Spud Fish & Chips
6860 East Green Lake Way N
952810-0485

Woodland Addition to
Green Lake

10 1-3

Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 10, Woodlawn Addition To Green Lake according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 6 of Plats, Page 20, in King County Washington.

Name: Spud Fish & Chips
(Common, present or historic)

Year Built: 1959

Street and Number: 6860 East Green Lake Way N

Assessor’s File No.: 952810-0485

Legal Description: (see below)

Plat Name: Woodland Addition to
Green Lake

Block: 10
Lot: 1-3

Present Owner: Blueprint 6860
Present Use: Restaurant

Address: PO Box 16438 Seattle WA 98116

Original Owner: Jack Alger

Original Use: Restaurant

Architect: Edward L. Cushman

Builder: Various
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1. INTRODUCTION

This landmark nomination report provides information regarding the architectural design and historical significance of the Spud Fish & Chips restaurant building, located at East 6860 Green Lake Way N in the Green Lake neighborhood in Seattle, Washington. The Spud Fish & Chips restaurant building was designed in 1959 by Edward Cushman. The Johnson Partnership prepared this report at the request of Blueprint Capital Services LLC.

1.1 Background

The City of Seattle’s Department of Construction and Development (DCI)—formerly the Department of Planning and Development—through a 1995 agreement with the Department of Neighborhoods, requires a review of “potentially eligible landmarks” for commercial projects over 4,000 square feet in area. As any proposed alterations or demolition of the subject building described within this report will require a permit from DPD, Blueprint Capital Services LLC 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

Larry E. Johnson, AIA, Principal, Ellen F. C. Mirro, AIA, Katherine V. Jaeger, and Alexandra E. Dao of The Johnson Partnership, 1212 NE 65th Street, Seattle, WA, completed research on this report between August and September of 2017. Research was undertaken at the Puget Sound Regional Archives, Seattle Department of Construction & Inspections, Seattle Public Library, the Museum of History and Industry, and the University of Washington Special Collections Library. Research also included review of Internet resources, including HistoryLink.com, and the Seattle Times digital archive, available through the Seattle Public Library. The buildings and site were inspected and photographed on August 28, 2017 to document the existing conditions.
2. **Property Data**

**Building Name:** Spud Fish & Chips  
**Address:** 6860 East Green Lake Way N  
**Location:** Green Lake neighborhood  
**Assessor’s File Number:** 952810-0485  

**Legal Description:** Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 10 Woodlawn Addition To Green Lake according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 6 of Plats, Page 20, in King County Washington.  

**Date of Construction:** 1959  
1967 Building moved  

**Original & Present Use:** Restaurant  

**Original/Present Owner:** Jack and Frank Alger/Blueprint 6860  

**Original Designer:** Edward L. Cushman  

**Zoning:** NC3P-40  

**Property Size:** 9,137 sf (0.21 acres)  

**Building Size:** 1,637 sf
3. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

3.1 Location & Neighborhood Character

The subject site is located in the Green Lake neighborhood, directly on the East Green Lake Way N arterial that encircles the lake. It is located within the Green Lake Urban Center Village, across the street from Green Lake Park and its various recreation areas. It is located two blocks southwest of NE Ravenna Boulevard within a mixed multi-family residential and commercial neighborhood. The surrounding area to the north and east consists primarily of restaurants, retail, and apartments, while the area to the south consists largely of single-family homes. See figure 1.

3.2 Site

The subject site is located on the eastern side of the small block created by East Green Lake Way N to the north, Woodlawn Ave NE to the south, Second Ave NE to the west, and Fourth Ave NE to the east. The subject site is slightly trapezoidal in shape, with dimensions roughly 100' north-south by 82.8' east-west at the northern edge and 100' east-west at the southern edge. The formal “front” of the building is the northern façade, facing East Green Lake Way N, with the main entrances on the northern ends of the eastern and western façades. The site has obstructed views of the Green Lake Play Field and Green Lake Park to the north, just across East Green Lake Way N. See figures 2-5.

The site has sidewalks along East Green Lake Way N and Fourth Avenue NE. There are two street trees along East Green Lake Way N and one along Fourth Avenue NE, a smaller tree and a bush in a brick planter at the southwestern corner of the building, and a row of hedges adjacent to the building along Fourth Avenue NE. There is a payphone just to the right of these hedges, just left of the entry doors. The structure incorporates a patio and partially-trellised overhang on the western side of the building as a prominent feature, where the primary signage and outdoor tables are located. A three-foot-high vinyl fence is not permanently installed, and separates the driveway from this outdoor eating area.

Spud Fish & Chips was originally located on the adjacent parcel to the west, 6850 East Green Lake Way N. South of these parcels an alley runs east-west, dividing the block in half. A small parking lot for restaurant patrons is located just south of the building. The lot has two entrances and one exit: the entrances are off East Green Lake Way N, down a short driveway to the west of the subject building, as well as off the mid-block alley. The exit is off of Fourth Avenue NE. See figures 6-7.

3.3 Building Structure & Exterior Features

The Spud Fish & Chip restaurant is the only building on this site. Stylistically the building can be considered Googie or Populuxe, with a vernacular Roadside influence. The building measures approximately 35’ 5” inches by 44’, with a total footprint of 1,637 square feet, enclosed, with an additional approximately 800-square-foot covered patio on the western side. The color scheme is largely white and blue, with the majority of the building base painted white and the details and trim painted blue. It has a concrete foundation and pitched “butterfly”-style roof with membrane roofing.

