

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: SG100002408

Date Listed: 5/14/2018

Property Name: Washington Athletic Club

County: King

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

5/14/2018
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Historic Function:

The function categories should read: *Domestic-hotel; Recreation/Culture-sports facility, and Social-clubhouse.*

[These are the common functions previously applied to most similar NR-listed athletic club facilities.]

Significance:

The areas of significance are amended to add: *Social History*

[This is the most common area previously applied to similar NR-listed athletic club facilities.]

Geographical Data:

The Lat/Long coordinates should read: *47.611389 -122.327778*

[All coordinates should be provided in decimal degrees only, as per NR guidance.]

The WASHINGTON SHPO was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

56-2408



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 Washington Athletic Club

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1325 Sixth Avenue

not for publication

city or town Seattle

vicinity

state Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98101

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

Allyson M
Signature of certifying official/Title

3-23-18
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

5/10/2018
Date of Action

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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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
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.)

SOCIAL / clubhouse

RECREATION & CULTURE / athletic facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL / clubhouse

RECREATION & CULTURE / athletic facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT:

Art Deco

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK, TERRA COTTA, CONCRETE

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.)

Note: The physical description is based on the City of Seattle Landmark Nomination report for the Washington Athletic Club prepared by Kate Krafft for the Seattle Historic Preservation Program in 2007. The description was revised and updated for this nomination by Historic Seattle.

Summary Paragraph - Site and Setting

The Washington Athletic Club (WAC) is a visually prominent and distinctive 21-story Art Deco highrise building located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Sixth Avenue and Union Street in downtown Seattle, Washington. The building was designed and constructed to serve as a large private athletic club with guest accommodations and retail space, purposes for which it continues to be used today. Construction of the original building was completed in December 1930. The 12-story modern wing, constructed in 1955 as a four-story addition, and expanded again in 1970 with an additional eight stories, is functionally interconnected to the original clubhouse at its south side. The addition, oriented to Sixth Avenue on the east now serves as the main entrance to the club and exhibits a minimalist Brutalist design in contrast to the architectural character of the original clubhouse building. The clubhouse building occupies the northeast quarter of a city block and the site slopes slightly downhill to the north along Sixth Avenue and to the west along Union Street. A north-south alley bisects the entire block and runs along the west or rear elevation of the clubhouse.

Major modern highrise hotels and office buildings are located to the northeast and east of the clubhouse building including the Seattle Sheraton Hotel and the Two Union Square and the One Union Square building complexes. The lower portion of a modern highrise mixed-use office tower (U.S. Bank/City Centre) occupies the site located directly across Union Street to the north of the WAC and the Logan Building (1958), a distinctive ten-story, mid-century modern highrise office building located on the southwest corner of that same block. The six-story Skinner Building/Fifth Avenue Theater (1926-1927) is situated immediately to the west and across the alley from the WAC; it occupies the entire half block. Adjacent to the WAC's addition on the south is the 16-story Seattle Hilton Hotel (1969) and eight-story parking garage.

The original WAC clubhouse design stands out in this urban downtown Seattle context as a striking example of Art Deco design.

For ease of description, the original clubhouse building and the addition are described separately.

Current Exterior Appearance

Original Clubhouse Building

The reinforced concrete and steel structure rises from a concrete foundation and basement and is primarily clad with buff-color face brick. The brick-clad exterior walls at the multiple prominent faces of the building base, the base shaft, and tower are accentuated throughout by a profusion of buff-color and salmon-color terra cotta and pressed/cast stone ornament and trim. The principal building facade is oriented toward Union Street on the north, although the formal club entry has always been located at the Sixth Avenue facade on the east. The complex stepped-back building form is composed of a three-story building base that measures 120' x 115' with a seven-story base shaft above, which is surmounted by a stepped-back tower that measures 68' x 74' and extends from 11th through the 18th story. The next two stories (19th and 20th) are further stepped back and measure approximately 63' x 63'. These floors are capped by a setback pavilion on the 21st level. A

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smaller two-story elevator/mechanical penthouse surmounts this pavilion. The shaft of the tower is flush with the building base at the Union Street elevation. Because there is no 13th floor level (it is known as the 14th floor) – the actual 21st floor is known as the 22nd floor level - causing some confusion regarding the overall building height.

The building base extends three stories and is accentuated by a wide intermediate cornice. At the Union Street facade the base is divided horizontally between the retail storefront level and second and third floor club rooms and interior uses. The storefront level is clad with copper-brown (with white highlights) terra cotta panels. The five original display/storefront openings retain fluted terra cotta surrounds and gray-black granite bulkheads. The original storefront openings included large fixed-glass display windows with bronze sash (and ornate cresting) and terrazzo-paved vestibules. Portions of several of the original storefronts remain in place and at least one (at northeast corner) appears to remain highly intact and virtually unaltered, including the terrazzo paving. The installation of modern rigid awnings has altered the Union Street storefront level to some degree. None of the ornate cresting appears to remain in place.

The fenestration and the bay spacing at the upper floors of the Union Street building base reflect internal club uses. Four round-arched, two-story window openings with ornate surrounds and keystones are located at the wide central bay; they were designed to illuminate the men's lounge. [Construction drawings indicate that they may have been designed to include stained and leaded glass windows that do not appear to have ever been installed.] The bay to each side of the window arcade includes sets of tall, narrow, two-story recessed window openings with ornate terra cotta spandrels decorated with fluted potted flower/fern images; these openings correspond with the base shaft and facade composition above. Other ornament at this level of the facade includes fern-decorated keystones, medallions decorated with baskets of fruit and muscular human figures at the base piers. A terra cotta intermediate cornice decorated with foliated ornament band wraps the top of the base; it is inscribed with a "Washington Athletic Club" sign at the center of the Union Street elevation that is flanked by Art Deco style "WAC" winged symbols.

At the Sixth Avenue facade the building base includes two storefront display windows and terra cotta cladding. A sculpted brass tablet that commemorates Mrs. Hannah Newman, the original land owner, is located at the north end of the base of the east facade. The original formal club entry vestibule was located at the south end of this facade; its location can still be distinguished by the presence of an inscribed terra cotta "Washington Athletic Club" plaque within the broad intermediate cornice. When the initial modern addition and entry lobby were constructed to the south in 1955 the original arched entry opening and recessed vestibule were entirely infilled and replaced by shallow recessed entry with face brick and faux terra cotta wall panels designed to closely match the original cladding materials. The set of double doors in this entry is actually alarmed and not generally used. The remainder of the building base at this elevation includes two-story recessed window openings with recessed decorated spandrels that correspond with the base shaft and facade composition above.

The Union Street facade is dominated by a central stepped-back tower that rises to 21 stories and is flanked to the east and west by a lower seven-story tall base shaft above the building base. The Union Street facade is divided by two major vertical piers located one bay in from each corner of the tower; these piers extend from the top of the building base to 21st floor level. The central tower bay is further divided by four bays of windows divided by stepped interstitial piers and window mullions that extend to 21st floor level. The piers are all capped by varied terra cotta panels and bas-relief ornament including sculpted eagles at the major piers and floral cresting, chevrons and human and animal mask images at the interstitial piers.

To each side of the face of the tower is a single outermost bay with recessed windows and spandrels that extends from the 11th floor through the 18th floor level – creating an additional setback at each corner of the tower at the 19th floor level. The vertical thrust and rhythm of the tower piers is accentuated by recessed windows with decorated spandrels, tall ornate arched window openings at the sixth-seventh floors and segmental arched windows at the 18th floor. Stylized ziggurat spandrels and parapet caps distinguish the 19th

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floor level. Ornate sculpted eagles emphasize the multiple outside corners at the 21st floor level, which is further decorated with ornate terra cotta cresting, animal and human masks and a stylized ziggurat parapet. The setback 22nd floor pavilion is distinguished by ornate terra cotta cresting and a large carved eagle finial incised with the "WAC" insignia.

The east and west bays of the base shaft at the Union Street facade are each divided into four bays of recessed windows divided by stepped interstitial piers and window mullions that extend to the tenth floor level in the same pattern as the tower bays. The vertical thrust and rhythm of the base shaft is accentuated by recessed windows with decorated spandrels and ornate segmental arched window openings and highly decorated spandrels at the eighth through tenth floor levels. The vertical piers at the base shaft are all capped by varied terra cotta panels, ornament and coping elements including mythical human and animal masks that decorate pier caps and stylized ziggurat parapets.

The east, south, and west elevations of the tower rise above the roofline of the base shaft and exhibit the same major pier configuration, fenestration, and ornamentation patterns as the Union Street facade. At the 19th floor level the tower steps back at each corner to align with the major structural piers at each elevation creating a notch at each corner of the tower. The corner piers and parapet at the 19th floor level are also slightly set back to further accentuate the cap. Terra cotta cresting, coping members and ornament decorate the pier caps and stylized ziggurat parapets at the 19th floor level. At each elevation the 21st floor level is distinguished by ornate sculpted eagles that emphasize the multiple outside corners at that floor level. The south elevation of the tower varies in that it extends an additional two stories to accommodate the elevator equipment and overrun. It is capped by a stylized ziggurat parapet and includes window openings at the top floors. However, the lower portion of this elevation does not include windows due to internal utilitarian building uses.

The east elevation of the base shaft exhibits the same major and interstitial pier configuration, fenestration and ornamentation patterns as the side bays at the Union Street facade with a few exceptions. Fenestration varies at the north end of the sixth-seventh floor level [which is the swimming pool location]; a two-story arched window is flanked by two-story high blind window openings. The stylized ziggurat parapet continues at this elevation; however, it is stepped and accentuated with additional terra cotta ornament at the southern end of this elevation. This feature corresponds with the location of the original entry vestibule that was formerly located directly below at street level.

The west facade at the alley side of the ten-story base shaft is utilitarian in character. Portions of the plain painted concrete wall are visible above the Skinner Building from some view points to the west along Union Street. A portion of storefront level terra cotta cladding extends one display window length into the alley. Face brick and terra cotta ornament terminate at the corner of the building; the facade does not include any of the distinctive fenestration or ornamentation patterns of the other elevations. It is utilitarian in character; original unframed window openings remain in place, as does a fire escape.

Exterior Alterations – Original Clubhouse Building

In addition to the entry vestibule and storefront level alterations described above, there have been some major changes made to the design of some of the original window units. Existing one-over-one, double-hung windows closely match the original window design and profile. The large arched windows at the sixth-seventh floor level of the Union Street facade and the east facade have been altered and changed from what was originally constructed. These windows appear to have originally included a traditional multi-pane muntin/mullion configuration with simple fanlight panels at the arched heads. These large arched openings now include fixed sash members with multiple horizontal panels and meeting rails and no vertical mullions. Large windows at the second-third floor level and at the fourth floor level have also been modernized; however the multi-pane configuration is somewhat similar to the original design. The fenestration at the 21st floor level of the tower cap has been rather drastically altered; what appear to be wide modern fixed window panels have

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replaced pairs of small narrow multi-pane sash. A tall screen enclosure that may be partially glazed also appears to have been installed above the 21st rooftop level at the north side of the elevator machine room penthouse.

1955/1970 Addition

As noted in the summary paragraph, the 12-story modern wing, completed in 1955 as a four-story addition and expanded again in 1970 with an additional eight stories, is functionally interconnected to the original clubhouse at its south side. The addition was built on a lot that is owned by the WAC and two families. The WAC has a 99-year ground lease going back to 1953. The addition measures 60' x 120' and is rectangular in plan. It is oriented to the east (Sixth Avenue) and functions as the main entry to the entire clubhouse facility. The reinforced concrete and steel structure rises from a concrete foundation and basement and is clad with buff-color face brick (on the north, east, and south facades) that matches the brick cladding of the original clubhouse building. The main (east) facade presents a solid wall above the first story until it reaches the 11th and 12th stories where a shallow, recessed balcony on each story and a band of aluminum windows break up the exterior. The shallow balcony and windows continue on the south facade. Brick pilasters provide vertical visual relief from the second through 12th stories. Four louvered vents of varying size punctuate this facade.

A flat metal canopy provides cover for the recessed main entrance on the east facade. Two round steel and concrete columns clad in one-inch, light brown color, glass tile help support the canopy. The south column is set into a concrete planter sheathed in the same copper-brown (with white highlights) terra cotta panels. Marble tiles accentuate the wall behind the planter as well as the north wall of the entry area. Five sets of bronze aluminum-frame, glass double doors with wood handles (carved with the WAC logo) provide access to a vestibule before entry into the interior lobby. Shallow steps made of terrazzo provide easy transition from the public sidewalk to the entryway. The number of steps change from zero to four due to the gradual slope down from south to north. With the exception of the existing double doors and canopy cladding, the entry area has remained unaltered from the 1955 design of the addition.

The west (alley) facade is utilitarian in character with a painted concrete wall and unframed window openings covered with louvered vents. Several door openings provide egress to the alley.

Exterior Alterations – Addition

When the addition was originally constructed in 1954-55 as a four-story building with a basement and garage, the main (east) facade was a curtain wall design. A horizontal band of aluminum windows provided natural light on the second-fourth stories on the south facade. The garage entrance for the WAC addition was on the south side. When a new garage building was constructed by the adjacent owner to the south for the Hilton Hotel in 1968, the WAC's garage access was removed. When the additional eight stories were constructed on top of the four stories in 1970, the curtain wall on the east facade and the south facade windows were removed and the entire addition (except for the west facade) was clad in the same buff-color brick as the original clubhouse building. The 1970 addition remains essentially unchanged on the exterior.

Current Interior Appearance

Original Clubhouse Building

The vast majority of the original formal dining and athletic activity spaces have been altered and modernized in order to accommodate evolving modern athletic facilities, programs, and interior decorating trends. Floors below are described from bottom to top.

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Sub-basement Floor

The lowest level of the original clubhouse building is the sub-basement floor which is partially unexcavated at the north end. This floor contains spaces for mechanical equipment and other equipment to support the WAC facilities. Walls, floors, and ceilings are concrete.

Basement Floor

The basement level contains spaces for mechanical/electrical equipment, a City Light vault, laundry area, workshops, locker rooms for staff, and offices for engineers and facility maintenance crews. Walls, floors, and ceilings are concrete.

Store Floor / S-Level

The store floor contains the building's retail spaces on the north end. Due to the many different uses for the retail spaces over the decades, no original interior features and finishes remain. Only the original configuration of the volume of space is retained—the WAC was built to house five commercial/retail spaces. The building's five storefront openings currently accommodate four retail businesses—HSBC, Beckett & Robb Menswear, Sprint, and Blue Water Taco Grill. HSBC commands two retail bays, the easternmost bay provides entry into the bank and the adjacent bay's original entry was removed and converted to a storefront window. Wall, floor, and ceiling finishes vary depending on the business. Floors are typically wood, carpet, or tile; walls are painted plaster or drywall; ceilings are mostly acoustical tile; and lighting is typically fluorescent or LED.

First Floor

The first floor presents a welcoming clubhouse and hotel lobby feel with spacious public areas. This floor houses the concierge, Inn at the WAC front desk, club shop, barbershop, event spaces, WeeWACs, and the Voogd Library (named after Frank Voogd, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the WAC from 1977-1993). The original lobby space was greatly altered in 1955 when the formal entrance was relocated and in subsequent decades as interior design trends changed. However, the lobby continues to exhibit distinctive Kasota stone (limestone from the Minnesota River Valley) wall finishes, original elevator doors, restored original molding above the original elevators, and a brass drinking fountain. Portions of original wood cabinetry, doors and hardware remain in the main lounge. The original library room (Voogd Library), located in the northeast corner of the first floor, is well-preserved with intact wood paneling, shelves, and ornate plaster ceiling.

The main elevators in the northwest corner of the main lobby service the upper floors in the building. In 2017, the WAC has been modernizing the elevators (which were still operating with the original 1930 motors) by replacing and upgrading the elevators' mechanics including the motors, controls, and dispatch system. The interior elevator cabs and original doors with etched panels depicting the WAC symbol and sportsmen and women remain the same.

The original main stairs located just north of the drinking fountain lead up to second floor, providing easy access to the two restaurants on that level.

The lobby floor consists of buff color terrazzo panels. The main lounge and Voogd Library floors are carpeted. Other spaces contain floor finishes of carpet or vinyl.

The northwest lobby walls are clad in original Kasota stone. The same original limestone clads the original square columns in the lobby. Wall finishes elsewhere in the lobby are painted plaster or drywall. The main lounge features wall coverings. The library (as mentioned above) features original wood paneled walls.

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The main lobby ceiling is acoustical tile framed by decorative molding and illuminated by indirect lighting. The Voogd Library retains its original, ornate, plaster, coffered ceiling. All other spaces on the first floor, including the main lounge and club store, have acoustical tile ceiling.

Second Floor

The second floor features dining opportunities for the club. Torchy's Restaurant & Bar is a more formal space (located in the original 1930 building), while Hagerty's Sports Bar is more casual and located in the addition. Both spaces have housed different uses over the decades and have been altered significantly. No original features or finishes have been retained. A newly remodeled (summer 2017) elevator lobby features a white marble floor, painted plaster or drywall, wall coverings, and a circular design feature in the ceiling that mimics a similar feature on the third floor in the elevator lobby. The den area for Torchy's restaurant is an infill floor added during a contemporary remodel. It was originally the upper part (mezzanine) of the men's lounge on the first floor. Floors are carpeted, polished concrete, marble tile (elevator lobby), or ceramic tile (kitchen); wall finishes are painted drywall or plaster; ceilings are acoustical tile.

Third Floor

The third floor features the building's main event space, the Crystal Ballroom, which is used for weddings, parties, meetings, and other large gatherings. The space itself is historic but has been altered significantly. A recent renovation returned some of the historic feel of the room with decorative molding, wall panels, and ceiling beams. The original window openings remain, providing ample natural light for the space. The flooring material is carpet; wall finishes are painted plaster or drywall; ceilings are acoustical tile set within beams. Three large chandeliers provide dramatic lighting for the room.

