

Sites of Special Interest (cont.)

- 20 Museum of the North Beach** preserves the historic past of the North Beach of Grays Harbor, from Ocean Shores to Taholah and east to Copalis Crossing. Includes Quinault Native American baskets and colorful exhibits from colorful places and faces of the North Beach. (360) 276-4441 www.moclips.org Summer: Open Thu.-Mon., Winter: Sat. - Sun.
- 21 Coastal Interpretive Center** Learn about local Native American tribes, sailors, fur traders, and other pioneers who made significant contributions to the region. Also provides exhibits that feature the native plant and animal life. www.interpretivecenter.com (360) 289-4617 Open April - Sept. Daily. Off season, open weekends.



South Beach - Westport - Grayland - Tokeland

Many interesting communities form this coastal area. The first residents were the Chehalis and Chinook Indians. The South Beach provides an abundance of historic experiences, from charming fishing villages to 150 year old cranberry bogs. Local museums offer the details of these as well as of Fort Chehalis & the historic whaling fleet. westportwa.com

- 22 South Jetty** in Westport was built in 1890 to channel the tide so that it would scour out a shipping channel into Grays Harbor, the jetty has since been rebuilt several times. The jetty can be observed from the **Observation Tower** at the north end of Westhaven Drive.
- 23 Westport Maritime Museum**, built in 1939 as a Coast Guard Lifeboat Station. Exhibits include a 30 ft Coast Guard surf rescue boat, cranberry growing, life on the edge of the ocean, timber industry, fishing and shellfish industry, whales and whaling. Grays Harbor Light Station and the six-ton, 18 foot high, 100-year-old lens from Destruction Island Light. 2201 Westhaven Drive, Westport www.westportmaritimemuseum.com (360) 268-0078 Closed Tuesday, Wednesday. Modest admission.
- 24 Grays Harbor Lighthouse** was built in 1898. Grays Harbor Light is still an active aid to navigation. Tours are available through the Westport Maritime Museum. It is located on the north side of Ocean Ave., just south of the Ocean and Surf Street intersection. (360) 268-0078 www.westportmaritimemuseum.com Summers: Thurs. - Mon. Spring & Fall, Fri.-Sun. Closed in Dec. and Jan.



East County - McCleary - Elma - Montesano

- 25 McCleary** is a mill town founded in 1897 by Henry McCleary. In 1941 he sold the whole town to the Simpson Timber Company. See the **Old McCleary Hotel**, built in 1912 and now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, exhibits at Beerbower Park, and historical murals painted on buildings around town. McCleary is known for its **Bear Festival** held in the 2nd week of July. www.cityofmccleary.com
- 26 McCleary Museum at Carnell House** exhibits McCleary's early days as a company-owned mill town. Also see logging, World War I, vintage items, & a "moonshine" exhibit with an authentic working copper still. 314 Second St. (360) 495-3450 Free admission. Open Seasonally.
- 27 Oakville** is a frontier-style logging village. It is dubbed the "antique city" and is the site of the last bank in Washington robbed by horseback. This event is reenacted each year during **Oakville's Old Fashioned 4th of July** celebration and rodeo. For more info contact the City of Oakville. www.oakvillecityhall.com
- 28 Elma**, located on the upland overlooking the fertile, scenic Chehalis River Valley, welcomes visitors to its downtown with 22 historic murals. A long time agricultural trading center, Elma has been the home of the Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds for nearly 70 years. The fairgrounds hosts year-round events. Call for a free events calendar. (360) 482-2651 or check ghcfairgrounds.com, cityofelma.com, elmachamber.org
- 29 Satsop Business Park** The twin cooling towers that rise above this now successful industrial park are remnants of the Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS - pronounced WHOOPS!) unfinished nuclear power plant. Mismanagement, inflation, and design changes all contributed to the demise of the project and caused the largest municipal bond default in U.S. history. Construction halted in 1982. satsop.com
- 30 Montesano**, incorporated in 1883 is one of the oldest settlements in Grays Harbor County and is the county seat as well. Home to the Clemons Tree Farm, the nation's first certified tree farm, farming and logging are at the core of its history. Montesano is also known for many Victorian-style homes. Montesano Chamber of Commerce (360) 249-5522 montesanochamber.org
- 31 Grays Harbor County Courthouse**, completed in 1911 dominates the Montesano skyline. It was built of sandstone with a stately clock tower, and a roof of solid copper plating. Many murals grace the interior of the walls and the dome, depicting scenes from historic events in Grays Harbor County. The courthouse was recently restored to its original grandeur following a 5.9 earthquake in 1999 that damaged the structure. www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us Free admission. Open weekdays.
- 32 Chehalis Valley Historical Museum**, built in 1906 as a church, features antique logging and farming equipment, and a vast collection of scrapbooks chronicling area history, including legendary accounts of the "Wild Man of the Satsop," John Tornow. 703 West Pioneer Ave., Montesano (360) 249-5800 Open weekends or by appt. Free admission.



