

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 1 1979

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC ~~The~~ Intermountain Institute

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Paddock Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Idaho

VICINITY OF
CODE

016

COUNTY

Washington

First
CODE

087

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Weiser Feed and Storage

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Weiser

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Intermountain Institute stands on a 15-acre site at the end of Seventh Street northwest of the city center in Weiser, Idaho. The district described here includes most of the original campus area. On the east are five handsomely-landscaped major buildings, on a continuous lawn with mature trees, facing the long curved drive formed by the end of Seventh Street. Behind these buildings, to the west, is a scatter of interesting utilitarian structures, the forms of which imply their various functions. The boundary line to the rear of the main campus buildings has been drawn to include only those structures related in period and use to the early history of the Institute. Several utilitarian structures of later construction-- i.e., two plain concrete warehouses, a small metal quonset hut, and two small frame residential rentals, all of which are on the margins of the grounds--have been excluded.

All but one of the significant structures (a carriage house) are of reinforced cast concrete. This material is scored to resemble stone block in the main buildings and some of the minor ones. It is banded or strip-scored in others. All of the major structures are rendered in a broadly neoclassical style which finds echoes in the utilitarian structures as well. However, they range in date from 1907 to 1929, and comparing the earlier with the later buildings we can see the increasing influence of other early-twentieth century modes. For example, the Prairie and bungalow styles are suggested in the wide filled eaves and low broad dormers. The Spanish mission style is evinced by the curved clock tower gable of the main administration building, Hooker Hall, which dates from 1924.

The buildings are presently unoccupied, and most windows and some doors are boarded over to discourage vandalism. They are otherwise in good condition.

INVENTORY:

1. Billings Memorial Gymnasium, the first building on the drive, was the last structure erected on the campus. Built for \$40,000 in 1929 and containing a swimming pool as well as a basketball court, it probably was the finest high school gymnasium in the state; it was designed by the prominent firm of Tourtellotte and Hummel. A gift of Miss Elizabeth Billings of New York, a daughter of one of the builders of the Northern Pacific Railroad and a long time supporter of the Institute, the building was dedicated as a memorial to her parents. It is one tall story high on a tall basement, with a laterally-running gabled roof and wide filled eaves. Tall multi-light windows with rectangular cast lintels and sills flank a gabled, outset entry pavilion containing double doors and approached by a flight of concrete steps. The front-facing gable contains, as do the end ones, eave returns and a Palladian window.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1907-1929

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Intermountain Institute in Weiser is significant both architecturally and historically. Architecturally, it is the most monumental and sustained exercise in its community, and probably in the state, in the use of concrete as a building material. Historically, it is inextricably interwoven with the history of secondary education in Weiser; and, drawing students as it did from at least eight states and one foreign country, it assumed much more than local significance among educational institutions in Idaho. The historical as well as the architectural importance of the group has been recognized by the local association which has expressed interest in restoring and using as a museum the most pretentious of the buildings, Hooker Hall.

Concrete was a not uncommon building material in early twentieth century Idaho, in situations where buildings of both pretension and economy were wanted. But usually, the material was in the form of blocks cast to resemble stone, and laid up in the same manner. And usually it appears in buildings that are more or less unrelated though clustered in areas where "cast stone" manufacturers and masons were active. At the Institute, however, building walls were not block but were continuously-cast reinforced concrete, with only the surfaces of the structure scored to resemble masonry joints. And, the buildings were produced for a single institution over a more than twenty-year period. The result is a materially homogenous group that is moreover a visually continuous display of architecture in a broadly neoclassical mode: that is, relying heavily on such classicizing devices as the hipped roof, the symmetrical facade, and the columned portico. At the same time, the group shows an interesting though subtle movement in style, which may be traced from the fairly straightforward classicism of the 1907 Beardsley and 1909 Slocum Halls, through the more bungalow form and scale of 1919 Carnegie Library, to the Missionesque and Prairie-style characteristics of the 1924 Hooker Hall.

