

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number ___ Page 1

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100004345

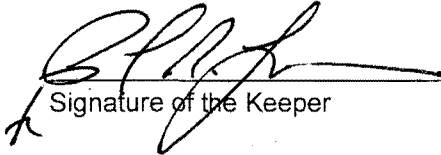
Date Listed: 08/27/2019

Property Name: Munson, Herbert and Barbara House

County: Pierce

State: WA

This Property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation



Signature of the Keeper

8/27/2019

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:
This confirms that the property was nominated under NR Criterion C at the *local* level. [The SHPO certification block was not fully completed; the appropriate box has now been selected/checked. The statement of significance narrative did not identify a specific level of significance; the local level, as noted in the SHPO certification, is appropriate.]

The WASHINGTON SHPO was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



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 Munson, Herbert & Barbara, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 12711 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW not for publication

city or town Lakewood vicinity

state Washington code WA county Pierce code 053 zip code 98499

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this 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 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 local

Applicable National Register Criteria

A B C D

Ally M
Signature of certifying official/Title

7-17-19
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]
Signature of the Keeper

8/27/2019
Date of Action

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
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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		buildings
		district
		site
1		structure
		object
2		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.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Contemporary

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: WOOD

roof: ASPHALT

other: _____

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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.)

The Herbert Joseph and Barbara Anne Munson House is located in the city of Lakewood just east of Interstate 5 near the Gravelly Lake Drive exit. The nominated property included two contributing resources: the house and a detached carport. The lot is medium bank waterfront and roughly rectangular with approximately 105 feet of water frontage on Gravelly Lake, which includes tidelands. The 160 acre lake has a total of 2.1 miles of shoreline. It is fed by rainfall and had no above-ground inlets or outlets.

Gravelly Lake is surrounded by many luxury homes and is considered the most prestigious lake in the Tacoma area due to the many prominent people who live on the lake and the fact that it, although technically public, has no viable public access. The few public access "roads", only identifiable on a map, are steep, overgrown with thick brush, blocked off with fencing and practically impassible, effectively creating a private lake accessible only to homeowners and their guests.

The front of the house is lushly landscaped, including several mature Vine Maple and Japanese Maple trees, two Hemlock trees, Rhododendrons and numerous other species of trees, plants and shrubs. There is a 24' X 31' front patio of exposed aggregate concrete incorporating inlaid 2 X 4 Cedar serving as expansion relief joints, typical of Robert Price's work. A partition made from vertical wood planks separates the front patio area from the detached carport. The house originally used a septic system installed under the patio and driveway. The system was abandoned and the house was connected to the city sewer system in the 1970's when the city sewage system was brought to the area.

At the back of the house, a winding dirt path on the hillside leads to a private dock. The hillside was a forest of Douglas Fir and Maple trees when the house was built in 1964. No mature Maples, only a few Firs and two mature Oak trees remain on the hillside today, cleared to open up the view of the lake from the house.

Before the Munson Residence was built, a boat house once existed over the water under which a boat could be parked. There was also once a pump house on the hillside which served a small house which occupied the original parcel before it was subdivided into four lots. Two large wood beams which supported the pump house still protrude horizontally from the hillside as of 2019. The water pipe from the lake to the pump house protrudes from the ground between these beams, and rusted electrical conduit and wires still lay on the ground nearby.

The house is situated on the lot in such a way as to provide a panoramic view of almost the entire lake. The house is a 3 bedroom single family home. The home includes a "den" which can serve as an office or a guest room. There is a large 2-car carport in place of a garage. The carport roof measures 24' X 25' (600 sq. ft.). Its roofline is in the same plane as that of the house. The carport is of post and beam construction and has the exact same built-up gravel roof and Cedar siding as the house. The carport includes a small tool storage shed which is integral to the design. A small lean-to greenhouse which was once installed on the front of the house (in front of the utility area window) by Herb Sr. was later moved to the South wall of the carport by Herb Jr.

The house has a generous roof overhang all around which prevents the siding from getting wet. The house siding material consists of 1" X 4" rough-sawn tongue & groove Cedar boards oriented vertically, with rough-sawn Cedar-faced plywood sheets used in several areas underneath windows. The house is of exposed post and beam construction with a low-pitched built-up roof covered with gravel. The glulam beams supporting the roof do not extend past the edge of the roof. Custom fascia boards all around the roof are specially designed with a groove cut on the underside to help keep rain water from reaching the soffit boards.

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The street side of the house has few windows while the lake side of the house is mostly glass to take advantage of the view of the lake. Windows have been upgraded to dual-pane throughout. The walls, window frames and doors of the Munson house are made with exceptional precision. The gap around the perimeter of doors in their frames throughout the house is typically 1/16" and never exceeds 1/8". The frames of nearly all interior passage doors extend all the way to the ceiling. Fixed door panels mounted to the door frames above the doors make it appear that the doors extend all the way to the ceiling. The doors are all of standard height, but many are unusually wide. The house is completely free from trim moldings around door openings, which provides for a sleek modern look. The house does have moldings where gypsum board walls meet the floors. Window frames are custom made for the house from wood. Window opening widths are consistent from top to bottom within 1/64".

The Munson house makes extensive use of plywood, not only in the usual areas such as flooring and roofing, but most noticeably in the construction of the many built-ins. Honey-colored Birch veneer ply is found throughout the house. The Birch veneer facing of the plywood is clear (knot-free) as well as book matched in most areas.

The L-shaped house has 3041 square feet of living space on ground level plus a completely subterranean partial basement measuring 25' X 35' (875 square feet). A covered walkway of coarse exposed aggregate concrete leads to the front door. The walkway has inlaid wood serving as expansion joints and galvanized steel flashing protects the concrete foundation from water along this walkway. The 45.5 in. wide front door is located in the approximate center of the house and is flanked by tall narrow windows which extend to the 11 ft. high vaulted ceiling. Above this door is a fixed door panel which, along with the door frame, extends to the ceiling. This feature is repeated on virtually all doorways throughout the house. The front door opens to a foyer with tile flooring. Stained rough-sawn tongue & groove Cedar paneling lines the entire foyer wall to the right as you enter the house. Opposite this wall is a built-in coat closet made entirely of Birch veneer plywood.

A carpeted hallway to the left leads to the 3 bedrooms, while the living and formal dining rooms are straight ahead. A carpeted hallway to the right leads to the den, a 3/4 guest bath, the family room, and utility area. This hallway has a skylight and is lined on one side with a fully adjustable built-in bookshelf system. A door along this hallway opens to a wooden staircase which leads down to the basement.

The den has a custom built-in storage closet with plywood doors finished in a Walnut stain. The bottom of this closet contains 2 specially-made built-in file cabinets which can be pulled out on sliders. Stained rough-sawn tongue & groove Cedar paneling covers two walls. The flooring is Red Oak parquet. There is a door allowing direct access to the guest bath. The den has large floor-to-ceiling windows. Window dividers allow small lower panes to open.

The guest bath has a custom made cabinet made from Birch veneer plywood with a sink. This bathroom has a shower made from light green tile. The updated floor (previously linoleum) is light green tile as well.

A row of kitchen cabinets originally separating the kitchen and family room was removed during a kitchen remodel in 2006 to make room for a food preparation island. The kitchen remodel added granite countertops, all new appliances and Oak parquet flooring (previously linoleum) to the kitchen, family room and part of the utility area. The kitchen has a window with a view to the lake and a clerestory window above. Part of the family room now serves as a breakfast area. The breakfast area has a sliding glass door to the deck providing a view of the lake with a clerestory window above. The deck is built from 2" thick clear Cedar (twice as thick as standard). The adjacent wall to the South has a large window which also looks out on the lake.

The remainder of what was the family room now serves as a sitting area by a fireplace, the surround of which was salvaged from the demolished house of Alice Watson, a friend of Mrs. Munson and her mother. The home

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was built in 1888 for Augustus Walters and was designed by Katherine Lockwood Squire (one of the first female architects practicing on the west coast). The design is Victorian and it stands in stark contrast to the mid-century design of the home, but it was a design feature that appears on the original house blueprints.

