

University of Washington
Academic Computer Center / Wallace Hall
Seattle Landmark Nomination
November 3, 2021

COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING

Seattle, Washington
University of Washington
John R. Hogness / President

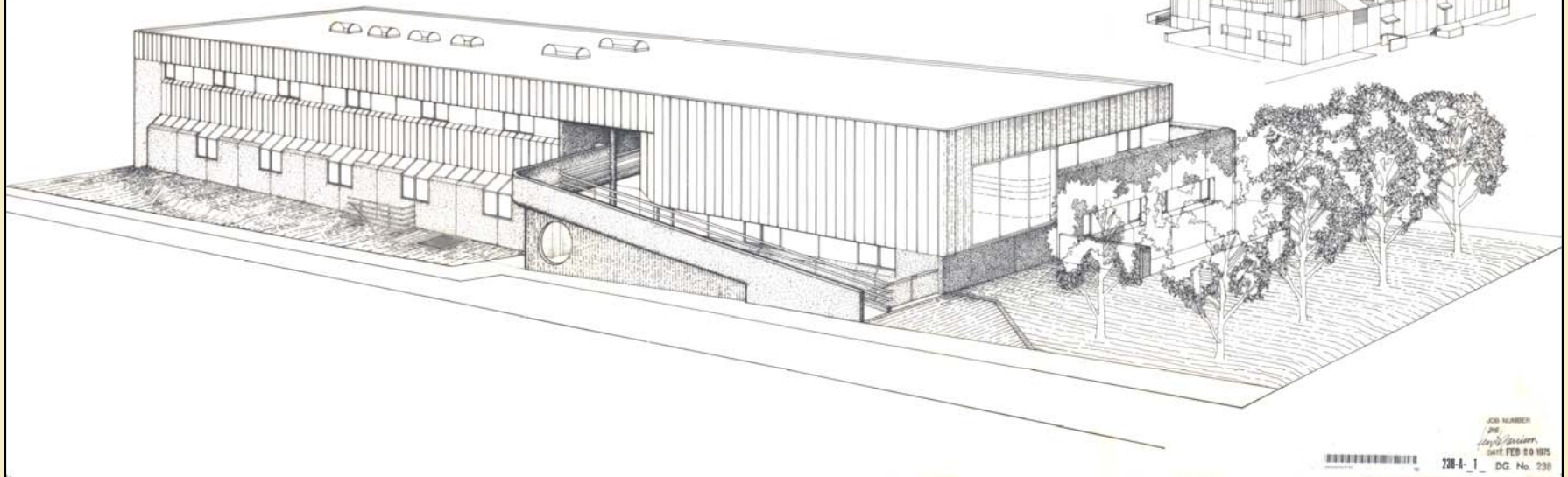
Architects / Ibsen Nelsen & Associates
Structural Engineers / Victor O. Gray & Company
Mechanical Engineers / Wood & Associates
Electrical Engineers / Beverly A. Travis & Assoc. Inc.

ARCHITECTURAL

- A1 - Site Survey
- A2 - Site Plans
- A3 - First Floor Plan
- A4 - Second Floor Plan
- A5 - Roof Plan
- A6 - Building Sections
- A7 - Elevations
- A8 - Reflected Ceiling Plans and Details
- A9 - Wall Sections
- A10 - Building Details
- A11 - Window Details
- A12 - Doors and Details
- A13 - Interior Elevations
- A14 - Interior Elevations
- A15 - Interior Elevations
- A16 - Interior Elevations
- A17 - Room Finish Schedule and Details

STRUCTURAL

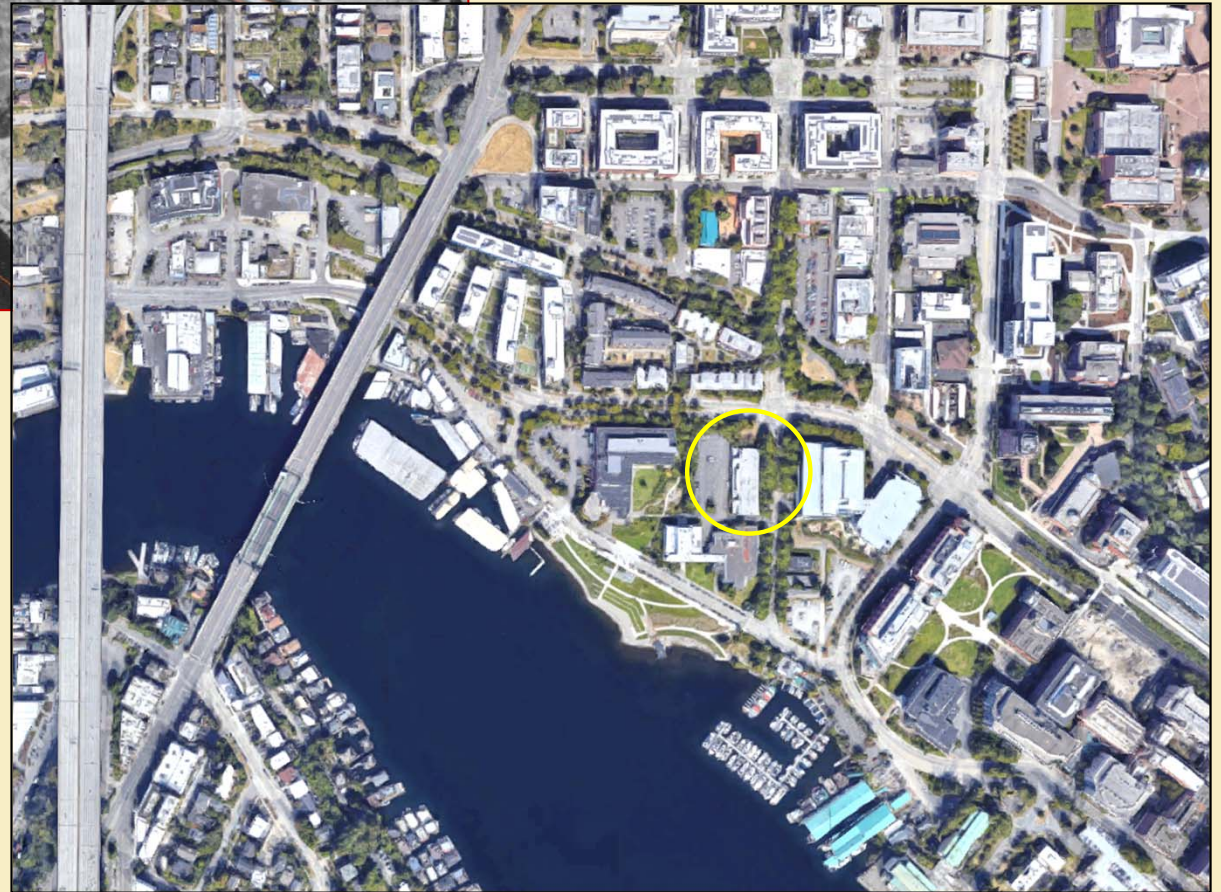
- S1 - First Floor and Foundation Plan
- S2 - Second Floor Plan
- S3 - Roof Plan
- S4 - Sections and Details
- S5 - Sections and Details
- S6 - Wall and Footing Details
- S7 - Sections and Details



JOB NUMBER
200
Ibsen Nelsen
DATE FEB 20 1975
200-1-1 DG. No. 238

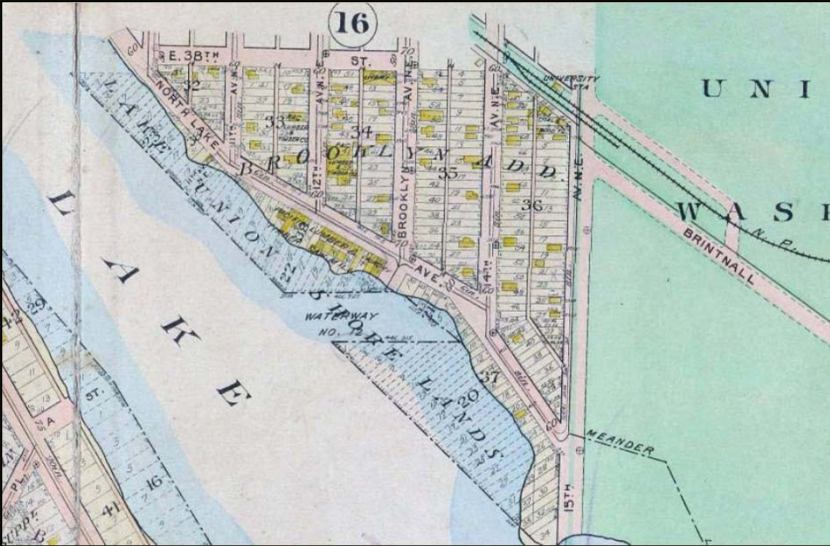
The location in the University's West Campus

