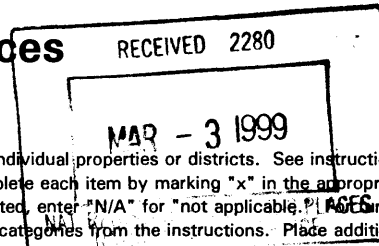


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



418

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For conditions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name SETTLEMENT SCHOOL

other names/site number IHSI #17-3654

### 2. Location

street & number Settlement Rd., 1/2 mi. E. of jct. with East Side Rd. N/A not for publication

city or town Priest River x vicinity

state Idaho code ID county Bonner code 017 zip code 83856

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Robert M. Yohe 2/22/99  
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
 ROBERT M. YOHE, II State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.  
     See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register.  
     See continuation sheet.
  - determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall 4-1-99  
 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Settlement School  
Name of Property

Priest River, Bonner, Idaho  
City, County, and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Public School Buildings in Idaho

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS/community center  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY  
REVIVALS: Classical Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls OTHER: Hollow Clay Tile Blocks  
WOOD: weatherboard  
roof METAL  
other STUCCO

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Settlement School  
Name of Property

Priest River, Bonner, Idaho  
City, County, and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" on all that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

### Period of Significance

1922-1948

### Significant Dates

1922

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Henry L. Mountjoy, Architect

Peter J. Young, Builder

## Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Bonner County Historical Society

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Settlement School  
Name of Property

Priest River, Bonner, Idaho  
City, County, and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property one

**UTM References**  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>1/1</u>	<u>5/0/9/4/0/0</u>	<u>5/3/3/6/3/3/0</u>	B	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing			
C	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	D	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>

**Verbal Boundary Description**  
(Describe the boundaries of the property.)  
Tax 11 and Tax 31 in the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 56N, Range 4W of the Boise Meridian  
See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

**Boundary Justification**  
(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)  
The above noted property constitutes all of the land historically associated with the Settlement School.  
See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Nancy F. Renk  
organization Flume Creek Historical Services date 6/29/98  
street & number 2385 Sunnyside Road telephone 208-263-7697  
city or town Sandpoint state ID zip code 83864

**Additional Documentation**

- Submit the following items with the completed form:
- **Continuation Sheets**
  - **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and/or properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
  - **Photographs:** Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.
  - **Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner**

name Priest River Columbian Club c/o Mr. Larry Nelson  
street & number P.O. Box 605 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Priest River state ID zip code 83856

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Name of Property Settlement School  
County and State Bonner County, Idaho

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Settlement School is an excellent example of a substantial second-generation rural school built to replace an earlier frame building. It is located in a rural area east of Priest River, Idaho. The one-story building has a symmetrical facade and decorative treatments suggestive of the Classical Revival Style. Its facade is dominated by the outset, gabled bay with a round-arched entry. The building has a tall raised basement, walls of hollow-core brick tile trimmed with stucco quoins and lintels, and a hipped roof. Two small wooden outhouses remain from the 1930s. The school has been vacant for several decades, used only occasionally for community events. Windows and doors have been boarded in to prevent continued vandalism, but the original frames remain. Although the years of neglect have taken a toll, the structure remains sound and shows very little alteration. The current owner is in the process of renovating the school for use as a community center.

The Settlement School is located in the rural area formerly known as the Italian Settlement. The building sits at the rear of a large level lot that is open and grassy. A thick forest of mixed conifers crowds the building at the rear. A concrete sidewalk, now in poor condition, leads straight out from the school steps and ends near the county road. Aside from the small outhouses behind the school, there are no other buildings in close proximity.

The school's compact design features a full main story above a tall raised basement. An outset entry bay breaks the rectangular plan and divides the facade into three bays. The foundation and basement are poured concrete while the upper walls utilize hollow-core tile blocks. The school is topped with a hipped roof with wide, boxed eaves.

