NPS Form 10-900
Oct. 1990

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 *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 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Colby Community High School
Other name/site number 193-1060-0027

2. Location

Street & number 750 West Third Street ☐ not for publication
City or town Colby ☐ vicinity
State Kansas Code KS County Thomas Code 193 Zip code 67701

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 ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D Pankratz DSHPO 10/22/03
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Kansas State 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 commenting official /Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I herby certify that the property is — Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

☐ 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:)

Colby Community High School
Name of property

Thomas County, Kansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
- ☒ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
- ☐ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
New Deal Resources of Kansas

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: school

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Mission/ Mission/Spa REVIVALS:Mission/Spanish Colonial

Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls BRICK
Walls Brick with limestone trim

roof TILE

other STONE: limestone

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for Natonal Register

☒ **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 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 it 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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1935

Significant Dates

1935

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Mann and Company

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 lising (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 #

Primary location of additional data:
- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Name of Property Colby Community High School County and State Thomas County, Kansas

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property three acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	321910	4362500
2			
3			
4			

☐ 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 Melissa Fisher Isaacs, National Register Intern

Organization Kansas State Historical Society Date June 13, 2003

Street & number 6425 SW 6th Avenue Telephone 785-272-8681

City or town Topeka State Kansas Zip code 66615-1099

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 SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name Colby USD #315

street & number 210 South Range Avenue telephone 785-462-9100

city or town Colby state Kansas zip code 67701

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), Washington, DC 20503

Colby Community High School
Colby, Kansas

Description

The Colby Community High School (c. 1935) is a two story brick Mediterranean Revival building with tower ornamented with native limestone and masonry. The building's Mediterranean styling is evident in its French tile roof, arcaded entrance, and restrained ornamentation. Art Deco influences on its design are apparent in the geometry of the pilasters and architrave that frame the entrance to the auditorium and the pilasters that comprise the corners of the tower. The building has been appended with four non-contributing additions: the Colby Middle School addition was added in 1960, the industrial arts wing was enlarged and a wrestling room was added in 1968, and a final addition was made to the east elevation in 1994.

Auditorium:
The building is composed on an irregular footprint; its north-facing facade is marked by variances in setback. Situated on the western-most end of the building, the auditorium is projects significantly forward from the remainder of the building. The auditorium's facade is characterized by a gabled parapet and squared buttresses with stone-clad foundations. A medallion of herringbone brickwork decorates the facade just under the peak of the parapet. A band of smooth stone follows the rake and wraps around the top of the buttresses. A second band of stone crosses the second story of the elevation and intersects a row of nine narrow arched windows which were bricked in after a storm in 1947. The two outer windows, each with a stone sill, are set apart from the center ribbon of seven windows, which share a continuous stone sill. Below these windows, the auditorium' s arcaded entrance dominates the facade.

The auditorium's arcaded entrance consists of three glass doors framed by arches that are supported by columns. The four classical columns are of smooth stone, and their capitals are carved to resemble cornhusks curling back to reveal wavy rows of corn kernels. The arches are composed of a narrow band of stone carved to simulate rope, a center band of smooth stone, and a wider top band of stone with rectangular indentions. The indention of the keystone in this band is ornamented with a relief carving of a wheat sheaf on a background of vertical and horizontal lines. Stone cladding covers the walls between the doorways and lines the intrados. Each door is topped by a pediment window. Inset into the brickwork above the center arch are two stone medallions ornamented with stylized relief carvings of two crossed chain links. The entrance is flanked by square brick pilasters with stone-clad foundations. Bands of stepped stone cap each pilaster. The fronts of these masonry caps are decorated with stylized relief carvings of banded reeds. A stepped stone architrave spans the distance between the two pilasters. The base of this architrave is punctuated by two pairs of rectangular,

horizontal recessed panels; between these panels, the center panel features the word "Auditorium" carved over a background of banded reeds.

The auditorium's west elevation is marked by a series of seven squared brick piers with stone-clad foundations and caps. Between the tops of these piers are seven small brick arches with stone brackets. The recessed area between the two northern-most piers is pierced by one narrow arched casement window surrounded by a row of raised brick. In the next recessed panel, a large arched window surmounts a large square window. Both of these windows feature projecting surrounds of two rows of brick. The following three recesses are punctuated by two story arched windows surrounded by two rows of stepped, raised brick. Each of these large windows was bricked in due to storm damage in 1947. The southern-most recess is the junction between the auditorium and a small cross-gabled brick structure. This structure, which contains the school's original music department, forms an ell around the auditorium's southwest corner and rear. The music department contains two classrooms and three practice rooms.