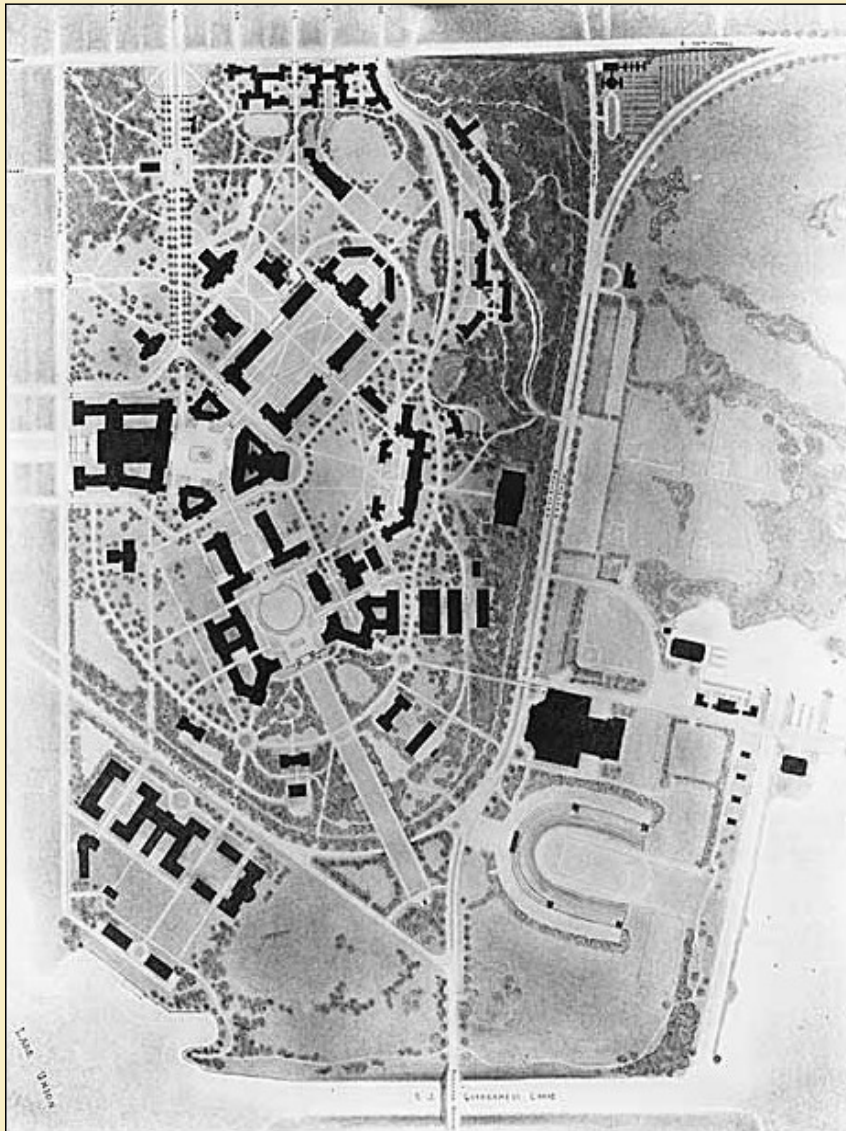




The West Campus area, 1936 & 2021

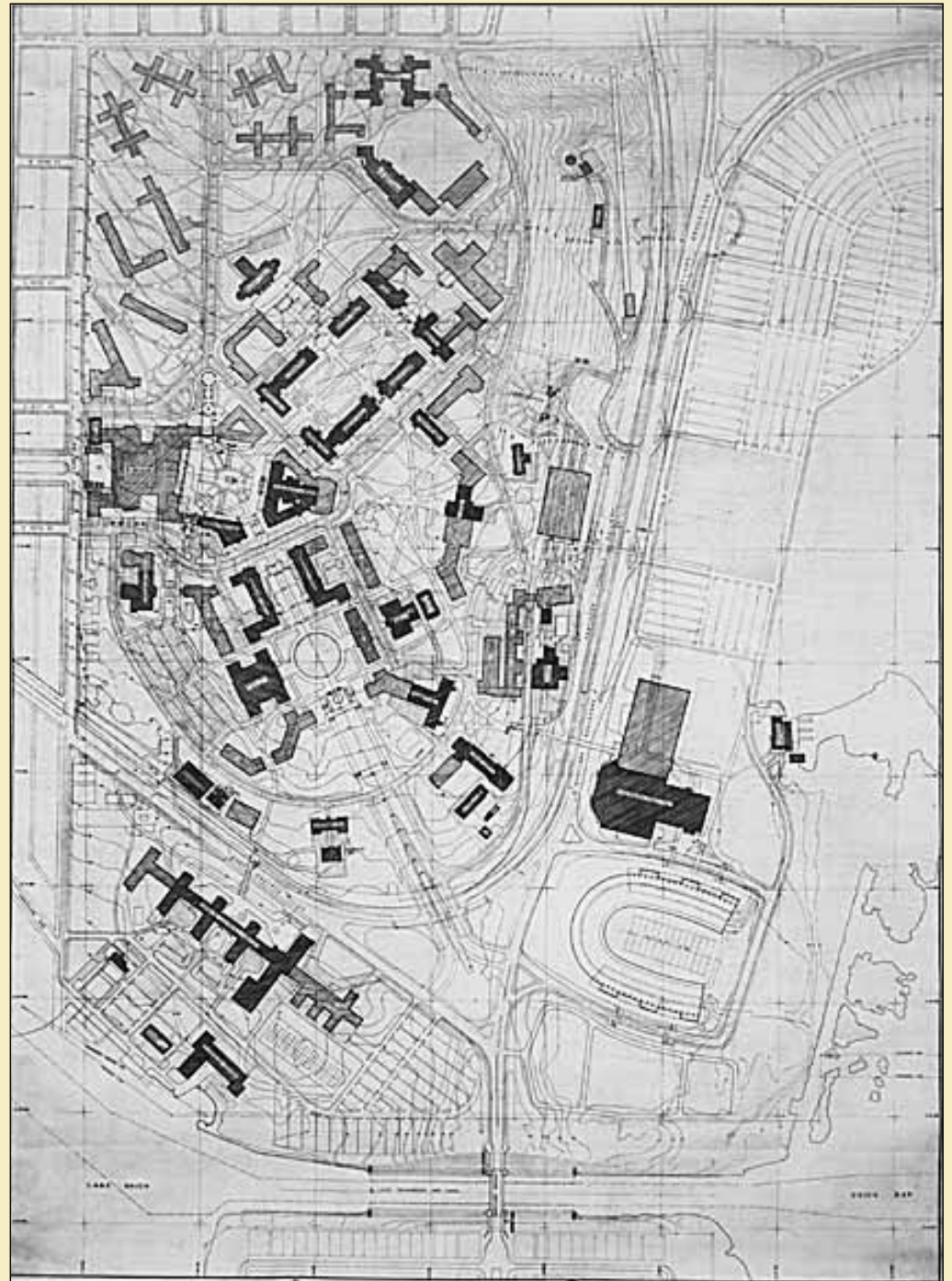
Portage Bay & the Campus in 1912, 1935 & 1940

