This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking `x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter `N/A" for ``not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Holly Gymnasium

other names/site number 5PW.268

2. Location

street & number North Main Street

city or town Holly

[N/A] vicinity

[N/A] not for publication

state	Colorado	code	<u>CO</u>	county_	Prowers	code _	099	zip code	<u>81047</u>
-------	----------	------	-----------	---------	---------	--------	-----	----------	--------------

# 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

State Historic Preservation Officer

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

# 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[] entered in the National Register [] See continuation sheet. [] determined eligible for the National Register [] See continuation sheet. [] determined not eligible for the

- National Register.
- [] removed from the
- National Register
- [] other, explain [] See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Date

Date

Name of Property

# 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property Category of Property** Number of Resources within Property (Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box) (Do not count previously listed resources.) Noncontributing Contributing [X] building(s) [] private [X] public-local [] district 1 0 buildings [] public-State [] site [] public-Federal [] structure 0 0 sites [] object 0 0 structures 0 0 objects 0 Total 1 Number of contributing resources Name of related multiple property listing. (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) previously listed in the National Register. New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains 0 6. Function or Use **Historic Function Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions) RECREATION & CULTURE / Sports Facility, RECREATION & CULTURE / Sports Facility, RECREATION & CULTURE / Auditorium **RECREATION & CULTURE / Auditorium** EDUCATION/ School EDUCATION/ School 7. Description **Architectural Classification** Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movements

Other: WPA Modernist

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundatio	on Concrete	
walls	Limestone	
roof	Asphalt	
other	-	

# **Narrative Description**

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

Name of Property

# 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.)

- [X] 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.
- [X] 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.)

#### Property is:

- $[\ ]$  A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [] **B** removed from its original location.
- [] **C** a birthplace or grave.
- [] D a cemetery.
- [] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [] F a commemorative property.
- [] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

## **Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

## Bibliography

#

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

# Previous documentation on file (NPS):

[ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

[] previously listed in the National Register

[] previously determined eligible by the National Register

[] designated a National Historic Landmark

[ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

[] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Prowers County, Colorado County/State

## Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Education

Entertainment/Recreation

# Periods of Significance

<u> 1936 - 1956</u>

## **Significant Dates**

1936

1938

# Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

IN/A

## **Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

## Architect/Builder

Brown, John Y.

# Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
- [] Other State Agency
- [] Federal Agency
- [] Local Government
- [] University

[] Other Name of repository: Colorado Historical Society

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

#### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1.	13 Zone	752538 Easting	4215625 Northing	(NAD 27)
2.	Zone	Easting	Northing	
3.	Zone	Easting	Northing	
4.	Zone	Easting	Northing	

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

#### **Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

#### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Abigail Christman, Survey Coo	ordinato	or (for p	roperty owner)
organization	Colorado Preservation Inc.			date 2/22/06
street & number_	333 West Colfax Avenue, Suit	e 300		telephone <u>303-893-4260</u>
city or town	Denver	state	Colorado	zip code 80204

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### **Continuation Sheets**

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

#### **Property Owner** (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) Carlyn Yokum, Superintendent name Holly School District RE-3 street & number 206 North 3rd Street telephone 719-537-6616 state Colorado city or town Holly zip code 81047 Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Machinet PROFESSION Washington, DC 20503.

Prowers County, Colorado County/State

Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

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## DESCRIPTION

The Gymnasium is located on North Main Street in Holly, a small town on the Plains of southeastern Colorado. The building lies between the town's elementary school and high school. Shanner Elementary, constructed in 1918, lies to the west across North Main Street. The junior high and high school complex, constructed in the 1960s, lies to the northeast. The gymnasium faces west onto Main Street where a low concrete retaining wall with a projecting cap separates a grassy area in front of the building from the sidewalk. A large deciduous tree occupies a grassy median between the sidewalk and the street. A gravel drive runs along the north side of the building. A playground is located on the south; a parking lot and a school administration building are located to the east. The Holly Gymnasium is in good condition and retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, feeling, and association.

