

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Las Vegas High School Historic District

Other names/site number: Las Vegas Academy of the Arts

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic School Buildings in the Evolution of the Fifth Supervision School District, Nevada

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 315 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street; 925 East Clark Avenue

City or town: Las Vegas State: Nevada County: Clark

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

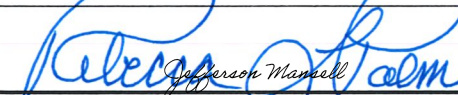
I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

		<u>01/05/2022</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Rebecca Palmer, SHPO</u>		
<u>Nevada State Historic Preservation Office</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

	03/03/2022
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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**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	
<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 3

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/schools

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/schools

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco

MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style

Other: Mid-Century Modern

Other: Late Modern

MODERN MOVEMENT/Post-Modern

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

CONCRETE

STUCCO

BRICK

### Narrative Description

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

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### Summary Paragraph

The Las Vegas High School (LVHS) campus includes a 15.45-acre complex of 16 concrete buildings and two sites that roughly spans two irregular blocks in downtown Las Vegas. Originally located in a residential neighborhood, the school is now in a mixed-use area of town, represented by a combination of residential and commercial buildings. The topography of the campus is generally flat and paved with asphalt and concrete. Unpaved areas are xeriscaped with rock, palm and pine trees, and other desert plants. The main area of campus is situated on the block bounded by South 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the northwest, East Bridger Avenue to the northeast, and East Clark Avenue to the southwest. South 9<sup>th</sup> Street serves as a partial boundary to the southeast.<sup>1</sup> The front of the campus, anchored by the Main Academic Building, faces northwest onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Some campus buildings on this block are arranged around a central courtyard, and a large athletic field comprises the southwest corner of the block. On the same block, there are three buildings fronting east onto 9<sup>th</sup> Street, which are part of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bridge School and do not belong to the LVHS historic district. The LVHS campus extends southeast to a second block

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this nomination, this area is referred to as the “main block” or “primary block.” The smaller block, described later in this paragraph, is referred to as the “secondary block” throughout the nomination. See the map/site plan on page 68.

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bounded by Lewis Avenue to the northeast, South 10<sup>th</sup> Street to the southeast, East Clark Avenue to the southwest, and South 9<sup>th</sup> Street to the northwest.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Specifically, the LVHS campus is bounded by E. Bridger Avenue between S. 7th Street and 195 feet west of S. 9th Street; 195 feet west of S. 9th Street between E. Bridger Avenue and Lewis Avenue; Lewis Avenue between 195 feet west of S. 9th Street and S. 10th Street; S. 10th Street between Lewis Avenue and E. Clark Avenue; E Clark Avenue between S. 10th Street and S. 7th Street; and S. 7th Street between E. Clark Avenue and E. Bridger Avenue, in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.

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Continuously utilized as a school from 1930 to the present day, the campus includes resources from three major phases of development. The first phase represents the initial development of the campus between 1930 and 1949, including academic buildings, a gymnasium, and an administration building. The second phase, spanning from 1950 to 1971, encompasses the mid-century building campaign that created the campus as it appears today. The third phase runs from 1972 to the present day and primarily includes the introduction of non-historic portable and permanent buildings after the school transitioned from a public high school to the Las Vegas Academy of the Arts magnet school. All permanent campus resources are constructed of concrete and variously express the Art Deco, Mid-Century Modern, and Modest Modern architectural styles. Overall, the campus remains in good condition and retains overall integrity of location, setting, association, feeling, design, materials, and workmanship.

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## **Narrative Description**

### Campus Overview

The Las Vegas High School reflects an educational landscape that has consistently evolved during its 91 years of operation to accommodate the city's growing population and changing philosophies in education. The proposed historic district comprises a 15.45-acre campus that contains 18 architectural resources constructed between 1930 and 2004. It is located in downtown Las Vegas, south of Fremont Street, historically the city's primary commercial corridor, and east of Las Vegas Boulevard. The district stretches across two city blocks within the northeast-southwest oriented street grid of the Wardie Addition and Pioneer Heights subdivisions. At its north end, the campus is partially located within the LVHS Neighborhood Historic District (NRIS #90002204). The area of campus bounded by Lewis Avenue, South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, East Clark Avenue, and South 9<sup>th</sup> Street remains outside of the neighborhood historic district. Initially located in a pre-World War II, middle-class residential district of town, the campus is now situated in an area that accommodates both residential and commercial uses. Historic buildings surrounding the campus have been adaptively reused into offices and businesses, experienced substantial additions, or have been demolished and replaced with multistory commercial buildings.

The local school system began to develop the campus in 1930, although persistent issues with overcrowding and ever-changing attitudes regarding educational architecture consistently altered the built environment of the school. The initial locus of the campus developed at the corner of East Bridger Avenue and South 7<sup>th</sup> Street with the construction of the Art Deco Administration Building and Gymnasium. By 1949, the LVHS campus included a cluster of Art Deco buildings in the northern half of the parcel, including the Administration Building, Gymnasium, and Frazier Hall, and athletic fields in the southern half. During this time, a companion Art Deco building, Sunset Hall, was constructed in the adjacent parcel to the east, at the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Lewis Avenue, to function as the administrative offices of the Las Vegas Union School District. A second building campaign that lasted from the early 1950s to the early 1970s resulted in the demolition of some earlier resources, as well as expansion of the LVHS campus across 9<sup>th</sup> Street to the abutting parcel on which the school district administration building was located.

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The LVHS campus experienced three general periods of development: the initial period from 1930 to 1949, the mid-century period from 1950 to 1971, and the post-modern period from 1972 to 2004.<sup>3</sup> The successive building campaigns that occurred between 1930 and 1971, including demolitions that took place during this period, resulted in the campus that is largely present today. Concrete is well-represented as the primary construction material on campus, and contributing buildings from the historic period are constructed with various iterations of concrete material. The early Art Deco buildings of the 1930s and 1940s reflect reinforced concrete construction. Beginning in the 1950s and continuing through the 1970, concrete masonry units (CMUs), including concrete brick and concrete block, were utilized in building construction. Concrete block continued to be used into the early 2000s, in addition to steel framing and poured concrete. The district contains a mélange of Modern Movement styles, including Art Deco, Mid-Century Modern, and Postmodern.

### Character and Narrative of Campus Landscape

Since its initial construction in 1930, the LVHS campus has consistently evolved in response to student population pressures, administrative needs, shifting curricula, and changing philosophies in educational architecture. The campus has experienced change over time, but there are specific aspects of the spatial organization and circulation patterns that date to the earliest years of the school. Notably, the LVHS campus has always been anchored by its relationship to 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Bridger Avenue, and Clark Avenue, as well as the spatial relationship between the early cluster of buildings at the campus' northwest corner and the athletic field at the south end of the main block of campus. Since 1930, the campus has expanded to the east and southeast, eventually crossing 9<sup>th</sup> Street to expand its eastern boundary to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

During its first 50 years of existence, the school's spatial organization morphed as a consequence of Las Vegas' explosive growth and the resulting overpopulation pressures on the school. The original campus consisted of the Main Academic Building, fronting onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street, with the Gymnasium and Shop to the southeast and Butcher Memorial Field to the southwest. By 1946, the temporary steel buildings housing the Study Hall and Music Hall appeared. The Study Hall filled the space between the Gymnasium and Shop, and the Music Hall was situated just northwest of the Athletic Field. By 1950, after the addition of Frazier Hall, the campus buildings remained grouped near the northwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Bridger. By this time, the school district had built the Public Schools Administration Building on the parcel east of 9<sup>th</sup> Street, but this was a standalone building not yet considered part of campus. However, construction of the Vocational Building and Auditorium in the early 1950s officially expanded the campus across 9<sup>th</sup> Street, moving the eastern boundary to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. This created two discontinuous clusters of buildings spread across an L-shaped swath of land. At this time, athletic fields continued to anchor the southwest corner of campus.

Successive building campaigns in the late 1950s and early 1970s created the present campus. The 1959 construction of Post Hall expanded the northwest cluster of buildings to the east, creating a parking lot along its eastern edge as well as a vehicular access point from 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

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<sup>3</sup> See "Decade Built" map on page 68.

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Although there had been a small courtyard area behind the main academic building as early as 1950, the 1971 construction of the Cafeteria and associated demolition of the Shop, Study Hall, and Luncheteria created the present central courtyard, now the focus of the interior campus and enclosed by the Main Academic Building, Gymnasium, and Frazier Hall. Knapp Hall and the Locker Room building, both built in 1971, along with the 1977 Gymnasium addition, continue to delineate the boundary between the athletic field and academic buildings.

After it transitioned from a general public school to a magnet school in 1994, the campus continued to evolve to accommodate the new visual and performing arts-based curriculum. This included development of the Music Hall on the parcel across 9<sup>th</sup> Street in 2001, as well as the construction of the Visual Arts Building and Lowden Theater in 2004, which introduced the first buildings to the area just east of the athletic field. This area previously was utilized as a baseball diamond. Large parking areas were also added to the west and north sides of the new theater. These additions are excluded from the nomination as they are outside the period of significance and lack exceptional significance.

Of the 18 total resources in the district, 11 are considered contributing elements. Of these, three are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Seven resources in the district are considered non-contributing. Of the seven, six were constructed after 1971, and one is a historic-period resource with poor integrity, as it was heavily modified after 1971. Below is a table listing all the resources within the district, including the aforementioned NRHP-listed properties, as well as each resource's status as contributing or noncontributing.

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*Las Vegas High School Campus Resource List*

Building Number	NRIS #	Resource Name	Date	Resource Type	Contributing Status
1	86002293	Main Academic Building	1930	Building	Contributing
2	86002293	Gymnasium	1930	Building	Contributing
3	n/a	Athletic Field	1930	Site	Non-Contributing
4	n/a	Las Vegas Public Schools Administration Building/Sunset Hall	1947	Building	Contributing
5	86002293/ 100006408	Frazier Hall	1949	Building	Contributing
6	n/a	Vocational and Industrial Arts Building	1951	Building	Contributing
7	n/a	Auditorium	1953	Building	Contributing
8	n/a	Post Hall	1959	Building	Contributing
9	n/a	Cafeteria/Student Activity Center	1971	Building	Contributing
10	n/a	Courtyard	1971	Building	Contributing
11	n/a	Locker Rooms	1971	Building	Contributing
12	n/a	Knapp Hall	1971	Building	Contributing
13	n/a	Ticket Office	c.1978-1980	Building	Non-Contributing
14	n/a	West Portable Building	c.2000	Building	Non-Contributing
15	n/a	East Portable Building	c.2000	Building	Non-Contributing
16	n/a	Music Hall	2001	Building	Non-Contributing
17	n/a	Visual Arts Building	2004	Building	Non-Contributing
18	n/a	Lowden Theater	2004	Building	Non-Contributing

**Initial School Development, 1930-1949**

The earliest extant resources, including the Administration Building, Gymnasium, and Athletic Field, date to the campus' initial construction in 1930. The partnership of George A. Ferris and Son designed the first cluster of buildings, which also included a Shop Building (no longer extant), in 1929. In 1946, W.M. Bostock designed two gabled steel buildings to serve as a Study Hall and Music Hall (both no longer extant). Intended as temporary structures that would

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eventually be demolished, the Study Hall was situated between the Gymnasium and Shop buildings, behind the Main Academic Building, and the Music Hall was adjacent to the Athletic Field, northwest of the field and southeast of the Gymnasium. Two additional buildings, the Union School District Administration building, later known as Sunset Hall, and Frazier Hall, were designed by architect A.L. Worswick and added to campus in the late 1940s. During this phase of campus construction, considered to be its first major building campaign, all extant buildings were designed in the Art Deco architectural style and built with reinforced concrete.

1. Main Academic Building, 1930. Listed building (NRIS #86002293).



*Figure 1: West Elevation of Main Academic Building.*

The Main Academic Building is currently listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C (Kuranda 1986). Designed by George A. Ferris and Son in the Art Deco style, the Academic Building is a monumental two story, reinforced concrete building with a full basement. It is oriented along a northeast-southwest longitudinal axis at the northwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Bridger Avenue, with its primary elevation fronting northeast onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street. A secondary elevation and entrance face Bridger Avenue. The building is located west of Frazier Hall and the Gymnasium and north of Knapp Hall, to which it connects by pedestrian bridge. The symmetrical building is supported by a concrete foundation and rises to a flat roof with a parapet. It utilizes a five-part design incorporating a central three-bay entrance pavilion linked to projecting corner towers. Bay divisions are defined by abbreviated buttresses. An elaborate cast concrete frieze incorporating stylized floral and vegetal motifs wraps around the building. There is a secondary chevron frieze between the wall buttresses on the northwest elevation along Bridger Avenue. The northeast and northwest elevation entrances are crowned by elaborate cast concrete reliefs. There are large banks of multiple operative windows consisting of multi-lite steel frames.

The Academic Building is the largest and most imposing building on the high school campus and serves as the central focus for the complex. Originally housing administrative offices, classrooms, library, science laboratories, and home economics classrooms, the LVHS Academic Building currently includes classroom space, administrative offices, a library, conference rooms, a lecture hall, and other office space. It is in excellent condition and retains good integrity to the period of significance in all seven aspects. It contributes to the campus district.

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*Figure 2: North elevation of Main Academic Building, looking southeast toward Frazier Hall.*

2. Gymnasium, 1930. Listed building (NRIS #86002293).



*Figure 3: East Elevation of Gymnasium. Note addition at left.*

The Gymnasium is currently listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C (Kuranda 1986). The following description has been shortened and adapted from the original nomination.

The Las Vegas High School Gymnasium is a symmetrical, two-story, reinforced concrete building located across the courtyard from the Main Academic Building (to the northwest) and Frazier Hall (to the northeast). Designed by George A. Ferris and Son in the Art Deco style, it is supported by a concrete foundation and terminates in a flat roof with a parapet. Similar in design to the Academic Building, the wall planes of the gymnasium are defined by shallow, tapered buttresses accented by foliated capitols. Intricately sculpted rondels decorate the wall space between the buttresses. The roofline of the building is accented by a slightly projecting, unadorned cornice. The principal entrance to the building is located on the southeast elevation

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and is housed in a projecting five-bay pavilion with an entry accentuated with a richly sculpted parapet and stylized Mayan arch. Three entries are housed in the central three bays of the pavilion.



*Figure 4: North elevation of Gymnasium (background), viewed from across the Courtyard. Note Frazier Hall at left foreground and Cafeteria at center-left background.*

The building is in good condition and retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, materials, and workmanship. In 1977, a boxy, 7,000 square-foot addition was appended to the southwest elevation of the building, obscuring the historic-era locker room addition added in 1947. This somewhat diminished the building's integrity of design; however, since the addition altered a secondary elevation of the building, it did not completely destroy this aspect of integrity. Overall, the gymnasium contributes to the district.

### 3. Athletic Field, 1930. Non-contributing site.

The athletic field consists of a large grassy field, four hard tennis courts, and two blacktop basketball courts. The entire site comprises the southwest corner of the LVHS campus, bordering S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the northwest and E. Clark Avenue to the southwest. This site has been heavily altered since the original football field, Butcher Memorial Field, was dedicated in 1931. A general athletic field with a track and concrete bleachers was added in 1946. Between 1978 and 1980, the original bleachers and track were replaced. Between 2003 and 2004, the entire track and field was demolished, and the south half of the field's previous footprint was redeveloped into an asphalt parking area. In 2005, the current tennis courts were constructed in the southwest corner of the site, replacing the parking area. The same year, the present grass field was developed at the north end. The basketball courts appeared between 2005 and 2006.

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*Figure 5: Athletic Field, looking south toward tennis courts.*

The athletic field is in good condition, but it retains no integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. It is in relatively the same location, although its modern redesign and repositioning has diminished its overall integrity in all seven aspects. Due to this lack of integrity, the site does not contribute to the district.

4. Las Vegas Public Schools Administration Building/Sunset Hall, 1947. Contributing building.



*Figure 6: West Elevation of Public Schools Administration Building.*

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Originally built in 1947 as the administrative headquarters for the Las Vegas Union School District, the Las Vegas Public Schools Administration Building/Sunset Hall is a one-story concrete building with a rectangular footprint. It sits on a concrete foundation and features a flat roof with a parapet. Designed by A.L. Worswick in the Art Deco style, the building is located at the northwest corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Lewis Avenue, fronting northwest onto 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Located across 9<sup>th</sup> Street from the main portion of campus, it shares the block with the Music Hall and Auditorium to the south and with the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building to the east.



*Figure 7: North elevation of Public Schools Administration Building ("Music Complex") with Music Hall and Auditorium at right.*

The primary elevation is symmetrical and characterized by three bays with a recessed central entrance. The entrance is enframed by a raised concrete surround and two assemblies of multi-lite casement windows topped with scalloped lintels. There are raised corner pilasters and an incised frieze with diamond-motif relief. The building's windows are arranged in large, multi-lite configurations of casements covered with metal grates and underscored with raised sills. The incised frieze and an incised water table wrap around the visible (northwest and southeast) elevations of the building. Original doors appear to have been replaced with modern metal renditions.

The building is in good condition and retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, design, materials, and workmanship. Accordingly, it contributes to the historic district.

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5. Frazier Hall, 1949. Listed Building (NRIS #86002293/100006408).



Figure 8: North Elevation of Frazier Hall.

