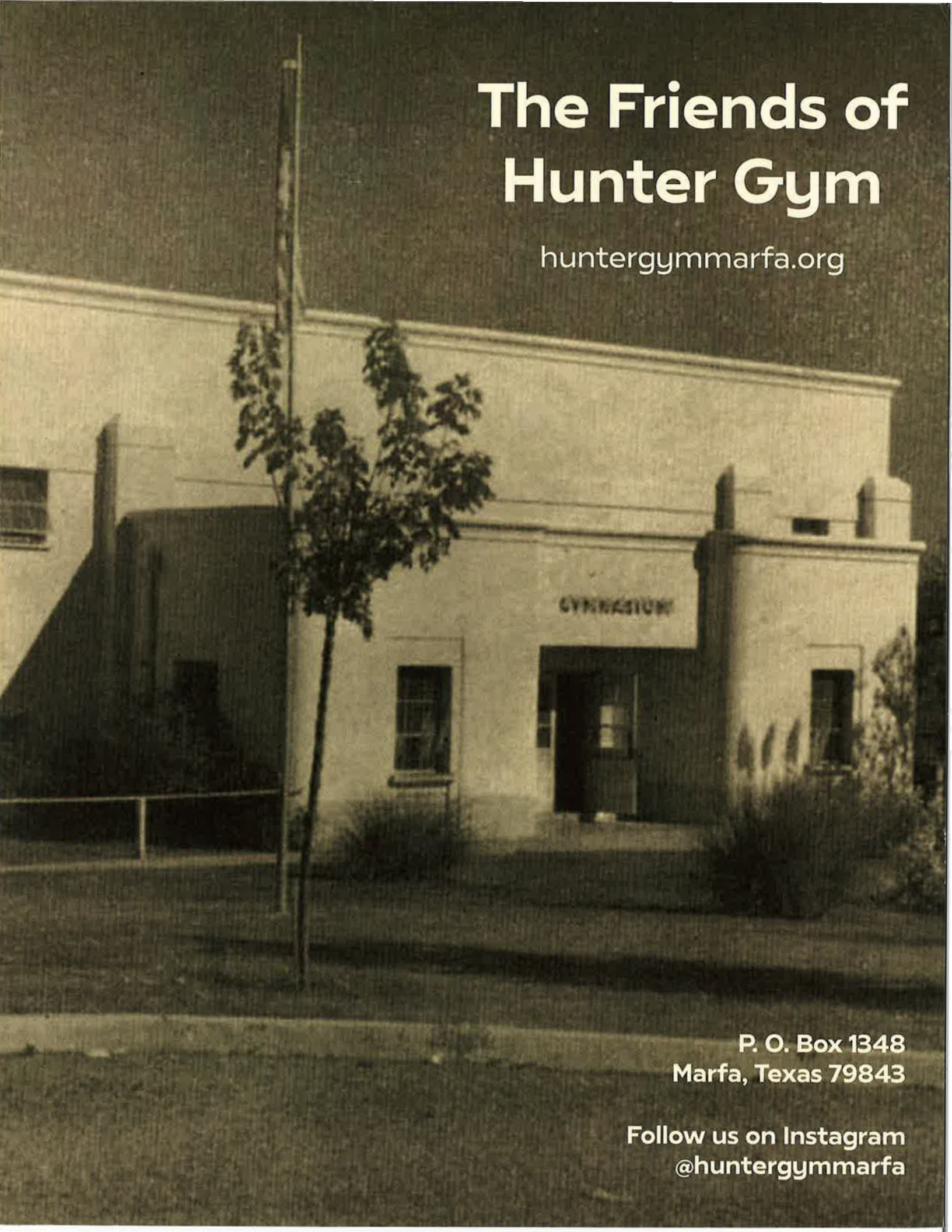
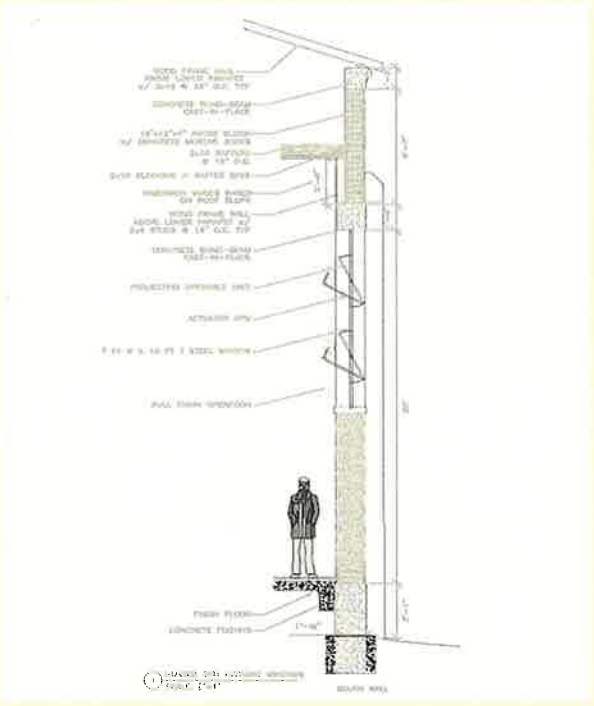