The school was established in the fall of 1899 to provide those children who lived too far in the country to attend high school an opportunity to obtain an equivalent education. The school's motto was "An education and trade for every boy and girl who is willing to work for them;" all students, in addition to attending classes, worked five hours a day to pay for a part

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hibbard, Don. Weiser: a look at Idaho Architecture, Boise, Idaho: Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, 1978.

Weiser Signal, 1907-1929.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 15 acres.

QUADRANGLE NAME Mann Creek

QUADRANGLE SCALE 15 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,1 5,0,1 8,2,5 4,9 0,1 1,2,5

B 1,1 5,0,1 5,5,0 4,9 0,0 8,2,5

C 1,1 5,0,1 3,7,5 4,9 0,1 5,0,1

D 1,1 5,0,1 6,2,5 4 9,0 1,3 0,0,1

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Intermountain Institute is shown as the dotted line on the attached sketch map entitled "Intermountain Institute, Weiser, Idaho."

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Patricia Wright and Don Hibbard, architectural historians

ORGANIZATION Idaho State Historical Society DATE 10 September 1979

STREET & NUMBER 610 North Julia Davis Drive TELEPHONE 384-2120

CITY OR TOWN Boise STATE Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE x LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Mark Wells DATE 10 September 1979

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol Shull DATE 11-1-79
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Kristin J O'Connell DATE 10/31/79
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 1 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

2. Slocum Hall, the boys' dormitory, was erected in 1909 for \$30,000. It was named after Jane Slocum, one of the three founders of the Institute and a distant relative of Mrs. Russell Sage, who declined to have a building named after her although her \$60,000 gift to the school made the construction of the dormitory possible. The basement originally contained a swimming pool; the Institute's library and reading room were located on its first floor until 1919 when the Carnegie Library was completed.

Like all the other major buildings, Slocum Hall is constructed of reinforced, scored cast concrete. It is threestories tall on a high basement. The window heads, three tiers on either side of the entrance, are cast to resemble keystone flat arches. The roof is hipped with a laterally-running ridge and shingled hipped dormers: two facing forward, two at the rear, and one at either end. The rectangular main block has two ells. A two-story one at the south end is slightly inset to produce intersections which are filled by screened porches and approached by separate entrances. A shallow main entry ell is centered on the facade and entered through a small, one-story gabled portico. The columns of the portico are fluted cast concrete, with metal capitals in the Corinthian order. The porch is approached by a flight of steps with curving cast bannisters. A large eyebrow dormer, now filled, is centered in the roof above the entry.

3. H. M. Hooker Memorial Hall, the Institute's administration and classroom building and the most pretentious building on the campus with its five-story clock tower, was completed in 1924 at a cost of \$100,000. It was built in memory of H. M. Hooker, a close friend of Headmaster Paddock's whose daughters, Mrs. Fannie Hooker Forbes of Westboro, Massachusetts and Mrs. Mary Hooker Dole of Oak Park, Illinois, contributed the funds for its construction. Besides offices and twenty-two "recitation rooms," Hooker Hall contained a modern auditorium as well as wood working shops in the basement. A local historical association is interested in acquiring the structure and using it as a museum.

The structure is three stories high on a tall basement, with a hip-and-ridge roof and flat sills and lintels. It is rectangular and symmetrical with outset corner bays and four multi-light transomed windows on either side of the entry pavilion. This pavilion is approached by a flight of concrete steps and contains a segmentally-arched entry with wooden double

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 1 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

doors retaining their original hardware; the dedication to H. M. Hooker is set in stone letters in the concrete landing. The tower is flanked by pairs of hipped dormers; its open belvedere is surmounted by clock faces on all four sides.

4. The oldest building in the group, Beardsley Hall, was completed in 1907. Its reinforced concrete walls, which are scored to imitate block, are sixteen inches thick in the basement and taper to eleven inches at the roof. The building was named in honor of Reverend Bronson Beardsley of Bridgeport, Connecticut, whose widow left the Institute \$5,000 to build a memorial to her husband. It housed forty girls on the second and third stories, while the basement served as a dining hall, and the first floor contained the school's chapel. The attic was a gymnasium. On December 29, 1913, a fire gutted this dormitory, but its walls remained sound and the interior was immediately rebuilt.

