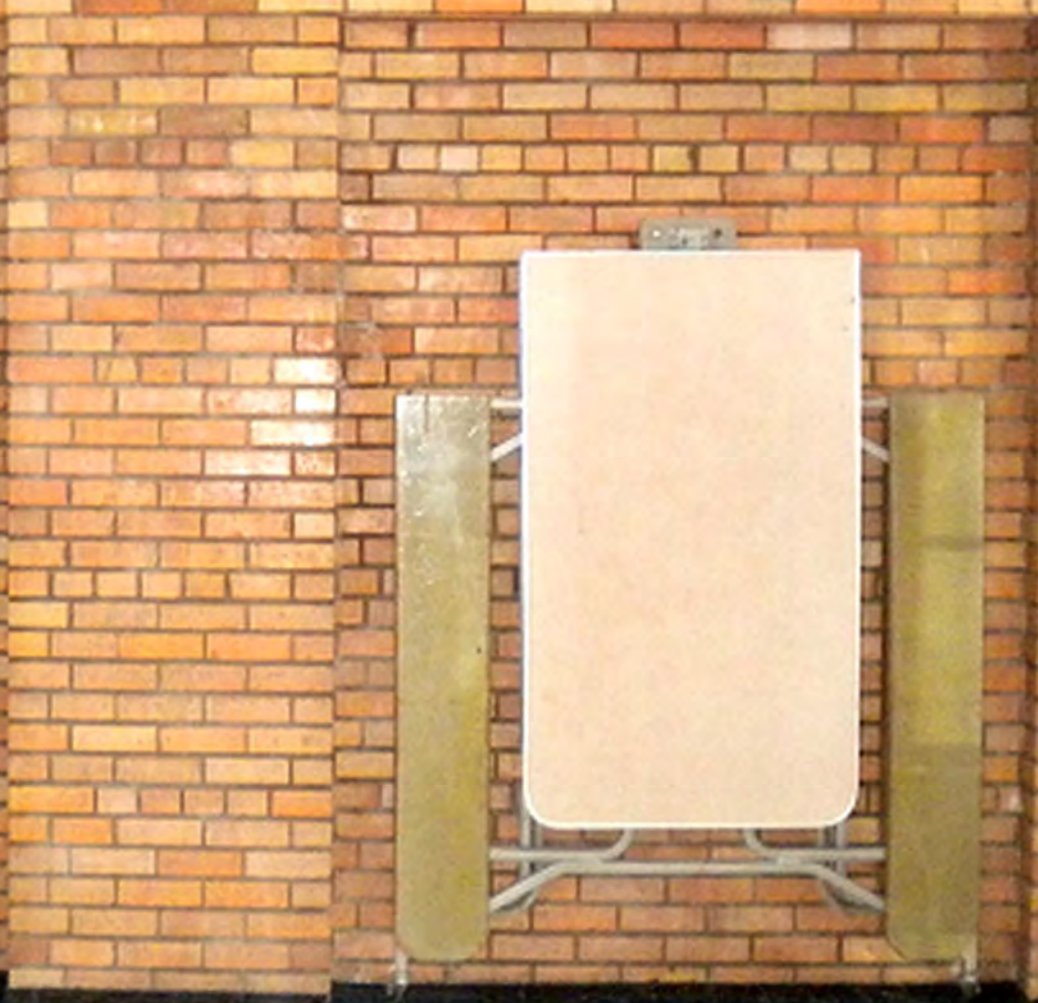














Lunch Times
11:30-12:00 Mr. Rowson, Gilliam,
Gibson
12:00-12:30 Anderson, Fisher, Yickert
12:30-12:45 Cunningham, Nelson
12:45-1:00 Cleanup











UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Pantall Elementary School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 5/29/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/01/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/16/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000409

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Pantall Elementary School is listed in the National Register under Criterion A for its significance in Education and under Criterion C for its significance in Architecture. It was designed by Eugene Sternbert and Robert Murrin and is located in the town of Sterling, Colorado. The school was built in 1952-53 to meet the growing educational needs of the post-war baby boom. It closed after the 2006-07 school year due to declining enrollment and deferred maintenance. The school is considered a Modernist adaptation of the International Style.

RECOM./CRITERIA A

REVIEWER Bubba O'Neil

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE 202-354-2252

DATE 7-14-15

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.



OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

RECEIVED 2280

MAY 29 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

May 26, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register and NHL Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination for the Pantall Elementary School, 1215 N. 5th Street, Sterling,
Logan County, Colorado (5LO.902)

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Pantall Elementary School, Sterling, Jefferson County, Colorado. In accordance with the new submission policy, enclosed please find:

- CD with PDF of the nomination for the Pantall Elementary School and USGS Topo maps from ArcView GIS
Note: **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Pantall Elementary School to the National Register of Historic Places.**
- CD with TIF images
- Physical signature page to the nomination

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on May 15, 2015. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the nomination met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the listing of this nomination. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (303) 866-4684 or at heather.peterson@state.co.us.

Best regards,

Heather Peterson
National & State Register Historian

Enclosures as above noted