Adjacent to the family room is a utility area containing a washer, dryer, utility sink and custom built-in storage closets. There is a window above the sink with an opening section. A custom-built entertainment unit made of plywood serves to separate the family room from the utility area. This room divider contains a TV nook with shelves and storage underneath on the family room side, and another storage closet on the utility room side. A door in the utility area opens to the outside near the carport. Oak parquet flooring covers part of the utility area, while the area just inside the door is has plastic flooring with a diamond-plate pattern which is not original to the house.

There is a two-way swinging door between the kitchen and dining room and two very large sliding "pocket" doors which can be pulled out to separate the living and dining rooms. The exterior wall of the dining room is all glass, with a view of the lake. The 11'-7" X 17' dining room is mostly carpeted except for a 24" wide strip along the window, which is tile.

The 18' X 25' living room is fully carpeted and has a similar view of the lake with large glass panes and clerestory windows. Built-in book cases and storage cabinets finished in a walnut stain flank a large wood burning fireplace. The fireplace opening is framed by white travertine. A matching thin slab of travertine laid on the floor served as a hearth. This eventually cracked and was replaced with a darker slab of granite by Herb Munson, Jr. A sliding glass door opens to a patio of coarse exposed aggregate concrete with inlaid Cedar 2 X 4's serving as expansion joints. Stained rough-sawn tongue & groove Cedar paneling is found on 3 walls of the living room.

The bedroom hallway is unusually wide at 4'-4" and is lined on one side with storage closets with eight very wide Birch veneer-faced doors. This row of closets continues into the master bedroom where there are ten more closet doors for a total of eighteen closet doors in a row. According to Herb Munson Jr., his mother wanted a lot of storage space. Clerestory windows appear above the storage closets along the hallway, while Birch faced ply filler panels which extend to the ceiling appear above the closets in the master bedroom, creating a wall of Birch. The center closet of the 5 master bedroom closets has custom a built-in desk and bookshelves for use by Mrs. Munson.

Half way down the bedroom hallway is a 3/4 bathroom with a custom made cabinet made from Birch veneer plywood with two sinks. This bathroom has a shower made from the same light green tile as the guest bath shower. The floor (previously linoleum) is tile as well. This bath is shared by the kid's rooms on either side.

These two bedrooms are mirror images of each other. Both have windows to the North side of the house, but no doors leading outside. Both are carpeted and have custom built-in dressers and closets made from plywood with doors of Birch veneer ply. Birch ply filler panels above the dressers and closet doors extend to the ceiling, creating a wall of Birch.

The master bedroom is fully carpeted. The North wall of the master bedroom has windows and a sliding glass door which opens to a small patio of exposed aggregate concrete. There are two large built-in dressers made from Birch veneer ply in the "dressing area" near the bathroom pocket door.

The master bedroom has an en-suite bathroom which has been remodeled. According to the blueprint it once had a smaller cabinet with a single sink and towel shelves in one corner. It now has a larger cabinet with two sinks. The floor (previously linoleum) is now tile. The original oversize tub remains, which incorporates a tiled shower stall. A sliding pocket door separates the bathroom from the bedroom.

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The Munson house has a partial basement which is left unfinished, allowing easy access to plumbing and wiring under about 1/3 of the house. Here, drain pipes of copper and cast iron and commercial-grade heating duct work of heavy-gauge galvanized steel is on display. This basement is located under the kitchen, guest bath, family room/breakfast area and utility area. The basement is deep enough that a 7'-4" ceiling could be installed if one wished to finish the basement to create more living space.

There is a crawl space accessed through a small door in a basement wall allowing access to air ducting, plumbing and some wiring under the remainder of the house. The foundation all around the house and basement walls are of poured concrete. A door in the basement wall on the South side of the house opens to a poured concrete stairwell which leads to ground level. The basement floor is bare concrete. A corner of the basement was partitioned by Herbert Munson Sr. with proper wall framing but cheap wood paneling to create a lockable storage room which was used to secure the Munson's belongings while he was working in Florida and the house was occupied by renters.

There are two gas furnaces in the basement providing central heat, but there is no air conditioning. A small furnace serves the bedrooms and the bedroom hallway and a larger furnace serves the rest of the house. This dual zone system makes it possible to keep the bedrooms warm on cold nights without having to heat the entire house.

There are also two water heaters, one on each end of the house, to allow fast delivery of hot water throughout the house. One water heater is located in the basement near the furnaces and the other is hidden inside one of the storage cabinets in the bedroom hallway near the master bedroom.

The walls are designed to be in line with each other wherever possible for visual simplicity, which is a common feature of Mid-Century modern design. Walls are in-line with the roof beams wherever possible. The massive exposed "glulam" beams are left exposed over many doorways and windows and serve as exposed "headers". There has never been any alteration or addition to the original walls or to the structure of the house.

Walls and ceilings throughout the house are of lightly textured Gypsum Board. The house is equipped with a commercial grade electrical breaker panel and 20 amp service throughout.

The high quality of construction of the house is evidenced by the solidity of the wood floors, the roof structure, the precision of the poured concrete basement walls, basement staircase and outside retaining walls, the precision fit of the doors in their frames, and the squareness of the walls.

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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

Period of Significance

1964

Significant Dates

1964

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Price, Robert Billsbrough (Architect)

Wegner, Dick (Builder)

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Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Herbert Joseph and Barbara Anne Munson House on Gravelly Lake in Lakewood, Washington is historically significant under criteria C as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type and period of construction, and as a resource that represents the work of noted Tacoma architect, Robert Billsbrough Price. Built in 1964, the home was designed at the height of Price's career, when the architect was receiving many accolades, both locally and nationally for his work. The period of significance begins and ends with the date of construction.

History: City of Lakewood

Lakewood, originally called the Prairie, is an expanse of land about 20 miles square, dotted with small lakes and occasional stands of Garry oak trees. Originally the Steilacoom and Nisqually Indians used the Prairie as a ready source of food and held gatherings before the arrival of the Anglo hunters, trappers and settlers.

In 1833 the abundant Prairie, which is midway between the Columbia River and Vancouver, BC, was chosen by the British as the site of Fort Nisqually, one of the fur trading post operated by the Hudson's Bay Company. After the United States border was finally set at the 49th parallel in 1846, settlers began to take up farming on the Prairie. One of these farms, at the present site of Western State Hospital, was leased by the US Army in 1849 to serve as a military post which they named Fort Steilacoom.

Eventually by the late 1800's, parts of the Prairie began to vanish. Roads and homes were built, many of which were constructed along the shorelines of area lakes. During the roaring 20's, summer residents began to expand their lake cottages into year-round homes. Golf courses followed and recreational pavilions attracted increasing visitors to the area.

A military presence returned to the Prairie in 1904 when it was determined to be an excellent site that met all of the requirements of a new post. In 1917 Camp Lewis was built on land donated to the government by Pierce County citizens. McChord Field, now known as McChord Air Force Base, was developed from the old County Air Field in 1938.

By then Lakewood was beginning to take on its own identity during the 1930's and 1940's. As the Great Depression lifted, business development took off. In 1937, Norton Clapp built the first part of the Lakewood Colonial Center, one of the first suburban shopping centers in the country. A decade later, in 1958, the Villa Plaza Shopping Center was built on the site of Visitation Villa, a Catholic Girls' School and retreat. In 1960, the Thunderbird Center now the Oakbrook Shopping Center, was built on the site of another small airstrip.

As the area grew, other amenities were added. Lakewood General Hospital opened in 1961 and the Flora B. Tenzler Memorial Library was built in 1963. Clover Park Vocational Technical Institute grew as a war production training facility during World War II. In 1967, it joined the Community College System and has been renamed Clover Park Technical College. Fort Steilacoom Community College (now called Pierce College), established in a grocery storefront off Bridgeport Way in 1967 (known at the time as Albertson's U) moved into portable quarters at its present site in 1970.

