



## Fausto & Erma Cettolin House

4022 32nd Avenue SW

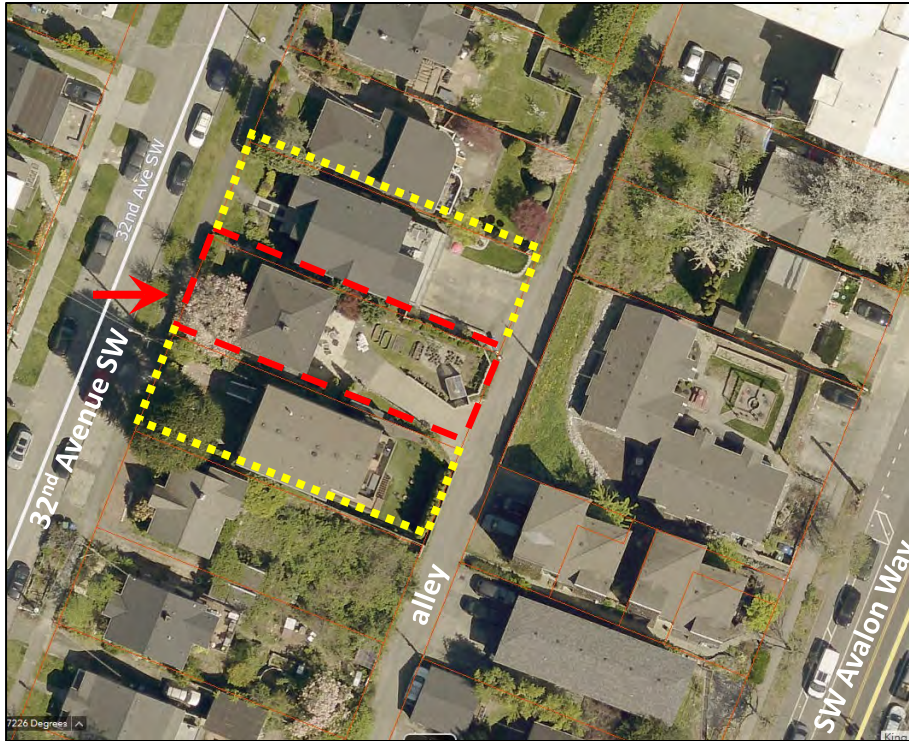


Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board

Designation meeting

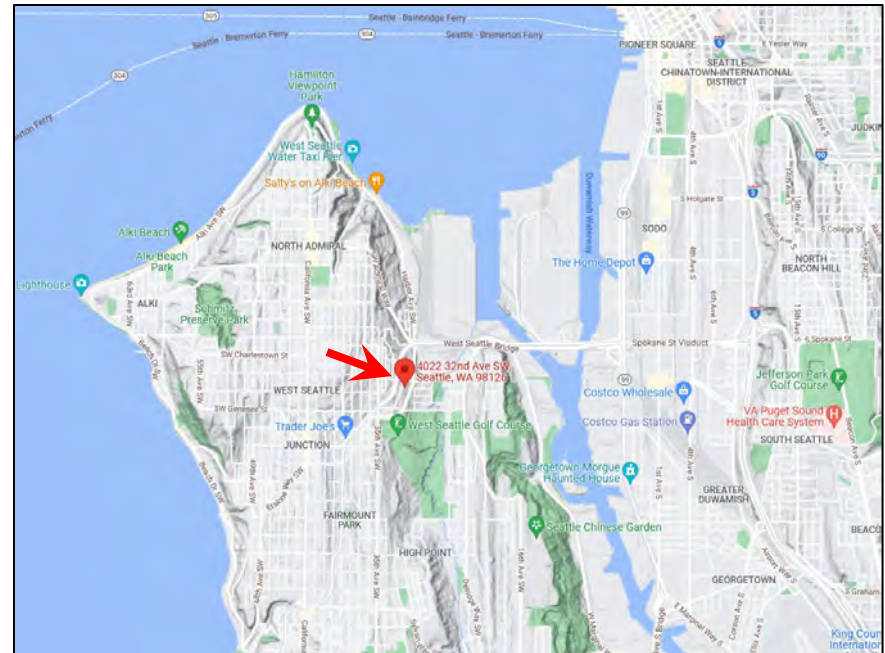
April 19, 2023





The current Cettolin house parcel is shown in red.

The original parcel included large side yards on the north and south (shown in yellow). In the 1990s, the side yards were sold off and houses built upon them.









