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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Hershey, Peter L. & Emma, Homestead
Other names/site number Hershey Homestead, Hershey Ranch

2. Location

street & number 33514 Mount Tahoma Canyon Road not for publication
city or town Ashford vicinity
State Washington code WA county Pierce code 053 zip code 98304

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 6.27.07
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain: _____)

[Signature] 8.15.07
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Log Cabin

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls WOOD: Log

roof METAL: Aluminum

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1886 - 1924

Significant Dates

1886

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Hershey, Peter L. (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record#

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
X Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than One Acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	<input type="text" value="10"/> Zone	<input type="text" value="5"/> <input type="text" value="77"/> <input type="text" value="124"/> Easting	<input type="text" value="51"/> <input type="text" value="78"/> <input type="text" value="893"/> Northing	3	<input type="text"/> Zone	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Easting	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Northing
2	<input type="text"/> Zone	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Easting	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Northing	4	<input type="text"/> Zone	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Easting	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.) See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.) See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Deborah Clark Crosetto, General Manager

organization Elk Haven Management Company date 12/07/06 (revised 1/07 - DAHP)

street & number 33514 Mount Tahoma Canyon Road telephone 360-569-2897

city or town Ashford state WA zip code 98304

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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

name Elk Haven Management Company

street & number 33514 Mount Tahoma Canyon Road telephone 360-569-2897

city or town Ashford state WA zip code 98304

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PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Narrative Description

Located in the Succotash Valley, in Pierce County, Washington near the base of Mt. Rainer, the Peter L. Hershey Homestead is a 1½ -story hewn log house. Constructed c.1886 the house is located on the outskirts of the community of Ashford. The log home sits adjacent to Mount Tahoma Canyon Road facing north.

The formal "hall-and-parlor" style house has a side facing gable roof, with exposed round log rafter tails. The roof is sheathed in aluminum and covers the original cedar shakes. The 31'6" X 19'6" log house rest directly on the ground and appears not to have any foundation stumps or stones. As a result the sill logs are rotten causing the dwelling to slump.

The exterior walls are constructed of round logs, hewn on the inside elevations. The logs are approximately 12" in diameter and are chinked with small wooden strips and concrete. The cabin corners are boxed (no overhang) and the logs are hewn and square notched. The gable ends are covered with rows of coursed cedar shingles.

The main façade has symmetrical fenestration. Centered is an ornate ½ light entry door. Reportedly hand crafted, the upper glass portion is divided into twelve panes. Above is a small square window at the second floor level. Flanking the door on each side, is a pair of wood, two-over-two double hung windows. At the second floor level, are rectangular windows matching the width of the 1st story windows. The openings have two-pane sliding wood sashes.

On the east and west facades are matching windows. Centered on the facades, at the first floor level are two-over-two double hung wood windows. Above at the second floor level is a small rectangular window with fixed three-pane sash. The rear/south façade is asymmetrical. To the west on the first floor is a pair of wood double hung two-over-two windows. Adjacent to this on the east side is a small fixed pen window. The east portion of the façade has a simple rectangular opening, originally access to a rear wing. Currently a simple board & batten style door covers the opening. At the second floor level are two small rectangular multi-pane wood sashes. All windows and doors have simple unadorned wooden surrounds.

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Per historic images a covered porch extended the full length of the main façade and around the west side. To the rear northwest corner was a one story gable roof ell, most likely housing kitchen and storage facilities. It is not known when the rear ell, and/or porch were removed.

Inside a traditional hall and parlor floor plan is found. Via the main entry door, a central staircase divides the two rooms on the first floor. To the west was the formal parlor, as evidenced by a slightly more ornate window and door surrounds which utilized smooth faced patera blocks in the upper corners of the millwork. Centered in the room is a small chimney to accommodate the wood stove. The chimney pierces the open ceiling/floor joists and rests on 2"x12" studs. Per evidence in the ceiling (of a round hole), the chimney serves as a replacement for an early chimney.

To the east was the hall, which served as an informal family space. Today evidence of a later conversion to a kitchen space is found with a pantry area under the stairs, a wall mounted sink and a bead board cabinet in the main room. Exposed electrical wires are visible running along the ceiling. Via the main entry door, the stairwell rises straight to the second floor. The stairs are simple in design and have a rectangular wooden banisters. Walls of the enclosed stairwell are single panel 1"x12" boards laid edge to edge.

Upstairs are four bedrooms, two rooms on each side of the staircase. Each room has low floor level windows and pitched/sloped walls that follow the roof line. The rooms are divided by single panel 1"x12" boards laid edge to edge. No doors are found on the bedroom openings.

