FOUR HISTORIC LANDSCAPE STUDIES
Olympic National Park

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Four historic landscape studies: Olympic National Park
LAKE CRESCENT LODGE

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Introduction

Established in 1938 Olympic National Park is one of the largest wilderness parks in the National Park System. Isolated on a peninsula in the northwestern portion of Washington State, rugged mountains, glaciers, dense old growth forests and water-sculpted vegetation left the area relatively remote and undeveloped for decades. Exploration into the interior valleys of the peninsula in the late 19th century unveiled abundant resources and magnificent scenery, luring not only hearty pioneers but many others seeking the particular wonders of life in such a setting. The impacts of those early settlers and the subsequent developments on the land display an attitude toward the environment evidenced in a variety of cultural landscapes scattered throughout the park.

This project looks at just four of those historic landscapes. It is a preliminary look at these resources, intended to provide a data base, historic information and, where appropriate, design recommendations and guidelines for preserving a site's landscape integrity.

All four sites in this study, Lake Crescent Lodge, Headquarters, Rosemary Inn and Humes Ranch, fall into three general park themes: recreation and development; settlement and homesteading; and park administration.

The project itself was conducted over a ten-week period. A team of landscape architects completed field work, historic research, generated base information (including several full size drawings), and developed guidelines and recommendations for each of the four sites. Because the time frame for the study was limited, much of the base data was documented in an inventory or catalogue format which the team developed early in the project.

The catalogue includes information on location of the site, its context and site boundaries; a verbal and graphic description of landscape components that are the essential elements defining the current character of the site and a section on history, significance and site integrity. Based primarily on National Register criteria, significance and integrity were determined by examining the site as a system of relationships between landscape elements, buildings and structures. In cases where primary landscape features were reduced to remnants or lost altogether, the site retained integrity if the spatial organization was clear enough to display those essential relationships and original design intent. From the field work the team also developed complete and accurate site maps for each landscape and, based on research and photodocumentation, developed an historic base map showing the grounds and structures from each significant era in the evolution of the site.

Finally by overlaying the two maps (existing site conditions and historic base map) and considering future needs, a site design for reclaiming significant elements and preserving the historic integrity of the landscape was developed. Recommendations and guidelines for each site verbally illustrate the design and further articulate methods for safeguarding landscape remnants or historic patterns.
IDENTIFICATION

NAME(S)
Common Lake Crescent Lodge
Historic Lake Crescent Tavern,
Singer's Lake Crescent Tavern

LOCATION
USGS Quadrangle
Lake Crescent T30N, R9W

ACCESS
☐ Yes: Unrestricted
☐ Yes: Restricted
☐ No access

OWNERSHIP
☐ Public National Park Service
☐ Private

STATUS
☐ Safe
☐ Endangered
☐ Preservation action needed

CONTEXTURAL BOUNDARIES

Physiographic The lodge complex
is located on Barnes Point, a
level point extending into Lake
Crescent. The complex is
surrounded by forests and rugged
mountains, the most visually
prominent being Pyramid Mountain
to the NW, Storm King to the NE,
and Happy Lake Ridge and Aurora
Peak along the south.

Cultural Highway 101 provides
major access to the site and
defines the eastern edge of the
entire complex.

Political The structures and
grounds of Lake Crescent Lodge
are within National Park Service
jurisdiction and managed by
National Park Concessions.
LANDSCAPE ORGANIZATION

SITE BOUNDARIES
- **Topographic** Distant mountains visually enclose site
- **Vegetation** High tree canopy creates ceiling and dense surrounding forests enclose site
- **Circulation** Major pedestrian path divides semi-private and public areas
- **Water** Lake Crescent creates boundary on west
- **Structural** Linear row of cabins encloses the historic core and forms east boundary of study site

SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE COMPONENTS

Circulation - Primary vehicular approach to the lodge is along Highway 101. An access road cuts down toward the lake between an open meadow to the left and dense woods to the right. The road forks and directs cars to parking. Vehicular circulation is currently limited to areas outside the primary historic core as defined in this study.

The major pedestrian approach to the lodge follows a wide, slightly curving, asphalt path which divides the more public beach area from the semi-private area in front of the cabins. Minor circulation occurs on narrow paths in front of the cabins and on informal paths across grassy areas and through openings between cabins.
Vegetation - The entire Lake Crescent site, including the historic core is in a clearing surrounded by dense forests. Large trees form a high canopy over much of the historic core. The grounds in front of the cabins are a mix of native and non-native vegetation remnants of the earlier Singer garden and subsequent periods. Vegetation patterns reinforce the linear circulation. Clumps of large Douglas fir and poplar frame views from the grounds to the lake.

Cluster arrangement - The lodge and small cabins to the northeast form a semi-circle, enclosing the historic core and semi-private garden area, directing attention to the lake.
Materials - Wood-shingled structures and stone fireplaces reflect surrounding native materials.

Small scale elements - Repeated elements include red water hydrants, scattered wooden benches, and a mix of chairs on the cabins' front porches.

