

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Double Arrow Lodge
Other names/site number: Double Arrow Ranch/Great Hall, 24MO1675
Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 301 Lodge Way
City or town: Seeley Lake State: MT County: Missoula
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Rustic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD: Log, STONE, CONCRETE,
METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Double Arrow Lodge, built between November 1929 and June 1930, is a Rustic style building located on Lodge Way about one mile south of both the community of Seeley Lake, and its namesake body of water, in Missoula County, Montana. The location of the lodge provides commanding views of the Swan Range to the east and the Mission Mountains to the west. The lodge sits on a small rise overlooking Drew Creek, a pond, and a meadow to the north. The lodge faces south onto Lodge Way. The lodge originated as a cattle ranch in the early twentieth century and later functioned as a dude ranch. It currently serves as the centerpiece of the Double Arrow Lodge resort, a complex that consists of ten guest cabins and lodges, a golf course, a swimming pool, and tennis courts.

The lodge displays a three-part plan footprint with a rectangular ell on the west side of the building. The lodge orients east-west with projections centrally located on the north and south elevations of the building. The lodge has intersecting gable roofs and walls comprised of log. With the exception of the roof, the lodge is entirely constructed of logs obtained from the surrounding area. The building rests on a concrete, log, and rubblestone foundation that has been recently upgraded and repaired. The lodge's east wing contains guest rooms, while the west wing houses the restaurant and bar. The central portion houses the lodge's lobby, a loft area, and office. The lodge retains its original footprint, fenestration, materials, and decorative features.

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An addition on the west wing replicates an open-air patio that was enclosed in the early 1970s. The north-south addition on the west is, in fact, an extension of an already existing ell constructed as part of the original lodge during the winter of 1929-1930. The patio and ell are, however, stylistically compatible with the main lodge and not intrusive to the overall design of the Double Arrow Lodge.

Narrative Description

The Double Arrow Lodge is a T-shaped Rustic-style building constructed in 1929-1930 from locally obtained materials. The north-south section and east wing of the building are 1½ stories consisting of the lodge's lobby, kitchen, offices, and guest rooms. The west wing houses the dining room, bar, and a covered patio. A north-south addition on the west was constructed in 2012 and is stylistically compatible to the main lodge. The lodge features intersecting gable roofs sheathed in metal in the late 1980s. The building was constructed atop tamarack tree pilings with additional support provided by rubblestone and concrete. Windows throughout include a mixture of 6/6 double-hung, 6-lite casement units, and single-lite fixed windows. The 6/6 lite double-hung and casement units are original to the lodge, while the fixed lite windows replaced the originals in the 1970s. The lodge's log walls display saddle-notching, with some logs coped at the ends. The logs extend one-foot beyond the corners and are sawn off at the ends. The rear façade allows reading the modifications made to the building by the position of the extended log ends. Log purlins extend off each of the lodge's gable-ends. The roof throughout has log rafters that are boxed-in at the ends and wood soffits.

South Elevation (Front)

The façade consists of a central gable-front flanked by side-gable-roofed wings on the east and west; the central gable serves as the visual center of the lodge and features extended log purlins. An exterior rubblestone chimney is central to and visually dominates the gable. The stone consists primarily of cobblestone.¹ The chimney is flanked by single 6/6 double-hung windows with half-log surrounds.

The east wing sports three gable roof dormers, each roof sheathed in metal. The eaves have log rafters that are boxed-in and the soffits are beveled. The walls display clapboard siding and the window surrounds exhibit half-log veneer. The windows are 6-lite casement units.

A wood paneled door with a single fixed lite entry is located immediately east of the large central gable on the far west end of the wing. Immediately east of the entry, and centrally located on the elevation, occur two 6-lite wood casement windows. Paired 6/6 double-hung windows provide illumination into the far west end of the elevation. The open porch, constructed in 1989, shields the entry and windows from the elements. The porch features a roof supported by log posts and partially enclosed by a log railing.

¹ According to the owner, Patt Donich, the chimney has a crack running nearly the length of the feature, caused by the August 1959 Hebgen Lake earthquake.

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East Elevation

East elevation fenestrations consists of a 6-lite casement window in the gable and two 6/6 double-hung ground floor windows.

North Elevation (Rear)

The roof of the east wing of the north elevation features three gable-roof dormers that echo the appearance of the dormers on the south façade. Paired 6/6 double-hung windows bracket a central 6-lite casement window of the wing.

The central gabled projection of the rear elevation faces north toward Drew Creek.² The extended gable roof creates a balcony on the second floor, supported by log posts with log brackets. Log floor joists also support the second floor deck. The gable exhibits log purlins and exposed rafters. The eaves have beveled wood soffits. The gable wall of the second floor contains an entry consisting of a modern door with fixed multi-lites central to the façade. Single-lite fixed windows flank the entry. The balcony features a decorative log railing spanning the width of the gable with the Double Arrow brand represented in the central portion of the railing.

Centrally located, ground floor, modern, 15-lite double doors accessed by a two-step concrete stoop provides ingress to the lower story. Large paired single-lite fixed windows flank the entry. The stoop rests on a larger concrete pad that serves as a patio. A ribbon of four large single-lite fixed windows occupy the west elevation of the projecting gable, while a ribbon of three identical windows occur in the east elevation of the gable.

The west wing encompasses the dining room (east) and bar (west).³ The section of the elevation associated with the dining room, and separated from the bar by an interior extended log partition, contains a ribbon of five windows consisting of three central single-lite fixed units flanked by 6/6 double-hungs. The bar section features three window openings; a central three-lite casement flanked by fixed single-lite units.

West elevation

An open-air patio was added to the west end of the lodge in 2012. It is covered by a metal covered gable roof supported by log posts. The patio is partially enclosed by a low horizontal log half-wall. Entry to the porch is gained from the bar through a modern paneled wood door on the west elevation of the lodge, or via exterior steps on the north and south (the south entry also has a wood ADA ramp).

Addition

A north-south addition was constructed onto the front (south) of the west wing of the lodge in 2002. It has a rectangular footprint and houses the kitchen and employee rooms; it enlarged an

² Until the 1970s, the north entrance into the lodge was the primary entry to the building. Prior to that, the entry on the south was a service entry. It is now the primary access into the building.

³ The current bar area was originally a patio covered by a gable roof.

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already existing ell that was part of the original lodge building. A metal roof covers the ell and the walls consist of logs with joints at the corners identical to the main lodge. The addition also displays extended log purlins on the gable-end, along with boxed-in log rafters and beveled soffits. The addition rests on a concrete foundation.