In March, 1995, Lakewood citizens voted to incorporate as a city, passing with a 60% vote. In September, seven City Council Members were elected to form the city's first government. William Harrison was elected by the council as Lakewood's first mayor. Lakewood officially became a city on February 28th, 1996, making it the seventh largest city in the state and the second largest in Pierce County.

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Owners: Herbert Joseph Sr. & Barbara Munson

It was during this post war boom time that Herbert Joseph Munson Sr. (1915-2001) and his wife Barbara Anne (1913-1991) had the nominated house built. Postwar development saw many of the large lots around the lake subdivided into smaller lots. The Munson's purchased a vacant waterfront lot for \$22,000 and then commissioned renowned Tacoma area architect Robert Billsbrough Price to design what their son Herbert Munson Jr. described as "my parent's dream home". The Munson lot was one of four lots created out of parcel owned by Mrs. Flanagan which spanned the entire distance between the shoreline of Gravelly Lake and the main road (Gravelly Lake Drive SW).

The Munson's had lived in a variety of locations previous to building the nominated house. When they were first married the couple lived in an apartment at 301 N Tacoma – Apt 204 (1942-44). They then moved to 415 N 7th St (1945-1953). Their next house on Lake Steilacoom at 9148 Edgewater Dr SW (1954-1964) gave them a taste of living on the water prior to the construction of the nominated house.

The *Tacoma News Tribune* reported on June 14, 1964 that the county had issued a residential building permit to H. J. Munson for a \$35,000 home. It erroneously shows the address as 12709 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, which is actually the address of the first property on the long shared driveway, closest to Gravelly Lake Drive SW. The Munson's hired general contractor Richard "Dick" Wegner to build the house for them. Wegner already had a good working relationship with their architect. In fact, Price had even designed the Wegner family home overlooking the Tacoma Narrows Bridge in 1955. Wegner was a prominent custom home builder in the Tacoma area during the 1960s to the mid 1980s. He served as president of Tacoma Master Builders Association in 1966.

Owner Herbert J. Munson Sr. was born on August 28, 1915, and was raised in Tacoma. His father, Herbert A. Munson, was manager of the Vermont Marble Company. Herbert J. attended Stadium High School and graduated from Moran Junior College on Bainbridge Island in 1933. Reportedly, he then attended the University of Washington, graduating in 1937. During the war, Munson served as an electrical engineer at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyards in Bremerton.

After the war Munson took a job as an engineer for the Tide-Bay Company, an electrical and piping contracting firm. According to Polk directories by 1949 he had risen to Vice President of the company. While at the firm, he managed the installation of the West Coast's first continuous digester at Tacoma's St. Regis Kraft paper mill. Other projects included working for Wright Schuchart Harbor Co. on instrumentation for a nuclear power plant, and managing the construction of the housing and production modules (part of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System) for BP (British Petroleum) and Arco (Atlantic Richfield Company). By 1960 Munson had taken a job as an electrical engineer for the St. Regis Paper Company in Tacoma, where he remained until at least the mid-1970s.

On the private side, Munson was an avid sailor and golfer, and served on the Tacoma Urban League. He was also member of the Tacoma Country & Golf Club, and volunteered in the Clover Park School District after his retirement. His wife Barbara, whom he married in 1941, was the grand-daughter of Tacoma pioneer Nelson Bennett. She was active in a local garden club and served on the board of Tacoma Girls' Home. They were married for 50 years before she died from Alzheimer's disease in 1991. Together they had four boys: Herbert Jr. (1942-?), John (1945 - ?), Bruce, and Doug.

In 1997 Herbert re-married to his second wife, Amy. Herbert lived in the nominated home until his death on January 19, 2001. After he passed way his son Herbert Munson Jr., a physicist who spent most of his career at Weyerhaeuser, purchased the home from the estate. He and his wife Cathy lived in the nominated house until January 2016. They sold the property to Kevin Sean McDonough who owned the home for 6 months before selling it to the current owner James R. Woods in July, 2016.

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Architect: Robert Billsbrough Price

To design the nomination house, the Munson hired local architect Robert Billsbrough Price. Perhaps the most prolific architect in the Tacoma area during the 1950's '60's and '70's, Price designed hundreds of schools, churches, private homes, banks and many other public buildings in and around Tacoma during his 35+ year career. Over the course of his career he received 59 awards for design excellence at the local, regional and national levels and was among the first to bring modernist architecture to the Tacoma region.

Born and raised in Tacoma, Price began his architectural training at the University of Washington in 1941. His schooling was interrupted during WWII where he served in the United States Navy from 1942-1946. Rising to the rank of lieutenant, Price served in England, Pearl Harbor, Australia, India and China. After the war, he received a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the University of Washington in 1946. He went on to earn a Master of Architecture degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1948.

Upon graduation, he returned to Tacoma and worked for architect James C. Gardiner before opening his own practice in 1949. Commissions quickly flooded the office, which by 1956 had grown to six design professionals. The office included Price's wife, Joan, who was also a licensed architect and was responsible for many of the interior designs of the firm's projects. In 1956, the firm was featured in *Progressive Architecture* magazine, and was noted as the youngest firm to date to have been featured in the magazine.

Price's work spanned a variety of building types from single family homes, to banks and public buildings. He specialized in educational projects and designed a number of schools in the Puget Sound area from the late 1950s through the 1970s. These included John S. Baker Junior High School in Tacoma (1955); George R. Curtis Junior High School in University Place (1957); Mount Tahoma High School in Tacoma (1961); Sherman Elementary School in Tacoma (1954); Aberdeen Senior High School (c.1960); Puyallup Jr. High School (c. 1959); Olson Physical Education Building at Pacific Lutheran University (1969); and the Recreation Pavilion at Evergreen State College in Olympia (1973).

Among his award winning projects was the Tacoma Fire Station No. 17 (1955); the Joe Long Jr. House on American Lake (1956); Hoyt Elementary School in Tacoma (1958); and his own architectural office (1963). Many other projects were featured in a variety of magazines including *Sunset*, *House & Garden*, *Progressive Architecture* and *Architectural Record*.

Price's other notable projects included the World of Commerce & Industry Building at the Century 21 Exposition (1962); the Tacoma Bicentennial Pavilion (1976); the Tacoma Pierce County Family YMCA (1976); Temple Beth El (1968); the Ginkgo Petrified Forest Museum (1953); Church of Christian Science in Olympia (1950); the Harbine Monroe House in Gig Harbor (1958); Sky Terrace Apartments (1961) in Tacoma; Tacoma Fire Station No. 1 (1968); and several award winning apartments for the Tacoma Housing Authority.

Price was active in a variety of community, social, and civic affairs. He was a member of the Tacoma Society of Architects, the Tacoma Art League, Allied Arts, the Washington and Southwest Washington Chapter of the AIA, and the Washington State Council of Architects. He also served as a member of the National Committee of AIA Department of Education and Research, and a member of the Tacoma Building Code Committee.

Price was also a visiting professor of design at the University of Washington, the University of Kentucky, and the University of Oregon in the late 1950s and early 1960s and was a guest lecturer at the University of Idaho. In 1966, he became the first architect in Tacoma to be honored by being inducted in the AIA College of Fellows. He passed away in Tacoma on September 8, 1981.

Built in 1964, the Munson House was designed near the apex of Price's career, when the architect was receiving many accolades, both locally and nationally for his work. On the residential side, Price designed a variety of homes. Many of his earlier designs were more academic in focus with flat roofs and Meisian ideals. These include his own home (3814 Soundview Dr, University Place, 1951); the Charles & Mary Louise Curran House (4099 Curran Lane, University Place, 1955); the Wegner House (1732 Ventura Dr, Tacoma, 1955); and

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two model homes, the "TX-101" House built for the 1954 Tacoma Home Show (1802 N Shirley St, Tacoma) and the "The Calypso," built for the 1959 Tacoma Home Show (10801 Deepwood Dr. SW, Lakewood).