The large butterfly roof that covers the portion of the building closest to E Green Lake Way N is the main feature of this structure. The roof overhangs approximately 4’ 10” inches on the northern and eastern sides, with a deeper, 11’ 4.5” overhang sheltering the western patio. The interior under this roof contains the ordering counter and the indoor dining tables. There are two main entries, found at the northern ends of the western and eastern facades. The portion of the building under the butterfly roof runs the entire length of the structure along the northern façade and extends back 17’ 10” back. The southern end of the building features a shed roof section. Beginning from the southeastern corner of the structure, this section runs roughly 40’ along the southern end of the building and is 7’ 6” deep. The exterior walls here appear to be T1-11 plywood. The rest of the building, comprising mainly the center and much of the eastern façade, is a flat roof structure containing the kitchen facilities. See figures 8-11.
Northern Façade
The main façade is at the northern edge of the site along East Green Lake Way N, and is positioned entirely under the butterfly roof. Much of this façade is glazed, except for the space under the roof valley, which features some restaurant signage, and a portion of the wall near the upper right corner of the façade, which has white, painted metal louvers instead of a window. The signage says “Fish and Chips” and “6860” on a thick white column. There are no entries on this façade, but the large overhang shelters dining tables. The butterfly roof extends 4’ 10” out over the sidewalk in front and east of the building and extends about five feet past the sign support column to the west. The area under the western portion of the butterfly roof becomes the outdoor eating area. The underside of the roof overhang along the northern façade features fluorescent tube lights. See figure 12.

Western Façade
The primary features of the western façade are the butterfly roof that extends along most of this side of the building and the large, prominent signage rising approximately 10’ above the roof directly over the entry door, the round steel columns of which form provide support for the roof. The primary function here is outdoor table seating for restaurant patrons, located under the roof eave. Eight blue-painted columns support the wide eave off this façade, creating four bays under the butterfly roof. The six columns not supporting signage are all wooden 6”x6” posts. The bay spacing is irregular, with alternating bays of approximately ten and eight feet wide, starting with the ten-foot-wide entry bay on the northern end.

The two circular metal columns flanking the northern bay are about ten feet apart and appear to extend through the roof to support the main signage for the restaurant that sits directly above this bay. The sign reads “SPUD” in large letters and “FISH & CHIPS” underneath in slightly smaller text. The words are white on a blue background and are present on each side. One of the two main entries is also in this bay, made up of two fully glazed doors with a full-height sidelight on each side. The exterior wall in this bay extends all the way up to the butterfly roof, with white painted horizontal wooden slats above the doors. On top of the slats sits a painted white and blue metal sign with blue detailing. The sign features a fish in the center, with the words “Spud Fish and Chips” above and “A Seattle Landmark Since 1940” below.

The exterior wall in the second, third, and fourth bays does not extend all the way to the butterfly roof. Instead, the wall appears to be around 12’ high, with mechanical equipment visible on top of the lower flat roof. A vent is located approximately eight feet high on the wall. The eave of the butterfly roof is solid for the 8 to 10 feet closest to the edge, but changes to a gridded and translucent skylight system closer to the central valley of the roof. In each bay, dual utility lights are mounted on the underside of the butterfly roof.

The third and fourth bays contain ribbon windows with a series of horizontal slats. The windows are approximately six feet off the ground and two feet high, providing light into the kitchen and other functional spaces of the restaurant. Horizontal wooden slats are attached to the western side of the two westernmost columns on either side of the third bay and match those on the wall above the door in the first full bay. These begin about 10 feet off the ground and continue until about one foot below the butterfly roof.

The butterfly roof ends at the end of the fourth bay, and the building continues for another 7.5 feet under a shed roof. The shed roof portion does not extend out over the eating area like the butterfly roof portion does, but the outdoor eating area extends the length of the entire building. The exterior wall of the shed roof portion is in line with the rest of the western façade’s exterior walls. A brick planter, containing a tree and a bush, juts out from under the butterfly roof and aligns with the edges of the outdoor eating area to the west and the shed roof to the south. See figures 13-20.

Southern Façade
The southern façade faces the parking lot and is mainly composed of the blue-painted shed roof portion of the building. This façade includes a utility door approximately 20’ from the eastern edge of the building. Two utility lights are mounted under the eaves of the shed roof, each roughly 10’
from the eastern and western edges of the wall. The tall white fence to the west is coplanar with the exterior wall on this façade and extends completely between the building and the brick planter. The entire façade, including both the actual wall and the fence, features a mailbox and at least fourteen signs. Most of these signs refer to parking lot, but the largest is for the restaurant itself. See figure 21.

**Eastern Façade**

The eastern façade has three main sections. The northernmost section, located under the butterfly roof, contains the second of the two primary entries. This entry is mostly similar to the entry on the opposite side, with glazed doors and sidelights, a similar horizontal slat wall above the doors, and the same signage. This façade includes an additional window over the left sidelight, and the slats do not extend the full length of the wall. Spotlights are centered on the underside of the butterfly roof in front of the doors and in the southeastern corner. The eaves of the butterfly roof extend approximately 4’10” past the walls to the north over the sidewalk, east over the entry, and south over the low-slope roof of the adjacent building section.

This low-slope roof section mainly contains the kitchen facilities. Some mechanical equipment is visible on top. The exterior wall of this section is coplanar with the exterior wall of the butterfly roof section. Stationed along this façade is pay phone is, with a vent in the wall just above the top of the telephone. A hedgerow extends from the phone along the low-slope roof section of the building towards the south. The hedge stops at the shed roof section that borders the parking lot.

This shed roof section juts out four feet from the eastern façade of the building. It features a flood light and, to the left of that, a vent mounted at approximately seven feet. This portion is painted blue instead of, like the remainder of the eastern façade, white. See figure 22.