Other spaces on this floor include meeting rooms, private dining rooms, and the catering office. Marble floors distinguish the elevator lobby from the flooring in the corridors and rooms which feature carpet. Ceilings are acoustical tile and walls are generally painted plaster or drywall. A couple of the meeting rooms have wood-paneled walls.

Fourth Floor

The fourth floor consists of spaces for co-ed fitness, a Pilates Studio, fitness studios, the Spa at the WAC, and the Wellness Center. Flooring material is vinyl (including the area that appears to be wood). Walls are painted plaster or drywall. An exposed concrete ceiling with visible ductwork is in some areas and a hard ceiling is in other areas.

Fifth Floor

The fifth floor is a men's only space that consists of rooms for men's fitness, locker room, sauna/steam room, personal trainers, whirlpool, and training. The only area available for view was the corridor which has a carpeted floor, acoustical tile ceiling, and painted plaster or drywall.

Sixth Floor

The sixth floor contains the original swimming pool (Helene Madison Pool) and balcony, a sport shop, men's locker room, men's sauna, family changing room, and sports courts for handball, squash, and racquetball. The swimming pool itself and the pool area along with the balcony remain mostly intact. Characterized by the vaulted ceiling with historic ceiling lights; arched windows; decorative, ceramic art tile wainscot; and metal balcony railing, this space appears much as it did when the building first opened. The tile floors, plaster wall, and plaster ceiling are also original. The original square columns are clad in the same decorative ceramic tile. The wall behind the arches at the west end of the pool features contemporary blue color tile. A locker room is

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located behind this wall to the west. The pool balcony on the seventh floor is accessed by a historic stair at the southeast end of the pool area.

Seventh Floor

As mentioned above, the seventh floor features a balcony that overlooks the swimming pool. An original sport court with wood floor and painted plaster walls is located at the west end. A viewing area overlooks the court to the south. This level also contains areas for women's fitness and locker rooms. The elevator lobby walls are clad in travertine marble and floors are carpeted. Another original feature that remains is a set of three-paneled wood, double doors with Art Deco style escutcheons that provides entry from the elevator corridor to the pool balcony.

Eighth Floor

The eighth floor contains more sports courts, a viewing gallery overlooking Court #1 below on the seventh floor, functional training rooms, locker rooms, and the WAC Café. Floor finishes are tile in the elevator lobby, café, and locker rooms; carpet in the corridor leading to the sports courts; and exercise floor mats in the training rooms. Walls are painted plaster or drywall. Ceilings are acoustical tile in some areas and a hard ceiling in other areas. The elevator lobby and café also feature a metal grid that suspends from the ceiling. Access to the gymnasium in the addition is through a set of double doors off the hall near the functional training rooms.

Ninth Floor

The ninth floor houses member services, a guest office, WAC staff offices, and a reciprocal club library. It features the upper parts of sports courts located on the eighth floor below. Floors are carpeted; walls are painted plaster, drywall, and non-historic office and lobby partitions; and ceilings are acoustical tile in some areas and a hard ceiling in other areas. Access to the running track above the gymnasium in the addition is accessed through a set of concrete stairs in the southwest corner of the original building and in the northwest corner of the addition. The ninth floor originally contained guest rooms and the upper parts of sports courts.

10th – 20th Floors

The 10th-20th floors house the Inn at the WAC, a hotel with 109 guest rooms and large corner suites. Historically, these floors served the same purpose. A U-shaped corridor provides efficient access to rooms, storage areas, elevators, and stairs. Floors are carpeted in the corridor and in guest rooms; tile floors are found in the bathrooms. Ceilings are acoustical tile in the corridors and painted hard ceiling in guest rooms. Walls are gypsum block finished in painted plaster in the elevator corridor and painted plaster or drywall in the guest rooms and storage areas.

The hotel floors in the original building extend to the addition to the south via a corridor ramp that slopes up from north to south on the 12th floor and through a level corridor on the 11th floor. The difference in levels between the original clubhouse building and the addition on the 12th floor is most likely due to mechanical equipment space needed below the corridor ramp. The southernmost elevator in the set of three main elevators does not extend beyond the 12th floor.

21st Floor

The 21st first floor houses two spaces—the Top of the WAC, a large event/meeting room with views of nearby downtown buildings to the west and north; and the 101 Club and associated office. The 101 Club was established in 1933 as a club within a club that supports athletics and civic endeavors. Both spaces have carpeted floors, acoustical tile ceilings, and painted plaster walls (the Top of the WAC also has

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wall coverings). The elevator corridor is U-shaped with a carpeted floor, acoustical tile ceiling, and wall covering.

22nd Floor

The 22nd floor has a penthouse space that was formerly used as a residence but is no longer occupied by a resident. The current use is storage and office. The penthouse overlooks rooftop mechanical equipment on the north and views of downtown to the south. The penthouse features a slab ceiling, painted plaster walls and drywall, and wood floors. The elevator corridor has a carpeted floor, acoustical tile ceiling, and painted plaster walls.

23rd Floor

The 23rd floor houses the elevator machine room. The WAC is in the process of a phased elevator upgrade project. Only one original Otis elevator machine remains at this time. The elevator machine room is a utilitarian space with CMU walls on the north and brick on the south, east, west and partially on the north; concrete floor, and concrete beams and ceiling. More rooftop mechanical equipment is located north of the elevator machine room.

1955/1970 Addition

Sub-basement and Basement Floors

A set of two elevators provide access from the sub-basement to the fourth floor of the addition. The sub-basement in the addition is unexcavated other than the area where the elevators are located. The basement of the addition contains a laundry area, linen room, former print shop, and mechanical/electrical space. A long corridor stretches between the elevators on the east side and the stairs at the west end. A corridor running north-south in the original building connects to the east-west corridor. The basement features concrete floors, CMU walls, concrete ceilings, and exposed piping.

Garage / Store / S-Level

The original clubhouse building did not have a garage. The addition was built with a garage level with access on the south side, but the floor has not functioned as a parking garage since 1968 when the adjacent garage building to the south was constructed by another owner, blocking the entrance to the WAC's garage. The former parking garage now functions as storage area for the WAC and exhibits faded painted lines of the former parking stalls on the concrete floor. Egress to the alley on the west is provided by a ramp and enlarged door opening. This area is used for loading/unloading.

First Floor

The main entrance into the WAC building is on the east side of the first floor of the addition. A vestibule provides sheltered space upon entering into the building's entry lobby which has terrazzo floors, walls that feature the WAC emblem framed by pilasters and kasota limestone cladding. The Noble Room, a large event space that was originally the auditorium dominates the first floor. It has been recently remodeled and features new carpet, wall covering and acoustical tile ceiling.

Second Floor – Hagerty's Sports Bar has been located in the addition since 1988. The space has housed different uses over the decades and has been altered significantly. No original features or finishes have been retained. Floors are carpeted; wall finishes are painted drywall or plaster; ceilings are acoustical tile.

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Third Floor – Meeting rooms and offices are housed in the addition. Floors are carpeted except the elevator lobby area which has a marble floor; wall finishes are painted drywall or plaster; ceilings are acoustical tile.

Fourth Floor – A large workout area for co-ed fitness is contained in the addition. Flooring material is vinyl. Walls are painted plaster or drywall. An exposed concrete ceiling with visible ductwork is in some areas and a hard ceiling is in other areas.

Fifth Floor – The fifth floor is a men’s only space that consists of rooms for men’s fitness, locker room, sauna/steam room, personal trainers, whirlpool, and training. The only area available for view was the elevator corridor. The area of the addition was not available for view but plans show a large fitness area.

Sixth Floor – The area of the addition on this floor contains sports courts and co-ed space.

Seventh Floor – The area of the addition on this floor contains women’s locker rooms.

Eighth, Ninth, and 10th Floors – The gymnasium was added to the eighth floor when the 1970 addition was built. It features a wood gym floor, concrete walls, and acoustical tile ceiling. A running track on the ninth floor above runs along the perimeter with views down into the gym. The tenth floor of the addition is the upper portion of the gymnasium.

11th and 12th Floors – These two levels serve as part of the Inn at the WAC hotel floors. They feature large hotel rooms/suites with ceramic tile entries and cedar paneled doors from 1970. Floors are carpeted, walls are painted plaster or drywall, and ceilings are painted drywall (hard ceiling).

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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.)

ENTERTAINMENT / RECREATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1930 - 1970

Significant Dates

1930, 1955, 1970

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Ford, Sherwood D. (Architect, 1930 original building)

Clippinger, Don M. (Architect, 1930 original building)

Sound Construction & Engineering (Builder, 1930 original building)

Bain & Overturf (Architect, 1955 addition)

John Graham & Co (Architect, 1970 addition)

Cawdrey & Vemo (Builder, 1970 addition)

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

Note: The statement of significance is based on the City of Seattle Landmark Nomination report for the Washington Athletic Club prepared by Kate Krafft for the Seattle Historic Preservation Program in 2007. The significance statement was revised and updated for this nomination by Historic Seattle.

The Washington Athletic Club is historically significant under Criteria A as a property that is directly associated with the entertainment and recreational needs of early twentieth century Seattle. Still serving its original purpose, the club has been home to countless numbers of members whose roles read like a who's who of Seattle's upper class. The private, members only club, served in contrast to the older, yet more established YMCA and YWCA facilities. The Washington Athletic Club was co-ed, a unique aspect at the time of its construction. Its athletic roster included volleyball, bowling, swimming, wrestling, fencing, reducing exercises, chess, archery, squash, and handball. It also has been home to a variety of social events including educational lectures, fashion shows, drama programs, dance and photography workshops, cooking and art classes, and countless dinner parties.

Construction of the building in 1930 culminated a building boom in downtown Seattle that transformed and expanded the city's northern end from residential to commercial. During this era numerous large commercial buildings were constructed and virtually all of the old residential properties - as well as many of the immediate post-fire (1889) era commercial buildings outside of Pioneer Square – were demolished or removed.

As such, the Washington Athletic Club is also historically significant under Criteria C as a project that embodies the distinguishing characteristics of its type and period of construction, and represents the work of master architect Sherwood D. Ford. The Club is the only example of a highrise clubhouse building in downtown Seattle and is notable for its intact Art Deco styling. Despite a low quantity of known projects, Sherwood D. Ford created some of the most enduring buildings in Seattle during the 1930s.

Over the years the clubhouse has undergone numerous renovations and additions to keep up with the science of physical fitness and yet still retains many of its distinguishing spaces and details. The original in 1930s building was first added on to in 1955. Designed to be expanded, the addition was fully built out and remodeled in 1970. The period of significance begins in 1930, the year the initial Athletic Club facility was built, and ends in 1970, the year of the last major addition to the structure was completed.

History of Physical Culture and Athletic Club Movement

Physical culture or physical fitness has been part of society since the earliest of civilizations. Its real beginning as sustained endeavor dates from the Greeks and the advent of the Olympic Games. The Greeks also cultivated the ideal that gymnasiums and physical activity could be used not only for exercise purposes, but also as a place for socializing and the discussion of philosophy and politics. The athletic club of the modern era was born out of the most basic ideals of physical culture as they evolved throughout history. Ultimately, America's first "athletic club" was founded in 1868 in New York City.

The earliest American athletic clubs were typically large institutions, which were exclusive and founded to essentially foster business and social networks. Most clubs did not allow women as members. The Chicago Athletic Club, one of the most prominent early clubs in the nation, did not officially allow women as members until 1972. Elegant private athletic clubs were typically run by governing bodies, included business enterprises – like cigar shops, barber shops and guest accommodations – and provided an opportunity to participate in a diverse range of sporting activities, games, and events. Common components of many early clubs include swimming pools, archery and shooting ranges, a billiards room, a bowling alley, boxing rings and other facilities that focused more on the social aspects of sport rather than physical demands. In some cases, athletic clubs also offered lectures or discussions on nutrition, literature, theater, or current affairs.

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Another prominent American club was the Los Angeles Athletic Club, which was founded in 1880 when Los Angeles was just a small town of 11,000. As the city grew, the modest club expanded; it boasted among its membership prominent political and financial figures and film stars from the golden age of Hollywood. In 1912, a new purpose-built clubhouse building was constructed, reflecting the success and popularity of the club. The elegant 12-story Beaux-Arts style clubhouse was designed by John Parkinson and included hotel accommodations. It was the first building in Southern California to have a swimming pool located on an upper floor level, for which it gained much notoriety. This clubhouse with its sixth floor level swimming pool, was reportedly the model on which the Washington Athletic Club was founded.

By the early 1960s, the science of exercise physiology was well-recognized, and as a result, physical exercise began to become more focused on aerobic activities such as jogging and organized aerobic exercise classes. Vigorous exercise replaced more stationary and social sports activities that had been a staple of traditional athletic clubs and many older athletic clubs adapted their facilities in order to accommodate the demand for more rhythmic, cardio-based, or group fitness activities. As a result, the classic American athletic club began to be transformed into a health and fitness center of chrome equipment and mirrors complete with free weights, aerobics classes, computerized exercise machines, saunas, nutritionists, and personal trainers.

By the end of the twentieth century, private non-exclusive health clubs, exercise facilities and gymnasiums gained in popularity and were established in significant numbers. The term “athletic club” began to take on a different meaning as a reference to a place where specific exercise facilities were offered. Typically, these clubs and gyms serve the sole purpose of providing exercise facilities. However, many private athletic clubs – like the Washington Athletic Club – continue to function in major metropolitan areas offering expensive and exclusive memberships, fostering social networking, and providing an opportunity to participate in a wide range of sports and exercise activities, as well as dining and social activities.

Historic Context - Social and Athletic Clubs in Seattle

Social clubs and fraternal organizations were an essential aspect of burgeoning communities throughout the American West that were becoming established during the late nineteenth century. They offered places and opportunities for community members with shared interests or common backgrounds to meet and develop local contacts and social networks. Membership in fraternal organizations provided social, religious, ethnic, and labor-related networks. Membership in businessmen’s clubs provided social, business marketing and recreation opportunities, and in particular cases residential accommodations. Women’s clubs typically provided opportunities to pursue educational, philanthropic, civic, or cultural activities outside of home, family, and church life.

Social clubs in Seattle and the nation as a whole were typically limited to one gender and most often had other restrictions based on age, education, race, and religion. Among the earliest men’s clubs in Seattle were the Rainier Club founded in 1888 and the University Club founded in 1900, as well as several athletic-oriented groups established around various sporting activities including golf, tennis, riding, and polo. Among the earliest women’s clubs in Seattle was the Women’s Century Club founded in 1891 by a group of early feminists in order to provide intellectual stimulation and cultural enrichment. A booklet described as “Seattle Society Addresses and Women’s Club Roster” was published in 1904 and listed 23 individual women’s clubs including the YWCA, which prompted exercise activities.

The Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) movement was introduced in Seattle by the late 1870s and became an important civic institution that promoted civic and moral values through various programs including an emphasis on physical culture and exercise. In 1907-1908, the YMCA constructed a large, six-story building at Fourth Avenue and Madison Street – now demolished – that included a swimming pool and fairly elaborate sports and athletic facilities. In 1925, the Seattle Chamber of Commerce published a directory that listed over 700 clubs based within the city. Fraternal and religious organizations were not included in the directory; however, it did list a wide range of professional and industrial organizations, athletic clubs, community groups,

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and social clubs. Numerous alumni organizations representing major colleges and universities across the nation were listed as were several education-based social clubs. The education-based social clubs that operated out of their own downtown clubhouse buildings were the male-only College Club and the Women's University Club. In 1914, the YWCA constructed an eight-story building at Fifth Avenue and Seneca Street that included a swimming pool and a large gymnasium facility and by 1929 the YMCA was preparing to greatly expand its downtown building.

History of the Washington Athletic Club

Founded on the notion of combining athletic pursuits with social networking and leisure activities, the Washington Athletic Club followed an early twentieth century trend of establishing private athletic clubs in major metropolitan areas offering expensive, exclusive memberships and providing opportunities for participation in a range of sports, dining, and social activities. The WAC readily fulfilled that purpose for Seattle's metropolitan area. At the turn of the century, social and athletic clubs in Seattle played crucial roles as spaces in which individuals with similar interests and backgrounds could meet and develop local social networks. Most of Seattle's social clubs typically followed national trends by limiting membership to one gender; they frequently included restrictions based on age, education, race, and religion. Instead, participation in fraternal organizations, businessmen's clubs, and women's clubs provided social, ethnic, and religious networks, marketing and recreation opportunities. Some offered residential accommodations, educational, philanthropic, and cultural activities as well. The WAC was unique, however in allowing female members from its founding. However, its core membership was of Seattle's urban elite—clearly visible in the titans of industry and commerce who founded the club and served as trustees and on the Board of Governors.

In early 1928, Noel B. Clarke, a young Californian realtor who had recently settled in Seattle, began to promote the establishment of a major new downtown athletic club. Frustrated that he could only play handball at the YMCA, had to go to another location on First Avenue to relax at a Turkish bath, and still elsewhere to find a good barber and hot meal, Clarke saw the existence of a premier athletic club as a solution—a way to combine athletic facilities with social and leisure activities for the city's elite. Clarke was familiar with the Los Angeles Athletic Club that provided all of these services and facilities; it was owned by individuals and operated as a business for the benefit of its members. After coming up with a development plan, Clarke began to sell memberships with the goal of attracting 2,000 members in order to establish and build a downtown club building. In March of 1928, the design commission for a 21-story athletic building—to be constructed at Sixth Avenue and Union Street, in the heart of downtown Seattle, was announced. This initial project did not proceed due to insufficient backing in conjunction with some questionable real estate activities undertaken by Clarke. He lost his real estate license and was forced to abandon the effort; however, he had successfully sold some 1,000 memberships in the club.

