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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Lay School

other names/site number 5MF.7384

2. Location

street & number 7 Eddy Avenue | N/A | not for publication

city or town Lay | N/A | vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Moffat code 081 zip code 81625

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

__ **national** __ **statewide** _X_ **local**

W. T. 9/24/12

Signature of certifying official/Title — Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer — Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commending official — Date

Title — State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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:)

for Edson H. Beall 3·20·13

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [X] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
2		objects
3	0	**Total**

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

Rural Schools Buildings in Colorado

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education/ School
Social/ Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant/ Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone/concrete
walls: Wood
roof: Wood frame/tarpaper
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Lay School is located in Lay, a small rural town in northwestern Colorado, which is approximately nineteen miles west of Craig, Colorado and approximately ninety miles east of the Colorado-Utah border. Rolling hills and plateaus of prairie grasses create the surrounding terrain of the school. Situated one block south of US Highway 40 at the northeast corner of Moffat County Road 17 and Eddy Avenue, the school sits on a 165' x 167' lot (or approximately two-thirds of an acre). Eddy Avenue, a dirt road, is the southern border of the school property, while County Road 17 provides the western border to the community. Farm and ranch land with a home with a hay storage structure exists to the south of Eddy Avenue while prairie land extends to the west of County Road 17. Residences and outbuildings of the Lay community exist to the north and east of the school property.

A modern metal post and wire fence encloses the school property while native prairie grasses surround the building and cover the large lot. Sagebrush appears in a few places toward the south end of the property. A line of elm trees grow near the very eastern edge of the property. The Lay School building occupies the western portion of the lot, with the original swing frame, with chains for seats, and flagpole sitting south of the school building. A boys' privy and girls' privy originally sat north of the school building. Sometime after 1959, when the school closed, the privies were removed; the current owner has determined the located the privy pits. No other foundations or deposits are visible.

Narrative Description

Lay School, 1910, contributing building

Lay School is an L-shaped wood-frame building comprised of three components. The original section is a rectangular-shaped one-room school measuring 24'x16'. Wood lap siding covers the original school up to 8' with board and batten appearing above on the gable ends. The main roofline is 10/12 pitch with dimensional rough sawn 2"x4" trusses covered by 1"x12" rough cut lumber. The trusses are 24" on center. Several partial layers of rolled asphalt roofing are evident. The roof has 12" overhanging eaves. Between 1945 and 1954, the school board commissioned the construction of a south addition for a coatroom and moved and joined the teacherage, originally located east of the school on the east side of the lot, to the northeast side of the one-room school creating an ell-shaped building. To provide access from the classroom to the former teacherage room, the northeastern-most classroom window was removed and a pocket door was installed in the same area. After the coatroom construction, the school moved the primary entrance to the east-facing side. The current owner covered the windows with plywood to prevent further damage, as many of the glass panes are missing or broken.

East (main) façade

Three sections comprise the east façade, the small entrance/coatroom on the southern most side, the southern portion of the original school, and the teacherage addition. The entrance/coatroom rests on a raised concrete foundation and measures 10' x 16'. It is side-gabled with wood lap siding and corner boards at each corner. Two small wooden steps lead to a small slightly off-centered stoop. A flat roof supported by angled brackets covers the stoop. A circa 1950s wooden door provides the primary entrance. Three vertically placed

rectangular windows appear in the upper portion of the door, with the left-most window placed slightly lower than the middle, and the middle placed slightly lower than the right-most window.

The southern-most portion of the original school building is the middle section of the east façade. A concrete foundation exists under a portion of the building, while large rocks make up the remainder of the foundation. Two evenly spaced four-over-four double hung windows appear in this portion of the building. Each window measures approximately 31"x41" and has simple wood sills with 6" wood molding. The northern-most window is missing some panes and therefore plywood covers the window.

The northern-most portion of the east façade is the teacherage addition that extends from the original school building and measures 10'x12'. It rests on a log base, which is in poor condition. Constructed of dimensional lumber and covered with wood lap siding, rolled asphalt siding now covers the teacherage. The school board covered the wood siding with the asphalt siding circa 1930s, as it was a popular treatment at the time with the premise the rolled asphalt siding provided a maintenance-free treatment and protected deterioration of the wood. At an unknown date, but prior to the 1950s, the rolled asphalt siding was painted white.

The teacherage addition has a side-gabled roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. The ridgeline height is approximately 6' lower than that of the school building. The roof is 1"x6" rough sawn planks spaced approximately 2" apart. The asphalt roof shingles on are in poor condition or non-existent. The main façade of the teacherage addition faces south. The south-facing side of the teacherage contains one small window opening measuring approximately 30"x30"; plywood now covers it as the original muntins and panes are missing. An entrance opening to the teacherage exists next to the window; however, the door is missing and plywood also covers it. The east-facing side of the teacherage lacks fenestration. There is one window opening on both the north and south side of this addition.

North-facing side
The teacherage addition makes up the eastern-most portion of the north-facing side. A small window opening, measuring approximately 30"x30", pierces the center of the addition. It lacks the muntins and panes with OSB covering the opening. The original school comprises the western-most portion of the north-facing side.

West-facing side
There are three four-over-four double-hung wood windows on the west-facing side of the original section. Each window measures approximately 31"x41" and has simple wood sills while wide wood surrounds each. These windows have most of their muntins, but many of the panes are broken or missing. Therefore, plywood covers these openings. A brick chimney rises from the southwest corner of the original school room's roof. The southern-most portion of the west-facing side is the coatroom addition, which has no fenestration on the west-facing side.

South-facing side
The south-facing side contains the coatroom addition, which rests on a concrete foundation and constructed of dimensional lumber covered with wood siding. There are two four-light wood windows approximately 36"x30" on the south side of this addition. Muntins are missing from one of the windows and glass is missing from the other, therefore plywood covers both.

Interior
The main entrance to the building is in what is now the coatroom addition on the east-facing side. On what is the original south exterior façade of the building east of the original entrance, coat hooks and marks of where coats hooks existed (original to the addition) remain on a 1"x2" wooden mounting board placed at a height of approximately 5' to accommodate the older students. Coat hooks at a height of approximately 4', to accommodate the youngest students, appear on the east wall while an additional six hooks exist on the

southeastern most wall at a height of approximately 6'. At the northwest end, a small storage cabinet exists. East of the storage cabinet, a simple handcrafted work table is attached to the wall with a narrow shelving unit above it. The walls and ceiling are finished with painted Masonite, which is in poor condition. The foundation under the coatroom addition is concrete, as is the floor. The original school building entrance appears between the worktable and the coat hooks. A solid core wood door with a single recessed panel offers entry. The original round brass doorknob with a skeleton key hole remains. The doorknob is slightly lower than standard for the youngest students' ability to open the door.

The original rectangular schoolroom, which measures 24'x16', contains lath and stucco walls and ceiling, both of which are in poor condition; the ceiling has begun falling in several places due to water damage and the stucco on the walls is peeling in several places. The original pine plank flooring exists in the classroom. A circa 1950s propane stove sits in the southwest corner of the classroom and provided the main heat source to the building. Toward the northeast end of the classroom, an interior pocket door provides access to the teacherage.

Masonite exists on most of the teacherage walls, although it is in poor condition. Much of the ceiling has fallen down in the teacherage, leaving the 2"x4" trusses visible. The room has suffered the most significant water damage leaving it in the worst condition of the three rooms.

Alterations

Between 1945 and 1954, the school district commissioned the construction of a coatroom on the south side of the school. In the 1954 the school moved the teacherage to join the school building to provide additional space, as it was no longer being used as a teacherage. Possibly at the time of the coatroom addition, the school board installed square-tile flooring (which contains four percent non-fireable asbestos) over the wood floor. Many of the tiles have chipped over time with the edges now curling. The current owner has started removing the tile flooring to reveal the hardwood floor with plans to restore it.