**3.4 Plan & Interior Features**

The plans from the 1967 relocation of the restaurant building to its current site illustrate the main interior spaces. The first is the public area, still present today and providing space for ordering and dining. This runs along the northern façade, approximately 10 feet deep, and is located entirely under the butterfly roof. It contains the two main entrances at the east and west ends and several tables and chairs along the northern wall for indoor dining.

The second space is the cooking area, just south of the public dining and ordering space, mostly open to the public area. Its west wall aligns with that of the public space, and it extends roughly 25 feet along the public area, stopping 10 to 15 feet short of the exterior wall. These two spaces are separated only by a bar, which today designates the ordering stand and the location of condiments and napkins. However, according to the 1967 relocation plans, there was a provision for moveable stools along this bar for additional customer seating. The back, or southern, wall of this space features a range and fryers, which is also noted on the plans.

Immediately south of this room and taking up approximately the same, though slightly wider, footprint is the preparation room or service area. The doorway to this room from the cooking space is located all the way to the east along the communicating wall. This room featured a band of windows along the western wall that is still present today.

Just east of both the cooking and preparation spaces is the paper storage room. Located partially within the paper storage room are two restrooms. The restroom signage is still visible today from the public area, indicating that the restrooms have likely remained in the same location.

According to the plans, the rear right, or southwestern corner, of the original building was the "Potato Room," adjacent to the rear entry on the southern end of the building. In 1982 an addition with a shed roof was added to the southern end of the building. The plan for this addition shows that it was intended for use as a storage room, is 7.5 feet deep, and extended along the entire length of the southern façade and an additional four feet out from the eastern side. See figures 23-26.
3.5 Documented Building Alterations

In 1959 the building that stands today was initially permitted and constructed, the range hood installed, and two signs erected. The following year a roof was added to a portion of the building, but the exact location of this roof is unclear. In 1967, the originally owner, J. Alger, received a permit to move the building to the adjacent lot, where it stands today. That same year, another permit for a range hood installation was issued. An air conditioning unit and accompanying ductwork was installed in 1969, and the shed roof addition at the rear of the building was completed in 1982. The last documented alteration was the 1993 replacement of the existing rooftop HVAC unit and ductwork. This was done in conjunction with the replacement of the kitchen hood and simultaneously with the installation of a new tar roof.

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<td>1959</td>
<td>Construct bldg per plans</td>
<td>J. Alger</td>
<td>Edward Cushman</td>
<td>Palmer Shops</td>
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<td>Install range hood per plan</td>
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<td>BN1361</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Erect and Maintain 2 signs on property per plan</td>
<td>The Spud</td>
<td>G.W. Fillfower</td>
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<td>Pioneer Improv. Co.</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Relocate existing restaurant from 6850 to 6860 E Green Lake Way N</td>
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<td>Edward Cushman</td>
<td>Burfitt Const. Co.</td>
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<td>1982</td>
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<td>James Odlin</td>
<td>Owner</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Replace existing HVAC unit and ductwork, replace kitchen hood</td>
<td>James Odlin</td>
<td>Lodestar Co.</td>
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4. **SIGNIFICANCE**

4.1 Neighborhood Historical Context: Green Lake

Prehistoric or historic use of this area by Native American communities included fishing at Green Lake and an important healing center with sweat lodges and mineral springs at Licton Springs, located just north of the Green Lake neighborhood.2

Green Lake was first surveyed in 1855 by David Phillips for the Surveyor General.3 Settlers began developing Green Lake as early as 1869, when Erhart Seifried, also known as “Green Lake John,” filed the first homestead claim.4 In 1887 Seattle Mayor William D. Wood purchased Seifried’s claim. Charles Waters was a notable homesteader whose land on the southwestern corner of the lake was purchased by Guy Phinney in 1889. This land eventually became Woodland Park and The Woodland Park Zoo.5 See figures 27–28.

Seattleites were attracted to Green Lake as a place to get away from the city for recreation. The Green Lake neighborhood started to develop as a suburb of Seattle beginning in 1890, when Luther Griffith and Dr. E.C. Kilbourne developed rail lines to access their developments in what are now Fremont, Wallingford and Green Lake. Starting in 1885 the Seattle, Lake Shore, and Eastern railway route ran along the northern edge of Lake Union, but access from downtown Seattle to the area was made easier by a streetcar trestle linking what is now Westlake Avenue to Fremont, with lines continuing to Green Lake and Woodland Park. Griffith also built the Green Lake Electric Railway, and connected the Westlake and Green Lake routes with a trestle across the western end of Lake Union.6 In 1890 Guy Phinney was building his private Woodland Park Electric railway.7 Phinney opened his estate to the public; that land became Woodland Park when the city purchased the land after Phinney’s death in 1893.8 At that time the park included a formal gardens, a conservatory, promenade, hunting lodge, the “Woodlands Hotel,” and a menagerie featuring North American animals like black bear and deer as well as African ostriches. The park’s main entrance, marked by a stone arch, was at N 50th Street and Fremont Avenue N, as the main entrance to Woodland Park Zoo is today.9

By 1896, the street railway running from downtown Seattle through Fremont and along the western edge of Lake Union extended from the southern tip of Green Lake around the eastern and northern shores and to the western shore of the lake.10 Green Lake Station was located on the northern shore of the lake, on 72nd Street.11

The neighborhoods of Green Lake, Fremont, and Ravenna were annexed to the city of Seattle in 1891.12 At that time, real estate dealer William T. Wood (who would become mayor of Seattle in 1897) donated ten lots of his property for the first Green Lake School at Sunnyside and NE 65th.32 pupils attended the school in 1891. Enrollment grew, and by 1898 the original school had been

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1 Adapted from Green Lake Elementary School Landmark Nomination Report by the Johnson Partnership, June 2013.
4 Louis Fiset, “Erhart Seifried, known as Green Lake John, files a homestead claim on Green Lake (Seattle) on October 13, 1869,” HistoryLink essay #1468, July 7, 1999 (accessed April 19, 2013).
5 Fiset, “Seattle Neighborhoods: Green Lake-Thumbnail History.”
added to and required two separate annex spaces. By 1902, a much larger school had been built with 900 students in attendance.  

