United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Lloyd-Howe House

and/or common (has been known variously as) "Anchors Aweigh", Clarendon Gardens and Howe House

2. Location

East side of Quail Run, .3 mile Southeast of Linden Rd.

(SR 1115), 1.6 miles west of its junction with NC 5. ___ not for publication

city, town Pinehurst ___x__ vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Moore code 125

3. Classification

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4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Stephens, Jr.

city, town Greensboro ___ vicinity of state North Carolina 27408

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Moore County Courthouse, Registry of Deeds

city, town Carthage state North Carolina

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? ___x__ yes ___ no
date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local
depository for survey records

city, town state
The Lloyd-Howe House is situated at the northwest end of a 6-acre parcel of land composed of the house tract and three undeveloped tracts along the east and southeast sides of the residential lot. Most of the 6-acre parcel is wooded, sloping downward away from the house to the southeast and Clarendon Gardens.* The house is approached via a sandy, unpaved drive flanked by tall pine trees and covered with pine needles. The driveway forks opposite a one-story, gable-rooted two-car garage, and another shed for three cars just to the east, near the northwest corner of the tract; one branch veers to the southeast, ending near the service wing at the northwest end of the house; the other branch winds around to the southwest side of the house to terminate in a circular drive near the terrace. The yard is carefully landscaped with a lush lawn and banks of shrubbery, primarily azalea and rhododendron, against much of the house's brick foundation and the undulating periphery of the lawn. Several tall pine trees accent the front and back lawns, beyond which stretch pine woodlands. A stockade fence encloses the yard around three sides of the service wing to the northwest.

The Lloyd-Howe House is a large structure in an unembellished design that has been described as a variation of the New England Cape Cod and an oversized early American cabin. Its rambling and somewhat irregular configuration is composed of a central one-and-one-half-story block with one-story wings extending from its northwest and southeast ends. The one-and-one-half-story core is a single, self-contained gable-roofed unit with a large shed dormer on each of its long sides. In contrast, the one-story wings consist of multiple gable-roofed units. In the larger, southeast wing on a northeast-southwest axis, perpendicular to the one-and-one-half-story unit, these multiple units create a cross-gable roofline; the smaller service wing to the northwest continues the northwest-southeast axis of the central block. Several chimneys and two flues punctuate the rooflines. Most of these are exterior, including the wide shaft on the northeast side of the middle section. An interesting "H" formation rising from the southeast wing results from the joining of two short interior parallel stacks with a perpendicular parapet.

The house contains 5,778 square feet of heated space divided into sixteen rooms, five-and-one-half baths, and other utility spaces. The tripartite configuration of the house resulted from the separation of the communal, private and service areas rather than from a concern with formal arrangements. A spacious (18½' x 28½') living room and a dining room (16' x 18½') take up the first story of the middle section, each room running its full width. This communal area is expanded outside with a large terrace on the northeast and southwest sides. Stairs lead from the living room to the second story where there are two bedrooms and a bath. In the northeast wing, there are eight bedrooms, several of them interconnecting, and two-and-one-half baths off of a long hall; seven of the bedrooms have fireplaces, and some have outside doors. The other wing contains the kitchen and pantry, utility rooms, two other bedrooms intended for servants, and two baths. A partial basement under this wing serves as a laundry room. A furnace room and utility room occupy another basement beneath the dining room and kitchen.

*See sketch map attached.
The rustic beauty of the Lloyd-Howe House resides as much in its fine materials as in its careful, naturalistic placement in the landscape. The exterior is sheathed in stained Georgia cypress weatherboards and cypress split shake shingles cover the roof. Local bluish-brown Carthage stone was used for all of the chimneys, flues and the two terraces. The drainage system includes copper gutters, and drains covered with French metal grilles are recessed in the terraces at their juncture with the exterior walls of the house. Wide cypress tongue-and-groove boards, placed vertically, cover the living and dining room walls, as well as all of the walls containing fireplaces in the bedroom wing. The remaining walls are sheetrocked. All of the fireplace surrounds are hand-made brick, and all of the mantle shelves and the treads of the stairs leading to the second floor are single heavy timbers. Eight-inch by twelve-inch hand-hewn cypress beams are exposed in the living room and dining room; between these beams, the ceilings are board and batten. Some of the lumber, including the ceiling beams, was salvaged from dismantled houses, and all of the fireplace bricks were taken from early Charleston, South Carolina, houses. Oak plank flooring, pegged and veneered, appears in the living room and dining room. The windows are multi-paned casements, frequently in bands of three and four. All of the doors are solid panel cypress covered with tongue-and-groove boards. The exterior doors are the two-part "Dutch" type. Interior and exterior doors all have wrought-iron hardware, including strap hinges.
8. Significance

