

Architectural Firm: Wheeler and Lewis, Architects
Office: Denver
Practice Dates: 1950-1981
Principals: Selby M. Wheeler
Carol B. Lewis, AIA
Stephen E. Kirkman
Other Firm Members: John D. Anderson, FAIA
Orville G. Anderson, Jr.
Lincoln Jones
John K. Monroe, Jr.
Don Rider

Information

During its three-decade long practice, the architectural firm of Wheeler and Lewis designed over 300 Colorado schools, school additions, and remodeling projects. Their work graces such diverse communities as Buford, Eads, Englewood, Durango, Gunnison, Lamar, Leadville and Walden. Architects Carol B. Lewis and Selby M. Wheeler were modernists and their school buildings reflect contemporary trends in architecture and educational philosophy. Their firm consistently focused on designing schools combining function, economy and beauty to create an ideal environment for learning.

Lewis grew up in Salina, Kansas, graduating from the Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science in Manhattan, Kansas. He competed in New York for the 1940 Paris Prize scholarship in the American Ecole de Beaux Arts national competition. The first Kansas State student to be selected for the prestigious contest, he finished seventh, receiving honorable mention for his design of a parkway police station. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture on May 25, 1942.

Prior to graduation, Lewis took an official spring semester leave from Kansas State in 1941 after having secured a temporary position with the War Department's United States Engineer Office as a civilian architectural draftsman. He was reappointed in the summer to the Engineering and Flood Control Division at Kanopolis Dam, near Kansas City, Missouri.

Lewis joined the naval reserve following graduation, receiving a commission as an ensign. His duty stations included the Naval Damage Control Training Center in Philadelphia, the *USS Gwinnett* at the Port Houston Iron Works, and the *USS Rainier*, an ammunition supply ship sailing throughout the Pacific. He applied, apparently unsuccessfully, for admission to the School of Naval Architecture at the University of Michigan.

As the war drew to a close, Lewis corresponded regularly with the Paul Weigel, head of the Department of Architecture at Kansas State. In response to a question regarding the post-war prospects for the architectural profession, Weigel predicted that "I think you will be facing the most favorable time in my memory for young fellows to start in the profession on their own." Responding to Lewis's list of geographic areas of interest, Weigel indicated that Colorado and Texas offered good opportunities and that "Denver and Colorado Springs I feel have a good future." He added:

If you will study the practice of the average architect, you will find that probably 50% or less of his work is in his immediate city. The balance of which, and a very

profitable portion, lies outside his city limits; so in considering a location, be sure to give considerable thought to an area of about 200 miles in radius.

This bit of advice proved a prophetic description of Lewis's architectural career.

Lewis received his military discharge in 1945. Now with a wife and growing family to support, he sent letters to several architectural firms seeking employment as a draftsman as he prepared to take the examination to become a licensed architect. Denver architect John "Jack" K. Monroe offered him a position in early 1946 and by mid-February, Lewis moved to the city to assume his duties. Limited housing opportunities forced him to share an apartment while his family moved in with his wife's parents. Monroe worked extensively with the Catholic Archdiocese of Denver as an architect and builder of churches. Based on a signed rendering done for Monroe in 1949, Lewis was involved with the design of St. Margaret's Church in Riverton, Wyoming.

Carol Lewis successfully passed the Colorado board examination in January 1950 and was certified to practice architecture in May. A charismatic and personable man, Lewis met Selby Wheeler at a party. The two found common interests and formed a professional partnership in 1950. Little is known of Wheeler's early years other than that he came from Kansas, attended Oklahoma State for his undergraduate work in architecture, and then received his master's degree in Architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. John D. Anderson, who worked for the firm as a young architect before eventually becoming a principal in the prestigious Denver firm of Anderson Mason Dale, recently described Lewis as "fun to work with.... Wheeler, on the other hand, was more technical and practical." The two maintained a very contemporary attitude and Anderson characterized the quality of their designs as "first class."

The partners' first project was a Grand Junction switch yard tower for the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad (*Fig. 1*). The functional yet elegant structure reflects the strong horizontal lines and lack of ornamentation indicative of the International style. The style is characterized by smooth unornamented surfaces, flat roofs, usually without a ledge or coping, horizontal bands of windows, often set flush with the exterior wall, and asymmetrical composition. Horizontality, particularly on commercial buildings, is employed through alternating bands of windows and solid planes created a horizontal effect. Cantilevers are common, particularly in conjunction with window bands.



Figure 1. The nearly completed D&RGW rail yard tower shows the influence of the International style in the early work of Wheeler and Lewis. Source: Colorado Historical Society

Religious properties formed a notable part of the body of Wheeler and Lewis designs. Perhaps this reflects the training Lewis received while with John Monroe. The 1951 Gruver Methodist Church in Texas was one of the firm's earliest projects. This was followed by plans for a convent at Denver's Presentation of Our Lady Catholic Church (1951), the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Denver (1955), the Kirk of Bonnie Brae (1955), Denver's Park Hill Congregational Church (1956), and the plans for an unbuilt First Baptist Church in Pueblo.

Educational buildings, primarily elementary and secondary schools, made up the vast majority of Wheeler and Lewis projects. During its three-decade existence, the firm designed 144 new buildings, 136 additions (often to their original buildings), and 40 remodeling projects. The firm's timing was perfect. Just at its founding, the first wave of the Baby Boom generation reached school age. For the next three decades, school districts scrambled to modernize and expand existing schools and construct new facilities to handle their rapidly expanding enrollments.

One measure of professional success is the number of communities in which the firm completed multiple projects. Such repeat associations indicate local school board and administration satisfaction with the firm's designs and its business practices. For example, Wheeler and Lewis first collaborated with the Englewood school district in 1951 on the design of two elementary schools, Charles Hay and Maddox. Follow-on commissions included five new school buildings (Lowell Elementary, 1954; Sinclair Junior High, 1954; Bishop Elementary, 1954; Englewood High School, 1956; and Scenic View Elementary; 1970) and thirty-five building additions, remodeling and site development projects. All together, Wheeler and Lewis projects in Englewood represented a community investment of nearly \$8.5 million.

