UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Double-0 Ranch Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Double-0 Ranch Historic District

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Double-0 County Road, Sub-Headquarters of Malheur NWR

CITY. TOWN
Burns

STATE
Oregon

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
X DISTRICT

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC

STATUS
X OCCUPIED

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE

BUILDING(S)
PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

STRUCTURE
BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

SITE
PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ENTERTAINMENT

OBJECT
n/a

GOVERNMENT

ACCESSIBLE

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

YES: RESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

PRIVATE ACQUISITION

YES: UNRESTRICTED

TRANSPORTATION

PRIVATE PROCESS

NO

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

MILITARY

OTHER:

AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Region I

STREET & NUMBER
Lloyd 500 Bldg., Suite 1692, 500 NE Mulnomah Street

CITY. TOWN
Portland

STATE
Oregon

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Harney County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
450 No. Buena Vista Street

CITY. TOWN
Burns

STATE
Oregon

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties

DATE
1978

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
State Historic Preservation Office, 525 Trade Street SE

CITY. TOWN
Salem

STATE
Oregon
**DESCRIPTION**

<table>
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<th>CONDITION</th>
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<tr>
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<td>_UNALTERED</td>
<td>_ORIGINAL SITE</td>
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<td>X_ALTERED</td>
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<td>X_FAIR</td>
<td>X_RUINS</td>
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Blacksmith Shop is a log walled, single story building with no foundation. A board roof and floor were added to the structure around 1903. Original floor was probably dirt and the roof was wood shingled. A door is on the north side and there is one window on both the east and west sides of the building. The building is approximately 19' long, 15' wide, and 13' high. This building is presently in poor shape (see photos). The roof is falling in, but the logs are all intact and plans have been drawn up and submitted to restore this structure in the same manner as the Cookhouse-Blacksmith shop.

The Loghouse is also a log walled building. Like the Blacksmith Shop, the structure is made of hand-hewn logs that were squared. Ends of the logs are dove-tailed to make the logs interlocking. The Loghouse has a cedar shingled roof and a wooden floor. The 1-1/2 story building has an upper room where the cook used to sleep during the Riley & Hardin ownership of the ranch. There are two windows on the north side of the building, a door on the south side, and another door on the north side. The Loghouse is 24' long, 16' wide, and 15' high. An old anvilstand and brand marks in the woodwork may be found inside. This building was restored in 1979. A new roof was added, windows and doors were straightened and repaired, the porch and fireplace were reconstructed using alkali mortar and native rocks from the site (see photos). A concealed concrete foundation, capped with native stone, was also added. The construction was accomplished to restore the building as near as possible to its original condition per Wayne R. Hill's research.

The Loghouse was originally used as a residence and the Blacksmith Shop as a cookhouse.

Other buildings on or near the site (see attached sketch map) include: refuge residence, occupied by refuge employee year-round. This building is just north of the site. This house was obtained from the military as a surplus item and moved onto the site in 1954; refuge pumphouse, built by the refuge in 1950 to protect the water supply to the residence; refuge garage and storage, for the refuge employee's vehicle and refuge equipment storage. This building was built by the refuge in 1955. A YACC trailer house was added in 1979 to temporarily house employees. It will be removed in 1982.

These governent buildings do not detract or contribute to the significance of the site. Archeological sites surround this area. Arrowheads have been found on the site. The refuge pumphouse and garage are located just northwest of the Loghouse on the site. Several other ranch sites are located in this valley, but are all privately owned.
The Double-0 Ranch Historic District consists of a 10 acre square plot of land that originally comprised the immediate environs of the residential/ barnyard working area of the ranch; thus, the boundaries include the locus of the original log house and cookhouse and their visual environmental setting. The barnyard spring is not included within the boundaries because it has been obscured to such an extent that it no longer contributes to the historic unity of the district. See Item 10 for the verbal boundary description.
**SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD**
- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**
- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

**SPECIFIC DATES**
c. 1880 (?)  

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Double-O Ranch's significance is based on the continuous history of ranching from its settlement in 1875 up to the time of its purchase by the U.S. Government (Malheur National Wildlife Refuge) in 1941.

