



The City of Seattle

## Landmarks Preservation Board

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

### Landmark NOMINATION Application

**Historic/Current Name:** Pavilion Pool  
**Historic/Current Use:** Competitive and recreational swimming, and aqua performances, water polo, canoe and kayak classes (students, faculty and staff)

**Year Built:** 1938

**Address:** 3900 Montlake Blvd NE (Pavilion Pool Parcel Address)  
2602 NE Snohomish Lane S (Campus Address)  
Seattle, WA 98195

**Assessor's File No.:** 1625049001  
**Legal Description:** These portions of Government Lots 4 and 5 lying east of Montlake Boulevard NE, and that portion of Block 8, Lake Washington Shorelands south of the east-west extension of Canal Road and east of Montlake Boulevard NE, all in Section 16, T25N, R4E, W.M.

**Original Designers:** Carl F. Gould, Bebb and Gould Architects  
M.O. Sylliaasen, Structural Engineer

**Original Builder:** Western Construction Co., Inc.

**Original & Present Owner:** University of Washington

**Owner's Representative:** Julie Blakeslee, Environmental and Land Use Planner  
Capital Planning & Development, University Facilities Bldg  
Box 352205, Seattle, WA 98195-2205  
[jblakesl@uw.edu](mailto:jblakesl@uw.edu) / 206.543.2425

**Submitted by:** Susan Boyle, AIA, Principal, BOLA Architecture + Planning  
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**Date:** September 7, 2018

Reviewed (historic preservation officer):

Date:

10/1/18

Submitted: July 23, 2018  
Resubmitted: September 7, 2018

**The University of Washington Pavilion Pool  
Seattle Landmark Nomination  
September 7, 2018**



# University of Washington Pavilion Pool Seattle Landmark Nomination

September 7, 2018

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Cover: South facade of the Pavilion Pool (Connie Gray, Confluence Environmental Company, May 2, 2016), and an aerial view of the University’s athletic precinct in 2001 (Seattle Municipal Archives, Item 20010620).

# **University of Washington Pavilion Pool Landmark Nomination BOLA Architecture + Planning**

**September 7, 2018**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **Background**

The University of Washington's Pavilion Pool was designed in 1937 and constructed in 1938-1939 at the east end of a larger athletic facility, the Men's Physical Education Building. The earlier building, later named the Hec Edmundson Pavilion ("Hec Ed"), was built more than a decade earlier, in 1928. It contained a large gymnasium that served variety of competitive athletics, including basketball, boxing, and volleyball. It received several internally linked large additions beginning in the 1970s. The pool building also abuts the four-story Graves Annex Addition, which dates from 1986.

This nomination was prepared at the request of the University, which is seeking a review and determination by the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board as it considers planning for the building's future.

### **Research**

This nomination report includes an architectural description and a historic context statement, along with property data, bibliography, and illustrations. Sources of information include historic campus plans and photographs from the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections (UWLSC) and the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), as well as drawings and records and reports from the University's Facilities Services. Other research included reviews of archival newspaper articles in the *Seattle (Daily) Times* collection from the Seattle Public Library, and publications about the University of Washington's Seattle campus, public building programs of the 1930s, public swimming pools, and the life and work of architect Carl F. Gould. The scope included several site visits in May 2018 to observe and photo-document the surrounding context, site and current building conditions and review the building's history and use. Valuable information was provided by Chip Lydum of the University's Athletic Department. The nomination report was prepared in June and August 2018 by BOLA Principal Susan Boyle, AIA, with Preservation Planner Meagan Scott.

### **Seattle's Landmarks Process**

[Note: This information that follows is provided for those who are not familiar with the local landmarks process.]

Designated historic landmarks are those properties that have been recognized locally, regionally, or nationally as important resources to the community, city, state, or nation. Official recognition may be provided by listing in the State or National Registers of Historic Places and locally by the City of Seattle's designation of a property as historic landmark.



The City's landmarks process is a multi-part proceeding of three sequential steps involving the Landmarks Preservation Board:

- 1) a review of the nomination and its approval or rejection
- 2) a designation
- 3) negotiation of controls and incentives by the property owner and the City's Historic Preservation Office and its approval by the Landmarks Preservation Board

A final step in this landmarks process is passage of a designation ordinance by the City Council. These steps all occur with public hearings to allow input from the property owner, applicant, the public, and other interested parties. Seattle's landmarks process is quasi-judicial, with the Board ruling rather than serving as an advisory body to another commission, department, or agency. Under the ordinance, more than 460 individual properties have been designated as landmarks. Others within one of the City's eight special review and historic districts are also local landmarks.

The City of Seattle's Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (SMC 25.12.350) requires a property to be more than 25 years old and to "have significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or Nation." The ordinance does not consider future changes or uses, or other land use issues. It requires a property meet one or more of six designation criteria:

Criterion 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.*

Criterion B.        *It is associated in a significant way with the life of a person important in the history of the City, state, or nation.*

Criterion 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.*

Criterion D.        *It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction*

Criterion E.        *It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder.*

Criterion F.        *Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the City and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the City.*

There is no local ordinance that requires an owner to nominate its property. Such a step may occur if an owner proposes substantial development requiring a Master Use Permit (MUP) as part of the City's environmental review under the State Environmental Policy Act. Since July 1995, the Department of Construction and Inspections (DCI) and Department of Neighborhoods (DON) have integrated reviews of potentially eligible landmarks during permitting of sizable projects (See DON Client Assistance Memo 3000.) This policy requires consideration of buildings over 50 years old that may be eligible for landmark designation.

## 2. PROPERTY DATA

<b>Historic /Current Names:</b>	Swimming Pool, Men's Physical Education Building
<b>Current Name:</b>	Pavilion Pool
<b>Address:</b>	Campus Address: 2602 NE Snohomish Lane South Parcel Address: 3900 Montlake Boulevard NE Seattle, Washington, 98195
<b>Site Location:</b>	The building is in the southeast portion of the Seattle campus in the athletic precinct, east of Montlake Boulevard NE, north of Husky Stadium and west of the Nordstrom Tennis Center. It abuts the east end of the Hec Edmundson Pavilion and the south side of the Graves Annex Addition.
<b>Tax Parcel Number:</b>	portion of 162504-9001 (For permitting purposes, the UW has been assigned parcel identification numbers and corresponding legal descriptions. The Pavilion Pool is a portion of Tax Parcel 162504-9001.)
<b>Legal Description:</b>	These portions of Government Lots 4 and 5 lying east of Montlake Boulevard NE, and that portion of Block 8, Lake Washington Shore lands south of the east-west extension of Canal Road and east of Montlake Boulevard NE, all in Section 16, T25N, R4E, W.M.
<b>Original Construction Date:</b>	1938
<b>Original and Current Use:</b>	Competitive and recreational swimming, and aqua performances, water polo, canoe and kayak classes (students, faculty and staff)
<b>Original Designers:</b>	Carl F. Gould, of Bebb & Gould Architects M.O. Sylliaasen, Structural Engineer
<b>Original Builder:</b>	Western Construction Co., Inc.
<b>Original and Present Owner:</b>	University of Washington
<b>Owner's Representative:</b>	Julie Blakeslee, Environmental and Land Use Planner Capital Planning & Development, University Facilities Building Box 352205, Seattle, WA 98195-2205 <a href="mailto:jblakesl@uw.edu">jblakesl@uw.edu</a> / 206.543.2425
<b>Owner's Consultant:</b>	Susan D. Boyle, AIA BOLA Architecture + Planning 3800 Ashworth Avenue North Seattle, WA 98103-8119 206.383.2649

### 3. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

#### The Campus Setting and the Site

The Pavilion Pool building is located in the southeast section of the campus, on the east side of Montlake Boulevard NE and in close proximity to other facilities in University's athletic and recreation sector. Unseen from the public right-of-way, it is situated at the east end of the 116,100 square foot Hec Edmundson Pavilion (known also as the Alaska Airlines Arena, and colloquially as Hec Ed), which was built in 1927-1928 as the Men's Physical Education Building. In ca. 1970, large wings were built at the northeast and southeast ends of Hec Ed to provide additional storage and HVAC space (**Figures 10-11**). The Pavilion Pool sits east of the southern wing. Originally exposed on three sides, it is abutted on the north by the four-story Graves Annex Addition, which dates from 1986 (**Figures 20-21, 24**).

A small paved parking lot and two-lane drive, NE Snohomish Lane S, separates the Pavilion Pool from the northern section of Husky Stadium (1920, rebuilt in 1987, and replaced in 2012). The driveway extends along the east side of the subject building, where it and the paved E9 parking lot separate the Pavilion Pool building from the Nordstrom Tennis Center (1987) (**Figure 7**). Other athletic and recreation facilities in the vicinity include the Dempsey Indoor Center (2001), an enclosed fieldhouse used for multi-purpose athletic training and competition, which sits east of the Nordstrom Center. To the north of the Hec Ed Pavilion there are a group of seven tennis courts, the Intramural Activities Building (IMA, 1997 and 2001), and the Tubby Graves Building (1963), which houses the Athletic Department offices.

The Lake Washington shoreline lies east of the Dempsey Center, separated by a perimeter road, Walla Walla Road. The Husky Softball Stadium (2000) is to the southeast, while to the northeast and set near the shoreline are the Conibear Shellhouse (1949 and 2003), and nearby E8 parking area. Informal play fields, and the University's outdoor soccer field (2000), outdoor track, and golf range are located further north along with the vast E18 parking area, bordered on the east and northeast by the Union Bay Natural Area (**Figure 6**).

Vehicle access to the athletic precinct of the Seattle campus arrives off Montlake Boulevard NE. The Burke-Gilman Trail runs along the west side of the boulevard. A pedestrian bridge over the wide roadbed lands near the northwest corner of the Hec Ed Pavilion. Pedestrians access the main campus by way of this bridge and two other nearby overpasses. Pedestrians also arrive via the nearby University of Washington Light Rail Station, which is located southwest of Husky Stadium.

The pool building is provided with a front (south) setback of approximately 41', created in part by the presence of the adjacent Hec Ed south wing. This setback area is largely paved to serve as a vehicle loading area, while the approximately 32' deep east side yard is landscaped. The topography of the Pavilion Pool site slopes up from elevation 45' along the east perimeter wall to an estimated elevation 48' at the southwest corner side. The grade change creates a steep slope near the southeast corner of the building. Landscape in the plant beds on the east side of the building consist of grass and other ground covers, while those in the front (south) setback are treated largely with bark, within edges of poured concrete curbs. Deciduous trees, largely maples, are planted in informal groupings and in a single row near the east sidewalk and nearby parking lot (**Figures 16-17**).

## Adjacent Hec Edmundson Pavilion

The existing 104' by 161', 16,446 square foot pool building was built in 1938 at one end of the much larger, 476' by 329', 116,100 square foot Men's Physical Education Building/Hec Edmundson Pavilion (Hec Ed). The pool building appears somewhat similar to the setting and plan, massing, and materials shown in a 1927 design when it was conceived as an integral part of the original older building although its architectural style, particularly at the south entry, departs from the eclectic, revival style of Hec Ed (**Figures 9, 12, 41**). The construction chronology and design features of the older building and its additions are provided below for context.

The Men's Physical Education Pavilion was constructed in 1927-1928 of brick masonry, with structural steel construction used to span the large, central open space of the original gymnasium floor. Its original plan included a swimming pool at the east end. According to a *Seattle Daily Times* article of February 22, 1927, this component of the building was anticipated by the Regents' approval of the \$550,000 project. It was later deleted, likely the victim of cost overruns.

The somewhat T- or crucifix-shaped structure featured a Collegiate Romanesque Revival style that remains evident on the west facade and in the massing, round arched-head windows and porches, and brickwork details. The style is noticeable in the corner details, varied colored raked brick cladding, stonework, gargoyles, and the checkerboard diaper masonry pattern along the top of the walls. The building's main entries, at the northwest and southwest corners, are marked by arched porches with central, staunch Ionic columns with a series of arched windows accented with gargoyle flag-holders regularly spaced between them. Brick colors feature a random mix of brown, tans, pinks and red, typical of campus buildings, along with cast stone accents (**Figure 9**).

The massive gable roof is supported by large interior trusses, both original and recent. East and west gabled ends are similar, each having raised parapets and large round arch-head window openings on upper walls, while the lower wall section of the east facade was solid, and without fenestration. Other building fenestration includes regularly spaced windows along the primary (west) facade, and large, regularly spaced rectangular windows along the north and south facades. Original windows are typically multi-light steel casements, with inset operable panels in the rectangular frames.

Upon its completion, this Men's Physical Education Building was reportedly the largest open-span athletic facility west of the Mississippi. It contained a large central athletic court, spectator's balcony, locker rooms, and support spaces. Original drawings show a removable basketball court and seating, which were laid out on the main floor of the central space; this was used as a practice facility for other athletic teams. Basketball, which grew under the direction of coach Clarence S. "Hec" Edmundson, who served from 1923 to 1946, remained a primary activity. In 1928, a boxing ring was added. The building, with its horseshoe shaped arena, functioned for basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, and large events such as commencement. It was officially re-dedicated and renamed in 1948, in honor of "Hec" Edmundson, who also coached track. In 1952, a new basketball floor was installed.

The original interior of the Hec Ed building featured a 328' by 187' dirt athletic field, overlooked by balconies on the north, west and south sides, supported by exposed steel framing and columns.

Original drawings called for the steel that supported the balcony and the roof to be exposed, and this design feature has been repeated in the highly visible massive full-span trusses that were added in 1999. Large surrounding concourse and circulation spaces, which were finished originally with concrete floors and plaster walls, have been renovated recently with carpet and resilient flooring. Doors and windows were originally trimmed with fir (**Figures 54-56**).

Between 1968 and 1970 the Hec Edmundson Pavilion underwent four phases of renovation, and several large additions were built according to designs by John Morse and Associates. One was the 1970 storage addition, which was placed on the south side of the 1928 building near its east end, covering three bays. The masonry facades of this addition have little fenestration, limited to a small row of window lights just below the roofline. Later, a Sports Medicine Clinic was added in a renovated space in the southwest corner of the Hec Ed Pavilion, between the two main entrances. Eventually, in 1999, this clinic was relocated to the 1970 addition on the north side (**Figures 10-11**).

The last renovation of Hec Edmundson Pavilion, designed by LMN and Skilling Magnuson Ward, was built in 1999. It resulted in a major reconfiguration of its interior and provision of permanent seating around the entire central basketball court, while track and field facilities were relocated elsewhere on the athletic campus. Acoustic ceiling tiles and the paint over large arched windows of the central space were removed, and 20 original columns were replaced with two new 'super trusses' to allow for unobstructed views and increase spectator seating from 7,900 to 10,000. The super trusses span 245' over the central arena and carry the original trusses above. Renovated interiors now include a visitors' space – the Founders Club – at a mezzanine level, and the Husky Hall of Fame exhibit center. In addition, a new practice court for basketball and volleyball were inserted, and the building renamed the Alaska Airlines Arena at Hec Edmundson Pavilion (**Figure 57**).

The numerous additions to the original Hec Ed building and the 1999 renovation have allowed it to be used continuously for over nine decades, and it presently serves as the home of the University's men's and women's basketball and volleyball teams and gymnastics squad. However, the extensive changes have impacted its architectural integrity.

### **Adjacent Graves Annex and Graves Annex Addition**

In 1978-1979, another addition was constructed at west end of the north side of the Hec Ed Pavilion. Designed by Decker Barnes Hobbes Fukui Architects, the 168' by 112', 53'-tall flat roof addition featured a Post-Modern design and housed an additional basketball court and locker rooms. From the exterior it appears as a large box, with little fenestration, clad with concrete panels over steel construction (**Figure 24**). A separate, Brutalist style, cast-in-place main entry is situated on the west side, just north of the northwest entry to the main Hec Ed Pavilion.