The auditorium's east elevation is marked by three squared brick piers with stone clad foundations and caps. A corbelled arcade of seven small raised brick arches with stone brackets spans each distance between the tops of the piers. A single, narrow arched casement window surrounded by a row of raised brick pierces the recess between the two northern-most piers. A large arched window over a large square window, surrounded by an arch of two rows of stepped, raised brick, punctuates the recess between the second pair of piers.

The seating in the auditorium faces south; a small balcony provides additional seating. On both the main floor and the balcony, the seating is divided into three blocks by the two aisles. The stage, framed by an elliptical arch, is reached by two steps on either side. Large curtains hang over the windows, and theater lighting hangs from the ceiling. The theater seats, original to the building, retain the Art Deco detailing on their side panels.

Industrial arts wing:
The industrial arts wing is located just off the southeast corner of the auditorium. The original portion of the industrial arts wing is a two story structure which is attached to the main building via the first floor music department and a second floor hallway which runs parallel to the auditorium' s east wall. It contains three large classrooms on the ground floor; two large classrooms and three smaller rooms fill the space on the second floor. The 1968 addition to the industrial arts wing was built in a one story ell that wraps around the original structure's south and east walls. The 1960 Colby Middle School addition extends off the industrial arts wing's west elevation through a music room which was shared by both the middle school and high school students. The middle school addition is a one and two story red brick minimalist structure characterized by a continuous ribbon of horizontal rectangular windows that wraps around most of the building at the roof-wall junction.

Classroom block:
Between the auditorium and the tower stands a two story, side gabled block. The first floor of this block contains two classrooms on either side of the hallway; the second floor houses three classrooms on the north side of the hallway and two classrooms, one of which features a stepped floor plan, on the south side. The hallway on both floors is lined with lockers. A staircase fills the southeast corner of the block; a restroom is located behind the stairs on both levels. A second staircase is located in the northwestern-most portion of the block; additional restrooms are situated behind these stairs on both floors. The design of the newel post on each landing reflects that of the building's tower, and the balustrades feature an ornamental geometric pattern which augments the Art Deco styling of the school's interior.

Throughout this section of the building's interior, the walls are ornamented with a distinctive plaster application. The lower portion of the wall is smooth plaster. On the upper portion of the wall, the plaster was raked to create a rough horizontal texture. These two plaster finishes are separated at the wainscot level by two parallel horizontal lines which create a subtly Art Deco effect. Arched recesses which accommodate drinking fountains add elegance to the school's hallways.

The block's exterior is broken into three sections by variances in setback and window types. Nearest the auditorium, a section of the facade stands forward slightly from the rest of the block. This section is marked by one square fifteen-pane industrial-style window on each floor. The center section features three ribbons of rectangular six-over-six windows with a continuous stone sill on the upper story and a stone water table underscoring the windows of the bottom story. The third section features a one story brick shed with four arched double casement windows underscored by a stone water table and foundation. The second story is punctuated by five six-over-six windows. The south elevation of this block features exterior stairs.

Tower:
The tower is entered through recessed double glass door surmounted by a transom and a glass pediment. The stonework surrounding the doorway features two sets of stone columns and arches. The wider, outer set of columns is carved to represent banded reeds; the arch supported by these columns is similarly carved. The smaller, inner set of columns and arch are smooth. The capitals of both sets of columns are carved to resemble cornhusks curling back to reveal corn kernels. Above the doorway, a stone plaque supported by stone brackets names the building the "Colby Community High School"; upon the building's recent reinstatement as the school district's intermediate building, this plaque was covered with a sign renaming the building the "Colby Grade School." A ribbon of three arched casement windows, surrounded by a band of raised brick, tops the sign. The tower's smooth stone clock face rises above these windows. A tall, narrow pair of arched openings surrounded by two rows of raised brick and screened with wrought iron grillwork rise from the top of the clock. The

mullion between these openings is a column of flat stone carved to present the impression of a classical column; floor, the capitol of this column is emblazoned with a "C". The tower rises to a cap of smooth stone, each face pierced by eleven indentions, ornamented on the corners with stone medallions, and topped by a shallow pyramidal roof with finial. Square brick pilasters topped with sloping stone caps bolster the corners of the tower. Horizontal bands of stone cross the pilasters at the level of the doorway's capitals; the pilasters have stone clad foundations. The tower contains a foyer on the first which leads to a hallway lined with trophy and glass display cases, and the teachers' lounge and restroom on the second floor.