Frazier Hall is currently listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C (NRIS #86002293/100006408; Mooney et al 2020). It is a one-story building with a rectangular footprint located in the northwest corner of the LVHS campus, just east of the Main Academic Building and north of the Cafeteria. Designed by A.L. Worswick in the Art Deco style, it features a raised basement and is constructed of reinforced concrete with cast concrete decorative elements. The roof is flat with a low parapet wall. The north elevation fronts onto Bridger Avenue and serves as the building's primary entrance. Although the north elevation is asymmetrical, the main entrance is centered in the façade. Fluted concrete pilasters with simple chevron capitals are located on each side of the entryway. The building features large assemblies of multi-light steel casement windows. A frieze decorated with a chevron-and-dentil motif extends around the building on all four elevations. The south (rear) elevation of Frazier Hall faces the school courtyard. Windows on the main level of this elevation are comprised of multi-lite steel casement windows; however, they have been obscured by metal grates bolted to the facade that also serve as a trellises and sun-screens.



Figure 9: North elevation of Frazier Hall, looking southwest toward Main Academic Building.

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The building is currently in good condition and retains good integrity of location, feeling, and association. It also retains sufficient integrity of design, materials, and workmanship to contribute to the overall district, despite the addition of metal window grates and a handicap access ramp.

### **Mid-Century Developments, 1950-1971**

The high school experienced a second wave of development in the 1950s and 1970s to accommodate continual issues with overcrowding. Resources built during this era address philosophical changes in educational architecture and demonstrate a marked shift to modernistic styles and materials of the mid-twentieth century. During this period, the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building (1951), Auditorium (1953), Post Hall (1959), Luncheteria (1959 – no longer extant), Cafeteria (1971), Courtyard (1971), Locker Rooms (1971), and Knapp Hall (1971) were constructed. With the exception of the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building, which is a steel-framed stucco building that continues the earlier Art Deco stylistic theme of the campus, these resources are all constructed of concrete primarily in the form of concrete masonry units (CMUs), and they all express variations of Modernist styles popular during this time, including modest interpretations of the International, Contemporary, and Late Modern styles.

During this period, the campus experienced three demolitions. A covered outdoor dining area, dubbed the “Luncheteria,” was constructed along the northwest elevation of Post Hall in 1959, but it was demolished in 1970 to make way for the Cafeteria building. The T-shaped Shop Building, original to the campus’ 1930 construction, and the Study Hall, built in 1946 as a temporary solution to campus overcrowding, were additionally demolished in 1970 to accommodate the new Courtyard.

#### 6. Vocational and Industrial Arts Building, 1951. Contributing Building.



*Figure 10: East Elevation of Original Vocational and Industrial Arts Building.*

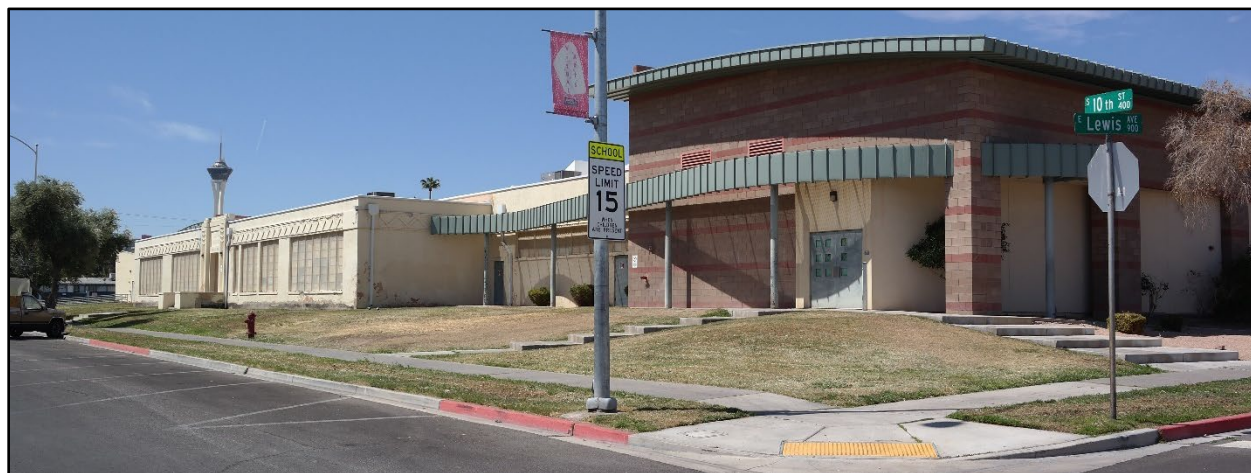
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The Vocational and Industrial Arts Building is a one-story building with an irregular footprint. Located at the far eastern end of the LVHS campus, its primary elevation fronts southeast onto 10<sup>th</sup> Street. It shares the block with the Auditorium, Music Hall, and Public Schools Administration building, which are located across the alley to the west. The building is constructed with a steel frame and reinforced concrete walls clad with stucco. It is decorated with cast concrete elements. It has a flat roof with a raised parapet. Its massing consists of three parts: the central (original) building, designed in the Art Deco style, and two Post-Modern style additions appended to the north and south ends of the primary mass in 2000. The original mass, designed by architect Elmo C. Bruner, is T-shaped with a projecting central mass and recessed side wings. It is characterized by a central entrance recessed behind an Art Deco composition of two fluted pilasters with chevron capitals, topped with a continuous frieze of vertically-oriented rectangles. Fenestration consists of large banks of multi-lite metal windows that have been covered with metal grates. A continuous frieze with a zig-zag motif is located above the windows.



*Figure 11: East and north elevations of Vocational and Industrial Arts Building. Note Post-Modern addition at right.*

This building is in fair condition. The most significant alterations are the Post-Modern additions, designed by Welles-Pugsley Architects, and affixed to either side of the building. Constructed of rough-faced concrete block with half-arched rooflines and metal canopies, the additions are intrusive; however, because the additions have been placed on the ends of the building, the design of the primary façade remains easily discernible. Other alterations include the replacement of original doors with modern metal ones, and the painting over of windows, placing them behind metal grates. Despite these alterations, the building retains its overall integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, workmanship, and materials. Though diminished by its additions, the building retains sufficient integrity of design to convey its historic character. It contributes to the significance of the district.

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7. Auditorium, 1953. Contributing building.



*Figure 12: South Elevation of Auditorium.*

West of the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building and south of the Music Hall is the LVHS Auditorium, which shares the alleyway between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets with the Vocational Building. Designed by architect Claud W. Beelman in a modest variation of the International style, the concrete building features large, geometric-block walls partially veneered with uncoursed brick and a flat roof. It has an irregular plan with multiple roof heights, reflecting the varied functions and spaces of a working theater.

The south (primary) elevation is set behind a diamond-patterned decorative concrete brises-soleil, atop which metal letters are mounted, spelling "HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM." The brises-soleil is surmounted by a sleek metal roof cantilevered from the south elevation and supported at the southeast and southwest corners by slim metal poles. An elongated rectangular vent is located above the cantilever. Behind the brises-soleil is a large portico, accessed by steps on its east and west ends. Ticket windows open onto the portico from the east and west elevations. A continuous expanse of metal-framed glass doors and windows creates the south elevation. Tall, vertically-oriented multi-lite metal windows are located on the east and west elevations, which are otherwise largely unadorned.

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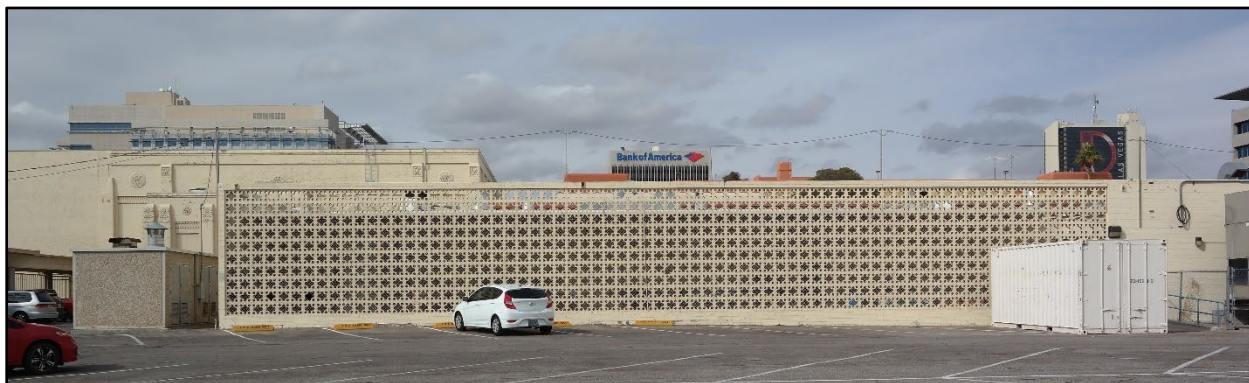
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*Figure 13: West and south elevations of Auditorium.*

The Auditorium is in good condition, although it has experienced some alteration, including the addition of modern cursive-script signage to the south elevation of the cantilever, as well as the addition of metal interpretive panels to the southeast. A handicap access ramp has been added along the west end of the south elevation. Doors on the side elevations appear to have been replaced. However, these alterations do not detract from the overall integrity of the Auditorium. It retains integrity in all seven aspects and contributes to the district.

#### 8. Post Hall, 1959. Contributing building.



*Figure 14: East elevation of Post Hall.*

Post Hall defines the eastern edge of the building cluster at the northwest corner of the LVHS campus. It is located southwest of Frazier Hall, northeast of the Locker Room building, northwest of a parking lot, and southeast of the Cafeteria, with which it shares an open breezeway. A long, narrow building with an L-shaped footprint, Post Hall is constructed with concrete bricks and decorative concrete blocks. Designed by Jack Miller and Associates in a modest and largely unadorned expression of the Mid-Century Modern style, it sits on a concrete foundation and has a flat roof.

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Figure 15: Partial north elevation of Post Hall. Cafeteria building at right.

Windows on the southeast elevation are obscured behind a long brises-soleil constructed with quartrefoil-motif decorative concrete blocks. North of the brises-soleil is a projecting mass that houses mechanical equipment, creating an ell that wraps around two large evaporative coolers. A portion of the northwest elevation wall consists of a brises-soleil, which obscures a courtyard in the northwest corner of the building. Other fenestration includes flush metal doors, some of which are accompanied by full-length sidelights of wired glass. Just south of the building is an associated flat-roofed mechanical structure set on a concrete foundation with pebbledash veneer walls.

The building is in fair-to-good condition. It does not appear to have experienced any major alterations and retains its integrity of location, feeling, setting, association, design, materials, and workmanship to the period of significance. It contributes to the overall historical district.

#### 9. Cafeteria/Student Activity Center, 1971. Contributing building.



Figure 16: North and West Elevations of Cafeteria/Student Activity Center.

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The Cafeteria is centered in the main building cluster in the northwest corner of the LVHS campus. It forms the southeast boundary of the courtyard and serves as the courtyard's primary anchor. It has a large, rectangular footprint and is set on a concrete foundation. Designed by Gerald Moffitt and James McDaniel in a general Mid-Century Modern style, construction materials include concrete block walls with formed concrete pilasters and large-aggregate concrete wall panels. The extremely low-pitched gabled roof features generous eave overhangs supported by exposed wooden beams and angled metal braces that double as rain gutters. The northwest (primary) elevation opens onto the courtyard and is characterized by a rhythmic pattern of large banks of plate-glass windows separated by concrete pilasters and wall panels. Flush metal doors are topped with oversized transoms that extend to the eaves. Other elevations are simpler, including the southwest elevation, which faces the paved plaza in front of the gymnasium and includes a double-door entrance topped with massive plate glass transoms and a recessed loading dock with roof access. The southeast elevation shares a breezeway with Post Hall and is characterized by walls that are unadorned, aside from concrete pilasters installed at regular intervals. The northeast elevation is defined by a single, recessed entry consisting of double doors with plate glass sidelights and a large transom.



*Figure 17: Northeast elevation of Cafeteria at left. Frazier Hall is at right; Main Academic Building is in the background.*

This building is in good condition and has not experienced any major alterations. It retains its integrity of location, feeling, setting, association, design, materials, and workmanship. It contributes to the historic district.

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10. Courtyard, 1971. Contributing site.



*Figure 18: Courtyard, looking southwest. Main Academic Building at right, Gymnasium in background, Cafeteria at left.*



*Figure 19: Courtyard looking northwest. Main Academic Building at left, Frazier Hall at right.*

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The courtyard is located in the northwest corner of campus and is bounded by the Main Academic Building to the northeast, Frazier Hall to the northwest, the Cafeteria to the southeast, and the Gymnasium to the southwest. Designed by Gerald Moffitt and James McDaniel to complement the adjacent Cafeteria, the courtyard is paved with concrete and comprises a generally rectangular footprint. Its northern portion includes six large, square concrete planters with built-in benches on all sides. There is a sunken square in the southern portion of the courtyard. It has concrete steps on each side and is topped by a modern shade structure. The far southeast end of the courtyard, which abuts the gymnasium, features a concrete accessibility ramp with metal pipe handrails.

The courtyard is in good condition and has experienced alterations in the form of the shade structure and ramp. However, these do not substantially affect the resource's integrity. It retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, design, materials, and workmanship. The courtyard therefore contributes to the LVHS district.

#### 11. Locker Rooms, 1971. Contributing building.



*Figure 20: West and South Elevations of Locker Room Building.*

The locker rooms are roughly centered in the primary block of the LVHS campus. Situated northeast of the Athletic Field and Visual Arts Building, southeast of the Gymnasium, and southwest of Post Hall, the building has a square footprint and sits on a concrete foundation. Designed by Gerald Moffitt and James McDaniel, the building is a modest expression of the Contemporary style. The walls are constructed with painted concrete brick and poured concrete pilasters. It has an extremely low-pitched front-gabled roof with widely overhanging boxed eaves. Oversized wood beams are visible below the eaves. The only fenestration is found on the

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southwest and northeast elevations. Each of these elevations has one recessed doorway on either end, accessed by concrete steps. The doors consist of modern steel replacements below blind transoms of large wood panels decorated with geometrically-arranged square coffers. One of the roof beams extends across the breezeway to connect with the Gymnasium addition. A metal fence and gate has been installed below the beam, restricting access to this portion of campus.



*Figure 21: Breezeway between Gymnasium (left) and Locker Rooms (right).*

The Locker Rooms are in fair-to-good condition and have experienced little alteration, except for the replacement of original doors. This has not substantially impacted the resource's overall integrity in any of the seven aspects. It is therefore contributing to the district.

## 12. Knapp Hall, 1971. Contributing building.

Knapp Hall is located in the northwest corner of the LVHS campus. It is adjacent to the athletic field, which is to the southwest, and it shares a breezeway with the Gymnasium to the southeast. It abuts the Main Academic Building to the northeast, with which it shares a breezeway and an elevated pedestrian bridge. Knapp Hall has an irregular, roughly T-shaped footprint arranged around a paved central courtyard with a raised rectangular platform. Designed by Gerald Moffitt and James McDaniel in a broadly Late Modern style, it is two stories in height and rests on a concrete foundation. Walls are constructed with painted concrete blocks and full-height concrete pilasters. Some walls and pilasters are covered with rough-finish stucco. The roof is flat and slightly overhangs exposed wood beams and fascia boards. The building has three stair towers supported by rough-stuccoed concrete corner posts. The stairs are concrete and accompanied by metal railings. One of the stairways leads to a concrete pedestrian bridge that accesses the Main Academic Building. Classrooms open onto the outdoor halls along the first and second stories. On the first floor, these halls have a gridded ceiling of square coffers, whereas the second-floor

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ceilings consist of stucco punctuated with visible wood rafters. The second-story halls are enclosed with metal railings. Built-in concrete benches dot the halls.



*Figure 22: North and East Elevations of Knapp Hall.*



*Figure 23: Pedestrian bridge linking Knapp Hall (left) to Main Academic Building (right).*

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Knapp Hall has experienced some alteration, most notably in the addition of concrete accessibility ramps. However, this has not detracted from the building's overall integrity. It continues to possess integrity of location, feeling, setting, association, design, materials, and workmanship. It is a contributing resource to the overall district.



*Figure 24: South elevation of Knapp Hall, viewed from the Athletic Field.*

### **Post-Modern Construction, 1972-2004**

The final wave of campus development took place between 1972 and 2004. It includes a ticket office, two portable classrooms, and three buildings constructed in the Post-Modern style of the early 2000s. This wave of construction concentrated on filling in empty pockets of the campus, including the lower half of campus between the Athletic Field and 9<sup>th</sup> Street, as well as the space between the Public Schools Administration Building and the Auditorium on the east side of 9<sup>th</sup> Street. These new buildings supported the school's shift to a magnet campus focusing on the visual and performing arts.

During this period, the Gymnasium experienced a substantial addition in 1977, the interior of the Auditorium was renovated in 1988, and four new buildings were constructed between 1980 and 2004. The Ticket Office (1980) is a stylistic and temporal outlier during this era, constructed with concrete masonry units and demonstrating little in the way of distinctive architectural style. There are also two standard portable classroom buildings, which were moved to the campus around 2000. The Music Hall (2001), Visual Arts Building (2004), and Lowden Theater (2004) are all large Post-Modern style edifices constructed with steel frames and steel-reinforced concrete walls.

