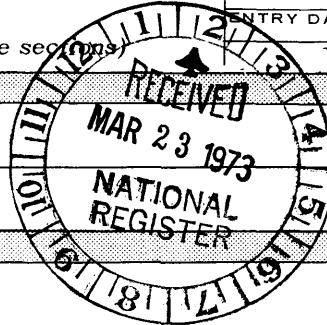


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

STATE: Washington
COUNTY: Grays Harbor
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 11 1973

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON:
Hoquiam's Castle

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Robert Lytle Mansion

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
515 Chenault Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Hoquiam

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#3 - Hon. Julia B. Hansen

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Grays Harbor CODE: 027

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Robert E. Watson

STREET AND NUMBER:
515 Chenault Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Hoquiam

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 751

CITY OR TOWN:
Montesano

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Grays Harbor Regional Planning Commission

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Grays Harbor Regional Planning Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
207 1/2 East Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Aberdeen

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Washington

COUNTY: Grays Harbor

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 11 1973

DATE:

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lytle Mansion was built on a square block of land on a northerly hill-side overlooking the town, Gray's Harbor and the Pacific Ocean. The outside shape is generally rectangular being about 80 x 60 feet. The mansion is basically unaltered from its original state. The home has over 20 rooms and is five stories high at the front, including full basement and a never finished fourth floor. The house is of wood frame construction with all plaster and lath walls. The three floors that are used have a 10,000 square foot area. The southwest corner has a tower that projects from the third floor into an observation cupola.

The first floor has horizontal siding; the remainder of the house is covered with geometric cut shingles. There is a rectangular balcony at the front second floor that can be reached from the master bedroom.

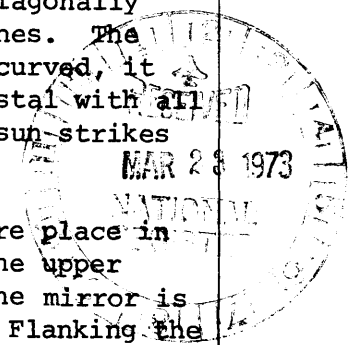
The foundation is hand fitted sandstone that is two feet thick. The basement housed the central heating plant, laundry facilities, root and wine cellars, and fuel storage space. It is illuminated by square windows; two facing the front of the house are one-half circular.

The main entrance is reached by ascending 12 hard cut sandstone stairs. The stairs are twelve feet wide and are flanked by fitted sandstone end walls. These walls are complemented at the bottom by two foot tall cast Grecian urns. At the top guarding the large sandstone arch recline two large cement lions. The stone arch that leads onto the front porch is a fine example of the stone masons craft. Very little mortar was used. The support and strength is gained by virtue of design and interlocking fit. The arch design is carried across the remainder of the front porch by two more stone arches. The front porch terminates in three turned wood pillars. From this point the porch proceeds along the east side of the house.

The front doors are solid oak, opening inward. Each door is 3 feet wide and 10 feet tall with carved crests and beveled crystal glass. The door lock and face plates are ornate bronze. These doors open into a small entry room about 8 x 5 feet probably used to shed heavy clothing. The only separation of this room with the main entry hall is some ornate overhead wood grill work. This small room and entry hall (20 x 20 feet) is completely paneled in golden oak. A crystal chandelier illuminates this area. To the left is the main salon or living room. This room is 34 feet diagonally across and incorporates the circular corner with built in benches. The glass in this area is curved and ground crystal. Even though curved, it has no distortion. All glass on the first floor is ground crystal with all the upper sections prismatically ground and leaded. When the sun strikes any of these the rooms are filled with small rainbows.

All wood work on the first floor is of golden oak as is the fire place in the main salon. It has quarter cut oak columns that support the upper mantle. The tile on the fireplace is yellow Venetian tiles; the mirror is beveled plate glass with the old silver backing process used. Flanking the fireplace are two built-in seats that are recessed about two feet into the wall. The entire room has a picture rail. A 600 piece crystal chandelier illuminates this room.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Built in 1897**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Local History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This residence is an excellent example of turn-of-the-century affluence. One of the largest homes to be built in Western Washington in that period is reflected in the early sophistication found in this far west and in such a rough and tumble lumber town. It demonstrates the neo-Romanesque style of architecture of Henry Hobson Richardson. It is a rare illustration of the transition from the gingerbread of the Eastern (Victorian) school to the clean, uncluttered style of Richardson with his characteristic stone arches and other influences. This is particularly significant because at the time this house was built, it was only about ten years after the introduction of this style in Chicago. Richardson, the originator of the "Chicago School" of architecture, which was the beginning of modern U.S. architecture, was the "father" of Louis Sullivan. He, in turn, is considered to have had the most influence on the development of Frank Lloyd Wright. In the Northwest, at the time this building was constructed, almost all buildings were still subject to the Eastern School with a hold-over of Victorianism loaded with gingerbread.