The building with its modified rectangular plan is constructed of Niobrara limestone and measures 125' x 77'. The regularly coursed ashlar masonry has a sawed finish and rests on a raised concrete foundation. The building consists of three sections—a large gymnasium with two smaller extensions off its west (facade) and east (rear) ends. The facade extension contains a lobby and two classrooms; the rear extension has a raised stage and dressing rooms. The main gymnasium portion is 83' x 77'; the smaller extensions each measure 71' x 21'. The gymnasium is covered by a truncated gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The upper portions of the gable ends are stuccoed. The flat-roofed extensions have stepped parapet walls trimmed with coping. An elongated stuccoed addition runs along the north side; it has a slightly pitched shed roof behind a small parapet wall.

The building's windows are single-hung sash six-over-six vinyl, which are not original but match the configuration of the historic windows. The windows have lintels and slip sills of sandstone with a rubbed (smooth) finish. With the exception of the east (rear), the windows are evenly spaced across the walls. There are six windows on the west and east ends and fourteen windows on the north and south sides (ten on the main gymnasium building and two on each of the extensions).

The main entrance is on the west facade. Low steps flanked by capped stone side walls lead to a landing with a double-leaf entry. The two metal doors each contain a single-light and are surmounted by a single-light transom and rubbed finish sandstone lintel. The stone side walls join with a low stone retaining wall running parallel with North Main Street for the width of the building and then wrapping around the sides of the west extension. Additional doors are located on the south and east. Centrally positioned on the south wall are low steps flanked by a capped, low stone sidewalls that lead to a solid metal door topped by a single-light transom and stone lintel. This door provides direct access into the gymnasium. Two, at-grade, solid metal doors topped by single-light transoms and stone lintels are located at either end of the east (rear) extension.

Located on the north side of the building is a single-story, stucco addition measuring 12' x 45' that contains restrooms. The north wall of the addition has three small fixed sash windows and one double-hung sash 1/1 light window. Single-panel wood doors are located at each end (east and west walls) of the addition.

The west entry doors lead to a lobby with community rooms on either side. Currently, these rooms are used for music classes. Acoustical tile ceilings have been installed in both rooms; the south room has hardwood floors and the north room has been carpeted. Double wood doors topped by multi-light transoms lead into the community rooms and the gymnasium. Wood bleachers line the south and north

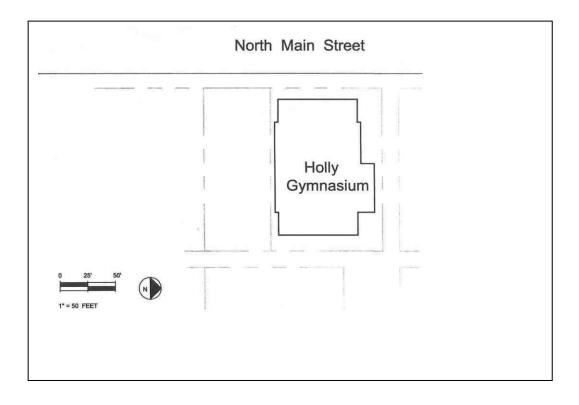
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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

sides of the gymnasium, which contains a full basketball court. The gymnasium floor space is 80' x 42'. The gymnasium has an acoustical tile ceiling. A raised stage, measuring 31' x 19.5', is located at the far end of the gymnasium within the east extension. The gymnasium and stage have hardwood floors. The restroom addition is located on the north side of the gymnasium. The restroom has a concrete floor and wood stalls. Dressing rooms are located on either side of the stage. Currently, these rooms are used as an office and a storage room. Both rooms have hardwood floors and vertical beadboard covers the north and south walls. Two shower rooms are located in the basement beneath the stage.