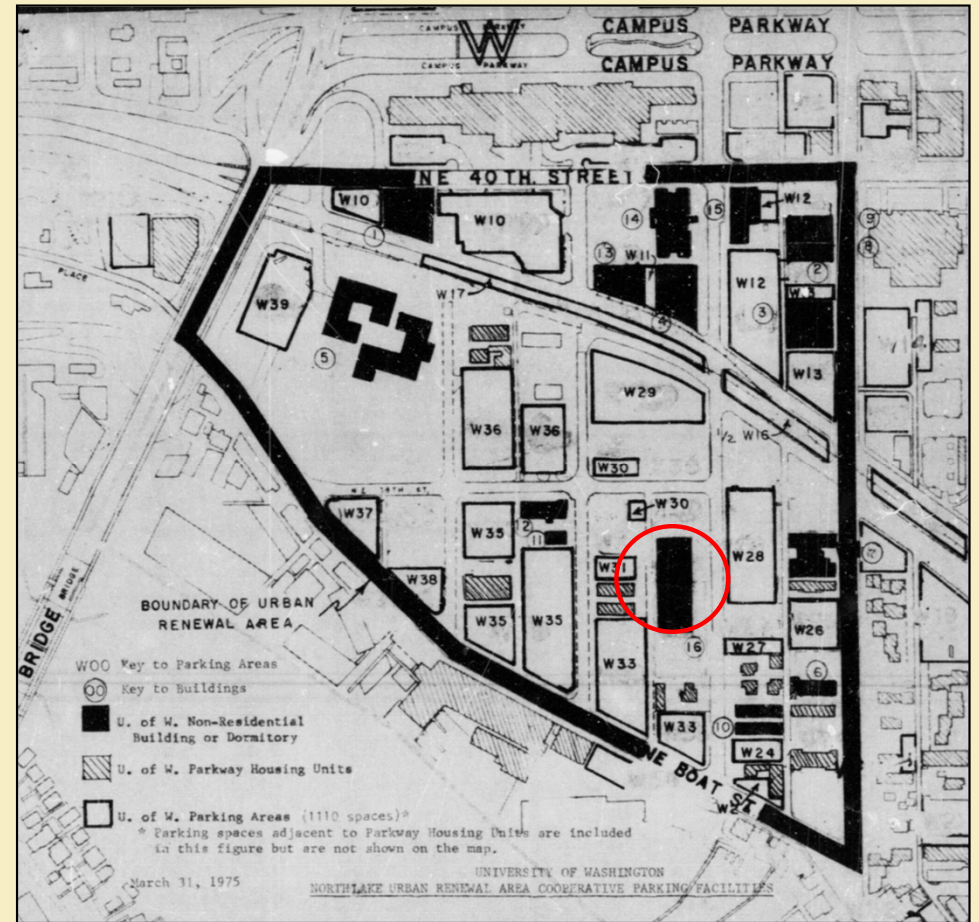




Above, the 1934 Campus Plan

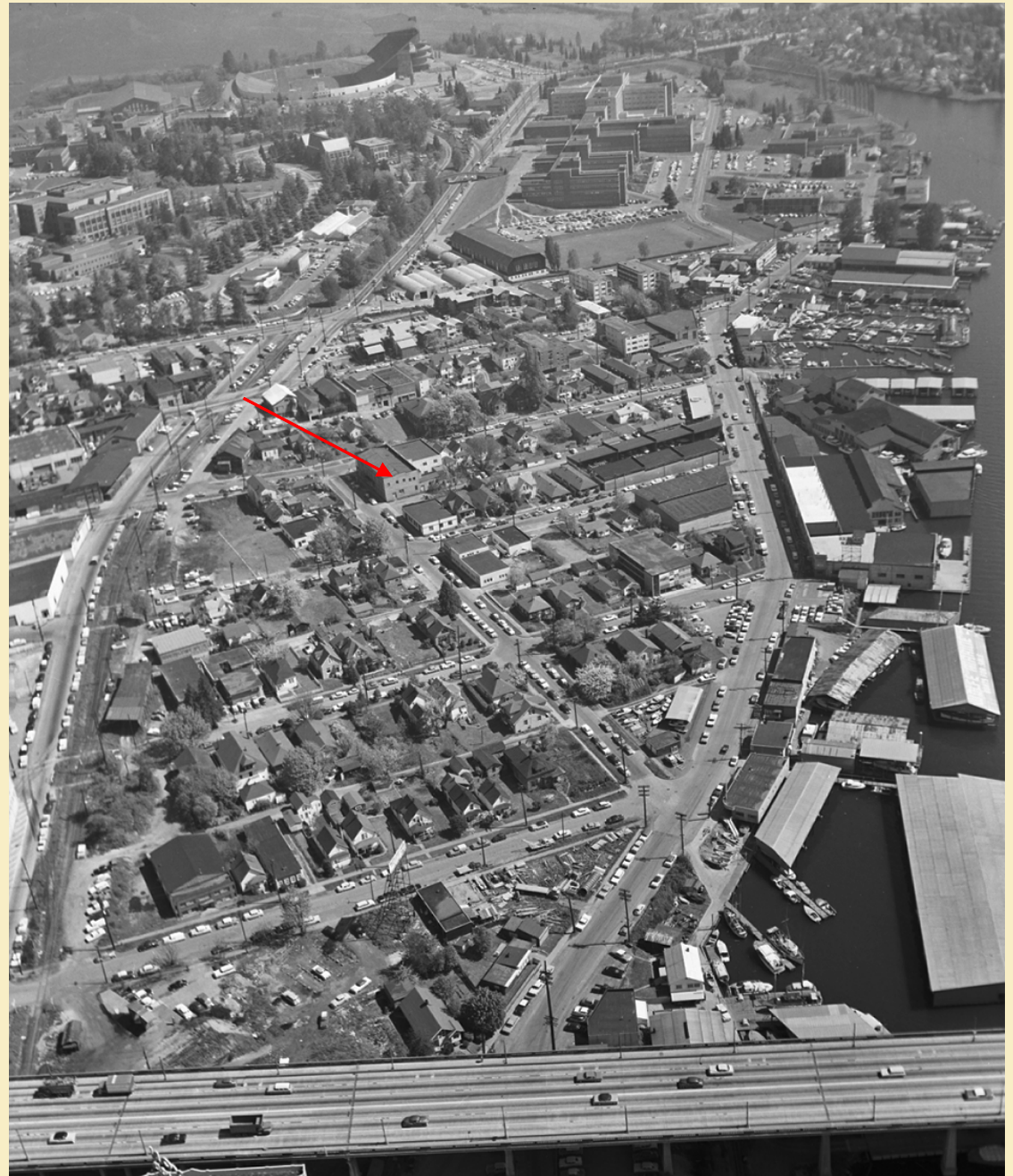
Right, the 1949 Campus Plan





Post-War Campus Development

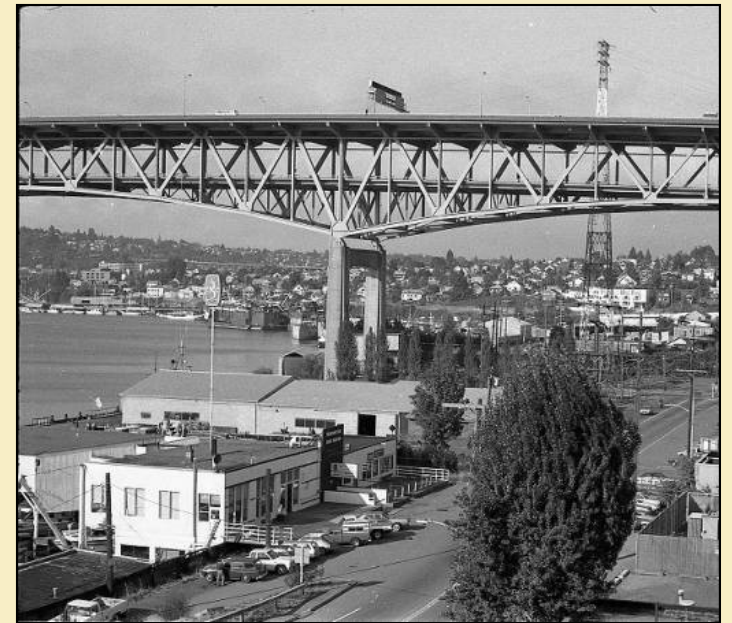
- Above, the 1962 Campus Plan
- Right, 1975 Northlake Urban Renewal Area



The area west of campus in 1962



The Portage Bay area in 1953 & 1984



Computers on the UW Campus

- 2000s – cloud computing, HDTV
- 1990s – the internet
- 1980s – networking systems
- 1976 – the new Computer Center
- 1970s – instructional computing
- 1960s – punch cards & mainframes
- 1956 – the Research Computing Center

Prior to 1976 computer centers were in ad hoc spaces within science and engineering buildings on the main campus: Bagley Hall, Wilcox Hall, Mechanical Engineering and More Hall Annex. The equipment had “an incredible number of vacuum tubes and required massive air conditioning.”

The Burroughs B5500 in a 1966 video: “Man inserting tapes into computer drive, drive spinning, man pressing buttons on console.”



Building collects, reuses heat of computers, lights

By ALF COLLINS

For all but several days a year, the University of Washington's new computer center at 3227 Brooklyn Ave. N.E. will operate on the heat given off by its computers and lights.

To do that, a collection system pulls in heated air and heats water which is circulated through the two-story, 2,500-square-foot building which has extra insulation and double glass.

Although the mechanical system cost about 20 per cent more than a standard system, university officials estimate it will pay for itself out of savings within 12 to 18 years.

If energy costs rise more rapidly than expected, the payoff will come sooner, then Nelson, whose architectural firm designed the building, says.

WHILE THE building has a conventional cooling system and is attached to the university heating plant to help in extraordinary cold snaps, Nelson is well satisfied with the efficiency of his building.

With \$1.3 million budgeted, the extensive utility work and air-treatment systems required for a computer center provided little extra for design details.

The exterior of the building is enameled metal panels and textured concrete, although there are some window bays which extend from the front, which give it a little bit more than the utilitarian appearance which a low-budget building might have had.

Now that much of the frustrations of the battle of the budget are over, Nelson is a little pleased. "People aren't used to seeing well-designed utility buildings," he said.

The center is much more than a utility building, according to Barbara Teple, computer-services manager.

It is a 24-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week people place, she says emphatically. And the new building is proving that already. After a couple of weeks in the building, painters working full tilt and furniture still arriving, the number of students using the building at the spring-quarter break is almost a normal load for a full academic quarter.

THE COMPUTER center is open to any student wanting to use a computer. Computers are expensive machines and graduate students tend to have highly irregular schedules, so the 24-hour availability of the computers works to the advantage of both, according to Ms. Teple.

THERE IS a large common space where projects may be worked on and access to some of the computers to allow students capable of processing their own cards to do so.

For those who are almost able, there is a computer consultant always on duty to help figure out why something didn't come out like it should have.

The computer center does major research work for the university, such as keeping track of catches by treaty Indians and non-Indians, information for the Arctic Ice Dynamics Joint Experiment, engineering data and simulated problems for medical students in diagnosis.

It also is open to any member of the community who can buy computer time. The center, Ms. Teple said, is self-supporting.

The space is knitted together with a large, bright-colored graphic made from curving by George.

Design of the building is a curious blend of open access to attract users and make their jobs more simple and controlled access so that users of the building are within sight.

The \$4,000 computer terminals could be carried out of the building, she said.

THE PROJECT architect, two



U.W.'s new computer center—an efficient building.

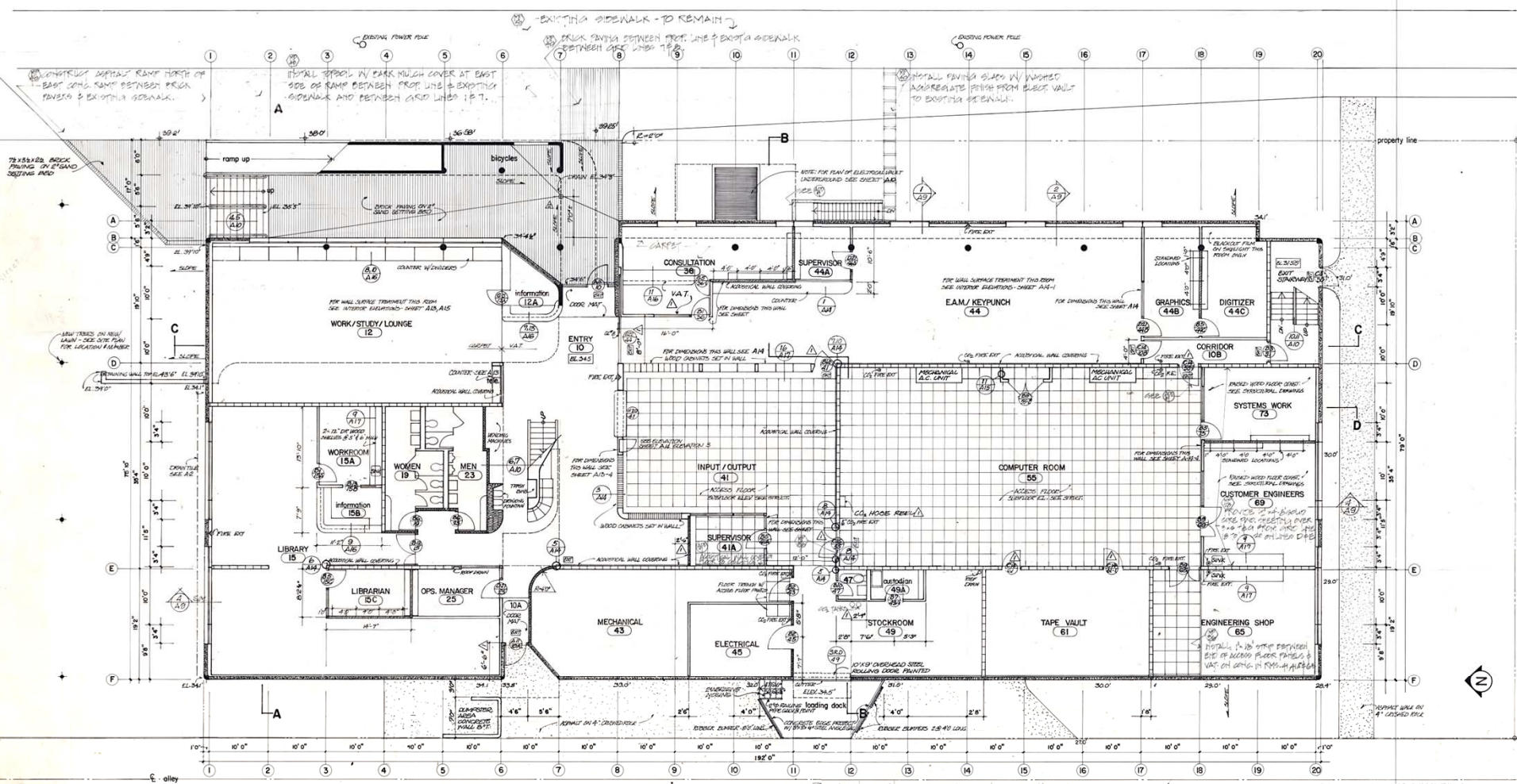
The building won't function efficiently as a people place to Ms. Teple's satisfaction until the work crews have left, the remaining furniture arrives, the cooling system is balanced and everything gets unpacked. But it is already mechanically efficient.