In 1986 the Graves Annex was added to Hec Ed Pavilion directly northwest of the pool pavilion. Designed also by Decker/Fukui Davison Architects, the four-story, gabled roof building had overall dimensions of 142' by 100', with its length extending in the north-south direction. The Annex houses a weight room, locker rooms, conference rooms, and offices. Prominent east and north facades were designed in a Post-Modern approach in an effort to harmonize with the form, materials, and details with the original Hec Ed Pavilion. The north facade is clad entirely in brick veneer while the east facade is clad in brick on lower levels and panels above. The masonry color,

texture, and pattern were chosen to match the older pavilion buildings with soldier coursework to create a historical appearance (**Figures 22-23**).

In ca. 2006 a new, two story glass enclosed addition was built along on the east side of the Graves Annex, designed by HOK Architects. This addition is situated to the northeast of the Pavilion Pool, where it projects eastward from the earlier Graves Annex by an additional 20'. This addition to the Graves Annex encapsulates the lower north facade of the pool building, with the exception of an estimated 21'-wide second floor section at the pool building's northwest corner where an original entry is maintained. Current access is provided along a passageway extending between Hec Ed and the Graves Annex. The extensively glazed, Modern style east facade contrasts with the masonry pool structure and obscures portions of the older pool building (**Figures 20-21**).

## The Pavilion Pool

### Structure and Exterior Features

The 1927 drawings for the original Men's Physical Education Pavilion by Bebb & Gould included an underground tunnel, which connected the pavilion locker rooms to the playing field of the adjacent stadium. While the design included a swimming pool, the pool pavilion was not constructed until 1938-1939, by which time it was built as a separate, smaller abutting building with its own entries and circulation systems, sharing only mechanical utilidors with the older building. Bebb & Gould's 1937 drawings for the Pool Pavilion appear somewhat similar to those from 1927 for the pool in the Men's Physical Education Building as both feature a low gable roofed, brick clad structure at the east end of the gymnasium. However, there were changes made in terms of the building's overall size, circulation and seating spaces, stylistic features and fenestration (**Figures 35-37, 41-42**). The constructed pool building's north and south walls are generally aligned with the much larger Hec Edmundson Pavilion, and it features a projecting south entry vestibule. It is approximately 36' shorter and 10' wider than the original design and contains spectator seating on the south, east and west sides. In contrast to the earlier design the building has far fewer windows, with rectangular openings rather than the arched head, multi-lit windows that characterized the earlier Romanesque Revival design. It also contains a shorter pool (**Figures 37, 42**).

The Pavilion Pool is generally rectangular with outermost dimensions of 104'-1" by 161'-4". Projecting beyond this mass there is a 50' by 13' entry vestibule on the south end and an approximate 17' by 14' stair tower and entry at the northwest corner. The building's gable roof ridge runs in the north-south direction, perpendicular to the roofline of the larger Hec Edmundson Pavilion. The gabled ends are parapeted, with steps at outer corners, and finished with cast stone coping. Perimeter walls are 17'-3" and 19'-3" in height from the first floor and grade, with the roof ridge rising to a maximum height estimated at 40'.

The structure is made up by 1'-1'-wide perimeter walls of reinforced concrete, concrete pilasters, and 18" square piers along with the deep steel roof trusses that support the gable roof over the clear span building width. The lower cords of the roof trusses are arched. The roof consists of wood decking capped by roofing. Constructed along the east perimeter of the Hec Ed Pavilion, which it uses as a party wall, the building features three 27'-10"-wide bays at the pool area, along with three other varied sized north-south bays. The tall, gable roof volume is held within an approximate 130'



length while the northernmost section contains flat roofs with a lower 31.5' by 85' single-story mass to the east of the offset, two-story element at the northwest corner.

Brick clad perimeter walls feature continuous cast stone along the slightly raised gable ends and stepped parapet walls. Decoration and ornament were avoided in the design, in contrast to the masonry of the Hec Edmundson Pavilion, with exception of a continuous horizontal band of separated rowlock courses, horizontal brick banding at the walls between the south entry doors, and patterned bricks in a panel near the south end of the east façade, and at the base of the flagpoles on the south facade.

The earlier 1927 design concept called for two entries at the northwest and southwest corners and an open corridor linking them at the concourse level. This was changed in the 1937 design, which features a symmetrically composed primary public entry and vestibule on the south façade in the single story, 50' by 13', flat-roofed central mass. The vestibule is accessed on the exterior by a wide set of steps leading to a landing, and four sets of stained wood double doors in deeply recessed openings. A flagpole is centered above each recess, aligned with the narrow louvered openings in the wall (**Figures 12, 14-15, 34**). On each side of the vestibule there is an assembly of three narrow, tall window openings with glass block set into the masonry.

The secondary entry at the northwest corner, which leads into a stair hall, is characterized by patterned brick and cast stone masonry, paired doors, and slightly stepped wall planes, a simple landing and single cheek block. Construction of the adjacent Graves Annex covered much of the lower wall of the pool building's north facade and obscured this entry. It is presently accessible only by way of a narrow exterior passageway between taller neighboring buildings and steps on the north side of the Annex (**Figures 22-23**).

The design of the Pavilion Pool follows a formal symmetry in much of the plan and in elevations, with minimal decoration. It appears to be a companion piece to the older Hec Edmundson Pavilion building, but with clear differences given the ten years between the two designs and changes in popular style of the day and the economy. (Additional comments on the building style are cited in the Historical Significance section of this report.)

#### Interior Spaces and Finishes

The tall, gable roofed volume extends over the pool, spectator seating and circulation, within an overall building length of only 130'-3". The first (main) floor plan includes the primary entry and vestibule (with symmetrically placed ticket booth), which leads to the south balcony and circulation spaces along the east and west sides. Extending down from the balcony are rows of stepped bench seating, with similar spectator areas on the east and west sides. The bench seats accommodate up to 1,000 spectators, which are separated from the pool area by a parapet wall and metal railing. Public restrooms are situated at the southeast and southwest corners. The balcony and corresponding first floor level are set at 13'-9" above the grade level. At the north end a narrow balcony serves as a 4'-6" to 5'-4"-wide gallery, fitted with metal railings between sections of curved concrete piers. An additional restroom and an original officials' office space are located at the first floor near the northwest stair hall.

The pool and surrounding walkways at the ground level are situated within the central space of approximately 101' feet by 58' with support spaces to the north (**Figures 25-35**). The interior is dominated by the 42' by 75' swimming pool, which has six 7'-wide lanes and a depth ranging from 4' to 12' at the starting block. The pool is made of concrete, with a single pour for its bottom. An 8'-2"-wide walk and gutter with tile signage surround the north and side edges, while a 17'-11"-deep open area is provided for athletes at its north end starting block area. The pool is fitted with ladders at each corner. The original design also showed two diving boards, which were identified in the plan as "not in contract."

At the ground floor there are also enclosed spaces below the main entry vestibule and stepped seating, which contain piping along with a large fan room at the south end. Original spaces adjacent to the pool space at the north end included a central control room, an entry to shower and towel rooms, and toilets and large locker room. These support spaces have been modified to accommodate the addition of a women's locker room and access to the stair hall at the northwest corner.

Interior finishes include painted plaster, glazed tile and glazed block along with cement floors and base, Keene cement wainscot and wood chair rails. The pool ceiling finishes originally included asbestos boards on steel angles (later replaced), and cork ceiling panels. First floor finishes include painted plaster walls and ceilings, cement floors with some asphalt floor tiles and cement base, and the same wainscot as below. Storage and pipe spaces below the spectator areas above on the east and west sides were left unfinished with earth floors. In the partial basement, the northern portion of the building contains pipe spaces and machine room with concrete floor slabs.

Doors throughout are flush veneer types set into metal, fir and oak frames. Narrow steel sash windows are provided in the gable end portions of the south facade, while the north facade contains louvers in similar sized openings. At the first-floor level, the north facade also contains large rectangular openings, 10' and 14' tall, filled with glass block ("glass brick" on the drawings), while below at the grade level there are horizontal openings, once filled with the same material. This north glazing brings filtered natural light to the interior; the design may have been a safety effort to minimize glare on the water surface.

The Pavilion Pool building was impacted considerably by the construction of the adjacent Graves Annex in the late 1980s and its 2006 addition. A review of records in the University's Facilities Services indicates that additional modification to the pool building addressed mechanical and electrical needs, lighting, reroofing and other maintenance items, such as filter and chlorination systems. A summary of projects was cited in a 1995 seismic study of the pool and adjacent pavilion buildings, but it did not identify further specifics. The primary changes to the interior have been revisions within the original shower and locker areas, elimination of the control room and accommodate a new women's locker/changing and shower facility (**Figures 32-33**).

## 4. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### Overview of the Campus

[This overview and the following section on campus athletics have been edited from the 2017 Historic Survey of the University of Washington, p. 21-34].

The University of Washington, established by the State Legislature in 1861 as the first public university in the state, was sited initially on a ten-acre parcel on what is presently the Metropolitan Tract in downtown Seattle. By the late 1880s, increasing student enrollment and urban development rendered the original facilities inadequate. The University Land and Building Commissioners hired Seattle architect William E. Boone to develop a comprehensive plan in 1891 for a new campus at its current location. The University moved from its downtown campus to this location in 1895. Denny Hall, the first classroom and administration building, and the nearby Observatory were completed that same year.

In 1898, engineering professor A.H. Fuller developed what became known as the Oval Plan, which included only the northern portion of the campus. Other buildings constructed in the late 1890s include a drill hall and gymnasium, and two dormitories, later named Lewis and Clark Halls. These two buildings, the nearby Denny Field, Denny Hall, and the Observatory remain in the north campus as part of the University's late 19<sup>th</sup> century origins.

In 1903, the Board of Regents hired renowned landscape architects, the Olmsted Brothers, to prepare a design for a general campus plan. While the resulting 1904 Olmsted plan was not realized, it was adapted in part as the plan for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (AYPE). A good portion of the present campus plan descends from John Charles Olmsted's Beaux-Arts design for the 1909 AYPE fair grounds. When the grounds reverted to the University, it established the central axis of Rainier Vista and an encircling road system, later known as Stevens Way, along with the formal layout of buildings and open spaces between them with an emphasis on the landscape. Following the AYPE, much of the subsequent building on the campus was in the Central and South areas. These included facilities along the shoreline of Lake Washington and the Montlake Cut after it was completed in 1916 to link the lake with Portage Bay, and Lake Union and later through the Ship Canal to Elliott Bay.

The Regents Plan of 1915 served as the University's guiding planning document for the two subsequent decades. It grouped buildings associated with the liberal arts, science, athletics and administration in separate but linked quadrants, and reaffirmed the Olmsted's AYP grounds while adapting symmetry and formality in a design of the upper campus. It also set the Collegiate Gothic Revival style for campus buildings. This was consistent with other Beaux-Arts and City Beautiful designs for American civic centers, towns, and campuses during the period between the 1880s and 1930s. Borrowing principles from grand European city and villa plans of the 16th and 17th centuries, Beaux-Arts plans included axial alignments, balance and symmetry, and a hierarchical order reinforced by landscape.

Collegiate Gothic was endorsed by architect Carl Gould in the Regents Plan as the suitable architectural style for the campus buildings due to its symbolic content. The style provided visual

associations with older English universities and it offered adaptability to the irregular plan requirements of many individual building functions. Brick masonry in warm shades of brown, pinkish-gray cast stone, and cream-colored terra cotta were adopted as primary exterior materials. Decorative brick patterns and allegorical sculpture embellished many of these campus buildings.

Ambitious buildings programs were undertaken in the 1920s resulting in much of the main campus with completion of the liberal arts buildings on the upper campus, administrative facilities and the first phase of Suzzallo Library at its core on the Central Quadrangle, and the science buildings along Rainier Vista and the southern portion of Stevens Way. Major athletic facilities, including the first phase of Husky Stadium and the associated Men's Athletic Pavilion, were built.

By contrast, the following decade saw very little construction on the campus as the dire economic impacts of the Great Depression's economic deepened. Unemployment in Washington state rose from an estimated 7 percent in 1930 to 25 percent in 1932 and 30 percent by November 1933. Relief programs were initiated by the State and later by the federal government's Civil Works Administration, which implemented relief programs to provide thousands with work, followed by a range of programs by departments, bureaus and agencies of the Public Works Administration (PWA) in 1933 to 1941. Funds invested in the state between 1935 and 1938 by the PWA totaled over \$80,333,000 (Dorpat, pp. 10-14).

While many of these programs did not involve construction, and most construction work addressed infrastructure needs with roadways, bridges and dams, the PWA also funded municipal buildings, courthouses, libraries, schools, hospitals, jails, armories, colleges and universities (Short, pp. xiii-xi, xxiii). PWA-funded projects on the University campus include Hansee Hall, portions of the Chemistry Building (Bagley Hall), Pavilion Pool and Penthouse Theater (Johnson, 1995, pp. 44, 137, 153, and Short, p. 321). It appears that each of these buildings was designed to be consistent with PWA expectations for "great simplicity and a very sparing of ornament, emphasis being placed on line, good composition, scale and proportion ... on proper light and ventilation and elimination of waste space, together with economy in cost" (Short, p. iv).

In 1934, the Regents requested a reexamination and update of Bebb & Gould's 1915 plan. The resulting plan essentially reaffirmed the earlier one, while recommending some changes, such as the location of a student union building east of the library, the siting of a health sciences complex south of Northeast Pacific Street, and student housing along the northeasterly campus ridge.

After World War II, returning veterans flooded colleges and universities throughout the nation, seeking degrees with support from the G.I. Bill. At the University of Washington enrollment rapidly increased, from 7,386 in 1930, to 10,669 in 1940, 14,590 in 1950, and 18,143 in 1960 (Nielsen, 1986, p. 155). Growth during the post-war period resulted in the addition and expansion of many professional degree programs and establishment of the Medical School and other buildings to the south of Pacific Avenue NE. At the same time, the University built new athletic facilities, consolidating them in the southeast precinct. In 1948, the University's basic campus plan was again updated. It recommended increasing density and acquisition of new land in the Northlake area south of campus along Portage Bay. By this date the design of campus buildings had departed from the Collegiate Gothic style to embrace a wide range of Modern styles, new materials and expressive structural qualities.

## Development of the Athletic Precinct

The University of Washington athletic facilities in the southeast part of the campus are situated on a landscape very different from the upper campus, and on land that was largely inaccessible before the last century. The flat expanse of shoreline was revealed by the effective lowering of the water level in Lake Washington in 1917 with completion of the Montlake Cut. The water level dropped approximately nine feet, with a broad terrace of flat land was exposed along its edges. The University of Washington acquired the newly exposed land to south and east, adjacent to Union Bay.

The land revealed by the lowered water level was extended over the years by added fill from the Montlake Landfill. The municipal dump operated between 1926 and 1966 and was closed in 1971. Its southern edge is approximately one-quarter the north edge of the present Intramural Activities Building, to the north of the Pool Pavilion. The land on which the Pavilion Pool and Husky Stadium sit also contains large quantities of fill from unknown sources (**Figure 6**).

By the 1920s, the Burke-Gilman Railroad, which skirted around the south and east of the main campus, was already in place. Commonly known today as the Burke-Gilman, it was established in 1885 as the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad, and ran around the north side of Lake Washington, heading to Snoqualmie Falls and on to North Bend. In 1913, the Northern Pacific Railway Company acquired the rail line. The railroad carried passengers until 1922, and then served as a major transport line for local logging companies. In 1970 Northern Pacific was merged with the Great Northern and Burlington lines; the line was abandoned soon after in 1971.