#### Alterations

The Holly Gymnasium has undergone very few changes since its construction. The restroom addition was constructed in 1955. The original 6/6 double hung windows were replaced in 2003 with similar vinyl windows. It is not known when the main doors, its transom and the flanking light fixtures were changed. These alterations do little to detract from the building's association with the WPA program or the workmanship evident in the building's stone construction and finishing. For WPA programs, pre-manufactured elements such as windows and doors are not as critical to integrity since they do not directly relate to the program's purpose of providing local jobs or its emphasis on hand craftsmanship. Since the restroom addition is very simple in design, not located on the primary facade, and much smaller in scale than the gymnasium, it is not a significant detraction from the overall mass and form of the gymnasium. On the interior, the original character of the building is very much intact with the only significant alteration being the installation of acoustical tile ceilings.



Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

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Holly Gymnasium, WPA photograph ca. 1939 Source: Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library

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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

## SIGNIFICANCE

The Holly Gymnasium, constructed 1936-38 as a project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), is being nominated under the *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The Holly Gymnasium meets the registration requirements of two property types delineated in the MPDF—Educational Buildings (subtype: Primary & Secondary School Facilities) and Recreational & Cultural Resources (subtype: Community Centers, Auditoriums / Gymnasiums).

The building meets Criterion A for its significance in the areas of Social History, Education and Recreation. Construction of the gymnasium was an important work relief program that provided employment and increased job skills for the unemployed in and around Holly. The building, in use by 1938, was the first school gymnasium in the town. It not only provided for athletic education, but also was used for the hot lunch program and other classes. The building was also the town's first gymnasium, providing the community with its first modern recreational facility.

The building also meets Criterion C for its architectural significance as a good example of WPA construction. The Holly Gymnasium exhibits the functional design and use of local materials characteristic of WPA buildings. The building represents one of the four architectural style sub-types associated with WPA projects in eastern Colorado—WPA Modernist.

The period of significance begins in 1936 with the start of construction as an active WPA project. Although the building remained the only gymnasium in Holly until the completion of the Junior/Senior High School complex in 1965, the period of significance ends in 1956 in order to comply with the National Register's 50 year rule.

#### Social History

The Holly Gymnasium is significant for its association with New Deal programs in Eastern Colorado. Constructed by the Works Progress Administration, it is an important part of the federal relief programs administered on the plains of Eastern Colorado during the Great Depression as discussed in the multiple property document. All of Colorado was affected by the dire economic conditions of the 1930s, however the agricultural-based economy of the Eastern Plains was especially hard hit due to the drought conditions that led to the Dust Bowl. Consequently, Eastern Colorado received a high number of New Deal construction projects. As a project of the WPA, the construction of the Holly Gymnasium provided much-needed employment for men in the Holly area. The project also reflected the social improvement aspect of New Deal construction programs which emphasized projects providing civic, educational, and health benefits for a community. The building was prominently featured in WPA newsletters, area and Denver newspapers, and WPA photo records.

The gymnasium has been very important to the town of Holly, representing both the economic and social elements of New Deal programs. In the short term, it provided much needed employment for the Holly area during the Great Depression as well as an opportunity to develop job skills. Of more enduring importance, the gymnasium provided Holly with space for indoor athletics and community gatherings. Similar needs made gymnasiums a popular WPA project throughout Eastern Colorado; gymnasiums were also constructed in Burlington, Two Buttes, Stratton, Kim, Hartman, Hugo and many other communities. Many of these small school districts could not afford gymnasiums and the New Deal programs were an ideal opportunity to improve their educational facilities. A large number of WPA

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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

projects were related to recreation, athletics, and health. During the difficult times of the Depression, New Deal agencies also recognized the psychological benefits of recreational and cultural activities. In addition to gymnasiums, the WPA constructed parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, and golf courses in Eastern Colorado. Community and education were also common elements of WPA projects.

