

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Treaty Rock

other name/site number: 10KA44

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2. Location

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street & number: Interstate 90

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Post Falls vicinity: X

state: ID county: Kootenai code: 055 zip code: 83854

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Site

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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.

Signature of certifying official: [Handwritten Signature] Date: 3-19-92

State or Federal agency and bureau: Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

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.
determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
other (explain):

Signature of Keeper: [Handwritten Signature] Date of Action: 4-30-92

6. Function or Use

Table with 2 columns: Historic/Current and Sub. Categories include RELIGION, CULTURE, RECREATION, ceremonial site, work of art, monument, outdoor recreation.

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation N/A roof N/A  
walls N/A other N/A

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: D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Archaeology  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: Protohistoric

Significant Dates : 1750 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: Within the area ethnographically identified as Coeur d'Alene

Architect/Builder: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Archaeological and Historical Services,  
Eastern Washington University

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than 1.0 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>11</u>	<u>503690</u>	<u>5284260</u>	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: Keo Boreson

Organization: Archaeological & Hist. Services Date: August 4, 1991

Street & Number: Eastern Washington Univ. Telephone: (509) 359-4731

City or Town: Cheney State: WA Zip: 99004

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The Treaty Rock site is located on the south side of a massive outcrop of metamorphic rock (a muscovite-biotite gneiss). The rock art panel faces southwest toward the falls on the Spokane River, which is about 400 meters away. Ponderosa pine and Oregon grape are abundant in the area today, as well as lichen and moss growing on the rock. Other flora identified in the vicinity by an earlier study include apple trees, a cherry tree, serviceberry, chokecherry, currant, blackberry, kinnikinnick, ninebark, shiny-leaf spiraea, pearhip rose, black hawthorn, prairie smoke, oceanspray, yellow sweet clover, dalmation toadflax, mullein, St. John's wort, roundleaf alumroot, tufted phlox, syringa, star thistle, balsamroot, salisfy, chicory, slender everlasting, yarrow, western aster, spreading dogbane, and bracken fern (Breach and Snyder 1985).

The rock face upon which the petroglyphs and pictographs are located is a vertical, relatively smooth surface with some angular cobble-to-boulder-sized spalls at the base of the outcrop. Green and yellow lichen are growing near the rock art panel, and moss is present in other areas on the rock outcrop. There are fissures in the rock below and on both sides of the panel from which there are water seeps. No moisture or precipitated minerals were observed on the rock art, although one indistinct area of red pigment below the lower right figure may be paint redeposited by water.

The rock art panel extends from 1.55 to 2.90 meters above the present ground surface and is 2.20 meters wide. The petroglyphs occupy the upper half of the panel and include a name (Frederick Post) and date (June 1, 1871). The lines are two to three cm wide, are four to seven mm deep, and appear to have been made with a hammer and blunt-nosed chisel. There is lichen growing inside the chiseled areas of "June." Other incised letters ("POS") are located beneath the petroglyphs and are present in photographs from ca. 1940 (Idaho Historical Society 1940:37; Spokane Daily Chronicle 1940:3). These letters were outlined with a hammer and chisel with a striking surface diameter of four to five mm.

The lines of the pictographs are from 1.5 to 2.0 mm wide, suggesting a finger may have been used to apply the paint. The figures include three connected anthropomorphs and from three to five dots inside an oval, an anthropomorph with a headdress connected to the right side of the oval and the interior figures, and a row of fourteen dots above the oval.

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All of these pictographs are fairly bright and were made with the same hue of red paint (Munsell color 2.5 YR 3/4). Just above these figures are a less distinct circle and a mounted human. These motifs are closer to an orange color (Munsell color is 2.5 YR 4/6).

The large rock exposures and abundant vegetation give the area a striking parklike setting, which is interrupted by the noise and visual intrusion of the freeway. A wooden sign facing the parking lot at the northern edge of the rock outcrop identifies this area as Treaty Rock Park and there are graveled paths and wooden benches in the area. Signs along the freeway and streets in Post Falls direct visitors to the park and the site.

Sometime prior to 1974 the site was vandalized. Blue paint was present on some of the petroglyphs; it obscured and outlined some of the pictographs, and was present on several other areas of the rock outcrop. Attempts to remove the paint that surrounds the pictographs have been partially successful. Faded yellow paint and black ink are present on the rock face, as are scratched letters. The rock art is presently shielded by a large sheet of plexiglass bolted to the rock, about six inches from the rock face.

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Treaty Rock is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria D since it contains significant scientific information and traditional cultural and religious values for Native Americans.

