
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2007



Kestner Homestead
Olympic National Park

Table of Contents

Inventory Unit Summary and Site Plan	
The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview	1
Inventory Unit Description	2
Site Plans	4
Park Information	6
Concurrence Status	
Inventory Status	7
Geographic Information and Location Map	
Inventory Unit Boundary Description	8
State and County	8
Size	8
Boundary UTM's	9
Location Map	10
Management Information	
Management Category	11
Agreements, Legal Interest, Public Access	11
Adjacent Lands	11
National Register Information	
Existing National Register Status	12
National Register Eligibility	12
Statement of Significance	12
National Historic Landmark Information	15
World Heritage Site Information	15
Chronology and Physical History	
Cultural Landscape Type and Use	16
Current and Historic Names	16
Ethnographic Studies	16
Chronology	17
Physical History	22
Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity	
Summary	51
Spatial Organization	53
Natural Systems and Features	57
Circulation	58
Buildings and Structures	62
Vegetation	69
Condition	
Condition Assessment	74
Stabilization Measures	74
Impacts	75
Treatment	
Approved Treatment	77

Bibliography and Supplemental Information	
Bibliography	76
Supplemental Information	84
Site Plans	

**National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2007**

**Kestner-Higley Homestead
Olympic National Park**

Olympic National Park concurs with the findings of the CLI, including the management category and condition assessment as identified below:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: **B: Should be preserved and maintained**

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: **Fair**

Dupan K McSweeney *9/10/07*
for Superintendent, Olympic National Park Date

Please return to:

Erica Owens
Historical Landscape Architect
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 First Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104-1060



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 • Olympia, Washington 98501
Mailing address: PO Box 48343 • Olympia, Washington 98504-8343
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September 21, 2007

Ms. Erica Owens
CLI Co-Coordinator
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 First Avenue, Floor 5
Seattle, Washington 98104

In future correspondence please refer to:

Log: 092107-02-NPS
Property: Kestner Homestead Cultural Landscape Inventory
Re: Determined Eligible

Dear Ms. Owens:

Thank you for contacting our office. I have reviewed the Kestner Homestead Cultural Landscape Inventory you provided to our office and I concur with your professional opinion for the revised boundary adjustments and landscape characteristics. I also concur with your assessment for the revised period of significance and the various features of the homestead which includes nine contributing structures and nine non-contributing structures.

I look forward to further consultation regarding your determination of effects on these resources as project come up. I am a little concerned about the condition of various features on homestead due to the lack of maintenance. Realizing budget constraints, I hope that in the near future some level of funding can be allocated to the homestead.

These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36CFR800.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Michael Houser
State Architectural Historian
(360) 586-3076
Michael.Houser@dahp.wa.gov

KESTNER HOMESTEAD

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

Washington SHPO Consensus Determination of Eligibility

In order to certify the data in the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) to provide a more detailed analysis of the landscape features and contributing structures associated with the Kestner Homestead (*listed on National Register on 7/13/2007*), we are requesting the following actions:

Actions Requested:

1) SHPO concurrence that the **landscape characteristics** as identified in the CLI contribute to the historic character of Kestner Homestead (see the following landscape characteristic descriptions in the Analysis and Evaluation section of the CLI: Spatial Organization, Natural Systems and Features, Circulation, Buildings and Structures, and Vegetation):

I concur ☒, I do not concur ☐ that the landscape characteristics as described in the CLI contribute to the historic character of the Kestner Homestead.

2) SHPO concurrence that the **period of significance** for the Kestner Homestead be adjusted from 1897-1944 to 1890-1944 to include the year that Antone Kestner arrived in the Quinault area and began proving up his property. (See the Statement of Significance in the CLI.)

I concur ☒, I do not concur ☐ with the period of significance proposed for the Kestner Homestead as described in the CLI.

3) SHPO concurrence with the **boundary** adjustment for the Kestner Homestead to follow the historic ownership boundary of the Kestners' property and include all historic features associated with the period of significance. (See the Boundary Description in the CLI.)

I concur ☒, I do not concur ☐ with the boundary proposed for the Kestner Homestead as described in the CLI.

4) SHPO concurrence with the list of **contributing and non-contributing structures** to the Kestner Homestead, (see tables below):

Structures already listed on the National Register of Historic Places as contributing structures of the Kestner Homestead (listed on 7/13/2007):

Structure Name
House (ca.1905)
Root House (Tack Shed) (ca.1905)
Smoke House (Utility Shed) (ca.1905)
Oil and Gas Shed (ca.1905)
Three-way Gate (ca.1905)
Fences

Kestner Entrance Road
Kestner Ranch Road (east-west road)

Structures already determined non-contributing to the Kestner Homestead by the Washington SHPO:

Structure Name
Steer Barn (Peck Barn) (collapsed)

Contributing Structures: Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following structure has been identified as an additional **contributing** feature of the Kestner Homestead:

Contributing Structure Name	Date Built	Concur	Do not Concur
Dickey Entrance Road	ca. 1924	✓	

Non-contributing Structures: Based on the information provided in the CLI, the following structures have been identified as **non-contributing** features of the Kestner Homestead:

Non-contributing Structure Name	Date Built	Concur	Do Not Concur
Kestner Barn (replacement)	1998	✓	
Kestner Creek Bridge	ca. 1986	✓	
Kestner Homestead Metal Shed	post-1944	✓	
Vehicle Repair Shed (collapsed)	post-1944	✓	
Dickey Entrance Road Realignment	post-1944	✓	
Peck Entrance Road	ca. 1979	✓	
Canoe Creek Road (USFS 2473, logging road)	post-1944	✓	
Concrete walkway and carport at residence	post-1944	✓	

Reasons/comments why any 'Do Not Concur' blocks were checked:

for  Date 9.21.07

Please return forms to the attention of:

Erica Owens

Cultural Landscape Inventory Coordinator - Seattle

National Park Service

Pacific West Regional Office-Seattle

909 1st Ave, Floor 5

Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 220-4128

erica_owens@nps.gov

092107-02-NPS

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Cultural Landscapes Inventory – General Information

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is a database containing information on the historically significant landscapes within the National Park System. This evaluated inventory identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved inventory records when all required data fields are entered, the park superintendent concurs with the information, and the landscape is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places through a consultation process or is otherwise managed as a cultural resource through a public planning process.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures (LCS), assists the National Park Service (NPS) in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2001), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two goals are associated with the CLI: 1) increasing the number of certified cultural landscapes (1b2B); and 2) bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (1a7). The CLI maintained by Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscapes Program, WASO, is the official source of cultural landscape information.

Implementation of the CLI is coordinated and approved at the regional level. Each region annually updates a strategic plan that prioritizes work based on a variety of park and regional needs that include planning and construction projects or associated compliance requirements that lack cultural landscape documentation. When the inventory unit record is complete and concurrence with the findings is obtained from the superintendent and the State Historic Preservation Office, the regional CLI coordinator certifies the record and transmits it to the national CLI Coordinator for approval. Only records approved by the national CLI coordinator are included on the CLI for official reporting purposes.

Relationship between the CLI and a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)

The CLI and the CLR are related efforts in the sense that both document the history,

significance, and integrity of park cultural landscapes. However, the scope of the CLI is limited by the need to achieve concurrence with the park superintendent resolve eligibility questions when a National Register nomination does not exist or the nomination inadequately addresses the eligibility of the landscape characteristics. Ideally, a park's CLI work (which many include multiple inventory units) precedes a CLR because the baseline information in the CLI not only assists with priority setting when more than one CLR is needed it also assists with determining more accurate scopes of work.

In contrast, the CLR is the primary treatment document for significant park landscapes. It, therefore, requires an additional level of research and documentation both to evaluate the historic and the existing condition of the landscape in order to recommend preservation treatment that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties.

The scope of work for a CLR, when the CLI has not been done, should include production of the CLI record. Depending on its age and scope, existing CLR's are considered the primary source for the history, statement of significance, and descriptions of contributing resources that are necessary to complete a CLI record.

Inventory Unit Description:

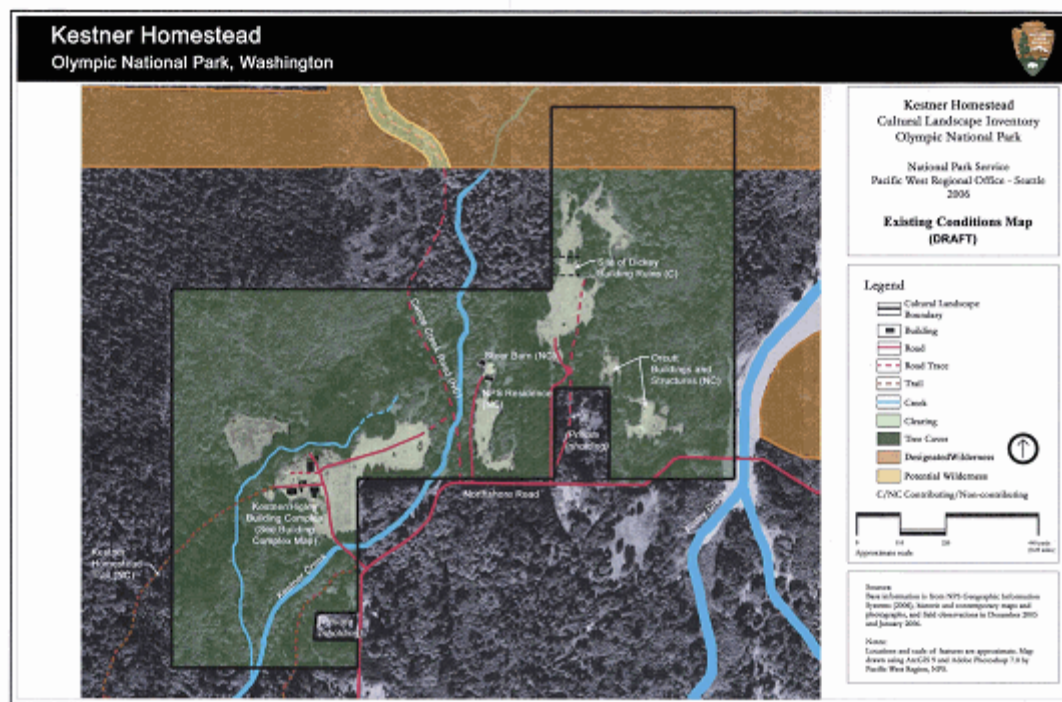
Kestner Homestead is a 200-acre site in the southwest portion of Olympic National Park, near Lake Quinault. As stated in the 2007 National Register nomination, the site is locally significant for its association with the Homestead Act of 1862 as "the oldest surviving settler-built homestead still extant in the Quinault River Valley on the Olympic Peninsula within the Olympic National Park." While the nomination establishes the period of significance as 1897-1944, historic documents indicate that Antone Kestner arrived in the Lake Quinault area in 1890 and began "proving up" his claim, which he submitted in 1891. By 1895, Antone Kestner had already built a house, a barn, several outbuildings, and cleared approximately 20 acres of land. Thus, it is proposed here that the period of significance be expanded to 1890-1944 to include his earliest developments and ending when the Kestner family began parceling out their property, marking the end of an era for the homestead. The nomination also establishes the site boundary to encompass 14 acres immediately surrounding the main building complex. In order to include the land historically associated with the Kestner homestead and to assess the landscape characteristics of the property more fully, it is proposed here that the boundary be expanded to include Antone Kestner's entire claim of 160 acres plus his son's claim of 40 acres in 1904, for a total of 200 acres that the Kestner family owned during the historic period.

The significance of the site during the period of significance is revealed today in the extant features and landscape characteristics, such as buildings, roads, clearings, and orchard trees, and the natural topography, creeks, and rainforests that continue to define the setting and historic character of the site. The style of the historic buildings is vernacular – a simple architectural style constructed of native materials, predominantly the native tree species found on the Olympic Peninsula. Antone was respected as a skilled carpenter and his handiwork is apparent in the buildings he constructed. The buildings were organized in a cluster to meet utilitarian needs of operating a homestead without machinery or motorized vehicles. One of the most critical aspects of homesteading on the Olympic Peninsula is the amount of time and effort devoted to clearing land for a successful operation. The extant clearings are especially

critical to portray the historic character of the homestead.

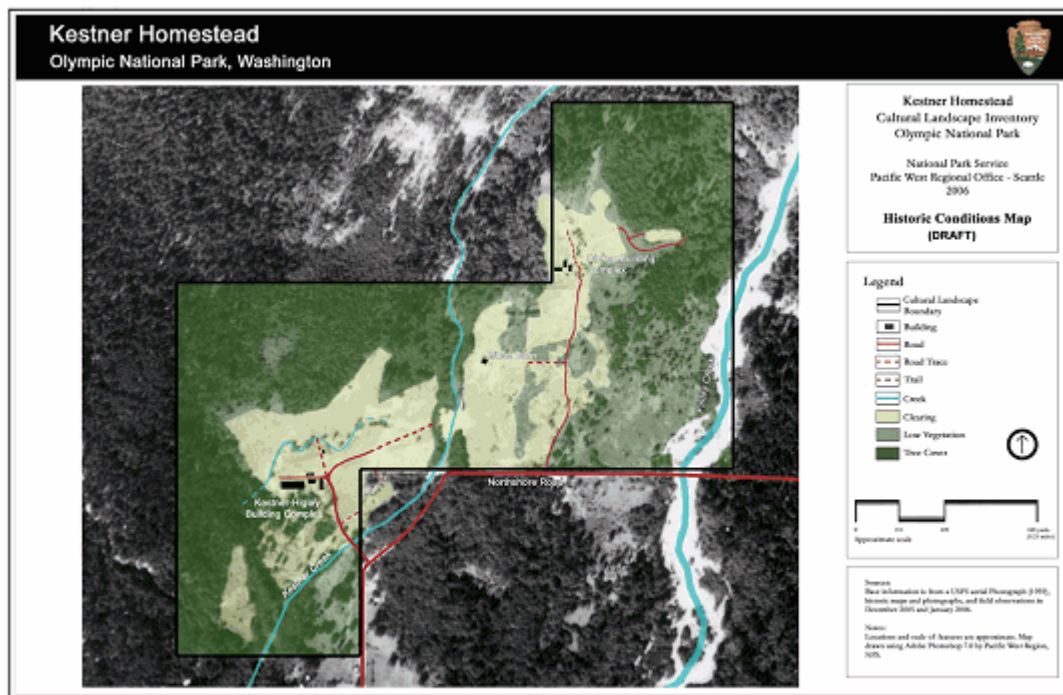
In 1944, the Kestner family sold the portion of the homestead with the main building complex to Orlo Higley, grandson of another prominent homesteading family in the Lake Quinault area. The Higleys made some changes to the site, including the addition of a metal barn, remodeling of the house, and the planting of an experimental forest. Some of the fence lines and corrals around the barn may have been altered as well. However, the overall feeling and association of the site as an early twentieth century homestead still remains. Today, the Kestner Homestead retains integrity of location, design, materials, craftsmanship, feeling, association, and setting.

Site Plan



Site Plan #1: Map showing existing conditions and boundary of the Kestner Homestead cultural landscape (PWR-Seattle, 2006). See appendix for a full-size version of the map.

Kestner Homestead Olympic National Park



Site Plan #2: Map showing historic conditions of the Kestner Homestead cultural landscape (PWR-Seattle, 2006). See appendix for a full-size version of the map.



Site Plan #3: Map showing existing conditions of the Kestner Homestead building complex (PWR-Seattle, 2006). See appendix for a full-size version of the map.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Kestner Homestead
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	400090
Parent Landscape:	400090

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Olympic National Park -OLYM
Park Organization Code:	9500
Park Administrative Unit:	Olympic National Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

Kestner Homestead is a cultural landscape with no component landscapes.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The fieldwork for this CLI was completed in 2006 by Mike Hankinson and Erica Owens and a draft report written in the same year. The CLI was finalized in 2007 by Erica Owens and entered into the database by Cortney Cain.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/10/2007
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	09/21/2007
Data Collection Date: 01/25/2006	Recorder:
Data Entry Date: 06/30/2006	Recorder: Mike Hankinson and Erica Owens

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Boundary Justification

It is recommended that the boundary of the cultural landscape be expanded beyond the 14 acres included in the National Register nomination to encompass the entire extent of land claimed and homesteaded by the Kestner's and thus the full extent of the fields they cleared and worked and to include all the remaining historic landscape features. Contributing features, such as road and building remnants and aspects of setting, such as historic clearings, still remain on the property and help to portray the character and extent of the homestead.

The recommended boundary for the Kestner Homestead cultural landscape follows the historic ownership boundaries established by Kestner and his children during the period of significance, minus two private in-holdings. Between Antone Kestner's claim of 160 acres and his son's claim of 40 acres in 1905, the Kestner family owned a total of 200 acres. Antone Kestner's original claim in 1890 was a 160-acre, ell-shaped parcel of land. In ca. 1905, his son, Joe acquired an adjacent, 40-acre parcel of land at the northeast end of the property. During the period of significance, Joe's property and 40-acres of Antone's property were sold or bequeathed to Josie Dickey, daughter of Antone.

Following the period of significance, the land was parceled out to several people, including the Higleys, another prominent homesteading family in the Quinault area. The NPS now owns all but 7 acres of the original 200-acre Kestner property. Privately-owned property is excluded from the boundary. If these properties are acquired by the park in the future, the boundary should be revised to include these parcels.

Wilderness Boundary

A portion of the cultural landscape falls within the park's designated wilderness boundary. Approximately 13 acres in the northeastern-most portion of the property falls into this area. No historic features have been found in this portion of the property, nor is it expected that any will be found in the future. As a result, the extension of the cultural landscape into the wilderness area should not change current management practices of this portion of the homestead.

Boundary Description

The northeast corner of the homestead property is located on the Grays Harbor County-Jefferson County line at approximately UTM 439,205 mE, 5,262,262 mN, zone 10. The boundary heads south from this point for 0.5 miles then turns westward. The boundary heads west for 0.5 miles, but jogs around a 6-acre private in-holding along the way (See Site Plan #1). The boundary then heads south for 0.25 miles, but jogs around a 1-acre private in-holding along the way. The boundary then turns west for 0.25 miles, turns north for 0.5 miles, turns east for 0.5 miles, turns north for 0.25 miles, and finally heads east for 0.25 miles to the point of origin.

State and County:

State: WA

County: Jefferson County

Size (Acres): 193.00

Boundary UTMS:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	439,321	5,262,813
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	439,205	5,262,191
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	439,057	5,262,191
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	439,057	5,262,178
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,945	5,262,178
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,945	5,262,191
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,528	5,262,191
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,528	5,261,726
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,433	5,261,726
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,426	5,261,682
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,528	5,261,682
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,528	5,261,800
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,017	5,261,800
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,022	5,262,618
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,825	5,262,618
USGS Map 1:24,000	Area	NAD 27	10	438,935	5,262,813

Location Map:



Kestner Homestead is located in the southwestern portion of Olympic National Park, Washington.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 07/01/2007

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The inventory unit meets National Register criteria and was listed on the National Register in summer 2007; the inventory unit is compatible with the park's legislated significance; and the inventory unit has a continuing or potential purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use or function.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

There are two adjacent properties that are currently in private ownership that were historically part of Antone and Joseph Kestner's homestead claims. These are the 6-acre Hylton property near the eastern portion of the Kestner Homestead and the 1-acre Perrigo property near the southwestern end. If these properties are acquired, the cultural landscape boundary should be adjusted to include them.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Kestner Homestead was found eligible for the National Register and listed in Summer 2007, however, the nomination did not adequately document the landscape features associated with the historic site.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Contributing/Individual: Individual

National Register Classification: Site

Significance Level: Local

Significance Criteria: A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category

Exploration - Settlement

Area of Significance Subcategory

None

Statement of Significance:

The Kestner Homestead was listed on the National Register in summer 2007. The nomination established significance of the homestead under Criterion A for its association with the Homestead Act of 1862 as “the oldest surviving settler-built homestead still extant in the Quinault River Valley on the Olympic Peninsula within the Olympic National Park.” The period of significance stated in the nomination is 1897-1944. The boundary encompassed 14 acres, including the main building complex and the immediately adjacent clearings. The Kestner Homestead site represents the period of early settlement in the park, a theme important to park history. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. (See the Analysis and Evaluation Summary for integrity discussion.)