A 1956 Englewood publication for Colorado Public School Week outlined the district's recently completed architectural selection process:

The Board of Education received applications from interested architects. The work of each firm was considered in light of the needs and the quality of buildings desired in Englewood. Economy of construction, maintenance and operation were taken into account at all times by the Board. All letters of application were considered. Visits were made to projects under construction already completed by these architects. After careful study the list was screened and consolidated to some fifteen firms. Time was spent in interviewing representatives of these firms. After careful study of the ability of each firm in relation to our needs, final selection was made on Wheeler & Lewis, Architects, Denver, and Gene Sternberg and Associates, Denver; with Perkins and Will, Chicago, serving as associate architects on the remaining projects.

Loveland represented a similar level of long-term community association. In 1961, Wheeler and Lewis designed the new Monroe Elementary School as well as an addition to the Big Thompson Elementary School. Over the next eighteen years, the firm worked on twenty-seven additional projects, including eleven new elementary schools, one junior high, and the Loveland (1961) and Thompson Valley (1975) high schools.

In a rare formal expression of student appreciation, the Thompson Valley High School student council sent a letter of thanks for its new building to the Loveland school superintendent and board on May 12, 1977:

At the close of this successful 1976-77 school year, the proud students of Thompson Valley High School wish to express our appreciation to the Board of

Education and the citizens of the City of Loveland for providing an institution unmatched by any facility in the state.

It is apparent that the Eagles take great pride in the building, as student maintenance within and without the school have been outstanding. Even anticipated problems such as littering have been held to a minimum.

Wheeler and Lewis established their partnership with the intent of building educational facilities that would provide students and teachers with an ideal environment for learning. The partners recognized that in the county and state education programs, every child deserved a safe and effective learning environment. Furthermore, they felt that each school needed a gym, library, and a science lab, whether it was home to one hundred or one thousand students. Firm member John Anderson said that Wheeler and Lewis "were open to new ideas and consistently attended seminars and conferences to maintain an edge on current designs for the new school-house."

The firm's design philosophy is well expressed in its description of Jefferson High School in Edgewater written by the architects for the September 23, 1959, dedication program:

This is not merely another high school. It is a physical example of the R - 1 philosophy that a school building can be functional, and beautiful.

Function is the expression of the educational curriculum, internal traffic circulation, community use, isolation of noisy areas, and service areas. Since function embraces all of these elements, the building was designed with a complete separation of the academic classrooms from the central facilities comprised of gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria, and administrative area. These central facilities were designed for community use. ... In order to provide for a large lobby, the auditorium lobby and gymnasium lobby were combined and the space used as a social center for the students during the daytime. This lobby, or student social center, is in a location away from the academic classrooms and opens into a landscaped court. The cafeteria is connected to the corridor and to the landscaped court where lunches may be eaten. Since these central facilities are for community use, they can be completely closed off from the academic area. ...

The classrooms have been designed with the windows four feet above the floor to prevent visual distraction when the students are seated. The windows, with exposure other than north, are covered with adjustable exterior aluminum жалюзи to control sunlight and heat build-up. The library also opens into the landscaped court. The landscaped court is surrounded on four sides by the library, cafeteria, administrative area and the student social center. At one corner is an outdoor stage for assemblies and other programs when the weather permits. The landscaped court is a place of beauty and utility. The building was not designed around the landscaped court. The landscaped court was the solution to the internal traffic circulation within the building.

Economy was the watchword in the design of this building. ... Economy was achieved in the selection of materials. The answer to economical design lies somewhere between expensive and cheap. In this building, glazed tile, ceramic tile, quarry tile, and other maintenance free materials, were used in the maximum abuse areas (entries to classrooms, kitchen, locker rooms, toilets); brick was used for the wall material in the medium abuse areas (portions of the corridors,

lobby, and exterior). Painted masonry block walls and vinyl asbestos floors were used in the minimum abuse areas (classrooms, library, music rooms, and arts and crafts room). The structural system of the building is reinforced concrete with pre-stressed beams and roof joists. Another economy was the omission of the ceilings and the frank expression of the structural system on the interior and exterior.

Beauty has been achieved by the expression of the structural system, a careful study of proportions, color balance, and allowing the function of the plan to express the exterior appearance. The corridors have been made bright and cheerful by the use of continuous skylights. The classrooms have been removed from the "straight-jacket" concept of the past by the use of glass and other design features. This building has been designed with the student in mind, creating for him a pleasant educational environment.

International relations in the late 1950s and early 1960s influenced school design. The growing threat of nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union caused school administrators, concerned parents and architects to consider how to protect students from the immediate blast and longer-term radioactive fallout associated with a nuclear explosion. Protection might be achieved with a special purpose fallout shelter, as Wheeler and Lewis designed for the Ridge State Home and Training School in 1962. More typical was the design of portions of the convention school building to offer fallout protection.