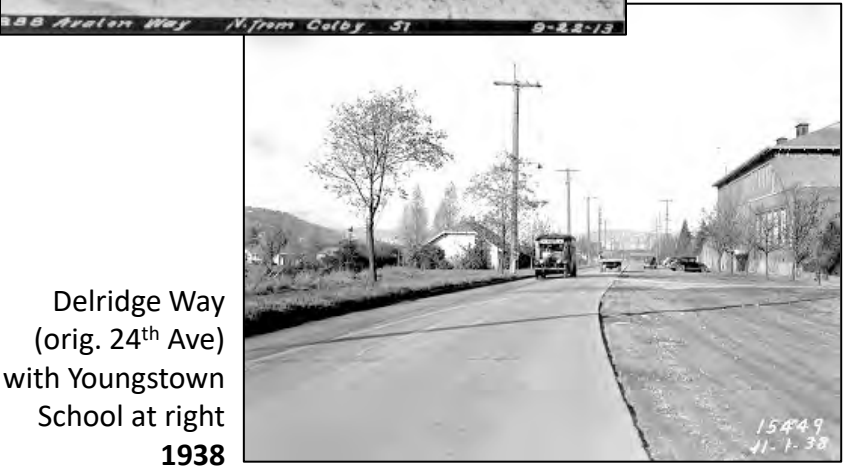


Bethlehem Steel Mill (now NUCOR)  
1929

1930  
Spokane Street  
view west.  
Pigeon Point  
hill at left.

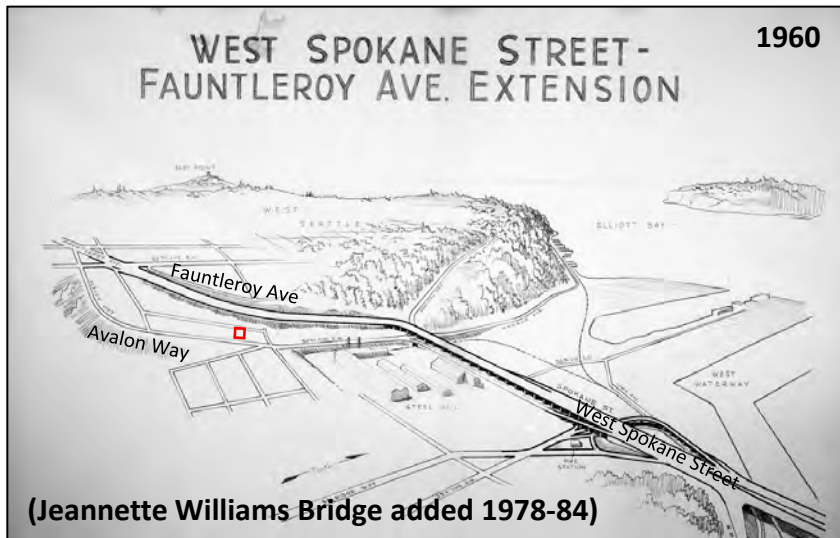


Avalon Way  
regrading  
1913



Delridge Way  
(orig. 24<sup>th</sup> Ave)  
with Youngstown  
School at right  
1938





Fauntleroy Ave widening completed 1962



Avalon Way 1975









# The Italian community in Seattle



Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church (1915)



Colman School (1910)  
(now NW African American Museum)

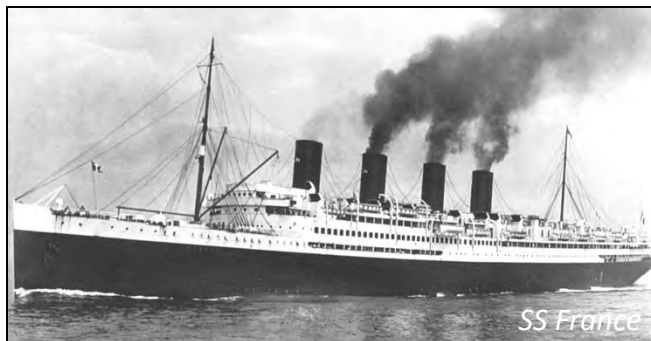


1983 view of Rainier Avenue/Atlantic Street area





Fausto's family home



Fausto and Erma happen to both emigrate to the US in 1913, but do not meet until ca. 1920 in Seattle.



1912 Fausto receives a Silver Medal for valor in the Italo-Turkish War of 1911-1912



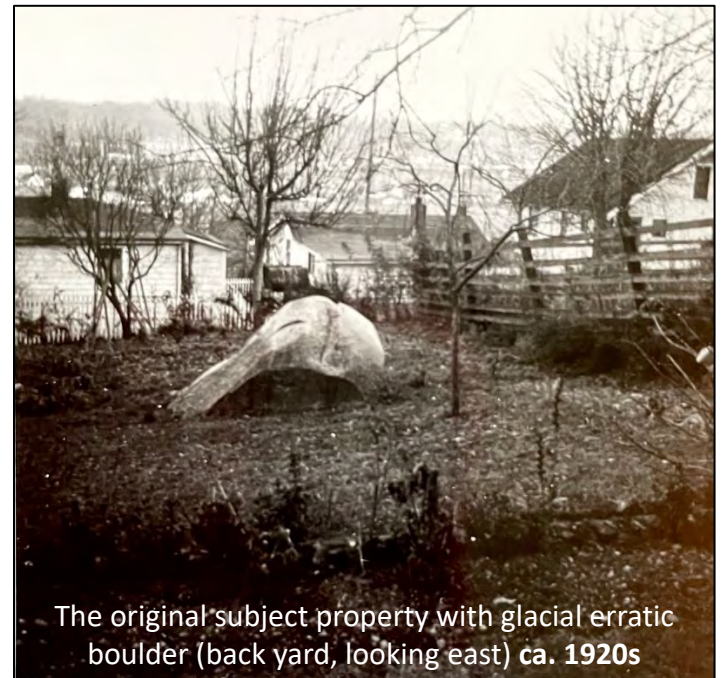




Fausto & Erma in 1921



Fausto & Erma in 1921



The original subject property with glacial erratic boulder (back yard, looking east) ca. 1920s



Norma holding Dee Dee, Erma holding Virginia, Gloria, Ricardo with violin, Fausto Jr., ca. 1936



- 1926** First building permit
- 1928** Second building permit
- 1929** House incomplete but family moved in
- 1937** Exterior stucco work completed, if not before
- 1939** Front porch completed

(Interior work completed ca. 1945)