The hot water circulating through the wall radiators is being heated by the exhaust from the computers and the lights. Without that heat to control with, the demand for cooling is less, too.

“With \$1.3 million budgeted, the extensive utility work and air-treatment systems required for a computer center provided little extra for design details. The exterior ... is enameled metal panels and textured concrete, although there are some window bays which extend from the front, which give it a little bit more than the utilitarian appearance which a low-budget building might have had.”

– Alf Collins, *The Seattle Times*, 6.27.1976

Brooklyn Avenue N.E.



KEY	LEGEND	DETAIL	NOTES
●	CAST-IN PLACE CONCRETE		SEE STRUCTURAL DRAWINGS
▬	PRE-CAST CONCRETE WALL		" " " "
▬	P.C. CONCRETE W/ FLOORING		" " " "
▬	8" REINFORCED CONCRETE SLAB		SEE INTERIOR ELEVATIONS FOR FINISH PLASTERWORK COVERED
▬	PARTITION TYPE 1 20GA SHEET	4-A77	3/8" WALL PARTITION
▬	PARTITION TYPE 2 20GA SHEET	4-A77	3/8" WALL PARTITION W/ INSET SHELL BRACKET SOUNDWALLS-SEE INT. ELEV. FOR SOUNDWALLS
▬	PARTITION TYPE 3 20GA SHEET		DOUBLE 3/8" WALL PARTITION W/ SOUND INSULATION
▬	PARTITION GLAZING		SEE INTERIOR ELEVATIONS FOR DIMENSIONS
⊙	FIRE EXTINGUISHER		10 LBS. CO ₂ IN CABINETS OR 2 1/2 GALS. WATER TYPE A3 SHOWN

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING

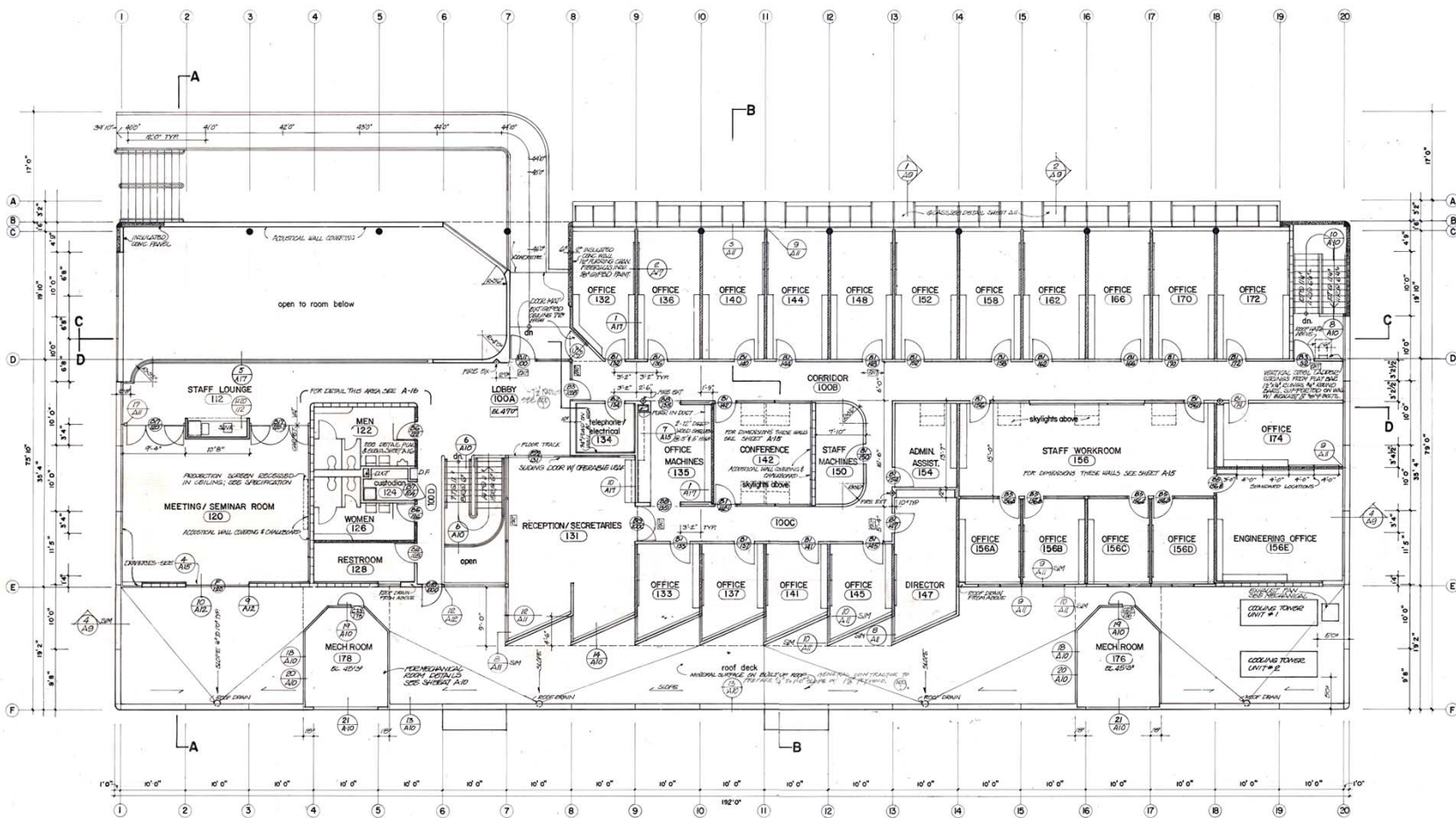
ARCHITECTS:
IBSEN NELSEN and ASSOCIATES
 2121 FIFTH AVENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98121

JOB NUMBER 216
 APPROVAL
 DATE FEB 20 1975

SHEET NUMBER **A3**

CONTENTS: **FIRST FLOOR PLAN 1/8"=1'0"**

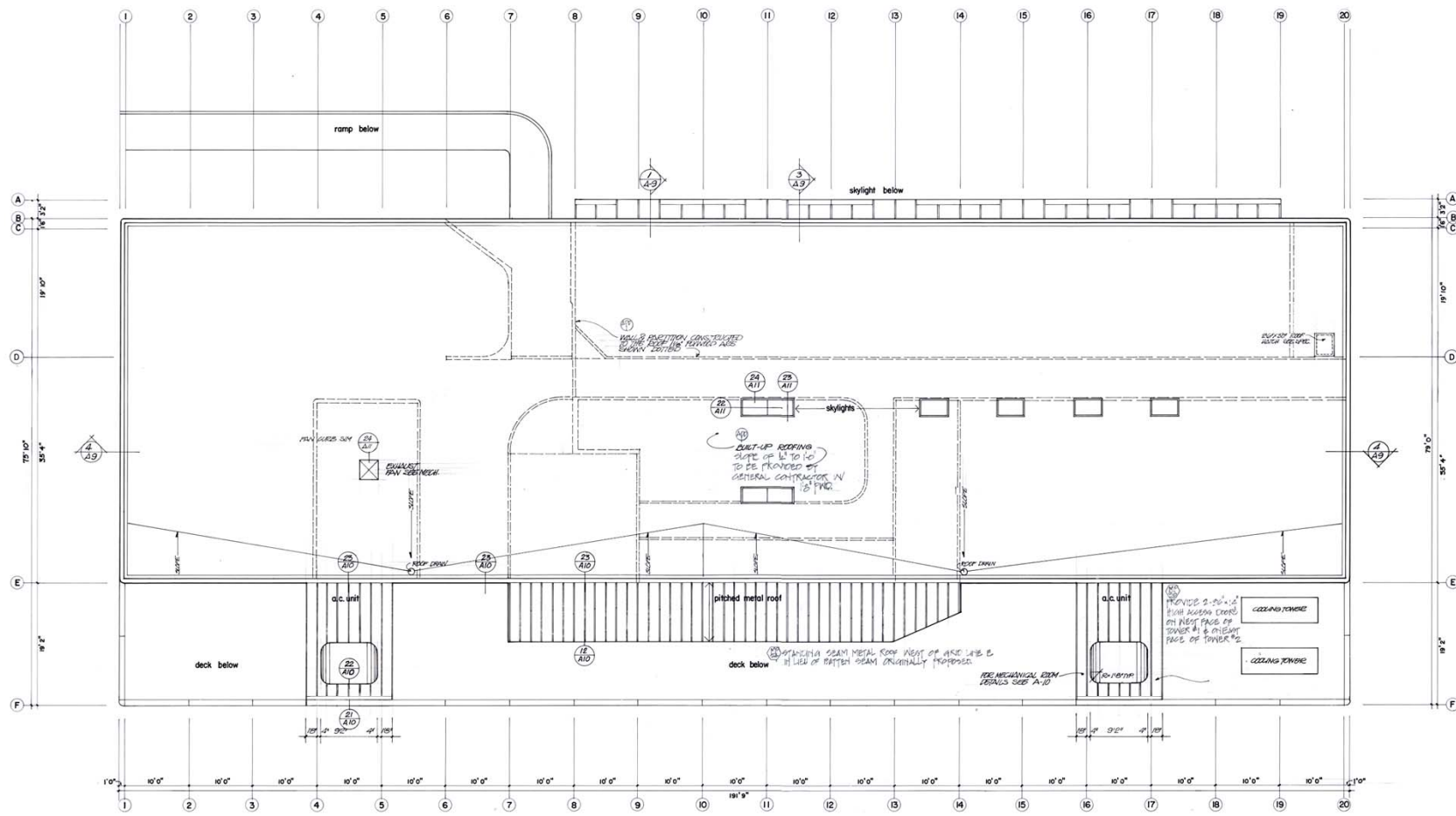
Original First Floor Plan



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING		
ARCHITECTS: IBSEN NELSEN and ASSOCIATES 2121 FIFTH AVENUE 624-3111 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98121	JOB NUMBER 216 APPROVAL  DATE FEB 24 1975	SHEET NUMBER A4
CONTENTS: SECOND FLOOR PLAN 1/8"=1'0"		

