Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

# 1 NAME

HISTORIC

U.S. Indian Industrial School, Genoa, Nebraska

AND/OR COMMON

Genoa Indian School Historic Buildings (NC03-1)

# 2 LOCATION

		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN		CONGRESSIONAL D	ISTRICT
Genoa	XX VICINITY OF	Third	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Nebraska	31	Nance	125

# **3** CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		XAGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
_XBUILDING(S)		UNOCCUPIED	X.COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

## **4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

See continuation sheet, Item 4 STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

# **5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Nance County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Fullerton state Nebraska

# **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	СНЕСК С	DNE
EXCELLENT GOOD XFAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	UNALTERED ALTERED	<u>X</u> ORIGINAL MOVED	SITE DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Founded in 1884, the U.S. Indian Industrial School was located on 320 acres directly east of the town of Genoa, Nebraska. The buildings of the school were clustered on the western part of the property immediately adjacent to the eastern city limits. Opening with only one building, the school grew to include thirty-nine structures and a maximum student population of 600 children. (see photo #12).

The school was closed in 1933 and today only a few of the many buildings are extant. Most of the land is used for farming; however, the town has expanded into the campus area. The farm and industrial buildings, which could be adapted for private owners, remain while the largest buildings--dormitories, dining hall, and academic buildings-have been razed. The area where these large buildings stood has been incorporated into the town of Genoa and is now a small residential neighborhood. The farm buildings are used in a private agricultural operation but not specifically for their original function in all cases. The Shop Building has been adapted for use as a lumber warehouse.

With the removal of the majority of the school structures, the ambience of the entire Indian School has been lost. However, the farm and industrial elements of the school and the atmosphere thereof are preserved in this group of buildings. The majority of the nominated buildings are grouped together and remain in a basically agricultural setting. The land to the north of the buildings is open land; although it is used for livestock and is not a corn field as the Indian School used it, the ambience remains. Small sheds and fences also preserve the farm setting.

## 1. Shop Building, 1907

Originally housing the blacksmithing, carpentry, tailoring and harness-making shops, the Shop Building is a well-built two-story brick structure with metal-shingled roof, measuring 34 x 90 feet (see photo #1). The eastern half of the building is a 1911 addition needed for more floor space for the shops. The original building is symmetrical in plan with double end chimneys. The door is centered on the south facade and flanked by wagon doors. The window and door sills are stone. The addition had two chimneys on the gable end, creating a total of six. The original red brick has been painted or stained a cream color on the south, east and west exterior sides.

The floor plan of the original building was entirely open on each floor and the stairway probably was outside on the east wall. The addition enclosed the stairway and created one more room per floor. At the time the addition was constructed, the east windows were filled

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	XARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	XEDUCATION	MILITARY	$\underline{X}$ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	XART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899 X_1900-	COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	philosophy $\underline{X}_{POLITICS/GOVERNMENT}$	TRANSPORTATION XOTHER (SPECIFY) Ethnic

#### SPECIFIC DATES

#### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The U.S. Indian Industrial School at Genoa, Nebraska (1884-1933) was one of 25 bonded, non-reservation boarding schools of the Bureau of Indian Affairs charged with giving academic and vocational training to Indian children. It was one of the first non-reservation schools, and the only one in Nebraska, and one of eight which gave instruction for grades one through twelve. At its height the school instructed 599 pupils ages 6 through 22 from 19 different tribes and reservations.

The philosophy of the non-reservation boarding schools, which was perpetuated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs through the late 19th and early 20th centuries, was to remove the Indian child from his cultural group and make him live according to the value system of white society. Hopefully the child would then adopt that culture for the rest of his life. Considered at the time to be the best solution for the Indian "problem," the aim was to destroy tribal and communal aspects of Indian life. The first non-reservation boarding school was established in 1878 by Lt. R. H. Pratt who strongly promoted this philosophy.

A treaty was signed in 1857 with the Pawnee limiting their lands They chose what is now Nance County as their reservation. in Nebraska. The Mormons who had founded Genoa were forced to move and the Pawnee were located there in 1859-1860 with the Indian agency established at Genoa. Various buildings were erected by the federal government for the agency including a substantial brick schoolbuilding, the Pawnee House, in 1864. Due to the continued pressure of white settlement in Nebraska, the Pawnee were forced to move to Oklahoma in 1874 and Nance County was opened to white settlement. All the agency buildings were sold to settlers except the Pawnee House. In 1882 the Bureau of Indian Affairs was seeking to establish a school in the Great Plains. The site near Genoa was chosen because the Pawnee House could be adapted for school use and the building plus the 160 acres on which it stood was already owned by the federal government. An adjacent 160 acres was purchased so a school farm could be established. After the Pawnee House was repaired and new additions and outbuildings constructed, the school was opened in the fall of 1884 with Col. Samuel F. Tappan, an Army officer, as superintendent.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet, Item 9

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA		606-590	the way with your
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION		······································	

Beginning at the northwest corner of northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 13, Township 17 North, Range 4 West, following south 1175 feet, turning east 1075 feet, turning south 100 feet, turning east 275 feet to eastern boundary of Section 13, following north to northern boundary of Section 13, following west to point of beginning.