**Late 1920s – Early 1930s** views showing Fausto on home-made scaffolding posing with the children.





Early 1930s



Mid-1930s



Mid-1930s



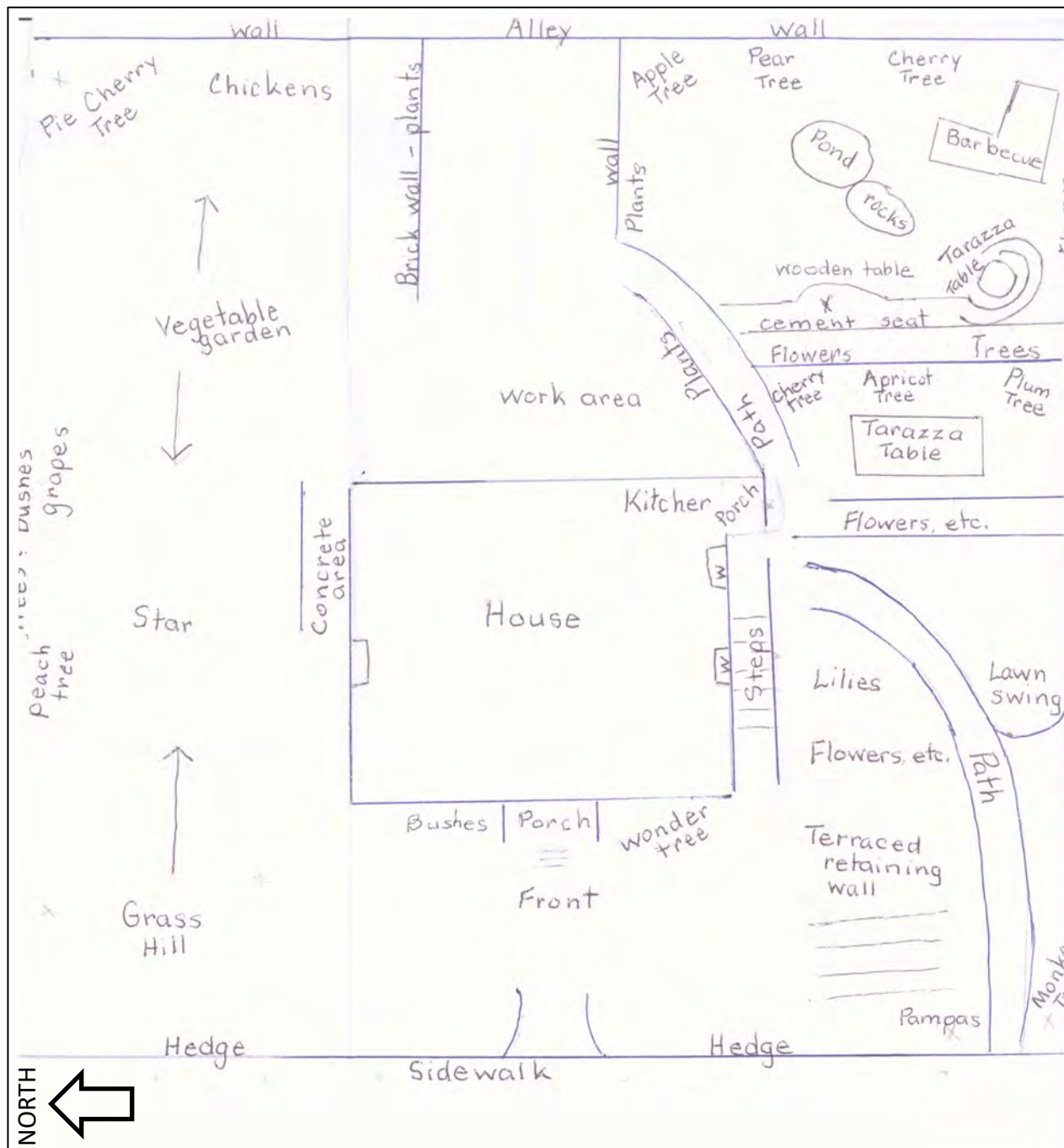
ca. 1936



ca. 1936







Diagrammatic map of Cettolin property ca. 1960s, drawn by Virginia Cettolin in 2022.

Gardens and yards developed ca. 1940s-60s.

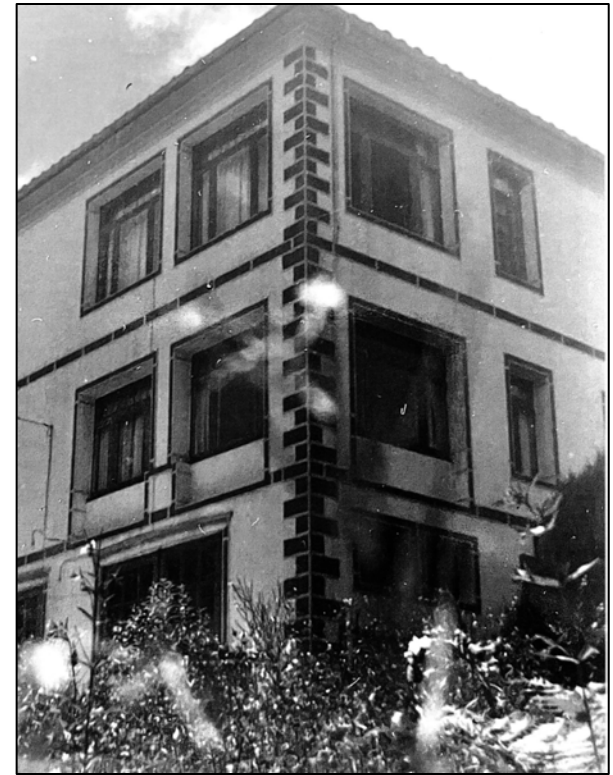




South (side) facade



East (rear) facade



East (rear) and North (side) facades

ca. 1950s-60s





West (front) facade 1944



Dee Dee and friends at SW corner of house ca. 1945



Virginia in front yard ca. 1952



Fausto at SW corner of house in 1949



Steps at SW corner of house 1966  
(partly intact)





**South Yard  
ca. 1940s-60s**



South Yard terracing ca. 1940s-60s  
(no longer intact)







**South Yard terrazzo tables, benches, and pond fountain  
with glacial erratic boulder ca. 1940s-60s  
(no longer intact)**