Multipaned windows are set in tall openings on three walls. The two side bays of the main facade have a single window and a pair set above two single windows in the basement. The east and west sides each have a bank of six windows with transoms set above a bank of six windows in the basement walls. The two side walls of the outset entry each contain a small window on the main floor. Three concrete steps lead up to the double entry doors in the outset bay. The doors, flanked by sidelights and topped with a fan window, are set in a tall round-arched opening. All remaining glass in the building has been boarded over to discourage vandalism.

Decorative elements on the school building are simple. The color and texture contrast between the concrete foundation and the brick main story define the two floors and add a horizontal emphasis that is continued with a belt course. The outset entry bay features a round-arched entry topped with a pedimented gable that is punctuated by a round window. The corners of the entry bay are trimmed with contrasting stuccoed quoins. Lintels on the facade are also stuccoed. A brick chimney breaks the roof near the center front.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Name of Property Settlement School  
County and State Bonner County, Idaho

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The interior of the school retains its original configuration and most of the original materials. An open stairway leads a half-flight up to the main floor and a half-flight down to the basement level. The main level has two classroom areas, originally separated by pocket doors, as well as cloakrooms and a small office. The basement contains a kitchen, classroom, and restrooms. Much of the original lath and plaster remain, although some large areas have been damaged by a leaking roof over the years. In addition, the school retains most of the original fir flooring, wooden doors, and window trim.

The only outbuildings are two small, single-hole outhouses. The frame walls of each outhouse has horizontal weatherboard siding and the shed roof is covered with metal roofing. Their simple design, with its poured concrete floor and toilet base, suggest that it was built under the auspices of the W.P.A. sanitary toilet program during the 1930s.

The setting of the Settlement School has changed from the time it was built in the early 1920s. At that time, St. Anthony's Mission Church, built in 1914, sat on the lot immediately to the west. Repairs and maintenance on the frame church proved overwhelming by 1951, however, and the congregation decided to join with that of St. Catherine's Church in Priest River. St. Anthony's was torn down soon after.

Following the closure of the Settlement School in 1939, the building was used sporadically as a meeting hall for the Knights of Columbus. Continued vandalism on the isolated building destroyed much of the glass, so the owners boarded up all the windows and doors. The original shingle roof was covered in the 1940s with a corrugated-metal roof. This eventually leaked and caused damage to the plaster and floors. The Knights of Columbus began a major restoration project in 1997 and have replaced the aging corrugated metal roof with new galvanized roofing to match what they removed. In addition, they have repointed the brick chimney.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Settlement School  
County and State Bonner County, Idaho

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Settlement School is significant under Criterion A for its association with the growth and development of the the Italian Settlement--a rural community located east of Priest River, Idaho. The Settlement flourished as a distinct rural ethnic community from the 1890s into the 1950s. During much of this time, the school and Catholic church provided a public focus for the rural community, offering education for neighborhood children and religious services for families. In addition, the school and church formed a community center, bringing people together for dances, weddings, and picnics. The school also is architecturally significant under Criterion C as a good example of a substantial rural school dating from the early statehood period of Idaho school buildings, 1890-1930. This modest building retains excellent integrity on the exterior with the original roof configuration, scale, massing, wall cladding, and trim and fenestration. The Settlement School meets the eligibility requirements established for both criteria in the Public School Buildings in Idaho Multiple Property Listing.

#### Criterion A.

The first Italians, most from Grimaldi in Calabria, immigrated to the Priest River area c. 1891 to work on the construction of the Great Northern Railway, grading the line and laying track. In addition, many of the Italians cut ties in the good timber country around Priest River. Their skill with a broadaxe brought them ten cents for each #2 tie and twelve cents for each #1. (1)

Following the completion of the Great Northern in 1892, a number of Italian workers remained in the Priest River area where they settled on small farms a few miles east of town. Married men sent for families and single men requested wives from Italy, gradually building a sizeable Italian settlement--one of the only ethnic Italian enclaves in the State of Idaho. (2) Families worked to establish both a church and a school to tie the community together and to help maintain their Italian heritage. Initially, the Catholic Church held services in various homes. The congregation grew, however, and the community worked together to build St. Anthony's Mission Church in 1914. When the school population outgrew the first one-room building, Italian families in the Settlement built a two-story frame school. This burned in 1922 and was replaced with the present Settlement School, built on land adjacent to the church. (3)

The new Settlement School, along with the nearby church, served as a rural community center and the Italian Settlement thrived for several decades. The loss of these two community institutions, however, were a blow to the unique character of this community. The local school district consolidated with Priest River in 1939, leading to the bussing of Settlement children into town. Twelve years later, members of St. Anthony's congregation decided to combine their parish with St. Catherine's in Priest River. The church was torn down not long after its abandonment in 1951.

