University of Washington
Portage Bay / Fisheries Building Auditorium Renovation
Historic Resources Addenda

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Cover: Aerial view of the north shore of Portage Bay and the University’s south campus area in April 18, 1962 (Seattle Municipal Archives, No. 71036), and current view looking north at the south façade of the original Fisheries Building with the 1968 addition to the right and the School of Medicine in the background (BOLA, Architectural + Planning
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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

This Historic Resources Addenda (HRA) provides historic and architectural information about the former UW School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences facility (“Fisheries Building”), which presently houses the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences, the Autism Center, and several academic functions. The building is located along the north shore of Portage Bay, in the South Campus area just south of the Medical Center and the Health Sciences Center.

The two-part building assembly was vacated by the School of Fisheries in the early 1990s, with the exception of the lower level hatchery, which remains operational. After that date, it was informally identified as the “Old Fisheries Building” or the “Fisheries Center” until ca. 2010 when its name was changed to the Portage Bay Building (No. 157 according to University Facility Record Documents). The present name reflects the use of the building by several different current occupants: the Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences (I-LABS), UW Autism Center, UW Radiology, and the Center for Industrial & Medical Ultrasound. The I-LABS occupies most of the upper floor and entire east wing of the building complex, while the Autism Center is situated within the original west wing. The labs and offices for the Center for Industrial & Medical Ultrasound are in the main section at the first floor level. Other parts of the building appear to be vacant or used for storage.

The Proposed Project

The University is undertaking a proposed renovation of the auditorium within the northwest corner of the 1950 building to serve as a new presentation space to engage I-LAB personnel, visitors, and donors. The work for the I-LAB will also involve upgrading exterior doors and a roof terrace on the south end of the 1968 east addition. This project, which is presently in the schematic phase, is designed by SHKS Architects of Seattle, along with the consulting landscape architect Site Workshop.

The project design may also involve revisions to the landscape beds near the westernmost entry on the north facade of the 1950 building; revisions to main entry doors on the north facade; and/or the insertion of new rooftop skylights to introduce natural light into the former auditorium space.
Historic Research

BOLA began the research for this HRA in October 2014 and provided preliminary comments on the proposed project to SHKS. As part of this process, BOLA’s team met and communicated with the project’s designers, Principal David Strauss and Architect Laura Lenss of SHKS Architects in October 2014. They also attended a preliminary review meeting with the University’s project manager, I-LAB representatives and SHKS on October 16, 2014. Additional research on the building’s history and field documentation was undertaken in November 2014.

The report prepared by BOLA Principal Susan Boyle, AIA, with Intern Architect Greg Bishop and production assistance by Meagan Scott. The scope of this historic report involved several tours of the building and site, and collection and review of historic documents and information from the following sources:

- Original drawings from the UW Facilities Record files
- Digital photographs from the UW Libraries Special Collections
- Architects’ biographies from the Pacific Coast Architects Database (PCAD), and the websites of DocomomoWeWa and DAHP, and from the AIA Historical Architects Directories
- Historic information about the origins and early facilities of the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences from its website, and from a 1989 publication, Robert R. Stickney’s Flagship: A History of Fisheries at the University of Washington
- Digital photographs from the collection of the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), and City of Seattle Municipal Archives (SMA)
- Historic Baist and Sanborn Insurance Company Maps, historic campus plans, and Kroll maps
- Materials from Seattle Public Library, including the Seattle Times database of archival articles
- Construction documents and previous studies of the subject property and structures provided by the University, and “The Portage Bay Building Auditorium Renovation Pre-Design Report,” August 2014 by SHKS Architects, Seattle

This report contains historical and architectural information, historic and contemporary maps, photographs and drawings, and a bibliography, along with findings and recommendations. It is assembled in a format consistent with requirements of the University’s 2003 Master Plan for a Historic Resources Addendum.
2. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The University’s Stewardship and Historic Preservation Policies

The University of Washington Master Plan (2003 Master Plan) has outlined its historic preservation policies for the Seattle Campus. Using historic campus planning documents, the Master Plan identified well-known buildings that are associated with the early campus development and early campus master plans: the 1898 Oval Plan, the 1909 Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition Plan, and the 1915 Regents Plan. The 2003 Master Plan also identified significant and unique landscapes on the campus.

Consistent with SEPA Policies, the University develops HRA reports for all buildings on the campus that are at least 50 years old. The reports provide historical and architectural information, for evaluative recommendations, using standards for consideration that are consistent with the listing criteria for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The National Register Program and Local Landmark Process

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The National Park Service administers the register and reviews nominations to it, which may come from state and federal preservation offices, individuals, organizations, and/or local governments. The Washington State Advisory Council, which is organized and staffed by the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), considers these nominations and makes recommendations on its eligibility. DAHP may recommend a property be placed on the State Register as well.

Local recognition of historic properties in Seattle is provided through a process of nomination and designation as a landmark by the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board. Because of its status as an institution established by the Washington State Legislature, the University of Washington has claimed exemption from the jurisdiction of the city’s landmark ordinance.

Federal and State Regulations

Projects involving a federal undertaking, including those undergoing required federal regulatory reviews, permits, or licensing and those that have federal funding, may trigger a federal Section 106 review and consultation with DAHP if they impact NRHP properties or those that are eligible for such listing. In Washington State, the Governor’s Executive Order 0505 took effect in late 2005. This order requires that all state agencies undertaking land acquisition or capital improvement construction projects to coordinate with DAHP and the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs. These agencies guide the treatment of historic state properties when projects are funded by the Washington State Legislature. The review process focuses on the planning phase.

The subject building was not included within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) or the historic survey that were a part of the 520 Bridge Project Final EIS of July 2011. The property has not been evaluated by DAHP to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register, and DAHP has no Historic Property Inventory (HPI) form for it in its WISAARD database. (DAHP reviews the submitted HPI forms, which are typically developed as part of SEPA documentation and makes an official determination if a property is eligible for listing in the NRHP on the basis of the inventoried information.)
Goals and Objectives of the Campus Master Plan

The South Campus was cited in the 2003 Master Plan as the area bordered by Portage Bay on the south, NE Pacific Street on the north, Montlake Boulevard along the east edge, and the planned Portage Bay Vista to the west. The Master Plan characterized this part of campus as containing two distinct environments. One is the University of Washington Medical Center and the Magnuson Health Sciences Center between NE Pacific Street and Columbia Road. The second is south of Columbia Road and contains the Oceanography and Fisheries buildings as well as the piers along the waterfront. This area is also defined by the South Campus Center, the Center on Human Development and Disability, the Experimental Education Unit, and shoreline open space.

The University of Washington Medical Center and the Health Sciences Center, like many other similar facilities on other campuses, have developed as continuous buildings along an enclosed connector spine. These facilities extend along NE Pacific Street and Columbia Road. The Portage Bay shoreline is a significant resource for the community and the University. New development is proposed north of the 200 foot line, tying to the Health Sciences and Medical Center over Columbia Road. Additional parking is also planned by expanding the existing S-1 garage at Columbia Road. Any proposals for street improvements, open space, and development should support the goals of the University and the University Community Urban Center Plan (University of Washington Master Plan, Seattle Campus: Goals and Objectives, p. 15).

