

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Fir Lodge
 other names/site number Alki Homestead Restaurant; Bernard, William J. & Gladys, House

2. Location

street & number 2717 61st Avenue SW not for publication
 city or town Seattle vicinity
 state Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98121

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
 I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria

X A B X C D

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

WASHINGTON STATE SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant

DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE, CONCRETE

walls: WOOD/Logs

roof: ASPHALT COMPOSITION/Shingles

other: _____

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Setting

Fir Lodge is located at 2717 61st Avenue SW in Seattle, just south of Alki Beach and Alki Avenue SW. The building is in close proximity to Alki Point and Duwamish Head, geographic landmarks on the Duwamish Peninsula. The site is relatively flat and slightly elevated from the sidewalk on the east. The one-and-a-half story, Bungalow/Craftsman style building occupies an irregular footprint due to additions over time; the original square footprint measured 51 feet, 6 inches on all sides.¹ The primary facade faces east (fronting 61st Avenue SW). The rear (west) elevation fronts a north—south running alley. The side (north and south) elevations face surface parking lots. On the east side, a landscaped yard fills the set back between the building and the city sidewalk. A paved walkway connects the sidewalk with the east entry porch of Fir Lodge. Grass, several trees and numerous types of shrubs and low-growing plants comprise the vegetation in the east yard. A small flowering tree sprouts from the foundation line along the north facade, along with a large evergreen tree at the northeast corner which overhangs the north roof slope and dormer. Shrubs and climbing vines line the west fenced area (patio).

Exterior

The building exhibits the Bungalow/Craftsman style with its simple massing, porch (both enclosed and open portions), and natural building materials. Horizontal, saddle-notched logs form the first story, with wood shingle cladding on the upper story's dormers and in select locations on the first story. The structure stands on a stone foundation reinforced and parged with concrete. Log posts along the north and part of the east and west elevations originally served as supports for the wraparound recessed porch. In the early 1960s, casement windows were inserted between the log posts enclosed most of that porch, leaving a small open section on the east facade. All of the exterior log surfaces are peeled and stained a deep brown color, with the natural features (e.g., protruding knots) intact. Log diameters and lengths are fairly consistent, with the slightly larger diameter logs placed higher in the walls or as corner posts at the northeast and northwest corners of the former porch.

East Elevation

The east (front) facade contains the main entrances (see *Entrances*). An uncoursed, rubble stone external chimney in the southern half of this facade is flanked by original window openings. Originally, this was a side facade. The reorientation of the house presumably occurred by 1912, with new development to the north along Alki Avenue SW. The enclosure of the northernmost bay on the east facade occurred as part of adapting the wraparound recessed porch to dining space for the Alki Homestead Restaurant. Casement windows, the French door and sidelights comprise the porch enclosure materials between the original vertical log porch uprights. The large amount of glazing provides ample daylighting to the former porch (interior) and maintains high transparency between the former porch and the exterior. Wood shingles clad the limited exterior wall surface below the casement windows and sidelights. Contemporary wrought iron decorative railings line both sets of stairs (at the sidewalk and the porch), along with contemporary metal lamp posts.

North Elevation

Originally, this was the main (front) facade of Fir Lodge. The concrete and stone porch approach steps are no longer visible, although their former location is discernible where the log sill plate is missing. The foundation is visible along this elevation, directly above a recent concrete masonry unit (CMU) retaining wall; the adjacent

¹ Original design description, photo and floorplan, in *Artistic Homes, Spanish Colonial Designs* (Seattle, WA: Fred L. Fehren Co., Architects, 1905).

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

parking lot is slightly below grade, necessitating the retaining wall. One of the building's four chimneys rises from the north dormer. Similar to the east elevation, the original horizontal log cladding and vertical log post porch supports are the prominent features, along with the hipped dormers and the added casement windows enclosing the former wraparound porch.

West Elevation

This is also known as the rear facade. Historic photographs indicate the wraparound porch extended approximately halfway along the west elevation from the north, a mirror image of the east elevation. In 1961, a shed roofed, wood frame kitchen addition extended the southern part of the west elevation (since removed). In 1980, an outdoor patio added to the footprint of the northern part of this side of the building. A metal fire escape connects the alley grade with the upper story. A short wooden privacy fence encloses the west patio. Also in the back of the building is a small freestanding cooler, which has been clad in shingles to hid it metal wall surfaces.

South Elevation

The original log structure is exposed on the eastern half of the south (side) elevation. A small flat-roofed, steel framed kitchen addition projects from the western half of the south (side) elevation. Windowless, the exterior is clad in a combination of course shingles and horizontal T&G boards. A high parapet wall hits the rooftop kitchen mechanical systems. The addition abuts the surfacing parking lot.

Entrances

The two primary entrances to the building are located on the east facade, via the recessed porch. Historically, the main entrance was in the north elevation, with the present southeast entrance serving as a secondary entrance. Today, on the east side of the building, concrete steps lead up from the sidewalk along 61st Avenue SW to a paved east – west approach walkway, with additional concrete steps and porch with attached concrete handi-cap ramp. A period appropriate five-panel, rail and stile type wood door in an original entryway opening accesses the interior from the south end of the porch. A matching door at opposite end of the porch allows accesses directly to the north end of the porch.

Secondary entrances in the west facades access the first floor. Most of the other secondary entrances are single leaf, contemporary faux panel solid doors.

Windows

Historically, Fir Lodge utilized a variety of window types. Historic photographs indicate the building had wood framed, fixed multi-lite windows in the walls fronting the porch, along the east, north, and west elevations. The east elevation featured paired single lite, wood framed casement windows flanking the stone chimney. Historic photos of the dormer windows show nine-over-one, wood framed sashes in pairs or ribbons of four.

The eastern multi-lite windows have been replaced with contemporary multi-lite casement windows in the same locations as the historic windows. Replacement casement windows occupy the original casement window openings on either side of the stone chimney base. All extant dormer windows are original, although the 2009 fire damaged several of them. One of the west (rear) elevation dormer windows was removed historically in lieu of an emergency exit door at the fire escape. In the early 1960s, tall casement windows set between the wraparound porch's log posts enclosed the former recessed porch.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Roof

The building has a hipped roof with overhanging eaves with exposed log rafter tails. Hipped dormers are centered in each side of the roof. Asphalt composition shingles clad the roof and dormers. The dormers echo the main roof by also featuring overhanging eaves. On the original front (north) elevation, the dormer has three conjoined hipped roof segments over a contiguous base; each roof segment corresponds to a pair of windows. On the south elevation, a similar arrangement but featuring only two conjoined roof segments over three pairs of windows comprises the south roof dormer. On the west and east elevations, a single roof dormer contains a ribbon of four windows (see *Windows*). The building has no gutters or downspouts.

The building features four chimneys. The most prominent and significant is on the east elevation. That rubble chimney below the roofline originally featured a river rock continuation above the roof. The original river rock portion has been replaced with contemporary brick. A second chimney, located near the main roof's apex, consists of a short river rock base topped with a few courses of brick. A third chimney, high in the south roof's slope, features a poured concrete base topped with a narrow brick tower. The fourth chimney is an added, exterior, contemporary brick tower perforating the north dormer's front wall and roof. The building's electric "Alki Homestead" vertical steel sign projects from the roof's apex and has neon-lit letters facing east and west. There are multiple small contemporary roof perforations, including minor vents.

Interior

The building contains two floors, with no attic or basement. Published original floor plan indicates a dining room and fireplace in the southeast corner of the main floor. Historic photos reveal a blond brick fireplace in the dining room. This three tiered mantel has an arched firebox and flush hearth. A large living room claimed the entire north end of the main floor, surrounded on three (east, north and west) sides by a wraparound porch and dominated by an open-hearth log and cobblestone fireplace in the south wall. This fireplace is newly recreated and reflects the original fireplace. Originally the area above the fireplace was open to the roof rafters where skylights brought additional daylight into the living area. The main floor's southwest corner contained a kitchen and support spaces. The upstairs held several bedrooms. Today these spaces have all been updated and currently hold three modern apartments. The open skylight has been enclosed. Note that access to the second floor has been closed from the first floor. The main spaces have open log construction with log walls and ceiling joists. Floors are maple.

Alterations

Various internal renovations are attributed to the shifting ownership and new uses following the Bernards' residency. In 1907, the Seattle Auto Club converted the house to their members' clubhouse, with multiple dining areas. The club used the exterior wraparound porch as informal dining space, with tables and chairs set up like an outdoor café. The former living and dining rooms both became dining areas, with the upstairs bedrooms also converted to private dining spaces. After the Seattle Auto and Driving Club left, subsequent owners returned the upstairs rooms to living quarters.

The shifting of the main facade from the north to the east elevation is presumed to have occurred by around 1912, concurrent with development along Alki Avenue SW to the north. In 1936, the living room's log and stone fireplace opening was reconfigured with a large stone arch.² In 1950, the Alki Homestead Restaurant opened on the main floor, with two apartments on the second. The rooftop sign installation and removal of the skylight dates to that same year, and the upstairs mezzanine had been framed in by that time.³ By the time Doris and Elmer Nelson took over ownership and management of the Alki Homestead Restaurant in 1962, the upstairs had been converted into apartments. By 1987, the upstairs contained the owner's apartment, utility space, and a banquet room.⁴ The kitchen expanded with a south side addition in 1953, followed by a west side addition in

² The original brick fireplace in the dining room has also been redone, with new brick, at an unknown time.

³ Flo Lentz, *Seattle City Landmark Nomination for Fir Lodge*, 1995, 4-5.

⁴ Historic real property cards, King County Assessor, Puget Sound Regional Archives.

Fir Lodge

Name of Property

King County, WA

County and State

1961. The recessed wraparound porch was partially enclosed in the 1950s at the west end, then completely enclosed with multi-lite casement windows in the early 1960s. In 1980, a rear outdoor patio again reconfigured the west elevation.

A 2009 fire damaged the interior, the roof and select windows. Roof holes were temporarily patched with sheets of plywood and rolled composition roofing. Damaged and missing window lites were been backfilled with plywood. Affected windows were primarily located on the south and west elevations, including the dormers.