It is three stories in height, while a two-story ell to the north and several small, later, utilitarian extensions beyond that; none are greater than a story in height. The main block is five bays wide with a one-story, outset, enclosed entry ell fronted by a shallow portico with a double boxed cornice on fluted cast columns; it is approached by a flight of concrete steps. The entry is round-arched and double-doored. Roofs are hip-and-ridge. Hip-and-ridge shingle-sided dormers emerge on either side of an eyebrow dormer centered over the entry, and from each end.

5. The Carnegie Library, whose collection numbered over 5,000 volumes, not only served the school, but was open to the public as well. The stacks and reading room were on the main floor; the basement accommodated a music conservatory with nine practice rooms. Three evergreens, of which only one survives, were planted in the front in 1919 in honor of the three Institute students who lost their lives in World War I.

The hip-and-ridge roof of the one-story concrete structure is more steeply pitched than are those of the larger buildings. There are two shingled hip-and-ridge dormers in front and back and one at each end, and two pairs of multi-light windows between flat cast lintels and sills on either side of the entrance. The entrance is double-doored, approached by a flight of steps and fronted by a deep gabled portico with plain cast columns.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED SEP 18 1979	NOV 1 1979
DATE ENTERED	

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

6. The Broadhead Shop building is a utilitarian structure which stands as a testament to the Institute's effort to provide a range of training programs in the manual arts. The two-story, two-bay main block of banded, reinforced cast concrete originally housed blacksmith and machine shops on the first floor, and carpenter and woodworking shops on the second. There is a one-bay, one-story galvanized metal addition to the east, as well as a one-story, one-bay ell of cast concrete to the west; the latter boasts a crenellated cornice, a tall smokestack and a vintage gas pump outside.

7. The "towered" structure south of the shop building was slated to be a chapel, for Reverend Paddock received donations in late 1909 to build a chapel and music hall. However, in 1910, while he was east on his annual fund raising tour, the Institute's acting general manager stopped work on that project and diverted the money into the building of this pumphouse and reservoir. The upper section of the "tower" was a 44,800 gallon reservoir which provided water to the kitchen, dormitories and shop building. Below the reservoir was a meat shop and smoke house. A print shop took up the rear section of the second floor, above the pumps.

The building is rectangular in plan, two stories on the south end with the three-story tower section rising on the north. Roofs are gabled with returns and round gable wall openings. The cast concrete walls are reinforced, and visually elaborated, by outset horizontal bands which are closest together around the battered upper section of the tower.

8. South of the shop and east of the service road from the reservoir house is the only significant frame building on the grounds, the two-story remains of a gabled barn or carriage house. Fire damage is evident along the sides, and concrete foundations extend in either direction, showing that the existing structure was once part of a more complex outbuilding.

9. The small ell-shaped maintenance building behind Hooker Hall is one story in height, flat-roofed, its concrete walls cast in strip fashion. Flat cast lintels cap the openings. There is a stepped corbel and a plain cast cornice; the north facade contains a double-doored entry and one window.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 1 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

10. The central heating plant was a 1909 building project made possible by the Sage bequest which built Slocum Hall in the same year. The building, another structure with solid concrete walls scored to resemble block, is rectangular in plan, one story in height on a tall basement which housed the works. There are stepped, corbelled parapets on the east and west elevations, a wooden-porched entry to the east, and a very large detached chimney at the southeast corner. The main floor of the building housed the chemistry and physics laboratories.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 18 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 1 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

of their tuition, room and board. Originally called the Idaho Industrial Institute, its name was changed to the Intermountain Institute in 1915 to avoid any confusion between it and the state's industrial reform school in St. Anthony.