Historic Views and Perceptions - Remnants of stonework which formed the foundation for a fence around the horseshoe pits in the twenties, and later edged formal planting beds in the thirties are still visible along the major walkway. "Old-fashioned" non-native plant materials evoke feelings of an earlier era, and hint at the former structure of the gardens. (Rose, lilac, daylily, holly and norway maple.)
SCHEMATICS

HISTORY TEXT

Eleven resorts were developed on the shores of Lake Crescent in the early 1900s; Lake Crescent Lodge is the only operating resort extant and intact. The first owners, Avery and Julia Singer, began building Singer's Lake Crescent Tavern in 1915. The first structure included a two-story main lodge and a row of individual frame cottages. The Singers had the greatest impact on the development of the site; the basic structure and circulation laid out by them remains today.

Originally guests arrived by ferry from East Beach across the lake. With the completion of the south shore road along the lake front in 1922 primary access to the lodge changed and followed a land route.

Singer's Tavern quickly became known as an elegant resort, billed as a nature paradise amid peaks and pines, amid the rugged Olympics, with a 5-hole golf course, a splendid bathing beach, fishing, tennis and dancing. Mrs. Singer wanted a "floral place", and laid the structure for a garden of roses, enhancing it with masses of flowers at the base of shade trees, and vines spilling from trellises on the porches of cottages.

Interim Era 1927-1950

The Singers sold the property in 1927 and a series of subsequent owners made various additions and alterations to the buildings and surrounding grounds, but no major changes were made to the area defined by the lodge and the row of cabins to the east.

National Park Service Era 1951-present

The National Park Service purchased the lodge in 1951, thirteen years after the creation of Olympic National Park. During this period, additional units were built northeast of the lodge and original cottages. While different in style and materials, physical separation is sufficient to protect the integrity of the original building site. Parking was also moved to the periphery of the historic core. The lodge is currently operated by the National Park Concession.
SIGNIFICANCE

TYPE OF SIGNIFICANCE

☐ Historic association
  with group, person, event
☐ Work of recognized master
☐ Important artistic statement
☐ Example of fine craftsmanship
☐ Use of unique materials
☐ Unique expression:
  local, regional, national
☐ Important landmark
☐ Example of a particular style
☐ Example of a particular era

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In a broad sense, Singer's Lake Crescent Tavern and grounds reflect America's growing appreciation of wilderness settings. Turn-of-the-century development on Lake Crescent, in an area long perceived as the "last wilderness" took the form of "civilized development" in a natural setting. This typified the view that wilderness could best be appreciated with the inclusion of certain urban comforts and amenities. The early era of the lodge, under Singer ownership, promoted the comforts of the lodge and cabins, as well as "formal strolling gardens, croquet, bathing, and other sports under the personal supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Singer."

Locally, Singer's Tavern was one of 11 similar resort developments on Lake Crescent in the twenties. Lake Crescent has been a recreational area since the late 1800s when settlement began. Early travel to these resorts relied on water transportation before roads made these areas accessible by car. The completion of Highway 101 past the lake marked a significant shift towards automobile tourism at the expense of a number of lakeside resorts. Singer's Tavern accommodated the shift, flourishing along with the car.

The site itself is characteristic of resorts of the period. The layout of major structures, intact from the twenties, reflect the era's association between recreation and social life. (Proximity of cabins to one another and to the lodge; size of cabins in relation to the lodge.) The grounds contain remnants of strolling gardens, a popular 1920s mode of recreation, and the water area has much the same "bathing and boating" uses today as then.

Also worthy of mention is a visit to the lodge by President Roosevelt in 1937. His successful tour through the Olympics, with a stay at Singer's Tavern, was instrumental in the establishment of Olympic National Park in 1938.
INTEGRITY

TYPE OF INTEGRITY

Singer's Lake Crescent Lodge and Tavern retains historic integrity in the following areas:

LOCATION - All major (historic) structures and gardens are in their original location.
DESIGN - The essential design of the grounds is intact.
SETTING - The lodge and grounds still function within the setting of Lake Crescent and Olympic National Park.
MATERIALS - Major structures retain original materials. Many native and exotic plant material used in the garden, as well as other site remnants, remain intact.
FEELING - The historic area retains a feeling distinctly different from surrounding areas, creating a self-contained ambience.
ASSOCIATION - The lodge and grounds retain direct association with original uses and activities.

REFERENCES

SOURCES OF INFORMATION


GENERAL REFERENCES:

NOTES

DATE OF INVENTORY       SUMMER 1984

INVENTORIED BY       T. BLACK, L. MAJDIAK, D. SCENA

ASSOCIATION       NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOTES AND OTHER INFORMATION
NOTE:
The historic map has been reconstructed to represent the Singer era (mid-1920s), and is compiled from old photographs, newspapers, and oral histories.

SCALE: 1" = 20'

HISTORIC BASE MAP
DESIGN GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study focuses on the area bounded by the lodge to the south, by the row of cabins to the east and north, and by Lake Crescent to the west. These were the earliest structures, and this area retains the greatest site integrity. It will be referred to as the historic core in the following text.

DESIGN INTENT: To preserve the overall site integrity, including significant site components and spatial organization of the historic core.

Structures: The existing relationship between building masses and structural landscape elements should remain as shown. No new structures should be sited in the historic core.