After sitting vacant for several years it was purchased in 2014 by current owner Dennis Schilling, who began a restoration project which took several years. Windows were restored, damaged logs were replaced in-kind, complete new electrical and plumbing systems were installed, and a metal stud wall kitchen addition was built on the southwest corner. Steel beams, painted white, were inserted at various locations inside the lodge to meet seismic codes. Part of the project also involved rebuilding the cobble-stone fireplace from the floor up.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1903-1970

Significant Dates

1903 – Completion of Lodge
1906 – Lodge sold to Seattle Auto Club
1950 – Lodge opens as a restaurant

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Fred L. Fehren Company (Architect & Builder)
Knapp, Jacob A. (Architect)

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Completed in 1903, Fir Lodge in West Seattle is historically significant under Criterion A for its direct association with the growth and development of West Seattle and the Alki neighborhood. It was built initially as the primary residence for the wealthy soap merchant William J. & Galdys Bernard, and early on was converted to use as a public gathering area. After several owners leased the space for public and private use, in 1950 the Lodge was converted into a restaurant, a use it still maintains today. The Lodge marks a turning point in Alki's history, when its days as a rustic summer vacation locale for Seattle's upper class yielded to the beginning of a year-round community and became a widely visited tourist destination for the masses. Reportedly the Bernard's hosted over 1,000 persons at lodge in less than five years before its converted into a public meeting.

The Lodge is also eligible under Criterion C as an early example of one of the projects completed by the Fred L. Fehren Company, one of the early proponents of the Craftsman bungalow style in Seattle. Fehren, himself was not an architect and had in-house staff complete the design. The log lodge retains a high degree of architectural integrity and embodies the distinct characteristics of its period and method of construction.

The period of significance begins in 1903, the date of completion of the Lodge and ends in 1970, the 50 year cut-off date. Used for less than four years as a single family residence, the Lodge was converted to public use by 1907 and then into a formal, full time restaurant in 1950. Since then it has continued to be a treasured architectural icon in the community.

Development of West Seattle and Alki

Fir Lodge is located in the Alki neighborhood of West Seattle, half a block south of Alki Beach and the main thoroughfare of Alki Avenue SW. Originally, "West Seattle" referred only to the settlement along the northeast portion of the Duwamish Peninsula but today is a conglomeration of several historic communities. The Alki neighborhood is located in the northwest portion of the peninsula, approximately between Duwamish Head to the north and Alki Point to the west. Elliott Bay separates downtown Seattle from the Duwamish Peninsula. Despite the nearby development of the original West Seattle, Alki remained a remote, private summer recreation area centered along the beach through the first years of the 20th century.

The Alki neighborhood was the landing place and initial settlement of the first Euro-Americans to homestead the Seattle area in 1851, but they quickly moved to the east side of the Duwamish Peninsula which had deeper port facilities. Euro-American development of West Seattle did not really occur until the Williamson, Phillips, & Plummer sawmill opened in 1864 along present day Harbor Avenue SW, southeast of Duwamish Head. Soon a community sprang up around the mill. Initially named Freeport, the settlement took the name Milton by 1877 and then West Seattle in 1888. The development of the north end of the peninsula initially spread along what is now Harbor Avenue SW, close to the waterfront and a ferry terminal. Over time, street grids and streetcar lines reached further west and to the interior of the peninsula. Further stimulating the development was a transportation network of boats and trolley lines. Beginning in 1888, ferries crossed Elliott Bay, connecting West Seattle to downtown Seattle. The West Seattle Land Improvement Company (WSLIC) established the West Seattle Cable Railway in 1890. The cable railway operated in conjunction with the West Seattle ferry to carry passengers to and from the ferry landing along the fairly steep Grand (now Ferry) Avenue. It operated until 1897.⁵ Small steamships, collectively known as the Mosquito Fleet, also transported passengers to docks at Alki Beach and other points on the Duwamish Peninsula from at least the late 19th century through the 1920s but no regular service schedules are known. In 1890, the Seattle Terminal Railway and Elevator Co. built a trestle to the peninsula from the present Port of Seattle, bridging the south end of Elliott Bay's tideflats.

⁵ Clay Eals, ed., *West Side Story* (Seattle: Robinson Newspapers, 1987), 28-30.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

This steam railroad line was an extension of the Northern Pacific Railroad (NPRR), connecting the NPRR's downtown depot with a large new grain elevator just southeast of the West Seattle ferry terminal.⁶

By at least 1893, the northeast corner of the peninsula also boasted a flour mill (Novelty Mill, demolished). In 1893, a public school was under construction.⁷ Founded in 1899, the King and Winge Shipyard, one of the most prolific shipbuilding operations in Seattle's history, further filled in the area southeast of Duwamish Head.⁸

Despite the burgeoning growth a few miles away, the Alki neighborhood remained quiet and sparsely visited until the early 20th century. Shallower waters precluded industrial wharves but were sufficiently deep for small vessel docks, such as those used by the Mosquito Fleet. The sandy beach at Alki beckoned to swimmers and beachcombers. By about the mid-1890s, the beaches at Alki and Duwamish Head became popular summer vacation spots for city dwellers seeking adventure and rustic living.⁹ The privately run Coney Island Baths opened in 1899 west of Duwamish Head. The baths allowed Alki Beach swimmers to rinse off sand and saltwater after playing in the waves.¹⁰ In 1901, Albert A. Smith built the Stockade Hotel near the present intersection of 63rd Avenue SW and Alki Avenue SW, two blocks from where the Bernard's purchased property and constructed Fir Lodge.¹¹ Alki Point had at least one other known beachfront resort, named Rose Lodge. Rose Lodge consisted of canvas tents on platforms along the beach as well as a Rustic style main lodge.¹² Private cabins and vacation homes like the Maurer House/Sea View Hall (1904, extant) also dotted the landscape.¹³ Historian Flo Lentz noted that, "Summer cabins at Alki Beach flourished after the turn of the century. In July 1905, the local newspaper... listed more than 75 beach cottages along Alki Avenue from the ferry landing to the natatorium."¹⁴ Despite the summer visitors, there were few, if any, year-round residents. At the time of its construction, Fir Lodge was one of Alki's first permanent, year-round residences.¹⁵

In 1902, West Seattle officially incorporated as a municipality. However, other peninsula communities, including Alki, remained separate and independent until Seattle annexed them all as a group in 1907 under the name West Seattle. Although the residents of Alki voted against annexation, the larger peninsula communities (e.g., Spring Hill and West Seattle) voted for it and the measure passed.¹⁶ After incorporation Alki neighborhood quickly evolved "with permanent residences, commercial structures, a public school, a play field with golf links, and a church."¹⁷ Also in 1905, a private natatorium opened on Alki Beach, four years before the public bathing beach was created.¹⁸ In 1907, electric streetcar service began from Seattle to West Seattle, with a line along the north end of the peninsula, passing Duwamish Head en route to Alki Point.¹⁹ This new transportation link brought a flood of visitors to Alki and transformed the beach to a busy resort area in the summers. That same year an amusement park, named Luna Park, opened at Duwamish Head. Luna Park's crowds and loud nightlife added to the congestion and to the lack of privacy and tranquility that the once out-of-the-way beach community [at Alki] prized.²⁰

In 1910, the City of Seattle purchased land along Alki Beach and erected a bathing pavilion (1911), which served as a community gathering place and sports venue. A bandstand completed in 1912 along the Alki

⁶ Eals, 30.

⁷ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Seattle, 1893, Volume 1, sheet 41.

⁸ Southwest Seattle Historical Society, *West Seattle* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 13 & 31.

⁹ Eals, 31, 34.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 27.

¹¹ Robin Shannon, *Seattle's Historic Hotels* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 79.

¹² Southwest Seattle Historical Society, *West Seattle* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 51.

¹³ Sally Woodbridge, *A Guide to Architecture in Washington State* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980), 194.

¹⁴ Lentz, 11.

¹⁵ The 1850s settlers' cabins at Alki were quickly constructed to meet an immediate need for shelter and did not survive the years.

¹⁶ Eals, 34, 48.

¹⁷ Lentz, 11.

¹⁸ Walt Crowley, *National Trust Guide: Seattle* (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1998), 232-233.

¹⁹ Streetcar service also reached Fauntleroy and The Junction around that time. Information courtesy of the Log House Museum permanent exhibits, Southwest Seattle Historical Society, West Seattle, 2013.

²⁰ Log House Museum History, Southwest Seattle Historical Society, <http://www.loghousemuseum.info/history/log-house-museum/>.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Beach Park promenade presented concerts to visitors. In the first year reportedly more than 100,000 people attended those concerts.²¹ Early that year, the Alki Beach Hotel Company filed incorporation papers, with \$5,000 capital stock.²²

Today, the Alki neighborhood is defined by the continued recreational use of the waterfront, the mixed residential and commercial properties which have filled the once forested landscape inland, and scenic Alki Avenue SW which divides the beach from the developed street grid.

William J. & Gladys W. Bernard

Two of the early settlers during this initial period of growth at Alki were William and Gladys Bernard. They were owners of the Seattle Soap Co. and well-known members of Seattle's society in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Before the Bernard's purchased land for their future home near Alki Beach, they spent summers vacationing at beachfront camping resorts in that area. Given the small size of the Alki community at the time and the limited facilities at the time, the Bernard's likely stayed at the Stockade Hotel. Built in 1901, it was billed as one of the region's best resorts, and attracted Seattle's wealthy citizens. The hotel served as a social hub for the Alki area. The Bernard's became friends with owners Alfred and Lorena Smith and purchased land for their house from them. Lorena's parents, the Hanson's, had purchased the entire Alki Point in the late 1860s from Doc Maynard, one of Seattle's original pioneers.

In December 1902 the Seattle Post-Intelligencer newspaper announced that the Bernards' intention to build a log house on the "eastern one-half block of Block 13, Plat of Alki Point, along with a strip of beach front access across [the present] Alki Avenue." They purchased the lot, which was two blocks from the Stockade Hotel, for \$2,500. At the time the area was a forested landscape, with the buildings nestled among tall trees accessed by dirt roads.

William J. Bernard was born in San Francisco, California in July of 1860. Details of his early life and career are largely unknown. However Polk directories indicate that he worked as a clerk for the San Francisco firm of Vermeil & Wellington in 1879. By 1890 he was a bookkeeper for the J. Horstmann Company. For reasons unknown, around 1891 at the age of 31, he moved to Seattle.

With his earnings from his time in San Francisco, Bernard established one of the city's early soap factories, the Seattle Soap Company, soon after his arrival in Seattle.²³ The company was incorporated in 1893 with a capital stock of \$30,000. Investors included Bernard (with 135 shares), Louis Gilbert (30 shares) and Robert V. Lucy (68 shares) and George D. Lucy (67 shares), both from San Francisco. They had bought out the former Seattle Soap Co. owned by John P. Hoyt, Jacob Furth, C.S. Russell, and Elisha P. Ferry (future WA State Governor).