All rooms have full 8' ceilings except the pantry. Downstairs the floors are finished fir 3 1/2" tongue and groove boards in the parlor, and 6 3/4" boards covered with linoleum in the hall. Inside the cabin, the logs are hewn to a flat surface to allow for formal wall finishes. Today a variety of coverings are found in each of the rooms. The kitchen/dining room walls are paneled with floor to ceiling length cedar shakes for insulation and papered to keep out drafts. The formal parlor walls have remains of remains of decorative wallpaper and lack the cedar shakes for added insulation.

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Surrounding the home are the remaining original fruit trees that still produce three kinds of apple, two kinds of pear, and crabapples. The landscape is a large open field with views of the mountains beyond, for the most part unchanged from the time of the Hershey's. The Mount Tahoma Canyon Road that passes by the house, originally named the P.L. Hershey Road. It was the first county wagon road built in the valley due to Hershey's efforts. A newer home lies just south of the homestead off the southwest corner of the house.

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Statement of Significance

The Peter and Emma Hershey Homestead is historically significant under criterion C as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, period and method of construction. Constructed circa 1886, the hewn log cabin is the only remaining pioneer log cabin in the Nisqually Valley. The period of significance for the homestead begins in 1886, the date of construction, and ends in 1924, the date Peter Hershey passed away. Peter L. Hershey and his family were one of the many pioneers that participated in the great western migration to settle the American West.

The Hershey family traces its roots to Switzerland. Peter's third great grandfather, a member of the Swiss Mennonite sect, had emigrated from Switzerland to a Pennsylvania Colony in the early 1700's to escape religious persecution. Eventually, his great grandfather moved to Ontario, Canada to obtain land. Peter was born in Canada on October 28, 1835 (some records indicate 1836). As was the custom, when it came time for Peter to marry, he found his bride in a Mennonite community. Peter, then age 26, met and married Emma Amelia Wiltsey of New York on October 11, 1861. Emma was ten years his junior.

The newly married couple traveled by covered wagon to Michigan where they first settled. Unhappy with Michigan, they resettled to Nebraska. However, Nebraska's harsh climate proved difficult for the young family, who by now had grown to five children, four girls and one boys. Like many, the promise of fertile land on the west coast was too hard to turn down for enterprising men, and Peter Hershey turned his attention to the Washington Territory.

By then, Peter was reaching the age of 50. The communities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane, along with hundreds of other small towns had been firmly established. By 1880 the population of the future state had reached 75,000. In the next decade, aided by the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, the population swelled to 350,000.

At the time the railroad companies had launched a massive advertising campaign designed to ignite an exodus from the East and invent markets out of vacant soil and big sky. The railroad companies had much to gain. Not only would the newly

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established businesses use the railroad lines for shipping and transportation, the railroads were allowed to sell the thousands of acres of property that they had acquired free of charge on either side of its right-of-way. This was done in order for the railroad companies to raise money to finance construction by selling these tracts of land to settlers and timber companies.

After first coming to Tacoma, in 1884 Peter Hershey purchased 80-acres from the Northern Pacific Railroad Company. At the time Peter was age 49. He traveled to the site with his wife and five of his six children (Zina E. - born 1868, age 16; Bertha Mae - born 1871, age 13; Nettie Violet - born 1874, age 10; Max Hamilton - born 1876, age 8; and John Rainer - born 1884) ranging in age from 16 to a newborn.

Hershey and another settler, James Kernahan, were the earliest known settlers to homestead the Nisqually Valley then known then as the Succotash Valley. The Kernahan family was a nearby neighbor of the Hershey's, with their property located just west of the Hershey homestead. The area they settled was much talked about by investors and land conservationists. As early as 1870 hiking and backpacking activities had begun on Mt. Rainier and preliminary discussions had begun with the idea to turn the area into some type of park.

James Longmire, who discovered the mineral springs in what is now Mount Rainier National Park in 1883, established the first resort (Longmire Mineral Springs Resort) in the area in 1890. Kernahan and Native American guide called "Indian Henry" provided tourist accommodations as rest stops for the Longmire Pack Train on its way to the resort.

With his Mennonite roots, Hershey still considered himself a subsistence farmer. At first Hershey built a simple log structure (just south of the nominated property). A new larger house soon followed circa 1886. The one-and-a-half story hewn log cabin featured a wrap-around porch and a one-story rear wing. To the west of the house Hershey built a large barn. Also established was a fruit orchard, today 19 trees survive.