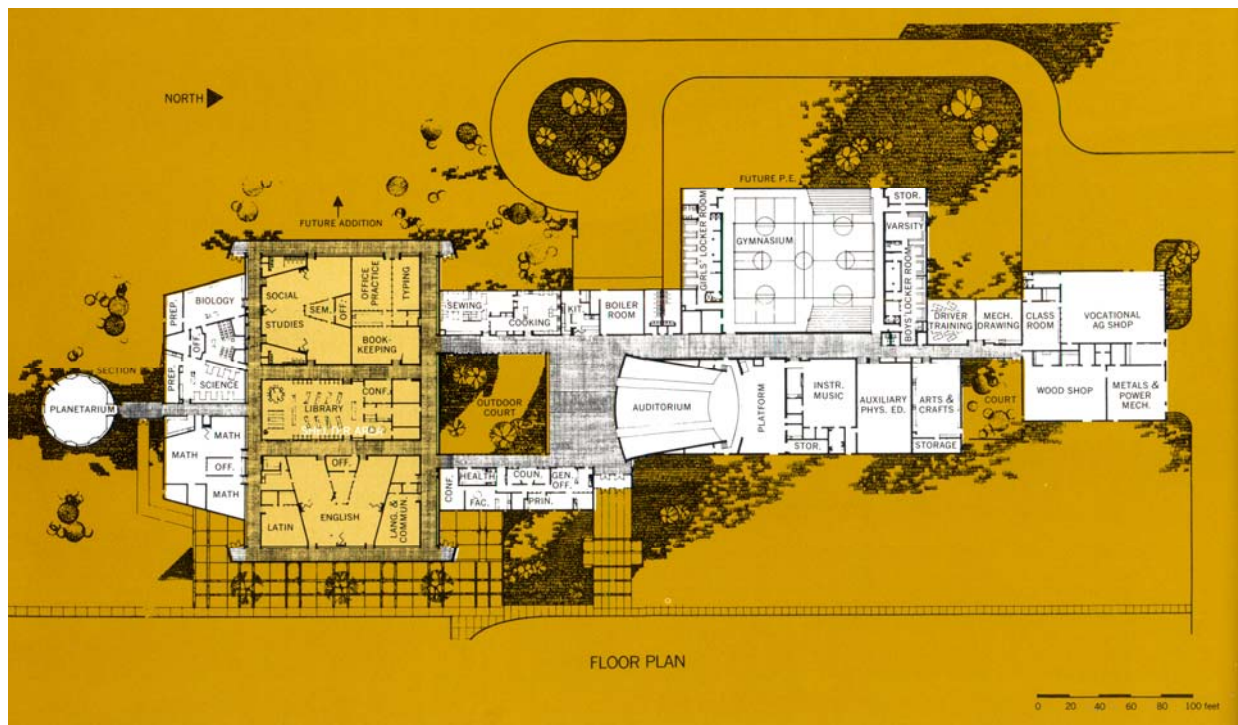


Figure 2. The shaded area indicates the core rooms surrounded by peripheral corridors forming the fallout shelter area in the Lamar High School. The accompanying project data indicates the construction cost for the shelter amounted to \$20,250 of the total \$1,600,000 construction cost. Source: Colorado Historical Society.

In 1971, the federal Office of Civil Defense issued an illustrated pamphlet titled, "12 Protected Schools: Schoolhouses Designed with Fallout Protection." The publication briefly outlines six design and construction measures which can significantly reduce the interior penetration of radioactive fallout. These factors include interior partitions, outside barriers, reduced window areas/raised sill heights, overhead mass, exterior grading, and depressed floors. Twelve schools around the country are presented to illustrate various fallout protection designs and to note the effects of these measures on building costs. The Wheeler and Lewis designed Lamar High School is one of the featured properties. The descriptive paragraph commented on both the overall design and the fallout protection elements:

This high school affords a refreshing breakaway from a traditional classroom layout but stops short of a completely open plan arrangement. Flexibility was an educational specification requirement along with great breadth in educational programs. A 600-seat auditorium, gymnasium, and planetarium are among facilities available for use by the surrounding farming and ranching community for instructional and other programs. Fallout protection was included in the educational specification and was identified to the voters in the bond referendum. The resulting design shows a well-integrated classroom unit which doubles as a fallout shelter. A peripheral corridor circulation system enhances the core-area shielding. Entrance baffles and precast, prestressed concrete roof tees are among the shielding features.

Wheeler and Lewis worked closely with school boards, administrators and teachers to design buildings that met the local educational program, reflected current thinking in educational philosophy, and made the most of the available construction budgets. Many of their plans included multipurpose rooms and multi-use spaces to provide maximum flexibility for both school and community use. Many of their buildings were designed to easily accommodate expansion to accommodate growing enrollments.

Wheeler and Lewis were responsive to local funding mechanisms. In the case of Montrose County, the firm prepared preliminary designs in 1973 for a new junior high, a replacement elementary school, two high school additions, and an elementary school addition. This design work permitted the development of construction budgets that allowed the county to propose a bond issue to fund the \$3.6 million building program. Wheeler and Lewis plans and renderings illustrated the school board's bond issue brochure (*Figs. 3 and 4*).



Figure 3. The 1974 Montrose Junior High School shown in the architect's rendering.
Source: Colorado Historical Society.