#### Education

School building was a major focus of New Deal construction, and a combination auditorium/gymnasium was a common New Deal project. The Holly School District did not have adequate room for athletic training and rented the armory for use as a gymnasium. The WPA created an opportunity to provide the town of Holly with a more "progressive" educational facility, and the resulting gymnasium/auditorium clearly improved public education in this rural area. In addition to the gym, the building included a community room which was used for small gatherings and a kitchen adequate to serve large banquets. Eventually, the kitchen was used on school days to prepare hot lunches, and the community room was used as the cafeteria as well as music rooms.

#### Recreation

President Roosevelt was a staunch believer in the health benefits provided by recreation, and in the difficult times of the Depression, recreational activities were also recognized for their psychological benefits. Some of the largest examples of New Deal resources in eastern Colorado were the prominent combination auditorium/gymnasium buildings. Several of these projects were sponsored by local school districts and were built on school property, adjacent to an existing school. Very few of the towns or school districts in eastern Colorado had these kinds of recreational facilities prior to the 1930s, and the construction of these buildings often met several community needs. Such was the case with the Holly Gymnasium. Construction of the building provided the first such recreational facility for the town.

#### Architecture

The building is a good example of the functional design of gymnasiums built by the WPA. The larger school buildings constructed by New Deal Programs were either masonry (stone or brick) or concrete, and typically had flat or barrel roofs. Gymnasiums had large, central open spaces with high ceilings, a stage at one end, hardwood floors, and fixed seating or balconies at the sides. Locker rooms or shower rooms were typically in the basement, and classrooms or offices were located at one end or on either side. The Holly Gymnasium fit this "form follows function" design.

The Holly Gymnasium was also constructed of local materials, another characteristic of WPA construction projects. An unusual local stone was used that helped conserve material costs. The building has little ornamentation, emphasizing functionality. The simple style of the gymnasium, like other WPA buildings, reflects that much of the work was done by unskilled labor. The WPA tried to construct projects in the most economical means possible. Little money was available to purchase building supplies and pre-fabricated elements, since the majority of project funds were to be used for labor. Thus, WPA projects utilized any building materials available locally and often emphasized traditional construction methods over machines and ready-made elements. The buildings in southeast Colorado were typically constructed of native stone that was locally quarried. Niobrara, the chalk-like stone used for the gymnasium walls, was quarried ten miles north of Holly. Cut as "easily as wood" with hand saws, this limestone hardened once exposed to air. The Holly Gymnasium's hand-hewn stones with their sawn finish typify the high degree of workmanship found in WPA projects.

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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

As noted in the MPDF, four architectural style subtypes are associated with WPA projects in eastern Colorado. The Holly Gymnasium displays the characteristics of WPA Modernist. WPA Modernist is more a reflection of the attempt to keep building forms simple rather than an expression of an overall design philosophy. The Gymnasium possesses the distinctive characteristics of this sub-type as seen in its lack of ornamentation, smooth exterior surfaces, linear building elements, and square corners (unlike the similar WPA Moderne subtype which usually features rounded edges and corners). The stone masonry of this subtype utilizes rectangular, smooth-faced blocks with usually sawed edges, which is also seen in the limestone walls of the Gymnasium.

#### Historical Background

The town of Holly is located in Prowers County in southeastern Colorado. The town's name comes from the ranch of Hiram S. Holly, established in the area in the 1870s. It was from this ranch that the town grew. By 1881, Holly had one of the largest cattle ranches in the state with 15,000 head of cattle. The town site of Holly was platted in the 1890s and soon attracted many new residents from Greeley County in Kansas, who were seeking to escape a heated battle over determining a county seat. Many of the newcomers even brought their old houses and businesses with them, transporting them on wagon beds. With this rapid growth, new school facilities were needed. A frame school near the ranch headquarters was abandoned and a brick school constructed in 1898. A high school was constructed a few years later and the first student graduated from Holly High School in 1906. This was a boom period for Holly. The big ranches around the town were breaking up and farming became Holly's main industry. The community officially incorporated as a town in 1903, and the Holly Sugar Corporation was organized in 1905. The sugar beet industry reigned in Holly till 1911 when the company offices moved to Denver. The town turned to other agricultural pursuits including broomcorn, wheat, alfalfa, oats, and cantaloupes. Its agricultural economy, like similar small communities on the eastern Plains, meant that it was hit especially hard by the drought conditions during the Great Depression. The New Deal construction and relief programs such as the WPA were a lifesaver for these communities. WPA projects, such as the Holly Gymnasium, provided desperately needed employment as well as the morale boost of new community buildings. Agriculture has continued to be the foundation of Holly's economy and many of its 1048 current residents are the descendants of the community's early ranchers, homesteaders, and laborers.