Circulation:

Automobile:

1. Auto circulation should follow a clear hierarchy indicating public parking areas, lodge guest parking areas, and service areas. This can be achieved through site design for areas adjacent to the historic core and through signage.

2. Sight lines to the lake from the entry road should be preserved in order to draw people into the site.

3. Automobile circulation should remain peripheral to the historic core.

Pedestrian:

1. Pedestrian circulation should follow a clear hierarchy with primary public walks to take people to the lodge and parking, and secondary guest paths for those staying at the facility.

2. One central entry point or gateway should be articulated in order to enhance a sense of arrival.

3. Major views, such as those to the lodge and lake, should be preserved in order to enhance visitor experience.

4. Pedestrian circulation through the historic core and adjacent to it, should suggest a strong connection with offsite hiking trails.

Plant materials/planting:

1. The plant materials for the historic core should give a sense of a cultivated garden in a wilderness area by mixing indigenous and selected non-native materials existing in the early Singer garden.
2. Non-native plant materials should be:
   a. compatible (visually, structurally, in scale and growth requirements) with native material.
   b. a variety that doesn’t disperse seed easily.
   c. restricted to the historic core area.

3. All plant material should be intimate in scale to add richness, variety, and balance to the larger existing plant structure.

Maintenance:

1. The historic core area should receive a level of maintenance to insure proper plant health and vigor as well as a “cared-for” look.

2. Maintenance should recognize the dynamic nature of plant materials, both seasonal and over the longer term, and preserve the design intent as proposed in this study.

Site Context:

1. The design and siting of new structures and parking areas should be sensitive in scale, location, and building materials to the historic sense as described in this study.

2. Adjacent site uses should be compatible with the historic core.

3. Vehicular and pedestrian access should be maintained from the historic core to other sites on Barnes Point, as well as from Barnes Point to other areas in the park. (See Barnes Point Development Concept Plan.)

Site Details:

1. The details of the site should give the visitor a sense of history of the site as well as a sense of place.

Details to be preserved or considered:

a. benches  
b. picnic tables  
c. porch chairs  
d. life preservers  
e. faucets  
f. windmill (historic)  
g. ferry dock sign (historic)  
h. other signage  
i. rock wall (remnant)  
j. bird bath (historic)
HEADQUARTERS

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IDENTIFICATION

NAME(S)
Common Olympic National Park
Historic Administration Building/
Superintendent's Residence

LOCATION
USGS Quadrangle
Port Angeles T30N, R6W

ACCESS
☐ Yes: Unrestricted
☐ Yes: Restricted
☐ No access

OWNERSHIP
☐ Public National Park Service
☐ Private

STATUS
☐ Safe
☐ Endangered
☐ Preservation action needed

CONTEXTUAL BOUNDARIES
☐ Physiographic The Olympic National Park Headquarters Complex is located in a clearing of second growth forest on Peabody Heights overlooking the town of Port Angeles, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Vancouver Island. Foothills and peaks of the Olympic Mountains form the southern backdrop and visual edge of the site.

☐ Cultural The complex is bounded on the north by East Park Avenue and one the east by Race Street which becomes Mt. Angeles Road.

☐ Political The seventy acre headquarters complex is a self-contained park unit, non-contiguous with other Olympic National Park holdings.
LANDSCAPE ORGANIZATION

SITE BOUNDARIES
- Topographic: Sloping terrain in front of Supt.'s residence creates visual edge
- Vegetation: Second growth forests surround clearings and frame views
- Circulation: East Park Ave. to the N and an employee access loop to the E, W and S Circle and define the site
- Water
- Structural
- Other

SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE COMPONENTS

Circulation - Primary public access is from East Park Ave. to the north and is limited to a circular drive in front of the administration building with parking along the edge of the loop. Park employees enter off of East Park Ave. at two points and travel around periphery of the study site, with secondary roads to residences and utility areas.

Major pedestrian circulation occurs on sidewalks around the buildings with a stone walkway through the woods connecting the two buildings. Most employees enter the administration building through the rear entrance. Minor gravel paths connect the study site to other areas.
DESCRIPTION

Vegetation - Buildings are surrounded by moderately dense stands of second growth Fir/Hemlock/Cedar forests. Openings to the north provide distant views. Introduced plantings are primarily composed of native materials (Rhododendron, Vine maple, fern) in foundation and perimeter planters.

Cluster arrangement - Buildings are single, detached one and two story structures located in clearings oriented north toward open views.
Materials – The use of native materials is reflected in the heavy stone and timbers of the buildings, stone walkways, light fixtures and other site features. Newer sidewalks installed around the administration building are concrete.

Small scale elements – Repeated small scale elements include light bollards, stone piers, pole lights and fire hoses in small covered structures. The administration building is flanked by stone planters and has a bike shelter on the back side of the building.

Historic Views and Perceptions – Views to the north from the buildings were a significant factor in the original siting of the structures and, despite, encroachment by trees and new residences, they are still intact.
HISTORY
**SCHEMATICS**

**HISTORY TEXT**

**Establishment 1938–1947**

Soon after the creation of Olympic National Park in 1938, $226,000 of Public Works Administration monies were allocated for the establishment of an administrative building and custodian’s (Superintendent’s) residence. A year later the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) began construction on a thirty-eight acre portion of Peabody Heights overlooking Port Angeles. Native materials including locally quarried stone and cut cedar shakes, along with over 2,600 collected Rhododendrons, big leaf maple, vine maple and sword ferns combined to create a period design typified by the use of native materials and rustic architectural styles. The predominant use of indigenous materials also reflected the intent that Park headquarters as a whole, represent and display the character and resources of Olympic National Park.