Grays Harbor County

Discover the History & Legends



When European explorers first landed on the Olympic Peninsula in the 1770's, they encountered native inhabitants who had lived on the Pacific Coast for at least ten thousand years. The abundance of resources made them among the wealthiest tribes north of Mexico.

Photo by Larry Workman

In 1788 American fur trading Captains Robert Gray and John Kendrick opened the "China Trade" between the colonies, the Pacific Northwest and the Orient. In 1792, Robert Gray returned to the Pacific Northwest & charted the harbor which now bears his name.

Farming, fishing & fur trade drew the first settlers into the area. By 1854, Chehalis County was formed (now Grays Harbor) with Montesano as the county seat.



Photo by Coastal Images/Ron Aril

The Quinaults ceded much of the western half of the Olympic Peninsula to the U.S. Government by treaty in 1855. In exchange, they maintained a reservation to live on, received education, medical care, & the right to fish in their traditional areas. Lumbering began to replace farming & fishing as the economic base in 1880, when the first lumber was shipped from a mill in Cosmopolis. Grays Harbor also became a famous seaport & shipbuilding center. Plywood plants, furniture factories, & paper mills followed.



Photo from Polson Museum Collection

Much has changed, but many traces remain. We invite you to ... Discover the History & Legends of Grays Harbor County.



Sites of Special Interest

Port Cities - Aberdeen - Hoquiam - Cosmopolis

These cities were established in the 1880's and form the commercial center of Grays Harbor County with much of the retail & industrial base.

1 Aberdeen began to prosper by the 1890's. Ships lined the docks taking lumber to ports around the world. Mills were in full production, the railroad came to town, and the streets were filled with sawdust. The town was made up of crib houses, brothels, honky-tonks, saloons, gambling halls, dance halls, boarding houses and hotels. Aberdeen had the reputation of being the toughest town west of Chicago. In 1903, a disastrous fire destroyed thirteen blocks of the downtown, but the wild and woolly city recovered. There was a major boom in 1927 when \$3 million was put into construction and the city shined with gorgeous new architecture. Pick up a copy of "Walking Tour of Broadway Hill," a self-guided brochure (nominal fee), at Greater Grays Harbor Inc. 506 Duffy St., Aberdeen or call 1-800-321-1924 www.graysharbor.org

2 Aberdeen Museum of History exhibits artifacts and slide shows of the early Grays Harbor logging industry and the founding of Aberdeen. Walk back into the history of Grays Harbor with exhibits including a school, church, ship, blacksmith shop, antique fire equipment, and a theatre. Nominal admission. 111 East Third St., Aberdeen (360) 533-1976 www.aberdeen-museum.org Open Tues. - Sun. Closed Mon.

3 Aberdeen Mansion was built in 1905 by lumber baron Edward Hulbert. It has maintained its Victorian character and is wonderfully decorated with period furnishings & antiques. 807 North M St. Not open for tours at present time.

4 Tall Ships Lady Washington & the Hawaiian Chieftain Homeport: Aberdeen, WA (in town seasonally). Lady Washington is a full-scale reproduction of the ship that in 1788 became the first American vessel to visit the West Coast, and pioneered trade with the Orient. Our Lady Washington sails year round on the West Coast. Three hour sails, dockside tours, and educational programs provide hands-on maritime heritage programs to schools and the public. Lady Washington has also appeared in films including "Pirates of the Caribbean," "Star Trek - Generations," and more. Hawaiian Chieftain is a representation of the trading vessels common in the Hawaiian Islands during the late 1700's and early 1800's. Check the schedule to see if either ship is in port in Aberdeen or Westport. 1-800-200-LADY or www.historicalseaport.org

5 Seaport Learning Center is the Grays Harbor Historical Seaport's facility located in south Aberdeen. This hands-on education facility includes wood shops, ropes courses and the largest mast-making lathe in North America. The Spar Shop builds custom spars for sailing ships and Hollywood movie sets. Visitors welcome by appointment. (360) 532-8611 www.historicalseaport.org

6 Hoquiam, meaning hungry for wood, was the name the Indians gave the river running into the natural harbor now called Grays Harbor. Originally the site of an Indian village, white settlers were drawn to the area abundant with game, shellfish, and giant trees. The settlers kept the Indian name and founded Hoquiam in 1890. www.cityofhoquiam.com



7 Hoquiam River Waterfront, once home to several lumber and shingle mills, is a scenic stretch of waterway that still reveals remnants of Hoquiam's lumbering boom days. A walkway along the Riverside dike extends from the Farmers Market to the Riverside bridge and offers ten 'Historic Hoquiam Riverfront' interpretive signs along the path. On the west side, Levee St. features the 8th St. Landing dock, park, Rayonier Pt., and on to the Simpson Ave. bridge.