Flagpole, circa 1910, contributing object

The original flagpole continues to stand in its original location approximately 31' south and slightly west of the southwest corner of the school building and approximately 5' inside the western fence line. The approximately 35' high steel pole has discolored with age to a bronze. A metal chain allows the owner to raise the flag while a small solar powered light extends from the post at approximately 8' high. The current owner installed the light to allow the flag to fly at night. A steel round cap sits at the top of the pole.

Swing set and teeter totter, circa 1910, contributing object

The original steel pipe swing set sits approximately 30' south of the school. Inverted V-shaped steel pipes, measuring about 5' at the widest part of the V, create the end supports with a horizontal steel pipe joining the V's at the top. T-braces fashioned from steel pipe provide additional support of the horizontal top bar. Four metal chains hang from four metal rings, which hang from the top bar, creating two swings. Wooden swing seats no longer exist. Attached to the west side of the swing set V-shape pipe, a steel pipe extends outward approximately 3' and then down about 2', which provided the support for a teeter totter. The wooden seat portion of the teeter totter no longer exists.

Integrity

The Lay School exhibits a high level of integrity in regard to location, setting, and association. These integrity components have not changed, nor has the overall setting of the lot or views surrounding it. With the original swing set and flagpole continuing to be present at the school contributes to the overall sense of feeling and association. Although a small solar powered light was attached to the flagpole in recent years, it does not detract from the overall feeling or sense of the school and flagpole. The original school building retains its original siding, windows, flooring, ceiling, walls, door and doorknob and has a high degree of integrity as to materials and workmanship. With the teacherage moved in the 1950s to the school building, part of the original feeling of the rural school attributes as built, has diminished slightly. Although the school received two additions by the mid-1950s, which changed the original design, neither detract from the overall integrity and sense of the rural schoolhouse.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes.)

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

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education
Social History
Architecture
Archaeology / Historic-Non Aboriginal

Period of Significance

1910-1959
1910-1962
1910- circa 1955

Significant Dates

Circa 1955

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hall, E. A.

Period of Significance The period of significance for education begins in 1910 when the school opened and ends in 1959 when the Lay School closed. The period of significance for architecture extends from the year of construction in 1910 until circa 1955, to include the two additions. Finally, the period of significance for social history and historic-non aboriginal archaeology extends from 1910 through 1962; while social functions continued into the early 1980s, 1962 is consistent with National Register guidelines.

Criteria Considerations N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Lay School is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of *education* for its association of providing education to the students of Lay and the surrounding area for nearly fifty years. Additionally, the school is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of *social history* as it served the community as the primary gathering place for various social functions from its construction date through the 1980s. Further, the school is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of *architecture* as a good example of a modest Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements style building as applied to a rural school building.

Finally, the property is significant under Criterion D in the area *non-aboriginal historic archaeology* for its potential to yield information important to history due to buried deposits. Two privies, one for boys and one for girls, existed north of the school. While the buildings no longer exist, the privy pits exist, which provide a high likelihood of obscured and buried artifacts.

The building is a good example of a rural one-room schoolhouse and meets the registration requirements of the Schoolhouse Property Type as defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) *Rural School Buildings in Colorado*. As noted in the MPDF, rural school buildings are eligible for not only education, but also for social history as a focus of community life and the primary gathering point for a wide variety of social and community events.

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

Criterion A – Education

The 1910 Lay School provides the physical association of rural education conditions, which prevailed in Colorado's rural areas well into the mid-twentieth century. It is one of only four intact rural schoolhouses known to remain in Moffat County and the only known school of the Lay School District remaining. As rural communities formed often one of the first buildings constructed during the settlement phase included a school. Allen Grant Wallihan platted the town of Lay on a portion of his homestead and had the school built on his land. The building provided education to children of the surrounding farming and ranching families, who lived up to three miles away, along with the children of Lay's small community for grades one through eight. It continued providing education until 1959 when Moffat County, similar to other Colorado counties, began consolidating its rural schools into the more populated town and city schools.

Although the number of students varies, it averaged from about ten to twenty students enrolled each school year. Understanding the rural life of farmers and ranchers, the Lay School created the school-year term around spring planting and calving and the fall harvest season. Older students often needed an earlier release in the spring and extended time in the fall to attend to the needs of the family farm or ranch. During the early 1950s, as more families had moved to the area to engage in the uranium boom, enrollment may have increased slightly to more than twenty students enrolled each year.

Criterion A – Social History

With Lay located in an isolated area of northwestern Colorado, the school building easily doubled as a church on Sundays, as Lay did not have a formal church building. Holding church services at the school building was only the first of many other uses, in addition to school, held at the building. Early in its history the community found the large room a convenient, centrally located gathering place for various social events. Adult individuals traveled as many as ten miles, and sometimes more, by horse and wagon to attend Saturday night

dances at the school building. These continued periodically through the building's use as a school and through the early 1980s. Additionally, the building served as a polling precinct for area voters. Various organizations also used the building for meetings, which included the Young Citizen's League and the Lay Lariats 4-H Club. With a sparse population of 200 people in the early twentieth century and later of only 50, and without a church or other civic or social building, the school became the all-purpose building when school was not in session.

Criterion C – Architecture

The Lay School exhibits those characteristics associated with the schoolhouse property type identified in the MPDF including: one-story, wood-frame building with a rectangular plan, gabled roof, tall narrow windows, and one large classroom situated in a rural setting. The architecture of the Lay School exhibits the classic one-room schoolhouse design and construction. The original south facing entrance was common for the rural schools of Colorado as were the large windows placed on the east and west sides of the classroom. The steeply-pitched roof addressed the snow loads inherent with northwestern Colorado winters. Although the Lay School has character-defining features of a modest Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movement style as adapted to a rural schoolhouse in its rectangular plan, overhanging eaves, multi-pane windows, and exposed rafter tails, the intended design results for the building included: efficient shelter, minimal ornamentation, functionality, and use of local materials and labor, as available. Privies, an animal shelter, a teacherage, and playground equipment were common elements to a rural school. Although it is unknown whether an animal shelter originally existed on the Lay School property, as no foundation or other evidence reveals the same, all of the other elements existed on the Lay School property. The original swing set frame with the seat chains remains along with the original flagpole. The teacherage was moved and attached to the school in the mid-1950s.

In the mid-1950s, the Lay School District added a coatroom to the south side. Rural schools often had these when originally built as a buffer between the weather and the classroom. About the same time, the school district moved the teacherage to become a northeastern addition to the school. While these additions do not reflect overwhelming characteristics of the schoolhouse style, they do not detract from the simple construction and functionality of the original schoolhouse nor impede the overall integrity. When the school district made the additions, it also made improvements including the tile flooring and a new stove. Many districts believed that if the school updated its facilities, it may prevent or prolong the closure due to consolidation, which had been completed in other areas of the state.

In most rural areas, such as Lay, housing was limited. To ensure a teacher had quarters and was near the school, often the school district built small, one-room teacherages or moved a building from another area to serve as the teacherage. While the exact construction date of the teacherage is unknown, it was likely constructed or moved on to the property soon after the construction of the Lay schoolhouse.

