NPS Form 10-9000
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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JUL 1991
NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Cedar Draw School

other name/site number: Keeton, Raymond & Fairy Faye Frank house

2. Location

street & number: 4300 N. Road between 1900 and 2000 E.

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Buhl

vicinity: X

state: ID county: Twin Falls code: 083 zip code: 83316

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
3	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Public School Buildings

In Idaho

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ✓ 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 ✓ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Thomas J. Green — 6/25/91

Signature of certifying official — Date

Deputy 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.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	Antoinette J. Lee	8/8/91
____ determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.		
____ determined not eligible for the National Register		
____ removed from the National Register		
____ other (explain): _____		

for Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic:	EDUCATION	Sub:	School
	SOCIAL		Meeting hall
Current :	DOMESTIC	Sub:	Single dwelling
	SOCIAL		Meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation concrete roof asphalt
walls metal: steel other

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION

Period(s) of Significance: 1909-1941

Significant Dates : 1909

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

_X_ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

_ 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:

X State historic preservation office
_ Other state agency
_ Federal agency
_ Local government
_ University
_ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	11	691280	4721290	B			
C				D			

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _X_ See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: _X_ See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Elizabeth Egleston, State Architectural Historian

Organization: Idaho State Historical Society Date: April 10, 1991

Street & Number: 210 Main Street Telephone: (208) 334-3861

City or Town: Boise State: ID Zip: 83702

Located three miles northeast of the town of Buhl in Twin Falls County, the Cedar Draw School is surrounded by open fields and neighboring farms. The shallow canyon, for which the school is named, can be seen about a mile northeast from the building.

The overall mass of the structure is that of a rectangle with a hipped roof; however, from the north (the primary elevation) the roofline appears to be that of two front-facing gables. The roof has been covered with asphalt shingles, and the belfry, the building's most distinctive characteristic, is situated between the gables on the north. There is also a gable that is centered on the south roof slope. An interior brick chimney straddles the ridge at the northeast corner.

All of the windows are one-over-one double-hung sash, with the exception of one window on the west wall -- this is six lights over one. The basement windows have been covered with boards. A storage area that extends below grade and is protected by a shed roof is visible on the west elevation. There is an entrance to the basement on the south facade; this is covered by a shed roof with a parapet wall.

Despite the fact that the playing area is now a field and the barn and playground equipment have long been removed, several outbuildings remain. This, and the fact that the surroundings have changed little since the school was erected, provides the visitor with a sense of the original appearance of the school yard. Two privies are still visible, and although greatly altered, the teacherage is extant and can be seen to the southwest. The property lines of the current owners of the Cedar Draw School do not include the teacherage, and thus it is not included in this nomination.

For the most part, the building exhibits few exterior alterations. It has been clad with steel siding, but the width of the siding is consistent with the original clapboards, so the siding does not detract from the historic appearance of the school. A garage and deck were added to the east, but it does not mar the integrity of the original massing. This is due to the fact that the school sits upon a raised basement and is high off the ground, so the height of the garage is only approximately half that of the east wall of the school.

The current owners, who restored the school for use as a home, retained as many of the original features and floorplan as possible. The cabinets and much of the wainscotting are still visible, and a drinking fountain is still located next to the front door. The floor plan can be divided

into quarters: classrooms were located in the northeast, southeast and southwest corners, while the northwest quarter housed the entry, the stairwell to the basement, a library and two coatrooms. When the school was converted for use to a house, the southeast room was divided into a kitchen, and a bedroom was carved out of the southwest room. One of the coatrooms was divided into two bathrooms and the other coatroom and the library now serve as a bedroom.

Few, if any, changes have been undertaken in the basement. This area is still used by the grange, and contains a small auditorium, stage, kitchen and storage space.

The Cedar Draw School is significant within the context of public education in Idaho, and is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A. It is associated with rural education in the early twentieth century, and contributes to the documentation of the settlement of Twin Falls County. A study of the school illustrates the education and diversions of rural children during the teens, twenties and thirties, as well as the role that the school played in a farming community. The property retains a high degree of integrity, not only architecturally, but also in its setting, which has changed little from the time the school was constructed.