In time the Hershey homestead became a community gathering place. In the fall neighbors and friends helped gather apples from the orchard which were pressed into cider. There are still 19 fruit trees living and producing fruit at the homestead.

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Reportedly Cora Janette (1865 - 1933), the Hershey's eldest daughter then age 19, stayed in Tacoma when the family migrated west from Nebraska. She became a school teacher. While there she met and married businessman Walter A. Ashford. Eventually the newly married couple decided to join Cora's parents to the Nisqually Valley. In 1888 they purchased land from the Northern Pacific Railroad and started a lumber and shingle mill. Knowing that development of the valley was coming, they platted the townsite of Ashford in 1904. That same year the Tacoma Eastern Railroad used Ashford as the terminus for their passage line, hoping that it would become the gateway to the newly established Mt. Rainier National Park.

Over the next few years, Peter and his son-in-law Walter, would make local prospecting trips together and came upon several lakes that Peter named for his daughters, Cora and Bertha Mae. Today Cora Lake and the Bertha Mae Lake are popular fishing lakes in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Further stimulating growth in the area, in 1891 Peter Hershey led a small group of eleven people to petitioned Pierce County to build a county wagon road (no. 274) from the Nisqually River Bridge at Elbe to Peter's homestead. The Petition read, "*...a wagon road along or near the above proposed route is absolutely necessary to that development of that section of the County, that the country along and on each side of said route is fertile and rich in resources and that it is settled with hard working people who suffer great hardships and inconveniences by reason of having no road over which they can get to and from their houses with wagons and teams.*" The county obliged and after construction the road was named in honor of Peter L. Hershey. Later it was renamed Mount Tahoma Canyon Road.

As one of the first settlers of the valley, the Hershey family had a long and varied impact of the valley. Beside the aforementioned connection with their oldest daughter, the Hershey's youngest son, John Rainier married the daughter of another homesteader, Nelle French. Nelle became one of the community's first teachers and taught first grade for 35 years. Hershey's grandson-in-law, Walter Harry Hewitt, who was married to Hershey's grand daughter Emma Ashford, is credited with the invention of the modern day snowblower.

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Hershey's granddaughter, Zina Ashford, married W.S. VanDyke who became a famous MGM movie director (directed *Marie Antoinette*, *Trader Horn*, and the Jeanette McDonald/Nelson Eddy films). Peter's cousin and contemporary, Milton S. Hershey, inventor of Hershey milk chocolate and creator of the Hershey Chocolate Company.

Peter L. Hershey died on June 24, 1924. The nominated property remained in the family until the mid 1930s.

The Peter and Emma Hershey Homestead embodies the distinctive characteristics of a settlers cabins from the 1880s. The hewn log house is an exceptionally rare surviving example of a late 19th century vernacular dwelling. Despite the common use of modern-day platform frame house construction at the time, hewn log construction in the 1880s was still typical for many rural areas, particularly those with substantial trees. Since trees had to be felled before a farm could be established, log construction was a logical and efficient method of building.

Utilizing a technology that dates back to prehistory, the Hershey Homestead is a good example of a large and hewn structure. While stories persist that Peter built the home himself, since he was 50 years old and his children were all quite young, it is most likely that Hershey was assisted by a skilled log builder.

The Hershey Homestead cabin has a basic double-pen form, with an upper loft for sleeping. Often called a "hall and parlor" plan this arrangement is one of the most common designs found among log construction. In order to expand the plan, often a rear "ell" or wing was constructed. Based on photographic and structural evidence, the Hershey house boasted such a wing off the southeast corner.

Past designs and methods of log house construction can be often associated with certain ethnic groups which immigrated to the American colonies. However, the colonial setting facilitated rapid sharing and borrowing of architectural traditions among different groups, so that this ethnic association rapidly weakened over the course of the eighteenth century. By the time development reaches the Pacific Northwest, such distinctions are difficult, if not impossible to find. Further complicating such efforts, in the case of the Hershey Homestead, is the late construction date of the nominated property.

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Regardless, the Peter & Emma Hershey Homestead conveys a clear association to pioneer settlement patterns, building technology, and early living conditions in the late 19th century in the Nisqually Valley. The homestead symbolizes the history of the initial development of the valley, when the popularity of hewn log cabin construction was coming to its end.

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Hannibal, Zina. *History of Peter and Emma Hershey and Their Family, Early Settlers to the Nisqually Valley of Mount Rainier*. Recollections. Primary Source.

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Hershey, Milton S. Family Tree. Chart.

Hershey, Peter L. Family Tree. Chart.

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Hershey Title Documents.

Hewitt Family Tree. Chart.