Figure 1. Above, Illustrative Development Area S/W-4, shown below as in the 2003 Master Plan, which identifies the Fisheries Building property as Area 51S (Figure IV-73, p. 111). The property’s development potential is listed in the plan as a new building with an estimated 150,000 square feet (vs. the current 99,870 SF building), and up to five stories and up to 65’ in height (Site No. 51S, Old Fisheries, in Table IV-4, p. 86, and H3 Zone, Figure V-2, p. 132).
The Master Plan identified specific objectives for the South Campus (including the following), which seem relevant to the Fisheries Building and its site. These objectives, among others, called for taking advantage of the shoreline and views to the water, improving pedestrian routes along the water, and creating additional open spaces. The campus plan also provided development programs for specific sites. The Portage Bay Building/Fisheries Building property is located within the South Campus Area, and included in an Illustrative Development Area, which provides guidance for it. Of the building, the development notes the potential preservation of the 1970’s Fisheries Wing, and redevelopment of the large fish pond as a landscaped open space (once the functioning ponds are relocated).
3. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Original Fisheries Facilities

The school's initial facilities were four “temporary” wood-frame buildings on the north side of NE Pacific Street. (These may have remained from construction of buildings during World War I, just as there remain today other temporary buildings from World War II.) Historic photographs show the buildings, which appear similar to large bungalow style residences with vertical and horizontal cladding, gable roofs, simple recessed porch entries, and divided-light wood frame windows. Historic photographs of the building’s interiors indicate they contained laboratories and hatchery spaces as well as classrooms and offices. Near one of the buildings was a large rectangular fish pond. Reportedly, the facilities included a hatchery with rearing ponds, along with a cannery and salting facility. Also located within the four-building complex was the headquarters of the International Fisheries Commission (the present International Pacific Halibut Commission). The Commission built its own building in ca. 1931 near the Yacht Club on the south side of the Montlake Cut.

Location and Setting

Presently, two buildings comprise the Fisheries Center. The initial building, designated as the Fisheries Center, was designed by Young and Richardson in 1948, and was an L-shaped structure. The second building, the Fisheries Center Addition, was designed by Ralph Anderson in 1967-1968. The addition was constructed on the east side of the original building. The Fisheries Center building(s) have had various names attached to them over the course of history. Currently, the assembly is referred to as the Portage Bay Building. For the purpose of this description, we refer to it the Fisheries Center Building and to the Fisheries Center Addition.

The subject building is located in the South Campus area of the University of Washington, which is bounded by NE Pacific Street to the north and Lake Union to the south. Close by to the east, the Montlake Bridge crosses the ship canal connecting the University with the Montlake neighborhood to the south. Further to the west, the University Bridge orthogonally aligns with NE Pacific Street and connects the university with the Eastlake neighborhood.

This southern quadrant of the UW campus is aligned to NE Pacific Street, which has a diagonal northeast-to-southeast orientation. For clarity in the narrative description of the building, the following reference orientations are used when citing walls, elevations and facades: North is any facade facing toward NE Pacific Street; south is any facade facing southwest towards Portage Bay and Lake Union; west is any facade facing northwest towards the University Bridge; and east is any facade facing the southeast towards the Montlake Bridge.

The Site

The site topography slopes down approximately 16 feet from the north to the south corners of the building, and is divided generally into two separate components. Along the front (north) and east and west sides of the original building there were setbacks of 24 to 40 feet in depth, landscaped with turf, shrubs and various trees, along with plant beds. Presently, the mature trees in the front setback seem to tower over the building. The main entry, recessed into a corner of the building, was identified by a wide scored concrete walkway, which led past a long, low retaining wall and planter to steps before the entry doors.

The back (south) side of the building, which faces south toward the lake, was more utilitarian, and it provided vehicle loading, drop off and parking areas, along with seven small fish pools in cylindrical,
rectangular, and linear shapes. Further to the south there was a curving recess in the original shoreline of Lake Union, which was gradually changed to become a large, oval-shaped pool with gated access to the lake water.

The original L-shaped Fisheries Center Building was laid out with its longer wing oriented in an east-west direction and shorter wing to the west running north-south. The original building design took advantage of the natural slope, which drains to the south towards Lake Union, by placing the upper level at grade, making it accessible from the north, with the lower level at grade and accessible from the south. The grade change over the span of the building is approximately 16 feet. It is accommodated on the west end by a retaining wall, which extended west from the primary wing. A paved walkway extends from this wall around the northwest corner of the building and connects to the front setback.

The Fisheries Center Building

As indicated by the drawing dates, the L-shaped, two story building was designed in 1948, and built in 1949-1950. It is a cast in place concrete frame structure with rectangular and square shaped columns that define the central circulation and 20’-wide structural bays; concrete walls of varied thickness; concrete beams; and concrete floor and roof slabs. The L-shaped footprint has outermost dimensions of approximately 211 by 292 feet, with an open outdoor space to the southwest. The main, frontal wing is approximately 74 feet deep. The west wing, which extends nearly 100 feet to the south, has a width of approximately 66 feet. At the upper level, the 54.5 foot wide mass extends approximately 27 feet into the front yard. At the back, the width of the main wing is limited to approximately 138 feet due to the presence of the projecting hatchery on the east, and to the west wing on the west.

The main entrance to the building is positioned at the north end of the main which, where it faces to the north, at the exterior juncture of two wings on the second floor level. It looks onto an internal campus drive and parking area and the back of the Medical Center complex. The entry lobby provides direct access to internal east-west and north-south corridors, and to the open stairs at the crux of the L, which provides access to the lower level.

The upper level was devoted primarily to the more public and academic functions of the Fisheries School with an auditorium, a library/reading room in the northwest corner, labs, chemical and instrument storage, classrooms, offices, and small office labs extending in two directions, accessed from 9.5 and 8 foot wide double-loaded corridors. A single elevator and interior stairwell were positioned near the lobby, along with restrooms, while secondary stairs were placed at the south end of the west wing, and in a stairwell near the secondary entry at the east end of the main wing. The auditorium and reading room, which were situated immediately west of the main entrance, broke the strict alignment and massing of the main L-shape, and protruded as an element to the north and west, providing a smaller inner L-shape that formed the entry sequence to the building.

The lower first floor level was developed in a more utilitarian fashion, as it was devoted to less public and more research oriented functions with various types of laboratories spaces, including a technology work room, gear and specimen storage spaces, receiving areas, and garage and service spaces such as mechanical and locker rooms. Similar to the upper floor, the main wing provided a double-loaded, 10 foot wide corridor that accessed the office labs and storage rooms within the main wing. (The original drawings indicate a small mezzanine inserted above the technology work room in the west wing; its presence was not confirmed during the site visit.) A concrete platform along the back of this wing, accessed by steps, was set approximately 3.5 feet above the surrounding blacktop paving. This platform led to small fish pools and the hatchery, a low, flat roof section situated at the lower level.
The hatchery is single-story mass that seems to extend from the southeast end of the L shape mass, due to its facade treatment. It contains a single large room, which is accessible from the main corridor. The functions within this approximate 62 by 56 foot space were positioned to take advantage of the proximity to Lake Union and the exterior fish pond and pools.