Windows openings on the west elevation of the addition are original to the 1930 building and are currently either in-filled (holding air conditioning units) or contain 6-lite casements. An entry featuring a modern panel door occurs slightly south of center on the elevation. On the south of the west elevation of the addition is a concrete pad sheltered by a gable roof resting on log supports. The feature shelters the restaurant's outdoor freezers.

The south elevation of the addition contains an air-conditioning unit projecting from the gable and a 6/6 double-hung window. The east half of the roof extends creating an open-air porch on the east elevation of the addition. The roof is supported by log posts with a vertical log railing spanning the area between posts. Entry occurs from the south and north. There are paired nine-lite casement windows and a modern wood paneled door entry on the north. Another entry opens into the lodge from the north, and leads down to the lodge's basement, an area that could only be accessed from outside until the addition was built in 2002. The wall of the porch is canted where it joins with the façade of the main lodge.

Interior

The interior of the lodge's lobby has not changed appreciably since its construction during the winter of 1929-30. A large cobblestone fireplace is centrally located on the south wall of the lobby. Composed of cobblestones acquired in the area, the fireplace is flanked by bookcases. A 1940s photograph shows bookcases in the same location. They were later removed and the existing units duplicate the originals. The ceiling sports open log beams and the floor is comprised of tamarack. Wood steps lead to a loft at the north end of the lobby, which opens onto the second floor balcony. The loft features a log railing.

Integrity

The Double Arrow Lodge displays good integrity. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship remains strong as the lodge retains its original footprint, materials, fenestration, and most windows. The character defining elements of the lodge remain intact, including the cobblestone chimney/fireplace, saddle notched logs, boxed-in rafter tails, soffits, and the ornamental log railing on the north balcony and on the interior loft.

Changes to the lodge include the addition on the west side of the lodge, constructed in 2002, and the covered patio in 2012. Both, however, are stylistically very similar to the original building and do not significantly detract from the overall integrity of the lodge. Indeed, the patio nicely melds with the original covered patio on the west wing that was enclosed in the early 1970s to create the existing bar. The addition is essentially an enlargement of the original lodge ell and continues to serve in its original capacity (it housed and continues to house the kitchen). A portion of that original structure comprises the west elevation of the addition. In fact, the enlargement of the lodge since its construction reflects the evolving use and function of the

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building, from its genesis as a cattle ranch, subsequent progression to a dude ranch, and latest iteration as a resort.

Integrity of setting, feeling, association, and location also remain strong. Location and setting are basically unchanged with the immediate area surrounded by evergreens and the greater landscape dominated by the nearby mountains and valley providing much of the same feeling and association as when the lodge was first constructed. Much of the immediate grounds around the lodge are manicured, with grass surrounding the lodge itself and nearby area. The rural location of the lodge greatly contributes to the integrity of setting. While buildings associated with the operation of the lodge, either as a ranch, dude ranch, or resort, dot the surrounding area, many are historic and exhibit the same or similar architectural style as the lodge, enhancing the setting, feeling, and association of the lodge.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

ARCHITECTURE

AGRICULTURE

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Period of Significance

1930-1951

Significant Dates

1930

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Jan Boissevain/Lester Perro,
George F. Weisel, Emil Gobalet,
Fred English

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Double Arrow Lodge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Constructed between November 1929 and June 1930, the Double Arrow Lodge, which originally operated as a working ranch, is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the dude ranching industry in western Montana between 1930 and 1941 with the ranch providing dude services until 1951. Dude ranching was a significant industry in Montana that coincided with the emergence of tourism as one of Montana's primary sources of revenue during this period. The Double Arrow Ranch, moreover, is historically associated with Seeley Lake and the transition of that community from a logging town to one that also relies heavily on tourism and recreation for its economic prosperity. The Double Arrow Ranch was the first of several dude ranches /resorts to emerge in the Seeley Lake area by the late 1930s.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Double Arrow Lodge is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the dude ranching industry in western Montana and the development of the Seeley Lake area as a significant statewide recreation and vacation destination. Dude ranching emerged in Montana as an important industry beginning in the late nineteenth century when many working cattle ranches supplemented their incomes by accepting eastern "dudes." The ranches provided a truly western experience to non-westerners, which consequently caused the industry to become phenomenally successful in the early twentieth century. The Double Arrow Ranch, operating under other names and owners, originated as a working cattle ranch with "dudes" eventually used to supplement the income of the ranch. In late 1929, however, Jan Boissevain and George Weisel envisioned a ranch devoted specifically to the entertainment of "dudes." They oversaw the construction of an architecturally distinctive, Rustic-style lodge, guest cabins, and outbuildings to function as a unique western experience for visitors from throughout the United States. The Double Arrow Lodge represents the first dude ranch to open in the Seeley Lake area, and served as the only dude ranch to operate in the area through the 1930s; at least three such operations in the area eventually opened during the historic period.

The termination of dude ranching as a popular vacation option ended when the United States entered World War II in December 1941. Although dude ranching never regained the popularity it held prior to the war, the Double Arrow Ranch continued to attract guests. The Double Arrow Lodge served as the centerpiece of the operation as the building at the ranch that attracted most visitors. With a short break from the early to mid-1950s when the property was leased to small local cattle ranchers, the late 1950s witnessed the Double Arrow return to its dude ranching roots, functioning as both a working cattle ranch and a guest ranch. As the operation grew, the lodge continued to be actively maintained and upgraded with care taken not to destroy the

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historic integrity of the building. The Double Arrow Lodge best represents the dude ranching industry in the Seeley-Swan Valley and, perhaps, in western Montana.

History

The lower Seeley-Swan Valley is part of the aboriginal territory of the Salish Indians. The tribe hunted for game in the area, camping here for long periods of time, continuing well into the twentieth century. The Euro-American presence in the valley was, at first, negligible, consisting primarily of a few trappers from the British Hudson Bay and North West companies. Beginning in the 1880s, however, the number of American loggers in the valley increased concurrently with the growth of mining at Butte and other mining camps in what would become southwestern Montana. The forests provided an abundant source of trees for use in the mine shafts, which fueled the post-Civil War industrial revolution. By the early twentieth century, the federal government and the State of Montana set aside much of the forested land, incorporating it into the Lolo and Flathead National Forests and, after 1964, the Bob Marshall and Scapegoat wilderness areas. Logging companies, such as the Hammond Lumber Company and the timber division of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, were just two of many logging companies active in the valley beginning about 1905.

