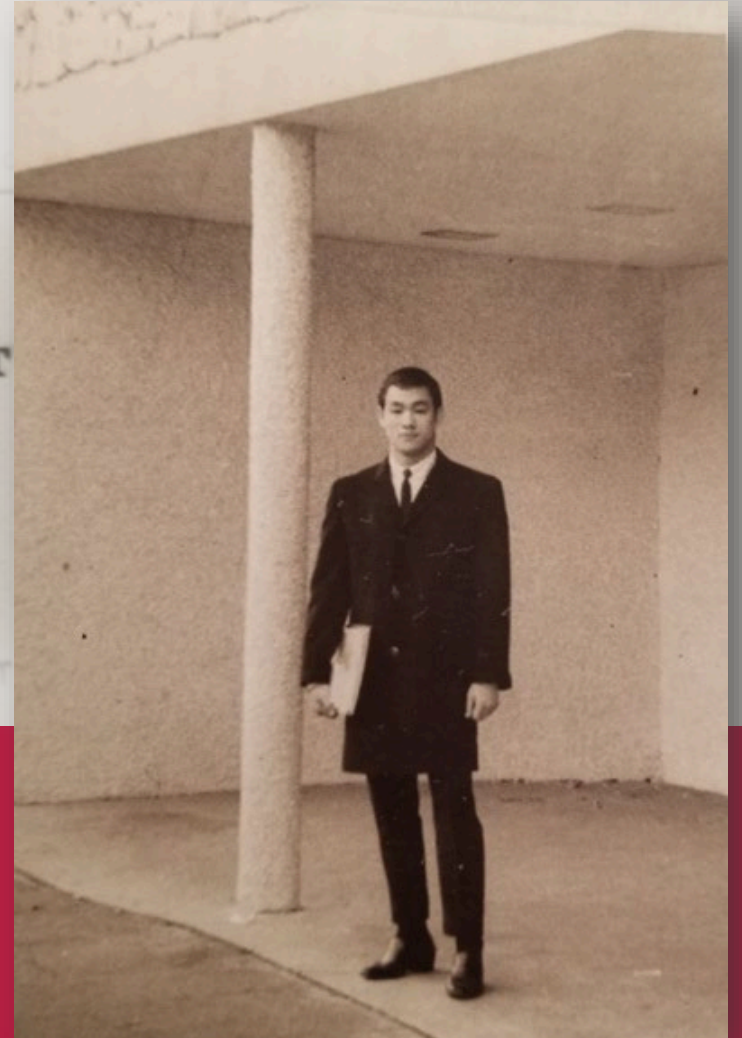




# LANDMARKING UNIVERSITY WAY APARTMENTS

4750 University Way NE



THIRD DOJO AND RESIDENCE OF  
MARTIAL ARTIST BRUCE LEE

# ARCHITECT SAMUEL G. MORRISON

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The architect of 4750 University Way was Samuel G. Morrison who was born and raised in Spokane, Washington, and received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Washington in 1940. In 1948, He opened his own firm, Samuel G. Morrison & Associates, and designed many midcentury modern commercial buildings, apartment buildings, and homes in the Seattle metropolitan area.

Some of the buildings included:

White & Bollard Office Building, Seattle (1951)

Portage Bay Plaza, Seattle (1952)

Mack Truck Office & Warehouse, Seattle (1953)

Sherman Paper Company Offices & Warehouse, Seattle (1956)

Northwest Builders Hardware Offices & Warehouse, Seattle (1957)

J.C. Penny University District store, Seattle (1957-58; altered)

Ridgeview Residential Park apartments, Kent (1966-67)

Empire Shopping Center, Seattle (1966-1967)

Some of Samuel G. Morrison's landmark buildings were the Seattle-First National Bank and the Nile Temple Shrine Auditorium Building; altered, (now Seattle Children's Theater 1955-56; altered) at the Seattle Center.

# 4750 UNIVERSITY WAY NE

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**TO BE BUILT:** Construction will get under way within 60 days on this combination store-and-apartment building, to be situated at 4750 University Way. The building, to cost \$200,000, will contain two retail stores and 18 one-bedroom apartments. The store front will be of expanded metal of stamped designs, and glass set in aluminum. An inside entrance is provided to the apartments. The architect, Samuel G. Morrison, and the contractors, Jack C. Mulliken and William A. Garrett, will

**Builder** - In 1957 Architect Samuel G. Morrison and two contractors, Jack Mulliken and William Garrett, realized the value of the home's proximity to the university and location within its business district. The trio purchased the property and planned to develop it into an apartment building with retail space.

# CONSTRUCTION



Construction was finished around June 1958. On June 27, 1958, the *Times* printed the first of several advertisements in the classifieds for the University Way Apartments:

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“New building in business district, near campus. Ready for occupancy now...” In 1959, another advertisement boasted the apartments offered the “finest of everything at your fingertips.” Furnished apartments could be rented for \$97.50-\$107.50 and unfurnished for \$85.

A building permit approved in 1960 noted the ground floor “store” space was vacant, and another permit in 1961 revealed Morrison was altering the space to accommodate a health studio.

# UNIVERSITY WAY APARTMENTS

Morrison's mid-century modern design for the apartment building was printed in the *Seattle Times* on August 11, 1957.

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It was a three-story building that included 18 one bedroom apartments and two ground floor retail spaces, and estimated to cost \$200,000. The *Times* wrote,

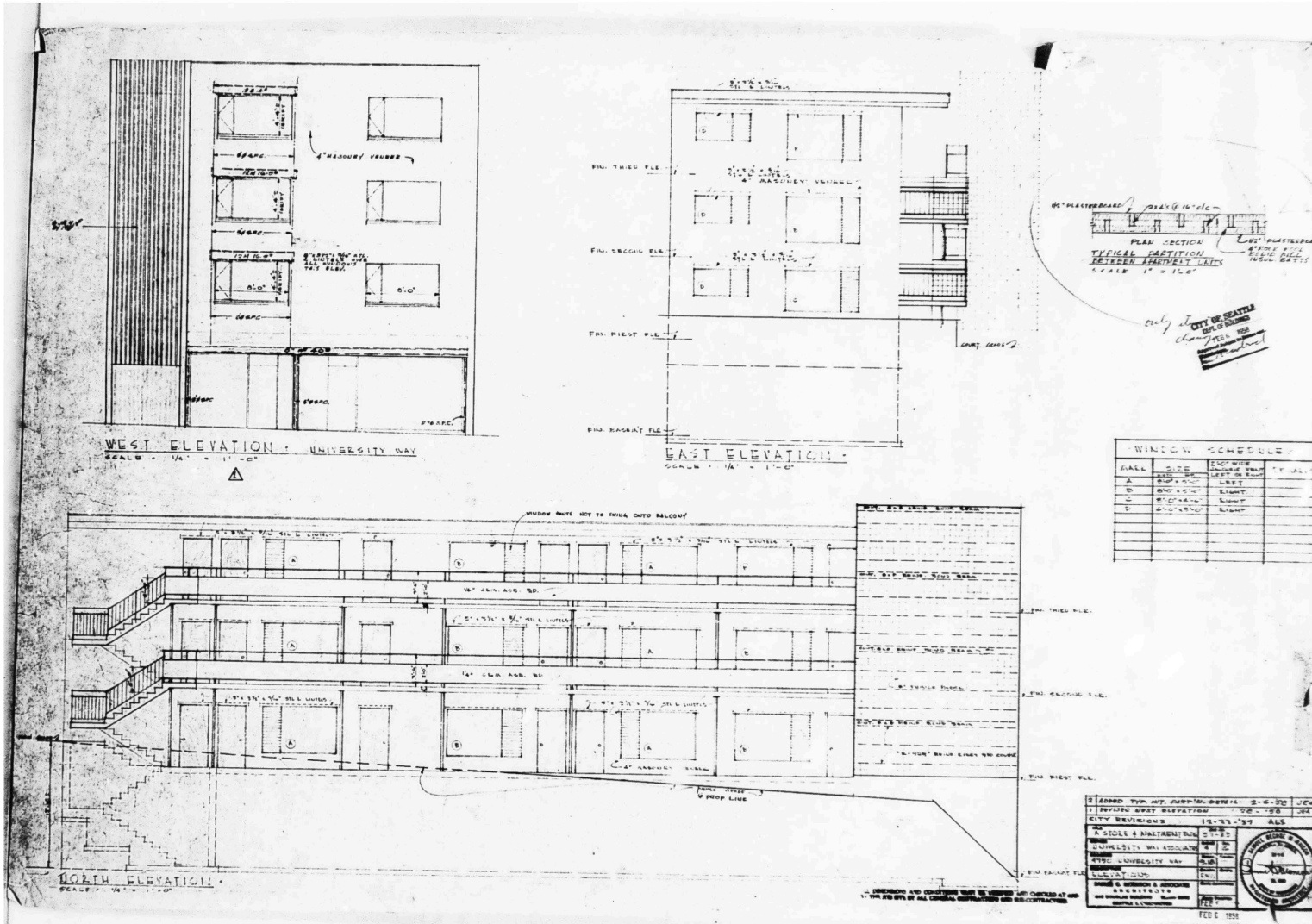
“The store front will be of expanded metal of stamped designs, and glass set in the aluminum. An inside entrance is provided to the apartments...[and] a roof garden is planned.”

