## The City of Seattle

**Landmarks Preservation Board**

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649 Seattle WA 98124-4649  
Street Address: 700 5th Ave Suite 1700

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Year Built</th>
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<td>Assessor’s File No.</td>
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**Plat Name:** H.E. ORR PARK  
**Block:** 6  
**Lot:** 3 & 4, por. 2

Lot 3 & 4 and that portion of Lot 2, lying north of a line drawn from a point on the east line of Cordiss Ave; 123.25’ south of the northwest corner of Lot 2, to a point on the east line of Lot 2, to a point on the east line of Lot 2, which is 122.70’ south of the northeast corner thereof, all in Block 6, H.E. ORR PARK. Filed in Volume 17 of plats, at page 21. Records of King County, Washington.

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<td>Address:</td>
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<td>Original Owner:</td>
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<td>Original Use:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Architect:</td>
<td>Paul Thiry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Builder:</td>
<td>Carl G. Anderson</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Photographs

See attached pages

Submitted by:  Rebecca Asencio

Address:  Mail Stop 22-336, PO Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1165

Phone:  ___________________________  Date  __________

Reviewed:  ___________________________  Date  __________

                         Historic Preservation Officer
Northgate Elementary School

City of Seattle Landmark Nomination Report
11725 First Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98125
December 2019

Prepared by:
The Johnson Partnership
1212 NE 65th Street
Seattle, WA 98115-6724
206-523-1618, www.tjp.us
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report, December 2019

1. INTRODUCTION

This Landmark Nomination Report provides information regarding the architectural design and historical significance of Northgate Elementary School, a mid-century modern-style school building addressed at 11725 First Avenue NE, in the Northgate/Haller Lake neighborhood of North Seattle. The school was designed by architect Paul Thiry and completed in 1956. The building was not documented on the Seattle Historic Resources Survey. The Johnson Partnership prepared this report at the request of Seattle Public Schools.

1.1 Background

The City of Seattle’s Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI), through a 1995 agreement with the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) and pursuant to SEPA authority, requires a review of “potentially eligible landmarks” for commercial projects over 4,000 square feet in area. Pursuant to the authorization in the Building Excellence V Capital Levy (BEX V), Seattle Public Schools wishes to demolish the building and construct a new school. Northgate Elementary School was selected to be replaced to ensure educational and racial equity, safety, physical condition, capacity, and educational adequacy. As any proposed alterations or demolition of the subject building described within this report will require a permit from SDCI, the owner is providing the following report to the staff of the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board (LPB) to resolve the property’s status.

To be eligible for nomination as a City of Seattle Landmark, a building, object, or structure must be at least 25 years old, have significant character, interest, or value, the integrity or ability to convey its significance, and it must meet one or more of the following six criteria (SMC 25.12.350):

A. It is the location of or is associated in a significant way with an historic event with a significant effect upon the community, city, state, or nation.
B. It is associated in a significant way with the life of a person important in the history of the city, state, or nation.
C. It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, city, state, or nation.
D. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, period, or method of construction.
E. It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder.
F. Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrast of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable feature of its neighborhood or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or city.

1.2 Methodology

Ellen F. C. Mirro, AIA, Principal; Larry E. Johnson, AIA, Principal Emeritus; Katherine Jaeger, MFA; and Audrey N. Reda of The Johnson Partnership, 1212 NE 65th Street, Seattle, completed research on this report between March and August 2019. The report was revised in August 2019 per comments from Seattle Public Schools representatives. Research was undertaken at the Seattle Public Schools District Archives, Puget Sound Regional Archives, SDCI, Seattle Public Library, Museum of History and Industry, and the UW Special Collections Library. Research also included review of Internet resources, including HistoryLink.com, and the Seattle Times digital archive. Special thanks to Meaghan Kahlo, Seattle Public Schools archivist for assistance with research. Buildings and site were inspected and photographed on April 4, 2019 to document the existing conditions. The report was edited by Seattle Public Schools Capital Projects & Planning Department staff and their agents.
2. Property Data

**Historic Building Names:** Northgate School

**Current Building Name:** Northgate Elementary School

**Address:** 11725 First Avenue NE

**Location:** Northgate/Haller Lake

**Assessor's File Number:** 641160-0312

**Legal Description:**
Lots 3 & 4 and that portion of Lot 2, lying north of a line drawn from a point on the east line of Corliss Ave; 123.25' south of the northwest corner of Lot 2, to a point on the east line of Lot 2, to a point on the east line of Lot 2, which is 122.70' south of the northeast corner thereof, all in Block 6, H.E. ORR PARK. Filed in Volume 17 of plats, at page 21. Records of King County, Washington.

**Date of Construction:** 1956

**Original/Present Use:** School

**Original/Present Owner:** Seattle Public School District

**Original Designer:** Paul Thiry, architect, and Donald G. Radcliffe, PE engineer

**Original Builder:** Carl G. Anderson

**Zoning:** SF5000

**Property Size:** 216,057 sq. ft.

**Building Size:** 36,975 sq. ft.
3. Architectural Description

3.1 Location & Neighborhood Character

The subject building is located in the portion of the Northgate neighborhood identified by the Seattle City Clerk as Haller Lake. The greater Northgate area comprises four neighborhoods, centered around the intersection of Interstate 5 and Northgate Way: Haller Lake (located northwest of center), Pinehurst (northeast), Maple Leaf (southeast), and North College Park (southwest). Northgate Mall is located approximately three blocks south-southeast of the subject building. The subject building is located approximately two blocks south of Northacres Park, two blocks southeast of Haller Lake, two blocks east of Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, two blocks northeast of the eastern edge of Evergreen Washelli Cemetery, and approximately five blocks southwest of the southern edge of Thornton Creek Park and Jackson Park. Interstate 5 passes less than a half-block from the school. **lq’ad (Licton) Springs Park** is located approximately 1.5 miles to the south, and the lake of Haller Lake less than a half mile to the north.

The subject building is located on the northwestern corner of First Avenue NE and N 117th Street. The neighborhood immediately surrounding the school is almost entirely single-family residences, although two churches are located across First Ave NE from the subject site. Designated City of Seattle Landmarks in the Northgate neighborhood include portions of Ingraham High School (1819 N 135th Street, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson, 1959), Woodrow Wilson Middle School1 (1330 N 90th Street, Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins, 1952), the Chiarelli-Dore House (843 NE 100th Street, James J. Chiarelli, 1949), the Lake City Library (12501 28th Avenue NE, 1965, John Morse & Associates), Lake City School (2611 NE 125th Street, 1931, now Lake City Professional Center), and **lq’ad (Licton) Springs Park** (9536 Ashworth Avenue N, City of Seattle Landmark). See figures 1-9.

3.2 Site

3.2.1 Site Description

The irregular subject site is shaped like an inverted “L,” and spreads over approximately three quarters of a residential block.

Northgate Elementary School is located on the southeastern side of a 4.96-acre parcel. Adjoining the subject site is an additional 0.81-acre parcel owned by Seattle Public Schools and used by Northgate Elementary as extension of the upper playfield. The school site slopes from NE 120th Street towards N 117th Street, from a level grass playfield to a leveled building pad, with a change in grade of approximately 30'-0". The northern and western edges of the site are planted with mature trees, with street parking available on the northern edge along NE 120th Street. The southern edge of the western half is landscaped with mature trees and shrubs, screening the school from the adjacent single-family residences. The southern edge of the site along N 117th

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1 The Woodrow Wilson Junior High School building was landmarked in 2014. No controls were imposed and the building has since been demolished, except for the murals by Andrew Morrison commemorating the Indian Heritage Program, which was located at the school between 1989 and 2012.
Street has a paved area for bus loading and unloading. The main entrance to the school is from the east, with a wide concrete stairway and ramp descending from the First Avenue NE pedestrian sidewalk and a paved driveway descending to a small parking court. North of the main entrance along First Avenue NE is a parking lot level with NE 120th Street. On the building floor level is a playcourt embedded into the slope and bounded on the north, west, and east by concrete retaining walls. Five portable buildings are located on the site. One portable is located south of the building, along N 117th street. Four portables are located to the north of the building, with the enclosed playcourt. See figures 10-19.

### 3.2.2 Documented Site Alterations

Originally the site was unused land in a plat registered as Orr Park.

A 1953 survey for Seattle Public Schools by American Engineering Co. shows the subject site as two empty lots. The northern side of lot 3 was terraced near N 120th Street, with an approximate 2:1 slope down to N 117th Street.

In 1953, South Haller Lake School was located at the corner of (N)E 120th Street and First Avenue NE, on what is now the northermmost portion of the subject site. The school consisted of 14 portables. Eleven of the portables were used as classrooms, the others for office and lavatory space. A covered walkway ran between the two rows of buildings. In 1954, three more portables were added to the site. A 1955 drainage map indicates there was an open pathway between the 17 portables located at the northern end of the site.

Between 1959 and 1960 the site expanded southward at the western side. A land survey by Ernest Showalter from March 1959 shows the additional land contained a frame house, garage, a concrete foundation, and various plantings of unknown size and age. These structures were removed sometime after 1959. The survey also shows that the 1955 pathway between the portables had been expanded and paved with asphalt. There was also a small, six-car parking area north of the eastern classroom wing.

Documents and photographic evidence from 1960 indicate the removal of the southern concrete fence of the enclosed play area and its replacement with a 6'-0" chain link fence. During the same time, portions of the concrete fence surrounding the kindergarten play area were removed and replaced with a 4'-0" chain link fence.

In 1961 a permit was issued to construct retaining walls and a fence to develop the playfield to the north. This included not only the asphalt paving of the outside playcourt, but also a much larger parking area that extended from north of the eastern classroom wing to N 120th Street. That same year, two portable classrooms were added to the site. This made a total of three portable classrooms at Northgate.

On March 25, 1966, 25 Norway maple trees were planted around the upper playfield, a gift from Mrs. Nancy Hicks in memory of her mother, Mrs. Meagher.

A 1976 document indicates the asphalt-paved play area north of the school contained two softball fields, tetherball poles, and an oil tank. The present-day playfield on the northern end of the site was then a dirt field.

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3 Although Norway Maples are not identified on the King County Noxious Weed List ([https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds/laws/list.aspx](https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds/laws/list.aspx)), they are considered to have invasive traits that enable them to spread aggressively. ([https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/acpl.htm](https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/acpl.htm)) (accessed August 2019)
A record drawing from 2002 shows a four-car parking area east of the administrative office. This drawing also shows the location of a single portable classroom south of the western classroom wing, as it exists today.

As of spring 2019, it appears that all but one of the original portables have been demolished or relocated from the site at the southern end. There are five additional, more recently constructed portable classrooms located north of the school building in the paved play area.

Recorded Permits & SPS records:

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<th>Permit #</th>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>14 portables for classrooms, restrooms, admin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Install and maintain one 4000 gal. oil storage tank and one 294 gal. diesel oil storage tank</td>
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<td>435973</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Removal of existing structures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Cons. Ret. walls &amp; fence, develop playfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Locate 2 portable classrooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Planting of 25 Norway maples in playfield</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>small parking lot near admin office</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Relocation of portable to south</td>
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3.3 Northgate Elementary School Building

3.3.1 Building Structure & Exterior Features

*Note: See Drawings in Appendix 2 to this document.*

The building has a “U”-shaped plan, divided along a central north-south line into eastern and western wings. The gymnasium is located in the northern end of the western wing, the auditorium/lunchroom is located in the northern end of the eastern wing, and the classrooms stretch to the south, enclosing a central courtyard. A gable-form roof runs east-west over the auditorium, covered playcourt, gymnasium, and connecting single-loaded corridor, where the school’s main restrooms are located, connecting the two wings. Each classroom wing has a gable roof running north-south. The library is located in the eastern classroom wing. An open play area with concrete paving is set between the two classroom wings in the southern portion of the building.

The eastern classroom wing measures approximately 266'-2" wide north-south and 77'-0" east-west. The western classroom wing measures approximately 122'-2" north-south and 77'-0" east-west. The northern side of the building, from the eastern wall of the auditorium/lunchroom to the western wall of the gymnasium, measures approximately 253'-0" inches east-west. The covered play area measures approximately 88'-0" east-west by approximately 41'-0" north-south. The highest portion of the building—the ridge of the gymnasium and covered play area—is approximately 28 feet from grade; the highest section of the classroom wing is approximately 12'-3" from grade.

The building’s structure is primarily precast reinforced concrete, with precast concrete beams
and bents,\(^4\) with precast concrete walls. Bays on each of the façades vary in size. Some interior walls are framed partitions. Foundations and floor slabs are cast-in-place concrete. A portion of the glazing systems are original, and some retain the original single-pane lights, while others have been replaced with plexi-glass. The windows at the eastern side of the western classroom wing appear to have been replaced with new double-paned aluminum windows and clerestories. See *Drawings S9-S11*.

The classroom wings consist of a series of reinforced concrete cantilevered bents spanning east-west and spaced at intervals of either 11'-0" on center or 10'-8" on center. Each bent system comprises two pairs of bents with pin connectors at the roof crowns. Precast concrete panels span north-south between the bents, with either a smooth or pebble finish. See *Drawings S1-S2 and S16*.

The auditorium/lunchroom is a series of paired precast concrete cantilevered bents connected with pin hinges spanning north-south and spaced 12'-0" on-center in four bays, 9'-6" in two bays. The bents are of varying heights, ascending from the lowest point where the auditorium connects to the classroom wing, increasing in height in each bay until the auditorium/lunchroom space connects to the gymnasium. Precast concrete panels span east-west between the bents. See *Drawings S1 and S16*.

The gymnasium and covered playcourt are constructed of a series of paired precast concrete cantilevered bents connected with pin hinges spanning east-west placed 11'-0" on center. Precast concrete panels span north-south between the bents. See *Drawings S2 and S16*.

The classroom wings have a pair of long low-slope (1.25/12) gable roofs, creating a long north-south valley centered on the connecting corridor wall. The gymnasium, covered play area, and auditorium/lunchroom have a two-story-high roof with a mid-slope (3/12) gable roof, with an east-west ridge centered over the gymnasium and covered play area. The southern roof plane of the gymnasium continues eastward over the auditorium/lunchroom. This southern roof plane joins and forms a continuous line with the eastern classroom wing’s western valley roof plane, and the western classroom wing’s eastern valley roof plane. All roofs over interior spaces have 1.5 inches of rigid insulation over the pre-stressed concrete panels, and all roofs are covered with built-up roofing with crushed mineral surface. Roof overhangs are approximately 4'-6", with metal gutters clipped to the precast concrete roof panel edges. See *Drawings A6, A9, S-16*.

The eastern classroom wing’s eastern façade includes the main entry, recessed westward from the office area to the south. The entry consists of a pair of flush-panel doors flanked by double sidelights and with a slanted, horizontal upper transom light. The entry area has a projecting covered roof cantilevered eastward from the office area. The entry wall returns southward on its eastern side with precast concrete panels and a pebble finish. The bay to the west of the entry is a lower stem wall of precast concrete panels with a pebble finish and has a 10-light aluminum-sash window with a 1/3 grid pattern. The lower outer lights have operable awning windows. This bay pattern is repeated for another ten bays, extending southward on the remainder of the façade, spanning between the exposed concrete bent columns. At the southern end of the eastern façade is an enclosed, elevated kindergarten play area. A recessed entry cove holds two single flush-panel doors separated by a precast concrete panel. The eastern exterior wall of the kindergarten classroom has a different configuration, with a large glazed projecting rectangular window bay. The aluminum-sash window becomes a 1/2/1 grid pattern, with a total of 54 lights

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\(^4\) A bent is a transverse rigid framework or similar three-hinged arch (as in a bridge or in timber framing) to carry lateral and vertical loads.
on either side of the recessed alcove. The lower outer lights have operable awning windows. See Drawing A6. See figures 20-27.

The eastern classroom wing’s southern façade has a line of cast-in-place pilasters framing seven bays, and has a recessed entrance that is level with the eastern façade. The alcove is formed by two sets of double bents joined and centered at the roof ridge. The double flush-panel doors are flanked by sidelights and a large, six-light transom above. A wide concrete stair leads up from N 117th Street and is surrounded on both sides by dense landscaping on the slope. The alcove is clad in precast concrete panels with pebble surface. The remaining six bays of the southern façade are unadorned precast concrete panels spanning between the embedded concrete columns. The wide overhanging soffit is made up of precast concrete panels. See Drawings A2, A6. See figures 28-29.

The eastern classroom wing’s western façade is a long wall of spaced, exposed, concrete bent columns that frame 18 bays with lower stem walls of precast concrete panels with ten-light aluminum-sash windows above. The lower outer lights have operable awning windows. See Drawing A6. See figure 30.

The connecting corridor’s southern façade consists of eight bays similar to those on the eastern classroom wing’s western façade. This wall also has two sets of flush-panel double doors, placed in the third and sixth bays, and fit within the fenestration pattern to include sidelights and a horizontal transom above. The doors lead to an enclosed, asphalt play area, surrounded on the east and west by tall accordion concrete walls, and a chain-link fence to the south. See Drawing A8. See figure 31-34.

The western classroom wing’s eastern façade also matches the eastern classroom wing’s western façade, but is shorter, with only 12 bays. See Drawing A7. See figure 35.

The western classroom wing’s southern façade is similar to the eastern classroom wing’s southern façade, having a line of cast-in-place pilasters framing seven bays and an entry. However, the entrance is flush with the façade and is on grade. See Drawing A6. See figure 36.

The western classroom wing’s western façade is similar to the eastern classroom wing’s western façade until reaching the exterior wall of the connecting corridor and gymnasium. A recessed entry alcove appears at this location, with double flush-panel doors flanked by two sidelights and a large, six-light transom above, mirroring the main entrance on the opposite side of the corridor. North of the connecting corridor, a line of cast-in-place, two-story pilasters create six wide bays of unadorned precast concrete panels, with a large grill vent located in the southernmost bay beneath the roofline. See Drawing A6. See figures 37-38.

The northern façade of the building stretches from the northern end of the eastern classroom wing (auditorium) to the northern end of the western classroom wing (gymnasium). The central portion of the façade includes the fencing of the exterior covered playcourt.