While the railway was in operation, the athletic facilities of the University of Washington were connected to the main campus by two bridges over its tracks, as shown in Bebb & Gould's 1920 campus plan. Presently, there are four pedestrian bridges over Montlake Boulevard NE, including the Hec Ed Bridge, which serves both the pavilions and Husky Stadium. The recently completed southern-most bridge serves the light rail station. Access is provided also by the Burke-Gilman Trail, which was developed soon after former rail line rights of way were abandoned in 1971. The current Burke-Gilman Trail serves as a thoroughfare through the main campus, proving direct access also to the university hospital, and the athletic facilities.

## The Social Role of Public Swimming Pools

The historic development of the University's Pavilion Pool reflects the social role of the swimming pools and the popularity of swimming as a recreational activity. The earliest municipal pools in the United States opened near the end of the 19th century. Swimming had become a socially acceptable pastime among members of the middle and upper classes by this time, but it was limited to ocean water, lakes, rivers, or private pools, while public pools largely served lower and immigrant classes. For several decades in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, many officials considered municipal pools as a way to encourage cleanliness, and many viewed these facilities as tools of social reform.

Wide scale construction of municipal pools in the U.S. began in the teens and 1920s and continued into the Depression. In the period between 1933 and 1938, the federal government's Works Progress Administration, Civil Works Administration, and Public Works Administration constructed nearly 750 pools, 1,681 wading pools, and remodeled 354 pools, 13 of which were in Washington

State. These pools were popular and drew tens of millions of swimmers each year (by the total number of entries, not individuals). A 1933 study by the National Recreation Association noted 60% of people considered themselves swimmers. By this date swimming was by far the most popular form of active recreation; the same number of people responded that they swam as frequently as they regularly attended movies.

In Seattle's early 20<sup>th</sup> century, most public swimming occurred at beaches on Alki Point, Lake Washington, and Green Lake, while indoor pools were limited to private and semi-public buildings. The Moore Hotel, which dates from 1912, had "the finest swimming pool in the Northwest," according to advertisements. Its pool was located in the hotel basement, where swimmers contended with intervening support columns. The former Crystal Natatorium, at 2nd Avenue and Bell Street, was built in 1915 to serve the Crystal Club members. Depression era swimming pools were found throughout King County in rustic style, log-faced buildings in the 1930s. Later, with WPA and private funding, public pools were built also at Seattle's Alki Point and in Lincoln Park (Colman Pool), both in 1941. Construction of the Medgar Evers Pool at Garfield Playfield and the Evans Pool at Green Lake followed in 1954-1955. The popularity of aqua follies and synchronized swimming as a spectator sport led to construction of the outdoor aqua theater at Green Lake in 1958.

Historically, public pools were often restricted by gender, with specific days set aside for women to swim. Gender restrictions typically changed after World War II, causing many issues around women's "immodest" swimwear. But many public pools remained racially segregated despite court cases and rulings requiring desegregation. At the University there was no racial segregation, but men and women continued to use separate pools, with the men using the Pavilion Pool and women a pool in Hutchinson Hall, the Women's Physical Education Building, until it was removed in ca. 1970. By this date the co-ed IMA pool had been built.

Private swimming pools became increasingly popular throughout the nation in the late 20th century, along with declining construction of municipal pools. Meanwhile, public pools became far more egalitarian. Often quite large, some accommodating thousands at one time, and providing other amenities, such as beaches, lawns, and decks, and "as a result, lounging, sunbathing, and socializing became quintessential pool activities" (Wiltse, p. 88). Such public pools often functioned as the center of social life in large cities and more rural communities. At the University of Washington, the IMA pool took on some of these aspects, particularly after it was expanded to serve as a social and recreational center for students.

### **Recreation and Athletics on the Campus**

Organized athletics began to take shape at the University of Washington in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Football was a principal sport, although it caused some controversy because of its roughness. The University also had a successful track and field team as well, which won a Coast relay record in 1900. Baseball and rowing were established as intercollegiate sports in 1901. Archery, tennis and basketball were also part of athletic life on the campus on an intramural basis. Denny Field, an open space near the north end of the upper campus, was developed as the University's earliest athletic playfield in association with a drill hall/gymnasium, which was built in 1896. A south grandstand with wood-framed benches was constructed in 1911, followed by north stands in 1916, and modifications in 1917 and 1923 with the insertion of handball courts.



As students demanded more facilities for practicing and playing sports and the Associated Students of the University of Washington (A.S.U.W.) took active charge of athletics on the campus in 1901. It worked to raise money through student fees, a position that was maintained until 1962. In 1903, a faculty position was established, the General Manager of Athletics, to allow the faculty, students, and alumni to work together in organizing and managing athletics. Charles Vander Veer, appointed professor of physical education in 1895, aided the students in forming men's and women's athletic associations up through 1905.

The University expanded its Department of Physical Culture expanded significantly between 1904 and 1906, with programs for men in calisthenics, gymnastics, rowing, cross-country running, wrestling and boxing, and competitive intercollegiate athletics – football, rowing, baseball and basketball. Women's programs included dancing and archery, and competition in baseball, rowing, tennis, basketball, cross-country track and field hockey. After 1906, women's intercollegiate athletic competitions were discontinued, and female students were reduced to recreational sports only along with fulfillment of physical education requirements, with the exception of the women's rifle team. (It was only with passage of Title IX, in 1972, that efforts toward parity were made. By 1978, nine women's sports clubs in volleyball, basketball, cross-country, track, tennis, golf, gymnastics, rowing and swimming were moved from recreational status in the Department of Intramural Activities to the Department of Athletics.)

Although football was played as an intercollegiate sport as early as in the first two decades of the 20th century, it appears to have been informal in terms of game scheduling and organization. Gradually official regulation of the game increased; regular schedules for games were established and safety became a higher concern. In 1908, the Northwest Intercollegiate Athletic Conference was established, with membership by the Universities of Washington and Oregon; Washington State, Whitman, Linfield and Pacific Colleges; and the College of Puget Sound. It established rules for student athletes and prohibited participation by professionals. Football and rowing dominated collegiate competition in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, along with baseball and basketball. By 1912, basketball was made an official intercollegiate sport at the university, with both men's and women's teams. In the 1920s, the University of Washington athletic teams took on the name Huskies to replace the earlier mascot name, the Sun Dodgers. During this period athletics became increasingly popular as spectator sports.

A women's physical education building, Hutchinson Hall, was built in 1926-1927, to be followed by the Men's Physical Education Pavilion (Hec Edmundson Pavilion) in 1927-1928. These early buildings represent support by the University and its students, while the later Men's Pavilion and the stadium were constructed mostly with funds raised by subscriptions from the A.S.U.W. The stadium, built originally in 1920, cost nearly \$580,000 with \$250,000 raised through the student association's fundraising from season ticket holders. In contrast, the Pavilion Pool was constructed for \$193,818 in late 1938, in part with funding from Works Progress Administration (WPA), with total project cost of \$205,887 (Short, p. 321). Other buildings on campus that utilized WPA funds included the Penthouse Theatre (1938-40, designed by Drama School faculty John Conway with Bebb & Gould).

As spectator sports grew more popular, so did athletic activities on the campus (UWLSC, UW Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Records, Collection 00146). Locally, KING Broadcasting televised the first Rose Bowl in 1960, joining earlier radio broadcasts of this and other competitions.

In July 1962, the Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA) became an independent department of the University, taking over the responsibility of organizing and managing intercollegiate athletics from the A.S.U.W.

### **Competitive Swimming at the University**

The Pavilion Pool was built by the University, but its construction and use reflect the rise of swimming as an activity and spectator sport in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Competitive swimming had been an Olympic sport since 1896, with men's freestyle an initial event, the backstroke added in 1904, and women's swimming in 1912. In Seattle swim competitions between clubs and college teams were established as early as 1900, and local newspaper coverage throughout the teens and 1920s testify to the popularity of the sport. After Seattle-born Helene Madison won three medals in the 1932 Olympics, the local fan base for the sport grew.

Swimming was added to the University's competitive sports for men in 1932-1933, reflecting its increased popularity among student athletes, and the celebrity status of local, national and international athletes. Practice and competitive meets took place in nearby Lake Washington and the Montlake Cut, which limited much of the activities to warmer months. By 1938 swimming was made one of the University's "major" men's sports teams. (The Department of Athletics also supported "minor" sports, such as fencing, skiing, golf, hockey and volleyball. It eliminated boxing in 1931 as too rough an activity for college men.)

This action followed the creation of swimming programs and construction of swimming pools at East Coast and California colleges and universities. Swimming pools had been built in early student union buildings, such as Houston Hall and Weighman Hall on University of Pennsylvania campus in 1894 and 1904 and in Brown University's Colgate Hoyt Building, which contained the nation's first chlorinated pool, in 1910. The University of California Berkeley campus saw construction of pools in the teens and 1920s. By the time the University of Washington built its Pavilion Pool, it followed Oregon State, Washington State and colleges in Idaho and Montana, all of which had added swimming pools to their athletic facilities. The new facility on the Seattle campus eliminated the need for men to swim in the "borrowed" women's pool in Hutchinson Hall (*Seattle Daily Times*, January 26, 1937).

Five Husky men swimmers rose to international levels and competed in the Olympics. They included Jack Medica in Berlin in 1936, and Rick Colella, Rick DeMont, Doug Northway and Robiun Backhaus in Munich in 1972, with Colella returning to the 1976 Montreal games. The men's swim teams were led by several influential coaches in the 20<sup>th</sup> century: Jack Torney in 1932-1962, John Tallman in 1952-1968, and Earl Ellis in 1969-1998. Between 1933 and 1942 the team was ranked within the top 25 in the nation under Coach Torney with a win-loss record of 142-11-2. In 1960-1961 and 1961-1962, the men's team became parts of the AAWU, and placed second in the conference both years, rising to second place in the Pac-8 under Tallman, and to 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Pac-8 Conference and 4<sup>th</sup> in National Rank in 1973-1974, and it was in the top ten rank six times under Ellis. For three years in the mid- to late-1970s, the men's team was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the NPCC Conference. In response to the popularity of the sport the University hosted significant competitions at the Pavilion Pool, including the NCAA Championships in 1948 and 1961.

Sanctioned competition was limited to men students, since until 196, women's swimming was organized as a club team without university funding. (Despite this status, the club sent one of its members to the 1972 Olympics.) Women's swimming was added to the University's competitive sports program in 1975, as the result of Title IX of the Federal Education Act, with Ellis serving as coach to both men's and women's teams. Under his guidance, the women's team placed first in its conference (the NCWSA) five times between 1975 and 1982, later rising to sixth in the Pac-10 Conference in 1995-1996 (Husky Swimming Foundation, "Husky Swimming History").

The university's swim teams went on to set school records for wins in 2001-2002, and the women's and men's teams finished best ever in the 2003 NCAA Championships, ranking 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> respectively. However, the school found its self at a disadvantage as the Pavilion Pool, with only six 25-yard lanes, was considered non-compliant for Division 1-level practice and meets (University of Washington, May 1, 2009). Without a diving well, the facility was also insufficient to host intercollegiate competitions. As a result, for many years the Huskies held their practice and meet at the larger Weyerhaeuser/King County Aquatics Center in Federal Way, despite its 22 mile-distance from campus. That facility, built in 1990 to host the Goodwill Games, provides eight 8'-2"- wide 25-meter lanes and seating for 2,500 spectators. Meeting competitive standards, it hosts over 40 regional, national and international events each year, including the 2012 U.S. Olympic Diving Team Trials.

In May 2009 the University disbanded its competitive swimming program as one of a series of budget reduction measures. At that time, it honored student athletes' scholarships and assisted those who chose to transfer. With its withdrawal, the Pac-10 conference was left with only five men's swimming programs, and eight women's, none of which were from Pacific Northwest institutions. Despite these changes in the University's athletic program, the Pavilion Pool has continued to be used for recreational swimming. Operated by the University's Recreational Sports it complements the larger pool in the nearby IMA and is used by the Husky Masters Swim Team and UW Club Water Polo teams, as well as for lap swims and competitive high school meets.

### **The Building Style**

The original Men's Physical Education Pavilion of 1927 derives its Romanesque Revival form from medieval precedents of the Italian Romanesque period, while the pool building, built ten years later, expresses a simplicity often associated with Moderne style architecture. The constructed Pavilion Pool is a much simpler mass, featuring a symmetrical south facade and main entry. Fenestration is limited to small rectangular windows on the south and east facades and large panel of glass block on the north facade, and there are no arched head openings. Ornament is provided only by brick masonry patterns and horizontal bands on the slightly recessed piers at the main entry. The narrow windows, entry door recesses, and flagpoles on the south facade are simple vertical counterpoints to the largely solid horizontal form.

The pool was one of several Depression-era buildings constructed on the campus with federal relief funding from the WPA (Works Progress Administration). Others that received such funding include Hansee Hall (1936, John Graham with Carl Gould), Bagley Hall (1936, Naramore, Granger & Thomas with Carl Gould), and the Penthouse Theater (1938-1940). The period of the 1930s and the federal

relief programs in the U.S. anticipated the change in architectural design away from traditional revival styles, to a focus on utility and economy.

The Moderne style in architecture was derived from Art Deco, which had emerged in Europe during the interwar period of the late teens and 1920s, itself derived from the Art Nouveau and Cubism in France, *Jugendstil* in Germany, and similar movements in Italy, Holland, and elsewhere. There the early art and craft-oriented European styles gave way with increased industrialization and mass-production to emerge as an aspirational style characterized by luxurious surface finishes, elegant and attenuated vertical proportions, and geometric patterns. From the influential 1925 Paris exhibit, *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Moderns* (International Exposition of Moderne and Decorative Arts), it became known in America as Art Deco in the mid- to late-1920s.

Moderne style buildings are somewhat similar to those designed in the Art Deco style, but they differ in their focus on function, minimal ornament, simplicity and use of common materials. Art Deco buildings often feature vertical and stepped massing, and material, such as stone and terra cotta, inlays, cast and glazed surfaces, and ornament, such as fluting and reeds, bands, chevrons or zigzags. In contrast, Moderne style buildings have little ornament except for string courses and other horizontal trim. They typically feature flat roofs, pipe railings, strip or corner window, smooth finishes, and materials such as glass block and aluminum (Whiffen, p. 235-241). Moderne building design, sometimes cited as “Starved Classicism,” or “Streamline Moderne,” typically utilizes simple forms, symmetrical composition, and minimal detailing, aligned with limited Depression era budgets. The style is known sometimes as WPA Moderne for the Works Progress Administration.

Architect Carl Gould’s design of the Pavilion Pool appears representative of what is cited as a “trend toward the ‘modern’” in public works projects constructed with federal relief funds. As noted in a 1939 survey publication, *Public Buildings – Architecture Under the Public Works Administration, 1933-1939*, the style of these buildings “borrowed much from the general current that is flowing away from traditional design toward something new ... Most of the architects who have attempted to diverge from tradition seem to have attacked their problems from the point of view first of plan requirements, secondly of construction, and thirdly of type of materials to be used ... Excessive ornamentation is not only unnecessary, but in many cases definitely detracts from the aesthetic values of a building.” (Short, pp. ii-ii).

Other comparable Moderne style buildings from Carl Gould’s late career include the brick clad Everett Public Library (1933) and the Art Deco style U.S. Marine Hospital complex (1930-1931), and the Seattle Asian Art Museum (1931-33). (A local newspaper noted the museum building’s simplicity, “unbroken walls... severe [design],” and “plain to the extreme,” *Seattle Times*, June 28, 1933). Somewhat similar to the art museum is the far simpler Penthouse Theater on the University campus (1938-41). Each of these buildings was a carefully sited free-standing design.

The 1930s saw very little building construction, but there are a number of other Art Deco and Moderne style buildings in Seattle that date from this period. They include downtown skyscrapers such as the Northern Life Tower (1927-1929), Exchange Building (1929-1931), Nakamura Federal Courthouse (1932), and Federal Office Building (1931-1933), and the smaller scale Fire Station No. 41 (1934), Coca Cola Bottling Plant / Seattle University Administration Building (1939), the Woolworth Store (1940, derived from a company prototype), and Canada Dry Bottling Plant (1943).

