UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PHA	68	3 93	/
FOR NPS USE	ONLY	DATA	Cur.
RECEIVED	SEP 8	1978	- OUT
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		MINATION I		ATE ENTERED	NOV	2 1978
S			O COMPLETE NATION			3
1 NAME						
HISTORIC	White Joh	n B. House				
AND/OR COMM	ON			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
LOCATI	ON					
STREET & NUME	BER					
	86 N. Rive	er Road			OR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	Rock Point	_	VICINITY OF	cond 4th	RESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
STATE			CODE	CQUI		CODE
	Oregon	41		Jacks	on	029
CLASSIF	ICATION	N .				
CATEGO	RY OWN	ERSHIP	STATUS		PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	;	X_OCCUPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	X_PRIVAT	E	_UNOCCUPIED	_	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН		WORK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBL	IC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	_	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PRO	CESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING	CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
			NO	_	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER	OF PROP	ERTY				
NAME	Leonard J.	and Lenore D.	Peck			
STREET & NUMB	86 N. Rive	er Road				
CITY, TOWN	Rock Point			Orego	n 97525	
I COATTY			VICINITY OF	oroge	11 57525	
LOCATI	ON OF LE	EGAL DESCR	IPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DE	EEDS, ETC.	Jackson County	Courthouse			
STREET & NUMB		Main and Oakda	ıle			
CITY, TOWN			-		STATE	
		Medford		Orego	n 97501	
6 REPRES	ENTATIC	ON IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS	,		
TITLE	Statewide	Inventory of H	Historic Sites ar	nd Buildir	ngs	
DATE	1970		FEDERAL	X_STATEC	OUNTY _LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FO		Historic Prese	ervation Office			
CITY, TOWN	Salem			Oregon	STATE 97310	



CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT __DETERIORATED

x_GOOD __RUINS

__FAIR __UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house built for John B. White at Rock Point in 1859 is one of the "four other old buildings nearby" the Rock Point Tavern noted by HABS surveyors in the 1930s. The three other buildings were a dwelling, store, and a deteriorating barn. As is the Rock Point Tavern of 1864, the John B. White House is attributed to carpenter-builder W. O'Harra It is of box construction, a method of construction employing hand-hewn framing timbers and heavy undressed boards placed on end without studding. Exterior siding is dressed clapboards.

The single-story house is oriented toward the south, facing the Rogue River, and has an L-shaped plan. The shingled gable roof was replaced recently. The shingle ridge cap is not an historic treatment, however, and the chimney was rebuilt with a flare top instead of a simple corbeled necking. The only other modification apparent from the public right-of-way is the rebuilt floor of the central portico. The solid paneled railing, which resembled wainscoting in the Wolf Creek Tavern in Josephine County, was not retained. Otherwise, the Classical Revival building is externally intact.

The 31-foot facade is formally organized, having a double-hung sash window with pedimented architrave and nine over six lights on either side of a central entry with transom and side lights. A gable roof with boxed cornice and frieze boards matching those of the main block shelters the main entry, and its gable end is finished with raking frieze and plain board tympanum. Capitals of porch posts and shadow pilasters are similar to those used on the neighboring Rock Point Tavern some five years later. The posts are composed of a decorative framework of verticals and diagonal braces. The railing of the second story porch of the Tavern also makes use of such cross-members to achieve a decorative pattern as well as rigidity. Window and door trim of the neighboring buildings is identica

Either end of the main block is lighted by a single double-hung window with nine lights over six. The rear slope of the roof of the main block breaks to a lower pitch over the back rooms. Windows in the back rooms and the westerly ell have straight architraves and double-hung sash with six lights over six.

Originally, a shed-roofed porch extended the length of the inside, or east, elevation of the ell. Siding on the north end of the ell is board and batten. A lean-to bathroom addition was added to the northeast corner of the ell in 1943. It is believed that a gable-roofed portico originally sheltered an entrance in the west side of the ell. The existing porch at this location consists of a shed roof, two posts and wooden flooring.

Parlor and sitting room are situated on either side of the central entry hall. The parlor chimneypiece has a hand-painted wood-grain finish in fair condition. The sitting room has a working fireplace and an ungrained mantelpiece. Eight of the interior doors have one or both sides with their original graining in good condition, as do most of the door and window framements and the remaining baseboards. The sitting room ceiling was lowered by earlier occupants and, as previously noted, a bathroom addition was made to the ell some 35 years ago. The present owners are considering plans to re-do the bathroom addition siding to conform with that of the ell and to replace shutters, window screens, side porch, and paneled front porch railing.

Also occupying the property is a double garage and workshop. It is offset from the northwest corner of the house, to the rear, some twenty feet. Built about 1965, the garage is a wood frome construction with white-painted plywood sheathing, and a rolled paper roof.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X.1800-1899	X.COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1859	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT W. O'Hara	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historic single-story frame house at Rock Point, on the old pack train and stage route through the Rogue River Valley, was erected in 1859 for John B. White--townsite proprietor, storekeeper and postmaster. It is significant to the community and to Jackson County as a well-preserved example of Classical Revival architecture and as the oldest dwelling remaining in the settlement established during local gold excitement in the mid-1850s. The house is noted for its intact hand-grained interior woodwork. Construction is attributed to a carpenter-builder named W. O'Harra, who--according to local tradition--is also linked with the Rock Point Tavern, which was built with a traditional double piazza in 1864, and recorded by HABS in 1934, and the William Bybee House (1857-1860), an important Greek Revival house in the vicinity of Jacksonville which also was recorded by HABS and subsequently entered in the National Register. The John B. White House has been refurbished recently by its current owners.