Research for this CLI documentation has uncovered additional information that augments the 2007 nomination and has lead to a recommendation for amendment to the nomination. Historic documents indicate that Antone Kestner arrived in the Lake Quinault area in 1890 and began “proving up” his claim, which he submitted in 1891. By 1895, Antone Kestner had already built a house, a barn, several outbuildings, and cleared approximately 20 acres of land. It is proposed here that the period of significance be expanded to 1890-1944 to include his earliest developments. Between Antone Kestner’s

claim of 160 acres and his son's claim of 40 acres in 1904, the Kestner family owned a total of 200 acres. Contributing features, such as road and building remnants and aspects of setting, such as historic clearings, still remain on the property and help to portray the character and extent of the homestead. One of the most critical aspects of homesteading on the Olympic Peninsula is the amount of time and effort devoted to clearing land for a successful operation. It is recommended that the boundary of the cultural landscape be expanded beyond the 14 acres included in the nomination to encompass the entire extent of land claimed and homesteaded by the Kestner's and thus the full extent of the fields they cleared and worked. Olympic National Park currently owns 192 acres of the original 200 acres claimed by Antone Kestner and his son, Joe.

[The following narrative is adapted from the Kestner Homestead Nomination (2005).]

Kestner Homestead is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Homestead Act of 1862. The act was signed into law by Abraham Lincoln after the secession of southern states. This act turned over vast amounts of the public domain to private citizens. Two hundred and seventy million acres, or ten percent of the area of the United States, was claimed and settled under this act. A homesteader had only to be the head of a household and at least twenty-one years of age to claim a 160-acre parcel of land. Settlers from all walks of life including newly arrived immigrants, such as Antone Kestner, farmers, single women, and former slaves came to meet the challenge of "proving up" the land. Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements, and farm for five years before they were eligible to "prove up."

By the time white settlers reached the Olympic Peninsula, four Indian reservations had been established at the Makah, Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault river mouths. During the 1850s, settlers began claiming land around the east and north coastal fringes of the peninsula in about 20 areas. Some of these were at Port Townsend, Sequim, and Dungeness. During the 1880s-1890s, isolated settlements and individual homesteaders circled the uninhabited core of the peninsula. In 1891, homesteaders interested in farming began to move inland where land was still available. Favored sites were around Lake Crescent, Lake Ozette, Lake Quinault, and Lake Cushman, and along creek and river drainages such as the Elwha, Soleduc, Bogachiel, Hoh, Queets, and the Quinault.

Settlers in the upper Quinault Valley faced problems similar to those encountered elsewhere in the interior west side of the Olympic Peninsula: isolation from the outside world; thick, dense forests and underbrush along the river bottom; and long months of heavy precipitation. With headwaters on the southeastern slopes of the Olympic range, the main branch of the Quinault River and its north fork descend through terrain described by the Dodwell-Rixon survey party as very rugged and mountainous.

White settlement of the upper Quinault River Valley, like other interior river valleys on the Olympic Peninsula, had not begun until the late 1880s. The three earliest known settlers arrived in 1888 and claimed land at the northeast end of the lake and on bottomland about 2 miles northeast of the lake. By the end of 1890, nineteen others had settled in the Quinault Valley northeast of the lake and at the north and east end of Lake Quinault. This community of early Quinault settlers included those whose names appear on present-day maps of the area, such as Antone Kestner, (Kestner Creek), A.R. Merriman

(Merriman Creek and Merrimen Falls), and a Mr. Gatton (Gatton Creek).

Known homestead claimants continued to arrive in the broad upper Quinault Valley and around the shoreline of the eastern half of the lake during the 1890s. Between 1891 and 1900, more than 30 new settlers, several with families, arrived in the upper Quinault Valley. Wright Canyon, Higley Creek, McCormick Creek, and Haas Creek denote the general location of the home sites of A.T. Wright, Orte L. Higley, W.J. McCormick, and Louis and Joseph Hass respectively, who were among this slightly later group of Quinault settlers. While more infill occurred on the river bottom lands at the northeast end of the lake, new arrivals also took up land farther up the river. By 1900, small acreages of cleared, slashed, cultivated, and fenced land may have extended from the lake to the junction of the Quinault River and the North Fork Quinault, approximately ten miles upriver from Lake Quinault.

The Kestner Homestead was established by Antone and Josepha Kestner, Austrian immigrants, who came to the Quinault Valley in the early 1890s with two sons, Joseph and Otto. They were typical settlers who took advantage of the Homestead Act of 1862 by first building a small cabin, clearing a vegetable plot, and raising a wide variety of livestock. This was a requirement of the government in giving individuals property: settlers were required to build on and cultivate their land in order to claim it as an official homestead. The Kestners had to face the same problem as all settlers on the peninsula: this land was conducive to rain forest, and any land left unwatched would soon be filled in by vegetation. Mathew Sneddon (2001) describes the importance of cleared lands, in his contextual study on homestead clearing on the Olympic Peninsula:

Agricultural clearings are more than spaces in the woods. Farmlands hewed from the timbered lands of the Olympic National Park are tangible markers of the complicated and multifaceted legacy of homesteading in the United States. As a crucial requirement of “proving up,” clearings reflect a federal policy that mixed several competing elements, including an enduring faith in supporting the small independent farmer and a bureaucratic framework and approach to land management. As evidence of the effort put forth to farm on difficult lands, clearings show the lure of homesteading in America. That hopeful settlers tried to make a space and life for themselves among the forest giants of the mountainous Olympic Peninsula, testifies to the strength of this ideal.

Large stumps were blasted or burned. Sometimes unmanageable stumps were simply left in the field to rot over time, leaving a very distinctive appearance on the landscape and leading to the term “stump farmers” for homesteaders on the peninsula.

Most settlers on the peninsula gave up their battles with the rainforest within ten years of starting out. However, the settlers of the Quinault Valley had a few advantages. They could transport supplies and produce by boat across the Lake Quinault and on the Quinault River. The people of the community helped each other. As new technology was introduced and added to their lives, it became easier to keep fields cleared, build sound structures, hunt, protect themselves, and to transport supplies and produce. In addition, the introduction of the timber industry to the area gave these people a source of cash.

Of the many improvements made by Kestner to the property between the years 1890 and 1943, the

most important and difficult task related to homesteading was in clearing land. Heavy precipitation on the Peninsula, an average of 140 inches per year, supports the dense rainforests and undergrowth that characterized the Quinault area. As a result, clearing land on the peninsula was arduous for those attempting to make a living. In this regard, Antone Kestner was very successful, clearing 20 acres of land in just five years.

Today, the Kestner Homestead survives as an important record of homesteading on the Olympic Peninsula. The extant features and landscape characteristics are typical of an early peninsula homestead and demonstrate a response to the unique challenges and opportunities of farming in the rain forest. Although the forest has reclaimed portions of the historically cleared land, the remaining cleared areas around the main building complex, orchard, and agricultural fields testify to the homesteaders' efforts to tame such a wild place. The feeling created by these early settlers is still present with the existing building complex, roads, open fields, fence lines, corrals, and orchard. Overall, the building cluster remains intact, with exception of the loss of the barn (that has been replaced with a barn constructed in the same location, to convey the massing, location, and materials of the eastern half of the barn). The orchard, established in the 1890s, remains intact with half of the trees surviving from the historic period. Approximately 40 percent of the historic fields still remain. Most of these fields are immediately adjacent the historic building complex, retaining the setting of the buildings. Remnant stumps left within the open fields perhaps best convey the overall historic character and story of homesteading or "stump farming" on the Olympic Peninsula. The aggregate of these historic features and landscape characteristics contribute to the historic site, which retains the integrity aspects of materials, workmanship, design, location, setting, feeling, and association.

National Historic Landmark Information

National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information

World Heritage Site Status: No

Landscape described in the nomination: No

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Site

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Agricultural Field

Primary Current Use: Interpretive Landscape

Other Use/Function

Other Type of Use or Function

Single Family House

Historic

Livestock

Historic

Vacant/Maintained (Mothballed)

Current

Current and Historic Names:

Name

Type of Name

Kestner Homestead

Both Current And Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: Yes-Unrestricted Information

Ethnographic Significance Description:

Prehistory and Ethnography, 1983 by Eric O. Bergland:

Synthesis of available environmental, archeological, and anthropological literature augmented by a limited amount of fieldwork conducted in and around Olympic National Park.

Ethnographic Overview and Assessment, 1997 by Jacilee Wray:

Considers the relationships of eight tribal groups to Olympic National Park and its resources based on tradition, ancestral practices, treaties, law, and policy. Any park resource, whether it is a place, cultural object, or natural object that is significant to the associated people's lifeways is considered an ethnographic resource.

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1855	Established	The first governor of the Washington Territory, Isaac Stevens, negotiated a treaty with the coast tribes north of Grays Harbor. The tribes ceded their lands to the U.S. Government and were moved to reservations at the Makah, Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault river mouths, allowing Euro-Americans to settle in the Grays Harbor and Quinault area by 1857.
AD 1862	Established	Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act into law that allowed ordinary citizens and emigrants the opportunity to stake a 160-acre claim in the west. Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements, and farm for five years before they were eligible to "prove up" their claim.
AD 1890	Homesteaded	Antone Kestner arrived in the Quinault area. He established a claim on 160 acres of land north of Lake Quinault.
AD 1890 - 1895	Established	Within the first five years, the Kestners established an orchard and began clearing lands as required under the Homestead Act.
AD 1891	Built	Antone built a cabin. His wife, Josepha, and two sons, Joe and Otto, joined him.
AD 1892	Destroyed	The Kestner's lost most of their possessions in a flood during their first winter in the valley.
AD 1895	Established	Antone Kestner became a citizen of the United States.
AD 1895	Platted	A U.S. Deputy Surveyor noted that the property was heavily timbered with spruce, maple, and alder and included a dense undergrowth of salmonberry and devil's club. The clearings were approximately 20-acres and surrounded the building complex, which consisted of a residence, barn, and several outbuildings.
AD 1897	Established	The Olympic Forest Reserve was established.

Kestner Homestead
Olympic National Park

AD 1897	Destroyed	The Kestner's original house was destroyed in a flood.
AD 1904	Established	Kestner's homestead was approved by the Land Office at Olympia, Washington.
AD 1904	Built	Kestner completed the new house to accommodate his large family of seven children, which was considered at the time the "nicest and most substantial" house in the area. They moved into the house in 1905. This house still remains.
AD 1904	Built	By this year, Antone had constructed two barns (one barn was located near the house, the other was probably the steer barn located on the west side of Kestner Creek). The barn near the house measured 54 x 112 feet and was among the largest barn in the valley at that time. The new house was nearly completed.
AD 1904	Built	In addition to the barns, the homestead had several outbuildings, 200-feet of split-rail cedar, 100-feet of picket fencing, and 40 acres of clearings.
AD 1904	Purchased/Sold	Kestner's oldest son, Joe Kestner turned twenty-one and was eligible to claim 40 acres adjacent to the northeast boundary of Antone's property.
AD 1905 - 1910	Built	Joe Kestner built a house, established an orchard, and homesteaded his property.
AD 1907	Established	The Olympic National Forest was established.
AD 1909	Established	Mount Olympus National Monument was established in 1909.
AD 1910 - 1929	Purchased/Sold	At some point during this time, Joe sold or transferred his 40 acres to his younger brother John who then sold it to their sister Josie (Kestner) Dickey.
AD 1913	Destroyed	Josepha Kestner lit a fire in 1913 that apparently went out of control and burned the hillside north of the Kestner building complex.

Kestner Homestead
Olympic National Park

AD 1924	Built	The North Shore Road was completed providing easier access from the homestead to the outside world.
AD 1928	Established	Asahel Curtis captured the Kestner Homestead in a picture, providing the first recorded view of the overall layout of the site. The portion of the homestead that is visible in the photo shows a farm that is well-kept. The photo shows a large barn, house and several out buildings surrounded by large, cleared fields demarcated with fencing. Cows are grazing in the field north of the buildings.
AD 1929	Destroyed	The original house built by Joe burned.
AD 1930	Built	Circa 1930, The Dickey's built a new house.
AD 1933	Damaged	The Dickey's house was damaged in a flood.
AD 1933	Built	Circa 1933, the Dickey's rebuilt/repared their house.
AD 1934	Built	Electricity was established on the homestead. The self-contained system used a Pelton water wheel located at Yule Falls.
AD 1938	Established	The Olympic National Park was established.
AD 1938	Developed	Aerial photographs indicate that by this year the entrance road to the Kestner building complex from North Shore Road was established, as well as the orchard, fences, and the steer barn.
AD 1944	Purchased/Sold	The Kestner children sold 120 acres of Antone Kestner's original claim to Orlo Higley. Around this time, Josie Dickey acquired the remaining 40 acres of the claim in addition to her original 40 acre parcel for a total of 80 acres.
AD 1944 - 1959	Built	Sometime between these years, the vehicle repair shed was constructed by Orlo Higley.

Kestner Homestead
Olympic National Park

AD 1954 - 1972	Altered	Over time, Orlo Higley remodeled the house. He moved the front door from the south to the east side of the house, constructed a new foundation, constructed an addition to the north side of the house, and installed aluminum windows.
AD 1970	Purchased/Sold	Orlo sold a parcel of land to McLucas.
AD 1973	Purchased/Sold	The NPS purchased approximately 80 acres of Orlo's property.
AD 1975	Purchased/Sold	Orlo transferred a 14-acre portion of his property to his daughter, Sharlene Higley, which included most of the major development within the Kestner Homestead building complex.
AD 1978 - 1985	Purchased/Sold	Josephine Dickey sub-divided her property, bequeathing her improvements and a 50-acre tract in the northern part of her 80 acre property to her granddaughter, Barbara Bishop.
AD 1978 - 1980	Purchased/Sold	Dickey sold 24-acres of land to the Orcutt family in 1978. She gave several more acres of land to the Orcutts in 1980. She also sold 6 acres to the Hyltons.
AD 1979	Purchased/Sold	Orlo sold the portion of his property that contained the steer barn to Peck. Peck built a house, added a driveway, and other improvements.
AD 1970 - 1979	Purchased/Sold	In the 1970s, Orlo sold a parcel of land to Harrell.
AD 1986	Purchased/Sold	The NPS purchased the Bishop property.
AD 1986	Purchased/Sold	The NPS purchased the Orcutt property. The Orcutts retained a 20 year lease.
AD 1986	Planned	The Quinault Development Concept Plan (DCP) was completed that included the Kestner Homestead. The plan called for restoration of some structures and the orchard and adaptive reuse of other buildings.

AD 1986	Removed	What was once Dickey's field, now called Bishop field, became a storage area for NPS construction and maintenance projects. All buildings, trailer homes, and fences were removed.
AD 1987	Purchased/Sold	The NPS purchased the Peck property. Today, the residence is used as park housing. The NPS also purchased the Sharlene Higley, McLucas, and Harrell properties.
AD 1994	Planned	The Kestner barn had fallen into disrepair. The roof collapsed and the poles were infested with powder post beetles. The NPS considered plans to stabilize and possibly restore the Kestner barn, but the barn was not restored because the damage was too extensive.
AD 1995	Purchased/Sold	The NPS acquired the Perrigo property, a 1-acre tract, under "Judgment of Forfeiture" through the U.S. Marshals Service.
AD 1995	Stabilized	All of the buildings within the Kestner building complex were stabilized.
AD 1997	Removed	Two thirds of the barn lost structural integrity resulting in a loss of historic integrity. The barn was subsequently razed and replaced with a new barn intended to reflect the eastern half of the original building in its massing and architectural style.
AD 1998	Planned	A proposal, entitled Quinault Homestead Preservation Maintenance Actions Needed for Stabilization was made to clean up the homestead.
AD 2006 - 2007	Removed	The Orcutt's lease expired and the property was vacated. The park plans to remove improvement on the property in 2007.
AD 2007	Removed	The steer barn (Peck Barn) has collapsed and is scheduled to be removed.

Physical History:

Early Exploration and Settlement of the Quinault Valley: 1850-1890

Prior to Euro-American settlement of Lake Quinault, the Quinault Indians flourished for thousands of years in a bountiful landscape with access to salmon and steelhead fishing, hunting, berry picking and wood gathering. In 1855, however, this traditional way of life was transformed when the first governor of the Washington Territory, Isaac Stevens, negotiated a treaty with the coast tribes north of Grays Harbor. In this treaty, the tribes agreed to cede their lands to the U.S. Government and move to designated reservations at the Makah, Quileute, Hoh, and Quinault river mouths. This act allowed Euro-Americans to establish in the Grays Harbor area by 1857 (about forty miles away from the Quinault area) and begin logging operations for thirty years to come on land that was said to hold the greatest stand of Douglas fir in the Pacific Northwest.

By 1878, Melbourne Watkinson led an expedition through the Olympic Peninsula, the first interior journey of the peninsula by Euro-Americans. In their travels, they passed through the north end of Lake Quinault, entering the Quinault River valley via O'Neil Pass, as they proceeded down river towards the Pacific Ocean. By 1889, another exploring team, C.A. and S.C. Gilman, descended into the Quinault Valley after a three-month hike across the rugged eastern section of the Olympic Mountains. At Quinault they counted approximately thirty-one settlers. The Press Expedition, led five months later by James H. Christie, arrived at Lake Quinault before floating by canoe to the mouth of the Quinault River on the Pacific Ocean. The Press party, however, passed through without giving a description of the landscape.

Lieutenant Joseph O'Neil, arriving in the Quinault Valley in the fall of 1890, after leading an expedition party through much of the southern half of the Olympic Mountains, observed that "the Quinault valley from the junction (of the main branch and the north fork) is well adapted for agriculture. It is fertile bottom land, about 3 miles in width." From the accounts left by members of these expeditions and by the encouraging observations by O'Neil, it is likely that many were prompted to attempt homesteading and subsistence farming along Lake Quinault in the early 1890s.

Homesteading the Quinault: 1890-1900

Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act of 1862 into law, an important piece of Legislation in the history of the United States, after the secession of southern states. This Act turned over vast amounts of the public domain to private citizens: 270 millions acres or ten percent of the area of the United States was claimed and settled under this act. A homesteader had only to be the head of a household and at least twenty-one years of age to claim a 160-acre parcel of land. Settlers from all walks of life including newly arrived immigrants (such as Antone Kestner), farmers, single women, and former slaves came to meet the challenge of "proving up" the land. Each homesteader had to live on the land, build a home, make improvements and farm for five years before they were eligible to "prove up." A filing fee of eighteen dollars was the only money required.