Following Clarke's departure, the club began to be seriously promoted by Edward B. Waite and Jules L. Charbneau, who after some effort involved William D. Comer, president of Puget Sound Savings & Loan Association and financier for various Seattle real estate developments. Comer's local ventures included the Mayflower/Fox (later Music Hall) Theatre (1928), the Textile Tower (1931), the Marlborough House apartments (1928), and the Olive Tower apartments (1928). Comer assumed Clarke's expenses and agreed to finance the construction of the club building. He had previously purchased a desirable piece of real estate at the southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and Union Street with the intention of developing an apartment building. Amidst a glut of apartment houses, he deemed the site appropriate for the location of the athletic club. A board of trustees was established, chosen by Comer and including Darwin Meisnest, Charles Clise, S.W. Thurston, and Raymond G. Wright.

Comer had grand ideas for a club and hired his good friend architect Sherwood D. Ford to design a much larger athletic club building than Clarke had envisioned. At the time Ford had recently completed the Comer-financed Mayflower/Fox (later Music Hall) Theatre (built 1928, destroyed 1992). To get ideas Ford undertook a nationwide tour of premier athletic clubs in Minneapolis, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles. He studied their designs and familiarized himself with the latest interior arrangements for the building type. It is

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believed that the overall design concept for the WAC – including the Sixth floor swimming pool - was largely based on the lavish Los Angeles Athletic Club.

In September 1928, he published his initial design concepts for the proposed clubhouse. By January 1929, final plans were being prepared for the construction of a highrise tower some twenty stories tall, with an anticipated construction cost of \$2,000,000. By August 1929, the plans and budget had been revised and called for a 21-story building with a \$2,300,000 construction budget. Five retail stores were included at the street level Union Street frontage with the rest of the building housing the club facilities of the Washington Athletic Club.

A ground breaking event took place on December 16, 1929, with numerous Seattle luminaries in attendance. Sound Construction & Engineering Company served as the general contractors. The company had its origins when two construction firms merged (Hastie & Dougan and Cawsey & Lohse) in 1910 to build the county courthouse in Butte Montana. The goal was to take on large building contracts which quickly followed suit and by the 1920s they were awarded some of the largest construction projects in the Pacific Northwest. Among their more notable work was the construction of the legislative building in Olympia; the main office for Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. and Northern Life Tower in downtown Seattle; the Seattle VA Hospital; several buildings at the University of Washington Campus; and the large Navy blimp hanger in Tillamook, Oregon.

The original membership fee for the club was \$100, but the revised and expanded facility design—which included over 100 guest rooms for non-resident club members—made it feasible to promote a special category of membership and generate additional revenue. The basic membership fee was raised to \$150. Club members were kept apprised of the design and construction process through regularly-published bulletins. In January 1930, the Seattle Chamber of Commerce dedicated an entire meeting to the promotion of the new club.

In February 1930, the club became involved in promotional efforts related to the Olympic Summer Games planned for Los Angeles in 1932. During this period, Ray Daughters, the discoverer and trainer of Helene Madisonⁱ, Seattle's world champion swimmer was hired as the club's swimming master. Thus, the club was assured of having Miss Madison swim under the WAC colors. The club's first track team also began to gather various laurels and went on to National AAU championships. Thus, it became certain that the planned trophy displays would immediately include a selection of trophies. As a Washington Athletic Club member, Helene Madison went on to become one of Seattle's most famous Olympic athletes after winning three gold medals at the 1932 Olympic Games.

On November 14, 1930, the By-laws and House Rules of the Washington Athletic Club were formally adopted and stated:

“The purpose of the Club shall be to foster amateur athletics, promote physical culture, athletics, sports, good fellowship, recreation and social entertainment...”

The impressive clubhouse's formal opening was held on December 16, 1930. The Washington Athletic Club was the last major highrise building to be completed in downtown Seattle as the Great Depression began to sink in. As part of the dedication activities, a sculpted bronze tablet, created by prominent Seattle sculptor James P. Wehnⁱⁱ, was installed near the northeast corner of the building on Sixth Avenue. It was placed on the

ⁱ Helene Madison (1914-1970) was Seattle's first world famous teenage Olympic swimming champion. She learned to swim at age two in classes at Green Lake and learned competitive techniques training in pools at the Moore Hotel. She made her debut in international competitions at age 15 and went on to break 117 United States and World records. She won three gold medals for the United States at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Madison turned professional following her success at the Olympics, giving performances at the amusement park at Bitter Lake after her return to Seattle. She ventured to Hollywood and starred in the Mack Sennett comedy flop "The Human Fish" in 1932, and attempted a failed career as a nightclub entertainer in Seattle. By 1936, her minor and largely unsuccessful gigs as a paid swimmer left her ineligible to compete at the Olympic Games in Berlin. Her later years were filled with tragedy, indebtedness, and illness. The public swimming pool near Ingraham High School and the pool at the Washington Athletic Club are both named in her honor.

ⁱⁱ James A. Wehn (1882-1973) moved to Seattle with his family in 1889 shortly after the Great Fire. He subsequently studied art locally and on the East Coast. He eventually turned to sculpture and ornamental modeling for buildings and worked at his father's local foundry. He is believed to have

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building in honor of territorial pioneer Mrs. John (Hannah) Newman and includes the inscription: *“Mrs. Hannah Newman with courage and faith in the development of our city, owned this ground from pioneer days to the erection of the present building, 1930.”* Hannah Newman was the wife of a famous local packer John “Jack” Newman (1863-1931) who led pack trains through Alaska’s White Pass at the height of the Klondike Gold Rush. Hannah Newman arrived in Seattle as a child in 1866, a time when only nine European-American children resided in the city, and purchased the property in 1882 when it was still an isolated, wooded block. She sold the property to “citizens promoting the construction of a new home for the Washington Athletic Club” and her husband had the plaque commissioned and erected to honor her. Mr. Newman had previously commissioned Wehn to create two other sculptures in Alaska commemorating gold rush events.

From 1928 until 1935 the WAC was owned and operated by a group of private individuals with Darwin Meisnest holding the controlling stock, and the Board of Governors concerned themselves primarily with social events rather than club operations. In the months following the WAC’s opening, the club was threatened with closure due to failing local economic and business conditions attendant to the Great Depression. Unfortunately this led to a rapid decline in membership. Darwin Meisnest and his brother Ken essentially overtook management of the club. On April 11, 1931, a new membership drive was mounted: membership could be purchased for \$25 plus \$7 monthly fee with the funds held in trust until it was certain that the club could continue to operate. By 1935, memberships had continued to drop until civic leaders and community members made efforts to ensure sufficient membership and income, and the club was able to continue operations. The club weathered the depression because it had a program for every member of the family. For men these included bowling, swimming, volleyball, handball squash, badminton, and monthly “smoker’s” and speaker’s dinners. The women’s program included a Friday morning lecture series, a course in interior decorating, fashion shows, dramatics, swimming, tap-dancing, calisthenics, as well as bridge luncheons and lessons. For children there were swimming lessons, boxing, calisthenics, holiday parties, and summer programs.

Due to the 1934 Steele Act which established the Washington Liquor Control Board, the WAC could not sell liquor unless it became a non-profit corporation. Consequently, the club was reorganized so that the Board of Governors actually ran the club while the property was leased to the Washington Athletic Club Holding Company. In 1942, Ken Meisnest took over management of the club. Throughout the 1940s, the WAC reciprocated prior community support by engaging in war relief efforts, including raising money for war bonds and encouraging women members to sew, knit, and make surgical dressings for soldiers in the “Victory Center,” which occupied the entire seventh floor.

Finally financially solvent, by 1950 WAC members had purchased the club from the Washington Athletic Club Holding Company; policy making, management responsibilities, and operational decisions began to be completely handled by members serving on a multitude of organizational committees. At the time the WAC was considered one of the most progressive and well-equipped athletic clubs in the country, employing some 300 people and serving between 1,200 and 1,500 meals a day. In 1955, the original clubhouse was modernized, remodeled, and expanded at a cost of approximately \$2,000,000. Renowned Seattle architects William Bain and Harrison Overturf designed a twelve-story expansion (only four stories were built), including a 400-seat auditorium, a new dining room, and a below-grade parking garage. The modern curtain wall facade included a glass entry vestibule and contrasted sharply with the original clubhouse building with its distinctive Art Deco style exterior treatments. At that time the original entry vestibule was abandoned and enclosed, and the main lobby was expanded and modernized. The original open second floor balcony that overlooked the main lobby was also infilled and enclosed. As envisioned in 1955, an additional eight stories were added to the new wing in 1970. At that time the curtain wall facade was removed and a new entrance and Sixth Avenue exterior facade was executed in a Brutalist style according to plans prepared by John Graham & Company.

established Seattle’s first professional sculpture studio in back of the Wehn family home near the Mt. Baker neighborhood. Probably due to those connections, he founded the sculpture department at the University of Washington in 1919 and taught there for five years. He is best known for the large standing sculpture of Chief Sealth at Tillicum Place (1907-1912) and the small bust of Chief Sealth (c. 1909) with a bubbler for horses and dogs located in Pioneer Place Park. In 1936, he also created the official City of Seattle seal – an image of Chief Sealth.

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Between 1970 and 2007, virtually all of the interior spaces within the clubhouse were repeatedly modernized to accommodate evolving modern athletic facilities and programs and decorating trends.

Seattle's Early Twentieth Century Skyscrapers

The Washington Athletic Club is contextually associated with the early twentieth century establishment of Seattle's downtown commercial core. The WAC is the only example of a highrise clubhouse building in downtown Seattle, and has been used continuously from 1930 to the present as a large private athletic club facility. The urban character of downtown Seattle was largely defined during the early twentieth century by the construction of modern highrise buildings. After the turn of the century, local and regional economic prosperity generated the earliest construction of tall, steel-frame and ferroconcrete office buildings at the northern edge of the Pioneer Square commercial district along Second Avenue. The first high rise structures included the 14-story Alaska Building (1903-1904), the 12-story American Savings Bank/Empire Building (1904-1906, destroyed), and the not fully realized 12-story Melhorn Building (1906-1907). Each exhibited elegant face brick with terra cotta cladding and ornament in a design mode heavily influenced by eastern precedents, especially the Chicago School. Distinctive skyscrapers of similar scale, construction technology and design character would be constructed elsewhere in the expanding commercial core over the subsequent ten years, including: the Eitel Building (1906); Northern Bank and Trust Company Building (1906-09); the White Building (1908, destroyed), the Henry Building (1909, destroyed), Cobb Building (1909); and the eighteen-story Hoge Building (1911). During this era commercial business blocks and highrise buildings inspired by Beaux-Arts design principles - often entirely terra cotta-clad - were constructed throughout the expanded commercial district, including; the Central Building (1907); Securities Building (1912-13) Joshua Green Building (1913); Arctic Building (1913-1917); the Times Square Building (1916); and most notably the 42-story Smith Tower (1914).

A downtown construction boom of the 1920s accelerated a visual change in the downtown as major highrise buildings replaced older business blocks and transformed what was left of the old residential district. Affecting the change greatly was a new City of Seattle zoning code and ordinance in 1923 that included setback requirements for tall buildings, a perfect set of conditions for the soon to be popular Art Deco style. By 1930, the downtown commercial core included numerous major highrise office and hotel buildings including: the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building (1921, 1926); Dexter Horton Building (1922); Spring Apartment Hotel (Vintage Park Hotel, 1922); Terminal Sales Building (1923); Shafer Building (1923); Olympic Hotel (1924); Bergonian Hotel (Mayflower Park Hotel, 1926); 1411 Fourth Avenue Building (1929); Exchange Building (John Graham, Sr, 1929); Northern Life Building (1929); United Shopping Tower (Olympic Tower, Henry Bittman, 1929); Roosevelt Hotel (John Graham, Sr., 1929); Textile Tower (Earl W. Morrison, 1930); and the Joseph Vance Building (V.W. Voorhees, 1930). Several of these highrise buildings were designed in the Art Deco style - particularly those designed and constructed after 1928, when the Northern Life Tower (A.H. Albertson, Joseph Wilson and Paul D. Richardson) project was undertaken. This project was Seattle's first and its finest example of Art Deco skyscraper design. Due to the economic downturn after 1930, major downtown commercial construction was halted and Art Deco designs for a new Arctic Club and Seattle City Light Building were never realized.

The Art Deco Style

The Washington Athletic Club is an excellent example of a 1930s Art Deco highrise building with its dramatic stepped-back highrise tower form and a profusion of ornate bas-relief and sculpted terra cotta and cast stone ornament. Such distinctive design and decorative elements are central to Art Deco stylization which was widely popular during the 1920s and 1930s. Art Deco was a popular international design movement from 1920 until the late 1930s that found expression in the decorative arts including architecture, interior design and industrial design, as well as the visual and graphic arts and clothing and jewelry fashion. The design mode grew out of several earlier twentieth century design styles and movements including Constructivism, Cubism, Bauhaus, Art Nouveau and Futurism. The mode gained wide popularity in the United States after the *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes* that was held in Paris 1925, which

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served to showcase futuristic works designed to express modernity and artistic idioms meant to complement the machine age. The movement was initially called Style Moderne but it subsequently became popularly known as Art Deco.

Art Deco ornamentation is typified by bas-relief geometric designs and architectural ornament that is most often executed in the form of parallel straight lines, zigzags, zigurats, chevrons, and stylized floral and fern motifs. The style is typified by a conscious rejection of historical styles; in North America, design motifs were often inspired by Native American art. Art Deco style architecture is also typified by the stylized and innovative use of modern construction materials, bold stepped forms and sweeping curves as well as opulent and often lavish exterior and interior ornamentation. The most notable examples of the Art Deco style were produced due to harmonious collaborations between architects and artists, sculptors and designers.

The stepped-back vertical form of Eliel Saarinen's un-built, second-prize winning design for the Chicago Tribune Tower competition, which was held in 1922, became a prototype for tall urban buildings. Subsequently, the great Art Deco skyscrapers of New York City had an overpowering influence on the popularization of the style, which came to symbolize the possibilities of twentieth century technology and the future. During the late 1920s, the style was popularly used for the design of commercial buildings, apartment houses, theaters and hospitals; however, it found its fullest expression in the stepped-back office tower form with which the style is most frequently associated. With the advent of tall buildings, zoning codes were adopted that required the building facades above a certain height to be setback from the street edge in order to provide sufficient openings for the passage of sunlight between buildings. Thus, modernistic skyscrapers were executed in the Moderne or Art Deco style with a consistent set of ornamental design motifs, structural piers and massing that served to reinforce the verticality of the form. Corporate and commercial skyscraper designs were executed to include an opulent and often intricate selection of exotic materials, motifs and interior treatments. Bas-relief ornament that could be executed in terra cotta, incised stone and bronze was particularly well-suited to decorate the multiple flat surfaces of highrise buildings; the ornament often incorporated symbolic images of the activities within the building. Bold bands of ornament near the building caps were scaled to be perceived from the street level; the building base and the cap were typically much more ornamented than the shaft, which was designed to emphasize the overall height and draw visual attention to top of the building.

Design and Architectural History of the WAC

The final exterior design for the new WAC highrise clubhouse was executed in an elaborate Art Deco style with a dramatic 21-story stepped-back highrise tower form and a profusion of ornate bas-relief and sculpted terra cotta and cast stone ornament. The building design was formally oriented to the north and toward Union Street with the club entry located off of Sixth Avenue. The formal and heavily ornamented central bay of the façade at Union Street extends 21-stories; at the eleventh floor level the base shaft is stepped-back to the south, east and west. At the nineteenth floor level the tower is setback at all four corners. The two-story setback cap between the nineteenth and the twenty-first floor levels is crowned by a setback pavilion at the 22nd floor and a two-story elevator machine room. Wide major piers and narrower interstitial piers emphasize the verticality of the stepped-back building form. Bas-relief and sculpted terra cotta and cast stone ornament decorate the top of the building base, the central bay of the facade shaft, the two-story cap at the top of the base shaft and setback, and the two-story setback at the tower cap. The bas-relief ornament includes traditional acanthus, shield, cable and denticulated motifs and cresting in addition to distinctive moderne floral, fern and chevron motifs and vertical fluting. The WAC winged symbol, sculpted eagles and eagle medallions are distinctive artistic expressions; especially the eagles that emphasize the multiple outside corners of the twenty-first floor level and cap the central tower bay. Other distinctive sculptural ornament includes muscular human figures at the base piers of the Union Street facade and mythical human and animal masks that decorate pier caps and stylized zigurat parapets.

The clubhouse building was designed to include a highly ornate main lobby with a formal entryway from Sixth Avenue. The two-story space featured a vaulted ceiling with open balconies to the second floor level. Several

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formal rooms including a men's library and lounge were located off of the lobby as well as a coat check, cigar shop, and barber shop. A large formal main dining room and seven private dining rooms including the Pompeian Room were located on the Third floor level. Formal areas were typically finished and decorated with terrazzo flooring, ornamental cast plaster, marble cladding and stairs, and southern red gum wood cabinetry and trim.

The original architectural plans for the highrise WAC clubhouse included a separate ladies entrance at the south side of the Sixth Avenue entry vestibule. A women's elevator provided direct access to a separate second floor level ladies lounge, bridge room and Third floor level dining room. The majority of the seventh floor was taken up with a large locker room facility for women and children; the girls shared this locker room with their mothers while a separate boy's locker room was located nearby on the same floor level. A promotional brochure noted:

"The Club offers exceptional advantages to its women members and wives of members. A special women's elevator gives exclusive entrance and exit to the women's departments. The entire seventh floor is taken over by facilities for women – the beauty salon, the conditioning department, the ladies' sport shop and locker rooms. On the second floor is the ladies bridge room, lounge, cloak room and powder room. The ladies' dining room and private dining rooms are on the third floor. Ladies are permitted to use the gymnasium and the swimming pool at specific hours during the week, as well as the bowling alleys."

