

ARCHIVES GAZETTE



City of Seattle
Seattle Municipal Archives

Number 58 Winter 2016

Office of the City Clerk
Legislative Department

Out of the Archives

We love our jobs as archivists for the Seattle Municipal Archives. We thought we'd share some of the reasons why!

A request came in recently from someone wanting to know why a street name was changed from Murphy to Sycamore. Rarely is this information in the archives, as much as we would like it to be. Just to be sure, the archivist took a look in the Clerk Files, where a variety of documents, including petitions, are filed with the Clerk's Office. CF 44186 turned out to be a June 1911 petition from citizens stating, "We the undersigned Residents and Owners of Property on both sides of Murphy Place petition that you rename Murphy Place by calling it Sycamore Avenue; a name that when spoken will not permit of remarks and comments as the present one does." One has to wonder what those remarks were!

A consultant for the World Expo Museum, a non-profit joint project of the Municipality of Shanghai and the International Expositions Bureau in Paris, requested images for the museum, scheduled to open in Shanghai in 2017. We provided them with a variety of images from the 1962 World's Fair.



World's Fair brochure, Vertical File 435, SMA

Monorail and Space Need at fifth and Battery, Sept. 6, 1962 Item 73485, SMA

Staff are very excited about a new tool bringing together SMA digital assets into one website for searching and browsing. Stay tuned in 2017!

74 Years Ago –

Seattle Progressive Citizens' League

The Seattle Progressive Citizens' League, a Chapter of the National Japanese-American Citizens' League, wrote to City Council on May 14, 1942:

Gentlemen:

The time has now come when the Japanese people in this section of the country, through no fault of their own, must interrupt what has been a pleasant relation with other Americans for many years.

A war which we abhor and denounce has been brought against our country by a military clique in Tokio [sic]. Our most earnest desire is to contribute to the defeat of those who made a treacherous attack on America.

Those in authority have deemed our removal from coast areas a military necessity in the interests of the national safety. We cheerfully and loyally accept the decision, and pledge our every effort to victory for our beloved country, the United States.

We regret that our contribution cannot be as valuable as it might have been had we been permitted to remain in our homes. Our evacuation places an added burden on those who remain. We know you will meet the added responsibility faithfully and loyally.

We face the future confidently, deeply impressed by the kindly, considerate and understanding attitude of the authorities and the heartening confidence our friends have shown in us. Your attitude, together with that of our other friends, has helped in no small measure to enable us to look forward to a brighter day in a more glorious America.

At this time of temporary parting, may we express our heartfelt appreciation for all that you and your associates have done during a most trying period for all of us.

Faithfully yours, James Y Sakamoto,
Chairman, Emergency Defense Council

CF 173953, Series 1801-02, Seattle Municipal Archives

Recently Processed Photographs

The Seattle Municipal Archives received a 4Culture Heritage Projects grant to process images relating to the Lake Washington Ship Canal. The color slides were acquired from the Department of Community Development's Historic Building Survey Collection. As Jennifer Woodfield concludes the work on this project, nearly 700 images are online as a result of her work. The collection includes color images of homes and businesses throughout the City taken between 1974 and 1980.

The slides represent neighborhoods and activities along the Lake Washington Ship Canal and are included in "Making the Cut," a region-wide consortium of heritage institutions participating in the centennial of the groundbreaking of the Lake Washington Ship Canal in 1916. This portion of the collection features examples of maritime activity that took place during the mid-to-late 1970s along Salmon Bay, the Fremont Cut, Lake Union and the Montlake Cut. Highlights include snapshots of Old Ballard, Foss Maritime, the celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day in Ballard, the Maritime Shipyards, and Gas Works Park. Researchers can search on keywords "[Making the Cut](#)" in the Photograph database to view images.

Record Series 1629-01 also contains thousands of images relating to many other prominent Seattle neighborhoods. Look for these in the photo database in 2017!



Cascade Cottages, Republican Street., c. 1975.
Item 179552, Series 1629-01, SMA



Ship Wawona on Lake Union, c. 1975
Item 179706, Series 1629-01, SMA



(Photographs cont.)

Also new online are images of the construction of Fire Station 6 and renovation of the fireboat Chief Seattle, as well as many new parks photographs.



Fireboat Chief Seattle renovation, August 23, 2012.
Item 180011, Series 0208-01, SMA



Kubota Garden, April 20, 2016.
Item 180062, Series 5802-15, SMA

Interns and Volunteers

Our newest volunteer is UW iSchool student Jenna Ginnaty, who is working on cataloging our published document collection.

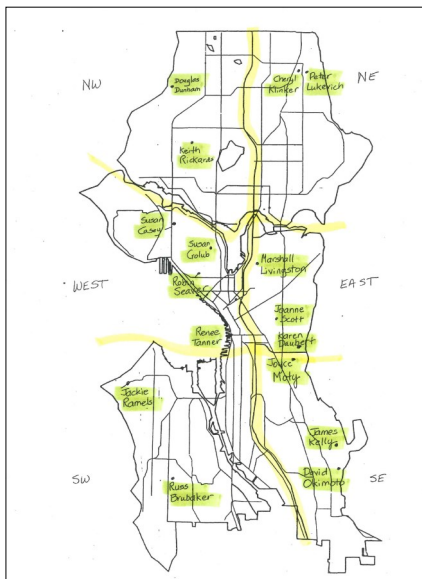
Kelli Yakabu has been scanning City Council records, as well as adding state Supreme Court briefs to our searchable database.

Among other projects, Staci Crouch continues her long-standing work on scanning records from our oldest collection (the General Files) in preparation for getting them online.

Our work-study students, Jenn LaScala and Bryce Neal-Harris, continue to help us serve researchers and keep the archives running smoothly.

