

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Douglas, J. O., House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
209 Scotland Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Dunedin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
5

VICINITY OF

STATE
Florida 33528

CODE
12

COUNTY
Pinellas

CODE
103

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Borders, Ronald M. and Sandra W.

STREET & NUMBER
209 Scotland Street

CITY, TOWN
Dunedin

VICINITY OF

STATE
Florida 33528

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pinellas County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Clearwater

STATE
Fl.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
NA

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The J. O. Douglas House, situated on a corner lot near St. Joseph Sound, is a T-shaped structure with a central hall flanked by two rooms to the east and one room to the west on the first floor. A two-story Tee-wing with a one-story extension (original kitchen) projects from the south (rear) elevation. Two dissimilar interior chimneys pierce the gable roof of the main section. Brick piers with wood lattice infill support the frame structure covered with horizontal siding.

The symmetrical 5-bay north (entrance) facade is composed of six over six double hung sash windows with pedimented architraves. The center entrance consists of double four panel doors with a two-light transom sash and side lights. A one-story hipped roof porch with jigsaw tracery with brackets and a flat, sawn balustrade extends across the three center bays of the north facade.

The fenestration on the west (side) elevation is irregular: a pentagonal bay is located in the first story while the second story has three irregularly spaced windows. The east (side) elevation of the main section has symmetrical four-bay fenestration on both stories except for an additional window in an enclosed porch extending from the rear of this section.

The two-story wing has irregular fenestration with two over two double hung sash windows. A one-story porch with details duplicating those on the front porch extends along the west (side) of the Tee. The original kitchen wing has six over six double hung sash windows as does the main section of the house although it is sheathed with board and batten siding.

The interior is undistinguished except for wood wainscot with wood panels above and window and door architraves with shallow pediments duplicating those on the exterior. The flooring is wide tongue and grooved which has been painted as long as the owner can remember.

Although the house has been altered several times since it was constructed in 1880, the modifications appear not to have substantially changed the character of the original dwelling. Converting the house into three apartments in the early twentieth century did not affect the principal partitions. The original detached board and batten kitchen was joined to the house by the addition of the two-story Tee, thought to have occurred before 1895.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES: +1880 ca.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John O. Douglas House derives its significance from being one of the oldest physical remnants of the town of Dunedin and the home of one of the owners of an important early store in the pioneer community. It remains an excellent example of vernacular architecture in central Florida.

John O. Douglas came to Dunedin from Scotland in the late 1870's and entered into partnership with James Sommerville.¹ They opened a general merchandise store in a portion of a cotton gin building. This situation was temporary, however, since Douglas and Sommerville soon constructed their own building on the bay and built a pier for shipping goods and agricultural products northward (chiefly to Cedar Key). It was not until after the opening of the store and shipping facilities that ... "Dunedin became the principal trading point, as the Douglas and Sommerville enterprise was a large one, and drew business from the entire Peninsula."²

Although citrus had been grown commercially and exported from St. Augustine in the 1760's, it was not until the 1870's that growers realized the size of the potential market and the possibility of satisfying it with Florida fruit.⁴ By 1889, the marketable value of citrus grown in Florida reached \$3,080,000.⁵ Heavy dependence on business from the citrus industry resulted in the Douglas and Sommerville company's bankruptcy after the severe freeze of 1894-1895.⁶

After purchasing the land in 1878,⁷ Douglas had his home constructed in 1880.⁸ An 1884 plat shows the Douglas House along with two stores and a second house.⁹ Of these buildings, only the Douglas House remains.

In 1878, Douglas petitioned the federal government for a post office to be located on the premises of his general store and to be called Dunedin, the Gaelic equivalent for Edinburgh, capital of

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less Than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	17	323870	3099500
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

In Dunedin, that part of lot 6 in Dunedin, Plat K, page 473 lying east of Edgewater Avenue and West of lot sold to H. E. Winchester.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Terence H. Nolan, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management

DATE

5-31-1979

STREET & NUMBER

The Capitol

TELEPHONE

(904) 487-2333

CITY OR TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Fl. 32301

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

7/18/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

11-29-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

11/26/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Scotland.¹⁰ The petition was granted the same year.¹¹

This house is a typical late nineteenth century dwelling of central Florida. The fact that little of the original fabric has been altered makes this house an important component of the extant architectural heritage of the state. Except for the flat sawn balusters, posts and brackets on the porches, the very simple window treatment, and the projecting bay, the Douglas house is simply a five-bay rectangular structure with a "Tee" wing addition evidencing no discernable style.

¹William O. Douglas, History of Dunedin (St. Petersburg: Great Outdoor Publishing Co., 1965), pp. 104-110.

²William L. Staub, History of Pinellas County, Florida (St. Augustine: The Record Co., 1929), P. 104.

³Charles L. Mowat, East Florida as a British Province, 1763-1784 (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1943), pp. 77-78.

⁴Louis W. Ziegler and Herbert S. Wolfe, Citrus Growing in Florida (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1975), p. 6.

⁵Florida Times-Union, Trade Edition, January, 1890.

⁶Dunedin Historical Society, "A Walking Tour of the Historic Area, Dunedin, Florida," (n.p., n.d.), photocopy located at the Dunedin Historical Society, Inc., Dunedin, Florida.

⁷Hillsborough County, Florida, Deed Book E, pp. 290-291, located in the Hillsborough County, Florida, Courthouse, Tampa, Florida.

⁸Hillsborough County Tax Rolls, 1878-1880, photocopy located at the FDAHRM.

⁹City of Dunedin, Plat Map, 1884, located in the City Planning Office, Dunedin, Florida.

¹⁰Neil MacAlpine and John MacKenzie, Gaelic-English and English-Gaelic Distionary, (Glasgow: Gairn Publications, 1973), p. 114.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

¹¹Alfred G. Bradbury and E. Story Hallock, A Chronology of Florida Post Offices (Bradenton, Florida: Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs, 1962), p. 23.

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Bradbury, Alfred G. and Hallock, E. Story. A Chronology of Florida Post Offices. Bradenton: Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs, 1962.

Douglas, William L. History of Dunedin. St. Petersburg: Great Outdoors Publishing Co., 1965.

Dunedin, Florida. Plat Map. Located in the City Planning Office, Dunedin, Florida.

Dunedin Historical Society. "A Walking Tour of the Historic Area, Dunedin, Florida." Photocopy located at the Dunedin Historical Society, Dunedin, Florida.

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MacAlpine, Neil and MacKenzie, John. Gaelic-English and English-Gaelic Dictionary. Glasgow: Gairn Publications, 1973.

Mowat, Charles L. East Florida as a British Province, 1763-1784. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1943.

Staub, William L. History of Pinellas County. St. Augustine: The Record Co., 1929.

Zeigler, Louis and Wolfe, Herbert S. Citrus Growing in Florida. Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1975.