Men's locker room areas were located on the Sixth and the Eighth floor level. The men's Sixth floor locker room opened onto a large two-story space at the north side of the building that housed a large swimming pool with a balcony overlooking it at the seventh floor level. An informal men's grill/dining room as well as billiard, game and card rooms were located at the Fourth floor level. Housed elsewhere between the Fourth floor and the Eighth floor levels were a bowling alley, a large two-story gymnasium, numerous handball and squash courts, a golf practice room, boxing and wrestling facilities, exercise rooms with rowing machines and other workout equipment, and a physical conditioning department with massage tables, steam baths and a "sun ray" room. The kitchen and other food preparation and serving facilities were primarily located in the subbasement and on the Third and Fourth floor levels. The basement was primarily devoted to mechanical equipment and machinery, laundry operations, linen storage and separate locker rooms for male and female employees.

Approximately 113 guest rooms were originally located between the ninth and the 20th floor levels. There is no 13th floor level – the 20th floor is actually the 19th floor level -causing some confusion regarding the overall building height. A portion of the 9th floor as well as all of the 10th through 12th and 14th through 18th (actually 13th through 17th) included standard guest rooms with private baths. The 19th & 20th (actually 18th & 19th) floor levels included larger guest rooms with fireplaces. The 21st floor was used for meeting rooms and offices and the 22nd floor level served as a print room. The 23rd (actually 22nd) floor housed the elevator machine room penthouse.

The formal opening of the massive new clubhouse building was held on December 16, 1930. Shortly after construction completion a fully illustrated promotional brochure was printed and distributed. It included dozens of photographs of the formal rooms and athletic facilities as well as advertisement from dozens and dozens of local companies that were involved in the construction, furnishing or provision of services or supplies for the club, including: Rautman Plumbing & Heating Company; Seattle Cornice Works; Wallace Bridge & Structural Steel Company; J.H. Pomeroy & Company, Inc, steel erectors; Pioneer Sand & Gravel Company; Anderson Brass & Fixture Works; Gladding, McBean & Company, supplier of ornamental terra cotta and face brick; Western Granite Company, Inc.; H.L. Nelson Company, ornamental cast plaster; Joe Di Luck, terrazzo contractor; Builders Hardware & Supply Company; Western Fibre Furniture Company; Schorn Paint Manufacturing Company; Cascade Fixture Company – designed and manufactured lighting fixtures; Bakers, providers of oriental art; Franklin Hall, decorative furniture and carpets and Western Painting and Decorating Company, Inc.

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Architect of the Original Clubhouse: Sherwood D. Ford & Don M. Clippinger

Architect Sherwood D. Ford (1872-1948) is best known for his theater, apartment, and hotel design projects. He was born in England in 1872 and immigrated to the United States in the 1890s. He first worked as an architect in Montreal before moving to Boston where he worked for twelve years with the noted Boston architecture firm of Hartwell, Richardson, & Driver. During a portion of that time, he is said to have been in charge of that office.

The Hartwell, Richardson & Driver firm was formed in 1881 when Henry Walker Hartwell (1833-1919), a successful practicing Boston architect, partnered with William Cummings Richardson (1854-1935), a Boston-trained architect more than twenty years his junior. James Driver joined the firm in 1895. The trio practiced together for more than forty years, gaining particular success in the 1880s and 1890s during the period of H.H. Richardson's greatest influence. They were most popular for their work in designing suburban homes for newly successful businessmen and merchants. Their work provides an excellent example of the popular architectural taste in Boston and the influence of H.H. Richardson on his contemporaries. One of their most notable works is the Church of St. John the Divine (1889-90) in New York City.

Upon moving to Seattle in 1907, Sherwood Ford joined the architectural firm of John Graham & David Myers. After Meyers left the firm, Ford continued to work with John Graham, Sr. When Graham relocated to Detroit in 1914 to work as the supervising architect for the Ford Motor Company, Ford decided it was a good time to strike out on his own. He formed a partnership with James E. Webster and they took over most of Graham's northwest projects until 1916. In 1917, Ford began practicing independently; his most notable commissions include the Cambridge Apartments (1923, National Register-listed), the Marcus Whitman Hotel (1927, National Register-listed) in Walla Walla, and the Mayflower/Fox (later Music Hall) Theatre (1927-1928, destroyed 1992). The Mayflower/Fox Theatre, which was designed in a flamboyant Spanish Baroque style, was designed for W.D. Comer, the financier of the Washington Athletic Club project. Ford and Comer had a close relationship, with Comer serving as the witness for Ford's naturalization process as he sought United States citizenship. Ford's most renowned projects revealed his ability to work adeptly with popular early twentieth century architectural styles and design prolific buildings for social purposes.

Upon receiving the commission to design the Washington Athletic Club in 1928, an article from *Washington State Architect* in September of 1928 notes that Ford was leaving Seattle to study prominent athletic clubs across the country in order to examine interior arrangements that would aid in the design of the Washington Athletic Club. By then Ford was at the top of his field, and in 1929, he was elected president of the Washington State Chapter of the AIA. Information on his later career is unknown and he died in Seattle on September 14, 1948.

While never elevated to the level of partner, architect Don Merrell Clippinger (1890-1952) played a key role in many of Ford's projects; serving as lead draftsman. In fact an article in The Architect & Engineer Mag. (April 1931), posted a correction that their omission of Clippingers' name for the design of the WAC was a "regrettable oversight." Clippinger was born in Lima, Ohio on June 28, 1890 and grew up in Sacramento, California. His formal training is unknown but records indicate that he worked as a draftsman for noted California architect Rudolph A. Herold in Sacramento. However by 1918, he worked as an architectural draftsman in the Department of Engineering / Bureau of Architecture for the State of California. For reasons unknown around 1920, Clippinger and his family (wife Marie, son Don Jr.) had moved to Washington state. He continued to work as a draftsman and took a job with Sherwood Ford, rising to the level of associate. In 1933, three years after the Washington Athletic Club was completed, Clippinger formed a partnership with Emory Glenn Morgan. The partnership was short-lived and by 1935, he worked as an architect for the Standard Unit Sales Company. Census records indicate that in 1940 that he and his wife had moved temporarily to Banning, California, but he worked for the Puget Sound Shipyard and was back in Bremerton by 1942. By 1946 he worked for Tacoma architect A.G. Lumm. In June of 1946 he formed a new partnership with engineer Maurice Hoard in Seattle; operating under the name Associated Architects & Engineers Inc. However that partnership was short-lived. According to his obituary, Clippinger was working for the

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architectural firm of NBBJ at the time of his death. He passed away in Seattle at the age of 61 on May 29, 1952.

Architects of the 1955 Addition: Bain & Overturf

To accommodate the expanding needs of the club ground was broken for a new four-story \$2 million dollar addition on June 24, 1954. Its main purpose was to house a large auditorium, a new dining room, and an enlarged social area. The design allows for an additional eight stories to be added at a later date. The wing opened in the winter of 1955 just in time for the club's 25th anniversary. The addition was designed by the architectural firm of Bain & Overturf with the assistance of interior decorator Lou Garner.

William James Bain, Sr. (1896-1985) began his architectural education in 1915 as an apprentice for W.R.B. Wilcox, Arthur Lovelace, and other Seattle architects. After serving in France during World War I, he enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania where he earned an architecture degree. After returning to Seattle, he practiced independently and in several partnerships with others – including Lionel Pries – primarily designing residences, apartment and sorority houses. From 1941 to 1943, he worked with J. Lister Holmes and others on Yesler Terrace, a highly innovative low-income housing project. In 1943, in order to handle several large World War II era government projects he joined with architects Floyd Naramore, Clifton Brady, and Perry Johanson to form Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson. Now known as NBBJ, the partnership went on to design a wide variety of commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings for which the firm has earned considerable local, national, and international prominence and recognition. In 1947, Bain formed a side partnership with Harrison Overturf that continued until 1970; this partnership enabled him to work on smaller residential and commercial projects.

His partner Harrison John Overturf (1908-1972) was born in Nebraska on November 10, 1908. Overturf was raised in Tacoma, Washington and graduated from Stadium High School. He was educated in architecture at the University of Oregon and the University of Washington but did not receive a formal degree. Overturf chose a path that was typical at the time—he apprenticed with notable architects gaining valuable experience. He spent his early years working in Tacoma for Heath, Gove & Bell as a junior draftsman at the age of 16 (1924-1926). He then worked short-term for Tacoma architect Silas Nelson for two months and engineer R.C. Stockton for six months before returning to Heath, Gove & Bell as a chief draftsman (1927-1928). He worked as an associate with George Wellington Stoddard & Associates in Seattle from 1929-1941, before serving as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. After returning to Seattle, he formed a partnership with William J. Bain (1946). For a short time Bain & Overturf were joined by Edwin T. Turner (1948-49); but the two remained as partners (1946-72) designing mainly residential projects for 30+ years until Overturf's death. Together they gained respect for showing their skill as delineators with an astute understanding of the modern style.

Architects of the 1970 Addition: John Graham & Company

Timing was finally right in the late 1960s to fulfill the goals of a complete build-out the 1950s wing. Designed by the noted architectural firm of John Graham & Co. the plans for the expansion project included additional men's conditioning facilities, three handball courts, two squash courts and a spectators gallery, a full size gymnasium and a running track. It also included two floors of overnight accommodations for non-resident members and the remodeling of spaces in the original 1930 clubhouse building. The contractor was Cawdrey & Vemo. By then the club's membership had reached 8,500 and they began to focus on an all-inclusive "family club" concept.

The John Graham & Co. by that time was led by John Graham Jr. (1908-1991), son of the original founder. Born and raised in Seattle, John Graham Jr. began his formal architectural education at the University of Washington in 1926. He then transferred to Yale, where he received his Bachelor in Architecture degree in 1931. Due to the Depression, Graham worked in the retail business before joining his father's architectural practice as a partner in 1937. Business was booming for the firm and at the age of 30, Graham Jr. opened a

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branch office in New York City with engineer Wilfred Painter as a partner. During the late 1930s, Graham focused his work on designing retail spaces. With the outbreak of WWII, the New York office closed and Graham turned to the design of war housing, developing several large FHA housing projects including Suburban Heights (1944) and Sunny Brook (1942) in the suburbs of Washington DC, and Edgewater Park (1939) in Seattle. During this time, Graham Sr. had begun transferring the practice to his son, and officially retired from active practice in 1946. After his father's retirement, John Graham Jr. changed the name of the firm to John Graham & Company and began to design large shopping malls, a new concept at the time.

Among the firm's more noteworthy projects were Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle (1950), Capitol Court in Milwaukee (1957), and Northshore Mall in Peabody, Massachusetts (1958). The firm went on to specialize in multi-million dollar regional shopping centers and designed over seventy throughout the country. They also designed a variety of schools, churches, and factory buildings.

Graham had a reputation for correctly assessing a project's schedule, budget and feasibility, and this earned him the title "a businessman's architect." Because of this reputation, it is not surprising that the Washington Athletic Club chose Graham for the 1970 addition. Among the over 1,000 projects by the firm is Washington Natural Gas Headquarters (1964), Olympic Hotel Parking Garage (1965), the 42-story Bank of California Building (1974), the Westin Towers (1969, 1982), 1600 Bell Plaza (1976), and the 44-story Wells Fargo Building in San Francisco (1966). Graham's most well-known project was the 600 ft tall Space Needle for the Seattle World's Fair. While the initial design was claimed jointly by Graham and fellow architect Victor Steinbrueck, it was Graham's firm that executed the final design.

Under Graham's leadership the firm became one of the premiere commercial architectural firms in the United States. He died in Seattle on January 29, 1991.

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- _____. "\$2,300,000 Athletic Club is Assured: Seattle Will Get 20-Story Structure." September 29, 1929.
- _____. "Quickening Tone Shown in Local Realty Trading." October 27, 1929.
- _____. "Ground to be Broken At Noon Tomorrow for Club." December 15, 1929.
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- _____. "Ground Broken for W.A.C. Project." June 24, 1954.
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- _____. "It's Silver-Jubilee Time at Washington Athletic Club." February 5, 1956.
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- _____. "What's Old, New on Seattle Skyline." July 15, 1979.
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- _____. Washington Athletic Club Exterior Taken from University Street, 1950s.

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- _____. Washington Athletic Club Front Desk and First Floor Lobby.
- _____. Washington Athletic Club Original Sixth Floor Swimming Pool.
- _____. Sixth Avenue Side of Washington Athletic Club on Union Street.
- _____. Party in WAC's Crystal Room.
- _____. Washington Athletic Club Illustration, 1930.
- _____. Washington Athletic Club Lobby Interior, 1930.
- _____. Washington Athletic Club Exterior from Northeast Corner of Sixth and Union, 2007.
- _____. Site of future Washington Athletic Club Site Taken from Union Street, 1920s.

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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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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

Or Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>47°36'41"N</u>	<u>122°19'40"W</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

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

The nominated property is located on Lots 1, 2 & 3, Block 16 of Denny's A.A. 3rd Addition Less ST, City of Seattle, in King County, Washington. It is otherwise identified as Tax Parcel 197570-0025.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

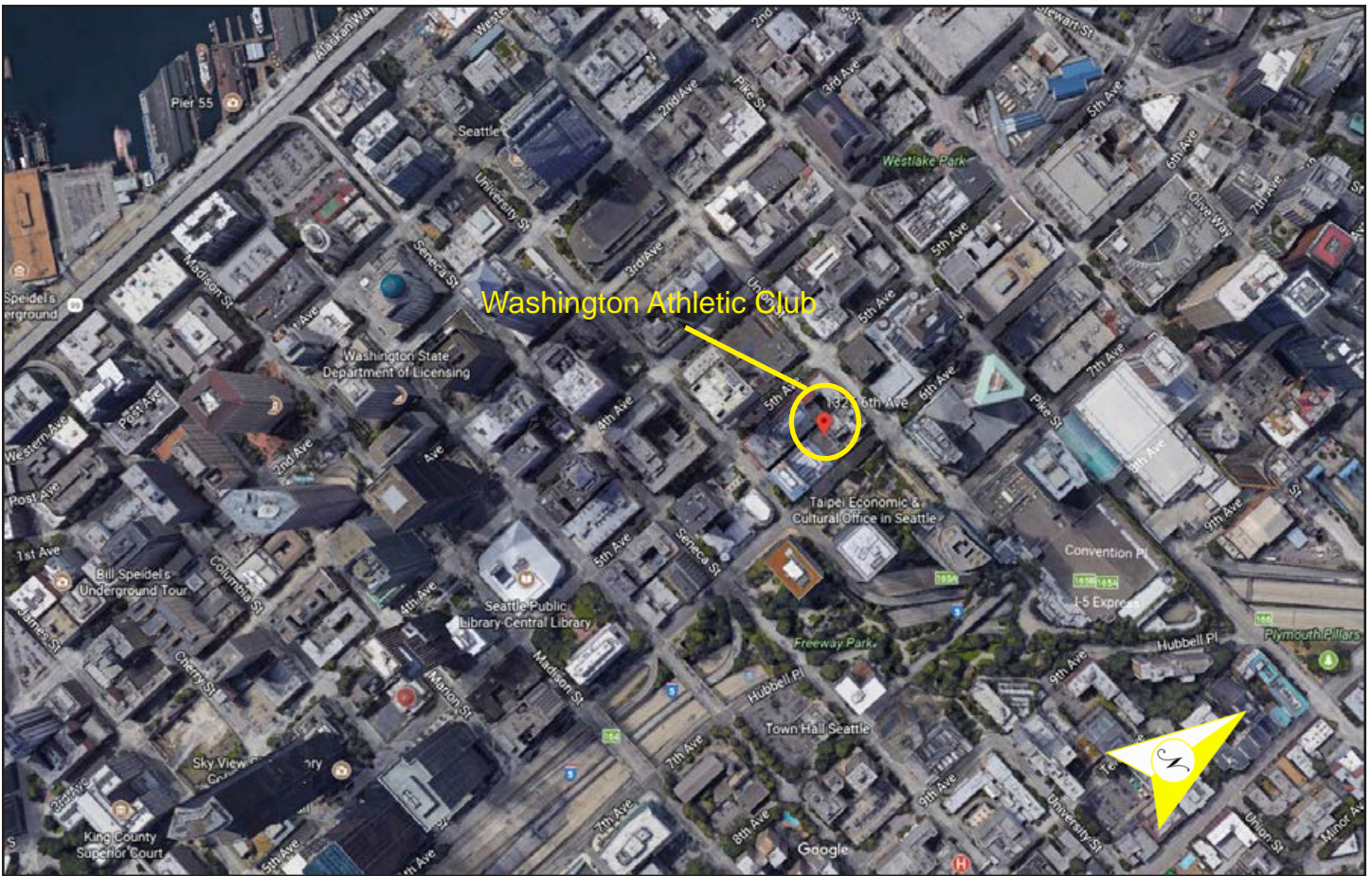
The nominated property encompasses the entire urban tax lot that is occupied by the Washington Athletic Club.