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
FORM PREPARE	ED BY			
NAME / TITLE				
Penelope Chatfield	<u>Curator of Histori</u>	c Sites		
ORGANIZATION			DATE	
Nebraska State His	torical Society		March 1977	
STREET & NUMBER				
1500 R Street			(402) 432-2793 STATE	
			Nebraska	
Lincoln				
STATE HISTOR	IC PRESERVATIO	N OFFICER C	ERTIFICATION	
THE EV	ALUATED SIGNIFICANCE O	F THIS PROPERTY WIT	THIN THE STATE IS:	
NATIONAL $\underline{X}$	- STA	.TE	LOCAL	
s the designated State Histor	ric Preservation Officer for the	National Historic Prese	rvation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665),	
ereby nominate this property	y for inclusion in the National	Register and certify th	at it has been evaluated according to the	
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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATIO	N OFFICER SIGNATURE	in O Kult		
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATIO	NOFFICERSIGNATURE MAYA		DATE Mar. 28, 1977	
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATIO TITLE Director, Ne NPS USE ONLY	braska State Histori	cal Society	DATE <u>Мак. 28, 1977</u> EGISTER	
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATIO TITLE Director, Ne NPS USE ONLY	,	cal Society		
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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET Owner of Property/TEM NUMBER 4 PAGE

Owners:

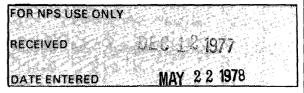
Shop Building, Site #1 (NC03-1:1) Sack Lumber Company Crete, Nebraska 68333

Sites #2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 (NC03-1:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9)
Dr. N. W. Kruse and Son
Genoa, Nebraska 68640

Employee's Cottage, Site #8 (NCO3-1:8) Norma Jean Cahill 203 North Cottonwood Genoa, Nebraska 68640

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Genoa Indian School



CONTINUATION SHEET Owner of Property ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

Amended November 1977 Owners: NCO3-1:B Mr & Mrs. Robert B. Carnahan Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:C Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Cahill Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:D Mr. & Mrs. Tommy D. Strain Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:E Mr. & Mrs. Louis R. Baue Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:F Mr. & Mrs. Earl E. Cummings Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:G Mr. & Mrs. Jack A. Elm Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:H Mr. & Mrs. James R. Moseley Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:I Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Childers Genoa, Nebr. 68460 NC03-1:J Mr. & Mrs. Leo C. Koziol Genoa, Nebr. 68460

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

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with brick and a large opening cut in the east wall on first floor for access to the addition. The interior walls are exposed brick and the ceiling is tongue-in-groove panelling. The windows are surmounted by a brick segmental arch and the panes are four over four.

The blacksmith and carpenter shop were on the first floor. The west side of second floor was the harness-making shop. Several color paintings on plaster measuring approximately 28 x 32 inches and each depicting a different type of harness remain on the walls. The paintings were placed between the south windows and are in excellent condition. The east half of second floor was the tailor shop. Currently the building is a lumber warehouse but no modern alterations are evident.

### 2. Horse Barn, 1910

The largest extant building from the Indian School, the 40 x 100 foot horse barn is of wood frame construction with a gable roof. Originally covered in wood shingles, it is now roofed in asphalt. Two large louvered ventilators top the barn. The exterior appearance is unchanged. A small outbuilding has been placed near the main south entrance. Its walls have been stuccoed but the roof has the embossed metal shingles found on other buildings in the complex.

## 3. Dairy Barn, 1917

Reported in the <u>Nebraska Farmer</u> magazine in 1918 as having the latest word in modern equipment, the dairy barn was designed by the school draftsman, built by the students and given an estimated value of \$25,000 by the school superintendent. Of frame construction, it is built on a concrete base with stucco applied to the foundation to a height of four feet (see photo #3). Two hollow tile silos flank the south entrance. The gambrel roof is wood shingled and topped with three metal ventilators. The exterior is unchanged. The barn originally contained stanchions for 48 cows, calf and bull pens, and box stalls. The stanchions had individual drinking fountains and milking was done by machine. Litter and silage carriers, ventilation shafts with provision for forced drafts and a separation for liquid and solid manure completed the modern features.

