

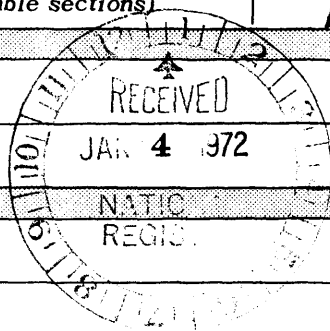
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington	
COUNTY: King	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 14 1972	



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Fire Station #25

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1400 Harvard Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Seattle, 98122

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: King CODE: 033

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural  
 Commercial  
 Educational  
 Entertainment  
 Government  
 Industrial  
 Military  
 Museum  
 Park  
 Private Residence  
 Religious  
 Scientific  
 Transportation  
 Other (Specify) vacant firehouse  
 Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Seattle Fire Department, City of Seattle

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Seattle Municipal Building

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle, 98104 STATE: Washington CODE: 53

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
King County Auditor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle, 98104 STATE: Washington CODE: 53

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Junior League of Seattle

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Junior League of Seattle

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1616 - 41st East

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle, 98102 STATE: Washington CODE: 53

STATE: Washington

COUNTY: King

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ENTRY NUMBER: APR 14 1972

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fire Station #25 is a two story brick building with basement, built in 1908 and 1909 as a major fire station. It has four terraced bays on street level and living quarters above. A hose tower is on the north side. It is shaped like an inverted "L", the short arm of the letter being a single long bay.

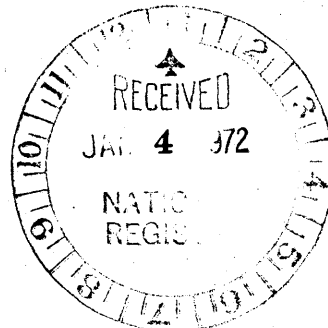
The building is in good structural condition. The brick work needs pointing and in some areas, particularly the hose tower, the bricks are flaking off. The city architects' office says that some arches are cracked. However, the building has been the subject of recent planning. It has been suggested that it be converted into a neighborhood service center and inside-outside cafe. During the summer of 1970 it was used by a Youth Corps Group.

The fire station is essentially the same in appearance now as when it was built, although wrought iron decorations appearing on the architect's plans are not on the building. It is not known if they were ever installed. Most windows and bay doors are arched. The interior is austere and totally free from decoration although there is some carving on the stairway newel posts. Internal changes were made after the conversion from horse-drawn equipment to motorized, but the original design is quite evident. The second floor remains virtually unaltered.

The first floor of the station, with its several levels still shows some of the design for horse drawn equipment. The original details are noted in the statement of significance. After World War I, or around that time, the iron grates in the horse stalls were removed and the holes cemented up. Workers dismantled the stalls and the barn. In the old area they built truck spaces, sommissary lockers, lounging room, and a watch office with a built-in folding bed. Part of the long bay was converted into a handball court.

Upstairs were a dormitory, locker room, wash room, recreation area, and office space. Brass poles led from the sleeping quarters to the equipment below. The southern bay, built to accomodate the long ladder rig, had two poles, each set into the wall, The two column-like features on the outside of the south wall are actually the outside of the shafts required to allow a man passage down the pole.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1909 to present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | <u>fire station</u>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | <u>architecture</u>                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

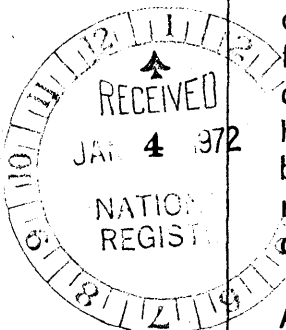
Fire Station #25 is significant in that it was one of the "new" series of brick fire stations built shortly after the turn of the century to replace the wooden stations that had been built after the fire of 1889. It was the change from horse-drawn equipment to motorized fire fighting gear; and the passage of one period to another has left its mark on the building. It is also a fine example of an architecture that combined function with good design.