The northern façade of the western classroom wing consists of seven two-story bays framed by exposed concrete bent columns. This façade is the exterior wall of the gymnasium. Each bay is clad in precast concrete panels with pebble finish, and has ten-light wire glass windows in a 1/3 grid pattern. See Drawing A8. See figures 39-42.

The northern façade of the covered playcourt has a line of concrete bent columns framing eight bays completely filled by chain-link fencing. Beyond each exterior-facing bent are double concrete bent columns. The eastern and western façades of the covered playcourt are unadorned precast concrete panels spanning the exposed concrete bent columns. The bents join together at
the exposed concrete ceiling beneath the roof ridge, forming a large space for a covered playcourt. The covered playcourt’s southern façade is the exterior wall of the school’s restrooms and connecting corridor. There are four entry bays along this façade, each with a set of flush-panel double doors. Two double doors lead to the main corridor. Two doors lead from the exterior walls of the school restrooms. The center six bays have precast panels and an aluminum-sash, 20-light window of obscure wire glass set above the height of the door headers to provide natural light to the interior restrooms. A concrete wall is centered on this façade and offset from the wall by several feet, creating a long storage space. See Drawings A8. See figures 43-46.

The auditorium/lunchroom and kitchen connect to the northern end of the eastern classroom wing. Exposed concrete bent columns frame eight bays of the northern façade of the auditorium/lunchroom. There are several service entry doorways: three single flush-panel doors, and a double flush-panel door accessing the kitchen area from the northern playcourt. A large horizontal louvered vent is mounted near the rooftop in the central bay and provides venting for the kitchen. The cladding is precast concrete panels with pebble finish. See Drawings A8. See figure 47.

3.3.2 Plan & Interior Features

Note: See Drawings in Appendix 2 to this document.

The building has a “U”-shaped plan, with classroom wings running north-south on the eastern and western sides. The eastern classroom wing has a double-loaded corridor with six classrooms, the library (originally two classrooms), the kindergarten rooms, the school’s administrative area, and, at the northern end, the auditorium/lunchroom, kitchen, boiler room, and storage. The western classroom wing has a double-loaded corridor with eight classrooms and, at the northern end, the gymnasium, book room, and storage. The east-west connecting corridor is single-loaded to the north, contains the boys’ and girls’ toilets, with exits to the open play area to the south, and the covered playcourt to the north. Interior finishes are simple, with vinyl-asbestos tile flooring, concrete or plaster walls, and acoustical tile ceilings with flush-mounted fluorescent lighting. All doors are flush panel birch or maple veneer. Original hydronic wall-mounted radiators are installed under the windows in all classrooms. Radiator supply pipes are surface mounted to the walls, and insulated. See Drawing A5. See figures 48-55.

The eastern classroom wing corridor is approximately 13'-0" wide and has a retractable folding gate at the end of the hall, set between the administrative offices and the library. The kindergarten rooms are located at its southern end, followed by two identical classrooms running northward. Beyond the classrooms, near the main entry, is the school’s administrative section with a nurse’s station, public waiting area, principal’s office, conference and teachers’ lunch room, two water closets, a clerk's room, and a book room. Opposite the kindergarten rooms on the western side are four identical classrooms running from the southernmost end northward. The library is located directly across the corridor from the school’s administrative area. At the northern end of the eastern classroom wing are the auditorium/lunchroom, kitchen, boiler room, custodian’s room, and storage. A heavy wooden pocket door is located at the junction between the eastern wing and the connecting corridor, just before the restrooms. See Drawings A2 and A3.

All classrooms are identical in size, measuring approximately 32'-0" east-west and 30'-0" north-south, for a total area of approximately 960 square feet each. Each classroom has built-in shelving and a counter with a sink on the entry side, opposite the ceiling-height, glazed exterior
wall. Common walls between classrooms are staggered stud-framed walls. Plumbing supply pipes are surface mounted to the walls and insulated. The kindergarten classrooms are slightly larger, featuring a window bay with seating and two small toilets. The current library is the size of two combined classroom spaces, approximately 32'-0" east-west by 60'-0" north-south. The library was not included in the original design. The corridor is lined with what appear to be the original lockers. See Drawings A2-A3, and A-18. See figures 51, 56-57.

The auditorium/lunchroom measures approximately 66'-0" east-west and 43'-0" north-south, with a platform on the western side measuring approximately 22'-0" east-west and 43'-0" north-south. The far northern side has chair and table storage at its eastern end, a central kitchen, and a boiler room and custodian room on its western end, all measuring 88'-0" east-west and 24'-0" north-south. See Drawings A1 and A3. See figures 58-60.

The east-west connecting corridor is 16'-0" wide. The southern side of the corridor exits onto the outdoor play area, while the northern side contains the boys’ and girls’ toilets, which measure approximately 30'-0" east-west and 26'-0" north-south. Both boys’ and girls’ toilets are two-story spaces. Portions of the upper windows retain the original wire glass, while others, including the north-facing, exterior windows, have been replaced. Doors east of the girls’ toilet and west of the boys’ toilet open onto short, 11'-0" corridors leading to the covered playcourt. See Drawings A2, A3-A4. See figures 61-63.

The western classroom wing is similar to the eastern classroom wing, with double-loaded corridors off a 13'-0" wide hallway, containing four classrooms on either side. This wing also has a folding gate and heavy, wooden pocket door, located similarly to those in the eastern classroom wing. At the northern end of the western classroom wing are the gymnasium, custodian storage, a book room, instructors’ room, and individual restrooms. See Drawing A2 and A4.

All eight classrooms measure approximately 32'-0" east-west and 33'-0" north-south and are arranged similarly to those in the eastern classroom wing. See Drawing A4.

The gymnasium measures approximately 77'-0" east-west and 48'-0" north-south with an approximately 17'-0" high ceiling, with the highest point reaching approximately 23'-0". The floor is maple strip, the walls precast concrete, and the ceiling has acoustical tiles. Large halide lighting fixtures are suspended from the ceiling. The gymnasium has doorways located at its northeastern and northwestern corners, each with a pair of flush doors. See Drawing A4. See figures 64-65.

3.3.3 Documented Building Alterations

Construction of the subject building, Northgate Elementary School, was initiated in 1955 and completed in 1956. In the ensuing decades, only permits for minor changes to the site and the building interior are on record.

Documentation from 1956 documents the conversion of the “nearest classroom to the administration office” into a centralized library. In 1969 the library was expanded to a second room. By 1973 the library was known as the Library Resource Center.

In 1988, drawings indicate that the roof was replaced with a new system. This work also replaced areas with severe dry rot, re-caulked gutter expansion joints, and straightened or replaced severely damaged gutter segments.

The first record drawings to show the library in its current size and location appear in the district
archives in 2002, even though there is documentation to illustrate the library was formed from two classrooms in the eastern wing as early as 1969. The 2002 drawings appear as part of the set belonging to the Seattle Public Schools Accelerated Technology Improvement Program. The next-earliest set of record drawings are from 1992, and show the library as occupying two separate classrooms. Another renovation of the library occurred sometime after 2007, and is not documented in the building plans.

In 2011, documented bids for additional renovations included the following: a wheelchair lift to the cafeteria stage, new stage curtains, ADA modifications to the restrooms in administrative area, demolition and removal of aluminum frames and glazing and install new double-paned aluminum windows and clerestories, replacement of flooring with vinyl composition tile (VCT) in the corridors, four new walk-off mats, replacement of corridor-end windows and doors, addition of a wire mesh art installation at corridor, electrical modifications in the library and mold removal, providing a new circulation desk in the library, replacing parts of original casement with new storage casement as required, and various mechanical work. Although these plans are on file, the majority of the windows have not been replaced, and not all of the additions proposed were completed.

In 2014, plans indicate the removal of the existing wall finishes and the drinking fountains from the connecting corridor.

**Recorded Permits & SPS records:**

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
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<td>Paul Thiry</td>
<td>Carl G. Anderson</td>
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<td>1956</td>
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<td>8/3/66</td>
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<td>1968/1969</td>
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<td>10/5/94</td>
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4. Significance

4.1 Historic Neighborhood Context: Northgate & Haller Lake

The Seattle City Clerk's office defines the Haller Lake neighborhood as the area between N 145th Street and N Northgate Way from north to south, and from Aurora Avenue N to Interstate 5 from west to east. Because the development of Haller Lake took place in concert with the Bitter Lake, Pinehurst, and Northgate neighborhoods, this survey draws on historical information from all these areas.

The first people to inhabit these areas were the members of the Duwamish tribe, which included the hab-choo-AHBSH or “People of the Large Lake.” During the period of native inhabitation, the use of the area surrounding the subject site was seasonal or migratory, with the major village located to the south at the entry to Union Bay called heb-KWEE-kwel where the Duwamish Chief, Cheslahud, lived. Haller Lake and liq’əd (Licton) Springs were important spiritual and medicinal sites; they are the surviving wetland features of a larger marshland of springs called Slo’q ‘qed or "bald head" by the Duwamish due to the absence of evergreen trees. The area was cultivated with periodic controlled burns to improve harvests.

liq’əd (Licton) Springs was the site of ceremonial practices associated with the gathering of red iron oxide pigment. Historically, a sweat lodge was located near the springs, and the site has long been considered a sacred site by the Duwamish people. The Salish word liq’əd means “red paint,” and the red iron oxide of the spring was used as face paint, for decorative paint, for spiritual and healing practices, and it was traded by the Duwamish. The spring water was used medicinally.

The first white settler in the area was an Englishman named John Welch, who filed a homestead application for 160 acres in April of 1869, and lived on his claim from 1870 onwards. Early records occasionally list the fifteen-acre lake at the center of his property as Welch Lake. In 1905, real estate developer Theodore N. Haller purchased the land from Welch and platted lots around the lake. Haller was the son of the late Colonel Granville Haller, a storied figure who had served as an officer in the Indian Wars, prospected in the Yukon Gold Rush, and amassed land throughout Seattle and neighboring counties and on Whidbey Island. The Haller family had a large home on Seattle’s First Hill and the Haller Building downtown, on the northwestern corner of Columbia Street and Second Avenue. See figures 67-68.

In 1879 David Denny purchased 160 acres just south of Haller Lake, including liq’əd (Licton) Springs, from the U.S. government for $1.25 per acre. Denny built a summer cabin, and the Denny family used the property as a wilderness retreat. David's brother Arthur Denny purchased 400 acres to the west in the same year. liq’əd (Licton) Springs would eventually become known to whites as a place of healthful, healing waters, having been usurped from Native traditional practices. See figures 69-70.

Other early settlers in the area included the D. M. Little family, who were instrumental in logging much of the area and had a sawmill on Victory Creek near the future location of the

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5 This text is excerpted from the Landmark Nomination Report for Ingraham High School, the Johnson Partnership, 2016.
Pinehurst School. Farther southwest, George F. Meyfarth owned and developed a large farm at Oak Lake in the area north of líq’ləd (Licton) Springs, and Abbie and Edward Lindsley had a homestead between Oak Lake and Haller Lake. The area’s first school, the Oak Lake School, was located in that general area, near N 100th Street adjacent to the North Trunk road (now Aurora Avenue N). 5

The wagon road between Seattle and Bothell, eventually developing as the paved Pacific Highway, allowed for development of the upland areas of what would become Maple Leaf, Victory Heights, Pinehurst, Lake City, Cedar Park, and other neighborhoods along the road. In the early 1900s, this road meandered between what is now 15th Avenue NE and 25th Avenue NE, running through a logged-off landscape of small truck farms, berry farms, and orchards. The community’s name derives from a 1926 plat by W. G. Hartranft and tract development named the “Pinehurst Addition.”10

By 1905 the Everett & Interurban Railway Company had established fourteen lines of track, running from Ballard to Lake Ballinger/Hall’s Lake in Lynnwood, with Hammond cars connecting the line to Everett.11 However, the land was not quick to be urbanized, retaining its large lot sizes and considerable farmland until well into the twentieth century.12

After 1918, Clare (or Clara) E. Huntoon13 (ca. 1861 - ca. 1938) arrived in Seattle and purchased a large tract of land (nearly 200 acres) in the area. She never platted the land, but her acreage was the site of many important sites in the neighborhood, including the subject building, Ingraham High School, Northwest Hospital, and the former Playland amusement park at Bitter Lake (located north-northwest of Haller Lake) that operated from 1930 to 1961. See figure 71.

By 1923, Haller Lake was populous enough that the area needed its own public school. Land had been set aside thirty years before and then leased until there was enough money to build a school and enough students to fill it. The Haller Lake School opened in 1924 as the third school in the Oak Lake School District. The Shoreline School District acquired the Oak Lake School District in 1943. Haller Lake School was incorporated into Seattle Public School District in 1954, but closed in 1978, due to declining enrollment throughout the district. For more information on the Oak Lake and Shoreline school districts, see section 4.2.

In 1927, the City of Seattle purchased approximately 150 acres west of 15th Avenue NE and south of NE 145th Street to build the Jackson Park Municipal Golf Course.14 Several riding academies and polo grounds were located along 15th Avenue NE, including the Olympic Riding and Driving Club where in 1935 humorist Will Rogers played a game of polo just prior to his flight with Wiley Post which crashed near Point Barrow, Alaska, killing both men. See figure 72.

Possibly because of these leisure facilities, and the development of the stylish Highlands residential community to the west overlooking Puget Sound, the private Lakeside School

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9 Vicki Stiles, Director of Shoreline Historical Museum, e-mail correspondence with Larry E. Johnson, December 26, 2012.
13 United States Federal Census, 1930, Ancestry.com
relocated from Seattle to a large parcel just west of Jackson Park in 1930.\textsuperscript{15} The school had been founded in 1914 on Bainbridge Island as the Moran Boys’ School. In 1919 the school opened an extension in the Denny-Blaine neighborhood on the shore of Lake Washington. In 1924 the school moved to Madison Park, to the building that now houses the Bush School. By 1929 plans were made to create a new campus of buildings to the north of Seattle, at N 145\textsuperscript{th} Street and First Avenue NE. The campus was designed by Carl S. Gould of the firm Bebb & Gould, and opened on September 4, 1930, with 100 male students.\textsuperscript{16} In 1965 the school began integrating African American students; in 1971 Lakeside merged with St. Nicholas School, a private girls’ school on Capitol Hill, thus making the school co-educational. In 1980, Lakeside purchased the former Haller Lake School, located approximately three blocks south of the main high school, to create Lakeside Middle School. The original Haller Lake School building was torn down in 1999 to make way for a new Lakeside Middle School.

Many of the plats in the Haller Lake neighborhood included racial restrictive covenants prohibiting races besides "Caucasians" to own or reside on the land. These restricted plats included: Golfcrest (platted in 1929), North Seattle Heights Divisions 1 & 2 (1929), Huntoon’s Haller Lake (1940), and Overlake Park (1946).\textsuperscript{17} Despite the fact that the Supreme Court ruled that racial restrictive covenants were unenforceable in the 1948 Shelley vs. Kramer case, these covenants retained a powerful influence on the racial demographic of the north Seattle's neighborhoods.\textsuperscript{18} In the 1950 and 1960 censuses, less than 1% of the population of most north Seattle neighborhood census tracts were recorded as other than white.\textsuperscript{19}

The Civil Rights act of 1964 led to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which expressly prohibited housing discrimination. By the 1970 census, percentages of non-white inhabitants of North Seattle neighborhoods were increasing, but only incrementally. However, forty years later, by the 2010 census, the nonwhite population of the upper mid-northern neighborhoods such as Haller Lake, Pinehurst and Olympic Hills had increased dramatically to between 33 and 39 percent, while the population density remained lower than the median of the city as a whole. Meanwhile, the neighborhoods nearer Lake Washington (i.e. Matthews Beach, Cedar Park) and Puget Sound (i.e. Broadview, North Beach) retain a higher white population density.\textsuperscript{20}

Post-World War II development brought suburban tract home development to north Seattle, and a large influx of families. On April 21, 1950, Allied Stores and the Simon Property Group opened the Northgate Center at the intersection of First Avenue NE and NE 110\textsuperscript{th} Street, one of the United States’ first shopping malls, which radically changed the retail shopping dynamics of the area. Northgate Mall opened on sixty-two acres between First and Fifth Avenues NE.\textsuperscript{21} The shopping center, designed by John Graham, Jr., had space for eighty shops, including a three-story, $3 million building that housed the Bon Marche. The mall was a success from its

\textsuperscript{20} Ibid.
opening. See figures 73-74.

The general Lake City area was annexed into the city of Seattle in 1953, after a three-year process resulting in the Washington State Supreme Court overturning the voter-approved annexation of 1951. In 1952, the Pinehurst Community Club reversed its previous position and supported annexation of the area, citing lower tax assessments, water rates, added fire protection and lower insurance rates. The area between First Avenue NE and 15th Avenue NE, and from NE 115th Street to NE 125th Street, voted to approve annexation in January 1953, one of several north end communities to merge into the City of Seattle at that time. The north end annexations increased Seattle's population by approximately 18,000 people. A large portion of the controversy surrounding the annexation focused on the school district, and whether the existing Shoreline School District would be merged into the Seattle School District, or kept separate, particularly as the annexation affected Jane Addams Junior High School, where approximately half the student population still lived in the Shoreline School District service area. The transition period took longer than initially anticipated, with several years passing before transportation and utility services were brought up to Seattle standards. The Shoreline School District continued to provide school bus service to the area until the end of the 1957 school year.

On January 4, 1954, the city of Seattle annexed ten square miles north of N 85th street and south of N 145th street, spanning from Puget Sound to Lake Washington. This annexation made Seattle the seventeenth-biggest city in the nation. The annexation already included schools such as the nearby Pinehurst Elementary (1950, Mallis & DeHart). Schools built in the area after annexation included Northgate Elementary (1956, Paul Thiry) and Broadview-Thompson Elementary (1960, Waldron & Dietz).

The Northwest Hospital campus is located between N 115th and N 120th Streets, two blocks west of the subject building. The idea for the hospital was conceived in the late 1940s, however, due to difficulties in securing federal funds, procuring matching funds, and finding private donors, the hospital was not completed until 1960. The hospital was dedicated on September 16, 1960, and opened on September 22 of that year with 113 beds. The first baby delivered at the hospital was born the following day.

