

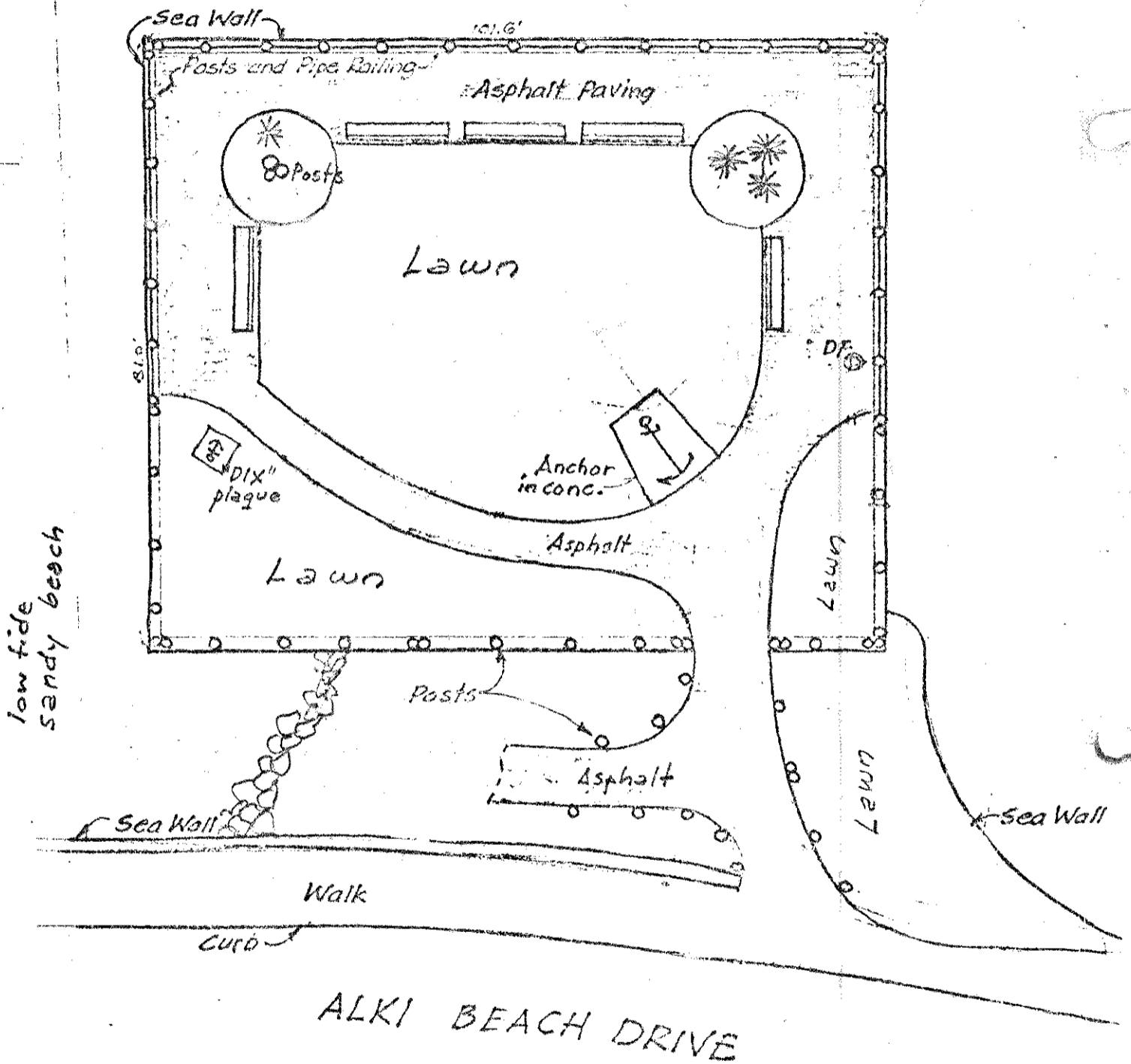
Elliott Bay named for a member of the 1841 Wilkes Expedition: Meany claims it was Rev. J. L. Elliott, chaplain; but Hanson believes it was midshipman Samuel Elliott. An 1854 map shows it as "Duwamish Bay."