Designed in 1908 by the architectural firm of Sommerville and Coe, and built in 1909, the station was immediately the subject of some dispute. It was built on a hill and to compensate for the slope, the station floor was terraced. (a feature unique to the west coast, as far as can be determined, and possible to a wider area) The four bays for fire equipment were built like stairs, each about two feet above the other. Fireman complained that this drop could lead to accidents when they rushed to their wagons. To reduce this possibility, the designer provided each level with its own brass pole from the dormitory above. For further safety, guard rails were installed along the edge.

The building strongly reflects the horse drawn fire equipment of the past. The department blacksmith shops were here. A horse ramp still leads from the alley into the building and along the rear of the old stalls. Each equipment bay had three stalls for horses. The horses stood on an iron grate which opened over the manure cellar below. Galvanized metal sheeting protected the stable framework from gnawing horses and it still remains in some places. Each stall had a pair of double doors in the front with polished wire windows. When the alarm rang from the big brass gong, the doors opened automatically and the horses trotted out to the equipment. A barn and hayloft occupied the back of the station and the high sliding door to the loft is still in the back wall, although the loft itself has been removed. A washing platform for horses is also still visible. To ensure ready pressure in the horse drawn pumper, a steam line led from the basement and could be coupled to the apparatus.

Although the station was built for horse drawn equipment, it also was the home of the Department's first motor vehicle. But by World War I the last of the horse wagons were gone. Modifications were made to eradicate some of the evidences of the horse era, and to better use some of the large spaces. By 1970, the station was no longer adequate for modern equipment, but the building survives, holding memories of two eras of fire fighting.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Seattle Fire Department, annual reports, 1913 on.  
 Personal observations, on site, by David Hansen.  
 Notes, Department of Community Development, City of Seattle.

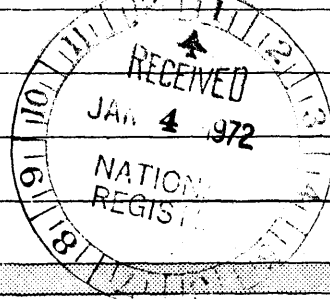
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



NO  
UTM  
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 David M. Hansen

ORGANIZATION: (address only) Seattle Historical Society  
 DATE: March 15, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 2161 E. Hamlin Street

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle, 98102  
 STATE: Washington  
 CODE: 53

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Charles H. Odegaard  
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title: Director - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utsey  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/14/72

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: April 7, 1972

Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

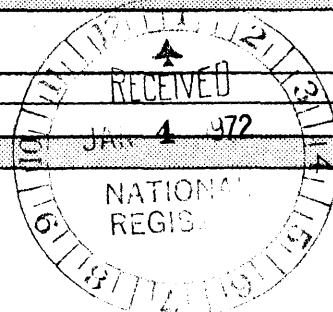
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