Dude Ranching in Western Montana⁴

Dude ranching “was a primary reason for the growth of the tourist industry in the West, along with railroads and national parks.”⁵ In the late nineteenth century, western ranches often accommodated early travelers from the eastern United States or Europe. The original dude ranch is generally attributed to Howard Eaton and his brothers, who came from Pittsburgh to a cattle ranch at Medora, North Dakota. Visitors from the East encouraged them to accept payment for the services they were providing to guests and beginning in 1882, the ranch received paying guests. In 1904, the Eaton’s moved their ranch to the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains west of Sheridan, Wyoming and established the first true dude ranch in the West.⁶

The dude ranch industry evolved gradually during the first two decades of the twentieth century from an individual, informal, undeveloped tourist activity into a significant industry important to local economy. The romanticism of the West and wilderness combined with the desire to enjoy the outdoors and live close to nature, increased the demand for dude ranches. Originally dudes were defined as guests to whom the owner furnished food, lodging and a saddle horse. By the 1920s, there were two types of dude ranches: the working cattle ranch and the mountain ranch designed primarily for guests, in a remote scenic location where horses were the only livestock.

⁴ This section is taken from Lawrence R. Borne, “Dude Ranching in the Rocky Mountains, *Montana The Magazine of Western History*, vol. 38, no. 3 (Summer 1988), pp. 14-27; and, Joan Brownell, *the Bones Brothers Ranch National Register Nominaiton*, listed March 19, 2004 (NR# 4000220), on file at the Montana State Historic Presevation Office, Helena, MT.

⁵ Borne, “Dude Ranching in the Rocky Mountains,” 15; for a comprehensive history of dude ranching in the Rocky Mountain West, see Lawrence R. Borne, *Dude Ranching A Complete History*, pp. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1983). One of the first studies on the dude ranching industry was Charles G. Roundy, “The Origins and Early Development of Dude Ranching in Wyoming,” *Annals of Wyoming*, 45 (Spring 1973): 5-25.

⁶ Borne, *Dude Ranching*, 19-22, 30-31, 45-46; Roundy, “Origins and Early Development of Dude Ranching,” 8-17.

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The success of a working dude ranch depended on an informal atmosphere that stressed western hospitality and provided a western experience for the whole family that included horses, ranch work and “hearty” food.⁷

Initially western cattle ranchers accepted paying customers, “dudes,” to supplement their incomes. However, the dudes increasingly became more important to the operations, eventually becoming the dominant activity and focus of the ranches. At first, the guests participated in the operation of the ranches, but by the early twentieth century, the ranchers provided additional services to the paying customers to enhance their out-of-doors experience. This included horseback riding, guided pack trips, fishing, hunting, and other activities popularly associated with living in the American West.

In the 1920s, dude ranches experienced a “golden age of dude ranching.” After World War I, many easterners looked for a western experience for their vacation and many working ranches opened their doors to dudes to compensate for the early 1920s economic depression. In September 1926, dude ranchers from the Yellowstone region in Wyoming and Montana came to Bozeman, Montana and created the Dude Ranchers’ Association (DRA) where 26 dude ranches became charter members. Although no records were located indicating the Double Arrow was ever a member of the organization, the establishment of the DRA gave legitimacy to the industry itself.

In Montana and Wyoming, early dude ranches concentrated in the Greater Yellowstone National Park region. Dick Randall established one of the first dude ranch in Montana at the OTO Ranch north of Gardiner near the north entrance of Yellowstone National Park. Originally a hunting guide, Randall began to take paying guests in 1905. The second dude ranch in Montana, the Pete Karst Ranch, opened around 1907 in the Gallatin Canyon northwest of the Park.

During the economic depression of the 1930s, most dude ranches struggled but survived. By 1938, the number of dude ranches in Montana included 38 members associated with the DRA, and an unknown number of dude ranches not belonging to the group.

Through the boom of the dude ranching period, many ranches often clustered in a general proximity to established towns. This association proved valuable to both; the ranches easily obtained needed resources not available on the ranches from the communities while the towns themselves became the willing recipients of outside money not often available to otherwise isolated communities.

Known for their western hospitality and authentic western food, dude ranches, remained popular until 1941, when the demands of World War II effectively ended such types of vacationing for the foreseeable future. Tourism in the West changed after World War II. Affected by increased mobility available due to better roads and automobiles, the dynamics of travel changed and dude ranches lost in the transition. Although it continued for several years into the 1950s, by the 1960s, dude ranches “had been relegated to a position of economic insignificance.”⁸ It all but

⁷ Borne, *Dude Ranching*, 38-39, 91-108, Roundy, “Origins and Early Development of Dude Ranching,” 13-15.

⁸ Roundy, “Origins and Development of Dude Ranching,” 22.

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disappeared by 1970 as a vacationing choice. Today, however, dude ranches are experiencing a resurgence in popularity.

Seeley Lake

The community of Seeley Lake originated as a lumber camp in the late nineteenth century and named for Jasper Seeley, a timber “cruiser” for the Hammond Lumber Company, who settled on the lake in the mid-1880s. By the late 1890s, the forests in this part of the Clearwater Valley were being exploited by several timber companies, including the Anaconda Company. The area was located within the Lewis and Clark Forest Reserve, “which encompassed three million acres in the Clearwater and Swan valleys” in 1899, when the federal government appointed Seeley the first ranger. In 1906, the Big Blackfoot Milling Company bought Seeley’s property and floated logs down the Clearwater and Blackfoot rivers to Bonner for processing until 1911, when the Anaconda Copper Mining Company purchased the property. A post office opened in the community, called Seeley Lake, in 1918. In 1939, the Federal Writers’ Project described Seeley Lake as serving “dwellers in the cabins and summer homes around the lake and several dude ranches in the vicinity.” The town depended on the timber industry and, to a much smaller extent, dude ranching until World War II. Seeley Lake’s population grew after the war as new lumber companies began operating in the area. Beginning in the 1960s, however, tourism and recreation emerged as an important component of the area’s economy. Today, Seeley Lake’s economy relies on the timber industry and recreation.⁹

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The General Land Office completed and published its survey of Section 11, T16N, R15W in March 1892. Within a couple years, the first land claims occurred in the township. The March 1892 GLO map shows James Culbertson living in the northwest corner of Section 14, about a mile south of the future site of the Double Arrow Lodge, while Stephen Tepper was situated in the southeast corner of Section 14. A county road traversed a portion of the township; it corresponds with the approximate alignment of current Montana Highway 83.¹⁰