Puget Sound named for Lt. Peter Puget of the 1791 Vancouver Expedition, but at that time it applied to waters south of Pt. Defiance. An 1854 map shows the name extended to present usage. Indian name was "Whulge".

Duwamish Head: headland at the mouth of the Duwamish River - from a Chinook word "Duwám psh" meaning "many-colored river". Was one of the first names proposed for town (Seattle). Duwamish River becomes Green River at Tukwila at point of junction with the abandoned Black River which had drained Lake Washington before Ship Canal was built. (Re: South Area Athletic Field)

An amusement park named LUNA PARK and patterned after its Coney Island namesake was built here, including a salt water pool and rides, etc., built on piling (stubs still visible at low tide). A ferry dock was built at "Atlantic St." and the "West Seattle Ferry" service established (1889-1902). A cable car line curved its way up from the ferry dock to show the real estate opportunities of West Seattle. By 1902 the beach area was so popular that one of the new electric street railway lines was built "all the way" from Seattle. In 1908 the first flight over Seattle was made with a hot air balloon piloted by L. G. Mecklem from Luna Pt. to Meadows Race Track in Georgetown. Luna Park was destroyed by fire in 1911. Indoor Alki Natatorium was built in 1933. The abandoned Luna Park site was bought in 1945, the old pool filled in + planted in 1954. In 1958 the Northwest Divers Club found a 4400 lb. ANCHOR from a sailing vessel and placed it here with a plaque. (USNB 8487 168) During Maritime Week, 1973, a marker was placed to commemorate the 1906 disaster of the capsizing of the steamer DIX in which 45 persons drowned after a collision with the steamer JEANIE off D. Head.

ALKI BEACH PARK
"LUNA PARK" (over) sheet 1



"LUNA PARK"
GENERAL PLAN
Scale 1"=20'

52973

A considerable party had assembled on the beach to greet Capt. Folger and his cargo of 12 adults and as many children, youngest of whom was Rolland Denny at 2 months - the 6 early arrivals from the East and Chief Seattle accompanied by many tribes folk. Many hands soon roofed the cabin against the winter rains and made it livable for the entire party. The Terry family were New Yorkers and urged the group to so-name this "settlement" combining with it a Chinook word meaning "by and by" - New York Alki (pronounced AL-KEY). But wind-lashed winter storms, high tides and a beach that was wide and shallow caused the settlers to move to the shore of Elliott Bay where the water was quite deep close to shore - quite suitable for the great harbor they hoped their town would become. "New York" was dropped by 1853 but "ALKI" stuck (during Prohibition Days the good folk changed its pronunciation to "ALK-EYE"). The new town's Doctor Maynard persuaded the settlers to name the town in honor of his close friend - Chief Seattle.

Logging and fishing (canning) became the obvious first industries of the settlers. A sawmill was built on the east shore of Duwamish Head: William Renton tried to build one on this beach but soon agreed with the Pioneer Party's decision to re-locate. The point of land known as Me-kuah-mooks + Point Roberts was low and hard to see from a ship, so the need for a guiding light was soon evident. By 1858 the place was called Battery Point and a kerosene lantern hung on the lonely shore by members of Hans Hanson's family. In 1887 the U.S. Lighthouse Service took over the task and called it Alki Point. A road was opened from the Alki Point along the beach, cutting its way up along (Bonair Drive) to the top of Duwamish Head and the cluster of homes of mill hands and fishermen being identified as West Seattle. California Avenue had been "improved" for about 2 miles and a wagon road branched off from it down the slope past Young's town, southward along the edge of the wide tidal flats of the Duwamish River delta to another settlement named South Park. Crossing the River on a bridge another road skirted the delta to arrive at Seattle. Obviously West Seattle was slow in developing. In 1888 The West Seattle Improvement Co. (Realtors) built Seattle's first ferry line from Seattle across Elliott Bay to a terminal on the east shore of Duwamish Head at (SW Atlantic St.); adjacent they built a cable car loop up the steep slope (California Way) to a powerhouse/berm near 46th and Admiral Way and back down via (Ferry Ave.) A railroad was built on a trestle across the tidal flats on (Spokane St.) to serve the developing waterfront around Duwamish Head: fish canneries, ship builders, mills and warehouses.