Reverend Edward A. Paddock was the school's guiding light. He came to Weiser in 1894 and organized the Congregational Church. Later he started the Weiser Academy, which was located on the site of the present golf course. However, in 1899 he broke with the Academy to form the Institute because the Academy's faculty and trustees refused to start a program for vocational training. Reverend Paddock believed schools should educate "the hand and heart as well as the head," and the Institute's students not only followed the usual college preparatory curriculum, but also were required to take either manual training or domestic science courses. Other student obligations included a mandatory non-denominational Bible class and an hour of exercise each day either in the gymnasium, on the tennis courts, or by hiking.

The school educated over two thousand students during its thirty-four year existence, drawing pupils from at least eight states and one foreign country. The Institute usually had a waiting list which equaled its total annual enrollment of approximately one hundred, and the students stayed anywhere from one to five years. It was the biggest private enterprise in the Weiser area, and by 1914 claimed to have the largest payroll in Washington county with its expenditures exceeding two thousand dollars a month.

The depression eventually forced its closing in 1933. In 1939 the property was deeded to the public schools to be used as a vocational training school under the National Youth Administration. This federal program remained in operation until 1943, and then the city, in conjunction with the state, maintained the school as a vocational project. After World War II the Institute attempted to recover its property without success, and the buildings were used to house the high school. In 1967, when the high school moved into its present structure, the Institute was vacated, with the exception of Slocum Hall, which until recently contained a heavy equipment school.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 30 1979
DATE ENTERED NOV 1 1979

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

INTERMOUNTAIN INSTITUTE - WEISER, IDAHO

Revised Verbal Boundary Description - 10/22/79

The Intermountain Institute district includes the area bounded by the dotted line on the attached sketch map entitled, "Intermountain Institute, Weiser, Idaho - Revised 10/79." This includes tracts 5, 6, and 13, and portions of tracts 7, 12, 14, 27 and 28, of Paddock's addition to the City of Weiser.

The boundary line commences at the southeast tip of tract 5 and runs northeasterly along the western margin of Paddock Avenue, to the corner formed by the intersection of Paddock and the existing paved road which cuts in a north-northwesterly direction through tracts 7 and 14. The boundary turns left at the intersection and follows the western margin of the paved road for 171 feet. The boundary then turns left and runs southwest, parallel to the line between tracts 7 and 14, for 136 feet; thence northwesterly, parallel to the paved road, for 260 feet; thence northeast 136 feet, parallel to the tract line, to the southwest margin of the paved road; thus excluding the two frame rental houses mentioned in item 7 and noted on the attached sketch map.