East of the tower, the north-facing facade juts forward slightly. The eastern-most end of the original building features a two story gable-front and wing. The gable is punctuated by three six-over-six windows on each level. Each upper story window has a thin stone sill. Each bottom story window is underscored by a stone water table. Just under the peak of the gable, a smooth arched stone is set into the brick and surrounded by a row of raised brick. The wing presents a front facade punctuated by six, six-over-six windows with stone sills on the upper story and six, six-over-six windows underscored by a stone water table on the bottom story. This section of the building contains two classrooms on the north side of each floor; the hallway, lined with lockers on the second floor, runs east and west along its south side.

Addition:
In 1994, a two story red brick addition was appended to the east end of the building via a recessed, two story hallway. This hallway can be accessed by a glass door. Two tall rectangular windows admit light to the lower floor; the upper floor has three small square four-pane windows. The addition, roofed in red tile, presents a north elevation punctuated on both stories by two four-over-one windows toward the outer edges of the facade. Four courses of vertical brick cross the addition's facade between the second floor windows and the eaves. The center of the facade is dominated by a one story front gabled extension illuminated by four casement windows. Above the casement windows, four tiny square four-pane windows punctuate the brickwork. One course of vertical brick crosses the facade of the extension at the lintel level. The windows' sills are constructed of white brick, and a row of white brick crosses the building's facade at the level of the first floor window sills. The rear, or south-facing elevation of the addition features glass double doors, one ground floor four-over-one window, and two second floor four-over-one windows.

Gymnasium:
The original gymnasium fills the extension that juts southward from the east end of the building. Bleachers line the east and west walls. Locker rooms are beneath the bleachers on the first floor. The gymnasium features a wood floor and a shallow gambrel ceiling. As with the auditorium, four squared brick piers capped with slanted stone mark intervals along the gymnasium's east exterior wall; three piers are similarly spaced down the west

exterior wall. On both stories, pairs of nine-pane windows with stone sills are situated in the recesses between the piers. The rear of the gymnasium is dominated by the one story red brick 1968 wrestling room addition.

The Colby Community High School has aged gracefully. Major additions, and particularly the 1994 addition, were constructed to blend sensitively with but not imitate the details of the original building. Alterations to the interior have primarily been the replacement of the drinking fountains and classroom doors.

Statement of Significance

The Colby Community High School (c. 1935) is historically significant under Criterion A for its association with the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Designed by Mann & Company of Hutchinson, Kansas, the building is also significant under Criterion C as an excellent example of the Eclectic Mediterranean Revival style. The property is included in the New Deal Resources of Kansas Multiple Property Submission.

The economic depression of the 1930s, accompanied by the effects of the Midwest's decade-long drought, resulted in significant unemployment in the Colby vicinity and statewide. Prior to the onset of the Depression, the town of Colby, blessed with a railroad line and the county seat, had quickly grown and prospered as an agricultural and civic center in western Kansas. Colby was founded in 1885, when a town company chartered to lay out a new city in the Colby area struck an agreement with Civil War veteran J. R. Colby. Mr. Colby, who had settled three miles south of the Colby town site and had plans to plat his own town, agreed that in exchange for having the new town named after him, he would resign his own interest in town-building. By 1928, the city had a population of 2,600, and was home to two grain elevators, two lumber companies, three hotels, five oil companies, a movie theater, and the area's consolidated school, among other enterprises. The Depression, however, brought the dust storms and jack rabbit plagues that, paired with the economic troubles of the times, devastated the area's agriculture and the livelihood of many Thomas County residents.

Historical background and significance:

In 1933, the United States federal government began to unveil the relief programs that would make up the New Deal. The public works program promised thirty percent of the funding for a community building project plus a 3 ½ % interest rate on twenty-year bonds voted by the community, school district, or county undertaking the project. According to the Colby Free Press-Tribune, public opinion strongly advocated taking advantage of such an opportunity to receive federal funding. A committee appointed by Colby Chamber of Commerce president Roy Woodward determined that the most desirable building projects for the Colby community would be a high school building, a city hall, and a hospital. The possibility of a new high school building was of particular

interest; shortly before the onset of the Depression, the community had heavily endorsed a petition requesting a bond election to fund a replacement for the badly overcrowded high school.