Alki Beach had been a favorite campsite for the Indians and, upon the installation of ferry service, it became a popular Sunday outing for Seattle: walking along the sandy beach at low tide from the ferry terminal to Alki Point lowlands; or at high tide, taking the cable car and walking down Bonair Drive. It became so popular that the enterprising consolidation of cable and trolley car lines in Seattle decided to run a trolley car on a trestle across the tidal flats in 1902 and replaced the one-boat ferry service. Before long the car line was extended from the old ferry-cable car terminal on a trestle on the beach around Duwamish Head to Alki meadows. West Seattle was annexed in 1907. The Olmsted's Supplemental Plan of 1908 proposed Alki Ave. as part of the boulevard system and a park at Alki Point including the knoll and shoreline south of the Lighthouse.

This growth potential and popularity induced Ches. Looft to build, on pilings, a big amusement attraction called LUNA PARK at the point of Duwamish Head. Completed in 1907 the park contained an indoor "Powers Metatorium and Bathhouse" with several heated salt water pools, a gigantic enclosed German Carrousel (built in Rhode Island), a restaurant, roller coaster, boat Chute into a "tub" of water ferris wheel (popularized at the 1893 Exposition in Chicago), hot dog stands, etc. A first feature event was the first flight over Seattle in 1908, made with a hot-air balloon piloted by L.G. Mecklem, from the park to Meadows Race Track in Georgetown. But Luna Park's

(more)

history: ALKI BEACH PARK
page 2

12/13/70

Inner Harbor Line

PUGET SOUND

View of Olympic Mountains



former stair
Bus Zone

41,378 = '57
stair
2 bk/bk benches
asphalt
Bus Zone

former stair
2 sing. benches
asphalt
Bus Zone

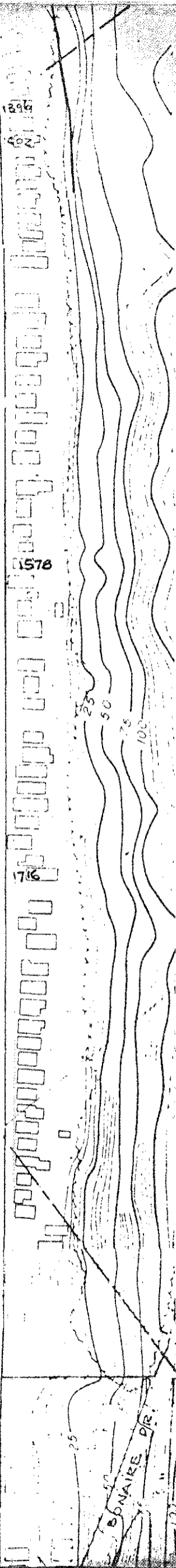
Stairway '66 #3,760
2 bk/bk benches
asphalt
Bus Zone

← seawall →

AVE. SW

ALKI

← BUS #37 →



→ to 47TH + MASSACHUSETTS ST.
Bonaive Dr. was one of first roads
down to beach from W. Seattle.

Mt. Olympus named by Capt. John Meers
in 1780's, name taken from the peak in Macedonia,
famous in Greek mythology as the abode of the
12 highest deities under Zeus. Capt. Geo.
Vancouver extended the name to the whole range
of mountains; individual peaks have been named
by others like Lt. George Davidson (see Lincoln Park).
(Olympia, Greece, was birthplace of Olympic Games: 776 B.C.)

Waterfront property acquired with intention of
creating a boulevard, but legislation to establish
"Alki Boulevard" was never approved by City Council.
However, the seawall was built and fill behind, to create
Alki Avenue along the original shoreline.

sheet 2

ALKI BEACH PARK

021767

PUGET SOUND



Inner Harbor Line

stairway 16,105 =
2 sing. benches
asphalt
bus zone

asphalt walk

stairway

sandy beach

ALKI AVE SW

BONAIRE PL SW

BONAIR

HALTECK

53rd

34th PLACE

55th

AV SW

57th

AV SW

58th

AV SW

59th

AV SW

60th

AV SW

61st

AV SW

Permitted
excavation for Schmitz Park stream
Sandy beach

minus tides reveal a wide sandy beach
sandy beach
grass slope
steps

* The original (1910) portion of the beach park was between 65th + 58th, the rest of the waterfront was private or commercial: at 57th two wharves existed on the tidelands: the fish curing plant of the King + Winge Codfish Co.: access by "bridge" along tidelands the across "end" of park.