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Specific dates  1929  Builder/Architect  Stiles S. Dixon, architect  Reinecke & Dixon, contractors

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lloyd-Howe House is significant for its design and construction as well as for its role as a vital element of the Pinehurst "scene" for more than fifty years. The house reflects the resort life at its best in its combination of informal, "rustic" styling with the best materials and soundest construction methods. It was built for John Bross Lloyd in 1929, during Pinehurst's heyday as a luxurious golfing and equestrian center, when most of the community's estates were formal period revival style houses with no particular relation to their locale. The contracting firm of Reinecke & Dixon, known for their residential projects throughout the South Atlantic states, built the house according to a design by the established architect, Stiles S. Dixon, also of Fayetteville. Historically, the house is important for its second owner, Francis W. Howe, whose horticultural avocation blossomed into a full-time business with his development of Clarendon Gardens and Nursery on the residence grounds and additional tracts that he acquired in 1945. The character of the lush landscaping around the Lloyd-Howe House is identical to that of the adjoining park, one of the great gardens of North Carolina and Pinehurst's major scenic attraction. Here, hundreds of varieties of azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias, hollies, and scores of other plants follow the natural contours of thirty acres.

Criteria Assessment

A. The Lloyd-Howe House is closely associated, through its landscaping and former ownership, with Clarendon Gardens, the major scenic attraction of Pinehurst, N.C. that formerly was part of a large tract that also included the house.

B. The second owners of the Lloyd-Howe House were Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Howe. From this house, Mr. Howe planned the nearby thirty-acre Clarendon Gardens, known for their azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias and hollies.

C. The Lloyd-Howe House is a notable example of resort architecture, combining fine materials and sound construction with informal, vernacular styling reminiscent of a rustic lodge.
The Sandhills resort of Pinehurst has long been known to golf and hunt enthusiasts for its excellent golf courses and riding facilities and luxurious surroundings. The town began to develop shortly after the healthy climate of the region attracted philanthropist James W. Tufts of Boston to explore the area. Upon purchasing approximately 5,000 acres of land here in 1895, he enclosed it with a fence and began to plan a resort village affordable to working people in search of rest and recuperation. Soon, the New England-style village with curving drives and lush plantings of flowering shrubs designed by Frederick Law Olmsted was open. With a hotel at its center, numerous modest yet stylish Victorian cottages, a street system, electricity, and telephone lines, Pinehurst was one of the nation's first successful planned communities.

As Pinehurst was receiving its first visitors, golf was becoming popular in the United States, and in 1900 Tufts hired J. Donald Ross, who was to become one of the greatest golf architects of all time. Over the next few decades, golf supplanted croquet as the game in Pinehurst as Ross designed four of the five golf courses that have contributed to the fame of the resort. With the concurrent influx of affluent vacationers who also pursued tennis and riding, the course of Pinehurst's development turned away from Tufts' original vision to a cosmopolitan haven for many of the nation's business and civic leaders. The quiet village atmosphere, however, prevails, with dense foliage sheltering scores of large, carefully appointed and conservatively designed houses suitable for year-round occupation. It is in this context that the significance of the Lloyd-Howe House may be understood.

The Lloyd-Howe House dates to 1929 when Mr. and Mrs. John Bross Lloyd commissioned Fayetteville contractors Reinecke and Dixon to construct a year-round vacation house just outside of Pinehurst according to the plans of architect Stiles S. Dixon, also of Fayetteville. The general public's ignorance of the warning signs of an economy about to fail was clearly manifested in Pinehurst. A photograph spread in a November, 1929, issue of the Pinehurst Outlook presents seven large new homes completed in and around Pinehurst that year. With the exception of the Lloyds' house, all of these structures are very formal and "correct" renditions of the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles -- houses which might be encountered in fashionable neighborhoods across the country and not particularly in resorts. Having selected a 42.5-acre wooded site just beyond the western limits of Pinehurst, the Lloyds were the only new builders of note to choose an informal design for their house.