Criterion D – Archaeology/non-aboriginal historic archaeology

Two privies, one for boys and one for girls, existed north of the school. While the buildings no longer exist, the privy pits exist, which provide a high likelihood of obscured and buried artifacts. The information yielded may include such details as the diet of the individuals who attended the school, details of the diet of the individuals who lived in the teacherage and individuals who attended community events, how those diets may have changed in correlation to economic changes during the 1930s Great Depression, and how the food provided in a "sack lunch" changed, if at all, between 1910 and 1959. It may also provide information on the life ways/material culture of rural school students and teachers along with informative artifacts due to associative value in connection with an important broad historical pattern: that of attending and teaching a rural school and the social aspects in connection with rural community events.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

After the Thornburgh Battle and the Meeker Massacre in 1879 in northwestern Colorado, several military posts were set up during the relocation of the Ute Tribe to Utah. The "Government Road" ran from Fort Steele and Rawlins, Wyoming to the Indian Agency in Meeker, Colorado. The military established camps at strategic places along the road, to protect the soldiers and provisions that traveled the road. Lieutenant McCalla commanded one of the camps. Some accounts claim that McCalla named his command, Camp Lay, in honor of his sweetheart back home in Chicago. The camp was operational until 1881 when the Utes had been removed from northwest Colorado. McCalla became a colonel, left the area, and married Miss Lay in Chicago.

The creek that ran through the area eventually was named Lay Creek, and when a post office was established there in 1881 by cattle king Ora Haley, the name became permanent. Haley built several log structures near the post making them the headquarters for his expansive cattle operations that ran as many as 40,000 head throughout Routt County (Moffat County was formed in 1911 from the larger Routt County).

Other families moved to the Lay area began homesteading and working the land. In addition to cattle and sheep, these settlers also planted large amounts of wheat, rye, corn, oats and potatoes. The homesteaders did not limit themselves to livestock and grains. They discovered gold and limestone and developed a hot spring that had been used by the Ute Tribe for centuries. They used their creativity to survive. Some became politicians and others astute businessmen and women.

In 1904, A.G. Wallihan platted out the town of Lay on part of his homestead. At its peak, the town of Lay boasted two hotels and nearly 200 residents. The Wallihans remained active in community activities, hosting parties and picnics and documenting them with photographs. In 1910 Wallihan commissioned the construction of the Lay School across the road from his cabin. E.A. Hall completed the construction of the school in 1910 under agreement with Wallihan. Wallihan allowed the community to use the building free of charge through the winter of 1910-1911 and then sold the building and its lot to a newly formed Lay School District #6 in 1911 for $225. The original lot size was 200' x 200'. Local medical doctor and homesteader of land near Lay, Dr. Brazillia Adolphus Arbogast (1847-1929), became the superintendent for the Lay School District.

On Oct. 23, 1918, the town site plat was filed by the Wallihan Townsite and Investment Company, with A.G. Wallihan as president and Louis B. Wakeland as secretary. In 1920, Wallihan reported that the previous year had been a prosperous one for Lay. Andy Cowan built the Pioneer Hotel and a blacksmith shop, the Lay Motor Company built a garage, and several individuals constructed new homes in or near the town. Attendance at the Lay Schoolhouse had risen to twenty students and despite a drought, the ranchers were holding their own. A total of 57,000 acres had been filed on or around Lay under the first Homestead Act (*Craig Empire*, January 21, 1920).

When it became clear that the Moffat Road would never extend past Craig, dreams began to fade in Lay. By 1950, there was still an active community, as second generation ranchers kept the town alive. A weekly contribution to the *Craig Empire Courier* in the 1950s reported parties, 4-H meetings, and other social events held at the school. Edwin Carl Johnson, who served as Colorado's governor between 1933 and 1937 and again from 1955-1957, owned and operated a large ranch in the Lay area and was one of the many area residents who attended the Lay schoolhouse dances. In the years to follow, ranching families moved as their children grew and took up other interests. The original homesteaders were gone and much of the vision went with them.

In 1959, the Moffat County School District consolidated the rural schools into the urban schools. As a result, the Lay School closed its doors to students. In 1961, the Lay Community Association formed for the purpose of purchasing the Lay School from the Moffat County School District at a cost of $1. Within a short time, two

narrow strips of land on the east and north sides of the school lot were sold to principals of the Association, leaving the lot at its present size.

Coal mines were proposed, but not developed. Gold claims proved unprofitable during the 1950s and 1960s. However, between 1953 and 1964 interested emerged in the uranium market with ore mined from numerous open-pit mines on both sides of Highway 40 between the towns of Maybell, Colorado and Lay. The mining companies treated the ore in a local mill. A renewed interest arrived between 1976 and 1981, when the ore was sent to Wyoming for uranium recovery. During the second phase, area miners and others constructed a number of new homes in the town of Lay and surrounding area.

The Lay School building continued in use as a community center until approximately 1984. With the early 1980s energy bust, so too did the uranium mining operations come to a stop. As a result, the town population dwindled to approximately fifty residents. Since 1984, the building has sat empty and unused with no maintenance performed on the building or grounds. Remaining fragments of streets are quiet now, and the few remaining original buildings have a few contemporary homes scattered around them. The Augusta Wallihan Chapter of National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (AWCNSDAR) purchased the building and land in November 2010 for $10 with plans to restore it. The AWCNSDAR received a Colorado State Historical Fund grant for a Historical Structural Assessment, which was completed in the summer of 2012. The owner plans to restore the school building and open it potentially as an interpretive center.

During the nearly fifty years the Lay School District educated the local children, the list of teachers named offers a view of the importance of the school, as many of the teachers were part of homesteading families willing to come to town and teach and forego the chores of farming and ranching.

Allen Grant Wallihan (1859 – 1935) and Mary Augusta Higgins Wallihan (1837 – 1922)

Twenty year old Allen G. Wallihan left his home state of Wisconsin in 1870 to find adventure in Colorado Territory. He did not stay long on his first venture and returned home. After a few years, he realized that he missed the mountains and the open spaces and in 1879 he headed back west, spending time hunting in Husted, Leadville and Colorado Springs before moving on to Lily Park in the early 1880s.

Mary Augusta Higgins Wallihan (who preferred Augusta) was born on February 22, 1837, in the small community of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, a small town that was later combined with two others to form the city of Milwaukee. Her parents came to Wisconsin from Massachusetts where their roots went deep and included Revolutionary War patriots on both sides of the family tree. Augusta's father became one of the first inspectors for the new town and proved to be a committed community leader. Augusta attended Milwaukee's schools with her four siblings.

The family was close-knit, and even after her marriage to Cullen Farnham, Augusta lived with her parents for several years. The family eventually left Wisconsin for the west, spending time in Denver before moving on to Salt Lake City. Both of her parents died there in the early 1880s and her husband dropped from the scene – whether by death or divorce is unknown. Augusta had previously corresponded with Allen G. Wallihan who had found a place in the Lily Park area, about thirty miles northwest of Lay. In 1882, Augusta and her brother Thomas moved to Lily Park where he was looking for land to build a cattle ranch.

Although there was more than twenty years separating Augusta and Allen (A.G.), they soon formed a strong relationship. After being snowed in during the winter of 1884-5, they agreed that the only way to maintain their honor was to get married. They headed to Rawlins, Wyoming and were married on April 11, 1885. After their marriage, they returned to Routt County (the area which is now Moffat County) and settled into a log home in

Lay. They opened their home as a road house until 1915 and also served as postmasters for Lay. Additionally, they maintained a weather station and kept records for years.

The Wallihans were not typical homesteaders. A.G. did not like farming and kept only one milk cow and Augusta's laying hens. He preferred to hire others to harvest the hay from his land rather than take the time and energy to do it himself. He was more interested in hunting and viewing the abundant wildlife of their home area. Early in their relationship, A.G. and Thomas encouraged Augusta to learn to shoot both for her safety and to help bring in food. As a young girl she had enjoyed watching her father – an avid and accomplished hunter – mold his bullets. She quickly developed a steady eye and often out-hunted her husband. A well-known story about her relates one hunting outing when she became so engrossed with the ants eating the crumbs from her lunch that she didn't notice a herd of deer until they were only a few feet from them. When she looked up, she watched them for some time before remembering the purpose of her outing. She recovered enough to drop one of the deer and later told A.G. that if she had had a camera, she would have taken a great photo.