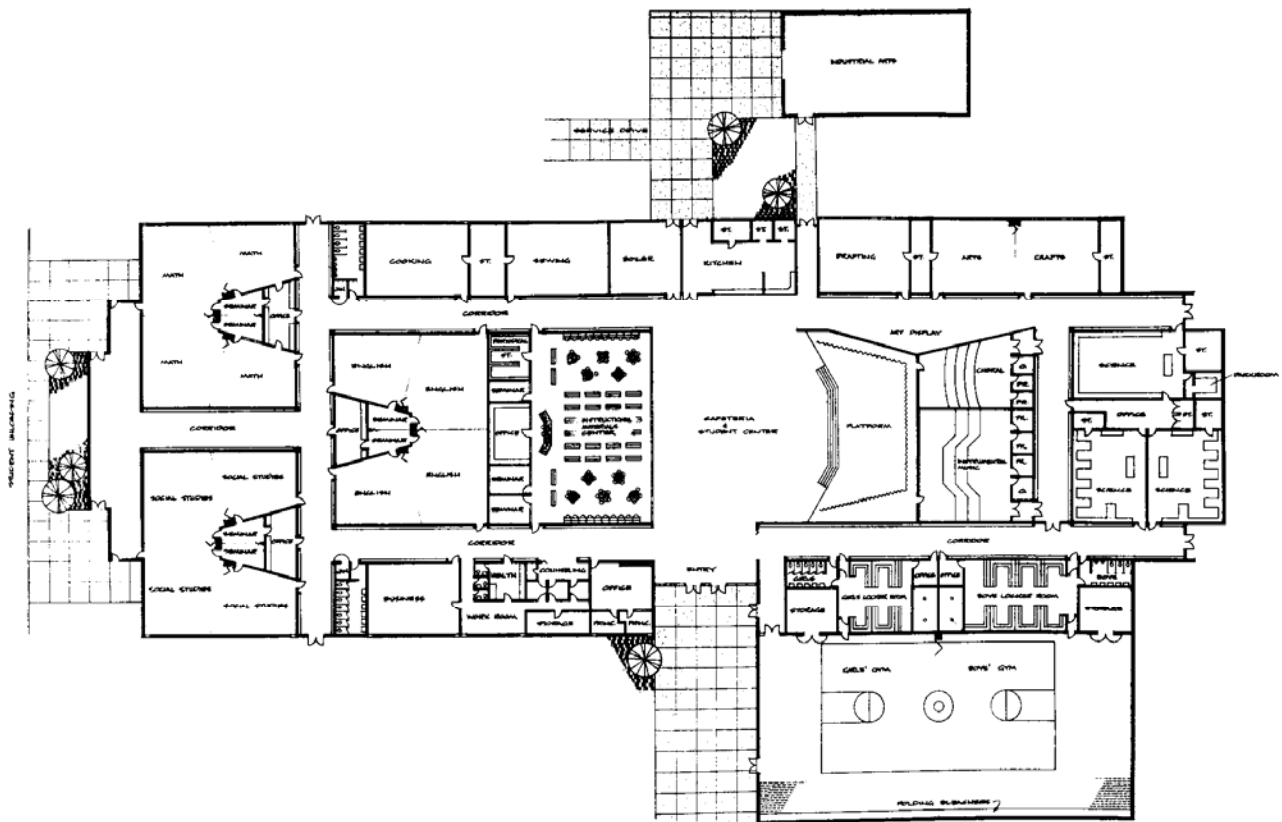


Figure 4. The 1974 Montrose Junior High School plan shows how Wheeler and Lewis incorporated progressive educational concepts into their design. The English, math and social studies areas may each be configured as a single open space or divided into as many as four classrooms. The instructional materials center (library) is centrally located for easy access. The entry lobby also serves as a student center, cafeteria, and auditorium. The gymnasium is accessed by a corridor that may be closed off from the rest of the school, thus allowing it to function independently for after-hours events. Source: Colorado Historical Society.

Despite the many successful projects, the work of Wheeler and Lewis has received little attention by architectural historians or historic preservationists. Only a single Wheeler and Lewis building, the 1954 Pagosa Springs High School, is mentioned in the recently published *Buildings of Colorado* in the Society of Architectural Historians' Buildings of the United States series. Olga Jackson, with technical assistance from George Thorson, AIA, and DeVon Carlson, AIA, authored the 1966 *Architecture/Colorado: Mountains, Mines and Mansions, an Architectural Guide to Colorado*. The book highlighted historic and recently constructed buildings in Colorado for use by those attending the 1966 AIA national convention in Denver. Among the featured buildings in the southwest tour was the Wheeler and Lewis designed Gunnison High School (completed 1965). The brief description accompanying the postage-stamp sized photo states, "Side walls of auditorium, angled to give desired interior shape, complements large mass of auditorium block and academic wing."

Carol Lewis died in 1978 at the age of 59. Selby Wheeler partnered with long-term firm member Steve Kirkman. Wheeler retired shortly thereafter and Kirkman continued to carry on the business until 1981 when it completed its final school project. The firm left a major building legacy across the state and a Wheeler and Lewis school building alumni numbering in the hundreds of thousands.

By Colleen M. O'Dwyer with additional material by OAHP staff.

Credited Buildings (partial list)

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date*	Status
Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Classification Yard Tower	Grand Junction		1951	
Gruver Methodist Church	Gruver, TX		1951	
Walden Elementary School	Walden		1951	
Hay, Charles, Elementary School	Englewood		1951	
Maddox Elementary School	Englewood		1951	
Presentation of Our Lady Convent	695 Julian St. Denver		1951	
Arvada High School, Classroom Addition	Arvada		1952	
Wray High School, Addition	Wray		1952	
Letford Elementary School	Johnstown		1952	
Buford School	Rio Blanco County		1952	
Piceance Creek Elementary	Rio Blanco County		1952	
North Yuma Elementary School, Addition	Yuma		1952	
Arvada High School, Auditorium and Shop Additions	Arvada		1953	
Arvada High School, Cafeteria Addition	Arvada		1953	
Monte Vista High School	Monte Vista		1953	
Lutheran Church	Manhattan (KS?)		Ca. 1953	
Yuma Elementary School	Yuma		1954	
Hay, Charles, Elementary School, All Purpose Room Addition	Englewood		1954	
Maddox Elementary School, All Purpose Room Addition	Englewood		1954	
Cherrelyn Elementary School, Addition	Englewood		1954	
Lowell Elementary School	Englewood		1954	