John Bross Lloyd was the grandson of William Bross, a founder of the Chicago Tribune, and the son of nationally known attorney and journalist Henry Demarest Lloyd, who had been a very outspoken champion of labor in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Evidence suggests that the John Bross Lloyds maintained homes in Chicago and Kinderhook, New York, in addition to their new Pinehurst lodge which, for reasons unknown, they named "Anchors Aweigh." The house's relaxed and astylistic treatment evocative of a rustic cabin was appropriate to the Lloyds' leisure activities that centered on their absorption with horses. The Lloyds loved the outdoors, horseback riding and hunting in particular, and they are reported to have selected their large house tract for its accommodation of ample riding trails. With the construction of several ancillary buildings, including garages, stables, a barn and two tenant houses, "Anchors Aweigh" truly was an estate.
The high quality of the Lloyd-Howe House is suggested by its architect and contractors. By the late 1920s, Stiles S. Dixon had firmly established himself as one of the foremost architects in North Carolina. In the same year the Lloyds took occupancy of their house, three other houses, designed by Dixon in elaborate period revival styles, also were completed in Pinehurst. As was the case of the Lloyd-Howe House, Dixon's designs often were translated into structures by the contracting firm of which his brother, Frederick S. Dixon, was a managing partner. In the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s, Reinecke and Dixon built dozens of spacious, well appointed houses throughout the Carolinas, Georgia and Virginia, and many in Pinehurst in particular. One of the firm's best known construction projects was the Percy Rockefeller House on the 10,000-acre estate in the Spring Lake, North Carolina, area. The architect and the contracting firm both were known for incorporating the best materials in their buildings, as demonstrated in the Lloyd-Howe House.

Not too long after the Lloyds placed their house on the market in 1945, it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Howe of Buffalo, New York. Howe, born in 1906, worked for the Hubbs and Howe Company, a paper manufacturing and distribution business founded by his father, whom he succeeded as president. Coincidentally, he had first visited Pinehurst in the same year the Lloyds' house was completed. During that visit he met the cousin of a former schoolmate, Mary James of Hamlet, North Carolina, whom he married six years later. Although Howe and his wife had been looking for a southern retreat for vacations and eventual retirement, the announcement in the Pinehurst Outlook of the sale of the Lloyds' house states that Howe planned to use it as a club for officials of his company.

Whatever plans the Howes may have had for their Pinehurst estate, it is certain that Francis Howe intended from the beginning to use it for the satisfaction of his abiding interest in horticulture. Immediately upon buying the house, he and his wife purchased adjoining parcels of land until their holdings totaled approximately 167 acres, much of it swamps and woods. When they bought the house, the Howes formed the Carolina Clarendon Corporation for management of the estate. In 1946, Howe began to develop thirty acres southeast of the house as Clarendon Gardens with the assistance of Robert Sturtevant, a Nashville, Tennessee, landscape architect, and gardeners Lanie Garner and Dan Morrison. He named his corporation and gardens in honor of Lord Clarendon, one of the eight Colonial Lord Proprietors of Carolina.

The gardens were planned to look natural. Although a certain degree of formality is evident in some of the planting arrangements, the gardens follow the natural contour of the land. They covered the land sloping away from the house, from which they were separated by perhaps one hundred yards of easily traversed woods. At their center, a five-acre spring-fed lake was created, and all along the surrounding paths groves of flora and fauna were cultivated. The yard around the house, which was bare except for pine trees and dogwood when the Howes purchased it, was landscaped in a similar fashion as well, creating a visual relationship between the house and gardens. Soon a nursery northeast of the house was begun to support the gardens, and plant material from all over the world was added continually to both. Although Howe directed the development of
Clarendon Gardens from the beginning, the first several years he spent only about a total of six weeks each year there. Much of the responsibility of the gardens rested with his gardeners. As the gardens were expanded, landscape architects were called in to work with Howe in planning the new areas. They included Stuart Orloff of New York, the firm of Innocenti and Weble of New York (who designed the Elizabethan Gardens at Manteo, North Carolina), Ernest Morell who was trained at Kew Gardens, England, and North Carolinian Peter Dowd.