June 4, 1880 Census – Tablerock, Nebraska. National Archives.

June 14, 1900 Census – Nisqually Precinct. National Archives.

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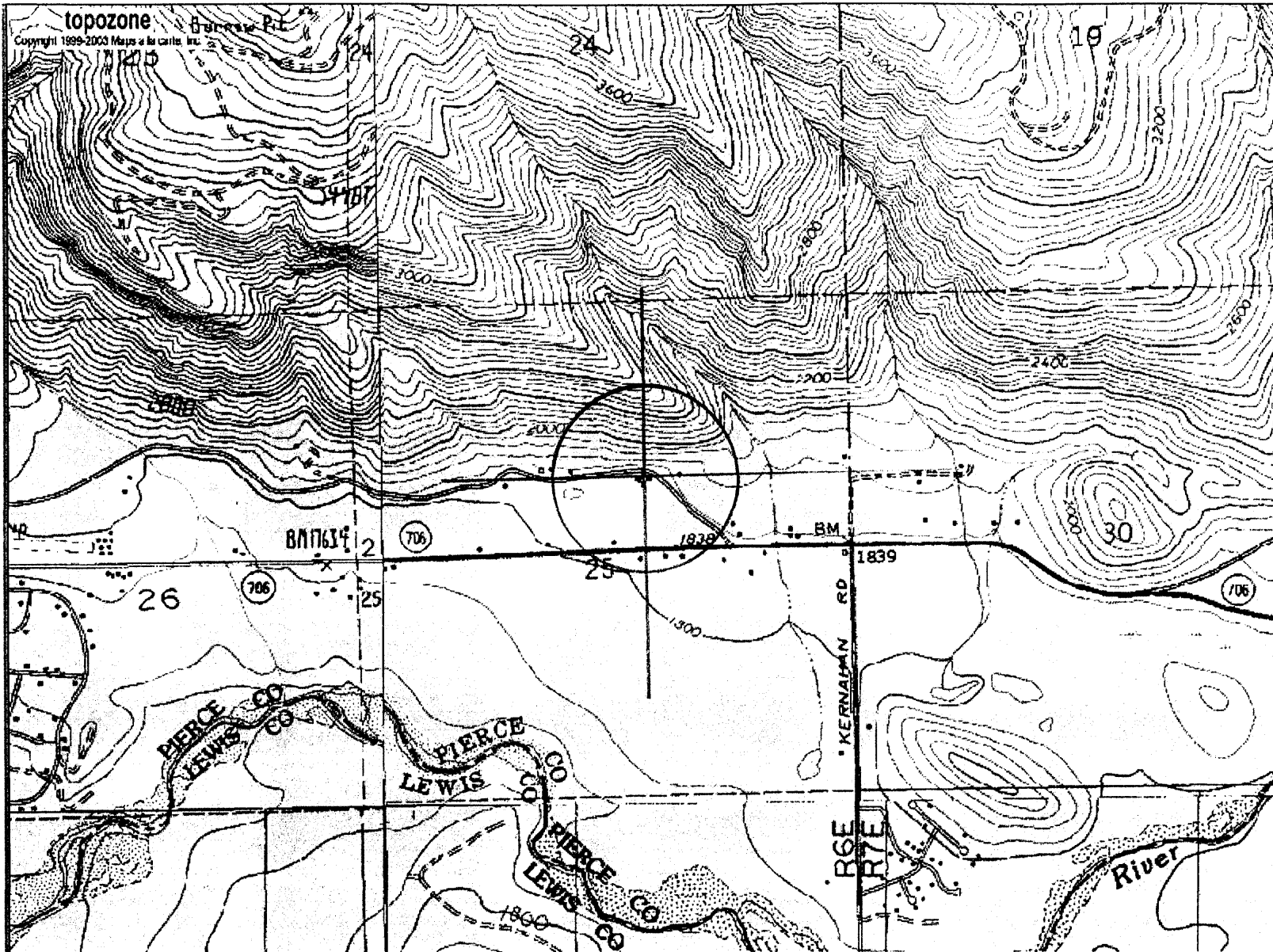
Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located at 33514 Mount Tahoma Canyon Road, Ashford, WA 98304. It is located on Township 15N, Range 6E in section 25 of the Willamette meridian in Pierce County, Washington. It is legally described as part of Lot 1 of Short Plat 95-11-06-0360. It is otherwise identified as Tax Parcel 2099003960.