By October, 1940, the buildings were ready for occupancy, although neither the building interiors nor the grounds (including all the plantings, walkways and roads) were completely finished until 1947.

**Site Changes 1950–present**

In 1952 the Superintendent built a woodshed near his residence and in 1958 several staff residences were added southwest of the administration building. In the clearing north of the administration building the addition of a circular entry road off of East Park Avenue facilitated visitor access and parking. The old visitor park area west of the building was removed and seeded with grass.

In 1981 the Superintendent’s residence was converted to offices and today house the Science and Technology Division of Olympic National Park.
SIGNIFICANCE

TYPE OF SIGNIFICANCE

☑ Historic association
    - with group person, event
☐ Work of recognized master
☐ Important artistic statement
☐ Example of fine craftsmanship
☐ Use of unique materials

☑ Unique expression:
    - local, regional, national
☐ Important landmark
☐ Example of a particular style
☐ Example of a particular era

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The creation of Olympic National Park and the subsequent construction of the administration building and Superintendent's residence coincided with a period of significant national growth in both social and public arenas. Not only did President F.D. Roosevelt play a personal role in the establishment of the park itself, but the depression-era work programs advocated during his administration were instrumental in the development of the headquarters area.

The two buildings were crafted in the classic style of late period rustic park architecture. Locally quarried sandstone blocks and cut cedar shakes structured and adorned the building exteriors. Landscape materials were amalgamation of local native plants blended in scale and form with the site and structures.

Located on Peabody Heights above Port Angeles the headquarters complex still commands a view over the town and Strait of Juan de Fuca to Vancouver Island, maintaining the integrity and grand style of the original design intent.
INTEGRITY

TYPE OF INTEGRITY

LOCATION - The administration building and Superintendent's residence are in their original locations.

DESIGN - With the exception of an additional entry and circular drive, the original design of the site is intact.

SETTING - The site remains at the crest of Peabody Heights with a view through the woods to Port Angeles and the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

MATERIALS - The two buildings, the landscape and forested grounds are still composed of the original materials.

WORKMANSHIP - The buildings and grounds reflect the workmanship and style of the late Rustic period of park architecture.

FEELING - The site retains its historic feeling and aesthetic sense. The buildings, plantings and site details continue to evoke a rustic ambience.

ASSOCIATION - The complex retains its original association as the administrative headquarters for Olympic National Park.

REFERENCES

SOURCES OF INFORMATION


NOTES

DATE OF INVENTORY       SUMMER 1984

INVENTORIED BY          T. BLACK, L. MAJDIAK, D. SCENA

ASSOCIATION             NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOTES AND OTHER INFORMATION
DESIGN GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study focuses on the areas immediately surrounding the administration building and the former superintendent’s residence at Olympic National Park Headquarters, bounded by E. Park Avenue to the north and by the employee access roads to the east, south and west. These two buildings were among the earliest structures built on this site and are strongly connected.

DESIGN INTENT: To identify and re-establish the historic landscape and planting plan (ca. 1940), incorporating subsequent site changes, current uses and future needs.

Structures: The existing relationship between building masses and structural elements should remain intact.

Circulation:

1. Preserve pedestrian connections between the two buildings, residential areas and maintenance areas.

2. Install a sign facing both east and west at the public entrance to the administration building from E. Park Avenue.

Plant Materials:

1. Retain the existing forest edge with Rhododendron and other smaller scale native plants.

2. Use only native materials for cultivated areas. The basic planting structure for these areas should include Rhododendron, Vine maple and ferns, as detailed in the original plan. Other native shrubs, groundcovers and wildflowers could be introduced where appropriate to add greater seasonal interest and richness.

3. Carefully prune plants around buildings to allow light into, and views out of, windows.

4. Preserve the meadow-like conditions to the north of the buildings which allow views to distant water and islands, by careful maintenance and pruning of larger plant material.

Maintenance:

1. As a showplace for Olympic National Park Headquarters’ grounds deserve careful, consistent attention.

2. Minimize the overall site maintenance requirements by using native plant materials and clear zoning, ranging from highly cultivated areas around the buildings to existing forests requiring very low maintenance.
Site Context:

1. The design and siting of new structures and parking areas should be sensitive in scale, location, and building materials to the historic sense as described in this study.