See figure 29.

In 1903, the City of Seattle commissioned the landscape architecture firm Olmsted Brothers to develop a comprehensive plan for the city parks. John Olmsted and his assistant Percy Jones surveyed the area on foot, and created a master plan for Seattle’s Parks. They supplemented the plan in 1908 with additional parks for newly annexed areas. The plan for Green Lake included lowering the lake to add 100 acres of parkland around it. John Olmsted also designed the zoological garden at Woodland Park. The work on lowering the water level and filling the eastern end of the lake began in 1910. Historic resources associated with the Olmsted Plan include the Green Lake Bathhouse Theater, Green Lake Park Comfort Station #1, Green Lake Park Field House and Community Center, and the Green Lake Park Concession.  

See figures 30-31.

Between 1905 and 1910, the Green Lake Library was housed in a small wooden building on the eastern shore of the lake. The over-filled schools spurred the Green Lake community to campaign successfully for a Carnegie Library. The new library was built on the northern shore of the lake, and opened in 1910. In 1906 the Green Lake Methodists dedicated their stone church on 65th Street. Members of the congregation were responsible for the design and construction of the church, which was added to in 1908, and dedicated again that year. F. N. Weyant, a draftsman for the city engineer and member of the congregation, created the design. Green Lake students participated in events at the church.

Efforts to improve the water of Green Lake started in 1921, when the lake was closed to swimmers due to poor water quality and blue-green bacteria causing “swimmer’s itch.” Water was diverted from nearby reservoirs, and the swimming beach was moved to the north, but algae caused the lake to be closed to swimmers again in 1925. In 1928 Licton Springs, the water feeding the lake, was chlorinated, and the lake was treated with copper sulfate in an attempt to kill the algae. A dredging project was started in 1936 along with an unrealized plan for a fountain in the lake’s center. See figure 32.

By 1915, street railways extended all the way around Green Lake and connected to downtown via the Stone Way Bridge, which was demolished in 1917, after completion of the Fremont Bridge. The Aurora Bridge was constructed in 1932, and in 1941 the city replaced the streetcars with rubber-tired trolleys. The removal of the streetcars and the development of Aurora Avenue altered the character of the neighborhood, as highway development brought more commerce to the west side of the lake, and cut through Woodland Park and the western portion of the Green Lake neighborhood. See figure 33.

The Aqua Theater was developed on the southwestern shore of Green Lake in 1950 for the first Seafair festival. The 1950 Seafair included performances of the Aqua Follies at the Aqua Theater, and limited hydroplane races on the lake. See figure 34.

In 1956 the city obtained federal funding for Interstate Highway 5, cutting through the middle of Seattle and along the eastern side of the Green Lake neighborhood. The Seattle portion of the interstate opened in 1967, and now defines the eastern edge of the neighborhood. See figure 35.

13 Wright, p. 32.
15 Ibid., p. 42.
16 Wright, pp. 36-37.
17 Seattle Times, “Many Prominent Members of the Clergy of This and Other Coast Cities Will Take Part—Musical Program,” March 3, 1906, p.4.
20 Ibid.
From 1982 to 1985, the Bite of Seattle took place at Green Lake, arousing the ire of neighborhood food-business owners who saw the festival as impinging on their summer weekend profits.\textsuperscript{24} (After four years at Green Lake, the Bite of Seattle switched its venue to Seattle Center.\textsuperscript{25}) Green Lake is host to several annual festivals, including the Seafair Milk Carton Derby, the Dog Days of Summer, and the Green Lake Wellness Fair.\textsuperscript{26} The neighborhood plan, formalized in 1999, allows for higher density residential and commercial development on the eastern side of the lake, including the subject property, in the Green Lake Residential Urban Village.

4.2 Building History

Jack Alger opened Spud Fish & Chips on Alki in West Seattle in 1935, and in 1940 he established a second location at 6800 East Green Lake Way N. (More information on Jack Alger and his brother Frank can be found in section 4.4 of this report)

The subject building was not constructed until 1959, and was originally built at 6850 East Green Lake Way N, one parcel to the west of its current location. Edward Cushman was the architect and Palmer Shop the contractor. The existing pole signage was designed as a part of the building, but permitted separately due to code issues. The building was relocated to its current site in 1967, with Cushman acting as the architect once again, although the contractor on the permit is listed as Burfitt. (Other alterations and additions to the building are listed in section 3.5 above.)