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13. Ticket Office, c.1980. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 25: South and East Elevations of Ticket Office.*

The Ticket Office is located at the far western end of the campus along 7<sup>th</sup> Street. It is northeast of the Athletic Field and southwest of Knapp Hall. According to historical aerial photographs, it was built between 1978 and 1980. It sits on a concrete foundation and has a small, rectangular footprint. The walls are constructed with large concrete blocks, rising to a simple wood fascia and a flat roof. The primary elevation faces southeast. Fenestration is simple, consisting of a flush metal door and small, one-over-one sash window set behind a metal grate with a small square cutout to facilitate the passing of money and tickets. The door and window have a simple concrete surround.

The ticket office is in good condition and has not experienced substantial alteration. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.

14. West Portable Building, c.2000. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 26: West and South Elevations of West Portable Building. East Portable Building at right.*

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This is the west portable classroom building located in the parking area southeast of the Locker Rooms and northeast of the Visual Arts Building. It abuts the east portable. According to historic aerial photos, it arrived in this location between 1999 and 2000. As a prefabricated building, it lacks a foundation. Walls are clad with vertical wood boards, and it has an extremely low-pitched side-gabled roof. The northwest elevation has four flush metal doors, each of which is accessed by a small metal staircase.

The building is in good condition and has not experienced any alteration since its construction. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.

15. East Portable Building, c.2000. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 27: East Elevation of East Portable Building.*

This is the east portable classroom building located in the parking area southeast of the Locker Rooms and northeast of the Visual Arts Building. It abuts the west portable. According to historic aerial photos, it arrived in this location between 1999 and 2000. As a prefabricated building, it lacks a foundation. Walls are clad with vertical wood boards, and it has an extremely low-pitched side-gabled roof. The southeast elevation has four flush metal doors, each of which is accessed by a small metal staircase.

The building is in good condition and has not experienced any alteration since its construction. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.

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16. Music Hall, 2001. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 28: West Elevation of Music Hall. Note Public Schools Administration Building at left.*

The Music Hall is located on the secondary block of campus and faces northwest onto 9<sup>th</sup> Street. It is wedged between the Auditorium and the Public Schools Administration Building. It has a roughly square footprint, with the exception of its northeast elevation, which is curvilinear. The building sits on a concrete foundation and has concrete masonry unit-constructed walls. Designed by Welles-Pugsley Architects in the Post-Modern style, the primary elevation is characterized by a large and asymmetrical concave wall consisting of concrete panels faced with stucco and painted. Moving southwest along the façade, the concrete wall gives way to an expanse of concrete block wall, followed by an angular concrete member projecting from the Music Hall toward the Auditorium, forming a large gateway for pedestrian passage. An identical concrete gateway connects the Music Hall with the Public Schools Administration Building; this portal is filled with a pair of metal security gates.

The building is in good condition and has not experienced any alteration since its construction. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.

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17. Visual Arts Building, 2004. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 29: West and South Elevations of Visual Arts Building.*

The Visual Arts Building is located in the southwest quadrant of the primary campus block. It is southeast of the Athletic Field, southwest of the Locker Rooms, and northwest of the Lowden Theater. Designed by Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects in the Post-Modern style, it has an L-shaped footprint and sits on a concrete foundation. The walls are constructed with reinforced concrete block and accentuated with wide pilasters. The pilasters are clad with stucco, and their capitals are incised with four narrow horizontal lines. The northeast elevation serves as the primary façade. It features symmetrical fenestration comprised of two pairs of flush metal doors and six horizontally-oriented rectangular windows that align with the pilaster capitals. The other elevations lack windows but feature various configurations of flush metal doors. A large mechanical area comprises the southeast half of the rear elevation, filling in the building's ell. It is gated and walled; however, the pattern of pilasters remains uninterrupted.

The building is in good condition and has not experienced any alteration since its construction. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.



*Figure 30: East elevation of Visual Arts Building at right; Locker Room building is visible in the center-background.*

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18. Lowden Theater, 2004. Non-contributing building.



*Figure 31: South and East Elevations of Lowden Theater.*

The Lowden Theater is located in the southwest quadrant of the primary campus block. It is on the southeast corner of Clark Avenue and 9<sup>th</sup> Street, fronting southwest onto Clark. It shares a parking lot with the Visual Arts Building, which is situated to the northwest, and it is located across 9<sup>th</sup> Street from the Auditorium. The theater has a massive and largely rectangular, though slightly irregular, footprint. It sits on a concrete foundation and is constructed with a steel frame and reinforced concrete walls. Designed in the Post-Modern style by Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects, it has a flat roof of varying heights and profiles. The primary elevation is characterized by a series of slim concrete pilasters. Between the pilasters are recessed rectangular concrete panels. A long, slightly upturned shed roof structure is suspended by diagonal metal braces, sheltering four large, glazed openings. The central two openings each include a pair of glazed metal doors with four-lite sidelights and a single-lite rectangular transom topped with a 12-lite window. The outer openings consist of two eight-lite windows divided by a single-lite rectangular transom. Just northwest of these openings is a metal ticket window sheltered by a shed roof suspended from two metal braces. Other elevations include intermittent metal and glazed doors, variously sized and placed projecting and recessed masses, and concrete steps and accessibility ramps.

The building is in good condition and has not experienced any alteration since its construction. However, it was built outside of the period of significance and therefore does not contribute to the district.

**Integrity of the District**

The Las Vegas High School campus retains good integrity in all seven aspects during its period of significance from 1930 to 1971. The campus has been continuously employed as a high school from 1930 to the present day, and the district reflects the architectural and philosophical

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evolution of an educational campus that has remained active for more than 90 years. The built environment of the historic district best represents the period between 1930 and 1971, when the school engaged in successive building campaigns to address perpetual overcrowding issues on campus. The LVHS campus retains strong overall integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

The individual campus resources retain good integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Most historic buildings on campus have experienced little in the way of exterior modifications. Two resources, the Gymnasium and the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building, have experienced additions; however, in both cases, the additions were appended to secondary elevations of the buildings, allowing them to retain sufficient physical integrity to convey their significance. Other alterations to historic campus buildings involve interior renovations or mechanical upgrades, which have not affected the integrity of building exteriors.

The general campus landscape, including the spatial relationship between resources, retains good integrity to the period of significance. Most changes since the period of significance have involved minor alterations to the overall landscape, including the installation of concrete accessibility ramps and security fences. These are compatible with the overall character of the district as an active educational campus.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Education

**Period of Significance**

1930-1971

**Significant Dates**

1930 – Construction begins on LVHS campus

1971 – End of final building campaign to alleviate overcrowding.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Ferris, George A. Ferris

Ferris, Lehman “Monk”

Worswick, A. Lacy

Bruner, Elmo C.

Beelman, Claud

Miller, Jack

Moffitt, Gerald

McDaniel, James

Ryberg & Sorenson

Superior Construction Co.

Curlett Construction Co.

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

The Las Vegas High School Historic District is significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of secondary education in Las Vegas. It opened in 1930 and served as Las Vegas' only high school during its first 25 years of existence. The school district repeatedly rearranged and expanded the campus throughout the 1940s, 1950s, and 1970s to mitigate overcrowding pressures concomitant to the surrounding city's relentless and explosive growth. It experienced its final wave of construction to relieve overcapacity in the early 1970s, with the last building of that campaign appearing in 1971. As a school campus, it exemplifies local educational development from the 1930s through the 1970s, reflecting the school district's changing attitudes and philosophies toward education, attempts at modernization, and approaches to persistent overcrowding.

This district is additionally eligible under Criterion C for its concentration of stylistically diverse, architect-designed buildings that reflect changing tastes in local educational architecture between 1930 and 1971. Regionally significant architects designed campus buildings in various iterations of the Modern Movement, beginning with the Art Deco in the 1930s and 1940s, then transitioning to the International, Mid-Century, and Late Modern styles. It is the only high school campus in Las Vegas exhibiting such a broad range of styles and periods.

The period of significance for the district is 1930 to 1971. The Ferris and Son-designed Main Academic building and Gymnasium were completed and dedicated in 1930, marking the beginning of the campus' significance. In the decades that followed, from the 1940s into the 1970s, successive waves of building expanded the campus and accommodated the mounting student enrollment. The last major building campaign to relieve overcrowding occurred in the early 1970s, concluding with the construction of Knapp Hall in 1971, which signals the end date of the campus' significance.

Overall, the campus accurately reflects its appearance at the close of the period of significance, in 1971, retaining its integrity of design and association. Although many of the buildings have experienced interior alterations, the school district made few substantive exterior changes to the campus' contributing buildings, retaining their overall integrity of materials and workmanship. The LVHS campus has not been moved, retaining integrity of location. It continues to convey the sense of a historic-era high school campus, retaining its integrity of feeling. The school's integrity of setting is somewhat diminished by the replacement of surrounding historic buildings with modern developments; however, there remain several adjacent buildings that date to the period of significance. Of the 18 extant resources in the district, there are 12 that date to the period of significance. Of these, 11 retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the significance of the district.

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

### **Criterion A: Secondary Education in Las Vegas**

The Las Vegas High School (LVHS) is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Education as a reflection of local secondary educational development, beginning with the establishment of the present campus in 1930. LVHS served as the only public high school in the Las Vegas Union School District until Rancho High School opened in 1955. Throughout its history, the high school's administration grappled with perpetual overcrowding associated with Las Vegas' skyrocketing population growth from the 1930s into the 1970s. The school district regularly added new facilities to the campus during this period in an attempt to mitigate successive enrollment crises, with the last building added for this reason in 1971. Enrollment declined as the 1970s progressed and new schools opened. LVHS represented the oldest continually operating secondary school in Las Vegas until 1994, when the school name and student population relocated to a new campus. The same year, the original LVHS campus became the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies and the Performing Arts (LVA).

#### Education in Las Vegas, 1905-1929

In 1855, Brigham Young sent thirty Latter-Day Saints from the Utah Territory to Las Vegas to build a mission fort for the purpose of spreading their religion to the local indigenous peoples. As more families arrived, providing a western education to emigrant and indigenous children became a priority. Classes at the fort began on September 21, 1856, in a room used for meetings and storage. By the end of the year, most of the missionaries returned to Salt Lake City, and the remaining Saints were called back to Utah in 1857, abandoning the old fort (Carl et al 2009:15).

Nearly 50 years later, the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad founded Las Vegas as a stop-off point to replenish supplies and water. Ranchers had established a foothold in the Las Vegas Valley in the intervening years, including the female landholder and "First Lady of Las Vegas" Helen J. Stewart. In 1902, she sold the majority of her land to Montana copper baron and United States Senator William Andrews Clark, who purchased the property for the railroad that he had begun building in 1901. The area met his requirements for a town that would serve as a division point on the railroad: it was on a direct route to Salt Lake City, and it had plenty of groundwater to service the steam engines. Despite a conflict with the Union Pacific Railroad's E. H. Harriman, Clark completed his railroad in 1905. With the arrival of the railroad, speculators invested in vast amounts of land in the area. William Clark platted his Las Vegas Townsite on railroad-owned land east of the tracks. In May 1905, after staking out lots and blocks, the railroad held a feverish public auction for parcels in the new townsite (Moehring and Green 2005:11; Mooney 2002).

Las Vegas established its first official school prior to the land auction. At the December 5, 1904 meeting of the Lincoln County Commissioners, the board reviewed a petition from Las Vegas residents requesting that the commission form a school district. The county commissioners approved the petition and established the Las Vegas School District No. 30, the boundaries of

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which were “ten miles square from the center known as the Las Vegas Ranch.” The school district hired Lake, Crowell, and Tuck to construct a tent house to accommodate seventeen pupils. Then on April 3, 1905, the Lincoln County Commission reset the boundaries of the new Las Vegas School District.<sup>4</sup> The Las Vegas School District had run out of money, and the school board, with the approval of Lincoln County, called for a school tax special election. The election was never held, and the school closed in early April. The empty tent was turned over to Lincoln County, which in turn converted it into a courtroom for the Las Vegas Justice Court. By June of 1905, Las Vegas’ first school board fell apart. Several efforts to hold a school board meeting failed. Initially its members were very energetic in dealing with the educational needs of the community, but receiving little encouragement from most citizens, they became disheartened (LCR 12/9/1904:4; LCR 4/7/1905:1; LVA 7/8/1905:1; LVA 8/5/1905).

Residents grew concerned about the lack of educational facilities for the community’s children and began advocating for the organization of a proper school. Citizens elected a three-member school board, led by Benjamin Sanders, the Lincoln County District Attorney and Superintendent of Public Instruction. Sanders arrived in Las Vegas in the fall of 1905, declaring, “I shall take an active part in erecting a suitable place to hold school during this term. There will be plenty of money to run the school eight or ten months, with two or three teachers.” In September 1905, the board negotiated the sale of the Salt Lake Hotel for \$150, intending to convert it to a schoolhouse at an estimated cost of \$555. Citizens moved the building to the corner of Lewis and 2<sup>nd</sup> streets, and classes began in October 1905. By the end of November, the number of students nearly tripled from around 40 to 114, and the four-room school was bursting at the seams (Carl et al 2009:36; LVA 8/5/1905:1; Moehring 2000:164; Moehring and Green 2005:28; Mooney et al 2020).

Nevada restructured its educational system to keep up with the growing state population and to better administer schooling in both urban and rural areas. In 1907, Nevada’s state legislature passed the Reorganization Act, creating five school supervisory districts, each of which was controlled by a Deputy Superintendent. Prior to this, each county in the state of Nevada had its own school district, and district attorneys were mandated to also serve as Superintendent of their county’s school district. Las Vegas belonged to the Fifth Supervision District, which covered 40,000 square miles in Nye, Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Clark counties. Under state law, county commissions were empowered to create multiple school districts within each supervision district, provided that the district had more than five school-aged children. This resulted in hundreds of discrete school districts throughout Nevada, each under the umbrella of their respective supervision district (Carl et al 2009:53; McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 7-9).

By 1908, Las Vegas voters no longer could ignore the school’s severe overcrowding, and they passed a \$30,000 bond measure to build a larger school. The San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad sold two blocks of land – bounded by Bridger, Clark, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> streets – to the school board for \$10. Construction began in 1910, the same year that the school in the old Salt Lake Hotel burned down, sending students next door to the First United Methodist Church for instruction until the new \$80,000 school was built. In 1911, the two-story Mission Revival style

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<sup>4</sup> Renumbered as the Las Vegas School District No. 12.

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building opened as the Las Vegas Grammar School. The first class included 111 elementary students and 17 high school students. Some residents assumed the new school, with its fourteen classrooms, was too large for the nascent town and would never reach full capacity. However, the school was overloaded with enrollees by 1917, necessitating the construction of a new school building dedicated entirely to secondary education (Carl et al 2009:37; Moehring 2000:165; Moehring and Green 2005:28).



*Figure 32: First Las Vegas High School, c.1910 (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*

The new school opened on the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Clark, adjacent to the elementary school, in December 1917, but it did not alleviate the student population pressure for long. Within two years both schools were so overcrowded that Superintendent A.S. Henderson asked the school board to approve a new satellite campus for students of the Westside. This school, known as the West Side Grammar School (NRIS #79001460), was built on D Street in 1921, the same year that Maude Frazier arrived in southern Nevada as Deputy State Superintendent of Education for the Fifth Supervision District (Carl et al 2009:40; Moehring and Green 2005:54, 63; Moehring 2000:165).

Maude Frazier was a key figure who made great strides in improving the schools of Las Vegas. She left her position with the state in 1927 to become superintendent of the Las Vegas Union School District, which was organized in 1925 and consisted of the Las Vegas Grammar School, the West Side Grammar School, and the Las Vegas High School. Believing that the 1917 high school was a fire risk, Frazier campaigned for a \$350,000 bond issue to fund a new high school that could accommodate 500 students. Despite opposition from citizens who believed that the school would be too large for the city, Frazier ultimately prevailed (Goodwin 2010; Moehring and Green 2005:63).

The population of Las Vegas swelled to 5,000 in 1928, as people moved to town in advance of the massive Boulder Dam construction project announced that year with the passage of the

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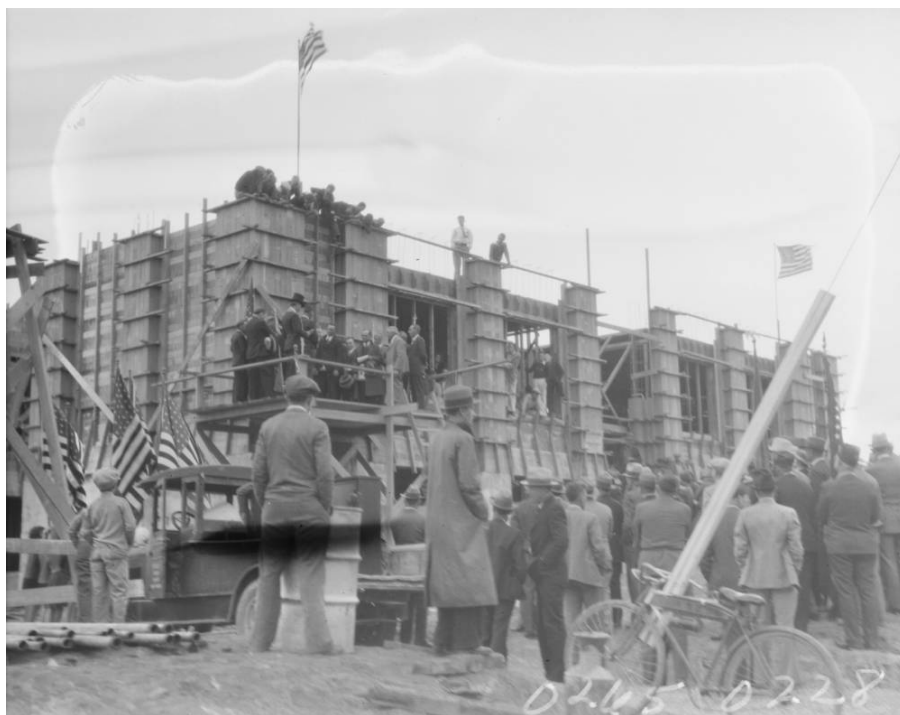
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Boulder Canyon Project Act. Expecting another influx of students as the project progressed, construction began on the new Las Vegas High School at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Bridger. The 1917 high school would become an upper-level primary school until it burned down in May 1934. Teachers taught students from the destroyed school in tents for two years until Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal afforded construction of a new \$150,000 grammar school. Later called the Fifth Street School (NRIS #88000549), it would serve the community until the late 1960s (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 8; Moehring 2000:165).