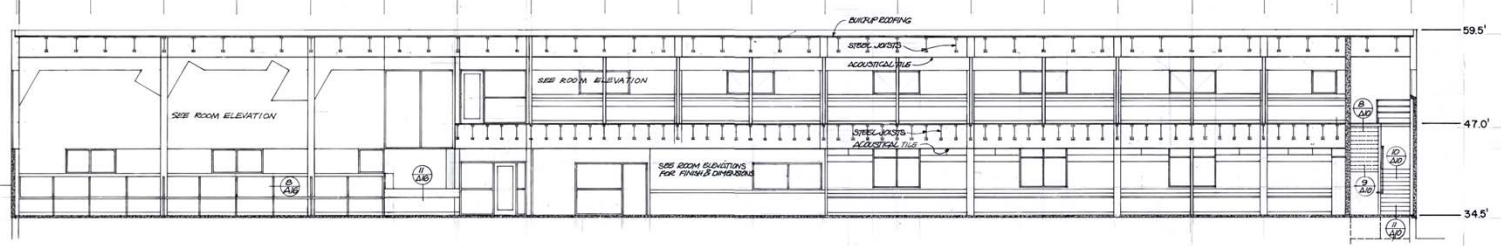
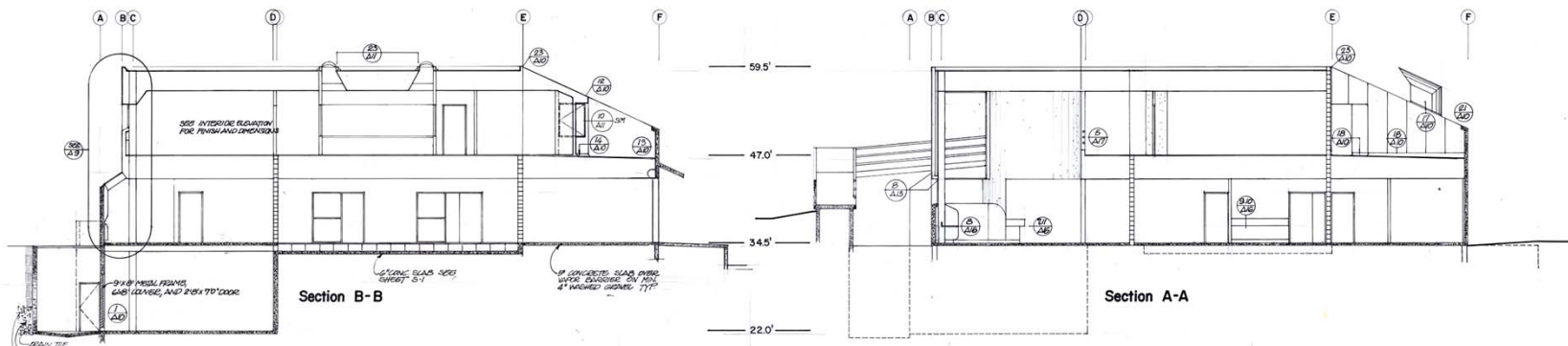
MICROFILMED

Original Second Floor Plan

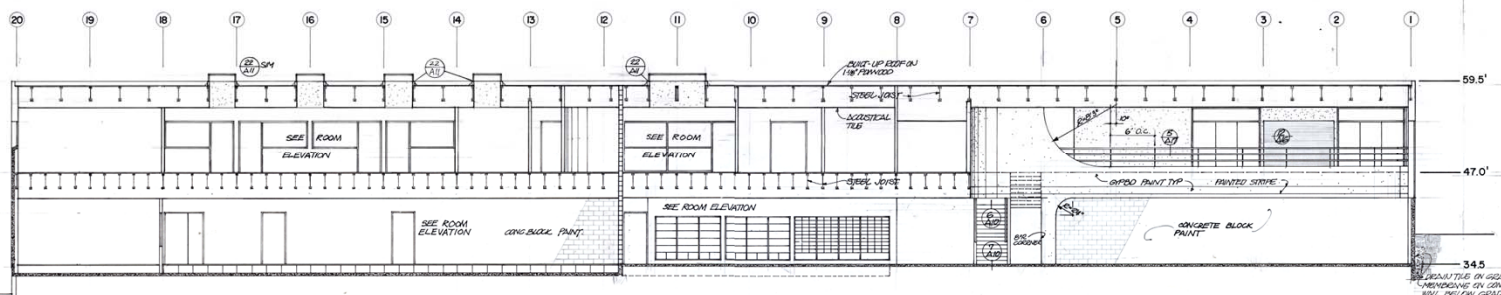


UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING			
ARCHITECTS:	JOB NUMBER	APPROVAL	SHEET NUMBER
IBSEN NELSEN and ASSOCIATES	216		A5
2121 FIFTH AVENUE	624-3111	IBSEN NELSEN & ASSOC. STATE OF WASHINGTON	DATE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	98121		FEB 20 1975
CONTENTS:		ROOF PLAN	1/8" = 1'0"

Original Roof Plan

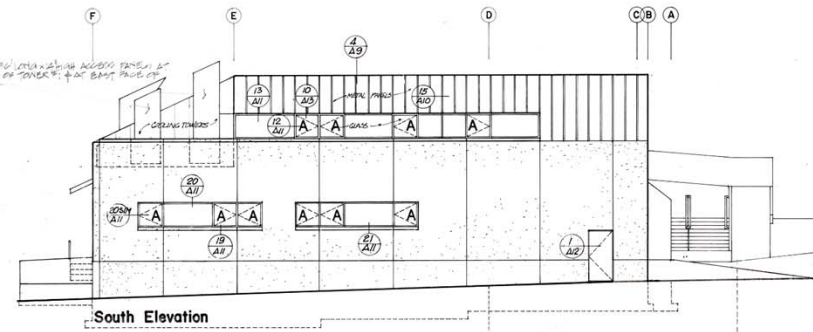
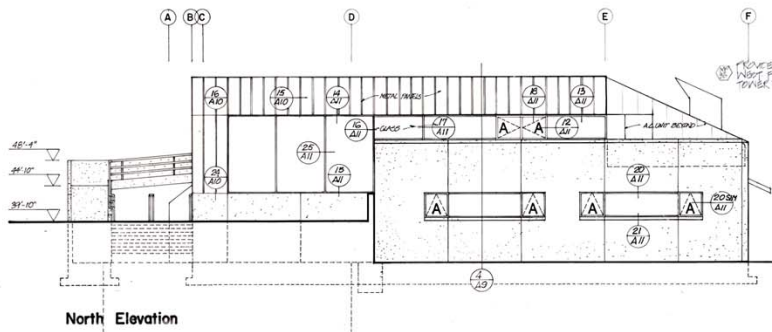


Section C-C

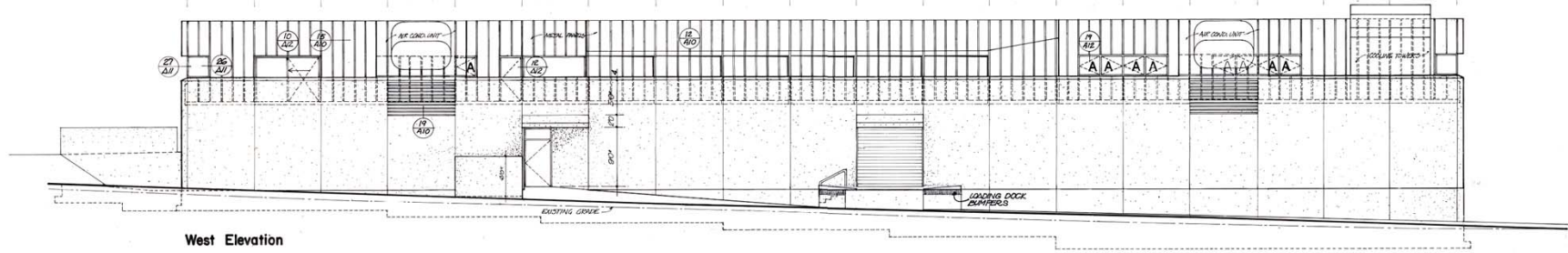


Section D-D

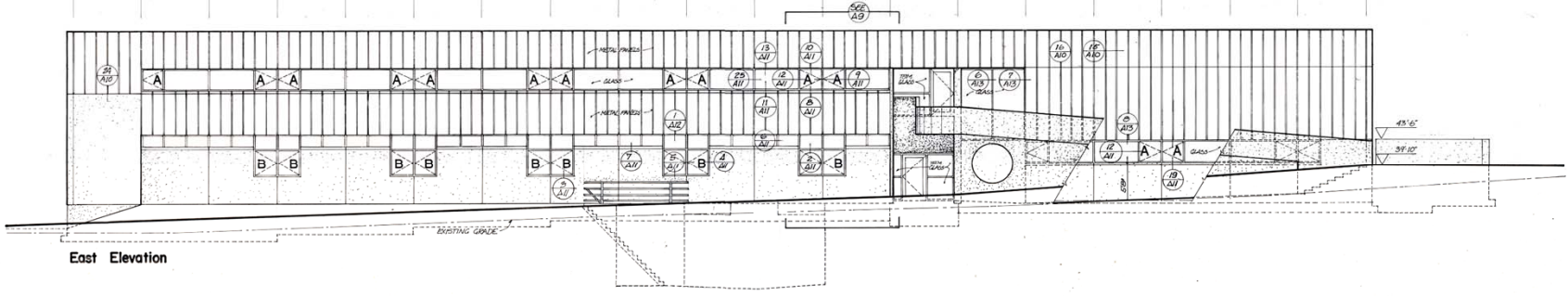
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING			
ARCHITECTS:	JOB NUMBER	SHEET NUMBER	
IBSEN NELSEN and ASSOCIATES	216	A6	
2121 FIFTH AVENUE	624-3111	APPROVAL	
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98121		DATE	
		FEB 20 1975	
CONTENTS:	BUILDING SECTIONS 1/8" = 1'-0"		
238-A-6 BLDG. No. 238			



