

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED **APP 7 1988**  
**MAY 20 1988**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Las Vegas Grammar School (Fifth Street School)

AND/OR COMMON

Clark County Courthouse Annex

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

400 Las Vegas Boulevard South

N/A -- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Nevada

CODE

NV

COUNTY

Clark

CODE

003

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Clark County

c/o Clark County Commission

STREET & NUMBER

225 Bridger

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

STATE

Nevada 89101

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

309 S. Third

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

STATE

Nevada

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Historic Preservation Inventory and Planning Guidelines (City of Las Vegas) 1978

Historic Resources of Central Las Vegas (Nevada State Museum & Historical Society) 1984

DATE

1978, 1984

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Nevada State Museum & Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

STATE

Nevada

## 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |   |

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Las Vegas Grammar School, built in 1936, is a completely realized example, for its era, of Mission-style architecture in Las Vegas. The single-story public school is an extensive complex, occupying a full block in Clark's Las Vegas Townsite, the historical core of Las Vegas. Rear wings built perpendicular to the main building create a series of closed and open courtyards with covered walkways. Built in an era before air-conditioning, the building was an excellent adaptation to a desert environment. The complex functioned as a school until the 1960s when it was converted to use as a Clark County Courthouse Annex. The exterior has largely retained its integrity, though its once-landscaped courtyards and playgrounds have been paved for parking. The interior has undergone major remodeling, preserving little of its original division of space.

The main block of the school parallels and faces Las Vegas Boulevard (Fifth Street). This is topped by a tiled gable roof which is interrupted near its center by a projecting wing with cross gable and a taller rectangular entrance loggia with a hipped roof. An arched entrance on either side of these projections provides an unobstructed vista into a completely enclosed courtyard at the rear. The more northerly of these entrances has a two-bay vaulted ceiling supported by columns with ornate floral capitals.

The Fifth Street facade is, at present, largely unadorned. Windows have been cut into the facade below each of the fourteen original windows, each of which had three panes. Interior ceilings have been lowered in remodeling, rendering the original windows superfluous. This change tends to negatively alter the original appearance of the main facade. (The lowered ceilings also remove the feeling of airiness and spaciousness of the interior which was noted at the time of the building's opening.) Also detracting from the appearance is the uniform coat of white paint which obliterates the vertical articulations created by alternating reinforced concrete piers and concrete block bays. The plain facade is also relieved at the north end by a small rounded extension toward Fifth Street which has seven French windows. This space originally served as an extension of the science room and contained a growing area and aquarium. An arched arcade runs the length of the rear of the main building, intersecting the three perpendicular wings. Columns of the arcade support a shed tile roof.

The longest of the three wings terminates in a structure which originally served as a gymnasium and auditorium. The gymnasium opened onto Fourth Street with an arched entrance loggia echoing that of the main entrance on Fifth Street. The capitals on the columns here lack the decoration of those on the main entrance.

Considerable care was taken with the decoration of the complex, considering the Depression era date of the building's construction. Exterior walls were white with vivid yellow, orange, and terra-cotta colored highlights. Original dark red tile walkways in the courtyards remain, though the main courtyard surfaces have been paved. Set into the rear wall of the one completely enclosed courtyard is a decorative fountain and fish pond with an intricate green and blue mosaic tile pattern. Similar blue and green tile is used sparingly to highlight other areas of the building, including the base of the flag pole in front.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number   7   Page   2  

---

Description Continued

Architecturally, the building was and remains, despite the negative alterations mentioned, a gem. Viewed from practically any perspective, an intriguing mix of architectural features pleases the eye: redwood and concrete piers; walkways with arched and shed-roofed ceilings and exposed beams; closed, open, and semi-enclosed courtyards; and a mixture of shed, gable, and hipped roofs. These otherwise disparate elements blend well to create an outstanding example of public architecture.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD                                    | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC      | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE         | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499        | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                            | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599        | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE                     | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION   | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                       | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799        | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                          | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY                     | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES 1936

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George K. Thompson/Orville L. Clark

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### CRITERION C

The Las Vegas Grammar School (Clark County Courthouse Annex) is significant as an outstanding example of Mission-style architecture in Las Vegas. It exemplifies, along with three other major public edifices built in the 1930s (Las Vegas Hospital, Las Vegas High School, and a new post office) the impact of federal projects upon the growth of Las Vegas. The massive Hoover Dam construction project created a population explosion in Las Vegas and helped the city to avoid many of the economic problems associated with the Depression. The school itself was one of several projects of lasting importance which were built with federal funds funneled through New Deal agencies. As by far the largest of three elementary schools in the district, the Las Vegas Grammar School provided the early education for an entire generation of community leaders.