### Establishing Las Vegas High School, 1930-1945

The cornerstone for the new Las Vegas High School was laid on February 22, 1930. Located two blocks east of the existing grammar and high school buildings, the school was considered to be on the edge of town. It was located in the Wardie Addition, a subdivision that was platted in 1913 but largely resisted development until the 1930s, when prominent citizens began building their residences there. Ryberg & Sorensen, of Salt Lake City, served as building and plumbing contractors for the school project, and the Las Vegas Neon Sign Company received the electrical contract for \$10,973. Designed by Reno architects George A. Ferris and Son in an institutional Art Deco style, the school complex included three buildings: the primary academic building, a gymnasium, and a shop (Barr 2017:10; Moehring 2000:165; Mooney et al 2020:18-19).



*Figure 33: LVHS cornerstone ceremony in 1930 (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*

The main two-story building, facing west onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street, measured 208 feet long and 82 feet wide with T-shaped wings on either side. The first story included administrative offices, a library, six classrooms, and restrooms. The second story featured four science classrooms, plus nine additional classrooms. Finally, the basement contained a boiler room, a supply room, six

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additional classrooms, and a space for home economics. The furnace in the boiler room heated all three campus buildings (Moehring 2000:165; Mooney et al 2020:18-19).

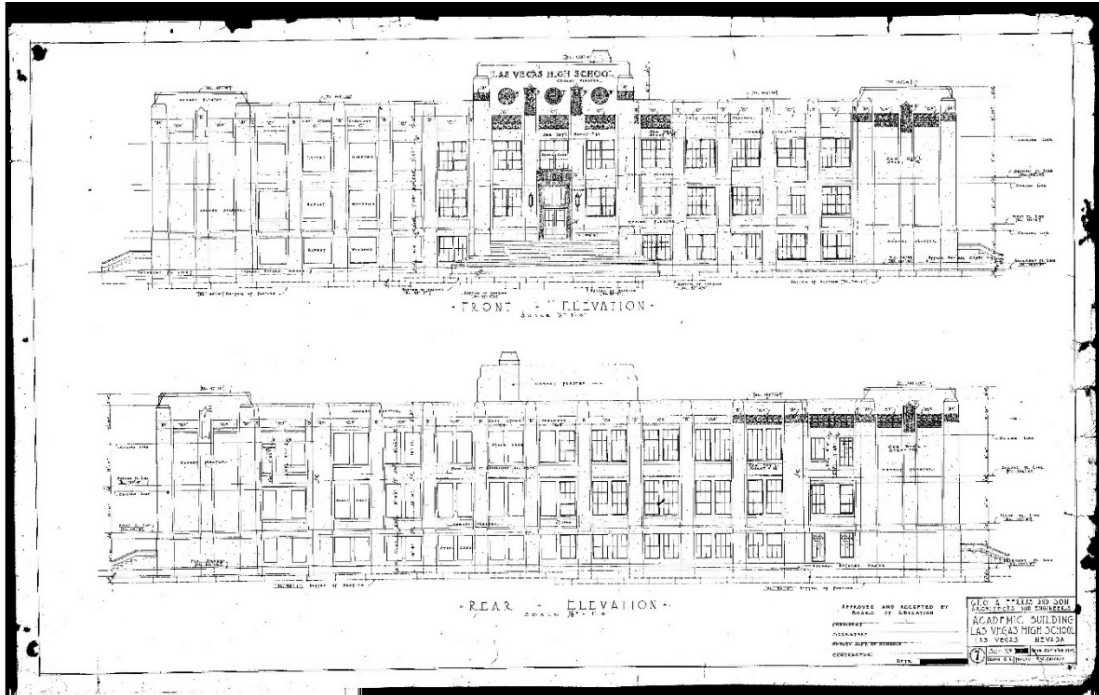


Figure 34: Architectural drawings for the Main Academic Building, 1929 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

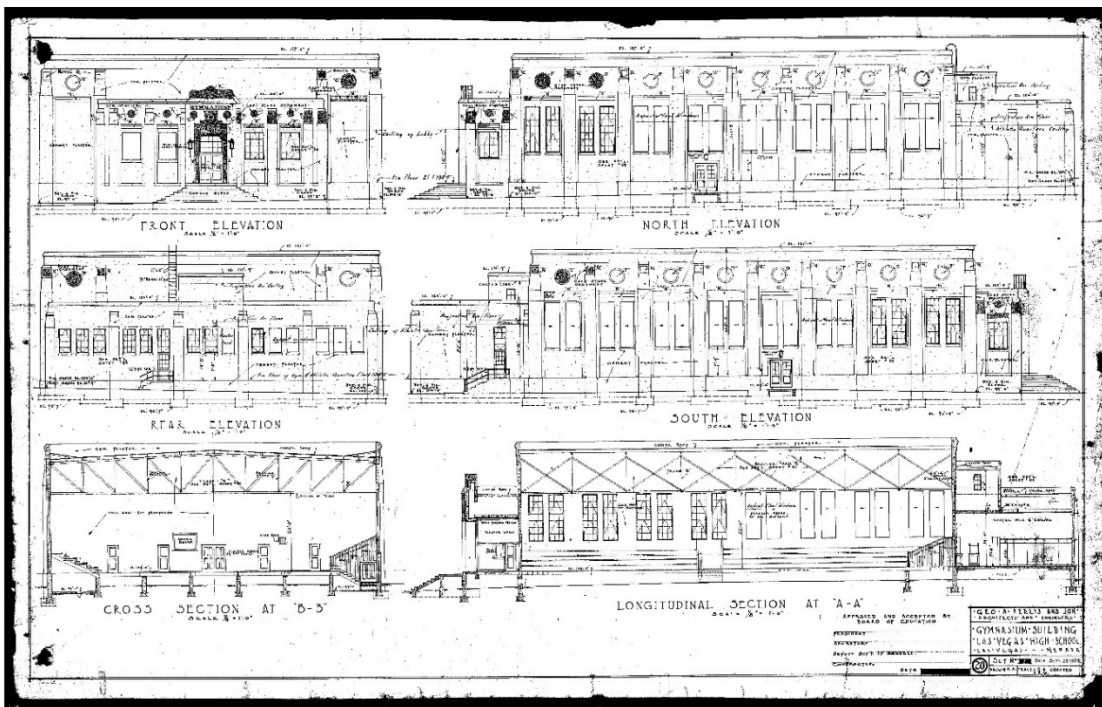


Figure 35: Architectural drawings for the Gymnasium, 1929 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

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The gymnasium and shop buildings were located southeast of the main building, facing east onto 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The gymnasium accommodated 600 spectators with a footprint measuring 112 feet by 83 feet. It included dressing and shower rooms for girls and boys. The shop building featured a T-shaped footprint measuring roughly 81 feet by 58 feet, which included a paint and tool room. Its floors consisted of concrete and hardwood (Mooney et al 2020:20).



*Figure 36: LVHS under construction in 1930. Main Academic Building in background, Gymnasium at left, Shop at center (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*



*Figure 37: Completed Main Academic Building in 1930 (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*

The Las Vegas High School opened for the fall term on September 4, 1930. With a capacity of 500 students, it was one of the largest schools in Nevada. The *Las Vegas Evening Review and Journal* praised the new school as “one of the finest educational buildings in the state, if not the finest.” In November 1930, the school was formally dedicated. The campus included a football field at its south end, which was dedicated as Butcher Memorial Field in 1931 in memory of football coach Frank Butcher, who died the previous December at the age of 25 (LVRJ 11/1/1930:1; Moehring 2000:165; Mooney et al 2020:20).

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*Figure 38: Aerial view of LVHS campus in 1935. Main Academic Building, Gymnasium, and Shop are visible at left, adjacent to Butcher Memorial Field (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*

As new residents poured into Las Vegas, seeking dam-related jobs in the midst of the Great Depression, area schools—including LVHS—experienced severe overcrowding. These issues briefly subsided as work on the dam dwindled in the mid-1930s, but the enrollment crisis resumed when soldiers, defense workers, and their respective families arrived in Las Vegas during the Second World War to staff the new Las Vegas Army Airfield and the Basic Magnesium plant. Despite wartime budgetary restrictions, Federal dollars continued to fund the construction of new Las Vegas schools through national defense-related programs. Enrollment at LVHS slightly dropped in the early 1940s as students joined the war effort, but the concurrent influx of new residents to the city ultimately offset the school’s population decline. In 1946, after the war’s end, 867 students were enrolled at LVHS, exceeding the school’s capacity by more than 300 (Barr 2017:11; McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 9; Moehring 2000:165; Mooney et al 2020:22).

### Postwar Growth, 1946-1955

Following a successful \$950,000 bond issue, LVHS officials began looking into a campus expansion. Securing a larger study hall was a principal concern, as the existing library—doubling as a study hall—comfortably accommodated 126 students, despite the fact that 300 or more pupils routinely used the space at a time. Wartime shortages remained in effect, and building materials were difficult and expensive to procure. The school board opted to hire the structural engineering firm of W.M. Bostock to design two steel structures to function as a study hall and band room. The 3,200 square-foot study hall was constructed between the gymnasium and shop, behind the Main Academic building, on the site of handball courts demolished to accommodate the study hall. The 1,600 square-foot music hall was erected across 8<sup>th</sup> Street from the main

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cluster of campus buildings. Anticipating further campus growth that could necessitate their demolition, Bostock designed both buildings as temporary, easily dismantlable structures with minimal ornamentation. The buildings alleviated space shortages for a short time (Barr 2017:11; Mooney et al 2020:22).

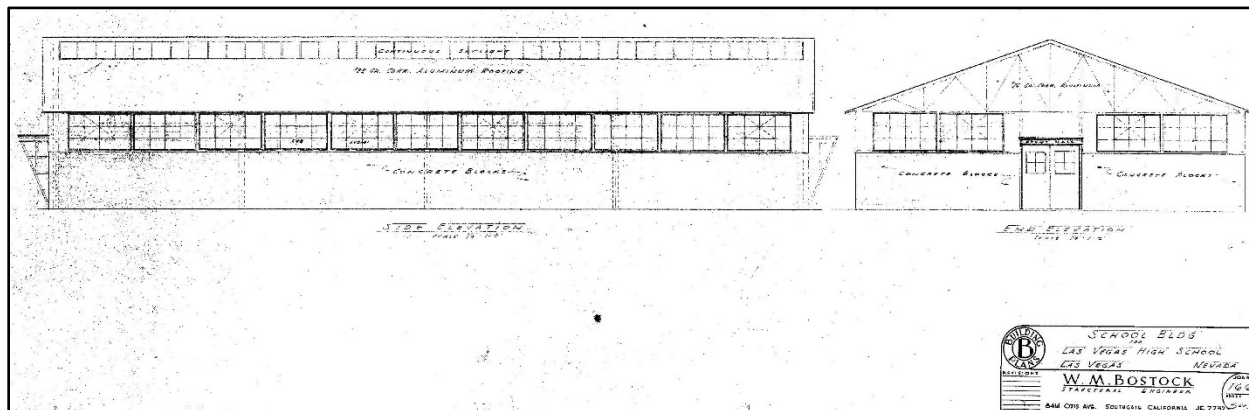


Figure 39: W.M. Bostock's design for the temporary Study Hall building, 1946 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

The 1946 bond also funded an addition to the gymnasium, as well as the development of an athletic field in the southwest corner of the school campus. The Art Deco-style addition, designed by A.L. Worswick, was tacked onto the south elevation of the gymnasium. Measuring 143 feet long by 30 feet wide, the new space added two new boys' locker rooms, two offices, and two bathrooms to the building. The original portion of the gymnasium was renovated to add offices, storage spaces, and boys' and girls' showers. Worswick also designed the new field, which was flanked by concrete bleachers to the east and west and included an ovoid running track. To accommodate the field, 8<sup>th</sup> Street was closed between Clark and Lewis avenues, and the Butcher Memorial Field goal posts were reoriented (Mooney et al 2020:23).



Figure 40: South elevation of Worswick's Gymnasium addition as it appeared in 1960 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

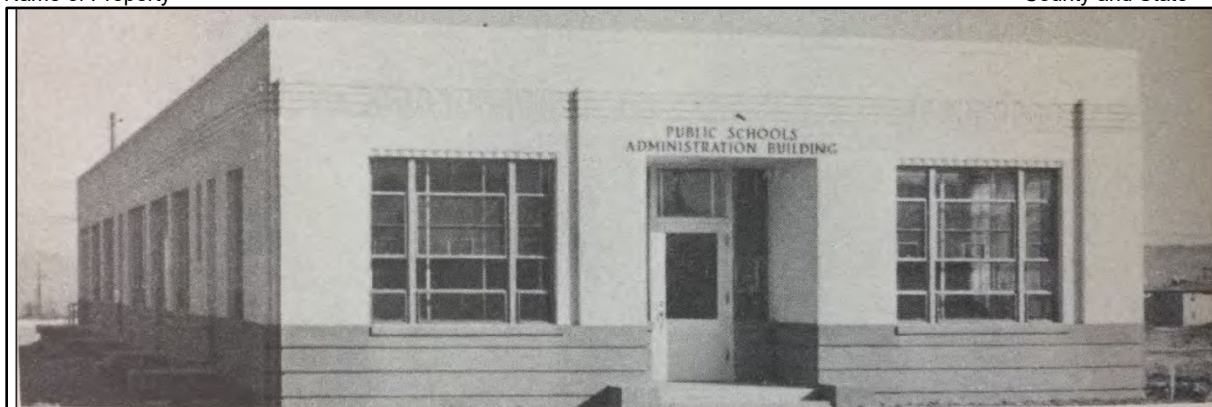
The following year, the Las Vegas Union School District contracted with the Superior Construction Company to build a Public Schools Administration Building, now known as Sunset Hall. Also funded by the \$950,000 bond passed in 1946, the building was constructed on the southeast corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Lewis Avenue. Designed by A.L. Worswick in the Art Deco style, the building matched the overall design of the LVHS campus across the street (LVRJ 1/16/1949:17; Mooney et al 2020:25).

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*Figure 41: Public Schools Administration Building in 1948 (Las Vegas High School Boulder Echo).*

The \$950,000 bond measure continued to fund construction in 1948, when Worswick designed Frazier Hall to relieve congestion in the overfull Main Academic building. Named for Maude Frazier, who had retired as Las Vegas Union School District Superintendent in 1946, the building was sited east of the Main Academic building, fronting onto Bridger Avenue. Worswick designed the building in the Art Deco style, reflecting the dominant mode of the campus. Dedicated in May 1950, the new building provided 16 classrooms, an ROTC rifle range, storage science rooms, a school infirmary, and offices for school doctors and nurses (Barr 2017:12; LVRJ 1/16/1949; Mooney et al 2020:25).