In 1890, homesteaders interested in farming on the Olympic peninsula began to move inland from Grays Harbor where land was still available. Favored sites were around Lake Crescent,

Lake Ozette, Lake Quinault, and Lake Cushman. By the end of 1890, several homesteaders settled in the valley northeast of the lake and at the north and east ends of Lake Quinault including Antone and Josepha Kestner. Between 1891 and 1900, over 30 new settlers arrived including A.T. Wright, Orte L. Higley, W.J. McCormick and Louis and Joseph Hass (Josepha Kestner's sister and brother-in-law). By 1900, small acreages of "cleared, slashed, cultivated and fenced land" may have extended from the lake to the junction of the Quinault River and the North Fork Quinault, approximately ten miles upriver from the lake.

Subsistence farming was the primary activity of settlers. Early surveyors confirmed O'Neil's observations that bottom and bench land had abundant rich black loam alluvial soil, well adapted to agriculture. Quinault settlers planted good-sized fields of grain, clover and hay for grazing, as well as smaller parcels of vegetables. Within 20 years of initial settlement, cultivated fields in the Quinault area ranged from 3 to 30 acres in size. A USDA economist analyzing settlement in western Washington's logged areas in 1940 established that it would take the average settler nearly 40 years to clear and cultivate just 20 acres. Antone Kestner, by contrast, cleared 40 acres between 1890 and 1904, using the land to produce crops and support cattle, one of the most important factors in his ability to make a living at farming. Many of the settlers including Kestner planted small orchards and fenced cleared and cultivated fields. Nearly every homestead had one or more barns. Antone Kestner erected three barns on his property along Kestner Creek one mile northeast of Lake Quinault; one, measuring 54 feet by 112 feet, was among the largest in the valley. Sheds, shops, root houses and other outbuildings typified these early homestead farm units. Alfred V. Higley, located near the northernmost tip of Lake Quinault, along with Antone Kestner, had two of the most well-developed complexes of farm buildings.

Besides families such as the Kestners and Higleys, the occupancy of many settlers was frequently short. Settlers in the upper Quinault Valley faced problems similar to those encountered elsewhere in the interior west side of the Olympic Peninsula: isolation from the outside world (transportation was limited to primitive trails and canoe) and thick, dense forests along the river and lake, compounded by long months of heavy precipitation.

The heavy precipitation was more than an annoyance. It produced the dense forests and undergrowth that characterized the Quinault as a rainforest. The Quinault is the wettest place in the contiguous U.S. with annual rainfall averages 140 inches, nearly 12 feet a year, which is roughly two billion gallons of water per square mile of forest. Extreme precipitation in Quinault has allowed for a lush environment of ferns, moss, and several species of conifers to flourish. As a direct result of the rain, therefore, the process of clearing was made too arduous for those attempting to make a living from the fertile soil of the upper Quinault River.

In addition to the climate and landscape preventing homesteaders success, the initial pace of homesteading in the Quinault area slowed by 1897 with the establishment of the Olympic Forest Reserve. Its creation was in reaction to the fears of Congress that the nation's forests "were being rapidly consumed in a profligate and wasteful manner." President Grover Cleveland's act ceded land within the reserve from settlement, but maintained previous claims established through legal means. The act prevented the development of an infrastructure system that would

have allowed homesteaders efficient access to markets and points of the outside world, necessary to run a successful farm. Because of the extreme climatic conditions and access constraints, over half of the homesteaders on the peninsula abandoned their claims. Several other federal intercessions in the form of withdrawals, restrictions, and jurisdictional changes followed in the Quinault area, which further hindered homesteading. These changes included the creation of Mount Olympus National Monument in 1909 and Olympic National Park in 1938; during these years, the National Park Service began the process of acquiring private in-holdings within the boundaries of the park. Despite these jurisdictional changes, the Kestners, along with several other families, remained devoted to their homesteads.

Clearing the Land

The overall importance of clearing the land on the Olympic Peninsula, can not be fully understood today without understanding how daunting the task was historically. Mathew Sneddon, author of a contextual study on homestead clearing on the Olympic peninsula, explained that clearing represented the very essence of what it meant to homestead on the peninsula, implying this activity was by far the most important:

Agricultural clearings are more than spaces in the woods. Farmlands hewed from the timbered lands of the Olympic National Park are tangible markers of the complicated and multifaceted legacy of homesteading in the United States. As a crucial requirement of “proving up,” clearings reflect a federal policy that mixed several competing elements, including an enduring faith in supporting the small independent farmer and a bureaucratic framework and approach to land management. As evidence of the effort put forth to farm on difficult lands, clearings show the lure of homesteading in America. That hopeful settlers tried to make a space and life for themselves among the forest giants of the mountainous Olympic Peninsula testifies to the strength of this ideal.

Clearing land on the peninsula was more difficult than clearing fields in other areas of the U.S. because the conifer trees, some with a diameter of 15 feet, were impossible to remove with just an axe or mattock. As a result, successful homesteaders such as Kestner required familiarity with methods unique to logging. Kestner gained expertise in felling, bucking, and removing timber while temporarily employed as a logger, an occupation used to supplement the family’s cash-poor income.

At the Kestner homestead, clearing required the use of several devices such as hand tools, oxen, and explosives. The process itself included a number of grueling tasks. Trees were first downed with a cross-cut saw and ax. Because of their large diameter, they would saw the logs from 3 feet or as high as 10 feet, leaving large stumps. Using the same tools, Kestner cut the logs and branches into pieces. Once down, the trees were moved with oxen and a peavey, a device that looked like a long stick with a handle on one end, and a sharp metal hook on the other end, used to roll logs by acting as a kind of lever. Later, the big logs and brush were burned, which was considered the most efficient way to remove the vegetation. In one instance, Josepha Kestner lit a fire in 1913 that apparently went out of control, expanding well beyond the flat areas up the hillside.

Large stumps were blasted, burned, or left in the fields to rot. To remove them, Kestner used a coarse blasting powder. The process entailed placing dynamite caps within the stump, then blasting. Burning the stumps was also attempted after the initial blasting, but only when the stump was dry enough. Once dry, however, they used an auger to bore deeply into and all around the stump in regular intervals in an attempt to blast the stump a second time. These same holes were then stuffed with pieces of coal, which were used to start another fire within the stump. Although Kestner went to great length to remove the stumps, his efforts were not always successful. Sometimes unmanageable stumps were simply left in the field to rot over time, leaving a very distinctive appearance on the landscape. This is how Kestner, along with many other homesteaders on the peninsula, earned the name stump farmer.

The Kestner Homestead 1890-1944

The Kestner Homestead was established by Antone and Josepha Kestner, Austrian immigrants, who came to the valley in the early 1890s with two sons, Joseph (Joe) and Otto. They later had five more children: John, Josephine (Josie), Carrie, Clara, and Rose. They were typical settlers who first built a small cabin, cleared a vegetable plot on their property, and raised a wide variety of animals such as dairy cows, pigs, and chickens. They then worked on building a barn, several outbuildings, and clearing fields. Despite the hardships of living on a homestead, the Kestner's managed to prosper in this remote area.

Antone arrived in the area in 1890. He built his first cabin on land cleared by cutting, burning, and digging by hand. (18) The following year, his wife and children joined him. In 1892, during their first winter in the valley, the Kestner's suffered severe weather and lost nearly everything to a flood. (19) By 1895, Antone Kestner, now a citizen of the United States, maintained a working farm that included cultivated fields and numerous buildings. (20) During this year, a U.S. Deputy Surveyor evaluated the property, one of the first descriptions of the homestead on record. His short notations described the soil conditions, existing vegetation, and improvements. The soil was "rich sandy loam 1st rate" or as "sandy loam and clay 1st and 2nd rate." The property was "heavily timbered" with spruce, maple, and alder and included a "dense undergrowth" of salmonberry and devil's club. The clearings were approximately 20-acres and surrounded the building complex, which consisted of a residence, barn, and several outbuildings. (21) In 1897, their house was destroyed by another flood event. (22)

In 1904, Kestner's property was appraised in a record entitled Homestead Proof—Testimony of Claimant, a legal document in support of his homestead entry. By this time, Kestner had "improved" his claim, continuing to use the property primarily for agricultural purposes, while supporting a family of six children (with a seventh on the way). Improvements noted in the document included a house (which was not actually completed until 1905), two barns (one was located near the main house, the other was probably the steer barn), and various other structures. (23) In addition, the document revealed that since 1895, Kestner had doubled the area of cleared land from 20 to 40 acres (25% of his original 160-acre claim was cleared), a number that far exceeded the requirements stipulated by the Homestead Act. By April 1904, Kestner's homestead was approved by the Land Office at Olympia, Washington. (24)

In 1905, as their seventh child was born, Antone finished construction of a larger house, which was considered at the time, the “nicest and most substantial” house in the area. (25) Antone, a skilled woodworker who trained in Europe as a boy, gained attention in the Quinault area not only as a successful farmer, but also as a gifted carpenter and fine woodworker. (26)

In 1928, a highly regarded Northwest photographer, Asahel Curtis, captured the Kestner Homestead in a picture, providing the first recorded view of the overall layout of the site. Taken from an open hillside, looking south, it presented a charming farm in an idyllic setting of mountains and forests surrounding buildings and pastures. The homestead sat on the flood plane with a simple split-rail fence encircling open fields and spires of remnant tree stumps. The building complex was tightly concentrated within the western portion of the property. The front entrance of the two-story main residence faced south, overlooking an orchard of approximately 30 trees aligned in a grid fashion (diagonal in relation to the house). The barn, occupying the largest footprint of any other building on site, stood tall and by this year, had been extended with an additional barn on the western end connected by a breezeway. Several other unidentifiable outbuildings were located between the barn and house. (27) Overall, the Kestner property, as evidenced by nearly every historic photograph, managed to maintain a neat and clean appearance despite the continuous rains that encouraged rapid vegetation growth.

Additional family photos taken between 1900 and 1944 and several contemporary oral interviews of Quinault family descendants provide further detail on the layout of the property. In the space between the house and barn, the Kestner’s planted a small kitchen garden and raspberry patch. In front of the house, the Kestner’s built a grape arbor and planted ornamental flowers. A large field, also known as the “farm garden” was cultivated just east of the building complex and orchard. Historic photographs show the field partially planted with what appears to be hay and corn that was used to provide silage for the animals. Additional open fields lay north and east of the building complex covering well over 10 acres, radiating north and east from the building complex to the base of hills. These fields were used to graze their livestock. Southwest of the barn, an opening referred to as “Teddy’s Pasture” was apparently an enclosure for a tamed elk. (28) South of the orchard, the Kestner’s built a small one room school house, but little detail about this buildings exists. (29) In contemporary interviews, Kestner’s granddaughter spoke of seven barns, but the locations of only three barns has been confirmed. Two of the barns were connected to make one large barn near the main residence. The third barn is the steer barn on the east side of Kestner Creek.

Main House. The main house, constructed by Antone Kestner in 1893, was rustic in character, which belied the fact that modern tools for the time such as iron wedges and sledge hammers, crosscut saws and levels, and froes for splitting shakes were used in its construction. The 30-foot wide by 60-foot long house was rectangular in shape and one-and-a half stories in height. Because concrete was unavailable at the time, it was built on a full sized cedar log foundation laid on the ground. (30) The walls were built of logs hewn on four sides to a 6-inch by 6-inch thickness, covered by hand-shaved shakes, lined inside with split cedar boards, hand-plained, rabbitted, and then laid vertically. The hand shaven shakes covered the exterior of the house, obscuring the logs. (31) The gabled roof, covered in cedar shakes, was supported with log rafters. The south elevation included a narrow covered porch over the main entrance

and seven multi-paned windows, many of which were double-hung. (32) The north elevation had a breezeway that linked the house to a woodshed, where a small cider and berry press was kept. (33) For a short period, the Kestner's also had a grape arbor at the front of the house that stood about 10 feet tall. In addition, a thin-gage wire mesh fence was used to surround the front and side of the yard where the kitchen garden was located. (34)

Barn. At some point around the turn of the century, the Kestner's built the largest barn in the Quinault area measuring 54 feet by 112 feet. Standing two stories high, it visually dominated the building complex. (35) Although primarily used to store hay and shelter milk cows, it was also used to hold apples, fruit, vegetables, canned goods, and barrels of apple cider, cider vinegar, and wine. (36)

While it appeared as a single structure, it was essentially two buildings built at different times with haylofts joined together by a breezeway—a “rambling” structure of rough-hewn post and beam construction sheathed in vertical rough boards. (37) A shed-roofed livestock shelter was located on the western façade. (38) The southern façade had rough-hewn shed roof extensions of a shallower slope than the main gable. (39) The roof, originally constructed with log rafters covered with two-foot cedar shakes, was replaced with corrugated metal sheathing by Orlo Higley after 1944. (40)

Root House (Tack Shed). Constructed by Kestner in the 1890s, the root house stood one and a half stories high with rough hewn logs, split pole chinking inside, and cedar shingles outside. The 20-foot by 60-foot building sat over a dirt floor, but rested on a cedar log foundation that was later stabilized by the NPS with concrete piers and large logs. The gable roof was constructed of log rafters and sheathed with cedar shakes about 2 feet in length. The north gable end of the shed was covered in beveled lap siding. A shelter, consisting of a shed roof supported by three rough posts, was added to the east side at an unknown date. A double hung multi-paned window and door were located on the north elevation. A second door was located on the south elevation. The interior of the building included a loft. During Kestner occupancy, the buildings was called the “root shed” and used to store potatoes and beets. During Higley occupancy, the same building was referred to as the “tack shed.” (41)

Smoke House. This square, one-and-a-half story building, referred to as the “smoke shed” by the Kestner family, had a timber foundation with wood-frame construction and rough lap siding. The gable roof had exposed purlins and was sheathed in cedar shakes. There was a lean-to addition on the west elevation that extended from the ridge of the main gable. Within the lean-to portion of the smoke house is a brick stove or oven. (42)

Vehicle Repair Shed. This one-story post and beam structure, constructed by Alfred Higley in the late 1940s or 1950s, had a log and timber foundation and was an open air structure. The gable roof was sheathed with cedar shakes. Vehicles were driven in at the east end onto two boards located over an access pit. A platform was located at the west end. (43)

Oil and Gas Shed. This one-and-a-half story building, also known as the “grease shack” was rectangular in shape and sat on a timber foundation. The shed area north was of wood-frame

construction clad with corrugated metal sheathing. The gable ends were clad in cedar shingles. The gable roof on the north included exposed rafters and cedar shakes. The lean-to addition on the south elevation had a cedar shake roof that extended from the ridge of the main gable. The post and beam lean-to had a timber foundation supporting a loading dock. (44)

Fences and Gates. While living on the homestead, the Kestner's built countless linear feet of fences that were used to define outer pastures, corrals, the kitchen garden, and chicken yard. By 1904, Kestner stated that he had 200 feet of split-rail cedar and 100 feet of picket fencing. (45) Various historic photographs indicate that the split rail fences were used to define outer pastures and corrals, while the picket fences were built within the building complex to define domestic spaces.

The Curtis photograph taken in 1928 perhaps best shows the character of the cedar fences in the pastures. They included posts, averaging 12 inches in diameter, rising approximately 4 feet. The posts were approximately 8 feet to 10 feet on-center. Within the pasture, these distinctive fences were generally fashioned with three sets of rails between the posts; however, some included more rails—as many as seven in some cases. (46)

Picket fences were used within the building complex, and placed in close proximity to the house. They averaged 4 feet in height, but were as high as 6 feet in places. The pickets had flat peaks and were attached to two rails of what appears to be 2-inch by 4-inch dimensional lumber. (47) Another example used wire, instead of wood rails, to attach the pickets. (48)

In addition to fencing, a distinctive three-armed swinging gate near the northwest corner of the barn was used to direct cattle into corrals. Comprised of split timber, the three gates averaged 17 feet in length, were approximately 4 feet in height, and attached with carriage bolt/hinges. The three gates were attached to an 18-inch diameter post that rose nearly 12 feet.

Electricity: Josie (Kestner) Dickey, daughter of Antone and Josepha, discussed in an oral interview how she had seen great technological changes on the homestead. For example, she witnessed the transition from hand tools to tractors and explained how as a girl they used lanterns or coal oil lamps in their house. (49) By 1934, however, she saw the advent of electricity—a technology inextricably tied to the landscape because in order to generate power it was necessary to have an ample water supply. (50) A Pelton water wheel was installed at Yule Falls, located “behind John Olson’s” on the hills above the property. The wheel was located below a wooden 500-gallon tank, which served as a reservoir to produce a head of pressure that turned the wheel. (51) This self-sufficient means of generating power prompted the Kestner’s to wire their house. Apparently, the Kestners even had electricity before the people in the nearby town of Humptulips. (52)

Razed Buildings and Structures

The extensive collection of historic photographs housed at Olympic National Park, coupled with oral interviews with Kestner and Higley family members illustrate that there were a number of other small outbuildings and fences on the property added over time. Such structures included wagon bridges that spanned Kestner Creek or other structures built by Antone Kestner’s

descendants. (53) In most instances, these buildings and structures were razed. A brief discussion of these buildings and structures follows.

The chicken coop, located between the house and barn was encircled by a chicken yard. Contemporary archeological research suggests that the coop had a rectangular footprint. A tall fence of wire mesh containing a large number of chickens protected the coop and chicken yard. (54) The chicken coop collapsed in the mid-1980s. (55) A milk house was located “just outside the back door from the kitchen,” but was left unused during the Higley tenancy. (56) A woodshed and apple house were located adjacent to the house, but were removed during the Higley’s later remodel of the house. In addition, there was a sheep shed, located at an unknown location on the property. (57) A wagon bridge was located very close to the oil and gas shed to cross a creek between the building complex and the northernmost pasture. It appears in the 1928 Curtis photograph to be approximately 10 feet long by 10 feet wide.

Roads

In the nineteenth century, access into the homestead was mainly by canoe over Lake Quinault or primitive trails tracing the shore. By 1924, however, the North Shore Road was completed, which complimented a growing network of improved trails and two-track secondary roads that linked the homestead with the outside world. (58) Over the first half of the twentieth century, the Kestner family developed four roads on their property and the U.S. Forest Service developed one to access land to the north of the Kestner’s property. Historic photographs of the homestead reveal the character of these roads. Typically, they were simple, curvilinear, two-track alignments that followed the natural lay of the land. They were approximately 10 feet wide, had 2-foot wide tire tracks, and lacked side ditches. (59)

The first among these roads developed by Kestner was the main entrance road. By 1939, aerial photographs show a narrow alignment that began near the house and led south, along the eastern edge of the orchard, where it eventually crossed Kestner Creek and joined North Shore Road. This road very likely included a wagon bridge that spanned Kestner Creek. A second road, aligned east-west, branched off from the entrance road, provided access to the other ranch buildings in the complex and to the fields and pastures to the east. It was used to haul hay and other crops from the fields to the barn. (60) This alignment was also a simple two-track alignment that followed the natural lay of the land. It extended to the eastern portion of the property and crossed Kestner Creek. The road was used by the Kestners to access fields on the east side of the creek and later by the Dickey’s to access their property.

Another road, developed by the US Forest Service was historically referred to as a logging road or Canoe Creek Road. This road ran north-south from North Shore Road, crossed Kestner Creek via a bridge, and ran through the property along the western edge of Kestner Creek. It was wider than other roads on the Kestner property. This road no longer functions as a logging road and the bridge that once crossed Kestner Creek has been washed out.