## Architect Carl Gould of Bebb & Gould

Architect Carl Frelinghuysen Gould, Sr. (1873–1939) was born to a wealthy New York family. After graduating from Harvard in 1898, Gould moved to Paris. He spent five years there (1898-1903) where he attended the prestigious Ecole de Beaux Arts and studied architecture. Gould returned to New York City in 1903 and began working as a draftsman for McKim, Mead & White. In 1905 he moved to San Francisco to work on the new urban plan for the city, employed as a draftsman for D. H. Burnham & Company, based out of Chicago. Gould then returned to New York to work as a designer for George B. Post & Sons, Architects. By 1906, Gould had become a partner in the firm of Carpenter, Blair & Gould in New York, but the following year he fell ill and made the decision to leave the East Coast for the milder climate of Seattle.

Gould arrived in Seattle in 1908, a year before the AYPE, at the age of 34. The growing provincial city had a population of nearly 240,000 people, and it was in an expansion period in its history when the state sponsored the AYPE on the grounds of the University campus in 1909. Gould entered Seattle's cultural and professional life, working briefly as a draftsman at Everett & Baker Architects, and subsequently for Daniel Huntington. The two formed an architectural partnership, Huntington and Gould in 1909-1911. Gould also worked on his own from until 1915, when he and Bebb established their firm.

Gould's partner, Charles Herbert Bebb (1856 – 1942), was born in Surrey, England, educated at private schools, and attended the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. He went on to study civil engineering and was an engineer for the construction of the Cape Town-Kimberley Railway in South Africa from 1877 to 1882. Via London, Bebb proceeded to the U.S. and worked as a construction engineer with the Illinois Terra Cotta Lumber Company. He was subsequently hired by the Chicago firm of Adler & Sullivan and came to Seattle in 1890 to oversee construction of the Seattle Opera House for the firm. When the project faltered, Bebb returned to Chicago, but in 1893 he moved back to Seattle as architectural engineer for the Denny Clay Company. By 1898, Bebb had opened his own architectural office and in 1901 he formed a partnership with Louis Mendel. The firm of Bebb & Mendel continued for the next 13 years, designing numerous houses and apartment buildings, commercial buildings, civic buildings, and hotels. The partnership dissolved in 1914, and Bebb went on into partnership with Carl F. Gould.

Gould's early work in Seattle included many notable residences, including dwellings for Francis Brownell (1909), the Dovey Residence (1910, designed with Huntington), an inexpensive bungalow residence for the Glover family (1913), and residences at the Bainbridge Island Country Club (1914-1917). He was quickly recognized as prominent architect and educator and founded the Department of Architecture at the University of Washington, where he taught from 1914 to 1926. Gould also served as the president of the Seattle Fine Arts Society (1912-1916 and 1926-1928) and president of the AIA Washington State Chapter for two terms in the 1920s. He was active in the local Chamber of Commerce and was appointed to the City's first Planning Commission. In 1928 he organized the Poche Club, a successor to the Seattle Architectural Club.

While heading up the University's Department of Architecture, Carl Gould and Bebb & Gould also served as the unofficial UW architect. (Later in 1934 Bebb & Gould was made the "supervising architects" for all university buildings by the University Regents.) University President Henry Suzzallo

shared Gould's vision for the campus, and during his tenure commissioned over two dozen new buildings from the firm, beginning with Raitt Hall in 1915. These were typically in a Collegiate Gothic style, which reflected Gould's Beaux Arts background as did his firm's plans for the campus.

Bebb & Gould designed the Men's Physical Education Pavilion in 1926 - 1927. During the same decade the firm also designed the Women's Gymnasium, Hutchison Hall, and the Men's Gymnasium at Western Washington University in Bellingham (1927). The latter gymnasium exhibits similar use of Romanesque Revival style as in the University of Washington's Men's P. E. Pavilion. The Henry Art Gallery (1926), another one of Gould's buildings on the campus, seems to mark a transition point in his work, which was later reflected, in varying degrees, in the design of the Seattle Art Museum.

During their partnership, Bebb & Gould designed more than 200 projects between 1914 and 1924, including schools, churches, hospitals, houses, and commercial structures. Early projects included the cast concrete buildings at the U.S. Government's Chittenden Lock's in Seattle (1914-1916) and the Highlands Residence for William Boeing and the Seattle Times Building (1913-1915). Commercial projects include the Fischer Studio Building (1913-1915), Puget Sound News Company (1915), Times Square Building (1913-1915), Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building (Seattle, 1922-1926), and the Weyerhaeuser Company Building in Everett (1923).

Gould also designed buildings at the Washington State Normal School in Bellingham (1924), including the Men's Gymnasium (1927) in a design similar to the Hec Edmundson Pavilion, and St. Nicholas School/Cornish Institute (1925) and Lakeside School (1930) in Seattle. By this period Bebb had largely left the day-to-day practice, and Gould continued to work with his architectural staff. His later work exhibits a growing interest in Art Deco and Moderne styles as seen in his firm's designs for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building, in Longview, Yakima, Centralia and Olympia (1928, 1929 and 1930), Ellensburg National Bank (1930), Pacific U.S. Marina Hospital, Seattle (1930-1932), Longview Post Office (1932), Seattle Art Museum (1931-1933), and Everett Public Library (1933-1934). While he completed the University's Smith Hall (1935) in a Gothic Revival style consistent with earlier buildings on the liberal arts quad, he also developed the theater-in-the-round concept by Drama Department set designer, John Conway, for the Penthouse Theater (1938).

After Gould's death on January 4, 1939, Bebb went on to form a new architectural partnership, Bebb & Jones, with architect John Paul Jones, which completed some of the firm's later projects on the campus.

Carl Gould and Bebb & Gould designed the influential 1915 Regent's Plan for the University of Washington's Seattle campus, a proposed revision to it in 1925 and an updated campus plan in 1934, along with 28 individual buildings, and 18 additions or supervision projects. In addition to the Pavilion Pool those that remain are listed below in chronological order (Booth, pp. 171, 179-192):

- Home Economics Hall / Raitt Hall (1914-15)
- Philosophy Hall, west portion of Savery Hall (1916)
- Commerce Hall, east portion of Savery Hall (1920)
- Harris Hydraulics Lab (1920)
- Education Hall / Miller Hall (1920)
- Roberts Hall (1921)



- Women’s Gymnasium / Hutchinson Hall (1926-27)
- Anderson Hall (1924)
- Central Library (1924)
- Roberts Hall Addition (1924)
- Henry Art Gallery (altered) (1926)
- Suzzallo Library addition (1934)
- Chemistry Building/Bagley Hall (1935, with John Graham)
- Smith Hall (1936)
- Penthouse Theatre (1938, with John Conway)

Select examples of work by Carl F. Gould and Bebb & Gould are illustrated in **Figures 58-62**.

### **Structural Engineer Melvin O. Sylliaasen**

Melvin Oliver Sylliaasen (1890-1956) was a Seattle structural engineer who practiced in the teens through the 1940s and served as City Engineer during the 1930s. One of five children, he was born in South Dakota to Christ T. and Johanna Sylliaasen, who had immigrated from Norway in 1881. C. T. Sylliaasen was a senior member at the Seattle contracting firm Sylliaasen & Sando. Among the buildings in Seattle attributed to this firm is the William O McKay Auto Dealership in 1923 (Michelson, PCAD).

M.O. Sylliaasen graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering in 1910. Following graduation, he reportedly spent seven years in the City’s Building and Engineering Departments, with four years as a structural plans checker in 1914-1919, and four years in private practice. A *Seattle Times* ad from 1929 suggests he was then the head of the structural engineering department at the multi-disciplinary firm, John Graham and Company. Some of the firm’s projects listed in this advertisement included the Dexter Horton Building (1922-23) (**Figure 63**), Physics and Aeronautics Halls on the UW campus (1927-28, 1928-29), and Exchange Building (1929-30) (*Seattle Times*, August 4, 1929). (Additional research is necessary to ascertain Sylliaasen’s specific role in these projects.)

In 1932, Seattle Mayor John Dore appointed Sylliaasen City Engineer, a position he held until at least 1940. As City Engineer, he was involved in a number of significant projects, including documentation of the condition of Railroad Avenue (present Alaskan Way); the Henderson Street Sewage Treatment Plant, which was noted as “the first modern sewage treatment plant in the City of Seattle” (*Sewage Works Journal*); and the Cedar River Pipeline projects 1 and 2. During the early-1940s and World War II he was involved in several multi-disciplinary partnerships, including Jones, Bouillon, Thiry and Sylliaasen, Architects and Jones, Thiry & Ahlson, which was responsible for the design of the Holly Park Public Housing Complex, Seattle (1942-1943, demolished); and with Jones, Bouillon and Sylliaasen, on a new town plan for Hanford (1944) with architect Paul Thiry (Hancock).

Sylliaasen also championed and oversaw the construction of the Alaskan Way seawall as the City Engineer (**Figure 64**), and during the mid-1940s, he was also involved as the structural engineer in the remodel of Pier 55. He is also cited as the structural engineer and designer of the Link-Belt Company Building/Alaskan Copper Works at 3405 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 1946 (City of Seattle Historic Sites Survey).

Sylliaasen was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Concrete Institute, the Pacific Northwest Society of Engineers, and member of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singer's Association, for which he served as president. He died in Seattle on June 29, 1956.

### **The Original Builder, the Western Construction Company**

Brothers J.A., George, and Albin Johnson immigrated from Sweden as young men and settled in Seattle in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1909, J.A. and George, both trained as carpenters, founded the construction firm the Johnson Brothers. By 1930 the company name had been changed to Western Construction Company. In 1934, Albin joined his brothers at the firm, which later employed their children in various capacities, including several sons who obtained engineering degrees while continuing to work at the family business. Due to financial issues, the business went through several restructures but remained a family venture until at least 1950.

In its early years, the firm constructed small houses including two Tudor-style residences at 5263 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue (1921) and 1619 NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Street (1922), in the University District. With increases in capital, it took on larger projects, including the Charbern Apartments on Capitol Hill (1925-26) and the Marlborough Apartments on First Hill (1926-27), as well as a major public project, Harborview Hospital (1930-31) (**Figures 65-66**). Additionally, the Western Construction Company worked with architect John Graham on the Fisheries Bureau Building in the Montlake neighborhood (1930), and the Holly Park housing project (1942-43, demolished; structural engineer Sylliaasen was also involved on this project).

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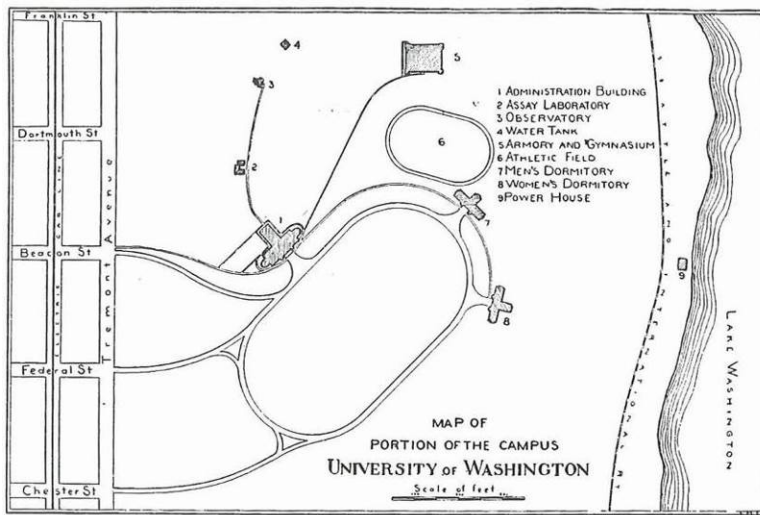
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## 6. ILLUSTRATIONS

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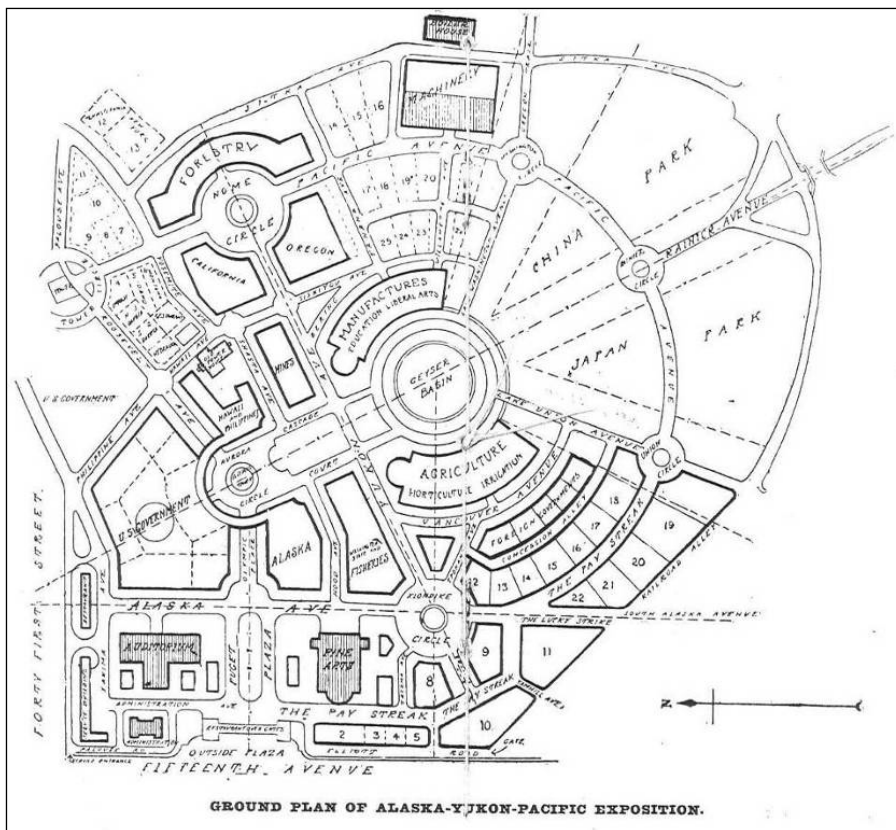


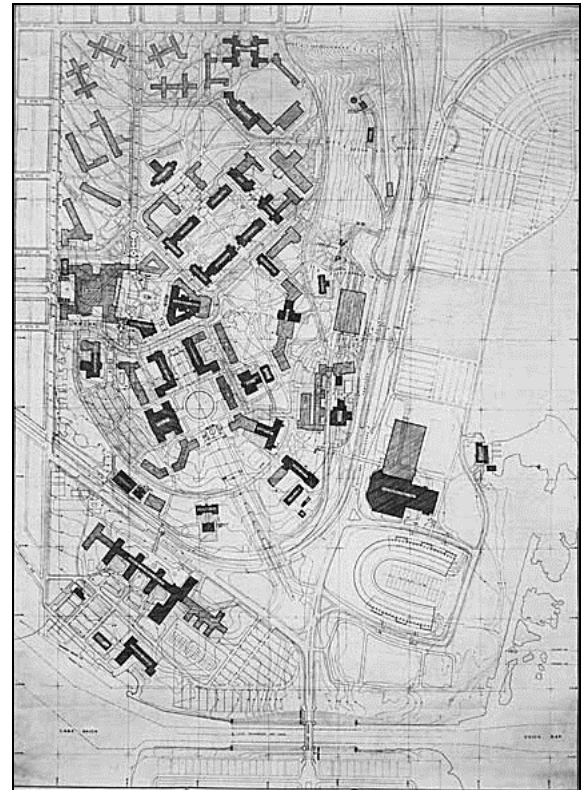
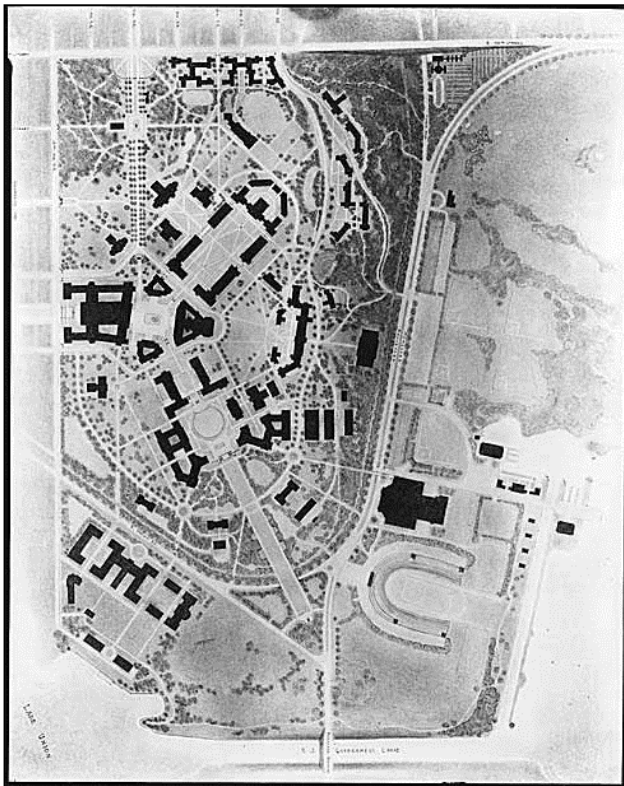
### Historic Campus Plans



**Figure 1.** Above, the Oval Plan from ca 1898. This plan sited the Armory and Gymnasium (5) and Athletic Field (6) near the north end of campus in close proximity to Men's and Women's Dormitories (University of Washington Libraries Special Collections (UWLSC)).