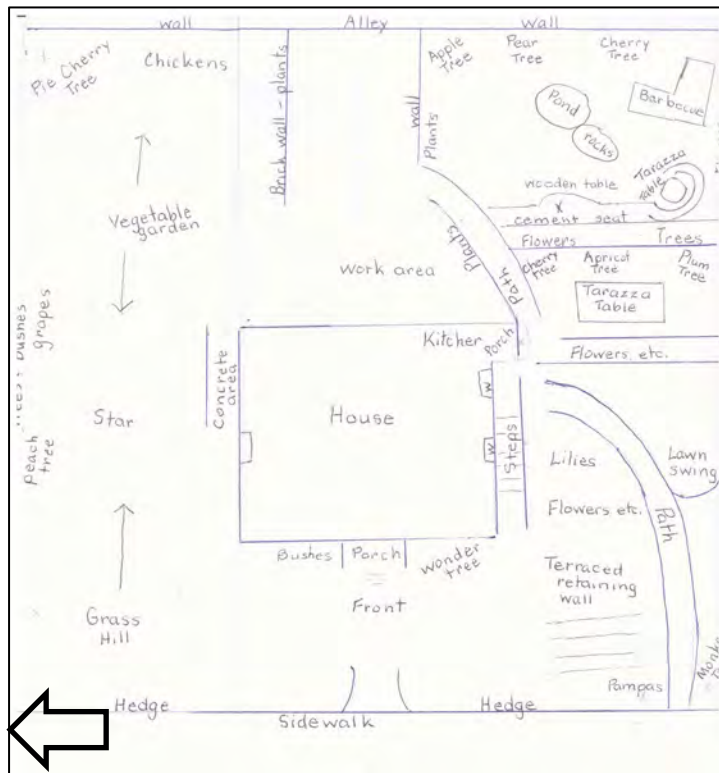




**North Yard**  
ca. 1940s-60s  
(no longer intact)



**BBQ in South Yard**  
ca. 1960s  
(no longer intact)



NORTH





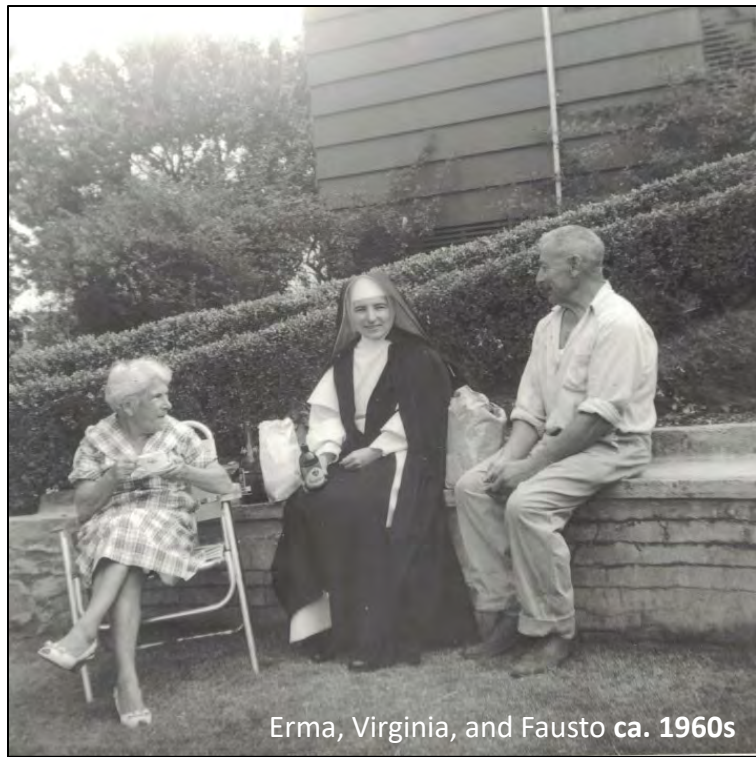
As open hearth boss - Fausto at center, in hat, back to camera  
**1950s**



At retirement dinner - Fausto second from right  
**1961**

**Fausto Cettolin at Bethlehem Steel**





Erma, Virginia, and Fausto **ca. 1960s**



Erma and Fausto  
**ca. 1940s and 1961**



The present  
home owners,  
Allan McMurray  
and Marilyn  
Kennell, with  
Virginia Cettolin  
in **2022**



The Cettolin children







House indicated by arrow. Original property extended from hedge at left to monkey puzzle tree at right.



West (front) facade and front yard









North  
(side)  
facade



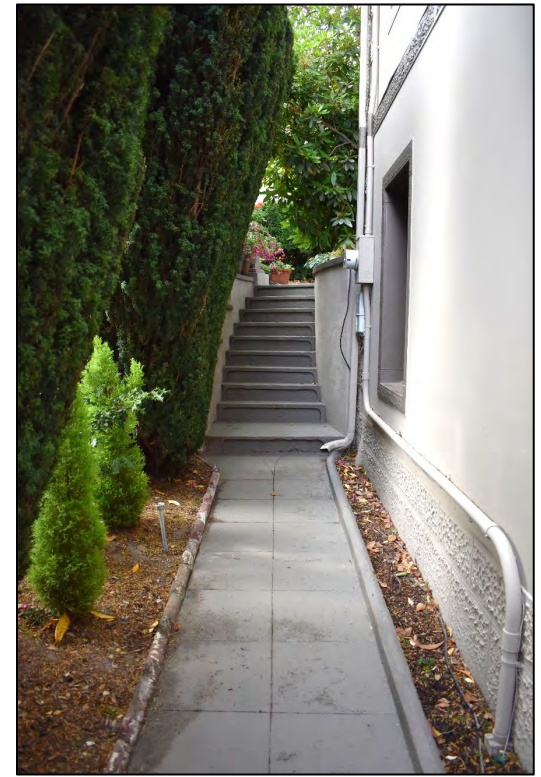
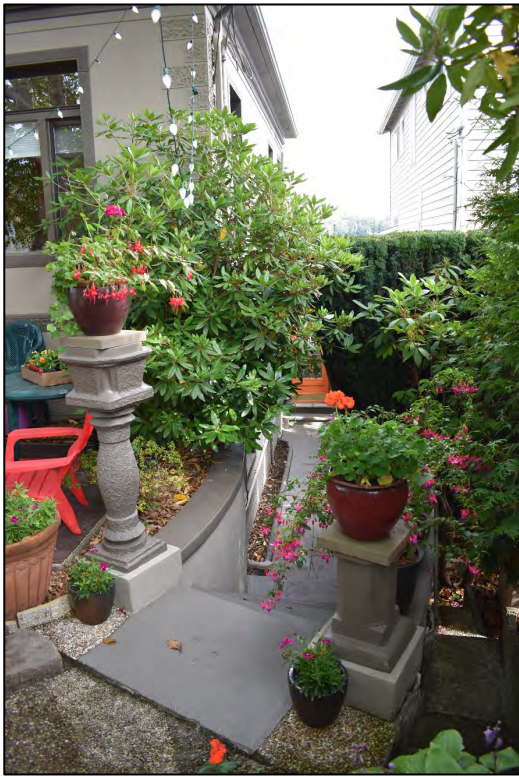
South  
(side)  
facade