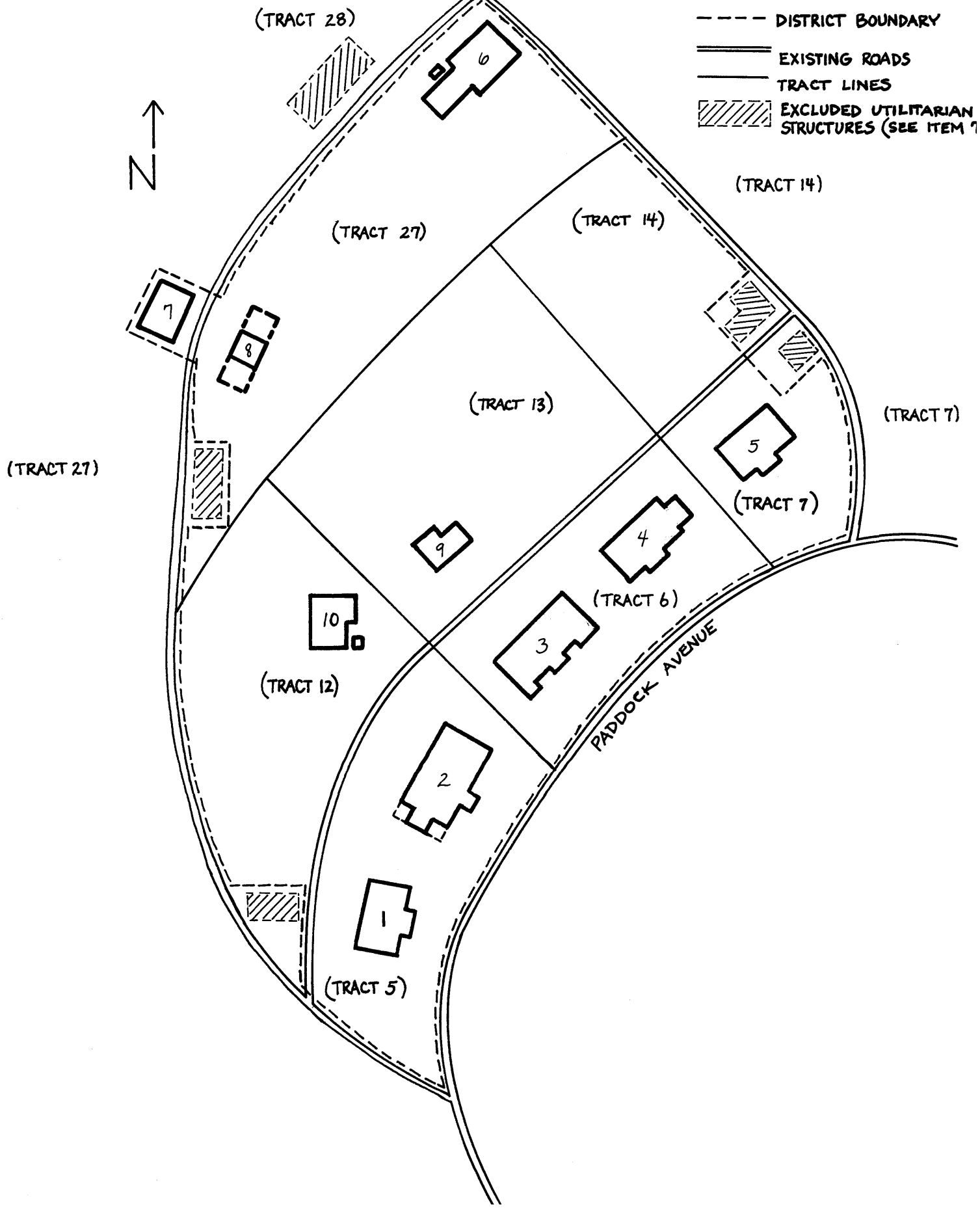
The boundary continues northwesterly along the southwest edge of the existing paved road, which runs through tract 14 and thence along the northeast side of tract 27, to an unpaved road which runs along the line dividing tracts 27 and 28. It turns left at this line and runs 292 feet in a southwesterly direction along the inner or southeastern margin of the unpaved road which follows the tract line; thence northwest 90 feet, southwest 100 feet parallel to the tract line, and southeast 90 feet to connect again with the tract line, thus including the 90 x 100 foot section of tract 28 on which the pumphouse (#7 on sketch map) stands. The boundary continues south-southwest along the tract line/road for another 84 feet; thence southeast 75 feet, southwest 188 feet, parallel to the tract line/road; and northwest 75 feet to connect again with the tract line/road, thus excluding the non-period concrete warehouse mentioned in item 7 and indicated on the sketch map.

The boundary line then continues along the eastern or inner margin of the existing unpaved road, which continues south through tract 27 to connect with and follow the western boundary of tract 12, and south-southeast along the inner margin of this boundary road to a point 228 feet from the southern tip of tract 12; thence due east approximately 180 feet to the line between tracts 12 and 5, and south along the tract line approximately 175 feet to the southern tip of tract 12, thus excluding the small metal quonset hut mentioned in item 7 and indicated on the sketch map. The boundary then continues southeasterly along the northern margin of the existing unpaved road which follows the southwest border of tract 5, to the intersection of the road with Paddock Avenue at the southeast tip of tract 5.

INTERMOUNTAIN INSTITUTE


WEISER, IDAHO - Revised 10/79

(NOT TO SCALE)



INTERMOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

WEISER, IDAHO
(NOT TO SCALE)

- - - - DISTRICT BOUNDARY
-  EXCLUDED UTILITARIAN STRUCTURES (SEE ITEM 7)