The foundation and Richardsonian arches were handcut from stone quarried in Tenino, Washington. The first private residence in Hoquiam to have electric lights, it was plumbed for gas as well, having a central heating system. Large window areas afford a view of the town, Grays Harbor and the Pacific.

The residence is five-stories high at the front including the basement and has over 20 rooms. The three floors currently in use have a 10,000 square foot area. The frame residence with lath and plaster walls, has a tower on the southwest corner. The projection at the third floor serves as an observation cupola. A small rectangular balcony on the second floor at the front, is reached from the master bedroom. A large front porch boasts stone arches, fine examples of the stone masons craft. Utilizing very little mortar, their support and strength is gained by virtue of design and interlocking fit. From this point, the front porch terminates in three turned wood pillars and continues along the east side of the

Entry doors are solid oak and each measures 3 x 10 feet and is graced with carved crests and beveled crystal glass. Lock and face plates are ornate bronze. The entry hall is paneled in golden oak. The main salon incorporates the tower base. The curved glass of the window area is ground

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Washington West of the Cascades. Vol. II, 1917
S.J. Clark Publishing Co.
2. Booklet, Hoquiam, Washington, Grays Harbor ... Gateway to the World
3. Oral narration from Jim Parsons, Robert Lytle's chauffeur between 1908 - 1911.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

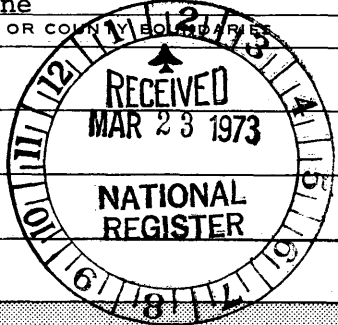
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		46° 59' 01"	123° 53' 15"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

10/432490
5203610
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Robert Edmond Watson

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: 12/21/72

STREET AND NUMBER: 515 Chenault Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Hoquiam STATE: Washington CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Charles H. Odegard
Charles H. Odegard

Title Director - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date March 19, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

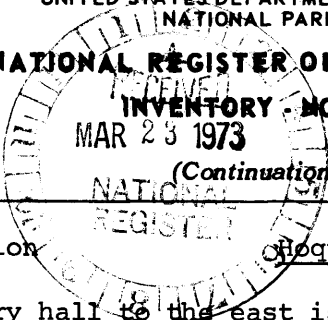
Date 4.3.73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MAR 23 1973

(Continuation Sheet)



STATE	Washington	
COUNTY	Grays Harbor	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 11 1973

(Number all entries)

#7 Description Hoquiam's Castle

Off the entry hall to the east is the music room. This room has large 9 foot by 5 foot sliding oak paneled doors that allow it to be closed off. This room features a fireplace similar to the one in the living room, only the tile is green. A hand blown Venetian glass chandelier is featured.

Ahead and off to the right, large sliding doors such as those of the music room open into the main dining room. This room is 20 x 25 feet. It has oak paneled wainscoting up about 4 feet that caps out with a plate rail. This room has a 6 foot wide brass chandelier. It has an 8 foot oak door into a service room that has an outside service door. Another 8 foot oak door leads to the butler's pantry.

Straight ahead but to the left from the main entry hall area are two steps that lead to a small landing: To the right is the start of the main stairway leading to the second floor. To the left through a small 6 foot door is the servants area with a small bathroom equipped with a four foot bath tub, and a toilet. This landing also has access to the kitchen. From the kitchen are doors to the butler's pantry and also the outside. A servants stairway originally led from the kitchen to sleeping quarters on the second floor but these have been removed to gain more room in the kitchen. The kitchen still has the zink counter tops.

