

CARETAKERS at KITSAP LODGE and
History of Caretaker's Cabin

- 1926 - 1939: Prof. J.B. Flett was the first Caretaker. In 1926 he blazed the present trail down to the theatre. And he he is credited with planting/introducing many of the trees and plants (not native to this area) which presently dot the property.
- 1940 - 1944: Mrs. Robert E. Bates; tenant.
- 1946 - 1950: Miss Beatrice Buzzetti was the second Caretaker. Prior to moving in, the Davis Castor family helped install the knotty-pine wall panelling, electricity and a back pantry-kitchen area in the cabin. Miss Buzzetti supplied all the materials and, further, had a bar-b-q built in the yard.
- 1950 - 1952: A young couple (names unknown) rented the cabin as tenants.
- 1963 - 1967: Mr. Locklier and Mr. David Mickalski rented the cabin while attending school at Olympic College in Bremerton.
- 1967 - 1973: Jerry Berdette became the third Caretaker. He preferred his own mobile home vs the cabin - which he parked extending from the bar-b-q out to the Lodge drive, beside the cabin. Mr. Berdette installed the septic system and an underground phone line. During one winter storm, a tree located near the mobile home fell towards the cabin, crushing the back kitchen/pantry area. A work party cleared the debris and the remains of the room, leaving only the cement floor and a stand-pipe faucet behind the cabin.
- 1973 - 1977: Roland and Deborah Anderson moved into the cabin as the fourth Caretakers. The former kitchen/pantry area saw walls and a roof again - becoming a storage room. In one corner of that indoor plumbing was installed for the first time. The entire cabin got new roofing; broken windows replaced. The materials/labor were in exchange of rent per cabin needs.

CARETAKERS cont.

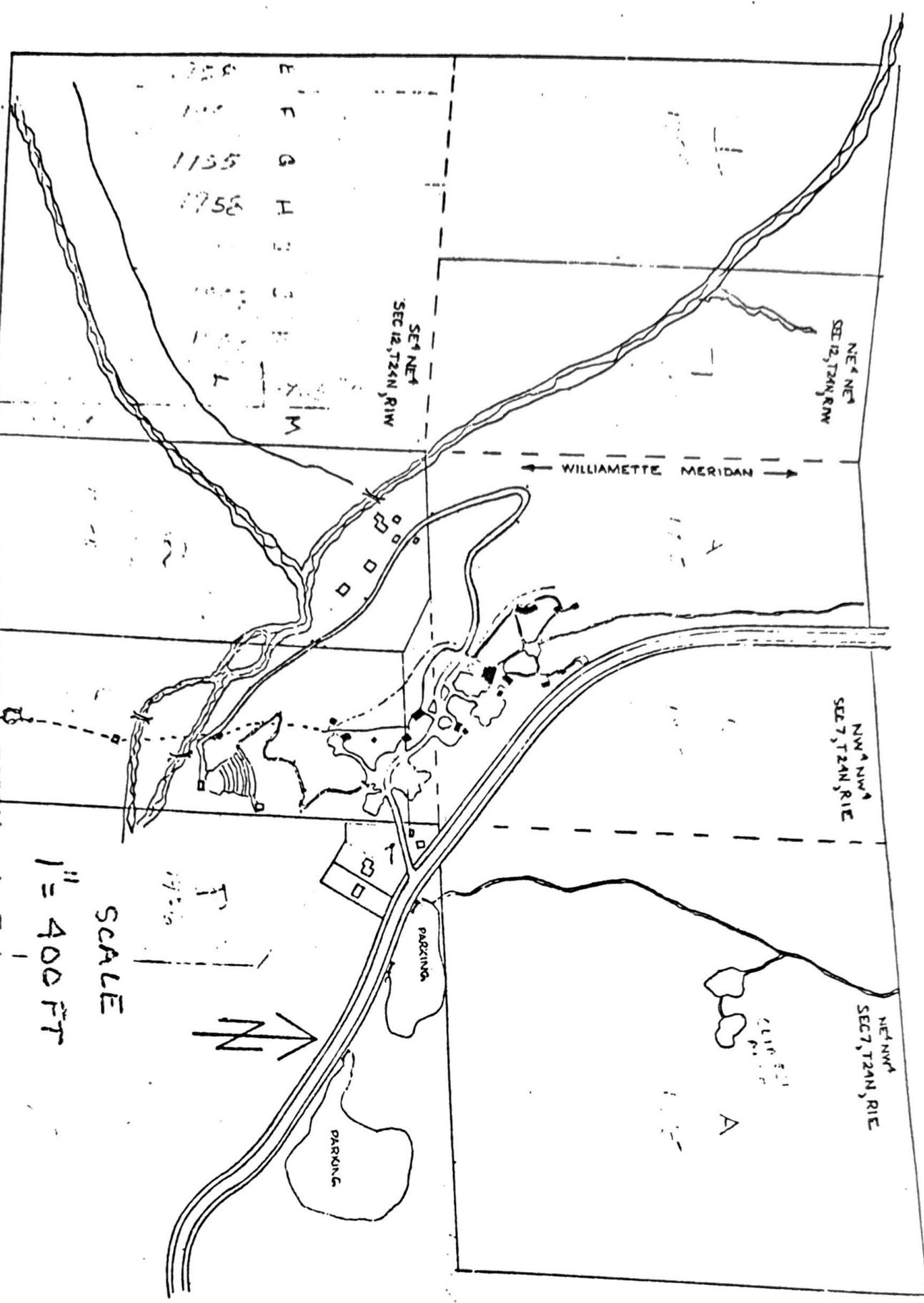
The Andersons cut and (with Dave Squier) installed the logs which are now the front steps to the Lodge. Designed and installed the gage on the water tower. Blazed the present trail (to where it meets with the old trail) going out to Big Tree - passing the Willamette Meridian marker on the way; plus made/installed all the "Big Tree" signs. Poured the cement driveway (with Harry Murray) going down to the valley. Replaced and rebuilt the front porch of the Lodge*plus roofed over the mid-section. With Dave Squier, jacked up and replaced the foundations under the Lodge. Again with Dave, surveyed the property in order to draw an accurate map of Kitsap Cabin and Rhododendron Preserve.