The business took off rapidly after a competing company (the Seattle Soap Works) was lost to a fire in 1898. Further stimulating growth was several contracts to provide soap to U.S. Navy sailors. In 1910 alone, the Navy ordered 150,000 pounds (75 tons or 5 RR carloads) of soap from Bernard. The factory was initially located on the tide flats, near the present intersection of Airport Way and Lander Street but moved to a variety of locations over the years. The company offered multiple cleaning products, such as vegetable oils and soaps, soda ash, grease and tallow, and was manufactured under a variety of names including: "Sopo", "Sal Soda", "Mrs. Johnson's Washing Soap", "Emerald" soap, "Bernard's Naptha" soap, "Refined Borax", "Blanco" soap, and "Kitchen Gem". Specific details about the growth and ownership of the company are unknown. Family sources claim the soap company was sold to a competitor (date unknown).²⁴

²¹ Southwest Seattle Historical Society, *West Seattle* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 37-38.

²² "Coupeville Gravel Company Organized," *Morning Olympian* (Olympia, WA), 19 April 1912, 1.

²³ Ads for the Seattle Soap Company appear in the *Morning Olympian* newspaper by the December 12, 1894 issue.

²⁴ Lentz, 7.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Soon after his arrival, Bernard met his future wife Gladys W. Barnette from Olympia. According to reports, they were married the next year on March 23, 1892 at the governor's residence in Olympia, and Governor Elisha P. Ferry and his wife served as official witnesses.²⁵ When Bernard and his investors had purchased the Seattle Soap Company from Ferry and other investors, the two became lifelong friends. Gladys (1865-1949), actively worked for the benefit of children in the greater Seattle community, especially orphans and children of immigrant workers. She founded the Bernard Sunday School Mission, which operated from a packing house in pioneer days. She also supported the Washington Children's Home. Originally from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, she came to Washington in 1890. She and William raised two adopted daughters, Marie "Mary" (1893-?) and Billie (1909-1995). Marie came to the Bernard's before the construction of the family's home at Alki.

William Bernard passed away unexpectedly at age 63 on March 23, 1924. His obituary stated he "had been long prominent in civic affairs."²⁶ He and Gladys were in the process of adopting another child at the time. Named after his lost father, William H. Bernard Jr. was born in 1924. Gladys passed away at age 83 in February, 1949.²⁷ At the time of her death, she was lauded for her philanthropy and advocacy work for children.

The Bernard's spent a short time in the home, but entertained frequently in the house. Numerous reports in the society section of the *Seattle Daily Times* (1904-06) note a variety of parties, luncheons dances and receptions at the house. Reportedly Gladys had a guest book that contained the names of a thousand callers. Due to its isolated location, special steamer service had to be occasionally arranged to bring guests to and from social gatherings held by the Bernard's at Fir Lodge.²⁸ An August 9, 1904 announcement in the society section of the local newspaper noted that the steamer Manette would leave Colman Dock at 2pm for a reception and card party at the lodge. Other brevities in the local paper note attendees, decorations, and menu items at a variety of events. One summer party in August of 1906 was reported as the largest out-of-doors entertainment of the summer with the house and grounds decorated with ferns, cuts flowers and Japanese lanterns. The event, in which a special steamer ship was chartered to bring guests to the house, was attended by then Governor Alfred Mead.

To design and construct a home and carriage house which they would come to call "Fir Lodge", the Bernard's hired the Fred L. Fehren Company.

Fred L. Fehren – Developer & Real Estate Agent

Owner Fred L. Fehren was not an architect or designer, but operated as a real estate developer. His company employed in-house architects. Regardless of his credentials, Fehren left a large imprint on the city of Seattle. He is credited with forming eight subdivisions in the city as well as planning, building and financing over 700 buildings.²⁹

Not much is known about Fehren's early life or background. He was born in Vandalia, Illinois on June 9, 1865 and arrived in Seattle in 1892 with a background in banking. Initially he served as cashier for Seattle Savings Bank. After a short stint as cashier at the Hotel Seattle, around 1898 he formed an investment and real estate partnership with builder Charles Martin. Together the Fehren-Marvin Company designed and built numerous single-family residences, at least one duplex, several apartment buildings, and a variety of commercial projects. For reasons unknown, in March of 1902 Fehren and Marvin officially parted ways. Marvin drew on his experience as a building contractor and started his own company, Charles E. Marvin & Sons Company, (1902-1905). Fehren formed a self-titled development and investment group, called the Fred L. Fehren Company.³⁰

²⁵ "Brief City News," Morning Olympian (Olympia, WA), 24 March 1892, 4.

²⁶ "Manufacturer Passes," *Seattle Daily Times*, 24 March 1924, 7.

²⁷ "Mrs. Bernard Taken By Death," *Seattle Times*, 1 February 1949, 10.

²⁸ Local news mentions, *Seattle Daily Times*, 1904-1906.

²⁹ "C. F. Crothers In Investment Firm," *San Jose Mercury News* (San Jose, CA), 18 September 1910, 8.

³⁰ Pacific Coast Architecture Database, Fehren-Marvin Company, <https://digital.lib.washington.edu/architect/partners/2899/> (updated 2005-2013 by Alan Michelson, University of Washington). Also, advertisement, *Seattle Daily Times*, 1 April 1902, 13.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Quickly he was busy with several construction projects – mostly residences but also grading and street improvements.³¹ A 1903 Polk directory for Seattle contains a full-page ad for the Fehren Company, noted that the company offered mortgage loans as well as investment, real estate and architectural services.³² Among his largest investments was joining a group of other investors to establish the Mount Baker Park neighborhood in Seattle. As early as 1903 the company also published a book of residential pattern-book designs, which was utilized by hundreds of builders across the city.³³ Known Fehren projects include the Mrs. Mary Holt House (1902); the Willis P. McBride House (1902); the L.F. Person House (1902); the George Bake House (1902); the Judge S.S. Carlisle House (1902); the Thomas Flynn House (1902); the F.C. Kilborne House (1902); the Lars Lane House (1902); the Ray Young House (1902); several flat buildings; the A.E. Sherbrooke House (1902); the Rev. W.B. Williams House (1902); the Joe Smith House (1903); a lodging house for George Sheppard (1904); several spec homes for R. Simons (1904); the George Virtue House (1905); the E.C. Meyer House (1905); plans for homes in Portland, OR and Vancouver, B.C.; (1905); and a Baptist Church parsonage in Burton, WA (1905). Several articles note that Fehren's company was also responsible for "introducing an entirely new and original style of architecture" to the city. The design, often referred to locally as the "Seattle Box", is a modified American Foursquare design featuring a hip roof. Fehren stated that it was modeled after the Spanish Colonial style.

Fehren also served a manager for the Hunter Tract Improvement Company; specifically for their holdings in the Mount Baker Park Addition. With business going well, in 1906 he opened a secondary investment business with two new partners; William Haitz and B.A. Lewis. He also formed the Lake Union Land Company with George A. Virtue. However due to failing health, he decided to move to San Jose, California in 1907 and sold most of his interests in Seattle. While there, in 1910 he formed a new real estate and banking investment firm with L. J. Beckett and C. F. Crothers.³⁴ The firm concentrated on developing and subdividing of large tracts land, and provided financing for prospective buyers. By 1914, Fehren operated the company under his own name and continued to work as a real estate developer and realtor. He became very active in the local real estate community and served on several boards and commissions including a term as President of the San Jose Realty Board (1919) and campaign manager of the San Jose War Savings Stamp Drive (1918). By 1920 his firm was known as the Realty Associates of San Jose. Fehren passed away in Santa Clara, California on October 5, 1948, at the age of 83.³⁵

Fehren himself had no training as an architect, but he employed architects in-house to design buildings for the business.³⁶ Fehren's first in-house designer was the English born and trained architect, Frederick A. Sexton. By 1903, Jacob A. Knapp had taken his place. Little information has been discovered about Knapp. After working for Fehren until 1905 he formed his own architecture firm with Thomas L. West. The firm Knapp & West firm quickly rose to prominence. They heavily advertised in local and regional papers, which featured numerous plans and photographs of mainly residential projects. West himself contributed articles for *The Coast* magazine. In fact, his column titled: "Architecture of the Pacific Northwest" was featured in the magazine monthly from February 1906 through May 1907. The magazine covered the cultural, natural, and built environments of the Pacific Northwest in the early part of the twentieth century and introduced their readers to West as "one of the most successful architects of the Northwest."

Like many architectural firms of the day, Knapp & West also published a plan book, which they called "Beautiful Homes". First published in 1907, the book went to at least a second printing of 10,000 copies and was found to be in the holdings of the public library in Washington, D.C. They also advertised the plan book in national magazines such as *House Beautiful*. The firm also reached out beyond Seattle through other publications such as the *School Board Journal* (1906). Such advertisement garnered the firm additional

³¹ *Seattle Sunday Times*, 20 April 1902, 41.

³² 1903 Polk's Seattle Directory, 164.

³³ *Artistic Homes Spanish Colonial Designs* (Seattle: Fred L. Fehren Co. Architects, 1905).

³⁴ "C. F. Crothers In Investment Firm," *San Jose Mercury News* (San Jose, CA), 18 September 1910, 8.

³⁵ File on Fred L. Fehren, compiled by Michael Houser, State Architectural Historian, Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

³⁶ "Confidence in the Future, Real Estate Men Gratified at the Demand for Seattle Property," *Catholic Northwest Progress*, 4 July 1902.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

work. A 1910 U.S. Bureau of Education brochure featured designs by the firm for one and three-room schoolhouses. The plans note that West had initially provided the design to the Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction. For unknown reasons, West and Knapp parted ways in 1908. Knapp then moved to Yakima. While there he met fellow architect John T. Gamble and together they decided to open up a firm in Vancouver, BC. Several known designs by the firm Gamble & Knapp can be found in the Vancouver, BC area, however any additional information about Knapp has not been found.

Local newspapers articles note that Fir Lodge was designed by Fehren & Knapp.³⁷ The dwelling, while advertised as a part of Fehren design book (design No. 563), is unique among the residences constructed by the company.³⁸ There are no known instances of anyone building another house from the company's published design for Fir Lodge. Additionally Fir Lodge is the only known design by the company to utilize log and stone construction. Instead the company's designs demonstrate the typical wood frame construction methods of the time, clad with traditional weatherboard. Most of the designs are executed in the Craftsman bungalow and four-square forms.