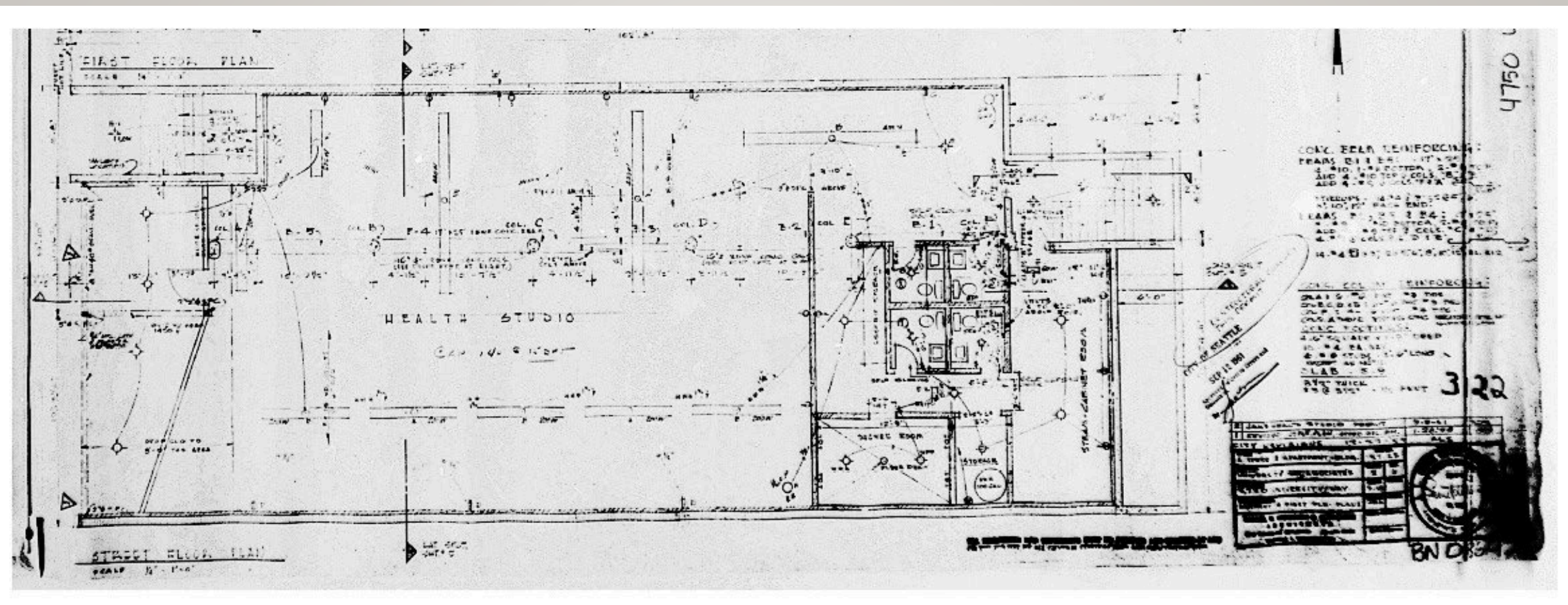
Morrison chose a jewelry store and a fine fur store as potential tenants, curious choices for the student-oriented neighborhood.



# EXTERIOR

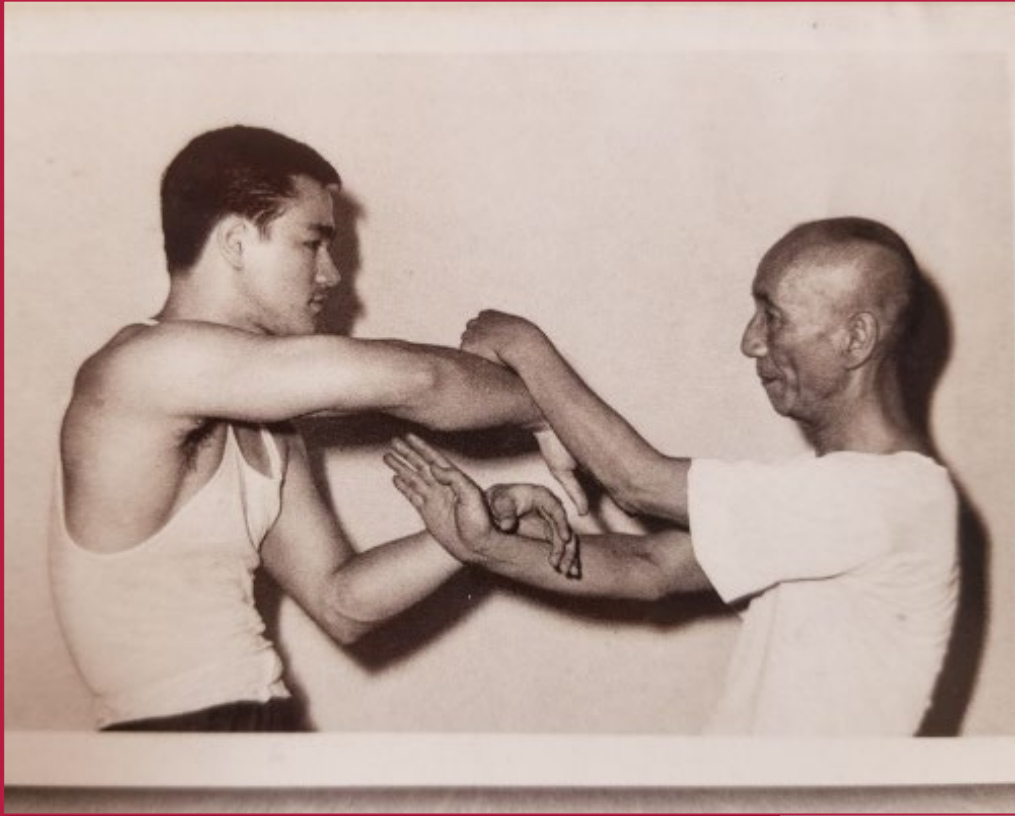
Blueprints dated Feb. 6, 1958





Blueprint dated Sept. 12, 1961 showing first floor of 4750 University Way  
Bruce Lee lived in a back room that had no windows

# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE

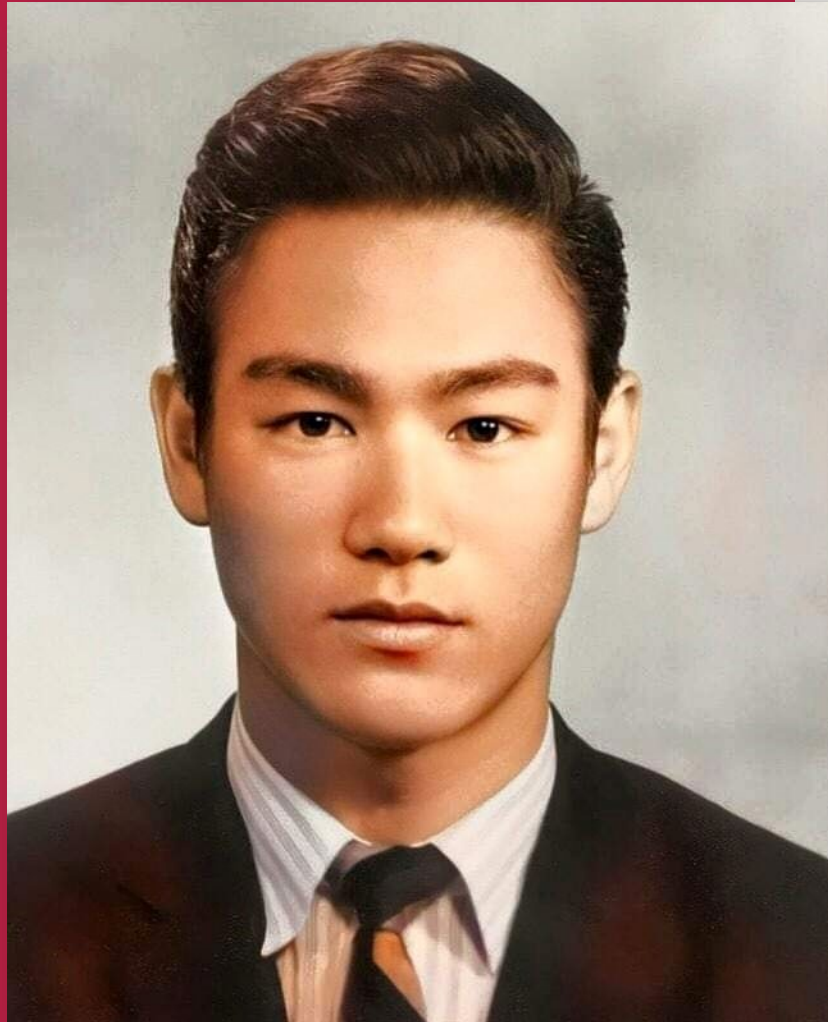


**1953** - At the age of 13, Bruce begins to take Kung-Fu lessons, despite local Hong Kong laws, outlawing street fights. Bruce Lee begins to train under Sifu Yip Man, a master of the Wing Chun system of Kung-Fu.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*



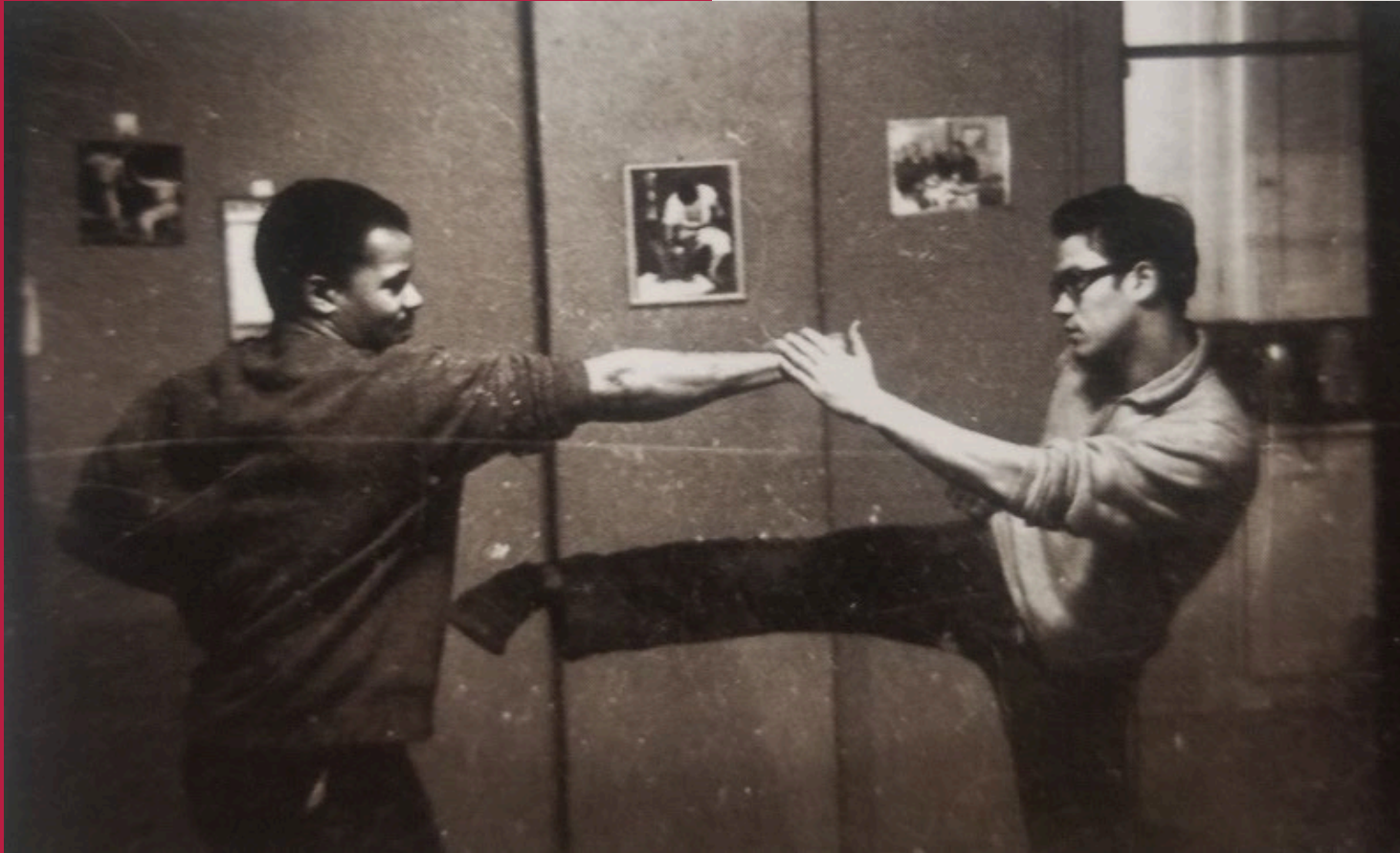
# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE



## Timeline:

- **April 29, 1959** - Bruce Lee leaves Hong Kong on the SS President Wilson for an eighteen day voyage to San Francisco.
- **September 3, 1959** - Bruce Lee arrives in Seattle. He is driven to Seattle by Fook Yeung.
- **September 9, 1959** enrolls at Edison Tech in Seattle
- **1960, February** - Bruce Lee meets Taky Kimura his future senior student who would take over the Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute.

# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE



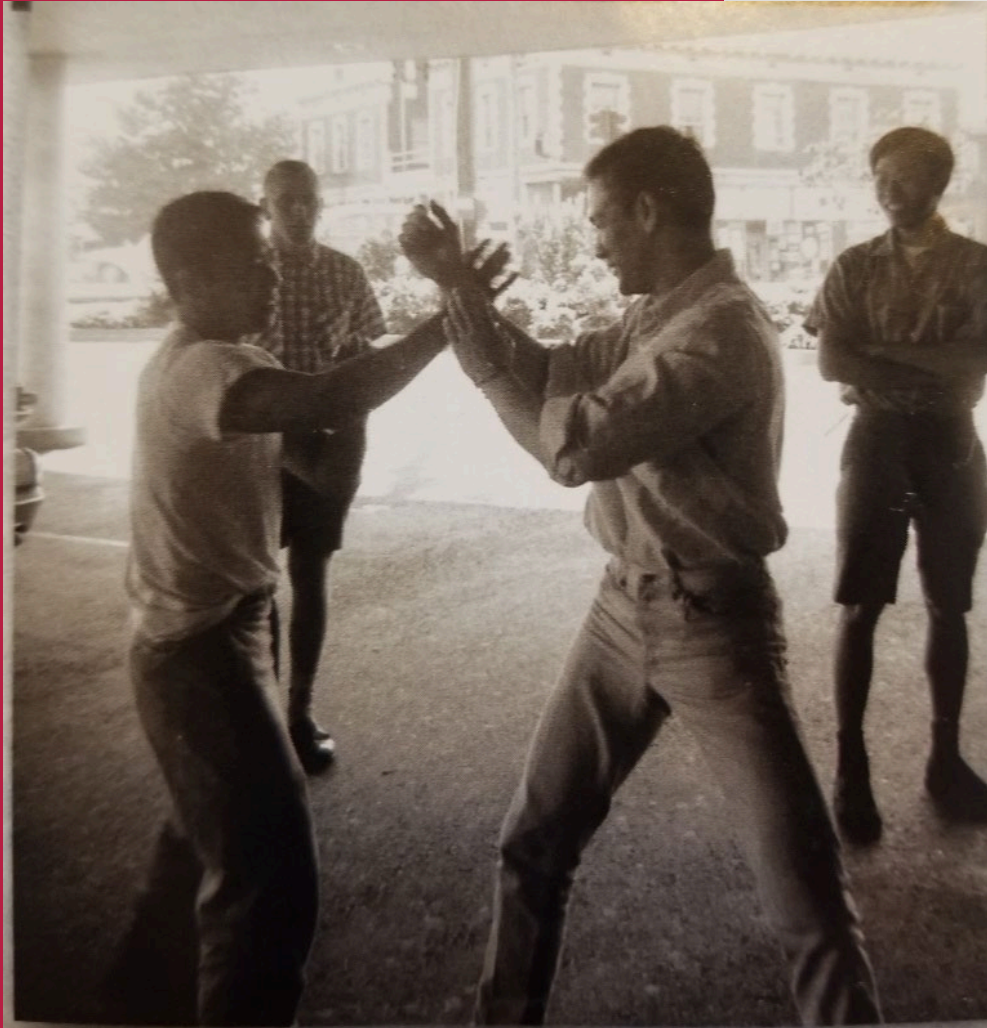
Bruce Lee and his first US student Jesse Glover practicing Jun Fan Gung Fu at their place of residence 6th and Cherry Ave. in Seattle. Approx. 1960.

*Photo and information from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura.*

# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE

Bruce Lee practicing inside the Blue Cross Garage near Ruby Chow's restaurant.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura.*



# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE

- The basement of the Ho Ho Restaurant is considered the first location of Bruce Lee's first dojo
- Bruce Lee stands in the still existing doorway of the restaurant on Weller St in the International District, Seattle

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*



# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE



**“Bruce Lee’s second location for his Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute around 1962 was located at 420 ½ 8th Ave South in the basement” - Taky Kimura, *“Regards from the Dragon”***

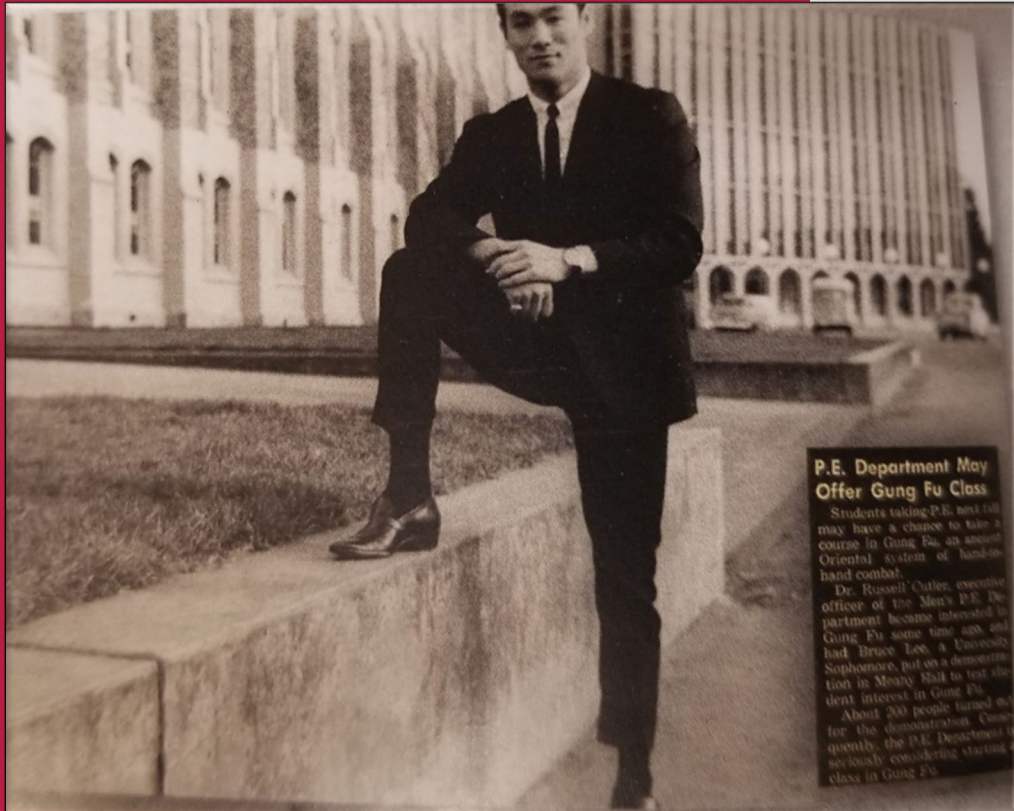
# BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE



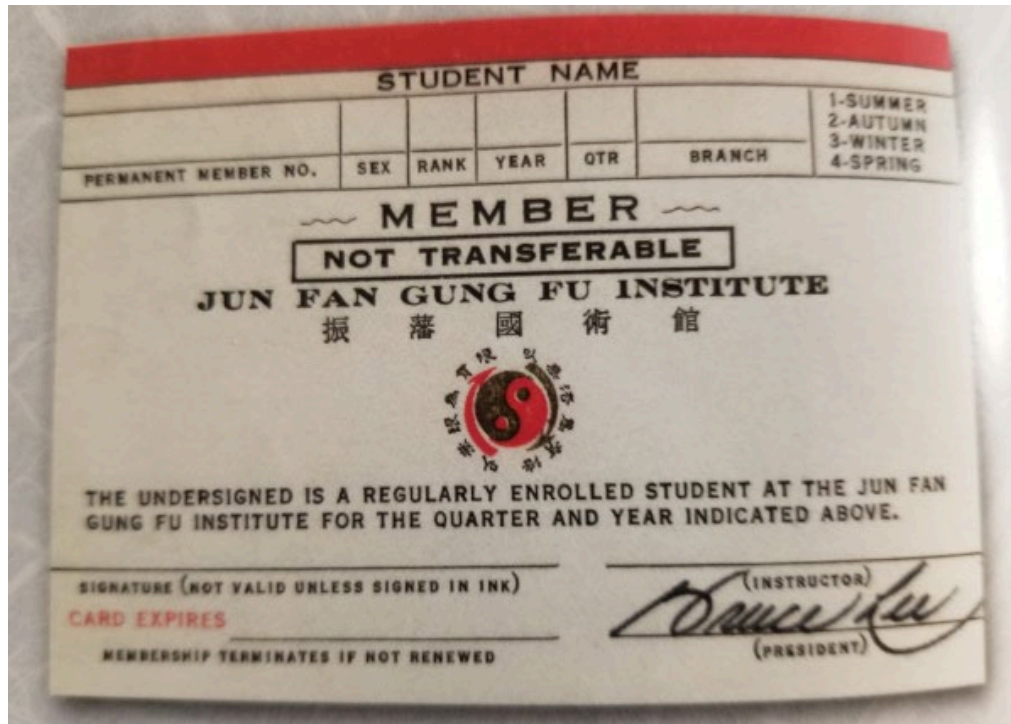
- **October 5, 1963** - Bruce Lee moves his Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute to 4750 University Way.
- **July 24, 1964** - Bruce Lee leaves Seattle- Bruce Lee opens Oakland branch of Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute
- **Aug 17, 1964** - Bruce Lee marries Linda Lee
- **August 17, 1964-** Bruce Lee marries Linda Emery at University Congregational Church of Christ. Taky Kimura was the best man.
- **Jan. 1965** - Ballet Irene Larsson Dufay takes over the ground floor studio at 4750 University Way

# BRUCE LEE TIMELINE

## BRUCE LEE AND MARTIAL ARTS LINEAGE



- **March 27, 1961-** Bruce Lee enrolled at University of Washington and took courses in gymnastics, dance, judo, drawing, and public speaking. Bruce Lee's major was drama. In Bruce Lee's junior year he took courses in psychology and philosophy.
- **1963-** Bruce Lee meets Linda Claire Emery introduced by one of his high level martial arts students Sue Ann Kay.