From its founding as a railroad diversion point in 1905 until preparatory work began on the construction of Hoover Dam in the late 1920s, Las Vegas was oriented in almost every way to the railroad. The Las Vegas Land and Water Company, a subsidiary of the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad, laid out the townsite, sold the lots, and provided water and electricity to the small town. Income derived from the railroad payroll and from shipping and passenger traffic associated with the railroad was the economic mainstay.

For its first two decades, Las Vegas grew only very slowly. Its population and economic fortunes fluctuated according to the activities of the railroad. Housing and commercial properties were mostly modest, unimposing, and utilitarian. For over two decades the Mission-style passenger terminal at the head of Fremont Street, the main commercial district was the most imposing building.

Educational facilities too were quite modest. Until 1911, a two room building on Second Street sufficed for all grades through high school. In that year, a large new building was completed on the block adjoining the present site of the Courthouse Annex. The high school occupied four rooms in one wing of this building. By 1917, the high school student population had sufficiently increased as to require a separate building which was constructed on the present site of the Annex and next to what now was occupied solely by the grammar school.

This arrangement was sufficient until the rapid growth in the community occasioned by the Boulder Canyon Project. During this period of the late 1920s and early 1930s many new residences and, as mentioned above, several large public buildings, including a new high school, were constructed. The upper grades of the grammar school moved into the vacated 1917 high school building.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Las Vegas Review-Journal

Las Vegas Sun

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

|   |      |             |               |   |      |         |          |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 1 1  | 6 6 6 7 0 4 | 4 0 0 3 6 0 8 | B |      |         |          |
|   | ZONE | EASTING     | NORTHING      |   | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C |      |             |               | D |      |         |          |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 58  
Clark's Las Vegas Townsite

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A   |      |        |      |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Frank Wright, Curator of Education  
ORGANIZATION

August 1986  
DATE

Nevada State Museum and Historical Society  
STREET & NUMBER

(702) 486-5205  
TELEPHONE

State Mail Complex, 700 Twin Lakes Drive  
CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Las Vegas

Nevada 89158

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Ronald M. Jones*

TITLE

*Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer*

DATE

*March 29, 1988*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Linda M. Callahan*

DATE

*5/20/88*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

---

Significance Continued

The old high school building, now housing the upper grades of the grammar school, was destroyed by fire in May 1934. In this Depression year, the city had no funds to rebuild, and during the next school year, students were instructed in tents on the playground. Application was made to the Public Works Administration for a grant of \$72,000 and a loan of \$88,000, but the project was rejected by Work Progress Administrator Harry Hopkins. Hopkins apparently wished to preserve local labor for smaller WPA jobs. Intervention by Congressman James Scrugham and Senators Key Pittman and Patrick McCarran finally secured a grant and loan package totalling \$165,000. A subsequent PWA grant bought the total cost of the school to just over \$230,000. The remainder of the money can via a bond sale.

The school opened in the fall of 1936. Through only the upper three grades attended the new facility, its first principal, K.O. Knudson later recalled that classes were still in excess of forty students per classroom. The building served as a school facility until the 1960s, when it was converted to its present use.

Architecturally, the building is one of a very small number built during the period which are significant reminders of the expansive and optimistic mood of the dam construction era. It is also a reminder of the major role which federal government projects have played in the growth of Las Vegas.