The main stairway reaches a landing that has two beautiful Tiffany type stained glass windows about 8 x 8 feet. At the base of these is a large sitting area. From here the stairs reverse direction and lead to the second floor hall. From this central hall a door opens into a large family bath with original 1900 fixtures, also a stained glass window. Three bedrooms are reached from this hall. The easterly front bedroom is large and has a bay window area with curved glass. The westerly master bedroom has the tower circular area with curved glass windows. This room also has an unrestored master bathroom. This room affords entry to the front balcony. All the wood work on the second floor is cedar finished in a natural tone. All floors are straight grained fir. In an easterly direction off the second floor hall is a doorway that opens to a stairway landing that was where the servant stairway came up from the kitchen. From here there is a door that opens into a servants bedroom. Also from this room a stairway leads up to the third floor ballroom. This room is 20 x 60 feet complete with a band stand at one end. To the west are two servants rooms and a doorway that leads to the observation tower (10 feet circular) or cupola. This affords a view to the Pacific Ocean.

To the east off the ballroom is the large game room or bar. This room has two small storage rooms and a small bay window that has been extended up from the bay of the second floor bedroom.

Access is gained to the fourth floor from this room. The entire house has large and spacious windows that afford good natural lighting.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Grays Harbor	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973

(Number all entries)

8 Significance

Hoquiam's Castle

#2

crystal and has no distortion; glass in upper sections were prismatically ground and leaded.

First floor woodwork is golden oak, as is the fireplace in the main salon. Quarter cut oak columns support the upper mantle. Fireplace tile is yellow Venetian tile; the mirror above is beveled-plate glass with the old silver backing process used. The entire room (measuring 34 feet diagonally across) has a picture rail.

Large sliding oak panel doors close off some of the rooms. Oak panel wainscoting is used in the 20 x 25 foot dining room which also has a plate rail. Also on the first floor is a music room, butler's pantry, and service room, small bath, and kitchen with zinc counter tops. A servant's stairway leads from the kitchen to the second floor but has been removed.

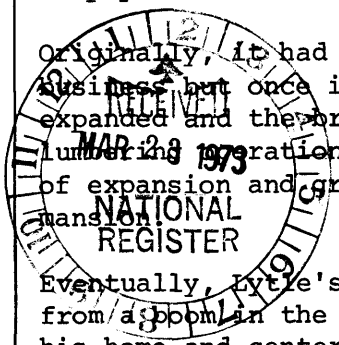
At a landing of the main stairway are two tiffany-type stained-glass windows measuring approximately 8 x 8 feet. Three large bedrooms and a large bath are located on the second floor. All woodwork on this floor is natural-finished cedar; floors are straight-grained fir. Some of the servant's quarters were also on this floor.

The third-floor ballroom was complete with a 20 x 60 feet bandstand on one end. Two servants' rooms and a circular 10 foot observation tower were also on this floor. Off of the ballroom was a game room or bar and two small storage rooms.

Hoquiam's Castle was built in 1897 by Robert F. Lytle, one of the foremost lumbermen in not only the Hoquiam area, but on the Pacific Coast, as well. Born at Ogdensburg, New York, on September 14, 1854, Lytle grew up in the Midwest and moved to Fairhaven, Washington, in 1889. At Fairhaven, Lytle went into the grocery business with his brother; and after a year, the business was moved to Hoquiam. A few years later, the brothers accidentally got into the lumbering industry when they accepted a small logging operation as payment for a debt.

Originally, it had not been Robert Lytle's desire to enter the logging business, but once involved, he proceeded with untiring dedication. The mill expanded and the brothers bought timber until they owned one of the largest lumbering operations in the Gray's Harbor area. It was during this period of expansion and growth in the middle 1890's that Lytle built his Hoquiam mansion.

Eventually, Lytle's Hoquiam Lumber and Shingle Company particularly benefited from a boom in the lumber industry preceding 1907. In 1911, Lytle shifted his home and center of activities to Portland, but he still spent much time in Hoquiam. In 1913, Lytle offered free factory sites on land he owned on the East Hoquiam River in an effort to promote the economic growth of the city. Two years later, Lytle formed the Panama-Eastern Lumber Company and



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE <u>Washington</u>	
COUNTY <u>Grays Harbor</u>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <u>APR 11 1973</u>	DATE

(Number all entries)

#8 Significance

Hoquiam's Castle

#3

erected another large sawmill on the East Hoquiam River. Lytle was also largely instrumental in organizing another Hoquiam-based Company called the Woodlawn Mill & Boom Company.

On May 20, 1916, Lytle passed away. It is interesting to note that one of Lytle's greatest pleasures was to provide luxury for his family and Hoquiam's Castle serves as an excellent example of this.