Section 11 was included as part of the Northern Pacific Railway Company’s 1864 Congressional land grant. The land grant, the largest in US history, encompassed 17 million acres in Montana. By 1900, the railroad sold the land encompassing the future site of the Double Arrow Lodge to Charles Morrell. Born in New York in 1856, Morrell purchased the land for use as a cattle ranch, but also entertained eastern “dudes” by 1905. That year, he sold the ranch to Cyrus Corlett, who continued to operate it as a dude ranch as the Corlett Dude and Cattle Ranch. In 1912, the U.S. Postal Service established a post office on the ranch with Corlett’s wife, Margaret, the first postmistress. The Corletts left the area around 1914 and moved to Granite County,

⁹ Suzanne Vernon, ed., *Cabin Fever: A Centennial Collection of Stories About the Seeley Lake Area*, (Seeley Lake: The Seeley Lake Writers Club, 1990), 11,40, 44; Roberta Carkeek Cheney, *Names on the Face of Montana: The Story of Montana’s Place Names*, (Missoula: Mountain Press Publishing Co., 1990), 241; *Montana Place Names from Alzada to Zortman: A Montana Historical Society Guide*, (Helena: Montana Historical Society Press, 2009), 239-240; Federal Writers’ Project, *Montana: A State Guide Book*, (Helena: Department of Agriculture, Labor and Industry, 1939), 309.

¹⁰ General Land Office Records, viewed at www.glorerecords.blm.gov.

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Montana. By the late 1920s, the ranch was owned by Harry Hunter, a former rancher from the Bitterroot Valley south of Missoula.¹¹

In 1929, Hunter sold the 7,000-acre property to Jan Boissevain, the individual who represents the first full push to operate the ranch exclusively as, via the construction of the lodge, a dude ranch, not a working ranch using dudes.¹² A native of The Netherlands, Boissevain immigrated to the United States about 1923 to become the assistant manager of his family's bank in Port Arthur, Texas. In 1926, the bank promoted him to develop the firm's investment company in Spokane, Washington. Shortly after arriving in Spokane, he made the acquaintance of Allen Toole, the son of John H. Toole, a vice president of the Anaconda Copper Company and head of its Timber Division at Bonner. Toole invited Boissevain to the family's cabin on Seeley Lake in 1929 after the latter made disparaging comments about Montana. While at the cabin, Boissevain met Toole's brother-in-law, George Weisel, a sawmill manager in western Montana. Born in Minnesota in 1881, Weisel came to Montana with the Milwaukee Road Railroad in 1906. Boissevain and Weisel discovered they shared a common interest in running a dude ranch and formed the Weisel-Boissevain Ranch Company, purchasing the Corlett Ranch from Hunter. According to local lore, Weisel's wife, Thula, convinced Boissevain to purchase the property to run a "business where the family could remain together and she thought the dude ranch might fit the ticket." Boissevain, however, later stated that "the Double Arrow Ranch was conceived, planned and designed by me in 1929." Regardless, the Dutchman named the ranch for the brand on his favorite stallion. The 1930 census lists Boissevain as living with George Weisel in Seeley Lake (Thula remained in Missoula with her family). Both men listed their occupation as co-owners of a "dude farm." The men's employees included four male ranch hands and a female servant. The site for the Double Arrow Ranch was selected by Boissevain "with the entire Weisel Family's approval."¹³

Construction of the Double Arrow Lodge began in November 1929 and was completed in June 1930. Boissevain and Weisel intended on utilizing the Finnish craftsmen who constructed the Anaconda Company's executive retreat on Swan Lake, but they were unavailable. Consequently, the men hired local laborers to construct the lodge. The partners moved cabins onto the property from nearby Trail Creek and constructed others on the site. All of the construction materials were obtained within a couple miles of the building site. Missoula bricklayer and stonemason Emil Gobalet constructed the chimney and fireplace at the lodge. Fred English and his crew installed the tamarack flooring in the lodge along with the interior walls, and the roofing. By the end of June 1930, the Double Arrow dude ranch included four guest cabins, an office building, ice house, tack shed, barn (moved to Seeley Lake in 2004),

¹¹ Michael P. Malone, Richard B. Roeder, and William L. Lang, *Montana: A History of Two Centuries*, Rev. ed. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1992), 173; GLO Records, Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 11, 73, Cheney, *Names on the Face of Montana*, 62; United States Census Records, viewed at www.ancestry.com; Jan Boissevain, "Autobiography," Unpublished manuscript in possession of Patt Donich, no date.

¹² Boissevain was a cousin of Queen Wilhelmina of Holland. He also served in the Queen's Cavalry prior to immigrating to the United States. His service as a cavalryman and love of horses influenced his decision to open the Double Arrow Ranch and raise horses on the property throughout his ownership of the ranch.

¹³ Boissevain, "Autobiography;" Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 185; "Col. Weisel Dies in Rest Home," *The Sunday Missoulian*, 8 October 1967; United States Census Records.

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corrals, and fencing in addition to the lodge. The Double Arrow Ranch received its first guests on July 1, 1930, which included the President of Cornell University.¹⁴ Although business was initially brisk, personal and economic events weighed on the future of the dude ranch.

Shortly after the end of the dude ranch's first season, Boissevain married Weisel's daughter, Anna; the couple took an extended honeymoon to Hawaii. In 1931, however, Anna died in childbirth. Soon after, George Weisel sold his interest in the dude ranch to Boissevain in 1932 and opened a new dude ranch, the Circle W, near Ovando. In March 1933, Boissevain married Edith Greenough, a member of a prominent area family. Together the couple managed the dude ranch, which included raising horses at the Double Arrow. Unfortunately, the reinvented Double Arrow Ranch began to feel the effects of the Great Depression. The ruralness of the property made the dude ranch somewhat difficult to access. The closest passenger railhead was in Missoula, 55 miles away. The road through the Seeley-Swan Valley was poor, which also discouraged motorists to drive there. To compensate for the lack of business, Boissevain bred and raised horses to sell to the military, and contracted with Missoula County to house unemployed lumberjacks in the guest cabins. To entice visitors, he launched an advertising campaign in the newspapers to draw vacationers to the ranch. An advertisement that appeared in the Missoula, Helena, Butte, and Billings newspapers in April 1934 stated that the Double Arrow Ranch offered "special week-end rates [for] \$8.00," which included "room and bath, Saturday supper [and] Sunday meals." Guests could also hire horses, boats, and guides for a reasonable rate.¹⁵

During the 1930s, Salish Indians from the Flathead Reservation camped on the grounds of the Double Arrow Lodge and entertained the guests with native dances. Boissevain, who developed friendships with his Salish visitors later wrote:

Chief Michel Kizer used to have lunch with us with the dudes. He spoke very little English but his sign language was so eloquent that all present were spell-bound. Happy Ninepipes came regularly. Mose Bigsam and Teresa, his wife, built us a sweat bath, right outside the front porch. . . . We furnished a side of beef and lots of strawberry pop. No money changed hands. We were friends.¹⁶

Contemporary photographs show Boissevain and his wife, Edith, visiting with their tribal guests with their tepees pitched on the tribal grounds. The close relationship between the Salish and the Double Arrow Lodge apparently ended with Boissevain's departure in 1940.