Stucco  
details at  
West  
(front)  
facade







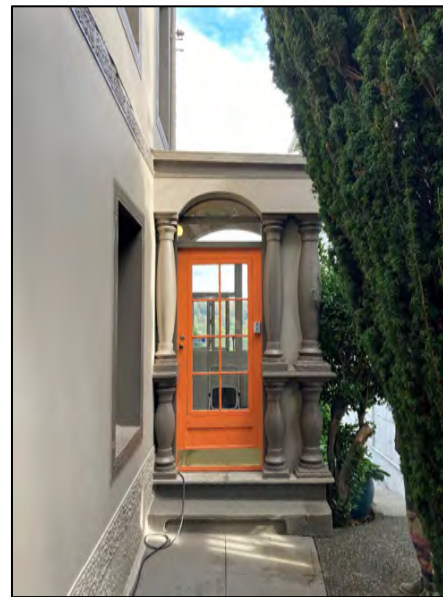
Stairs at SW building corner







East (rear) facade



West side of side porch



East side of side porch



East (rear) facade, sub-basement level









NE property corner  
(non-original landscaping)



SE property corner  
with original drive retaining wall





First Floor



View east upon entry  
from front porch



View back to front door



Terrazzo and hardwood floors



First Floor



View east upon entry  
from front porch



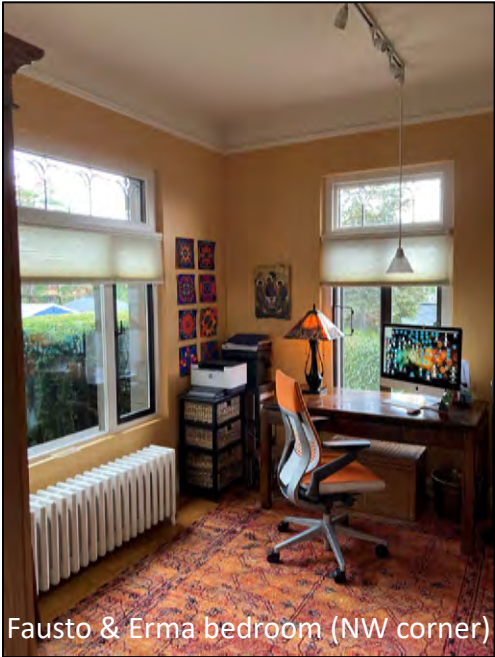
Cettolin boys' bedroom (SW corner)



Detail, typical door trim



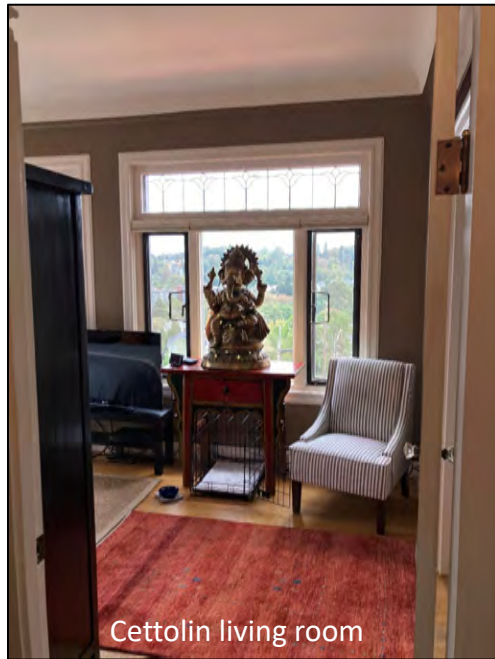
Detail, typical tulip motif transom



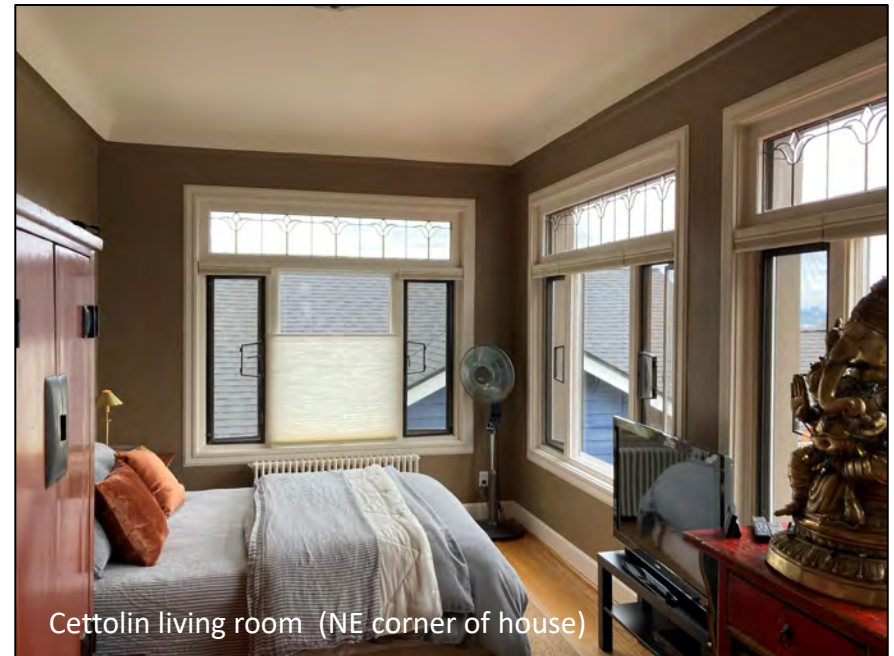
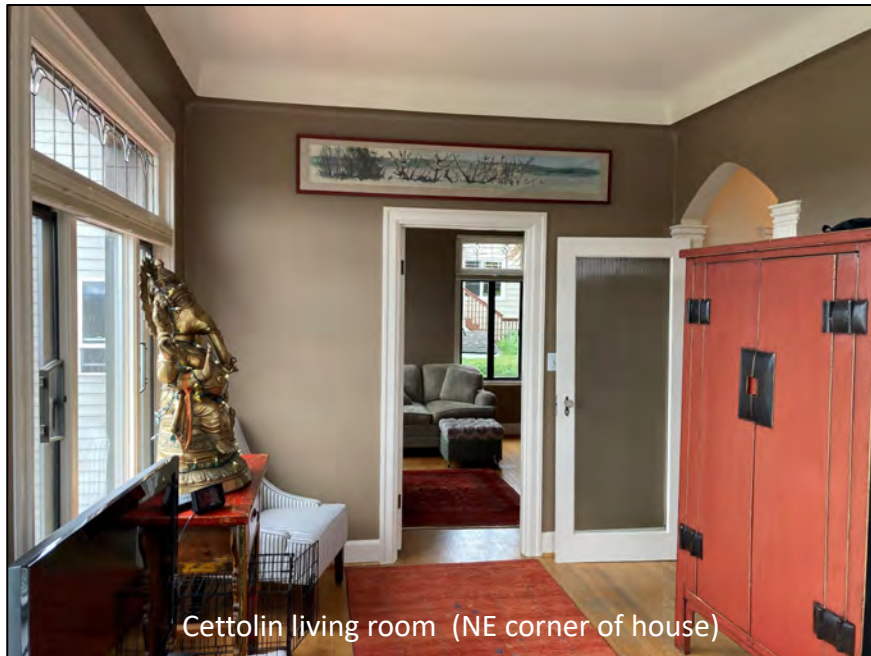
Fausto & Erma bedroom (NW corner)