Later Owners & Use

After four years of hosting well-appointed parties on the open veranda of their log palace, for reasons unknown, the Bernard's decided to sell the lodge and move to Seattle proper. Advertisements in the Seattle Times note that the real estate firm of Griffith Company was selling the property for \$7,000.³⁹ Later in life, Gladys Bernard explained the move in an interview, citing the inconveniences of living so remotely from the city.

Reportedly in June of 1907 the then fledgling Seattle Auto Club decided to purchase the lodge. The club was comprised of a number of Seattle "best-known men" who "go in for driving, riding and automobiling." They hired former head waiter at the Rathskeller, Charles Borngesser, to be take caretaker of the clubhouse.⁴⁰ The conversion added dining tables and a private restaurant function in the former living room and on the porch, as well as private dining rooms in the upstairs bedrooms, and an informal café setup in the former dining room.⁴¹

Due to lack of use and some financial issues, reportedly the club, who had invested \$14,000 into the building, sold the lodge in 1910. Specific ownership is unknown, however the lodge continued to host events for another five plus years. Many of the parties were noted in the society section of the local newspaper. One such notice in April of 1913 reported that Miss Reta Lucile Hawkins held one of the "pretty small dancing parties of the season" at the lodge which was attended by about twenty young people. Miss Gertrude Eaton, a bride to be, has a surprise party there in 1915.⁴²

In 1918 Teney W. Griffith purchased the lodge, but he rented the house to tenants via one-year leases through at least 1920.⁴³ A Room & Board advertisement for the "Fir Lodge Inn" in 1927 shows that the house continued to be used as a private dwelling, as well as an event venue.⁴⁴ Society notices in the Seattle Times recorded many public uses of the building in the early 1930s including the Alki Women's Improvement Club sponsored a card party at the Lodge (1931); the Alki Beach Roosevelt Garner Club (Oct 1932); the YWCA speakers bureau (Oct 1932);

³⁷ "An Ideal Summer Home – Log Cabin at Alki Point Owned by W.J. Bernard" *Seattle Times* July 26, 1903.

³⁸ The status of the various known buildings by the Fehren-Marvin partnership is not known. Historic newspaper accounts list the address of the Palmer house as 1823 14th Avenue, Seattle.

³⁹ Advertisement: Griffith Company, *Seattle Times*, June 2, 1907.

⁴⁰ "County House of Seattle Auto and Driving Club" *Seattle Times*, June 9, 1907.

⁴¹ Reprint of *Seattle Times* article, "The New Auto Club," from 21 July 1907, included in Eals, 107.

⁴² "Miss Gertrude Eaton, who is an..." *Seattle Times*, April 3, 1915.

⁴³ Classifieds, *Seattle Sunday Times*, 1919-1920.

⁴⁴ Classifieds, *Seattle Daily Times*, 20 March 1927, 55.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

By 1946, the Lodge had been turned into a private home by Glenn M. Timblens and his family. They used the lodge as their residence until 1950, when Svend & Margaret Nielsen and Fred Fredricksen purchased the property reopening it as the Alki Homestead Restaurant. In 1955 Walter & Adele Foote purchased the property and business who sold it to Elmer H. & Doris Nelson in 1962. The Nelson's created the Alki Homestead's theme, an old-fashioned dining room, decorated with antiques, offering simple down-home cooking, served family style. The restaurant immediately became a popular place in Seattle for large social gatherings and parties. Doris Nelson ran the entire operation by herself, including the cooking, and lived in the upstairs apartment with her two children, Joan and David. The Homestead's food was simple "like grandmothers cooking." The house specialty was country pan-fried chicken and they served steak and seasonal food. Nelson continued to operate the restaurant until her death in November 2004, at the age of 80.⁴⁵

Developers Patrick Henly and Thomas Lin purchased the property from Nelson's estate in 2006. They continued operating the business as a family-style restaurant with basically the same traditional menu and ambiance until March 2008. Henly and Lin, neither of whom had a background in restaurant management, decided put the business on the market for \$495,000, but to retain ownership of the historic building. In December 2008, Lin announced they had found a serious buyer for the restaurant, but the price was still being negotiated and the sale had not been finalized. Meanwhile, the Homestead continued doing its usual brisk business and was booked solid through the holiday season.

At about 5:00 a.m. on Friday, January 16, 2009, the 911-Emergency Dispatch Center received a report of smoke emanating from the Alki Homestead. When firefighters arrived, they could see flames at the rear of the restaurant. Crews were able to douse the flames on the main floor in about 20 minutes, but the fire had climbed to the second floor and into the attic, causing considerable smoke damage and charring. Firefighters had to climb onto the roof and cut a five-foot hole to ventilate the building. After the fire was declared extinguished, investigators entered the restaurant to determine its cause. Helen Fitzpatrick, Seattle Fire Department Public Information Officer, said the fire was caused by too many strings of Christmas lights plugged into one electrical outlet, overloading an old circuit. Damage was estimated to be approximately \$400,000. Fortunately, the building wasn't occupied at the time, and there were no fatalities or injuries reported.

After inspecting the damage, Lin estimated it would take at least six month to repair the fire and smoke damage. Much of the main dining room was destroyed, but the massive stone fireplace kept the fire from spreading to other parts of the first floor. Lin said part of the second floor and entire roof would need to be rebuilt. He vowed, however, that the historic log house would be restored and returned to the community as the cherished Alki Homestead restaurant.

Due to several complications, the restoration of the old log building never transpired, and the building sat vacant. In December 2013 the Alki Homestead was put up for sale. It was purchased in 2014 by current owner Dennis Schilling, a real-estate investor from Mercer Island. He immediately started a massive restoration project which took several years.

In September 2018, Mike Easton, chef and owner of Il Corvo (The Crow), an Italian restaurant located in downtown Seattle, announced plans to reestablish the Alki Homestead as an Italian restaurant named Il Nido (The Nest). It took several months of time and effort to return the empty log house back into a restaurant, but he and his wife, Victoria Diaz Easton, with the help of the Shillings, finally accomplished the task. On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, the Alki Homestead, sporting its signature and fully restored neon sign atop the roof, was reopened, now doing business as Il Nido and specializing in homemade pasta.

Architectural Style

Architecturally Fir Lodge documents the emergence of the Bungalow/Craftsman style in the early 20th century in the Puget Sound region. While constructed of logs, the architectural details of the building exhibit

⁴⁵ Obituary for Doris Nelson, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 29 November 2004, B1.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

characteristics and design elements of the Bungalow/Craftsman style. The building's use of natural local materials, along with its form and high degree of workmanship, epitomize the Bungalow/Craftsman aesthetic, and the date of its construction places Fir Lodge at the forefront of this movement.

The term bungalow is derived from a vernacular housing type from India. That housing type featured wide overhanging eaves and surrounding porches. A bungalow in the Western sense is generally a small, single story house. The Bungalow style is more specific, often exhibiting the use of natural building materials, overhanging eaves on a low roof, exposed rafters, a full-width or wrapped porch, and a lack of ornamentation. Famed furniture maker, designer and leader in the American Arts & Crafts movement, Gustav Stickley believed a Bungalow home should blend with its surroundings, utilize local materials, have broad proportions anchored low to the ground, and have a beautiful simplicity.⁴⁶ His ideas about Bungalow homes generally also apply to Craftsman homes, except the latter may be much larger, in terms of plan and/or floors. The Bungalow/Craftsman style shunned the overt use of decoration, such as the intricate porch brackets or spindlework on Queen Anne Cottages of the 19th century.

Perhaps as a reaction to the fussy ornateness and formality of Victorian buildings, the Bungalow/Craftsman style answered to function and simplicity first. The parallel Arts & Crafts movement produced high-quality, handmade furniture and other home goods. In the architectural realm, the emphasis on simple, direct design yielded square or rectangular footprints, single or one-and-a-half story volumes, and typically a hipped or gable roof form with a full-width or wrapped porch under the main roof line. On the interior, the Bungalow/Craftsman style favored large living spaces with little to no division among the remaining rooms. According to architectural historian Alan Gowans, one of the four essential Bungalow characteristics is "interpenetration of inner and outer space. This is most often achieved by the sweeping roof and verandah... [and] by living and dining rooms constituting a flowing space and both carried outward by porches or bay windows."⁴⁷ Even with interior renovations, Fir Lodge meets the criteria along with another of Gowans' criteria – having no basement.⁴⁸ The lack of interior doors allows for smooth movement through open doorways, notably between the dining and living rooms. The massive barn-like front doors, once centered in the north elevation, opened directly into the primary space, the living room, with no transitional entryway or vestibule. The living and dining rooms also opened onto and overlooked the wraparound porch through multiple windows.

Fir Lodge also exemplifies the Bungalow/Craftsman style's preference for raw or minimally processed, local building materials. Many Bungalows feature cobblestone chimneys and foundations. The fieldstone and cobblestone fireplace in Fir Lodge's living room, as well as the exterior stone chimneys, are fine examples of this trend. The use of natural logs in the structure and leaving the log surfaces exposed on the interior is fairly rare but in keeping with the Bungalow/Craftsman style. Most Bungalows used milled lumber for their framing and cladding. Regular, dimensional lumber would have been easier to use, whereas Fir Lodge's log walls and posts required a higher level of craftsmanship. Fir Lodge, therefore, represents a higher expression of the style than a typical Bungalow/Craftsman house.

The fact that simple Bungalow/Craftsman homes translated easily into the pre-cut, mail-order house industry is part of the reason these homes became so prevalent. The simplicity of their floor plans and modest sizes meant they were affordable and relatively easy to assemble. Many ready-cut, mail-order house catalog companies offered Bungalow/Craftsman style homes. A study of mail-order house catalogs from the period 1900 to 1940 shows that Bungalow and Craftsman were two of the most popular American architectural styles of the 20th century. Architectural historians Robert Schweitzer and Michael W. R. Davis assert that the bungalow form was introduced from India to British Columbia, just north of Washington State, in the 19th

⁴⁶ John C. Poppeliers, S. Allen Chambers Jr., and Nancy B. Schwartz, *What Style Is It? A Guide to American Architecture* (Washington, DC: The Preservation Press, 1983), 76.