About a year later, Augusta bartered a pair of beaded deerskin gloves she had made for a camera from some missionary visitors to their home. She and A.G. practiced shooting photos and developing the glass plates together. Within a few years he had become a well-known wildlife photographer and they were able to share their photos with people around the world.

Wallihan took great pride in his hunting skills, but he soon learned that a short distance for a rifle shot was a very long one for a good photograph. "I had to exercise all my skill to get closer and closer to them until I learned that a deer cannot tell you from a stump or rock. He will see the slightest motion, or hear the smallest noise very quickly and if the wind happens to blow to him from you he stampedes with all his might when he gets scent of you" (*Outdoor Life Magazine*, Vol. 7 #1, 1900).

By 1894, Wallihan had taken enough good photographs to publish his first book. United States Civil Service Commissioner Theodore Roosevelt wrote an introduction to the unique book. Roosevelt also wrote the introduction to the jointly authored book by both Wallihans in 1901. In 1901 as Vice-President of the United States, only weeks before he would succeed President McKinley on September 6 of that year, Roosevelt wrote in part, "The art and practice of photographing wild animals in their native haunts has made great progress in recent years. It is itself a branch of sport, and hunting with the camera has many points of superiority when compared to hunting with the rifle. But, even under favorable conditions, very few men have the skill, the patience, the woodcraft and plainscraft which enabled Mr. Wallihan to accomplish so much" (Wallihan, Allen Grant and Mary Augusta Higgins, *Hoofs, Claws and Antlers of the Rocky Mountains: By the Camera; Photographic Reproductions of Wild Game from Life*, 1901).

In 1900 the Wallihan couple was invited to display their photographs at the Paris World Exposition. They opened the American West and northwest Colorado to countless people who enjoyed the bounty vicariously. They also exhibited their photographs at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Even as a successful huntress, Augusta maintained the air of a lady, keeping her hair in sausage curls and wearing beautiful dresses for everyday life. She was as comfortable in elegant hotels and ballrooms – and even the White House – in America and Europe as she was in the sagebrush of northwest Colorado.

A. G. gained world renown for his wildlife photography and he and his wife, Augusta, were outspoken proponents of wildlife conservation. They were aware of the need for game management and were frequent contributors to national sportsman's magazines and local newspapers impressing on people around the county the damage that was being done to the herds of deer and elk by overhunting for the commercial market.

> I presume you are wondering how the deer are in Routt County by this time. I can tell you they are being hunted more than ever, and thousands are being slaughtered. I have been told that four large wagons have been loaded to go to Snake River, each wagon being drawn by four horses. This only gives an idea of what is going on. When men having plenty of cattle turn out to kill four-horse wagon loads of deer to take out to f the country it is time to call a halt. We have but a few years left of deer-hunting in Colorado – that is very evident (*Outdoor Life Magazine*, Vol. 7 #1, 1900).

Augusta Wallihan suffered a stroke in 1922 and died at her home a few months later. She was buried on a knoll overlooking her land and the open spaces she loved. She had out-lived all but one nephew in her family. A.G. stayed on at Lay and remarried briefly before his death in 1935. He was buried next to Augusta and today the graves remain as reminders of some of Moffat County's earliest settlers who had a world-wide view of life.

After the Wallihans died, Elmer and Anna Maudlin purchased the Wallihan homestead. In 1951, Anna applied for and was appointed the acting postmistress. The same year the Mauldins sold the property to L.S. Wyman and R.H. Pitchford; however, they reserved a 20'x20' plot of land that contains the graves of A.G. and Augusta Wallihan. In 1995, Anna Maudlin donated the gravesite land to the Museum of Northwestern Colorado. The site offers a wide view of the valley on all sides and makes it clear why so many people found the area such a promising place to call home.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Babcock, Harold R. *History of the Rural Schools of Moffat County, Colorado.* Earth Design Systems, Colorado Springs, CO, 1990.

Craig Empire, January 21, 1920

Craig Empire Courier , various during the 1950s

Doggett, Suzanne and Holly Wilson. *Rural School Buildings in Colorado, Multiple Property Documentation Form.* On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado.

Koucherik, Shannan (Sparkman) Biographical excerpts taken from articles commissioned by the Museum of Northwest Colorado 1998-2008.

Moffat County Courier, May 4, 1911

Moffat County Courier, August 12, 1911

Outdoor Life Magazine, Vol. 7 #1, 1900

Routt County Courier, October 13, 1910

Smith, Ruth. E-mail correspondence to Shannan Koucherick regarding history – email 7/10/11.

Wallihan, Allen Grant. Papers 1932. Manuscript collection at the Denver Public Library, Western History Collection, Denver, Colorado.

Wallihan, Allen Grant. *Big Game Photographs Taken From Live Wild Game in the Rocky Mountains,* 1890.

Wallihan, Allen Grant. *Hoofs, Claws and Antlers of the Rocky Mountains: By the Camera; Photographic Reproductions of Wild Game from Life*, 1901.

Wallihan, Allen Grant and Mary Augusta Higgins Wallihan. *Hoofs, Claws and Antlers of the Rocky Mountains: By the Camera; Photographic Reproductions of Wild Game from Life*, 1901.

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:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
_X_ Other

Name of repository: **History Colorado; Northwestern Museum, Craig, Colorado**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5MF.7384

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

The UTMS were derived by OAHP from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U. S. Bureau of Land Management.

UTM References (NAD 27)
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	13	255 949	4490 075
2			
3			
4			

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

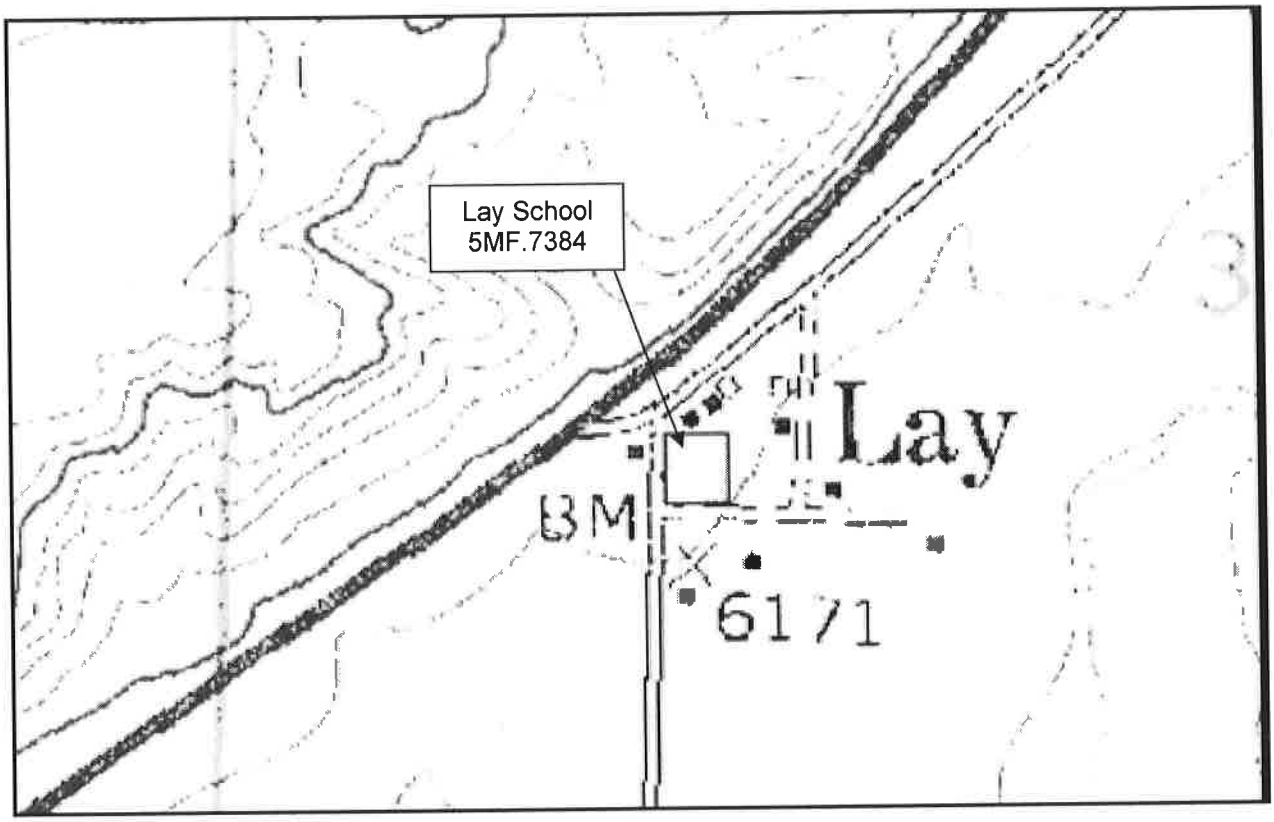
Beginning at a point 855 feet South of Corner No. 4 of Lot 12, Section 30, Township 7 North, Range 93 West of the 6th PM. Lot 12 being the description of the Homestead of A.G. Wallihan under the resurvey of 1904;
thence East 200 feet
thence North 200 feet
thence West 200 feet
thence South 200 feet to the Place of Beginning.
Less Tracts previously conveyed and identified in Book 295, Page 352 and Book 388, Page 149 of the Moffat County, Colorado records. This is commonly known as 7 Eddy Avenue, Lay, Moffat County, Colorado.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundaries are those historically associated with the school, with the exception of approximately one-quarter of an acre comprised of two narrow strips on the very north and very east of the property that were deeded to other owners in circa 1961.