*Figure 42: Frazier Hall, 1950 (Courtesy of UNLV Digital Collections).*

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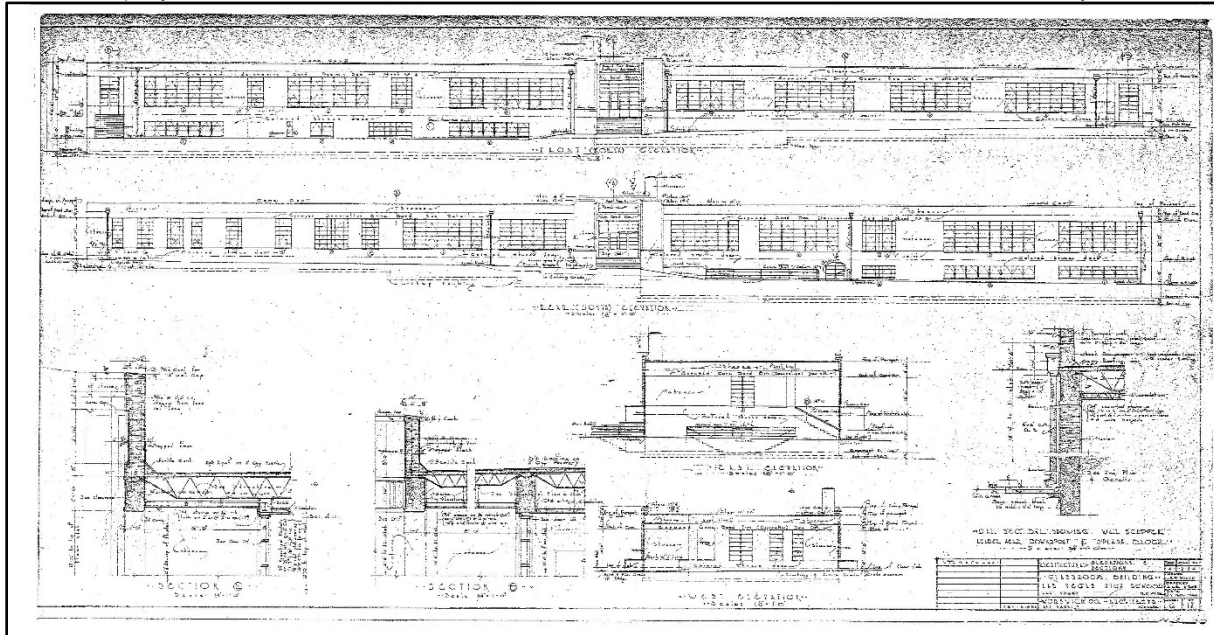


Figure 43: Architectural drawings for Frazier Hall, 1948 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

The school district called on Worswick again in 1950, engaging his firm to design a new vocational education building for the LVHS campus. The 1930 shop building had grown outdated and overcrowded. The new building would provide more space and offer new, state-of-the-art vocational and industrial arts classes. Elmo C. Bruner, a partner at Worswick's firm, designed the building in the Art Deco style to match the overarching theme of the school. Sited



Figure 44: North elevation of Frazier Hall (left) and original shop building (right) in 1963 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, the building's construction represented the continuing eastward expansion of campus. Built by Curlett Construction Company, the vocational building included woodworking, machine, and auto shops, along with three classrooms and a faculty lounge, and was touted as the best high school vocational building in the Southwest. With the new vocational building, LVHS no longer needed the original shop building, and in 1952 they hired architects Weller and Kolben to convert it to classroom space (Barr 2017:13; Mooney et al 2020:28).

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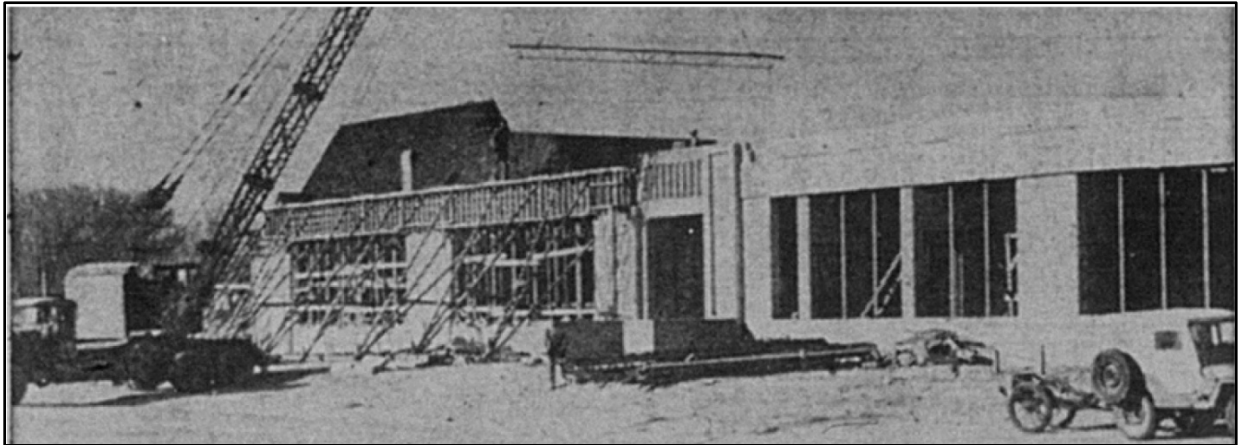


Figure 45: Vocational and Industrial Arts Building under construction in 1950 (Las Vegas Review-Journal 12/10/1950).

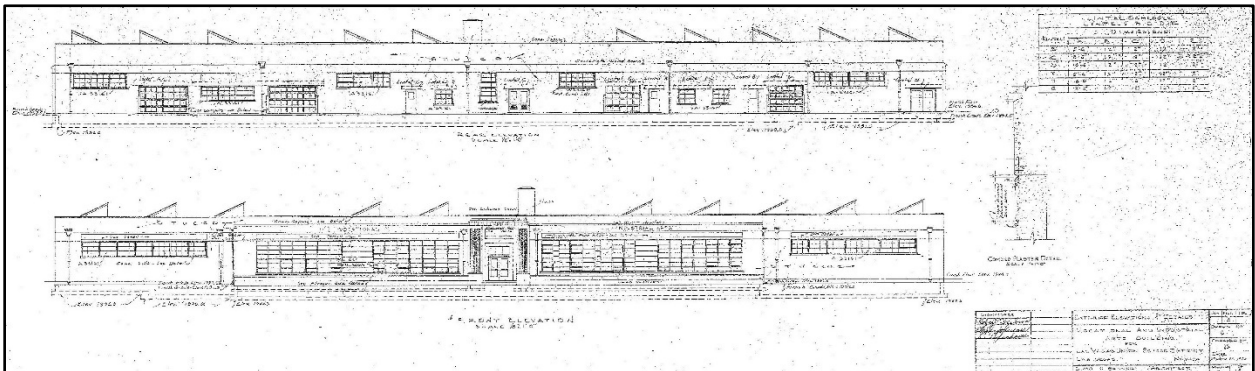


Figure 46: Architectural drawings for the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building, 1950 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).



Figure 47: East elevation of Vocational and Industrial Arts Building in 1960 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

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Despite the swelling population of Las Vegas as a result of the booming military, nuclear, and casino economies, area schools did not receive sufficient funding to accommodate the inflow of new students. The population skyrocketed to 50,000 by the early 1950s, and area schools, once again, felt the pressure. In April 1951, citizens of Clark County voted in favor of a \$1 million bond issue that would fund 60 new classrooms for elementary students and a commodious auditorium at Las Vegas High School. Not just for school assemblies and concerts, the auditorium was also intended to host community events. Architect Claud Beelman of Los Angeles designed the auditorium in a contemporary Mid-Century Modern style with International influences, a departure from the largely Art Deco campus. Opening in 1953, the auditorium could accommodate up to 1,500 people. Over the years, it would host local association meetings, public hearings for planning and development projects, bid openings, land auctions, and high-profile concerts, including that of the Paris Chamber Orchestra (HHH 2/17/1966:6; Moehring 2000:166; Mooney et al 2020:29).

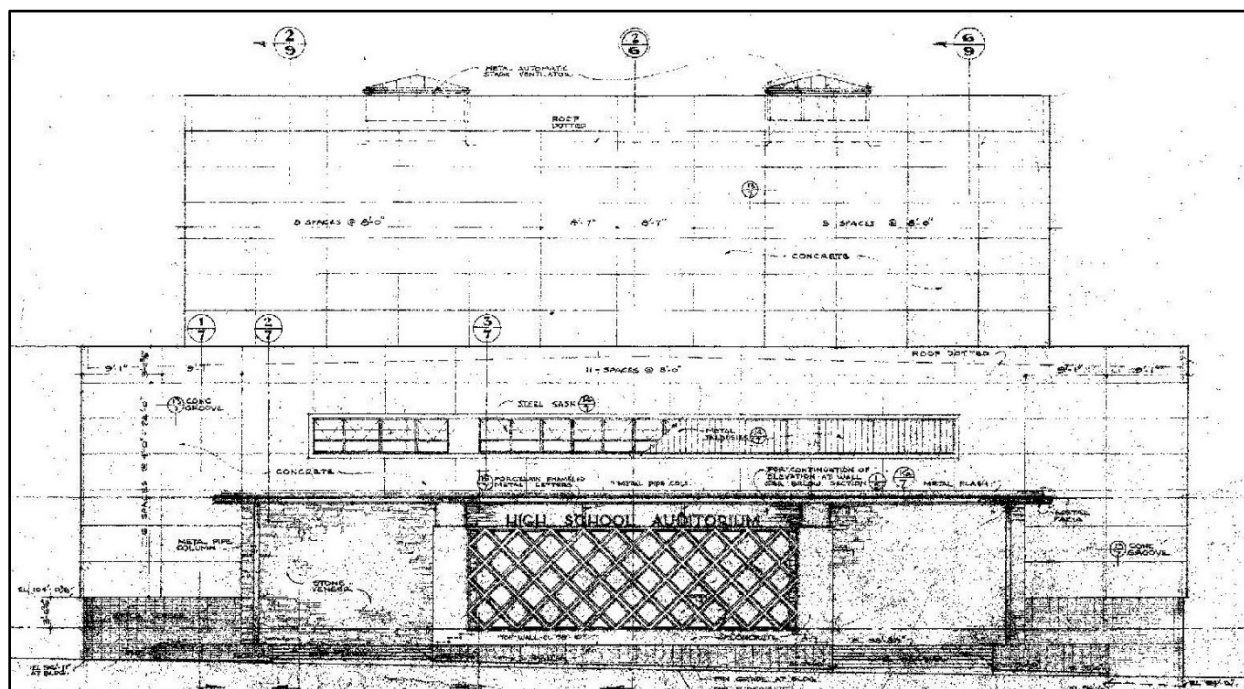


Figure 48: Architectural Drawings for the Auditorium, 1952 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

Underscoring its importance as a community venue, the auditorium was used by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) beginning in 1953 to brief the public on atomic bomb testing at the Nevada Proving Grounds.<sup>5</sup> Following the Yucca Flats test on St. Patrick's Day in 1953, AEC manager Carroll L. Tyler addressed a full house at the auditorium, providing a full explanation and public discussion of the test. During Operation Teapot, a series of 14 nuclear tests conducted at the Nevada Test Site in 1955, the AEC held public meetings and press conferences at the LVHS auditorium. The lobby was used for registration, and the auditorium used for briefings. The second-floor rooms became the AEC's Joint Office of Test Information for the AEC during

<sup>5</sup> Later the Nevada Test Site.

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the operation. The Civil Air Patrol located one of their communications stations and message centers there, transmitting copies of documents, films, audio recordings, and messages from the second floor of the auditorium (Nevada Test Site 1955:96-103; REG 3/23/1953:20).



Figure 49: Auditorium in 1954 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).



Figure 50: Students approach the Auditorium entrance in 1957 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

As Nevada's population grew in the Postwar period, especially in the Las Vegas area, the existing state system of school districts became unmanageable, requiring a complete reorganization of the system. By 1956, there were 14 different school districts in Clark County. The Las Vegas Union School District oversaw schools in Las Vegas and North Las Vegas between 1925 and 1956.<sup>6</sup> Funding was so abysmal that the Las Vegas Union leased surplus barracks at Nellis Air Force Base to be used as additional classrooms. The school district began double-session instruction, in which teachers at overcrowded schools taught half the student body in the morning and the other half in the evening. This strategy, though somewhat effective at relieving packed classrooms, was not sustainable. In 1953, the Las Vegas Union could not balance its budget, despite the fact that Las Vegas voters passed a \$5.7 million school bond issue the same year. After 25 years as the school district's only public high school, LVHS was joined by Rancho High School in 1955. The new school's

<sup>6</sup> In 1925, Las Vegas school trustees consolidated the Las Vegas Grammar School Board and the Las Vegas High School Board into the Las Vegas Union School District, using the term "union" to signify their unification.

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opening ended half-day sessions for high school students and freed up 10 additional classrooms at LVHS. However, this did little to alleviate the continuing overcrowding and underfunding crisis. Something had to give (Barr 2017:15; Carl et al 2009: 52-54; Moehring and Green 2005:158; McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 9; Moehring 2000:167-168).

Increasing urbanization, the postwar baby boom, and the continuing influx of workers strained Nevada’s statewide educational system during the 1950s. Finally, Maude Frazier, along with concerned parents and various city and county leaders throughout the state, convinced Governor Russell to call a special session of the state legislature to fund a study of the public education system by an expert panel from the Peabody Teacher’s College in Tennessee. The panel concluded that: 1) there were too many districts in the state, most of which lacked the resources to offer a quality educational program; 2) most high schools in the state were too small to offer a well-rounded curriculum, or they were in poor physical condition; and 3) the tax base was inadequate and unequitable, favoring wealthier districts. Their recommendations supported voter demand for increased taxes and bonding power to fund education, including new school buildings and increased teacher salaries. The recommendations also prompted a new state law requiring each county to have its own school district, creating 17 school districts to replace the more than 200 throughout the state (Moehring and Green 2005:157; McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 9-10).

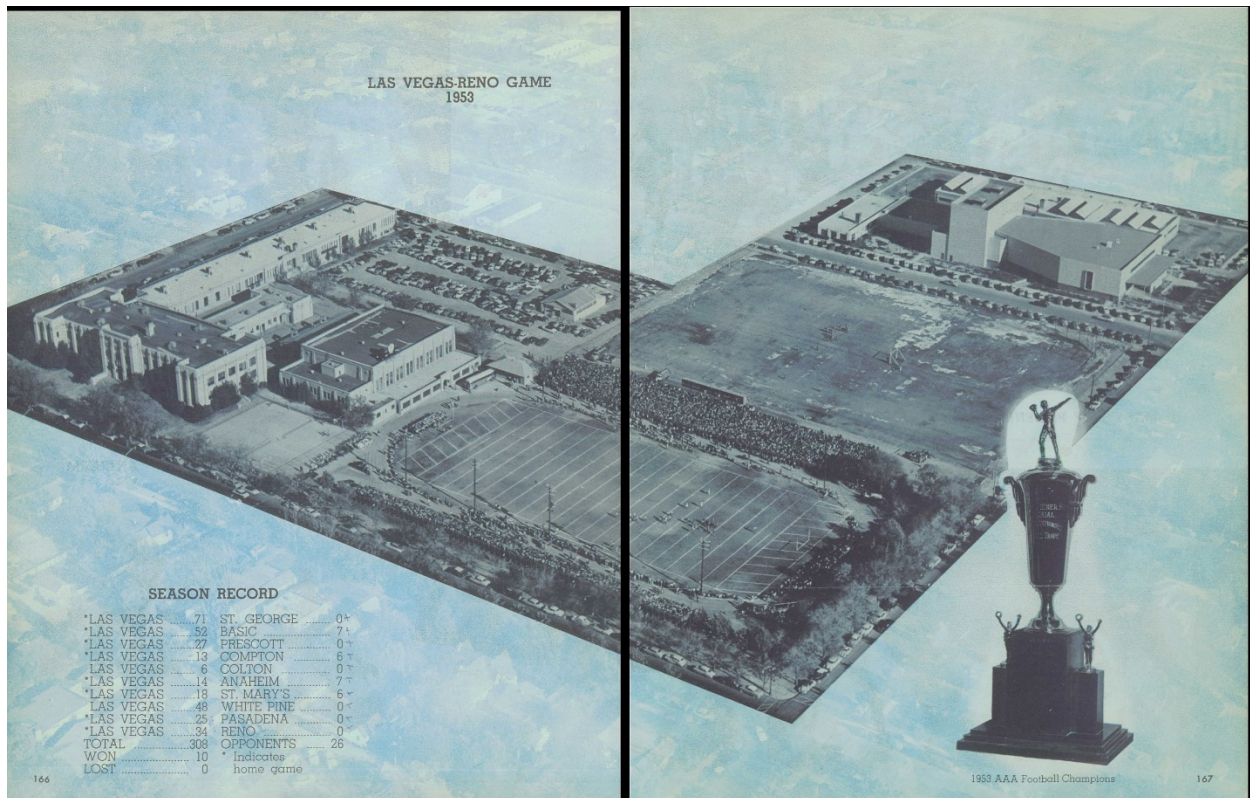


Figure 51: Aerial view of LVHS campus in 1954. Academic Building, Gymnasium, Shop, and Frazier Hall at far left; Auditorium, Public Schools Administration Building, and Vocational-Industrial Arts Building at upper right (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

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Mid-Century Expansion, 1956-1971

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When the 1956 Nevada State Legislature mandated that Nevada’s scattered school districts be consolidated into single, countywide districts, the Clark County School District (CCSD) was born. Existing buildings in the school district were in dire need of repairs, and there was also a desperate need for new school buildings. The school board put forth a \$10.6 million bond for an ambitious construction program, to which voters responded favorably. CCSD finally could begin the massive building campaign they needed to house the influx of new students resulting from the city’s resort boom (Carl et al 2009: 54-57; Moehring and Green 2005:123).

In 1959, Post Hall was added to campus as a new arts and sciences building. Through the late 1950s and into the mid-1960s, Clark County School District struggled to keep pace with the city’s spectacular growth and associated student enrollment crisis. A school bond issue passed in 1959 to fund more construction, including Post Hall, which responded to LVHS’ ever-expanding student population. Jack Miller & Associates designed the new arts and sciences building in a modest rendition of the Mid-Century Modern style. It included three science classrooms, two arts classrooms, and two rectangular built-in planters along the east elevation, screened with decorative concrete block brises-soleils. The new building was named for Denny Post, a former LVHS student who had died of cancer the previous year. During the construction of Post Hall, Jack Miller & Associates also designed a snack bar and kitchen addition, dubbed the Luncheteria, to Worswick’s 1946 study hall building (Moehring and Green 2005:188, 191; Mooney et al 2020:30).