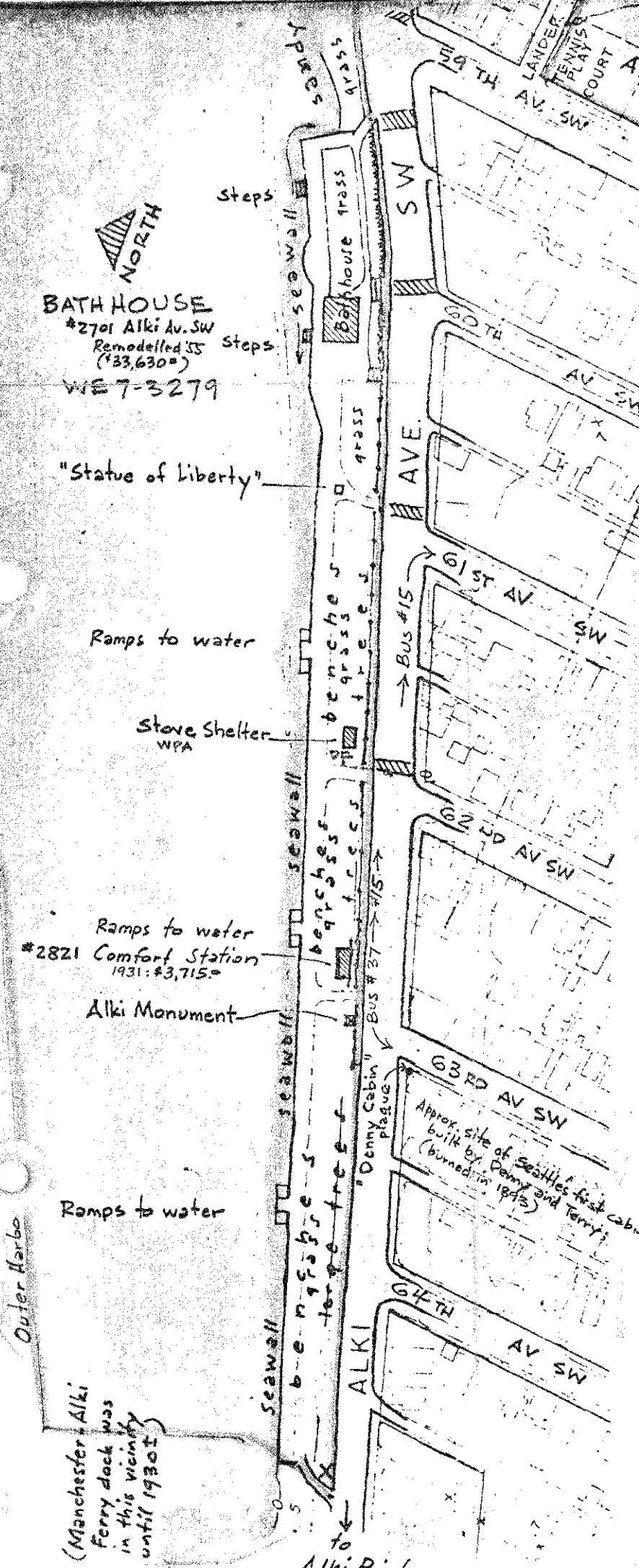
Comfort Station - 2509 Alki Av. SW (19105 = '63)

(Piling stubs revealed by low tide remain from a large warm salt water Natatorium built by O.E. Welden on the beach betw. 58th + MARINE AV. in 1934, operated by Welden until 1941, then (by default) by Park Dept. until its demolition in 1953. Concession operator had offered turkish bath, dining, dancing, pipe organ + portable off-season roller skating, gambling tent: went bankrupt in lawsuit over accidental death. Natatorium was preceded by 280' outdoor "tide-water" pool: 1916 - 1929.)

sheet 3

ALKI BEACH PARK

890301



This beach area had been a favorite camp site of Chief Seattle and his tribe so they were on hand to "greet" the Exact, along with Henry VanAsselt and David Denny who had started a log cabin (see 63RD + ALKI AV.) for the pioneer party. (Presently the beach is the scene of the famed yearly Salmon Barbeque of the Indians - open to the public.)