⁴⁷ Alan Gowans, *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930* (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1989), 77.

⁴⁸ The other two Bungalow criteria, according to Gowans, is 1) a low roof covering a porch or veranda and 2) having only 1 or 1.5 stories. Gowans, 77.

Fir Lodge

Name of Property

King County, WA

County and State

century, from there spreading down the West Coast.⁴⁹ When it reached California, the form blossomed into a full-blown style. Schweitzer and Davis found that mail-order house catalogs began offering Craftsman homes in 1901, with Bungalow designs following in 1904 and continuing to appear in mail-order catalogs through 1940, a testament to their popularity.⁵⁰ Fir Lodge's completion in 1903 places it at the forefront of the style.

Fir Lodge has also been classified under the Rustic style, an early 20th century expression of Nature's simple elegance. The Rustic and Bungalow/Craftsman styles share many of the same ideals and identifiers, such as the use of local, natural building materials and blending with their surroundings. However, Rustic style buildings come in a larger variety of types, shapes and sizes. Rustic style hotels and homes incorporated vernacular building technologies into comfortable, sometimes lavish buildings, as opposed to the simplicity of Bungalow/Craftsman homes. The refinement of the Rustic style and resulting peak expression in the 1920s and 1930s coincided with its predominant use by federal lands agencies, such as the Forest Service and the National Park Service. At its peak, the Rustic style found expression on a wide range of structures and building types, from bridges to kitchen shelters, drinking fountains to train depots.

Architectural Comparisons

While vernacular log construction at the turn of the century for pioneer homestead is fairly common, the pronounced use of logs on architect-designed houses and hotels was much rarer. Other notable examples in the West Seattle included the nearby Stockade Hotel. Built in 1901 and demolished in 1936, the hotel preceded Fir Lodge by a couple years and may well have influenced the latter's design. Similarities between the two buildings included log construction, peeled log cladding, and vertical log posts as porch supports. The Stockade Hotel, like Fir Lodge, featured a hip roof with large central dormers on at least three facades. The Stockade Hotel, while reputedly comfortable on the interior, had a slight ramshackle charm on the exterior.

The Maurer House/Sea View Hall, built in 1904 as a summer vacation house near Alki Point (present address is 4004 59th Avenue, Seattle, historically 4004 or 4010 Chilberg Avenue SW) is also of log construction.⁵¹ John Maurer constructed the house himself for his wife and family. Executed in the Rustic style, Maurer's 2.5 story summer home exhibits vertical log walls on most of the exterior with decorative shingles in the gable ends. The dormers displayed plain wood shingles, previously replaced with decorative versions. The Maurer House/Sea View Hall is not as finely executed as Fir Lodge, more resembling a large vernacular beach cottage made from the materials at hand than a stylish residence.

The Fir Log carriage house (now the Log House Museum) exhibits almost identical style, massing, construction and materials as the main lodge. It has a nearly square footprint is smaller but proportional to Fir Lodge. The horizontal log walls support a hipped roof. Hipped roof dormers are centered on every elevation, but the multiple pairs of dormer windows on the north and south roof slopes are physically separated instead of being conjoined or continuous under one roof like those of Fir Lodge. Vertical log posts support the main roof where it overhangs the wrapped porch. Unlike Fir Lodge, the carriage porch is not enclosed. Around 1908, the carriage house was moved from its original location to its current site (3003 61st Ave SW). The Southwest Seattle Historical Society purchased the carriage house in 1995 and began restoring it for use as their museum, which opened to the public a few years later.

Today Fir Lodge remains a rare log constructed and early example of the Bungalow/Craftsman style. The Lodge's design harmonized with its surroundings and reflected the tranquil, isolated nature of Alki Beach at the turn of the 20th century. In contrast with the late 19th and early 20th century industrial and commercial growth a few miles to the east, Fir Lodge exemplifies the serene recreational and residential roots of the Alki neighborhood. The building retains a high degree of integrity and is significant for its association with the early residential development of Alki.

⁴⁹ Robert Schweitzer and Michael W. R. Davis, *America's Favorite Homes* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990), 119.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, 120.

⁵¹ Woodbridge, 194. Also, King County Assessor records for parcel 1563100805.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

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Fir Lodge

Name of Property

King County, WA

County and State

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Southwest Seattle Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References NAD 1927 or X NAD 1983

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing

Or Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>47.578535°</u> Latitude	<u>-122.411102°</u> Longitude	3	<u> </u> Latitude	<u> </u> Longitude
2	<u> </u> Latitude	<u> </u> Longitude	4	<u> </u> Latitude	<u> </u> Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property is located within Section 10, Township 24 North, Range 3 East of the Willamette Meridian in King County Washington, and is legally described as Lots 5 - 8 of plat Block A, of Sea Shore Addition to Alki Point. It is otherwise known as Tax Parcel No. 762120-0006.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property encompasses all of the urban tax lot that is occupied by the Fir Lodge.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Johnson, Associate (edited DAHP Staff)
organization Artifacts Consulting, Inc. date March 9, 2020
street & number 201 N Yakima Avenue telephone (253) 572-4599
city or town Tacoma state WA zip code 98403
e-mail sjohnson@artifacts-inc.com

Fir Lodge
 Name of Property

King County, WA
 County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
 A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)



Google Map

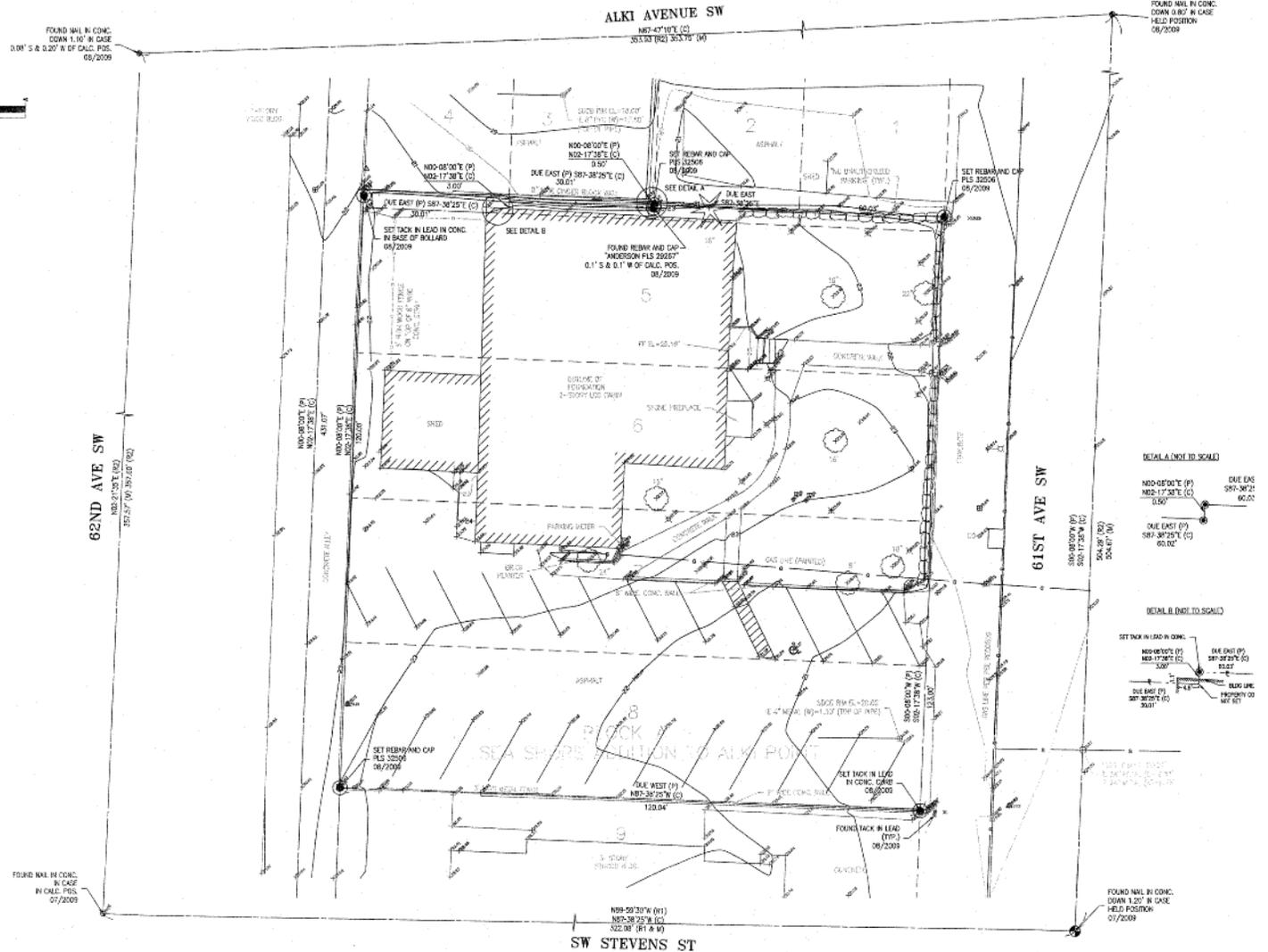
Fir Lodge
 2717 61st Avenue SW
 Seattle, WA

1	47.578535°	-122.411102°	3	Latitude	Longitude
	Latitude	Longitude			
2	Latitude	Longitude	4	Latitude	Longitude
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Fir Lodge
 Name of Property

King County, WA
 County and State

PORTION OF THE SW 1/4, SECTION 10,
 TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST, W.M.
 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Site Plan
 Fir Lodge
 2717 61st Avenue SW
 Seattle, WA