Bishop (North) Elementary School	Englewood		1954	
Sinclair Junior High School	Englewood		1954	
Rio Blanco County High School	Meeker		1954	
Rand Elementary School	Rand		1954	
Slavens Elementary School	Denver		1954	School
Pagosa Springs High School	Pagosa Springs		1954	1982 addition by Lescher and Mahoney
Steamboat Springs Elementary School	Steamboat Springs		1955	
Lamb Hospital Addition	1560 Humboldt Denver		1955	
Redeemer Lutheran Church	3300 W. Nevada Denver		1955	Church
Kirk of Bonnie Brae (United Church of Christ) with Stanley E. Morse	1201 S. Steele St. Denver		1955	Church
Colorado Lutheran High School	Denver		1955	
Cedaredge High School, Classroom Addition	Cedaredge		1956	
Delta High School, Shop Addition	Delta		1956	
Hayden High School, Shop Addition	Hayden		1956	
Pomona Elementary School	Grand Junction		1956	
Englewood High School	Englewood		1956	
Park Hill Congregational Church	2600 Leyden St. Denver		1956	Church
Jefferson High School	Jefferson County		1957	
Maddox Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Englewood		1957	
Emerald Elementary School	Broomfield		1957	
Walden Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Walden		1958	
St. John's Lutheran Elementary School	Denver		1958	
Colorado Lutheran High School, Classroom Addition	Denver		1958	
Garnet Mesa Elementary School	Delta		1958	

Paonia High School, Addition	Paonia		1958	
Hunsicker Elementary School	Cedaredge		1958	
Hotchkiss Elementary School	Hotchkiss		1958	
Alameda High School	Jefferson County		1958	
Arvada High School, Classroom Addition	Arvada		1958	
Flood Junior High School, Remodel	Englewood		1958	
Englewood High School, Fieldhouse Remodel	Englewood		1958	
Broomfield Junior-Senior High School	Broomfield		1958	
Cañon City High School	Cañon City		1958	
Washington Elementary School, Addition	Cañon City		1958	
McKinley Elementary School, Addition	Cañon City		1958	
Harrison Elementary School, Addition	Cañon City		1958	
Maddox Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Englewood		1958	
Vineland Elementary School	Vineland		1958	
Boone Elementary School	Boone		1958	
North Mesa Elementary School	Pueblo		1958	
South Mesa Elementary School	Pueblo		1958	
Douglas County High School	Castle Rock		1958	
Kohl Elementary School	Broomfield		1958	
Gunnison High School	Gunnison		1959	
Fort Morgan High School (old), Remodel	Fort Morgan		1959	
Redeemer Lutheran School	Denver		1959	
Delta High School, Classroom Addition	Delta		1959	
Aspen Elementary School	Aspen		1959	
Ridge State Home and Training School	Wheat Ridge		1959	
Durango High School (Hoyt Miller Junior High?)	Durango		1959	
Idalia High School, Addition	Idalia		1959	

Torrington junior High School	Torrington		1959	
Parker Elementary School, Addition	Parker		1960	
Franktown Elementary School, Addition	Franktown		1960	
Castle Rock Elementary School, Addition	Castle Rock		1960	
Larkspur Elementary School, Addition	Larkspur		1960	
Plum Creek Elementary School, Addition	Douglas County		1960	
Sedalia Elementary School, Addition	Sedalia		1960	
Sinclair Junior High School, Library and Science Addition	Englewood		1960	
Kohl Elementary School, Administrative Addition	Broomfield		1960	
Kohl Elementary School, All Purpose Addition	Broomfield		1960	
Broomfield Junior-Senior High School, Gym Addition	Broomfield		1960	
Garden City Junior High School	Garden City, KS		1960	
Garden City High School, Gym Addition	Garden City, KS		1960	
Walden High School	Walden		1960	
Alamosa Elementary School, Addition	Alamosa		1960	
Emerald Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Broomfield		1960	
Dewey, John, Junior High School	Adams County		1960	
Green Acres Elementary School, Addition	Fort Morgan		1960	
Pine Bluffs Elementary School	Pine Bluffs, WY		1960	
Eads High School	Eads		1960	
Haswell Elementary School	Haswell		1960	
North Mesa Elementary School, All Purpose Addition	Pueblo		1960	
South Mesa Elementary School, All Purpose Addition	Pueblo		1960	

Arvada High School, Library Addition	Arvada		1961	
Slavens Elementary School, Classroom Addi- tion	Denver		1961	
Flood Junior High School, Library Remodel	Englewood		1961	
Columbine Elementary School, Addition	Fort Morgan		1961	
Central High School	Keenesburg		1961	
Hudson Elementary School	Hudson		1961	
Leadville High School	Leadville		1961	
Leadville Elementary School	Leadville		1961	
Highland High School	Thornton		1961	
Lingle High School	Lingle, WY		1961	
Berthoud High School, Gym Addition	Berthoud		1961	
Berthoud Elementary School	Berthoud		1961	
Big Thompson Elementary School, Addition	Loveland		1961	
Monroe Elementary School	Loveland		1961	
Loveland High School	Loveland		1961	
South Park High School	Fairplay		1961	
Colorado Lutheran High School, Classroom Addition	Denver		1961	
Holy Family Elementary School	Pueblo		1962	
Spangler Elementary School	Longmont		1962	
Pine Bluffs High School, Gym Addition	Pine Bluffs, WY		1962	
Monte Vista High School, Science Addition	Monte Vista		1962	
Gunnison Elementary School	Gunnison		1962	
Flood Junior High School, Classroom Addition	Englewood		1962	
Ridge State Home and Training School, Fallout Shelter Addition	Wheat Ridge		1962	
Arvada High School, Locker Room Addition	Arvada		1962	
Leadville Junior High School, Addition and Remodel	Leadville		1962	