Built in 1909, the Cedar Draw School is located on land donated by a local resident, W.J. Hicks, three miles northeast of the small town of Buhl. Buhl and the surrounding farms were settled during the first decade of this century, in response to the extensive reclamation made possible under the Carey Act of 1894. This legislation provided federal land to settlers in arid areas after private investors supplied the capital to build the necessary dams and canal. The investors would recoup their money by selling water rights to the settlers, and once the settlers had successfully reclaimed their land, they could apply for a deed. Milner Dam, located in the northeast corner of the county, and its related canal system diverted enough water from the Snake River to support a large area, and the towns of Twin Falls County -- Filer, Buhl, Murtaugh, Kimberly and Twin Falls -- were erected almost overnight and remain viable communities. Buhl, the closest center to the Cedar Draw School, is located approximately forty-six miles west of Milner Dam.

Although numerous towns dot the northern half of the county, the schools located in these communities were situated too far for farm children to attend; thus many rural school districts were formed and one-, two- and three-room schoolhouses were constructed. The Cedar Draw School District was formed in January, 1909, and school opened in September.

Although the Cedar Draw School was simple in plan, it lent itself well to the fluctuating school-age population. For the first several years, the school had two classrooms, holding four grades in each, but as early as 1919 the larger classroom that extended along the south wall of the building was fitted with folding doors so that three rooms were available. In this arrangement, the first and second grades were taught in the north room; the third through fifth grades were located in the southeast classroom, and the sixth through eighth grades were contained in the southwest room. After 1925, however, the school was converted

back to two classrooms, and the southwest room served as an auxiliary space for programs and meetings. This was in response to the decrease in the student body, probably due to an outflux of farmers in response to the low commodity prices of the post-World War I economy.

The schoolhouse, privies, and teacherage, the latter greatly altered, remain on the original school property, but oral accounts reveal that several other structures and features were located on the grounds as well. Because most children had to travel to school on horseback or with a horse and buggy, a stable was located along the eastern property line. One account states that

> The school property was surrounded with a woven wire fence with a board all around the top, and a stile out front, so the students and visitors could come and go without having to open the gate...there were also board sidewalks around the building.1

Water was available from a well and a pump with a gasoline engine; this was located west of the school. Although Cedar Draw did have indoor plumbing and bathrooms for each gender -- an unusual amenity -- the privies, still extant, are located at the rear of the property. Cedar Draw did not have electricity through at least 1927; gas lanterns, hung from the ceiling, provided illumination. In the 1930's the school was raised about five feet and a basement was excavated. The school board paid for the supplies; the Works Progress Administration provided the labor. The basement has not been altered, and includes a stage, small seating area, a kitchen and two rest rooms.

By the 1920's there were approximately ten to twelve students in each grade; therefore, so that depending on how many classrooms were used, a teacher had to manage about thirty to forty children. Most subjects were taught to the individual grades, but in some activities the children in each room would participate together. Catherine Hurst Atkinson, who attended Cedar Draw School in the early twenties, stated that

> ...we always said the Pledge of Allegiance in the morning, and we always had singing in the morning. And then right after our lunch, we always had our writing class together. We all took the Palmer Method penmanship. That was done by

> all of us at the same time. Then after that...we went back to our individual classes. 2

For recess, children had several diversions. The school yard contained a basketball court, a teeter-totter, swings, a slide and a merry-go-round. Mrs. Atkinson also reported that a "giant stride" was also popular; this

> had a big pole in the middle, and then ropes hang out, and then you held on to those ropes and it went around and around like this. 3

Students would occasionally have track meets, baseball and basketball games with children from neighboring rural schools.