The Friends of Hunter Gym

huntergymmarfa.org

P. O. Box 1348
Marfa, Texas 79843

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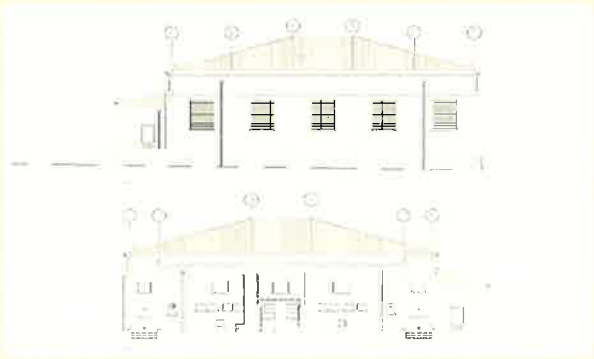


South Wall Section

The Friends of Hunter Gym, Inc., is a Marfa based, community led non-profit organization that exists to preserve and protect the historic Hunter Gym.

This coalition of individuals share community input, professional expertise, governmental and community resources and individual foundations to restore Hunter Gym to its original configuration.

We collaborate in hope to preserve a special piece of Marfa's history to benefit the community and generations to come.



Existing North and South Elevation



1942 Shorthorn Marching Band

The genesis of Friends of Hunter Gym was a letter to the editor of the Big Bend Sentinel suggesting that the gym be demolished when the school district was looking for a site to construct another school building.

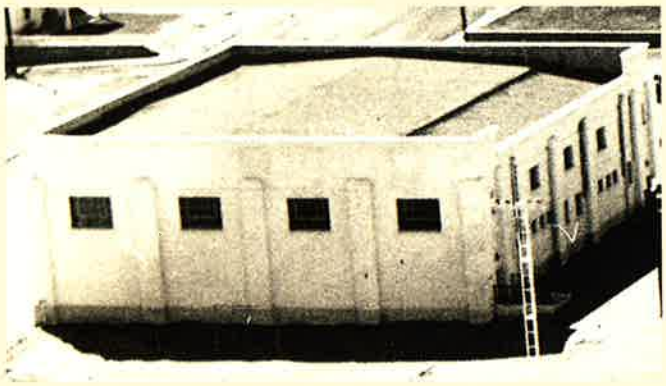
Alarmed at the possibility of losing a beautiful, art-moderne, West Texas vernacular structure constructed with adobe by local craftspeople, two citizens approached the then Superintendent and obtained her commitment to work with the school and community leaders to preserve the gym.

Hunter Gym had recently ceased use as a site for athletic competitions and or other school based activities in 2010, and became a storage space. Moisture from a combination of improper gym floor underlayment, bricked-in windows, lack of rainwater control and the loading of soil againist a perimeter wall caused moisture to rise into the adobe, up to 20 feet, resulting in massive interior plaster failures and a buckled floor.

The Historic Structure Report (April 2011) established the feasibility of restoring the building and the effort led to two signifigant outcomes. First, the designation of Hunter Gym as a recorded Texas Historic Landmark and second, the discovery of the enormously rich history the gym holds not only in the lives of Marfa ISD students and athletes, but in the lives of the entire community.