## First Floor

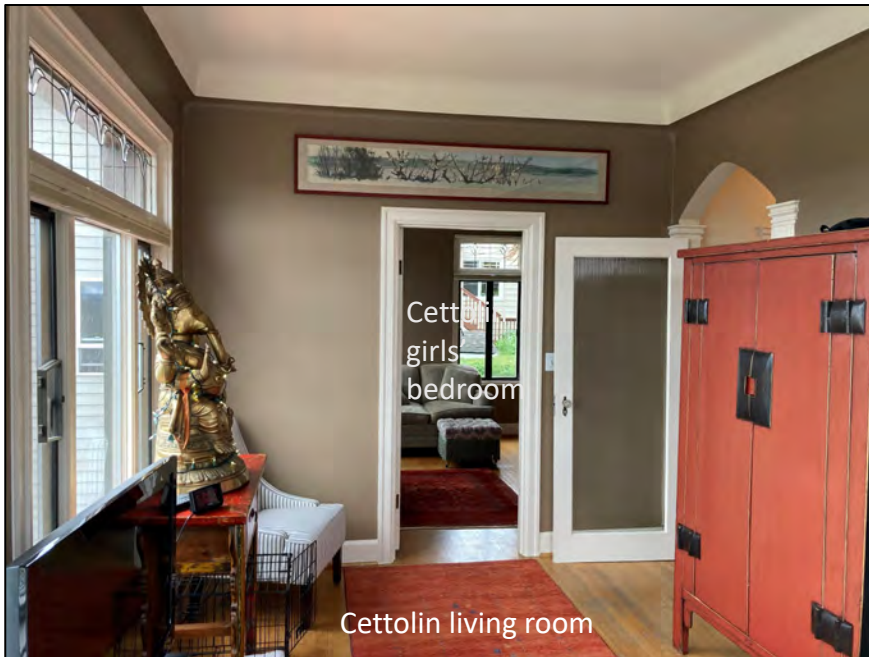
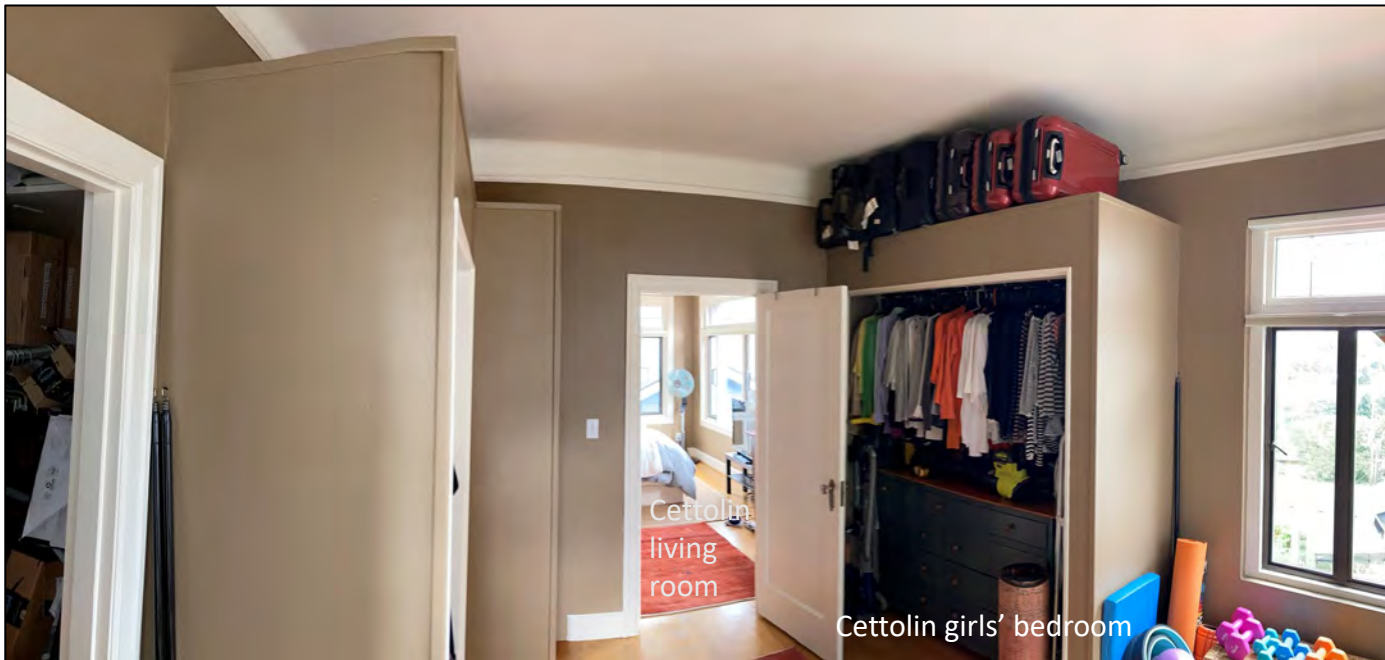