The section of Interstate 5 from Seattle to Everett was opened for traffic in February of 1965, effectively demarcating Haller Lake’s eastern boundary. The interstate was a boon to Northgate Mall, which expanded that same year by twenty-five stores, thus doubling the size of the shopping center. See figure 75.

Today the 1.67-square mile neighborhood of Haller Lake is mostly residential, with a population of about 9,036, and a lower than city average population density. Haller Lake’s population is

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22 Ibid.
28 Thompson & Marr.
30 Ibid.
31 UW Medicine Northwest Hospital & Medical Center.
32 Wilma, “Northgate Shopping Mall (Seattle) opens on April 21, 1950.”
made up of less than 50% white people, and more than 25% mixed race, with smaller percentages of Black, Asian, and Native populations. The median income of Haller Lake residents averages about $24,000 less than the median income of the population of the city as a whole. 4% more residents of Haller Lake live in poverty relative to Seattle as a whole. Median home prices average $130,000 less than the median home price in the city as a whole. Of the housing stock in the neighborhood, only around 7% was built earlier than 1939. The decades with the greatest amount of new construction were the 1950s (16% of currently existing homes built) and the 1980s with (18% of currently existing homes built). 33

In 2012, Sound Transit initiated construction on the light rail station that will connect the area to downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport. Known as the Northgate Link extension, the station is expected to be complete and operating by 2021. 34 Northgate Mall has undergone significant changes in recent years. Macy's and Nordstrom, the mall's two "anchor" department stores, closed in rapid succession in 2019. The space is slated to be converted to a hockey rink for Seattle's NHL team, offices, residences, and a grocery store. 35

Additional nearby sites of note include North Seattle College (formerly North Seattle Community College), Helene Madison Pool (located on Seattle Parks land adjacent to Ingraham High School), Evergreen Washelli Cemetery, Jackson Park Golf Course, Northwest Hospital, and Northacres Park. In 2019, liq’ləd (Licton) Springs Park was declared a City of Seattle Landmark.

4.2 History of Public Schools in North Seattle

Early History

Prior to 1944, the unincorporated areas north of Seattle's city limits, 85th Street, and south of the boundary between King and Snohomish counties, had several small separate school districts. Each corresponded to small discrete historic settlement areas including Richmond Beach (#86), Ronald (#179), Lake Forest Park (#181), Lake City (#180), Maple Leaf (#184), and Oak Lake (#51). None had enough students to justify the construction of a high school, so parents often sent their children to Seattle, Edmonds, or Bothell high schools.

Oak Lake School District

Oak Lake School District No. 51 formed in 1885 when David T. Denny donated an acre of his land around the liq’ləd (Licton) Springs area for a one-room school. The district served the entire area south of the Snohomish County line down to 85th Street and east-west between Lake Washington and the Puget Sound. The original 12’ x 16’ one-room schoolhouse was built by volunteer labor and opened in September 1886. There were ten pupils in the first year. A new Oak Lake School opened in 1914 on the same site as the earlier buildings. The buildings were demolished in 1985 when the site was developed into the Oak Tree Village shopping mall. 36 Other schools that were part of the Oak Lake School District included the East School (now the site of Olympic View Elementary), built in 1903 at Fifth Avenue NE and (N)E 95th Street to serve children in grades one through four living east of Meridian, and another one-room school

built at N 105th Street and Greenwood Avenue N for the first and second grades (now Viewlands Elementary). See figures 76-77.

**Shoreline School District (No. 412)**

In April 1944, prior to the end of World War II, Richmond Beach (#86), Ronald (#179), Lake Forest Park (#181), Lake City (#180), Maple Leaf (#184), and Oak Lake (#51) districts officially consolidated into the Shoreline School District. Ray Howard, a veteran teacher, principal, and administrator, was hired as the district’s first superintendent. Between 1949 and 1960 Howard oversaw the creation of a unified district and the construction of 15 new elementary schools, four middle schools, and one high school.\(^{37}\)

Post-World War II prosperity led to rapid suburban development of the areas north of Seattle, augmented by the highway improvements that were completed along State Route 99 in the late 1920s and 1930s. New affordable tract houses filled in the previously autonomous communities. New schools were filled to capacity as soon as they opened. When the district’s first new school, Ridgecrest, was opened in 1949, the district was forced to run double shifts (sessions) for the first and second grades. During the 1950s, between 400 and 1,460 new students were registered in the district per year. Because school operation funding was provided by Washington state based upon average daily attendance of the previous school year, as well being as based upon assessed valuation of improvements within the school district, funding lagged behind for fast-growing districts like Shoreline. Shoreline subsequently became the first school district in the state dependent upon special levies for its continued operation.\(^{38}\)

Capital funding for new school construction during the 1950s was accomplished by federal funding with state matching funds. State policy restricted the cost of construction relative to size, affecting overall construction quality. The Shoreline School District constructed Cromwell Park Elementary in 1955 for a little over $10.00 per square foot. Counting for inflation, in 2019 this would be $95.74 per square foot, which is approximately one-quarter to one-fifth the standard construction rates for our time.\(^{39}\) Despite the rush to deliver more classrooms and limited budget, the district’s second school, Jane Addams, was considered innovative in its design and efficiency when it was completed in 1949.\(^{40}\)

Beginning in 1951, residents in the area north of N 85th Street (the city limits at that time) and south of N 145th Street petitioned for annexation into Seattle. They felt the burden of new special school levies, and felt that there were advantages to Seattle’s transportation services and police and fire protection. One small section after the other voted to approve annexation. The first area to approve annexation was the area directly around the newly constructed Pinehurst Primary School. By 1954, the entire area south of N 145th Street was annexed. As a result, ten schools either previously managed or built by the Shoreline School District where transferred to the Seattle School District in the 1954-1955 school year. Shoreline School District enrollment, which had grown from 4,150 (1944) to approximately 12,000 (June 1954) was reduced to 6,500 by September 1954.\(^{41}\)

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\(^{38}\) Ibid., pp. 21-23.

\(^{39}\) Per an email from Seattle public Schools project manager Eric Becker to Ellen Mirro on August 14, 2019, typical Seattle Public Schools construction costs in 2018 were between $450 and $500 per square foot for new construction.

\(^{40}\) Ibid., pp. 21-23

\(^{41}\) Ibid., p. 26.
**Shoreline Schools Transferred to the Seattle School District between 1953 and 1954**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Built</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Architect</th>
<th>Present Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Oak Lake Elementary</td>
<td>V.W. Voorhees</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Broadview Elementary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>Haller Lake Elementary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Maple Leaf Elementary</td>
<td>William Mallis</td>
<td>Sold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>Lake City Elementary</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; DeHart</td>
<td>Leased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Jane Addams Jr. High</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; DeHart</td>
<td>Open, now Jane Addams Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Pinchurst Primary</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; DeHart</td>
<td>Replaced in 2016 with Hazel Wolf K-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Woodrow Wilson Jr. High (Woodrow Wilson)</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; DeHart</td>
<td>Replaced in 2017 with Cascadia Elementary, Licton Springs K-8 and Robert Eagle Staff Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Viewlands Elementary</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; DeHart</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See figures 78-86.*

**Present-Day North Seattle Public Schools**

As of 2019 Seattle Public School District has 19 schools operating in the areas between N 85th Street and the northern Seattle boundary line (N 145th Street). Of these only Viewlands Elementary (1954, Mallis & DeHart) and Jane Addams (1949, Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins) exist in the original buildings commissioned by the Shoreline school district. After World War II, the population boom, coupled with suburbanization, caused increased demand for schools in Seattle neighborhoods. Certain schools were located in portables, such as the short-lived Victory Heights School in the Maple Leaf neighborhood, which was only in operation between 1955 and 1959. Other schools began in portables before they received permanent buildings, and most required portable classrooms directly after their schools building were constructed, as enrollment tended to exceed capacity within the first or second year of operation.


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Currently operating Seattle public middle schools in North Seattle include: Whitman (1959 Mallis & DeHart), and Robert Eagle Staff (at Woodrow Wilson site, 2017, Mahlum).

Currently operating Seattle public high schools in North Seattle include: Ingraham (1959, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson, portions of which are a City of Seattle Landmark) and Nathan Hale (1962, Mallis & DeHart).

From the list above, it is apparent that there are currently five mid-century elementary school buildings still in use, with one a designated City of Seattle Landmark. One K-8 school building (Broadview-Thomson), one middle school building (Whitman), and the two remaining high school buildings also date from the mid-century construction initiatives spurred by the population boom. Since then, North Seattle has gained two contemporary facilities housing single school programs (Olympic View, Hazel Wolf) and a contemporary facility housing programs for three schools (Cascadia, Eagle Staff, Licton Springs K-8) from the Seattle Public Schools Building Excellence IV capital program levy (BEX IV).

In 2014 the Woodrow Wilson building (1953, Mallis & DeHart) was landmarked under criteria B and C due to the significance of the Indian Heritage Program and the director of the program, Robert Eagle Staff, at the school site. School programs for Cascadia Elementary, Robert Eagle Staff Middle School, and Licton Springs K-8 were slated to move to a new school at the site under the BEX IV levy. The architect for the new facility, Mahlum, integrated into the design of the new school buildings the exterior murals depicting Native American leaders by artist Andrew Morrison that were associated with the Indian Heritage Program.

Other landmarked schools in the North Seattle group include Cedar Park Elementary (1959, Paul Thiry, City of Seattle Landmark) which was rehabilitated under the BEX IV levy by Studio Meng Strazzara in 2015, and portions of Ingraham High School43 (1959, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson). See figures 87-93.

4.3 Building History

The Shoreline School District acquired a new elementary school site in the Northgate area after a post-World War II population boom led to overcrowding at Haller Lake, Pinehurst, and Oak Lake schools. In 1952, before Shoreline could design and construct a school building, at what was then called Orr Park, the area was annexed into the City of Seattle.44

Immediately after annexation, during summer 1953, the Seattle School District set up an all-portable school then called South Haller Lake School on the northern end of the school site. In September 1953, the school consisted of 14 portable buildings serving 388 students.45 In 1954 Northgate School was named after the Northgate shopping mall, which had opened four years earlier. The mascot chosen for the school was the Eagles, and school colors were blue and white. 77 additional students enrolled at the school in 1954, necessitating the addition of three more portable classroom buildings.46 See figures 94-98.

43 The auditorium and gymnasium of Ingraham were designated landmarks.
45 Ibid.
46 Ibid.
In 1955, Anderson Construction won the bid to construct the Paul Thiry-designed school building for $364,578 on the southern end of the school site. The final total school cost was $520,645. See figures 99-105.

Northgate was not designed with a library, only a small, windowless book room on the western end. As a result, by 1956 one of the classrooms had been converted to a library. In 1958 Northgate was included in a pilot program that provided a reading-improvement librarian, which led to the library being dubbed the "heart of the school." In 1969 the library was expanded to two classrooms, the wall between them removed.

Between 1957 and 1958 additional land was added to the site, increasing the total site size to 5.77 acres. In 1961 the expanded site was improved with retaining walls, grading at the upper and lower fields, sewers, drainage, paving, and fencing. Five years later 25 Norway maples were planted around the upper playfield.

During the 1960s, enrollment at Northgate declined due to the construction activity for the Interstate 5 freeway to the east and increasing commercial development around the shopping center. In the same decade, Seattle Public Schools began to make the first efforts to desegregate their schools, in response to the 1962 NAACP lawsuit filed against the Seattle School Board. When the school district settled out of court, Seattle Public Schools began a program of voluntary integration called the Voluntary Transfer Program. In 1966, Northgate was a "receiving school" for 25 pupils bussed from the Central Area, and more than 50 pupils by 1968.

In the mid-1960s Northgate also began an accelerated program for high-achieving students that combined the second and third grades into one class.

At the beginning of the 1970s Seattle's population began to decline, and with it districtwide school enrollment. In 1973 the school board flagged Northgate for "possible closure" due to the fact that only 335 pupils were enrolled at the school, including two integrated classes for special education. Despite the passage of the 1973 levy, the school remained targeted for closure.

A double levy failed in 1976, prompting the school board vote to close Northgate for one year and disperse its students to Haller Lake and Pinehurst. The students and staff at Northgate held a "memorial service" for the school on June 4, 1976, and Northgate closed later that month. However, following a court ruling, the school reopened that September. The same year, Northgate was designated an official Bicentennial school by the Washington State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

In spite of the voluntary transfer program, by 1977 Seattle Public Schools was charged with racially integrating its schools, either by a more effective voluntary system or by federal court order. To avoid the latter, the city instituted sweeping desegregation regulations, and in 1978 established a citywide busing program, known as the "Seattle Plan," wherein students from

49 Thompson & Marr, "Northgate," *Building for Learning*.
54 Thompson & Marr, "Northgate," *Building for Learning*.
56 Thompson & Marr, "Northgate," *Building for Learning*.
neighborhoods north of the Lake Washington Ship Canal and West Seattle were bused to the Central District and south end, and vice versa. As part of the Seattle Plan, Northgate was paired with Graham Hill Elementary in the Seward Park neighborhood from 1978 until 1988, when the program was dismantled. During those years, Northgate served grades four through six plus a kindergarten, and Graham Hill served kindergarten through third grade.

On March 25, 1985 Northgate faced a school emergency (the nature of which was undocumented in the press and school correspondence of the time) and the entire school program was moved to Broadview-Thomson for a short period of time.

In 2000, philanthropist Molly Hanlon spent about ten hours per week coordinating tutoring at Northgate elementary school for her initiative called the Youth Tutoring Program (YTP) administered through the not-for-profit organization Social Ventures, which operated between 1999 and 2004. In 2000 the school also operated a year-long Young Authors project, where each child produced a bound book with a story and a set of poems, which were presented to an audience at the end of the year.

Around 2003, the accelerated technology improvement program removed a wall between two of the classrooms in the school to create a library and computer lab. In 2013, Target and the Heart of America Foundation awarded Northgate Elementary a $1,000 book award as runner-up in the Target School Library Makeover competition. In 2018 the North Beach PTA presented a $10,000 check to Northgate Elementary for the improvement of the library for a partnership to "help eliminate the opportunity gap."

In 2005, concerns about lead in the water led to the installation of filters on Northgate Elementary water fountains. After the filters were installed, 10 of the 11 water fountains passed the acceptable level lead tests.

In 2006 Northgate was one of 12 Seattle public schools where more than 80 percent of children qualified for free or reduced-price meals and the cafeterias served free breakfast to all students.

In 2010 Northgate was one of nine Seattle Elementary schools facing Title 1 sanctions for missing targets on state testing for more than four years in a row.

As of 2019, Northgate Elementary has a significant homeless population among its student body, with about one in four students having no permanent home. Northgate is the closest elementary school to Mary's Place North Seattle, a not-for-profit homeless shelter/service provider for low-income and homeless families. The school provides 16% of its student population with special educational services and 35% of its student population with English Language Learning (ELL) services. The current racial demographics of the school are as

69 Tingyu Wang, email communication with Ellen Mirro, May 17, 2019.
follows: 37% Hispanic, 23% African American, 19% white, 11% multi-ethnic, 8% Asian, and 1% Pacific Islander.\textsuperscript{70} This reflects the overall neighborhood demographic trends since the late 1990s and early 2000s.\textsuperscript{71}

Northgate Elementary has been the focus of at least two public levies: the 2015 Move Seattle property tax levy and the 2019 Seattle Public Schools BEX V capital levy. The Move Seattle levy claimed that the walk to school for Northgate students was unsafe due to sidewalk and parking conditions.\textsuperscript{72} As of the writing of this report, 10 of the "Safe Routes to Schools" projects, including the North Seattle Neighborhood Greenway, have been completed with funds from the levy.\textsuperscript{73} The needs for repairs and upgraded facilities at Northgate Elementary were part of the reporting on the BEX V levy in the \textit{Seattle Times}, with numerous articles naming Northgate as a site where improvements to electrical systems, heating systems and other facility finishes, such as ceilings, were needed.\textsuperscript{74}

Since 2007, the school district has been a member of the Seattle Climate Partnership, a group of Seattle businesses and organizations under voluntary agreement to reduce their climate footprint.\textsuperscript{75} In response to this partnership, the district began its Resource Conservation program, which implemented benchmarks in three categories: energy usage, waste, and water usage. Since 2008, Northgate Elementary has failed to meet the minimum goal for energy usage set by the program.\textsuperscript{76} Despite using more energy than the energy goal, the teachers and principal at Northgate complain of insufficient heat and heating systems for student comfort. Children and teachers wear jackets, hats, and gloves indoors throughout the winter months.\textsuperscript{77}

4.4 Historic Architectural Context: Modern & Mid-Century Modern Style School Typology (1945-1965)\textsuperscript{78}

The design of the 1957 school building reflects the adoption of Modernist ideas of cleanliness and functionality, as well as some ideas of how to use precast concrete structural elements. Before World War II, some school designs, mostly in Europe, were responding to Modernist ideas, striving for clean, "rational," and functional spaces. These buildings set the stage for the boom in new Modernist schools built after the war.

Modernism, or the Modern Movement in design and architecture, had its origins in Europe after World War I, with an underlying belief that advances in science and technology would generate a new form of architecture, free from the pervasive eclecticism based on revival forms. The possibilities of curtain wall construction utilizing steel frames and the freeform massing using ferro-concrete were explored by Continental architects and American Modernist pioneers,

including Frank Lloyd Wright.⁷⁹ Although educational theories excoriated the traditional classroom structure as factory-like and welcomed the idea of new schools with more flexible learning environments, school designers in the United States were slow to adopt new styles of building, continuing to use traditional models during the Great Depression and into the 1940s.

In America, school design started to be influenced by the visual aesthetic of the Modern movement, while retaining traditional classroom sizing and daylighting standards. During the 1930s, little funding was available for new schools outside of the federal Public Works Administration (PWA) building projects. Washington State had at least three of these PWA-constructed schools: Bellingham High School (1938, Floyd Naramore), Meridian Elementary School in Kent (1939), and Panther Lake School in Federal Way (1938-1939). See figure 106.

