

AUG 14 1985
SEP 12 1985

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: Kootenai County Rural Schools thematic group

SITE NAME: Indian Springs School II

SITE NUMBER: 7

LOCATION: On east side of Idaho Highway 3, about 1/2 mile north of Rosewood Drive

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Kootenai School District #274
Harrison, ID 83833

and

Heirs of Knut Huseby
c/o James T. Knudson
816 Sherman Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Medimont, 7.5'

ACREAGE: 1 acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the Indian Springs School and the property on which it stands, beginning at the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 17, T47N, R2W, B. M., thence east 197'; north 165'; thence west 296' to county road; thence south 22°6' east, 178.1' along county road; thence east 35' to point of beginning.

UTM(S): 11/529500/5251950

DATE OR PERIOD: 1915

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: unknown

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture, exploration/settlement

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: fair, altered, original site

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORY BUILDINGS: 1

DESCRIPTION:

Indian Springs School II is one of the moderately-sized, functionally designed schools in the thematic group. It is a rectangular wood-frame building, approximately 24 by 48 feet, with a 9-by-15-foot kitchen attached to the south wall of the building and an even smaller shed-roofed addition attached to the south end of the building's east facade. These alterations do not significantly affect the building's architectural integrity. The schoolhouse is a one-story, one-room structure with a wood-shingled gable roof. The raised front (west) porch is open, balustraded, and covered with a wood-shingled gable roof. The building is clad with two types of clapboard siding: the north and east facades and most of the west facade are covered with wider boards than is the south exposure.

Nearly half the north facade is covered with a bank of single-pane double-hung sash windows. The five-panel double entry doors are flanked on each side by double-hung windows similar to those on the north facade. A brick chimney that breaks the north side of the roof ridge is set back about five feet from the front of the building. A second brick chimney rises from the interior southeast corner of the shed-roofed kitchen addition. The building is in fair condition.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Indian Springs School II is significant for its association with the initial white settlement of the eastern Harrison Flats area of southeast Kootenai County. The building is also significant as a representative example of early twentieth-century utilitarian schoolhouse design in Kootenai County.

Indian Springs School II is situated in the Harrison Flats study unit. Of seven schools that have been identified in the study unit, this is the only schoolhouse that remains with sufficient architectural integrity to be eligible for the National Register.

Indian Springs School II is located on the east side of Idaho Highway 3 in the Harrison Flats area of south-central Kootenai County. It is approximately two and one-half miles south of the Coeur d'Alene River and about six miles east of Coeur d'Alene Lake. The Harrison Flats area lies within the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation and was not legally open for white homestead entry until 1910, although some settlers established themselves in the area at the turn of the century. As with many other parts of the county, the area's initial attraction for the first white settlers was comparatively inexpensive land and extensive stands of salable timber. At the time the Harrison Flats was opened, lumbermill capacity in southern Kootenai County was approaching its historic peak; by the early 1920's however, mill capacity had declined by one-third and the Harrison Flats area became predominantly agrarian as a number of stump ranches were established in the recently logged-off areas.

The first school at Indian Springs was reportedly a lean-to shed that stood near an early settler's barn and farmhouse. Indian Springs School II was built near the first site in 1915 and continued in apparently uninterrupted use until about 1952, when the area was consolidated into the Harrison (Kootenai) School District. Since then it has been used as a community hall.