While all roofs of the building are flat, their varied heights also expressed interior functions. The main wing with its offices and labs presented a long, low bar, with an approximately 16.75 foot height on the north and east facades, and approximately 34 feet on the two-story south facade, while the reading room/auditorium roof height was nearly 21 feet, and the roofs of the mechanical elevator penthouses extended up to 34’ above grade on the primary north facade. Roof parapets were finished by horizontal bands of narrow cast stone coping.

Exterior facades, while generally rational in the placement of openings relative to interior functions, are episodic and more eclectic in their aesthetic expression. They were characterized originally by the distinct use of three major opaque building materials – brick, glass block, and concrete in the form of pre-cast stone. Due to the removal and/or infill of most of the glass block areas, the material expression has been reduced to just two.

In general, solid brickwork was used to define areas of more opaque massing, while the pre-concrete was used as panels in conjunction with horizontal bands of 8 inch square glass block set above glazed sash units. This fenestration pattern expressed those portions of the building that housed classrooms and laboratories in need of natural light to augment the artificial illumination of fixtures. The brick masonry formed the mass of the auditorium wing directly northwest of the main entry; the central penthouse mass at the crossing, which rose to enclose the mechanical equipment and the elevator overrun at the roof level; a planar south end wall at the end of the west wing; and an original east end wall of the main wing.

Where individual windows occurred in the brick facades they were defined as punched openings, and in places spanned more than one floor. On the north facade of the building there are four large, nearly square-shaped openings, each approximately 10 feet wide by 11 feet tall, which are framed by strong precast concrete sill/jamb/head trim elements, with true divided aluminum sash units. These windows provided north light to the original reading room which adjoined the library and auditorium. On the other facades, openings were simply punched in the field of brickwork. The south facade of the west wing is distinguished by a tall opening above a doorway, which is filled with glass block. The glass block and opening shape lend a sense of drama to what is a secondary stairwell leading to service spaces.

The openings in the concrete portions of the building are organized in a strictly horizontal fashion, originally made up by bands of glazing, which were expressed on the facades to identify the two building levels and the labs, offices, and classrooms within. At the lower level, the concrete frame is visible. Continuous concrete ledges or canopies, three feet deep, run at the original window heads for the length of these glazed openings, creating a strong horizontal line that reinforces the horizontal proportions of the building and its relationship to the site. These ledges, of cast concrete finished with cement plaster, suggest Modern style brise soleil (sun shades), but as they were applied uniformly to various facades regardless of their orientation, they appear to serve as decorative horizontal bands.

Original rooms typically featured flat concrete ceilings (the underside of slabs); plaster and concrete block walls, some finished with quarry tile or glazed ceramic tile; polished concrete and linoleum flooring with rubber base; and some painted hardwood trim. Lower level walls were typically painted concrete block infill. The main floor auditorium was a shaped space with a sloping floor, small raise stage, stepped and shaped ceiling, and walls finished with plaster, a hardwood veneer screen, and
perforated “Transit” as an acoustic treatment. Typical interior window sills were glazed terra cotta. Brick with a cast stone base and ceramic veneer were used as a wall treatment in the main lobby.

Figure 2. Fisheries Center Plot Plan & Details, Young & Richardson, August 14, 1948, Sheet 1. (North is oriented generally to the upper left in this plan, while in this current report reference north is up.)

Figure 3. Fisheries Center Auditorium, Young & Richardson, August 14, 1948, Sheet 14.
The 1968 Addition

The 1968 addition to the Fisheries Center Building, by architect Ralph Anderson, was physically connected to the east end of the original building. However, it was aesthetically and formally a separate building. Whereas the original building was low, horizontal, and characterized by an episodic mix of facade features, the addition is tall, vertical, and characterized by its singular expression of one building material. The five-level building paradoxically expresses mass and weight with its choice of brick as a primary material. The massing of the addition and its brickwork evokes a medieval hill town or Romanesque castle due to the expressive use of brick corbels that seem to spiral outward while forming window bays, along with brickwork terrace walls. In addition, the uppermost exterior walls feature corbel courses that project out up to 10 inches as they rise to make up the 3.75 foot tall parapets.

The structure is a concrete frame with 6 and 8 inch wide reinforced masonry, 8 inch reinforced concrete masonry units, and reinforced concrete walls with 3 inch wide face brick, along with concrete floor and roof slabs. The building contains an approximate 58 by 50 foot basement with mechanical/electrical rooms and vehicle delivery space at its north end, which is accessed by a driveway, and a tall crawl space to the west of it. The basement projects in part to the east of the main building mass to provide a brick-paved terrace at its roof. The structure is largely rectangular with outmost dimensions of approximately 182 by 43 feet at the first floor. A larger offset section, with a stepped offset of up to 63.5 feet in width, is situated at the east end of the main section, extends to the south.

Over the full length of the building the grade along the east side slopes downward to the lake with an overall elevation drop of 19.5 feet. Landscaping in the east side yard consists of a turf lawn and tall, mature conifers. The original site plan indicates a gravel driveway extended west from the building’s southwest corner, which led to parking and delivery areas behind the Fisheries Center Building. The west side of the addition also abutted portions of the earlier hatchery.

The plan of the addition is rational, with a large lobby space and simple circulation spine that runs north-south and stairwells on opposite sides near each end. Small offices, with 12.5 foot depths, and conference rooms and small labs with 21 foot depths, are accessed off the west and east sides of the approximate 6.5 foot wide, double-loaded corridor. The rectangular office and labs are characterized by window bays on the east and west walls, which seem to rotate to the south due to angled walls to face potential views to Portage Bay, Capitol Hill, and the city to the south. These rotated bays provide the generative impetus for the expressive manipulation of the exterior east and west facades where the walls are punctured by the rotated bays and the brickwork is splayed to follow the their contours. These walls appear as an upturned landscape by M. C. Escher.

At the far south end of the first floor there is a full width, 21.5 foot deep wet laboratory. The second floor features a 20 foot deep, full-width lounge, which accesses an approximate 30 by 43 foot roof terrace through four pairs of glazed, anodized aluminum framed doors. The doors are slightly different sizes (2’-5” by 7’-8” and 2’-6” by 7’-6”) according to the original drawings (Sheet A4, revised 6.27.68).