**Original Cettolin living room**  
View over Delridge and the  
Longfellow Creek valley





## First Floor

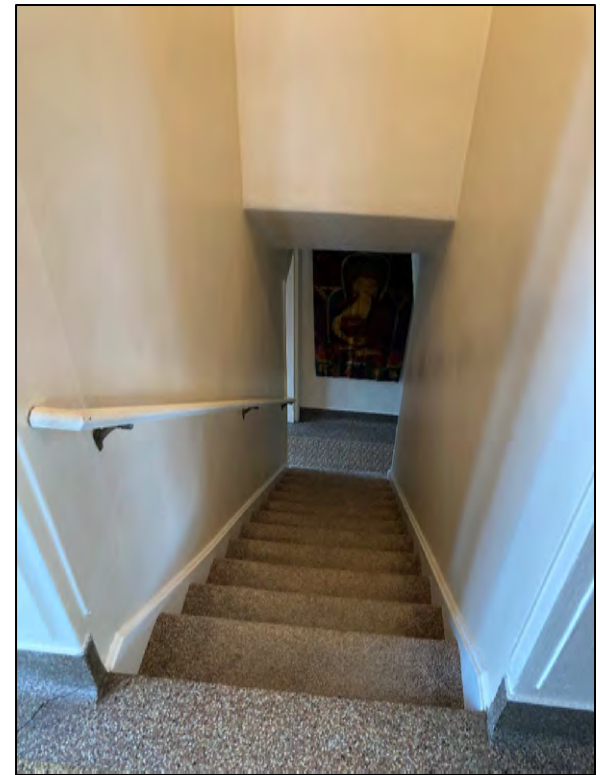




# First Floor



**Bathroom**  
with terrazzo floor and arched tub enclosure

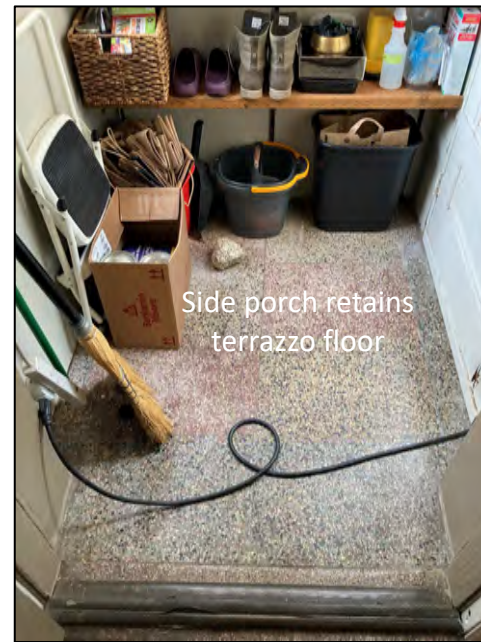


Stair from first floor to basement level





Looking into the side porch from Kitchen

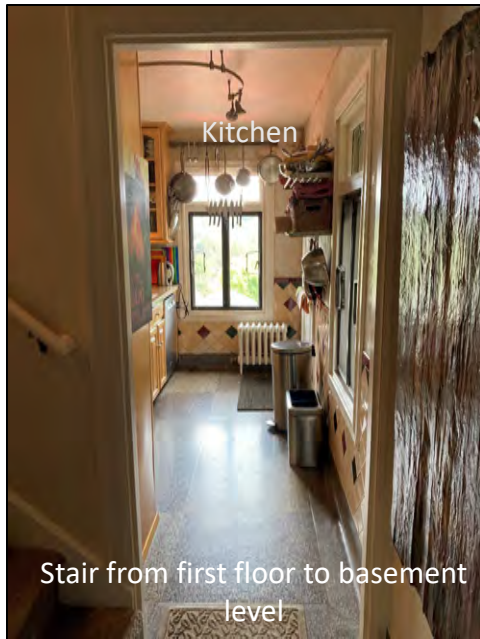


Side porch retains terrazzo floor

Basement

Side Porch

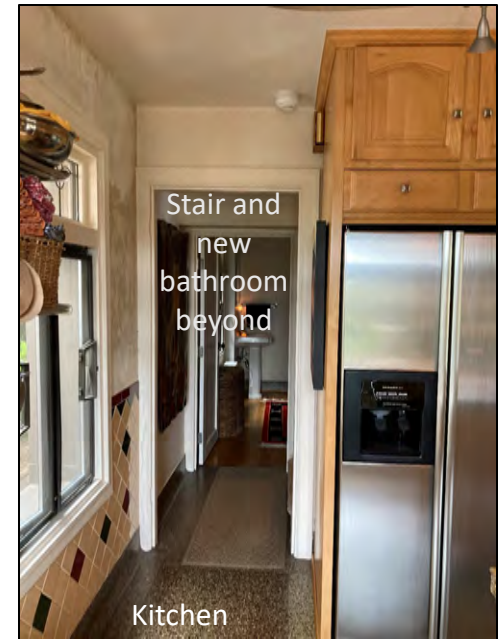
Kitchen



Stair from first floor to basement level



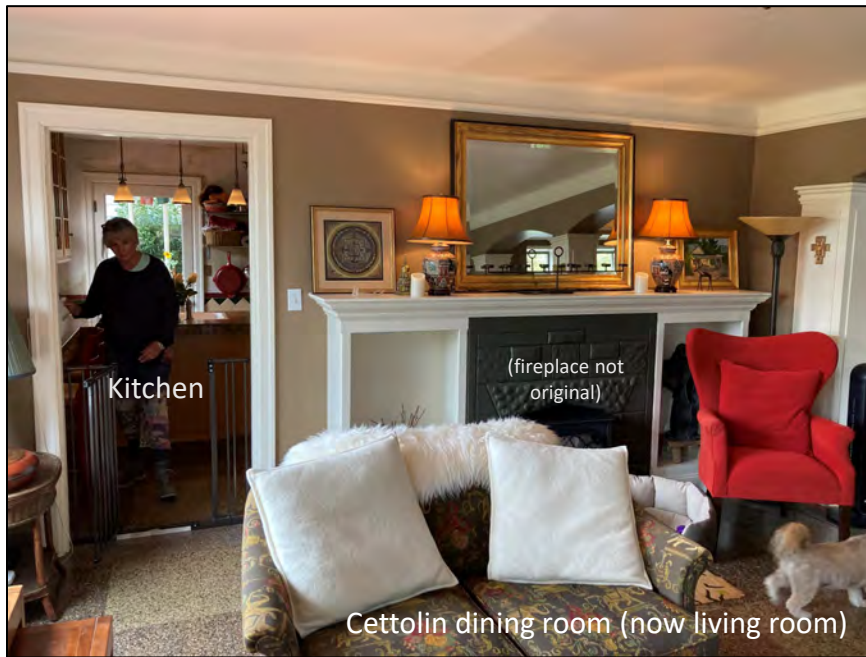
Kitchen retains original floor



Stair and new bathroom beyond

Kitchen



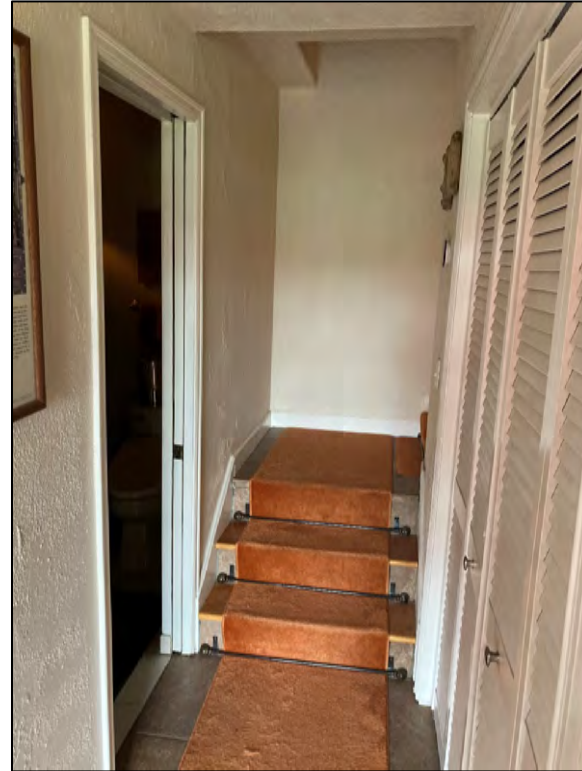




Cettolin "garage" or Fausto's workspace



**Sub-Basement**



Stair from basement to sub-basement  
(dates to 1990s renovations)







Italian Renaissance gardens





Fausto's photos of a prominent 19<sup>th</sup> c. house in Pianzano (still intact), which may have been an inspiration

**Designed and built  
1926-1939 by  
Fausto Urbano  
Cettolin**



Fausto's mold for making columns



Fausto's pebble mosaic panels







Not in original report:  
Additional photos of rear yard bench and front yard  
mosaic work





1954 view of "Garlic Gulch" area  
centered on Rainier Avenue S and  
S Atlantic Street

1957 view of Rainier Avenue S and  
S Atlantic Street





**Buildings Associated  
with the Seattle  
Italian-American  
Community**