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20



20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

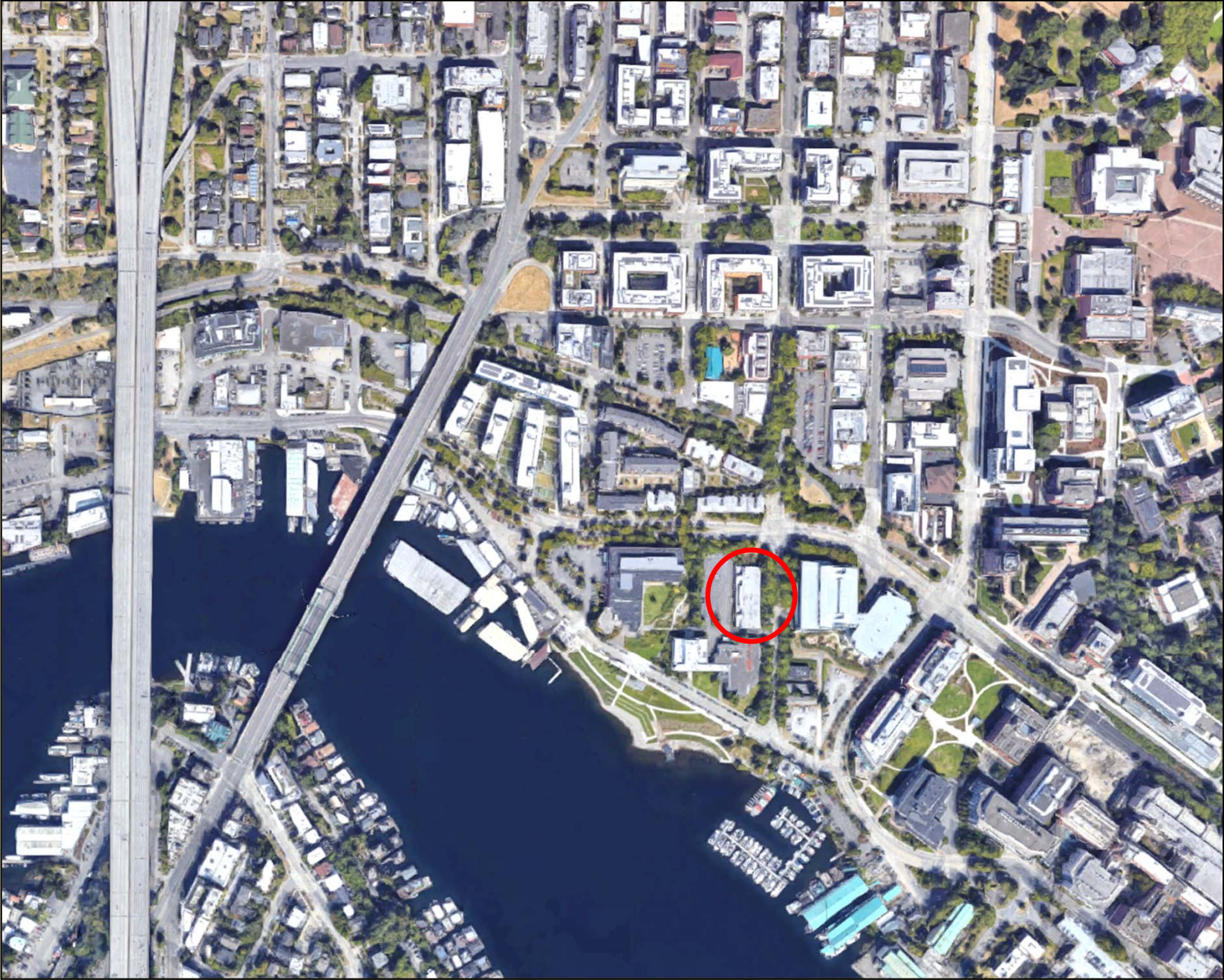


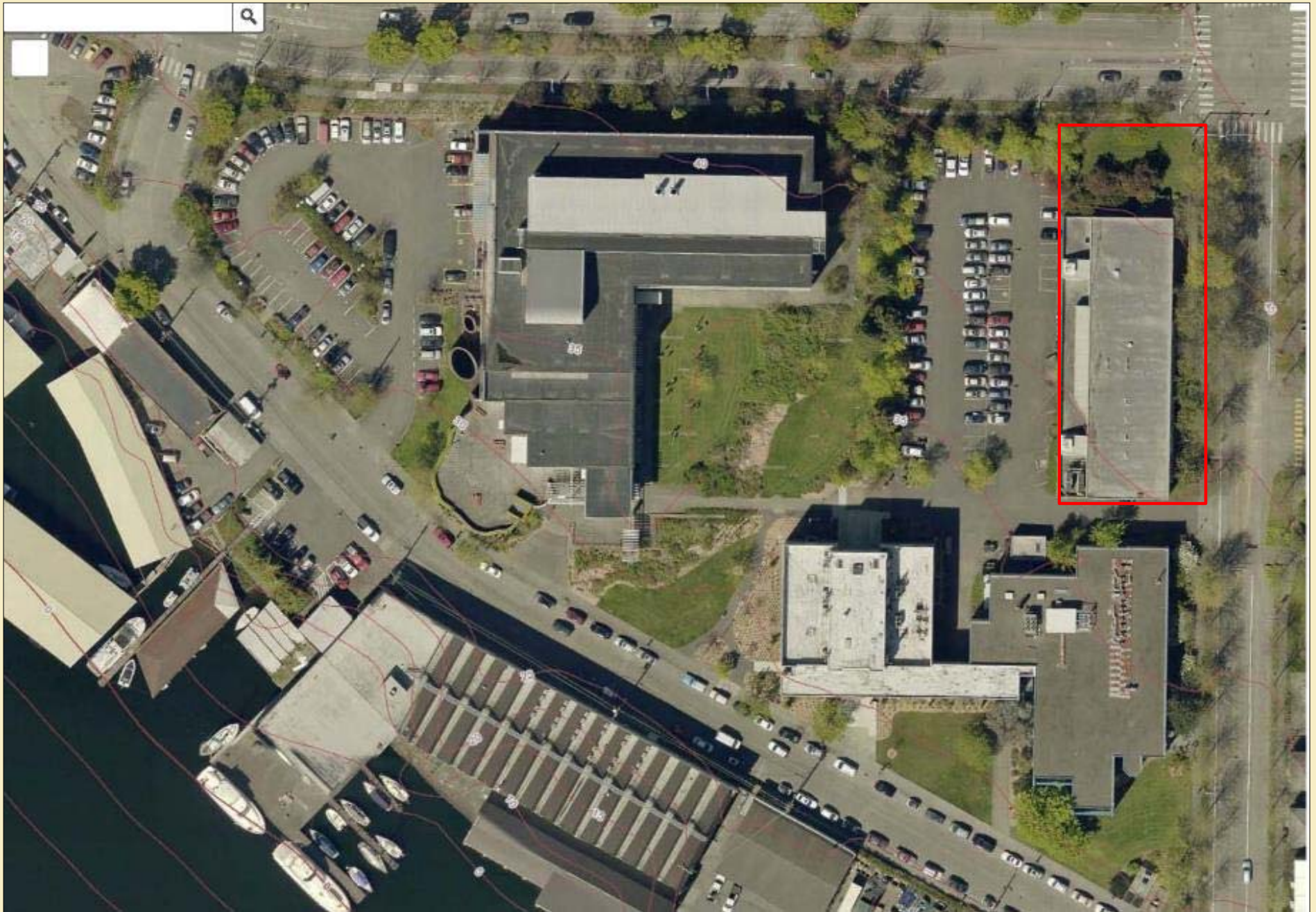
MICROFILMED

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING			
ARCHITECTS: IBSEN NELSEN and ASSOCIATES 2121 FIFTH AVENUE 624-3111 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98121		JOB NUMBER: 216 APPROVAL: DATE: FEB 20 1975	SHEET NUMBER A7
CONTENTS: ELEVATIONS		1/8"=1'-0"	

