

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See Instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the Instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lytle, Joseph, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 509 Chenault not for publication
city, town Hoquiam vicinity
state Washington code WA county Grays Harbor code 027 zip code 98550

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>3</u>	—
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	—	—
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	—	—
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
			Total
			Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>0</u>

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.
 See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official *Jacob E. Johnson* Date 6/1/90
Washington State Department of Community Development Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet. 7/12/86
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper *for* Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls wood: weatherboard

wood: shingle

roof other: composition

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Joseph Lytle House is a well-preserved Queen Anne Style residence built in 1900 on a hillside in northwest Hoquiam, overlooking the city and Grays Harbor. The two-and-one-half story wood frame structure is characterized by an irregular plan with multiple roof shapes, projecting porches and bays, and a variety of wood sidings and decorative ornament. The house is located on a wooded lot that rises steeply above the street. To the rear of the home are a hip roof carriage house and a small, gabled caretaker's cottage. On the lot to the east is the 1897 house of Robert Lytle (Hoquiam's Castle), a Shingle Style mansion listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Joseph Lytle House is built on a roughly rectangular plan, measuring approximately 35 feet wide and 50 feet deep. The house rests on a foundation and daylight basement of coursed sandstone. The first story, which is separated from the basement by a wood beltcourse, is sided with narrow clapboards. A beltcourse separates this floor from the second story, which is faced in shingles laid in a decorative sawtooth pattern. The upper floor is surmounted by an entablature molding with projecting, bracketed cornice. The complex roof is formed by a dominant hip with lower, intersecting gables. The eaves of the roof are boxed and trimmed with bargeboards, and the gable ends are ornamented with decorative stick and shingle work. Two chimneys, faced in concrete, rise above the roof on the east and west sides.

The south facade of the Lytle house is dominated by a projecting two-story cutaway bay beneath an overhanging pedimented gable. In the tympanum of the pediment is an oriel window with entablature hood and corbelled base. The pediment is supported by elongated console brackets. Beneath the gable on both floors are cutaway bay windows, lighted by one-over-one double hung sash. To the east of the bay, the recessed facade features a single leaf door with glazed panel. A chamfered corner on the first floor is lighted by a double hung window. A one story veranda spans the front facade and wraps around the southeast corner, with a raised pediment at the center of the porch to shelter the main entry. The veranda is supported by turned posts which rise to a bracketed entablature, and features a balustraded railing. The original curved braces and spindlework frieze have been removed.

The roof of the veranda serves as the base of the second story balcony at the southeast corner of the facade. The balcony is circular in plan and is sheltered by a steeply pitched conical roof with projecting, bracketed cornice. The balcony has turned posts and a spindle balustrade. The original spindle frieze has been removed.

The side and rear elevations of the house are treated more simply, mostly lighted with one-over-one double hung windows. On the east side, an arched window with colored glass lights the interior stairhall. At the rear of the elevation is a side entry porch with hip roof supported by turned posts and the original spindlework frieze. The porch shelters a single leaf door that leads to an enclosed vestibule. The rear of the house also features a covered porch and the west side elevation features a projecting cutaway bay. Across the roof are a variety of dormers, mostly gabled, with bracketed cornices and small Queen Anne Style windows.

The interior of the Lytle house is remarkably well preserved, characterized by dramatic public spaces highlighted with golden oak woodwork. The front entry hall is dominated by a fireplace with an oak mantelpiece and tile surround. The mantelpiece features fluted columns with carved capitals, a bracketed mantel, and an elaborate entablature molding. To the north of the fireplace, a paneled oak staircase leads to the upper story. At the landing, above a built-in window seat, is an arched window with colored glass. To the west of the entry hall is the front parlor, separated from the hall by fluted columns, an elaborate arched spindle frieze, and panelled pocket doors. The parlor is lighted by the bay windows and the walls of the room are faced in a grasscloth covering that is painted with scenes of a forested landscape. North of the front parlor is the rear parlor, separated by another spindlework frieze and panelled pocket doors. The rear parlor features a fireplace with a tile surround and a mantelpiece with fluted Corinthian colonettes. To the east of the rear parlor is the formal dining room, distinguished by a coffered ceiling with box beams, paneled wainscoting, and built-in buffet. Throughout the public spaces are picture and cornice moldings, and handsome window and door surrounds. The second floor includes four bedrooms, with spacious closets and access to several porches and balconies. The third floor attic is finished.