The Holly School District No. 6 served the town of Holly as well as the surrounding rural areas. In the 1930s, it operated nine school buses to transport children to school. However, the district had no facilities for indoor athletics and physical education. The high school auditorium could only hold half those wishing to attend events such as graduation ceremonies and there was no place for large community gatherings. The school district had been renting space in the local armory for activities.

The WPA program provided the ideal means for Holly to get the gymnasium it needed. Both a construction and work relief program, the WPA enabled communities across eastern Colorado to construct public buildings they would not have been able to finance alone. Projects related to health and recreation such as gymnasiums, parks, tennis courts, golf courses, and swimming pools were especially popular.

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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

The WPA approved the construction of a gymnasium for Holly on December 24, 1935. The WPA would provide funding of \$17,616, which included all labor and half of material costs. The Holly School Board was the local project sponsor, and the project architect was John Y. Brown. Very little is known about the architect, although the Colorado business directories offer some clues. Brown was from Lamar and his family owned a lumber yard. Brown does not appear under the architect heading of the directory for the area during the 1930s. J Y Brown is listed as secretary of the Brown Lumber Company in Lamar in the 1935 directory. John Y. Brown appears as vice president and secretary of the company in 1937 and then president and treasurer in the 1939 directory.

Apparently there was initial disagreement over the gymnasium's material. A WPA index card said the gymnasium would be adobe, and a newspaper article asserted that the gymnasium would be stucco. However, the final construction choice was Niobrara limestone quarried ten miles north of Holly. This type of stone comes out of the ground very soft and could be quarried using a power saw and finished with a hand saw. After quarrying, the stone quickly hardens and is very durable. However, it must be kept dry so the gymnasium was constructed with a seven-foot high foundation of waterproof concrete. The interior walls of the gymnasium were constructed of the same stone, eliminating the need for "any plastering or painting as the white stone will present a finished effect."<sup>1</sup> Niobrara limestone also was used in the construction of Holly's other WPA project, the Holly City Hall (listed in the National Register). In nearby Granada, WPA workers built a two-story school addition with the same stone.

According to the *Lamar Daily News*, construction began April 12, 1936. George Slater, the project timekeeper, told the paper that the project should take eight months. The superintendent of construction was W.C. Simpson. The project started with a work crew of 28, who were later classified as 6 skilled, 9 semi-skilled, 1 truck driver, 1 teamster, and 11 laborers.

The gymnasium could not be completed under the first project authorization and a second application was made on September 9, 1936. The second application stated that the gymnasium would only be 65 percent complete when the initial funding ran out and requested \$7,666 for an additional four months work. The second application was approved and, in November 1936, the *Lamar Daily News* reported that the gymnasium should be completed in approximately three months. However, the additional funds were still not enough to fully finish the building and on August 12, 1937 a third application for improving the gymnasium was approved, including "placing baseboard, plastering foundations, laying flooring, constructing cabinets, closets, booths, lockers, benches, shelving, window and door screens."<sup>2</sup> With the delays and multiple applications the contribution of the school district seems to have increased along with the WPA contribution. A newspaper article in the *Rocky Mountain News* reported total school board contributions as \$4,099 while WPA records report a total of \$6,649 spent by the sponsor.