Although the Thomas County landscape was dotted with dozens of one-room schools that provided primary and intermediate education, the only high school in the county was located in Colby. The Thomas County High School, formally organized in 1897 by a special act of the Kansas Legislature, offered three courses of study: a college preparatory course, a business course, and a normal training course whose graduates earned a two year teacher's certificate. The normal course in particular had a county-wide impact. In 1902, Thomas County High School Principal W.E. Ray wrote:

> By reason of a good normal course, the character of the teaching in the rural schools has been much improved, for a large percentage of those now teaching in the country schools have either graduated from the county high school or have attended a year or more. And this has raised the standard in those schools materially. They all look forward to the high school, and, whether the pupils enter it or not, they want to meet its requirements for admission.

A building built in 1908 was the first constructed in Colby specifically to house the high school.

In 1924, school consolidation in Thomas and Logan counties greatly increased the educational prospects of rural children. Prior to consolidation, high school students whose families lived outside of Colby had to rent rooms in town. This often meant that a student had to drop out of school to work and save money for the expenses of their high school career, or find a home in which they could work in exchange for room and board. In a farming community, where cash was scarce and families needed every helping hand, these sacrifices of time and money made the pursuit of a high school education prohibitive for many. Bus routes made possible by consolidation enabled students to live at home and attend high school, and increased the number of students who were able to achieve a high school diploma.

By 1933, the 1908 high school building, designed to accommodate a maximum of 125 students, had an enrollment of 223. A major deficit of the 1908 building was that, because of inadequate space and equipment, it could not accommodate the students' requests for up-to-date instruction in the sciences. Also, the 1908 building had no library. Lack of lockers meant that students had to carry their books with them from class to class. To fit the entire student body into the auditorium, students had to sit two to a seat or stand in the back of the room. One staircase served the entire building.

In January 1934, the Public Works Administration approved a grant of $220,000 for the construction of the new high school building, and in March of that year, the county voted overwhelmingly in favor of a bond for

$200,000. In April, several representatives of the community, including Board of Education President A. W. Lauterback and Superintendent R. L. Dennen, as well as Hutchinson architects Mann and son, went on a tour of regional schools to gather ideas for their own school. By July, the architects had nearly completed the blueprints for the building. After three rounds of bidding and revision of the plans, Mont Green Construction Company of Manhattan bid $178,780 and was awarded the contract for the high school in December 1934. Construction of the school building began in March 1935, and created employment for about 75 WPA workers. The stone used in the building's ornamentation was quarried from the limestone formation along the Smoky Hill River that also provided stone for Colby's new city hall and hospital buildings. The high school was dedicated in November 1935 and opened for classes in 1936.

The Hutchinson-based architecture and engineering firm of Mann & Company designed the Colby Community High School. In 1908, Arthur R. Mann (1877-1968), a graduate of the University of Kansas, joined C.A. Kelso and T.M. Gerow to form the practice of Kelso, Mann and Gerow. By 1924, this partnership had become Mann & Company. Mann, who in 1956 would be one of two Kansans designated as Fellows in the American Institute of Architects, was also responsible for dozens of school buildings, courthouses, residences and businesses in communities across Kansas. These included a number of other buildings constructed under the auspices of the Public Works Administration or the WPA, such as grade schools in Holyrood, Kansas; Moscow, Kansas; and Little River, Kansas; a high school in Russell, Kansas; additions to the school buildings in Saint Francis, Kansas, and Imperial, Nebraska; a stadium in Oakley, Kansas, and the Ellis County Courthouse. Arthur's son Robert, also a University of Kansas graduate, joined the firm in the mid-1930s; overseen by his father and with the help of other architects at Mann & Company, Robert did a significant portion of the designing for the Colby Community High School.

The Mediterranean Revival design of the Colby high school reflects the tenets of Academic Eclecticism, which dominated American architecture from the turn of the twentieth century to the 1930s. This school of thought, inspired by French Beaux-Arts theory, advocated that architects base their work on the principles of design gleaned from an intense study of historical precedent. These principles were considered not to be the exclusive property of any one architectural style, but rather were inherent to good architecture of any style.