88000549

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Las Vegas Grammar School  
Clark County  
NEVADA

APR 7 1988

~~Substantive Review~~

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89

Date Due: 5/5/88 - 5/22/88

Action:  ACCEPT 5-20-88

RETURN \_\_\_\_\_

REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments: *The 1936 Las Vegas Grammar School is architecturally significant as an outstanding Mission-style building in Las Vegas. Significant for politics/government because it was constructed with New Deal money and also for education because the school was built in response to the development brought by the construction of Hoover Dam.*

Recom./Criteria Accept - A, C

Reviewer Noble

Discipline Historian

Date 5/20/88

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location \_\_\_\_\_

3. Classification

|          |                    |            |             |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Category | Ownership          | Status     | Present Use |
|          | Public Acquisition | Accessible |             |

4. Owner of Property \_\_\_\_\_

5. Location of Legal Description \_\_\_\_\_

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

|                                    |                                       |   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Condition                          | Check one                             | Check one                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered    | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> altered      | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |   |
|                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        |   |
|                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

---

**8. Significance**

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates                      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

---

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

---

Verbal boundary description and justification

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

    \_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ state      \_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title                      date

---

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



CLARK COUNTY  
PUBLIC SERVICES

CLARK COUNTY  
PUBLIC SERVICES

Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Photographer: Dorothy Wright 1936  
Nevada State Museum & Historical Soc  
State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV  
View northeast of southwest corner  
Photo 1 of 5



EL PASO COUNTY  
PUBLIC SERVICES

DO NOT  
ENTER

Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Photographer: Dorothy Wright 1986  
Nevada State Museum & Historical Sc  
State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV  
View west looking at east elevation  
Photo 2 of 5



MID AIR  
**KFM**  
102 FM

CLARK COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES  
CAR POOL  
ONLY →

CLARK COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES  
CAR POOL

CLARK COUNTY  
EMPLOYEES  
CAR POOL  
← ONLY

Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Photographer: Dorothy Wright 1936  
Nevada State Museum & Historical So.  
State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV  
View southeast looking at northwest  
elevation Photo 3 of 5



Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Photographer: Dorothy Wright 1936  
Nevada Sate Museum & Historical So.  
State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV  
Interior detail: fountain