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Tax Map

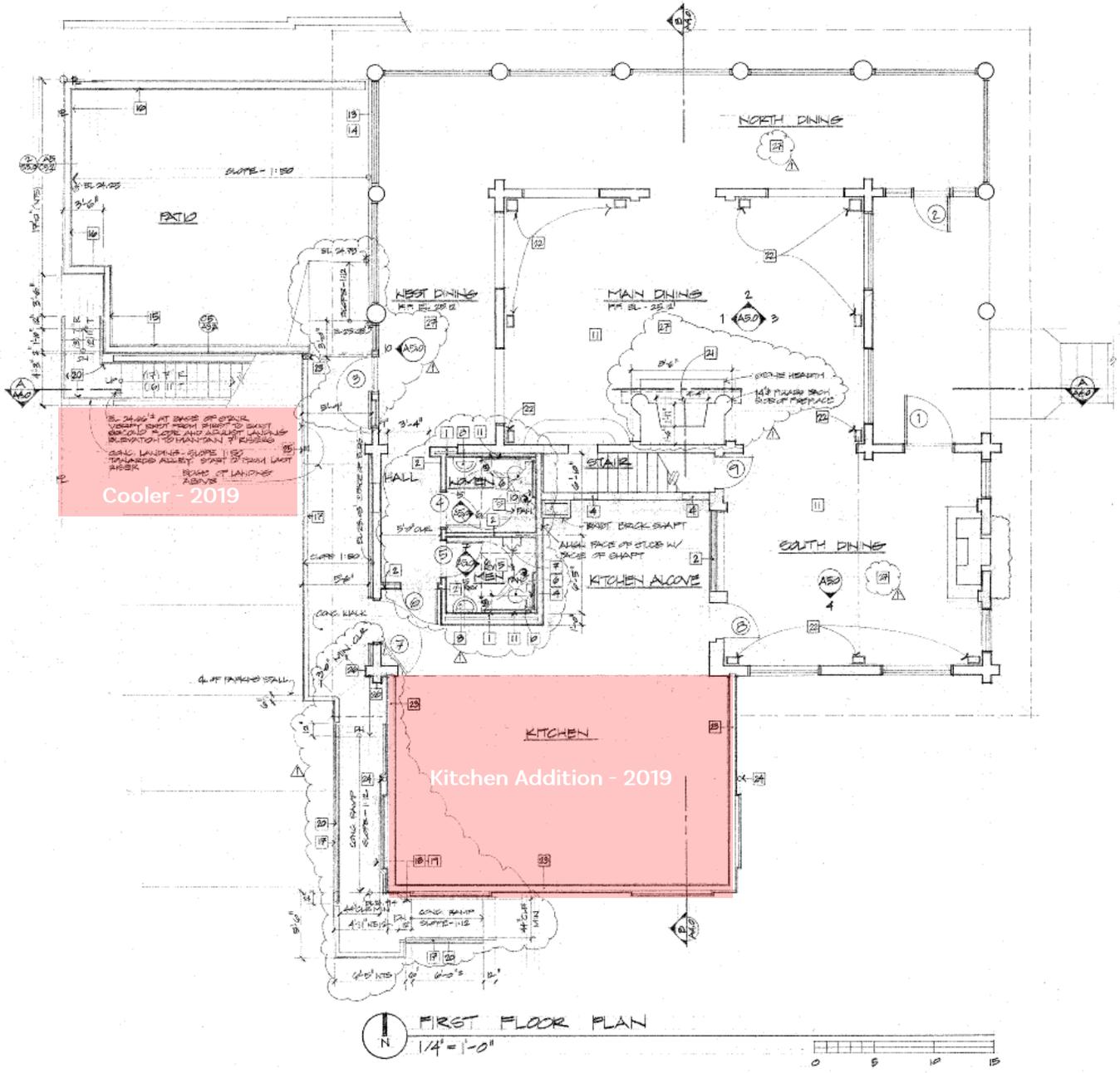
Fir Lodge
2717 61st Avenue SW
Seattle, WA