Walkways, Trails, and Puncheon

During the historic period between 1890 and 1944, the Kestners developed a pedestrian circulation system on the property that was largely informal and more in character with typical

social trails (trails that develop over time through repeated use). (61) However, the Kestners also developed a short system of wood boardwalks to link buildings together. An historic image of a boardwalk reveals that they consisted of lumber planks perhaps 2-inch by 6-inch, laid horizontally. It appears they were typically 4 feet wide.(62)

In addition to the vehicle and pedestrian circulation system, a corral located adjacent to the barn was surfaced with wood. Known as a puncheon, it was designed to create a dry, hard surface to prevent the accumulation of mud. Constructed with logs laid closely together and horizontally in the ground, it was used as a staging area for cattle. (63)

Agriculture

The Kestners dedicated several acres of the homestead to agricultural activities to support themselves and their livestock. They developed a farm garden, located east of the house to mainly produced silage for the animals, a kitchen garden, located west of the house to produced produce for the family, and an orchard, south of the house to produce a variety of fruits for canning and nuts. Historic photographs demonstrate that all of the Kestners participated in maintaining these crops, using hand tools such as pitchforks, hoes, and scythes, in addition to horse drawn plows. (64)

The farm garden was primarily planted with hay, but they also grew corn, potatoes, rutabagas, and carrots in this area. Once harvested, Antone used a vegetable chopper—a device conceived by Kestner—to mince crops for silage to prevent the cattle from choking on it. The chopper itself consisted of a wooden wheel that turned and sliced the vegetables. (65)

The kitchen garden was located between the house and barn and between the house and orchard, implying that it may have approached approximately 1/8 of an acre in size. Iva Higley, Orlo Higley's widow and subsequent resident at the homestead, noted on her hand drawn map the garden dimensions as 35 feet by 70 feet. They grew a variety of vegetables, but a few were mentioned specifically in oral interviews. For instance, they grew cabbage, which was harvested and loaded into barrels to make sauerkraut, as well as cucumber and squash. Shirley (Kestner) Russel, granddaughter of Joseph and Antone Kestner, specifically recalled that the family made coffee from dried carrots. The Kestners also grew fruit vines in the same area. A raspberry patch was located close to the root house, between the house and barn, while a grape vine apparently spanned the entire distance from the front entrance of the house to the barn. (66)

The orchard was established within the first five years of the Kestner occupation as one requirement of the Homestead Act. It covered an area on the southern side of the house. (67) The trees were laid out in what appears to be a grid arrangement as evidenced in the 1928 Curtis image. By this time, approximately 30 to 40 trees were established. Once established, mature trees were typically limbed up 3 to 5 feet. Cows and sheep were allowed to graze in the orchard and it is likely that the animals were responsible for this limbed-up character. When the trees grew heavy with fruit, the horizontal bearing branches were propped with narrow wooden posts that varied in length. (68) The trees were typically placed 30 feet apart. The Kestners grew a wide variety of trees including pears, variety apples, crab apples, prunes, plums,

cherry—even a walnut tree (planted next to the house). (69)

Antone Kestner was well thought of as an orchardist. He, along with his neighbor Jasper Bunch, grafted all of the trees on his property “into crab apples” which were used as the rootstock. (70) Specific apple varieties were not mentioned in the historic record, but it is possible to speculate. According to March Morris, granddaughter of the Kestners, they planted red apples in southern edge of the orchard. During this period, only three red varieties were popular including Red Delicious, Rome Beauty, or Wagener. It is probable that the Kestners had one or more of them. They also grew “banana-apple” trees, which are today referred to as winter banana trees (*Malus domestica*). The skin had a pink and yellow coloration, the flesh a slight banana scent. By contrast, the Kestners also grew what are commonly called “summer apples.” (71) Summer apple trees were ready for harvest in the middle of the summer, while winter apples were meant for harvest in late fall. Other winter varieties available at the time include Gravenstein and Jonathan.

Ornamental Plants

Ornamental plantings were quite limited on the homestead. They did plant daffodils—1,600 in all—along the entrance road. According to March Morris, who planted them, most did not survive. Iva Higley recalled that the Kestners also planted daffodils around the school house “right at the end of the orchard.” (72) A climbing rose was planted near the entrance of the house. (73) Also, Kestner’s granddaughter spoke of an ornamental garden that was located near the house. Little is known about the location of the garden and the types of flowers grown.



A photograph taken circa 1928 by Asahel Curtis shows the early character and layout of the buildings and adjacent fields. (OLYM



Historic photograph of Kestner children working in the fields with hand tools. A large tree stump is in the background, a common site occurrence on the Olympic Peninsula that lead to the term “stump farming.”



Historic photograph of a hay wagon being driven by Antone Kestner from the fields to the barn.



Historic photograph of the building complex and orchard in the winter. The orchard trees appear to be planted in a loose grid.



Historic photograph of the Kestner House. The original front door was located on the southern façade. Here, an arbor has been planted in front of the door. Other photos show a flower garden and a covered porch.

Expansion of the Kestner Homestead by Kestner's Children

In 1905, Joe Kestner, Antone's oldest son, turned twenty-one and was eligible to submit a claim to an additional 40 acres of land adjacent to the northeastern corner of his father's property. (74) Joe built a house and outbuildings. In the early 1900s, Joe's property (now known as the Dickey property) was accessed via the Kestner's entrance road. From the main Kestner building complex, the route ran eastward through the fields and over Kestner Creek via a wagon bridge. (75)

At some point between 1910 and the mid-1920s, Joe sold his land to his brother John, who in turn sold it to their sister, Josie (Kestner) Dickey. In 1929, the original house built by Joe burned down. The Dickey's built another house and added several root cellars and outbuildings. These improvements were destroyed by a flood in 1933. (76) It is not clear if the house was either severely damaged or completely lost during the flood. Following the flood, however, the house was either repaired or rebuilt. According to a USFS aerial photograph, by 1939, the property included several buildings, a new driveway or entrance road connecting directly to the North Shore Road, fencing, and cleared fields (known today as the Bishop Field).

The 1930s house had a simple gable roof and stood two stories high. The foundation type is unknown, but the exterior walls and roof were sheathed in cedar shakes. The building had several multi-paned, double hung windows and an entrance adjacent to the garage/shed. It was approximately 750 square feet on the main floor and 600 square feet on the second. It contained a living room, kitchen, utility room, bathroom, and bedroom on the main floor with a central staircase to three bedrooms and a small bunkroom. A 144 square foot chicken house with a plywood exterior, ¾-inch plywood floor, vinyl siding, and a corrugated fiberglass roof was located west of the main building complex. A 12-foot by 12-foot square shed, constructed with cedar, stood close to the house. The one and a half story structure included a gable roof sheathed in two-foot shakes. A small, open air shed addition of cedar posts supported a roof clad in corrugated metal. A small open air, gable roofed portico of cedar, was located on the other end of the building. A wood walkway linked this structure with the house. (77)

Subdivision of the Homestead (Post-1943)

After the deaths of Antone and Josepha, the Kestner children decided to sell the property. Josie Dickey retained her original 40 acres, plus an additional 40 acres of her father's claim. The remainder of the property, 120 acres, was sold to Orlo Higley in 1944.

Orlo Higley

The Higley family shared a common history with the Kestners as homesteaders in the Quinault area. Orlo Higley was the grandson of Alfred V. Higley, a man who arrived in the Quinault area in 1890. After his arrival, Alfred Higley soon took the job of acting assistant postmaster, while he and his son, Orte Higley ran a general store and the first hotel on Lake Quinault. In addition, the Higeys ran a freighting service, plying the waters of Lake Quinault and the Quinault River by canoe. Alfred Higley apparently had much sway in the community, managing to convince the people of the Quinault to blaze a trail from Quinault to the town of Humptulips, 18 miles to the south. (78) A few years later, the Higley family moved from the south side of Lake Quinault and settled on the north shore. Orlo Higley grew up here and eventually become a public school teacher. He taught at the Quinault School continuously from 1930 to 1963, with the exception of a four year stint in the Army and college. (79)

When Orlo Higley acquired the Kestner Homestead, he made several alterations to the house. By 1954, he constructed a new foundation by jacking up the entire house and pouring a level concrete slab on grade. He installed aluminum siding in various places. He shored up the framing with the addition of square pillars on each side of the structure. He replaced the majority of the multi-paned windows with single pane windows with aluminum frames and installed a sliding glass door on the first floor. (80) He added a small woodshed, carport, and narrow porch to the east elevation of the house. (81) During this period, Higley had the interior remodeled by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Barney. They gutted the spaces removing the cedar paneling and molding. The Barneys cleaned and reinstalled only the molding. They replaced the flooring and also added built-in shelving. (82) In 1973, Orlo Higley altered the east elevation of the house, using cedar to sheath the exterior.

Outside of the building complex, the Higeys made minor alterations to the landscape. They modified outbuildings including the root cellar, which was converted into the tack shed and

converted the smokehouse into a utility shed. (83) They added a two-story, rectangular metal shed that stood two stories. It had post and beam construction with wood roof trusses. Both the roof and walls were clad with standing rib metal sheathing. The east elevation included two large sliding doors and a plywood door. The west side had one large and one small sliding door. All doors were sheathed the same as the walls and roof. Two small metal sliding windows were located on the south elevation. (84) He brought in a large machine called a steam donkey and sited on the edge of the forest, west of the barn. It was apparently used for display. (85) In addition, Higley created a Douglas fir tree farm, a planting that covered several acres in one of the pastures north of the building complex.

Between 1970 and 1980, Orlo Higley sold or gifted all of his land. He sold approximately 80 acres to the NPS in 1973 and parceled out the remaining property to the following people: Franc McLucas (1970), Sharlene Higley (1975), Peck (1979), and Perrigo (1980). The Harrell's purchased a small 0.63-acre parcel from either Higley or Peck at an unknown date. These properties are described below.

McLucas Property

This small 1.4-acre parcel included a residence and shop. The residence was a one-story frame structure on a concrete foundation with a built up roof and aluminum siding. The structure was built in approximately 1965 and contained 921 square feet in addition to a car port and wood storage area consisting of 776 square feet. The residence was removed by the NPS. The simple, one-story shop was 1,271 square feet and included a 216 square foot loft. The floor consisted of one half concrete and the other of dirt. The building had two sliding steel doors. The structure was frame with corrugated steel siding and roof with a ceiling fifteen feet in height. The roof structure was supported with a metal truss system. In addition, there were some rail fences included on the property. The NPS retained the shop and continues to use it. This property was acquired by the NPS in 1986. (86)

Sharlene Higley Property

Sharlene Higley received two parcels of land from her father that included most of the historic Kestner building complex – all buildings except the metal barn and the gas and oil shed which were located on Orlo Higley's property – and the logging road, USFS 2473. (87) This property was acquired by the NPS in the 1986.

Peck Property

The Peck family purchased 20 acres of land from Orlo Higley in 1979 along the eastern bank of Kestner Creek. The barn, built by the Kestners circa 1905 to house beef cattle, was the only structure on this parcel that dated to the historic period. (88) Today, this structure is deteriorating: the roof has collapsed and the building has wood rot throughout. The Peck's added several additional improvements such as a house, well, septic tank, and fencing.

The 1,200 square foot house was built in 1980 with a concrete, slab-on-grade foundation. Constructed with a wood frame and sheathed in cedar, the building had insulated aluminum frame windows with screens, continuous aluminum gutters and downspouts leading from the four-foot overhangs of the gable roof covered by composite roofing material. Apparently, the

building was sited to take advantage of solar heat. The interior consisted of a living room, dining area, kitchen, utility room, three bedrooms and a bath. The building had two entrances. A concrete walk encircles the house. (89)

This property was purchased by the NPS in 1987. Today, the residence is used seasonally by NPS rangers.

Perrigo Properties

This one-acre property was acquired by the NPS in 1992 under Judgment of Forfeiture through the U.S. Marshals Service. The property came under scrutiny when the U.S. Marshals Service discovered illegal drug activity on the property. The property included improvements such as a house, garage, and trailer. (90) Perrigo still owns a small 1-acre parcel in the southern portion of the original Kestner property.

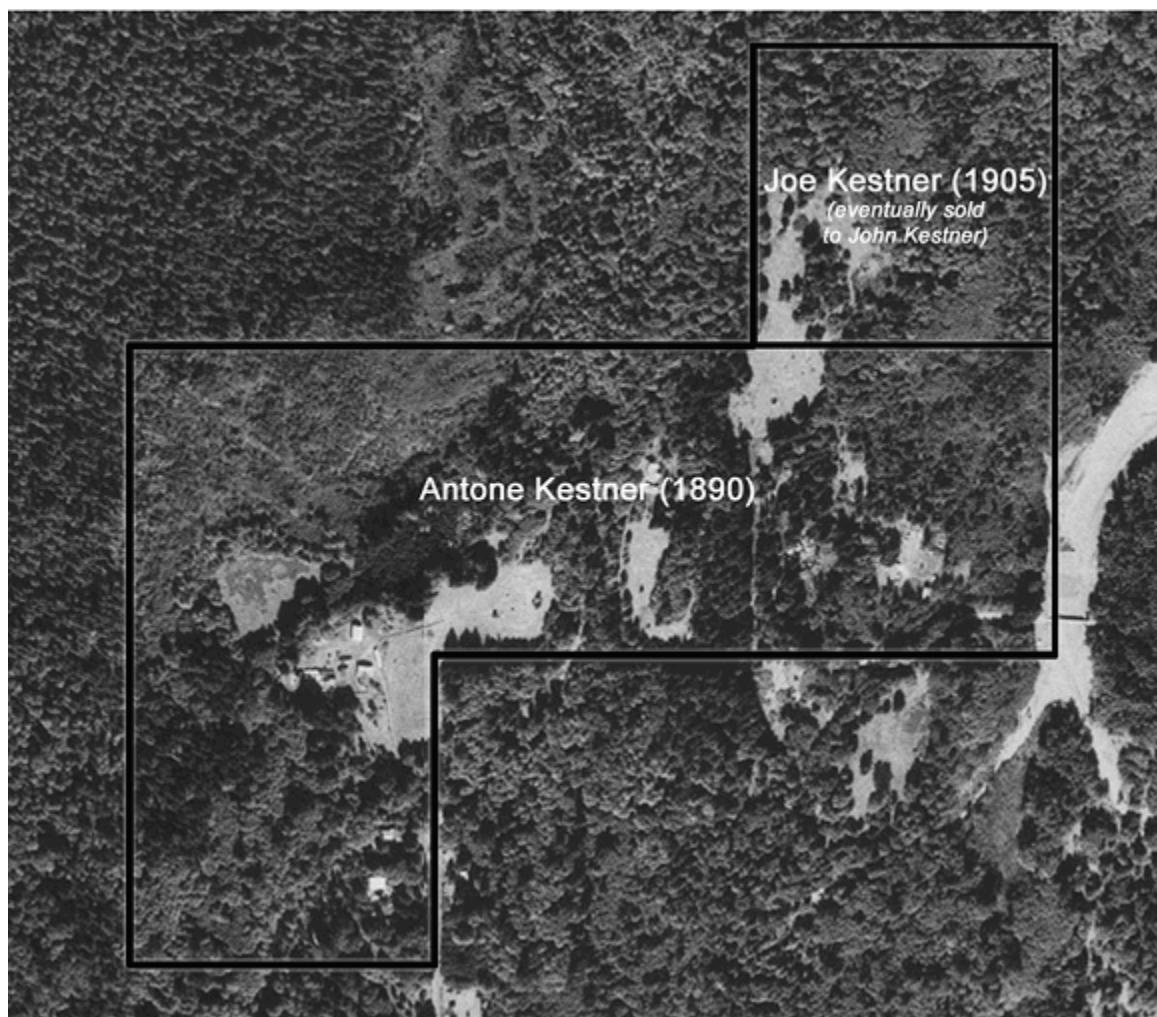
Harrell Property

When purchased by the NPS in 1986, the .63-acre Harrell property contained a one-story mobile home, a pump house with a seventy-five foot well, and a car port. (91)

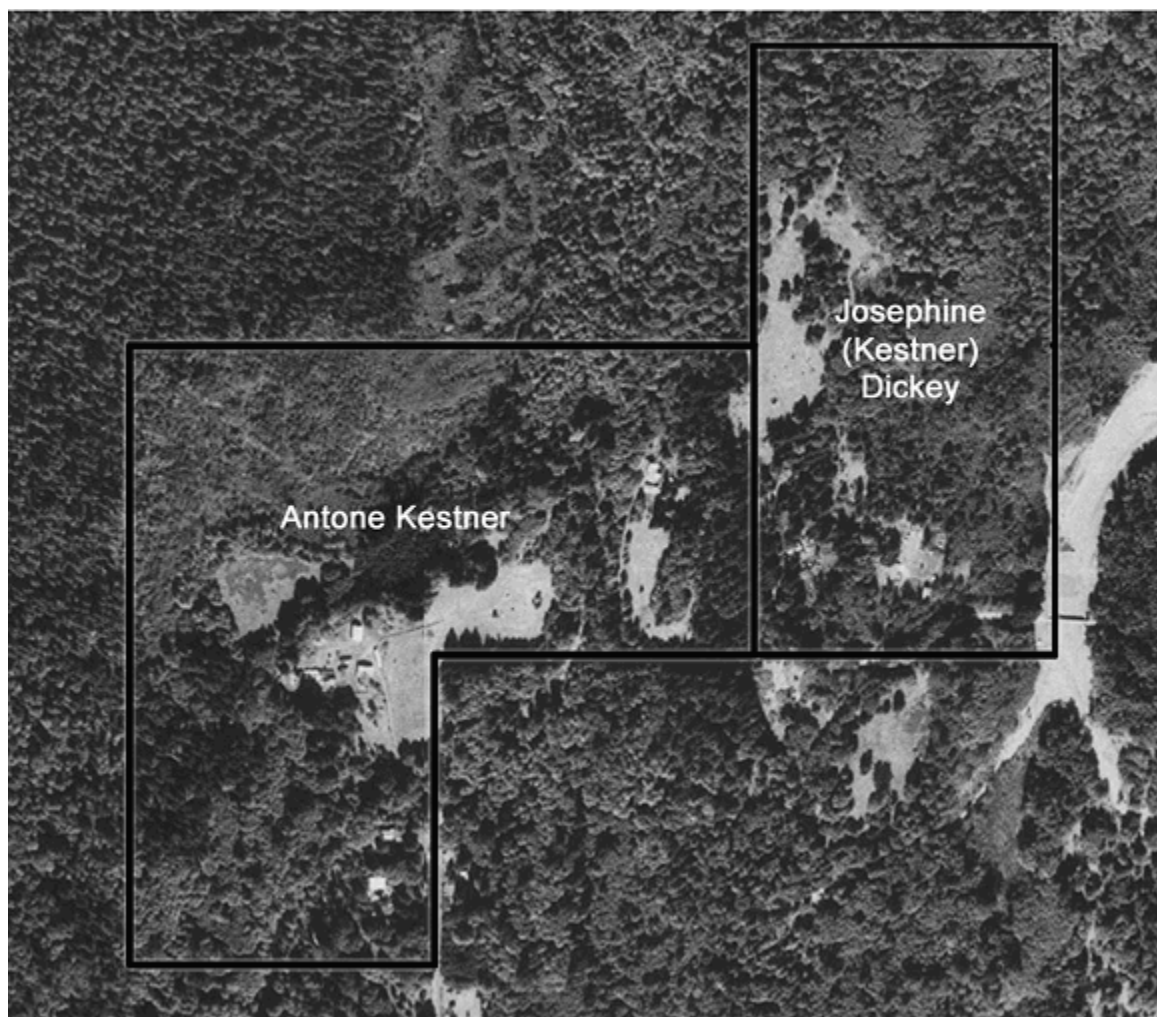
Dickey Property

In the 1970s, near the end of her life, Josie Dickey sub-divided her property, bequeathing her improvements and a 50-acre tract to her granddaughter, Barbara Bishop (and niece of March Morris), with the provision that she “house and care” for her the remainder of her natural life. The Bishops occupied the house for several years before moving into a trailer located on the southern end of the property. (92) The NPS purchased this property from Bishop in 1986.

