

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

APR 14 1977

DATE ENTERED

DEC 22 1978

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Nez Perce Snake River Archaeological District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

CODE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Archaeological and Historic Inventory

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE
Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nez Perce Archaeological District extends

The eastern limit

The western boundary

Included in this area are fifty-eight seasonal camp sites, twenty-five burial sites, twenty-one pit house sites, eight storage shelter sites, and various other cultural features including pictographs, storage pits, a fish wall, and a sweat house. Many of these sites are in geographical association to form site complexes composed of one or more large seasonal campsites, a burial area, and frequently pictographs, rockshelters, and fish walls. There are five of these site complexes,

and

Sites 1ONP1 through 1ONP91,

, were investigated by archaeological survey in the summer of 1964 by Washington State University. Three sites (1ONP1, 1ONP27, 1ONP28) were tested, a total of five test pits excavated. The survey and testing revealed chipped stone, pecked and battered stone, ground stone, and bone and antler artifacts, and occupational evidence from 8000 BP to the early historic period.

The entire District is accessible by boat and many areas have been disturbed by amateur collectors. Private residences, cattle feeding operations, and the conversion of river bottomland into plowed fields have also had negative effects on some sites. Nevertheless, the majority of the archaeological sites in the district remain undisturbed. (See continuation sheet.)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nez Perce Snake River Archaeological District contains a long and continuous sequence of aboriginal occupation from 8000 years ago to the early 1900's. Ethnographic sources as well as archaeological survey and test excavations indicate the presence of large numbers of late prehistoric and early historic aboriginal sites.

Ethnographic documentation indicates the proposed District was an area used extensively for Nez Perce settlements during the late prehistoric and early historic periods. Archaeological survey supports the ethnographic evidence and suggests the usage was primarily for salmon fishing and winter villages or camps.

Pictograph sites, frequently associated with winter villages in the District, contain several hundred figures both naturalistic and abstract. This form of Native American art, though not well documented or studied, is an important expression of past cultures.

The importance of riverine sites, the appearance of housepits, and changes in artifact inventory suggest the pattern of winter villages and site complexes came into existence approximately 2000 years ago. Prior to this time both the social structures and economic cycles of aboriginal groups in the Plateau (and the proposed District) appear to have been significantly different.

The narrow confines of the river canyon, the wide zone of ecological variation available for exploitation, and the restricted accessibility have created a microcosm of social and environmental relationships over a time span of at least 8000 years.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheet.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 3,500 acres

UTM REFERENCES (See continuation sheet.)

A	_____	_____	_____	B	_____	_____	_____
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Nez Perce Archaeological District encompasses all the land



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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David G. Rice, Department of Sociology/Anthropology

ORGANIZATION

University of Idaho

DATE

April 4, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Moscow

STATE

Idaho

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Merle Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6 April 1977

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

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

12/22/78

ATTEST:

William Nelson

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/15/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

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Owners of Property cont'd

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

TAX REFORM ACT

MAY 17 1977

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE three

Sites in Nez Perce Snake River Archaeological District
tabulated by site features

Site Number	Camp	Burials	Pit Houses	Storage Shelters	Other Cultural Features
1ONP1	x	10	8	-	SP?
1ONP2	-	-	-	1	SP
1ONP3	-	-	-	1	-
1ONP4	-	-	-	1	-
1ONP5	-	-	-	1	-
1ONP6	-	25	-	-	-
1ONP7	x	x?	-	-	-
1ONP8	-	-	-	-	P?
1ONP9	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP10	x	-	-	-	F
1ONP11	-	-	-	-	S
1ONP12	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP13	x	5	-	-	-
1ONP14	x	-	1	-	-
1ONP15	x	x?	2	-	-
1ONP16	-	15	-	-	-
1ONP17	-	15	-	-	-
1ONP18	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP19	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP20	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP21	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP22	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP23	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP24	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP25	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP26	-	-	-	-	P
1ONP27	-	25	-	-	-
1ONP28	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP29	x	-	-	1	P
1ONP30	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP31	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP32	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP33	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP34	-	6	-	-	-
1ONP39	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP40	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP41	x	x?	3	-	-
1ONP42	x	-	1	-	-
1ONP43	-	-	-	-	P
1ONP44	x	x?	25	-	-