The third and fourth floors are smaller, with overall dimensions of approximately 43 by 121.3 feet. The south end of the third floor corridor terminates in a window, while above it there is a very small balcony at the south end of the main 4th floor corridor. Created with less than a 17 by 4 foot space, and brick walls that serve as balustrades, the balcony is less than 60 square feet. It is supported in part by corbelled brick masonry at the 3rd story. The balcony’s small size and shape seem to recall Italian Romanesque and Medieval architecture.
Like the original Fisheries Center Building, the main entrance to the addition is from the north. It creates a duplicate access point to the adjacent secondary entrance to the Fisheries Center directly to the west. Access into the addition is provided by a raised brick terrace to a low, one-story, unglazed element, which connects the two buildings. The entrance to the addition seems awkward in both scale and material as the masonry of two very different buildings meet.

The interior of the addition features concrete floors and ceilings (underside of slabs), with resilient floor tiles and largely masonry walls. Typical doors are stained wood types set within metal frames with wood. Some of the offices are fitted with acoustic ceiling systems, which are suspended 8.5 feet above the floor, considerably reducing the volume of space while obscuring mechanical ducting and conduit.

**Current Conditions**

While some portions of the interior have been updated over time for new occupants, it appears that much of the original Fisheries Center Building has not been maintained or updated. Secondary south facades, facing onto the open space and fish pools, show states of deterioration with cracks and spalled finishes, and are in serious need of maintenance and repair. There are holes in the concrete which reveal exposed and rusting rebar. The paint on wood service doors has peeled away. Exterior metal railings are rusting. The brickwork at the roof level parapets shows evidence of prior and possible current water infiltration. At the main entry to the north the stucco soffit is has some large cracks. In addition, portions of the building’s interior are seemingly abandoned, but open and unsecured.

The 1968 Fisheries Center addition, in comparison, is in good condition. This may be due to its age – 46 years in contrast to the original building’s 65 years old – or because of its durable brick facades. The building’s interiors appear to have been well maintained and finishes are in good condition.
4. HISTORIC CONTEXT

Development of the University and the South Campus Area

The area that was developed as the University of Washington’s Seattle campus was a forested area miles north of the early Euro-American settlement in the Seattle area. Prior to this settlement this land was crossed by and used by the Duwamish Indians for hunting and berry growing. In 1855, the federal government surveyed the area and divided it into townships. As part of the Oregon Territory, the land was governed by that Territory’s Organic Act, which reserved Sections 16 and 36 of each township for the maintenance of public schools, and otherwise unavailable for settlement.

In 1867, Christian and Harriet Brownfield became the first homesteaders in the area, filing a claim for 174 acres adjacent to Section 16. Additional settlers arrived, and in 1887 the line of the Seattle, Lake Shore, and Eastern Railroad was laid from the early town of Fremont to Union Bay on Lake Washington. Development of nearby properties along the rail route commenced. Development plans for a ship canal to link Puget Sound and Salmon Bay with Lake Union and Lake Washington also increased land values. The Brownfield’s property was repeatedly sold and platted, and acquired in 1890 by Seattle developer James A. Moore, who re-platted it as the Brooklyn Addition. One year later, the communities of Brooklyn, Fremont, Wallingford, Latona, and Green Lake were annexed by the City of Seattle.

1891 was a formative year for the University District. The Latona Bridge was constructed from what was then 6th Avenue NE. It extended across Lake Union to the north end of Capitol Hill, and provided passage for David Denny’s streetcar, which continued on a route northward along present-day University Way NE. The streetcar stimulated a linear corridor of commercial development. Around the same time, the State Legislature voted to move the State’s University from its downtown location to Section 16. The move, which occurred in 1895, resulted in a new name for the neighborhood, from Brooklyn to University Station. Blocks around the new campus were almost entirely platted by 1910.

The decision to site the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition (AYPE) of 1909 on the grounds of the University of Washington was a critical step in expanding the campus and developing permanent facilities, along with the development of its surroundings. The fair, which ran from June to mid-October, attracted over 3,000,000 visitors to the grounds, which were designed by John Charles Olmsted of the renowned Olmsted Brothers firm of Brookline, Massachusetts. A number of the buildings constructed for the fair were intended as permanent structures and were retained for the University’s subsequent use. In addition, hotels and commercial structures were constructed nearby to serve fair visitors. After the AYPE, the surrounding University District neighborhood saw increased residential development.

Industrial use of Lake Union began in the mid-to late-19th century, when resource-extraction industries were positioned along its shorelines. Prior to construction of the Ship Canal in 1917, logs and coal were brought by ships via Lake Washington and Portage Bay to Lake Union and from there by railroad lines that ran through Latona and Fremont to the city’s central harbor on Elliott Bay. In ca. 1910, another rail line was constructed along Westlake Avenue North, on the east side of Queen Anne Hill, to link to the south Lake Union area. This area contained the large Denny Mill (1882, later Brace Lumber), along with the City Light Hydro Plant (1909, 1914-1921), in addition to small marinas and factories, commercial laundries, and concrete and gravel companies. The Bryant lumber mill in Fremont was established in 1888, and the natural gas plant in the nearby Wallingford neighborhood was built in ca. 1906. The Montlake Cut was completed in 1916, linking Lake
Washington to Portage Bay and Lake Union, followed by the Ship Canal which connected Lake Union to the salt waters of Elliott Bay, which commenced in 1911 but was completed in 1934.

Early maps and photographs of Portage Bay show a range of industrial uses on the north shore. These included mills, shipping facilities, and a cooperage, shipbuilding, and repair facilities, along with marinas and moorages for fishing boats and other vessels. The south shore of the bay was maintained for residential development. After 1910, the Seattle Yacht Club moved to its present location at 1801 E Hamlin Street, near the west entrance of the Montlake Cut at the east end of Portage Bay. The vision of Lake Washington as an industrial location for ship-building was never realized, but boatyards and marinas were established in Lake Union and Portage Bay. The Jensen Boatyard/Jensen Motor Boat Company, built and operated by Tony Jensen in 1927, and until 2000 by his son Anchor Jensen, remains at 1417 NE Boat Street.

Historic Sanborn maps of 1905-1951 and the Kroll map of 1912-1920 show the presence of the platted street grid in the University District with north-south streets from 5th E to 15th NE terminating at N Lake Avenue, along with the cross streets of E 38th and 40th Streets. Up until the early 1990s, the University Drama Department’s Showboat Theater, constructed in 1937, remained at the foot of 15th Avenue NE. A replica of a Mississippi steamer, but a stationary wood-frame structure on the shore of Portage Bay, was supported by wood pilings.

Figure 4. Above left, a view looking north in 1932 (University of Washington Libraries Special Collections [UWLSC], UW6062). Early Fisheries facilities are visible as the collection of buildings in the triangle between Pacific Street and the stadium to the east. In these views, the University’s golf course is clearly visible between the Montlake Cut and NE Pacific Street.

Figure 5. Above right, another aerial of campus looking southwest toward Portage Bay and the Montlake Cut, ca. 1927. (UWLSC, UW2169).