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**Membership card for the  
Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute**

**4750 University Way became the  
birthplace of Bruce Lee's martial style  
he called Jun Fan Gung Fu**

*Photo Regards from the Dragon, Taky Kimura.*





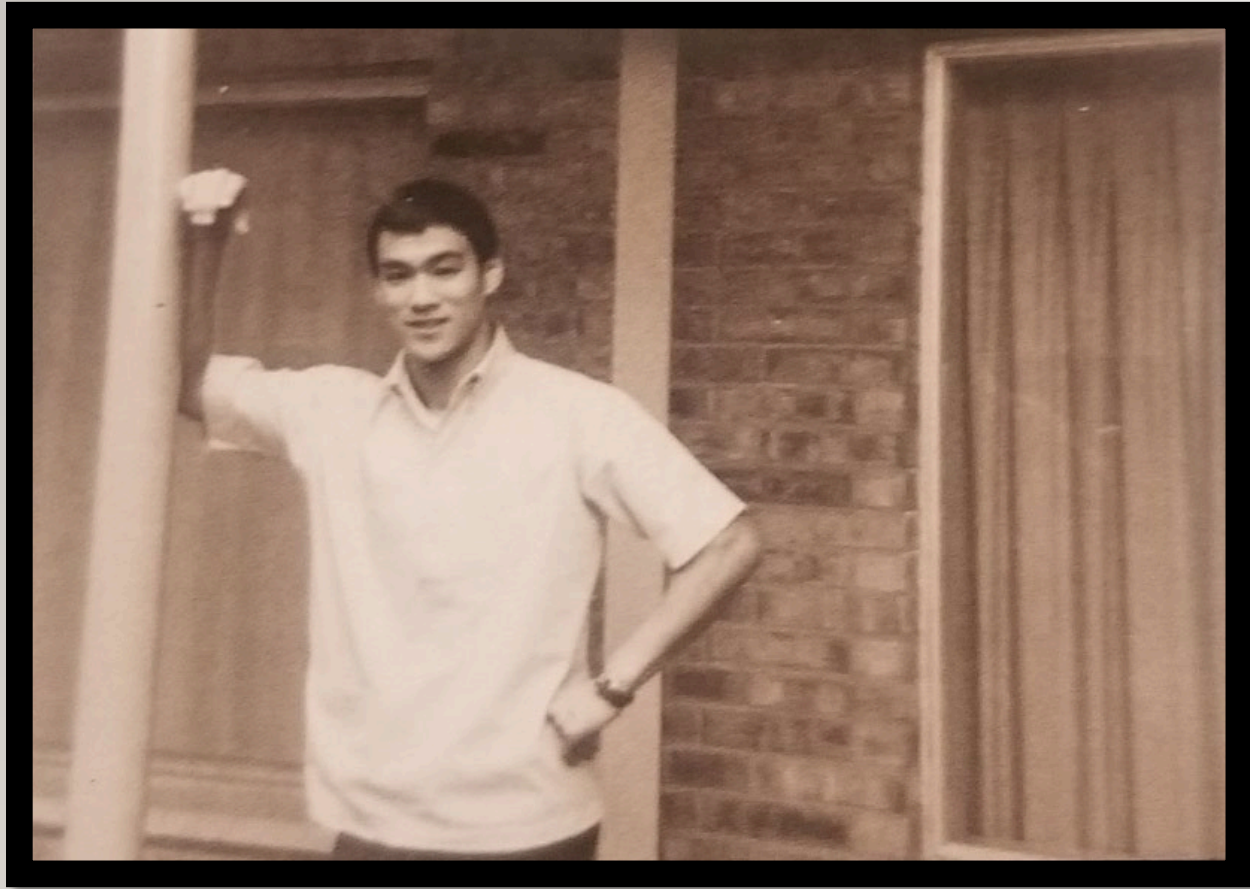
Linda Lee and Bruce Lee just outside  
the University Way Apartments  
*Photo "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*

From *The Bruce Lee Story* by Linda Lee:

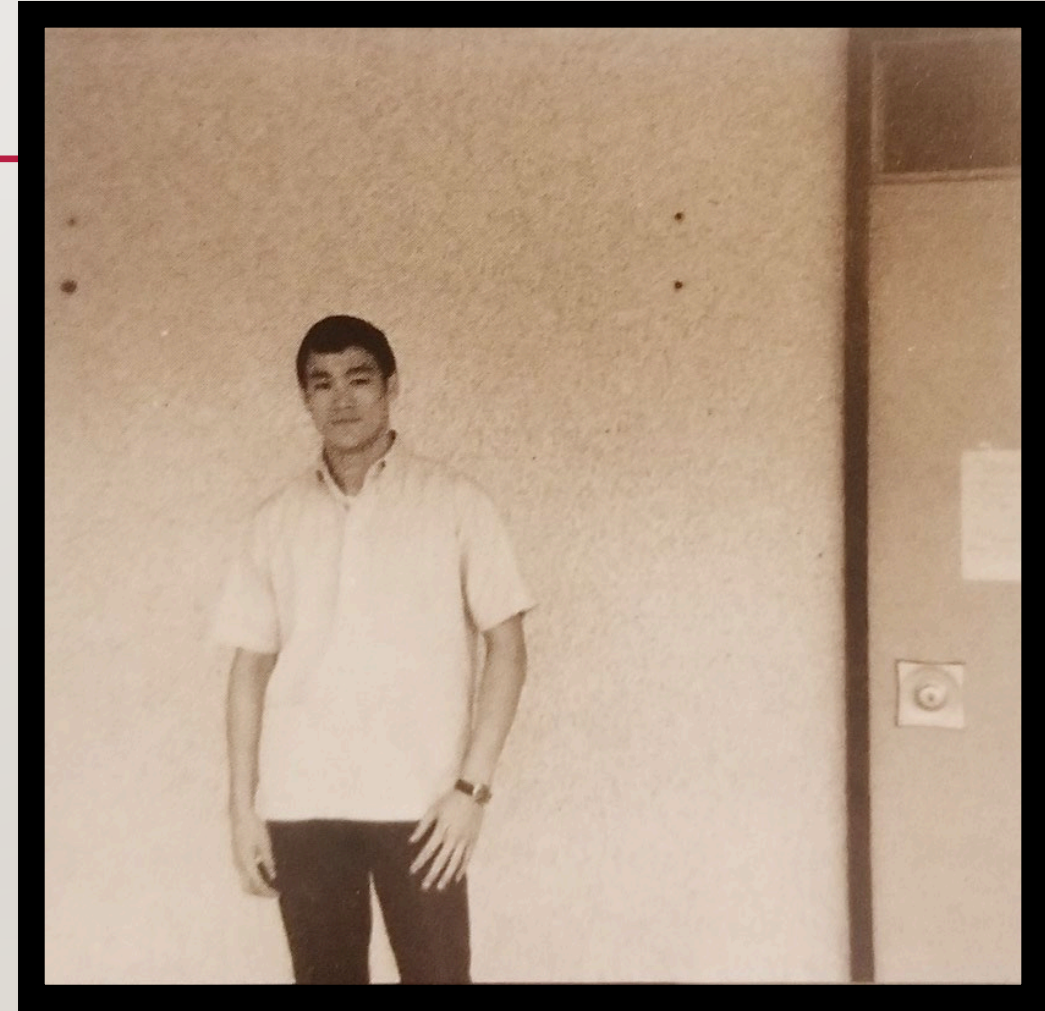
“That fall of 1963, Bruce moved the Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute to 4750 University Way near the university campus. He was now convinced that he could make his livelihood as a kung fu instructor, and his future plans included opening schools in various locations around the country. The new space was 3,000 square feet and occupied the entire ground floor of an apartment building. It had a large community-type shower room, about 10x15 feet with numerous shower heads coming out of the walls. The space must have been planned as a gym of some sort for the use of only one sex at a time presumably. Bruce liked to turn all the showers on at once and turn it into a steam room.