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Sites in District cont'd

Site Number	Camp	Burials	Pit Houses	Storage Shelters	Other Cultural Features
1 ONP45	x?	-	1?	-	-
1 ONP46	x	-	4	-	-
1 ONP47	-	-	-	1	P
1 ONP48	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP49	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP50	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP51	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP52	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP53	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP54	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP55	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP56	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP57	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP58	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP59	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP60	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP61	-	10	-	-	-
1 ONP62	x	-	3	-	-
1 ONP63	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP64	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP65	x	-	4	-	-
1 ONP66	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP67	x	-	1	-	-
1 ONP68	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP69	-	-	-	1	-
1 ONP70	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP71	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP72	x	-	20	-	-
1 ONP73	x	-	6	-	-
1 ONP74	x	-	1	-	-
1 ONP75	x	-	1?	-	-
1 ONP76	-	3?	-	-	-
1 ONP77	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP78	x	-	1	-	-
1 ONP79	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP80	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP81	-	5	-	-	-
1 ONP82	x	-	3	-	-
1 ONP83	x	-	1	-	-
1 ONP84	x	-	-	-	-
1 ONP85	-	10	-	-	-

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Sites in District cont'd

Site Number	Camp	Burials	Pit Houses	Storage Shelters	Other Cultural Features
1ONP86	-	5	-	-	-
1ONP87	-	5	-	-	-
1ONP88	x	-	-	-	-
1ONP89	x?	-	x?	-	-
1ONP90	-	-	-	3	-
1ONP91	x?	x?	x?	-	-

TOTALS

BY SITE	58	25	20	8	9
FEATURES	-	189	88	10	-

x indicates trait presence, - indicates trait absence, ? indicates that trait occurrence is possible but in need of verification, and arabic numerals indicate minimal numbers of pit house depressions, storage shelters, and burials. Keys to the letters under the heading of "Other Cultural Features" are: P, petroglyphs and/or pictographs; SP, storage pits; F, fish wall; S, sweat house (adapted from Nelson and Rice 1969:6).

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE six

Characteristics of Seasonal Camp Sites

Site	Approximate Area Sq. Meters	Recent Component Present	Early Component Present	Associated Site Features
1ONP1	50,000	x	x	H, B
1ONP7	5,000	x	?	B?
1ONP9	35,000	x	?	-
1ONP10	15,000	x	?	F
1ONP12	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP13	3,000	x	?	B
1ONP14	6,000	x	?	H
1ONP15	4,500	x	?	B?, H
1ONP18	2,000	x	?	-
1ONP19	600	x	?	-
1ONP20	6,000	x	?	-
1ONP21	6,000	x	?	-
1ONP22	4,500	x	?	-
1ONP23	40,000	x	?	-
1ONP24	600	x	?	-
1ONP25	600	x	?	-
1ONP28	700	-	x	-
1ONP29	50,000	x	x	P, R
1ONP30	7,500	x	?	-
1ONP31	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP32	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP33	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP39	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP40	6,000	x	-?	-
1ONP41	3,000	x	?	B?, H
1ONP42	4,500	x	?	H
1ONP44	50,000	x	?	B?, H
1ONP45	3,000	x	?	H
1ONP46	3,000	x	?	H
1ONP48	6,000	x	?	-
1ONP49	1,000	x	?	-
1ONP51	3,000	x	?	-
1ONP52	1,000	x	?	-
1ONP53	1,000	x	?	-
1ONP54	3,000	x	-?	-
1ONP55	6,000	x	?	-
1ONP56	3,000	x	?	-

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PAGE seven

Characteristics of Seasonal Camp Sites cont'd

Site	Approximate Area Sq. Meters	Recent Component Present	Early Component Present	Associated Site Features
10NP57	3,000	x	?	-
10NP59	4,500	x	?	-
10NP60	1,000	x	?	-
10NP62	200	x	?	H
10NP63	10,500	x	?	-
10NP65	2,000	x	?	H
10NP66	2,000	x	?	-
10NP67	500	x	?	H
10NP71	3,000	x	?	-
10NP72	60,000	x	?	H
10NP73	2,000	x	?	H
10NP74	2,000	x	?	H
10NP75	3,000	x	?	H?
10NP77	4,000	x	?	-
10NP78	17,000	x	?	H
10NP82	6,000	x	?	H
10NP83	2,000	x	?	H
10NP84	3,000	x	?	-
10NP88	2,000	x	?	-
10NP89	4,000	x?	?	H?
10NP91	3,000	x?	?	B?, H?
TOTALS	480,200	57	3	24