As the rocky times continued, Boissevain even cleared some of the area on the hillside of tree behind the lodge for winter skiing to entice more visitors. Although the depression took its toll, the Double Arrow provided work for a number of people, despite the economy. Unfortunately,

¹⁴ Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 185-186; Boissevain, "The Double Arrow Lodge." While no buildings dating to the ownership by Morrell, Corlett, or Hunter remain, five guest cabins date to the 1930s.

¹⁵ Jan and Edith later divorced. He worked as a real estate developer and insurance agent in Chicago before moving to California, where he died in 1988. Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 187, 189; Boissevain, "The Double Arrow Ranch;" United States Census Records; "Miss Greenough Wed in Spokane," *The Helena Independent*, 26 March 1933

¹⁶ Boissevain, "The Double Arrow Ranch;" Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 187.

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the ranch failed to prosper as Boissevain dreamed and never became a popular destination. The United States' entry into World War II in 1941 effectively ended dude ranching and most vacations for the length of the conflict. In 1942, Boissevain sold the ranch and auctioned off his horses.¹⁷

The Double Arrow's history after Boissevain's departure features a succession of owners, many of who leased the property to others. In 1942, John C. "Whitey" Rahn and Ray Corey, both who worked as cinematographers in the movie industry, purchased the dude ranch as a retreat for Hollywood celebrities and executives.¹⁸ Local folklore suggests the men purchased the property upon the recommendation of Eddie Coyle, a Seeley Lake bar owner and promoter. To increase the accessibility of the ranch to the well-heeled, Rahn and Corey established an airfield in the meadow just north of the lodge; the air strip provided easy access to the Double Arrow for those intended by the partners.

By 1948, Rahn and Corey leased the property to U. S. Hammel, a former Los Angeles businessman. Hammel maintained the airfield and, in 1948, the Montana Pilots Association began utilizing it for frequent "breakfast flights." The flights involved local "hangar" chapters from throughout western Montana. Pilots would land their planes at the airfield, partake of a hardy breakfast, and spend the day recreating in the area until taking off in the late afternoons for their homes. The Montana Pilots Association breakfast flights continued until 1951.

Missoula businessman Jack Lanham purchased the ranch in the early 1950s and leased it to a succession of small cattle ranchers until 1957. That year, Lanham leased the property to the Missoula County Licensed Beverage Association for a summer boys' camp. In 1958, Lanham sold the Double Arrow Ranch to C.B. and Helen Rich.¹⁹

The Rich's moved to Seeley Lake from eastern Montana, where C.B. had been an outfitter and guide. They returned the operation of the Double Arrow Ranch back to a dude ranch and raised some cattle at the property. An article in the Helena *Independent Record* in 1962 described the Double Arrow lodge:

A huge main hall features a fireplace made of native stone that reaches from the floor to the ceiling. Rustic, but well-furnished and highly polished, furnishings and a pair of oversize rugs lend enchantment to this room which is crowned at the end by a gallery reminiscent of the storied Western show places. Big picture windows look across a magnificent vista of

¹⁷ Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 187.

¹⁸ Little could be found about Rahn, but Corey was a prolific cinematographer beginning in the early 1930s, filming mostly B movies and Three Stooges shorts until making the transition into television in the mid-1960s. Information retrieved from www.imbd.com.

¹⁹ Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 190; John A. Willard, "Montana Pilots Really Enjoy Ham and Eggs After Breathtaking Scenic Flight," *The (Helena, Mont.) Independent Record*, 1 August 1948; "Pilots of Helena Hangar Asked to Sunday Breakfast," *The (Helena, Mont.) Independent Record*, 25 May 1950; "Airport News," *The (Helena, Mont.) Independent Record*, 4 June 1950; "Seven Light Planes from Helena Visit Double Arrow," *The (Helena, Mont.) Independent Record*, 28 May 1951; "Boys Camp Bought," *The (Butte) Montana Standard*, 14 June 1957.

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lush grass lands framed with rugged snow-capped peaks A big porch on the south side and chairs on the grass add to the comfort of the guests.²⁰

Despite the Rich's best efforts, the lodge and many of the buildings at the ranch became rundown with leaky roofs and failing foundations. In 1966, they sold the ranch to John Parker and Harold Mildenberg of Hamilton. The men spent \$20,000 on basic maintenance to the buildings, and leased the property back to Rich for use as a cattle ranch. Despite their best efforts, Parker and Mildenberg put the ranch up for sale in late 1966, selling it to Lee Dahl who retained ownership until 1970, when he sold it to Herb Richards, president of Life of Montana, an insurance company based in Bozeman. Richards began a major project to restore the lodge, replacing many of the original windows with the existing single-lite fixed units and enclosing the patio to create a bar. Richards also began subdividing the property for home sites. A limited partnership headed by John Trippe purchased the property from Richards in 1977; under Trippe's tenure, the ranch developed as a resort. He added the tennis courts, swimming pool, and condos to the property. The current owners, the Double Arrow Enterprises, Inc. purchased the property in 1989 and continue to operate it as a resort.²¹

Architectural Significance

Although not recommended significant under Criterion C, the Double Arrow Lodge stands as a good example of Rustic architecture. The lodge exhibits the log vernacular architecture of the period of its construction, a style very popular at that time, and a style consistent with the type of log buildings designed and constructed by the United States Forest Service in the adjacent forest lands. Finished in 1930, the lodge easily conveys the care and workmanship of the local craftsmen assigned to its construction by the designer and original owner of the building. All the materials used to construct the lodge were locally obtained including the logs for the walls and roof, and the stone for the foundation; the use of local materials easily harmonizes the lodge with its setting. Attention to detail, both on the exterior and the interior, including character-defining features such as the cobble fireplace/chimney remains evident in the lodge. Despite the attention to detail, the Double Arrow Lodge maintains a simple appearance both complimenting and enhancing its surroundings.