Academic Eclecticism recognized that modern building materials and uses called for new solutions to new problems. This meant that while architects should draw upon the design principles articulated in historical structures, their work should appropriately modify historic styles to reflect these modern materials and uses. Academic Eclecticism also encouraged that architecture should express a sympathy to place and emphasize an awareness of regional character.

Mann & Company's choice of the Mediterranean Revival style for the Colby Community High School incorporated regional decorative motifs—half-husked ears of corn, banded reeds, sheaves of wheat. These images reflected and honored the agricultural heritage of the Colby community and placed the building in its specific locale. The Eclectic Mediterranean Revival style is immediately evident in the low gabled French tile roof. Other elements that contribute to the building's style are the arcaded entrance to the auditorium, the arched casement windows, the tower, and the asymmetrical plan of the building. The Mediterranean Revival style was extremely popular for churches, schools, and other institutional buildings until the late 1920s.

That the high school was designed in this style in the mid 1930s renders it a something of a stylistic anachronism; by the 1930s, architects had begun to eschew historic precedent in favor of the starkness of Modernism. Built near the end of Academic Eclecticism's period of dominance, the Colby Community High School does exhibit the influence of Stripped Classicism, pioneered in America by such major architects as Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue and Eliel Saarinen. This style, which in the 1920s and 1930s represented a middle ground between overt traditionalism and the new Modernist movement, used traditional forms from which the usual ornamentation had been stripped away. Architects working in this style often substituted sculptural details and geometrical forms, such as those exhibited by the Colby Community High School, to ornament their buildings.

At the time of its construction, the 1935 Colby Community High School represented the state-of-the-art in educational facilities. The music department, which featured an auditorium and practice rooms, made use of soundproof walls and acoustic plaster. The commercial department included both an instruction room built on decreasing levels so that every student had a clear view of the teacher's desk and a laboratory room featuring a large electric panel. A telephone connection was installed between each classroom and the superintendent's room. The classroom clocks and the clock on the building's main tower were synchronized. The new school also featured a public address system.

In the succeeding years, the Colby Community High School building has gained prominence as a local landmark. The Colby community's continued growth has prompted the construction of additions to the original 1935 building. In 1960, work began on a junior high building which connects to the high school building via a shared band room. In 1968, an industrial arts wing was added to supplement the existing industrial arts department, and a wrestling addition was appended to the south end of the gym. In 1994, a two story brick addition was adjoined to the original building's east corridor.

In the early 1990s, the USD 315 school board began to discuss the possibility of moving the high school students to a new building and remaking the 1935 high school building into a home for the district 's intermediate students. At that time, the physical integrity of the 1922 building that housed the intermediate

classrooms had become a concern. In 1992, the board decided to purchase property for the construction of a new high school building which could accommodate the implementation of technology classrooms. Construction began in 1994. In February 1996, the high school students moved to their new building, and the intermediate students moved into the Colby Community High School building, now known locally as the Intermediate Building.

The Colby Community High School building continues its sixty-eight year tradition of serving the students of Thomas County, Kansas, and stands as an excellent example of the architecture of the WPA.

Bibliography

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"Move to New School in Full Swing," *The Colby Free Press*, 29 February 1996.

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"Progress of Our Schools," *The Colby Free Press-Tribune*, 4 October 1939.

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Ray, W. E. "Thomas County High School." *13th Annual Biennial Report, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Kansas, 1901-1902*. Topeka, Kansas: W.Y. Morgan, 1902.