**Figure 2.** Below, the 1915 Regents Plan by campus architect, Bebb & Gould (with north oriented to the left). It placed athletic facilities along the eastern edge of the campus near Lake Washington (top of the image) (UWLSC).

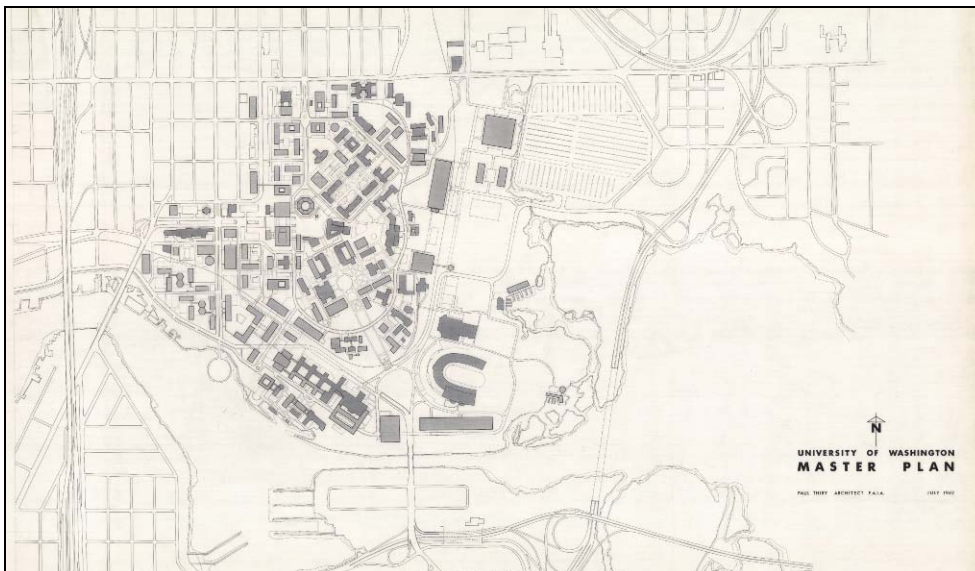




**Figure 3.** Above left, the 1934 Campus Plan. This plan shows expansion of athletic facilities in the southeast section along with expanded parking areas. North is to the left (UWLSC).

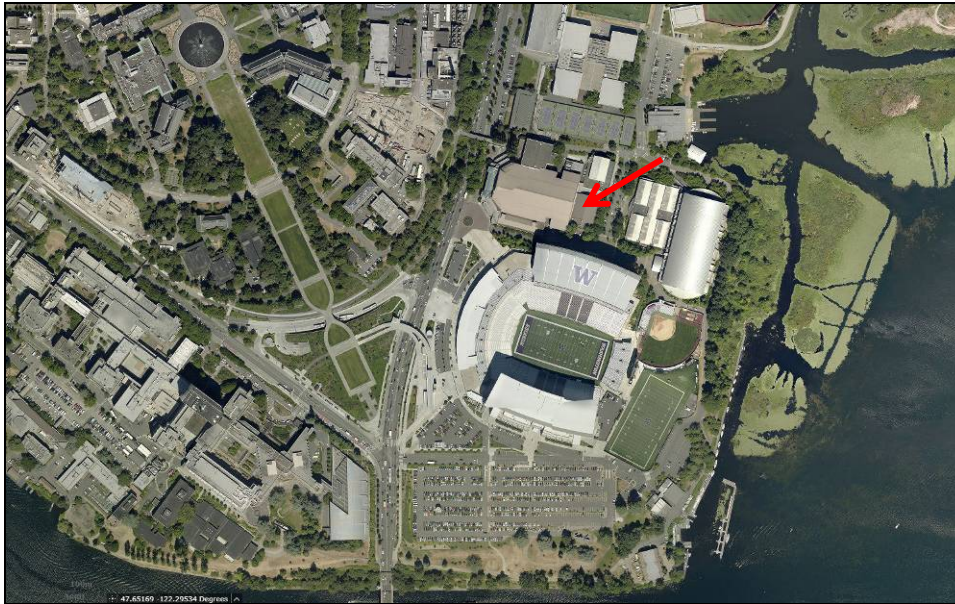
**Figure 4.** Above right, the 1949 Campus Plan (UWLSC).

**Figure 5.** Below, a 1962 campus plan by Paul Thiry showed adjusted the expectations for an expansion of the Hec Ed Pavilion, just north of the U-shaped stadium (UWLSC).





Current Aerial Views and Site Plan

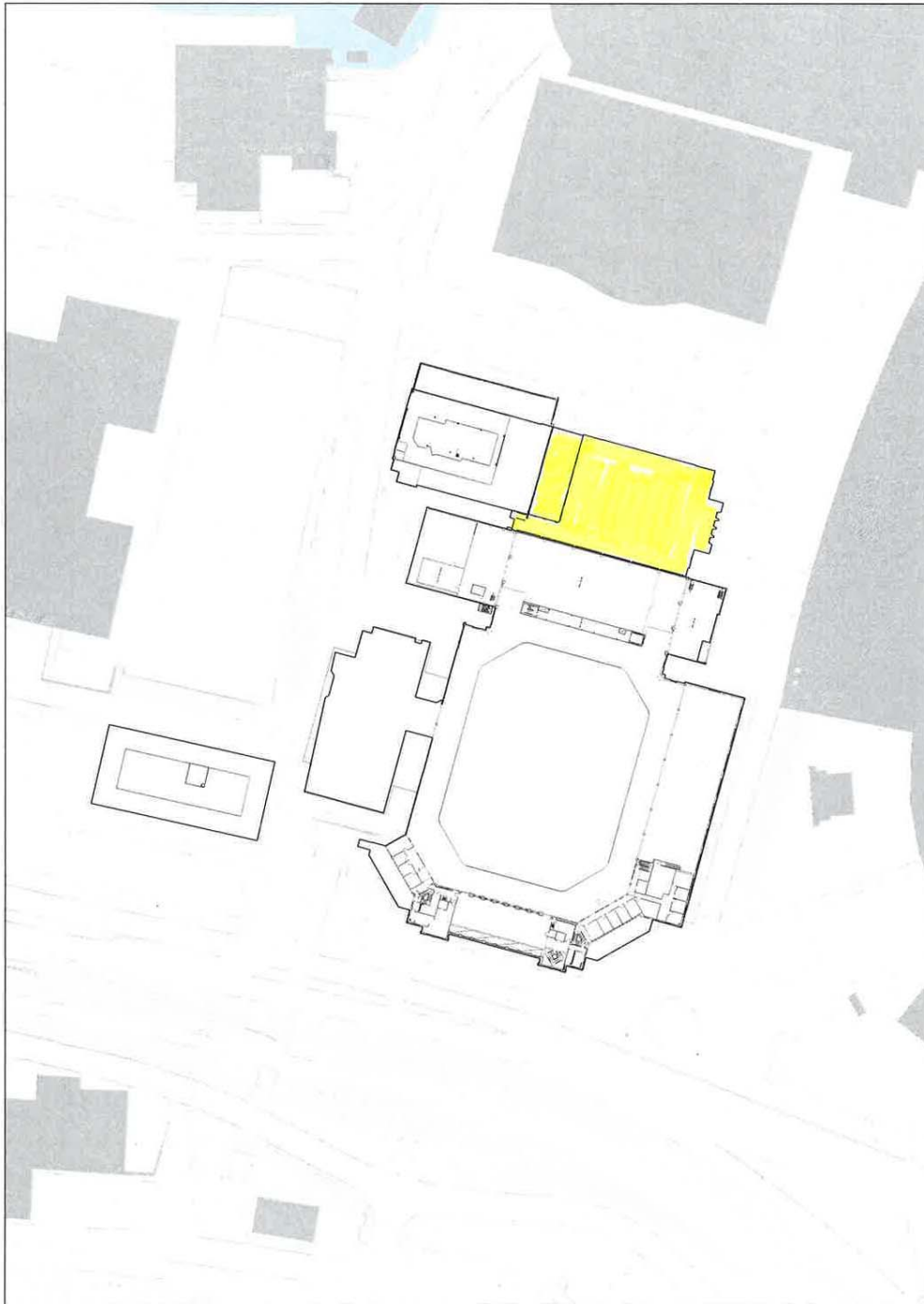


**Figure 6.** A relatively current aerial view shows the building's location on the north side of the stadium and east end of the Hec Ed Pavilion. Montlake Boulevard NE is the roadbed to the west. North is oriented up. The subject building is noted by a red arrow (King County i-Map, 2017).

**Figure 7.** Below an aerial view looking southwest at the athletic precinct in southeast campus. The subject building is noted by a red arrow (Google Earth, 2018).



**Figure 8.** Below, a current site plan. North is oriented to the left. The detail plans indicate the adjacent Hec Ed Pavilion, with its northeast and southeast storage additions, northwest addition, 1986 Graves Annex and its 2006 addition. The separate building to the north (outlined, left) is the Graves Building. Also indicated in a gray tone are building footprints of the Husky Stadium and other athletic facilities (GBD Architects, courtesy University of Washington Athletics Department).





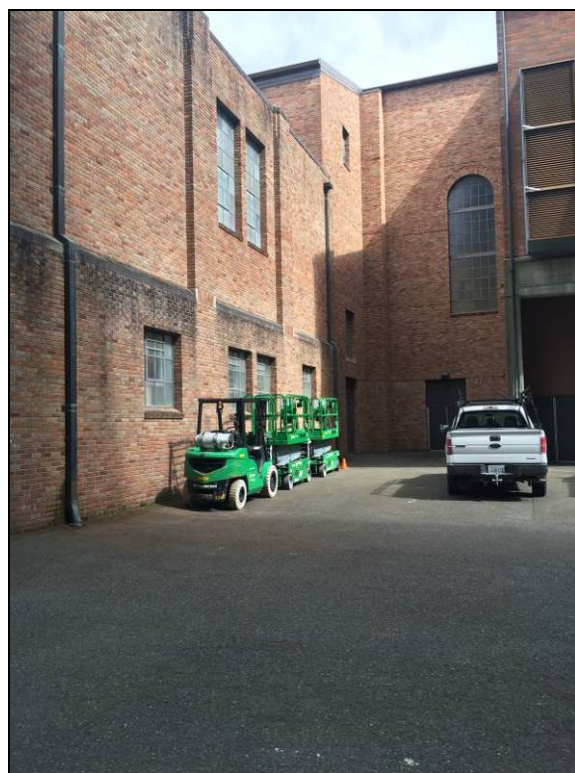
**Current Site and Building Photos**

Unless noted otherwise, photos are by BOLA and date from May 2018.



**Figure 9.** Above, looking northeast at the primary entry (ca 1928) and a portion of the west and south facades of the adjacent Hec Ed Pavilion.

**Figures 10 & 11.** Below left, looking northeast at the south facades of the Hec Ed Pavilion. Below right, looking north at a section of the original Hec Ed Pavilion and the ca. 1970 south storage addition.





**Figure 12.** Above, looking northwest at the Pavilion Pool. The Hec Ed Pavilion is visible in the background.

**Figure 13.** Detail view, looking northwest at portions of the Pavilion Pool south facade, the original Hec Ed Pavilion east facade and the ca. 1970 south storage addition east facade.







Figures 14 & 15. Above, looking southeast at the south façade entry and masonry patterns (August 8, 2018).

Figure 1.5 Below, left, entry door detail. Figure 16. Below right, looking northwest at the southeast corner.







**Figure 17.** Above, looking southwest at the east facade. To the right, a portion of the abutting Grave Annex addition is visible.

**Figure 18.** Below, detail view of a service entry at grade level, east facade.







**Figure 19.** Above, looking northwest at the north end, east facade of the Pavilion Pool.

**Figures 20 & 21.** Below, views looking northwest and southwest at the adjacent Graves Annex Addition.





**Figure 22.** Left, looking south at a north entry to the Pavilion Pool, the outdoor walkway between Hec Ed Pavilion (right), and Graves Annex Addition (left).



**Figure 23.** Left, detail view of the northwest entry to the Pavilion Pool and portion of the upper gable end of the north facade.



**Figure 24.** Left, looking southeast at the Post Modern-style addition at the northeast corner of the original Hec Ed Pavilion, the Graves Annex Addition. The entry shown in Figure 23 is accessed along its west side.



Interior



**Figure 25-27.** Above and below, views of the pool from the balcony level, looking south (above) and west (below left). The view below right shows the handrail detail at the north balcony.

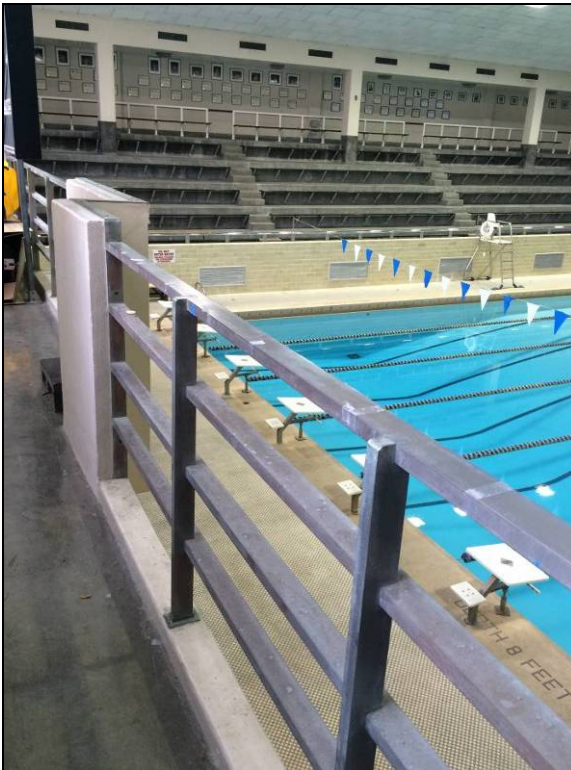




Figure 28. Above, view looking southeast at the pool.

Figure 29. Below, view of the east grandstand from the pool level.