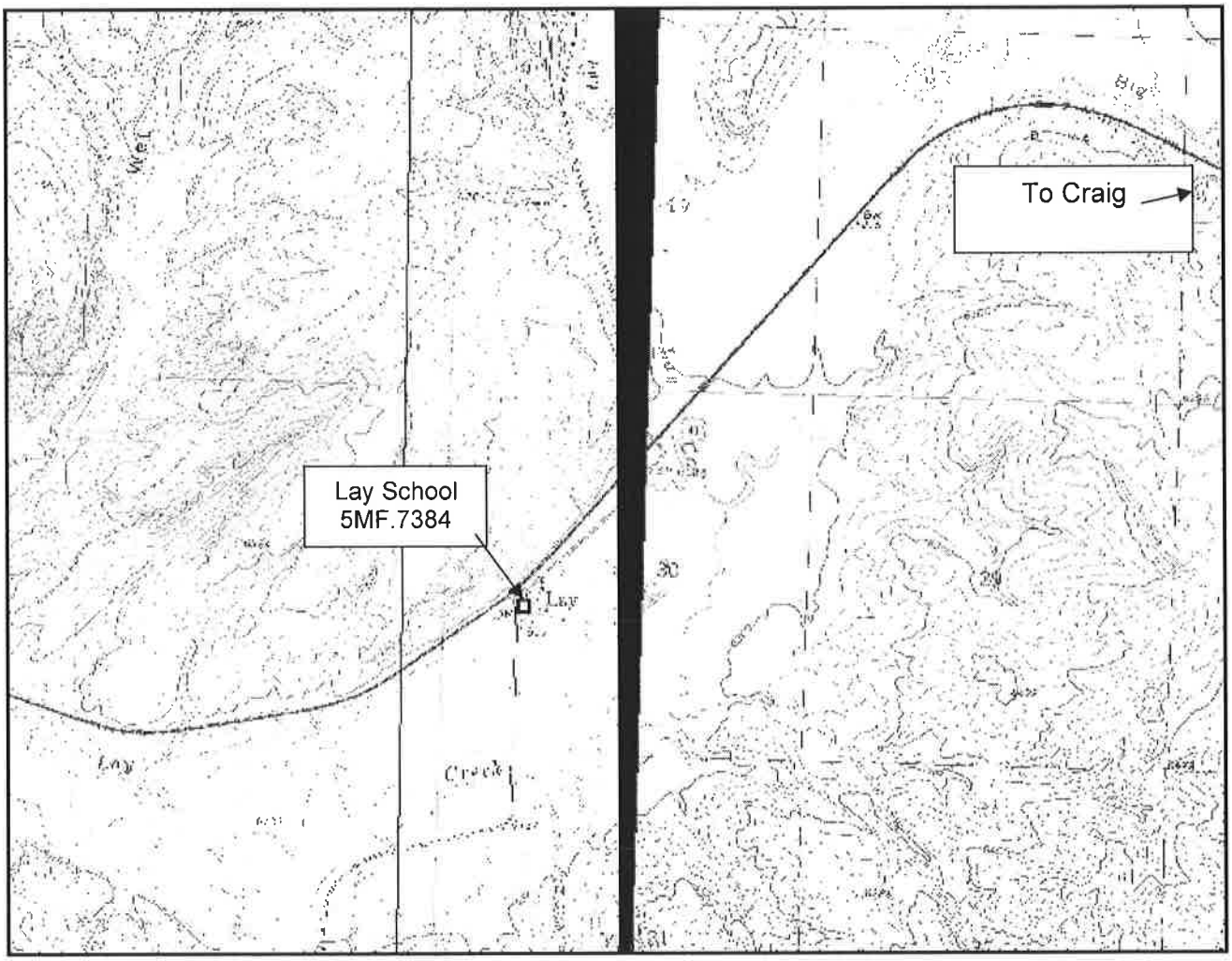
Lay School Rural School Buildings in Colorado MPS Moffat, Colorado
Name of Property County and State

USGS section – close up of area
Lay Quadrangle
7.5 minute series

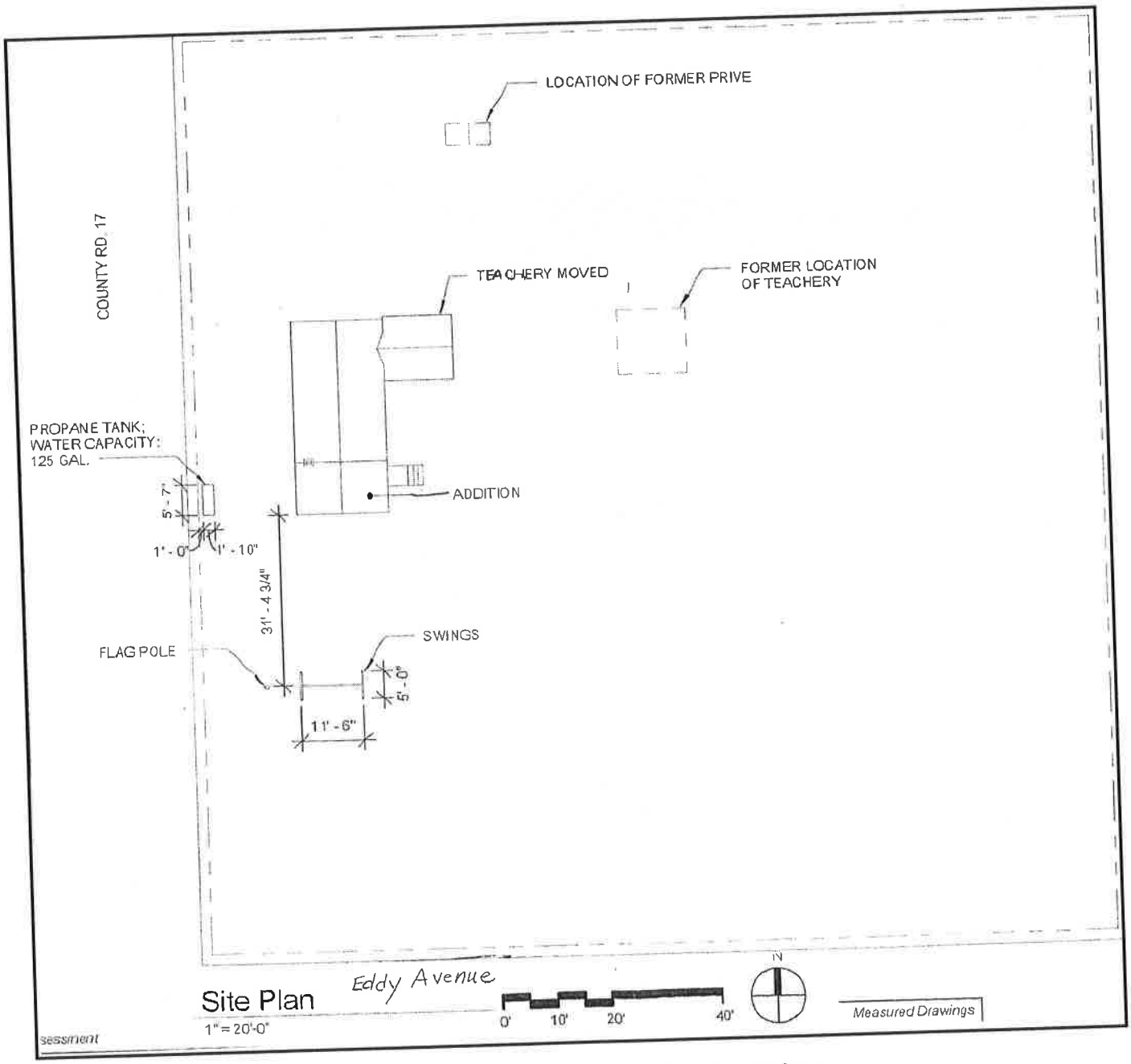
PLSS 6th PM, T7N, R93W, Section 30, SE NE NW SW
Elevation: 6170'