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## 4. Cattle Barn

Of wood frame construction, the cattle barn is smaller than the barns previously discussed (see photo #4). Covered in wood shingles, the roof is gambrel in shape with two shed dormers on each side and two metal ventilators. A gambrel-roofed appendage is attached to the center of the south wall and flanked by two entrances to the barn. A standard door is placed on the second floor south wall of the appendage.

## 5. Barn

Smaller than the cattle barn, this barn could have been used for the school's prize-winning hogs or sheep. The entrance is on the west side, as opposed to the other barns which have a south gable end entrance. The roof is gambrel-shaped, wood-shingled and has one metal ventilator. The second floor door on the south side was originally reached by an outside stairway which has been removed. The fences running perpendicular to east and west sides of the barn appear in historic photographs of the school.

## 6. Blacksmith Shop, ca. 1922

The most striking feature of the blacksmith shop was the row of seven chimneys along the west side of the building. Now, only two chimneys remain (see photo #6). The shop is a one-story brick building with a concrete foundation and open floor plan. The gable roof with hipped gable on the north end is covered in asphalt shingles while the point of the gable has embossed metal shingles. The windows and doors are similar in treatment to the Shop Building. The wagon entrance was placed on the south wall. This wall is now covered with brick-patterned asphalt siding.

## 7. Warehouse or Machine Shed, ca. 1920's

A one-and-one-half story brick building with a wagon entrance in the west gable end, this building is detailed differently than the other brick structures in the complex. The window and door treatment and main entrance are treated differently than on the Shop and Blacksmith buildings. The windows have brick sills and concrete lintels

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in contrast to the stone sills and brick segmental arches of the other buildings. The windows are also smaller and the panes are two over two. The main wagon entrance is in the center of the west gable end. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The building was probably constructed during the 1920's.

#### Employee's Cottage, 203 Cottonwood Avenue 8.

West of the Shop Buildings stands this one story frame house with brick foundation. It is the only residential building extant from the school. The gable end faces the street (see photo #8) and the front door is off center. The front porch has two square columns topped by a pediment. A hipped-roof appendage protrudes from the south side.

#### Smokestack of the Power House, 1929 9.

The second steam Power House, 1904, was built on the eastern edge of the campus. This concrete smokestack is all that remains of the plant which supplied steam heat to the entire school. The smokestack replaced the original brick chimney and was, therefore, erected as a separate structure next to the Power House. The location of the Power House is within the nominated boundaries. Archeological excavation would reveal dimensions and construction materials of the building.

### 10. House (site A)

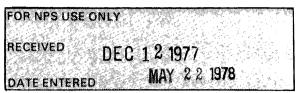
This one-story tract house is occupied by the owner of the nominated agricultural buildings. Built in the late 1960's, the frame house has a hipped roof and is covered in aluminum siding (see photo #9). The house has been placed in the center of the Indian School's extant Contraction of the buildings.

## 11. Houses (sites B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I)

These houses are a part of the residential area which has developed on the southern boundary of nominated property. This residential area, which extends south to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, has been built on the site of the main buildngs of the Indian School. Most of the houses within the nominated area (see photo #10) are of the bungalow type and were probably built in the 1930's. These modern houses (sites A-I) are within the boundaries of the nominated area but are not considered a part of the nomination.

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Amended November 1977

The following houses were described as Indian School employee houses by Mr. Elroy Whidle of Genoa, Nebraska, a former employee of the Genoa Indian School, and as such, should be included as significant to the district.

## 12. Employee's House (#B) 1926-28

The one and one-half story frame house with clipped gable roof and central brick chimney was built by the Indian students in the manual training class. The front porch extension also has the clipped gable roof and the original wooden posts and railings (see photo #13).

## 13. Employee's House (#C) 1927-28

The only two-story house remaining in the Indian School complex, it was built by the Indian students in the manual training class. The symmetrically-arranged frame period house has a one-story porch across the front and a two-story rear ell extension.

## 14. Employee's House (#D) ca. 1925

This, the first of three bungalows in a row (see photo #10), is a one and one-half story frame bungalow with the low-pitched roof extending over the front porch. The central dormer and large brackets are characteristic of this variant of the bungalow mode. Clapboard siding covers the ground story walls while wood shingles sheath the second story gable and dormer. The foundation is brick. The front porch has been enclosed using vertical siding, horizontal sash windows and concrete block foundation in contrast to the original materials.