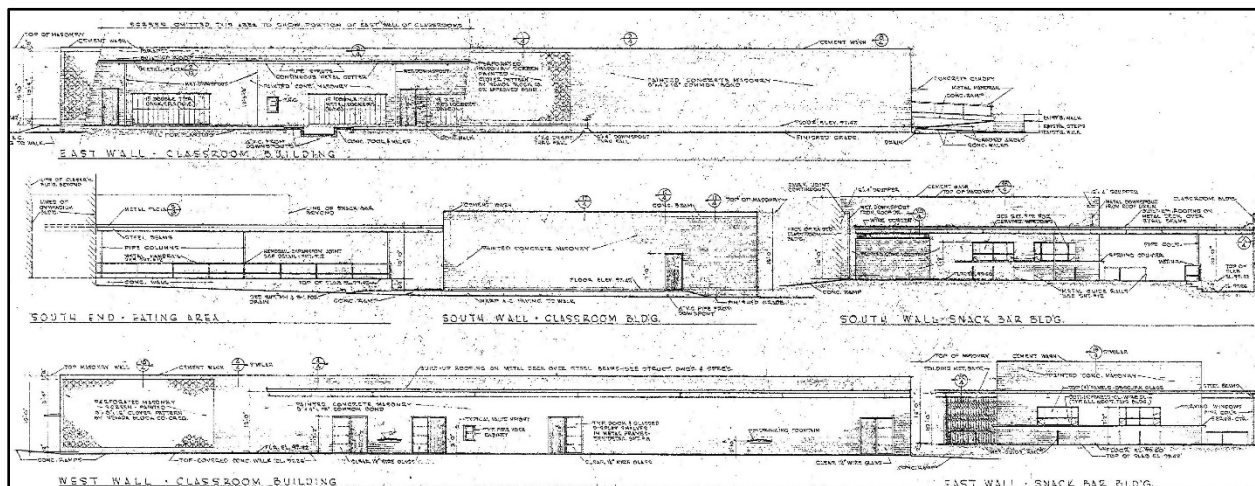


Figure 52: Architectural drawings for Post Hall, 1959 (Courtesy of Nevada Preservation Foundation).

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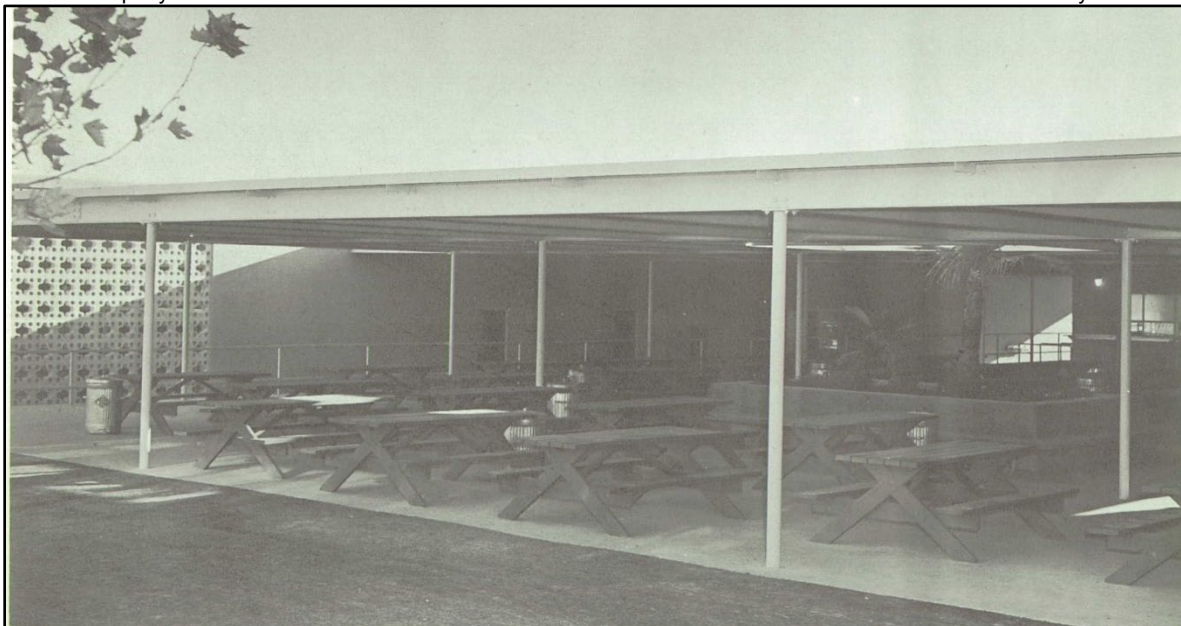


Figure 53: Post Hall and Luncheteria in 1960 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

Despite a massive, district-wide building campaign between 1960 and 1965, fueled by continued exponential growth of the city and funded by bond issues in 1960 and 1961, LVHS experienced no new construction in the 1960s. Persistent overcrowding compelled the school district to place nearly 4,000 students back into half-day sessions in 1961, necessitating renovations to existing schools and the construction of more new schools. Alterations to LVHS buildings were undertaken during this decade, although no new facilities were built. In 1963, the school retained local architects Zick and Sharp to design small renovations, including the addition of exterior flood lighting to the Main Academic building, and the addition of interior light fixtures for the original shop building (noted as the “Social Science Building” by Zick and Sharp) and the 1946 study hall (noted as the “Annex Building” by Zick and Sharp). Finally, a shavings exhaust system was added to the vocational building (Moehring and Green 188, 191; LVS 4/19/1964:49; Moehring 2000:170; Mooney et al 2020:31).

In 1965, the school district experienced a record-breaking enrollment of 54,000 students, but the massive building campaign of the previous five years finally began to alleviate the overcrowding problem. Thanks to the addition of seven new elementary schools and two new secondary schools (i.e., Valley and Clark high schools), the district was able to revert most students back to single sessions (Moehring 2000:170).

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*Figure 54: Partial view of LVHS campus in 1964. Temporary Music Hall at right foreground, Gymnasium at left, Main Academic Building in background (Las Vegas Wildcat Echo).*

The LVHS campus continued to evolve into the 1970s, during which new buildings appeared and existing buildings were renovated. In 1969, the school board grew concerned that the old school could not handle modern programmatic considerations and began contemplating demolition of the Main Academic building. Concerned with overcrowded classrooms, the age of LVHS facilities, and a lack of downtown land for campus expansion, the school board grappled with investing more money into the school. The board hired local architects Gerald Moffitt and James McDaniel to design a master plan for the campus. In 1971, the school received \$2.5 million to fund facility updates recommended by the duo, which included extensive interior demolition and remodeling of the Main Academic building, Frazier Hall, and Post Hall. The original shop building was demolished and replaced with a new courtyard and student activity center/cafeteria building. Moffitt and McDaniel designed the renovation project, which included the Late Modern style cafeteria, courtyard, and new locker room building east of the gymnasium (Barr 2017:15; LVRJ 6/22/1969; LVS 8/30/1969:5; LVS 1/24/1970:6; Mooney et al 2020:31-32).

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Figure 55: Cafeteria under construction in 1971; the completed courtyard in foreground (Las Vegas Review-Journal 6/13/1971).



Figure 56: Students enjoying the courtyard in 1974 (Las Vegas High School Wildcat Echo).

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*Figure 57: The Soul Club poses in front of the Main Academic Building. The Knapp Hall stairway and pedestrian bridge are visible at left (Las Vegas Wildcat Echo).*

Moffitt and McDaniel designed a two-story, Late Modern style building in 1971. Serving as the campus humanities building with a focus on the theater arts, it was named Knapp Hall in 1975 to honor Edward Knapp, a LVHS teacher who died unexpectedly in 1974. Adjacent and connected to the Main Academic building by a second-story walkway, the building was the last major addition to campus while it was still Las Vegas High School. Knowing that the centrally located school could be sold in the coming decades, the architects designed Knapp Hall to be converted easily into office

suites (Barr 2017:15; LVRJ 6/13/1971; LVS 1/24/1970:5; LVS 12/26/1975:15; Mooney et al 2020:32).

### Modern Development, 1972-2004

Despite a gradual depopulation of the school in the mid-1970s, renovations pressed on. In 1974, Butcher Memorial Field was converted into tennis courts. The baseball diamond relocated to the northwest corner of the field in 1975. A small field house with locker rooms and storage, located near the southeast corner of the gymnasium and dating to 1952, was demolished in 1976. The next year, a 7,000 square-foot addition was appended to the gymnasium's south elevation, obscuring the 1947 locker room addition. Student enrollment plummeted to 600 in the fall of 1976, and Gerald Moffitt mused that the school board might adapt the facility as a continuing education facility or a community college, or sell it to a private entity, after renovations were complete (LVS 10/2/1976:25; Mooney et al 2020:32).

In the 1980s, expecting to sell the campus, the school district funded renovations to the Main Academic building, Gymnasium, Cafeteria, and Auditorium. This work included interior retrofits, mechanical and electrical upgrades, asbestos abatement, and new athletic field lighting. However, the sale did not come to pass (Mooney et al 2020:32).

The Southern Nevada Historical Society nominated the Academic building and gymnasium to the NRHP, and the property was listed in 1986. The next year, the 1987 Nevada Legislature passed Senate Bill 63, which designated the school as a historic landmark and barred CCSD from

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selling, renting, or leasing the LVHS buildings. Later that year, Nevada governor and LVHS alum Richard Bryan signed the bill into law. The bill's intention was to protect the Main Academic building, Gymnasium, and athletic fields from demolition. The school district opposed the bill, believing that it usurped their authority over the property, and noting that it required preservation of the campus without offering a funding source (Barr 2017:15; LVRJ 12/30/1986:1B; LVRJ 2/14/1987:1B; Mooney et al 2020:33).

In 1994, a new Las Vegas High School opened at 6500 E. Sahara Avenue, taking the original school's student body, yearbook, and mascot with it. The original LVHS campus became the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies and Performing Arts (LVA). In 2000, Welles-Pugsley Architects designed two Post-Modern style classroom additions for the Vocational building. Two years later, the school retained Tate Snyder Kimsey architects to design two new, Post-Modern style edifices for the campus: a Performing Arts Theater and Visual Arts Building. The theater, now known as the Lowden Theater, was constructed in 2004 west of the Auditorium, facing Clark Avenue. Also built in 2004, the Visual Arts Building was sited northwest of the new theater. LVA continues to occupy the campus as a magnet school for nearly 1,700 students (LVRJ 2/14/1993:2A; LVRJ 12/15/2003:2D; Mooney et al 2020:33).

### **Criterion C: Las Vegas High School and Educational Architecture**

The Las Vegas High School campus is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its display of architectural types and styles that express the evolution of local school architecture within a single complex. The campus possesses a distinctly diverse array of architectural styles uncommon in the other educational landscapes of Las Vegas, reflecting styles that achieved popularity in the United States from the 1930s into the 1970s. Moreover, the district features a collection of buildings designed by a number of well-known architects of the period. Because LVHS was the only secondary school in Las Vegas until Bishop Gorman and Rancho high schools opened in the mid-1950s, its volume, architectural diversity, and integrity are unmatched in the Las Vegas metropolitan area. With successive building campaigns dating to the 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1970s, and 2000s, it is the only campus in Las Vegas that features a mélange of Art Deco and Modernist edifices.

The oldest section of the district, located in the northwest corner of the property, hosts buildings from the 1930s and 1940s that express the Art Deco style. With its animated parapets, low-relief panels, and stylized ornamentation including sculpted friezes with geometric and naturalistic motifs, this style was adopted by area schools during this time, although LVHS retains the only extant school buildings in this style. The Art Deco served as the preferred local style during the 1930s, mirroring the design elements of Boulder Dam, a project that lessened the effects of the Great Depression on southern Nevada. The earliest extant Art Deco buildings on campus—the Main Academic building and Gymnasium, both built in 1930—are examples of pre-World War II school buildings. They embody the monumental, multistory, and symmetrical form typical of prewar school design, with Art Deco ornamentation. In particular, the Main Academic building, with its large, operable window configurations, expresses the Progressive Era's preoccupation with natural light and ventilation (Baker 2012:8; Ogata 2013:107).

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On the LVHS campus, the Art Deco style continued to be utilized into the late 1940s and early 1950s with the construction of Frazier Hall (1949) and the Vocational and Industrial Arts Building (1951). Their design incorporated large windows to maximize natural light and ventilation, although these single-story buildings additionally embraced the low-rise school building concept that became popular after World War II. The Public Schools Administration building (1947) is another low-rise example of the Art Deco style on the LVHS campus, but it originally did not belong to the school campus. It served as an administration building for the school district, which later was incorporated into the LVHS campus to serve an educational function (Ogata 2013:113).

Construction of the Auditorium in 1953 signaled a shift in LVHS campus design from Art Deco to Mid-Century Modernism. The Auditorium exhibited hallmarks of the International style, including simple and straightforward massing, large expanses of unadorned wall surfaces, a flat roof, and banks of windows. The diamond-patterned brises-soleil centered in front of the entry is the sole decorative flourish, a nod toward the emergent Mid-Century Modern style.

The Auditorium presaged the 1956 Peabody Report, which recommended a contemporary design approach to the construction of new schools, as well as the replacement or renovation of existing school buildings. This included using modern materials such as concrete block, as well as a “one-story modular approach to school planning that would come to dominate the rapidly growing areas of the state in the 1950s” (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 18). This approach echoed the national trends in educational architecture, which favored single-story buildings that allowed for future modification and expansion. Stylistically, these mid-century school buildings tended to have flat roofs and either window-wall or brick and/or concrete wall systems, plus the added amenity of air conditioning. Cold War anxieties additionally informed the design of school buildings in the 1950s, suggesting that one-story buildings were more easily evacuated and that modern materials like concrete and steel could better withstand a nuclear strike (Baker 2012:11; Ogata 2013:115).

In the postwar era, design needs for secondary schools grew more complicated, requiring dedicated spaces for science instruction and subjects like home economics and shop, which no longer were considered exclusively vocational. Post Hall, introduced to the LVHS campus in 1959 as a broadly Mid-Century Modern style building, displayed the ubiquitous concrete block materials, flat roof, and decorative block brises-soleils of the style. It also embraced the era’s preference for a single-story, flexible built form, while incorporating specialized arts classrooms and science laboratories in its interior layout (Ogata 2013:137).

The LVHS campus’ final building campaign during its period of significance exemplifies open plan design, programmatic adaptability, and spatial flexibility—all overarching design principles of the late 1960s and 1970s. The Cafeteria was designed to double as a student activities center, with large, open spaces that could accommodate multiple functions. The adjacent Courtyard, with its free plan and built-in planter benches, also lent itself to flexible uses. Knapp Hall, intended as a theater-focused humanities building, was intentionally designed with enough flexibility to be easily adapted into professional offices should the school cease to exist. The locker room building, also built during this period, serves a specific purpose and therefore lacks

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the flexibility inherent in the other structures dating to the early 1970s. All the campus buildings of this era exhibit traits of the Late Modern style, with poured concrete and concrete block construction, flat or extremely low-pitched roofs with deeply overhanging eaves, exposed beams, and a horizontal emphasis (Gislason 2009:35; Lippman 2010:86).

The LVHS district also represents the professionalization of the architecture field in Nevada. Trained architects are responsible for all buildings on campus. Hiring professional architects, rather than builders or amateur architects, became a common practice during the Depression, when New Deal funding required that professional architects perform design work for buildings. As Postwar urban growth in Nevada created a dire need for school buildings, the state of Nevada mandated architectural licensing in 1948, which resulted in increased professionalization of the field. School districts throughout the state sought to construct modern school buildings with complex programmatic and infrastructural needs, and the majority of school design work was completed by professional architects by the late 1940s. By the 1950s, architects designed most, if not all, school buildings in the state (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 18).

### Architecture of the Fifth Supervision School District

The contexts of education and schoolhouse architecture in Southern Nevada between 1861 and 1942 are outlined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) *Historic School Buildings in the Evolution of the Fifth Supervision School District, Nevada* (Osmon and Woodward 1992).<sup>7</sup> Completed in 1992, the MPDF specifically references the Las Vegas High School Main Academic Building and Gymnasium as excellent examples of “custom architecturally designed” school buildings. The document characterizes this class of buildings as a combination of “stylistic, educational, and functional criteria” to create a unified architectural statement. The document additionally specifies that these custom buildings were generally constructed in larger communities that needed “multiple classrooms and unique architectural distinction” (Osmon and Woodward 1992:Section E, 16).

The MPDF defines the custom architecturally designed property type as significant for its:

overall association with an architectural statement placed within the contexts of stylistic and design theory and educational reform...and is exemplary of the movement toward specialized treatment of educational buildings. Custom architecturally-designed schools are significant as representative of the complexity and diversity of educational ideals in Nevada's larger 20th Century communities and the growth in the importance of educational buildings as statements of a community's identity. These buildings exemplify the transformation of the schoolhouse as simply a place for learning to an integral cultural component of the built environment (Osmon and Woodward 1992:Section F, 7).

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<sup>7</sup> The LVHS Administration Building and Gymnasium were listed in the NRHP prior to the publication of this MPDF.