Fort Morgan High School	Fort Morgan		1962	
Flood Junior High School, Administration Addition	Englewood		1963	
Berthoud High School, Classroom Remodel	Berthoud		1963	
Monte Vista Primary School	Monte Vista		1963	
Monte Vista High School, Classroom and All Pur- pose Addition	Monte Vista		1963	
Delta High School, Cafeteria Addition	Delta		1963	
Oberon Junior High School	Arvada		1963	
Cortez High School	Cortez		1963	
Rawlins High School, Shop Addition	Rawlins, WY		1963	
Garnet Mesa Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Delta		1963	
Pueblo High School, Addition	Pueblo		1963	
Roosevelt High School	Johnstown		1963	
Burgoon Elementary School	Diamondville, WY		1963	
Kemmerer Junior High School	Kemmerer, WY		1963	
Huron Junior High School	Northglenn		1963	
Alamosa High School	Alamosa		1963	
Loveland High School, Pool Addition	Loveland		1963	
Jefferson High School, Classroom Addition	Jefferson County		1963	
Delta Junior High School	Delta		1963	
Flood Junior High School, Phases I-V	Englewood		1963	
Flagler High School, Addition	Flagler		1964	
Boone Elementary School, All Purpose Addition	Boone		1964	
Pleasant View Junior High School	Pueblo County		1964	
Vineland Junior High School	Vineland		1964	
Avondale-Boone Junior High School	Pueblo County		1964	
Rye Junior-Senior High School	Rye		1964	
Las Animas High School	Las Animas		1964	

Highland High School, Arts & Crafts Addition	Thornton		1964	
Englewood High School, Pool Addition	Englewood		1964	
Monterrey Elementary School, Addition	Thornton		1964	
North-Mor Elementary School	Northglenn		1964	
Sinclair Junior High School, Pool Addition	Englewood		1964	
Alameda High School, Classroom Addition	Jefferson County		1964	
Garfield Elementary School, Library Addition	Loveland		1964	
Elizabeth Elementary School	Elizabeth		1965	
York Junior High School, Addition	Thornton		1965	
Cottage School	Loveland		1965	
Granada School, Repair Flood Damage	Granada		1965	
Lamar High School	Lamar		1965	
Milliken Middle School	Milliken		1965	
Walden Elementary School, Office Addition	Walden		1965	
Walden School, Remodel	Walden		1965	
Dolores Elementary School	Dolores		1965	
Hotchkiss Elementary School, Classroom and Gym Additions	Hotchkiss		1965	
Lewis-Arriola Elementary School	Cortez		1965	
Van Buren Elementary School	Loveland		1966	
Loveland High School, Classroom Addition	Loveland		1966	
Berthoud High School, Kitchen Remodel	Berthoud		1966	
Rangley College Dormitory	Rangley		1966	
Longs Peak Junior High School	Longmont		1966	
Blevins Junior High School	Fort Collins		1966	
Robin Rogers Handicapped School	Cortez		1966	
Leadville Junior High School, Classroom and Gym Additions	Leadville		1966	

Stukey, Daniel B., Elementary School	Northglenn		1966	
Highland High School, Music Addition	Thornton		1966	
Highland High School, Classroom Addition	Thornton		1967	
East Alamosa Elementary School, Addition	Alamosa		1967	
Mancos Junior High School	Mancos		1967	
Flood Junior High School, North Wing Addition	Englewood		1967	
Highland High School, Gym Addition	Thornton		1967	
Monte Vista High School, Classroom Addition	Monte Vista		1968	
Highland High School, Shop Addition	Thornton		1968	
Hudson Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Hudson		1969	
Englewood High School, Kitchen Remodel	Englewood		1969	
Fort Collins High School, Remodel	Fort Collins		1969	
Creede Gymnasium	Creede		1969	
Rocky Mountain High School	Fort Collins		1969	
Lincoln Elementary School	Loveland		1970	
Berthoud High School, Classroom Addition	Berthoud		1970	
Ball, Conrad, Junior High School	Loveland		1970	
Winona Elementary School	Loveland		1970	
Blair, Mary, Elementary School	Loveland		1970	
Scenic View Elementary School	Englewood		1970	
Boltz, I.K., Junior High School	Fort Collins		1970	
Larimer County Vocational-Technical	Fort Collins		1970	
Hillcrest Elementary School	Gillette, WY		1970	
Stocktrail Elementary School	Gillette, WY		1970	
Washington Elementary School, Addition	Lamar		1970	

Parkview Elementary School, Addition	Lamar		1970	
Central Kitchen	Lamar		1970	
Lamar Junior High School, Remodel	Lamar		1970	
Loma Linda Elementary School	Longmont		1970	
Northridge Elementary School	Longmont		1970	
Tri-Town Elementary School	Frederick		1970	
Mead Junior High School	Mead		1970	
Hygiene Elementary School	Hygiene		1970	
Larkspur Elementary School	Larkspur		1970	
Parker Elementary School	Parker		1970	
Castle Rock Elementary School	Castle Rock		1970	
Big Thompson Elementary School, Remodel Class-rooms	Loveland		1970	
Hunsicker Elementary School, Kitchen and All Purpose Addition	Cedaredge		1970	
Sinclair Junior High School, Auditorium, Shop and Gym Additions	Englewood		1970	
Flood Junior High School, Gym Addition	Englewood		1970	
Bishop (North) Elementary School, Media Center Addition	Englewood		1970	
Walden High School, Gym Addition	Walden		1970	
Walden Elementary School, Classroom Addition	Walden		1970	
Walden High School, Gym Addition	Walden		1971	
Bishop Elementary School, Media Center Addition	Englewood		1971	
Flood Junior High School, Addition	Englewood		1971	
Sinclair Junior High School, Addition	Englewood		1971	
Hunsicker Elementary School, Addition	Cedaredge		1971	
Gillette High School	Gillette, WY		1971	