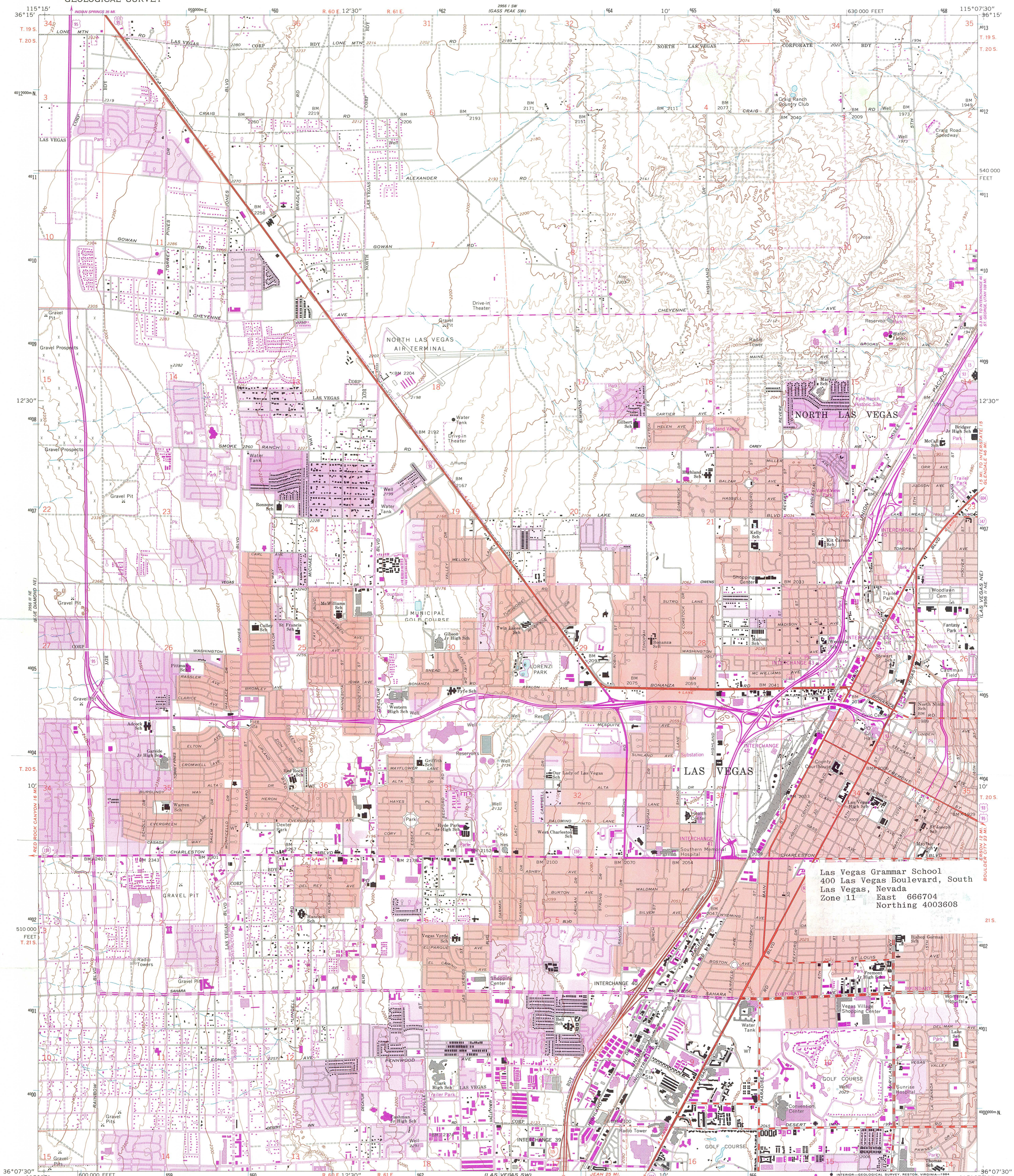
Photo 4 of 5



Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
Las Vegas, Neada

Photographer: Dorothy Wright 1936  
Nevada State Musejm & Historical So  
State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, Nv  
Interior west arcade

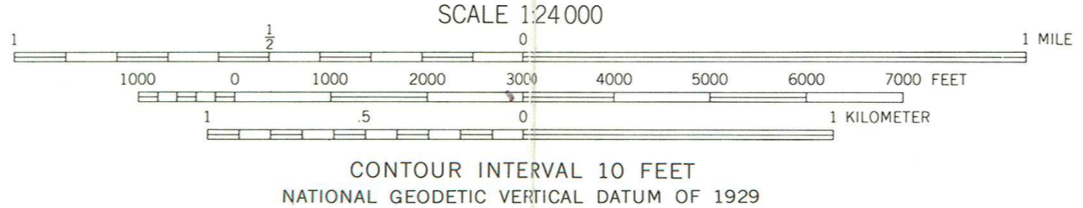
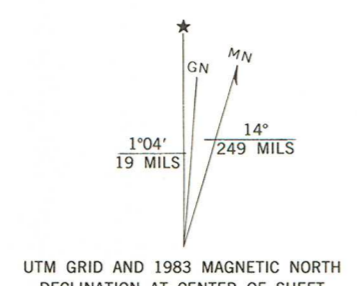
Photo 5 of 5



Las Vegas Grammar School  
400 Las Vegas Boulevard, South  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Zone 11 East 666704  
Northing 4003608

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1967  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Nevada coordinate system, east zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 11, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 5 meters north and 75 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
This map lies within a subsidence area



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

LAS VEGAS, NV.

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

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1982 and other sources  
This information not field checked. Map edited 1983  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

36115-B2-TF-024  
1967  
PHOTOREVISED 1983  
DMA 2956 11 NW—SERIES V896

MAY 27 1987

Department of Historic Preservation and Archeology

PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman



*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY BRIDGER BUILDING  
225 BRIDGER AVENUE  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155  
(702) 455-3500

May 21, 1987

Mr. Ronald M. James, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
201 S. Fall Street  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

Dear Mr. James:

The Board of Clark County Commissioners, at a public meeting held May 19, 1987, formally considered the nomination of the Las Vegas Grammar School, at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard South, to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Board, acting as the sole owner of the above-mentioned property, voted to object to the listing of the property in the National Register. The recorded vote was 7 objecting and 0 concurring with the listing of the property.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I am requesting the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology not list the Las Vegas Grammar School in the National Register.