8 Olympic Stadium was built in 1938 as a Works Progress Administration project. Hoquiam's landmark stadium is the largest all-wood stadium still standing in the entire nation and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also home to one of the oldest surviving events celebrating Grays Harbor's logging heritage - **Hoquiam's Loggers Playday**. On a Saturday in September, the area's logging heritage comes alive with a pancake breakfast, parade, salmon barbecue and logging show at Olympic Stadium, 101 28th St. (360) 532-9313

9 Polson Museum was built in 1924 for Arnold Polson of the pioneering timber family. This 6,500 square foot mansion is a National Historic Site and features local history exhibits in 17 of its 26 rooms. Through its extensive artifact, archival, and photographic collection, the Polson reveals Grays Harbor's colorful past with exhibits on local Indians, logging, lumbering, shipping, sports, period clothing and furnishings. On nearly two acres of parkland along the banks of the Hoquiam River, the Polson displays include gardens and the new Railroad Camp highlighting historic logging operations. 1611 Riverside Ave. Hoquiam (360) 533-5862 www.polsonmuseum.org Open Wednesday - Sunday Closed Monday, Tuesday & major holidays. Small admission.

10 Seventh Street Theatre is one of only a handful of America's surviving "atmospheric" theatres. The lavish 1100 seat theatre hosts a variety of musical, theatrical, and other events each year - just as it did when it opened in 1928. The interior is designed to evoke a Mediterranean village, with red-tile roofs, arched windows, walls, parapets and cypress trees lining the hall. Above is a sky-blue ceiling with tiny white lights that mimic stars in the dark "sky" of the theatre. The 7th Street Theatre is a registered National Historic Site, 313 7th Street, Hoquiam (360) 537-7400 www.7thstreettheatre.com



Photo from Polson Museum Collection

11 Hoquiam's Castle This 20-room mansion built in 1901 by lumber baron Robert Lytle has been declared a state and national historic site. It has been a B & B over the years. Check their web-site for current status. 515 Chenault Ave., Hoquiam www.hoquiamcastle.com



Photo by Marc Stirling

Next door is the **Lytle House**, built in 1900 for Joseph Lytle (Robert's brother). It is a private residence. 509 Chenault Ave., Hoquiam

12 Hoquiam Library Built in 1911 in the Prairie Style, this Carnegie library is on the National Register of Historic Places; was remodeled & expanded in 1990. 420 7th Street, Hoquiam (360) 532-1710

13 Cosmopolis meaning "city of the world," is located on the south bank of the Chehalis River adjacent to Aberdeen. The first lumber shipped from Grays Harbor was a cargo cut in the Cosmopolis mill in the spring of 1881. By 1900, Grays Harbor Commercial Co. at Cosmopolis was producing more lumber than any other sawmill on Grays Harbor. A mural on the Cosmopolis water tower depicts the 1855 conference in Cosmopolis called by the first Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens to negotiate the treaty with the native tribes of the area. www.cosmopoliswa.gov

Photo from Polson Museum Collection



14 Cooney Mansion Bed & Breakfast Founder of the Grays Harbor Commercial Co., Neil Cooney, built this 10,000 sq. ft. home on the hill overlooking his mill in 1908. It has lovely original woodwork & is on the National Historic Register. 1705 Fifth St., Cosmopolis (360) 533-0602

The Quinault Rain Forest - Lake Quinault

The pioneers arrived in this area in the late 1880's. Many of their descendants still live in this sparsely populated community. According to an Indian legend, a monster lives in Lake Quinault that is so big, it can swallow a canoe with one gulp. www.quinaulttrainforest.com

15 Lake Quinault Lodge built in 1926, hosted Franklin Roosevelt on a trip that proved instrumental in the formation of Olympic National Park. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this retreat retains its historic charm. The Lodge has panoramic lake views and is in the heart of the rain forest. 1-800-562-6672 www.visitlakequinault.com

16 Lake Quinault Historical Society and Museum is housed in the "Old Quinault Post Office." Two Quinault 24 foot cedar dugout racing canoes are part of the collection as well as exhibits of Dell Mulkey and Dale Northup photographs documenting the area from 1920's - 1960's. www.lakequinaultmuseum.org 354 South Shore Rd. Quinault Memorial Day to Labor Day. Tues. - Sun. Winter Schedule varies.