²⁰ "Double Arrow Dude Paradise," *The* (Helena, Mont.) *Independent Record*, 1 July 1962.

²¹ Vernon, *Cabin Fever*, 191-192; Interview with Patt Donich by Jon Axline, 31 May 2014.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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"Col. Weisel Dies in Rest Home." *The Sunday Missoulian*, 8 October 1967.

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General Land Office Records. Viewed at www.glorerecords.blm.gov.

Interview of Patt Donich by Jon Axline at the Double Arrow Lodge, 31 May 2014.

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Vernon, Suzanne, ed. *Cabin Fever: A Centennial Collection of Stories About the Seeley Lake Area*. (Seeley Lake: The Seeley Lake Writers Club, 1990).

Willard, John A. “Montana Pilots Really Enjoy Ham and Eggs after Breathtaking Scenic Flight.” *The (Helena, Mont.) Independent Record*, 1 August 1948.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.0

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 47.151587 | Longitude: -113.45759821727259 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 12 | Easting: 313693 | Northing: 5224940 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Double Arrow Lodge is located in the NW¹/₄ SE¹/₄ SE¹/₄ of Section 11, T16N, R15W. The property is bounded on the south by Lodge Way and on the north by meadow bordering Drew Creek. It is bounded on the east and west by south buildings associated with the Double Arrow Lodge resort.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Boundaries for the Double Arrow Lodge are drawn to encompass the building and the grounds surrounding it.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jon Axline/Consultant
organization: _____
street & number: 448 Parriman Street
city or town: Helena state: MT zip code: 59602
e-mail: jaxline@mt.gov
telephone: (406) 422-2111
date: June 2014

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Patt Ivanovitch Donich and partners
street & number 301 Lodge Way telephone (406) 210-1340
city or town Seeley Lake state MT zip code 59868

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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Photo Log

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of ____.

Please see Continuation Pages

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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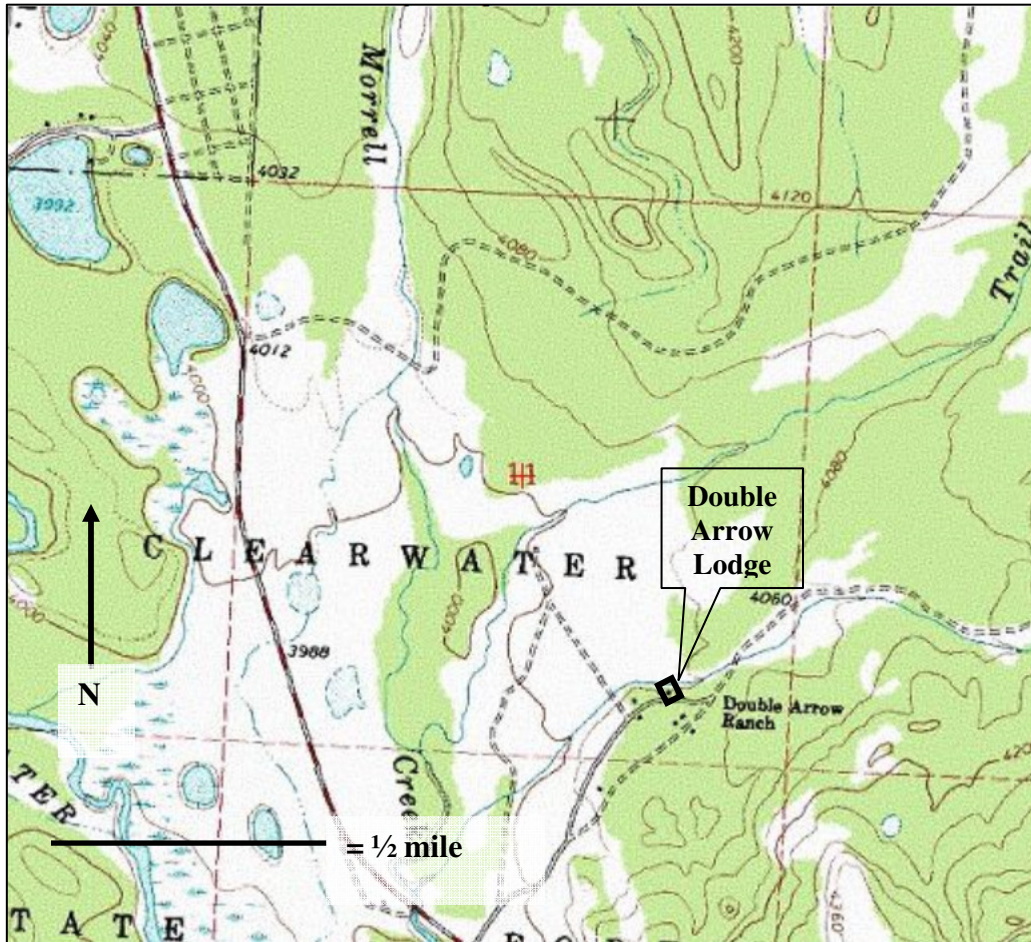
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Location of the Double Arrow Lodge. Found on the Seeley Lake East 7.5' USGS Quadrangle Map, (1965)

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Aerial view of the Double Arrow Lodge

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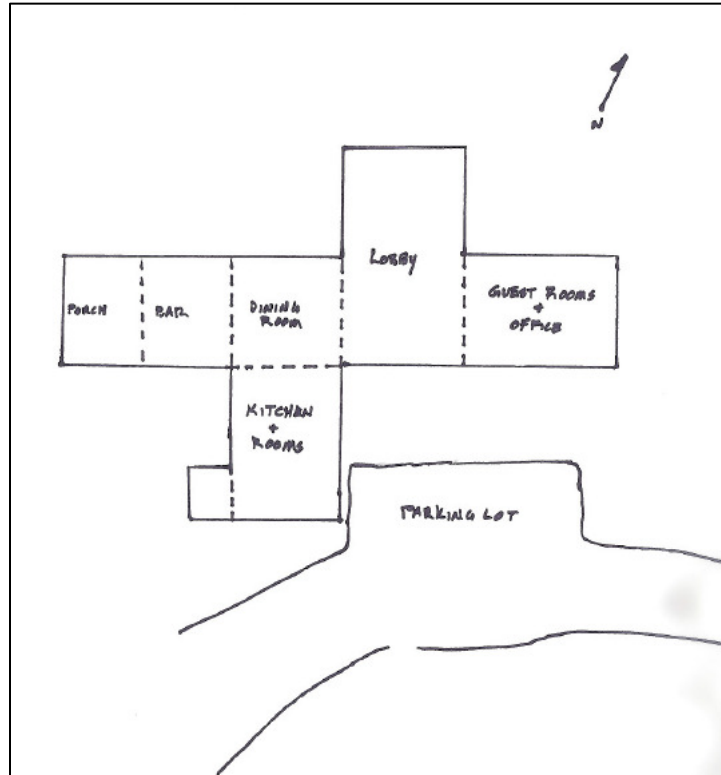
Missoula County, MT