Sincerely,

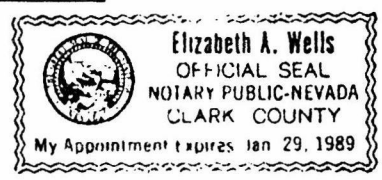
PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman

/nt

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 1987.

My Commission Expires: 1-29-89

*Elizabeth A. Wells*





*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY BRIDGER BUILDING  
225 BRIDGER AVENUE  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155  
(702) 455-3500

RECEIVED  
FEB 8 1988

Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archeology

PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman  
THALIA M. DONDERO  
Vice-Chairman  
JAY BINGHAM  
MANUEL J. CORTEZ  
KAREN HAYES  
WILLIAM U. PEARSON  
BRUCE L. WOODBURY

February 5, 1988

Ms. Cynthia Grassley Baker, Chairman  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Ms. Baker:

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners of Clark County, Nevada, I am requesting that any action regarding the listing of the Clark County Public Services Building (Las Vegas Grammar School) in the National Register of Historic Places be deferred until all legal reviews and remedies can be exhausted.

Briefly, the Nevada State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology informed the Board of Commissioners of the consideration to nominate the Public Services Building to the National Register after the allocation of Federal Revenue Sharing for handicapped accessibility had been made. On May 19, 1987 (see enclosures), the Board of County Commissioners, acting as the owners of the property, unanimously voted to object to the listing of the property.

At its June 11, 1987 meeting, the State Advisory Board overruled the Board of County Commissioners and voted to nominate the structure to the Register. The submission of the nomination was, however, tabled until a future meeting. On January 7, 1988, the Board was informed that the meeting was scheduled to be held on February 10, 1988.

At the February 10 meeting, it is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners' representatives to ask the State Advisory Board to postpone submission until a legal determination can be made regarding the impact on the rights of the County in this structure as it relates to the federally funded expenditures that have been made. If, at this meeting, the Advisory Board decides to once again overrule this elected Board, County Counsel wishes to explore the option of legal remedy.

Ms. Cynthia Grassley Baker  
February 5, 1988  
Page Two

If the State Advisory Board submits the nomination over the objections of the Board of Clark County Commissioners, I respectfully request that you defer any action.

Sincerely,



PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman

/nt  
Enclosures

cc: Governor Richard H. Bryan  
Roland Westergard  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
  
Ronald James, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGY

201 S. Fall Street

Capitol Complex

Carson City, Nevada 89710

(702) 885-5138

March 28, 1988

Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
U.S. Dept. of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Attention : Bruce Noble

Dear Bruce:

I have enclosed the nomination for the Las Vegas Grammar School for your review. All notification procedures have been followed and the nomination was favorably reviewed by the Nevada Advisory Board on Historic Preservation at their last meeting.

Please note that the Clark County, who owns the property, has formally objected to the listing. I have enclosed a copy of the objection letter submitted by the County Commissioners for your reference.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathryn M. Kuranda".

Kathryn M. Kuranda  
Architectural Historian

enclosure

APR 7 1988

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

5/23/88

TIME OF CALL

12:30

AM  
PM

1. CALL  TO:  FROM (Name)

Ron James, NV Deputy SHPO

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Las Vegas Grammar School nomination

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Ron notified me that the property owners had been ~~not~~ told verbally and in written form that owners of public properties can not ~~be~~ prevent that property from being listed on the National Register. A public meeting was held in Las Vegas to address this issue. According to Ron, there was a great deal of public and political support for the nomination.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Noble

TITLE

Historian

OFFICE

NR

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
**AGENDA ITEM**

**RECEIVED**  
 FEB 8 1983

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| SUBJECT: <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Proceedings<br>NOMINATION OF COUNTY PROPERTY TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES | Clerk Ref. # 27                 |
| PETITIONER:<br>DONALD L. SHALMY, COUNTY MANAGER  | Commission Backup<br>AIDR #1253 |

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, ACTING AS THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 400 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD SOUTH (PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING), CONCUR OR OBJECT TO THE LISTING OF THE PROPERTY IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AND DIRECT THE COUNTY MANAGER TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None by this action.