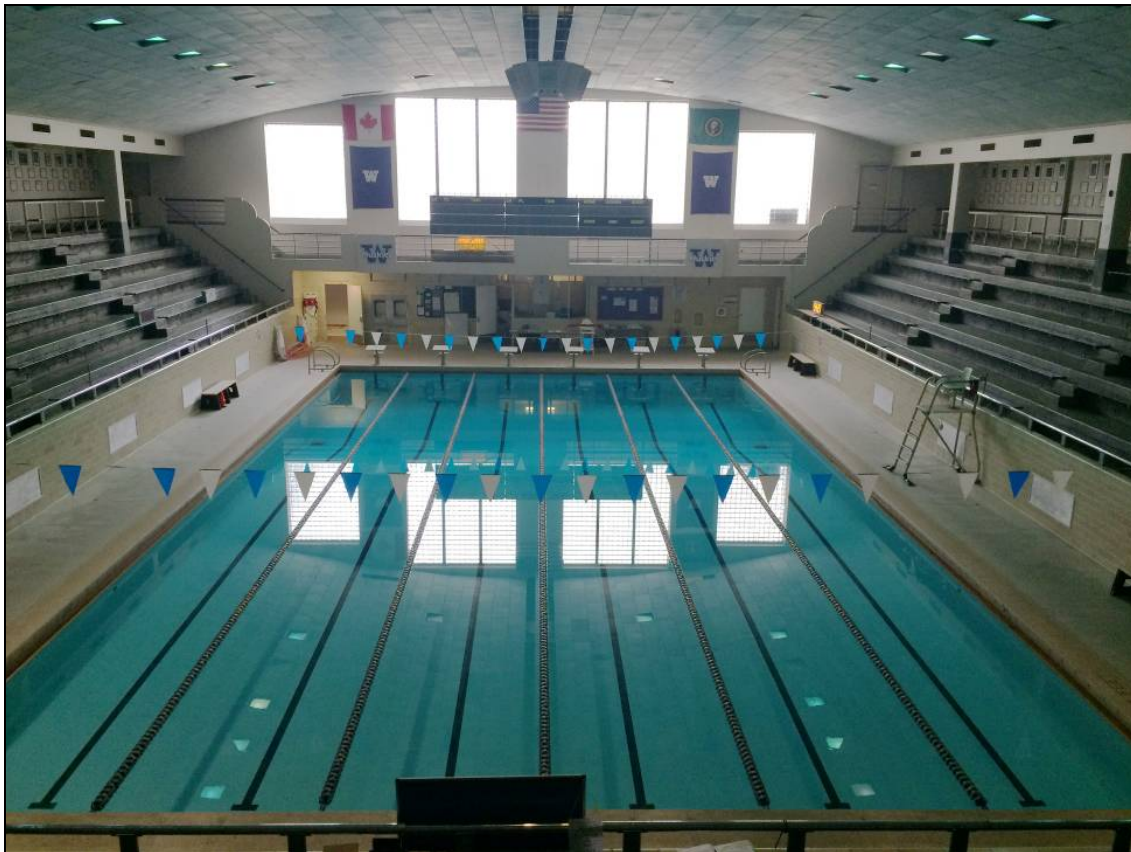






Figure 30. Above, a detail view of the pool tile work.

Figure 31. A view looking north in the main pool space.





Figures 32 & 33. Left, the original men's locker room. Right, the women's locker room, inserted in the 1980s.

### 1937-1939 Pavilion Pool Drawings

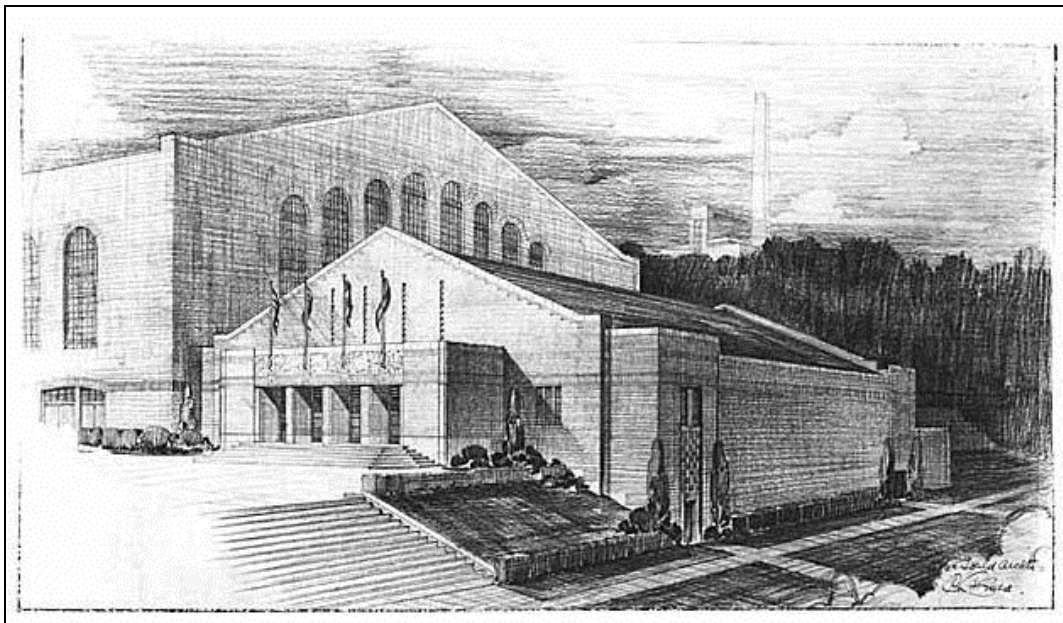


Figure 34. Above, a 1937 rendering by Bebb and Gould of the revised pool addition (UWLSC).





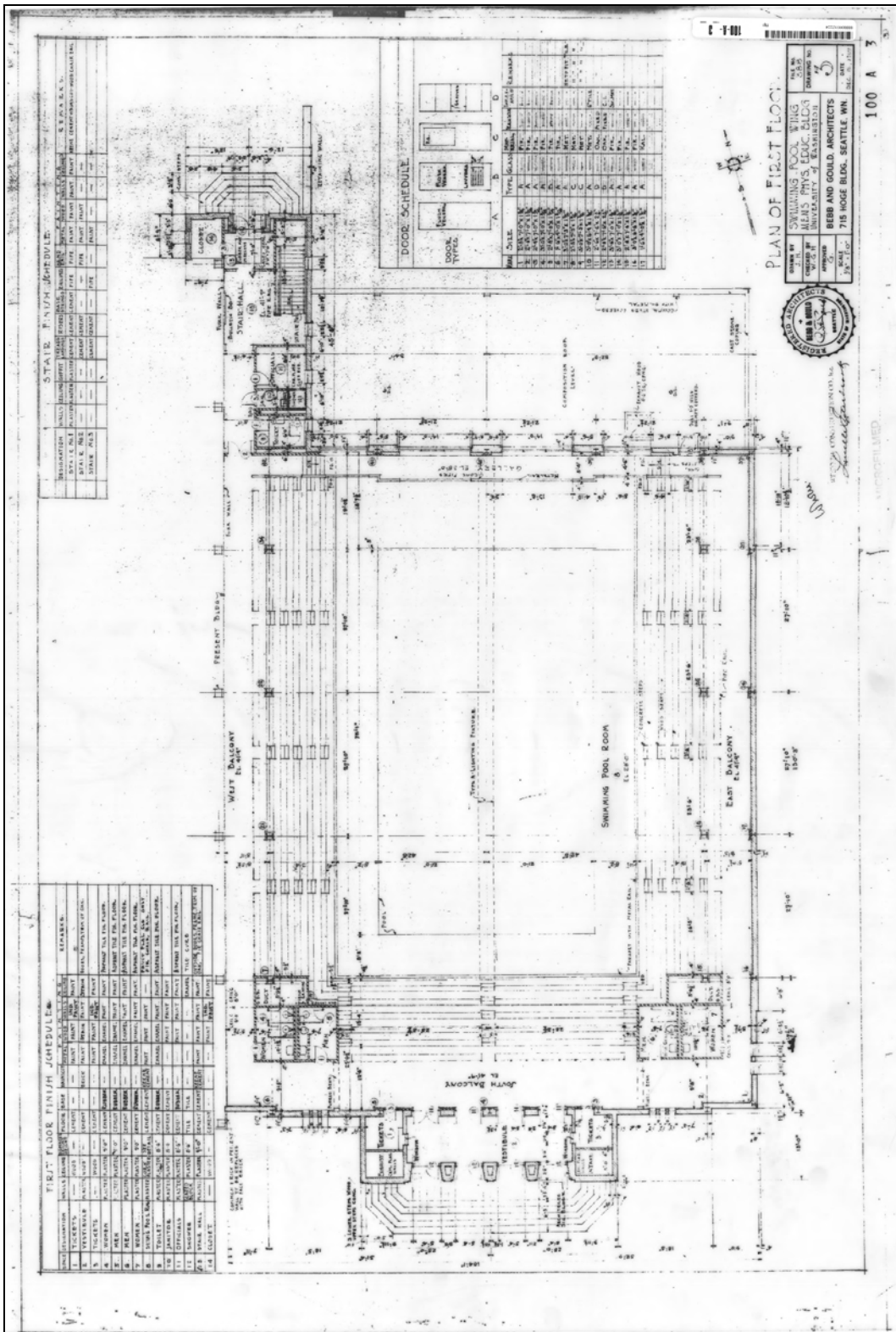


Figure 36. Original 1939 First Floor and Balcony Level Plan by Bebb & Gould (UW Facilities Records).



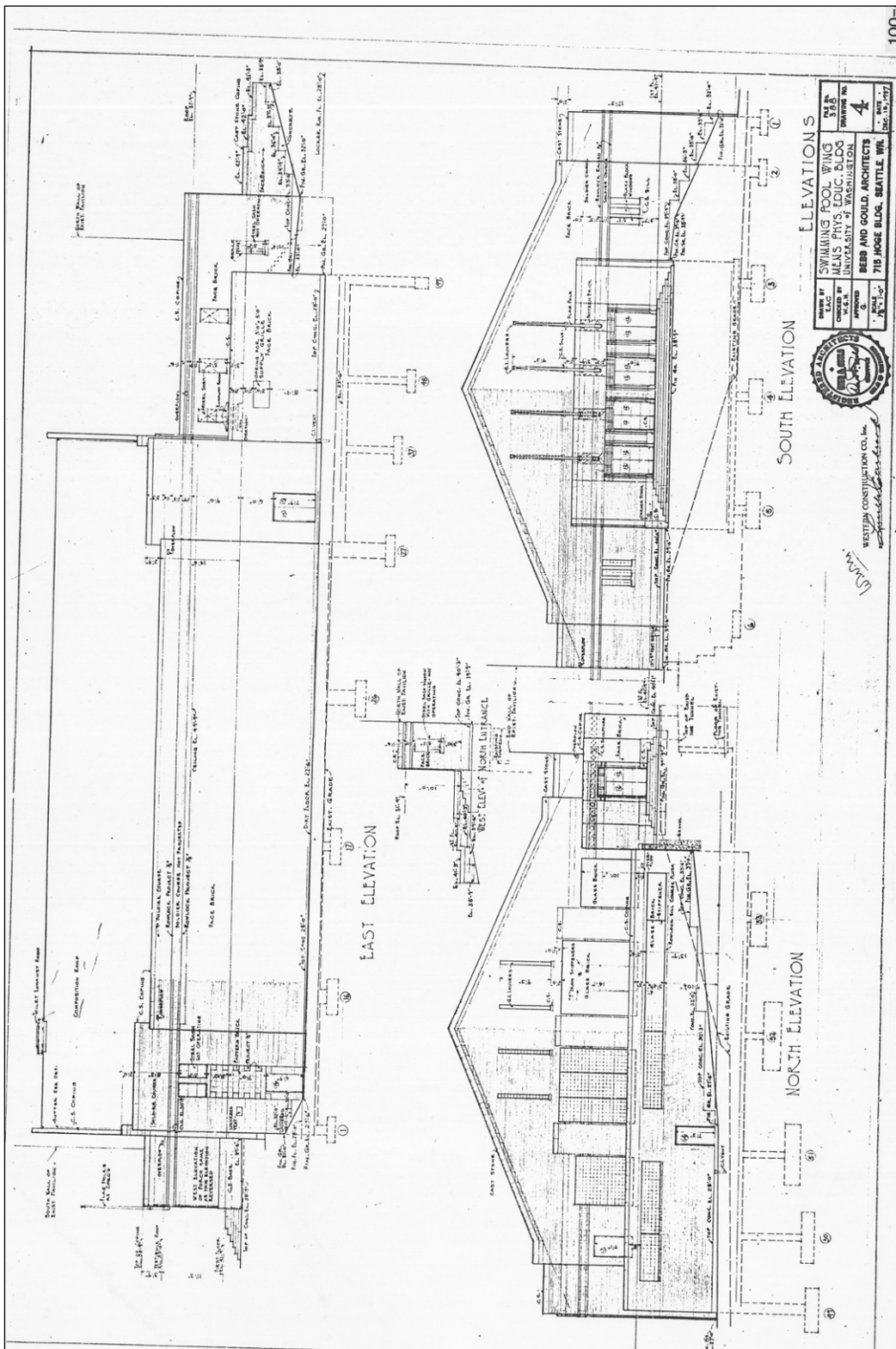
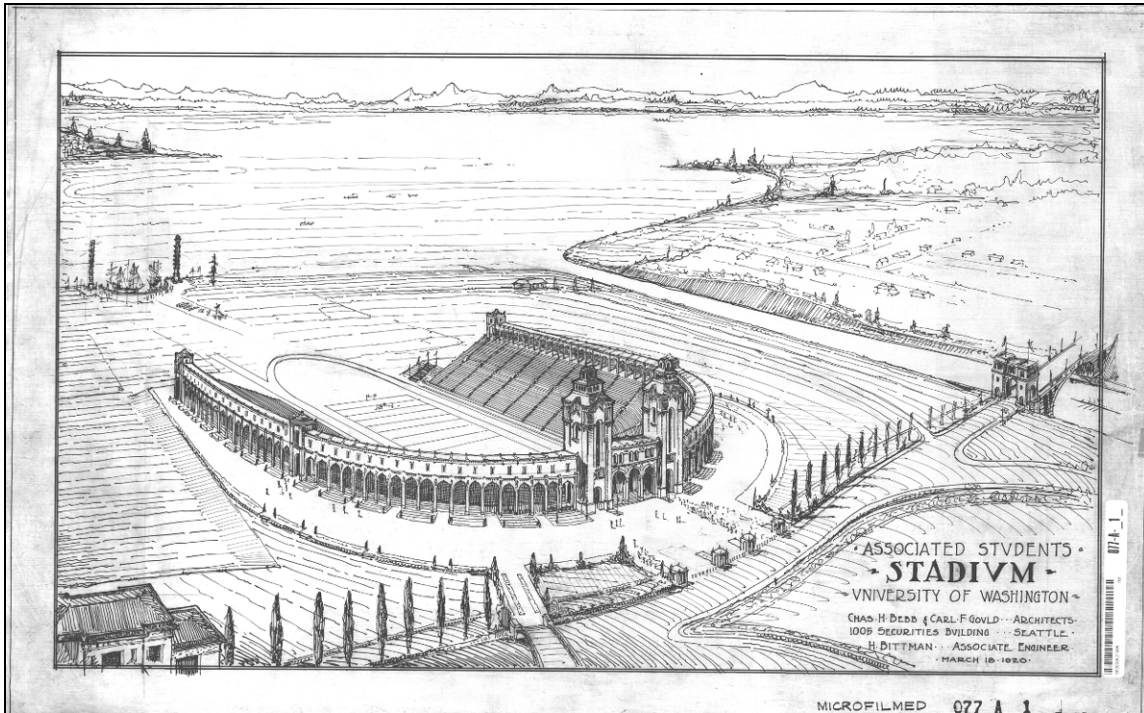


Figure 37. Original Elevations, Bebb & Gould, dated 1939. See Figures 42 for a comparison with the earlier 1927 historic revival style design. (UW Facilities Records)

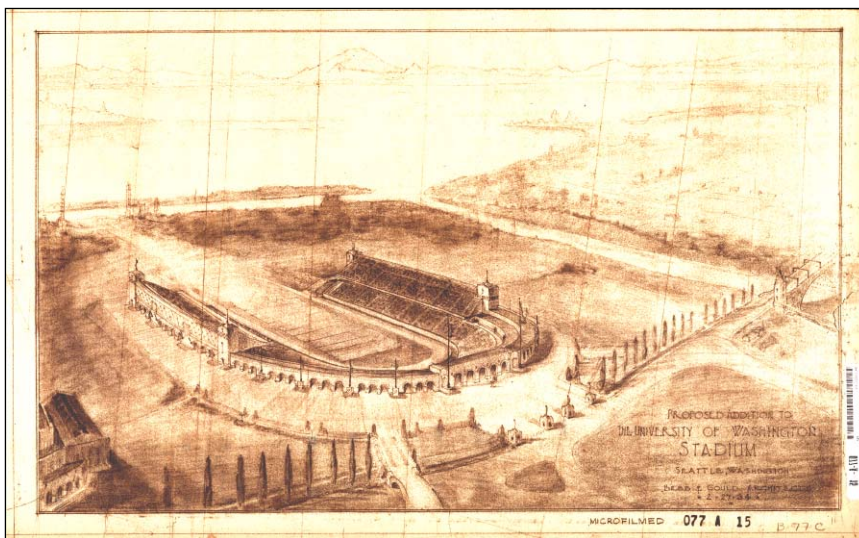
### Other Historic Drawings

The following images illustrate the original surrounding conditions (All drawings are from the University of Washington Facilities Records unless otherwise cited.)