*Steve Philipp did the railings.

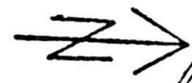
DID YOU KNOW ...?

- THAT the original Kitsap Lodge was the old Gilson farmstead? It was a two-story log building located across the trail and off to the left from the climbers' practice area? The farmstead collapsed in 1919.
- THAT the dining area of the present Lodge had to be expanded? The (then) porch was enclosed and a massive beam was installed to support the building sans posts in the middle of the room. This was accomplished by Mr. Elsworth Story, architect; Mr. Redick McKee, engineer; and the brute force of six men just to horse the beam in place that summer of 1927. A new porch was then added.
- THAT a huge tree fell on the Lodge during a 1929 winter storm? The roof and south wall of the Lodge were completely demolished but the beam installed two years earlier during the dining room expansion saved the lodge from total destruction. The wall and roof were quickly repaired.
- THAT the hydrolic Ram was installed in 1926 and proved to be the main supplier of water for the Lodge + out buildings till a new well was dug 1979? That's over 50 years!
- THAT "Ginger-Bread House" used to actually be someone's home? All of Lots "E - M" were privately owned and, one by one, sold or donated to the Mountaineers. The last cabin to survive is this one, believed on parcel "K". (Water was supplied by a cistern).
- THAT the driveway into Kitsap Lodge is part of the original Chico Trail (a.k.a. County Rd. 289)? When the county was going to put in the hiway, they'd intended to follow the Trail. But this would have put the present Lodge on one side of the road and the theatre on the other. After some talks, the county thus agreed to move their hiway to the north of the lodge - still dividing the property yet keeping the buildings and theatre together.

THAT a building inspector once condemned the Lodge as unsafe for occupation? He nailed an official "unlawful to remove under penalty of law" notice to the front door of the Lodge ordering the building's abandonment - whereupon the Players (after he left) nailed a play poster over the preceeding notice. It was then a case of merely waiting for the official notice to rot away from under the play poster and the Lodge continued in use.