Amos W. Riley and James A. Hardin established this ranch in 1875. It was one of the earliest permanent settlements in Harney County. The first set of ranch buildings erected by Riley and Hardin was burned in June, 1878 by warring Bannock and Paiute Indians. Both the Double-O Loghouse and Blacksmith Shop were erected shortly after this time. These buildings were used in conjunction with the cattle business until 1941. The Double-O fattened cattle for shipment to California and eastern markets. Railheads were located in Winnemucca, Nevada and Ontario, Oregon. Wintering herds numbered around 3,000 head.

William D. Hanley purchased this ranch in 1903 for $1,000 as Riley and Hardin were having financial difficulties. Hanley continued in the cattle ranching tradition of this area. Hanley improved the ranch for cattle by adding numerous irrigation ditches to increase grass production. Often, 3,000 to 4,000 tons of hay were harvested annually to winter cattle and to sell to other ranches. Hanley described his "feeder operation" like this: "A big, old-time cattle ranch was just a meat factory where they gathered up the grass, got it into commercial shape, and moved it on to the centers of population to be distributed to consumers".

These two buildings are examples of early pioneer architecture and are government-owned. They are two examples which can be preserved without fear of demolition or modification. Although the Blacksmith Shop is in an advanced stage of disrepair, the basic structure and materials are there.

Early usage of the Loghouse was as a residence, but the building was later used for grain storage shortly after Hanley's purchase. The Blacksmith Shop was first used as a cookhouse for the Riley and Hardin crew. After Hanley's take-over, the building was converted into a blacksmith shop. An anvil stand and brand marks in the wood work may still be seen in the building. These two buildings are the only buildings left that were built under the private ownership of the Double-O Ranch, which was once the headquarters for the over 14,000 acre ranch spread and Harney County's third largest cattle producing operation. No buildings remain from the Hanley era.

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge has since established three other buildings on the site and has a full-time maintenance worker residing in the government quarters.

The refuge has prepared a historical report on this site, with plans to restore the remaining historical building and develop interpretive facilities to orient the public at this site. Funds have been requested for completion of the restoration work and development of interpretive facilities.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10

UTM REFERENCES

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>3 1 2 4 6 0</td>
<td>4 7 9 4 1 2 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The buildings are located in T26S, R28E, SW-1/4 of NE-1/4 of NW-1/4 of Sec.36.

See continuation sheet

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
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<td>Harney</td>
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION
Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 113

CITY OR TOWN
Burns

CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES X

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE September 14, 1982

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 10/25/82

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

The boundary of this site is shown on the accompanying map. The area is ten acres in size and the northwest corner of the site lies at the base of the rim, approximately ten feet south of a line directly west of the southwest corner of the refuge residence. The tract is legally described as the SW-1/4 of the NE-1/4 of the NW-1/4 of Section 36, Township 26S, Range 28 East, Willamette Meridian. The longitude and latitude of the four corners of the tract are further described on the enclosed sketch.

Starting at northeast corner of T26S, R28E, section 36, SW1/4 of NE1/4 of NW1/4; then 660 feet south to southeast corner of T26S, R28E, section 36, SW1/4 of NE1/4 of NW1/4; then 660 feet west to southwest corner of T26S, R28E, section 36, SW1/4 of NE1/4 of NW1/4; then 660 feet north to northwest corner of T26S, R28E, section 36, SW1/4 of NE1/4 of NW1/4; then 660 feet east to starting point.
MALHEUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
DOUBLE O RANCH HISTORIC SITE

BUILDING NUMBER CODE
1-Loghouse (restored)
2-Blacksmith Shop (unaltered)
3-YACC Trailer
4-Refuge Garage and Storage
5-Refuge Pumphouse
6-Refuge Residence

Scale: 10 inches = 1.0 mile