Santa Maria Novella  
Florence, Italy

Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church (views ca. 1915 and 2020) was designed to evoke Italian Renaissance churches.



Atlantic Street  
Center (1928)



Colman School  
(1910)



Oberto Sausage Co. (1955) - demolished

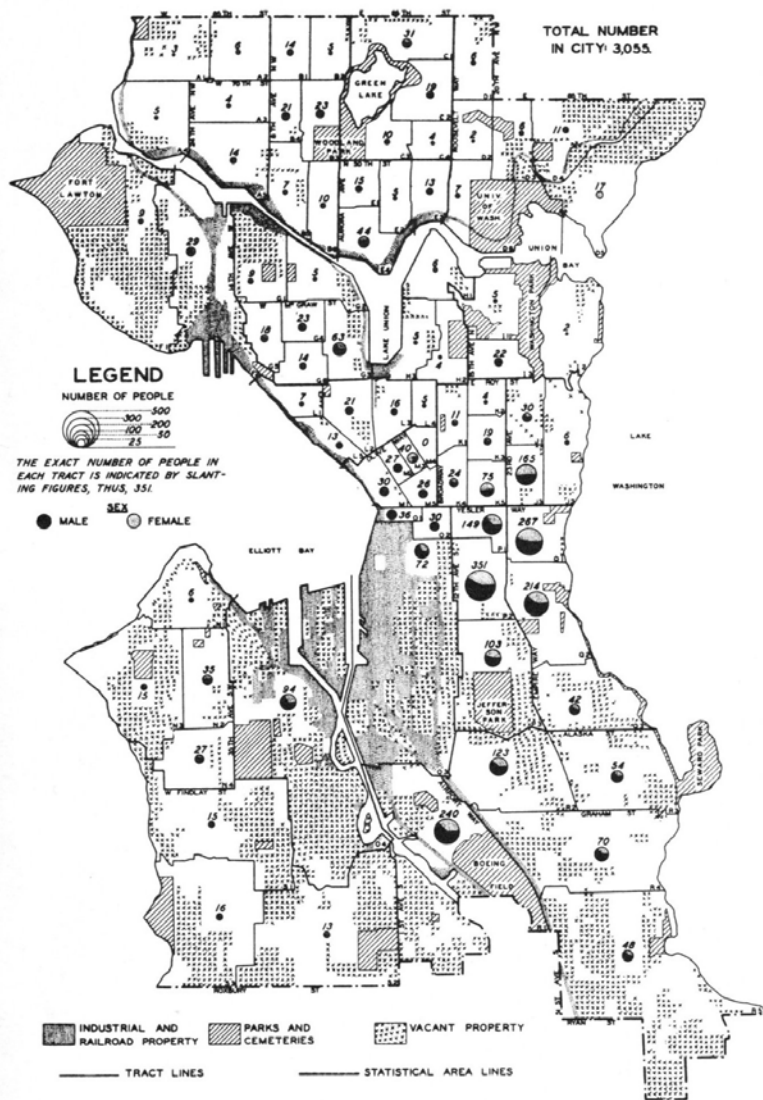


Borracchini's Bakery (1939, 1960s, 1980s) - demolished





# FOREIGN - BORN ITALIANS SEATTLE: 1940







In 2018, the Rainier Valley Historical Society (RVHS) researched Italian-American family houses in the “Garlic Gulch” in an attempt to recreate the neighborhood that had existed in the early 20th century. Using ca. 1937 King County Tax Assessor photos, RVHS identified numerous Italian-American families and their homes’ addresses. Unlike the Cettolin House, they are very typical wood-frame or brick vernacular and higher-style ca. 1900-1930s designs that are found throughout Seattle, including Victorian, Craftsman-style, or Tudorbethan cottages.





### Standards of designation:

An object, site, or improvement which is more than twenty-five (25) years old may be designated for preservation as a landmark site or landmark if it has significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, state, or nation, if it has integrity or the ability to convey its significance, and if it falls into one (1) of the following categories:

#### 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 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.