Walden Elementary School, Addition	Walden		1971	
Englewood High School, Pool Locker Room Addition	Englewood		1971	
Lowell Elementary School, Media Center	Englewood		1971	
Hay, Charles, Elementary School, Media Center Addition	Englewood		1971	
Cherrelyn Elementary School, Media Center Addition	Englewood		1971	
Maddox Elementary School, Media Center Addition	Englewood		1971	
Kemmerer Elementary School	Kemmerer		1971	
Garfield Elementary School, Re-roofing	Loveland		1971	
Berthoud High School, Parking Lot Addition	Berthoud		1971	
Blevins Junior High School, Addition	Fort Collins		1972	
Dewey, John, Junior High School, Classroom and Shop Addition	Thornton		1972	
Samuels Elementary School	Denver		1972	
Reed Junior High School, Remodel Phase I	Loveland		1972	
Northwest Elementary School	Longmont		1972	
Holm Elementary School	Denver		1972	
Namaqua Elementary School	Loveland		1972	
Arapahoe School District No. 1, Code Corrections	Englewood		1972	
Brush High School, Shop Addition	Brush		1973	
Fort Collins High School, Kitchen and Cafeteria Additions	Fort Collins		1973	
Lyons Junior-Senior High	Longmont		1973	
Northeast Junior High School	Longmont		1973	
Highland High School, Auditorium, Pool and Shop Additions	Thornton		1973	

West Elementary School, Addition	Yuma		1973	
North Elementary School, Addition	Yuma		1973	
Yuma High School, Shop Addition	Yuma		1973	
Alameda High School, Instructional Materials Center Addition	Jefferson County		1973	
Stockwell Elementary School	Berthoud		1974	
Gillette Junior High School	Gillette, WY		1974	
Gunnison High School, Shop Addition	Gunnison		1974	
Delta-Montrose Voc-Tech	Delta		1974	
Yuma High School	Yuma		1974	
South Junior High School	Longmont		1974	
Montrose Junior High School	Montrose		1974	
Johnson Elementary School	Montrose		1974	
Montrose High School, Library and Auxiliary Gym Additions	Montrose		1974	
Oak Grove Elementary School	Montrose		1974	
Olathe High School, Addition	Olathe		1974	
Brush Junior High School	Brush		1974	
Park Elementary School	Durango		1974	
Englewood High School, Stagecraft Addition	Englewood		1974	
Phillips Elementary, IMC Addition	Denver		1974	
Lake Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
North High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
Rishel Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	
Lincoln High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
Washington High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
South High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
Grant Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School

Jefferson High School, Remodel	Denver		1974	School
Montclair Elementary School, Remodel	Denver		1975	
Centennial Elementary School	Loveland		1975	
Middle School	Pinedale, WY		1975	
Thompson Valley High School	Loveland		1975	
Bromwell Elementary School	Denver		1975	
Skinner Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1975	School
Kepner Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1975	School
Eaton Middle School	Eaton		1975	
Haxtun School, Gym Addition	Haxtun		1975	
Whittier Elementary School, Site Development	Denver		1975	
Henry Junior High School, Site Development	Denver		1975	School
Valdez Elementary School, Site Development	Denver		1975	
Wyman Elementary School, Site Development	Denver		1975	
Swansea Elementary School, Site Development	Denver		1975	
Eagleton Elementary School, Site Development	Denver		1975	
Hillcrest Elementary School, Addition	Gillette, WY		1975	
Yuma Street Center, Remodel	Denver		1975	
Fox Street Building, Remodel	Denver		1975	
Cole Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1975	School
Kunsmiller Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1975	School
Place Junior High School, Remodel	Denver		1975	School
Longmont Junior High School, remodel	Longmont		1975	
Warehouse Facility, Remodel	Loveland		1976	
Campbell County High School Vocational Building, Remodel	Gillette, WY		1976	

Rifle Secondary School	Rifle		1976	
New Castle Elementary- Junior High School	New Castle		1976	
Letford Elementary School, Addition	Johnstown		1976	
Milliken Elementary School	Milliken		1976	
Delta Support Staff Facility	Delta		1976	
Campbell County Junior High, Remodel	Gillette, WY		1976	
Thompson Valley High School, Track and Tennis Courts	Loveland		1976	
Brush Central Elementary School, remodel	Brush		1977	
Patterson Field, Lighting	Loveland		1977	
Clark, Walt, Junior High School	Loveland		1977	
Brush Junior High School, Classroom Finish	Brush		1977	
Miner, Sarah, Elementary School	Loveland		1977	
Columbia Elementary School, Remodel	Las Animas		1977	Demolished in 2006
Human Resources Development Center	Montrose		1977	
Central Elementary School, Remodel	Brush		1977	
Encampment School, Addition	Encampment, WY		1978	
Saratoga High School	Saratoga, WY		1978	
Hanna - Elk Mountain High School	Hanna, WY		1978	
Eaton High School, Remodel	Eaton		1978	
Edmondson, Laurene, Elementary School	Loveland		1978	
Englewood High School, Auditorium Sound System	Englewood		1978	School
Big Thompson Elementary School, Remodel	Loveland		1978	
Delta Elementary School	Delta		1978	
Fort Morgan Junior High School	Fort Morgan		1979	
Patterson Field, Phase II	Loveland		1979	
Pinedale High School, Pool Addition	Pinedale, WY		1979	
Sage Valley Junior High School	Gillette, WY		1979	