2. Adjacent site uses should be compatible with the history, character and setting as defined in this study.

Site Details:

1. Where still existing, original site details, such as flagstone walks and stove light piers, should be preserved.

2. When new elements are needed on the site consideration should be given to incorporating the details and materials which have a historic precedence. For example any new paths could be flagstone or stone-lined gravel paths as originally proposed.
ROSEMARY INN

CONTENTS
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Guidelines and Recommendations
IDENTIFICATION

NAME(S)
Common: Rosemary Inn
Historic: Same

LOCATION
USGS Quadrangle
Lake Crescent: T30N, R9W

ACCESS
☑ Yes: Unrestricted
☐ Yes: Restricted
☐ No access

OWNERSHIP
☑ Public: National Park Service
☐ Private

STATUS
☐ Safe
☐ Endangered
☒ Preservation action needed

CONTEXTURAL BOUNDARIES
☒ Physiographic: The lodge complex is located on Barnes Point, a level point extending into Lake Crescent. The complex is surrounded by forests and rugged mountains, the most visually prominent being Pyramid Mountain to the NW, Storm King to the NE, and Happy Lake Ridge and Aurora Peak along the south.

☒ Cultural: Highway 101 provides major access to the site and defines the southern edge of the entire complex.

☒ Political: The structures and grounds of Rosemary Inn are under the jurisdiction of Olympic National Park.
DESCRIPTION

LANDSCAPE TYPE
☐ Administrative Area
☐ Estate
☐ Resort
☐ Residence
☐ Farm
☐ Town
☐ District
☐ Fortification
☐ Battlefield
☐ Cemetery
☐ Monument
☐ Ruins
☐ Streetscape
☐ Gardens
☐ Botanical Garden
☐ Campground
☐ Trail
☐ Other

SITE MAP

SECTION

LODGE  LAWN AND CABINS  LAKE
SITE BOUNDARIES

- Topographic: Distant mountains visually enclose site
- Vegetation: Dense forest edge encloses the complex and tree masses along beach
- Circulation: Create visual edge
- Water: Lake Crescent creates boundary on north
- Structural: Individual cabins are clustered around the open lawn of the historic core
- Other:

SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE COMPONENTS

Circulation - Vehicular access to Rosemary Inn is along an access road from Highway 101. A parking area is located on the perimeter of the historic core. Primary pedestrian access is along a path which passes under a gateway leading to the east side of the lodge. Several secondary and dirt paths connect the individual cabins and lodge. A trail along the lake front, beginning at the west edge of the beach connects around Barnes Point to Lake Crescent Lodge.
DESCRIPTION

Vegetation - The Rosemary Inn complex is in a small clearing of dense Fir, Alder and Hemlock forest. The edges of the forest create a backdrop to the structures and promote a strong physical enclosure.

Cluster arrangement - Small individual cabins are sited along the forest edges and define the open lawn area extending north from the main lodge to the lake front. Individual entries are articulated for each cabin influencing circulation paths.
Materials - Both the lodge and cabins at Rosemary reflect a cohesive and rustic character. Variations in the use of native materials and detail contribute to the individualized design of each unit. The use of quarried stone is reflected in the remnant garden foundation of sundial, fountain and beach shelter fireplace. Remnant plant materials including, lilac, apple, plum, and beauty bush sill are found on the site.

Small scale elements - Stone features, including a sundial and fountain fixtures remain from the historic garden. Other significant elements include the entry gate, the original sign posts from the waterfront sign of the 1920s and the windmill.

Historic Views and Perceptions - Rosemary Inn including the structures and grounds have retained the flavor of a rustic resort in a wilderness setting. Although plant materials in the historic core are reduced to scattered remnants of the original gardens, the original fabric of the site remain intact giving the complex the feeling of a place caught in time.
The Littleton Era 1915-1943

Although no longer operating as a resort, Rosemary Inn is one of only two resorts that remain from the 1920s. Eleven resorts once operated on Lake Crescent. Rose Littleton purchased the land on Barnes Point near the site of Marymere Lodge (which burned to the ground in 1912). With the help of John Daum, a skilled carpenter, a one-and-one-half story lodge was built in a small clearing. Over the next ten years Daum used local materials to build several small cabins, a boathouse and other outbuildings near the main lodge.

The Inn gained popularity as a "family place", featuring a large bathing beach and homestyle meals. The grounds displayed an array of ornamental shrubs and flowers, trellised walkways, small stone fountains, sundials, bird feeders, and lawn furniture. Guests arrived by ferry boat from East Beach until 1922 when Highway 101 linked areas around the south side of Lake Crescent. A new gate closer to the lodge became the main entry. In the 1930 a log shelter and new boathouse were added near the beach.

National Park Service Era 1943-present

The Park Service gained jurisdiction of the site in 1938 and in 1943 Rose Littleton donated all her property to the park. National Park Concessionaires operated the lodge for a short time, eventually converting it to a seasonal employee housing. Over the years, primarily through neglect, the elaborate gardens disappeared leaving only a few plant remnants and stone details. Five cabins and all of the original outbuildings were either removed or burned.
SIGNIFICANCE

TYPE OF SIGNIFICANCE

- Historic association with group, person, event
- Work of recognized master
- Important artistic statement
- Example of fine craftsmanship
- Use of unique materials
- Unique expression: local, regional, national
- Important landmark
- Example of a particular style
- Example of a particular era

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rosemary Inn, including the lodge, cabins and landscape components, are essentially intact with few deletions and intrusions. The complex is a good example of "wilderness resorts" of the 1920s which embraced the concept of enjoying the out-of-doors with the more "civilized" comforts close at hand.

