

The WPA in Union County

The Great Depression of the 1930s sent Union County into economic despair. When coupled with the Dust Bowl, the product was unimaginable living conditions.

The WPA (Works Progress Administration), created in 1935, provided jobs for unemployed men and women during the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. The WPA was part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" project. The WPA built roads, bridges, schools, and a number of other types of projects.



WPA marker in Sidewalk:
Clayton, NM

WPA Buildings



Built in 1939 a New Deal and WPA building, this was formerly the public library, club house, and meeting hall: Clayton, NM.



Amistad Gymnasium 1937

Like many buildings created under the WPA, both of these buildings were created in the style of Pueblo Revival architecture

Preservation



A number of preservation efforts have been made. Both the Amistad Gymnasium and the Clayton High School District are on the National Register of Historic Places. Preservation efforts of those like Victoria Baker at the Herzstein Museum, Clayton, NM (has the largest WPA exhibit in New Mexico), and Barbara Copeland of Little House on the Prairie Museum (Amistad, NM), have aided in preserving the buildings for the community.



For More Information on the
WPA Historic Places please
visit:

**The Herzstein Memorial
Museum**

22 S 2nd St, Clayton NM
(575) 374 – 2977

Website:
www.herzsteinmuseum.com

**The Little House on the Prairie
Museum**

Amistad, NM

Tours: By Appointment Only

Phone Numbers:

(575)-633-2246
(575)-633-2251
(575)-633-2273

Brochure designed by: Amanda Weber & Puja Jana, OKSTATE. Student fieldwork has been funded by a National Science Foundation (NSF) research grant (#CMMI-1266381, Vadjunec, Phillips, & Fagin). Any opinions, findings, & conclusions or recommendations are those of the authors and do not reflect the views of the NSF.



Amistad Gymnasium



Little House on the Prairie Museum



Clayton Gymnasium

***Works Progress
Administration:
Must See Historic
Places***



Clayton and Amistad:
Union County, New Mexico