17 Kestner Homestead Learn about homestead life on this 1.3 mile loop trail around the house, barns, and pastures of this homestead in the Quinault Rain Forest. The daily life of a pioneer family in the early 1900's comes alive. A pamphlet with journal entries and historic photos is available at the trailhead. (360) 288-2444 www.nps.gov/olym



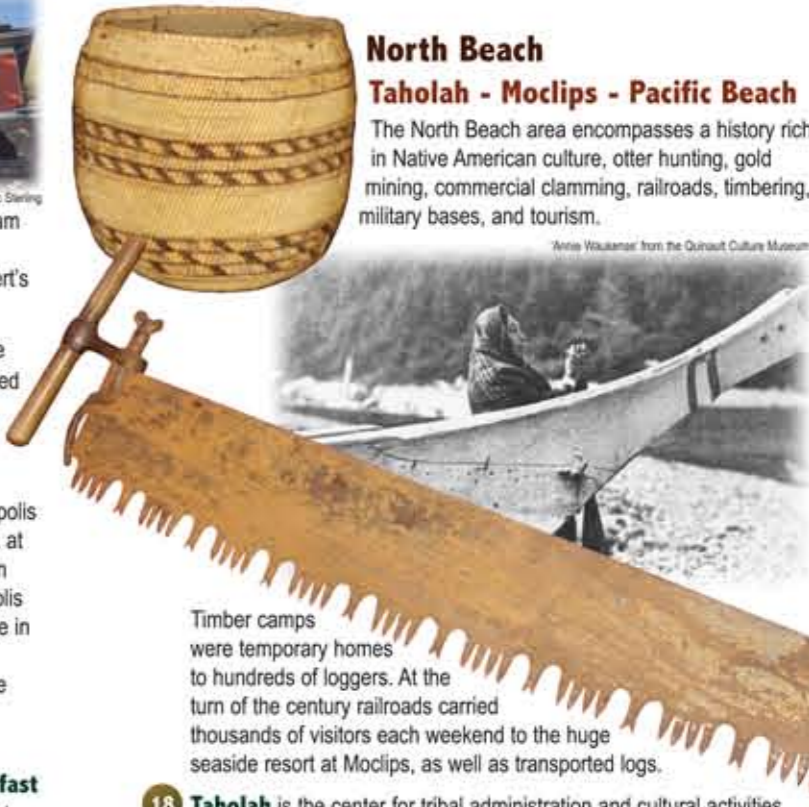
Photo by Coastal Images/Ron Aril

North Beach

Taholah - Moclips - Pacific Beach

The North Beach area encompasses a history rich in Native American culture, otter hunting, gold mining, commercial clamming, railroads, timbering, military bases, and tourism.

Annie Waukanar from the Quinault Culture Museum



Timber camps were temporary homes to hundreds of loggers. At the turn of the century railroads carried thousands of visitors each weekend to the huge seaside resort at Moclips, as well as transported logs.

18 Taholah is the center for tribal administration and cultural activities for the Quinault Indian Nation. They are among the small number of Americans who can walk the same beaches, paddle the same waters, and hunt the same lands their ancestors did centuries ago. Historically, the Quinault lived in family groups in long houses along the river. They were sustained by the land and by trade. Superb salmon runs, abundant sea mammals, wildlife, and forests provided substantial material and spiritual wealth. The western red cedar provided logs for canoes, bark for clothing, split boards for houses, and more. Today, the Quinault Indian Nation remembers the past as they use new principles to manage the the forests and fisheries for the future. (360) 276-8211 www.quinaultindiannation.com/thingstodo.htm

19 Quinault Culture Museum includes exhibits of handwoven baskets, wood carving, stone tools, ceremonial items and a small gift shop promoting local artist work. Located at 807 5th Avenue Plaza, Suite #1 in Taholah. Call ahead (360) 276-8211 x245 Open Monday - Friday. www.quinaultindiannation.com/thingstodo.htm

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For additional information contact: **Grays Harbor Tourism**
1-800-621-9625 or **(360)482-2651** P.O. Box 1229, Elma, WA 98541
See our web-site for the latest up-to-date info. www.visitgraysharbor.com
e-mail: peterston@co.graysharbor.wa.us