Rock Point is situated on the north bank of the Rogue River between the later communities of Rogue River and Gold Hill. Rock Point began as a way-station for packers and miners, and, later, was a waypoint for travelers on the main stage route between Jackson-ville and the Willamette Valley. After 1883, it was a stop on the Southern Pacific Railroad. At the height of its historic period, in the 1880s, Rock Point boasted a store, hotel, livery stable, blacksmith shop, saloon, post office, schoolhouse, and telegraph office. Today, the house of the townsite proprietor and the neighboring Rock Point Tavern are among the oldest remnants of the settlement.

John White, a native of Pennsylvania, built his house on a tract of land awarded to him for his participation in the Rogue River Indian Wars (1852-1856). His general merchandise store was located on the lot just west of his house.

On November 17, 1859, a post office was established in Rock Point at the general store and White was the postmaster. Several years later, the office of postmaster was taken over by Benjamin Haymond, a business partner of White and husband of White's stepdaughter, Hattie Beach. Haymond was to hold that office for over 33 years, right up until the time of his death. He hailed from Virginia and had arrived in Oregon in 1852; Jackson County in 1857.

Haymond and his wife Hattie are believed to have lived in the John B. White House for most of their married life. Together they operated the store, bought the miners' gold, and sold mining supplies. Beginning in 1868, Haymond was partner to J.B. White; then, in 1874, White sold his interest to the Magruder brothers (H.H. and Constantine). In 1878 Haymond bought the Rock Point covered bridge and put it into first-class repair for travel. Haymond thrived in business and bought out the Magruder brothers in 1886. His business ledgers show that several times a year he would travel to San Francisco on buying trips, spending several thousands of dollars each time. On one trip, he bought a square grand piano which is now in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. June Hutchins, a Jackson County resident.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPH	ICAL REFE	RENCES		
Walling, A.G. A History of So			ackson, Josephine	, Douglas, Curry
and Coos Counties (Portla	•	•		
United States census records	for Jackson Co	unty 1860, 187	'0 and 1880.	
Obituary articles on Benjamin the Jacksonville Museum,				
			(see continuat	ion sheet)
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY UTM REFERENCES	A 164x154' l ls	s than On	L	
A 1, 0 4 9, 2 5, 0, 0 4, 0 ZONE EASTING NOF C VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	6[9,7[6,7]0] RTHING	B ZONE EA	STING NORTHI	NG
The property nominated is 164'x154', bounded on the east by the Rock Point Tarkiver Road.	e north by Sou	thern Pacific	Railroad right-of	-way, on the
LIST ALL STATES AND COUN	TIES FOR PROPERT	IES OVERLAPPING	STATE OR COUNTY BOUN	IDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
11 FORM PREPARED BY				
Lenore D. Peck			DATE	
ORGANIZATION			DATE April, 1978	
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE	
86 N. River Road			(503) 855-7221	
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	
Gold Hill			Oregon 97525	
12 STATE HISTORIC PRE				V
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			THIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL <u>X</u>	
NATIONAL	SIAII	E	LUCAL A	
As the designated State Historic Preserva hereby nominate this property for inclus criteria and procedures set forth by the NOTATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER S	ion in the National R ational Park Service.			
TITLE State Historic Pre	servation Offi	cer	DATE Augus	t 23, 1978
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROP	ERTY IS NCLUDED	IN THE NATIONAL R		12/28
CHIECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOG		ECEDIATION	KEDRER OR THE	ATTUMBU KOMULSTOR
ATTEST: William Colors	riel.		DATE /0/ 2	26/18
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTE	H			

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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White (John B.) House

CONTINUATION SHEET

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A solid financial man, prominent in several of the leading banking institutions, Haymond also took interest in public affairs. He served as Jackson County Commissioner two terms. He also was active in the Democratic Party. His private papers and letters show that he was called upon several times to execute wills and manage property for his friends and neighbors.

Widowed in 1891, Haymond married Rose Ann Morris in 1892. He died in 1906 after the couple had several children. The second Mrs. Haymond continued to live in the house at Rock Point, raising her children and keeping the store open a few more years. She close the store without having to sell it. After her death in 1943, it was burned down. The post office at Rock Point was discontinued in 1912, and thereafter mail for area residents was distributed from Gold Hill.

With the exception of a small cottage on the river of a more recent date, the John B. White House and the Rock Point Tavern are the only surviving buildings used as dwellings from the original townsite. It should be pointed out that the Tavern is believed to have been built about five years later than the house for Lytte J. White (ca. 1819-1877), a native of New York. Hosteler White had a land patent immediately adjoining the claim of John White, and it is very likely that the two men were related. This would account for similarities in project design and construction as well as for the proximity of the buildings and claims. Upon his father's death in 1877, Henry L. White took charge of operating the Rock Point Tavern. L. J. White had arrived at Rock Point in 1858, the same year, or perhaps a year later than the time John White is understood to have arrived on the scene.

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Interview with Mrs. June Hutchins, granddaughter of Ben Haymond, January 21, 1978. Obituary article on L.J. White, Oregon Sentinel (October 26, 1877), p. 3.