Nationally, many of the plans for modern schools included classrooms that opened directly to the exterior and were air-conditioned. One of the earliest schools to apply the principles of the International Style was William Lescaze’s Ansonia High School in Connecticut in 1937. The Crow Island School in Winnetka, Illinois, designed in 1940 by Eliel Saarinen, was instrumental in influencing Modern school design, as was Richard Neutra’s 1935 Corona Avenue School in California. The firm of Franklin & Kump designed the Acalanes Union High School (1939-40) in Lafayette, California, which applied these ideas in an economical way to an expandable high school. See figure 107-110.

Modern construction, technologies, and ideas for the health, welfare, and educational ideals for children also impacted school design. The new designs focused on one-story flat-roof buildings, using modern lightweight building technologies with metal-frame windows. These schools were less expensive to build than their two-story Classical, Colonial, or Gothic predecessors.

New research on tolerable levels of light, temperature, and ventilation, combined with technological advances in lighting and environmental controls, bolstered the success and proliferation of the new architectural forms. As designs relied more on artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation, architects during the latter part of the postwar era also began to focus on the acoustical design principles for school classrooms, affecting roof and ceiling forms. An early example of this is illustrated at John Carl Warnke’s Portola Junior High School in El Cerrito, California, constructed in 1951. The 1958 gymnasium by NBBJ at Lincoln High School reflects the same popular idea of natural lighting with monitor skylights facing alternately north and south. See figure 111-114.

During this period, new school designs accommodated new functions and frequently had separate structures for auditoriums/lunchrooms, gymnasiums, and covered outdoor play areas, although this was less common for elementary schools than high schools. Some schools had specialized classrooms for music, art, and science, while portable buildings were also often retained for art and music.⁸⁵

**The Design of Seattle School Buildings after World War II**

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⁸³ Ibid.
⁸⁵ Baker, pp. 10-16.
In the Pacific Northwest, a new generation of architects emerged from architectural schools, including the University of Washington, where early adopters of Modernism challenged traditionalist professors. These new practitioners—including Victor Steinbrueck (1911-1985), Paul Hayden Kirk (1914-1995), Omer Mithun (1918-1983), and Roland Terry (1917-2006)—emerged from their apprenticeships embracing a new Northwest Modernism.

Seattle architect John Morse cited the origins and formal principles of Modern school designs in a 1957 publication:

> After the doldrums of the Depression, the Second World War waked architect and public alike: new designs for one-story schools came out of Michigan, Texas and California – plans based on groups of classroom wings and landscaped courts, together with a complete restudy of assembly and athletic rooms. The following terms became well known: single-loaded corridors, bilateral lighting, sky-lighting, radiant heating unit ventilation, the finger plan, the campus plan, multipurpose room, slab-on-grade, brightness ratios, color harmony; and still later: luminous ceilings, window walls, audio-visual techniques, resilient playground surfacing, flexible special-purpose rooms, student activity rooms. Washington State contributed to the national wakening with pioneering work in top-lighting, color design and concrete design in both pre-stressed and shell design.

The principal changes in regular classrooms have been these: more floor area per pupil – minimum 30 sq. ft., square rooms, sinks in all primary classrooms, daylighting from above or from two sides, lower ceilings – down from 12 feet to 8 or 9 feet, mechanical ventilation, more tackboard – less chalkboard, more positive colors on walls and floors, higher illumination – 40 foot candles minimum, sun control outside the windows, all furniture movable.

School design in Seattle followed the national pattern, with school districts struggling to accommodate rapid population growth resulting from the postwar Baby Boom. During this period, the Seattle School district chose separate architects for each school design, definitively moving away from the previous model of a school district architect producing unified designs with standard details and specifications. Most school architects between 1945 and 1965 designed one-story elementary schools with ribbon windows and a Modernist expression. Several schools replaced interior corridors with covered exterior walkways as circulation spaces. Because of the booming student population, portable school units were used at all schools to ease overcrowding.

During the war years, the Seattle Parks Department and the Seattle Public Schools shared the administration of sports programs, and in 1948 the school district adopted interscholastic sports programs. This resulted in changes of both school design and school site planning. This effort reflected a national interest, advanced by the National Education Association and others, to meet the specific and distinct needs of teenagers. Thus, the postwar schools accommodate more sports and play, with a typical emphasis on indoor/outdoor connections, and additional paved outdoor recreation and equipment areas. While many schools were fenced, play areas were typically accessible for neighborhood use. School sites were expanded to create larger paved parking lots for teachers, staff, service vehicles, and visitors. Landscaped plant beds were

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typically placed along the primary façades and entries of classroom and administrative buildings and within courtyards.

Seattle Public Schools specifications have changed since 1950, now requiring designs that prioritize student learning, the importance of play, personalization, community engagement, and flexibility in building design. Some of the key components that have changed since the mid-century include accessibility for students of all abilities, increased school security concerns, increased emphasis on technology and communications, design for increased community use, energy conservation, and sustainability.87


For the complete context of the Seattle School District No. 1 please see Appendix 3 to this report.

Post-World War II Seattle Schools, 1946 to 1965

After World War II, enrollment swelled to a peak in the 1960s of approximately 100,000 students. Between 1946 and 1958, six separate bond issues were approved for new school construction. Samuel Fleming, employed by the district since 1908, succeeded Worth McClure as superintendent in 1945. After Fleming retired in 1956, Ernest Campbell became superintendent.89

In 1945, the Seattle School District Board commissioned a study of population trends and future building needs. One proposal called for the modernization of all existing schools and the addition of classrooms, along with multi-use rooms for lunch and assembly purposes, covered and hard-surfaced play areas and play-courts, and expanded gymnasiums. Improvements in lighting, heating, plumbing systems, and acoustical treatments were sought as well. This survey occurred at a time when student enrollment in Seattle was stable, at around 50,000. By this time the school district was overseen by a five-member board of directors, and employed approximately 2,500 certified teachers, with an average annual salary of about $2,880.90

The district completed a large stadium with reinforced concrete stands (1947, George W. Stoddard) in 1947, adjacent to the National Guard Armory at Harrison Street and Fourth Avenue N, at the former Civic Field. In 1951, a war memorial shrine bearing the names of 762 Seattle schools graduates killed in World War II was dedicated at Memorial Stadium. See figure 116.

In 1949, a 6.8 Richter-scale earthquake damaged several elementary schools, resulting in their subsequent replacement by temporary portables. As enrollment continued to swell throughout the 1950s, these temporary structures served as a quick, flexible response to overcrowding. In 1958 an estimated twenty percent of the total Seattle student body was taught in portable classrooms. Despite their popularity, however, the occupants of the portables suffered from inadequate heating, lack of plumbing, and distance from other school facilities.91

Elementary schools included separate gymnasiums and auditorium-lunchrooms. Older high

88 Prepared by Larry E. Johnson, AIA, principal of the Johnson Partnership, May 2013. Additional input was received from Susan Boyle, AIA, of BOLA Architecture + Planning. Note: This general historical survey does not provide a comprehensive list of every school built or operated by Seattle Public Schools from the district’s founding in 1882 to the present day.
90 Robinson, p. 192-193. Aaron Purcell, School enrollment figures from Seattle Public Schools archives.
91 Hoerlein, p. xiii.
schools gained additions of gymnasiums and specialized classroom space. Despite all the construction, there were still extensive needs for portable classrooms to accommodate excess enrollment.\footnote{Ibid., pp. xii-xiii.}

The earliest school buildings, put up as rapidly as possible, included the three schools constructed in 1949. Designs prepared by George W. Stoddard for these schools were essentially linked portables with a fixed administrative wing. Each of the district’s thirty-five new school buildings was individually designed in the Modern style, with nearly all of the elementary schools constructed as one-story buildings, or on sloping sites. To conform to change in building code, each classroom had direct access to grade. During this period the quality of construction gradually improved from a relatively low standard to a fifty-year standard. \textit{See figure 113, location map.}

The twenty-two new elementary schools built by the district between 1948 and 1965 include: \textit{See figures 114-135.}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>View Ridge School</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>7047 50\textsuperscript{th} Ave. NE</td>
<td>William Mallis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbor Heights School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>3701 SW 104\textsuperscript{th} St.</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Demolished, replacement opened 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Briarcliff School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>3901 W Dravus St.</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genesee Hill School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>5012 SW Genesee St.</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Demolished, replacement opened 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette School</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>2645 California Ave. SW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic Hills School</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>13018 20\textsuperscript{th} Ave. NE</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Demolished, replacement opened 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viewlands School</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>10523 3\textsuperscript{rd} Ave. NW</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wedgwood School</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>2720 NE 85\textsuperscript{th} St.</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
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<td>Northgate School</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>11725 First Ave. NE</td>
<td>Paul Thiry</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Rogers School</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>4030 NE 109\textsuperscript{th} St.</td>
<td>Theo Damm</td>
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<td>North Beach School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>9018 24\textsuperscript{th} Ave. NW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
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<td>Roxhill School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>9430 30\textsuperscript{th} Ave. SW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sand Point School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>6208 60\textsuperscript{th} Ave. NE</td>
<td>G.W. Stoddard w/</td>
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</tr>
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One of the first priorities during this period was the building of new junior high schools. Between 1950 and 1964, nine new junior high schools were completed: *See figures 136-144.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eckstein Jr. High School</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>3003 NE 75th St.</td>
<td>William Mallis</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blaine Jr. High School</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>2550 34th Ave. W</td>
<td>J. Lister Holmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharples Jr. High School</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>3928 S Graham St.</td>
<td>William Mallis</td>
<td>Now Aki Kurose Middle School</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Denny Jr. High School</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>8402 30th Ave. SW</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asa Mercer Jr. High School</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>1600 Columbian Way S</td>
<td>John W. Maloney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitman Jr. High School</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>9201 15th Ave. NW</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
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</table>
During this period, the district also constructed four new high schools, including: See figures 145-148.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Sealth High School</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>2600 SW Thistle</td>
<td>Naramore, Bain, Brady, and Johanson</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingraham High School</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1819 N 135th Street</td>
<td>Naramore, Bain, Brady, and Johanson</td>
<td>Altered, portions are City of Seattle Landmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rainier Beach High School</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>8815 Seward Park S</td>
<td>John W. Maloney</td>
<td>Altered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan Hale High School</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>10750 30th Ave. NE</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
<td>Altered</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Between 1943 and 1954, voters in the rapidly growing unincorporated areas north of Seattle, feeling the burden of new special school levies, and believing that there were advantages to Seattle transportation services and police and fire protection, approved at least twelve annexations to the city of Seattle. This pushed the city limits northward from a line near N 85th street, to a uniform north border at N 145th Street. These annexations brought an additional ten schools into the district from the struggling Shoreline School District.  

4.6 Building Architect: Paul Thiry, FAIA

The architect for Northgate Elementary School was Paul Thiry. See figure 149.

Paul Albert Thiry, son of Hippolyte Thiry and Louise (Schwaebel) Thiry, was born on September 11, 1904, in Nome, Alaska. His father was a French mining engineer working for a Belgian mining company. The Thiry family moved to San Francisco in 1906, but returned to Alaska after the earthquake and resulting fire in April of that year. His mother traveled to France with her son in 1909, visiting for several months with her family, before returning to Nome by way of Seattle. Back in Nome, Louise Thiry started a women’s clothing business, spending some time every year in Seattle placing fabric orders. When in Seattle she and her son lived at the fashionable Lincoln Hotel on Fourth Avenue, across the street from the Carnegie Central Library. Louise and Paul moved to Seattle after Hippolyte Thiry was killed in World War I.

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96 Ibid.
97 Ibid.
98 Ibid.
War I. In Seattle, Thiry attended Coe School and Summit School, before boarding and attending school at St. Martin's College in Lacey, Washington, graduating in 1920 at age 15. Thiry entered the University of Washington in 1920, abandoning his pre-medical program to study architectural design. Thiry entered the Department of Architecture program in 1923 as one of just 47 students. The department’s founder, Carl F. Gould (1873-1939), had officially affiliated the department with the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design of New York, and his program was steeped in the classical training of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Paris, France. Thiry excelled at his studies, especially enjoying drawing, and in 1926 qualified for membership in Tau Sigma Delta, the architecture honorary society. The school encouraged mentoring by practicing architects and Thiry was able to gain valuable experience working as a summer apprentice with Seattle architect Henry Bittman (1881-1955) in 1926, and John Graham, Sr. (1873-1955) in 1928. Thiry, semi-fluent in French, took advantage of the opportunity to spend the summer of 1927 in France, studying with Jacques Carlu (1890-1976), earning a diploma from the Ecole Americaine des Beaux-Arts in Fontainebleau. Thiry graduated from University of Washington in 1928, with a Bachelor of Architecture, receiving the Student Medal awarded by the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Before Thiry graduated, his landlord, William Druxor, asked him to design an apartment building adjacent to the building where Paul and his mother lived, Lake Crest Apartment Court. After graduation, Thiry opened his own office at 823 Skinner Building, receiving his architectural license in 1929. During his early years Thiry’s work was primarily single-family residences and churches, mainly designed in the then-popular Norman Gothic style. His 1929 Castlewood Apartments, however, was a stripped-down Art Moderne design.

As work inevitably slowed during the Great Depression, Thiry traveled to Chicago to visit the 1933 Century of Progress Exhibition. There he received at least a brief exposure to modern design trends in several of the exhibits, including the Hall of Science and Chrysler Motors buildings and in residential design in the “Homes of Tomorrow Exhibit” and manufacturers’ exhibits at the Home Planning Hall.

“[A]fter seeing the structure at the Chicago Fair, it always seemed to me that form had to follow function, and design had to show structure. I thought that there were so many new elements being developed that there should be a new architecture, but I didn’t get much support in that viewpoint ... [from] the people that I was taught by at the University.”

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100 Thiry.
102 Thiry.
104 Ochsner, p. 135.
106 Hancock.
107 Thiry.
107 Hancock.
108 Thiry.
111 Thiry.
In 1934, Thomas T. Matsumoto, with whom he had studied in Seattle, invited Thiry to work for him in Japan, an offer that led Thiry to purchase a steamer ticket around the world.\textsuperscript{112} In Japan, Thiry worked with Matsumoto for several months, traveling around the country and meeting Antonin Raymond, a Czech architect who had come to Japan to work with Frank Lloyd Wright on the Imperial Hotel. In private practice in Japan, Raymond’s work demonstrated clear influence by early European Modernists such as Auguste Perret and Charles-Édouard Jeanneret (Le Corbusier). Thiry would later say that his work in Japan and his experience with the architectural work of Raymond influenced him most in his rapid shift toward Modernism.\textsuperscript{113}

Leaving Japan, Thiry traveled to Shanghai, working there briefly, then visiting several cities in Asia and India, before stopping again in France, where he briefly met Corbusier. Leaving France, Thiry arrived in New York, staying for several weeks in Washington, D.C. before returning to Seattle by way of the Panama Canal.\textsuperscript{114}

When Thiry returned to Seattle in 1935, he formed a partnership with Albert Shay that lasted several years, with Shay handling the business end, and Thiry having a free hand in design.\textsuperscript{115} In the mid-1930s Thiry designed a few more residences in traditional eclectic styles, but fully established himself as a Modernist in the design of a few similar flat-roof, stucco houses, including his own in the Washington Park neighborhood, completed in 1936.

Like many architects, Thiry’s skills were needed on the home front during World War II. Thiry worked with various others in designing large-scale housing and military projects, including 6,000 dwellings and community facilities in Port Orchard (1940-1944), and the Naval Advance Base Depot in Tacoma.\textsuperscript{116}

Thiry’s views on Modern domestic architecture were disconcerting to staid Seattleites in the late 1940s and 1950s. He was frequently invited to talk at various social groups around Seattle, including the Women’s University Club. He later commented:

“I spoke of flexible spaces, of the practicalities of flat roofs, of overhangs, and letting the sun in, and keeping the sun out, and building to accommodate the breeze in the summertime, and to discourage the wind in the winter, and to keep out of the rain. And then I got into subjects like building reflecting surfaces, and the dark inner parts of houses, and of sliding screens and shojis, and you know, it really denounced the American home.”\textsuperscript{117}

By the beginning of the 1950s, Thiry was nationally recognized, having had projects published numerous times in major magazines and book compilations, leading him to higher profile institutional, civic, and commercial projects. He was elected to the AIA’s College of Fellows in 1951.

In 1950 he won one of the first Honor Awards issued by the Seattle Chapter of the AIA in 1950, for his design of the Church of Christ the King in the Greenwood neighborhood.\textsuperscript{118} His St.

\textsuperscript{112} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{113} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{114} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{115} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{117} Thiry.
George Church and Friary, completed in 1953, won a Seattle AIA Honor Award in 1955.\textsuperscript{119}

Thiry’s vast experience with church design led him to write \textit{Churches and Temples} with R. Bennett and H. Kamphofner in 1953.\textsuperscript{120}

His museum building for the Seattle Historical Society, originally completed in 1950, incorporated his ideas of flexible planning and window walls seen in his residential projects into a modern flexible exhibit space. Called the Museum of History & Industry, the project won a Seattle AIA Honor Award in 1955.\textsuperscript{121} Thiry would expand and modify the building, located in the Montlake neighborhood, several times over the next several years. In 1952, he designed another significant museum building on Seattle’s First Hill for philanthropists Charles and Emma Frye.

Thiry’s Northeast Branch Seattle Public Library (City of Seattle Landmark), completed in 1954, was a departure from previous flat-roof designs, with a low-slope gable roof with this overarching overhang supported on a steel frame.

Thiry completed one of two schools for the Seattle school district in 1956, Northgate Elementary (subject building), followed in 1959 by Cedar Park Elementary (City of Seattle Landmark). The structural design of Cedar Park was by Peter Hostmark, PE, who worked with Thiry on several other projects.

Thiry had previously completed an elementary school building on the Our Lady of the Lake church campus in 1948. The school contained classrooms and a gymnasium, utilizing a shared vocabulary of red “flashed” brick masonry, glass block with inserted operable aluminum sash windows, and either flat or low-slope roofs.