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Floor plan of Double Arrow Lodge

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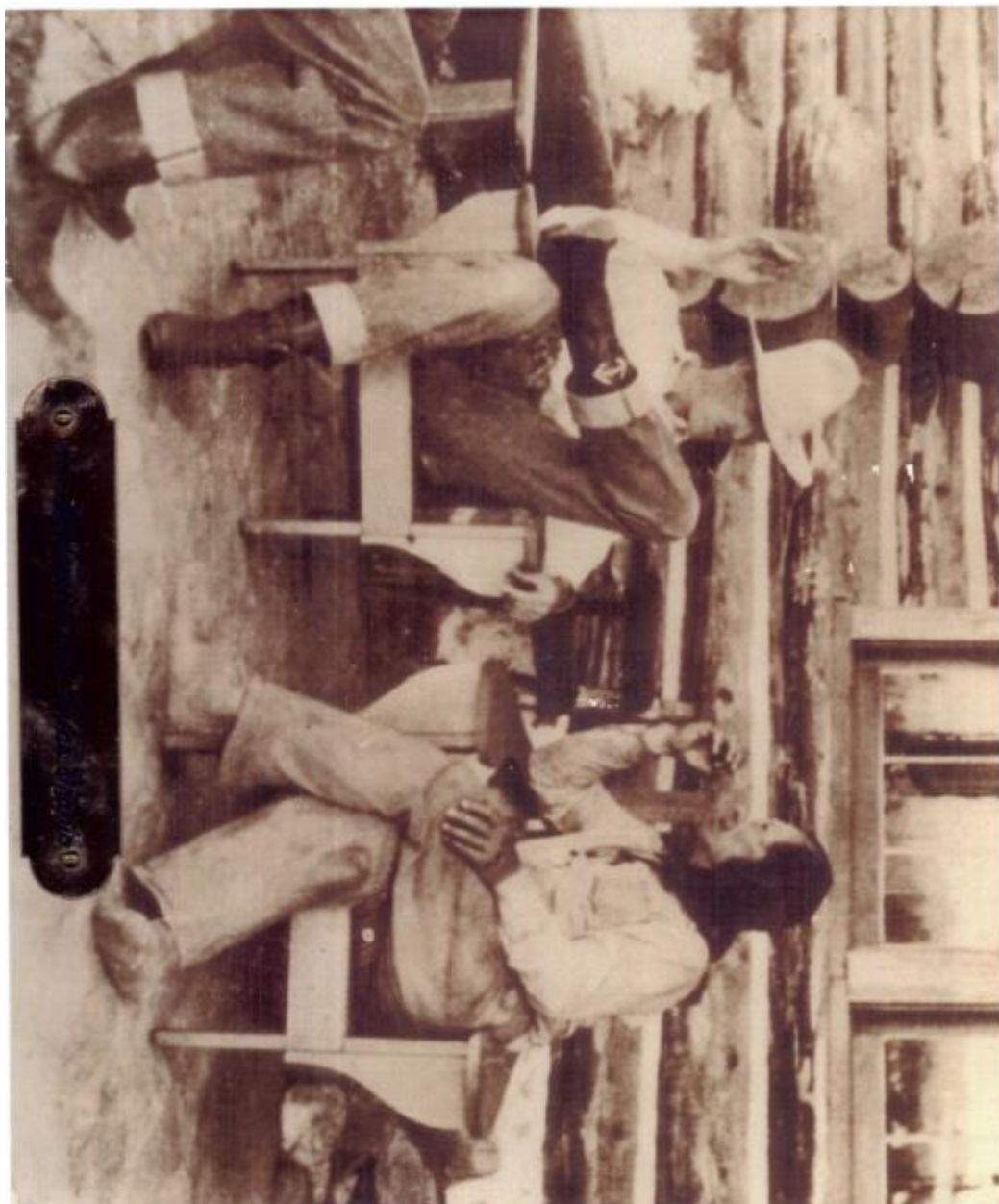
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Boissevain in his custom Double Arrow boots visiting with an unidentified Salish man on the front porch of the Double Arrow Lodge, c. 1935. Photographer unknown.

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Edith Boissevain and unknown Salish child. Circa 1935. Photographer Unknown