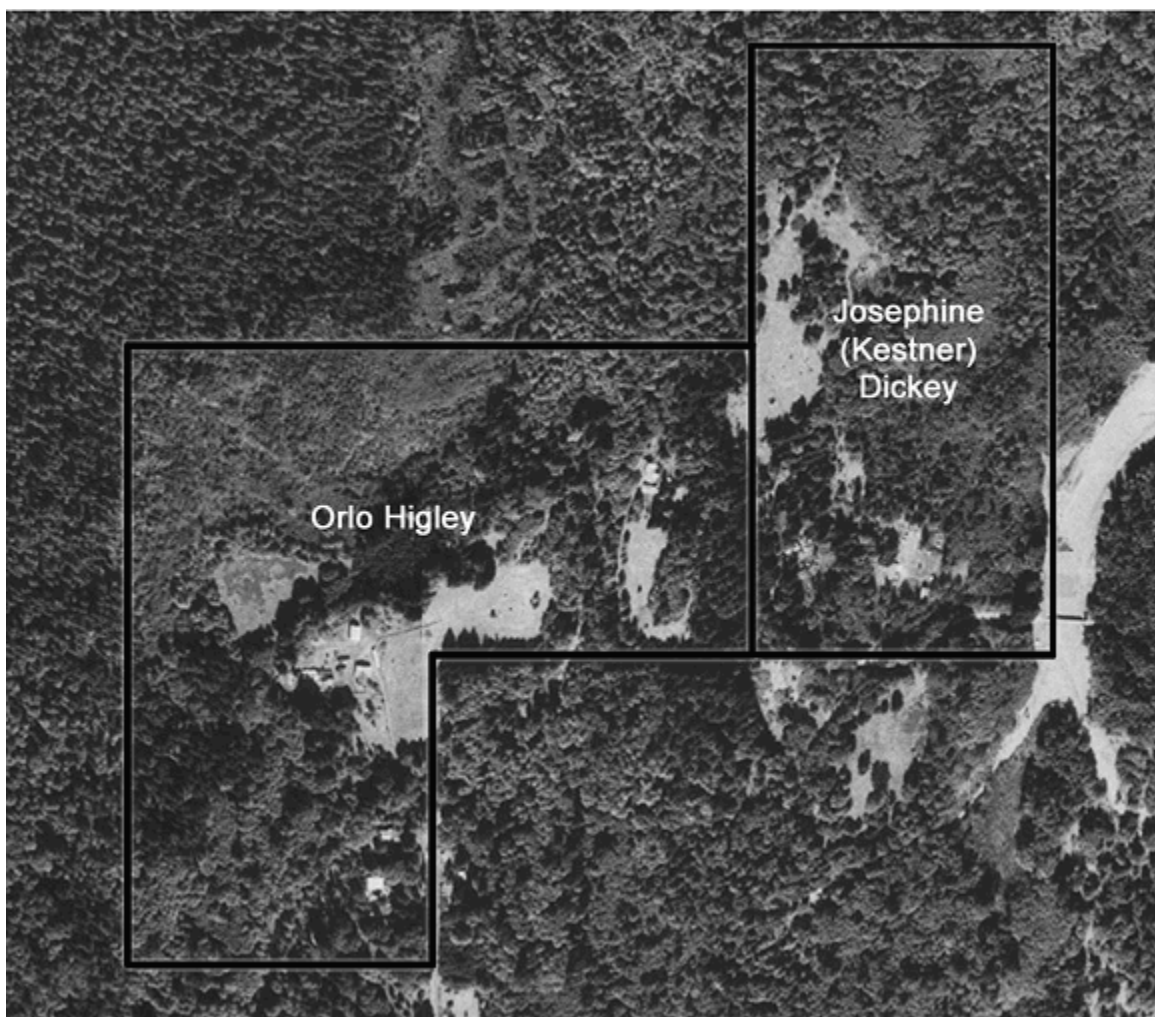
The remainder of the property was further subdivided into two parcels. Approximately 24 acres were sold to Elmer and Jean Orcutt between 1978 and 1980. The Orcutt’s added a trailer for their main residence with a wood deck, garage, 384 square foot barn with a loft, chicken house, and a 500-square foot dog run. The Orcutt’s sold their land to the NPS in 1986, reserving a 20-year lease that ended in November 2006. (93) The property has been vacated and the park plans to remove all improvements on the property. The other 6 acres were sold to Hylton by Dickey and still remained in private ownership in 2007.



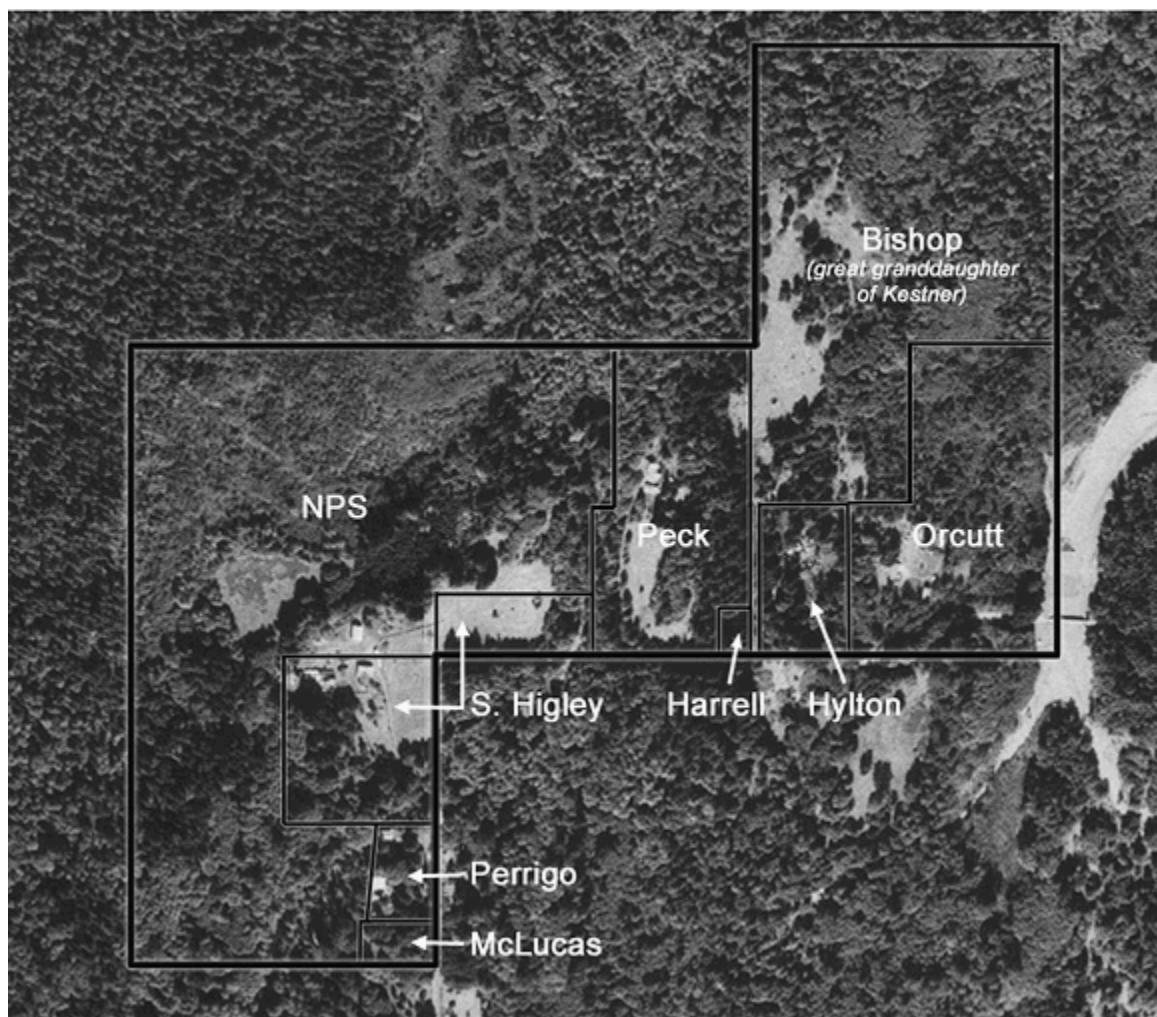
Map showing ownership of Kestner Homestead in 1905. (PWR staff, 2006)



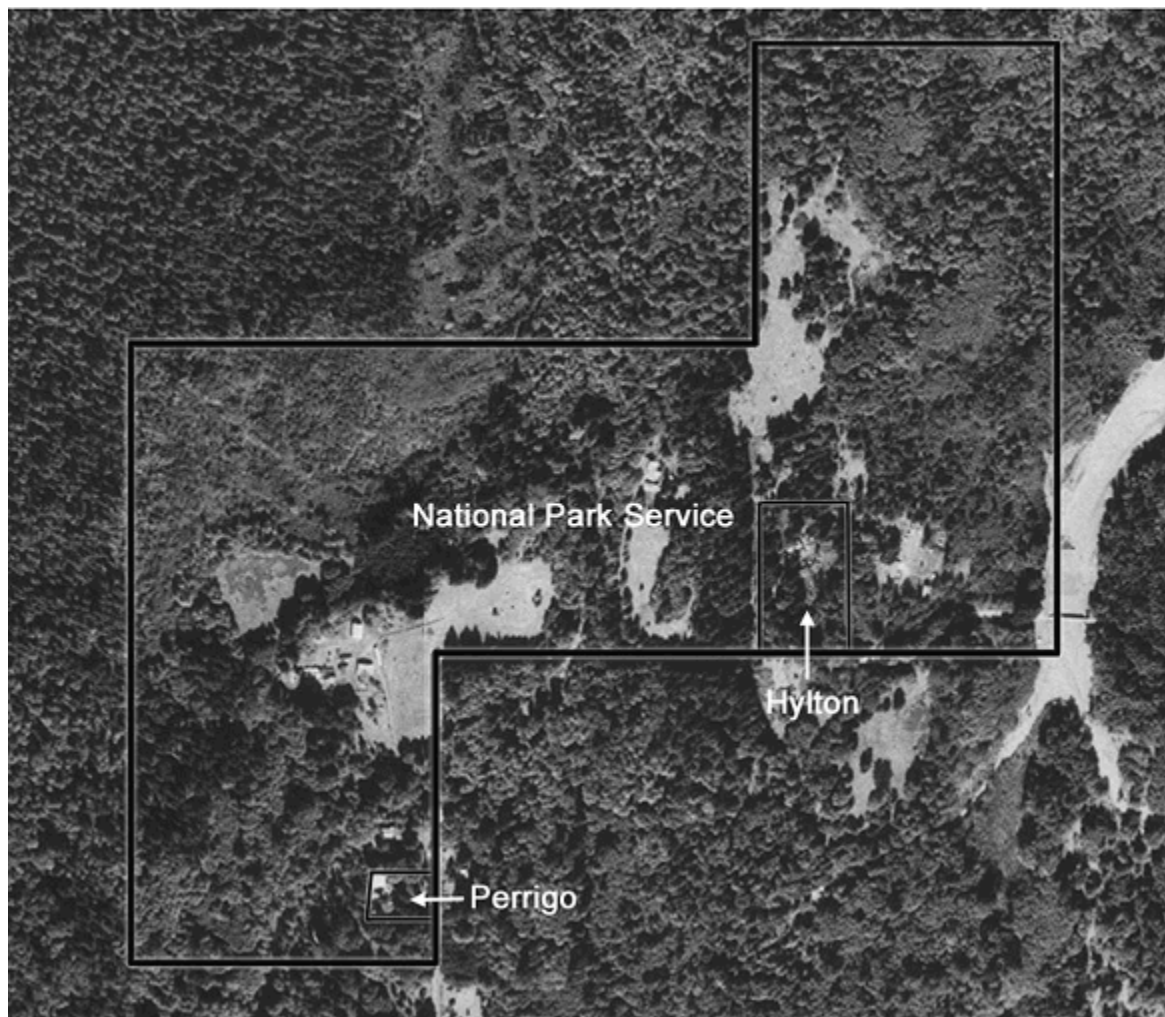
Map showing ownership of Kestner Homestead by 1943. (PWR staff, 2006)



Map showing ownership of Kestner Homestead in 1944. (PWR staff, 2006)



Map showing ownership of Kestner Homestead by 1980. (PWR staff, 2006)



Map showing ownership of Kestner Homestead in 2006. (PWR staff, 2006)

National Park Service Era 1972-Present

The NPS purchased the Higley property including the Kestner building complex and several additional parcels totaling 267.75 acres, for \$410,700 in 1972. (94) When purchased, the homestead strongly resembled its original appearance. The clearings remained (except the area where an experimental forest was planted) and the buildings complex was left intact with some alterations to the house and the addition of some outbuildings. Since the 1970s, however, the Kestner Homestead has fallen into disrepair.

In 1994, the NPS considered plans to stabilize and possibly restore the Kestner barn, justified because “the silhouette of the remaining barn structure was visually important in defining the homestead.” (95) By the mid 1990s, however, the Kestner Homestead remained in a state of disrepair. The roof had partially collapsed in heavy, wet snows and the poles were infested with powder post beetles. Because of the extreme climatic conditions and most posts were not set

on a concrete foundation, the base of all posts rotted. It was stated in an NPS Memorandum of Agreement (1997) that the insect infestation and poor maintenance prior to park service acquisition resulted in an unstable structure. By 1997, two thirds of the barn had lost structural integrity resulting in a loss of historic integrity. (96) The barn was subsequently razed and replaced with a wood framed and metal roofed shelter intended to partially mirror the original building in its massing and architectural style.

Other changes included the regrading of the two-track gravel entrance road to the main building complex. Today, it appears graded, slightly crowned for storm water runoff, and is graveled. (97) A 40-foot long, prefabricated, steel truss bridge spans Kestner Creek. The bridge, installed by the park, has wood decking and is over 12 feet wide.

By 1986, the Quinault Development Concept Plan (DCP) suggested weighting interpretation of pioneer homesteading over rainforest ecology. The plan included restoration of some structures and the orchard, adaptive reuse of other buildings, and removal of others as necessary. Restoring the orchard with historic Quinault cultivars, encouraging public harvesting of the fruit, and increasing active and passive interpretation of the whole homestead would expand seasonal use of the site. The plan recommended using existing pastures to graze trail crew livestock. Consideration was given to development of universal access parking in close proximity to the homestead buildings. In addition, the proposal called for an expanded network of nature trails, including a 1.3-mile trail connecting the Kestner Homestead with the Van der Water Homestead (now the Quinault Ranger Station). This trail was constructed in the late 1990s.

By 1998, a proposal was made to clean up the homestead. Entitled, Quinault Homestead Preservation Maintenance Actions Needed for Stabilization, the plan involved clean-up of trash, removal of vegetation, structural stabilization of two structures, cedar fence line repairs and removal of several deteriorated structures. Since this time, the NPS has continued to remove alders in open fields and stabilize structures.

ENDNOTES

1. Rothman, Hal K. Olympic National Park: An Administrative History (draft), National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, Washington, 1990, pp 11-14.
2. Homestead National Monument of America, National Park Service.
http://www.nps.gov/home/homestead_act.html
3. As quoted in Evans, Gail H. E. Historic Resource Study, Olympic National Park, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, WA, 1983, p 118.
4. Evans, Gail H. E. Historic Resource Study, Olympic National Park, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, WA, 1983, pp 117-119.
5. U.S. Deputy Surveyor. Field Notes of the Survey of T23N RGN/Then East, West & South/Boundaries, Subdivisions. October 2nd, 1895.
6. Heisig, Carl P. Settlement Experience and Opportunities on Cut-Over Lands of Western Washington, Bulletin No. 399, Pullman: Agricultural Experiment Station, 1941, p 42.
7. Homestead Proof—Testimony of Claimant, “Antone Kestner, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No 2309.” 1904 (Copy on file at Olympic National

Park).

8. Ibid.

9. Evans, Gail H.E. Historic Resource Study, Olympic National Park, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, WA, 1983, p 117.

10. Ibid, p 120.

11. As quoted in Evans, Gail H. E. Historic Resource Study, Olympic National Park, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Division, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, WA, 1983.

12. Sneddon, Matthew. Agricultural Clearing on the Olympic Peninsula: Historic Context Study, 2001, p 1. (Unpublished study on file at National Park Service, Pacific West Regional Office—Seattle, WA, Cultural Resources Division)

13. Ibid., pp 1-2.

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid, pp 4 and 8.

16. Interview (Transcription) with Josie (Kestner) Dickey (daughter of Antone Kestner), 1976, pp 3 and 4.

17. Ibid, pp 3 and 4.

18. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 9.

19. Cleland, Lucile. Trails and Trials of the Pioneers. "The Kestner and Haas Families 1891-1898," Unknown date.

20. United States of America, In the Superior Court of the State of Washington, For the County of Chehalis. "Present: Hon Mason Irwin, Judge In the matter of the application of Antone Kestner, an Alien, To become a Citizen of the United States of America, in open court, this 1st day of July, 1895."

21. U.S. Deputy Surveyor. Field Notes of the Survey of T23N RGN/Then East, West & South/Boundaries, Subdivisions. October 2nd, 1895.

22. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 7.

23. Homestead Proof—Testimony of Claimant, "Antone Kestner, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No 2309." 1904 (Copy on file at Olympic National Park). Measurements of the buildings were noted as follows: House: 30' x 60' 1-1/2 story; barn: 54' x 112'; barn: 36' x 46'; root house 20' x 16'; picket fence: 100 ft; and split rail fence: 200 ft.

24. Ibid.

25. Cleland, Lucile. Trails and Trials of the Pioneers. "The Kestner and Haas Families 1891-1898," Unknown date, pp 190-191.

26. Interview (transcription) with Iva Higley, 1995, p 1. (On file at Olympic National Park): Antone's skill and innovation in carpentry was legendary. When Antone Kestner built the house he "would take the shavings from the boards and put them between the logs, and the boards, for insulation. I mean, it was ingenious." Interview (transcription) with March Morris (granddaughter of Antone Kestner), 1997 (On file at Olympic National Park): Antone Kestner was a "gifted" carpenter. He was awarded for his furniture pieces at the San Francisco World's Fair, 1915.

27. The Asahel Curtis photograph was taken on July 4, 1928 according to the March Morris oral interview (1997).
28. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997.
29. Interview (transcription) with Iva Higley, 1995, p 12.
30. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 4.
31. University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead. A Study of Two Historic Homesteads. Study conducted for the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service and Olympic National Park by the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon, 1989, p 19. (Report on file at Olympic National Park).
32. Image MAR027029, no date (ca 1920s), (Located in Olympic National Park archives)
33. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 7. Interview (transcription) with Iva Higley, 1995, 12.
34. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 12. Image MAR022028, no date, (ca 1920s), (Located in Olympic National Park archives).
35. Image MAR017024, no date, (ca 1910s?), (Located in Olympic National Park archives). University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead. A Study of Two Historic Homesteads. Study conducted for the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service and Olympic National Park by the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon, 1989, p 24. (Report on file at Olympic National Park).
36. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, pp 35 and 56. Derr, Brooke. Draft Cultural Landscape Inventory: Kestner-Higley Homestead, 1998, no pagination. (Document on file at Olympic National Park)
37. University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead. A Study of Two Historic Homesteads. Study conducted for the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service and Olympic National Park by the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon, 1989, p 24. (Report on file at Olympic National Park). Derr, Brooke. Draft Cultural Landscape Inventory: Kestner-Higley Homestead, 1998. No pagination. (Report on file at Olympic National Park.)
38. Image MAR012013, no date. (Located in Olympic National Park archives).
39. University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead. A Study of Two Historic Homesteads. Study conducted for the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service and Olympic National Park by the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon, 1989, p 24. (Report on file at Olympic National Park).
40. Interview (transcription) with Osborne, 1995, p 1.
41. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, pp 10 and 12. University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture. Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead. A Study of Two Historic Homesteads. Study conducted for the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, National Park Service and Olympic National Park by the University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon, 1989, p 24.