11. Form Prepared By

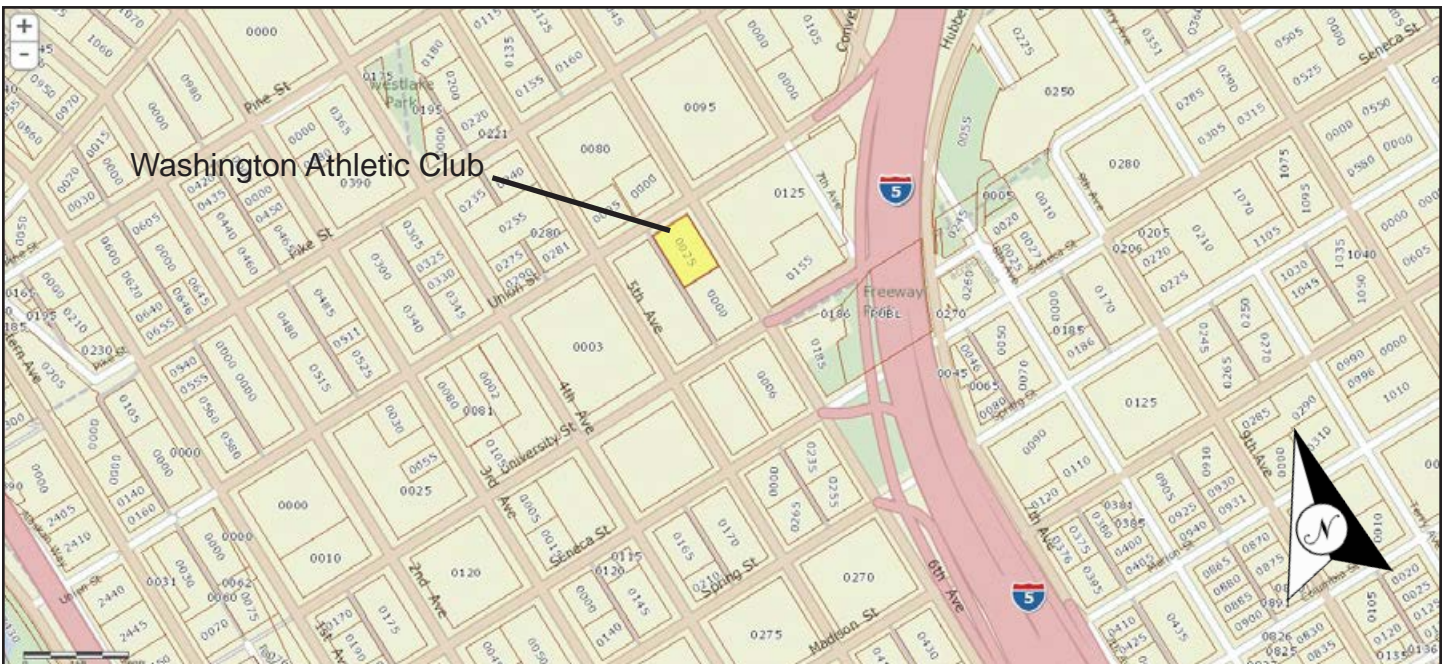
name/title Eugenia Woo and Emily Piccard (Edited by DAHP Staff)
organization Historic Seattle date January 5, 2018
street & number 1117 Minor Avenue telephone (206) 622-6952
city or town Seattle state WA zip code 98101
e-mail eugeniaw@historicseattle.org

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

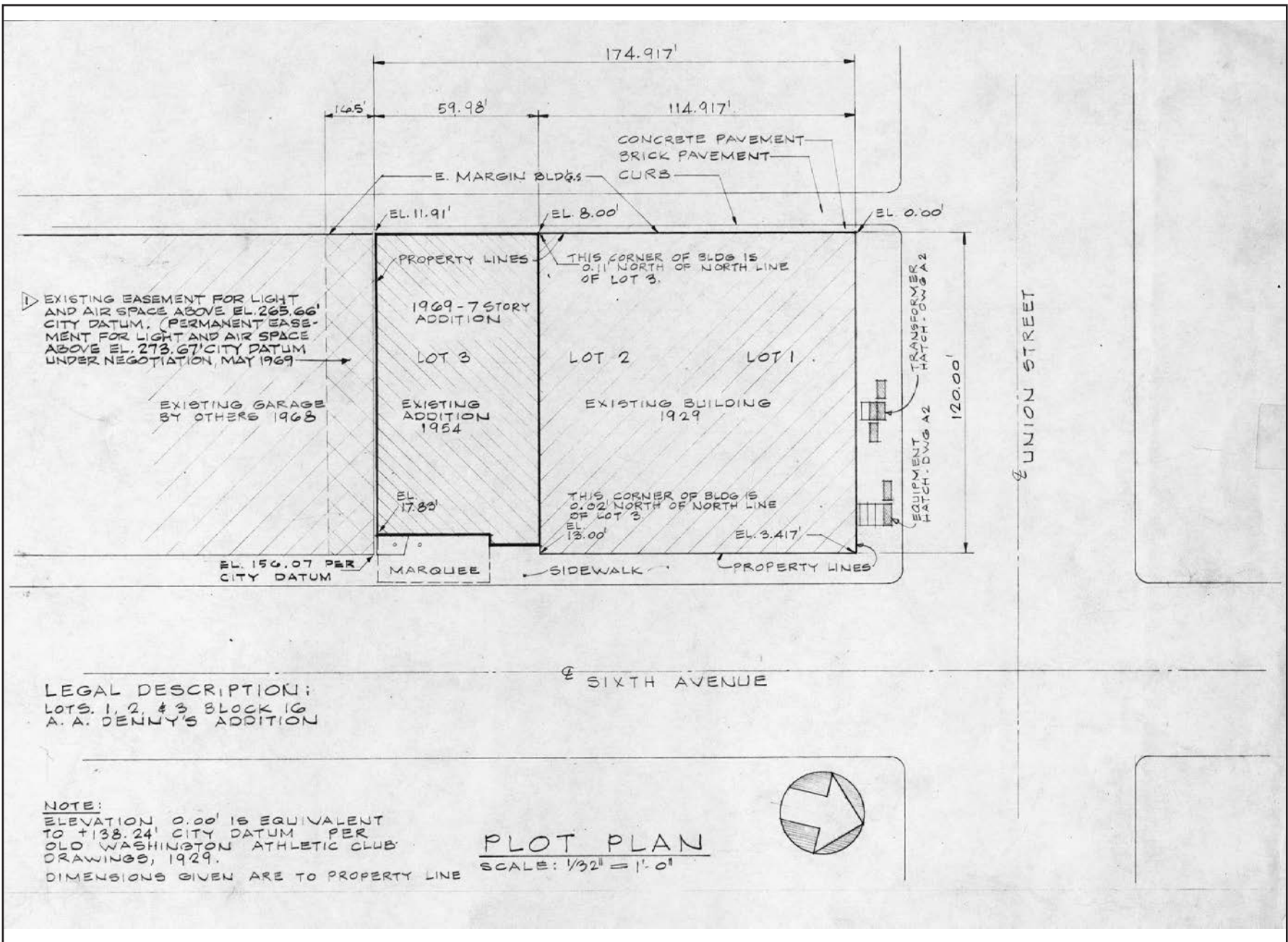
name Washington Athletic Club CO: Paul Lowber
street & number 1325 Sixth Ave. or PO Box 1709 telephone (206) 839-4790
city or town Seattle state WA zip code 98111



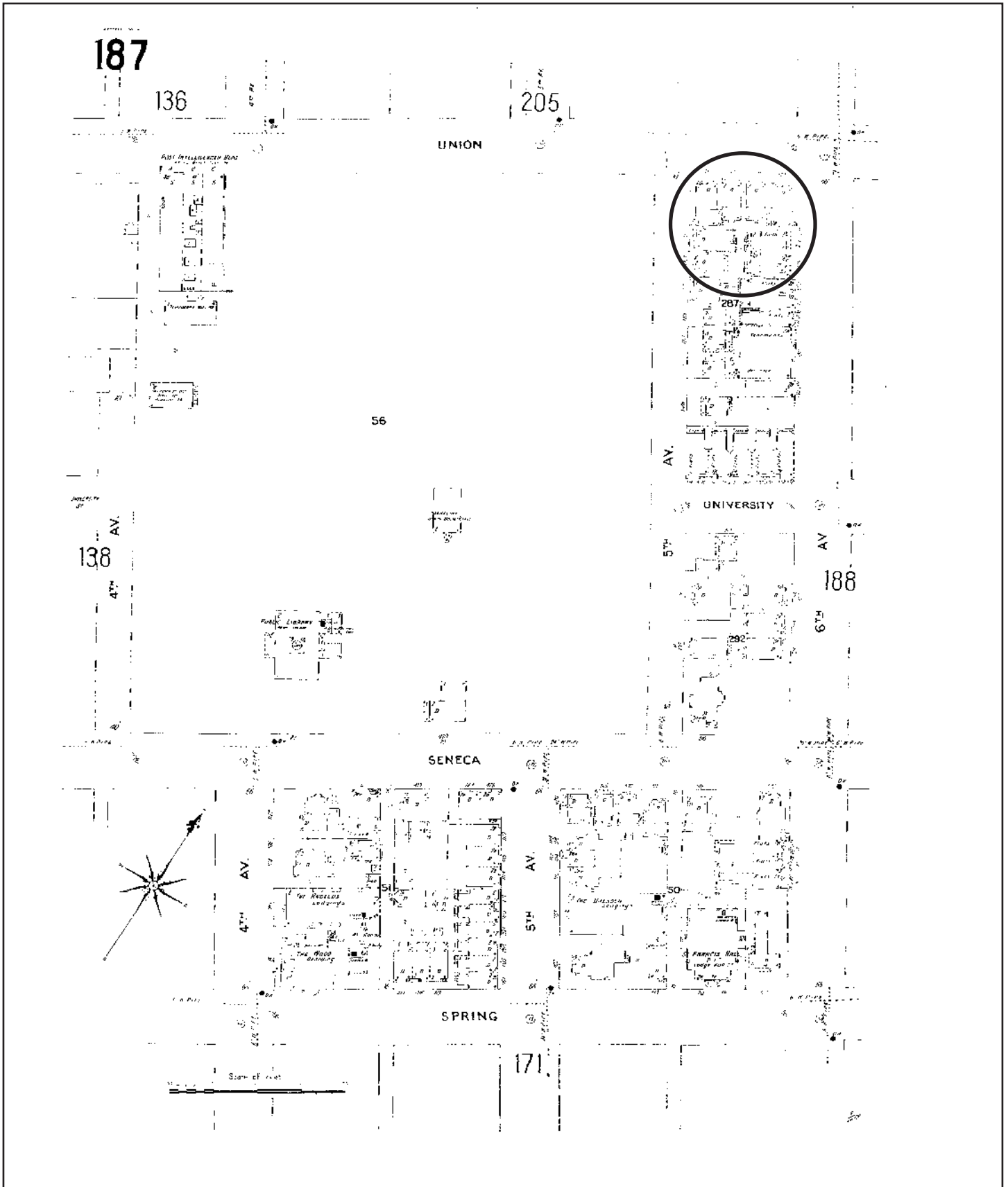
Google Earth, 2017. Latitude/Longitude coordinates for Washington Athletic Club: 47°36'41"N 122°19'40"W



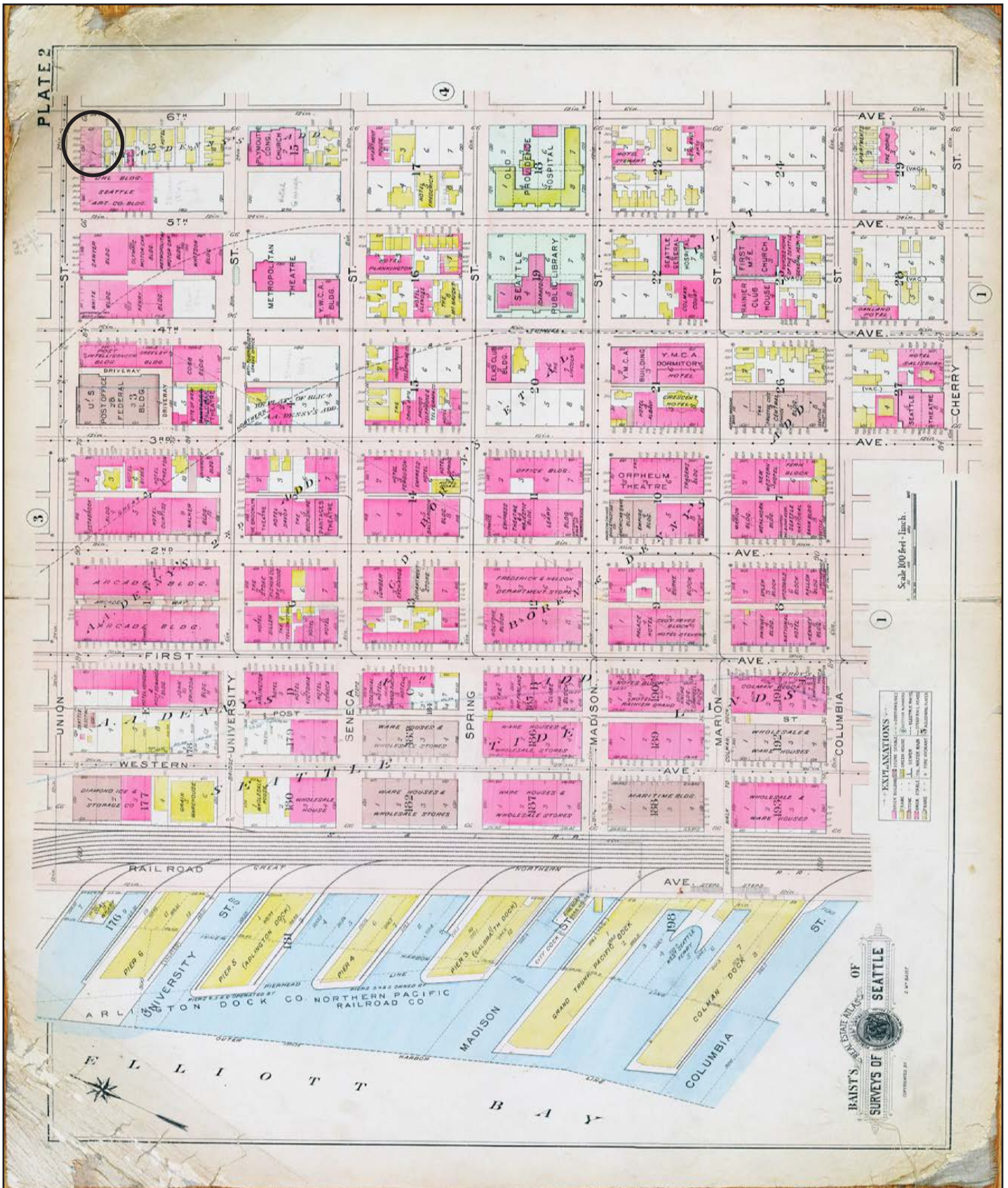
Current parcel map, King County Assessor Parcel Viewer GIS Map, 2017



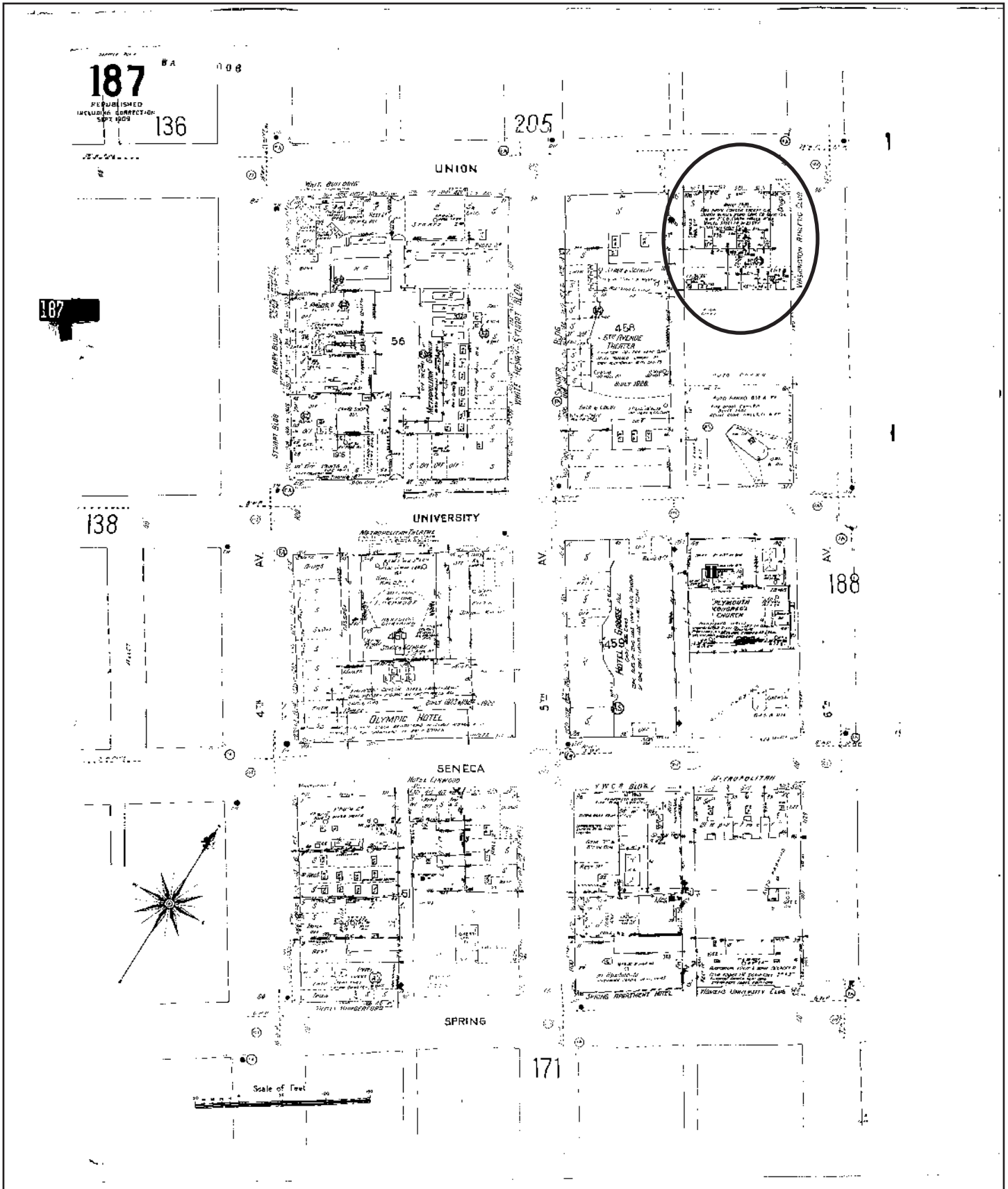
Site plan / Plot plan for the Washington Athletic Club building - drawing is from 1970 by John Graham and Company; plan remains the same.