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Section number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Settlement School  
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The school building remains as a testament to the growth of the Italian Settlement and is presently being rehabilitated by the local Knights of Columbus to serve once again as a community facility. The annual Settlement picnic, held on the old church grounds continuously since 1915, also helps maintain the area's long ties to its rural Italian roots. (4)

### Criterion C

In August 1922, School District 9 called for bids for a new hollow tile school for the Italian Settlement. Peter J. Young, a well-known Priest River contractor, started work on the building by early September. Crews made good progress, and Young completed the \$8,000 school by early January 1923. (5)

The Settlement School is a good example of the work of local Sandpoint architect Henry L. Mountjoy. He began his practice in 1909 when he and his partner, S. W. Foster, designed the Humbird (later named Lincoln) School in Sandpoint, Idaho and the Kootenai School in Kootenai, Idaho. By the early 1920s, Mountjoy was working alone. He continued to design local schools and was responsible for the following rural Idaho school buildings: Cabinet (1921), Morton (1922), Settlement (1922-1923), Blanchard (1922-1923), Sagle (1927), and Laclede (1937). Of the above eight buildings, only Lincoln continues in use as a school. The Laclede School has been renovated for use as corporate offices for a local lumber company and the Settlement School is undergoing restoration for use as a community center. The roof collapsed on the vacant Cabinet School two years ago and its future is uncertain. The other four schools have been torn down.

In addition, the Settlement School is a good example of rapidly disappearing rural schools in northern Idaho. Its design is typical of brick or tile schools built during the 1920s to replace earlier frame or log buildings. The school retains a high degree of integrity. The only change on the exterior has been the addition of corrugated-metal roofing over the original wood shingles. The metal was installed in the 1940s; volunteers replaced it with identical corrugated metal in the spring of 1998. While not original, the metal roofing has helped preserve the vacant structure in an area of high snowfall. Aside from the roofing, the only other change on the exterior is the loss of glass from vandalism. The original door and window frames remain, although all are currently boarded over from the outside. The interior of the Settlement School retains its room configuration, floors, and woodwork. Some of the lath and plaster has been damaged from water leaks and will need to be replaced as restoration continues.



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### ENDNOTES

1. Marylyn Cork, "The Settlement - The Italians at Priest River," in The First Home Town Primer (n.p.: Bonner County Historical Society, 1974), 12.
2. Laurie Mercier, "Idaho's Southern Europeans," in Idaho's Ethnic Heritage: Historical Overviews, vol. 2 (n.p.: Idaho Ethnic Heritage Project, 1990), 10-11.
3. Stephan Sharp, "The Settlement's Good Old Days," Newport Miner Horizons (winter supplement, December 1978), 5; Cork, 12-13.
4. Cork, 12-13.
5. Priest River Times, 10 August 1922, 1:1, 4:4; 7 September 1922, 4:2. Pend d'Oreille Review, 5 January 1923, 6:4.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cork, Marylyn. "The Settlement - The Italians at Priest River." In The First Home Town Primer.  
n.p.: Bonner County Historical Society, 1974.

Mercier, Laurie "Idaho's Southern Europeans." In Idaho's Ethnic Heritage: Historical Overviews,  
vol. 2. n.p.: Idaho Ethnic Heritage Project, 1990.

Pend d'Oreille Review, 5 January 1923, 6:4.

Priest River Times, 10 August 1922, 1:1, 4:4; 7 September 1922, 4:2.

Sharp, Stephan. "The Settlement's Good Old Days." Newport Miner, Horizons (Winter  
supplement), December 1978, 4.