The same year that he designed Northgate Elementary, Thiry completed a church campus project for the St. Pius X Parish that included both a church and elementary school with an attached gymnasium. The school buildings shared a similar construction vocabulary as Northgate, utilizing low-slope pre-cast concrete bents with concrete walls used for the gym and masonry infill stem walls used for the classrooms.

In 1955 Thiry was commissioned by the State of Washington to design the new State Library in Olympia. The library, which was completed in 1958, was classically arranged with a long horizontal colonnade and projecting portico, but reinterpreted in the Modern style to have a flat roof, side entrances, and a long frontal pool with a fountain designed by noted Northwest sculptor Everett DuPen. As architect for the Washington State Library, Thiry was involved in the decision to commission Northwest artist Mark Toby to design a mural for the library, stating “more critics acclaim him for what he has done than those who criticize him.”\textsuperscript{122}

Thiry’s reputation led him to be appointed chief architect of Seattle’s Century 21 Exposition in 1957. Thiry prepared the master plan, coordinated with other exhibition architects, and designed three exhibition buildings, including the Nalley’s Fine Foods Pavilion, the Seattle First National Bank Pavilion, and the Washington State Pavilion (Coliseum, now Key Arena, City of Seattle Landmark). Thiry and Hostmark’s design of the building called for two steel roof trusses, supported by tri-podal concrete abutments, spanning 340 feet between the four mid-points of

\textsuperscript{119} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{121} Seattle AIA.
\textsuperscript{122} \textit{Tri City Herald}, "Library Mural Gets Attention," April 22, 1959, p. 7.
the structure. The trusses divide the cable-hung roof into four equal hyperbolic parabolic squares with a pre-stressed perimeter ring girder.123

Due to the success of the 1962 Century 21 Exposition, both the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council honored him as “Man of the Year” in 1962. That same year, he also became Chancellor of the AIA’s College of Fellows.124

In the 1960s Thiry and Hostmark collaborated on two significant examples of church architecture. Their 1962 Mercer Island Presbyterian Church is still considered one the Pacific Northwest’s premier examples of Modern church design, with its tent-like folded plate concrete roof hovering above the sanctuary. Saint Demetrios Orthodox Church in Seattle’s Montlake neighborhood mixed traditional forms re-interpreted in a contemporary style. The church remains a focal point for the neighborhood and Greek Orthodox community.

In 1962 the Army Corps of Engineers commissioned Thiry to develop a master plan for the development of their Libby Dam project in Montana. Thiry, in his advisory role, developed guidelines for the design of the dam, powerhouse, visitors’ center, and other associated structures, as well as coordinating with sculptor Albert Wein on the “Treaty Tower” on the upstream face of the dam.125

Beginning in the 1960s, Thiry was appointed to several local and national design-related commissions. A self-declared elitist, Thiry believed that those with training and experience should be the ones to make important civic decisions, and he felt it his duty to be involved in civic matters and express his opinion. He said in a 1983 interview:

“We have to attack problems of cities in great ways, recognizing problems and not be Mickey Mouse about parks and all of that. They should be a part of the grand plan. And so with the kind of education people are getting now, and everyone being equally intelligent, and understanding about all problems of architecture and design and planning, you can, you know, speak to the average grammar school graduate, and he'll give you the full treatment in how to do things. A person with Beaux-Arts training is a contradiction to this wisdom that's exhibited by everybody in the street.126

A man with strong opinions and convictions, Thiry’s public service was not without controversy. He served on the Seattle Planning Commission from 1952 to 1961, but quit when the City Council refused to alter its plans for a freeway cut through the city without a full cover. As chair of the AIA Committee on the National Capitol Building in Washington D.C., Thiry was appointed in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy to serve on the National Capital Planning Committee. In that capacity, he took a position counter to the national AIA in opposing restoration of the west front of the capital, advocating instead for a new extension. Jacqueline Kennedy appointed Thiry to the Kennedy Library Commission in 1964, after President Kennedy’s assassination. In the late 1950s Thiry was asked by Archbishop Thomas A. Connolly to design an office addition to St. James Cathedral in Seattle. Thiry declined to make modifications, saying it would destroy the character of the original building. When he criticized the archbishop’s office for proposing the addition because it was intended for the use of social programs, which he felt was beyond the church’s mission, the archdiocese excluded him from

123 Peter H. Hostmark, “Prestressing of the Ring Girder of the Century 21 Coliseum,” Paper presented at the 15th fall meeting of the American Concrete Institute, September 27-29, 1962.
124 Hancock, p. 8.
125 Clausen, pp. 249, 251.
126 Thiry.
As a preservationist, Thiry’s reputation is mixed. In 1965, Thiry supported demolition of the Washington Governor’s Mansion, stating that it was “not architecturally wonderful and not historically ancient” and should be torn down.\textsuperscript{128}

Thiry was cited by the national AIA in 1965 for his work in community design.\textsuperscript{129}

Two other churches are hallmarks of Thiry’s later career. The Agnes Flanagan Chapel, completed and dedicated in 1969, is both playful and richly symbolic, drawing upon Native American imagery. The chapel is one of three buildings Thiry designed for the campus of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. His Christ Episcopal Church in Tacoma, finished in 1970, is a testament of faith expressed in Brutalism.

Thiry remained active in design and community affairs until the late 1980s. He was the first recipient, along with Paul Hayden Kirk (1914-1995), of Seattle AIA’s highest honor, the Seattle Medal.\textsuperscript{130} He passed away in Seattle on June 27, 1993.\textsuperscript{131}

\section*{Paul Thiry Attributions}

(Nota: all addresses are Seattle, Washington, unless otherwise noted.) See figures 150-161.

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Year & Project & Address & Client & Notes \\
\hline
1929 & Lakecrest Apartment Court & 2016 43\textsuperscript{rd} Ave E & William Duxor & Now part of Lake Ct. Apts. w/ James Taylor, Jr. \\
\hline
1929 & L. N. Small residence & 309 36\textsuperscript{th} Avenue N & E. C. Edwards & \\
\hline
1929 & Speculative house & Medina, WA & E. C. Edwards & \\
\hline
1929 & Speculative house & 313 36\textsuperscript{th} Ave E & E. C. Edwards & \\
\hline
1929 & Castlewood Apt. Building & 2717 Franklin Ave E & Wood & Milner Corp. & Art Moderne \\
\hline
1930 & Dunn Beach House & Bainbridge, WA & John Dunn & \\
\hline
1931 & St. Edwards Church & 3221 N Third Street, Shelton, WA & Archdiocese of Seattle & demolished \\
\hline
c.1933 & Small residence & & L. N. Small & Norman \\
\hline
1933 & Kachlein residence & Broadmoor & George F. Kachlein, Jr. & Georgian \\
\hline
c.1935 & Speculative house & 626 Hillside Drive E & E. C. Edwards & w/ Alban A. Shay \\
\hline
c.1935 & Speculative house & 630 Hillside Drive E & E. C. Edwards & w/ Alban A. Shay \\
\hline
1935 & Edwards residence & 303 35\textsuperscript{th} Ave E & E. C. Edwards & w/ Alban A. Shay \\
\hline
1935 & Model house & Sheridan Beach, Lake Forest Park & Puget Mill Co. & w/ Alban A. Shay, project \\
\hline
1936 & Grapp residence & 1660 E Boston Terrace & George L. Grapp & w/ Alban A. Shay \\
\hline
1936 & Thiry residence & 330 35\textsuperscript{th} Ave E & P. A. Thiry & w/ Alban A. Shay, \\
\hline
\end{tabular}


\textsuperscript{130} Hancock, p. 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Architect</th>
<th>Firm</th>
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<td>1937</td>
<td>Barrett residence</td>
<td>4350 53rd Ave NE</td>
<td>Frank J. Barrett</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay, Modern</td>
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<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Bragg residence</td>
<td>Magnolia</td>
<td>E.J. Bragg</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay, Modern</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Nichols residence</td>
<td>1600 E Boston Terrace</td>
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<td>w/ Alban A. Shay, Modern</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Loren G. Shroat</td>
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<td>Gloria Huntington</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay</td>
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<td>Albert S. Kerry, Jr.</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Olive Kerry residence</td>
<td>Normandy Park, WA</td>
<td>Olive Kerry</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
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<td>Olympia, WA</td>
<td>Sy Nash</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay, Modern</td>
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<td>3410 East John Street</td>
<td>R. F. Thomas</td>
<td>w/ Alban A. Shay</td>
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<td>Howard O. Wallace</td>
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<td>U.S. Navy</td>
<td>w/ others</td>
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<td>1943-1944</td>
<td>Naval Advance Base Depot</td>
<td>Tacoma, WA</td>
<td>U.S. Navy</td>
<td>w/ others, demolished</td>
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<td>Holly Park Housing</td>
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<td>Federal Works Agency</td>
<td>w/ others, demolished</td>
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<td>1217 39th Ave E</td>
<td>Charles H. McDonald, Sr.</td>
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<td>Wilson Ceramic Laboratory</td>
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<td>Huling Brothers Car Dealership</td>
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<td>Thiry Architecture Office</td>
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<td>Residence</td>
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<td>Laucks residence</td>
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<td>J. F. Laucks</td>
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<td>Stimson residence</td>
<td>Richmond Beach, WA</td>
<td>Thomas D.</td>
<td>AIA 1953 Honor</td>
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133 *House Beautiful*, “Brother and Sister Act …” 83, July/August 1941, pp. 52-53.
134 Ibid.
135 The name of the firm was “Jones, Bouillon, Thiry, & Sylliaasen.”
136 Ibid.
137 Ibid.
138 *Architectural Record*, "Washington: Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Georg H. Lewis, Overlake, Wash., Paul Thiry, Architect," 98:6, December 1945, p. 120.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>Kent Motors</td>
<td>Kent, WA</td>
<td>Kent Motors</td>
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<td>Church of Christ the King[^140]</td>
<td>11556 Phinney Avenue</td>
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<td>Electrical Engineering Bldg.</td>
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<td>Botany Greenhouse</td>
<td>U. of Washington</td>
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<td>Our Lady of the Lake Elementary School</td>
<td>3520 NE 89th Street</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>Alhadeff residence[^141]</td>
<td>1366 Lakeside Ave. S</td>
<td>Charles D. Alhadeff</td>
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<td>Dairy Barns</td>
<td>Pullman, WA</td>
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<td>Martin &amp; Eckmann</td>
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<td>217 Tremont St., Missoula, MT</td>
<td>Diocese of Helena</td>
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<td>Museum of History and Industry</td>
<td>2700 24th Avenue E</td>
<td>Seattle Historical Society</td>
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<td>Regent’s Hill Dormitory[^142]</td>
<td>Pullman, WA</td>
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<td>704 Terry Ave.</td>
<td>Charles &amp; Emma Frye</td>
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<td>Bullitt Cabin</td>
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<td>1954</td>
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<td>6801 35th Avenue NE</td>
<td>Seattle Public Library</td>
<td>altered, w/ others, Seattle Landmark, AIA 1955 Honor Award, City of Seattle Landmark</td>
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<th>Architect/Owner</th>
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<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>McGrath residence</td>
<td>3272 NW Esplanade</td>
<td>Justin McGrath</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>Brownell residence(^{144})</td>
<td>The Highlands, Shoreline, WA</td>
<td>Francis Brownwell, Jr.</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Tecler Aluminum Products Co.</td>
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<td>Tecler Alum. Products Co.</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Swimming pool factory</td>
<td>McChord Airbase, WA</td>
<td>U. S. Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Ready crew building</td>
<td>McChord Airbase, WA</td>
<td>U. S. Army</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Thiry vacation cabin</td>
<td>Wilson Creek Rd, Ellensburg</td>
<td>Paul Thiry</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Northgate Elementary School</td>
<td>11725 First Ave NE</td>
<td>Seattle Public Schools</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Residence halls</td>
<td>Pullman, WA</td>
<td>Wash. State Univ.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>St. Pius X Parish Dev.</td>
<td>Mountlake Terrace, WA</td>
<td>Archdiocese of Seattle</td>
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<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Covenant Chapel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allison Wanamaker</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>Wanamaker residence</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>State Library(^{146})</td>
<td>Capitol Mall, Olympia, WA</td>
<td>Washington State</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>Haggard Hall (Science)</td>
<td>Bellingham, WA</td>
<td>Western WA State College</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>Reserve Training Ct.</td>
<td>Sand Point, Seattle</td>
<td>13(^{th}) Naval District</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Sacred Heart of Jesus</td>
<td>205 Second Avenue</td>
<td>Archdiocese of Seattle</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Cedar Park Elementary School</td>
<td>3737 NE 135th Street</td>
<td>Seattle Public Schools</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Higginson Hall</td>
<td>Bellingham, WA</td>
<td>Western WA State College</td>
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<td>1960</td>
<td>Vikings Common</td>
<td>Bellingham, WA</td>
<td>Western WA State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Men's Residence Hall</td>
<td>Bellingham, WA</td>
<td>Western WA State College</td>
</tr>
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<td>1960</td>
<td>Speculative house</td>
<td>1830 Iris Lane, Billings, MT</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>Embassy Residence</td>
<td>Santiago, Chile</td>
<td>State Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Bellingham, WA</td>
<td>Western WA State College</td>
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\(^{145}\) *Sunset Magazine,* “Sunset and AIA Pick the Seven Best Houses in the West,” October 1957, p. 100.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>International Com. &amp; Industry Bldgs</td>
<td>Seattle Center</td>
<td>City of Seattle</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
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<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Nalley’s Fine Foods Pavilion</td>
<td>Seattle Center</td>
<td>Nalley’s Fine Foods</td>
<td>w/ Hostmark, demolished</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>Seattle First National Bank Pavilion</td>
<td>Seattle Center</td>
<td>Seattle First National Bank</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Ford Motor Pavilion</td>
<td>Seattle Center</td>
<td>Ford Motor Co.</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>Century 21 Coliseum/State of Washington Pavilion</td>
<td>Seattle Center</td>
<td>State of Washington</td>
<td>w/ Hostmark, altered, now Key Arena. City of Seattle Landmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>West Seattle Branch¹⁴⁷</td>
<td>4306 SW Edmunds St.</td>
<td>Seattle First National Bank</td>
<td>Altered</td>
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<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Mercer Island Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>3605 84th Ave. SE</td>
<td>Mercer Island Presb. Church</td>
<td>Slightly altered</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>Libby Dam plan</td>
<td>17115 Hwy 37N, Libby, MT</td>
<td>U. S. Army Corps of Engineers</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>McPhaden residence¹⁴⁸</td>
<td>18175 Normandy Terrace SW, Normandy Park, WA</td>
<td>Robert D. McPhaden</td>
<td>Demolished 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Ye Olde Curiosity Shop</td>
<td>Pier 51</td>
<td>Joe James</td>
<td>Relocated to Pier 54</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>St. Demetrios Orthodox Church #2</td>
<td>2100 Boyer Ave East</td>
<td>Diocese of San Francisco</td>
<td>w/ Hostmark</td>
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<td>Border Patrol Security HQ</td>
<td>Blaine, WA</td>
<td>General Service Administration</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Border Patrol Security HQ</td>
<td>Spokane, WA</td>
<td>General Service Administration</td>
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<td>1965</td>
<td>Agnes Flanagan Library</td>
<td>615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland, OR</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark College</td>
<td>Altered</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>Delta Epsilon Fraternity</td>
<td>4508 19ᵗʰ Ave NE</td>
<td>Delta Epsilon Fraternity</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Washington Mutual Main Office</td>
<td>Second Ave and Spring St</td>
<td>Washington Mutual Bank</td>
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<td>c.1970</td>
<td>Hartzfeld Hall</td>
<td>615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland, OR</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark College</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>Christ Episcopal Church</td>
<td>310 N K St, Tacoma, WA</td>
<td>Diocese of Olympia</td>
<td>w/ Hostmark, AIA 1974 Honor Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Biology-Psychology building</td>
<td>615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland, OR</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark College</td>
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</table>

Donald G. Radcliffe was born on November 21, 1910 in Taylorville, Illinois. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1931 with a degree in Civil Engineering, and then attended UIUC as a graduate student in Civil Engineering until receiving his Master's Degree in 1934. Radcliffe registered for the draft in 1941 while working for the U.S. State Department in Mexico City. He married Dorothy Clifton Sharp in Mexico in 1940. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, reaching the rank of Lt. Commander. He then served as a Lieutenant the Naval Reserve between 1944 and 1946.

In 1956 Radcliffe joined the Seattle engineering firm TRA, where he spent 27 years of his career. Significant projects with TRA included acting as the lead structural engineer for the original SeaTac Airport parking garage, counting the concrete garage's cantilevered helical ramps in the garage as a significant design achievement.

Radcliffe taught structural engineering courses at the University of Washington School of Architecture for many years, starting in 1947. Radcliffe and Dorothy lived in the Montlake neighborhood in 1958. Radcliffe was inducted into the Structural Engineers Hall of Fame sometime around 1976. He was classified as legally blind during the later phase of his career. In order to compensate for his visual impairment, he attached a TV camera to his computer monitor so he could magnify structural plans.

Radcliffe retired in 1983 and moved to Bainbridge Island, where he died in 1999.

Known engineering designs by Radcliffe include:

- Northgate Elementary School (1957, Paul Thiry)
- Steinhart, Anderson & Theriault Architectural Offices, (1958-1959)
- 1264 Eastlake Avenue East Office Building, Seattle

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154 SEAW.
155 Ibid.
157 SEAW.
158 Ibid.

Carl Gustaf Anderson was born in 1909 in Seattle to Swedish parents Anders Gustaf Anderson and Anna Senobia Anderson.\(^{161}\) He was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church,\(^{162}\) and a member of the Lutheran Inkwell club at the University of Washington, from which he graduated in 1928.\(^{163}\) He registered for the draft in 1940 at age 31. At that time he worked for Henry Boldt, Lathing Contractor.\(^{164}\) In 1943 he worked as the floor manager of the Olympic Hotel.\(^{165}\) By 1948 he was married to Olive.\(^{166}\) By 1953 he was listed with the Anderson Construction Company, located at 12362 35th Avenue NE.\(^{167}\)

Known works by Carl G. Anderson include:

- Northgate Elementary School (1957, Paul Thiry)
- Our Savior Lutheran Church, 27th Avenue NE & NE 125th Street (1963, Merle Probst)\(^{168}\)

Prepared by:

Katherine V. Jaeger, MFA
Larry E. Johnson, AIA
Ellen F. C. Mirro, AIA
Audrey N. Reda
The Johnson Partnership
1212 NE 65th Street
Seattle, WA 98115
www.tjp.us


\(^{163}\) United States School Yearbooks, Tyee, 1928, Ancestry.com.