Cedar Draw was the scene of festivities, for both the parents and children, throughout the school year. There were generally Halloween and Christmas parties, and at the end of the school year, a pot-luck lunch was held, along with a baseball game between the students and parents. This sometimes included parents and children from other schools. At Christmas, the children produced a play in the evening for the parents, and as one Cedar Draw alumna, Mabel Murphy Hurd, recounts:

> Immediately following the program, we would hear sleigh bells ringing in the distance and realize they were coming nearer our location. Suddenly, Santa Claus, in all his grandeur would appear with his big red bag of goodies...he was handing out the packages we had brought for the name we had drawn to allow each student to receive a gift. This was followed with the bags of candies, nuts and an orange to each and every child to take home... 4

Typically, adults used the schoolhouse for grange meetings and the women's club. There was a division, however, between those families who lived above the canyon on the Snake River plain and those who had farms along the banks of the river. The latter had to manage a steep grade, and it was difficult for them to travel at night, thus they were not as prone to socialize, at least in the evening, with the former. Catherine Atkinson, whose family lived along the river, explained

> ...but we lived kind of down in the canyon, and a lot of the people were afraid to go down the grade...We lived down there...but those up on top of the canyon was a different

> breed altogether...they kind of held together, and those down where we lived was kind of held together...But in those days it was rather difficult, because a lot of people didn't have automobiles... [5]

Cedar Draw School closed in 1949, when many rural school districts in Idaho were consolidated. Students then attended school in Buhl. The school has continued, however, to be an important part of the community, as it was turned over to the grange for a meeting place. In 1987, Raymond and Fairy Faye Frank (also known as Teddy) Keeton bought the building, and after extensive renovation, use it as their home and art studio. The grange and various local groups often use the facilities in the basement for their activities. Thus, the building serves as a reminder of the early settlement of Twin Falls County and remains a gathering place for the people of the community.

1 Joan Ingram, "Cedar Draw School," Twin Falls, Idaho, no date.

2 Interview with Catherine Hurst Atkinson, vicinity of Buhl, Idaho, 17 November 1990.

3 Ibid.

4 Mabel Murphy Hurd, personal letter, 20 January 1991.

5 Interview with Catherine Hurst Atkinson.

Atkinson, Catherine Hurst. Vicinity of Buhl, Idaho. Interview, 17 November 1990.

Ewing, June. Personal letter, 15, January 1991.

Hurd, Mable Murphy. Personal letter, 20 January 1991.

Ingram, Joan. "Cedar Draw School." Twin Falls, Idaho, no date.

Rosholt, John A. "Milner Dam and Main Canal of the Twin Falls Canal Company." Historic American Engineering Record. National Park Service, Western Region, San Francisco, CA, 1989.

Sperle, Lois M. Personal letter, 11 February 1991.