1905 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Seattle. Site of future Washington Athletic Club in circle. Frame dwellings occupied the site in 1905. West of the future WAC site is the Metropolitan Tract owned by the University of Washington.



1912 Seattle Baist Map. Site of future Washington Athletic Club in oval (upper left corner). A one-story commercial building and frame dwellings occupied the site in 1912.



1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Seattle. Washington Athletic Club in oval, three years before the 1954 four-story addition was constructed to the south.



Ca. 1928. View of commercial building on the future WAC site at 6th and Union, looking southwest. Skinner Building (built 1926-1927) to the right. Source: *Washington Athletic Club, 1930-1990* (published 1990, WAC)



Ca. 1928. View of commercial building on the future WAC site at 6th and Union, looking west. Source: MOHAI

ARCHITECT TO TOUR FOR CLUB BUILDING PLAN

Sherwood Ford Leaves
 Wednesday Evening; Will
 Lay Finds Before W. A. C.
 on Return.

ASSURING Seattle an athletic club which will occupy a foremost rank among the major athletic institutions in the United States, Sherwood D. Ford, Washington Athletic Club architect, will leave Seattle Wednesday night for an extended tour which will include an inspection of the leading clubs of America.



Architect Ford will make a firsthand study of a number of the country's outstanding athletic plants for the purpose of gathering ideas which may be successfully applied to the new million-dollar clubhouse to be erected at Sixth Avenue and Union Street. Upon his return to Seattle Mr. Ford will submit his recommendations to the trustees and governors of the local club, clearing the way for consummation of the building program.

Ford's trip marks the culmination of a series of conferences which have been held during the past ten days with Kenneth McLeod, general manager of the Olympic Club, San Francisco. McLeod has been in Seattle devoting his entire time toward assisting the local club officials in forming their organization and building plans into shape. He will return to San Francisco before rejoining Ford on the latter's eastern trip.

Seattle Daily Times, October 9, 1928, p. 22

Ground to Be Broken At Noon Tomorrow for Club

Officials of Washington Athletic Organization to Turn Over First Dirt for Building.

THE actual construction work on the new Washington Athletic Club's twenty-one-story home, which is to be erected at Sixth and Union, will be a reality tomorrow noon, when W. H. Parsons officiates as a pinch hitter on a big steam shovel to take out the first dirt in the excavation work.

The ground breaking ceremonies are set for 12:15 p. m. Monday, with Reginald H. Parsons in the capacity of master of ceremonies. Every member of the Washington Athletic Club is invited to attend the ground-breaking, which will be followed by a very short program, after which a luncheon will be served at the Olympic Hotel.

Mayor Frank Edwards, Chief of Police Forbes, A. A. Murphy, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Maj. J. F. Douglas, Sherwood Ford, W. D. Comer and Col. A. B. McAlpin, first president of the Multnomah Club of Portland, will be the special guests of the club officers.

One year from tomorrow it is planned to have the club structure complete and ready to furnish the comforts and privileges to a membership of some 3,500, which is expected to be enrolled as maximum before the actual opening of the club building is a reality. The club membership lists now include 3,200 names and the rolls will be open for the additional 300 memberships until January 1 after which the initiation fee will be raised.

Seattle Daily Times, December 15, 1929, p. 25

SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 29, 1929.

\$2,300,000 ATHLETIC CLUB IS ASSURED Seattle Will Get 20-Story Structure

PLANS COMPLETE TO FINANCE NEW DOWNTOWN WORK

Construction Will Begin at Once, W. D. Comer Announces; Sixth and Union Site Chosen for Building.

SEATTLE is assured its \$2,300,000, twenty-story athletic clubhouse to be erected on the southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and Union Street. This assurance came yesterday with the announcement by W. D. Comer, president of the Washington Athletic Club board, that financing arrangements had been completed and that construction work can be started at once.

Mr. Comer told of the plans at a meeting of the board in the College Club yesterday noon. Much of the first mortgage bond issue has been placed outside the state, while the secondary financing has been underwritten by Seattle interests.

The announcement of the trust agreement was officially communicated to the board in a letter from the Seattle Title Trust Company. Twenty Stories High. The building will be twenty stories high with the main club entrance on the Sixth Avenue side. Store rooms will occupy the Union Street side on the ground floor. Four and one-half stories will be devoted to the social activities of the club; four and one-half floors will contain the athletic equipment and the remaining ten floors will be bachelors' rooms available for permanent homes for club members. The site of the building has a frontage of 115 feet on Sixth Avenue and 120 feet on Union Street.

The convenience of this downtown location, it is believed by the trustees, will enable members to have luncheon, swimming, handball, billiards, bowling and other amusements and be back at their places of business within an hour or an hour and one-half.

"It is our aim to give the Pacific Northwest one of the finest clubhouses in the United States," said Mr. Comer, after the meeting of the board. "The plans were prepared after a thorough and expert study of the finest establishments of the kind in the largest cities of the country. We are now ready to start construction and we feel the Washington Athletic Club will fill a long-felt want in Seattle. I am sure we will have a more artistic building and one adaptable to the club life of the city, than even our fondest expectations had pictured."

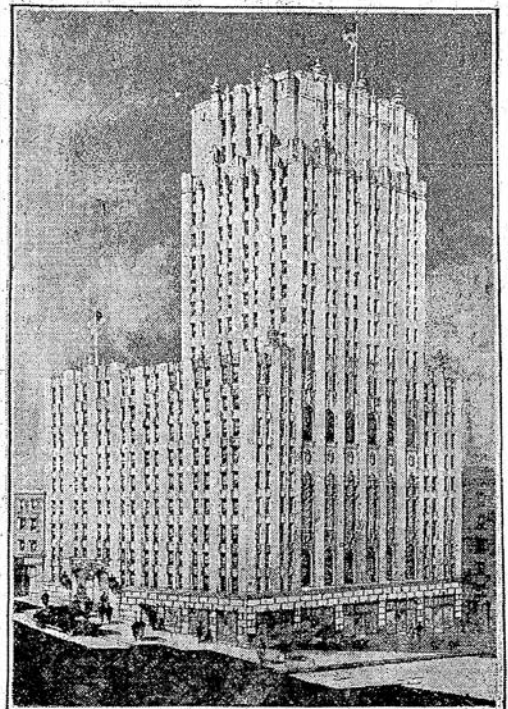
Finest Architecture. Sherwood D. Ford, architect for the building, made an inspection tour of the leading athletic clubs of the country before perfecting the final plans for Seattle's clubhouse. He declared yesterday that the Washington Athletic Clubhouse will be the very last word in structures of this kind and will rank among the best found anywhere.

"I have felt for some time," said Reginald H. Parsons, chairman of the board, "that Seattle needs an athletic club of the right kind. The fact that more than 3,000 of our representative citizens have joined in this effort to bring about the Washington Athletic Club convinces me of its success. I am confident the building has been adequately planned and will be a monument to Seattle as well as the entire Pacific Northwest."

"While some delay has been experienced in arranging the final plans for the clubhouse, we feel sure our members have been protected by the conservative methods followed," said Darwin Meisner, vice chairman of the board. "Such a large project as this, which entails so many details, cannot be satisfactorily worked out in haste. We believe Seattle is to be given a far better clubhouse than anyone first thought possible, or than originally planned."

The officers of the board are Mr. Comer, president; Mr. Parsons, chairman; Mr. Meisner, vice president; Thomas D. Stinson, vice chairman; Judge Charles P. Moriarty, vice chairman; F. F. Powell, treasurer, and Charles F. Frankland, secretary.

ANOTHER SKYSCRAPER



Architect's drawing of the proposed \$2,300,000 athletic clubhouse to be built at Sixth Avenue and Union Street. It will be twenty stories high, with the main entrance on the Sixth Avenue side. Store rooms will occupy the Union Street side on the ground floor.

Comer, president; Mr. Parsons, chairman; Mr. Meisner, vice president; Thomas D. Stinson, vice chairman; Judge Charles P. Moriarty, vice chairman; F. F. Powell, treasurer, and Charles F. Frankland, secretary. Members of the board besides the officers are: Charles F. Chase, E. W. Thurston, Raymond Wright, Earl F. Campbell, Jules L. Charnneau, Clarence S. Edmondson, Otto H. Eisenbels, Don H. Evans, J. Dean Henderson, Lacy Hofius, Carroll S. Kellison, Roy J. Kinnear, Dr. O. F. Lamson, Lawrence K. Smith, Dr. William C. Spidel, E. G. McMillen, Charles C. May, Fowler W. Martin, Floris Nagelvoort, Dr. Don H. Palmer, Art Strandberg, John J. Sullivan, Roscoe Torrance and George M. Varnell.

Seattle Sunday Times, December 29, 1929, p. 5

MEMBERS' BULLETIN



WASHINGTON · ATHLETIC · CLUB

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DARWIN MEISNEST
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CHAS. F. CLISE
W. D. COMER
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LAWRENCE K. SMITH
DR. WILLIAM C. SPEIDEL
ART STRANDBERG
JOHN J. SULLIVAN
ROSCOE C. TORRANCE
GEORGE M. VARNELL

Old Buildings Coming Down!

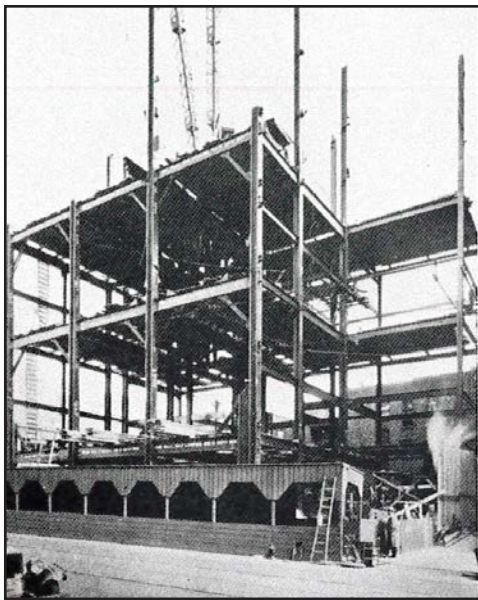
Off with the old and on with the new!

- ¶ The old building at 6th and Union is coming down and soon steam shovels will be hard at work excavating for foundations for a splendid 21-story building—The Washington Athletic Club's new home.
- ¶ Contracts have been let for razing the old structure and demolition will be hastened so that construction of the new building will begin on or before December 15th. It is expected the club house will be completed and ready for occupancy within a year.
- ¶ Financial arrangements for construction have been completed. Detailed plans are in hand for providing the Washington Athletic Club with a modern home containing entertainment, athletic and physical facilities and equipment far beyond original expectations.
- ¶ Another story has been added to the building plan. This will afford additional housing quarters for members, including six handsome living suites with fireplaces and other special features. On this floor there also will be installed commodious rooms for private meetings of members, groups or organizations represented among membership.
- ¶ Interest in the new club continues to increase. The Membership Committee reports addition of a number of new members, substantial business and professional men, bringing total membership well over 3,100.
- ¶ There will be no handsomer or more stately building in Seattle. Every detail of construction, equipment and operation represents months of arduous and unselfish work by trustees and committee members.
- ¶ Competent management will be provided and no detail overlooked for the entertainment, comfort and physical betterment of members.
- ¶ Especial attention is given to planning the finest Bath and Physio-Therapy Department in the Pacific Northwest. Super-Sun Rooms, Cabinet and Treatment Rooms, Swimming Pool and Rest Room with expert attendance will combine to give the average "T. B. M." the worth of his Club membership in this department alone.
- ¶ And don't forget that women are to have privileges never attained in a Men's Club in this city. Their own Entrance, Elevator, Dining Room, Rest Rooms, Lounge, Baths and Physio-Therapy Departments. At certain hours they have the use of the swimming pool.
- ¶ Due notice will be given of the actual date of ground-breaking for the new building. All members should rally around the steam shovel that day.



MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT
COMMITTEE
JULES L. CHARBNEAU
Manager
A. E. VAUGHAN
LLOYD E. STEELE E. B. WAITE
ENROLLMENT OFFICE:
4442 Stuart Bldg. MAIn 6580

Bulletin No. 4
November 15, 1929



Under construction, April 30, 1930.
 Source: *Washington Athletic Club, 1930-1990* (published 1990, WAC).

ATHLETIC CLUB IS REAL MONUMENT TO CITY PROGRESS

Building at Sixth and Union
 Will Be Completed in De-
 cember; Latest Ideas in
 Clubhouse Construction.

In the \$2,500,000 Washington Athletic Club Building, Sixth Avenue and Union Street, another monument to Seattle's progress is rapidly nearing completion.

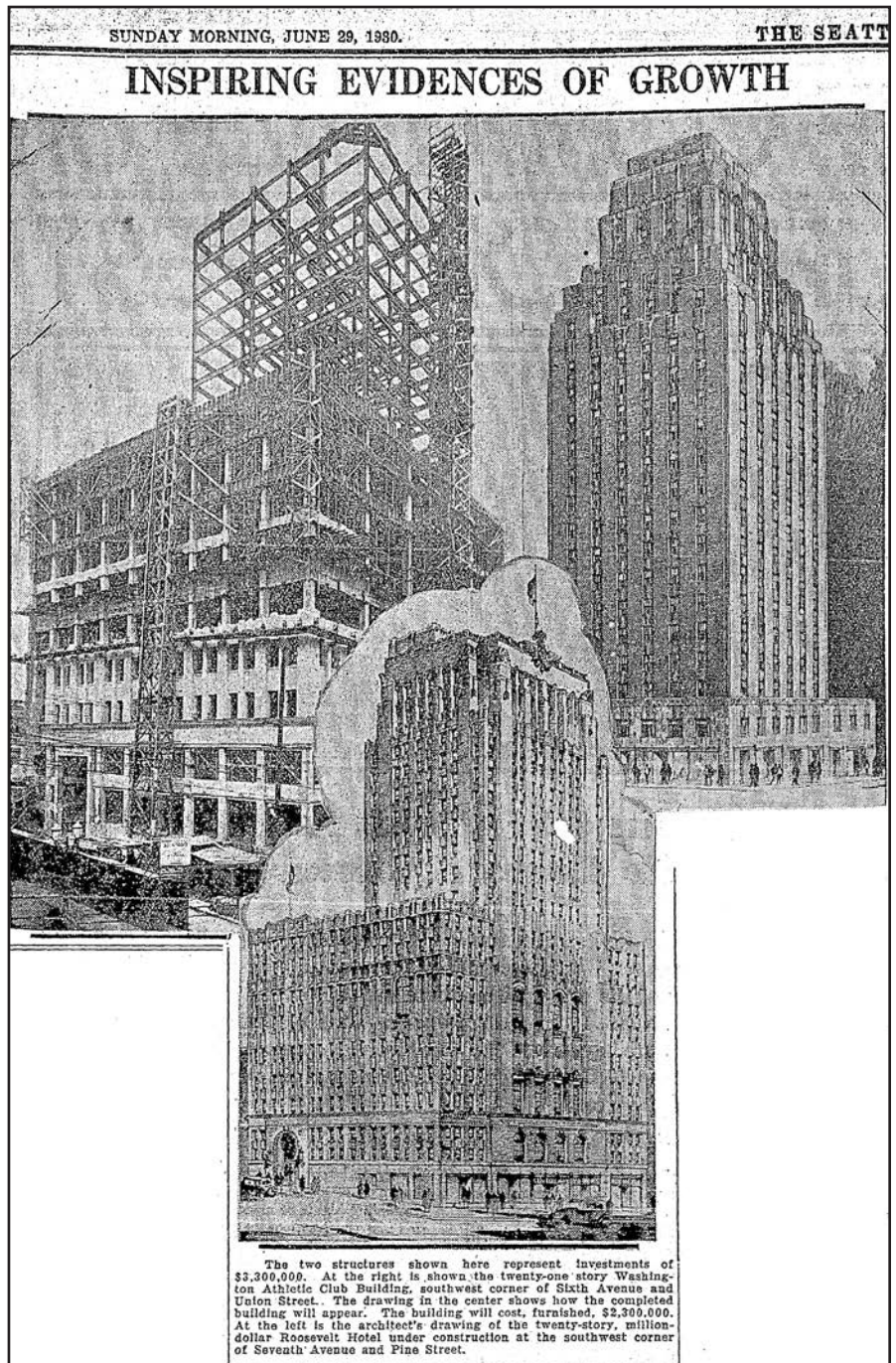
With the steel skeleton of the tower standing twenty stories above the street and the lower walls and floors being completed, the structure now gives some idea of the magnitude of this evidence of Seattle enterprise. At the present rate of progress the building will be completed and ready for the formal opening the last of December.

Latest Features.

The building, designed by Sherwood D. Ford after visiting the leading clubs of the country, is said to include the latest features for recreation, entertainment and convenient living quarters. The structure occupies a site 115 feet on Sixth Avenue by 120 feet on Union Street. The main club entrance will be on Sixth Avenue.