\(^{166}\) Ibid.

\(^{167}\) Ibid.

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Appendix 1

Figures
Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

Figure 1 • Location Maps

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 2 • Location Map: Northgate Neighborhood

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019

Figure 3 • Aerial View
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 30 • Northgate Elementary, eastern classroom wing, western façade

Figure 31 • Northgate Elementary, connecting corridor, southern façade

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December 2019
Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Figure 35 • Northgate Elementary, western classroom wing, eastern façade

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
December 2019
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December 2019
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Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 59 • Northgate Elementary, auditorium & lunchroom

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Northgate Elementary School
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Corresponds with present day Northgate neighborhood boundary
Figure 69 • Denny Cabin at Licton Springs, n.d.

Figure 70 • Woman lounging at Licton Springs, 1913

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 71 • Seattle-to-Everett Interurban Station at Playland, Bitter Lake, ca. 1932

Figure 72 • Jackson Park Polo Grounds, 1928
The Bon Marché was founded in 1890 by German immigrants Edward and Josephine Nordhoff. Originally located in Seattle’s Belltown district at First Ave and Cedar Street, it soon moved to a more central location downtown at Second and Pine Streets.

The Bon Marché looking to expand beyond downtown Seattle came up with the Northgate project located just north of the city. The project included a shopping mall, apartments, and a school. The school, Northgate Elementary School, opened in 1950.

Figure 73 • Northgate Mall Grand Opening, 1950
Figure 74 • Northgate Mall, 1952

Figure 75 • Freeway aerial and Jackson Park Golf Course, 1960
Students outside Oak Lake School, 1894

Photographer: Unknown
Date: 1894
Caption: The one-room Oak Lake School opened in 1886 near what is now Washelli Cemetery, north of Seattle. For many years Oak Lake was the only school in the northern part of King County. After several moves and additions, the school opened its first permanent building in 1914 at 10040 Aurora Avenue North.

Notes: Handwritten on verso: First Oak Lake School Built 1886, Picture Taken 1894. Left to Right: Herman Bolt, Mr. Course & Baby, Emma Miller, Martha Denny, Tom McCombs, Clark Dye, Carl Miller, John Bower, Seth Nelson, Retta Denny, Mike Bower, Ida Denny, Paul Stewart, Joe Bower, Harvey Rothweiler, Pearl McCombs, Lawrence Dye, Lara Denny.

Subjects: Schools--Washington (State)--Seattle; School children--Washington (State)--Seattle; Teachers--Washington (State)--Seattle

Places: United States--Washington (State)--Seattle; Northgate (Seattle, Wash.)

Digital Collection: Museum of History & Industry Photograph Collection

Image Number: 2003.12.5

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Figure 76 • Students outside original Oak Lake School, 1894 (demolished)

Figure 77 • Oak Lake Elementary (1914, V.W. Voorhees, demolished)
Figure 78 • Broadview Elementary (1914, demolished)

Figure 79 • Haller Lake Elementary (1924, demolished)

Northgate Elementary School
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Seattle Public School Archives

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Northgate Elementary School
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A-46
Figure 82 • Jane Addams Junior High School (1949, Mallis & DeHart)

Figure 83 • Pinehurst Primary (1950, Mallis & DeHart, demolished, now site of Hazel Wolf K-8)
Figure 84 • Olympic Hills Elementary (1954, John Graham & Co., demolished and replaced 2017)

Figure 85 • Woodrow Wilson Junior High (1953, Mallis & DeHart, City of Seattle Landmark, demolished and replaced with Robert Eagle Staff and Cascadia Elementary)

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 86 • Viewlands Elementary (1954, Mallis & DeHart)

Figure 87 • John Rogers Elementary (1956, Theo Damm)
Figure 88 • North Beach Elementary (1958, John Graham & Co.)

Figure 89 • Cedar Park Elementary (1959, Paul Thiry, City of Seattle Landmark)

Northgate Elementary School
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Figure 90 • Sacajawea Elementary (1959, Waldron & Dietz)

Figure 91 • Olympic View (1989, Eric Meng Associates)
Figure 92 • Olympic Hills Elementary (2017, McGranahan)

Figure 93 • Cascadia Elementary (2017, Mahlum, former Woodrow Wilson location)
Figure 94 • South Haller Lake Elementary School, 1954

Figure 95 • South Haller Lake Elementary School, 1954

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 98 • Northgate Elementary School, in front of portables, 1955
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Figure 102 • Northgate Elementary School, east elevation detail, 1960

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 103 • Northgate Elementary School, north elevation from future playfield, circa 1956

Figure 104 • Northgate Elementary School, in front of main entry, 1956
Figure 105 • Northgate Elementary School, aerial view, circa 1956
Figure 106 • Bellingham High School (1938, Floyd Naramore)

Figure 107 • Ansonia High School, Connecticut (1937, William Lescaze)

Northgate Elementary School
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December 2019
Figure 108 • Crow Island School, Winnetka, Illinois (1940, Eliel Saarinen)

Figure 109 • Corona Avenue School, California (1935, Richard Neutra)
Figure 110 • Acalanes Union High School, Lafayette, CA (1939-40, Franklin & Kump)

Figure 111 • Portola Junior High School, El Cerrito, CA (1951, John Carl Warneke, demolished 2015)

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report

December 2019
Figure 112 • Lincoln High School Gymnasium, Seattle (1958, NBBJ)
Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
December 2019

Figure 113 • Location Map, Seattle Public Schools constructed 1945-1965

*abbreviations: E=Elementary School, JH=Junior High School, H= High School
Notes:

- Roman brick masonry construction with original steel-sash windows.

William Mallis also designed Sharples/Kurose Junior High (1952) & Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark).

Mallis’ firm, Mallis & DeHart, designed Whitman Junior High (1959), Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), Nathan Hale High School (1963), and Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.

Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.

Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins also designed Addams Junior High (1954), which SPS gained through annexation.
Arbor Heights Elementary (Demolished)
3701 SW 104 Street
1949, George W. Stoddard

Notes:
- Roman brick and stone masonry construction.
- Retains original steel sash windows.
- Stoddard designed three additions to the school (1950, 1953, 1957).

Stoddard also designed Briarcliff Elementary (1949, demolished), Genesee Hill Elementary (1949, demolished), and Sand Point Elementary with Francis Huggard (1958).

Figure 115 • Arbor Heights Elementary (1949, George W. Stoddard, demolished)
Briarcliff Elementary (Demolished)
3901 W Dravus Street
1949, George W. Stoddard

Notes:
• Roman brick masonry and stone construction.
• Surplused, and demolished in 2004.

Stoddard also designed Arbor Heights Elementary (1949, demolished), Genesee Hill Elementary (1949, demolished), and Sand Point Elementary with Francis Huggard (1958).

Figure 116 • Briarcliff Elementary (1949, George W. Stoddard, demolished)
Genesee Hill Elementary (Demolished)
5012 SW Genesee Street
1949, George W. Stoddard

Notes:
• Roman brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Closed in 2009.
• Stoddard designed the northern addition in 1953.

Stoddard also designed Arbor Heights Elementary (1949, demolished), Briarcliff Elementary (1949, demolished), and Sand Point Elementary with Francis Huggard (1958).

Figure 117 • Genesee Hill Elementary (1949, George W. Stoddard, demolished)
Lafayette Elementary
2645 California Ave SW
1950 Addition, John Graham & Co.

Notes:
• Roman brick masonry construction.
• Windows sensitively replaced.
• John Graham & Co. also designed the 1953 addition.
• Roof monitors for classroom lighting

John Graham & Co. also designed North Beach Elementary (1958), Olympic Hills Elementary (1954, demolished), Roxhill Elementary (1958, now BRIDGES), Wedgwood Elementary (1955), and Washington Middle School (1963).

Figure 118 • Lafayette Elementary (1950 Addition, John Graham & Co.)
Van Asselt Elementary
8311 Beacon Avenue S
1950, Jones & Bindon

Notes:
• Brick masonry with steel construction.
• Windows replaced in 2006.
• Original 1909 Landmarked building is also located on the site.

This is the only new freestanding school designed for SPS by Jones & Bindon during this period, although they designed a major addition at Crown Hill, and later Bindon & Wright designed major additions at Harrison (later Martin Luther King Jr.) and Leschi.

Figure 119 • Van Asselt Elementary (1950, Jones & Bindon)
Olympic Hills Elementary (Demolished)
13018 20th Avenue NE
1953, John Graham & Co.

Notes:
- Roman brick masonry and concrete construction.
- Roof monitors for classroom lighting

John Graham & Co. also designed Lafayette Elementary (1961), North Beach Elementary (1958), Roxhill Elementary (1958, now BRIDGES), Wedgwood Elementary (1955), and Washington Middle School (1963).

Figure 120 • Olympic Hills Elementary (1953, John Graham & Co., demolished)
Viewlands Elementary
10523 Third Avenue NW
1954, Mallis & DeHart

Notes:
• Concrete block and brick masonry construction.
• Frame roof.
• Replacement windows and other recent upgrades.

Mallis & DeHart designed Whitman Junior High (1959), Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), and Nathan Hale High (1963) for SPS.

Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, but these schools were gained by annexation.

William Mallis designed Sharples/Kurose Junior High (1952), Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark), and View Ridge Elementary (1948).

Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins designed Addams Junior High (1954), which was gained by SPS through annexation.

Figure 121 • Viewlands Elementary (1954, Mallis & DeHart)
Wedgwood Elementary
2720 NE 85th Street
1955, John Graham & Co.

Notes:
• Pre-cast and cast-in-place concrete.
• Replacement windows.

John Graham & Co. also designed Lafayette Elementary (1961), North Beach Elementary (1958), Olympic Hills Elementary (1954, demolished), Roxhill Elementary (1958, now BRIDGES), and Washington Middle School (1963).

Figure 122 • Wedgwood Elementary (1955, John Graham & Co.)
Northgate Elementary
11725 First Avenue NE
1956, Paul Thiry

Notes:
• Precast concrete construction.
• Some replacement windows of same similar configuration to original.

Thiry also designed Cedar Park Elementary (1959, City of Seattle Landmark) for SPS, as well as Our Lady of the Lake and St. Pius X for the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
December 2019
John Rogers Elementary
4030 NE 109 Street
1956, Theo Damm

Figure 124 • John Rogers Elementary (1956, Theo Damm)

Notes:
• Brick masonry construction with some steel.
• Retains original steel-sash windows.

Theo Damm also designed Graham Hill Elementary (1961).

Northgate Elementary School
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Seattle Public Schools
Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete.
• Retains original aluminum sash windows.


North Beach Elementary
9012 24th Avenue NW
1958, John Graham & Co.

Figure 125 • North Beach Elementary (1958, John Graham & Co.)
Roxhill Elementary
9034 30th Avenue SW
1958, John Graham & Co.

Notes:
• Masonry and concrete construction.
• Some windows replaced.


Roxhill Elementary program is currently housed in E. C. Hughes. Special education program BRIDGES now occupies the former Roxhill building.

Figure 126 • Roxhill Elementary (1958, John Graham & Co.)
Sand Point Elementary  
6208 60th Avenue NE  
1958, George Stoddard and Francis Huggard

Notes:
- Brick masonry and concrete construction.
- Insensitive addition of roof insulation.

This is the only school for SPS that Stoddard and Huggard share credit for.

Stoddard also designed Arbor Heights Elementary (1949, demolished), Briarcliff Elementary (1949, demolished), and Genesee Hill Elementary (1949, demolished).

Northgate Elementary School  
Landmark Nomination Report  
December 2019
Cedar Park Elementary (City of Seattle Landmark)
13224 37th Avenue NE
1959, Paul Thiry

Notes:
• Precast concrete construction.
• Retains original windows.
• Some changes to interior and exterior openings.
• Rehabilitated 2017.

Thiry also designed Northgate Elementary (1956) for SPS, as well as Our Lady of the Lake and St. Pius X for the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Northgate Elementary School
Landmark Nomination Report
December 2019
Sacajawea Elementary
9501 20th Avenue NE
1959, Waldron & Dietz

Notes:
• Brick masonry and steel frame construction.
• Retains original aluminum-sash windows.
• Insensitive addition of roof insulation.

Waldron & Dietz also designed Broadview-Thomson Junior High (1963).

Figure 129 • Sacajawea Elementary (1959, Waldron & Dietz)

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December 2019
Decatur Elementary
7711 43rd Avenue NE
1961, Edward Mahlum

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Retains its original aluminum-sash windows.

Mahlum also designed McClure Junior High (1964).

Figure 130 • Decatur Elementary (1961, Edward Mahlum)
Graham Hill Elementary
5149 South Graham Street
1961, Theo Damm

Notes:
• Brick masonry.
• Retains original aluminum-sash windows.
• Recent addition on western side.
• Non-original supplemental fletch beam observed at overhang.

Theo Damm also designed Rogers Elementary (1956).

Figure 131 • Graham Hill Elementary (1961, Theo Damm)
Rainier View Elementary
11650 Beacon Avenue S
1961, Durham, Anderson & Freed

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Building renovated in 2011 with replacement windows and new entrance.

Durham, Anderson & Freed also designed Schmitz Park Elementary (1962).

Figure 132 • Rainier View Elementary (1961, Durham Anderson & Freed)
Northgate Elementary School
5000 SW Spokane Street
1962, Durham, Anderson & Freed

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Retains original aluminum-sash windows.

Durham, Anderson & Freed also designed Rainier View Elementary (1961).

Schmitz Park Elementary
5000 SW Spokane Street
1962, Durham, Anderson & Freed

Figure 133 • Schmitz Park Elementary (1962, Anderson & Freed, vacant)
Broadview-Thomson Elementary (formerly R. H. Thomson Jr High)
13052 Greenwood Avenue N
1963, Waldron & Dietz

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Retains original aluminum-sash.
• Lin-T concrete slab roof.
• Recent roof insulation upgrade.

Waldron & Dietz also designed Sacajawea Elementary (1959).

The Johnson Partnership, August 2012

Figure 134 • R. H. Thompson Junior High School (1963, Waldron & Dietz)
Fairmount Park School (altered, now Fairmount Park Elementary School)
3800 SW Findlay Street
1964, Carlson, Eley & Grevstad

Notes:
• Brick masonry
• Flat roofs
• Aluminum windows

Carlson, Eley, & Grevstad designed the Fairmount Park School (1964).

Figure 135 • Fairmount Park School (1964, Carlson, Eley & Grevstad, altered)
Nathan Eckstein Middle School (City of Seattle Landmark)
3003 NE 75th Street
1950, William Mallis

Notes:
• Brick masonry with integral glass block.
• Retains original steel-sash windows.
• City of Seattle Landmark.

William Mallis also designed Sharples/Kurose Junior High (1952) and View Ridge Elementary (1948).
Mallis’ firm, Mallis & DeHart, designed Whitman Junior High (1959), D. Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), Nathan Hale High School (1963), and Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.
Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.
Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins designed Addams Junior High (1954), which was SPS gained through annexation.
Catharine Blaine Middle School
2550 34th Avenue W
1952, J. Lister Holmes

Notes:
• Concrete with brick masonry infill.
• Appears to retain early aluminum-sash windows.
• Original saw-tooth clerestories removed.

This is the only school that J. Lister Holmes designed for SPS during this period.

Figure 137 • Catharine Blaine Middle School (1952, J. Lister Holmes)
Aki Kurose Middle School (Formerly Casper W. Sharples Jr. High)
3928 S Graham Street
1952, William Mallis

Notes:
- Brick masonry and concrete construction with integral glass block infill.
- Replacement windows.

William Mallis also designed Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark) & View Ridge Elementary (1948).

Mallis’ firm, Mallis & DeHart, designed Whitman Junior High (1959), D. Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), Nathan Hale High School (1963), & Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.

Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.

Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins designed Addams Junior High (1954), which SPS gained through annexation.

Figure 138 • Aki Kurose Middle School (1952, William Mallis, formerly Casper W. Sharples Junior High)
David Denny Junior High School (Demolished)
8402 30th Avenue SW
1952, Mallis & DeHart

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Demolished in 2011.

Mallis & DeHart designed Whitman Junior High (1959), Nathan Hale High School (1963), and Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.
Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.
Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins designed Addams Junior High (1954), which SPS gained through annexation.
William Mallis also designed Sharples/Kurose Junior High (1952), View Ridge Elementary (1948), and Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark).

Figure 139 • David Denny Middle School (1952, Mallis & DeHart, demolished)
Asa Mercer Middle School
1600 Columbian Way S
1957, John W. Maloney

Notes:
- Brick masonry and concrete construction.
- Replacement windows.
- Thin-sheel concrete roof on gymnasium.

John W. Maloney also designed Rainier Beach High School (1960).

Figure 140 • Asa Mercer Middle School (1957, John W. Maloney)
Whitman Middle School
9201 15th Avenue NW
1959, Mallis & DeHart

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Retains original aluminum-sash windows.

Mallis & DeHart designed
Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), Nathan Hale High School (1963), and
Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.
Mallis & DeHart designed
Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished)
for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.
Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins
designed Addams Junior High (1954), which SPS gained through annexation.
William Mallis designed Aki Kurose Junior High (1952),
View Ridge Elementary (1948) & Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark).

Figure 141 • Whitman Middle School (1959, Mallis & DeHart)
Lousia Boren Junior High School (now Boren K-8 STEM)
5950 Delridge Way SW
1963, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johnson

The Johnson Partnership, August 2012

Notes:
• Stucco over frame.
• Retains original windows.
• Recent upgrades to roof insulation.
• Currently K-8 STEM school.

NBBJ designed Ingraham High School (1959, partial City of Seattle Landmark), Chief Sealth High School (1957), and Louisa Boren Junior High School (1963).