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The document also identifies the school support building property type, which is additionally relevant to the LVHS campus. Defined as large, open buildings including gymnasiums and auditoriums, they are significant as:

facilities constructed to expand the educational role of the school, primarily high schools, into program areas requiring gymnasiums and/or auditoriums. The recreational and presentation function of these buildings require large open spaces, and therefore, large architectural manifestations. Because of the scale of these buildings and the general public's interaction with the events in these buildings, many times the support buildings have taken on the role of community focal points where community events and meetings beyond the scope of the educational roles have taken place (Osmon and Woodward 1992:Section F, 9).

The MPDF cites the Main Academic Building as an example of the custom architecturally designed type, calling it "the largest and most unique example of the Moderne style in southern Nevada" (Osmon and Woodward 1992:Section E, 16) It also mentions the Gymnasium as a highly significant support building with its "unique Moderne design and elaborate detailing" (Osmon and Woodward 1992:Section E, 17). The other LVHS buildings are not included in this MPDF. Because it was written in 1992, it designates 1942 as the 50-year cutoff for significance, and the remaining extant buildings on the LVHS campus were constructed after that date. However, the Public Schools Administration Building (1947), Frazier Hall (1949), Vocational and Industrial Arts Building (1951), and Auditorium (1953) are all examples of architect-designed school buildings constructed prior to the dissolution of the Fifth Supervision District in 1956. All are designed in the Art Deco style except for the Auditorium, which is an architect-designed example of the school support building type in the International style, which additionally functioned as a community gathering space. As examples of the broader Modern Movement of architecture, these buildings are unified by their flat roofs, smooth wall surfaces, and horizontal orientation, and they would have conveyed a cohesive architectural statement at the time they were built.

### School Buildings in Nevada MPDF

The contexts of education and school architecture in Nevada between 1857 and 1958 are outlined in the MPDF *School Buildings in Nevada* (McBride and Bedeau 2008). Completed in 2008, the MPDF expands the property types and definitions identified in the Fifth Supervision School District MPDF. It defines the significance of custom architecturally designed schoolhouses as:

Overall association with an architectural statement placed within the contexts of stylistic and design theory and educational reform. The property type is associated with the development of education in Nevada between c.1885 and 1958 and is exemplary of the movement toward specialized treatment of educational buildings. Custom architecturally-designed schools are significant as representative of the complexity and diversity of educational ideals in Nevada's larger twentieth century communities and the growth of important educational buildings as statements of a community's identity. These buildings exemplify the

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transformation of the schoolhouse as simply a place for learning to an integral cultural component of the built environment (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section F, 5).

The document also differentiates between the gymnasium/auditorium school support building type and “other” school support building types. The gymnasium/auditorium type echoes the description and significance explanations found in the Fifth Supervision School District MPDF and paraphrased earlier in this document. The other school support building type is defined as any specialized structure associated with and in proximity to a schoolhouse, including dormitories, libraries, utility buildings, and outdoor sports facilities. Architectural expressions range from the astylistic minimal box to high-style examples. Their significance is defined as an association with “the development of diversified secondary and collegiate education in Nevada between c.1885 and c.1941” (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section F, 7).

### Architects of LVHS

The local school district engaged architects who were regionally, and in some cases nationally, renowned to design buildings on the high school campus.

#### *George A. Ferris (1859-1948)*

George Ashmead Ferris was a prominent architect who arrived in Reno in 1906. In 1908, Acting Governor Denver Dickerson accepted his design for the Neoclassical Revival style Nevada Governor’s Mansion (NRIS #76002242). He went on to win a commission to design four Mission Revival style grammar schools in Reno. Of the four schools, only McKinley Park School (1910, NRIS #85002406) and Mount Rose School (1912, NRIS #77000841) are extant. He also designed the Renaissance Revival style Lander County High School (1926, NRIS #821) in Austin, Nevada. Partnering with his son, Lehman “Monk” Ferris in 1928, George earned an excellent reputation for his work as an architect and developed a robust practice that involved many school projects, including the 1930 Las Vegas High School campus. The LVHS buildings are the only remaining Art Deco designs by Ferris and Son (McBride and Bedeau 2008:Section E, 17; Mooney et al 2020:18).

#### *Lehman “Monk” Ferris (1893-1996)*

Lehman “Monk” Ferris, son of George A. Ferris, received a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1915. After working as a draftsman, mine engineer, specifications writer, and construction superintendent, he entered into a professional partnership with his father in 1928. The pair designed the Art Deco style Las Vegas High School together in 1930. Other notable Ferris & Son designs in the Art Deco style include the El Cortez Hotel (1931, NRIS #84002078) and Billingshurst Junior High School (1930, demolished 1970), both located in Reno. In particular, Billingshurst bore a striking resemblance to the LVHS Main Academic building.

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Monk left the partnership with his father in 1932 due to Depression-related financial difficulties. He worked as the City of Reno's building inspector from 1935 to 1945, practicing architecture on the side. When he left the city, he returned to full-time architecture, partnering with Graham Erskine in 1946. Qualified as an engineer, Ferris designed all aspects of his buildings, from plumbing and electricity to structural. In addition to the original LVHS buildings he designed with his father, he designed the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house in the Colonial Revival style (1929, NRIS #3001508), the Reno High School in the Mid-Century Modern style (1951, with Graham Erskine), Proctor R. Hug High School (1968) and Earl Wooster High School (1961) in the Mid-Century Modern style, and the Harolds Club casino tower (1954) in Reno; the Romanesque Revival Civic Auditorium (1938, NRIS #90000912) in Carson City; First National Bank buildings throughout the state; and several National Guard Armories. Monk Lehman's portfolio demonstrates his proficiency in a number of different architectural styles, from revivals to modernism (Barr 2017:10; Harmon and Lankowsky 2013; Koval and Lawrence-Dietz 1983).

*Worswick, A. Lacy (1878-1962)*

A. Lacy Worswick had a successful architectural career in Las Vegas in the 1930s and 1940s. He relocated to Las Vegas in 1929, after leaving his post as San Francisco's Bureau of Architecture chief. He went on to design the Ranch style annex for the Historic Westside School (1948, NRIS #79001460), the Spanish Revival style Henderson House (1930), and the Art Deco style Hotel Apache (1932), now obscured by the façade of Binion's Gambling Hall. Other commissions that are no longer extant include the Las Vegas Hospital (1931), the War Memorial Building (1936), and the Chief Hotel Court (1940). Worswick heavily utilized the Art Deco style, either by creating purely Art Deco designs or applying Art Deco influences to Spanish Revival and Mission Revival style buildings. Frazier Hall and the Public Schools Administration Building on the LVHS campus are two of the last intact Art Deco buildings designed by Worswick (Mooney et al 2020:12).

*Bruner, Elmo C. (1906-1973)*

Born in Fort Worth, Texas and raised in Oklahoma, Elmo C. Bruner received his Baccalaureate degree in architecture and engineering from Oklahoma State University in 1931. After working for the Oklahoma State Highway Department, oil companies, and for the Los Alamos project as an architectural engineer, he arrived in Las Vegas in 1947. Soon thereafter, he became a partner in the architectural firm of A. Lacy Worswick. It was during this partnership that Bruner designed the Art Deco style Vocational and Industrial Arts building (1951) on the LVHS campus. After Worswick's retirement in 1954, Bruner assumed the role as senior partner. Other significant commissions in Las Vegas include the Pueblo Revival style public administration building at McCarran Airfield (1948, not extant), the Bank of Nevada (1950, not extant), the modest Ranch style Las Verdes Housing Development (1958), the similarly modest Ranch style Greater Las Vegas Housing Development (1958), and the Modernist St. Anne Catholic Church (1963). He also worked as a real estate appraiser during his time in southern Nevada, creating the Las Vegas Appraisal and Finance Corporation in 1958 (Chung 2019).

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*Beelman, Claud (1884-1963)*

One of Los Angeles' most influential and prolific architects, Claud Beelman was born in Ohio and attended architecture school at Harvard, working in the Midwest and on the East Coast before relocating to Los Angeles in 1921. He partnered with Aleck Curlett, and the two designed a number of buildings in the Italian Renaissance Revival, Beaux-Arts, and Romanesque Revival styles. Inspired by the emerging Art Deco and Moderne styles, Beelman departed from the revival styles. Though still partnered with Curlett, he began designing buildings on his own in these new styles, including the Sun-Realty Building (1931), Ninth & Broadway (1930), the Garfield Building (1928-29), and the Eastern Columbia Building (1930). At the close of World War II, Beelman found fresh inspiration in the nascent Modern Movement, and he created sleek, clean-lined office buildings in Los Angeles, including the Superior Oil Company headquarters (1955), Westwood's Occidental Petroleum building (1962), and Union Bank Center (1963). The LVHS Auditorium (1953) is his only known work in Nevada, and it embodies the Modernist characteristics of his later career (L.A. Conservancy 2021).

*Miller, Jack (1914-1999)*

Born in Denver, Jack Miller received his architecture degree from Louisiana State University. After arriving in Las Vegas in 1942 to assist with the design of the Basic Magnesium Incorporated (BMI) plant in Henderson, he formed Jack Miller and Associates architecture firm. As one of a handful of architects practicing in Las Vegas following the Second World War, his portfolio reflects residential, commercial, and government commissions. He even conceived the original Stardust Hotel sign. In addition to broadly Modernist Post Hall (1959) on the LVHS campus, he designed a number of Modernist buildings on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus, including the Gymnasium (1967, now the Barrick Museum), the Chemistry Building (1970), the Carlson Education Building (1972), and the Juanita Greer Life Sciences Building (1976), among others. Other notable works include the Clark County Detention Center, Basic High School in Henderson, additions at the Las Vegas Convention Center, housing at Nellis Air Force Base, and the Centel and Nevada Power Company buildings in downtown Las Vegas (Kircher et al 2019; LVRJ 3/14/1999:2B).

*Moffitt, Gerald (1929-2013)*

Born in Salt Lake City in 1929, Gerald Moffitt obtained his architecture degree from the University of Utah in 1954. He moved to Las Vegas the following year to begin his architecture career. He formed a partnership with Ed Hendricks in 1958, and the two of them created the preliminary plans for the Landmark Hotel Tower, which was built using different plans (not extant) and the Bonanza Airlines Administrative Building (1959, not extant). He eventually established his own firm, Gerald Moffitt and Associates, designing the Jackass Flats Nuclear Rocket Development Station at the Nevada Test Site (1964), Sahara-Rancho branch of the Nevada Bank of Commerce (1966, not extant), the First Baptist Church of Las Vegas (1966). Moffitt utilized the forms and motifs of the Modern Movement, creating essentially Mid-Century Modern style buildings (LVRJ 12/15/2003:4B).

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He shared this design philosophy with James McDaniel, with whom he partnered in 1969. In addition to the LVHS Cafeteria, courtyard, locker room building, and Knapp Hall, together they designed the Royal Crest housing development (1969), and three notable buildings on the UNLV campus: the Judy Bayley Theater (1972), Artemus Ham Hall (1976) and the Paul McDermott Physical Education Complex (1974).

*McDaniel, James (1931-1977)*

A Las Vegas native, James McDaniel received his architecture degree from the University of Southern California in 1955. He returned to Las Vegas, practicing as an architect beginning in 1958 and establishing his own firm in 1960. Throughout his career, McDaniel was heavily influenced by the Modern Movement, especially the International style and what would become known as Mid-Century Modern. McDaniel's firm created the master plan for the Nevada State University, later renamed the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). McDaniel designed early campus buildings including the James R. Dickinson Library (1963, not extant), Wright Hall (1965, renovated in 2005), and the Moyer Student Union (1968, not extant). He received two awards from the American Industrial Architect Association: in 1965 for his UNLV library design, and again in 1967 for his U.S. Post Office (not extant) design. He is also responsible for the California Hotel (1975) (LVRJ 3/22/1978:6B; Robinson et al 2019).

He established a partnership with Gerald Moffitt in 1969. Notable joint designs are listed in the previous section.

Comparisons

There are no high school campuses in Las Vegas that compare in significance, age, or architectural diversity to LVHS. Bishop Gorman High School opened in 1954 on Maryland Parkway as a parochial alternative to LVHS, but the original campus was demolished in 2019. Rancho High School is the second oldest extant campus in the area. Built in 1955, 25 years after LVHS' original buildings, and completely renovated with multiple demolitions and modernizations in 2007, the campus does not possess the same degree of significance as the first high school in Las Vegas, nor does it possess integrity to convey its significance.

Western (1960), Valley (1965), and Clark (1965) high schools followed Rancho, but as the second wave of Las Vegas high school campuses, they lack the long history of LVHS, as well as its distinction as the only high school in Las Vegas from 1930 to 1955. Architecturally, they are well-designed and demonstrate variations on the Mid-Century Modern style; however, they lack the rich diversity of styles and periods present at LVHS.

**Summary**

The Las Vegas High School Historic District (LVHS) is eligible under Criterion A as a historically significant representation of local trends in educational development. LVHS retains a significant concentration of historically and architecturally significant educational buildings

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unified historically by their association with the development of secondary education in Las Vegas, particularly after the Second World War, when the school district undertook major building campaigns to assuage overcrowding brought about by the war effort, postwar military development, and the booming resort economy. From 1930, beginning with the initial construction of the school, until 1971 with the last major construction campaign on campus, LVHS reflected one of the most significant high school campuses in Las Vegas.<sup>8</sup>

The campus is additionally eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance. The majority of its resources retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the character of the district, and they illustrate the school's transition from a three-building Art Deco campus, anchored by a monumental primary building and indicative of Progressive Era educational architecture, to the Postwar low-rise school plan, to an interconnected, expansive, and adaptable campus suggestive of the Late Modern period. The school displays a rich diversity of architectural styles, including variations of the Art Deco, International, Mid-Century Modern, and Late Modern styles.

Contributing buildings are examples of custom architect-designed school buildings, indicative of an increased local and statewide emphasis on creating school buildings that make an architectural statement, as explained in the MPDFs for *Historic School Buildings in the Evolution of the Fifth Supervision School District, Nevada* (Osman and Woodward 1992) and *School Buildings in Nevada* (McBride and Bedeau 2008). Moreover, the campus conveys a distinct historic feeling and association that has resulted in its legacy as one of the city's most celebrated and admired schools. Its historic and architectural significance and high degree of integrity make the Las Vegas High School Historic District eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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<sup>8</sup> While it does not constitute significance under Criterion B, there are many graduates of LVHS who went on to hold public office as U.S. senators, members of congress, Nevada Supreme Court judges, Nevada legislators, and local officials, all of whom made an impact on state and local history.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Clark County School District, Clark County, Nevada

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 15.45 acres

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |              |                 |                   |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 11S | Easting: 667302 | Northing: 4003951 |
| 2. Zone: 11S | Easting: 667171 | Northing: 4003695 |
| 3. Zone: 11S | Easting: 667484 | Northing: 4003536 |
| 4. Zone: 11S | Easting: 667453 | Northing: 4003878 |

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

LVHS campus is bounded by E. Bridger Avenue between S. 7th Street and 195 feet west of S. 9th Street; 195 feet west of S. 9th Street between E. Bridger Avenue and Lewis Avenue; Lewis Avenue between 195 feet west of S. 9th Street and S. 10th Street; S. 10th Street between Lewis Avenue and E. Clark Avenue; E Clark Avenue between S. 10th Street and S. 7th Street; and S. 7th Street between E. Clark Avenue and E. Bridger Avenue, in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada. It includes portions of the Wardie Addition and Pioneer Heights subdivisions in Section 34, Township 20 South, Range 61 East. It is located within the city limits of Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the Las Vegas High School Historic District were selected to include all school district-owned parcels that comprise the school campus. The boundaries are based on property lines and modern roads.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: ZoAnn Campana, Architectural Historian  
organization: Kautz Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
street & number: 1140 Financial Boulevard, Ste. 100  
city or town: Reno state: Nevada zip code: 89502  
e-mail: zcampana@kecnv.com  
telephone: (775) 829-4411  
date: 8/3/2021

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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