An x indicates presence of a characteristic or component, a - indicates its absence; a ? which stands alone indicates there is no conclusive evidence for component presence or absence; a ? which stands after another symbol signifies that the existence of that trait is in need of further substantiation. Definitions for symbols under "Associated Site Features" are: H, pit house depressions; B, burials; F, fish walls; P, petroglyphs and/or pictographs; R, rockshelter (adapted from Nelson and Rice 1969:91).

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Characteristics of Burial Sites

Site	Cairn Burials	Talus Burials	Burial Yard	Burials Associated with Seasonal Camp Site
10NP1	10	-	-	x
10NP6	10	15	x	-
10NP7	x?	-	-	x
10NP13	5	-	-	x
10NP15	x?	-	-	x
10NP16	15	-	x	-
10NP17	15	-	x	-
10NP27	25	-	x	-
10NP34	6	-	x	-
10NP41	x?	-	x	-
10NP44	x?	-	-	x
10NP50	5	-	x	-
10NP58	5	-	x	-
10NP61	10	-	x	-
10NP64	5	-	x	-
10NP68	5	-	x	-
10NP70	5	-	x	-
10NP76	3?	-	x	-
10NP79	5	-	x	-
10NP80	5	-	x	-
10NP81	5	-	x	-
10NP85	10	-	x	-
10NP86	5	-	x	-
10NP87	5	-	x	-
10NP91	x?	-	-	x?
TOTALS	159	15	19	6

Arabic numbers represent minimal estimates. ? indicates questionable occurrence (adapted from Nelson and Rice 1969:93).

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Iverson, Thomas M.

1975 Archaeological test excavations in Hell's Gate recreation area, Nez Perce County, Idaho. University of Idaho Anthropological Research Manuscript Series, No. 21, Laboratory of Anthropology, University of Idaho, Moscow.

Nelson, Charles M. and David G. Rice

1969 Archaeological survey and test in the Asotin Dam Reservoir area, southeastern Washington. Pullman: Washington State University.

Schwede, Madge L.

1966 An ecological study of Nez Perce settlement patterns. Master's thesis, Washington State University, Pullman.

Spinden, Herbert Joseph

1908 The Nez Perce Indians. Memoirs of the American Anthropological Association, Vol. 2, Part 3, (no. 9).

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- A. [REDACTED]
- B. [REDACTED]
- C. [REDACTED]
- D. [REDACTED]
- E. [REDACTED]
- F. [REDACTED]
- G. [REDACTED]
- H. [REDACTED]
- I. [REDACTED]
- J. [REDACTED]
- K. [REDACTED]
- L. [REDACTED]
- M. [REDACTED]
- N. [REDACTED]
- O. [REDACTED]
- P. [REDACTED]
- Q. [REDACTED]
- R. [REDACTED]
- S. [REDACTED]
- T. [REDACTED]
- *T. [REDACTED]
- *U. [REDACTED]

- *V. [REDACTED]
- *W. [REDACTED]
- *X. [REDACTED]
- *Y. [REDACTED]
- *Z. [REDACTED]
- *A. [REDACTED]
- *B. [REDACTED]
- *C. [REDACTED]
- *D. [REDACTED]
- *E. [REDACTED]
- *F. [REDACTED]
- *G. [REDACTED]
- *H. [REDACTED]
- *I. [REDACTED]
- *J. [REDACTED]
- *K. [REDACTED]
- *L. [REDACTED]
- *M. [REDACTED]
- *N. [REDACTED]
- *O. [REDACTED]
- *A. [REDACTED]

*Western boundary of the Snake River Archaeological District submitted by the State of Washington.



- 1) Nez Perce Snake River Archaeological District
 - 2) Nez Perce County, Idaho
 - 3) David G. Rice
 - 4) 1969
 - 5) U. of Idaho, Moscow, Id.
 - 6) Looking south, Redbird Creek, 10NP72
 - 7) Photo 1
- APR 14 1977
- DEC 22 1978