

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED DEC 30 1977  
DATE ENTERED MAY 22 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Glencove Hotel

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Rt. 4, Box 4616 A

*W of Gig Harbor off WA 302*

CITY, TOWN Gig Harbor *wa*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

6th - Honorable Norman D. Dicks

STATE Washington

CODE 53

COUNTY Pierce

CODE 053

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Larry and Yula Luciann Nadeau

STREET & NUMBER Rt. 4, Box 4616 A

CITY, TOWN Gig Harbor

VICINITY OF

STATE Washington

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County-City Building

STREET & NUMBER 930 Tacoma Avenue South

CITY, TOWN Tacoma

STATE Washington

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Glencove Hotel, built as a resort accommodation but adapted in later years as a private residence, sits on a small rise above a small inlet off Henderson Bay about 18 miles west of Tacoma. The rise is an intermediate crest of a larger elevation behind the building. The low hill is sparsely covered with second growth timber. Originally a large part of the hill was cultivated as an orchard; a portion of it survives and includes cherry, apple and plum trees. An historic photo shows the hotel with a collection of outbuildings to the north and a front yard sloping to the water, landscaped with what appear to be shrubs and small fruit trees. Garden space was provided between the several rows of trees. Today, the outbuildings are gone as are the trees and gardens in the front yard. However, little else of the surroundings has been altered and the setting appears much as it did originally.

The hotel is a large (about 4,000 square feet), two-story, balloon frame building clad with milled shiplap siding. It is square in plan and capped by a pyramidal roof of re-sawn shingles. The total effect gives the structure a somewhat bulky appearance that is relieved by a square bay on the south facade, scaled the full height of the hotel and covered by a gable roof; a covered, open porch five feet wide running the length of the east and north facades; and a small porch in the center of the second story level on the east, its gable roof echoing that of the bay. Decorative features are restrained. Simple scroll sawn brackets support the cornice from the frieze of vertical boards. The second story porch as a scalloped-base skirting of boards and its roof is supported by turned posts. (The posts supporting the first floor porch roof are square in section and appear to be replacements). Entrance is through doorways in the east and north facades.

The interior features simple unpainted woodwork, redwood mill products, an oak-bannistered stairway, and ceilings ten feet in height. The first floor is divided into four large spaces: kitchen, dining room, front parlor and back parlor. Five bedrooms are on the second floor as is a single bath, installed with hot and cold running water when the house was built. (The redwood encased copper tub became a watering trough and was stolen from the property in 1961). Windows flanking the east entryway feature colored glass lights surrounding a clear central pane in the upper sash of the seven-foot high window opening. The building was heated originally by Franklin stoves, however, an air circulation oil burning fireplace was installed in the back parlor in 1972. The dining room features a small fireplace, decorated with glazed ceramic tiles and a mirrored back-mantel or oak.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1897, a remarkably energetic German couple, Nicholas and Agnes Peterson, opened a small resort hotel overlooking a snug inlet in Puget Sound.

Nicholas Peterson was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and emigrated to America to seek his fortune. In Red Cloud, Nebraska, he met and married winsome Agnes Gruber. In 1883 they came west by train to San Francisco, where they embarked on a coastal steamer for Tacoma.

The only work Nicholas could find to support his wife and 16-month-old daughter was "greasing the skids" for Harry Winchester's logging camp on Henderson Bay. The camp cook had just quit, and Agnes agreed to cook for the logging crew to augment their income. For several years the Petersons lived in a floathouse riding high on thick cedar logs. As tall firs were thinned out, the logging camp moved along the north shore of the bay. The Petersons simply floated their home to its new location.

Nicholas also was given the job of going for the mail once a week to Steilacoom. He rowed. When tides were favorable, he made good time; in winter he often was drenched with rain and sleet or trapped in dense fog.

In the panic of 1893, Winchester lost his logging business and his brickyard at Glencove (formerly known as Balch's Cove). To pay the Petersons what he owed them, Winchester deeded them 32 acres on the west side of Glencove. The land had been logged, but second growth timber already was healing the scars.

Since this land was all they possessed, the Petersons decided they could earn a good living if they would build an attractive resort hotel. On credit they purchased lumber and other materials in Tacoma and towed them to the harbor on a scow. They began work in 1896 and completed the building in a year.