Development throughout the city was limited throughout the decade of the 1930s due to the Great Depression. During the run-up to World War II and the war itself, many lake front industries were transformed to serve the war effort, including shipbuilding and repairs, along with continued transportation use. However, the regional and local economy changed after the end of World War II, with dramatic changes in resource-based industrial activity that had dominated much of Lake Union. “From 1946 to the present Lake Union [saw] a decline in industrial and increased mixed-commercial and recreational use of the lakeshore” (Tobin, December 9-15, 1987).
After World War II, returning soldiers flooded the University seeking college degrees with support from the G.I. Bill. 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 of the University during the post-war period included the addition and expansion of many professional degree programs. The establishment of the Medical School in 1946 prompted construction of the campus and university buildings to the south of Pacific Avenue NE, along with a reduction of the golf course that had been built along Portage Bay decades earlier in 1912.

By this date the plans for the subject building were underway. The Fisheries Building, constructed originally in 1949-1950 for approximately $1,054,800, followed the 1948 Modern style design by the Seattle firm of Young & Richardson, Architects. (The east wing, a brick veneer structure designed by Seattle architect Ralph D. Anderson, was added in 1968 for an approximate cost of $1,044,000.) By this date the University had developed another campus masterplan, which indicated its expansion to the south with construction of the Medical School.

Figure 6. Above right, an aerial of campus looking southwest toward Portage Bay and the Montlake Cut, ca. 1927. (UWLSC, UW2169).
The Fisheries Building contained a small hatchery in a single-story extension on the back (south) side, along with four fish ponds situated to the south of the building. These ponds, which are drained seasonally, include three rectangular-shaped submerged tank-like concrete containers, and a much larger, naturalistic, circular-shaped pond, which is situated near the edge of the shoreline (Facility No. 928 and/or 3795). Soon after the completion of the 1948 Campus Master Plan, the College of Fisheries, which had been housed in small wood-frame structures on the north side of Pacific Avenue NE, moved into its new building.

Figure 7. Above, view northeast of the campus, with the medical complex and Fisheries Building in the lower right, under construction in August 1949 (UWLSC, UW9036).

Increased medical programs and expansion of the University Hospital and its Oceanography program led to additional construction in the south part of the campus. Despite some opposition by some marine businesses, the University carried out its plans to expand both south and west. Between 1962 and 1994, it continued to grow, undertaking 80 major construction projects (Johnston, p. 66). In the south and southwest campus areas these projects included the Mercer Hall dormitories, Ethnic Cultural Center, and expansions of the Oceanography and Fisheries buildings. In the last two decades, expansion has continued in the Northlake area, with the most recent construction including four new six-story dormitory buildings between NE Northlake Way and NE Campus Parkway. The lakefront area to the west of University Way and west of the University Hospital complex contains a number of academic facilities, along with a café and kayak-rental business. Among all of this development, the historic Jensen Boat Company has remained at 1417 NE Boat Street, on property it has owned since 1927.
Figure 8. Above, an aerial view looking north along the north shore of Portage Bay, with the original U-shaped Fisheries Building visible in the lower left, ca. 1964 (UWLSC, UW9039).

Figure 9. Below, another view from 1968, with the Fisheries Building addition under construction (UWLSC, UW19714).
Modern Style Architectural on the Campus

While late 19th and early 20th century campuses in the United States had their origins in European academic models (English Collegiate Gothic style), the style of these building, with their medieval origins and outdoor quadrangles, gave way by the 1940s to Modern style structures. The University of Washington’s early campus planning concepts, developed by the Olmsted Brothers for the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition and the institution, organized outdoor spaces with attention to views and circulation as well as special hierarchies that supported housing and academic programs with intimacy and beauty. These organizational concepts also gave way to functional concerns and adaptation of outdoor spaces for greater efficiency and vehicle use and parking. Some building designs on the campus in the early 1930s appear to have anticipated Modernism in their greater simplicity, as exemplified by the 1931 U.S. Fisheries Commission Building. There were a few other buildings, such as the university’s Penthouse Theater (1938-1941) that embodied the Moderne style through its massing, materials, and design features.

Construction on the campus remained sparse in the 1930s, while in the 1940s a number of “temporary” buildings and barracks were construction to address training and housing needs of military personnel. Historic photographs indicate that these buildings were typically wood framed, utilitarian, and modest structures. The economic conditions of the period and the need for efficient, low-cost construction during the war drove the University into the new approach to architecture. Meanwhile, Modern design was introduced into the University’s Architecture School/Department in the early 1940s and rose to ascendance over the earlier Beaux Arts curriculum (Johnston, 1991).

Outside the campus, Modern style buildings in the 1940s included both single-family structures and wartime housing projects such as Yesler Terrace in Seattle (1941-42). The style was also visible in infrastructure projects like the Lake Washington Floating Bridge (1940) and small-scale industrial structures such as the 1942 UW Kiln Building, designed by architect Paul Thiry, the “father” of Modernism in the region.

The Modern style gained dominance in the United States in the post-World War II era, but originated in Europe several decades earlier. There it was less a style and more an ideology, as architects and theorists sought to break from the sentimentality and nationalism of the past, as well as elitist reverence for historical styles and ornament (particularly in the aftermath of World War I). Early European Modernists sought to serve society by creating architecture of light and space with economic construction through the interdisciplinary efforts of artists, craftsmen, and engineers, and use of manufactured components. To address society’s needs with the technical progress of the machine age, European Modernists drew from avant-garde art movements including Cubism in France and Holland, the New Objectivity and Expressionist movements in Germany, and Futurism in Italy. Architects such as Walter Gropius, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and Le Corbusier sought to create beauty from utility, and a direct and legible relationship between form and function. Their building designs, which were publicized earlier but brought to the U.S. in the late 1930s, were characterized by free plans, cubic massing, flat roofs, structurally free facades, pilotis, and horizontal windows.

The traditional notion of cohesive Gothic Revival style buildings on the University of Washington campus was replaced by rational construction that emphasized structural systems and material expression. Architects in the post-war decades were experimenting with new materials and technologies that had been advanced during the war, such as pre-cast, thin shell, and post-tensioned concrete frames and slabs; aluminum window and doors assemblies; glass block and large expanses of plate glass windows; and veneer cladding systems of brick, stone, and concrete panels. Interior finishes included resilient flooring and accessories of composite materials; a range of acoustic
treatments for walls and ceilings; fluorescent ceilings made up with plastic valences; and indirect light fixtures.

The new style gradually emerged in the Northwest, combining Modernist principles—simplification of form and elimination of ornament—with a regional response to the environment, natural light, site, landscape, the nature of indigenous materials, and structural innovation. This style was exemplified in larger buildings such as Gaffney’s Lake Wilderness Lodge (1949-50), Seattle Public Schools Administration Building (1946-48, J. Lister Holmes), Catherine Blaine Junior High School (1949-52, J. Lister Holmes), Museum of History and Industry (1948-50, Paul Thiry), and CK Lakeview Boulevard Apartments (1949, Chiarelli & Kirk). Modern buildings on University of Washington campus included the UW Health Sciences Building (1950, NBBJ, McClelland and Jones), Terry Lander Hall (1949, Young & Richardson), the Student Union Building (1952, Bindon & Wright, and 1953 addition, Jones & Bindon), the Faculty Center (1960, Paul Hayden Kirk and Victor Steinbrueck), Sieg Hall (1960, Harmon, Prey & Dietrich), and Mackenzie Hall (1960, Decker, Christensen & Kitchin).