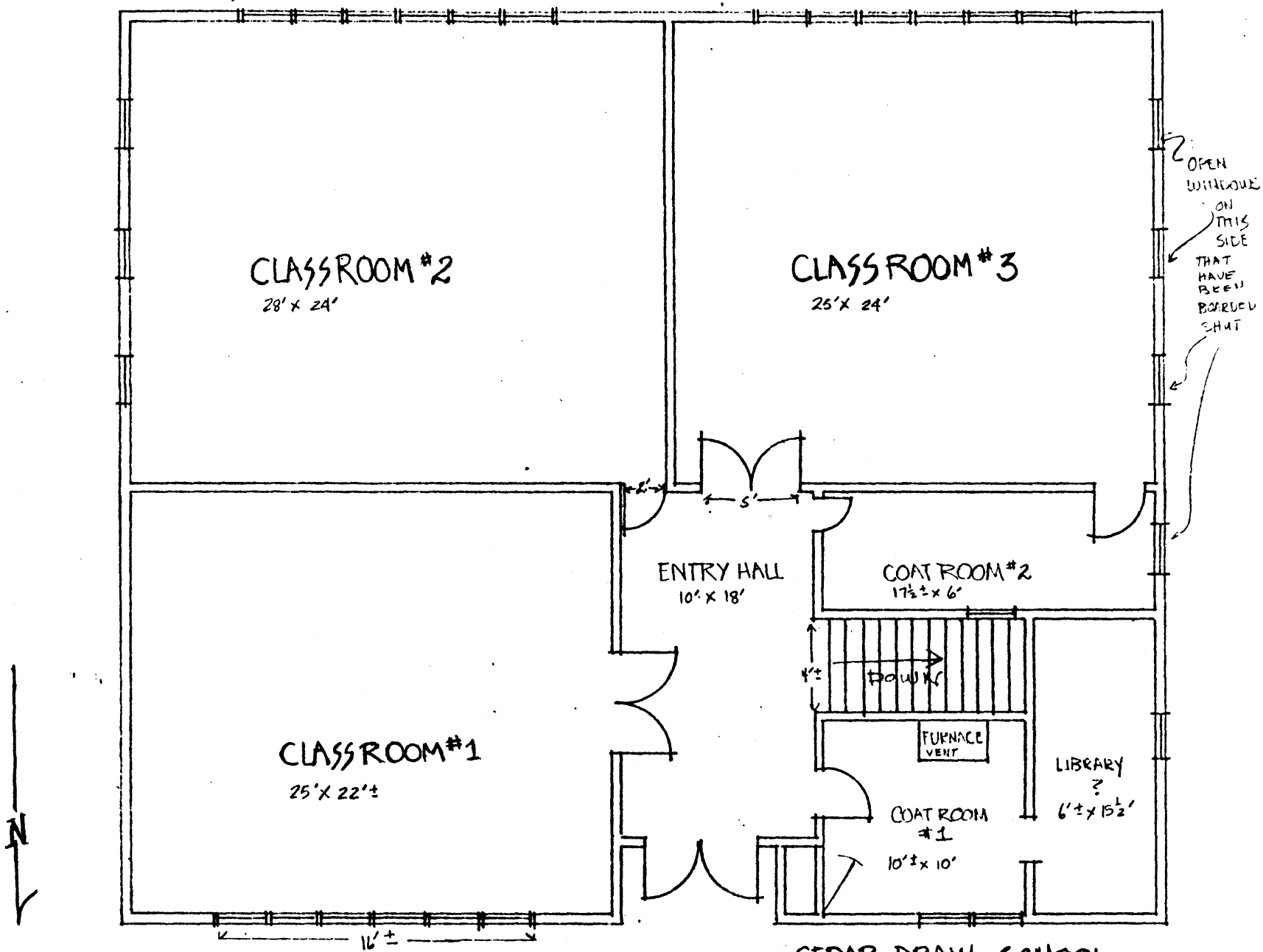
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SW 200 feet by 150 feet of NE 1, 214.75 feet by 175 feet of NW 1/4.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

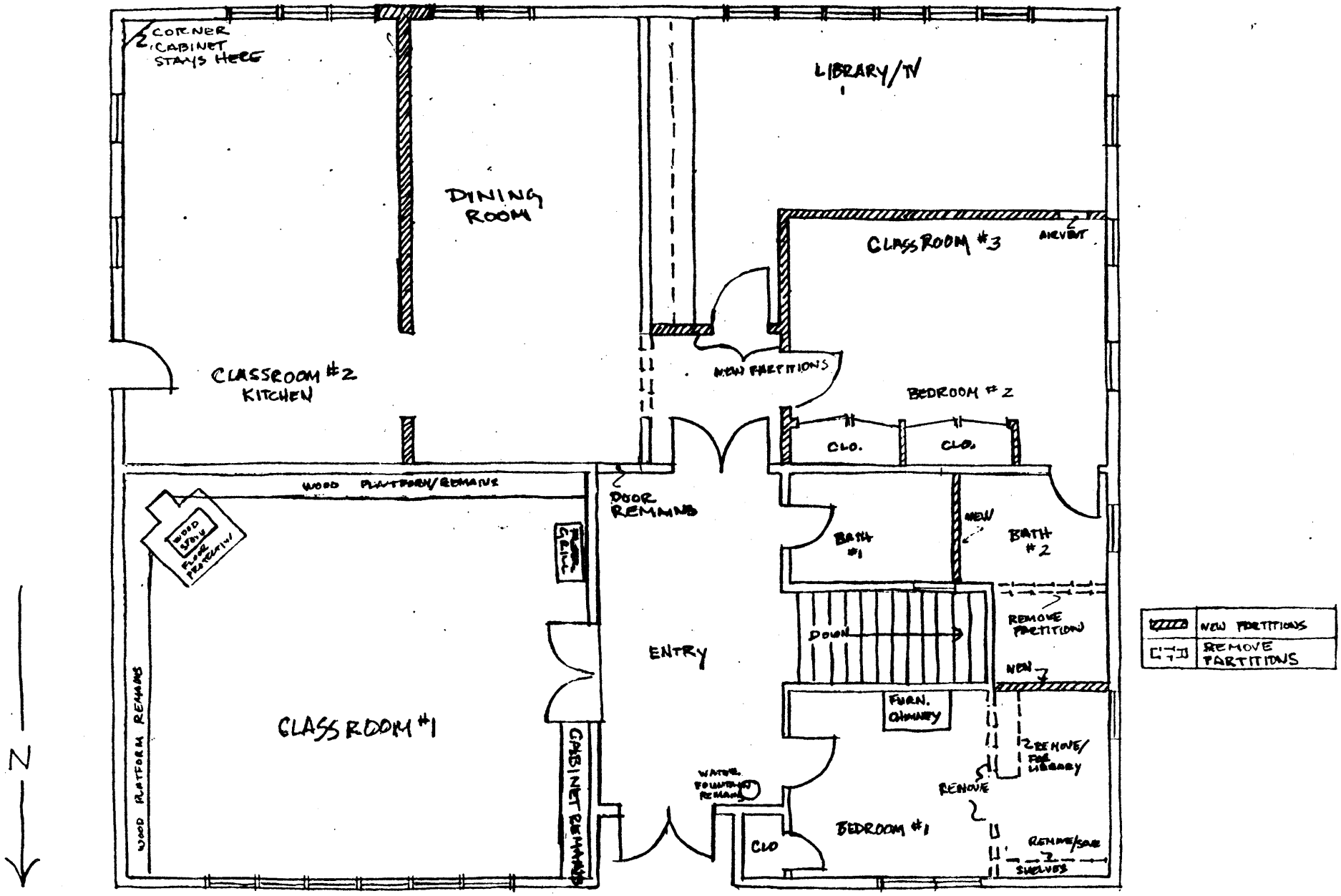
The boundary includes the original schoolhouse, privies and schoolyard that are historically associated with the Cedar Draw School. The parcel that includes the original teacherage is excluded for two reasons. First, the building's eligibility for the National Register has not been determined, and second, the teacherage is included within the property boundaries of the current owners of the schoolhouse.

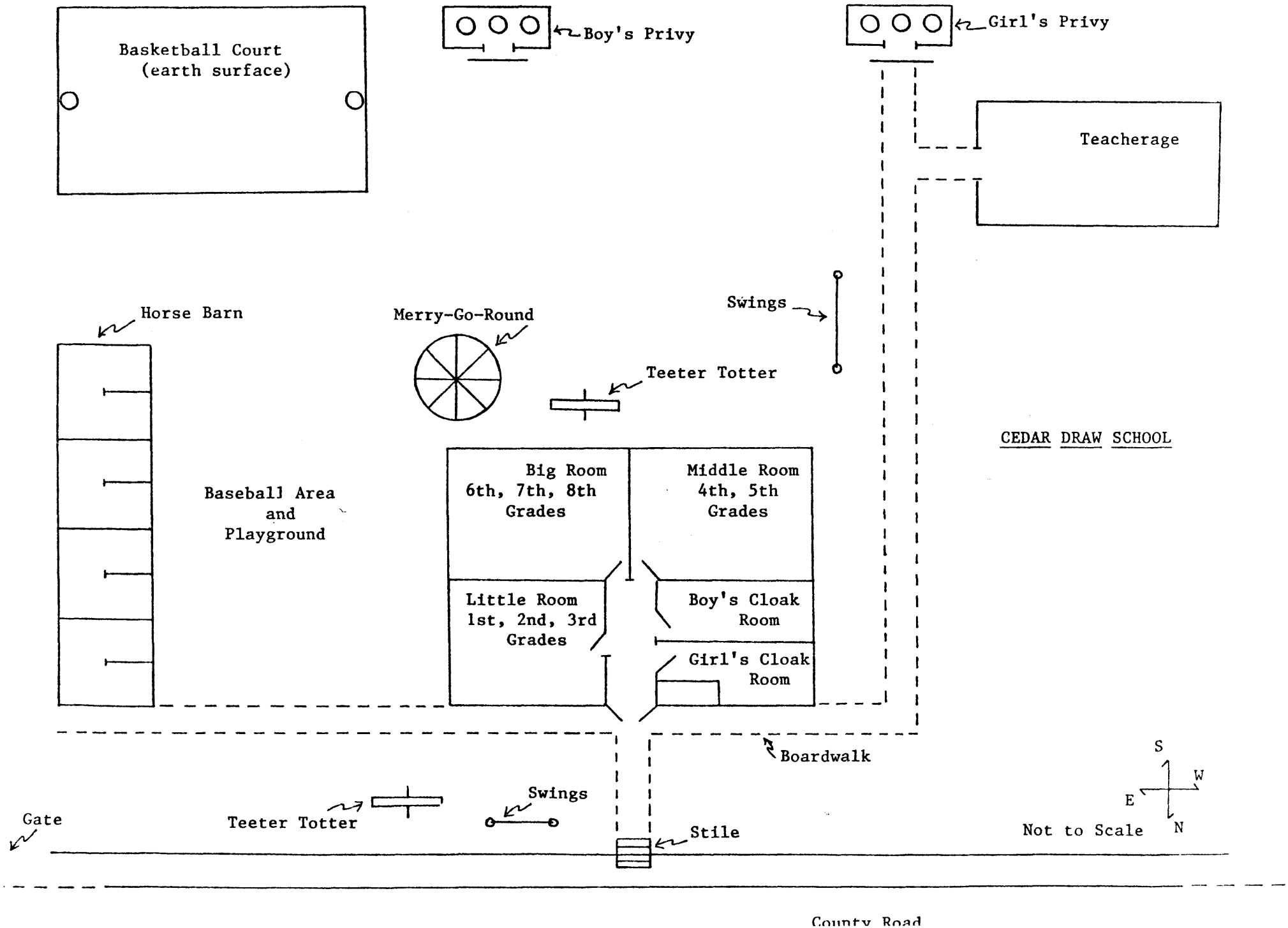
ORIGINAL FLOOR PLAN OF CEDAR DRAW SCHOOL



CEDAR DRAW SCHOOL
<BUILT 1910>

FLOOR PLAN OF CEDAR DRAW SCHOOL AFTER RENOVATION




Basketball Court
(earth surface)
Boy's Privy
Girl's Privy
Teacherage
Swings
Horse Barn
Merry-Go-Round
Teeter Totter
CEDAR DRAW SCHOOL
Baseball Area
and
Playground
Big Room
6th, 7th, 8th
Grades
Middle Room
4th, 5th
Grades
Little Room
1st, 2nd, 3rd
Grades
Boy's Cloak
Room
Girl's Cloak
Room
Boardwalk
S
W
E
N
Not to Scale
Gate
Teeter Totter
Swings
Stile
County Road

Cedar Draw School

Twin Falls ⊗

vicinity of Filer, Idaho

Elizabeth Egleston

March 21, 1991

Idaho State Historical Society

view from the southwest

Cedar Draw School
vicinity of Filer, Idaho
Twin Falls
Elizabeth Egleston
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Idaho State Historical Society
view from the northeast