Other residential designs were softer in form and detailing; with low-pitched gable roofs and irregular floor plans. In these homes the ceilings were vaulted, with exposed structural roof support beams and no attic. This resulted in a more elegant and "spacious-feeling" environment inside the dwellings. Examples of these include the nominated house, the "1950 Home of Ideas" model home (1101 N Jackson, Tacoma, 1950); the Long House (12825 Ave Du Bois SW, 1954); and the Monroe House (Horsehead Bay, 1956). Regardless of the roof type, most of Price's homes employ post-and-beam construction and an extensive use of plywood as a finish material.

Although Gravelly Lake is surrounded by many exceptional homes, the Munson house is one of a few intact mid-century homes on the lake. Other notable nearby mid-century designs include the home of Tacoma architect Alan Liddle (12735 Gravelly Lake Drive SW); the Harold Meyer House designed by architect Richard Hill (11923 Gravelly Lake Drive SW); the William Hyde House by Seattle architect Earl Powell (11421 Gravelly Lake Dr., 1960); and the Lorne McKendry House (c.1963) by architect Marshall Perrow.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
Name of Property

PIERCE COUNTY, WA
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“County Building Permits”, Tacoma News Tribune 6/14/1964 pg. A16 permits:

Obituary - Herbert J Munson, Sr., Tacoma News Tribune 1/21/1964 pg. B4.

“Moran Junior College to Hold Commencement” – Seattle Daily Times, June 2, 1933.

Polk Directory – 1912, 1917, 1926, 1945, 1947, 1953, 1954, 1960.

Find a grave Herbert J Munson – ID # 122801778

Architectural Plans – Herbert J. Munson House: Dated July 3, 1964

Oral History/Interviews:

Herbert Munson Jr., son of the original owners, lived in the house for about 15 years. He was interviewed at the house on October 11, 2016 and provided much of the background information.

Michael Flanagan lived just doors away for about 50 years. He was interviewed in 2016 and 2017. His mother owned the entire strip of land between the lake and the street from which the Munson parcel was created. Mr. Flanagan had his own construction business, knew the builder of the Munson house and saw the Munson Residence being built. He identified the builder as Dick Wegner and provided information about the property division, former boat house and pump house.

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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References NAD 1927 or 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>47.143253°</u> Latitude	<u>-122.532952°</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 in Sections 10, of Township 19 North, Range 02 West of Willamette Meridian, in Pierce County, Washington and is legally described as part of Lot 29 & 30 of Block C in the Interlaaken Addition of Lakewood, Washington. It is otherwise known as Parcel No. 4725002464

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property encompasses the entire urban tax lot that is occupied by the Herbert & Barbara Munson House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>James R Woods</u>	(Edited by DAHP Staff)
organization	<u> </u>	date <u>May 2019</u>
street & number	<u>12711 Gravelly Lake Dr SW</u>	telephone <u>(714) 865-3814</u>
city or town	<u>Lakewood</u>	state <u>WA</u> zip code <u> </u>
e-mail	<u>Countach2@gmail.com</u>	

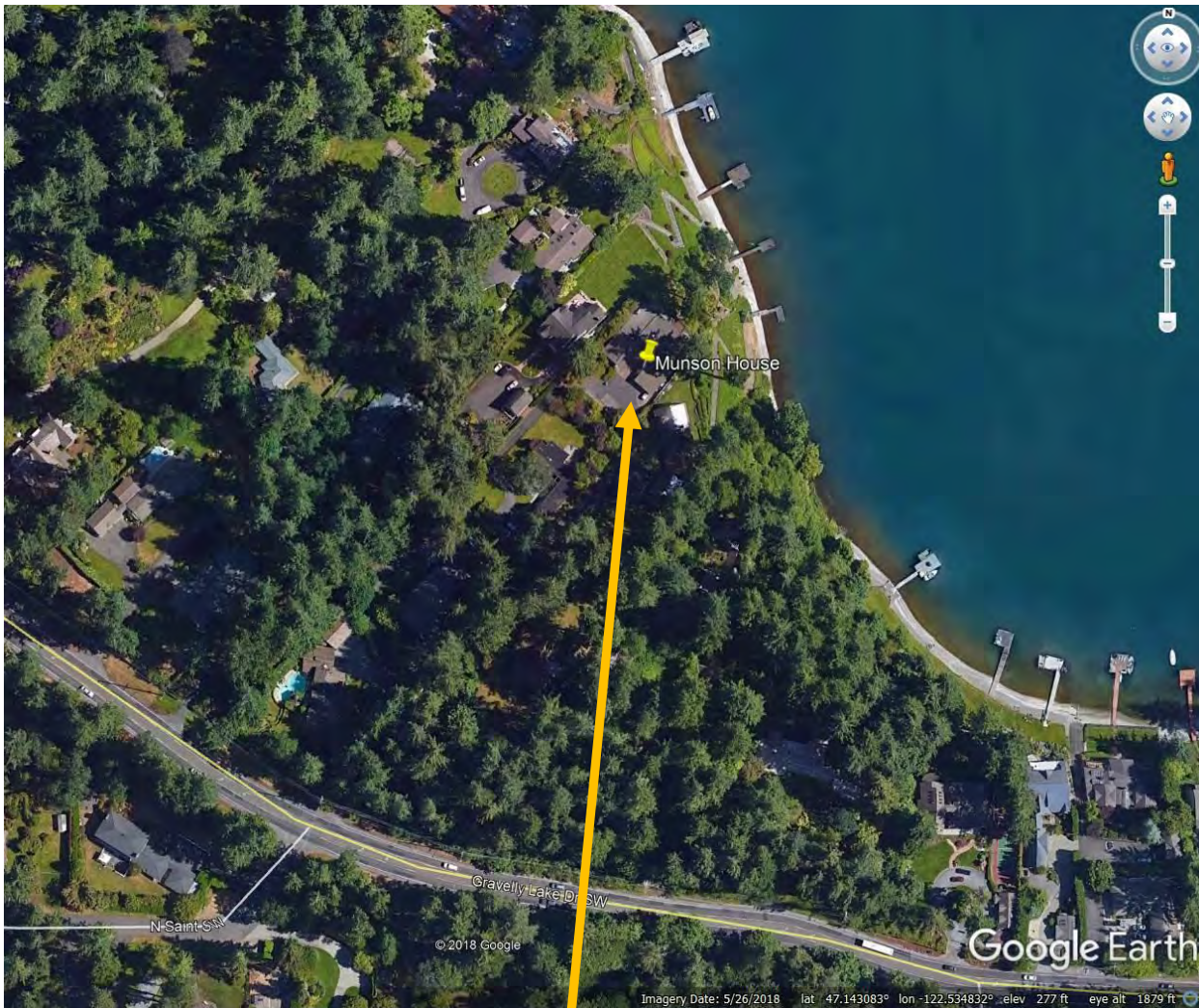
HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
Name of Property

PIERCE 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 Earth Map
Munson House
12711 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW
Lakewood, WA