The building type that popularized Modernism in America is the skyscraper, with its clear functional and tectonic expression. In Seattle, the Public Safety Building (1950–53, NBBJ) and more refined examples such as the Washington Building/Puget Sound Plaza (1959, Minoru Yamasaki and NBBJ) and the Norton Building (1956-59, SOM with Bindon & Wright) are examples of International Style skyscrapers These were followed by expressive Modernist structures at the Century 21 World’s Fair in 1962. On the university campus, the early 1960s saw construction of Balmer Hall (1962, Decker & Christensen and Paul Hayden Kirk), and an addition to Suzzallo Library (1962, Bindon & Wright).

Historic Overview of the School of Fisheries

In 1913, the Commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, Hugh McCormick Smith, noted that there was no college or university in the country that offered training in fisheries-related subjects. The following year, Dr. Smith wrote to Dr. Henry Landes, acting president at the University of Washington, suggesting that courses in fisheries or a school of fisheries be established, due to the close proximity of the Seattle campus to the northwest fishing industries and fish stocks. The College of Fisheries was established in April 1919, with John Nathan Cobb as its first director, a position he held until his death in 1930. Cobb, a former employee of the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, had also worked for the Alaska Packers Association and maintained close connections to the industry.

The school initially offered courses that focused on the needs of the industry, with the fundamentals of canning, fishery products, and cannery management in addition to fisheries and ichthyology courses. Near the buildings were a large fish pond, and reportedly a hatchery with rearing ponds, cannery, and salting facility. Also located within the four-building complex was the headquarters of the International Fisheries Commission (the present International Pacific Halibut Commission).

The number of students enrolled in the school quickly grew from 13 students the first year (1918-19), to over 100 by the 1927-28 academic year. By 1928, these early facilities were no longer adequate to meet the needs of the growing program. A report was prepared, seeking additional support from the University administration, and promoting a prospective site for new buildings along the north shore of Portage Bay. Little action was taken, however, due to the economic conditions that followed during the Depression and run up to the war in the 1930s and 1940s. Cobb’s unexpected death also reduced the department’s advocacy position, which was further impacted by the dismissal of University President Henry Suzzallo in 1926.
The University’s new president, Dr. Matthew Lyle Spencer, sought to raise academic standards with a focus on scholarship. He began dismantling the College of Fisheries in early 1930, dismissing all but one of its faculty members by June 1931. Student and faculty protests led to an intervention by Governor Hartley, ultimately establishing the Department of Fisheries within the College of Science.

In 1935, the college was reorganized as the School of Fisheries. Dr. Thompson led it from 1930 to 1950, and in the late 1930s he began to lobby the administration for a new building. However, preparations for war and its outbreak led to dramatic enrollment reductions, from 169 students in 1939 to only 6 in 1943. It was only after the war that enrollment numbers rose, in part due to the G.I. Bill. By 1949, the School of Fisheries had over 180 students, and plans and initial construction were underway for its new building.

In 1947, Dr. Thompson established the Fisheries Research Institute (FRI), with support from the fish packing industry in Alaska. The FRI initially focused on several programs that Thompson suggested, with database studies of salmon escapement and population returns. The school also constructed six field camps in Alaska to study the life history of salmon. Industry support continued for a decade, which was replaced in 1955 by federal research funding. Dr. Thompson retired in 1958, at which time William Francis Royce was appointed, and the institute was moved from the Graduate School to the newly established College of Fisheries with Dr. Royce as its director until his appointment as Associate Dean of the College in 1967. The FRI later became an "umbrella organization," under which all contractual research in the School of Fisheries was conducted. The new east wing of the subject building was constructed in 1968 to serve the needs of the Institute.

Located approximately six blocks northwest of the older facilities, the new Fishery Sciences building (designed by Miller Hull Architects) opened in autumn 1999. The school currently has 31 faculty members and 98 students. Its programs provide for undergraduate and graduate teaching, research and service in basic and applied aquatic sciences, with an emphasis on fisheries management and aquatic resource conservation, and interdisciplinary partnerships with other academic programs, as well as public and private organizations and environmental and regulatory agencies.

Construction History

According to the University’s Facilities Records Document Database, a number of early buildings for the School of Fisheries were constructed on the campus in 1917. The Fisheries Institute Building 1 was designed by the Bremerton Navy Yard (United States Naval Training Center Building No. 22), and was built originally as the Hostess House for the U.S. Naval Training Corps. Two rear wings were added to this building in 1928. Located in the triangle between two roads – Pacific Street and Pacific Place – the present Triangle Parking Garage, it served as the Fisheries Institute Building Number 1 until 1965 when it became the sheet metal shop. That building was demolished in July 1972.

Other nearby facilities were built in 1917 for the fisheries programs according to the University records. These date from 1917, and were demolished in May 1973. They included:

The U. S. Bureau of Fisheries (original Facility No. 71, also known as the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries and International Fisheries Commission, or Pacific Annex 3/Fisheries Annex 4 or Fisheries Institute No. 4) was built as the U.S. Naval Red Cross Building, and was probably designed by the Bremerton Navy Yard as U.S. Naval Training Center Building No. 43. (Its building number changed to 60 after the original building 60 – Forestry Dry House – was demolished.) It was occupied by the U.S. Mines Safety Station, the International Fisheries Commission, U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, and U.W. Golf Club. An addition was built in 1950.
The Pacific Annex 1 (known also as Fisheries Institute 5, and Temporary Bldg. No. 9) was built in 1917 and demolished in May 1973.

The Fisheries Institute 2 (Facility No. 058w) was originally built as the clubhouse for the U.S. Naval Training Corps. Built of frame construction, it was expanded in 1956. It served as Fisheries Annex Number 2 until 1969. The building was designed also by Bremerton Navy Yard as U.S. Naval Training Center Building No. 42. It was known as Chemical Engineering Annex in 1935.

Fisheries Institute 3 (Facility 057y) was designed by the Bremerton Navy Yard as U. S. Naval Training Center Building No. 30. It was built originally as a garage, and expanded in 1927. This wood- framed structure sat on wood posts and concrete block footings. It was the Fisheries Institute 3 until 1959. Before it was razed in 1965, it was used by the university as an electrical shop.

In 1948 plans were prepared for the new building. In contrast to the assembly of wood-frame structures, the proposal called for a single, large building with adequate space for all the labs, classrooms, offices, specimen rooms, technical workshops, and specific storage spaces for different materials. The site that was selected moved the occupants closer to the water's edge, south of the new medical complex, on shoreline of Portage Bay.