The Union Street side and corner will be occupied by stores and shops. Four and a half floors will be devoted to the social activities of the club. The athletic features will occupy four and a half floors and the remainder of the building will be bachelor quarters available as homes for club members.

The elevation and the height of the ceilings makes the structure tower above the Northern Life Building, which has seven more stories than the club building. The upper floors give a sweeping view of the water and mountains.



The two structures shown here represent investments of \$3,300,000. At the right is shown the twenty-one story Washington Athletic Club Building, southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and Union Street. The drawing in the center shows how the completed building will appear. The building will cost, furnished, \$2,300,000. At the left is the architect's drawing of the twenty-story, million-dollar Roosevelt Hotel under construction at the southwest corner of Seventh Avenue and Pine Street.

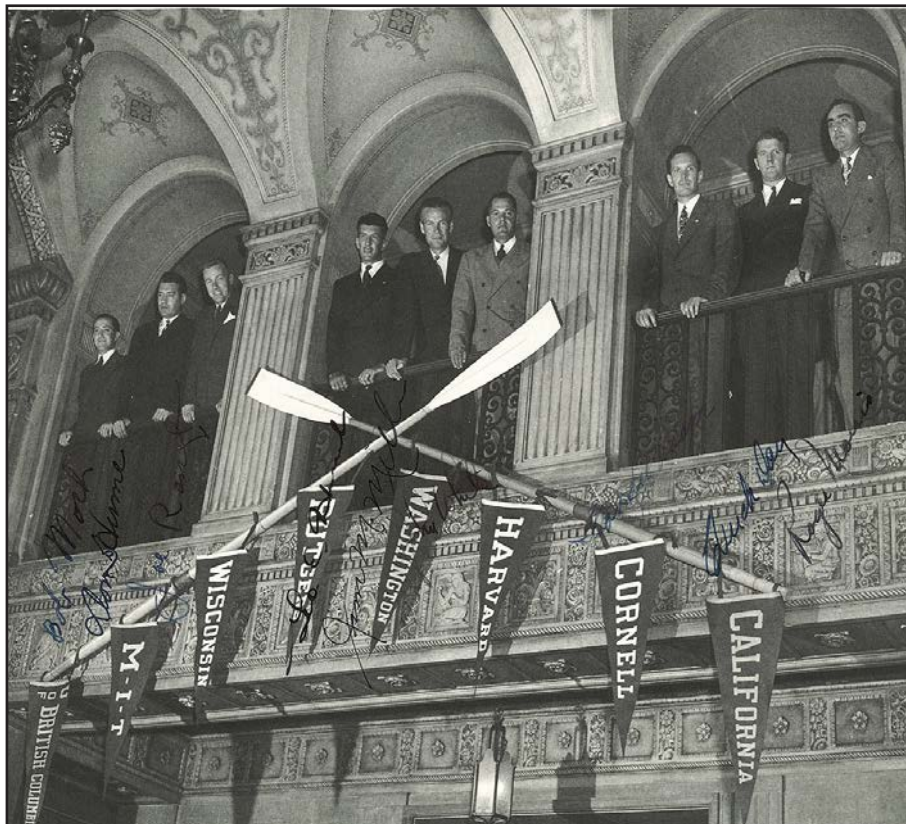
Seattle Sunday Times, June 29, 1930, p. 18 (article and images)



Ca. 1930 artist rendering of the new Washington Athletic Club building. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Ca. 1930. View of original lobby. Source: Washington Athletic Club



1936 Olympic rowing team members from the University of Washington at the WAC. Posing for photo on balcony overlooking main lobby. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Ca. 1930. View of original Main Dining Room (the Crystal Room) on third floor. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Ca. 1930s. Members celebrate in the Crystal Room, third floor. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Ca. 1930. View of original pool, sixth floor. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Billiards and pool, above, were favorite lunch hour activities in the 8th floor Men's Cardroom. Junior girls delighted in gymnastic classes, left, where grace and balance for a proper young woman were emphasized. Hours of rehearsal time and costume preparation produced wonderful Spring Revues for the Club's tap dancing juniors, above right. Fencing, right, was a very popular sport in the 30's. Today fencing is back at the WAC and it's growing in popularity.



Alley Rumbings was the title of the WAC News column devoted to the rumbings emanating from the second floor bowling alley. There were men's, above, ladies, mixed and junior leagues. Boxing was a skill and an entertainment as WAC pugilists took on all challengers. Jimmy Wilson, captain of the 1932-33 team, showed great style, far left. Ladies exercise enthusiasts, left, balanced their day's activities with time set aside for personal improvements.



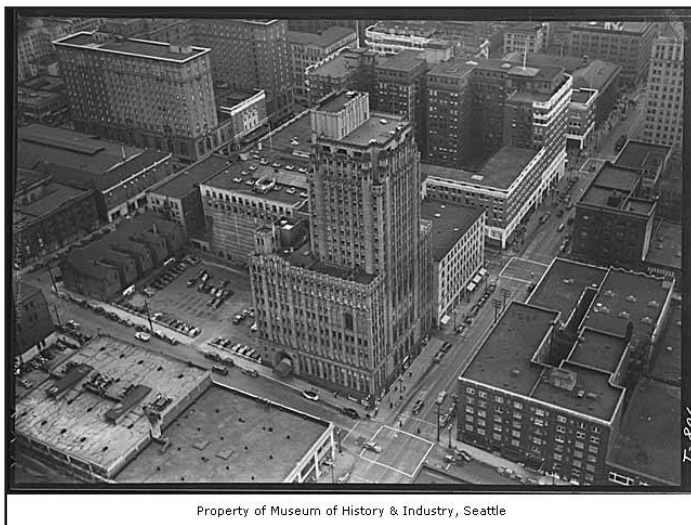
Volleyball was a big 30's sport. The 1934 champs and first team in '35 meant business. Above, standing left to right, Claire "Coach" Shreeve, Carl English, Dr. A.B. MacWhinnie, Paul Jessup, R. Rogers, George De Sellem, Charles Cummins. Seated, left to right, L.J. Norman, W. Richmond, Capt. Stoner, Doc Rotton, H. Knoff, and M. Enabnit. Today members are invited to browse through the gallery of athletic photos in the second floor hallway and in Hogerty's.



Physical fitness programs for women were encouraged from the Club's earliest days. The 1937 Women's Varsity Volleyball team members, above, were very serious about their sport and competition.



May 5, 1933. View of the WAC looking west. Photographer Asahel Curtis. Source: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections



Property of Museum of History & Industry, Seattle

June 15, 1938. Aerial of the WAC looking southwest. Photographer Charles Laidlaw. Source: Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI)



Property of Museum of History & Industry, Seattle

October 17, 1939. WAC barber shop. Photographer Webster & Stevens. Source: Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI)



Ca. 1940s. WAC library, first floor. Source: WAC



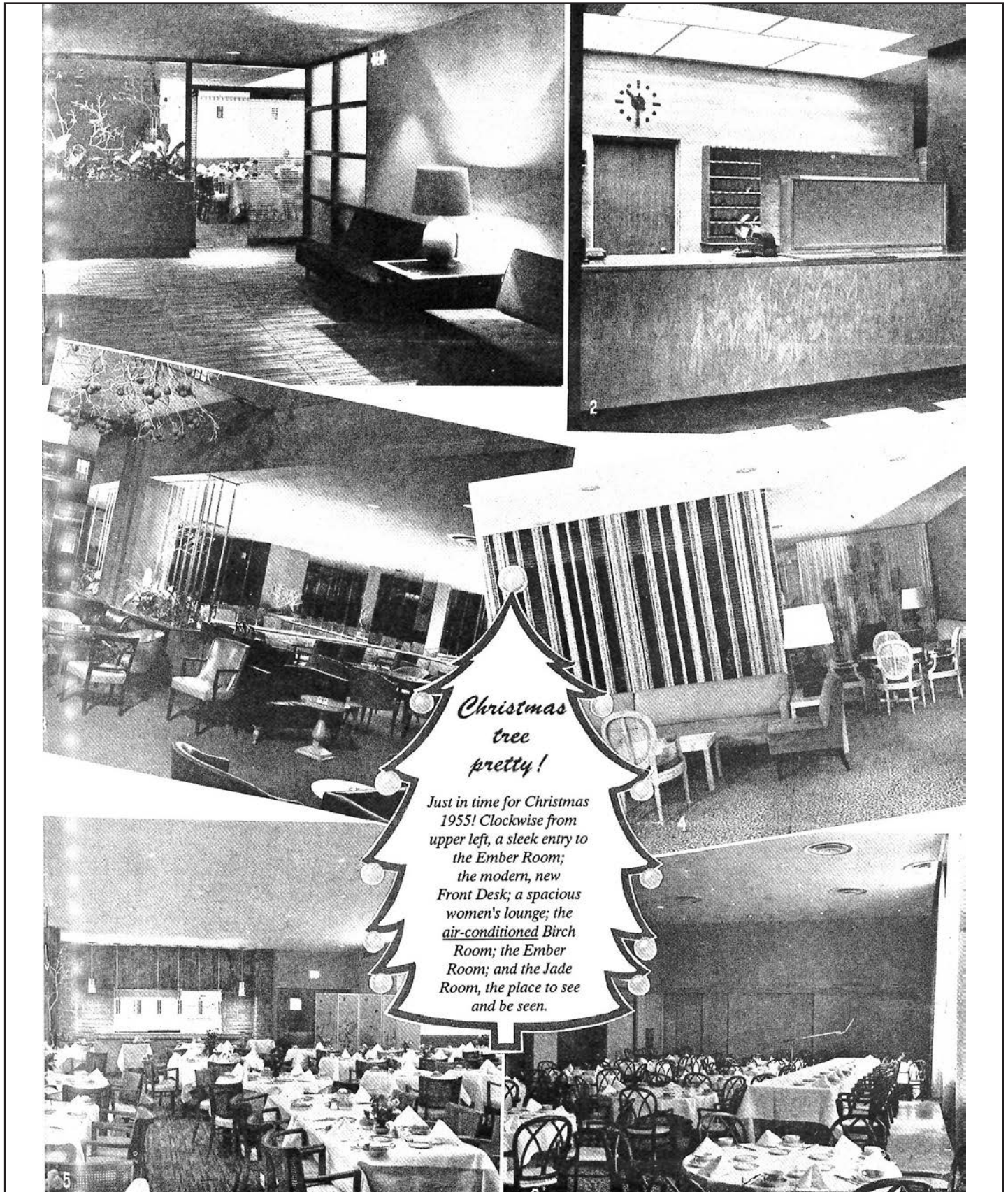
1955. Four-story addition under construction. Source: WAC



Ca. 1954 artist rendering of the Washington Athletic Club building with four-story, modern addition to the south. Source: Washington Athletic Club



Ca. 1969. View looking south. Construction of eight additional stories on top of the 1955 four-story addition. The twelve-story addition was completed in 1970. The Hilton Hotel and parking garage is under construction at the end of the block in the foreground. Source: WAC



1955. Views of the new modern interior in various rooms in the WAC; images reprinted in *Washington Athletic Club, 1930-1990* (published 1990, WAC).



Ca. 1970 artist rendering of the Washington Athletic Club building with twelve-story, modern addition to the south. Source: Washington Athletic Club

1 DISTRICT	2 ADDITION A.A. DENNY'S 3rd	NAME WASH. ATHLETIC CLUB.
SECTION	TWP. N. RANGE EWM. BLOCK 15	TRACT OR LOT NO. 2
DESCRIPTION	<i>See plat on 5th Ave. over 16</i> Less por. for St	
3 ADDRESS -- PROPERTY 6th & Union, S.W. Cor.	CONT. PURCHASER	
4 FEE OWNER O.R. Denny et al	CONTRACTOR	
5 ARCHITECT	EXTRA FEATURES Fire escapes, Stair type, 8 landings	
6 BUILDING	CONSTRUCTION Reinforced conc. steel - Good	
7 OFFICE	REFRIGERATION	
8 MAIN SUPPORT COLUMN	7 CONDITION: EXTERIOR Good INTERIOR Good FOUND. Good	
9 FIRST FLOOR JOIST	8 MAIN SUPPORT COLUMN Conc. FOOTING Conc. SPAN FT.	
10 BUILDING	9 FIRST FLOOR JOIST IN CH CENTER BRIDGED	
11 GROSS INCOME \$	10 BUILDING Finished	
12 DEPRECIATION: COND. 10 % OBSLSE. 1/2 % ECON. SUIT. 1/2 % TOTAL 15 %	11 GROSS INCOME \$ EXPENSE \$ NET INCOME \$	
YEAR BUILT 1930 REMODELED	12 DEPRECIATION: COND. 10 % OBSLSE. 1/2 % ECON. SUIT. 1/2 % TOTAL 15 %	
EFFECTIVE AGE 6 YEARS FUTURE LIFE 54 YEARS	DIMENSIONS 114' x 111' X 120' SQUARE FT. AREA CUBIC FT.	

BASEMENT Full	STORE FRONTS
Conc. floor	Plate glass
Bsmt. extends under sidewalks	Copper sash
	T.C. Bulkhead
FOUNDATION	EXTERIOR
Concrete	Steel frame class
	Brick solid, face
	Kind.
	Roof, Conc.
Roof	Conice terra cotta
Par & Gravel	Terra cotta trim
Conc. slab	

13,790
IMPROVEMENT VALUE
MAIN BUILDING \$
OTHER BUILDINGS \$
TOTAL \$
ASSESSED VALUE 50% \$
DATE 10/18/37
LAND INFORMATION
1. SIZE X
Level, On grade
2. STREET -- ROAD Graded
Paved, alley paved
3. SIDEWALK Conc.
Sewer
4. LANDSCAPING None
Business Dist.
5. TREND Static
LAND VALUE \$
6. Use Business
7. DISTRICT Medium- Old

OWNER OR CONTRACT PURCHASER	DATE	FILE NO.	PRIN.	MTGE.	STAMP
<i>Wash Athletic Club</i>	<i>1-20-44</i>	<i>3561828</i>			

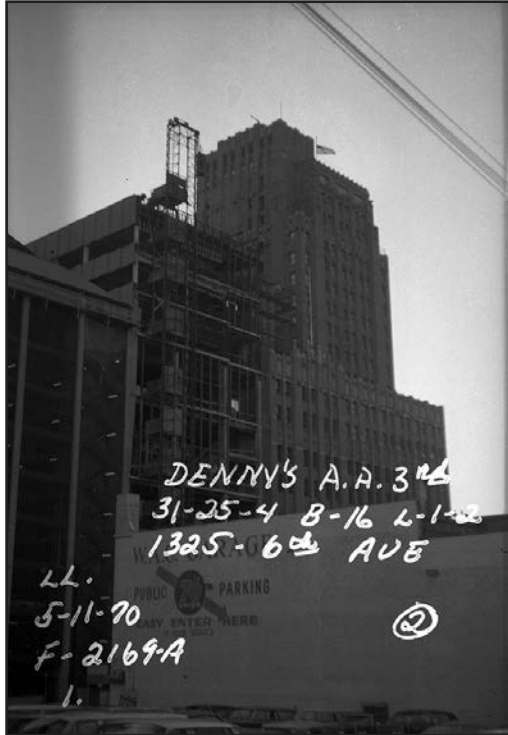
REMARKS	Ceiling Heights.
	1st Floor 14'2" Basement 13'6"
	2nd " 12'9"
	3rd " 13'1 1/2"
	4th " 11'10 1/2"
	5th " 11'5 1/2"
	6th " 12'
	7th " 24'11 1/2"
	8th " 10'
	9th " 12'8 1/2"
	10th to 17th 9'3"
	18th Flr. 13'8"
	19th " 9'3"
	20th " 9'3"
	21st " 9'3"
	Elevator flr. 21'4" Penthouse 14'11 1/2"