Nomination Boundaries

Parcel No: 762120-0006

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

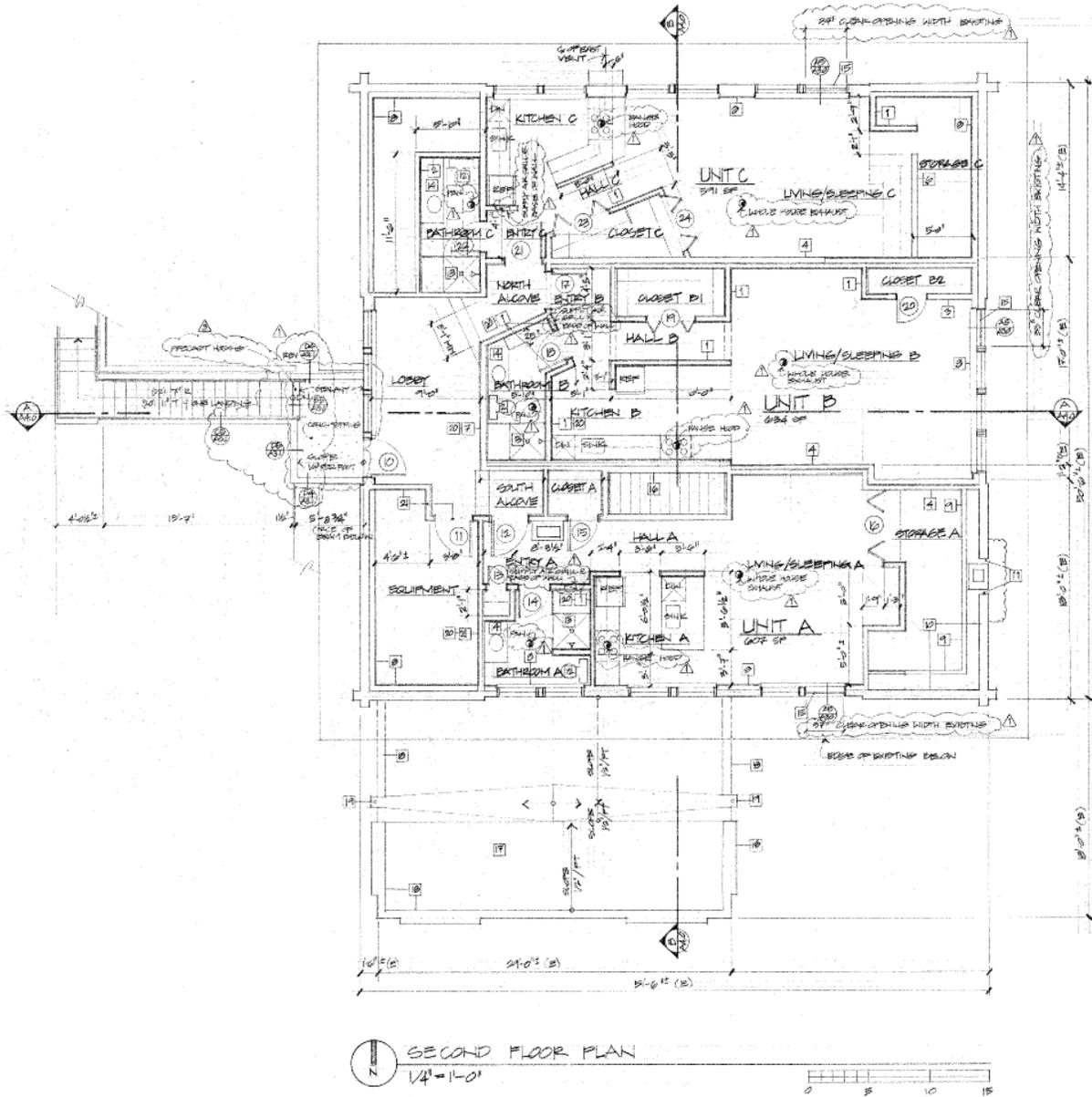
King County, WA
County and State



First Floor Plan
Fir Lodge
2717 61st Avenue SW
Seattle, WA

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

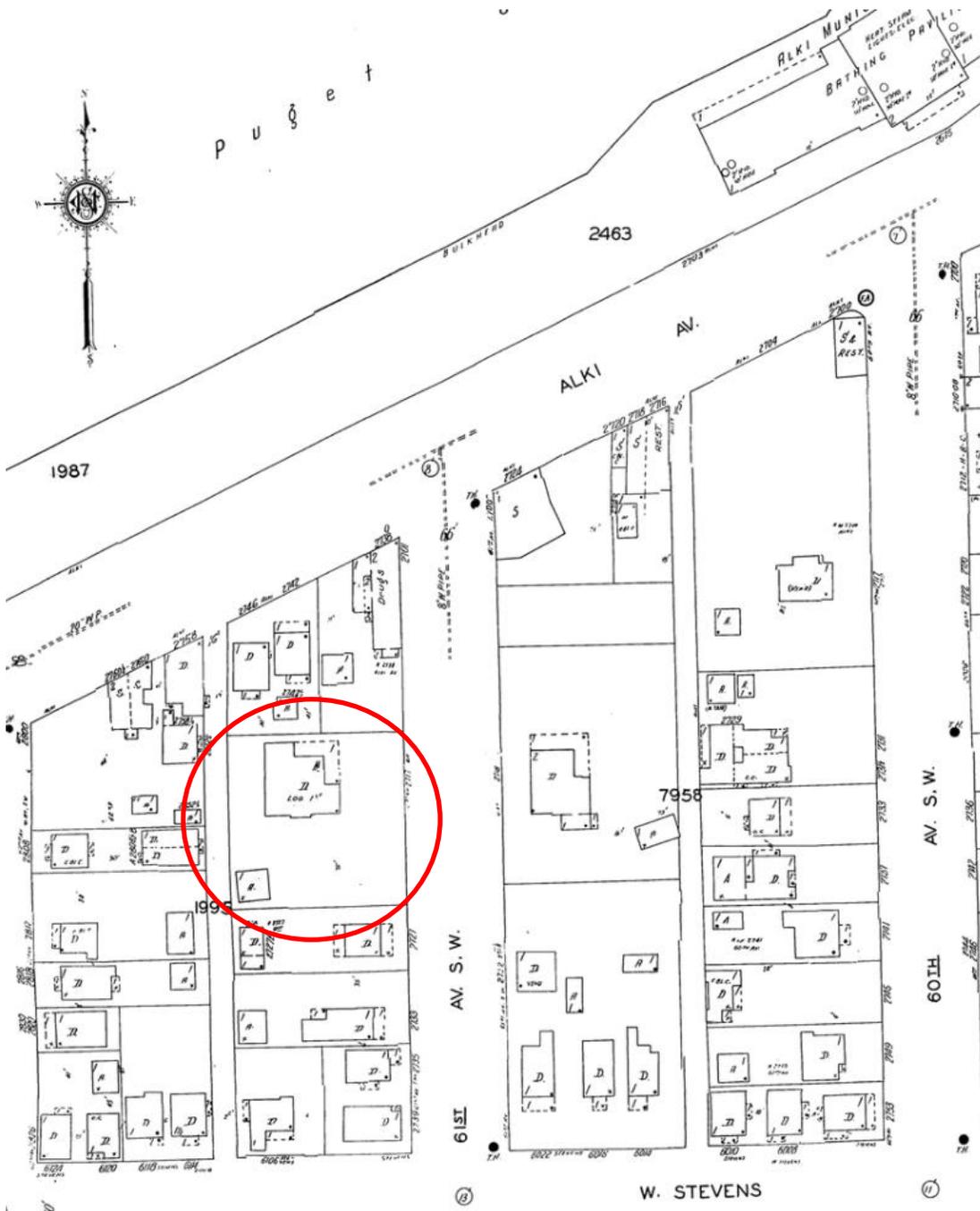
King County, WA
County and State



Second Floor Plan
Fir Lodge
2717 61st Avenue SW
Seattle, WA

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

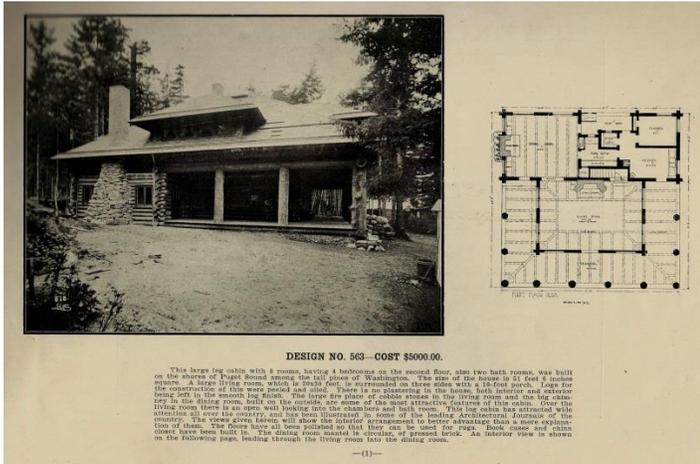
King County, WA
County and State



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (created 1905, updated through 1951, sheet 359 of volume 3).
Fir Lodge circled in red. Note location of carriage house which was later moved a half a block to the south.
Source: Timberland Regional Library.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Plan book of various homes by Fred L. Fehren Co. featuring Fir Lodge.
Artistic Homes Spanish Colonial Designs (Seattle: Fred L. Fehren Co. Architects), 1905.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Circa 1905 view of northwest corner. Note building at far right (carriage house), now the Log House Museum.
Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.



Circa 1905 view of northeast corner. *Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.*

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Circa 1905 interior view of dining room, looking northwest into living room. *Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.*



Circa 1905 interior view of living room, with stairs to second floor at center. Looking southwest. Note original log mantel on living room fireplace. *Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.*

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Circa 1905 interior view of living room, with dining room visible through open doorway. Note original log mantel on living room fireplace. Source: Bernard Family, Southwest Seattle Historical Society.



Circa 1905 view from Fir Lodge porch. Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

Fir Lodge
 Name of Property

King County, WA
 County and State

"MADE IN SEATTLE"

"Emerald" Soap
"Bernard's Naptha" Soap
"Refined Borax" Soap
"Kitchen Gem" Scouring Soap

Sopo — The Perfect Washing Powder

See that you ask your dealer for these brands and insist on having them. If he hasn't them he is not loyal to Seattle nor to its citizens who support him. Put your dealer to the test.

W. J. BERNARD CO.
 MANUFACTURERS
 SEATTLE, U. S. A.

Seattle Times
 August 10, 1906

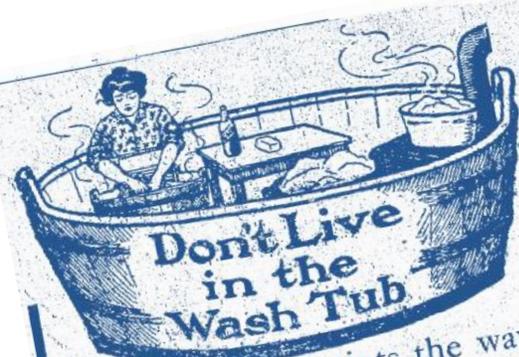
When ordering Soap from your dealer insist on either

EMERALD SOAP
 —OR—
BLANCHO SOAP

Don't let him put you off by saying he has some other brand "just as good." These brands are made in Seattle by THE SEATTLE SOAP COMPANY and are guaranteed to be better than any SOAP on the market.

WE ASK BUT A TRIAL

"Clever Cooking" Women's Guild
 of St. Mark's Episcopal Church - 1896



Don't Live in the Wash Tub

When **Sopo** points the way to quick results and half the work—the results of simple purity and extreme care in manufacture.

SOPO
 is a perfect washing powder.
 W. J. BERNARD CO.

Seattle Times —
 April 13, 1905

Open Your Doors TO **SOPO**

Today was Blue Monday. Is there something left to remind you of the fact?

Fatigue, a saturating smell throughout the house and a haunting dread of next Monday. Is next Monday to be a repetition?

Not if you use Sopo, the perfect washing powder with a money-back guarantee.

SOPO, the perfect washing powder, efficiently does away with dirt and grease. It is the only soap that does not leave a residue. It is the only soap that does not irritate the skin. It is the only soap that does not leave a stain. It is the only soap that does not leave a smell. It is the only soap that does not leave a mark. It is the only soap that does not leave a trace. It is the only soap that does not leave a shadow. It is the only soap that does not leave a ghost. It is the only soap that does not leave a specter. It is the only soap that does not leave a phantom. It is the only soap that does not leave a apparition. It is the only soap that does not leave a demon. It is the only soap that does not leave a devil. It is the only soap that does not leave a fiend. It is the only soap that does not leave a goblin. It is the only soap that does not leave a hobgoblin. It is the only soap that does not leave a troll. It is the only soap that does not leave a goblin. It is the only soap that does not leave a troll. It is the only soap that does not leave a goblin. It is the only soap that does not leave a troll.

Sold by grocers—if you write W. J. Bernard Co., Seattle, Manufacturers of Emerald Soap, Mrs. Johnson's Washing Soap, Sal Soda, Bernard's Naptha Soap, etc., etc.

Seattle Times —
 January 31, 1905

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Horse-drawn wagon of the Seattle Transfer Company taking guest to Fir Lodge. C. 1905
Photograph taken from approximate location of present Alki Avenue SW.
Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

+ + +

At Fir Lodge a most delightful card party was given Thursday afternoon by Mrs. William J. Bernard. Green and white were the colors used to trim the artistic home. Mrs. Bernard was assisted in receiving by Mrs. E. P. Ferry and Mrs. John H. McGraw.

The punch table was arranged in the center of the dining room, and was presided over by Miss Pontius, Miss McGinness, Miss Smith, Miss O'Brien, Miss Geary, Miss Christensen of San Francisco and Miss Lovejoy.

Cinch was the game played, the prizes going to Miss Terry and Mrs. Charles Crane.

Guests numbering seventy-five were present.

+ + +

Seattle Daily Times: August 14, 1904

M

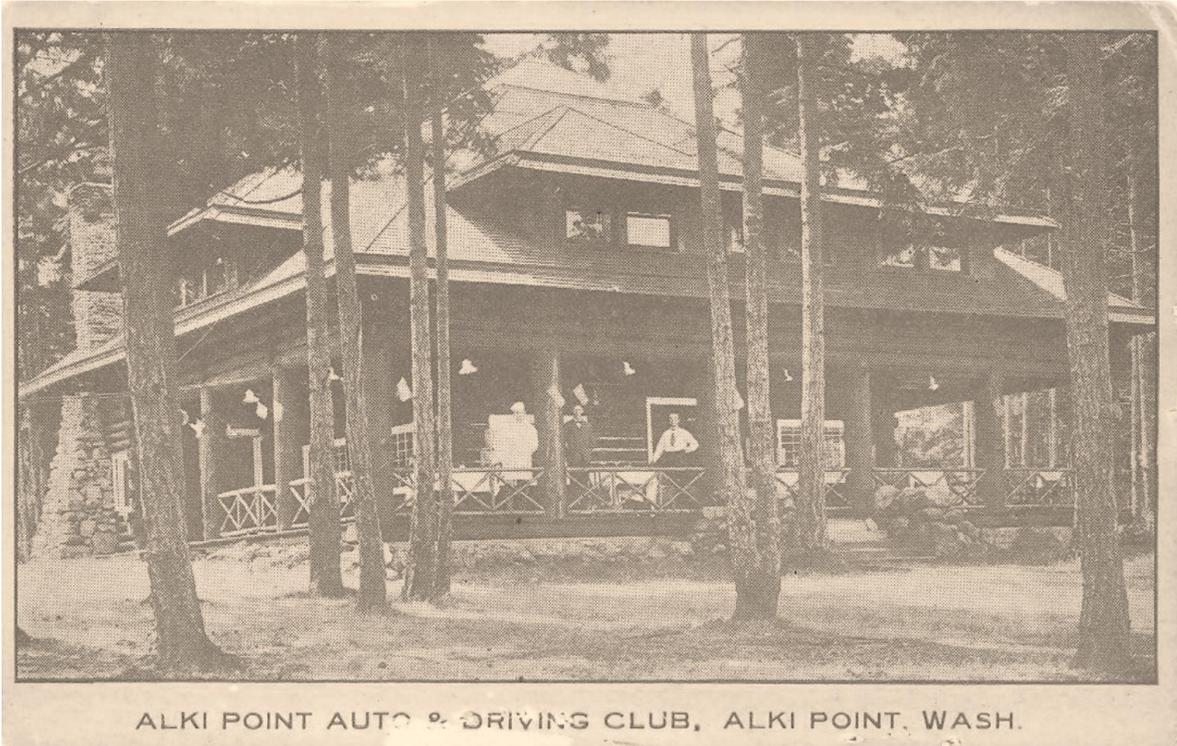
R. AND MRS. WILLIAM J. BERNARD entertain this evening at a garden party at their summer home, "Fir Lodge," at Alki Point. The affair will be one of the largest out-of-door entertainments given this summer. The house and grounds will be decorated for the occasion with ferns, cut flowers and boughs and hung with Japanese lanterns. Assisting Mr. and Mrs. Bernard will be: Governor and Mrs. Graw, Mrs. John Leary, Mr. W. J. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. McGinnis. Booths will be erected upon the lawn and from these refreshments will be served. The ladies in charge will be Mrs. Fred Baxter, Mrs. Walter Fulton, Mrs. Dana Brown, Mrs. William Sullivan, Mrs. Blanche Robertson, Mrs. Margaret Lovejoy, Miss Marie Bernard will be the doorkeeper. Miss Marie Bernard will leave at 7:20 p. m. a special steamer guests across the bay.