SCALE
1" = 400 FT



← WILLIAMETTE MERIDIAN →

SEC 1, NE 1/4
SEC 12, T24N, R1W

SEC 1, NE 1/4
SEC 12, T24N, R1W

SEC 7, T24N, R1E
NW 1/4 NW 1/4

SEC 7, T24N, R1E
NE 1/4 NW 1/4

SEC 7, T24N, R1E
SW 1/4 NW 1/4

PARKING

PARKING

CLIFF

1135
1758
E F G H I J K L M

A

A

A

CABINS and OUT-BUILDINGS

- A) DEXTER EVERT's cabin; built 1924. Had a fire place, family room and one bedroom. In 1934 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Todd spent their honeymoon there, after which it became known as "Honeymoon Cabin". A much needed road to the valley was put in in 1968 and, with no alternatives, the cabin was razed in the process.
- B) C.G. MORRISON's cabin; built 1921. Built by Dexter Evert for Mr. Morrison who was a building consultant; the latter aided the Mountaineers re best building materials at the best prices.
- C) CASTOR's cabin; built 19-?. It's believed this was the first cabin built by Dexter Evert on the property. The cabin fell into disrepair till Davis castor rebuilt it in 1946 for his own use. The cabin again fell into disuse till Roland Anderson rebuilt it a second time (1969) into a three-sided lean-to.
- D) BIXBY's cabin; built 1919. Bixby was the original builder of this cabin which was for his own use. He owned the grocery store in Chico where the STEAMER REEVE docked. The Mountaineers purchased all their weekend supplies from Mr. Bixby who then hauled the groceries plus camping equipment to the Lodge via his horse-drawn wagon.
- E) The garage used by Hidden Valley Ranch residents prior to the road to the valley.
- F) Wooden box at head of Theatre Trail with "Remey" printed on it was original mail box for Bill and Mary Remey who lived on Hidden Valley Ranch.
- G) Caretaker's Cabin (which should be called FLETT's cabin); built 1925

H) Women's Dorm and two Men's Dorms; built 1927-8. Walt Little and Arthur Loveless designed and built said structures it's believed. A tree crushed one men's dorm during a winter storm. The women's dorm got a new shake roof 1974-5 at which time the foundations were also leveled: Dave Squier, Greg Brown, Dwight Hartman, Bob Rosen.

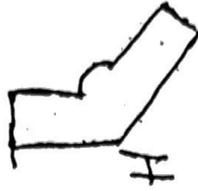
I) The curious little "?" cabin is ^{THOUGHT} ~~believed~~ to be Mr. & Mrs. Todd's cabin (post honeymoon). This cannot be confirmed, though. Nor is it known when this cabin was built.

KITSAP - 201
Roland & Deborah Anderson
P.O. B. 145 (18697 Fjord Dr. N.E.)
Poulsbo, Wash. 206-779-7170
98370

HUT CHAIRMEN at KITSAP LODGE

Jan. 1916	P.M. McGregor	1951	Marion Castor
Dec. 1916	Mary E. French	1952	Ken Hitchings
1917	H. McL. Myers	1956	Bob Landon
1918	Chas. H. Buckley	Jan. 1964	no chairman
1919	H. McL. Myers	Feb. 1964	Bob Ryan
1920	Mary Cutter	May 1967	no chairman
1922	H. E. D. Brown	Aug. 1967	Bob Neupert
1923	no chairman	1973	John Davidson
Feb. 1924	H. McL. Myers	1979	David P. Squier
Dec. 1924	C.M. Bixby		
1926	Laurence D. Byington		
1927	H.P. Wunderling		
1928	Aurther B. Young		
1929	E.E. Fitzsimmons		
1931	Elvin C. Carney		
1932	Arthur C. Winder		
1933	Claire McGuire		
1934	Lois Boeing		
1936	Charles Gilleland		
1936	no chairman		
1937	The Players		
1939	Wm. H. Jones		
May 1940	no chairman		
July 1940	Helen Taylor		
1941	no chairman		
1942	Helen M. Rudy		
Jan. 1943	no chairman		
Apr. 1943	Viola Gilleland		
1944	Louise Fitch		
1945	Lois Davis		
1946	Dorothy Lahr		
Feb. 1948	May Smith		
Dec. 1948	Dorothy Petrich		
1949	Elvira Lehtinen		

A



27



28



C

B

29

Down

Back

4

3

5

6