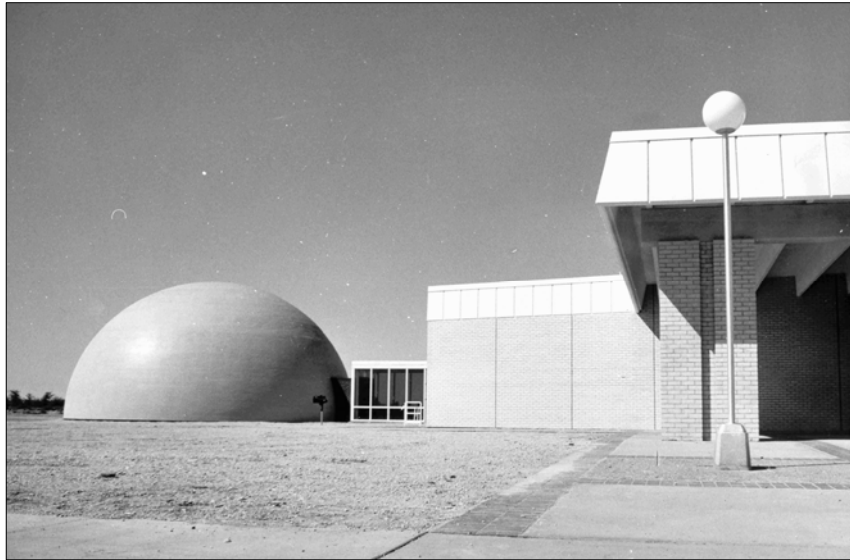
Martin, Carrie, Elementary School	Loveland		1979	
Bow Basin High School	Medicine Bow		1979	
Hanna - Elk Mountain High School, Classroom and Gym Additions	Hanna, WY		1979	
Paonia Elementary School	Paonia		1979	
Berthoud Junior High School	Berthoud		1980	
Wright Secondary School	Wright, WY		1981	School

*Completion date is stated if known. Plan, building permit, or assessor date is shown if completion date is unknown.

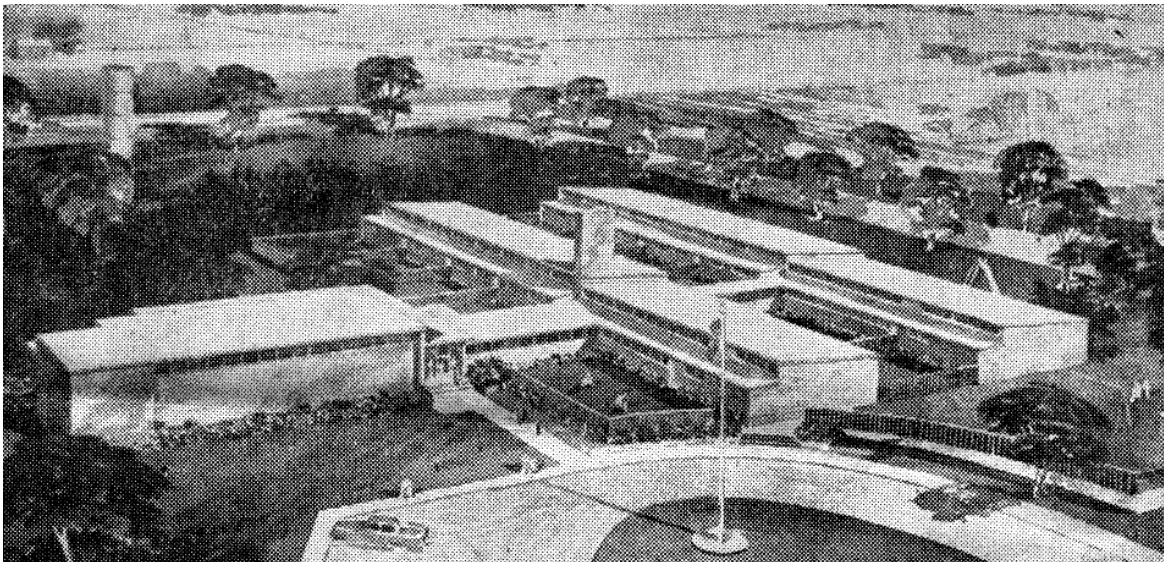


Figure 4. The Wheeler & Lewis firm members posed for this photograph about 1955. Individuals left to right are John D. Anderson, Lincoln Jones, Selby Wheeler, May Murrey, Don Rider and Carol Lewis.

Source: Colorado Historical Society



**Figure 5. The Wheeler & Lewis designed Lamar High School contained a planetarium, a rarity in a K-12 school.
Source: Colorado Historical Society**



**Figure 7. Architect's rendering of Letford Elementary School shows the double-T plan. The classroom wings open both onto central corridors and directly to the outside courtyards. North-facing clearstories provided even interior lighting. The plan is anchored on the north by offices and a multipurpose room. The school opened in 1953.
Source: *Greeley Tribune*, November 12, 1953.**

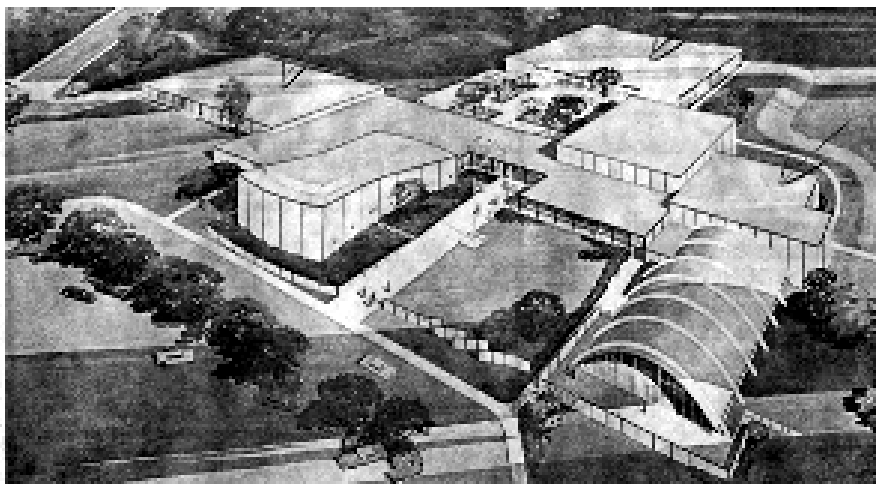


Figure 6. Architect's rendering of Highland High when full constructed. Hand-drawn arrows on the newspaper copy of the drawing indicate the three buildings opened in 1962 as the initial construction phase. Source: *Denver Post*, Zone 3 Section, October 2, 1963.

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