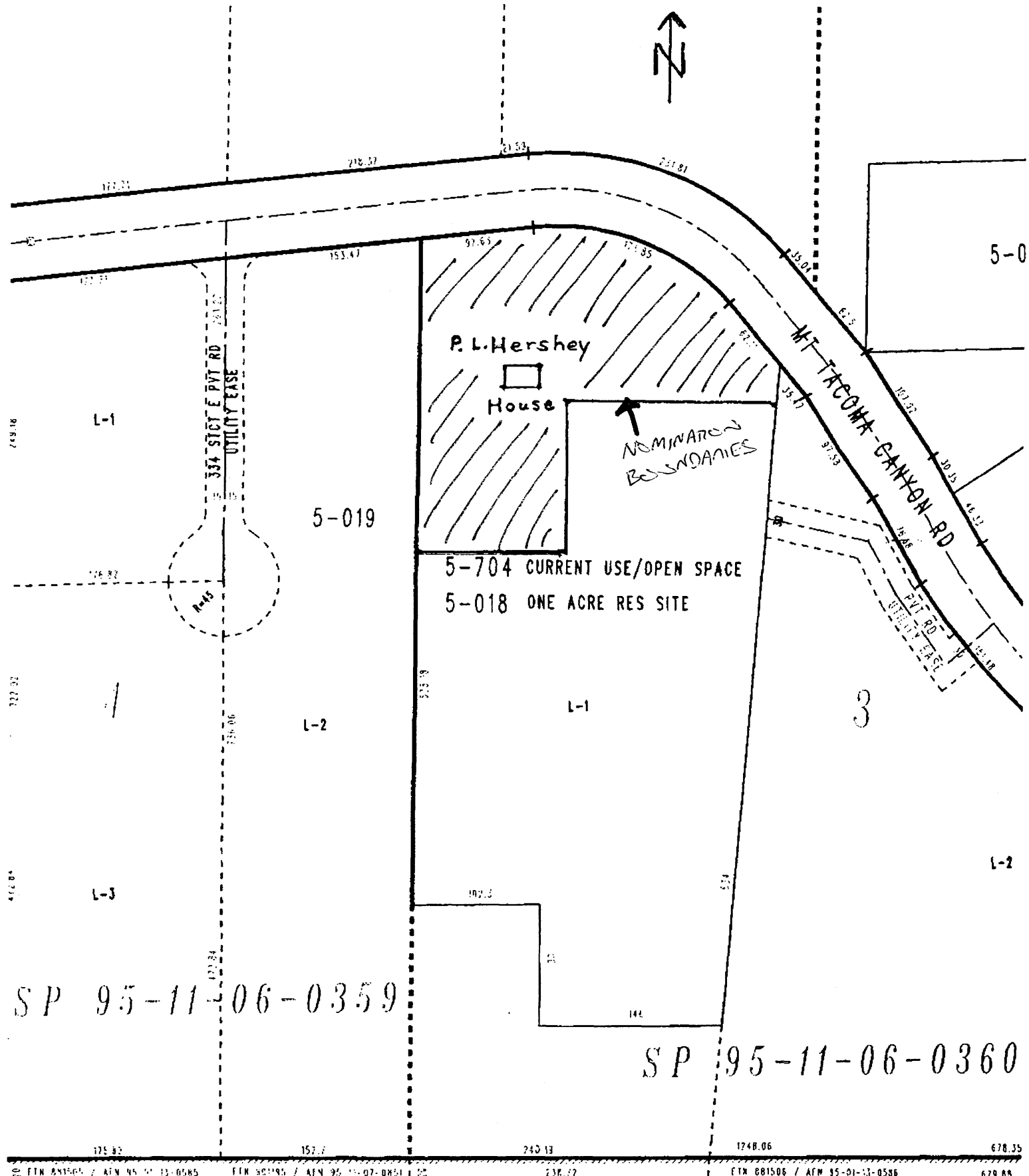
The nominated area includes the north portion of the lot beginning at the northeast corner of the lot, going south approximately 32 ft. along the east property boundary to a point, then west approximately 176 ft, then south approximately 132 ft, then west 120 ft more or less to the boundary of lot 1, the north to the Mount Tahoma Canyon Rd right-of-way, then easterly along the road to the beginning point.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses a portion of urban tax lot that is occupied by the Peter L. & Emma Hershey Homestead. It includes the home, and associated fruit trees.