**BACKGROUND:**

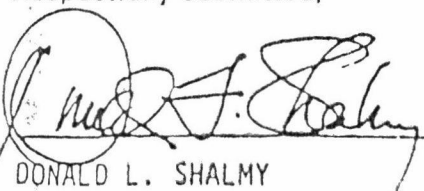
The Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources informed the Board that the property at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard South (Public Services Building) will be considered by the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology for nomination to the National Register for Historic Places.

The listing of the property would entail a "protective review" by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, of federally funded projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property. The owners of the property can either concur or object to the listing. If the owners object to the listing, the property will not be listed.

Although the property may not be formally listed, the Preservation Officer can nominate the property for eligibility. Thus, federal agencies will be required to allow the Advisory Council to have the opportunity to comment before the funding of a project.

In objecting to the formal listing, the County would retain the responsibility for maintaining the historical value of the Las Vegas Grammar School instead of delegating the responsibility to federal and state agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 DONALD L. SHALMY  
 County Manager

Cleared for Agenda  
 5-19-87 JMB

ALD L. "PAT" SHALMY  
County Manager

## AGENDA ITEM DEVELOPMENT REPORT

GLE W. ASKEW, CPA  
Assistant County Manager

NO. 1253

MICHAEL P. COOL  
Assistant County Manager

DATE: May 7, 1987

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF THE PROPERTY AT 400 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD  
SOUTH (PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING) TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources recently informed the Board that the property at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard South, referenced as the Las Vegas Grammar School, will be considered by the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Listing in the Register provides recognition of the community's historic importance, certain federal tax credits for rehabilitation, and, if monies become available, possible funding for rehabilitation projects. Listing does not imply that the Federal government will seek to acquire or attach restrictive covenants to the property. Listing does, however, assure a "protective review" of federally funded projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property.

The owner of the property is given an opportunity to concur or object to listing. If the owner objects, the property is not listed. However, the State Historic Preservation Officer would submit the nomination for eligibility status. Although not formally listed, the eligible property owner would be required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to have an opportunity to comment before a federal agency could fund a project.

The Public Services Building contains a number of County departments with a high volume of public traffic. Modifications have been made to the facility to accommodate both the public and the departments housed in the building. In particular, recent modifications have made the structure more accessible to the handicapped.

Listing in the Register would place constraints on the County's ability to adapt, modify or use this valuable location. This property contains 132,000 square feet of usable land which is in excess of 200% larger than the Valley Bank Plaza Complex. The County assessment for this parcel is approximately \$2.8 million.

REPORT #1253

Listing in the National Register delegates the responsibility for maintaining the historical value of the property to federal and state agencies. Objecting to the listing would place the Public Services Building on the list for eligibility and allow comment by the Advisory Council; however, the County would retain responsibility for its federally funded projects.

The State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology is requesting comments by June 1, 1987. Therefore, this matter will be before you for consideration at the May 19, 1987 meeting.

The State Advisory Board will consider the nomination of the Public Services Building on June 11, 1987.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Faulx (455-3530).



DONALD L. SHALMY  
County Manager

/nt

STATE ADVISORY BOARD FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLCGY

June 11, 1987

2:00 P.M.

Business Building, Room 508  
University of Nevada Reno  
Reno, Nevada 89557

A G E N D A

1. Call To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Introduction of Guests and Staff
4. Report of Division Activities
  - A. Staff Report
  - B. Archeologist's Report
  - C. Architectural Historian's Report
  - D. Grants Manager's Report
5. Approval of the Minutes of the February 5, 1987 Meeting.
6. Old Business
  - A. National Register
    - 6.1 Las Vegas Grammar School
7. New Business
  - A. National Register
    - 7.1 Gray House
    - 7.2 Elko County Courthouse
    - 7.3 Churchill County Courthouse
  - B. State Register
    - 7.4 Collins Hotel/Collins Building
    - 7.5 Hic Mc, Inc.
8. Adjournment