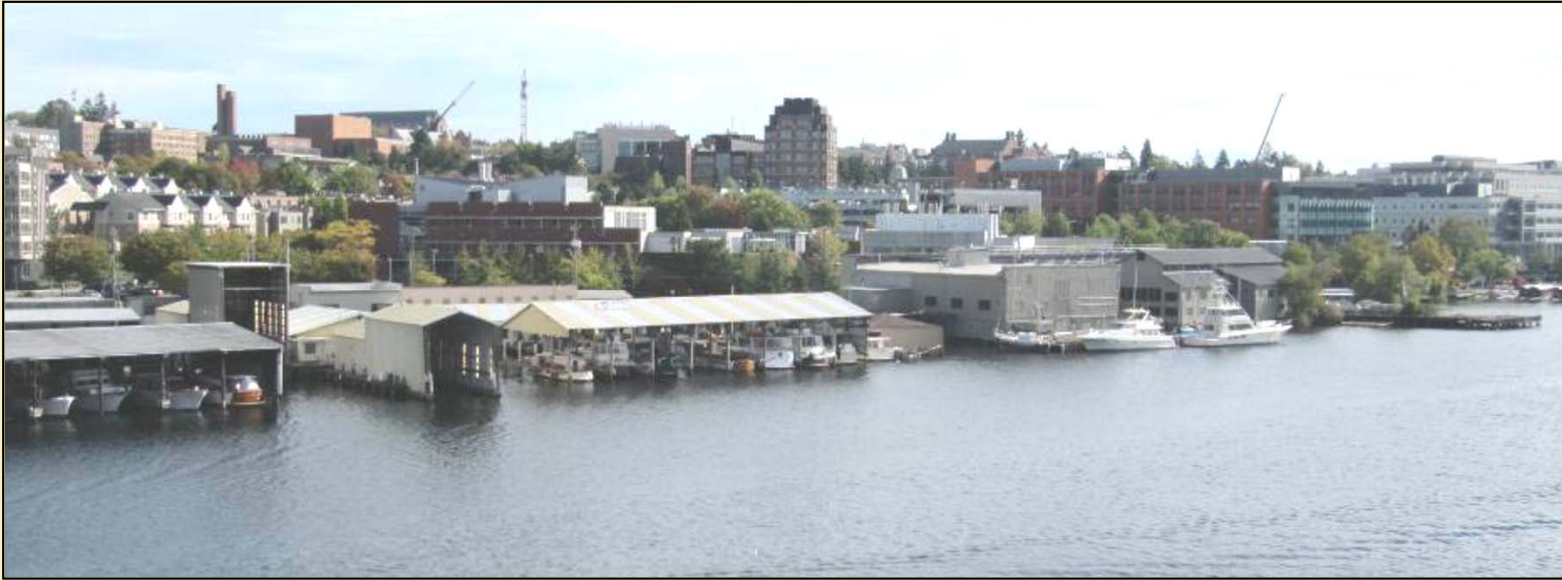
Original Elevations

Current West Campus Context



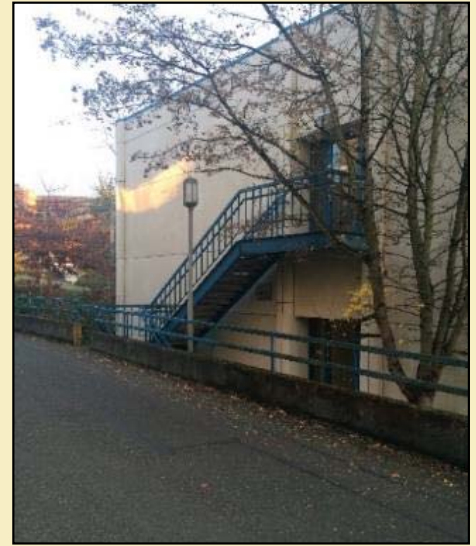


Ariel View of the Block & Site, 2015



**Recent Development
along the Nearby
Shoreline, 2015 & 2020**





Surrounding Buildings



Surrounding Buildings & Parking Lot

Landscaped North Setback & North Facade



East Facade and Entry Ramp



East Facade and Entry Ramp



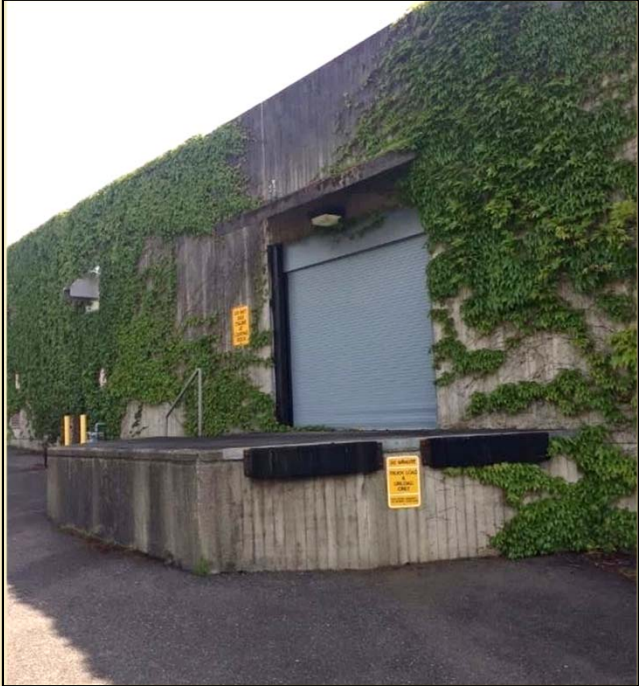
Landscaped East Setback, East Facade & Window Details



South Facade



West Facade, Entry, Loading Dock, & West Roof Terrace



Recessed Entries



First Floor Entry Lobby & Circulation Spaces



The Current POE Commons & Non-Original Infill



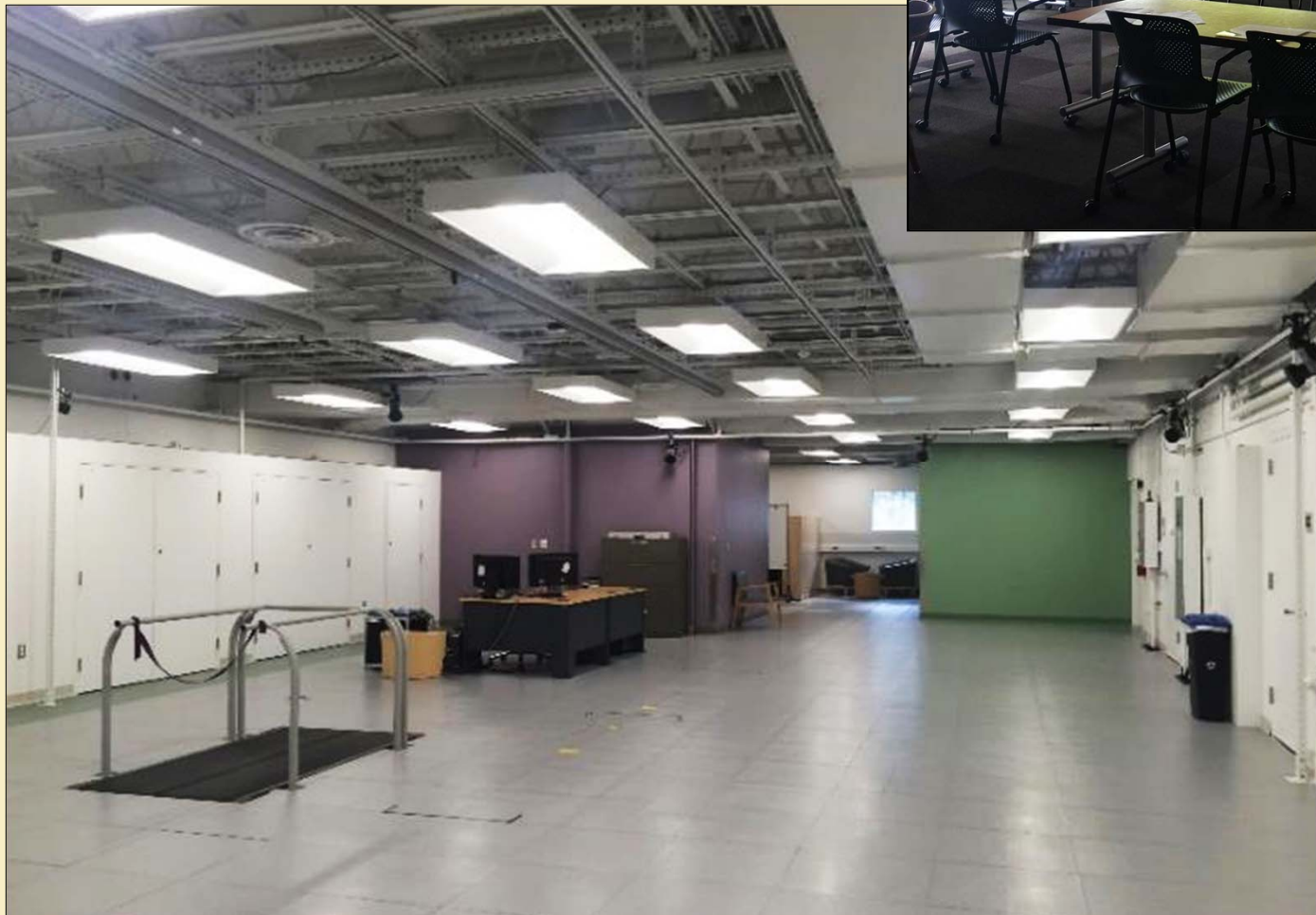
Current POE Commons, Northeast & Southeast



Office Spaces



**Original First Floor
Computer Room
& Second Floor Classroom**





Select Work by Architect Ibsen Nelsen

- Nelson & Sabin, Fuller Residence (1959)
- Nelson & Sabin, LDS Chapel, Montlake Terrace (1960)
- Ibsen Nelsen in 1969 & 1985 & his office in 1971



Other Work by Architect Ibsen Nelsen

- UW Playhouse Theater Rehab (1968)
- WWU: Bond & Miller Halls (1968), Artzen Hall (1972) Social Science Building (1973-1974) & NW Environmental Studies Center (1980)
- The Museum of Flight & Red Barn (1975+)
- Pike Place Market Buildings (1975-1978)





Brutalist Style Buildings

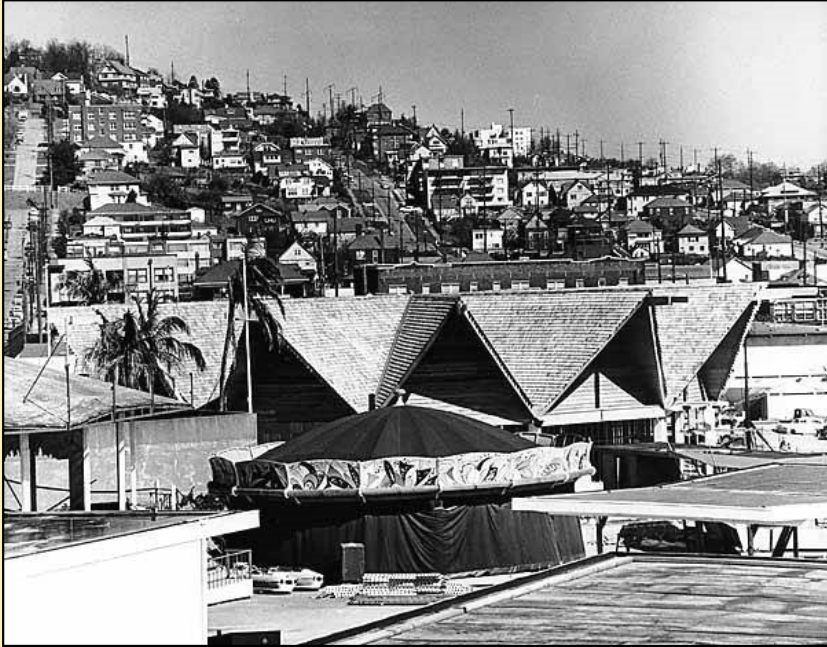
- Robin Hood Gardens (1964-1972 – 2017)
- Carpenter Hall, Harvard University (1963)
- Yale Art & Architecture Building (1963)
- Boston City Hall (1969)
- Pike & Virginia Building, Seattle (1972)
- Freeway Park (1976)



Brutalist Style Buildings on the UW Campus

- **McMahon Hall (1965)**
- **Oceanography Teaching Building (1967)**
- **Lowell Hall (1968-1969)**
- **Schmitz Hall (1970)**
- **Gould Hall (1971)**
- **Condon Hall (1974)**