Newly Processed:

The records of the Citizens' Oversight Committee of the Open Space and Trails Bond Program (1990-2001, 0.8 cubic foot) document work of the committee which nominated green-



belts, natural areas, and trails for acquisition by the City. The Committee included representatives from each neighborhood district.

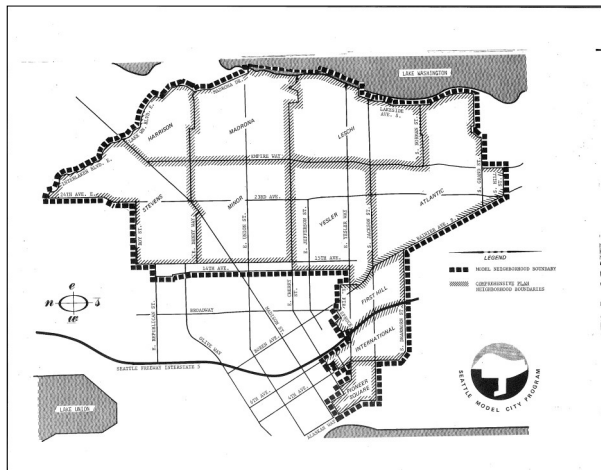
Map showing 2001 recommendations of 16 members of the Oversight Committee, chosen from a pool of 52.

Box 1, Folder 10, Series 5811-04

Another small collection recently processed is the Office of Economic Development special Events committee records (0.4 cubic foot). This was an interdepartmental committee that met monthly to discuss events and associated policy issues. Events include runs and walks, demonstrations, and music festivals. The records date from 2008 to 2009 and are Record Series 2102-01.

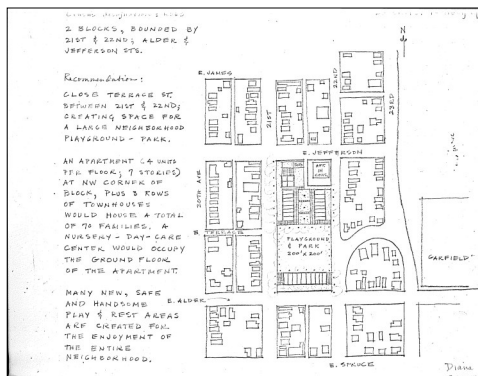
Some of the smaller series in the Model City Program records are receiving conservation care. Items are being re-folded and damaging items such as rusty paper clips and deteriorated rubber bands are being removed. Records in these smaller series relate to federal funding aimed at improving the quality of urban life with an emphasis on citizen participation in the process. The focus of these records cover a wide scope but include: home repair service, tenant organization, housing demonstration, bus shelters, and neighborhood service centers, to name just a few. The housing demonstration project reviewed vacant property and focused on developing new housing in the Model Neighborhood. Funds for twelve new housing units were allocated but halted when HUD froze housing funds. The project assisted in the purchase of the Texada apartment building, which was renovated to serve as housing for low-income elderly.

(Processed cont.)



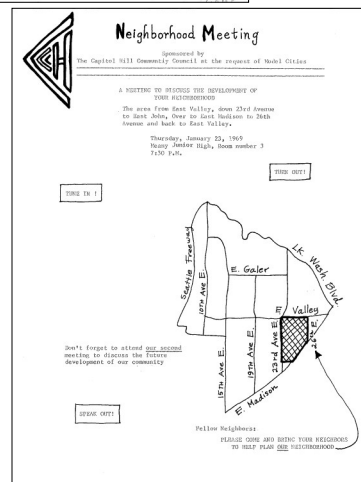
Map of Model City neighborhood inspired the logo the program used. Box 2, Folder 28, Housing Project Demonstration Records, Series 5418-03.

The project also identified vacant lots for possible use. In the map below, two blocks bounded by 21st and 22nd and Alder and Jefferson were identified. Closing Terrace Street between 21st and 22nd was recommended, in order to create space for a park. A combination of apartments and townhouses was proposed, with a day care on the bottom floor.



Undated recommendation on. Box 2, Folder 28, Housing Project Demonstration Records, Series 5418-03.

Flyer for neighborhood meeting on January 23, 1969, regarding development near 23rd Ave E and E Valley, encouraging people to "Tune In!" "Turn Out!" and "Speak Out!"
Box 2, Folder 28, Housing Project Demonstration Records, Series 5418-03.



YouTube and Flickr News

One of the most popular images on [SMA's Flickr site](#) is of Rainier Avenue near 56th in 1936.



[Item 11009](#), *Seattle Municipal Archives*

The most popular video on SMA's YouTube site this quarter is *Seattle Moves a Mountain: The Story of the Denny Regrade*.



Seattle Moves a Mountain: The Story of the Denny Regrade. Includes footage and still images with maps, models, and drawings of future projects.

[Item 3271](#), *Seattle Municipal Archives*

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SMA in Print and in the News

Feliks Banel researched Seattle after Pearl Harbor and published an article about Seattle's cooperation with federal authorities in [MyNorthwest.com](#).

The [Seattle Times](#) featured items from the Seattle Municipal Archives in an article on Pearl Harbor by Eric Lacitis.



[LawStreet-Media.com](#) featured an open housing photo in an article titled "Equal Access?: Neighborhood Preference and Housing Lotteries" on

September 28, 2016.

Ten Years Ago: Obama in Seattle



Barack Obama, during his first visit to Seattle after launching his campaign for president, with Nick Licata and Andrea Okomski, June 12, 2007.

[Item 179929](#), *Series 4600-11*, *SMA*.

Upcoming Events

January 26 AKCHO Annual Meeting
Museum of Flight 9:30 AM
January 28, 2017 History Cafe
MOHAI Café 6:30-7:30 PM
May 17-19 Northwest Archivists Annual Meeting
Boise, Idaho