At a later date, Capt. Wm. Renton arrived to build a sawmill here, but was discouraged from it by the wind and tides.

"Statue of Liberty", a small, bronze replica of the one in the New York Harbor by the French sculptor Bartholdi, "presented" by Reginald H. Parsons and the Boy Scouts of America, Seattle Council, Feb. 23, 1952... as a pledge of everlasting fidelity and loyalty... (to the) faith and courage of their forefathers who made possible the freedom of these United States... The original bronze, "Liberty Enlightening The World" is 151 ft. high mounted on a pedestal 155 ft. high; gift of France in 1886 to commemorate 100th anniversary of American Independence. *Presented to City of Seattle." - BSA office

Alki Monument - a shaft of stone marking the "Birthplace of Seattle." At this place on 13 Nov. 1851 there landed from the (73A) Schooner Exact, Capt. Folger and the little colony which developed into the City of Seattle. Adults of the pioneer party: Arthur A. and (Mary Boren) Denny John N. and (Lydia) Low Garson D. and (Mary) Boren Wm. N. and (Sarah) Bell Louisa Boren 22 David T. Denny 19 [See Boren Pk.] Chas. C. Terry 21 Lee Terry 19

The Children of the pioneer party:
 Louise Denny 7 Gertrude Boren 1
 Lenora Denny 4 Laura Bell 4
 Rolland Denny 5 Olive Bell 5
 Alonzo Low 7 Virginia Bell 4
 Mary Low 9 Levina Bell 10 mo.
 John Low 4
 Minerva Low -

Erected by The Washington Univ. State Hist. Society, 13 Nov. 1905 (Prof. Edmond Meany)

Monument also contains:
 Rock from Plymouth Rock embedded in base, brought by first motor caravan across the Continent, managed by James H. Brown.
 Tablet by Washington Automobile Club, placed 4 Sept. 1926.

Lead Time Capsule placed by The Seattle Centennial (1952) honoring founders and city builders, dedicated to the Seattle of 2051 A.D.

Designation - "New York-Alki"; the Terry family were New Yorkers and named this first settlement New York, adding the Chinook word "alki" (pronounced AL-KEY) which meant "by and by." The "New York" was "dropped" by 1853 (founding of town across the bay, naming it "Seattle") but Alki remains.

