Department of the Interior,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
WASHINGTON, July 11, 1893.

The U. S. Indian Agent,

Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter, dated May 10, 1893, from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, stating that on April 15, 1885, Jane Romero made homestead entry No. 5582, Vancouver, Washington, for the N 1/2 of the NW 1/4 and W 1/2 of the NE 1/4, sec. 12, T. 2 N. R. 13 E., on which final certificate No. 2179 issued October 8, 1890; that it appears from the records of that office that the tract in question was withdrawn from entry by telegram dated June 12, 1888, as a result of a letter from the Secretary of the Interior, dated May 25, of that year, in which he directed that all entries attempted to be made by white men in township 2 North, Ranges 13, 14 and 15 East, be refused until otherwise ordered.

As the said homestead entry was made prior to the withdrawal referred to, the General Land Office requests to be advised by this office as to whether at the date of the entry by said Jane Romero -- April 15, 1885 -- the lands mentioned were in the possession, occupation and use of Indian inhabitants, or covered by their improvements and homes.

In connection with this matter I have to state that it is
difficult for this office to determine from its files whether the particular tract mentioned, namely, the N 1/2 of the NW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of said section 12, was in the possession, use and occupation of Indians on April 15, 1885, or whether the same was covered by their homes and improvements.

It is known to this office from reliable reports that the Indians made a general claim to the lands embraced within said township and ranges; and in view of this fact, George P. Litchfield, late Special Indian Agent of this office was instructed August 7, 1891, to proceed to the lands above described, namely, Township 2,N. Ranges 13, 14, and 15, E. Willamette Meridian, for the purpose of allotting the lands embraced therein to the Indians who are entitled to the same, under instructions given him October 15, 1890, as supplemented by instructions dated March 26, 1891, in order that proper steps might be taken to restore to the public domain the remainder of the unallotted lands.

For your information I enclose herewith copy of Special Agent Litchfield's report, dated September 24, 1891, from which you will observe that he recommends the permanent withdrawal of certain lands for the use of the Indians for fishing privileges, and that certain other lands be restored to the public domain.

It would seem from Agent Litchfield's said report that Indians were not in the possession, use and occupation of the tract homesteaded by the said Romero on September 24, 1891; but it is
thought best to refer the matter to you for further investigation before making final report in the premises to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

You will therefore ascertain in proper manner, if possible, for you to do so, whether the tract entered by said party was occupied and used by any Indian or Indians on April 15, 1885, or at any time immediately prior to that date, and make report of all the facts obtainable in the case to this office to the end that the General Land Office may be advised in the matter.

It may be proper to remark that this office will not recommend that the lands as described by Special Agent Litchfield as not being needed, be restored to the public domain until a further and more complete investigation can be had in relation thereto by some Special Agent under particular and explicit instructions from this office.

An early report is desired in the premises.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Commissioner.

(Hinton)

Ca
July 11, 1842

Land

Look up the Records for Jane Roman and land.

[Handwritten note, not legible]