USGS section – regional view of area
Lay Quadrangle
7.5 minute series



Site Plan



Dashed line denotes nomination boundary.
Site Plan from Historic Structure Assessment, by Humphries Poli Architects, 2012.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shannan Koucherik, Regent
organization Augusta Wallihan Chapter NSDAR date March 27, 2012
street & number 1202 Rose telephone
city or town Craig state CO 81625
e-mail honeyrockdogs@msn.com

Photographs:

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1- 5 except as noted:

Name of Property: Lay School
Location: Lay, CO
Photographer: Edward Koucherik
Photo #5 - Shannan Koucherik
Date of Photographs: 10 May 2010
Photo #5 - 23 March 2011
Negatives: Digital

Photo No.	Photographic Information
1	East (main) façade -teacherage addition on right, added entry on left (coatroom) with door, camera facing west
2	Lay School, north-facing side (teacherage on the left), camera facing south
3	Lay School, west-facing side (coatroom addition at south end), camera facing southeast
4	Lay School, south coatroom addition, camera facing northeast
5	Lay School, aerial view from 200' w/ telephoto lens. Southern addition in foreground

HISTORIC IMAGE LOG

Image No.	Image Information
Figure 1:	Lay Colorado, 1891. Augusta Wallihan is in the middle, and the woman is possibly Augusta's niece, Ada Higgins. The man on the right is unknown. Photograph taken by Allen Grant Wallihan. Photograph courtesy of Museum of Northwest, Craig, Colorado.
Figure 2:	Augusta's sister, Augusta and A.G. Wallihan are shown in front of the Lay Post Office, date unknown.
Figure 3:	Lay Colorado, between 1911-1920. Courtesy Denver Public Library Western History Collection #MCC-2552, photo by Louis Charles McClure
Figure 4:	Allen Grant Wallihan in front of the Lay Post Office and gas station. Courtesy History Colorado, Stephen H. Hart Library Collection, No. CHS.X7625, between circa 1920 and 1935.
Figure 5:	Lay School from Harold R. Babcock's *History of the Rural Schools of Moffat County, Colorado,* p. 106. Photo taken circa 1980.

HISTORIC IMAGES

Figure 1: Augusta's sister, Augusta and A.G. Wallihan are shown in front of the Lay Colorado Post Office, date unknown

Figure 2: Lay Colorado, 1891. Augusta Wallihan is in the middle, and the woman is possibly Augusta's niece, Ada Higgins. The man on the right is unknown. Photograph taken by Allen Grant Wallihan. Photograph courtesy of Museum of Northwest, Craig, Colorado.

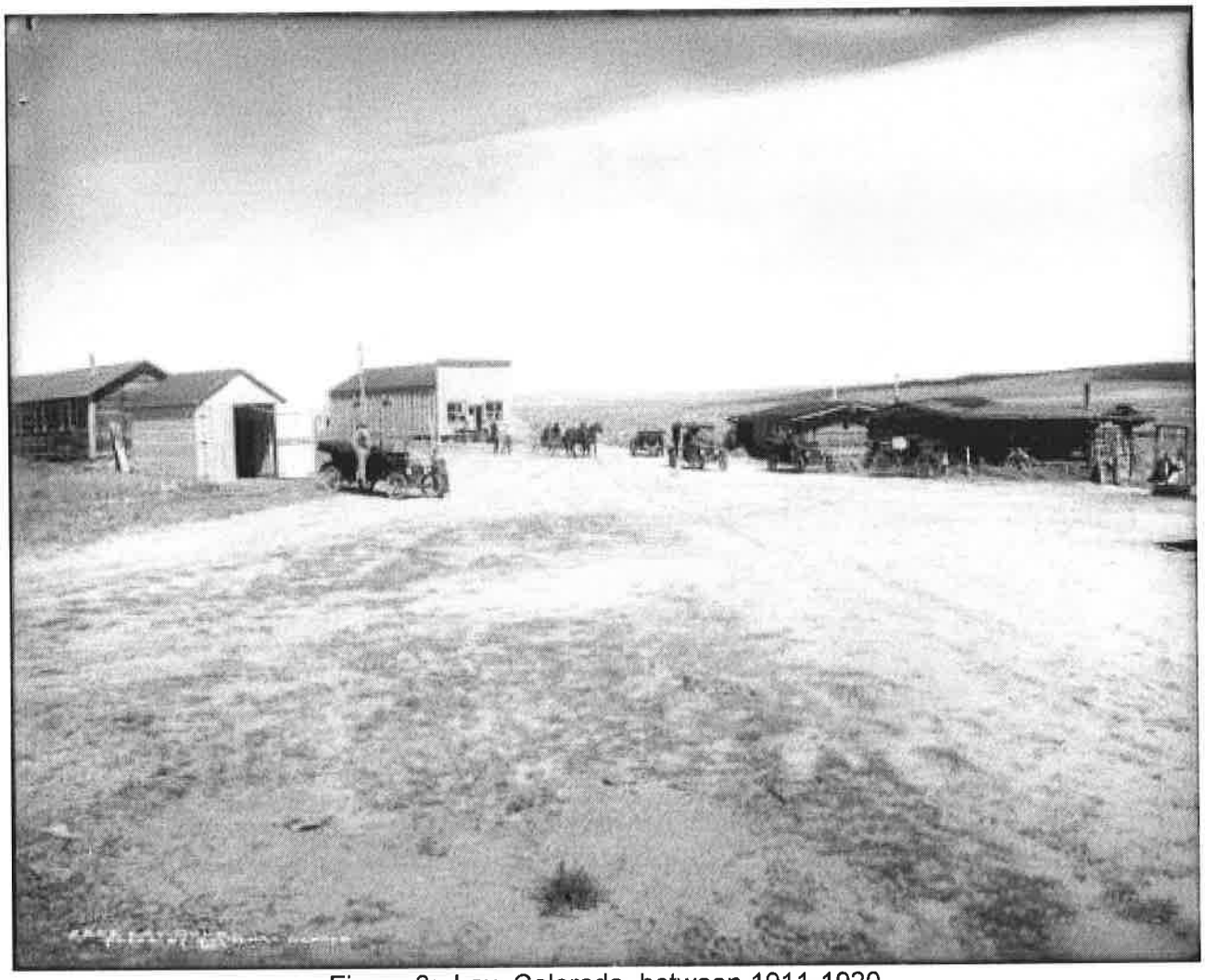


Figure 3: Lay, Colorado, between 1911-1920.
Courtesy Denver Public Library Western History Collection
#MCC-2552, photo by Louis Charles McClure