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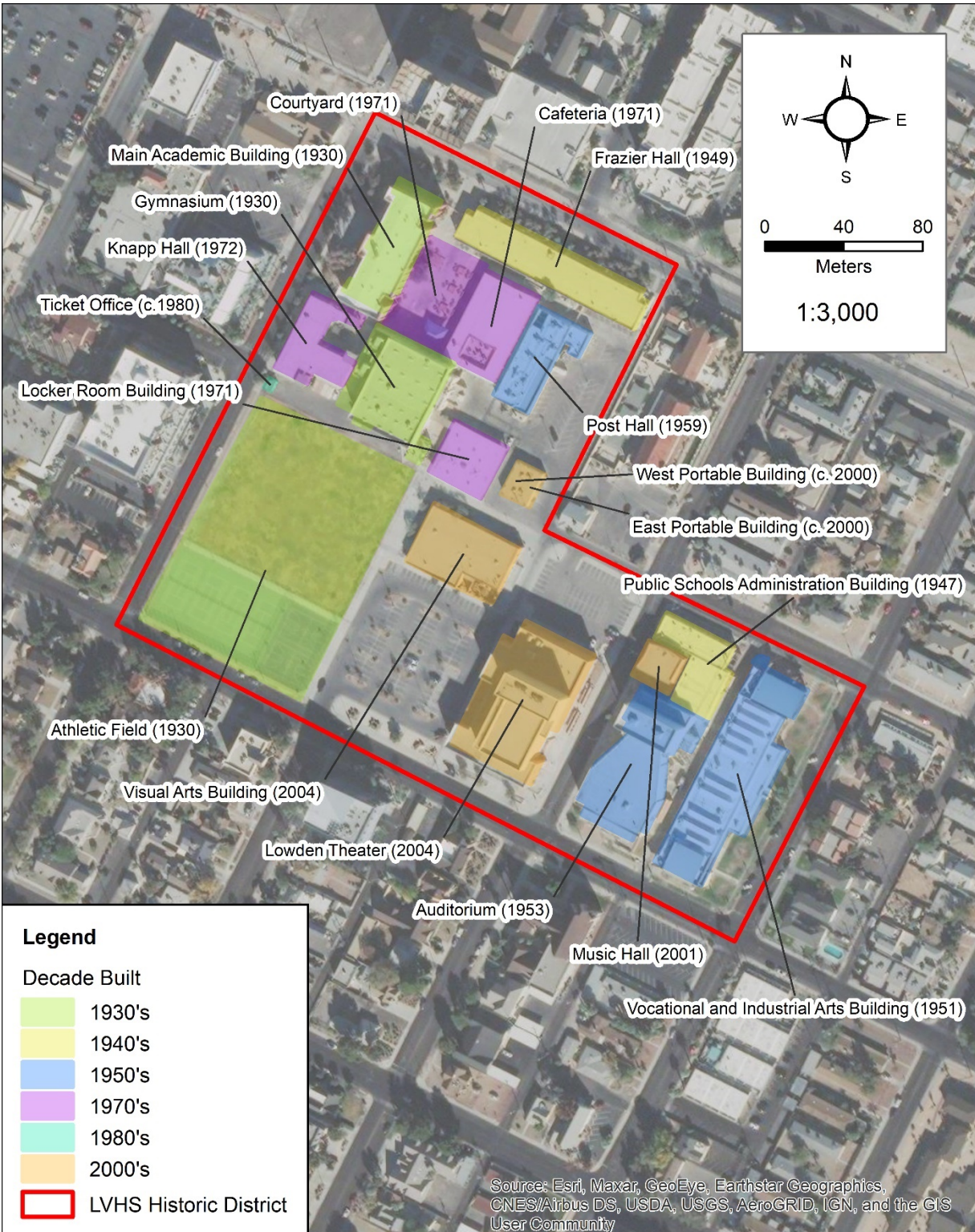
# Las Vegas High School District NRHP Aerial Site Map



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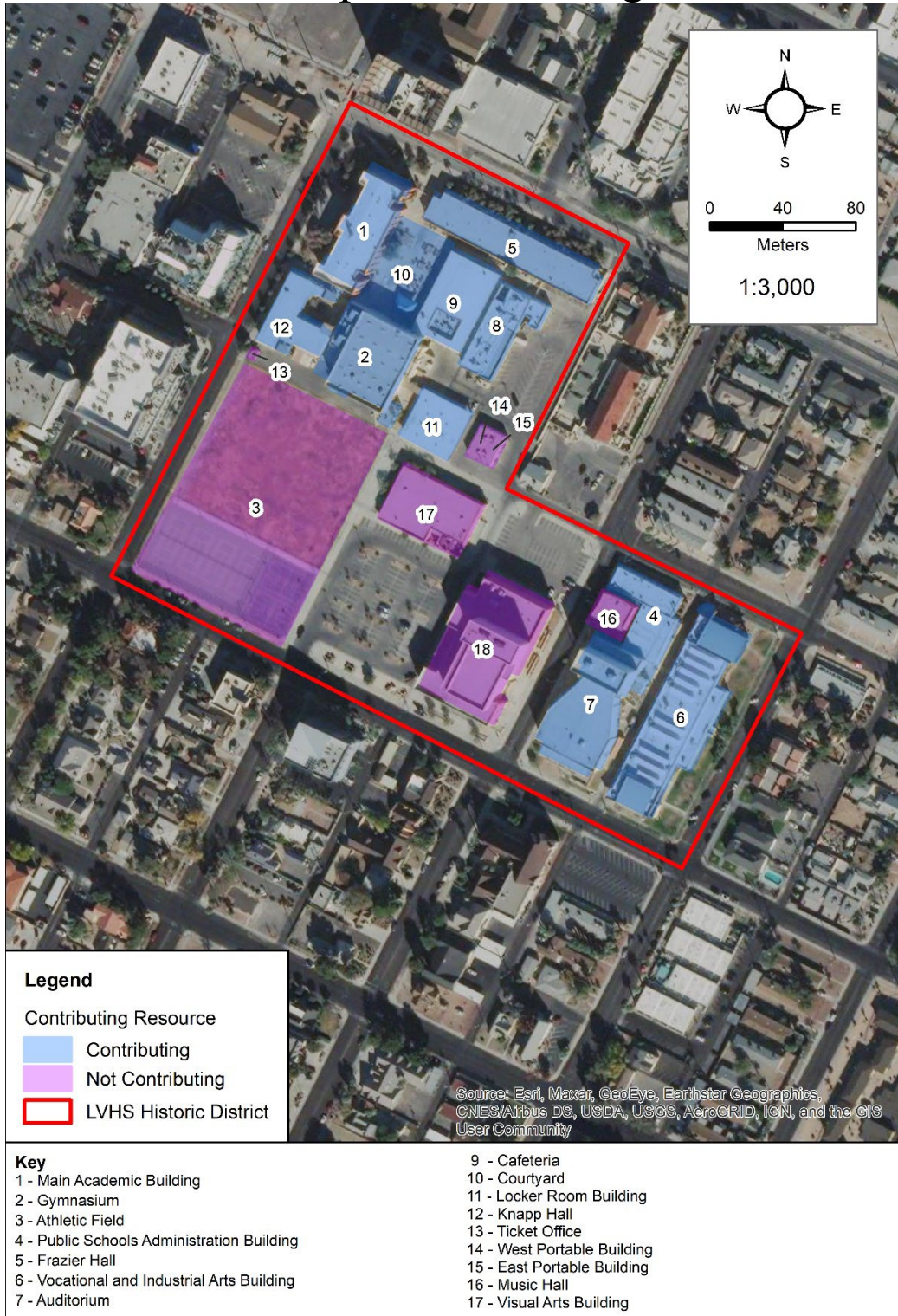
# Las Vegas High School District NRHP



Las Vegas High School Historic District  
 Name of Property

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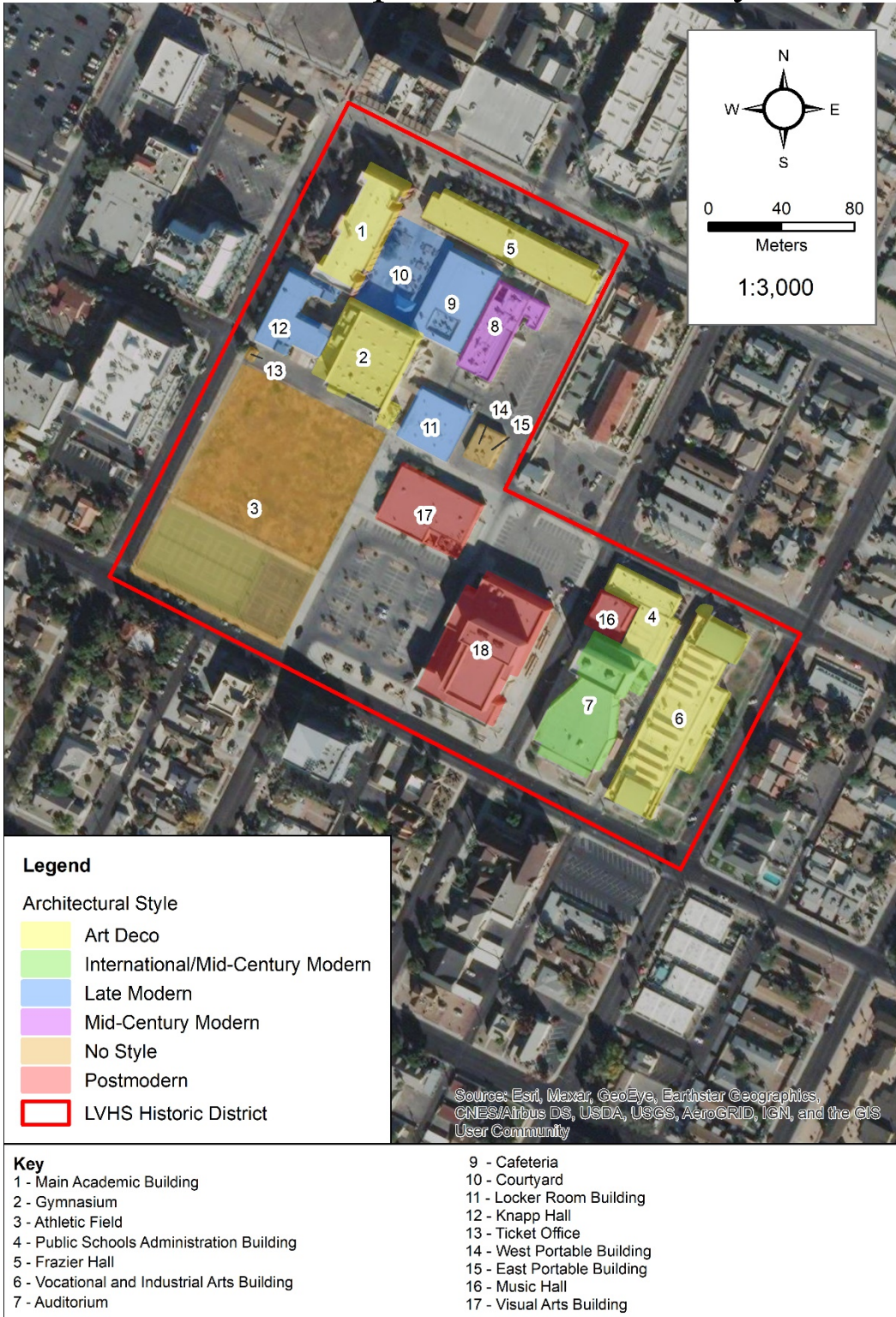
# Las Vegas High School District NRHP Aerial Site Map – Contributing Resources



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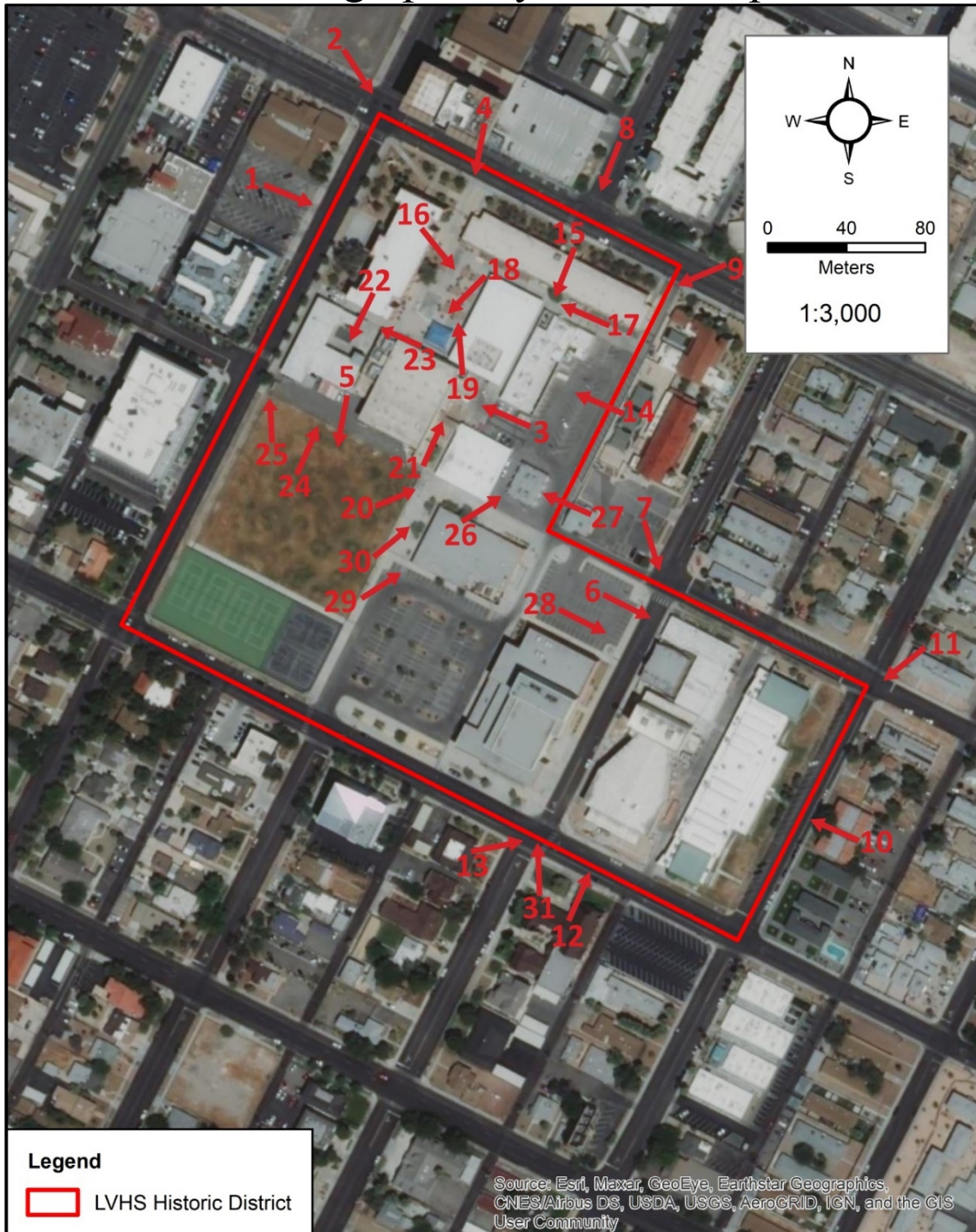
# Las Vegas High School District NRHP Aerial Site Map – Architectural Styles



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# Las Vegas High School District NRHP Photograph Key Sketch Map



**NOTE: Numbers pictured on this map correspond to the photograph log on the following pages.**

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Name of Property

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**Photographs**

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

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: West elevation of Main Academic Building, facing southeast.

1 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: North elevations of Main Academic building and Frazier Hall, facing south.

2 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: East elevation of Gymnasium, facing northwest.

3 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: View of courtyard, looking south. Frazier Hall at left foreground, Cafeteria at center background, Gymnasium at right background.

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Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: View of Athletic Field, looking southwest toward tennis courts.

5 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: West elevation of Public Schools Administration building, facing southeast.

6 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: West and north elevations of Public Schools Administration building, facing south toward Music Hall and Auditorium.

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Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: North elevation of Frazier Hall, facing southwest.

8 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: East and north elevations of Frazier Hall, facing south toward Main Academic building.

9 of 31.

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Clark, Nevada

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: East elevation of the Vocational and Industrial Arts building, facing northwest.  
10 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: East elevation of the Vocational and Industrial Arts building, including north addition, facing southwest.  
11 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: South elevation of Auditorium, facing northeast.  
12 of 31

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: South and west elevations of Auditorium, facing east.  
13 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: East elevation of Post Hall, facing northwest.  
14 of 31.

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Clark, Nevada

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: Partial north elevations of Post Hall (left) and Cafeteria (right), facing southwest.

15 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: West elevation of Cafeteria, looking southeast across Courtyard.

16 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: Partial north elevation of Cafeteria (left) and partial south elevation of Frazier Hall (right), looking northwest toward east elevation of Main Academic building.

17 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: View of courtyard facing west. Cafeteria at left, Gymnasium at center, Main Academic building at right.

18 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: View of Courtyard, facing north. Main Academic building at left, Frazier Hall at right.

19 of 31.

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Clark, Nevada

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: South and west elevations of Locker Room building, facing northeast.

20 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: Breezeway between Gymnasium (left) and Locker Room building (right), facing northeast.

21 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: North elevation of Knapp Hall, facing southwest.

22 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: Pedestrian bridge connecting Knapp Hall (left) with the Main Academic building (right).

23 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: South elevation of Knapp Hall, facing northeast.

24 of 31.

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Clark, Nevada

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Las Vegas  
County: Clark State: Nevada  
Photographer: ZoAnn Campana  
Date Photographed: 1/13/2021  
Description: East and south elevations of Ticket Office, facing north.  
25 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Las Vegas  
County: Clark State: Nevada  
Photographer: ZoAnn Campana  
Date Photographed: 1/13/2021  
Description: South and west elevations of West Portable building, facing east.  
26 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Las Vegas  
County: Clark State: Nevada  
Photographer: ZoAnn Campana  
Date Photographed: 1/13/2021  
Description: East elevation of East Portable building, facing northwest.  
27 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Las Vegas  
County: Clark State: Nevada  
Photographer: ZoAnn Campana  
Date Photographed: 1/13/2021  
Description: West elevations of Music Hall (right) and Public Schools Administration building (left), facing southeast.  
28 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Las Vegas  
County: Clark State: Nevada  
Photographer: ZoAnn Campana  
Date Photographed: 1/13/2021  
Description: South and west elevations of Visual Arts building, facing east.  
29 of 31.

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Clark, Nevada

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: West elevation of Visual Arts building (right), looking northeast toward Locker Room building (center).

30 of 31.

Name of Property: Las Vegas High School Historic District

City or Vicinity: Las Vegas

County: Clark

State: Nevada

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 1/13/2021

Description: South and east elevations of Lowden Theater, facing north.

31 of 31.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours

Tier 2 – 120 hours

Tier 3 – 230 hours

Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.