(Report on file at Olympic National Park).

42. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 5. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 46.

43. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 5.

44. Interview (transcription) with Iva Higley, 1995, p 20). Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 5.

45. Homestead Proof—Testimony of Claimant, “Antone Kestner, being called as a witness in his own behalf in support of homestead entry, No 2309.” 1904 (Copy on file at Olympic National Park)

46. Image MAR01602, no date. (Located in Olympic National Park archives): Shows typical corral fences.

47. Image MAR005029, no date. (Located in Olympic National Park archives): On the left, the fence is constructed of cedar pickets about 6 feet in height; the pickets range 4 to 6 inches wide; The fence on the right is a picket fence about 3 feet in height; flat tops; two rails.

48. Images MAR016015 and MAR02700, no date (ca. 1920s). (Located in Olympic National Park archives)

49. Interview (transcription) with Josie (Kestner) Dickey, 1976, pp 10, 14, and 15). Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 14: The first car kept on the property was purchased by her father in 1929.

50. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 6.

51. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 25.

52. Interview (transcription) with Josie (Kestner) Dickey, 1997, pp 14-15.

53. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 13: In 1933 Findlay Creek had a big mud slide adjacent to the Melbourne residence, which “jammed”. Apparently, the water from this creek was diverted to Kestner Creek, washing out the wagon bridges on the property.

54. Image MAR022009, no date. (Located in Olympic National Park archives). Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, p 10. Interview (transcription) with Shirley Kestner Russel, 2000, p 8.

55. Evans, Gail H.E., Kirstie Haertel, Gretchen Luxenberg, Stephanie Toothman, and Jacilee Wray. National Register Nomination, Kestner-Higley Homestead Site, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2005, p 6.

56. Interview (transcription) with Iva Higley, 1995, pp 14-16).

57. Interview (transcription) with March Morris, 1997, pp 18 and 40.

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Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Kestner Homestead is an important surviving example of a late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century Olympic Peninsula homestead. The distinctive challenges and opportunities presented by the heavy rainfall, lush vegetation, large trees, and the natural topography of Western Washington rain forests are evident in the homestead's extant historic features and patterns.

Kestner Homestead is a 200-acre site in the southwest portion of Olympic National Park, near Lake Quinault. As stated in the National Register nomination, the site is locally significant for its association with the Homestead Act of 1862 as "the oldest surviving settler-built homestead still extant in the Quinault River Valley on the Olympic Peninsula within the Olympic National Park." It is proposed here that the period of significance be expanded to 1890-1944, to begin when Antone Kestner started "proving up" his claim until the Kestner family sold most of their property to the Higley family.

In 1944, the Kestner family sold the portion of the homestead with the main building complex to Orlo Higley, grandson of another prominent homesteading family in the Lake Quinault area. The Higleys made some changes to the site, including the addition of a metal barn, remodeling of the house, and the planting of an experimental forest. Some of the fence lines and corrals around the barn may have been altered as well. However, the overall feeling and association of the site as an early twentieth century homestead still remains.

A portion of the cultural landscape falls within the park's designated wilderness boundary. Approximately 13 acres in the northeastern-most portion of the property falls into this area. No historic features have been found in this portion of the property, nor is it expected that any will be found in the future. As a result, the extension of the cultural landscape into the wilderness area should not change current management practices of this portion of the homestead.

The significance of the site is revealed today in the extant features, such as buildings, roads, pastures, and orchard trees and the natural topography, creeks, and rainforest that continue to define the setting of the building complex. These features are described in the Analysis and Evaluation section under the following landscape characteristics: spatial organization, natural systems and features, circulation, buildings and structures, and vegetation.

The historic spatial organization of the homestead is reflected in the layout of the buildings, roads, pastures, gardens, and orchard. These were developed and organized by Antone and his family in response to pre-existing characteristics of the land, natural resources, and the need for an efficient working farm. The result was a simple organization of the site with a cluster of buildings set within the middle of large clearings that were edged by dense rainforest. Today the general organization is still evident at the site with the building complex still intact and a large percentage of the surrounding pastures remaining. The pastures are especially critical in portraying the historic character of the homestead.

Natural systems and features that influenced the development of the 200-acre homestead include the old growth timber, the fertile soils of the flood plain, relatively flat land, and the close proximity to a year around source of water. Old growth timber was used by Kestner, a gifted woodworker, to construct all of the buildings, fences, and even the family's furniture. Rich soils allowed Kestner to grow vegetable crops, an orchard, and to pasture a variety of animals including sheep and cattle. The flat land associated with the flood plain provided ample space to clear 60 acres of land, allowing Kestner to build an extensive building complex, several corrals, and pastures. Throughout Kestner's time on the property, the close proximity to water supplied both domestic and agrarian needs of the farm. The natural systems that influenced Kestner to establish the homestead remain today and contribute to the overall historic character of the homestead site.

The circulation system at Kestner Homestead is simple and is a reflection of the historic times, when roads predominantly served pedestrians, horses, wagons. In character, the roads are narrow, curvilinear, and typically two-track, a distinctive rural quality. The extant segments of the historic road system still provide access to buildings and the clearings that once served as pastures and agricultural fields. Some of these roads are still clearly evident and in use, while others are remnants.

The style of the historic buildings is vernacular – a simple architectural style constructed of native materials, predominantly the native tree species found on the Olympic Peninsula. Antone was respected as a skilled carpenter and his handiwork is apparent in the buildings he constructed. Remaining historic buildings and structures include the house, root house (tack shed), smoke house (utility shed), oil and gas shed, and the three-way gate. Although non-contributing, the barn and bridge replacements are compatible and help to convey the historic character of the homestead.

Historic vegetation that was introduced by the Kestner family that still remains include a planting of daffodils south of the orchard, the Kestner orchard, and ornamental trees and shrubs at the Dickey site.

Integrity

Today, the Kestner Homestead retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. During evaluation of the landscape, its historic integrity was assessed to determine if the characteristics and the spatial qualities that originally shaped the Kestner Homestead during the historic period are present in much the same way as historically.

The property is located near Lake Quinault, on the flood plane of Kestner Creek. The building complex is set within a clearing of the rain forest with steep mountains to the north. The forest edge is dark and dense in sharp contrast to the open, light clearings so arduously maintained by the Kestner family. The extant historic buildings, pastures, and orchard remain in their original locations, conveying the historic organization of the homestead. The buildings and cedar fences reflect Kestner's skills as a carpenter, who primarily built with hand tools. The buildings and structures are built of cedar, a local material used by Kestner. The remaining orchard trees reveal the historic grid in which they were planted. Together, these aspects of location, setting, workmanship, and materials help to convey the historic feeling and association of the Kestner Homestead as a rustic, turn-of-the-century homestead that was painstakingly carved out of the Olympic Peninsula rainforest and as a physical manifestation of the Homestead Act

of 1862.

Since 1944, the Kestner Homestead has undergone changes. The homestead no longer functions as a working farm and remains vacant and vulnerable to deterioration. Some buildings have been altered or razed and most noticeably, vegetation has encroached in the former pastures, a result of land use changes. In the course of this evaluation, however, it was determined that the remaining landscape features including the cleared land, circulation systems, buildings, and orchard remain as individual components that collectively convey a recognizable turn-of-the-century homestead, a true reflection of Antone Kestner's original scheme.

Landscape Characteristic:

Spatial Organization

The development of the Kestner Homestead improvements such as buildings, roads, pastures, gardens, and orchard were developed and organized by Antone and his family in response to pre-existing characteristics of the land, natural resources, and the need for an efficient working farm. The result was a simple organization of the site with a cluster of buildings set within the middle of wide clearings that were edged by dense rainforest. Today the general organization is still evident at the site with the building complex still intact and a large percentage of the surrounding clearings still remaining.

Historic Spatial Organization

Kestner Building Complex

Natural resources and pre-existing characteristics of the land influenced where Kestner chose to site the building complex and clear land for pastures and agricultural fields. Because the land was rocky, possible locations for developing the homestead were limited. Kestner chose to build in the western portion of the of the claim where the ground was already relatively level and far enough away from Kestner Creek to avoid major flooding, but still close enough to provide a source of water to supply his family and livestock.

The Kestner building complex was concentrated in an area of less than 1 acre. By the end of the historic period, the complex included a house, root shed, large barn, a smoke house, chicken coop, corrals, an orchard, a kitchen garden, and a farm garden. The buildings were clustered together in a dense arrangement that placed the house in the forefront with the working, utilitarian buildings behind it. The barn was constructed at a high point to drain manure away from the structure. The kitchen garden and orchard were adjacent to the house, the kitchen garden to the west and the orchard to the south. A farm garden was located at the eastern edge of the building complex on the other side of the entrance road. In the early part of the twentieth century, Kestner also built a schoolhouse on his property, located just south of the orchard. Although the schoolhouse no longer exists, this area today has daffodils that bloom in two lines that meet perpendicularly at a point suggesting the rectangular form of the original building foundation.

The building complex was accessed by a road from the south that branched at an intersection

of North Shore Road. From the intersection, the access road crossed Kestner Creek over a bridge, skirted the eastern edge of the orchard and house, and entered the building complex from behind the house. The circulation system within the building complex was very simple and utilitarian, with one main road that connected all the buildings within the complex. Additional roads branched off from the main road to access the outlying pastures.

Clearings

Kestner's initial efforts to clear land for farming and grazing were focused around the building complex on either side of an intermittent stream and along the northern bank of Kestner Creek. This area provided several benefits. First, the area was probably already disturbed by past flooding events leaving less vegetation to clear. Second, the land was relatively level and required little grading. And finally, the proximity of water would have provided easy access by grazing livestock.

By 1895, Kestner claimed to have 20 acres cleared. Over the years, the family continued to increase their property holdings and to clear land. In 1904, Kestner's son, Joe, claimed an additional 40 acres adjacent to his father's property. An aerial photograph shows that by 1939, the family had cleared approximately 60 acres of their combined land of 200 acres. The pastures extended diagonally across the property in a roughly southwest to northeast line and they had built a steer barn just east of the Kestner Creek for beef cattle.

Dickey/Bishop Property

The land originally claimed by Joe was eventually sold to one of the Kestner daughters, Josie Dickey. A cluster of buildings was developed that included a house and several outbuildings. Until at least 1929, the property was accessed through the Kestner main access road, through the fields, across the Kestner Creek via a wagon bridge. By the end of the period of significance, the Dickey's had developed in addition to the buildings, a gravel access road linking to North Shore Road, fencing, and cleared fields (known today as Bishop Field).

Current Spatial Organization Patterns

Kestner Building Complex

Within the Kestner building complex, the overall arrangement of buildings still remains, with the loss of some small outbuildings, an addition of a garage to the back side of the house, the addition of a large metal storage shed, and replacement of the historic barn that collapsed in 1990s. The additions of new buildings and reconstructions have been compatible with the historic organization of the homestead by placing the barn reconstruction in its historic location, keeping new buildings within the dense cluster of building complex, and placing utilitarian structures behind, or north and west of, the house.

Although the barn is not original and therefore does not contributing as an individual building, it is compatible with the historic scene of the homestead and an important element in the landscape that helps to convey the original spatial organization and function of the building

complex. The large size and prominent location of the barn makes it a strong presence in the landscape and provides a strong sense of the historic significance of the site.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the main residence was remodeled by subsequent owners, the Higleys. The main entrance was moved from the south side of house, overlooking the orchard towards the entrance point of the entrance road to the east side of the house, with a closer connection to the added garage and carport. The changes to the house have primarily altered the circulation patterns immediately around the house. Yet, its massing and location help to convey the historic spatial organization of the buildings and their relationship to one another.

Since the period of significance, there has been a loss of a few small outbuildings, such as the chicken coop. In oral interviews, references have also been made to a milk house, sheep shed, wood shed, and apple house. The locations of these structures are unknown. They may have been removed and/or they may be references to existing buildings that had more than one name or function over the years. The orchard is still located south of the complex with a fenced field (which was the farm garden) to the east and an access road from the south. The old school site is marked by blooming daffodils in the spring south of the orchard. A bridge still provides access across Kestner Creek from North Shore Road. Although the bridge has been replaced and is not contributing as an individual structure, the existence and placement of the bridge is important to convey the historic character of the complex and how the homestead was accessed during the period of significance.

Clearings

One of the more notable changes to the homestead has been the encroachment of forest into the historic clearings. Since the period of significance, the acreage of open land has been reduced from approximately 60 acres in 1939 to approximately 25 acres today – approximately 40% remaining. This has reduced the ability of the landscape to convey the historic size of the homestead operation. In addition, the riparian vegetation buffer along the stream has thickened and matured, blocking views from the Kestner building complex to the open fields to the north. The remaining clearings are predominantly located around the core areas of the homestead: the Kestner and the Dickey/Bishop building complexes.

Dickey/Bishop Complex and Steer Barn

Since the period of significance, all of the buildings associated with the Dickey/Bishop property were removed. Where the Bishop/Dickey buildings once stood, remnant road traces, utility lines, ornamental vegetation, fruit trees, and open fields still mark the location and organization of the complex. Together, these remaining spatial patterns still convey the historic organization and layout of the Dickey/Bishop property. Near the old steer barn, a rambler-style house, now used as NPS housing, was built by a subsequent owner somewhat altering the spatial organization of the complex.

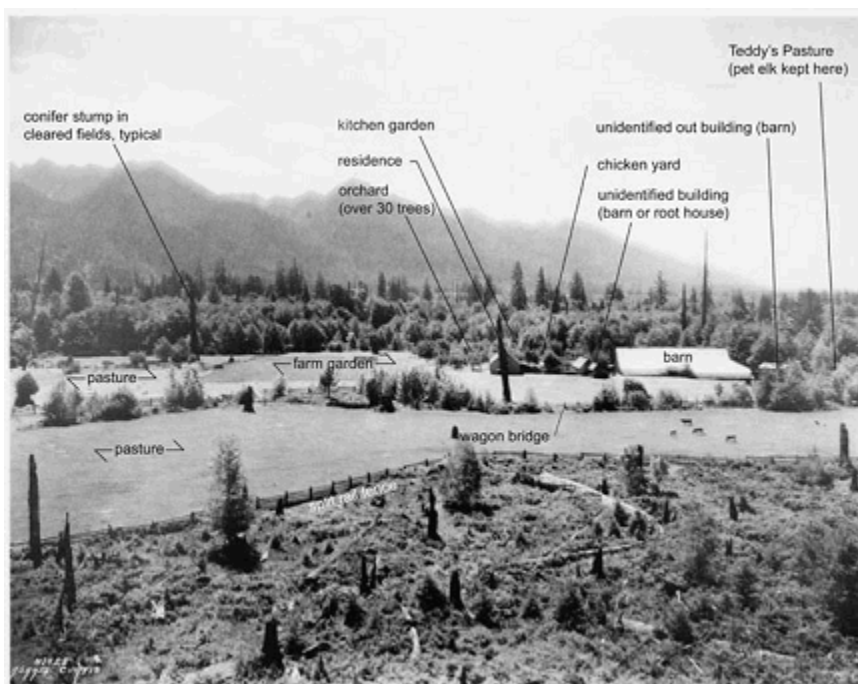
Privately Owned Land

At the eastern end of Kestner's original claim, approximately 6 acres are privately owned and

are outside the current cultural landscape boundary. When this parcel of land was sold to the Hylton's, the original entrance road to the Dickey/Bishop property was altered, but remnants of the historic road alignment remain. Another small parcel is privately owned by Perrigo in the southwestern portion of the property and is also outside the cultural landscape boundary. Within these private properties, houses, outbuildings, fences, pastures, and driveways have been constructed. These private in-holdings are located at the historic edges of the original Kestner claims and have not impacted the overall spatial organization of the core areas of the homestead.

Despite the changes to spatial organization since the period of significance, much of the historic layout remains today. Most notably, the Kestner building complex is still in the same location surrounded by open fields and clearings that were once the pastures and agricultural fields. The orchard is still located south of the complex, a fenced field (which was the farm garden) to the east, and an access road from the south. The old school site is marked by blooming daffodils in the spring south of the orchard. In addition, approximately 40 percent of the land cleared during the period of significance remains open. The majority of these fields surround the north and east sides of the Kestner building complex and around the historic location of the Dickey/Bishop building complex. Where the Dickey/Bishop buildings once stood, remnant road traces, utility lines, ornamental vegetation, fruit trees, and open fields still mark the location and organization of the complex. Together, these remaining spatial patterns continue to convey the historic organization and layout of the homestead and contribute to the integrity of the landscape.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



A photograph taken circa 1928 by Asahel Curtis shows the early layout of the buildings and adjacent fields. (OLYM)



Photograph of the Dickey property. Ornamental vegetation, cement pads, and road traces reveal the location of the building complex. (PWRO staff, 2006)

Natural Systems and Features

Old growth timber, the fertile soils of the flood plain, relatively flat land, and the close proximity to a year around source of water most influenced Antone Kestner in the development of the 200-acre homestead. Old growth timber was used by Kestner, a gifted woodworker, to construct all of the buildings, fences, and even the family's furniture. Rich soils allowed Kestner to grow vegetable crops and an orchard and to pasture a variety of animals including sheep and cattle. The flat land associated with the flood plain provided ample space to clear 60 acres of land, allowing Kestner to build an extensive building complex, several corrals, and pastures. Throughout Kestner's time on the property, the close proximity to water supplied both domestic and agrarian needs of the farm. The natural systems that influenced the development of the homestead remain today and contribute to the overall historic character of the homestead site.

The timber Kestner used as building materials included indigenous plants found on the property such as western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), Pacific silver fir (*Abies amabilis*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and big leaf maple (*Acer macrophylla*). Western red cedar, known as the most rot-resistant tree in the northwest, was used throughout the homestead as the primary building material. Cedar planks were hand-cut into thin shakes, typically 2 feet by 1 foot, and used as both a siding and roofing material. It was also used as the basic building material for the characteristic split-rail cedar fences. Other trees, such as Douglas fir, were also used as building materials. Big leaf maple, a deciduous hardwood tree, was used by Kestner as the primary material for furniture building. Kestner acquired these trees while engaged in the clearing of his property, an activity necessary to "prove-up" his homestead claim. Once Kestner had cleared enough open space, he took

advantage of the rich soils that were revealed below.

According to the Washington State Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Kestner Homestead soil type is referred to as the “Kestner Series.” The Kestner series consists of moderately deep to dense till, moderately well to somewhat poorly drained soils that formed from alpine glacial till derived from sedimentary rocks on glacial valleys. The rich soils found on the homestead include several important horizons. The top 1 inch consists of slightly decomposed organic matter. The soils between 1-18 inches are characterized by moderately and highly decomposed organic materials, which are acidic (pH 3.6). This fertile composition of organic material served as the very foundation of Kestner’s successful farming activities which included a small vegetable garden, a farm garden used for the growing of silage, and a fruit orchard—in addition to vast clearings that were converted into productive pasture land to support grazing cattle.