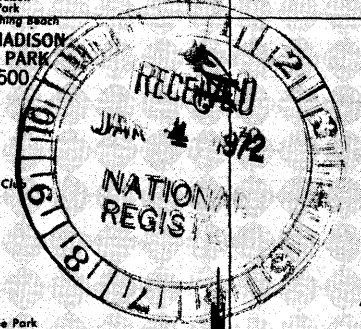
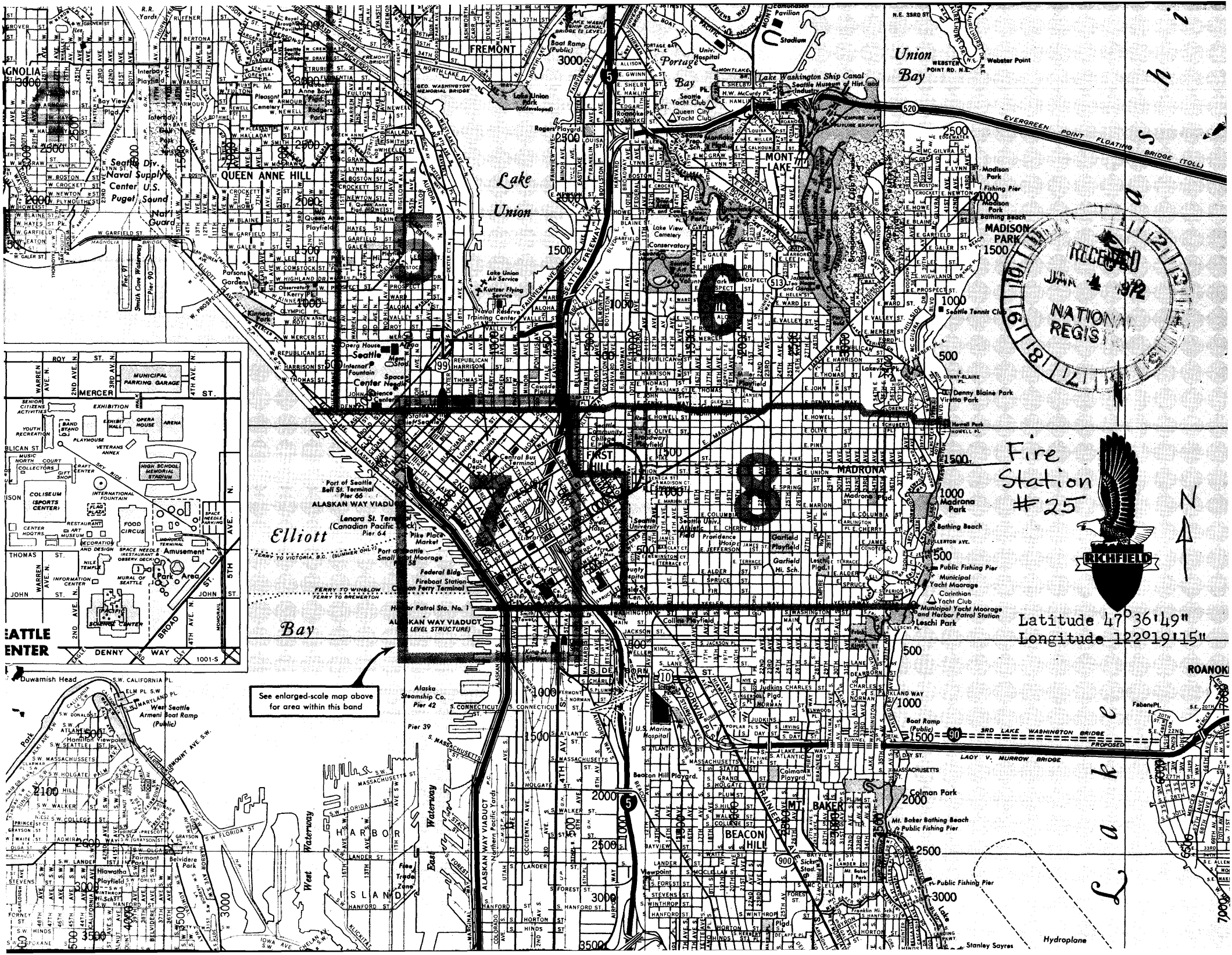
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY King	
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<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Fire Station #25			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1400 Harvard Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Seattle, 98122			
STATE: Washington	CODE 53	COUNTY: King	CODE 033
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: Atlantic Richfield Company			
SCALE: one inch equals ca. .7 miles			
DATE: 1968			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



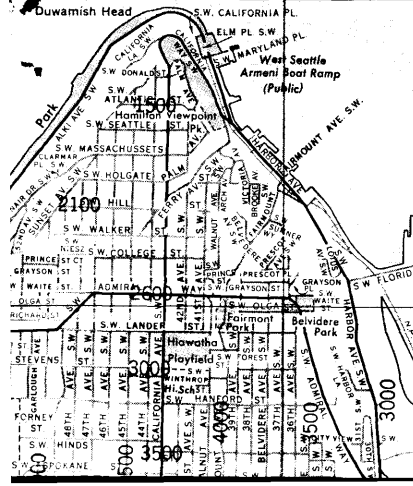


Fire Station #25  
Latitude 47°36'49"  
Longitude 122°19'15"



See enlarged-scale map above for area within this band

SEATTLE CENTER



ROANOK

L a k e

Stanley Soyars Hydroplane