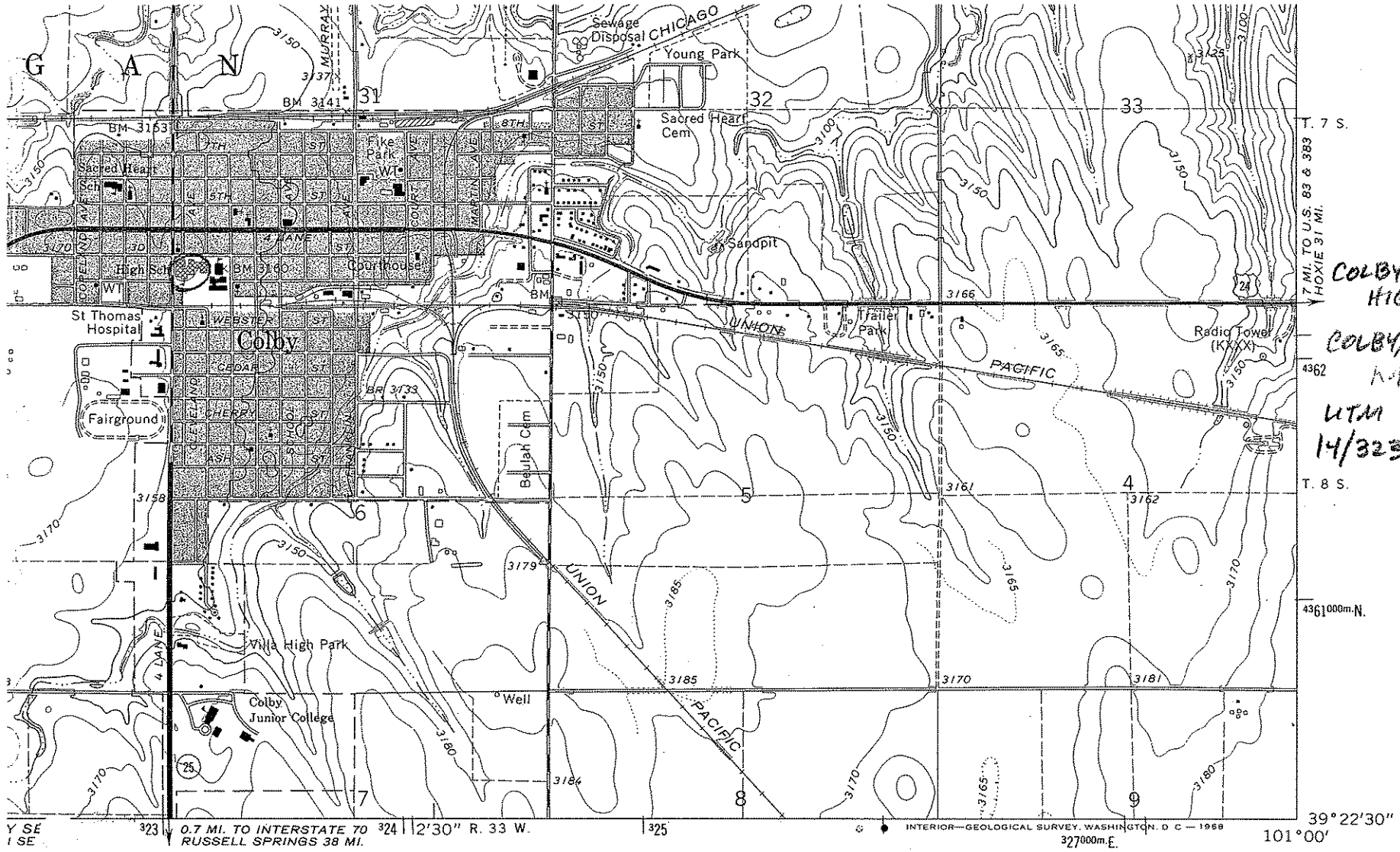
"Work Continues on School Addition," *The Colby Free Press*, 31 January 1994.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located in the West Addition of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas, on all of Blocks 79-82 and their vacated alleys and that part of Block 127 beginning at the southeast corner of Lot 57 and thence west 70 feet scaled and thence northwest 21.8 feet and thence north 260 feet scaled and then east 80 feet scaled and thence south 265 feet to point of beginning, and all that part of adjoining vacated North Cleveland Avenue, North Lincoln Avenue, and West 2nd Street. The property is bounded on the north by West 3rd Street, on the west by South Range Avenue, on the east by a parking lot, and on the south by an alley.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property contains all land historically associated with it.



COLBY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY KANSAS

UTM REFERENCES: 14/323190/4362500

1:24 000

1 MILE

4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

ERVAL 10 FEET
SENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
AN SEA LEVEL

ONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
R, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
SURVEY, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty
Medium-duty
Light-duty
Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route
State Route

KANSAS

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

COLBY, KANS.

NE/4 COLBY 15' QUADRANGLE

N3922.5—W10100/7.5

1967

AMS 5762 I NE—SERIES V878