Over the last 80-plus years, the gym has played a role in the integration of Hispanic and white students during a time of racial segregation. No longer in use, the gym fell further into neglect and moisture accumulation. While work was done to remove the soil from the perimeter wall, no further efforts have been made to mitigate the damage or its causes.

Given the building's cultural and architectural signifigance in addition to its location 1.5 blocks from the 1887 Presidio County Courthouse and adjacent to the recently designated Marfa Historical District, we believe the only way to save the structure for current and future generations is through community effort.

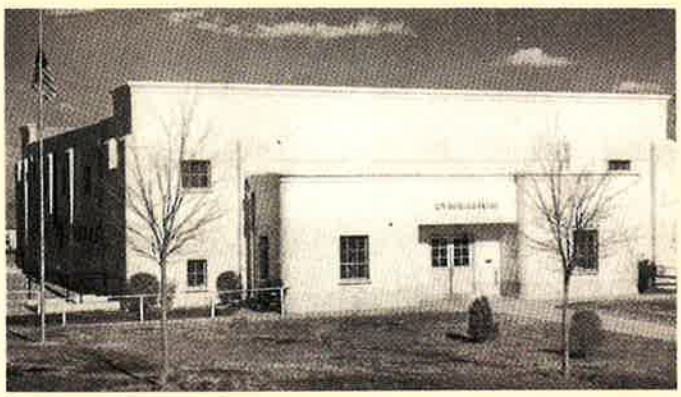


Aerial from the East 1943

We are at a critical phase in the life of the non-profit and the future of perhaps the most signifigant un-restored structure in Marfa. Volunteers have devoted hundreds of hours to this effort and we seek community leaders to help sustain the important work.

The Friends of Hunter Gym (FOHG) endeavors to raise 2 million and restore and preserve the endangered but historically signifigant Hunter Gym in Marfa, Texas so the facility can resume its central role in the lives of students and the entire community.

Built in 1941 by the Works Progress Administration, and a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, Hunter Gym is the only known such facility built of adobe in Texas and perhaps the United States.



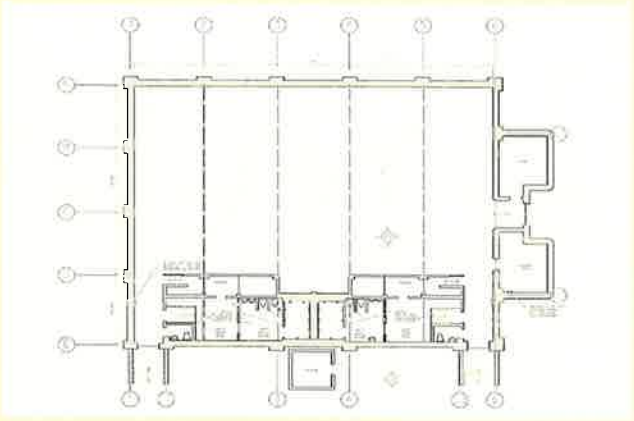
Historic Photo, Original Condition 1941



Current Condition



Current View from the South



Existing Floor Plan

Our commitment to our mission continues and we are confident in the outlook for future funding, but are in need of funds to sustain the effort. Your contribution will allow us to establish the necessary systems and capacity to maintain the non-profit while we seek foundation and community funding.

Once restored, Hunter Gym will be a signifigant addition to Marfa's Historic District and the anticipatedTexas Adobe Trail, bringing heritage minded visitors to our community. Hunter Gym holds countless memories for generations of Marfans and could once again be the site for school proms, science fairs, student art exhibits, showcase athletic competions such as volleyball and basketball, as well as a spectacular site for forums, performances, and other community events. Our overarching goal is to return the restored gym to future generations of Shorthorns and the greater Marfa Community, hence the reason why we have the undivided support of the MISD school board and district leaders.

There are many important causes in our community, nation and the world, but we encourage you to become a founding investor in an endeavor that will preserve an important part of Marfa's heritage that will attract hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant and other funds, employ numerous local professionals and craftspeople and yield signifigant returns for generations to come.

Please consider making a generous contribution to this important initiative for our community.

Your contribution to Friends of Hunter Gym, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 corporation, is tax deductable as allowed by law according to individual taxpayer circumstances.

Contributions should be made payable to:
Friends of Hunter Gym
PO Box 1348
Marfa, Texas 79843

huntergymmarfa@gmail.com