RECEIVED

MAY 6 9 35 AM '87

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGY

201 S. Fall Street

Capitol Complex

Carson City, Nevada 89710

(702) 885-5138

May 5, 1987

Clark County Board of  
Commissioners  
Bridger Building  
225 Bridger Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155

Dear Commissioners:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the agenda for the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology's next meeting. It will be held on June 11, 1987, in the Business Building, Room 508, at the University of Nevada - Reno. Please notice under Old Business the topic of the Las Vegas Grammar School.

If you have any comments please let us know by June 1, 1987.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Ronald M. James in cursive.

RONALD M. JAMES, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

RMJ:emt

Enclosure

cc: Donald Shalmy, County Manager ✓



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGY

201 S. Fall Street  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710  
(702) 885-5138

May 5, 1987

Clark County Board of  
Commissioners  
Bridger Building  
225 Bridger Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155

Dear Commissioners:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the agenda for the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology's next meeting. It will be held on June 11, 1987, in the Business Building, Room 508, at the University of Nevada - Reno. Please notice under Old Business the topic of the Las Vegas Grammar School.

If you have any comments please let us know by June 1, 1987.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald M. James".

RONALD M. JAMES, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

RMJ:emt  
Enclosure  
cc: Donald Shalmy, County Manager

STATE ADVISORY BOARD FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGY

June 11, 1987

2:00 P.M.

Business Building, Room 508

University of Nevada Reno

Reno, Nevada 89557

A G E N D A

1. Call To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Introduction of Guests and Staff
4. Report of Division Activities
  - A. Staff Report
  - B. Archeologist's Report
  - C. Architectural Historian's Report
  - D. Grants Manager's Report
5. Approval of the Minutes of the February 5, 1987 Meeting.
6. Old Business
  - A. National Register
    - 6.1 Las Vegas Grammar School
7. New Business
  - A. National Register
    - 7.1 Gray House
    - 7.2 Elko County Courthouse
    - 7.3 Churchill County Courthouse
  - B. State Register
    - 7.4 Collins Hotel/Collins Building
    - 7.5 Hic Mc, Inc.
8. Adjournment

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

ALD L. "PAT" SHALMY  
County Manager

AGENDA ITEM DEVELOPMENT REPORT

GLE W. ASKEW, CPA  
Assistant County Manager

NO. 1253

MICHAEL P. COOL  
Assistant County Manager

DATE: May 7, 1987

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF THE PROPERTY AT 400 LAS VEGAS BOULEVARD  
SOUTH (PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING) TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources recently informed the Board that the property at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard South, referenced as the Las Vegas Grammar School, will be considered by the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

Listing in the Register provides recognition of the community's historic importance, certain federal tax credits for rehabilitation, and, if monies become available, possible funding for rehabilitation projects. Listing does not imply that the federal government will seek to acquire or attach restrictive covenants to the property. Listing does, however, assure a "protective review" of federally funded projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property.

The owner of the property is given an opportunity to concur or object to listing. If the owner objects, the property is not listed. However, the State Historic Preservation Officer would submit the nomination for eligibility status. Although not formally listed, the eligible property owner would be required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to have an opportunity to comment before a federal agency could fund a project.

The Public Services Building contains a number of County departments with a high volume of public traffic. Modifications have been made to the facility to accommodate both the public and the departments housed in the building. In particular, recent modifications have made the structure more accessible to the handicapped.

Listing in the Register would place constraints on the County's ability to adapt, modify or use this valuable location. This property contains 132,000 square feet of usable land which is in excess of 200% larger than the Valley Bank Plaza Complex. The County assessment for this parcel is approximately \$2.8 million.