Figure 142 • Louisa Boren Middle School (1963, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johnson)
Notes:

• Precast concrete construction with folded plate roof.
• Retains original aluminum-sash windows.

Worth McClure Middle School
1915 First Avenue W
1964, Edward Mahlum

Notes:
- Concrete with brick masonry infill.
- Replacement windows.

Edward Mahlum also designed Decatur Elementary (1961).

Northgate Elementary School
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Chief Sealth High School
2600 SW Thistle Street
1957, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Use of dramatic thin-shell concrete roof.
• Has undergone major renovations.

NBBJ also designed Ingraham High School (1959), and Louisa Boren Junior High School (1963).

Northgate Elementary School
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December 2019
Ingraham High School (City of Seattle Landmark)
1819 N 135th Street
1959, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson

Notes:
• Thin shell concrete on auditorium and gymnasium
• Modular classroom wings with steel framing
• Landmark designation covers Auditorium and Gymnasium.
• Numerous additions and alterations at classroom wings.

NBBJ also designed Chief Sealth High School (1957) and Louisa Boren Junior High School (1963).

Figure 146 • Ingraham High School (1959, Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johnson, City of Seattle Landmark)
Rainier Beach High School
8815 Seward Park Avenue S
1960, John W. Maloney

Notes:

• Brick masonry construction.
• Windows on second floor replaced.
• New entry and other renovations completed in 2008.

John W. Maloney also designed Asa Mercer Junior High School (1957).

Figure 147 • Rainier Beach High School (1960, John W. Maloney)
Nathan Hale High School
10750 30th Avenue NE
1963, Mallis & DeHart

Notes:
• Brick masonry and concrete construction.
• Use of Lin-T concrete roof slabs.
• Major renovations and additions completed between 2008 and 2011.

Mallis & DeHart designed David Denny Junior High (1952, demolished), Whitman Junior High School (1959), and Viewlands Elementary (1954) for SPS.

Mallis & DeHart designed Wilson Junior High (1954, demolished) and Pinehurst Elementary (1953, demolished) for the Shoreline School District, and the schools were gained by annexation.

Mallis, DeHart & Hopkins designed Addams Junior High (1954), which SPS gained through annexation.

William Mallis designed Aki Kurose Junior High (1952), View Ridge Elementary (1948), and Eckstein Junior High (1950, City of Seattle Landmark).

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Figure 148 • Nathan Hale High School (1963, Mallis & DeHart)
Figure 149 • Architect Paul Thiry

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1. Introduction

This report was prepared by Larry E. Johnson, AIA, principal of the Johnson Partnership, May 2013. Additional input was received from Susan Boyle, AIA, of BOLA Architecture + Planning. The report was updated in 2019 by Ellen F. C. Mirro, AIA, principal of the Johnson partnership. Special thanks to Tingyu Wang of Seattle Public Schools Facilities for updating and reviewing the report.

Note: This general historical survey does not provide a comprehensive list of every school built or operated by Seattle Public Schools from the district’s founding in 1882 to the present day.

2. Early Development of Seattle Area Schools

The first school in Seattle was established in 1854 in Bachelors’ Hall, a boarding house for single men located near present-day First Avenue and Cherry Street. The sole teacher was Catharine P. Blaine, who arrived in Seattle in 1853 with her Episcopalian minister husband. An initial three-person school board was created around 1861, and in 1862, the first public funds were used to pay a teacher a salary for the twenty-three children attending school then held in the new Territorial University Building on Denny’s Knoll, located at University Street and Fourth Avenue. Until 1866, when tuition-free classes were established, public funds were exclusively earmarked for teacher salaries. In 1869, Seattle received a city charter from the territorial legislature, and residents approved a funding levy to build the city’s first free public school building, Central School, near Third Avenue and Marion Street. The school opened in 1870 with 120 students and the city’s first public school teacher, Lizzie Ordway. Other tax levies were later approved to construct a few smaller schoolhouses of one or two rooms scattered throughout the town.¹

In 1877, the legislature established the Territorial Board of Education, and by 1881, it had granted appointments of school superintendents in incorporated cities. Subsequently, Edward Ingraham was named the first superintendent of the Seattle School District in 1882.²

In 1883, a new twelve-room Central School (1883, Isaac A. Palmer, a.k.a. the Sixth Street School, demolished) located at Sixth Avenue and Marion Street opened, offering Seattle’s first high school classes. The following year, the twelve-room Denny School (1884, Stephen J. Meany, demolished) at Fifth Avenue and Battery Street opened for elementary students. The district’s first high school commencement was held in 1886, for twelve graduates.³ See figures 1-2.

Student enrollment in the district expanded more than fourfold from 1,500 students in 1885 to nearly 6,650 in 1893, with many students attending classes held in rented rooms. Acute overcrowding, exacerbated by the loss of Central School to a fire in 1888, resulted in a major school construction program. Eight school buildings were built between 1889 and 1890. The city’s third Central School (1889, demolished 1953), replaced its destroyed predecessor, and the South School (1889, demolished 1909), located at Twelfth Avenue S and S Weller Street,

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were Seattle’s first brick masonry schools, both designed by the architectural firm of Boone & Meeker.\footnote{Hoerlein, p. x.}

The district’s third superintendent, Frank J. Barnard, was hired in 1890, replacing Julia Kennedy, who had replaced Ingraham in 1888. Barnard oversaw the construction of fifteen schools the district completed between 1891 and 1900. Three were wood-frame school buildings with identical plans designed by the architectural firm of Saunders & Houghton, as well as four schools designed by John Parkinson based on programs developed by Barnard.\footnote{Ibid.} See figure 3.

District schools completed between 1890 and 1899 include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mercer School</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Fourth Ave N &amp; Valley Street</td>
<td>Saunders &amp; Houghton</td>
<td>Demolished 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.T. Minor School</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1700 E Union Street</td>
<td>Saunders &amp; Houghton</td>
<td>Demolished 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Anne School</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>W Galer Street &amp; Fifth Ave W</td>
<td>Charles W. Saunders</td>
<td>Demolished 1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randall School</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>E Union Street &amp; 33rd Ave</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Sold and moved 1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainier School</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>23rd Ave S &amp; King Street</td>
<td>Saunders &amp; Houghton</td>
<td>Demolished 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic School</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Norman Street &amp; 26th Ave S</td>
<td>Walter Smedley</td>
<td>Demolished 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.F. Day School</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>3921 Linden Ave N</td>
<td>John Parkinson</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latona School</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Fifth Ave NE &amp; N 42nd St.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Demolished 1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Lake School</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>N 65th Street &amp; Sunnyside Ave</td>
<td>John Parkinson</td>
<td>Demolished 1928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade School</td>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Pontius &amp; E Thomas Streets</td>
<td>John Parkinson</td>
<td>Demolished 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific School</td>
<td>1893</td>
<td>1114 E Jefferson Street</td>
<td>John Parkinson</td>
<td>Demolished 1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seward School</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Franklin &amp; Louisa Streets</td>
<td>Chamberlin &amp; Siebrand</td>
<td>A.k.a. Denny-Fuhrman, altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Queen Anne School</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>515 W Galer Street</td>
<td>Skillings &amp; Corner</td>
<td>Sold and redeveloped as condominiums in 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Hill School</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>16th Street S &amp; S Lander Street</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Destroyed by fire 1988</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The financial panic of 1893 slowed the development of new schools, but Seattle prospered during the Klondike Gold Rush of 1897.6 In the aftermath of the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, local designers and builders focused on fireproof masonry as a primary building material, looking to post-fire Chicago and its brick masonry buildings for inspiration.7

3. Early 20th Century Seattle Schools and James Stephen

Frank B. Cooper was hired as superintendent in 1901. During his twenty-one-year tenure, he led the Seattle School District’s transformation into a major urban school system. Cooper encouraged this development by establishing many specialized programs, including kindergartens, parental schools, and classes for adults in evening schools, as well as those for special-needs students. Cooper and the school board planned for smaller neighborhood elementary schools and comprehensive high schools.8

James Stephen became the school architect and director of construction in 1901, developing a “model school plan” for standard wood-frame elementary schools. This plan was used as a basis for several elementary schools designed for the district, partially offsetting a short-term financial shortfall. These schools provided a flexible and economical approach to school construction. The standard floor plan facilitated a phased construction process in which an eight-, twelve-, or twenty-room school could be constructed and later expanded. While standard floor plans and interior finish materials were used, the exterior elevations and details of these schools varied greatly.9 See figure 4.

In 1902, the district constructed seven new large wood-frame schools, all based on Stephen’s plan, as well as a new large brick masonry high school. They include:10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Lake School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>6500 Sunnyside Avenue N</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>5031 University Way NE</td>
<td>Bebb &amp; Mendel</td>
<td>Later University Heights, sold to University Heights Community Center Association, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interbay School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>16th Ave W &amp; W Barrett Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ross School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Third Ave NW bwr NW 43rd &amp;</td>
<td>Josenhans &amp; Allen</td>
<td>Demolished 1941</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 Erigero, p. 8.
7 Ibid., pp. 4, 96.
8 Hoerlein, p. xi.
10 Erigero, p. 10. Seattle Sunday Times, August 31, 1902, p.18.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walla Walla School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>2410 E Cherry Street</td>
<td>Saunders &amp; Lawton</td>
<td>Renamed Horace Mann School, Seattle Landmark, altered, now the site of Nova High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Street School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>E Thomas Street &amp; 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Avenue E</td>
<td>W.E. Boone &amp; J.M. Coriner</td>
<td>Renamed Longfellow, later Edmund S. Meany Middle School, demolished 1960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Between 1904 and 1909, Stephen designed ten other Seattle schools, all based on his “model school plan,” including: 11 See figure 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park School</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>6532 Phinney Avenue N</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Renamed John B. Allen School, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Hill School</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Avenue S &amp; S Lander Street</td>
<td>Saunders &amp; Lawton</td>
<td>Sold to El Centro de la Raza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlake School</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>4416 Wallingford Ave N</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now Wallingford Center, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madrona School</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>33&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Ave &amp; E Union Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John B. Hay School</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Bigelow &amp; Boston Streets</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seward School</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>2515 Boylston Avenue E</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now TOPS K-8 School, altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Bagley School</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>Stone Way N &amp; N 79&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latona School</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>401 NE 42&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now John Stanford International School, altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac I. Stevens School</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>1242 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ave E</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frantz Coe School</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>2433 Sixth Ave W</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Destroyed by fire 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Asselt School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Beacon Ave S &amp; S Othello Street</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 Erigero, p. 10.
Other district schools during this period that were not based on the “model plan” include: See figure 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central High School</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>6525 E Broadway</td>
<td>W.E. Boone &amp; J.M. Corner</td>
<td>Later renamed Broadway High School, demolished 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental School</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Mercer Island</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>A.k.a. Burbank school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit School</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>1415 Summit Avenue</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now Northwest School, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin School</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>18th Avenue S and Main Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>A.k.a. Washington School, demolished ca. 1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittier School</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>7501 13th Avenue NW</td>
<td>Newton Gauntt</td>
<td>Demolished 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webster School</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>3014 NW 67th Street</td>
<td>Frederick Sexton</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Between 1907 and 1908, the district began reconsidering wood-framed school buildings, with the board authorizing the construction of three brick masonry “fireproof” buildings using the model plan developed for the wood-frame schools. These include:12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lawton School</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>25th Ave W &amp; W Elmore Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairview School</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>844 NE 78th St</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now Fairview Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitworth School</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>5215 46th Ave S</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1987</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These James Stephen-designed buildings were nearly identical, incorporating Tudor-style details executed in terra cotta, with flat roofs and projecting entries.

In 1908, a school fire in Collinwood, Ohio killed 172 students, and caused school districts around the country to re-evaluate their building programs.13 Among these was school architect James Stephen, who toured the country to prepare a report on modern school design, construction, and equipment. This report led directly to the creation and adoption of the second “model school plan” that incorporated fireproof materials including concrete, masonry, and terra cotta. These “new” school plans also incorporated modern lavatory equipment. The later schools were often executed in then-popular late Gothic or Jacobean styles, and were designed to be expandable as necessary. Schools that followed the “new”

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12 Erigero, p. 18.
model are: See figure 7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emerson School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>9709 60th Avenue S</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>6129 26th Avenue NW</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Demolished 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colman School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1515 24th Avenue S</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now African American Museum, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenwood School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>144 NW 80th Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stephen also designed the original portions of two of Seattle’s oldest extant high schools: See figure 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln High School</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>4400 Interlake Avenue N</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Anne High School</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>215 Galer Street</td>
<td>James Stephen</td>
<td>Now housing, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By 1910, enrollment was at 24,758 students and more elementary school buildings were needed. Annexations of suburban areas between 1905 and 1910 brought nearly two dozen additional schools into the district service area, many of which needed replacement.  

4. Early 20th Century Seattle Schools and Edgar Blair

Edgar Blair, who had worked with Stephens since 1906, became the district’s architect in 1909 after Stephen resigned. Blair, a graduate of Columbia University who had previously worked at the New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White, originally retained Stephen’s model plan, but eventually shifted away from Stephen’s preferred Jacobean style to more Classical- and Renaissance-based schemes. 

Between 1910 and 1913, eight nine-room reinforced concrete school buildings with brick veneers were constructed from Blair’s designs, including the following: See figure 9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gatewood School</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>4320 SW Myrtle Street</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravenna School</td>
<td>1911</td>
<td>6545 Ravenna</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, now Ravenna Apartments Community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14 Krafft, pp. 61-63.
15 Krafft, pp. 61-63.
17 Ibid., p. 20.
18 Ibid., pp. 22-23.
These similar school buildings were all eclectically styled with wood-framed hip roofs. The later buildings incorporated terra cotta stringcourses and more intricate detailing.\(^\text{19}\)

Besides these larger nine-room school buildings, Blair was responsible for smaller, four- to six-classroom “intermediate grade of school buildings” designed for less populous neighborhood locations. These include: \(^\text{20}\) See figure 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harrison School</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>3201 E Republican St</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, sold to First African Methodist Episcopal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Queen Anne School</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>2919 First Avenue W</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fauntleroy School</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>9131 California Avenue SW</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, now leased to West Seattle Nursery &amp; Garden Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank B. Cooper School</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>4408 Delridge Way SW</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, now Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown Hill School</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>9250 14th Avenue NW</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, sold to Small Faces Child Development Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blair also designed four school additions, so-called “border” buildings, consisting of linear single-loaded brick masonry buildings intended to be built adjacent to the lot line of existing schools. These include additions to: \(^\text{21}\) See figure 11.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

\(^\text{19}\) Ibid., pp. 22-23.  
\(^\text{20}\) Ibid., pp. 22-23.  
\(^\text{21}\) Erigero, pp. 22-23.
Blair designed three high schools during his tenure. These are as follows: See figure 12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Franklin High School</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>3013 S Mt. Baker Blvd</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballard High School</td>
<td>1916</td>
<td>1418 NW 65th Street</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Demolished 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Seattle High School</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>4075 SW Stevens Street</td>
<td>Edgar Blair</td>
<td>Altered, City of Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1919, four “Liberty Buildings,” wood-framed temporary annexes built cheaply to conserve materials during World War I, were built adjacent to Jefferson, Bagley, Bryant, and Fulton schools.

Blair resigned as school architect in March of 1918, due to differences with the fiscally conservative Nathan Eckstein, who was then serving as the chair of the district’s building committee.

5. 1920s and 1930s Seattle Schools and Floyd A. Naramore

After World War I, and as Seattle entered the 1920s, the increased costs of providing educational programs to a growing population strained the school district. Public school enrollment grew from 51,381 in 1920, to slightly over 66,000 ten years later, requiring new construction in newly developed areas like Montlake and Laurelhurst, additions to older schools, and construction of intermediate schools and high schools. Despite a post-war recession in the early 1920s, the district entered into a phase of a well-funded building program due to school construction bond issues passed in 1919, 1923, 1925, and 1927.

Floyd A. Naramore replaced Blair as school architect in 1919, overseeing the completion of several projects already underway. An M.I.T. graduate who had already designed several schools in Portland, Oregon, Naramore would significantly influence the district’s school design until his departure for private practice in 1932. Most of Naramore’s schools were

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22 Ibid., p. 24.
23 Ibid., p. 25.
24 Ibid., p. 25.
designed in a twentieth century version of the Georgian style.\textsuperscript{26}

With Cooper still serving as superintendent, the district continued its vocational and technical programs, building a large reinforced concrete annex (1921, Floyd A. Naramore, altered, later Edison Technical School, now part of Seattle Community College’s Central Campus) across the street to the north from Broadway High School in 1921. The same year, the district also completed a new administration and facilities building (1921, Floyd A. Naramore, demolished).\textsuperscript{27}

Cooper left the district in 1922, replaced by Thomas Cole, a former principal of Broadway High School. Cole served until 1931, and was succeeded by Worth McClure.\textsuperscript{28}

The district completed thirteen new elementary school buildings during this period, and altered several others with additions. By 1935, all elementary schools also included kindergarten, and lunchroom service was being added to all schools.\textsuperscript{29}

New elementary schools completed during this period include: \textit{See figure 13.}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bailey Gatzert School</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>615 12\textsuperscript{th} Ave S</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Demolished 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Park School</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>1012 SW Trenton Street</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Demolished 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Washington School</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>6612 57\textsuperscript{th} Ave S</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Originally Girls’ Parental School, demolished 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia School</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>3528 S Ferdinand Street</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hay School</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>411 Boston Street</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Now called Queen Anne Elementary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunlap School</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>8621 46\textsuperscript{th} Avenue S</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark, Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montlake School</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>2409 22\textsuperscript{nd} Avenue E</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Cullen Bryant School</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>3311 NE 60\textsuperscript{th} Street</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.C. Hughes School</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>7740 34\textsuperscript{th} Avenue SW</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnolia School</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>2418 28\textsuperscript{th} Avenue W</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurelhurst School</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>4530 46\textsuperscript{th} Avenue NE</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{26} Ibid., pp. 25-26. Hoerlein, p. xi.
\textsuperscript{27} Nile Thompson and Carolyn Marr, \textit{Building for Learning} (Seattle, WA: Seattle Public Schools, 2001), pp. 86-87.
\textsuperscript{28} Hoerlein, p. xi.
\textsuperscript{29} Ibid., p. xii.
In the early 1920s, the district considered building intermediate or “junior high school” buildings serving students in grades seven through nine, to put itself in line with national educational philosophy and relieve pressure on existing elementary and high schools. The school board officially adopted the term “junior high school” in 1932. Naramore designed four intermediate or junior high schools for the district, including. See figure 14.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Bagley School</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>7821 Stone Avenue N</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyal Heights School</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>2511 NW 80th Street</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark, Altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These school buildings were all built according to a “hollow square” plan with a centrally located gymnasium and lunchroom. Each included specialized science, mechanical drawing, cooking, sewing, and art rooms.