Douglas G. Hacker was the restaurant manager in 1974 at the time of one of several restaurant robberies.\textsuperscript{27} By 1977, Pamela Cordova was the restaurant manager, and she continuously managed Spud at Green Lake until 2017. She purchased the property and gained ownership of the business in 2001.\textsuperscript{28}

Jack Alger died in 1981, and in 1982 James Odlin, a partner in the business, obtained a permit to build an addition on the southern end of the restaurant. By 1983 Odlin was listed as an owner of the business, although he had only a partial interest.\textsuperscript{29} In a 1977 Seattle Times interview, Jack Alger stated his intention to sell the Green Lake Spud to his nephew, Richard Alger. Richard and his wife Terrie owned interest in the property until they sold it to Alex P. Kerr for $215,546 in July of 2001. Odlin transferred his portion of the property to Kerr in August 2001. With the ownership consolidated, Alex Kerr sold the property to Pamela Cordova for $633,003 in August of 2001.\textsuperscript{30}

In 2007, plans were made to demolish the building and construct a four-story apartment building, however, the plans were put on hold during the economic recession.\textsuperscript{31}

In 2017 Pamela Cordova sold the property to Blueprint 6860. \textit{See figures 36-37.}

\footnote{23 Monica Guzman and Leonard Garfield, “What was Seattle’s most disruptive construction project?,” January 4, 2010, http://blog.seattlepi.com/thebigblog/2010/01/04/what-was-seattles-most-disruptive-construction-project (accessed April 23, 2013).}


\footnote{26 Green Lake Chamber, "Events,” http://www.greenlakechamber.com (accessed October 17, 2017).}

\footnote{27 Seattle Times, "Restaurant Manager robbed,” August 12, 1974, p. 4.}


\footnote{30 King County Department of Assessments, file for parcel #9528100485.}

\footnote{31 Eric Payne, “Green Lake bruised by building blues—Several projects stalled, broke or largely empty—Once-hot area provides a case study in real-estate troubles,” \textit{Seattle Times}, May 18, 2009, p. A1.}
4.3 Historic Architectural Context: Googie Architecture & Roadside Fast Food Restaurants

“Googie” architecture got its name from a Sunset Strip coffee shop, designed in 1949 by John Lautner, who had studied and worked with Frank Lloyd Wright before developing his own unique approach to organic design. The Googie style is also commonly known as “Populuxe.” The flamboyant Googie style featured new architectural materials such as cast concrete and plastic. Characteristics include abstract upswept roofs that look as if they might take flight, large plate glass windows, boomerang shapes, and starbursts. Googie or Populuxe architecture sprouted from its southern California roots to influence the design of post-World War II fast-food eateries, motels, and gas stations across the country. According to author and San Jose Mercury News architecture critic Alan Hess, Googie was cutting edge, commercial, and unlike most modern architecture, it was popular. It ranged from simple vernacular stands to complicated, sophisticated structures, and conveyed a sense of optimism and progressivism in which everyone could participate. It was roadside architecture, designed to attract the attention of people in cars and draw them in. In his book Googie Redux: Ultramodern Roadside Architecture, Hess writes:

With the passage of time, the Googie style has become as much a symbol of the fifties as Elvis Presley or a ’57 Chevy. Cultural expression is one important role of architecture. But the coffee shops also worked well by other measures of architecture: they solved the functional problems of a car-oriented architecture imaginatively; they expertly used the scale and form to create a successful urban architecture; and their complex interior geometries reflected an understanding of modern spatial concepts. Though they were not the kind of buildings usually given attention in the architectural journals, they helped to shape the appearance of cities nationwide.

In his "Mossback" column on Crosscut.com, Knute Berger says of Googie, “It's the same era of architecture enshrined at the Jetsons-era Century 21 Exposition of 1962, the Space Needle perhaps being the ultimate example of Googie.”

Earlier fast food restaurants tended to be housed in Art Deco or Streamline Modernne structures, including Ivar's and the earlier Spud buildings. Others employed unique eye-catching forms known as "Roadside" architecture, such as the Twin Teepees (1937, Delland Harris, demolished) on Aurora Avenue, and the Hat and Boots (1954, Lewis Naysmith and Albert Poe) in the Georgetown neighborhood. After 1950, many national chain fast food restaurants used the Googie or Populuxe style for their building designs. The architecture of the buildings was eye-catching in the way of Roadside architecture, but also promoted ideas of futurism, cleanliness, and cutting edge food preparation. The period of Googie-designed fast food restaurants lasted from the early 1950s, with McDonalds’ first double-arched structure designed by Stanley Clark Meston, until 1968, when the chain introduced the mansard roof adopted by most fast food chains thereafter. In Seattle, notable Googie-style fast food chains included Dick’s Drive-In, with locations on NE 45th Street, Broadway, and elsewhere; Zip’s Drive-In on Aurora; and Dag’s on Valley Street in lower Queen Anne. See figures 38-44.

According to a 2006 survey conducted by the City of Seattle’s Historic Preservation Program, the Seattle branch of Sambo’s Restaurant (1964, Ron Bergquist) is “perhaps Seattle’s best example of ‘Googie’ architecture.” “The restaurant is a low concrete-and-glass box topped by a massive roof with

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52 This section was adapted from “Manning’s Building: Cultural and Historic Resources Report,” The Johnson Partnership, September 2007, and has been updated with additional information.
an asymmetrical vee shape."³⁸ Another good example of Googie design is the fast food restaurant building at 8500 Lake City Way, designed by Roland Terry in 1960; for 45 years the building housed Ying’s Drive-In for 45 years, and is now occupied by pizza-and-beer joint the Growler Guys. Roland Terry also designed the modernist, butterfly-roofed Canlis restaurant in 1954, although for a significantly more upscale dining experience. See figures 45-47.