1 47.143253° -122.532952°
Latitude Longitude

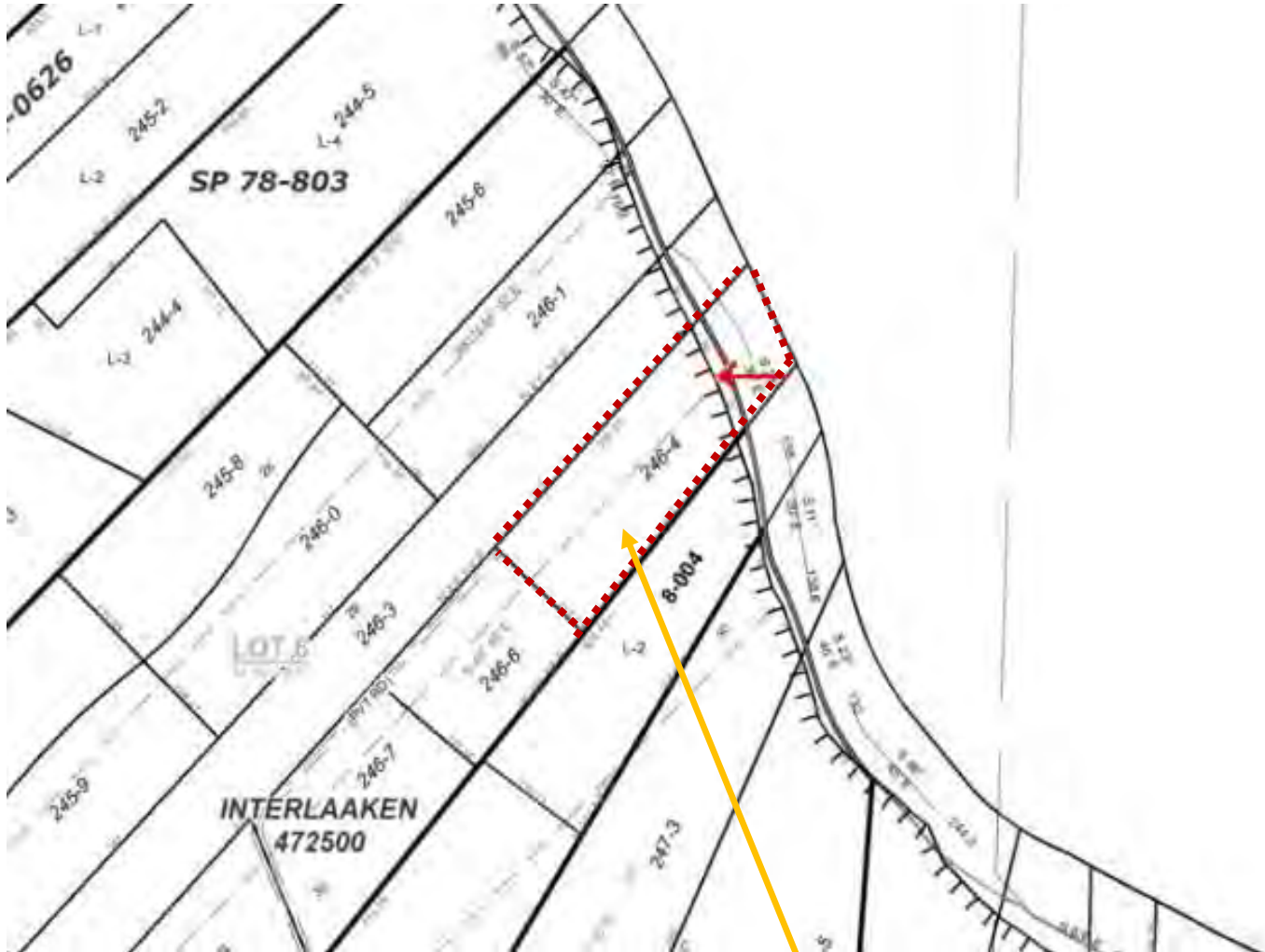
2 _____
Latitude Longitude

3 _____
Latitude Longitude

4 _____
Latitude Longitude

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
Name of Property

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Tax Parcel Map - Parcel No. 4725002464
Munson House
12711 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW
Lakewood, WA

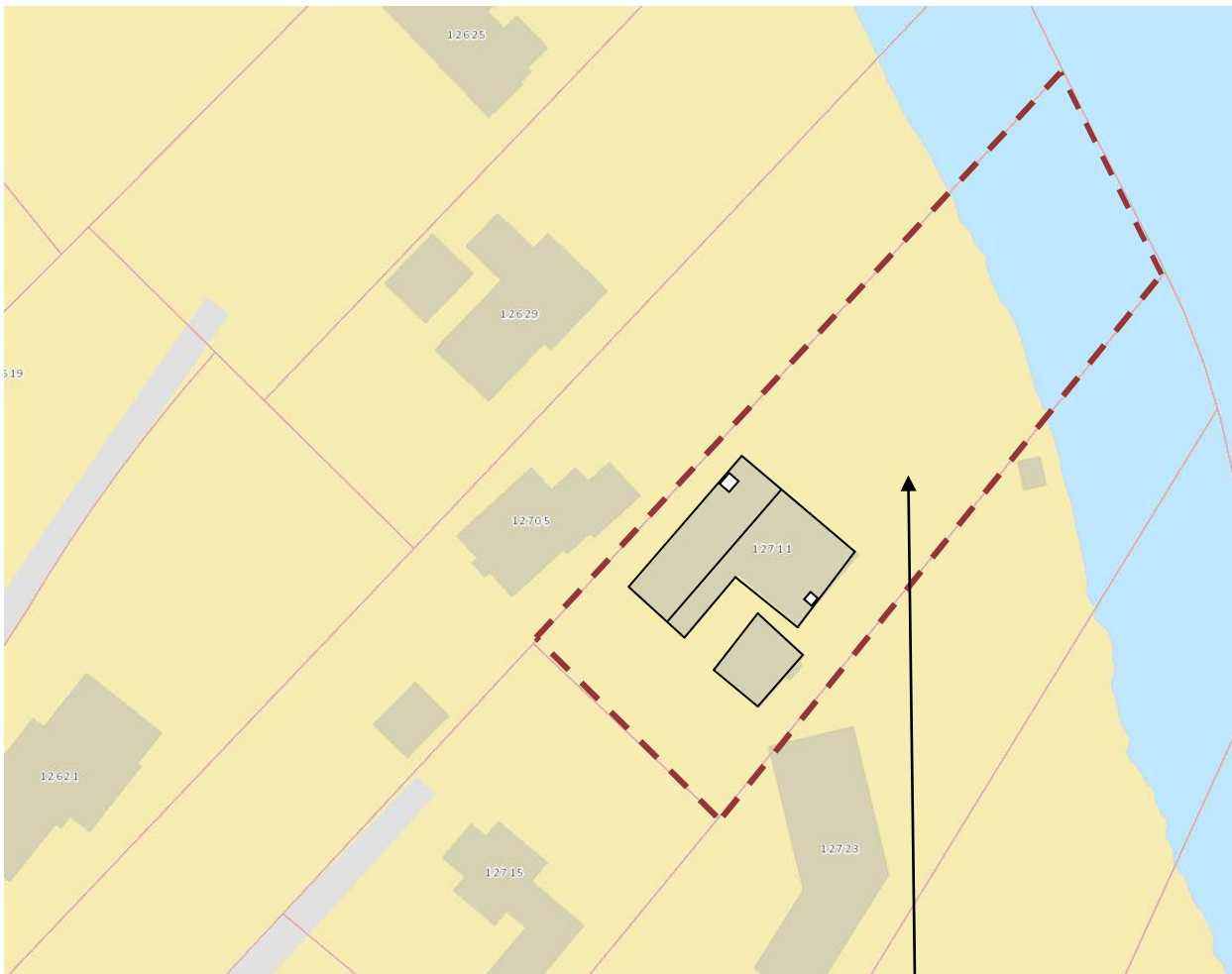
Nomination Boundaries

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

Name of Property

PIERCE COUNTY, WA

County and State



Site Plan
Munson House
12711 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW
Lakewood, WA