PETER L. & EMMA HERSHEY HOMESTEAD: Ashford, WA
UTM 10 577124E 5178893N (NAD83/WGS84) – Mount Wow, WA USGS Quad

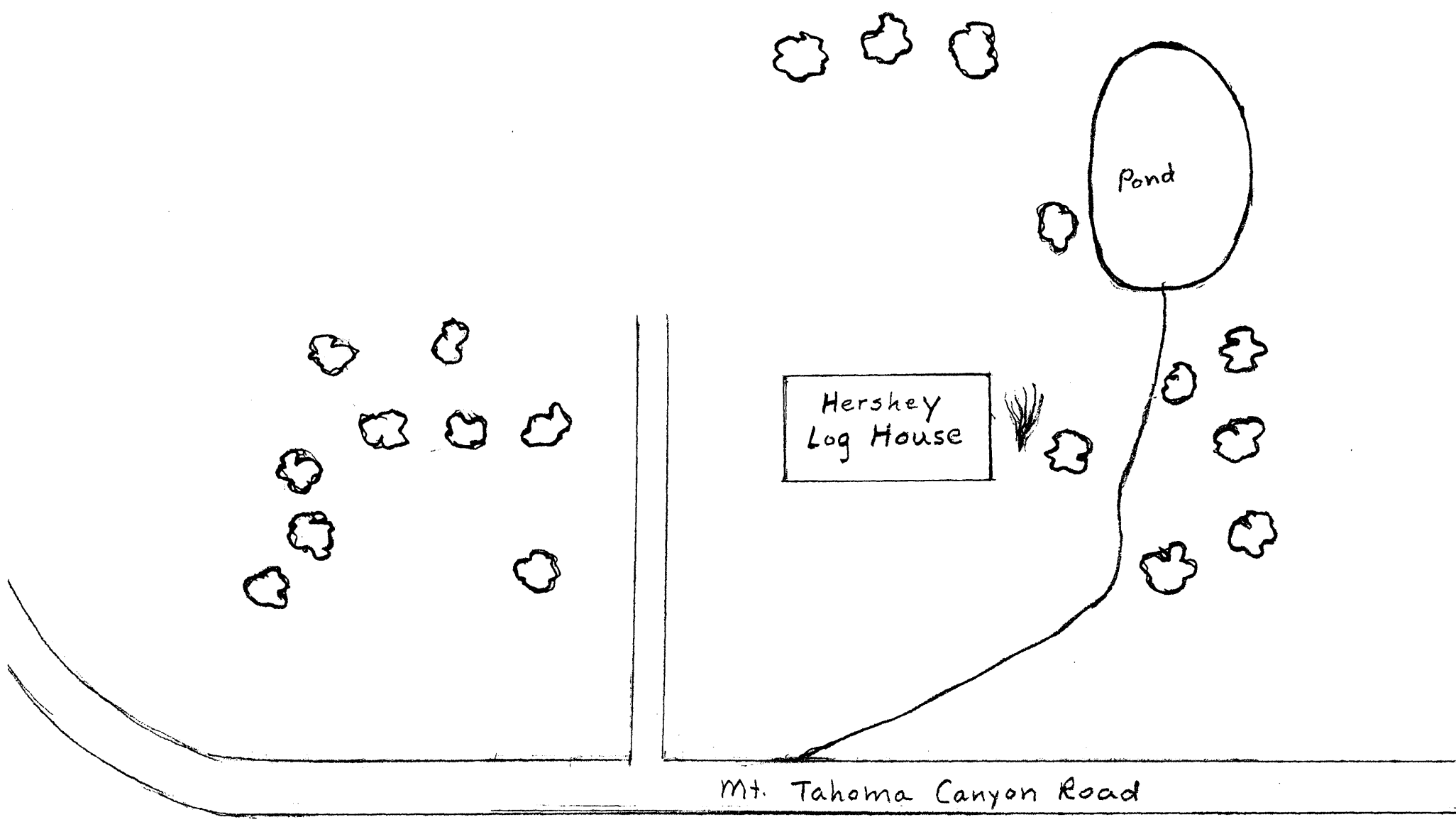



SP 95-11-06-0359

SP 95-11-06-0360

175.82 152.7 240.13 1748.06 678.35
ETN 821506 / AFM 95-01-13-0586 ETN 801185 / AFM 95-01-07-0851 02 238.72 ETN 881506 / AFM 95-01-13-0586 679.85