**The Building’s Original Designers – Young & Richardson**

Original drawings for the building, cited as “Fisheries Center for the School of Fisheries, Division of College of Arts and Sciences, University of Washington” and dated August 14, 1948, note the original designer of the 1950 building was Young & Richardson (later known as Young, Richardson, Carleton & Detlie). The firm’s partners were Arrigo M. Young (1888–1954), and Steven Hinley Richardson (1910–1984), later joined by William H. Carleton (1909–1984), and John Stewart Detlie (1908–2005).

Arrigo Mazzucato Young was born in London in 1884, and came to Chicago as a baby with his family in 1885. Young received his Bachelors of Science degree in engineering from the University of Michigan, and subsequently worked for construction firms in Chicago and St. Louis. He arrived in Seattle in 1910 at the age of 22 to serve as the head of the structural department of the Moran Steel Company. By 1913, he opened his own office as a structural engineer and primarily worked on industrial buildings. His early projects included work with architect B. Marcus Priteca on the Pantages Theater in Tacoma.

In 1920, Young joined architects James H. Schack and David J. Myers to form an interdisciplinary architecture and engineering firm. Schack, Young & Myers became “one of the most successful design firms in Seattle during the 1920s” (Ochsner, p. 156). Some of the firm’s well known works in Seattle include the Chinese Baptist Church/Chinese Southern Baptist Mission (1922-23), Chamber of Commerce Building (1924, with Harlan Thomas and Associates), and the Eldridge Buick Dealership (1925 - 26). Its projects also included planning and building design for Longview, Washington, and Seattle’s Civic Auditorium Complex (1925-28) on Seattle Center campus. Myers left the firm for private practice in 1929, while Schack and Young continued to operate their partnership from 1929 until Schack’s death at the age of 62 in 1933. Work by Schack & Young included the Baroness Apartment Hotel (1930-31) on Seattle’s First Hill, a notable landmark Art Deco style building.

From 1933 to 1941, Arrigo Young worked as a sole practitioner; by this time he had received a Washington State architectural license. In 1941 he partnered with architect Stephen Richardson to
form Young & Richardson. In the late 1930s the firm’s employees included notable Modernist Paul H. Kirk.

Born in Ogden, Utah, in 1910, Steven Hinley Richardson came to Seattle in 1928. He moved east for school, and graduated with a Masters in Architecture from MIT in 1935. After returning to Seattle, Richardson worked as a draftsman in Floyd Naramore’s office and then as a designer for Naramore & Brady. Richardson became Young’s partner in 1941, and the two men practiced together until 1951, completing the award winning Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Administration Building (1948-49) in Denny Park, and Gaffney’s Lake Wilderness Lodge (1949-50) near Maple Valley, along with several residences. The Lake Wilderness Lodge, an example of “Swiss Modernism” was awarded the American Institute of Architects’ highest recognition with a National Grand Honor Award in 1952, surpassing notable projects by Richard Neutra and others. It was around this same time that Young & Richardson designed the Fisheries Building, followed by the university’s Terry-Lander Dormitory complex, by Young, Richardson, Carleton & Detlie (1950-56).

William H. Carleton joined Young & Richardson in 1946, and became a partner in 1950. Carleton, born in 1909 in South Prairie, Washington, grew up in Nome, Alaska before coming to Seattle in 1919. He attended Stanford University, and received a Masters in Architecture from the University of Washington. He worked as a draftsman for George W. Stoddard in 1934 to 1942 before joining Young & Richardson, initially as an employee, and as a partner in their firm in 1956 to 1967.

John Stewart Detlie was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in 1908, but grew up in the South. He graduated from the University of Alabama with an engineering degree and from the University of Pennsylvania, where he received a Masters in Architecture in 1933. Carlton worked in Philadelphia before moving to Hollywood where he spent seven years in the film industry. (In the 1940s he received an Oscar nomination as production designer on the 1940 film, Bitter Sweet.) While serving in the Army during WWII, Detlie came to Seattle to reportedly oversee a the military’s camouflage project for the Boeing Company’s Plant II in south Seattle in 1942. He joined Young & Richardson after the war in 1946, and became a partner in 1952, but left it in 1956 to pursue design work in Los Angeles, Baltimore, and Honolulu.

The firm of Young, Richardson, Carleton & Detlie designed the Children’s Orthopedic Hospital (1953) and Gethsemane Lutheran Church (1954). Arrigo Young, the oldest partner, died in 1954, and the firm was reorganized as Young, Richardson & Carleton. It went on with other Modern style projects: the Bloedel Hall addition to St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral (1958), Group Health Cooperative Hospital (1958-60), Seattle Unity Church of Truth (1960), Issaquah High School (1961), and additions to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (1963-65). The latter project led to the firm’s specialization in airport planning and design. In 1967, the firm name was changed to The Richardson Associates, but was largely known as TRA from 1977 until its abrupt closure in 1994. Richardson retired from firm in 1970, and Carleton in 1974.

Architect Ralph Anderson, Designer of the 1968 Addition

In 1968 Seattle architect Ralph D. Anderson was commissioned to design an addition to the Fisheries Building. Anderson (1924–2010) was born and raised in Seattle, graduating from Queen Anne High School. After military service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, when he studied at the USACC Boca Raton Field RADAR technical school, he returned to Seattle where he graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture degree in 1951. Anderson’s early practice included employment as a draftsman for Paul Hayden Kirk from 1951 to 1954, a period when Kirk was solidifying his Modern approach to design and his strong design reputation.
Anderson established his own practice in Seattle in early 1955, working primarily on residential projects and medical clinics. (His wife was a practicing physician.) Among his projects was his own house in the Hidden Lake area north of the Highlands, in a development that he and several colleagues created. Ten years later, in 1965, he dissolved the firm and established a new firm, Ralph D. Anderson and Partners. A number of well known Seattle architects worked for him during the 1960s and early 1970s, including Jim Olson, Jerry Stickney, George Suyama, Gordon Walker, and Rich Cardwell. Two of these architects, T. William Booth and Robert Koch, became partners in the firm in 1980. The firm, which operated until ca. 1990, included architect Glen Duarte as a partner in 1985.

Ralph Anderson was a visionary urbanist and one of the earliest architects in the city to see the potential of Seattle’s historic Pioneer Square area. He and art gallery owner Dick White were instrumental in the early redevelopment of the district and rehabilitation of its buildings in the late 1960s and 1970s. Anderson bought and rehabilitated a number of buildings in Pioneer Square, including the Union Trust Building at 119 South Main Street, in addition to designing the rehabilitation of other properties for different owners. These included the Grand Central Hotel (with local developer and property owner Alan Black) and the Pioneer Building at 600 1st Avenue in 1972. Anderson also restored buildings in historic Port Gamble and in Fort Worden near Port Townsend, Washington, and the historic Fischer Studio Building at 1519 3rd Avenue in Seattle’s retail core. Anderson divided his residency between Seattle and Hawaii after his retirement. He died in Seattle at the age of 86.
5. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The buildings were designed in 1948 and 1969, and their construction dates are 1949-1950 and 1968-1969. Given the 50-year threshold for listing on the NRHP, only the oldest building would be eligible.