See continuation sheet

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Immediately behind the house is a two story wood frame carriage house with hip roof. The carriage house is faced in clapboard siding, with cornerboards and features eight-over-one double hung windows and hip roof dormers. The carriage house is connected to the rear of the main house by a breezeway constructed in the 1950s. Beyond that is a one story side-gable caretaker's cottage with is faced in horizontal siding and is in deteriorated condition. Although exact dates of construction are unknown both structures are believed to date from the Lytle's residency, and therefore contribute to the historical character of the property.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1900

Significant Dates

1900

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Not Known

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Built in 1900 on a hillside that commands sweeping views of Hoquiam and Grays Harbor, the Joseph Lytle House is an architecturally significant example of Queen Anne residential design, distinguished by its irregular form, textured facade, decorative shingle and spindle work, and an ornate interior richly finished with golden oak. A survey of historic structures in the Grays Harbor area (OAHF, 1987) indicated that the Lytle House was the finest example of the Victorian Queen Anne Style in the region, comparable in scale and style only to the neighboring Robert Lytle House, a 1897 Shingle Style mansion (National Register). The house is also closely associated with a prominent Hoquiam lumberman who, together with his brother, established one of the region's largest logging and milling firms at the turn of the century. Today, the house retains excellent integrity and clearly reflects the architectural sophistication of the design and the prominent stature of its owner.

Background: Born in 1857 in Portage City, Wisconsin, where he farmed until the age of 33, Joseph Lytle moved in 1887 to Fairhaven, Washington Territory, and established a grocery business. Two years later, Lytle was joined in business by his older brother Robert, and in 1890 the brothers relocated the firm to the logging and shipping center of Hoquiam.

The brothers had considerable success at their new location, but their fortunes dramatically improved a few years later when a client was unable to pay his bills and the Lytles accepted his logging operation on the East Hoquiam River in payment. Although inexperienced in logging, the Lytles devoted themselves to the acquisition, converted the oxen-powered operation to steam, and hired a qualified foreman. The brothers continued to purchase timberlands at reduced prices and soon--incorporated as the Lytle Logging and Mercantile Company--had amassed one of the largest logging and timber concerns in the Grays Harbor district. By the early 20th century, the brothers had established the Hoquiam Lumber and Shingle company, with a large mill on the Hoquiam River, and had financed construction of several Hoquiam commercial buildings.

Although it is possible that Joseph Lytle may have taken a lead in the family business in the early 1890s--a business directory of the 1891-1892, for example, listed Joseph as the proprietor of the grocery with no reference to Robert--it soon became clear that Robert was the driving force behind the lumber fortune, serving as president of the family firm while Joseph was employed variously as vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. In civic affairs, too, Robert took a leading position. For example, he served as mayor of Hoquiam at the turn of the century during which time newspaper accounts indicate that Joseph was frequently ill and out of town recuperating. In 1911, Robert moved to Portland, but continued to direct the family business, and established several new lumber concerns after Joseph's death in 1914.

Regardless of rank, Joseph Lytle clearly shared in his family's fortunes. When he moved into his imposing new residence in November 1900, newspaper accounts remarked that the structure was "probably the handsomest house on Grays Harbor." Although the design has not been conclusively attributed to an architect, it is clearly an outstanding example of the late Victorian Queen Anne Style, embellished with a rich variety of textures and forms, and a complexity of plan and elevation. The interior, too, is dramatically finished with elaborate woodwork, panelled wainscoting, beamed ceilings, ornate mantelpieces, and a handpainted grasscloth wall covering in the front parlor. The only comparable house in the city is the neighboring house of brother Robert. But while the Robert Lytle house is a fine example of the Shingle Style variant of the Queen Anne idiom, with a more integrated and harmonious form, the Joseph Lytle house evokes the exuberant irregularity and variety that distinguished the Queen Anne Style at its purest.

Following Joseph Lytle's death in 1914, the house served as the residence of his widow, the former Mary Ballentine, who lived on the property until the early 1930s. In the 1940s, the house was converted to apartments, with minimal damage to the original fabric or plan of the house. In recent years, the house has been well maintained and slowly restored to its original grandeur. Today, it is among a handful of the best preserved historic residences in the city.

9. Major Bibliographical References

VanSyckle, Edwin. They Tried to Cut it All. Aberdeen: Friends of Aberdeen Public Library, 1980.
Hunt, Herbert. Washington West of the Cascades. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1917.
"Joseph Lytle Called by Death." (Hoquiam) Daily Washingtonian, February 4, 1914, p. 1.
(Hoquiam) Washingtonian, November 22, 1900.

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 Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately one acre

UTM References

A	<u>10</u>	<u>432320</u>	<u>5203580</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nomination parcel is legally described as Hoquiam Parcel No. 0538004009. Lots 9-12, Blk. 4, Karrs Hill Addition, City of Hoquiam.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with Joseph and Mary Lytle, including the main house, carriage house, and caretaker's cottage.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title	<u>Leonard Garfield, with research assistance by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bencala</u>	date	<u>February 6, 1990</u>
organization	<u>Archaeology and Historic Preservation</u>	telephone	<u>(206) 586-2901</u>
street & number	<u>111 West 21st Ave., KL-11</u>	state	<u>Washington</u>
city or town	<u>Olympia</u>	zip code	<u>98504</u>