There was a room in the back of the gym which Bruce used as his bedroom. He had a beautiful set of teakwood furniture which he had brought back from Hong Kong the previous summer. The funny thing about Bruce’s bedroom was that there were no windows. When you came in the rear entrance there was also no light switch near the door. You had to stumble across the room in pitch blackness to find the light. You could sleep forever in the room because the sun never appeared to let you know the time of day.”

Studio and Residence of Bruce Lee at  
4750 University Way Apartments



*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*





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A gathering of teachers and students from the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute James Demile, Jesse Glover, Doug Palmer, Taky Kimura and Charlie Woo.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon",  
Taky Kimura*

## Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Taky Kimura, Bruce Lee and friend and student Sue Ann Kay just outside the University Way Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute.

Bruce Lee taught a diversity of students regardless of their background or gender.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon",  
Taky Kimura*

## Inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Bruce teaching at the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute. Students include Doug Palmer, Taky Kimura and Sue Ann Kay.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*

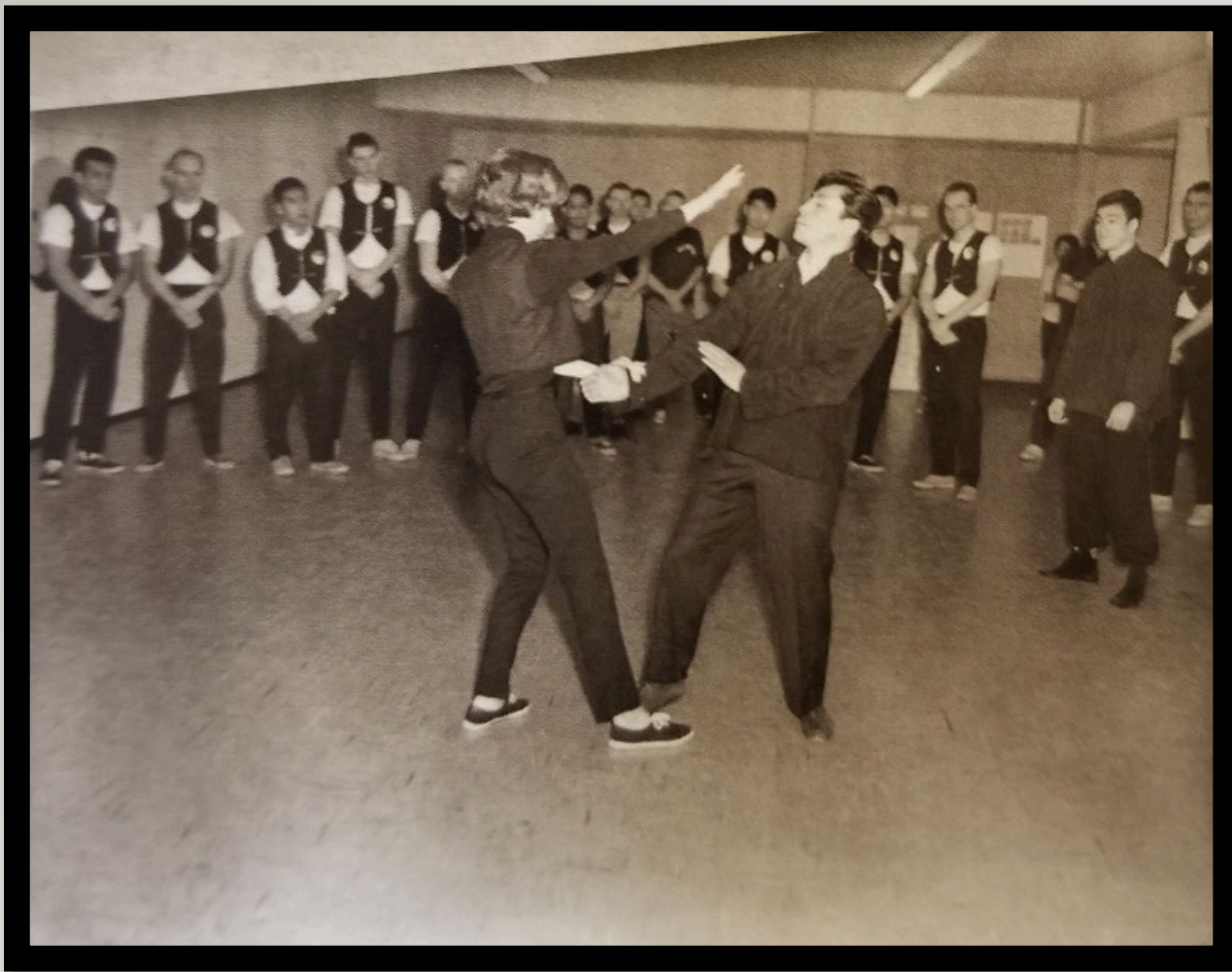
## Inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Sue Ann Kay and Doug Palmer  
at the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu  
Institute with Taky Kimura

*Photo from “Regards from the  
Dragon”, Taky Kimura*



## Inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Linda Lee, Taky Kimura and Bruce Lee practice traditional Wing Chun moves in the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute at 4750 University Way

Linda performing a Bil Jee move on Taky Kimura while Bruce looks on.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*