The relatively flat land associated with the flood plain of the Quinault River valley and Kestner Creek, provided Antone with the opportunity to build an extensive layout, which included one acre dedicated to the building complex, an acre for the farm garden, and less than an acre for a fruit orchard. Nearly 37 additional acres were converted into corrals and pasture. Nearly all the clearings were on level ground.

Kestner built his home near a year around water supply, Kestner Creek. The close proximity of the stream, about 120 yards south, allowed Kestner to run an efficient farming enterprise. It is speculated that water was taken directly from the creek to supply the home because the property did not include a water tower or well. During the period of significance, cattle drank water from the small stream north of the building complex, ponds, or Kestner Creek. Today, these water sources remain at the site.

Together, the natural systems and features at Kestner Homestead establish the setting of the historic site and help reveal the resources and motivating factors that shaped the homestead. The climate, forest setting, abundant resources, topography, and soils are much the same today as they were when Antone Kestner and his family lived and worked on the land. Today, these natural systems and features contribute to the historic character of the site.

Circulation

The circulation system at Kestner Homestead is simple and is a reflection of the historic times, when roads predominantly served pedestrians, horses, and wagons. In character, the roads are narrow, curvilinear, and typically two-track, a distinctive rural quality. The extant segments of the historic road system still provide access to buildings and the clearings that once served as pastures and agricultural fields. Some of these roads are still clearly evident and in use, while others are remnants. Although historically a system of trails developed on the homestead, it appears today that they are no longer extant.

The extant historic roads at Kestner Homestead are an important part of the historic character of the site. Not only do they reveal the circulation patterns of the homestead, thereby fostering a better understanding of the farm’s organization and operation, they retain a character that

evokes the feeling of an early family homestead. Their winding alignment, narrow width, two-track configuration, and surface materials are especially important in establishing the historic feeling and strengthening the sense of association with early homesteading.

Contributing Roads

Today, primary access into the main building complex is via the Kestner entrance road, an alignment which leads north from North Shore Road, over a steel bridge, and terminates at the main building complex. After passing the residence, the entry road intersects a narrow, two track access road that runs east-west. Heading west, the road provides access to all the ranch outbuildings and barn. Heading east, it accesses a historic clearing and terminates at the Kestner Creek.

The Kestner entrance road is a graveled, two-track driveway, approximately 250 feet long and 8 feet wide. A 1939 historic aerial photograph reveals that the current alignment of the road closely follows the historic alignment. It begins at an intersection with North Shore Road heading northwest. About 25 feet in from the road, access into the property is controlled with a brown metal gate that extends across the entire width of the road. Here the road is surfaced with gravel. Another 40 feet past the metal gate, the entry road leads over a flat, double-warren truss bridge constructed with steel and surfaced with dimensional, cedar planking. This bridge was constructed by the park circa 1986, after purchasing the property to replace the pre-existing log and wood plank bridge that was sagging. On the north side of the bridge, the entrance road gently curves north and becomes a two-track road with grass growing between the graveled tracks. It heads in a northerly direction, following the historic alignment of the original road, finally terminating in the building complex.

Overall, the road resembles a typical rural back road, a distinctive appearance that in character dates the road to the nineteenth century. The road is narrow, surfaced with gravel with grass between the two tracks, has a curvilinear alignment, lacks side ditches, and has a grade which is slightly higher than the ground to allow for storm water runoff. The bridge, although non-historic, is in the location of the historic bridge, allowing the road to cross Kestner Creek at its historic location. As visitors follow the road into the complex, it presents the historic residence up ahead with the orchard on the left and a fenced field on the right.

The east-west ranch road served the Kestners as the primary link between the building complex and their fields. It also provided access to all the outbuildings, the barn and corrals. It was used primarily to transport materials and equipment and to haul hay and other crops from the fields to the barn. The 1928 Asahel Curtis photograph clearly shows this road running just north of the farm garden, a plowed field east of the building complex. According to historic descriptions of the ranch by March Morris, granddaughter of Kestner, there was a wagon bridge that allowed the family to cross Kestner Creek into the eastern portion of the property. This bridge is no longer extant.

Today, the east-west ranch road begins at the western end of the ranch complex, near the

three-way gate, leading through the back end of the building complex, jogs a little north, and continues east through a clearing towards Kestner Creek. The western portion of the ranch road within the building complex is approximately 135 feet long, 8 feet wide, and surfaced with gravel and grass. The eastern portion of the road in the fields is approximately 330 feet long, 8 feet wide, and surfaced with grass. The road is a simple, curvilinear, two-track alignment that follows the natural lay of the land. A 100'-foot segment of the road appears to have been realigned slightly to the north (approximately 15 feet) since 1939 as it skirts the north side of the fenced field east of the entrance road.

Dickey entrance road trace

The historic entrance road to the Dickey complex was realigned several times since the period of significance, but traces of the historic alignment are still discernable in the landscape. These traces are difficult to see due to an encroachment of grasses over the old road. Based on fieldwork in 2006 and looking at the 1939 aerial photograph, it appears that the road started at North Shore Road where the entrance road starts today. It led northerly through what is now private property. The road alignment is still evident through this property. Once it reenters park property, the road continues north into the Dickey Field (today called Bishop Field). Once in the field, the road traces are much more difficult to see, but appear as two-track depressions in the grass. They pass near or through two deciduous trees that do not appear in the 1939 aerial photograph, and must have been planted after that year. The road trace terminates on the south side of the historic Dickey house site. Historically, this road continued north, around the building complex. Traces of the northern portion are barely discernable.

Non-Contributing Roads

Since the period of significance, the historic Dickey entrance road has been realigned in response to property boundary changes in the late 1970s and by the park after their purchase in 1986. The road was straightened to follow the western edge of the parceled property. When the NPS bought the Dickey/Bishop property, the road was further realigned as it entered the Dickey Field (Bishop Field).

In 1979, Mr. Peck purchased a 20-acre parcel of land on the east side of Kestner Creek. After this land transaction, an entrance road was constructed to access the site. This road is approximately 250 feet long, 12 feet wide, and surfaced with gravel. It is still used by the park to access the residence used for park housing.

The US Forest Service (USFS) developed a logging road at an unknown date through the Kestner property, running north-south along the western edge of Kestner Creek. The road is known as Canoe Creek Road or USFS Road 2473. This road has not been used for quite some time, but traces of its alignment are still evident. It begins from North Shore Road, crossed a bridge that the USFS referred to as Kestner Bridge, and continued north to USFS lands. The bridge was washed out at some point and the road has not been used for some time. The USFS currently has no plans to use the road in the foreseeable future. The road has lost integrity through benign neglect.

At the north end of the Dickey/Bishop property a road leaves the field and enters the forest. It resembles Canoe Creek Road in character. The road alignment is evident, but is becoming overgrown and covered with forest duff. The origins of this road are unknown and it does not appear on the 1939 aerial photograph.

Non-contributing Walkways and Trails

After the Orlo Higley purchased the Kestner property, he and his wife remodeled the house. They added a cement carport surface and cement walkway that led from the carport to the front entrance. This walkway and carport are not contributing.

In the 1990s, the park added a trail called the Kestner Loop Trail that begins at the Quinault Ranger Station and loops through the building complex using the historic road system within the complex. Most of the loop follows recently aligned trails and is non-contributing, but compatible with the historic site.

Undetermined Resources

At the south end of the orchard, there are traces of a road that heads south and crosses the Kestner Creek. It is unknown when this alignment was in use. It may have been a road used early in the period of significance to access the Kestner property before the North Shore Road was constructed, or it may have been used to access the southern portions of the property.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Kestner Entrance Road

Feature Identification Number: 107931

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Kestner Ranch Road

Feature Identification Number: 126913

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Dickey Entrance Road Remnants

Feature Identification Number: 126915

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Dickey Entrance Road Realignment

Feature Identification Number: 126917

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Peck Entrance Road

Feature Identification Number: 126919

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Canoe Creek Road (USFS 2473)

Feature Identification Number: 126921

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Concrete walkway and carport at residence

Feature Identification Number: 126923

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Road traces at south end of orchard

Feature Identification Number: 126925

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



The entrance road into the Kestner Homestead. (PWRO staff, 2006)

Buildings and Structures

The Kestner Homestead building complex is tightly concentrated in one of the higher areas of the flood plain and includes historic buildings and structures associated with the early

development of the farm. The style of the historic buildings is vernacular – a simple architectural style constructed of native materials, predominantly the native tree species found on the Olympic Peninsula. Antone was respected as a skilled carpenter and his handiwork is apparent in the buildings he constructed. Remaining historic buildings and structures include the house, root house (tack shed), smoke house (utility shed), oil and gas shed, and the three-way gate.

House

The house, constructed by Antone Kestner between 1900 and 1905 (and later altered in the 1950s), rests on a concrete, slab-on-grade foundation. It is rectangular in shape, one-and-a-half stories high, and rustic in appearance. The walls are built of logs hewn on four sides to 6-inch by 6-inch dimensions, and covered by cedar-shake siding. The gabled roof is supported with log rafters and finished with 2-foot x 2-foot cedar shakes. The south, east, and west elevations include several single-pane, aluminum framed windows. The east elevation includes a loggia, which extends from the car-port to the main entrance. The north elevation is obscured by the addition which links the house to a woodshed, used today as a storage space.

Of the alterations to the house, the most significant is the carport addition to the house. This open-air carport extends approximately 20-feet from the east elevation of the house. The roof of the carport, a shed addition in appearance, slopes down at a narrow angle, away from the building. The ground is surfaced with concrete. The addition includes a contemporary garage door; it is painted white (which stands in stark contrast with the faded brown color of the cedar siding) and has three single-paned windows that run horizontally across the top third of the door. Apart from the white door, the carport is compatible in materials and character with the house.

Other alterations to the house include the replacement of the historic log foundation with a concrete slab-on-grade treatment, the removal of the porch and the relocation of the main entrance from the south to the east side of the house, and the replacement of several double-hung windows with aluminum framed single-pane windows. A contemporary sliding glass door was added between the wood shed and the new entrance on the east elevation.

Although the exterior of the house has undergone alterations, it still retains the character of its historic design in its scale, massing, and materials. The method of log construction used by Antone Kestner is still evident as seen in historic photographs. The roofline retains the gabled end on the south side, while the entire structure remains entirely clad in cedar shakes.

Root House (Tack Shed)

Constructed by Kestner in the 1890s and historically used to store potatoes and beets, the root house/tack shed stands one and a half stories high with rough hewn logs, split pole chinking inside, and cedar shingles outside. The 20-foot by 60-foot building sits over a dirt floor and rests on concrete piers and large logs. The gable roof is constructed of log rafters and sheathed with cedar shakes about 2-feet in length. The north gable end of the shed is covered in beveled lap

siding. A shelter constructed after the historic period, consisting of a shed roof supported by three rough posts, is attached on the east side of the building. A double-hung, multi-paned window and door are located on the north elevation, and a second door is located on the south elevation. The interior of the building includes a loft. This building retains a great deal of historic fabric and resembles the original appearance of the building as seen in historic photographs.

Utility Shed/Smoke House

This square, one-and-a-half story building, also referred to as the smoke shed by Kestner family members, includes a timber foundation with wood-frame construction and rough lap siding. The gable roof has exposed purlins and is sheathed in cedar shakes. The west elevation includes a lean-to addition which extends from the ridge of the main gable. Located within the lean-to portion of the shed is a brick stove or oven that was used for smoking meat.

Oil and Gas Shed

This one-and-a-half story building, also known as the “grease shack” is rectangular in shape and sits on a timber foundation. The shed area on the north elevation is wood-frame construction and clad with corrugated metal sheathing. The gable ends are clad in cedar shingles. The gable roof on the north elevation includes exposed rafters and cedar shakes. The lean-to addition on the south elevation includes a cedar shake roof that extends from the ridge of the main gable. The post and beam lean-to has a timber foundation supporting a loading dock.

Fences and Gates

While living on the homestead, the Kestners built extensive fences that were used to define outer pastures, corrals, the kitchen garden, and chicken yard. By 1904, Kestner stated that he had 200-feet of split-rail cedar and 100-feet of picket fencing. The split-rail fences comprise posts that average 12-inches in diameter and four feet tall placed approximately 8 to 10 feet on-center with three to four sets of rails between them. Although the picket fences no longer remain, extant segments and remnants of historic spit-rail fencing are likely scattered throughout the property. The majority of the existing fencing, however, is non-historic reconstructions built after the historic period. These include many segments built by the NPS over the past few decades.

In addition to fencing, corrals and a distinctive three-armed swinging gate remain near the northwest corner of the razed barn. This system was historically used to direct cattle into the corrals. The three-armed structure is comprised of split timber; the three gates average 17 feet in length, are approximately 4-feet in height, and are attached with carriage bolts and hinges. The three gates are attached to an 18-inch diameter post that rises nearly 12-feet.

Non-Contributing Buildings and Structures

Metal Barn

The metal shed is a two story building clad in green painted, vertically aligned, corrugated

metal. The roof is clad in white painted corrugated metal. The building includes several single-pane windows on the south elevation, a 7-foot by 3-foot door and large, horizontal-sliding vehicle door are located on the east elevation.

Kestner Barn (replacement)

The original Kestner Barn collapsed in 1997 and was partially rebuilt. The new structure was constructed as an interpretive feature intended to suggest the historic character, use, and arrangement of the farm buildings. Although the barn is not historic and is therefore not a contributing building, it is compatible with the historic character of the homestead and plays an important role in conveying the historic character of the site. The replacement barn reflects the scale, massing, materials (except for the metal roof), and architectural style of the original eastern portion of the barn. It provides park visitors with interpretive opportunities regarding the scale, organization, appearance, and function of the homestead site.

Steer Barn (Peck Barn)

The Steer barn, located east of the original Kestner Building Complex, was constructed during the historic period by 1938, but probably much earlier (as early as 1905). Today, the building includes dirt floors and is two stories high. The outer walls are clad in vertical cedar siding that appear to be random in width, but average 12-inches. The south side of the building includes a small, single-paned window on the first floor. A small, contemporary shed addition with a 6-foot by 4-foot footprint extends outward; the shed roof is sheathed in a rolled composite material. The north elevation includes a prominent, open, shed roof that extends 10-feet from the wall. A small awning, sheathed in cedar shakes, overhangs the 7-foot by 3-foot entrance, which is missing the door. A distinct, 16 light multi-pane window is located next to the entrance. The east elevation is open and reveals a two-bay interior and heavy timber framing. The west elevation includes another open-air shed addition. The roof is sheathed in cedar shakes. The roofline includes end gables with unequal legs. The roof has collapsed and the building has much rot on many of the timbers. Because of its dilapidated condition, the barn has been declared ineligible for listing on the National Register and is scheduled for demolition.

Vehicle Repair Shed

The date of construction of the vehicle repair shed is unknown. During the summer of 2007, it collapsed due to deferred maintenance, thus losing integrity. This one-story post and beam structure had a log and timber foundation and was an open air structure. The gable roof was sheathed with cedar shakes. Vehicles were meant to enter the structure through the east elevation on to two boards located over an access pit. A platform was located at the west end.

Bridge

After purchasing the property, the park replaced the pre-existing log and wood plank bridge with a Bailey bridge circa 1986. The bridge was reset in 2006 after heavy rains compromised the abutments. The existing bridge is a flat, double-warren truss bridge with steel cross-ties between the trusses that support a wood deck of cedar planking. The bridge, which crosses Kestner Creek, features a metal balustrade with vertical, 2-inch by 4-inch rails. The structure is

12-feet wide and 70-feet long and sits on a concrete foundation on either side of the creek. Although the replacement bridge does not contribute as an individual structure, it plays an important role in conveying the historic character of the site. It is located in the location of the original bridge and allows the main entrance road to the homestead retain its historic alignment and approach to the building complex.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: House

Feature Identification Number: 126927

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Root House (Tack Shed)

Feature Identification Number: 126931

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Smoke House (Utility Shed)

Feature Identification Number: 126933

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Oil and Gas Shed

Feature Identification Number: 126929

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Three-way Gate

Feature Identification Number: 126935

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Fence remnants

Feature Identification Number: 126937

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Vehicle Repair Shed

Feature Identification Number: 126939

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Steer Barn (Peck Barn)

Feature Identification Number: 126941

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Metal Shed

Feature Identification Number: 126943

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Kestner Barn (replacement)

Feature Identification Number: 126945

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Bridge

Feature Identification Number: 126947

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Kestner House (contributing). (PWRO staff, 2006)



Root House (or Tack Shed) (contributing). (PWRO staff, 2006)



Three-way Gate (contributing). (PWRO staff, 2006)



Replacement Barn – non-contributing. (PWRO staff, 2006)

Vegetation

Vegetation, for purposes of the CLI, includes plants that were introduced or manipulated by humans during the period of significance. Native vegetation is discussed in the Natural Systems and Features section. Historic vegetation that was introduced by the Kestner family that still remains include a planting of daffodils south of the orchard, the Kestner orchard, and ornamental trees and shrubs at the Dickey site.

Ornamental Vegetation– Kestner Building Complex

Daffodils (*Narcissus* sp.) planted between the orchard and Kestner Creek remain under a dense canopy of big leaf maples (*Acer macrophyllum*). They are located on the south end of the orchard and date to the time when the Kestners operated a schoolhouse in the early twentieth century. Originally established as a foundation planting, the daffodils today suggest the original footprint of the razed building. Over time, these plants have naturalized in this area.

A single climbing rose bush (*Rosa* sp.) grows on a fence between the house and orchard. During the historic period, the Kestners established an unknown variety of climbing rose in this general area. It is possible that the rose bush seen today is from the historic period, but its date of origin can not be determined from currently available information.

Orchard

An orchard was an essential part of any homestead farm, providing one of the only sources of sweetness in the homesteaders' diets and the basis for nearly all desserts and treats for the family. Often one of the first improvements made to a land claim in the proving up process,

modestly sized homestead orchards were planted primarily for family subsistence and were not intended as a significant income source. The orchards were typically a few acres in size at the most, but comprised a large number of different fruit species and varieties, providing a variety of fruit and a range of ripening times. Orchards were located near the main house to be conveniently close to the kitchen. Trees of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century orchards were typically full-sized or standard trees that were grafted close to the ground and allowed to grow tall trunks and large canopies. The high heads of the trees protected them from browsing deer and allowed the farmer to graze livestock under the trees, keeping weeds at bay and providing fertilizer.

The orchard at Kestner Homestead, established by Antone Kestner in the 1890s, retains the characteristics distinctive of a homestead orchard of the period. Located adjacent to and just south of the main house, the orchard is planted in a discernable grid pattern with a tree spacing of approximately twenty to twenty-five feet. The extant trees, apparently about half of the number that originally comprised the orchard, are a mix of apple, pear, and cherry and are of a form typical of the period.

The orchard includes ten apple trees (*malus* sp.), pear trees (*Pyrus communis*), a cherry tree (*Prunus* sp.), and possibly a nut tree (variety unknown). Typical apple trees range from twenty-five to thirty-five feet in height. The majority of these apple trees are limbed-up between three to five feet. Trunk girth varies, but the majority of trees are as much as two-feet in diameter. Canopy-spread averages twenty-five feet in diameter, with some of the largest specimens reaching thirty-feet. Pear trees are typically thirty or thirty-five feet in height. Trunk girth ranges between eighteen-inches to twenty-four-inches. Canopy-spread averages twenty-feet in diameter. Pear trees also included the limbed-up appearance of the apples, averaging three to five feet in height. The cherry tree is thirty-feet tall, has a two-foot diameter trunk, but is limbed-up to nearly eight feet in height.