All but the community rooms seems to have been completed under the third project application. In October 1938, the Holly School Board authorized the completion of the front rooms, including laying oak flooring and installing gas heaters, so they would be ready for community use. The Board also planned to use these rooms during the school day for music instruction. The finished gym had a lobby with ticket windows. On one side of the lobby was a community room to be used for gatherings such as Civic Club meetings. On the opposite side was another community room equipped with a kitchen. Beyond the lobby, was a large gymnasium floor lined with wood bleachers. At the opposite end was a raised stage with dressing rooms on either side.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "For Better School Life," WPA Worker, July 1936, p.9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WPA index card, National Archives and Records Administration, Maryland.

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Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

The kitchen was used on school days to prepare hot lunches. The WPA's school lunch program provided nutritious hot meals to children as well as employment to those serving the lunches. The school lunch program was available to any tax-supported public body willing to sponsor it. According to WPA files, Prowers County was one of the recipients of the hot lunch program. Its school lunch project was "to provide employment for needy persons in the preparation of school lunches to be furnished without cost to needy or undernourished children in the public schools of Prowers County. Work includes the canning of surplus and/or donated foodstuffs for use on school lunches under this project. ...This project will operate throughout Prowers County, and will employ mostly women."<sup>3</sup> It is believed that after the Holly Gymnasium was completed the hot lunch program was held in its meeting rooms.

The Holly Gymnasium was one of many WPA-executed projects throughout southeastern Colorado. The *Lamar Daily News* reported in 1939 that between October 1, 1935 and January 1, 1939, the WPA carried out projects totaling \$909,000 in Prowers County. Of this amount, the project sponsors (school districts, municipal and county governments) provided \$166,000. Wages to WPA workers accounted for over \$623,000 of the expenditure with the remaining money going to the purchase of materials, equipment and other non-labor items.

The gymnasium continues to be used by all Holly schools and the community. It is no longer Holly's only gym as a new gymnasium was built as part of the construction of the junior/senior high school in 1965. Current activities in the Holly Gymnasium include practice by high school athletic teams, junior high basketball tournaments, elementary gym classes, and community activities like adult basketball leagues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> WPA index card, National Archives and Records Administration, Maryland.

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- Colorado State Business Directories.
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- "For Better School Life." The WPA Worker, July 1936, p. 9.
- "Holly School Notes." Lamar Daily News, 4 October 1938.
- "Holly Will Have Fine Gymnasium." The Lamar Daily News, 22 September 1936.
- "Over Two Million Dollars Spent in Area for Parks, Schools, Roads, Hospitals." *The Lamar Daily News*, 30 January 1939, Sec. 2, p. 1.
- Wolfenbarger, Deon. Holly Gymnasium [5PW.268] Architectural Inventory Form, 2005. On file in the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, Colorado.
- ------. "Drought, Depression, and Dust: The New Deal in Eastern Colorado Phase I Survey Report", September 23, 2005. On file in the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, Colorado.
- ------. "New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains" National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2005. On file in the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, Colorado.

"Work on New Holly School Starting Soon." Lamar Daily News, 7 April 1936.

"Work Starts on Holly School." Lamar Daily News, 13 April 1936.

Yokum, Carlyn [Superintendent, Holly School District]. Interviewed 11 December 2005 at the Holly Gymnasium, Holly, Colorado by Abigail Christman.

Archival Sources for WPA information:

National Archives and Records Administration, Maryland.

Western History / Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, Denver, Colorado.

Section number <u>10 & photo log</u> Page <u>10</u>

## **GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

#### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Lots 8-14, Block 2, Meadow Lark Addition, Town of Holly

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated property includes the gymnasium and the land immediately surrounding it. The parcel excludes Lots 1-7 of Block 2, which are also owned by the Holly School District, as they contain new residential construction.

## PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to all photographs:

Name of Property: Holly Gymnasium Location: Prowers County, Colorado Photographer: Abigail Christman Date of Photographs: 12/11/20005 Location of Negatives: Digital files submitted to National Register, Washington, D.C.