4.4 Building Owner: Jack Sewell Alger, Frank Alger, and the Spud Fish & Chips business

The original owner of Spud Fish & Chips was Jack Sewell Alger. Born in 1910 in England, Alger immigrated to British Columbia, Canada in 1914 with his parents, Wilfrid and Emily, his half-brother Clerc, and his little brother Frank. In 1917 the family moved to the United States.³⁹ By 1930 Jack was a naturalized citizen. The Alger family lived at 4818 Beach Drive in West Seattle, and Jack graduated from West Seattle High School in 1928. In 1934 Jack opened a fish and chips shop in a garage building, eventually naming it “Spud.” Alger was inspired by the British-style fish and chips served in his early home of Vancouver, British Columbia. The Alger family maintained a connection to Vancouver, and Wilfrid and Emily moved back there before Wilfred’s death in 1942.

In 1940, Jack Alger opened a new location of Spud at Green Lake. In 1942 he enlisted as a warrant officer in Monterey, California for the duration of the war. From the mid-1940s, both the Green Lake and Alki Spud restaurants operated in Streamline Moderne-style buildings. When Jack opened the Green Lake branch, he handed management of the Alki branch over to his little brother Frank. It is said that the Alger brothers assisted Ivar Haglund with the opening of his first restaurant in 1938—the fish & chips stand at Haglund’s aquarium on Pier 56. Ivar’s first chef, Roy Buckley, had learned the ropes working in the kitchen at the Spud on Alki.⁴⁰

In 1948 Jack Alger married Melba Hagan Deanovic. In 1955 Jack was robbed at fork-point as he was serving at the front counter of Spud.⁴¹ In 1967 Alger sold a Spud franchise to George Benner, a former mechanic who operated a service station next door to the Green Lake location; Benner opened his outpost in Juanita in 1969.⁴² Alger sold the Green Lake Spud operation to his nephew Richard in 1977.⁴³ Jack was a painter and musician; his 1958 painting Northern Scene is in the permanent collection of the Frye Art Museum in Seattle.⁴⁴ He died in 1981.

Frank S. Alger was born in Canada in 1915, came to the United States, and settled in West Seattle with his family in 1917. He married Jane Elisabeth Block in 1943, and had two sons, John Frederick (d. 1972) and Richard, who eventually inherited part interest in the Green Lake Spud. Frank died in 1987.

When Alger opened the original restaurant, his pricing philosophy was to keep the price of an order of fish comparable to that of a fast food hamburger.⁴⁵ The fish itself was lingcod, but when consistent supply dwindled the company switched to “arctic” cod.⁴⁶ In the late 1940s, Jack Alger employed Fred Goehler, then a sophomore at Roosevelt High School, to work in the kitchen at the Green Lake location. Goehler went on to become executive chef at the Washington Athletic Club, and in 1971 was named Chef of the Year by the Washington State Chefs Association.⁴⁷

At the same time Edward Cushman designed the Green Lake Spud restaurant in 1959, he designed

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⁴⁵ Cartwright.
⁴⁶ John Hinterberger, "Fast Fish—Fresh-Fried Fillets are Keeping us in the Chips.,” Seattle Times, March 4, 1988, p. 3.
an almost identical building for Spud at Alki. These new buildings replaced the previous Streamline Moderne buildings in both locations. A large addition was made to the Alki building in 1984, adding a dining room in a bridge-like structure on a second story elevated on concrete Sonotube-cast pilotti. The addition was constructed by Clear Story Design & Construction, and Randy Stenesen, co-founder of the firm, was the permit applicant. This addition also modified the entry to the 1959 building, where the kitchens and order counter are still located.

The four Spud restaurants that exist today are owned by three separate entities. In 1999 Ivar’s Restaurants bought only the Alki location of Spud. Pamela Cordova-Smith purchased the Green Lake location in 2001. In September 2015 a new Spud outpost was opened at the Edmonds Ferry Terminal, under the same ownership as the Juanita branch. Craig Smith and Pamela Cordova-Smith owned the Green Lake Spud business in 2017, and sold the land and building to Blueprint Capital that same year. See figures 48-52.

4.5 Building Architect: Edward L. Cushman

Edward Leonard Cushman was born on July 19, 1918 in Marshall, Minnesota, the only son of Benjamin (ca. 1885-1972) and Hulda Priesman (ca. 1886-1971) Cushman. His parents were both Jewish immigrants from Russia, and his father was a manager of a wholesale produce house. Sometime around 1931, the Cushman's moved to Fargo, North Dakota, where Edward graduated with honors in 1936 from Fargo Central High School. Cushman attended the University of Minnesota and graduated in 1942 with a Bachelor of Architecture. See figure 53.

Cushman spent the following two years (1942-1944) in the Panama Canal Zone. He moved to Seattle in 1944 to work at the Boeing Company. Starting in 1945, he worked as a draftsman for a number of Seattle architectural firms including John Graham and Company (1945); Young & Richardson (1945-1947), where he received an honorable mention for a house plan submitted to the Small Home Prize Competition sponsored by the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; George W. Stoddard (1947-1948); Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson (1948-1949); Bassetti & Morse (1948); and Mallis & Dehart (1950). Between 1949 and 1953, he also worked on and off for Wohleb & Wohleb in Olympia.

Cushman also worked for his friends, husband and wife team Jack and Audrey Van Horne, between 1950 and 1953. Working for Van Horne & Van Horne, he designed the Charles and Meribah Smith residence in Bellevue (1950). The Van Hornes also assisted Cushman by selling a portion of their property near Portage Bay on Shelby Street to him, despite (now illegal) restrictive covenants preventing Jewish people from buying property in the area. In 1953 Cushman designed his own

48 Seattle construction permit #614270
49 Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, Permit # 8403851.
55 Fargo Central High School, Yearbook, 1936, p. 37.
house on the property, where he lived with his wife and parents.\textsuperscript{58} The side-by-side Van Horne and Cushman residences share similarities in their designs, both referencing the Modern style of architecture with flat roofs and rectangular plans.