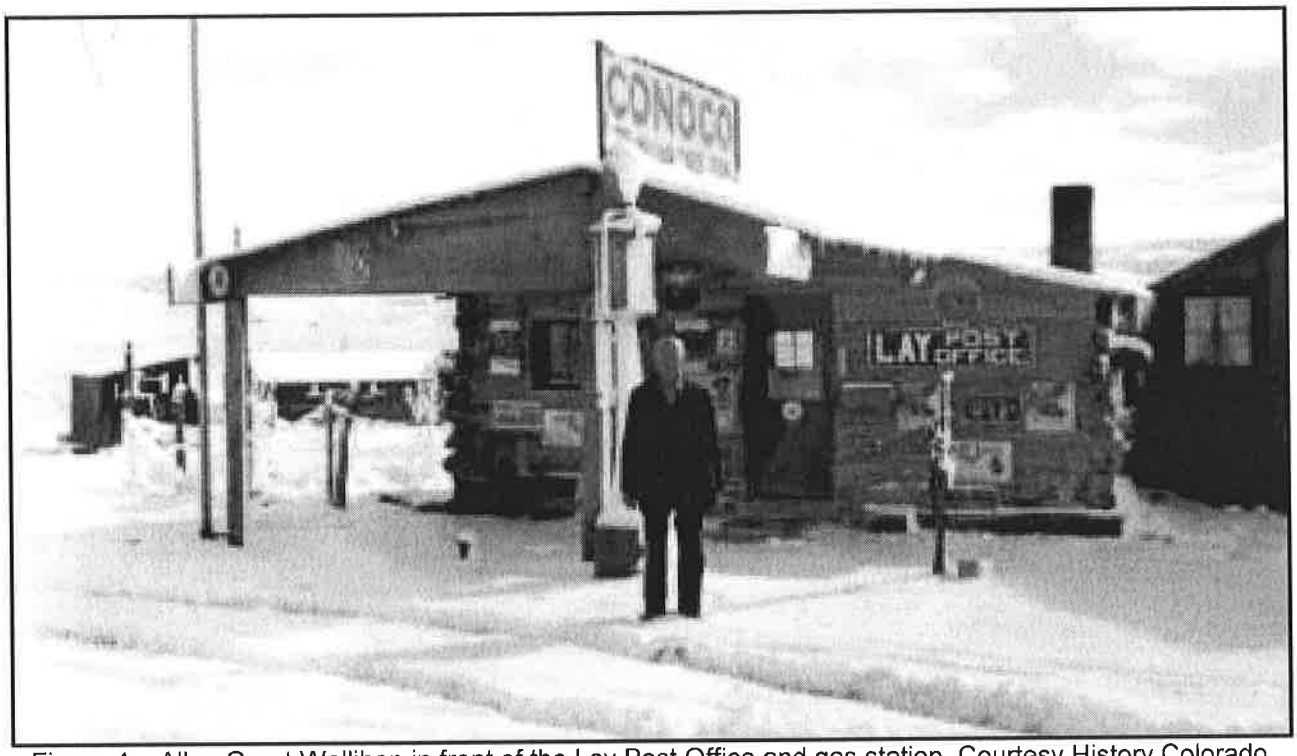


Figure 4: Allen Grant Wallihan in front of the Lay Post Office and gas station. Courtesy History Colorado, Stephen H. Hart Library Collection, No. CHS.X7625, between circa 1920 and 1935.