(Photographs were printed on Hewlett-Packard Premium Photo Paper using a Hewlett-Packard 100 Gray Photo Cartridge.)

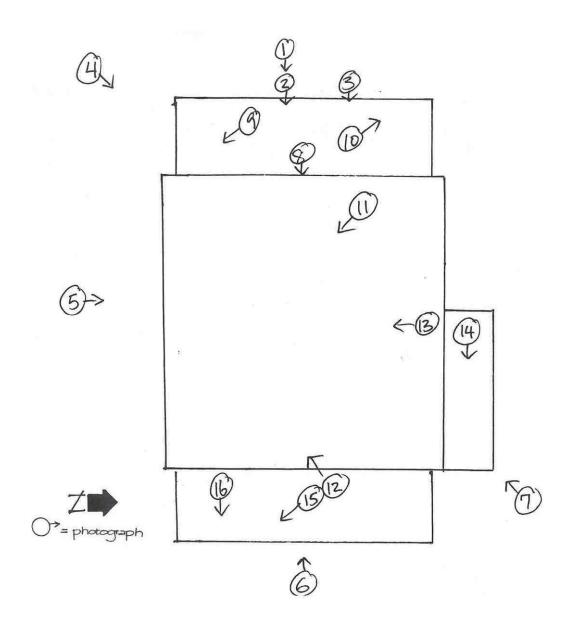
Photo No.	Photographic Information
1	West facade of the Holly Gymnasium. View to East.
2	Detail of main entrance. View to East.
3	Detail of Niobrara limestone; the softness of the stone is evident in the various
	names that have been carved into the stone.
4	West and south sides. View to northeast.
5	South side. View to north.
6	East (rear) end. View to west.
7	North side showing the restroom addition. View to southwest.
8	Lobby showing doors leading into gymnasium. View to east.
9	South community/music room. View to southeast.
10	North community/music room. View to northwest.
11	Main gymnasium floor. View to southeast.
12	View of the gymnasium from the stage. View to southwest.
13	View of gymnasium from the corridor leading to the restroom addition. View to south.
14	Restroom addition. View to east.
15	Stage. View to southeast.
16	Dressing/storage room. View to east.
17	Basement shower facilities. View to southwest.

Holly Gymnasium Prowers County, Colorado (New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains MPS)

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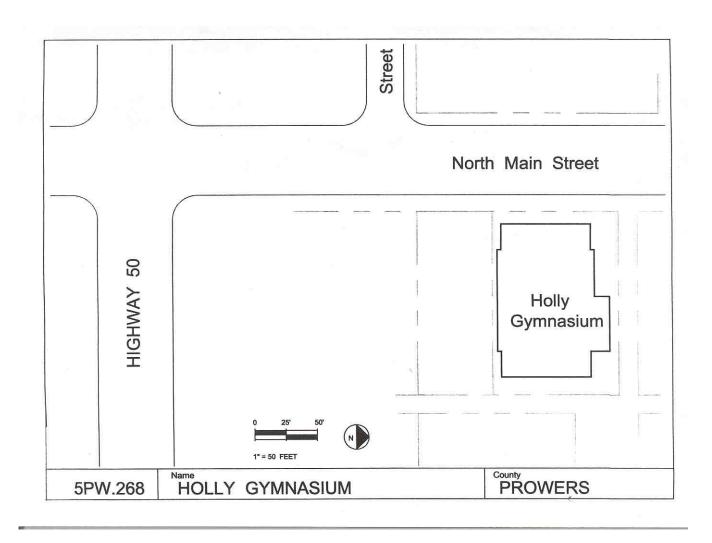
## PHOTO LOCATION MAP



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Site Plan



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# **USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP**

Holly East Quadrangle, Colorado 7.5 Minute Series [1953; photo rev. 1978] UTM: Zone 13 / 752538mE / 4215625mN (NAD27) PLSS: 6th P.M., T23S, R42W, Sec.15, NW SW NE NE Elevation: 3392 feet