Cushman went into private practice between 1953 and 1954, and completed only a handful of larger projects in the greater Seattle area. These include Herzl Religious Building in Seattle (1955, demolished), Temple Beth Israel in Aberdeen (1960, demolished), two branches of Spud Fish & Chips (1960, 2666 Alki Ave SW and 6860 East Green Lake Way N), and the 20-unit Alki Sands Apartments (1963, 2700 Alki Avenue SW).\textsuperscript{59} In 1959 Cushman took a two-month trip around the world, during which he visited both Europe and Japan.\textsuperscript{60}

Cushman is better known for his simple rectangular modern flat-roofed wooden and glass houses including his own house (1953, 1108 E Shelby Street) in Seattle’s Roanoke Park neighborhood.\textsuperscript{61} In 1958 he designed a modular cabin in Dungeness, WA on the Olympic Peninsula for wealthy Seattle businessman Max Weinstein.\textsuperscript{62} Other houses include the Patashnik House (1959, 2947 72\textsuperscript{nd} Avenue NE, Kirkland), the Butler House (1960, Seattle), and the Roe House (1962, 19520 Eighth Avenue NW, Shoreline), which featured an open plan with the living room, dining room and den divided only by bookcases.\textsuperscript{63}

Cushman was an avid arts collector, specializing in contemporary Northwestern artists, including works by Guy Anderson.\textsuperscript{64} Cushman joined the American Institute of Architects in 1946, and received his architectural license in 1949, and the same year took coursework in urban planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.\textsuperscript{65} He was an advocate for the disabled, co-founding the Public Service Committee of the American Brotherhood for the Blind in 1950.\textsuperscript{66} After suffering a debilitating stroke around 1972 that left him partially paralyzed, he advocated for the installation of wheelchair ramps in curbs at crosswalks throughout Seattle.\textsuperscript{67}

Cushman passed away on November 1, 2006 at his Roanoke Park home.\textsuperscript{68}

**Known projects by Edward Cushman include:**

- Plan Number Nine with Young & Richardson, 1946. \textit{See figure 54}.
- Cushman residence, 1108 E Shelby, 1953, altered. \textit{See figure 56}.
- Herzl Religious School, 1956, demolished. \textit{See figure 57}.
- Max Weinstein Cabin, 1957. \textit{See figure 59}.
- Patashnik House, 12947 72\textsuperscript{nd} Avenue NE, Kirkland, 1959, altered.
- Spud Fish & Chips restaurant at Green Lake, 1959. \textit{See figures 36 & 37}.

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\textsuperscript{60} Peterson p. 21

\textsuperscript{61} Pacific Coast Architecture Database, “Cushman, Edward, House, Northeast Seattle, Seattle, WA,” http://pcad.lib.washington.edu/building/18066. Of Jewish faith and a long-time member of Temple Beth Am, Cushman had difficulties purchasing property in some area of Seattle and was able to buy a portion of the John and Audrey Van Horne parcel to build his own home.


\textsuperscript{63} Houser, p. 1

\textsuperscript{64} Cushman gave important works from his collection to the Seattle Art Museum and was a longstanding member of the museum’s Legacy Club.


\textsuperscript{67} \textit{Seattle Daily Times}, “City adopts policy to install wheelchair ramps at corners,” April 22, 1972, p. 5.

Temple Beth Israel, Aberdeen, WA, 1960.
Roe House, 19520 Eighth Avenue NW, Shoreline, WA, 1960.
Spud Fish & Chips Alki, 1963, altered. See figure 51.

4.6 Building Contractor

The contractor on the original building permit is listed as “Palmer Shops.”

Additional contractors working on the building include Pioneer Improvement Company, who installed a roof in 1960.

The building relocation was undertaken by Burfitt Construction. Burfitt Construction was responsible for the construction of the Seattle Garden Center Building at Pike Place Market, renovated by Arne Bystrom in 1982. The company was in business as early at 1964, when they advertised in the Catholic Northwest Progress newspaper.

The permit for addition of the shed in 1983 listed the owner, James Odlin, as the contractor.

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69 Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, permit #BN00122.
70 Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, permit #BN5299
71 Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, permit #BN27167
72 Pacific Coast Architecture Database, “Seattle Garden Center Building, Pike Place Market, Seattle, WA,”
http://pcad.lib.washington.edu/building/15826/
74 Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections, Permit #600496
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King County Department of Assessments. File for parcel #9528100485.


——. "Seattle Garden Center Building, Pike Place Market, Seattle, WA." http://pcad.lib.washington.edu/building/15824/


Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections. Permit # 8403851.
—. Permit #600496.
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Seattle Department of Neighborhoods. "Summary for 8800 Aurora Avenue N."


—. "City adopts policy to install wheelchair ramps at corners." April 22, 1972, p. 5.
—. "Congregation to Gather Rock in Suburb." January 1, 1908, p. 2.
—. "Many Prominent Members of the Clergy of This and Other Coast Cities Will Take Part—Musical Program." March 3, 1906, p. 4.
—. "Restaurant Manager Robbed." August 12, 1974, p. 4.
—. "West Seattle Apartments." April 7, 1963, p. 117.