Locally, Rosemary Inn was one of eleven resorts on Lake Crescent in the 1920s, each one offering a slightly different flavor. Rosemary's reputation grew as a comfortable "family" place offering a homestyle flavor.

The cabins and lodge are examples of fine craftsmanship, each one expressing individual character. Built by John Daum using no power tools and only local materials, many of the cabins are constructed of split cedar boards of random size and shape. Daum also made furniture for the resort, some of which still remain in the cabins and lodge.

The spatial organization of the complex also typifies recreational resorts from this era. Small individual cabins--primarily sleeping rooms, cluster around a main lodge where meals were served. A common, rather "formal" strolling garden provided guests with a familiar domesticity in such "wild" environments. The layout of Rosemary reflects these period design concepts: clustering of structures, strolling paths, ornamental floral beds, stone fountain features, and a communal area for sunning and socializing. Although only scattered remnants of the original garden remain and a few cabins have been removed, Rosemary retains the essential structure and ambience of its original design.
INTEGRITY

TYPE OF INTEGRITY
LOCATION - All major structures are in their original location.
DESIGN - The essential site design from the historic period is intact.
SETTING - The lodge and grounds are still used within the setting of Lake Crescent and Olympic National Park.
MATERIALS - The lodge and cabins retain original materials. Remnant plant material, stone foundations, sign and original windmill are extant on the site.
FEELING - The historic area has remained contained and intact, retaining a 1920s resort ambience.
ASSOCIATION - Although Rosemary Inn currently functions as employee housing, it retains enough significant landscape and structural elements to convey an association with its original use.

REFERENCES

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

GENERAL REFERENCES:
NOTES

DATE OF INVENTORY   SUMMER 1984

INVENTORIED BY    T. BLACK, L. MAJDAK, D. SCENA

ASSOCIATION       NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOTES AND OTHER INFORMATION
DESIGN GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study focuses on the area bounded by the entry gate, custodian's house, and cabins to the east, by the lodge to the south, by Lake Crescent to the north and by the cabins and boat house to the west. It is referred to as the historic core in the following text.

DESIGN INTENT: To identify and preserve the historic landscape integrity of Rosemary including all structures remnant materials, features and overall spatial organization (intended for incorporation in a future design-pending determination of future use of Rosemary Inn).

Structures:

1. The existing inward focus of cabins and lodge around a central lawn should be maintained. Encroachment by new structures within the historic core is strongly discouraged.

2. Consideration should be given to reopening the visual and physical connection between lodge, cabins, and lake by moving the stone fire pit.

3. View of the water treatment plant should be screened from the entry.

Circulation:

Automobile:

1. Automobile circulation and parking should remain peripheral to the historic core.

2. A separate access road for the water treatment plant should be considered in order to make clear and separate their unrelated functions.

3. Automobile tracks running diagonally across the central lawn area should be leveled and reseeded.

Pedestrian:

1. The primary entry should remain as it exists, through the gate to the east of the lodge. Any major access between the cabins is strongly discouraged.

2. Any delineated paths within the historic core should occur on the perimeter of the central lawn area.

3. Connections should be developed and maintained from the historic core to Lake Crescent Lodge to other development on Barnes Point and to off-site hiking trails. (See Barnes Point Development Concept Plan Draft, 1984).
Plant Materials:

1. Cut back the forest edge as shown on the historic base map, removing trees and shrubs which are encroaching on the cabins. Remove all scotch broom in study area.

2. Maintain the open central lawn area.

3. Care should be given to remnant shrubs and trees from the historic garden era for possible incorporation into a future design.

4. Any new plants selected for the site should be native, have a historic precedent or be approved by the park staff biologist.

5. Alders along the lake edge should be selectively cleared to reopen the visual connection between lodge, cabins and lake.

Maintenance:

1. Future design for the site should be structured to minimize maintenance requirements, pending a determination of future uses of the complex.

2. Also see recommendations under plant materials (above).

Site Context:

1. The design and siting of new structures and parking areas should be sensitive in scale, location and building materials to the historic sense as described in this study.

2. Adjacent site uses should be compatible with the historic character and setting as defined in this study.

Site Details:

1. Where still existing original site details, such as the stone foundation and sundial base, the entry gate/sign, the windmill, and the signs naming the cabins should be preserved.

2. Refer to historic base map for other site details that might be incorporated into future design.
HUMES RANCH

CONTENTS

Catalogue
Elwha River Historic Resource Map
Existing Conditions
Management Options and Impacts
IDENTIFICATION

NAME(S)
Common Humes Ranch
Historic Humes Ranch

LOCATION
USGS Quadrangle
Mount Olympus T28N, R7W

ACCESS
- Yes: Unrestricted
- Yes: Restricted
- No access

OWNERSHIP
- Public National Park Service
- Private

STATUS
- Safe
- Endangered
- Preservation action needed

CONTEXTUAL BOUNDARIES
- Physiographic Humes Ranch is located on two adjacent terraces on the east bank of the Elwha River. It is surrounded by forests and mountains, including Hurricane Ridge to the NE, Mount Fitzhenry and Fairchild to the W, and Long Ridge and Dodger Point to the south.

- Cultural Public trails on both sides define the terrace areas.

- Political Within the jurisdiction of Olympic National Park.
DESCRIPTION

LANDSCAPE TYPE

- [ ] Administrative Area
- [X] Estate
- [ ] Resort
- [ ] Residence
- [ ] Farm
- [X] Town
- [ ] District
- [ ] Fortification
- [ ] Battlefield
- [ ] Cemetery
- [ ] Monument
- [ ] Ruins
- [ ] Streetscape
- [ ] Gardens
- [ ] Botanical Garden
- [ ] Campground
- [ ] Trail
- [ ] Other

SITE MAP

SECTION

CABIN

UPPER PASTURE

LOWER PASTURE

homestead
LANDSCAPE ORGANIZATION

SITE BOUNDARIES
- Topographic: Ravine and terrace edges isolate meadows as two distinct land units.
- Vegetation: Dense coniferous and deciduous forests create visual and physical edge.
- Circulation: Foot trails border the site on all sides.
- Water: Elwha River creates an edge on the W, small streams cut through upper meadow.
- Structural: Other:

SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE COMPONENTS

Circulation - Access to Humes Ranch is limited to foot traffic via the Elwha River trail, 23 miles from the Whiskey Bend trailhead. The cabin is at the junction which branches to Krause Bottom and the Dodger Point Lookout. The latter trail connects the upper pasture (with Humes Cabin) to the lower pasture, where access to the Elwha River and camping sites are situated along the edge of the terrace.
DESCRIPTION

Vegetation - Humes Ranch includes two tracks of level pasture (approx. 7 acres and 3 acres) carved out of dense forest. Several fruit trees planted by Humes remain on the site including apple, cherry and pear. Grasses, bracken fern and Fur seedlings are found in both pasture areas.

Materials - Round hand-hewn logs and shingles reflect use of surrounding forest materials.

Small scale elements - Hand-made tools for mowing fields, pulling out tree stumps and old saw blades are scattered outside of the cabin.
Historic Views and Perceptions - Old fruit trees stand in front of the cabin, framing views out to the upper pasture. Remnants of the trail that led to the lower pasture, including a bridge over a ravine, and trails to other outbuildings (no longer standing) are still evident. A remnant concrete foundation is located in the upper pasture about 100 feet in front of the cabin.
SCHEMATICS

HISTORY TEXT

Initial Settlement 1898-1916
Will and Martin Humes and their cousin Ward Sanders arrived in Port Angeles from upstate New York with the intention of heading north to the goldfields of Alaska. With the approach of winter they changed plans and began to explore the nearby Elwha River Valley. They found the valley lands rich in resources and each took claims along the river. Another brother, Grant, arrived in 1899 and settled with Will. Together they cleared about ten acres and built a small log cabin, barn and other outbuildings. The Humes' reputation as knowledgeable guides of the Olympic interior grew among local outdoor groups and hunters. In 1907 Grant guided the Seattle Mountaineers on their first ascent of Mount Olympus, and later had a glacier named in his honor. Will Humes left the peninsula in 1916, leaving Grant alone at the ranch.

Grant Humes Era 1900-1934
For the next several years Grant continued to lead packtrips into the mountains and the ranch developed into a self-sufficient homestead. Humes grew hay for the pack horses and managed some 45 miles of trails in and around his claim. He "managed" the areas first wildlife sanctuary, leaving salt for the deer in winter and prohibiting any hunting on his land. A prolific winter, his diaries and letters document a lifestyle and attitude about the wilderness life that he lived until his death in 1934.

Crisler Era 1941-1952
Herb and Lois Crisler lived in Humes Cabin in the 1940s while making a film on the wildlife of the area. A feature film, "The Olympic Elk" was eventually bought by Disney Production. While living on the ranch the Crislers made improvements and additions to the ranch structures and had an extensive vegetable garden on the upper pasture.

National Park Service Era
By the time the NPS assumed jurisdiction of the ranch many of the structures were dilapidated or near ruin. With the assistance of the YCC all of the remaining structures except for the cabin, were destroyed. Portions of Humes Cabin were stabilized and logs replaced in 1972, and the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.
SIGNIFICANCE

TYPE OF SIGNIFICANCE

- Historic association with group person, event
- Work of recognized master
- Important artistic statement
- Example of fine craftsmanship
- Use of unique materials
- Unique expression: local, regional, national
- Important landmark
- Example of a particular style
- Example of a particular era

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dense rain forests, rugged mountains and numerous rivers slowed exploration and settlement into what is now Olympic National Park. It wasn't until the last quarter of the nineteenth century that exploration into the most accessible interior valleys occurred. Early settlers relied on immediate resources and ingenuity to build homes, raise families and crops. For many the price was too high and they moved on to more hospitable environments.

Grant Humes stayed and persevered for over thirty years. In effect he, as well as other homesteaders along the Elwha Valley, survived by living a nineteenth century existence on the fringes of a twentieth century world. Humes' reputation as a guide for hunters and mountaineers signaled the transition of the Olympics from an unknown and inaccessible wilderness into a major recreational environment.

Today Humes Ranch remains one of the oldest structures in Olympic National Park. The cabin is a good example of an early homestead in the Elwha Valley. The cleared levels of land, the trails, hand tools and fruit trees remaining on the site all suggest a lifestyle that no longer exists, yet once structured settlement on the Olympic Peninsula.
INTEGRITY

TYPE OF INTEGRITY

LOCATION - The ranch cabin and most landscape components including trails, fruit trees and cleared pasture areas are in their original location.

DESIGN - Although loss of buildings has occurred the essential layout and primary landscape features of the site are visible.

SETTING - Humes Ranch still sits on the banks of the Elwha River in Olympic National Park.

MATERIALS - Although portions of Humes Cabin have been replaced, it retains most of the original materials. The fruit trees and some handtools remain on the site.

FEELING - The ranch retains a feeling of an early homestead settlement, with its log cabin, old fruit trees, trails and grassy pastures carved out of the surrounding wilderness.

ASSOCIATION - Humes Ranch no longer functions as a homestead but its remaining context and features imply an association with early settlement in the River Valley.

REFERENCES

SOURCES OF INFORMATION


Humes, Grant. Collected letters, Olympic National Park.


GENERAL REFERENCE:

NOTES

DATE OF INVENTORY      SUMMER 1984

INVENTORIED BY         T. BLACK, L. MAJDIAK, P. SCENA

ASSOCIATION            NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NOTES AND OTHER INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT OPTIONS AND IMPACTS

This study focuses on a portion of the original Humes Ranch complex including two cleared river terraces and the land between, enclosed by dense forests. On the upper terraces, Humes Cabin along with a single foundation (approx. 20 yards north of cabin) and a few remnant fruit trees (and the clearings themselves) are the primary remaining historic features of the site.

GUIDELINE INTENT: To delineate options for management of the site and suggest the possible impacts for each option.

OPTION A: ALLOW SITE TO REVERT TO ITS NATURAL PRE-SETTLEMENT STATE

GUIDELINES:

1. Remove 'No Camping' sign.
2. Discontinue preservation efforts on the cabin.
3. Allow clearings to revert to their natural state.

PHYSICAL IMPACTS: Building slowly deteriorates. Clearings slowly shrink as bracken fern and other shrubs and tree seedlings enter.

VISITOR IMPACTS: Opportunity to understand early settlement is lost with the deterioration of clues to the former uses of the site.

OPTION B: MAINTAIN EXISTING ELEMENTS

GUIDELINES:

1. Remove 'No Camping' sign. Replace with a 'low key' sign which includes pertinent information (date of cabin, camping restrictions, etc.) on or inside the structure.
2. Preserve cabin.
3. Expose tools currently scattered in the vicinity of the cabin.
4. Maintain and prune remaining fruit trees as necessary. Replace dying trees with grafts from the original trees, as close to the original locations as possible.
5. Maintain the current boundaries of the meadow/pasture areas.
6. Introduce as an interpretive focus, the concept of a network of Elwha River homesteads and historic trails, using maps and trail guides at the Elwha Ranger Station (see Preliminary Elwha River Historic Resource Map).

PHYSICAL IMPACT: The site remains as it is currently. The cabin clearings and fruit trees require periodic maintenance.
VISITOR IMPACT: Visitor understanding of the site and settlement patterns is increased through presentation of Humes Ranch as part of a larger network of homesteads and trails along the Elwha River. The preservation of existing landscape elements from the historic period are as essential to visitor awareness of settlement as is the existence of the cabin.

OPTION C: RECLAIM KEY LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

GUIDELINES:

1. Include Guidelines 1-6 from OPTION B.

2. Reinstall the original trail and bridge used by Humes between the cabin and the lower meadow. This trail began southwest of the cabin, crossed the ravine with a bridge, and continued at a gentle grade, downhill entering the lower clearing near the barn (see site map). Remnants of this trail still exist. The trail currently used is in a different location and presents erosion problems on the slope because of the steep grade.

3. Selectively remove trees in order to re-establish a visual connection (as per photo documentation) between the cabin and the lower clearing.

PHYSICAL IMPACT: This site is moderately upgraded to reinstall some key historic connections by:

1. Trail reclamation:
   a. The original trail between upper and lower clearings is cleared and maintained.
   b. The footbridge across the ravine is rebuilt and maintained.
   c. The existing trail connecting the two meadow/pasture areas is revegetated.

2. Selected clearing:
   a. Selected trees are removed in order to re-establish historic view and connection between the cabin and lower clearing.

VISITOR IMPACT: Visitor understanding is increased through opportunities to experience the site in ways similar to those experienced by Humes. The trail access to the lower clearing is rerouted to give a better sense of the historic site. Selective clearing of trees between the two clearings enforces the historic connection of the two areas.
OPTION D: MAXIMIZE FOCUS ON INTERPRETATION OF HISTORIC SCENE

GUIDELINES:

1. Include Guidelines 1-8 from OPTION C.

2. "Ghost" (indicate foundation location of) former structures including barns, woodshed, root cellar and privy.

3. Incorporate excerpts from Hume's letters and diaries and use historic photographs to further illustrate the lifestyles and values of the people connected with Humes Ranch.

PHYSICAL IMPACT: the site is altered by reinstating some key historic connections and by adding interpretive elements.

VISITOR IMPACT: Visitor understanding of the site's history and value is most comprehensive.