SR-706-E

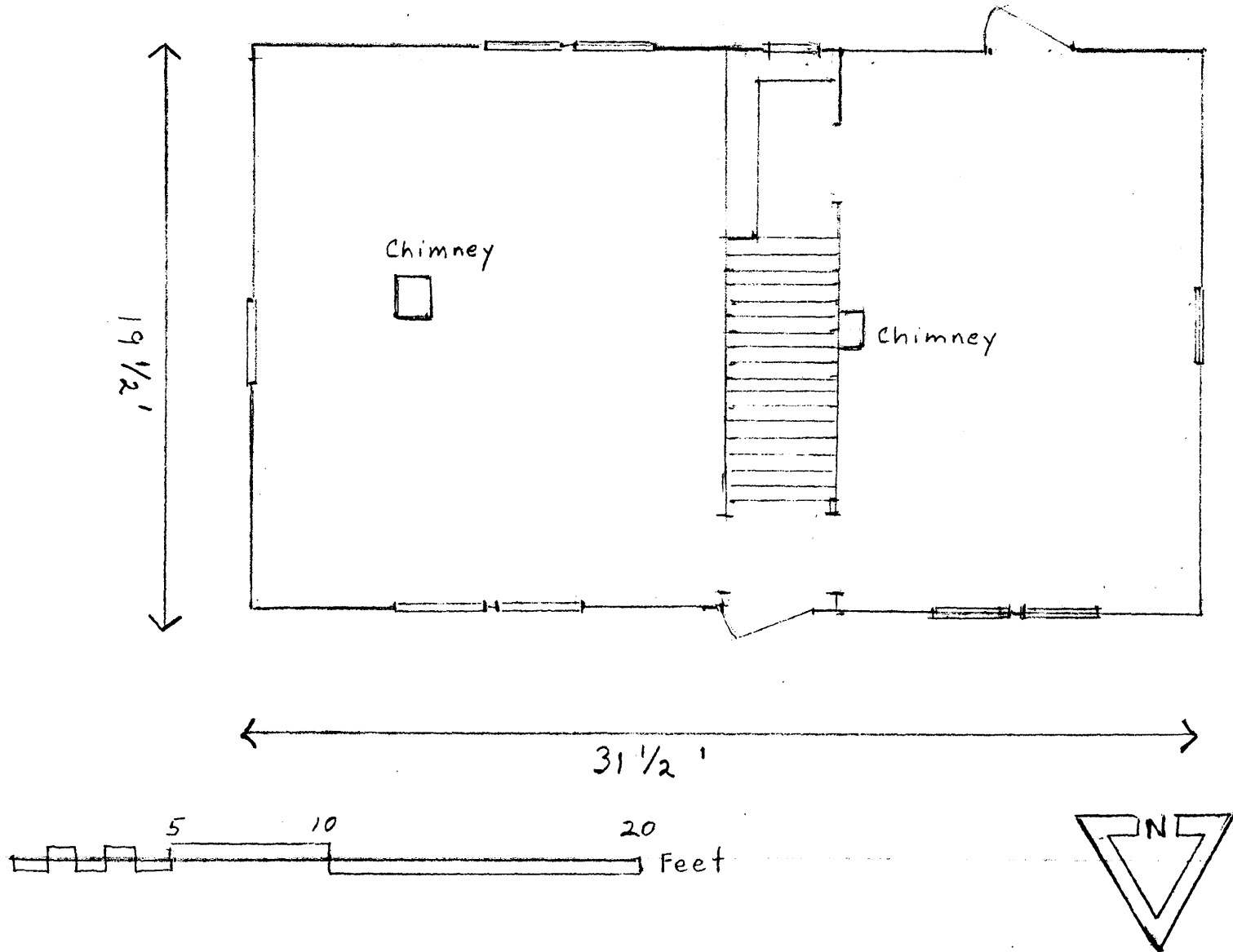


 - 100+ year old
fruit trees

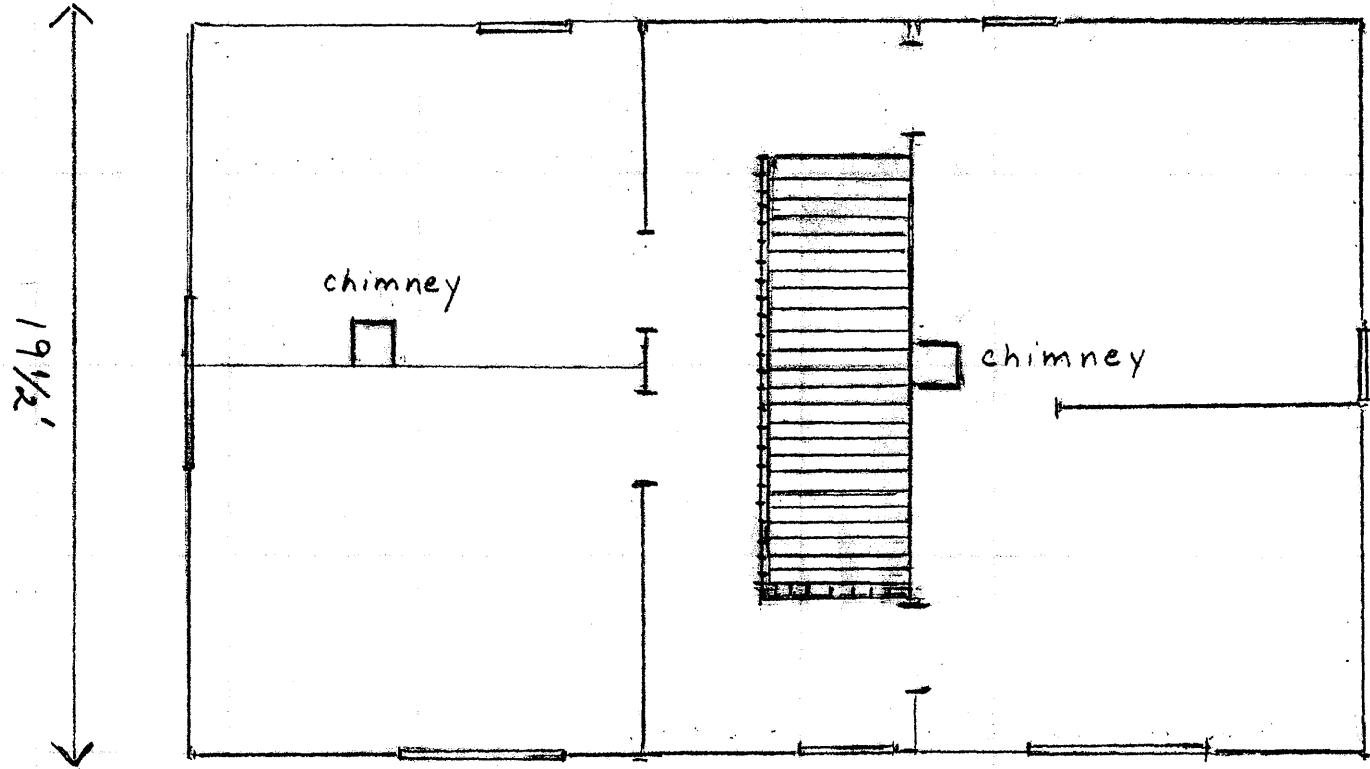
Sketch Map
Peter L. Hershey Log House
33514 Mt. Tahoma Canyon Road
Ashford, Washington



Sketch Floor Plans 1st Floor
Peter L. Hershey Log House



Sketch Floor Plans 2nd Floor
Peter L. Hershey Log House

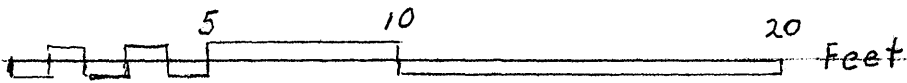


19 1/2'

chimney

chimney