APPENDIX 1

FIGURES
Figure 4 • View C - Viewing north along Fourth Ave NE

Figure 5 • View D - Viewing north along mid-block driveway

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Spud Fish & Chips - Green Lake
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Figure 8 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, northern façade

Figure 9 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade
Figure 10 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, southern façade and parking lot

Figure 11 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, eastern façade

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 12 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, detail under northern façade overhang
Figure 13 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, main entry with signage and steel supporting columns

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

September 2017
Figure 14 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, steel column detail

Figure 15 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, detail of horizontal slats and roof overhang
Figure 16 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, overhang skylights and utility lights

Figure 17 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, overhang structural detail
Figure 18 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, horizontal slat screen and ribbon windows

Figure 19 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western façade, brick planter

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 20 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, western driveway to rear parking lot

Figure 21 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, southern façade, wall and fence detail
Figure 22 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, eastern façade, detail of mechanical equipment on low-slope roof

Figure 23 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, interior of public area, viewing towards eastern main entry
Figure 24 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, interior of public area, viewing towards western main entry

Figure 25 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, interior of public area, ordering counter
Figure 26 • Spud Fish & Chips Green Lake, interior, viewing back towards cooking and food preparation areas
Figure 27 • General Surveyor’s Map, Green Lake, 1855

Figure 28 • Cabin of “Green Lake John,” built 1870, n.d.

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 29 • Green Lake, sawmill, and original two-room schoolhouse on hill, 1896

Figure 30 • Green Lake neighborhood, 1903
Figure 31 • Olmsted Plan for Green Lake Parks and Boulevard, 1910
Figure 32 • Dredging Green Lake, 1937

Green Lake dredging project, ca. 1937

Photographer: Unknown
Date: ca. 1937
Notes: Works Progress Administration project from 1935-1937 to dredge and purify the lake due to the alteration of the lake's natural drainage systems.

Caption on image: 368 S.S. 901 388
On verso of image: WPA dredging project, before 1937

Subjects (LCTGM):
- Dredging—Washington (State)—Seattle

Subjects (LCSH):
- Green Lake (King County, Wash.: Lake)
- Green Lake (Seattle, Wash.)
- United States. Works Progress Administration

Location Depicted:
- United States—Washington (State)—Seattle

Digital Collection:
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- Photograph

Digital Reproduction Information:
Scanned from a photographic print using a Microtek Scanmaker 9600XL at 100 dpi in JPEG format at compression rate 3 and resized to 768x512 ppi.
Figure 33 • Streetcar and Interurban routes in the Green Lake Neighborhood, 1933 (shown on Sanborn 1919-1951 base map)
Figure 34 • Green Lake Aqua Theater, ca. 1958

Figure 35 • Aerial of Green Lake, 1970

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 36 • Spud Fish & Chips at Greenlake, original location

Figure 37 • Spud Fish & Chips in new location with added roof, 1967
Figure 38 • Ivar’s Fish Bar, 1951

Figure 39 • Twin T-P’s (later Twin Teepees, 1937, Delland Harris), 1954

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 40 • Hat & Boots, Georgetown, Seattle (1954, Lewis Naysmith and Albert Poe)

Figure 41 • McDonald’s franchise, Alhambra, CA (1954, Stanley Clark Meston)
Figure 42 • Dick’s Drive-in, Wallingford, Seattle

Figure 43 • Zip’s on Aurora Avenue, Seattle, 1965
Figure 44 • Dag’s Burgers, Valley Street, Lower Queen Anne, Seattle

Figure 45 • Former Sambo’s on Aurora Avenue N
Figure 46 • Ying’s Drive-In (1960, Roland Terry)

Figure 47 • Canlis (1950, Roland Terry)
Figure 48 • Original Spud Fish & Chips on Alki, ca. 1937

Figure 49 • Alki Spud Fish & Chips, ca. 1945

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 50 • Green Lake Spud Fish & Chips, ca 1945

Figure 51 • Alki Spud Fish & Chips, 1961 (1960, Edward Cushman)
Figure 52 • Alki Spud Fish & Chips, ca. 1984

Washington Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

Figure 53 • Edward L. Cushman

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report

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Figure 54 • “Plan Number Nine” as published in Seattle Times, July 21, 1946 (Young & Richardson with Cushman)
Figure 55 • Charles and Meribah Smith House, Bellevue (1950, Van Horne & Van Horne with Edward Cushman)

Figure 56 • Cushman residence, 1108 E Shelby Street (1953, Edward Cushman, altered)
Figure 57 • Herzl Religious School, 2017 E Spruce Street (later the Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic, 1956, Edward Cushman, demolished)

Figure 58 • Alki Sands Apartments, 2700 Alki Avenue SW (1963, Edward Cushman)
Vacation Cabin Built in a Jiffy

By Margery R. Phillips

This vacation house, on a bluff at Dungeness overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca, was designed for Mr. and Mrs. Wax Weinstein by Edward L. Cushman, architects. Peter Bilder was the industrial engineer.

The basic shell was erected by five men in less than eight hours. It is a good example of the speed and economy of stressed skin plywood panels for residential construction.

These panels consist of two layers of plywood glued to 2x4 framing members. Four-foot-wide panels, in lengths of 8, 10, 12, 16 or 20 feet are formed for tongue-and-groove joining. They are held in place by 32 square feet at a time. Roof panels, 4 by 20 feet, span the entire width of the house. The house dimensions are 20 by 40 feet, plus view deck and entry deck.

The large building components for the Weinstein house were taken to the site in one truck. Panels were applied to a simplified framing system covering at least 20 square feet at a time. Roof panels, 4 by 20 feet, spanned the entire length of the house. The house dimensions are 20 by 40 feet, plus view deck and entry deck.

In our Pacific Northwest vacation land a contemporary retreat such as this can be built economically for year-round enjoyment.

Figure 59 • Weinstein Cabin, designed by Cushman, published in Seattle Times' Pacific Northwest Living magazine, August 10, 1958, p. 18

Spud Fish & Chips - Greenlake
Landmark Nomination Report
APPENDIX 2

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS