**Form 10-300**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  

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

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

---

**1. NAME**

- **COMMON:** Sanborn Field and Erosion Plots
- **AND/OR HISTORIC:**

**2. LOCATION**

- **STREET AND NUMBER:** University of Missouri Campus
- **CITY OR TOWN:** Columbia
- **STATE:** Missouri
- **COUNTY:** Boone

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
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<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: [] Restricted</td>
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<td>Object</td>
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**PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate):**

- \[\] Agricultural
- \[\] Government
- \[\] Park
- \[\] Transportation
- \[\] Comments
- \[\] Commercial
- \[\] Industrial
- \[\] Private Residence
- \[\] Religious
- \[\] Other (Specify)
- \[\] Educational
- \[\] Military
- \[\] Religious
- \[\] Other (Specify)
- \[\] Entertainment
- \[\] Museum
- \[\] Scientific

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

- **OWNER’S NAME:** State of Missouri
- **STREET AND NUMBER:** University of Missouri, Missouri Agriculture Experiment Station
- **CITY OR TOWN:** Columbia
- **STATE:** Missouri

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

- **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:** Not applicable
- **STREET AND NUMBER:**
- **CITY OR TOWN:** Columbia
- **STATE:** Missouri
- **COUNTY:** Boone

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

- **TITLE OF SURVEY:** National Survey of Historic Sites & Buildings
- **DATE OF SURVEY:** 1963
- **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
  - \[\] Federal
  - \[\] State
  - \[\] County
  - \[\] Local

**ADDRESS:**

- **STREET AND NUMBER:** Interior Building, 18 & 19th Streets at Virginia Ave., N.W.
- **CITY OR TOWN:** Washington
- **STATE:** D.C.
- **COUNTY:** 001
7. DESCRIPTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Deteriorated</th>
<th>Ruins</th>
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(Workbook page:)

**DESCRIPTION**

The plot performs the same function and remains in the same general condition as when created.
### 6. Significance

**Period:** (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- ☒ Pre-Columbian
- ☒ 20th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 18th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☐ 19th Century

**Specific Dates:** (If Applicable and Known) 1888

**Areas of Significance:** (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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<th>History</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Architecture</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Conservation</th>
<th>Communications</th>
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<th>Literature</th>
<th>Music</th>
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**Statement of Significance**

Established in 1888 and located on the campus of the University of Missouri, Sanborn Field has for almost three quarters of a century made significant investigations with different soil treatments and cropping systems. It is the oldest completely organized soil and crop experimental field in the United States. One of the major contributions to agriculture as a result of these experiments was the knowledge that high yields of quality grain may be produced when the land is properly treated with chemical fertilizer or manure. Plots having received these treatments for 75 years are still producing some of the highest yields on the field.

The antibiotic, aureomycin was developed from experiments involving timothy grass grown on the plot.

The Soil Erosion Plots are part of the land bought by private subscription in the 1870's and deeded to the state for the "purposes of agricultural research and teaching."
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES.

Smith, G. 3., Sanborn Field: Fifty Years of Field Experiments with Crop Rotations, Manure and Fertilizers, Bulletin 58, University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Columbia, 1942.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

NW
NE
SE
SW

LATITUDE
Degrees
Minutes
Seconds

LONGITUDE
Degrees
Minutes
Seconds

R
Q

APPRAOCH ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

NAME AND TITLE: Donald F. Dosch, Landmark Program Specialist, National Park Service, WIBO

STATE: NEB

COUNTY CODE: 68102

ORGANIZATION: National Park Service

DATE: January 24, 1977

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Director, Midwest Region

National Park Service

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: National [X] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Title

DATE

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DATE

See Instructions
Boundary Description for
Sanborn Field and Erosion Plots

The field is bounded on the west by College Avenue, on the north by Bouchelle Avenue, on the south by Rollins Street, and on the east by a line fronting Comaway Hall.
Established in 1888 and located on the campus of the University of Missouri, Sanborn Field has for almost three-fourths of a century made a significant investigation with different soil treatments and cropping systems. It is the oldest completely organized soils and crop experimental field in the United States. Sanborn Field approaches in agricultural importance, the famous Rothamsted Experimental Field near London, England, which has been under carefully planned experiments since the 1840's.
SANBORN FIELD AND SOIL EROSION PLOTS

COUNTY: Boone
LOCATION: University of Missouri campus, Columbia, Mo.
OWNER: University of Missouri
ADDRESS: Columbia, Missouri 65201
DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER: 10-15-66
DATE OF ENTRY: 07-1-19-64
DATE OF ELIGIBILITY: 06-10-65
DATE OF PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE: 06-10-65
DATE OF PRESENTATION (AND PRESENTOR):
DATE OF CERTIFICATE AWARDED: 07-19-64
DATE OF ELIGIBILITY: 06-10-65
DATE OF PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE: 06-10-65
DATE OF CERTIFICATE AWARDED: 07-19-64
DATE PLACE ON NATIONAL REGISTER: 10-15-66
ADDRESS:
OWNER:
LOCATION:
COUNTY:
SANBORN FIELD AND SOIL EROSION PLOTS