+ + +

Seattle Daily Times:
August 16, 1906

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



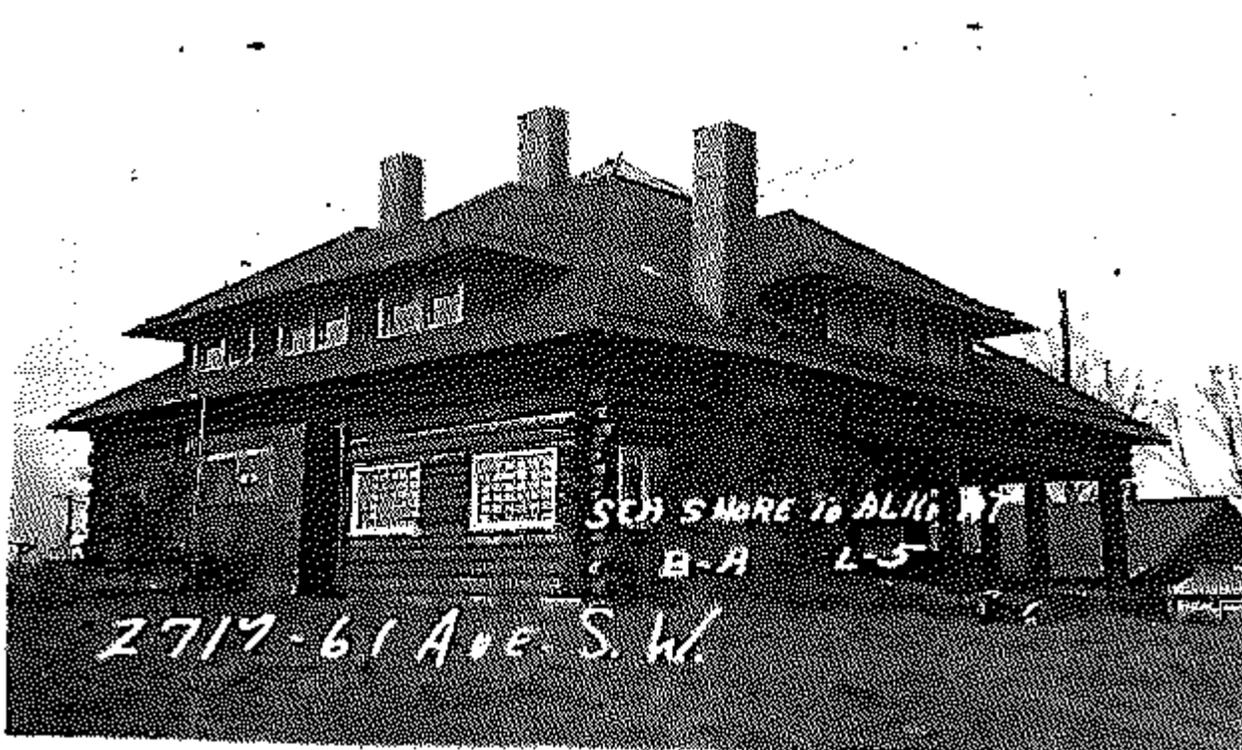
Postcard view of Fir Lodge after it was converted into a clubhouse for the Seattle Auto and Driving Club, c. 1910.
Source: *Southwest Seattle Historical Society*.



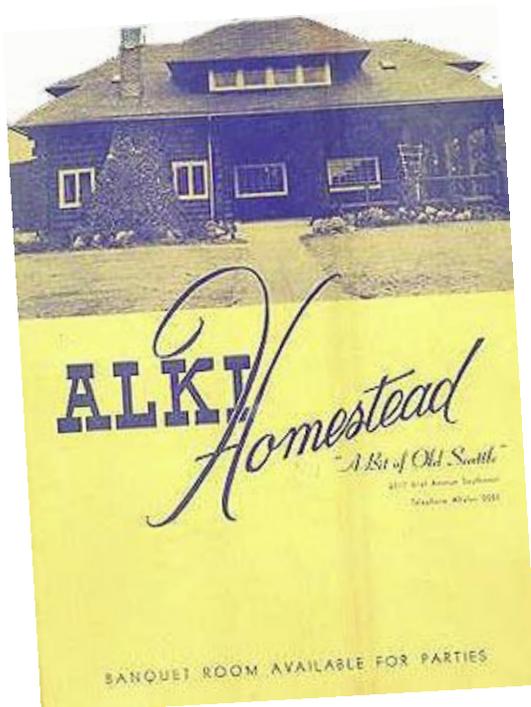
Circa c.1918 view of east porch and entry; large stone chimney is just out of the frame to the left.
Source: *Southwest Seattle Historical Society*.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



Ca. 1937 view of southeast corner. Source: King County Assessor, courtesy of the Puget Sound Regional Archives.



Interior view of Alki Homestead Restaurant, c. 1965.
Note altered fireplace surround with large stone arch.
Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

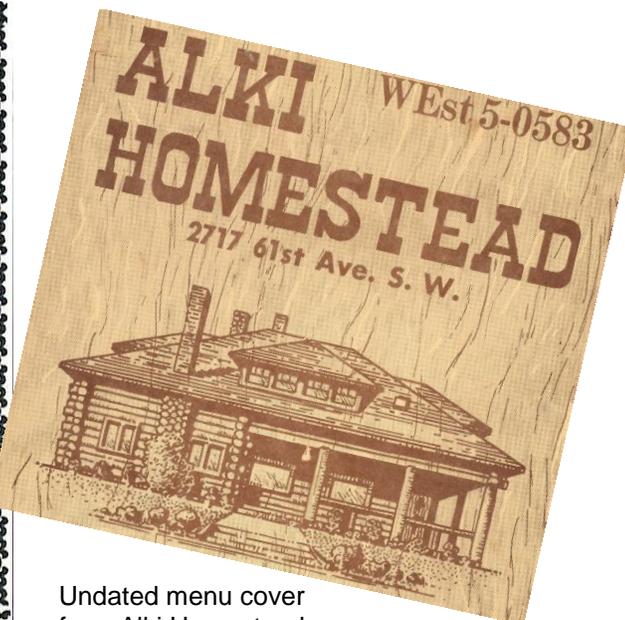
Undated menu cover from Alki Homestead Restaurant, c. 1961
Source: Historylink.org.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

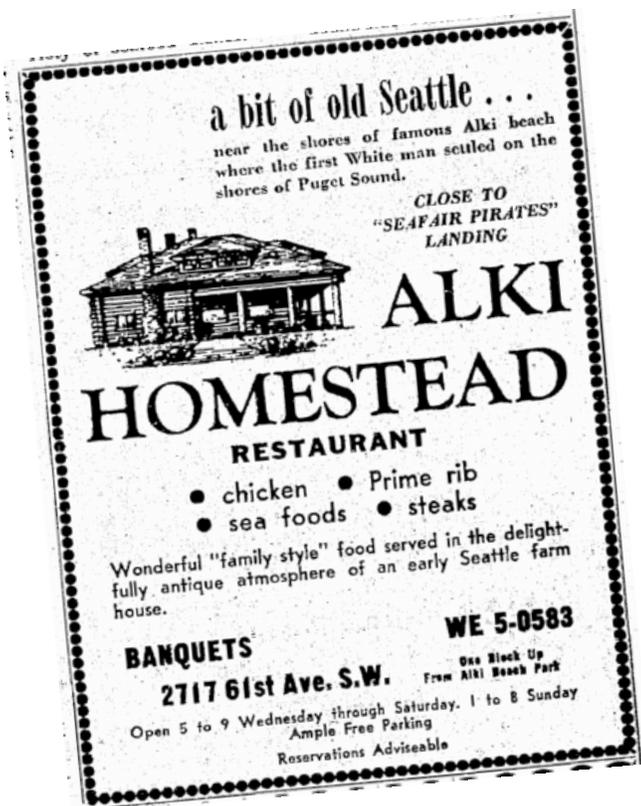
King County, WA
County and State



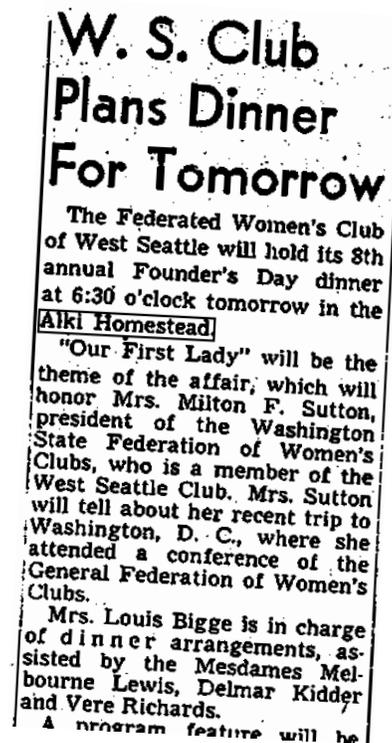
Postcard for Alki Homestead Restaurant, undated.
Source: Southwest Seattle Historical Society.



Undated menu cover
from Alki Homestead
Restaurant, c. 1968



Advertisement – Seattle Times: August 1, 1963



Seattle Times: January 1, 1954

Fir Lodge
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King County, WA
County and State

Post Fire & Reconstruction - 2013-2019



Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Fir Lodge

City or Vicinity: Seattle

County: King **State:** Washington

Photographer: Michael Houser

Date Photographed: March 6, 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number:



1 of 14: View of main facade. Addition at far left.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



2 of 14: View of northwest corner, showing rear outdoor seating area.



3 of 14: View of west/rear elevation.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



4 of 14: View of southwest corner, showing new kitchen addition.



5 of 14: View of southeast corner.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



6 of 14: Detail of main entry door.



7 of 14: View of main living room, showing rebuilt fireplace.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



8 of 14: View of living room looking north towards enclosed porch.



9 of 14: View of enclosed west porch. View towards restrooms and kitchen.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



10 of 14: View towards northwest corner of living room towards enclosed porch.



11 of 14: View of dining room towards east.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



12 of 14: View of dining room/bar with view into the wine cellar/ kitchen area.



13 of 14: Detail of new kitchen addition.

Fir Lodge
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State



14 of 14: View of kitchen area toward wine cellar. .

Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Fir Lodge LLC (Contact: Matt Schilling)
street & number 2626 58th Avenue SW telephone (425) 864-1906
city or town Seattle state WA zip code 98116

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.