Nominated property

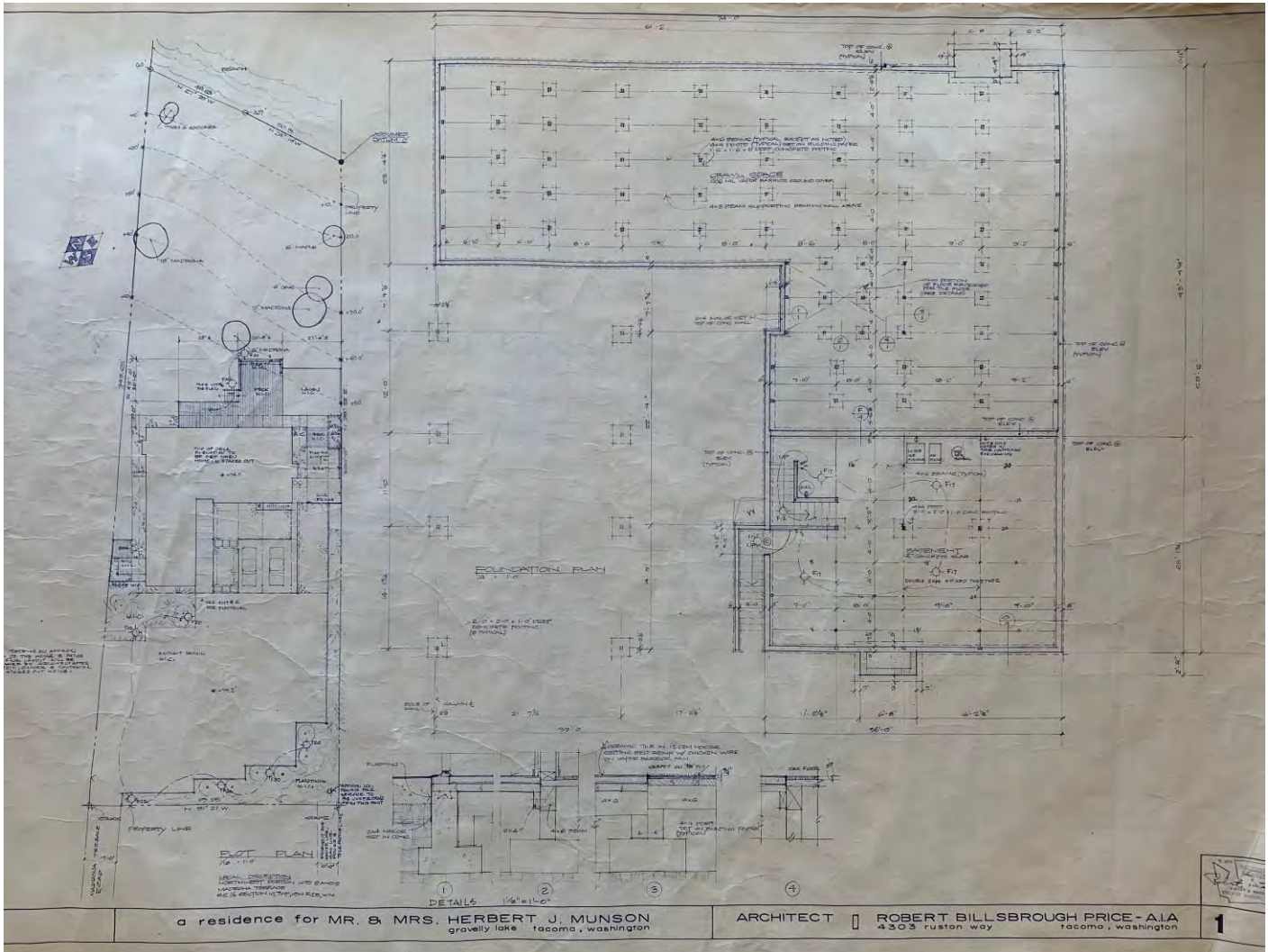


Image of Herbert J. Munson

Image courtesy of Tacoma News Tribune 1/21/1964 pg. B4.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
Name of Property

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Site Plan & Basement Plan

Munson House

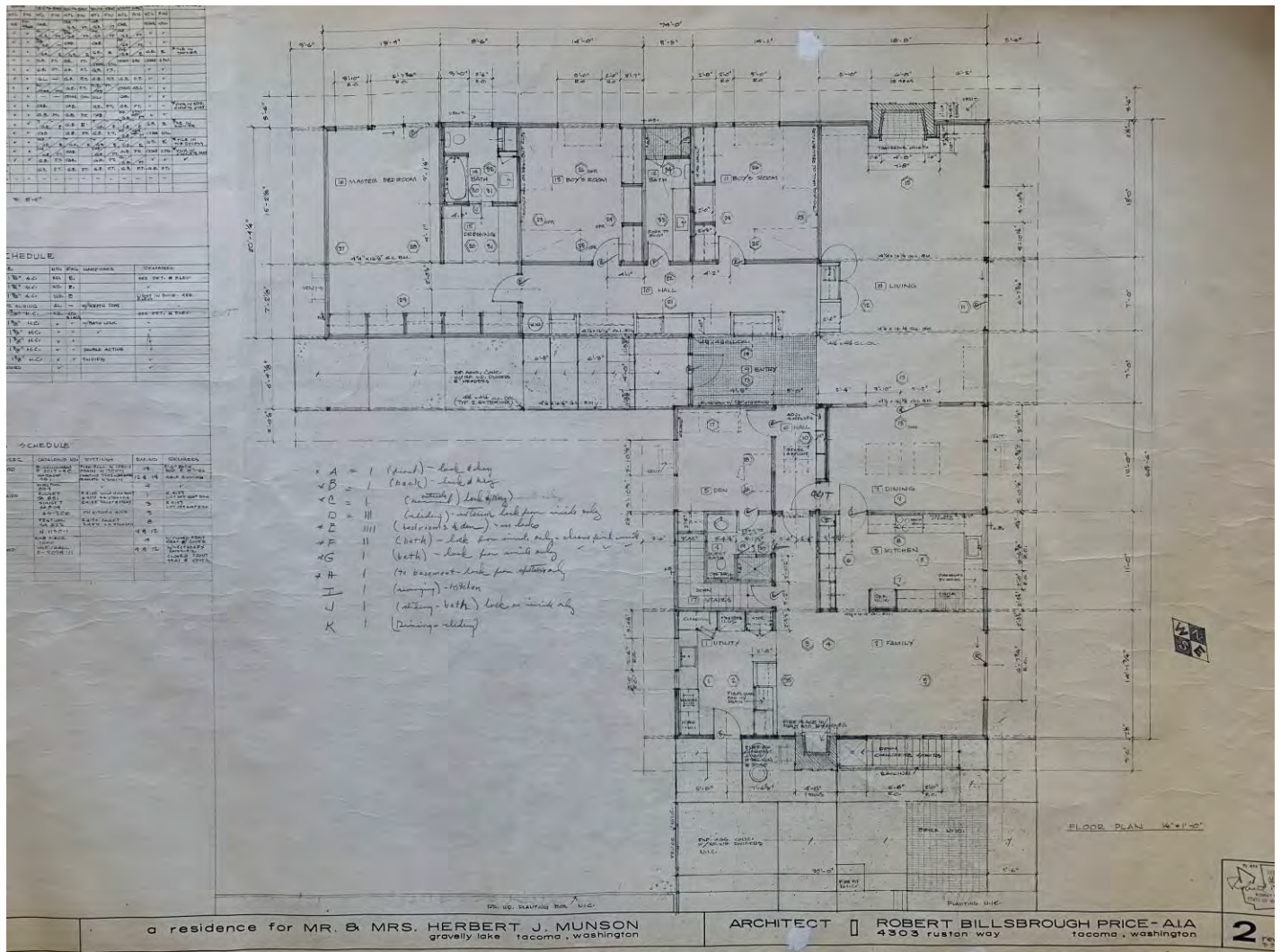
12711 Gravelly Lake Dr SW

Lakewood, WA

Note exterior stairwell was relocated to south wall during construction near chimney