Gradually, Howe's hobby became a new business for him, and in 1958 he left Hubbs and Howe in Buffalo to devote his full attention to the gardens and nursery. By the early 1960s, the gardens were at their peak of development. Promoted as a tourist spot, they were among the major attractions of Pinehurst, drawing thousands of visitors each year. The highlights of the four-season gardens were the more than one hundred varieties of azalea, more than seventy-five types of rhododendron, and about two hundred varieties of camellias. The holly grove at the south end of the lake contained three hundred varieties of the plant and for many years was recognized by the American Holly Society as one of the world's best collections. In swampy ground at the north end of the lake, a Japanese garden with statues and wooden foot bridges was installed. The nursery, occupying two tracts totalling twenty-five acres, was selling more than 300,000 plants each year at retail outlets at the gardens and in Fayetteville, and through Sears, Roebuck & Co. and Rose's chains. It was from this nursery that the great majority of the now mature cultivated greenery throughout a seventy-five-mile radius of Pinehurst was purchased.

In 1961, Clarendon Gardens further developed its nursery operation with the establishment of a landscaping department, headed by Earl C. Miller, a landscape architect from Rochester, New York. Miller and Howe, who retained responsibility for collecting the great variety of plants at the nursery, worked together on all planting designs. According to horticulturist Peter Dowd, Howe "in 15 years accomplished over 30 years work, by any other nursery."

One of Howe's original intentions for Clarendon Gardens had been to promote the cause of horticulture. Concerned that there was no "learning laboratory" in the area for students to acquire horticultural skills, he organized the Clarendon Horticultural Institute with the assistance of a $75,000 grant from the Hanes and Babcock foundations. Later, with Dr. Raymond Stone, he helped establish a horticulture department at the newly formed Sandhills Community College, which used Clarendon Gardens as a workshop.

In the mid-1960s, Howe decided to withdraw from the nursery business. Initially, he and his family attempted to sell the entire 166.82-acre estate through Sotheby Parke Bernet International Realty Corporation. According to a promotional brochure, the property consisted of thirty acres of gardens; a twenty-five-acre nursery with approximately $200,000 of salable young stock; ten acres of residence grounds with the main house, two tenant houses, and stables converted to an office and storage space; and the rest in woodlands. The sale price was $350,000. When no buyers materialized, the Howes reserved the gardens and residence parcels, auctioned off the nursery stock plot by plot, and subdivided much of the nursery tracts and the wooded areas into about fifty residential building lots that they
sold individually. The two tenant houses and stables property were separated from the estate and sold; the stables subsequently were converted to a residence.23

When Mr. and Mrs. Howe moved to the Country Club of North Carolina, at Pinehurst, in 1977, they sold the house, gardens and remaining acreage to Diamond Head Corporation, which had purchased the town of Pinehurst from the Tufts family.24 The Lloyd-Howe House remained empty for several years, during which time it deteriorated due to lack of care. Pinehurst, Inc., the successor to Diamond Head Corporation, sold the house to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Stephens, Jr., in March 1983. The new owners also purchased three adjacent undeveloped lots east and southeast of the house for a total of 6 acres. In pursuance of their desire to preserve the house for future generations, the Stephens are restoring the house and tending to the long neglected surrounding landscaping.

NOTES

1 "Looking Down," The Pinehurst Outlook, 1 March 1930, p. 9.
4 "New Homes Add to the Beauty of Pinehurst," The Pinehurst Outlook, 9 November 1929.
7 Telephone interview with Frederick S. Dixon of Myrtle Beach, S.C., by Louis C. Stephens, Jr., 23 March 1983.
8 "New Homes Add to the Beauty of Pinehurst."
9 Frederick S. Dixon.
12 The Pinehurst Outlook, 9 March 1945.
13 Interview with Dan Morrison by Claudia P. Roberts in Pinehurst, N.C., 13 May 1983.
15 Dan Morrison.
17 Lewis.
18 Ibid.
20 "Clarendon Gardens Has New Dept."
21 Lewis.
23 Dan Morrison.
24 Ibid.
"F. W. Howe Dies Today at Age 74." Fayetteville Observer. 3 September 1980.


"Looking Down." The Pinehurst Outlook. 1 March 1930.


"New Homes Add to the Beauty of Pinehurst." The Pinehurst Outlook. 9 November 1929.

The Pinehurst Outlook. 9 March 1945. (Photograph clipped from unnumbered page.)

9. Major Bibliographical References


Dixon, Frederick S. Telephone interview conducted by Louis C. Stephens, Jr., 23 March 1983.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 6

Quadrangle name Southern Pines, N.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia P. Roberts, Consultant

organization

date May 31, 1983

street & number 301 E. Poplar Ave.
telephone 919/968-1181

city or town Carrboro

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

For NPS use only

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

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration
Sketch map of the House 166.52 a. prepared when the property was placed on the market in the late 1960s.