The site was originally recorded by archaeologists from the Idaho State University Museum in Pocatello, Idaho, in August, 1966 and a rock art site form was completed in May, 1974, by Keo Boreson, then with the Laboratory of Anthropology at the University of Idaho in Moscow. In 1981 Treaty Rock Park was the focus of a study conducted by an anthropology class from North Idaho College, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, under the direction of Richard Snyder. Keo Boreson, with Archaeological and Historical Services at Eastern Washington University, Cheney, Washington, conducted more extensive investigations at the site in 1989 through a project sponsored by the Post Falls City Council and the Post Falls Historical Society.

Site 10KA44 is commonly thought to be the site of a treaty between Frederick Post and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Nash n.d.; Idaho State Historical Society 1940). To commemorate the event, legend has it that Post chiseled his name (Frederick Post) and the date (June 1, 1871) and the Indians painted various figures on the rock outcrop. Although Post was given water rights to what is now known as Post Falls in June of 1871 by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Seltice 1889:424), it is not known if the inscriptions (petroglyphs) and paintings (pictographs) at Treaty Rock represent this agreement or if Post's name and the date were later added to figures already on the rock outcrop.

Inconclusive studies conducted on three rock samples taken from a pictograph and two historic petroglyphs tentatively suggest the petroglyphs were made at the same time but after the pictographs were painted on the rock outcrop (Boreson 1989). One of the painted figures appears to be a human mounted on a horse, suggesting this image was made after the mid-1700s when horses were introduced into this area. The question of whether Treaty Rock actually represents the agreement between Frederick Post and the Coeur d'Alene Indians remains unanswered but could probably be resolved with further analysis.

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Site 10KA44 is within the area traditionally occupied by the Coeur d'Alene Indians, a Salishan-speaking people. Several villages and camps were located around Coeur d'Alene Lake and along the Spokane River. One camp of about fifteen people was situated on the north side of the Spokane River, possibly between Treaty Rock and the falls. The name of the camp was "q'ami'len" (throat, gorge) (Teit 1930:39) or "q'ami lin" (water falling into a mouth pothole) (Ray 1936:132), translations that fit the tremendous power and setting of the falls. The only other documented rock art within the traditional Coeur d'Alene area is a petroglyph site at Delcardo Bay, about eight miles south of the city of Coeur d'Alene (Boreson 1977). Pictographs reported near Chatcolet, on the southern end of the lake, have not been relocated (Erwin 1930:51).

Ethnographic information describing the role of rock art in the lives of Native American people is, in most areas of the Pacific Northwest, nonexistent. The only ethnographic data related to rock art in the study area was gathered by James Teit, who worked among the Coeur d'Alene Indians in 1904. Teit wrote:

There was no belief that spirits or "land mysteries" made certain rock paintings. All were made by people. Besides being records of dreams, objects seen in dreams, guardian spirits, battles, and exploits, they were supposed to transmit power from the object depicted to the person making the pictures. Young men during their puberty ceremonials made rock paintings, but girls very seldom did. From time to time older men also painted dreams on cliffs (Teit 1930:194).

In addition to the cultural and religious values the site has for Native Americans, there is scientific information that can be obtained from the motifs, the pigments, and the physical environment impacting the site. The geographic distribution of some of the motifs or assemblages of motifs (such as the encircled forms) suggests there may be a regional



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pattern of stylistic similarity that encompasses British Columbia, northeastern Washington, and northern Idaho (Boreson 1989). The analysis of pigment samples and the natural accretion of deposits on the pictographs can yield information on the materials used to make the paint, possibly the quarry from which the minerals were obtained, and the weathering processes affecting the site. The technology for dating pictographs is available if even minute amounts of an organic substance in the pigment is present. These analytical methods are in the process of being developed and have been used with varying degrees of success to answer similar research questions involving pigments from other rock art sites in the Pacific Northwest.

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Anonymous

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Boreson, Keo

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Nash, Mrs. M. B.

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Copy of article filed in the C.J. Brosnan Notebook Collections,  
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Site 10KA44 is located in Post Falls, Idaho, in T50N, R5W, SW1/4 NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 3 (USGS map attached). The site is about 45 meters north of Interstate 90, 25 meters northeast of the railroad tracks, 0.5 blocks south of Seltice Way, and 0.5 blocks west of Compton Road. The rock art is on the southwest-facing side of a metamorphic rock outcrop. The rock art panel is 2.2 meters wide and extends 1.55 to 2.90 meters above the ground surface.

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The site dimensions are those of a vertical rock surface and are based on the extend of the rock art.