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
 Name of Property

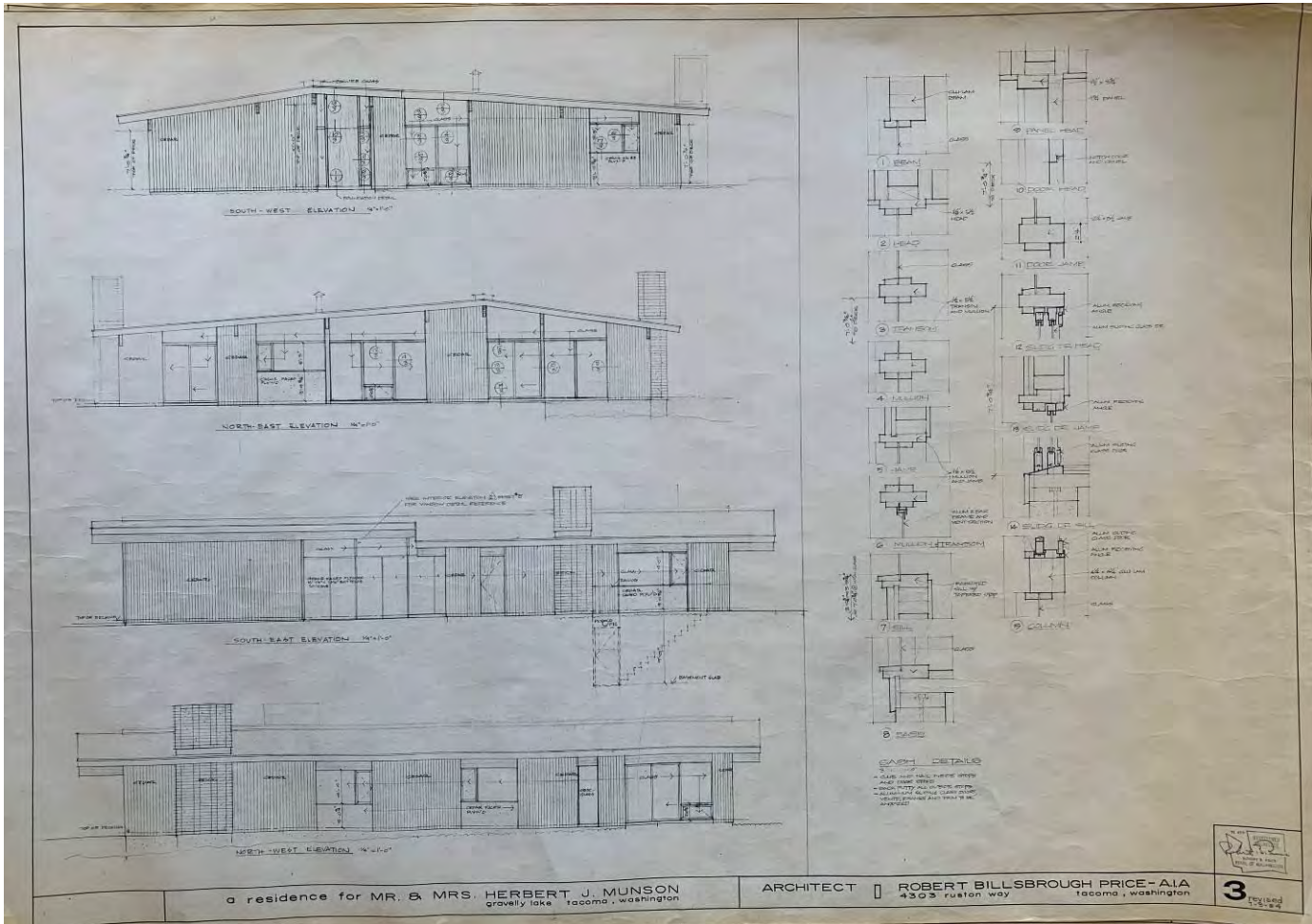
PIERCE COUNTY, WA
 County and State



Floor Plan – 1st Floor
Munson House
 12711 Gravelly Lake Dr SW
 Lakewood, WA

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
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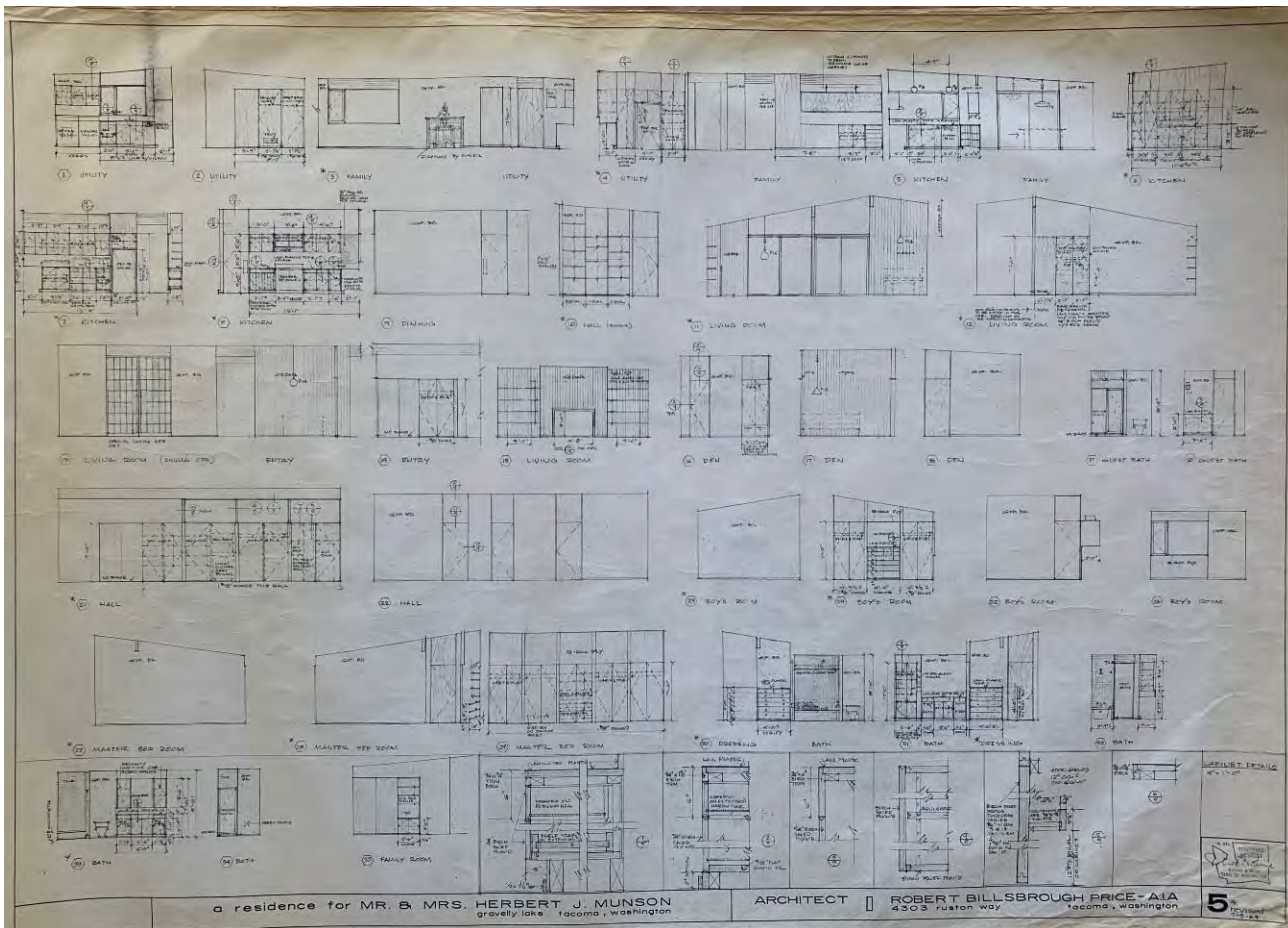
Exterior Elevations & Sash Detail
Munson House
12711 Gravelly Lake Dr SW
Lakewood, WA

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

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Cabinet Details

Munson House

12711 Gravelly Lake Dr SW
Lakewood, WA



Herbert J. Munson attending conference at Heidelberg Brewery in Tacoma hosted by General Electric. February 12, 1953.

Image courtesy of Tacoma Public Library – Richards Studio D79580-2



Barbara Munson putting in a new bulb in her porch fixture (415 N 7th Street, Tacoma) so that volunteers for the Mothers' March on Polio will know to stop and collect her contribution to eradicate the dreaded disease. "Let Your Light So Shine" was the theme of the 1952 Mothers' March which began on January 31st. (Tacoma News Tribune 1-27-52, D-1)

Image courtesy of Tacoma Public Library – Richards Studio D64266-1

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
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Architect
Robert Billsbrough Price
Designs *Robert Billsbrough Price*



TX-101 Model Home:
1802 N Shirley St., Tacoma - 1954



Robert & Joan Price House:
3814 Soundview Dr, University Place - 1951



Joseph & Leona Long House:
12825 Ave Du Bois SW, Lakewood - 1954



Richard & Gracia Wegner House:
1732 S Ventura Dr., Tacoma - 1955

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

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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: Herbert & Barbara Munson House

City or Vicinity: Lakewood

County: Pierce **State:** WA

Photographer: Jim Woods and Michael Houser

Date Photographed: May & June 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number:



1 of 25. Main/West façade showing entry courtyard and carport.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

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2 of 25. Main entry door.