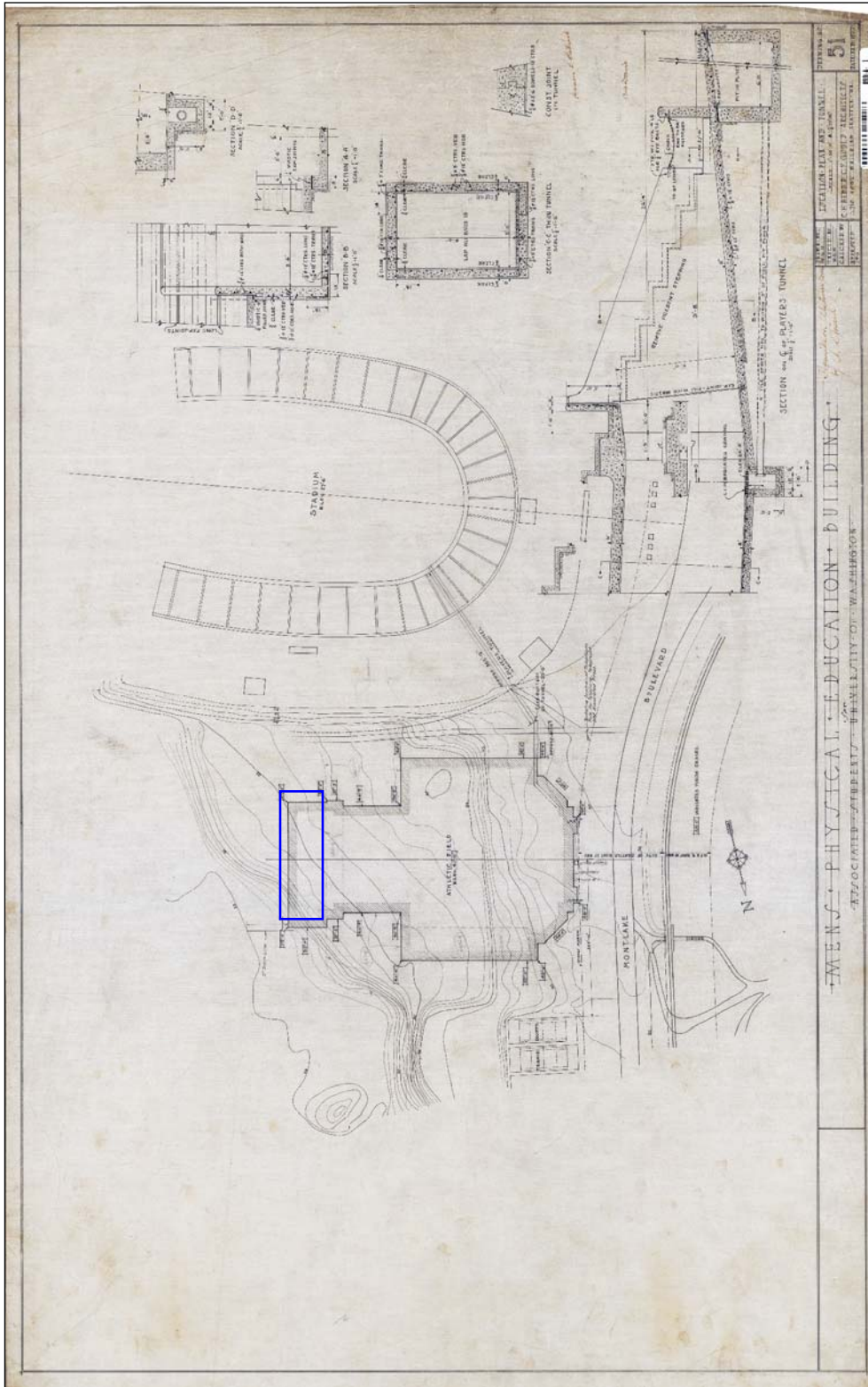


**Figure 38.** Above, a rendering of the proposed stadium south of the Hec Ed Pavilion, designed by Bebb & Gould, 1920.

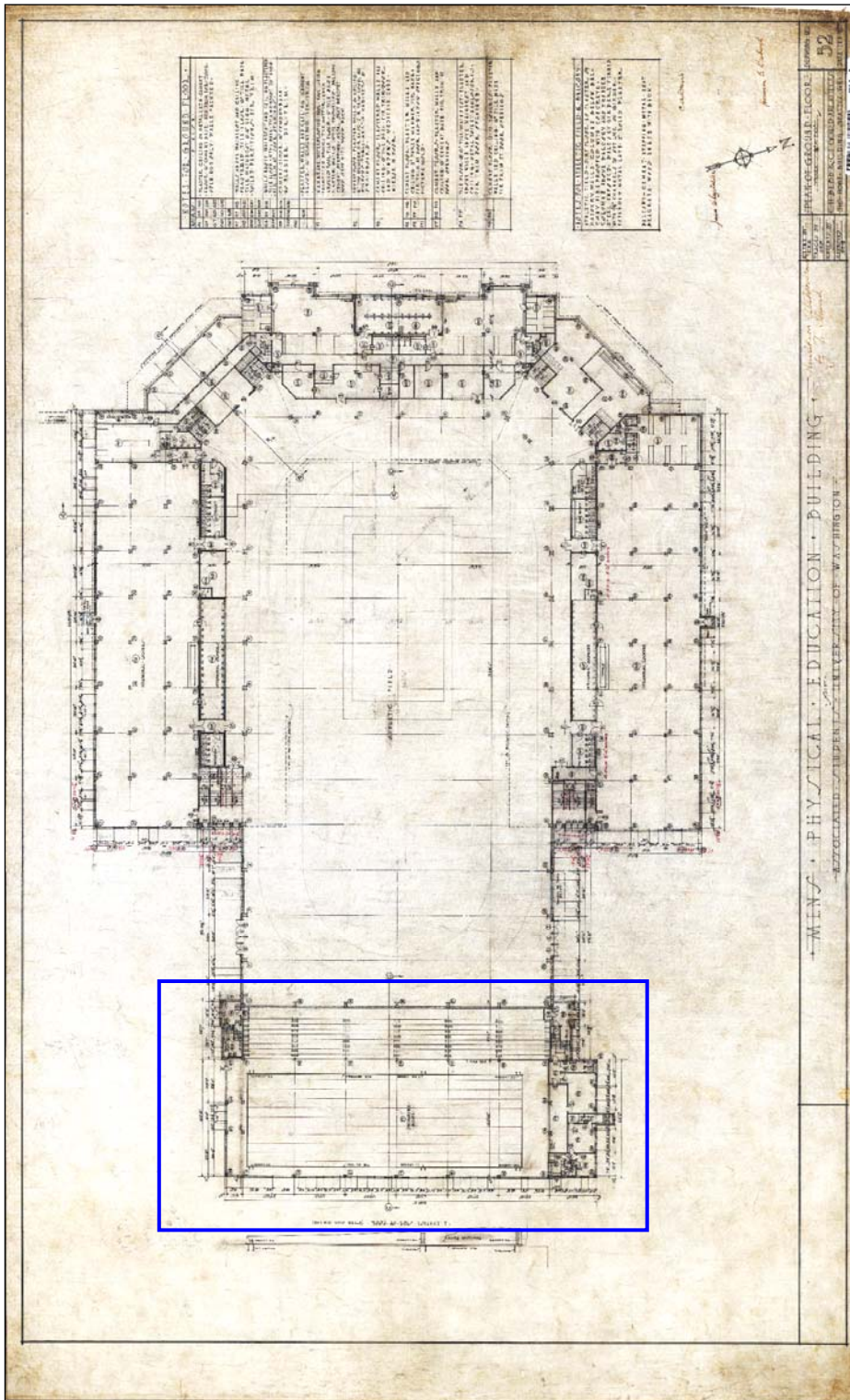
**Figure 39.** Below, a rendering of the addition in 1939. A small portion of Hec Edmundson Pavilion is visible in the foreground left.





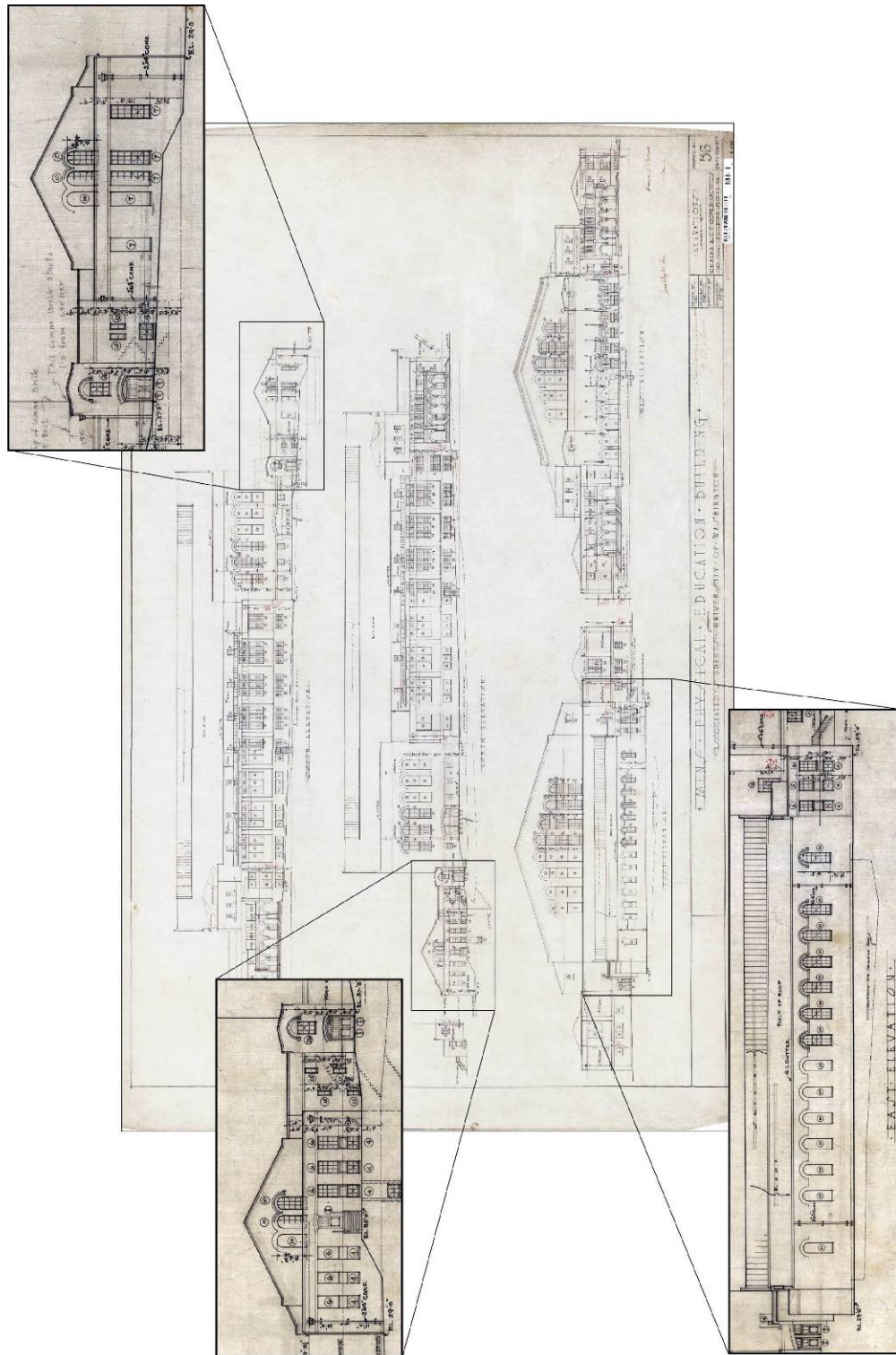


**Figure 40.** Original site plan by Bebb & Gould, 1927, showing the Men's Physical Education Building and stadium. The original pool is outlined in blue. North is oriented downward.

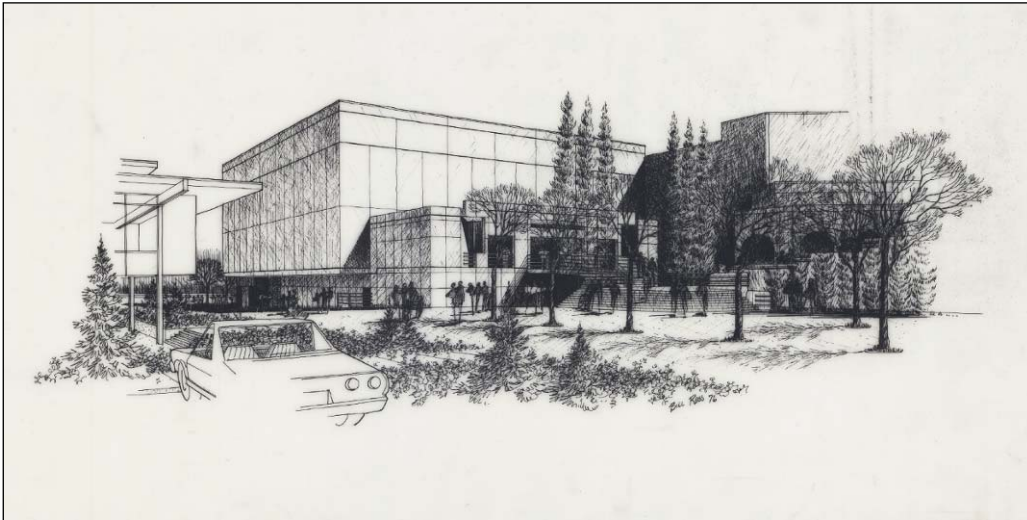


**Figure 41.** Floor Plan, Men's Physical Education Building by Bebb & Gould, 1927. The pool was a wider section at the east end (within the blue outline). North is to the right. Similar entries were set at the pool wing's northwest and southwest.



