Montana State University to receive deed to 245 acres of the Fort Missoula reservation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Approximately 245 acres of the Fort Missoula reservation will pass to the possession of Montana State University this week, it was announced by Robert T. Pantzer, financial-vice-president of MSU. Pantzer had been authorized by the Department of Health Education and Welfare to file a deed to the property, thus completing University negotiations for the tract which were begun last April.

The tract is a roughly "L" shaped area abutting on South Avenue at the north edge and adjoining the Missoula Country Club on the east. The Bitterroot River runs through the southwest corner. Several buildings are in the parcel, including a hospital, two garages, nursery, two buildings formerly used as living quarters, and two cell blocks. The estimated market value was established at $117,800.

According to Pantzer, the University will use the property for various forestry projects, for R.O.T.C. purposes and for storage of equipment. Plans by the School of Forestry and the Department of Botany include establishment of an arboretum, tree seed orchards, a grass nursery and a forest tree nursery. Several departments will use the area for extensive laboratory field work. The R.O.T.C. is also planning to use portions of the tract for maneuvers and field training.

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