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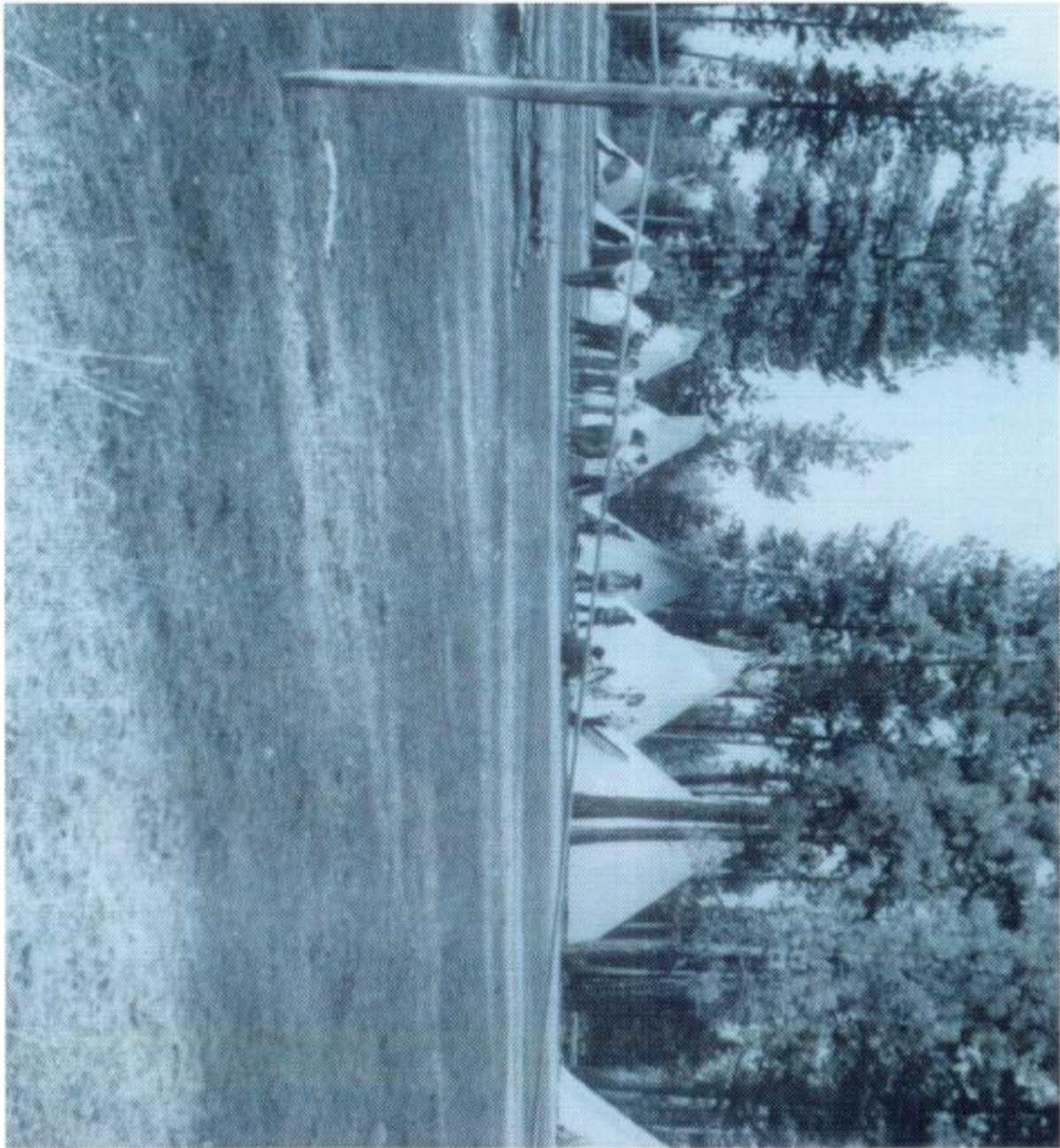
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Salish tepees on Double Arrow Lodge grounds. Circa 1935. Photographer Unknown

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Jan Boosivain with Double Arrow Lodge Visitors. Circa 1935. Photographer Unknown

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Jan Boissevain, circa 1930.

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Double Arrow Lodge, circa 1930. View to northwest.

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Interior of Double Arrow Lodge, c. 1930.

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Photograph Log

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: Overview of facade. View to the northwest.
Photograph: 0001
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0001

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge
Description and view of camera: Façade of Double Arrow Lodge. View to the north.
Photograph: 0002
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0002

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: Façade and east elevation. View to the west.
Photograph: 0003
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0003

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: Detail of cobblestone chimney. View to the north
Photograph: 0004
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0004

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Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge
Description and view of camera: Façade of lodge's east wing. View to the northeast.
Photograph: 0005
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0005

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: East elevation of Double Arrow Lodge. View to the west.
Photograph: 0006
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0006

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: East elevation and north side. View to the southwest.
Photograph: 0007
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0007

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: Detail of north patio and balcony. View to the southwest.
Photograph: 0008
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0008

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Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge
Description and view of camera: Detail of balcony railing. View to the southwest.
Photograph: 0009
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0009

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: North patio and balcony. View to the south.
Photograph: 0010
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0010

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: North patio and balcony. View to the southeast.
Photograph: 0011
MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0011

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
County and State: Missoula County, Montana
Photographer: Jon Axline
Date of Photograph: May 2014
Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
Description and view of camera: North side of west wing. View to the east.
Photograph: 0012
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Name: Double Arrow Lodge
 County and State: Missoula County, Montana
 Photographer: Jon Axline
 Date of Photograph: May 2014
 Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge
 Description and view of camera: Patio on west wing. View to the northeast.
 Photograph: 0013
 MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0013

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
 County and State: Missoula County, Montana
 Photographer: Jon Axline
 Date of Photograph: May 2014
 Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
 Description and view of camera: South side of 2002 addition. View to the north.
 Photograph: 0014
 MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0014

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
 County and State: Missoula County, Montana
 Photographer: Jon Axline
 Date of Photograph: May 2014
 Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
 Description and view of camera: South elevation and east side of 2002 addition. View to the north-northwest.
 Photograph: 0015
 MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0015

Name: Double Arrow Lodge
 County and State: Missoula County, Montana
 Photographer: Jon Axline
 Date of Photograph: May 2014
 Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge. Seeley Lake, Montana.
 Description and view of camera: Detail of interior, looking toward loft. View to the northeast.
 Photograph: 0016
 MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0016

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Name: Double Arrow Lodge
 County and State: Missoula County, Montana
 Photographer: Jon Axline
 Date of Photograph: May 2014
 Location of original negative: Double Arrow Lodge
 Description and view of camera: Detail of interior, looking toward fireplace. View to the south.
 Photograph: 0017
 MT_MissoulaCounty_DoubleArrowLodge_0017

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Photo 0001. Overview of façade of Double Arrow Lodge. View to northwest.

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Photo 0002. Façade of Double Arrow Lodge. View to north.

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Photo 0003. Façade and east elevation. View to the west.

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Photo 0004. Detail of cobblestone chimney. View to north.

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Photo 0005. Façade of lodge's east wing. View to northeast.

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Photo 0006. East elevation of lodge. View to west.

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Photo 0007. East elevation and north side of lodge. View to southwest.

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Photo 0008. Detail of north patio and balcony. View to southwest.

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Photo 0009. Detail of balcony railing. View to the southwest.

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Photo 0010. North patio and balcony. View to the south.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0011. North patio and balcony. View to the southeast.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0012. North side of west wing. View to east.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0013. Patio on west wing. View to northeast.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
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Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0014. South side of 2002 addition. View to north.

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National Register of Historic Places
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Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0015. South elevation and east side of 2002 addition. View to north-northwest.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
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Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0016. Detail of interior, looking toward loft. View to the northeast.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
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Double Arrow Lodge

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo 0017. Detail of interior looking toward fireplace. View to south.