Select Projects by Baugh Construction

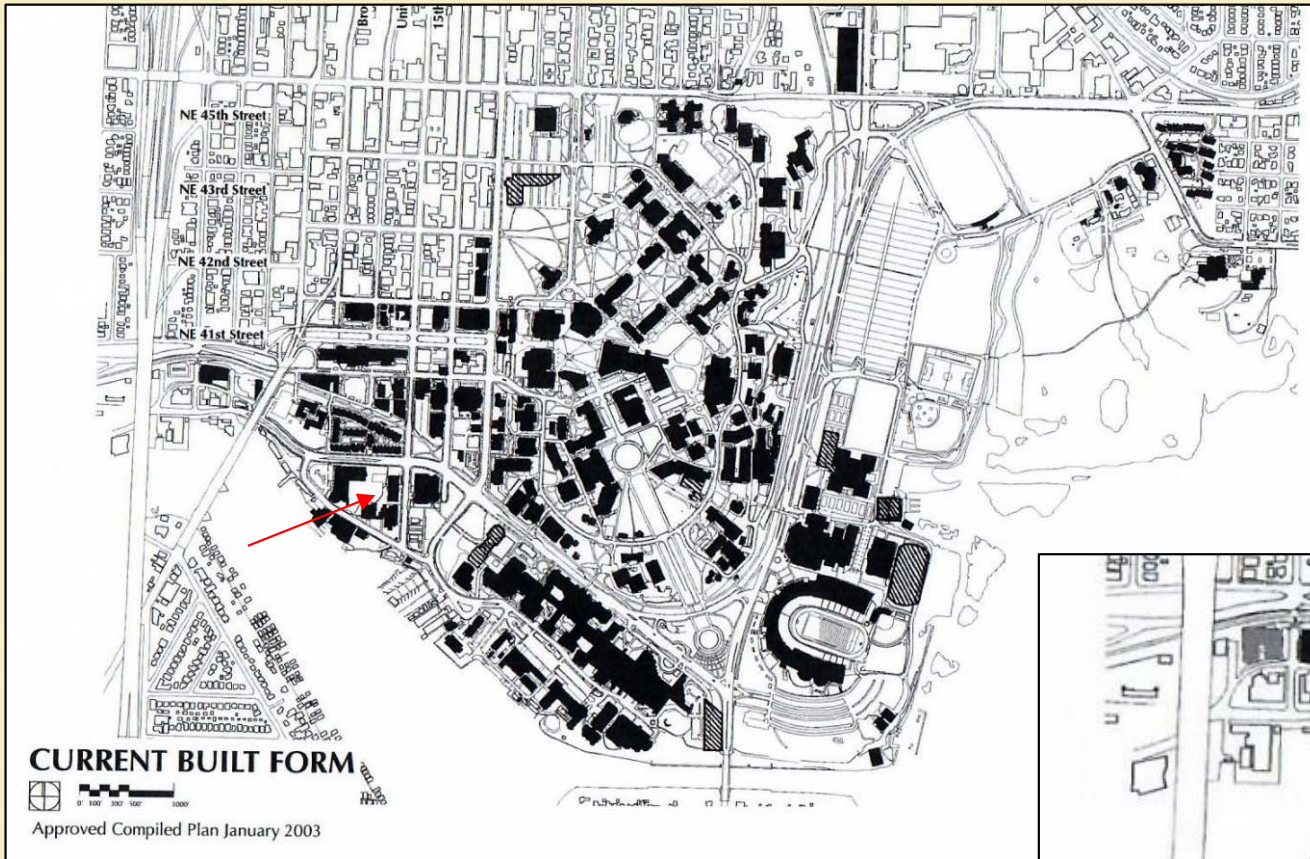
- Ballard High School Addition (1956)
- Columbia City Tradewell Supermarket (1957)
- Hawaii Pavilion at Century 21 (1962)
- Bricklayer's Union Hall (1959-1960)
- UW Forestry Science / Winkenwerder Hall (1963)
- Queen Anne Branch US Post Office (1965)
- St. Joseph Hospital Addition, Tacoma (1973)
- Boeing Red barn Restoration (1975-1976)
- Wall Street Building / Everett City Hall (1980)
- Seattle University Chapel of St. Ignatius (1994-1996)
- Benaroya Hall (1996)
- Frye Art Museum Expansion (1987)
- Union Station Rehabilitation (1998-1999)



Projects by Baugh Construction

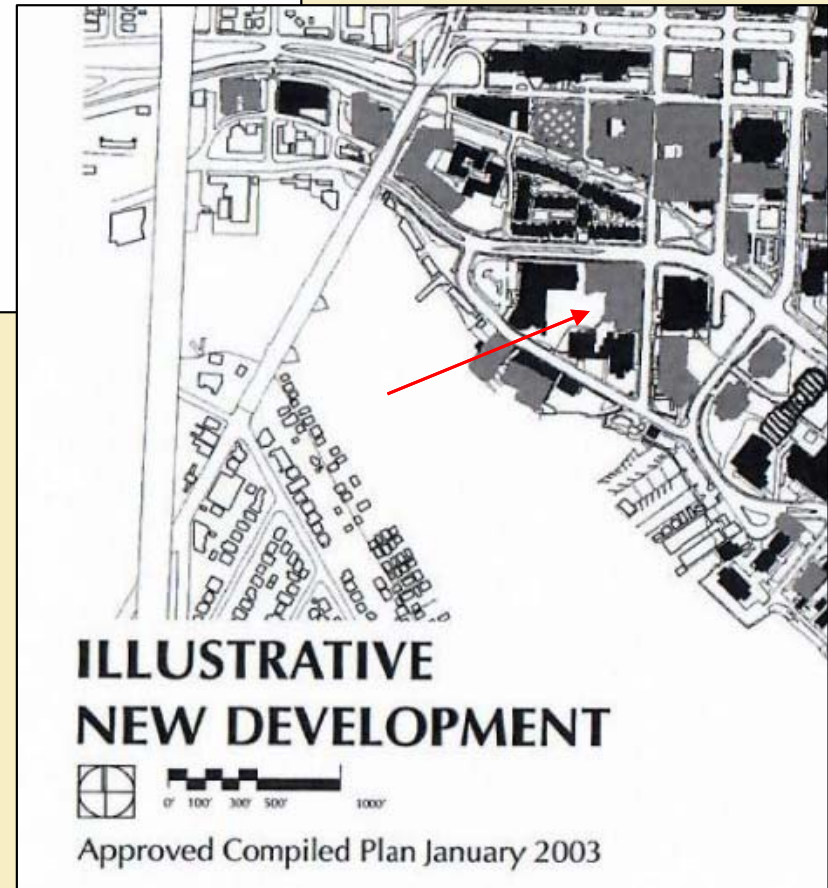
- North Seattle Community College (1968-1970)
- Ocean Beauty Tilt-Up Warehouse (1978)









The 2003 UW Campus Master Plan

Existing Buildings & Potential New Development within the 69-acre West Campus Area





	Potential Building
	Existing Building
	Potential Significant Open Space
	Existing Uses Relocated

The West Campus Green as illustrated in the University of Washington 2018 Campus Master Plan

University of Washington
Academic Computer Center / Wallace Hall
Seattle Landmark Nomination
November 3, 2021

COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING

Seattle, Washington
University of Washington
John R. Hogness / President

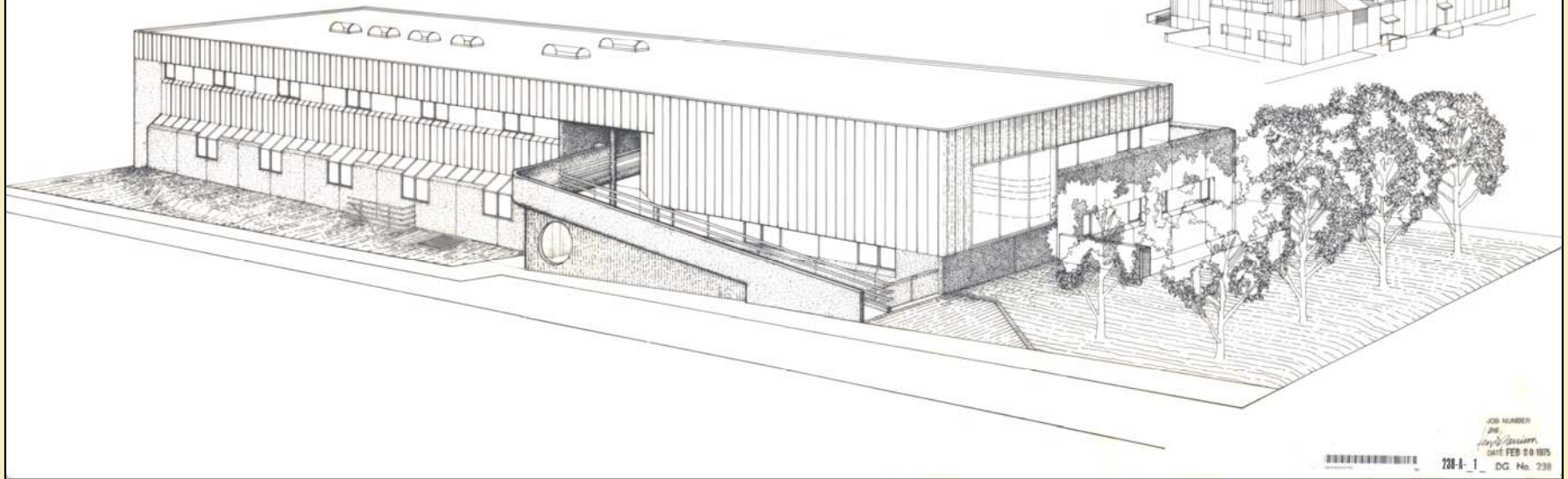
Architects / Ibsen Nelsen & Associates
Structural Engineers / Victor O. Gray & Company
Mechanical Engineers / Wood & Associates
Electrical Engineers / Beverly A. Travis & Assoc. Inc.

ARCHITECTURAL

- A1 - Site Survey
- A2 - Site Plans
- A3 - First Floor Plan
- A4 - Second Floor Plan
- A5 - Roof Plan
- A6 - Building Sections
- A7 - Elevations
- A8 - Reflected Ceiling Plans and Details
- A9 - Wall Sections
- A10 - Building Details
- A11 - Window Details
- A12 - Doors and Details
- A13 - Interior Elevations
- A14 - Interior Elevations
- A15 - Interior Elevations
- A16 - Interior Elevations
- A17 - Room Finish Schedule and Details

STRUCTURAL

- S1 - First Floor and Foundation Plan
- S2 - Second Floor Plan
- S3 - Roof Plan
- S4 - Sections and Details
- S5 - Sections and Details
- S6 - Wall and Footing Details
- S7 - Sections and Details



JOB NUMBER
200
Ibsen Nelsen
DATE FEB 20 1975
200-1-1 DG. No. 238