In 1897 no road penetrated the area, instead the sternwheeler "Messenger" serviced lower Puget Sound settlements. Her draft was so shallow she could churn into the cove (except at extreme low tide) to unload at the bulkhead landing. She arrived at 7 p.m. and departed at 7 a.m. for Tacoma. The trip to Tacoma took four hours. In later years other boats anchored outside the cove. Nicholas met them with his skiff to transport passengers and freight to his hotel. The hotel prospered. Prominent Tacoma families found it to their liking. Every summer these families came to Glencove to spend a vacation on the salt water. Guests included the W. W. Seymours, the Philip Vanderbilt Caesars, the Insingers, the Felix Bachrachs, architect C. A. Darmer and family, the Christian Quevils, a Vanderbilt family from Chicago, a U. S. Senator and the Pomeroy family.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Structural evaluation of house, prepared by J. E. Warjone, Seattle, for Mrs. and Mrs. Larry Nadeau.

"Hotel at Glencove Part of Early History," by Rowena and Gordon Alcorn, Sunday Magazine, Tacoma News Tribune, Tacoma, Washington, May 12, 1963.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.44

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1, 0 | 5 | 2, 0 | 3, 7, 0 | 5, 2 | 4, 3 | 5, 3, 0 |  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Glencove Hotel is located on a 2.44 acre property identified as Parcel No. 01-21-06-2-054, Pierce County.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cyrus and Rita Happy

ORGANIZATION

Pierce County Liaisons

DATE

(206) 588-2585

STREET & NUMBER

11617 Gravelly Lake Drive S.W.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Tacoma

STATE

Washington

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Jeanne M. Welch*

TITLE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

December 15, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Hunter*

DATE

5-22-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Wathen Cole*

DATE

5.12.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Mrs. Seymour once said, "We always enjoyed going to Peterson's place. Agnes was such a fine, motherly woman. Sometimes we chartered a launch and took friends there with us, but more often we rode our bicycles to Glencove from Gig Harbor. It didn't seem very far, for it was such a pleasant ride through the woods."

When more rooms were needed to house the enthusiastic guests, Nicholas built an annex 50 feet from the main building. This building, now torn down, included six bedrooms on the second floor and a woodshed and laundry.

Nicholas made a washing machine powered with water pumped up a ramp from the spring. Hotel linens needed to be washed daily, and they were pressed carefully by flat-irons heated on a stove.

Agnes Peterson grew famous for her chicken dinners. Guests ate at two long tables set with immaculate linens. Meals were served "family style" and included potatoes and gravy, several vegetables, hot biscuits, salad and dessert or pie -- cherry, apple, pumpkin, loganberry, huckleberry or wild blackberry topped with whipped cream.

Agnes was busy from early morning until late at night. One of her specialties was home-made egg noodles. They often hung to dry in festoons from lines strung across the kitchen. She always made several barrels of sauerkraut each fall, a must for her German cookery.

Nicholas planted a large garden and tended a berry patch. In his hothouse he raised tomatoes year around. The family raised all their own meat -- beef, turkey, pork, lamb, chicken and duck. In the smokehouse they cured hams, bacon and salmon, and they stored dried fruits and canned hundreds of quarts of fruit and vegetables. They were so self-sufficient that they had to purchase only such items as sugar, flour, rice, tea, coffee, spices, matches and kerosene in Tacoma.

During the winter months when fewer guests came to Glencove, they opened their home to friends. The Christmas and New Year's holidays were festive, and the big front sitting room was decorated and laden with good things to eat and drink.

By 1904 the hotel had become a mecca for salesmen from several Tacoma wholesale houses. They would stop overnight and after an early breakfast they could hire a buggy or walk the two and a half miles through the woods to Allyn at the head of Case Inlet. One salesman, Truman Drum, recalled: "Although we usually went to Glencove on the regular passenger boat, sometimes five or six of us would charter a launch. Later when a road was put through from Gig Harbor to the cove, I drove over there in my Model T. That first road was so rough and deeply rutted that it took several hours to make this trip."

The Petersons had only one child, Louise. She married a logger, Oscar Boquist. Nicholas died in 1926, and Agnes died eight years later. The Boquists continued to run the hotel for several years, but when roads improved and more automobiles traveled to the peninsula area, the need for overnight lodging dwindled. Finally they closed the hotel.

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The setting is still rural, and it is easy to visualize the early days of the famous old resort hotel. Fortunately, the building has been spared and is in good condition, with present owners making strides at restoration. The original inlaid linoleum, the Oriental filigree wood divider between the sitting rooms, and fine dining room fireplace -- all are features which have been preserved. The building is a tribute to the industry of an early Pierce County family and to a unique method of survival in waterfront living on Puget Sound.