Historical and Architectural Significance

The Fisheries Center is made up of two buildings of different eras, and thus they are evaluated separately for their historical and architectural significance.

The Original Building

The Fisheries Center building was designed and constructed in the immediate post war period of 1948-1950, and it is associated with the early development of the School of Fisheries (currently the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences) as it transitioned from its industry-focused origins in support of resource harvesting, and to a multidisciplinary science-based curriculum. However, these associations appear general rather than significant. The School of Fisheries, the original occupants, it vacated the property in 1999, over 15 years ago, although it continues to operate the hatchery and use at least some of the pools and/or fish pond. With exception of the site's close proximity to Portage Bay, and the hatchery and pools, there is little to convey the original history.

The original Modern era design features episodic elements with different types and sizes of windows, glazing, and cladding materials. There are many interesting details, but the design does not appear cohesive. Furthermore, the building has lost some of its physical integrity due to removal or infill of glass block areas and due to delayed maintenance. This buildings does not appear to warrant preservation, and changes to it would have few impacts.

A variety of occupant groups are presently housed in the original building, and have remodeled some of the spaces. Because the building has not been maintained in a holistic fashion, it appears redundant, and does little to invite occupancy or a sense of ownership.

The 1968 Addition

The addition was built in the late 1960s for the Fisheries Research Institute, a largely grant-funded program, which appears to have operated with some autonomy from the School. This sense of separation is expressed clearly by the separate entry, lobby, and functional interior.

The 1968 addition is a very distinctive masonry structure in contrast to the original building, and it appears to have architectural significance. It was finely detailed and well-built, and appears maintained. While it is connected to the original building, it retains its singularity. The addition appears to have little significance due to its historical associations, but it is the work of a well known Seattle Modernist, Ralph Anderson, and is one of his few institutional projects. The design, developed by Anderson along with architects T. William Booth and Jerry Stickney, is highly expressive of its construction and materials, and appears to synthesize Modern and traditional architectural design in the following character-defining features: long rectangular massing with floor levels; front and back terraces that accommodate the sloping topography; flat roof detailed with a muscular parapet; relatively solid brick facades with little fenestration; noteworthy corbelled detailing to support angled window bays, a small balcony and parapets; and exposed brick masonry interior surfaces.
Comments on Proposed Project Impacts and Mitigation

Because of its architectural significance, efforts should be made to retain and preserve the 1968 Addition. The proposed project is limited in scope to an internal upgrade of the auditorium and associated spaces at the northwest corner of the original Fisheries Center building, and reworking of terrace and balcony spaces on the west side of the 1968 Addition, including access doors to the terrace.

The original Fisheries Center building appears to have little architectural significance, but its exterior facades already contain many variations. Consideration should be given to changes that introduce new dramatic elements in the facades. Rather simplicity should guide exterior design changes.

In contrast to the building, the landscape appears to have maintained many original features. Mature shrubs and small trees in plant beds near the east entry, which provides access to the auditorium, should be maintained if feasible. Pruning is recommended.

If and when the fish hatchery pond on the back of the building is removed, its open space should be maintained as an interpretive element. Signage or an exhibit should be provided to recall the early use of the property, which gave rise to this part of site design.

The 1968 Addition appears to be architecturally significant and it should be retained, even if the adjacent main building is eventually removed. Despite it positive features, the design of balcony and terrace on the south façade appear problematic. The small upper floor balcony is difficult to access and use, and changes that attempt to expand it sufficiently for actual use will negatively impact the original design. The balcony should be retained, but access to it should be limited. Recommended changes should focus on the provision of additional ventilation at this upper floor. Visual access to the balcony should be retained.

Preservation of the 1968 Addition will be forwarded by its continued occupancy and vital new uses. The terrace can be a much more welcoming outdoor space with the addition of easily maintained furnishings and planters, which are proposed in the current project. Exterior lighting should also be considered for the terrace in tandem with better interior lighting within the interior spaces. Given the opportunity to enhance the existing indoor-outdoor connection, changes to doorway openings and provision of lighter-weight glazed doors are appropriate options. If financially feasible, the project should provide new finishes and furnishings in the interior adjacent to the terrace to provide integrated and inviting social spaces.
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7. CURRENT PHOTOGRAPHS

The following photographs of the original Fisheries Center and its 1968 Addition are by BOLA and date from November 2015 unless otherwise noted.

Figure 10. Above, view looking west in front of the building at the nearby parking lot and garage structure.

Figure 11. Below, the front yard setback and portion of the north facade of the former Fisheries Center.
Figure 12. Above, view looking north at the south facade and main wing of the former Fisheries Center and the fish pond from the edge of Portage Bay. Parts of the UW Medical Center are visible in the background.

Figure 13. Below, view looking northeast at the south and east facades of the main and west wings.
Figure 14. Above, view looking northwest at the fish pond, single-story hatchery section and portions of the south and east facades of the former Fisheries Center.

Figure 15. Below, view looking southeast at a portion of the building’s northwest corner. The proposed project will involve removal and replacement of the large windows shown in the west facade.
Figure 16. Above, view looking south at the main entry on the north facade.

Figure 17. Below, detail view of the windows and concrete canopy on the north facade. The original design featured glass block as a glazed infill above the building’s deeply inset aluminum frame windows.
Figure 16. Above, view looking northwest at the east façade of the west wing.

Figure 17. Below, detail view of a portion of the south façade showing deteriorated stucco cladding and non-original, solid infill above the remaining windows.
Figures 18. & 19. Above and left, detail views of current conditions on the south side of the former Fisheries Center. This face of the building is exposed to wind-driven rain and sunlight.
Figure 20. Above, view looking east at the single-story hatchery section of the former Fisheries Center.

Figure 21. Below, view looking northeast at the south and west facades of the 1968 Addition.
Figures 22 & 23. Above, views of the corbelled brickwork on the exterior east and west masonry walls of the 1968 Addition which allow for some of the upper floor windows to be set in angled openings facing toward Portage Bay.

Figure 24. Below, view looking southeast at adjacent entries into the former Fisheries Center (right) and 1968 Addition (right). Glass block is a remnant of the original design.
Figure 25. Above, view from within the building looking north through the vestibule and main entry and vestibule in the Fisheries Building.

Figure 26. Below, interior of the existing auditorium space in the former Fisheries Center.
Figure 27. Above, detail view of the main entry on the north facade of the 1968 Addition

Figure 28. Left, view looking west within the entry lobby into the main wing.
Figure 29. Top, view looking east from the lobby

Figure 30. Above left, typical upper floor corridor

Figure 31. Above right, an office or lab space window on the east side of the upper floor.
Figure 32. Above left, view looking south at the existing anodized aluminum frame access door and small balcony at the south end of the top floor. Occupants open the door and use a small fan to help ventilate the interior.

Figure 33. Above right, partial view of the building's south terrace and south facade showing the pairs of entry doors and position of the balcony above.