Pears and apples are particularly long-lived species for fruit trees, and given the size and characteristics of the trees in the orchard, it can be said with some certainty that they date to the period of significance. Some of the trees may be as old as 100 years or more and may be some of the first trees planted by Kestner in the 1890s. The exact ages of the trees cannot be determined without taking core samples.

In general, the condition of the fruit trees ranges from poor to fair. Many of the tree branches appear weighted down and burdened by prolific drifts of moss that seem to grow on all of the trees within the rain forest. Nearly all of the remaining fruit trees have dead-wood. Given the great amount of moss and the great density of dead-wood it is difficult to ascertain the overall vigor and health of the trees, but it is clear that they struggle without the benefit of human intervention. The trees were last pruned in the mid-1990s. Specific tree varieties are yet to be determined until they produce fruit. Learning the genetic makeup of the individual trees would provide critical information in determining if the trees date to either the nineteenth or twentieth centuries. (See individual images of the trees and fruit in the Appendix.)

Ornamental Vegetation – Dickey Property

Several ornamental plantings associated with the Dickey property remain from the early twentieth century. These are primarily foundation plantings that surround the original footprint of the house and garage, appearing informal in their layout. These foundation plantings are complimented by a small orchard established in a formal grid pattern northeast of the house, and two pear trees that flank the original entrance road. Overall, the plantings include a variety of fruit trees, evergreen and deciduous shrubs, and ornamental trees. Other than the small fruit orchard, it is apparent that plants were established primarily for aesthetic, rather than practical purposes. Evergreen trees and shrubs include California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), Lawson's cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*), cryptomeria (*Criptomeria japonica*), English holly (*Ilex aquafolium*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron* sp.), English boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), and bamboo (*Phyllostachys aurea*). Deciduous trees include goldenchain tree (*Laburnum*), big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), pear (*Pyrus* sp.), and apple (*malus* sp.). Today, the park is actively removing invasive plants such as English ivy and English holly. The ornamental plants remain in various states of health. The evergreen shrubs and trees appear healthy, while the fruit trees seem to suffer from the ravages of moss and excessively wet weather.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Daffodils, south of orchard

Feature Identification Number: 126949

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Kestner Orchard

Feature Identification Number: 126953

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Dickey Foundation Plants

Feature Identification Number: 126951

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Climbing Rose

Feature Identification Number: 126955

Type of Feature Contribution: Undetermined

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Some of the remaining orchard trees – a mixture of apple, pear, and cherry. (PWRO staff, 2006)



A historic clearings north of the main building complex. (PWRO staff, 2006).



*Example of a stump historically left in the fields, leading to the term “stump farmer.”
Vegetation is growing on top of the stump. (PWRO staff, 2006)*

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment:	Fair
Assessment Date:	01/30/2006
Condition Assessment:	Poor
Assessment Date:	09/30/1998

Stabilization Measures:

The buildings and fences at the Kestner Homestead received stabilization maintenance in 1995. Based on this work eleven years ago, the park has assessed the condition of the buildings as in good condition. In terms of landscape features, the fields, orchards (both at the Kestner and Dickey properties), ornamental vegetation, fences, and roads are in fair to poor condition. The landscape condition as a whole has been determined as fair. Impacts on these features include “deferred maintenance,” “release to succession,” and “exposure to elements,” which are described in the “Impacts” section.

As a result of these impacts, the buildings may require some maintenance to replace any existing rot and inspection of roofs for leaks or water damage. The fields are no longer used for grazing livestock or raising crops and are filling with native vegetation and weeds, causing the acreage of open space to diminish over time. Due to lack of maintenance, the orchard trees are decaying and dying. Ornamental vegetation, predominantly located on the Dickey portion of the property, is overgrown. Some fence rails have fallen, needing to be replaced, and some posts are leaning. The roads within the ranch are becoming overgrown with grass and it increasingly difficult to discern their historic two-track appearance. The following stabilization measures are recommended to address these impacts:

Buildings and Structures

Because of the extreme climatic conditions at the homestead, all buildings and structures, regardless of condition (good, fair, or poor), should be monitored annually to ensure: all buildings have a watertight roof, vegetation is removed from around the buildings to allow for better air circulation, and rot is identified and removed

- House, Root House, Smoke House (Utility Shed), and Oil and Gas Shed: Inspect the roof and ensure that it is watertight. Pay close attention to missing shingles and areas around flashings. Take measures to keep pests out of the house.
- Vehicle Repair Shed: Remove vegetation growing in the open pit.

Fences and Gates

In general, all fences should be treated with annual preservation maintenance practices, which include moss removal, monitoring for rot, and removal and replacement of broken rails and posts.

- Fences within building complex: Replace rotted rails and posts in-kind. Remove vegetation from around fences. Reattach fallen rails to posts.

- Fences on edges of clearings: The majority of fences are inaccessible due to thick stands of vegetation. To stabilize these, remove vegetation along historic fence lines. Replace fences in-place with in-kind posts and rails to delineate the historic edges of the clearings.
- Three-way gate: Remove vegetation from around the base of the gate.
- Gate located between house and orchard: If gate is salvageable, replace in-kind any deteriorated or missing components.

Circulation

- Ranch road (aligned east to west near Kestner building complex): Historically, this road was a typical, rural appearing two-track alignment. The road is becoming overgrown with grass, probably due to a lack of use. This road should be driven on a regular basis to retain the two-track appearance.

Clearings

- To avoid losing the remaining historic clearings, they should be brush-hogged to remove alders and low-growing, understory plants. Cut down large diameter trees when brush-hogging techniques are not sufficient.
- Where seedling trees are growing on historic tree stumps within the fields, these trees should be carefully removed to avoid damaging the stumps.

Orchard

- Inventory the health of the remaining trees to determine condition
- Prune trees to remove dead wood and diseased branches. Selectively remove branches to allow for more light, and to improve air circulation
- Over the last 60 years, a mix of conifer and deciduous trees has encroached on the orchard. Remove competing vegetation from the orchard area. Remove any non-historic trees from the orchard.

Impacts

Type of Impact:	Deferred Maintenance
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The lack of daily use of the homestead as a residence and farm has resulted in a decrease in regular and frequent maintenance of the resources – the buildings, the fields, orchards (both at the Kestner and Dickey properties), ornamental vegetation (predominantly located at the Dickey property), fences, and roads. As a result of these impacts, the buildings may require some maintenance to replace any existing rot and inspection of roofs for leaks or water damage. The fields are no longer used for grazing livestock or raising crops and are filling with native vegetation and weeds, causing the acreage of open space to diminish over time. Due to lack of maintenance, the orchard trees are decaying and dying. Ornamental vegetation, predominantly located on the Dickey portion of the property, is overgrown.

Some fence rails have fallen, needing to be replaced, and some posts are leaning. The roads within the ranch are becoming overgrown with grass and it increasingly difficult to discern their historic two-track appearance.

Type of Impact: Release To Succession

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Alders and other native vegetation are encroaching on the edges of the historic clearings that were used to graze livestock and grow crops. As a result, the historic clearings are diminishing in size. If the vegetation is not removed on a regular basis, the clearings will be lost.

Type of Impact: Exposure To Elements

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Heavy rains, characteristic of the area, have a heavy impact on the condition of the buildings. The moisture has led to some rot in the buildings and fences that need to be replaced.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document: General Management Plan

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

The GMP is currently in progress, scheduled to be completed in 2008. The approved treatment will be determined through this process.

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Year of Publication: 2001
Source Name: Other
- Citation Author:** Hon Mason Irwin, Judge
Citation Title: United States of America, In the Superior Court of the State of Washington, For the County of Chehalis.
Year of Publication: 1895
Citation Publisher: State of Washington
Source Name: Other
- Citation Author:** University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture, Eugene, Oregon
Citation Title: Olympic National Park: Roose's Prairie Homestead and Kestner-Higley Homestead: A Study of Two Historic Homesteads
Year of Publication: 1989
Citation Publisher: National Park Service

Citation Author: U.S. Deputy Surveyor
Citation Title: Field Notes of the Survey of T23N RGN/Then East, West & South Boundaries, Subdivisions
Year of Publication: 1895
Citation Publisher: U.S. Government Land Office
Source Name: Other

Supplemental Information

Title: Aerial photograph showing the Kestner Homestead in 1939, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service image

Description: Credit: U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest, Olympia, Washington

Title: Curtis, Asahel. Photograph showing the Kestner Homestead in 1928

Description: Credit: Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma, Washington

Title: Historic Image Collection, Kestner Homestead

Description: This collection is kept at Olympic National Park archives, Port Angeles, Washington

Title: Homestead National Monument of America, National Park Service

Description: <http://www.nps.gov/olym/edurain.htm>

Title: Jefferson County, Washington Historical Society

Description: <http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1566.html>

<http://www.jchsmuseum.org/timeline.htm>

Title: Olympic National Park, Washington

Description: <http://www.nps.gov/olym/edurain.htm>

Title: Photographs of the Kestner Orchard Trees & Fruit, 2007

Description: Courtesy of Roger Blain

Title: United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington State

Description: <http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

<http://ortho.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/osd/dat/K/Kestner.html>

Kestner Homestead

Olympic National Park, Washington



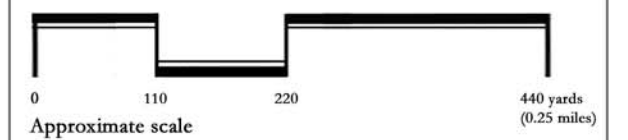
Kestner Homestead Cultural Landscape Inventory Olympic National Park

National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office - Seattle
2006

Historic Conditions Map (DRAFT)

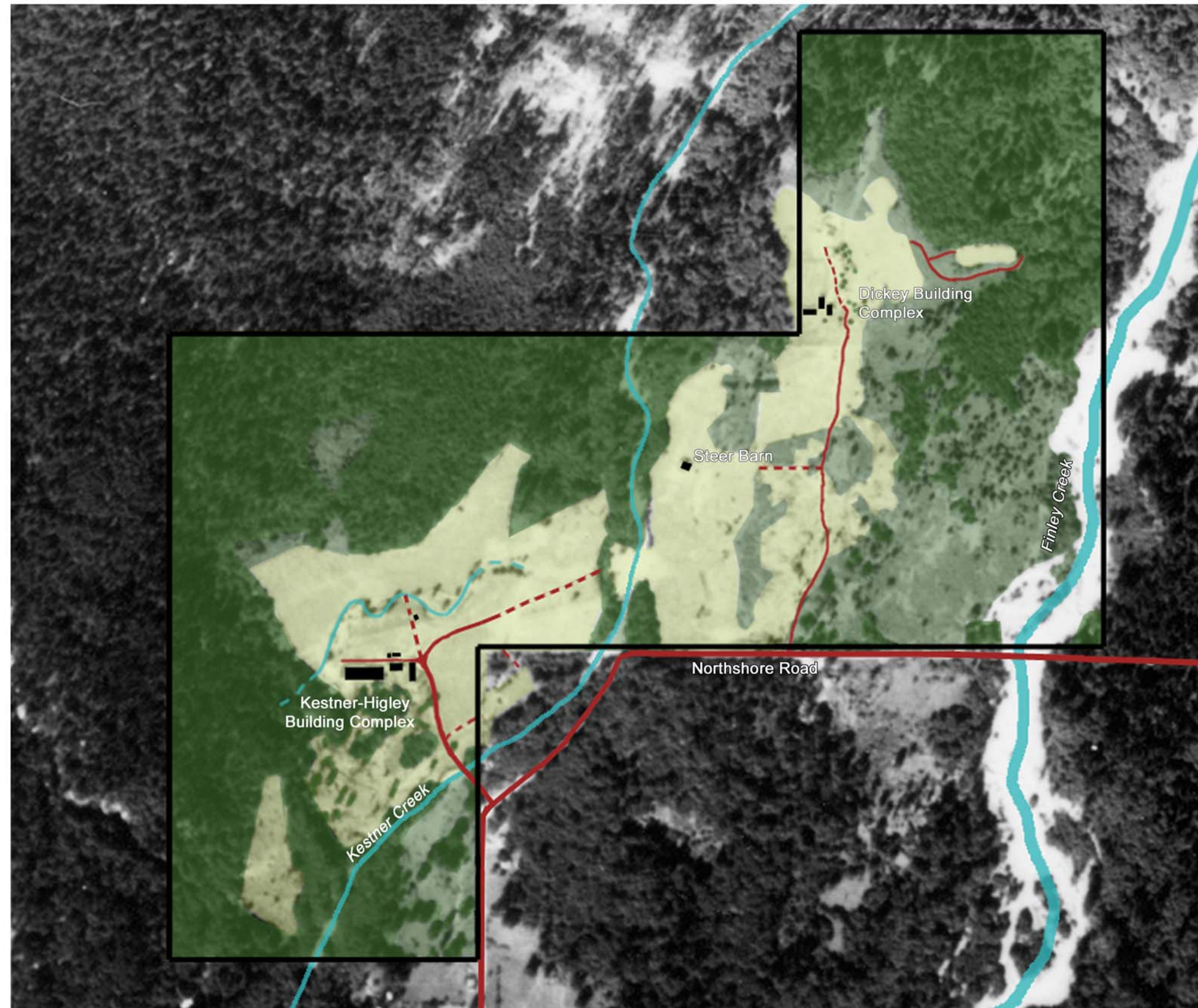
Legend

- Cultural Landscape Boundary
- Building
- Road
- Road Trace
- Trail
- Creek
- Clearing
- Low Vegetation
- Tree Cover



Sources:
Base information is from a USFS aerial Photograph (1939), historic maps and photographs, and field observations in December 2005 and January 2006.

Notes:
Locations and scale of features are approximate. Map drawn using Adobe Photoshop 7.0 by Pacific West Region, NPS.



Kestner Homestead

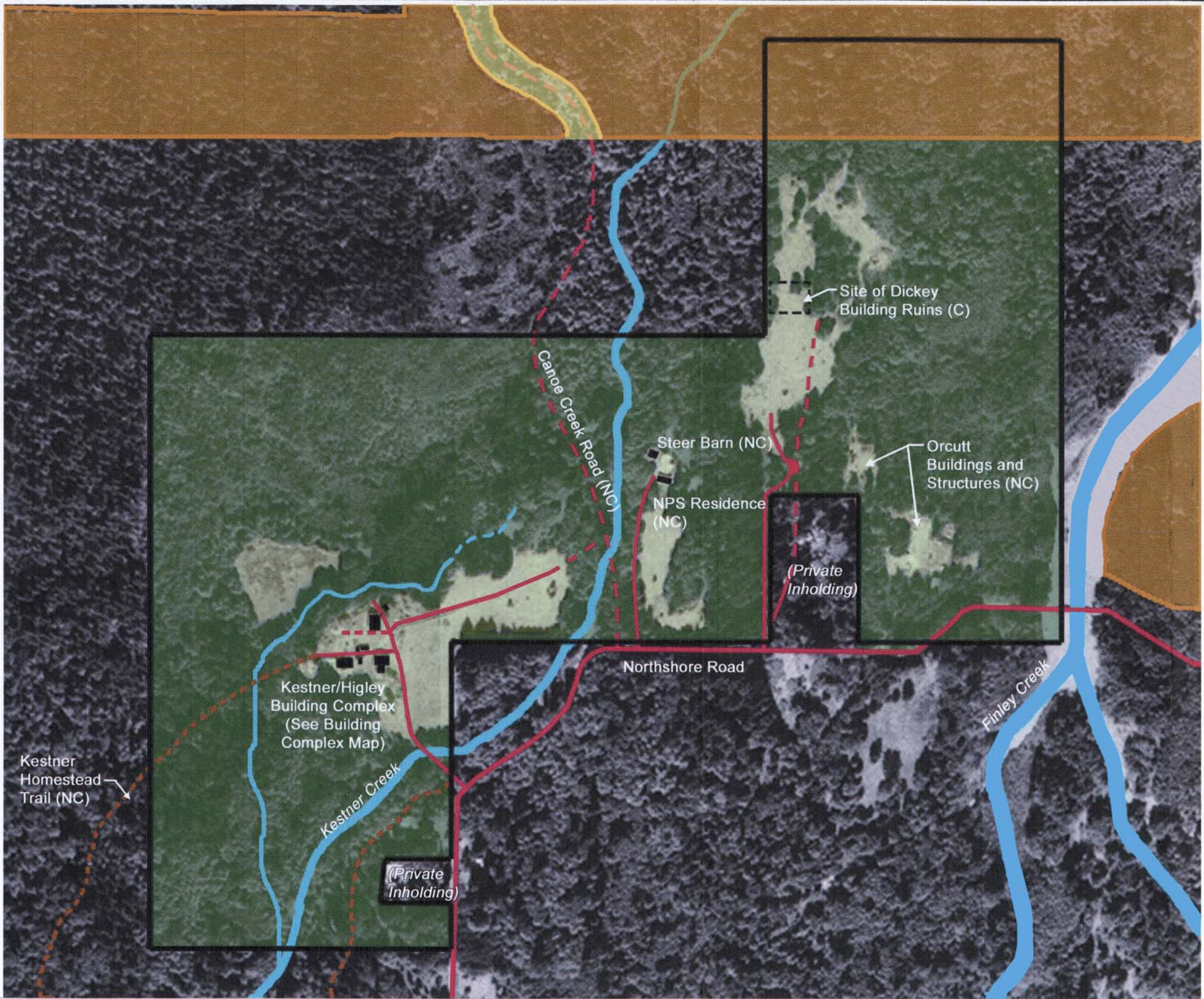
Olympic National Park, Washington



Kestner Homestead Cultural Landscape Inventory Olympic National Park

National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office - Seattle
2006

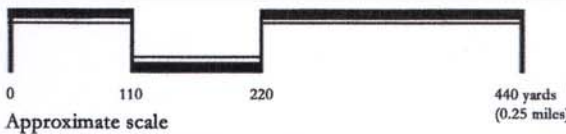
Existing Conditions Map (DRAFT)



Legend

- Cultural Landscape Boundary
- Building
- Road
- Road Trace
- Trail
- Creek
- Clearing
- Tree Cover
- Designated Wilderness
- Potential Wilderness

C/NC Contributing/Non-contributing



Sources:
Base information is from NPS Geographic Information Systems (2006), historic and contemporary maps and photographs, and field observations in December 2005 and January 2006.

Notes:
Locations and scale of features are approximate. Map drawn using ArcGIS 9 and Adobe Photoshop 7.0 by Pacific West Region, NPS.

Kestner Homestead

Olympic National Park, Washington



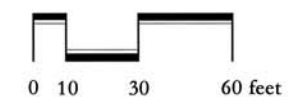
Kestner Homestead Cultural Landscape Inventory Olympic National Park

National Park service
Pacific West Regional Office - Seattle
2006

Existing Conditions Map (DRAFT)

Legend

- Building
- Road
- Interpretive Trail
- Fence
- Orchard Tree
- Creek
- Clearing
- Low Vegetation
- Tree Cover



Approximate scale



Sources:
Base information is derived from aerial photographs
and feature data from National Park Service GIS
data.

Notes:
Locations and scale of features are approximate.
Map drawn using Adobe Photoshop 7.0 by Pacific
West Resion, NPS.