Three new high schools were completed between 1923 and 1929. They also featured the “hollow square” plan and had imposing primary façades.

High schools designed by Floyd Naramore include: See figure 15.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt High School</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>1410 NE 66th St</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James A. Garfield High School</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>400 23rd Avenue</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland High School</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>5511 15th Avenue S</td>
<td>Floyd A. Naramore</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

District high schools during this period adopted specialized programs for science, art, physical education, industrial arts, and home economics.

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31 Erigero, p. 28.
32 Hoerlein, pp. xi-xii.
The Great Depression of the 1930s was a time of rising unemployment with general school enrollment declining to 57,551 in 1933. Enrollment in adult education classes dramatically increased, however. Seattle schools faced declining revenues, excess personnel and older urban facilities. Sixteen schools were closed, and their students redistributed to nearby buildings. By the end of the 1930s, there were concerns about the lack of maintenance and the conditions of older schools, prompting the district to request a tax levy for another new building program.\[33\]

6. World War II-Era Seattle Schools

A three million dollar school levy passed on March 14, 1939.\[34\] Under this levy Floyd Naramore was hired as an independent architect in partnership with Clifton Brady. He completed the design for one new school building, T.T. Minor, and a major addition and remodel at what was then called Longfellow, later renamed Edmund Meany after the addition was complete. Also, eleven other schools received minor additions and remodels from levy funds.\[35\] Additions included a gymnasium at Colman School, vocation wing at Edison, additional classrooms at Van Asselt, four rooms at Laurelhurst, classrooms at McGilvra and Magnolia, and an addition at Ballard.\[36\] However, due to declining enrollment in this period, sixteen older buildings were closed, including the Ross School.\[37\]

During World War II, Seattle became a center of aircraft and shipbuilding for the war effort and experienced a massive influx of defense workers and their families. School enrollment once again grew, especially in areas where there were no existing school facilities. Existing school facilities were expanded for the children of these workers, especially in federally funded housing project areas.\[38\]

At the same time, the internment of 1,456 Japanese American families meant that the district lost a large number of students.\[39\]

The district also sought to increase efficiency at this time by changing its method for designing new buildings, choosing to hire private architecture firms rather than employing a school district architect for new building programs. Once again, all buildings constructed after 1941 were considered temporary structures to conserve building materials for the war effort.\[40\]

New schools completed during World II included: \textit{See figure 16.}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T.T. Minor School</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>17700 E Union Street</td>
<td>Naramore &amp; Brady</td>
<td>altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[34\] Seattle Times, “Propositions; 3-Mill School Levy (Approved),” March 15, 1939, p.2
\[35\] Hoerlein, p. xii.
\[37\] Hoerlein, p. xii. And Seattle Times, “Ross School May Be Discontinued,” February 17, 1940 p.7
\[38\] Hoerlein, pp. xi-xii
\[39\] Ibid., p. xii.
\[40\] Erigero, p. 28. Hoerlein, p. xii.
Additions and improvements to more than ten other schools were also undertaken as part of a program that demolished and replaced the city’s oldest wood-frame school buildings.

7. Post-World War II Seattle Schools, 1946 to 1965

After World War II, enrollment swelled to a peak in the 1960s of approximately 100,000 students. Between 1946 and 1958, six separate bond issues were approved for new school construction. Samuel Fleming, employed by the district since 1908, succeeded Worth McClure as superintendent in 1945. After Fleming retired in 1956, Ernest Campbell became superintendent.41

In 1945, the Seattle School District Board commissioned a study of population trends and future building needs. One proposal called for the modernization of all existing schools and the addition of classrooms, along with multi-use rooms for lunch and assembly purposes, covered and hard-surfaced play areas and play-courts, and expanded gymnasiums. Improvements in lighting, heating, plumbing systems, and acoustical treatments were sought as well. This survey occurred at a time when student enrollment in Seattle was stable, at around 50,000. By this time the school district was overseen by a five-member board of directors, and employed approximately 2,500 certified teachers, with an average annual salary of about $2,880.42

The district completed a large stadium with reinforced concrete stands (1947, George W. Stoddard) in 1947, adjacent to the National Guard Armory at Harrison Street and Fourth Avenue N, at the former Civic Field. In 1951, a war memorial shrine bearing the names of 762 Seattle schools graduates killed in World War II was dedicated at Memorial Stadium. In 1949, a 6.8 Richter-scale earthquake damaged several elementary schools, resulting in their subsequent replacement by temporary portables. As enrollment continued to swell throughout the 1950s, these temporary structures served as a quick, flexible response to overcrowding. In 1958 an estimated twenty percent of the total Seattle student body was taught in portable classrooms. Despite their popularity, however, the occupants of the portables suffered from inadequate heating, lack of plumbing, and distance from other school facilities.43

Elementary schools included separate gymnasiums and auditorium-lunchrooms. Older high schools gained additions of gymnasiums and specialized classroom space. Despite all the construction, there were still extensive needs for portable classrooms to accommodate

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41 Hoerlein, p. xii.
43 Hoerlein, p. xiii.
excess enrollment.\textsuperscript{44}

During this period the quality of construction gradually improved. The earliest school buildings, put up as rapidly as possible, included the three schools constructed in 1949. Designs prepared by George W. Stoddard for these schools were essentially linked portables with a fixed administrative wing. Each of the district’s thirty-five new school buildings was individually designed in the Modern style, with nearly all of the elementary schools constructed as one-story buildings, or on sloping sites. To conform to change in building code, each classroom had direct access to grade.

The twenty-two new elementary schools built by the district between 1948 and 1965 include: See figures 17 & 18.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>View Ridge School</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>7047 50\textsuperscript{th} Avenue NE</td>
<td>William Mallis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbor Heights School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>3701 SW 104th Street</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briarcliff School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>3901 W Dravus Street</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Sold to Lexington Development and demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genesee Hill School</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>5012 SW Genesee Street</td>
<td>George W. Stoddard</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette School</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>2645 California Avenue SW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Asselt School</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>7201 Beacon Avenue S</td>
<td>Jones &amp; Bindon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympic Hills School</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>13018 20\textsuperscript{th} Avenue NE</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viewlands School</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>10523 Third Avenue NW</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedgwood School</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>2720 NE 85\textsuperscript{th} Street</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northgate School</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>11725 First Avenue NE</td>
<td>Paul Thiry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rogers School</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>4030 NE 109th Street</td>
<td>Theo Damm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Beach School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>9018 24\textsuperscript{th} Avenue NW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{44} Ibid., pp. xii-xiii.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roxhill School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>9430 30th Avenue SW</td>
<td>John Graham &amp; Co.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Point School</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>6208 60th Avenue NE</td>
<td>G.W. Stoddard w/ F. Haggard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Park School</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>13224 37th Avenue NE</td>
<td>Paul Thiry</td>
<td>Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacajawea School</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>9501 20th Avenue NE</td>
<td>Waldron &amp; Dietz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur School</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>7711 43rd Avenue NE</td>
<td>Edward Mahlum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham Hill School</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>5149 S Graham Street</td>
<td>Theo Damm</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainier View School</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>11650 Beacon Avenue S</td>
<td>Durham, Anderson &amp; Freed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schmitz Park School</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>5000 SW Spokane Street</td>
<td>Durham, Anderson &amp; Freed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadview-Thomson School</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>13052 Greenwood Avenue N</td>
<td>Waldron &amp; Dietz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairmont Park School</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>3800 SW Findlay Street</td>
<td>Carlson, Eley &amp; Grevstad</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the first priorities during this period was the building of new junior high schools. Between 1950 and 1959, ten new junior high schools were completed: See figure 19.
During this period the district also constructed four new high schools, including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Sealth High School</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>2600 SW Thistle Street</td>
<td>NBBJ</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingraham High School</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>1819 N 135th Street</td>
<td>NBBJ</td>
<td>Altered, Seattle Landmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainier Beach High School</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>8815 Seward Park Avenue S</td>
<td>John W. Maloney</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Hale High School</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>10750 30th Avenue NE</td>
<td>Mallis &amp; Dehart</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Between 1943 and 1954, voters in the rapidly growing unincorporated areas north of Seattle, feeling the burden of new special school levies, and believing that there were advantages to Seattle transportation services and police and fire protection, approved at least twelve annexations to the city of Seattle. This pushed the city limits northward from a line near N 85th street, to a uniform north border at N 145th Street. These annexations brought an additional ten schools into the district from the struggling Shoreline School District.\(^{45}\)

8. Mid-1960s and 1970s Seattle Schools

After the mid-1960s and throughout the 1970s, the district suffered from declining enrollment and revenue. Repeated leadership changes in the district resulted from the short tenures of three superintendents between 1965 and 1981. Forbes Bottomly was appointed district superintendent in 1965, after Frank Campbell retired. Bottomly resigned in 1973, and was replaced by J. Loren Troxel, who had previously served as assistant superintendent. In 1976 he was replaced by David Moberly, formerly a school superintendent from Evanston, Illinois. Donald Steel, who had previously served as superintendent in Toledo, Ohio, succeeded Moberly in 1981. During this period overall enrollment in the district also declined, from over 93,000 in 1965 to approximately 43,500 in 1984.\(^{46}\)

The district attempted to address racial desegregation in 1963 with a volunteer transfer


\(^{46}\) Hoerlein, xiii.
program, and multiracial readers that were tried on an experimental basis in 1965.\textsuperscript{47}

In 1966, a new type of school was designed based on pedagogical theories of team teaching, open space and synergy. Seven new elementary schools and one middle school were designed and built with an “open concept,” and other schools were remodeled with the removal of walls and the addition of learning resource centers. New programs for Head Start, Title 1 remedial, Special Education and Transitional Bilingual were added.

“Open Concept” schools built by the district include: \textit{See figure 20.}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Lake School</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>6415 First Avenue NE</td>
<td>Manson Bennett</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Steven E. Sanislo School</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>812 SW Myrtle Street</td>
<td>Sullam, Smith &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Hill School</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>2025 14\textsuperscript{th} Avenue S</td>
<td>Durham, Anderson &amp; Freed</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dearborn Park</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>2820 S Orcas Street</td>
<td>Fred Bassetti &amp; Company</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimball School</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>3200 23\textsuperscript{rd} Avenue S</td>
<td>Durham, Anderson &amp; Freed</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wing Luke School</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>3701 S Kenyon Street</td>
<td>Fred Bassetti &amp; Company</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple School</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>4925 Corson Avenue S</td>
<td>Durham, Anderson &amp; Freed</td>
<td>Altered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Shore Middle School</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>4800 S Henderson St</td>
<td>NBBJ</td>
<td>Demolished</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By 1977, the Seattle School Board instigated a sweeping desegregation plan that included bussing approximately 12,000 students, with over half of Seattle’s schools involved. As a result, public school enrollment dropped by half from the 1960s, and private school enrollment throughout the city grew. The school board was forced to enact a school closure plan. By 1984, the district had closed two high schools, seven junior high schools, and twenty elementary schools. Mandatory busing eased in the late 1980s, in response to litigation by community groups in north end neighborhoods and court rulings.\textsuperscript{48}

\textsuperscript{47} Ibid., xiv.

9. 1980s to Present-Day Seattle Schools

Deputy district superintendent Robert L. Nelson was appointed superintendent in 1984 to serve a two-year term after Steele resigned. William M. Kendrick was appointed superintendent in 1986, after a national search. Kendrick served nine years and was succeeded by retired army general John Stanford. Stanford proved to be a capable and dynamic leader, but a terminal illness led to his replacement in 1998 by the district’s chief operations manager, Joseph Olchefske.  

In 1984, many schools needed upgrading or replacement, and a bond issue passed for thirteen new Elementary Schools, upgrading Ballard High and a new facility for Franklin High. Community debates about preservation followed this bond issue. The School Board also decided that excess properties were an asset to the Seattle School District and therefore should not be sold, but rather leased to community groups. Only three of the decommissioned schools were demolished so that the underlying property could be leased, and the rest of the buildings either sit empty or are being revamped for other purposes by long-term leaseholders.

In the 1990s, the school district’s major capital construction program continued with passage of three Building Excellence Levies (BEX) approved by voters in 1995 (BEX I), 2001 (BEX II), and 2007 (BEX III), which called for new construction, renovations, additions, and infrastructure and technology improvements. Seattle Public Schools completed the BEX IV program in 2018, funded by capital levy approved by voters in February 2013. The BEX V program was initiated in 2019, funded by a capital levy approved by voters in February of that year.

Schools constructed in the 1980s and 1990s include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Designer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olympic View Elementary</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>504 NE 95th Street</td>
<td>Eric Meng Associates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitworth Elementary</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>5215 46th Avenue S</td>
<td>WMFL Architects and Engineers</td>
<td>Now the site of Orca K-8 School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The African American Academy</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>8311 Beacon Avenue S</td>
<td>Streeter &amp; Associates</td>
<td>Now the site of the Van Asselt Elementary school program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Woodland</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>5601 Fourth Avenue NW</td>
<td>Olson Sundberg Architects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank B. Cooper</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1901 SW</td>
<td>Tsang</td>
<td>Now the site Pathfinder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

49 Hoerlein, pp. xiv-xv.
50 Ibid., pp. xiv-xvi.
For the 2011-2012 school year, the district had more than 47,000 enrolled students, but by 2018-2019 that number had increased to almost 53,000.\(^{51}\) Although this is less than half the number of fifty years ago, the number of students is gradually increasing. In 2012 the district operated ninety-one schools, of which fifty-four were elementary schools, twelve were high schools, ten were K-8 schools, nine were middle schools, and six were alternative schools. By 2018-2019 the district had added 22 schools, operating 113 different schools. New schools constructed under BEX IV are as follows:

- Thornton Creek School was added to the site of the Decatur School
- Cascadia Elementary and Robert Eagle Staff Middle School were constructed on the site of the former Woodrow Wilson School.\(^{52}\)
- Hazel Wolf K-8 School at the site of the former Pinehurst School.

Other schools were renovated and upgraded. These include: Cedar Park (Paul Thiry, City of Seattle Landmark), Daniel Bagley (Floyd Naramore, City of Seattle Landmark), Fairmount Park, Jane Addams, Lincoln High School (James Stevens, City of Seattle Landmark), Loyal Heights (1932, Floyd Naramore, City of Seattle Landmark), Nova at Horace Mann (City of Seattle Landmark), Meany Middle School, Queen Anne, and T. T. Minor.

The district has more than 8,000 staff, comprising 3,100 teachers, 835 paraprofessionals, 660 certified instructional staff, and 150 principals. Seattle Public Schools had a general fund budget of $558.3 million in the 2009-10 operational year.\(^{53}\) By 2018, the general fund budget

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\(^{52}\) Woodrow Wilson was Landmarked in 2014, for Criteria B and C for the significance of Robert Eagle Staff and the Indian Heritage Program at the school. However, the Seattle Landmarks Board voted to not impose controls on the building. The murals associated with the program, painted by Andrew Morrison, were preserved by the district and incorporated into the new school design.

had increased to $857.7 million. The general fund supports only the teaching and teaching administration for the district. The Capital Projects fund supports the building program and facilities.

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—. “Board Dooms Old Buildings in $589,000 School Programs,” June 11, 1940, pp.1&5.

—. “Colman School Addition Starts,” July 30, 1940, p.5.

—. “Building to be ready next Fall,” September 7, 1940, p.17.

—. “Van Asselt School Addition Dedicated,” November 16, 1940, p.3.

—. “Laurelhurst School Addition Dedicated,” December 4, 1940, p.5.


Figure 1. Sixth Street School, also called Central School, 1885 (1883-1888, destroyed by fire)

Figure 2. Seattle High School graduating class, June 4th, 1886
Figure 3. B.F. Day School (John Parkinson, 1892)

Figure 4. Green Lake School (James Stephen, 1902)
Figure 5. John B. Hay School (James Stephen, 1905, City of Seattle Landmark)

Figure 6. Central High School/Broadway High School (W.E. Boone & J.M. Corner, 1902)
Figure 7. Adams School (James Stephen, 1901)

Figure 8. Lincoln High School (James Stephen, 1907, City of Seattle Landmark)
Figure 9. Ravenna School (Edgar Blair, 1911)

Figure 10. Frank B. Cooper School (Edgar Blair, 1917, City of Seattle Landmark)
Figure 11. Seward School (Edgar Blair, 1917)

Figure 12. Franklin High School (Edgar Blair, 1912, City of Seattle Landmark)
Figure 13. Laurelhurst School (Floyd A. Naramore, 1928)

Figure 14. John Marshall Jr. High School (Floyd A. Naramore, 1927)
Figure 15. Roosevelt High School (Floyd A. Naramore, 1922, City of Seattle Landmark)

Figure 16. Rainier Vista School (J. Lister Holmes, 1943)
Figure 17. Arbor Heights Elementary (George W. Stoddard, 1949)

Figure 18. Cedar Park Elementary (Paul Thiry, 1959, City of Seattle Landmark)
Figure 19. Eckstein Junior High (William Mallis, 1950, City of Seattle Landmark)

Figure 20. Captain Steven E. Sanislo School (Sullam, Smith & Associates, 1970)
Figure 21. Olympic View Elementary (Eric Meng Associates, 1989)

Figure 22. African American Academy, now housing the Van Asselt Elementary program (Streeter & Associates, 1990)