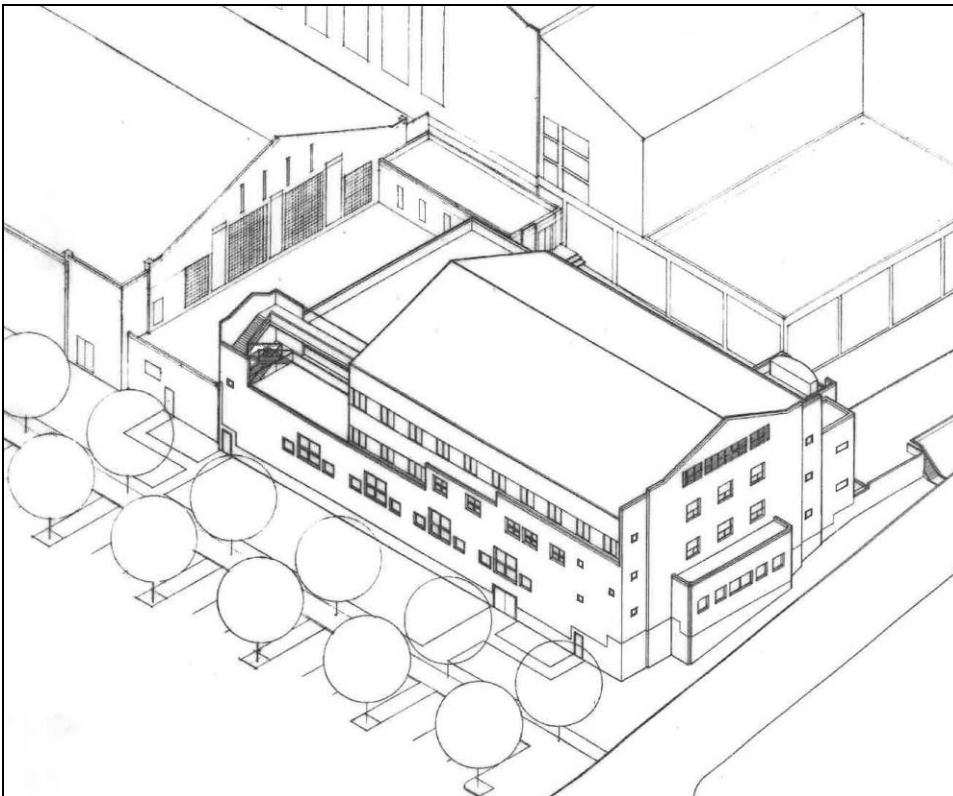


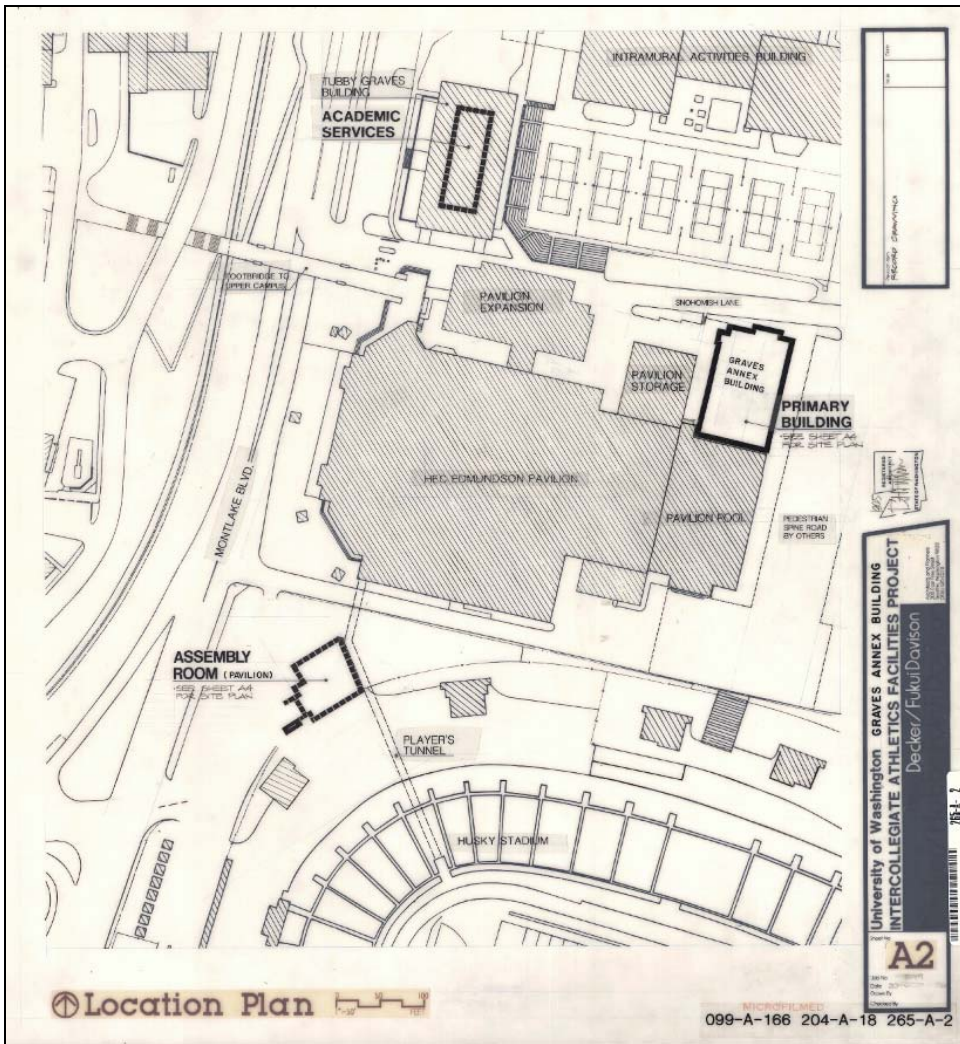
**Figure 42.** Elevations, Men's Physical Education Building by Bebb & Gould, 1927. The larger scale inserts show the design of the eclectic Romanesque Revival style facades at the building's east pool section. See Figure 37 for comparison with the later Moderne style design facades.



**Figure 43.** Above, a rendering of the 1978 northwest addition to the Hec Edmundson Pavilion by Decker/Fukui Davison Architects.

**Figure 44.** Below, a drawing from the coversheet of the 1986 Graves Annex construction drawings illustrating an aerial view of the new building, looking southwest. A portion of the abutting Pavilion Pool is shown to the left (south), prior to the east addition to the Annex.





**Figure 45.** Above, a site plan dating from 1986 showing the Hec Ed Pavilion and additions, the Pavilion Pool, and nearby Husky Stadium. North is oriented up on this drawing. The “Primary Building” is the Graves Annex Addition. Late this Annex was expanded with a 20’-deep addition along its east facade, set forward from the east facade of the adjacent Pavilion Pool building.



## Historic Photographs



**Figure 46.** Above, a view of the Men's Athletic Building/Hec Edmundson Pavilion under construction in 1928 (MOHAI, Image No. 1983.10.1959.1). The view appears to include the rail line that became the Burke-Gilman Trail in the foreground.

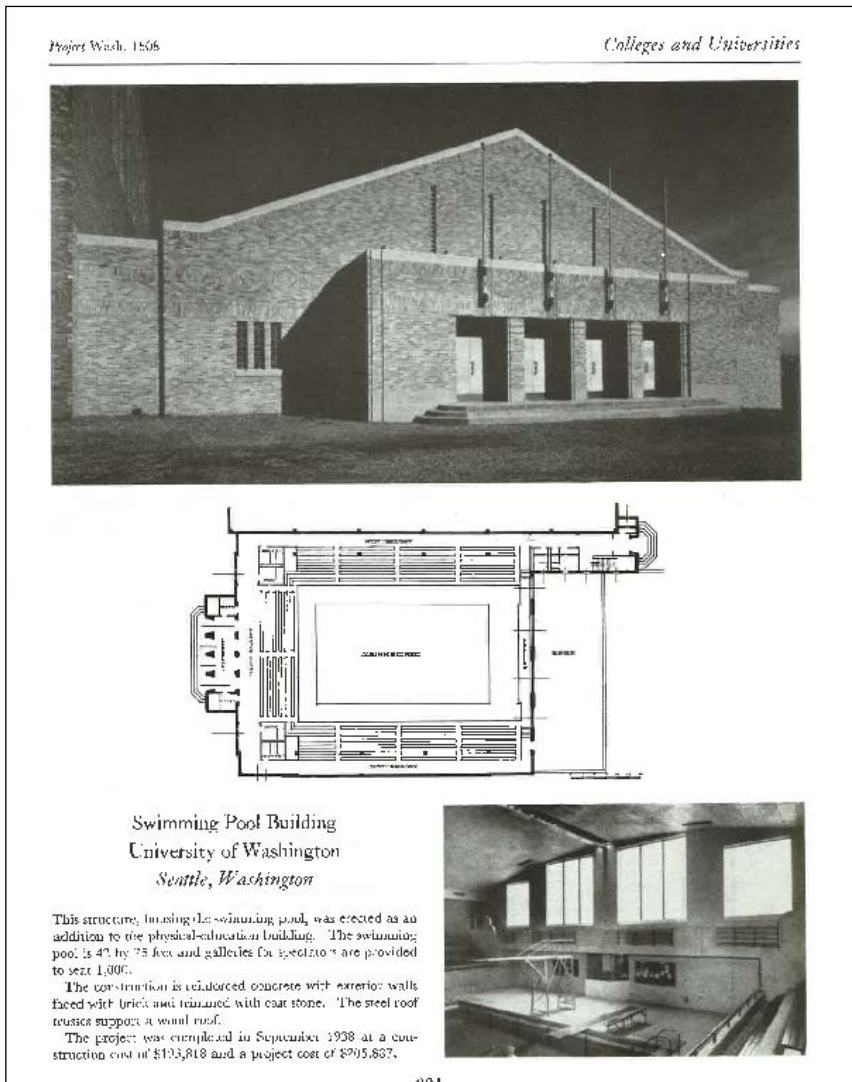
**Figure 47.** Below, an aerial view looking northwest over the eastern campus in 1932, with the Hec Ed Pavilion and the original Husky Stadium bowl in the middle of the photo. This view predates construction of the Pavilion Pool, which was added on the east (right) end of the earlier pavilion (MOHAI, image no. 1983.10.18044)







**Figure 48.** Above, a view looking east of the Hec Ed Pavilion and nearby stadium during construction of the 1939 Pavilion Pool, which is not visible in this view. (UWLSC)



**Figure 49.** Left, an excerpt from C. W. Short and R. Stanley Brown, *Public Buildings – Architecture Under the Public Works Administration, 1933-39* (p. 321), citing “Project Wash 1508.”

Swimming Pool Building  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

This structure, housing the swimming pool, was erected as an addition to the physical-education building. The swimming pool is 47 by 75 feet and galleries for spectators are provided to seat 1,000.

The construction is reinforced concrete with exterior walls faced with brick and trimmed with cast stone. The steel roof trusses support a wood roof.

The project was completed in September 1938 at a construction cost of \$133,818 and a project cost of \$205,867.





**Figure 50.** Above, an extensive aerial view looking southwest at the Union Bay area with the campus and the Montlake Cut, Lake Union, and the city in the background. Temporary military housing is prominently visible, along with the Pavilion Pool, Hec Ed Pavilion and open Husky Stadium. This photo predates the post war development of the former Union Bay landfill for parking and recreation/athletic facilities (Dorpat, 2010).

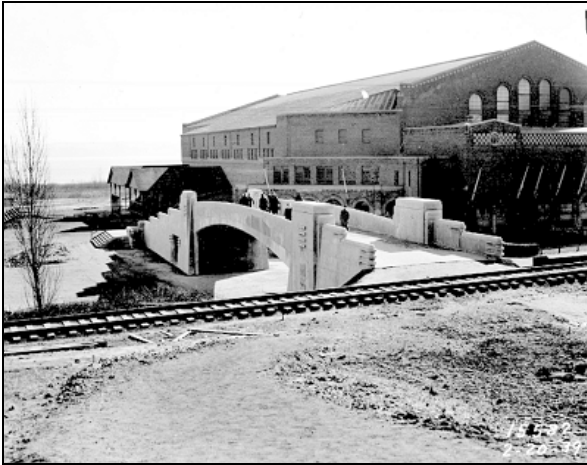


**Figure 51.** Above, a 1955 view of the landfill site north of the University's athletic facilities. The Hec Ed Pavilion and Husky Stadium in the background. The Pool Pavilion is barely visible in this photo (UWLSC).

**Figure 52.** Below, an aerial view from March 20, 1962 of the Montlake Cut and Husky Stadium. A portion of the pavilion building is visible beyond the uncovered stadium stands (Seattle Municipal Archives 70334).







Figures 53-56. Above, historic views of the Hec Ed Pavilion exterior and interior (UWLSC).

Figure 57. Below, a contemporary view of the interior following the reworking of the roof structure and interior renovation in ca. 1991. (University of Washington Athletic Department Web site.)



**Select Work by Carl F. Gould of Bebb & Gould**



**Figure 58.** Above, Hutchinson Hall (1926) was designed as the original Women’s Physical Education Building. This undated view shows the south facade after the realignment of NE Stevens Way closer to the building. (UWLSC)

**Figure 59.** Below, Suzzallo Library, dating from 1925 (main wing) and 1934 (south wing). (Photo by X-Weizar, Wiki Commons, 2006)







**Figure 60.** Above, the 1932 Moderne/Art Deco Style Seattle Art Museum, which dates from 1932. (Joe Mabel, Wiki Commons, 2008).



**Figure 61.** Above right, the Penthouse Theater on the UW campus, another, more modest Depression era project. This view dates from 1940 (UWLSC).

**Figure 62.** Below, the 1932 Everett Public Library, another Moderne/Art Deco style building designed by Carl Gould (Joe Mabel, Wiki Commons 2006).

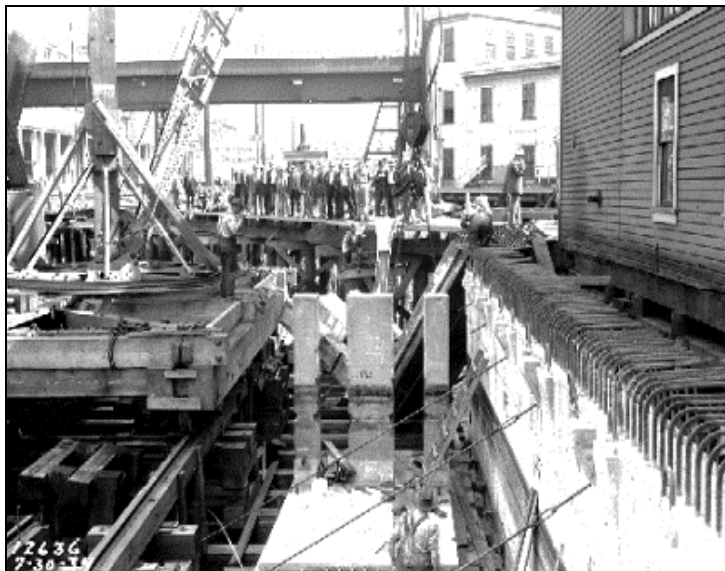


Select Work by Structural Engineer Melvin O. Sylliaasen



**Figure 63.** Left, the 1922-23 Dexter Horton Building, 710 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, designed by John Graham, with Sylliaasen as the firm's structural engineer. (Joe Mabel, Wiki Commons, 2018)

**Figure 64.** Belo laying slabs on July 30, 1934 of the Railroad Avenue Seawall at Pier 14. This city construction project was advocated by and overseen by Sylliaasen while serving as City Engineer (SMA 9014).





Representative Buildings by the General Contractor, the Western Construction Company



**Figure 65.** Above, the 1926-27 Marlborough Apartment Building, 1220 Boren Avenue on First Hill. (Joe Mabel, Wiki Commons, 2008)

**Figure 66.** Below, Harborview Hospital on First Hill in 1931 (MOHAI, 1984)