ALKI BEACH PARK

Sheet 4

BATH HOUSE
 #2701 Alki Av. SW
 Remodelled '55
 (#33,630⁰⁰)
 WE 7-3279

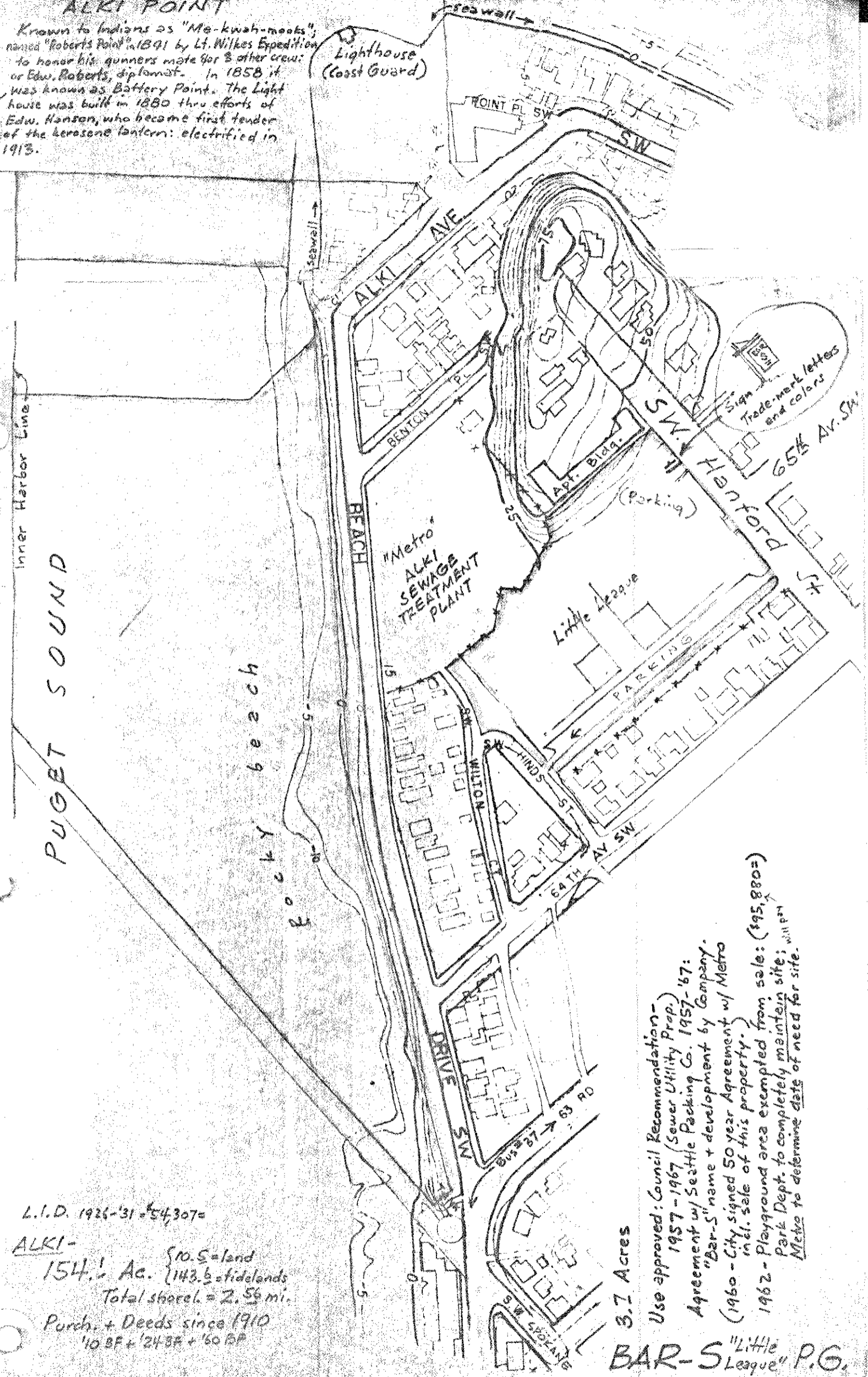
Ramps to water
 #2821 Comfort Station
 1931: \$3,715⁰⁰
 Alki Monument

TOTAL WATERFRONT PROP. = 154.1 Acres
 WE 5-2520 (foreman) Walkway = 2 mi.
 Shoreline = 2 1/2 mi.
 Origin of Park name →

Beach became a favorite camp of the pioneers, as did the Indians (see above) and this portion of beach became the first portion of park in 1910, the first MUNICIPAL salt water beach on West Coast. (Purch. about 10 ac. for \$75,000.00) 10 BF
 BATH HOUSE is on site of first bathhouse in Seattle parks (1911) but was much larger than present structure. First "refectory" operated by Park Dept. was included in the Bathhouse.
 A Band Stand was adjacent. Private refreshment stands operated across the street.

ALKI POINT

Known to Indians as "Me-kwah-mooks", named "Roberts Point" in 1891 by Lt. Wilkes Expedition to honor his gunners mate for 3 other crew: or Edw. Roberts, diplomat. In 1858 it was known as Battery Point. The Lighthouse was built in 1880 thru efforts of Edw. Hanson, who became first tender of the kerosene lantern: electrified in 1913.



PUGET SOUND

Rocky beach

L.I.D. 1926-'31 = 54,307 =

ALKI-
 154.1 Ac. { 10.5 = land
 { 143.6 = tidelands
 Total shorel. = 2.56 mi.
 Purch. + Deeds since 1910
 '10 BP + '24 BP + '60 BP

WE 5-2520

3.7 Acres

Use approved: Council Recommendation-
 1957-1967 (Sewer Utility Prop.)
 Agreement w/ Seattle Parking Co. 1957-'67:
 "Bar-S" name + development by Company.
 (1960 - City signed 50 year Agreement w/ Metro
 incl. sale of this property.)
 1962 - Playground area exempted from sale: (\$95,880 =)
 Park Dept. to completely maintain site; will pay
 Metro to determine date of need for site.

BAR-S "Little League" P.G.