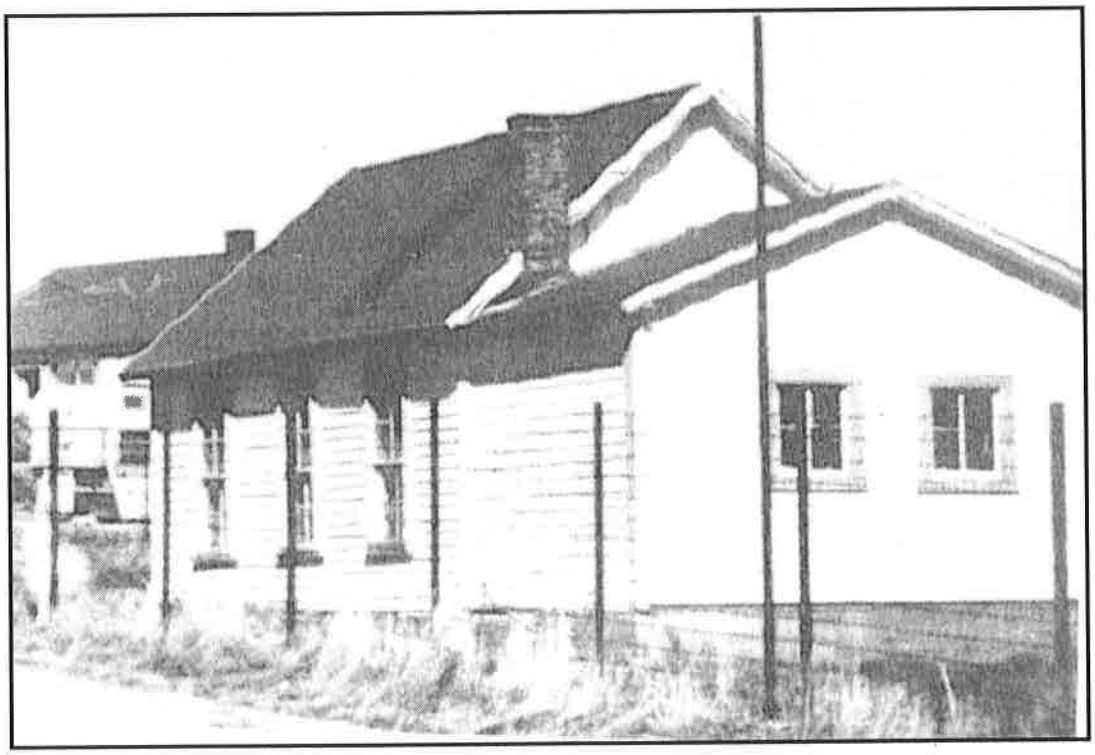
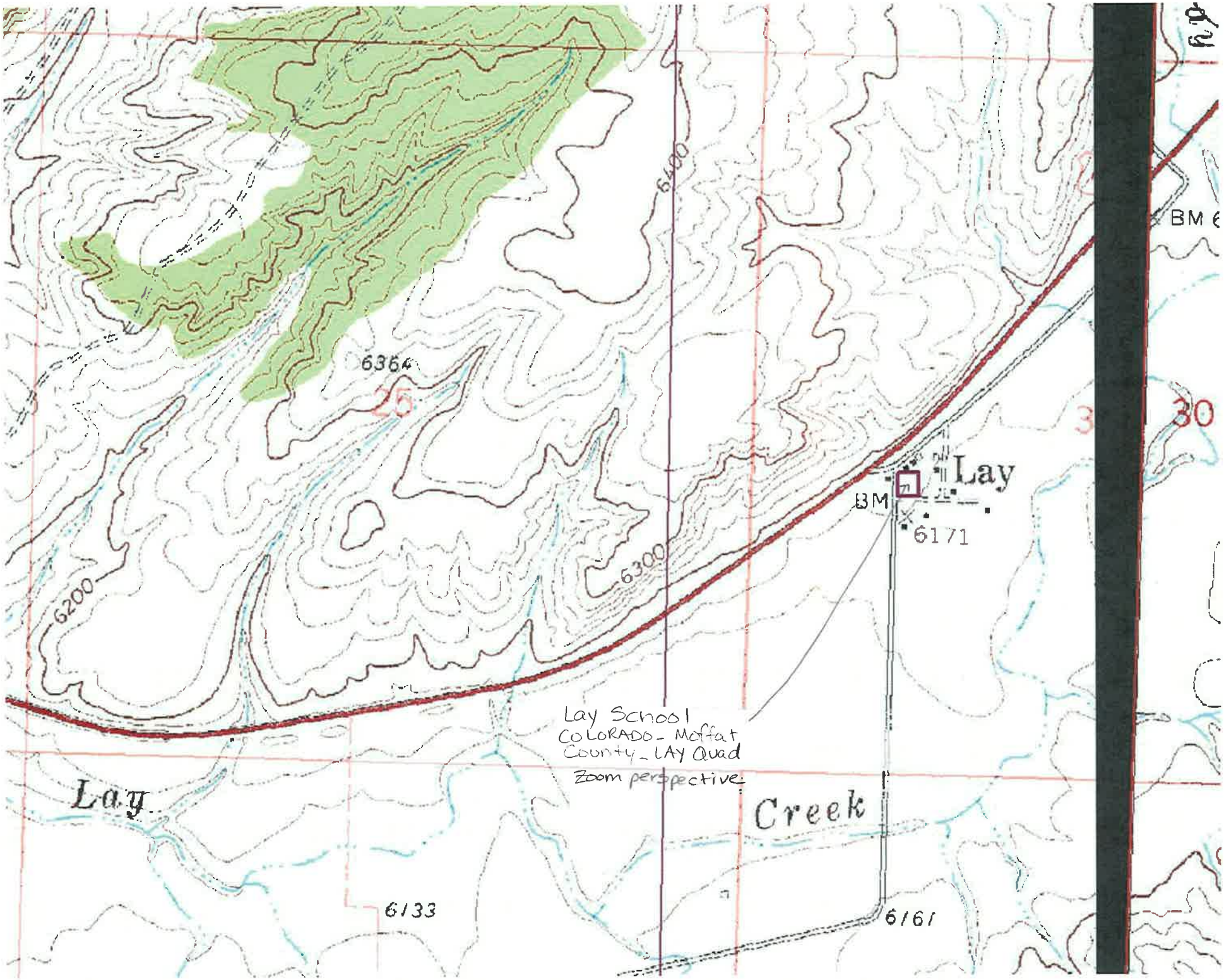
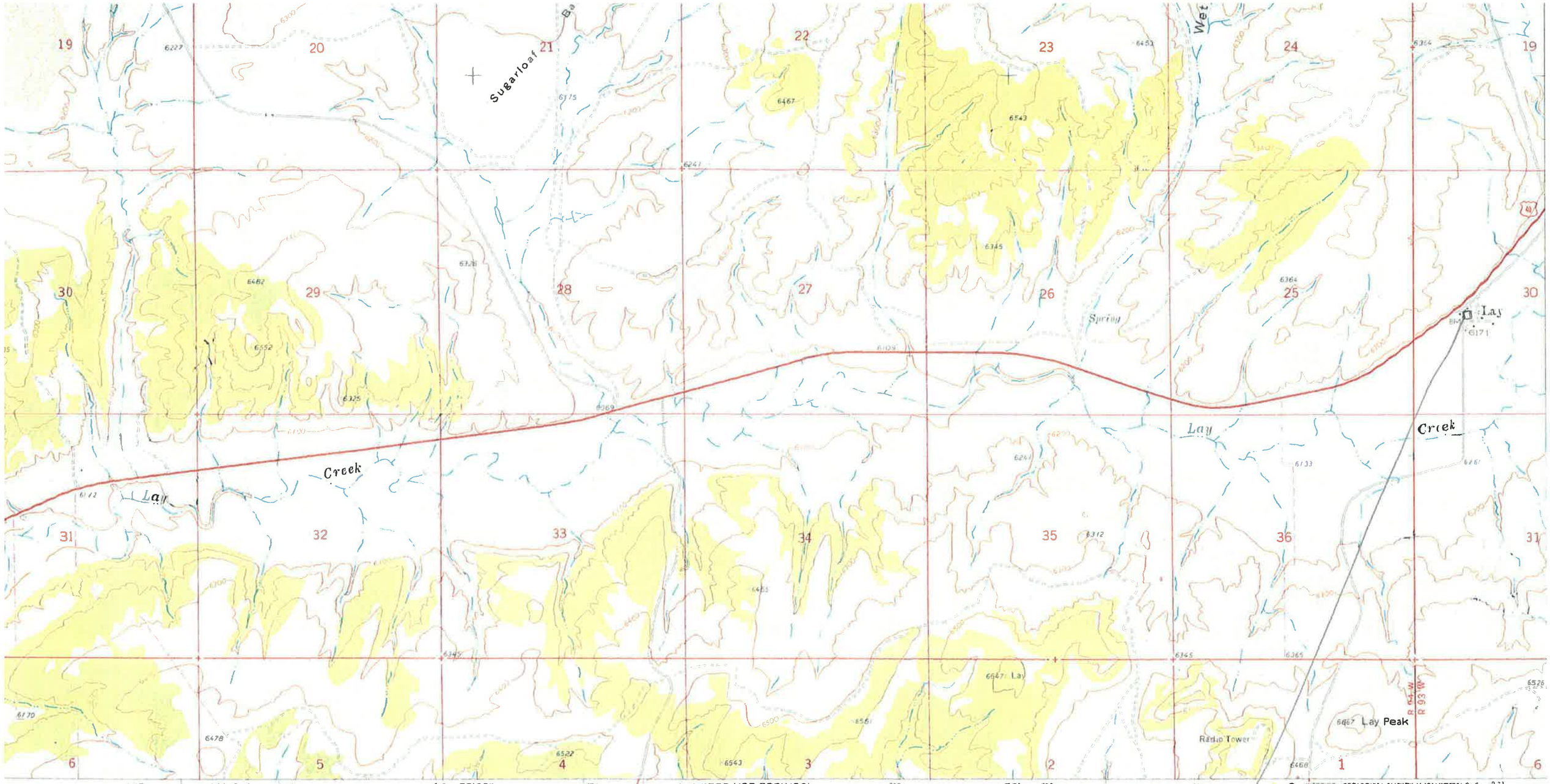


Figure 5: Lay School from Harold R. Babcock's *History of the Rural Schools of Moffat County, Colorado,* p. 106, camera facing northeast. Photo owned by Museum of Northwest Colorado, Craig, Colorado. Photo taken circa 1980.


6400
6364
26
6300
6200
Lay
BM
6171
30
BM 6
Lay School
COLORADO - Moffat
County - LAY Quad
Zoom perspective
Lay
Creek
6133
6161



lited, and published by the Geological Survey

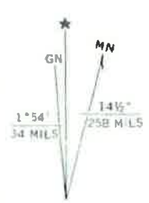
GS and USC&GS

y photogrammetric methods from aerial taken 1968. Field checked 1969

jection. 1927 North American datum grid based on Colorado coordinate system,

Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, wn in blue

ed lines indicate selected fence lines



UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000

1 ½ 0 1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface

Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface

Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

U. S. Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

COLORADO—
MOFFAT COUNTY
LAY SCHOOL
UTM:
Zone 13; 255 949 mE
4490 075 m N

LAY, COLO.
N4030—W10752.5/7.5

1969

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
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