## 15. Employee's Houses (#E and #F) ca. 1925

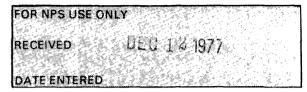
These two bungalows appear to have been built identically. The side entrance, heavy brackets, front roof slope extending over the front porch and central dormer are identical to house #D. The window in the dormer gives access to the walk-out balcony. Narrow clapboard siding covers the first story and wood shingles the second. Double, internal, brick chimneys are located on the rear slopes of the roof near the ridge. House #F has the original front porch while the porch of house #G has been remodeled with brick veneer.

## 16. Employee's House (#G) 1927-28

This house is a one and one-half story frame period house with clipped gable roof. The most striking feature of this popular house style is the brick exterior chimney on the front (south) side of the house which

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

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is partially covered by the slope of the small gable over the front door. Asbestos siding now covers the building.

## 17. Employee's Houses (#H and #I) 1926-27

These two identical bungalows are more modest than the previous ones discussed and more properly fit the bungalow mode of design as outlined by Whiffen. A second story loft space is provided under the low-pitched gable roof. The entrance is located on the gable end through a vestibule which is an extension of the gable wall. The gable roof of the vestibule reflects the slope of the main roof. Clapboard and shingle siding covers the first and second floors, respectively. The foundation is brick.

## 18. Employee's House (#J) 1926-28

This small one and one-half story frame house with front porch has the entrance on the gable end and resembles bungalows # H & I in form but not proportion (see photo #13). The gable of the front porch is reflected in the gable of the house behind it. Iron porch supports and railings have replaced the original wooden ones. The lack of roof overhang, brackets and the steepness of the roof do not give the house the bungaloid stylistic features typical of many other houses in the district. The manual training class of the Indian School built the house. Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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The curriculum of the Genoa Indian School was split between academic and vocational training with half of each day spent in each pursuit. The school was organized along military lines with uniforms and military formations. As a boarding school students were not allowed to return home during the school year and discouraged from returning home during the summer vacation. The academic subjects offered in 1888 were reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, music and English. The learning of English was the first task upon entering the school. Often students had no knowledge of English before entering and the speaking of their native tongue was forbidden.

The vocational shop work offered in 1892 was laundering, sewing, cooking and baking for the girls and blacksmithing, wagon-making, harness-making, broom-making, tailoring, shoe-making, painting, carpentering, printing and farming for boys. Salaries and certain expenses were met by government funds; however, the school tried to be as selfsufficient as possible. Much of the food and vegetables were raised on the farm. The tailor shop produced uniforms and some suits and underclothing for the boys and the shoe shop made shoes for the school, which was as many as 600 pairs during one year. At various times government contracts to supply the Indian service with harness, brooms, and wagons were given to the school. The school carpenter and shop students built many of the smaller school buildings.

The paintings on the wall of the harness-making room in the Shop Building are fine examples of the skilled but naive art tradition in Nebraska. Most probably drawn by a sign painter, the paintings on plaster each depict a different style of harness. This folk art tradition in Nebraska continues until the present day.

The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 drastically changed the government's policy toward Indians. Their culture was recognized as important to the individual and, to a degree, was encouraged. It was felt to be socially and economically more advantageous to the Indian and the U.S. government for the children to be educated on the reservation. The Genoa Indian School was closed as a part of the national policy to eliminate non-reservation schools. The property was transferred to the State of Nebraska and it was used as a State Prison Farm from 1937 to 1944. The University of Nebraska Agronomy Department used it as a seed farm from 1950 to 1966. The land was then divided and sold to private persons. Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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The nominated area is rich in historic archeological material. A number of razed school buildings were within the nominated boundaries, including a brick granary, two ice houses, the first dairy barn, the first horse barn, first shop building, the first and second hospitals, the band room and several employee's cottages. Excavation could reveal locations, dimension, construction materials and artifacts of the Indian School.

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**CONTINUATION SHEET** Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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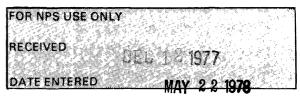
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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Genoa Indian School



CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 3

Amended Bibliography, November 1977

Whidle, Elroy, Genoa, Nebraska: Interview October 31, 1977. Employee at Genoa Indian School and State Prison Farm 1927/8-1950. Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Genoa Indian School

CONTINUATION SHEET UTM References **ITEM NUMBER** PAGE 10 2

Amended November, 1977

G - Zone 14, 610580 Easting, 4589200 Northing

H - Zone 14, 610525 Easting, 4589200 Northing

I - Zone 14, 610580 Easting, 4589225 Northing