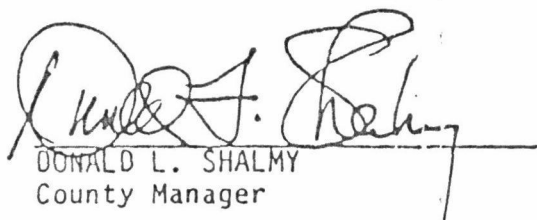
REPORT #1253

Listing in the National Register delegates the responsibility for maintaining the historical value of the property to federal and state agencies. Objecting to the listing would place the Public Services Building on the list for eligibility and allow comment by the Advisory Council; however, the County would retain responsibility for its federally funded projects.

The State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology is requesting comments by June 1, 1987. Therefore, this matter will be before you for consideration at the May 19, 1987 meeting.

The State Advisory Board will consider the nomination of the Public Services Building on June 11, 1987.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Faulx (455-3530).



DONALD L. SHALMY  
County Manager

/nt

PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman



*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY BRIDGER BUILDING  
225 BRIDGER AVENUE  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155  
(702) 455-3500

May 21, 1987

Mr. Ronald M. James, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
201 S. Fall Street  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

Dear Mr. James:

The Board of Clark County Commissioners, at a public meeting held May 19, 1987, formally considered the nomination of the Las Vegas Grammar School, at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard South, to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Board, acting as the sole owner of the above-mentioned property, voted to object to the listing of the property in the National Register. The recorded vote was 7 objecting and 0 concurring with the listing of the property.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I am requesting the State Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology not list the Las Vegas Grammar School in the National Register.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul J. Christensen", is written over the typed name.

PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman

/nt

PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman



*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY BRIDGER BUILDING  
225 BRIDGER AVENUE  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155  
(702) 455-3500

September 9, 1987

Mr. Ronald M. James, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
201 S. Fall Street  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

Dear Mr. James:

I am writing to reiterate the May 19, 1987 vote of the Clark County Board of Commissioners objecting to the listing of the Public Services Building (Las Vegas Grammar School) in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Board of Commissioners, in objecting to the listing, acted as the elected representatives of the citizens of Clark County, and the citizens are the owners of this property. Your notification contained information on the manner in which the owners of the property could make comment on the listing. The Board of Commissioners, acting as the owners of the property, objected to the listing per these requirements.

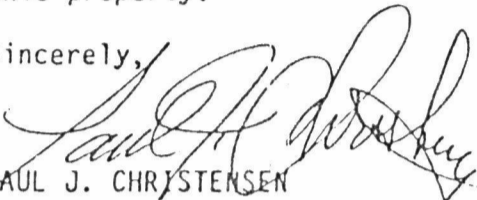
The members of the Board are aware of the requirements placed upon federal agencies regarding projects associated with historically identified facilities. The Board understands that the federal review process assures future protection for historical sites, and the Board is acutely aware of the prestige associated with a listing in the Register.

It is of great concern to the Board of Commissioners to learn that a state advisory board, consisting of representatives appointed by the Governor, can overrule the elected representatives of the citizens of Clark County and make decisions for our taxpayers.

Mr. Ronald J. James  
September 9, 1987  
Page Two

I appreciate your action of administratively holding this matter and allowing additional comments at your September 17 meeting. However, since the matter is not up for reconsideration and you have stated that the Advisory Board is not mandated to follow the recommendations of the County Commission, further action or comments by the Board of Commissioners appears pointless. Nevertheless, I would appreciate a copy of the nomination form and background information that is to be submitted for the listing of this property.

Sincerely,



PAUL J. CHRISTENSEN  
Chairman

/nt



RECEIVED

JAN 12 10 02 AM '88

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGY

201 S. Fall Street COUNTY MANAGER  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710  
(702) 885-5138

January 7, 1988

Clark County Commissioners  
225 Bridger Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89155

Dear Commissioners:

At the last meeting of the Advisory Board for Historic Preservation and Archeology it was decided to table the Las Vegas Grammar School nomination until their meeting in February, 1988. This was done to give the Clark County Commissioners the opportunity to express their opinions to the Board in person.

The meeting will be held at the Union Plaza Hotel, #1 Main Street, Las Vegas, February 10, 1988 at 9:00 a.m. Your contribution to the review of this nomination will be appreciated.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Sincerely,

COPIES

RONALD M. JAMES, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

RMJ:emt  
cc: Donald Shalmy, County Manager ✓