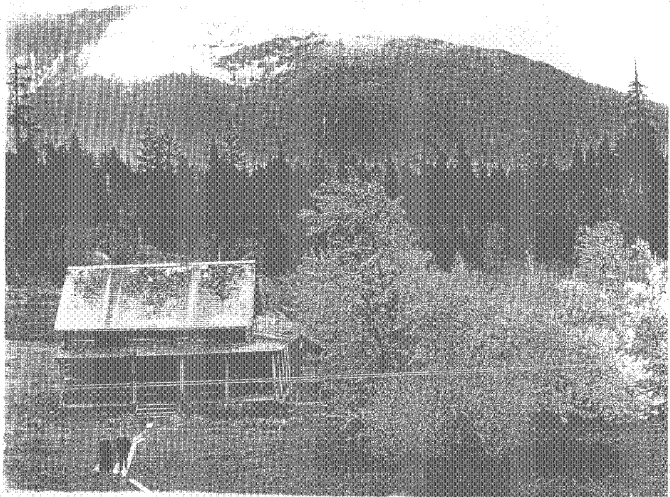
31 1/2'





The Ashford / Hershey Family

L to R: Standing - Emma Ashford Hewitt, Cora (Pauline) Hewitt, Walter Hewitt
Seated row 2 - Walter Ashford, Cora Hershey Ashford, Emma Hershey, Peter L. Hershey
Seated Front - Richard Hewitt, Walter Hershey Hewitt, Marwyn Hewitt



HERSHEY HOMESTEAD
PETER AND EMMA HERSEY
SPRING 1924
PHOTO FROM ZINA MARIE (RAYMOND) HANISAL