3 of 25. South façade.

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4 of 25. Rear of carport with entrance courtyard beyond.



5 of 25. North façade showing master bedroom patio.

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6 of 25. Rear/East facade.



7 of 25. Munson House entry sign.

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8 of 25. Entry of Munson House from living room.



9 of 25. Living room of Munson House.

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10 of 25. View from living room towards entry and dining room.



11 of 25. View of lake from dining room.

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12 of 25. View from into library area with kitchen and family room beyond.



13 of 25. View from family room towards kitchen.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

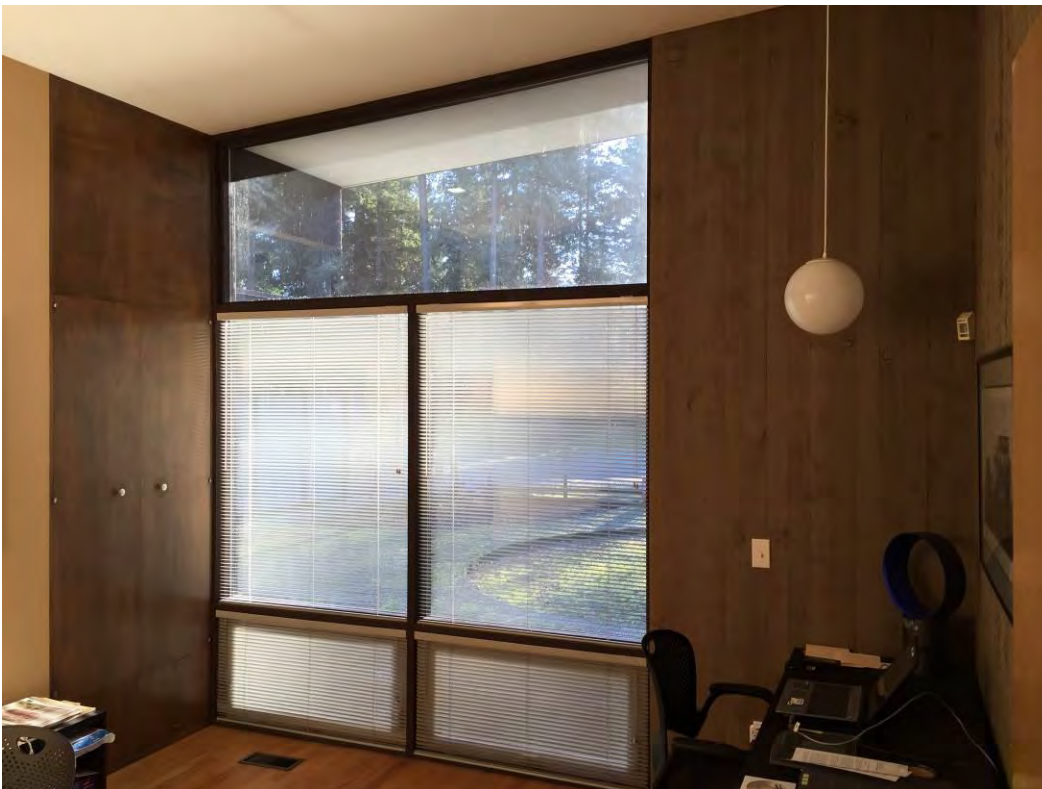
Name of Property

PIERCE COUNTY, WA

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14 of 25. View of family room toward utility area. Note 1880s fireplace surround at left.



15 of 25. Den of Munson House. View towards entry courtyard.

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16 of 25. Den of Munson House. View to west showing interior wood all finish.



17 of 25. Bedroom hallway closets. View towards master bedroom.

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18 of 25. Master bedroom showing closet wall.



19 of 25. Master bedroom showing dressing area. View through door to bedroom hallway.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE

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20 of 25. Typical bedroom.



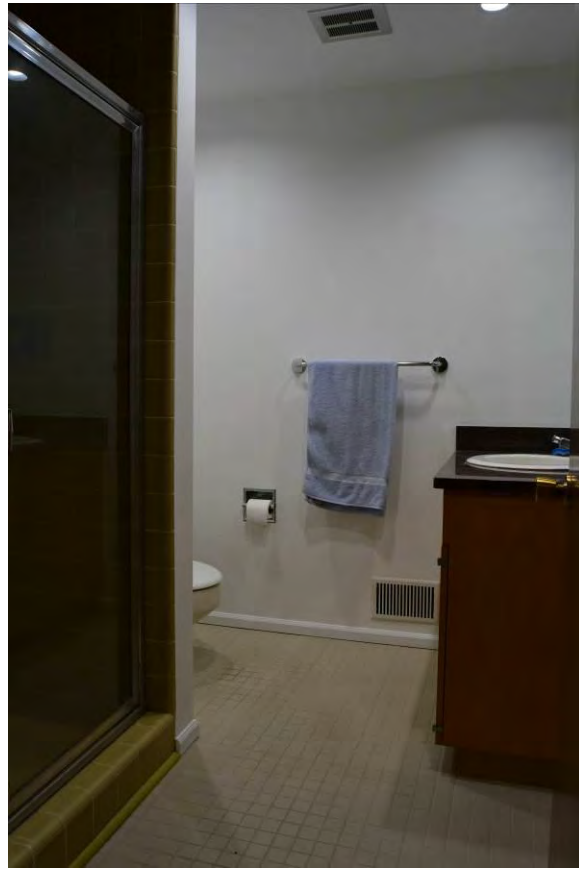
21 of 25. Typical bedroom built in closet area.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
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22 of 25. Boys bedroom bathroom.



23 of 25. Guest bathroom.



24 of 25. Unfinished partial basement.

HERBERT & BARBARA MUNSON HOUSE
Name of Property

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25 of 25. View Gravelly Lake from backyard of house.

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

name James R. Woods

street & number 12711 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW

telephone (714) 865-3814

city or town Lakewood

state WA

zip code 98499

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.













A dark, rectangular metal sign is mounted on a decorative post. The sign features the name 'H.J. MUNSON' in raised, serif capital letters. The sign is partially obscured by dense green ivy on the left side. The background is a bright, out-of-focus green lawn.

H.J.
MUNSON



































CAUTION
WET FLOOR

43



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Munson, Herbert and Barbara House

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: WASHINGTON, Pierce

Date Received: 7/23/2019 Date of Pending List: 8/9/2019 Date of 16th Day: 8/26/2019 Date of 45th Day: 9/6/2019 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: SG100004345

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 8/27/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Herbert and Barbara Munson House is locally significant and meets National Register Criterion C under Architecture. Built in 1964 for engineer Herbert J. Munson Sr., the house represents the work of local Tacoma architect Robert Billsbrough Price at the peak of his prolific career. An excellent local example of Mid-Century Modern residential design, the house reflects Price's adeptness with the post and beam aesthetic, featuring broad low-sloping roofs, exposed beams, expansive glass walls, an open floor plan and copious plywood paneling and veneers.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept NR Criterion C

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date 08/27/2019

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

July 19, 2019

Paul Lusignan
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
1849 "C" Street NW, MS 7228
Washington, D.C. 20240



RE: **Washington State NR Nominations**

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed new NR nominations for:

- **Bachtold Building/ Interurban Depot – Walla Walla County, WA**
(an all-electronic nomination)
- **Herbert & Barbara Munson House – Pierce County, WA**
(an all-electronic nomination)

Should you have any questions regarding these nominations please contact me anytime at (360) 586-3076. I look forward to hearing your final determination on these properties.

Sincerely,

Michael Houser
State Architectural Historian, DAHP
360-586-3076

E-Mail: michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov