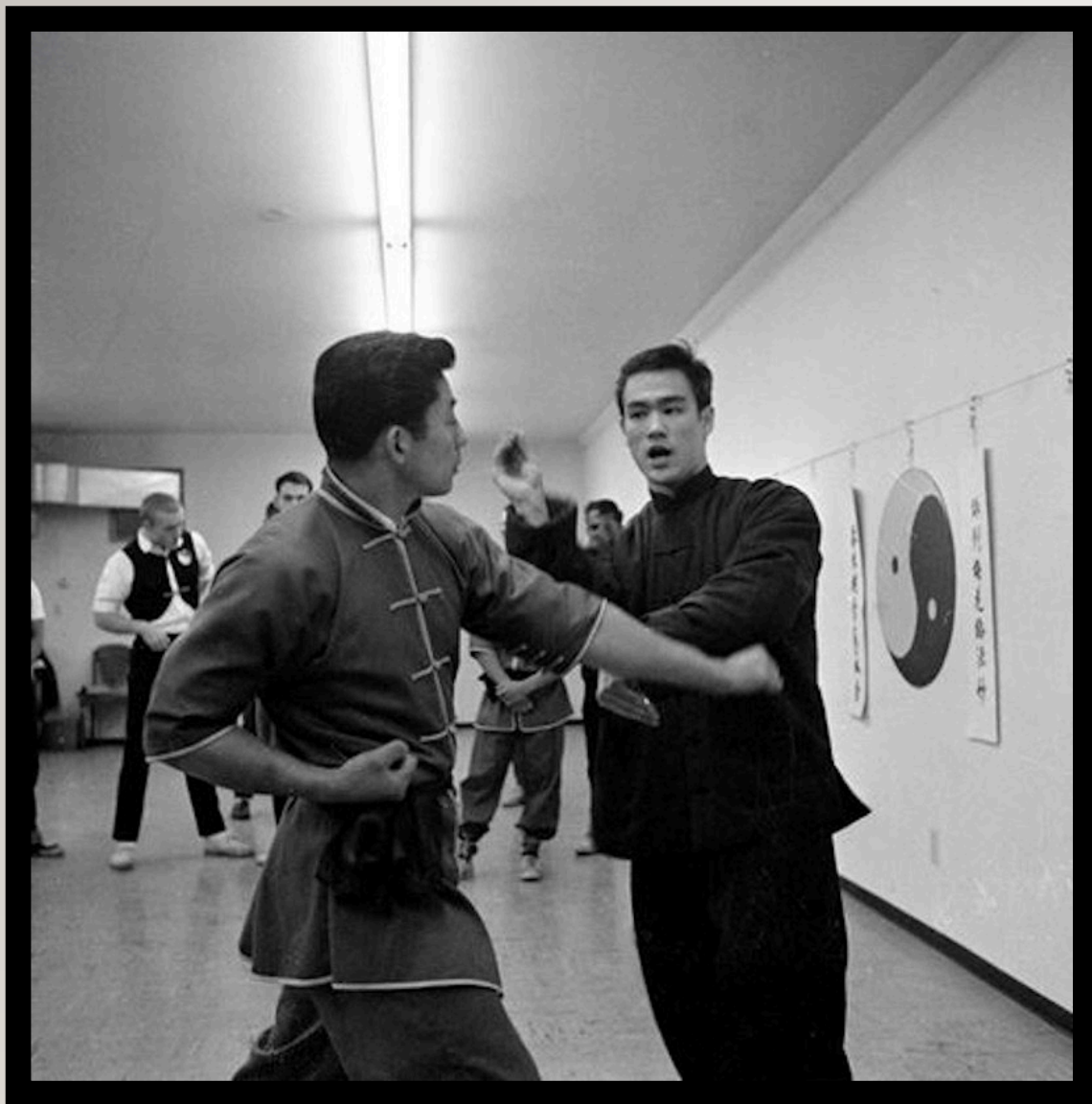


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Bruce Lee demonstrates a move with Taky Kimura inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute.

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky Kimura*



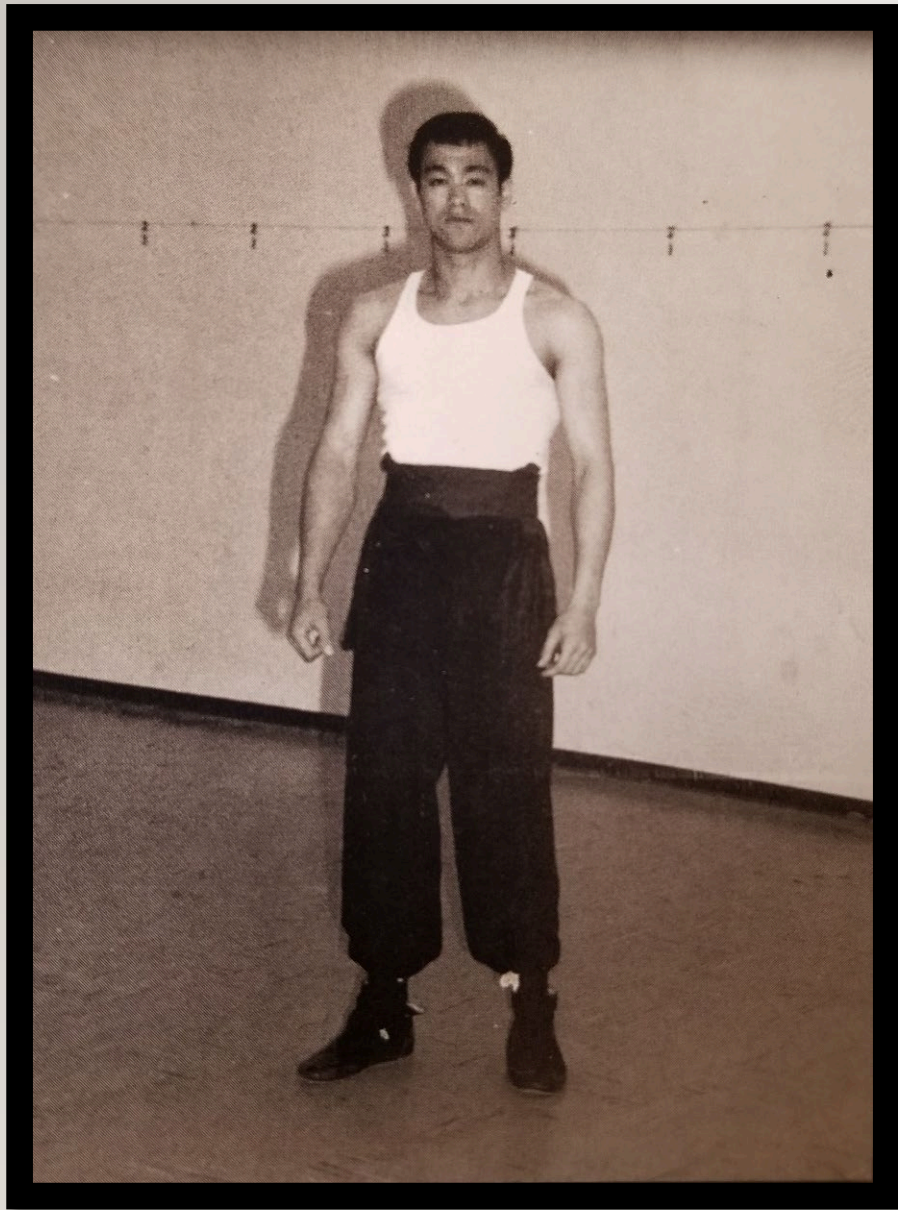


## Inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Bruce Lee demonstrates a move with  
Taky Kimura at the Seattle Jun Fan  
Gung Fu Institute.

*Photo from “Regards from the Dragon”,  
Taky Kimura*

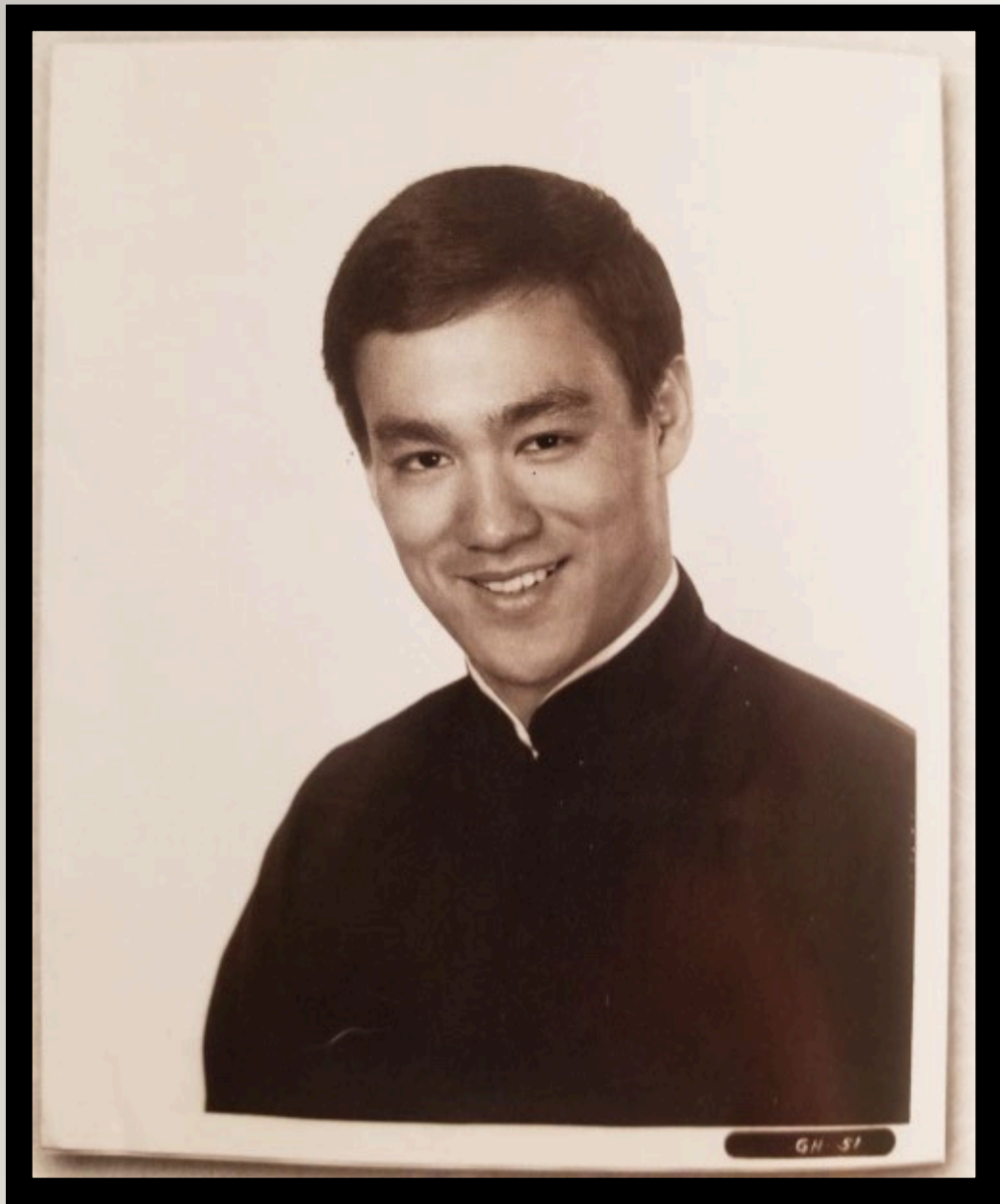


## Inside the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute

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Bruce Lee posing at the Seattle Jun Fan  
Gung Fu Institute at 4750 University Way

*Photo from "Regards from the Dragon", Taky  
Kimura*



“Bruce Lee sent this picture and others like it for us to hang on the wall in the Seattle Jun Fan Gung Fu Institute. When a student bows in and out they would pay respect to the picture of their SiFu / SiQung, on the wall if he was not present.” - Taky Kimura

Bowing is a universal gesture of respect in martial arts, whether to instructors, fellow students, or the dojo itself.

*Photo from “Regards from the Dragon”, Taky Kimura*

# INSIDE IN 2024



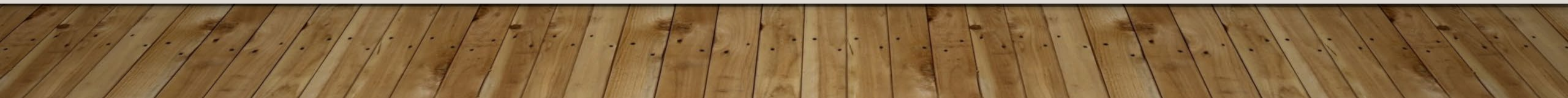
View from front door, North side of ground floor.



First Column



Second Column



# INSIDE IN 2024



Fifth Column

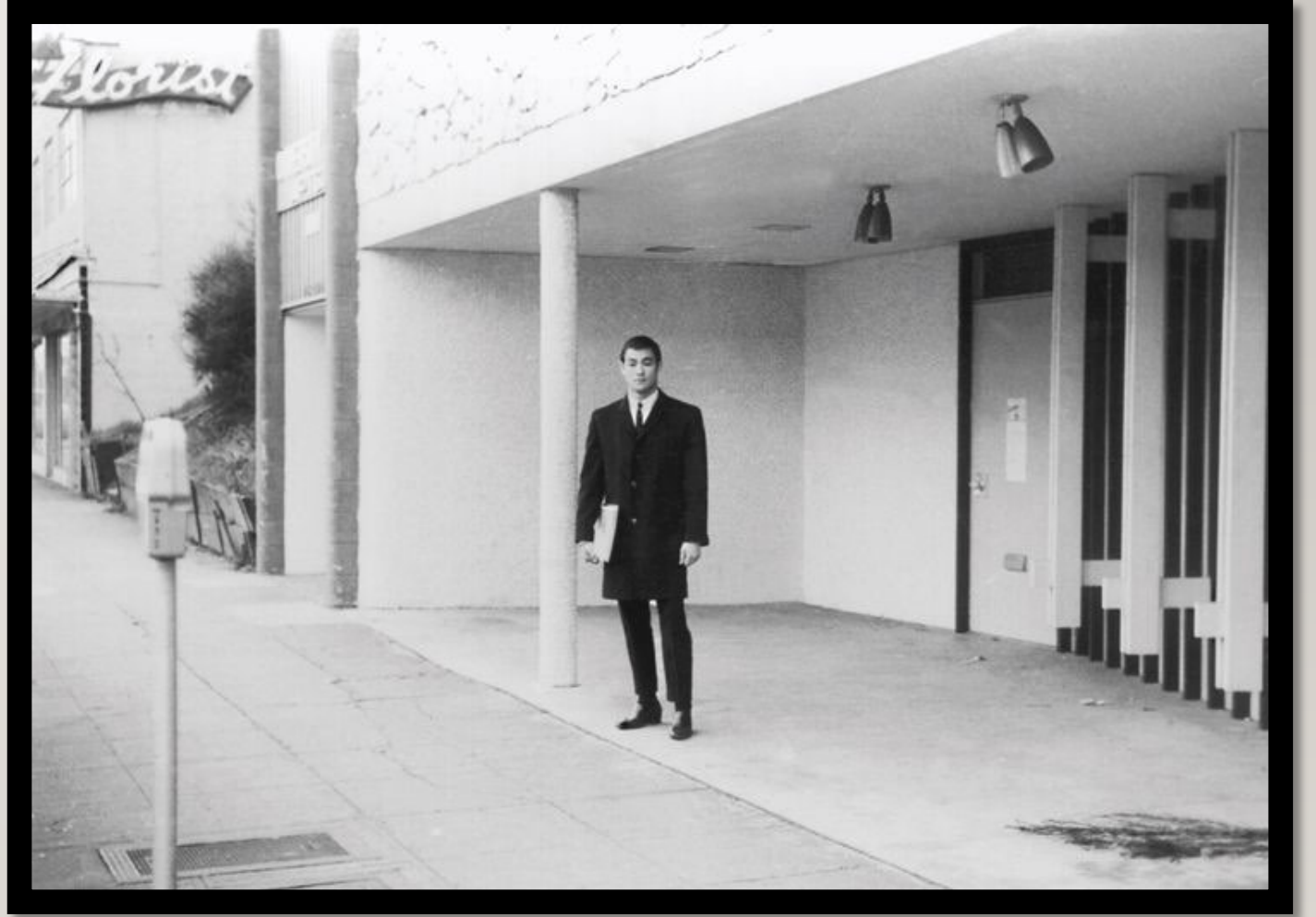


Back Room



Back Room Ceiling showing possible florescent lighting strip





# THANK YOU

Thank you to all the Martial Artists, Students, Residents, Historians, Fans and Supporters for their information and support.

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Presentation by Seattle Bruce Lee Fan Club  
NW Museum of Legends and Lore  
Charlette LeFevre and Philip Lipson  
Sept 12, 2024.  
[www.nwlegendsmuseum.com](http://www.nwlegendsmuseum.com)

Building photos by Charlette LeFevre  
Photos and information from:  
“Regards from the Dragon” by Taky Kimura  
Compiled by David Tadman  
Martial Artist James DeMile  
Historian Michael Maekowski  
“Bruce Lee A Life” by Matthew Polly  
Building history from Barbara Manning’s Report