COMMERCIAL, FACTORY, LOFT, GARAGE -- KING COUNTY ASSESSOR, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

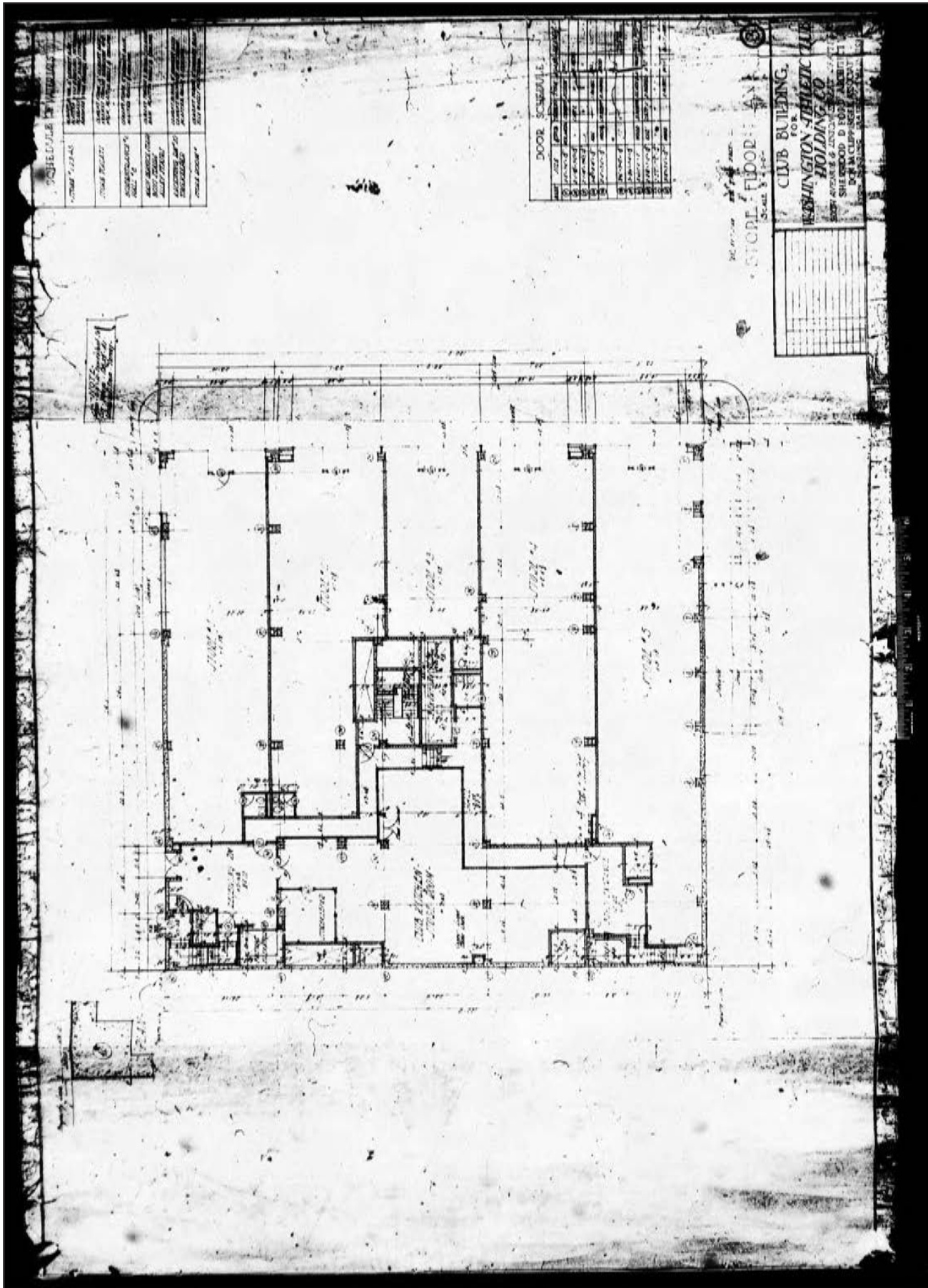
1937 King County Tax Assessor's property record card for Washington Athletic Club. Source: Washington State Archives, Puget Sound Region Branch



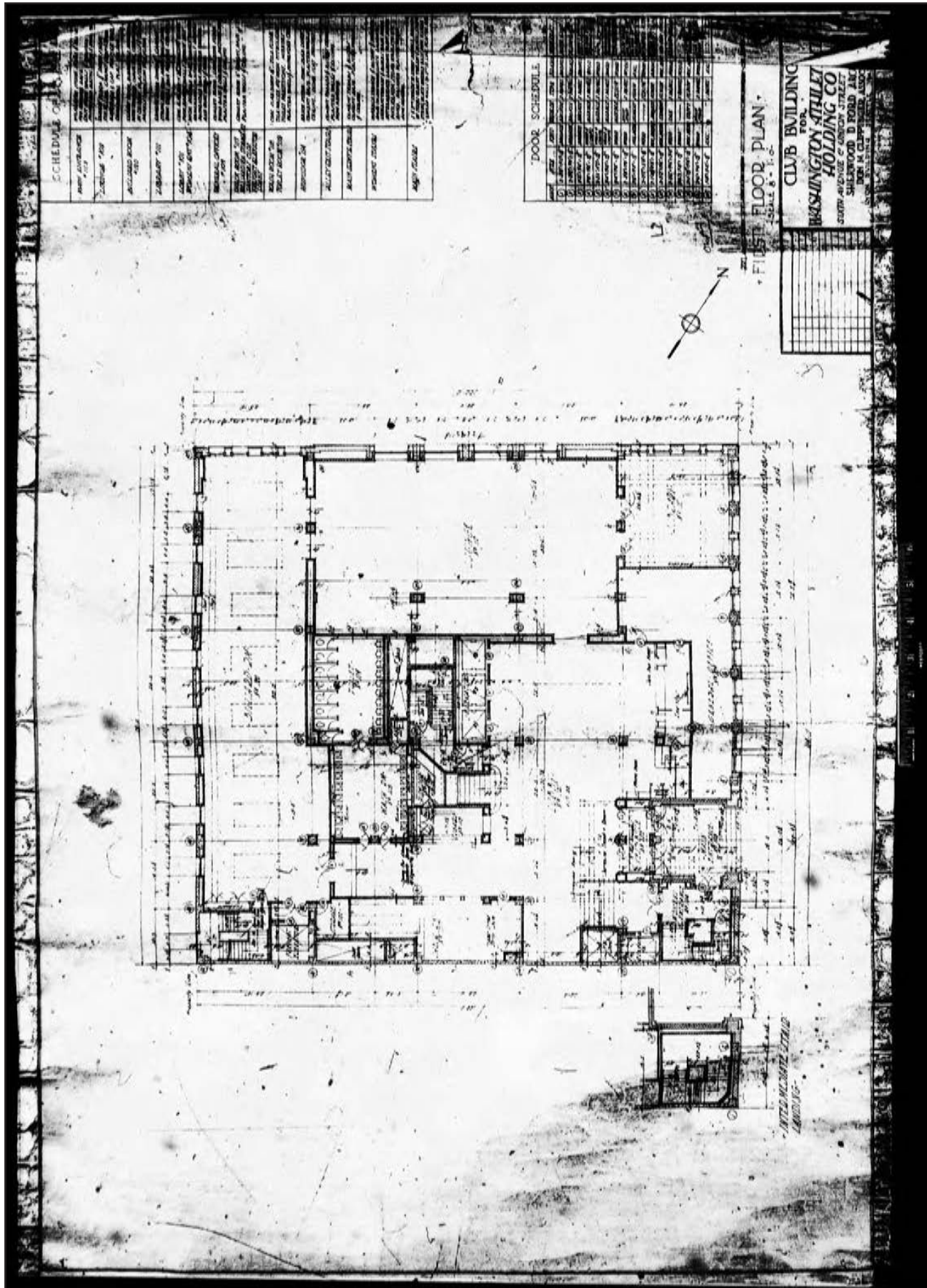
King County Tax Assessor photographs for Washington Athletic Club. Top two photos: 1937; bottom two photos: 1956. Source: Washington State Archives, Puget Sound Region Branch



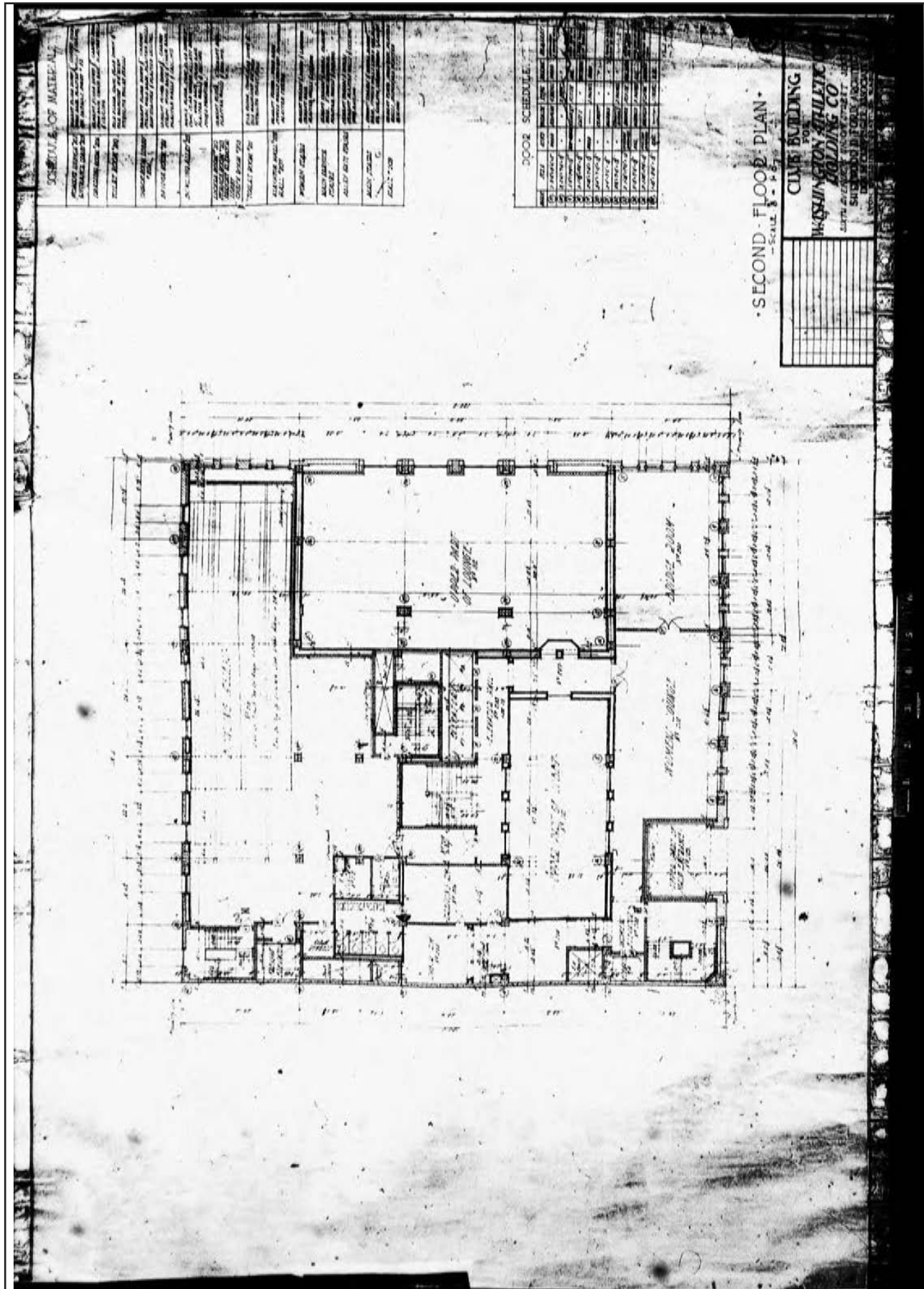
King County Tax Assessor photographs for Washington Athletic Club. Top left: 1970, addition under construction; top right and bottom: 1990. Source: Washington State Archives, Puget Sound Region Branch



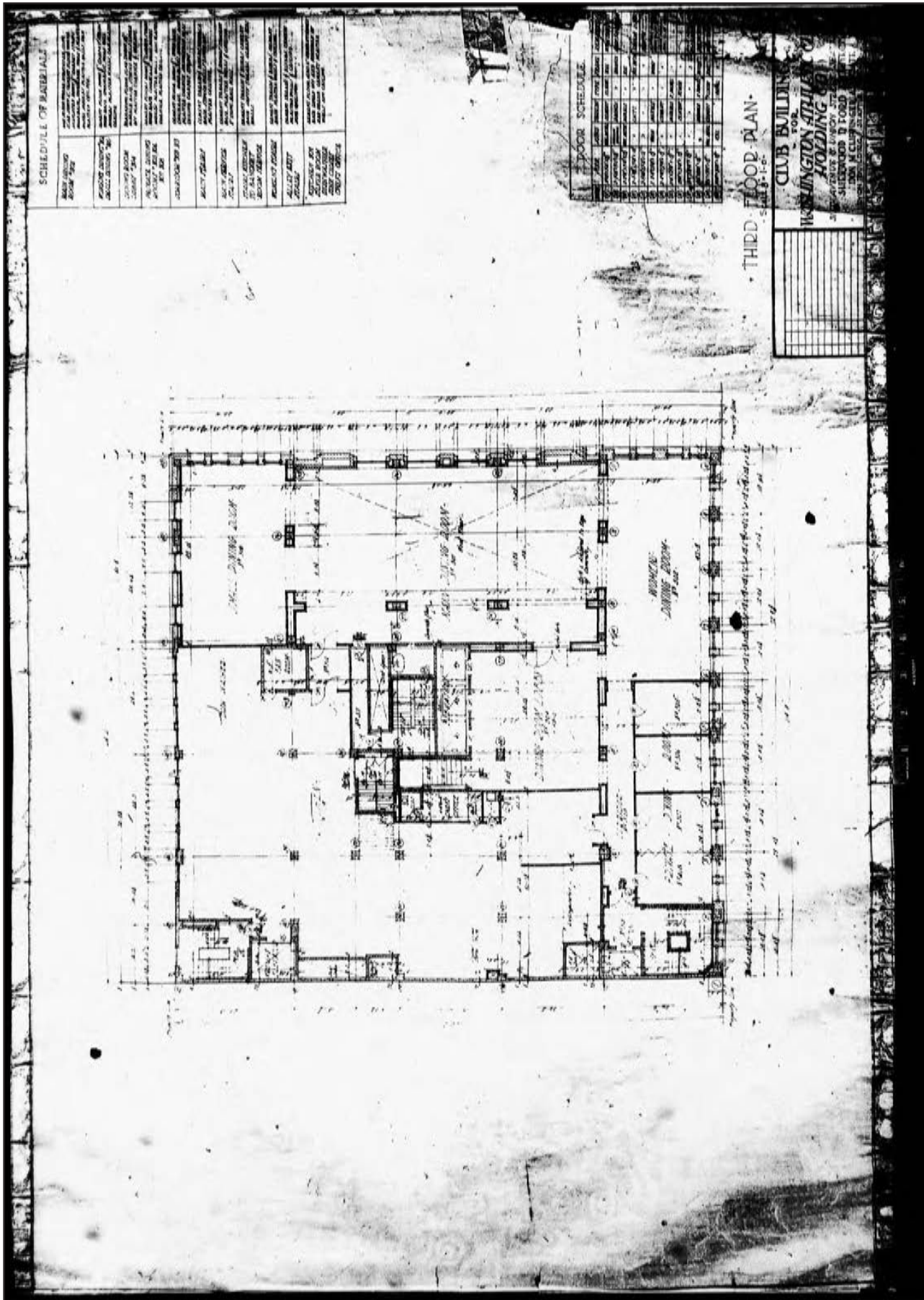
1929. Store floor, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



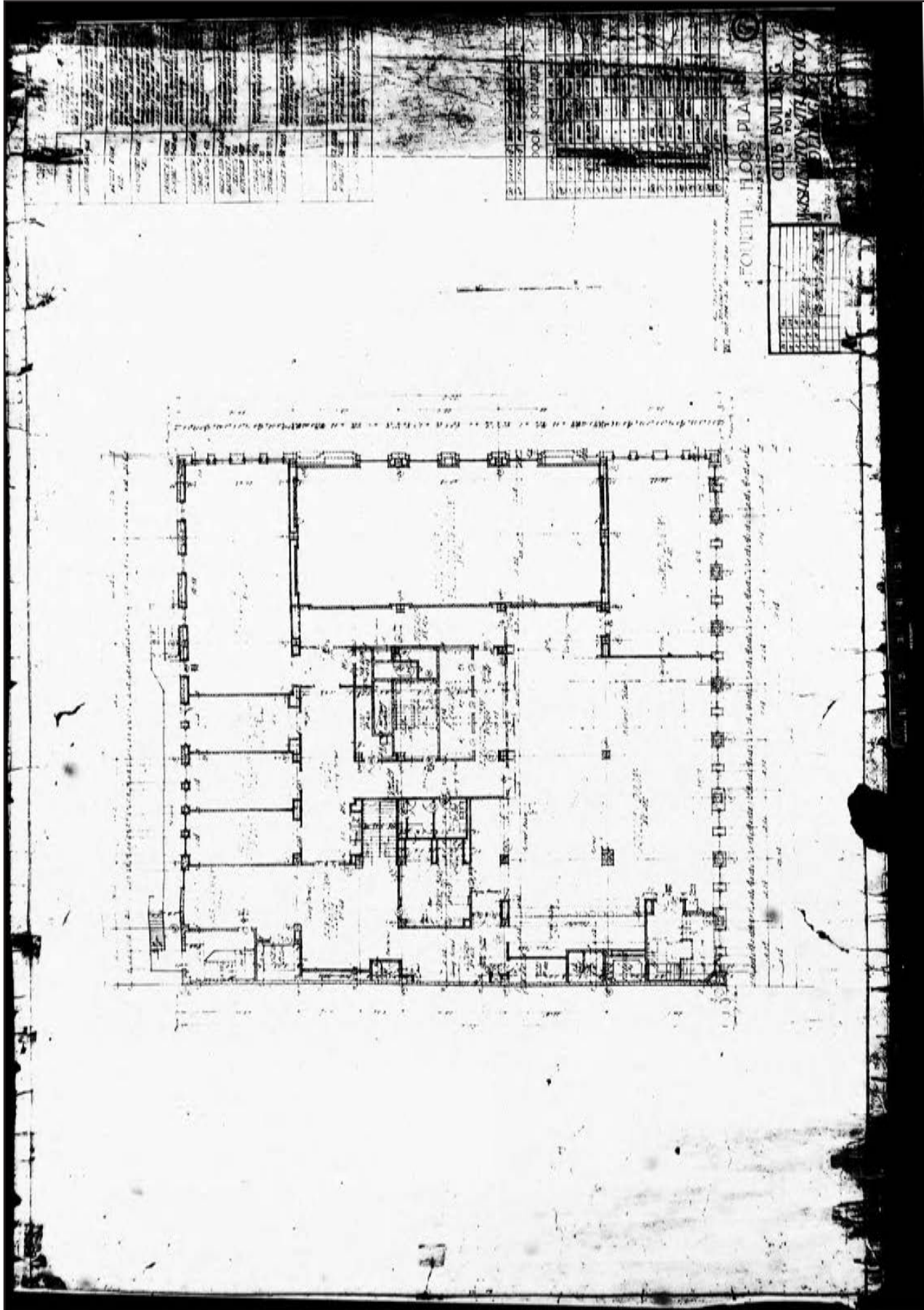
1929. First floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



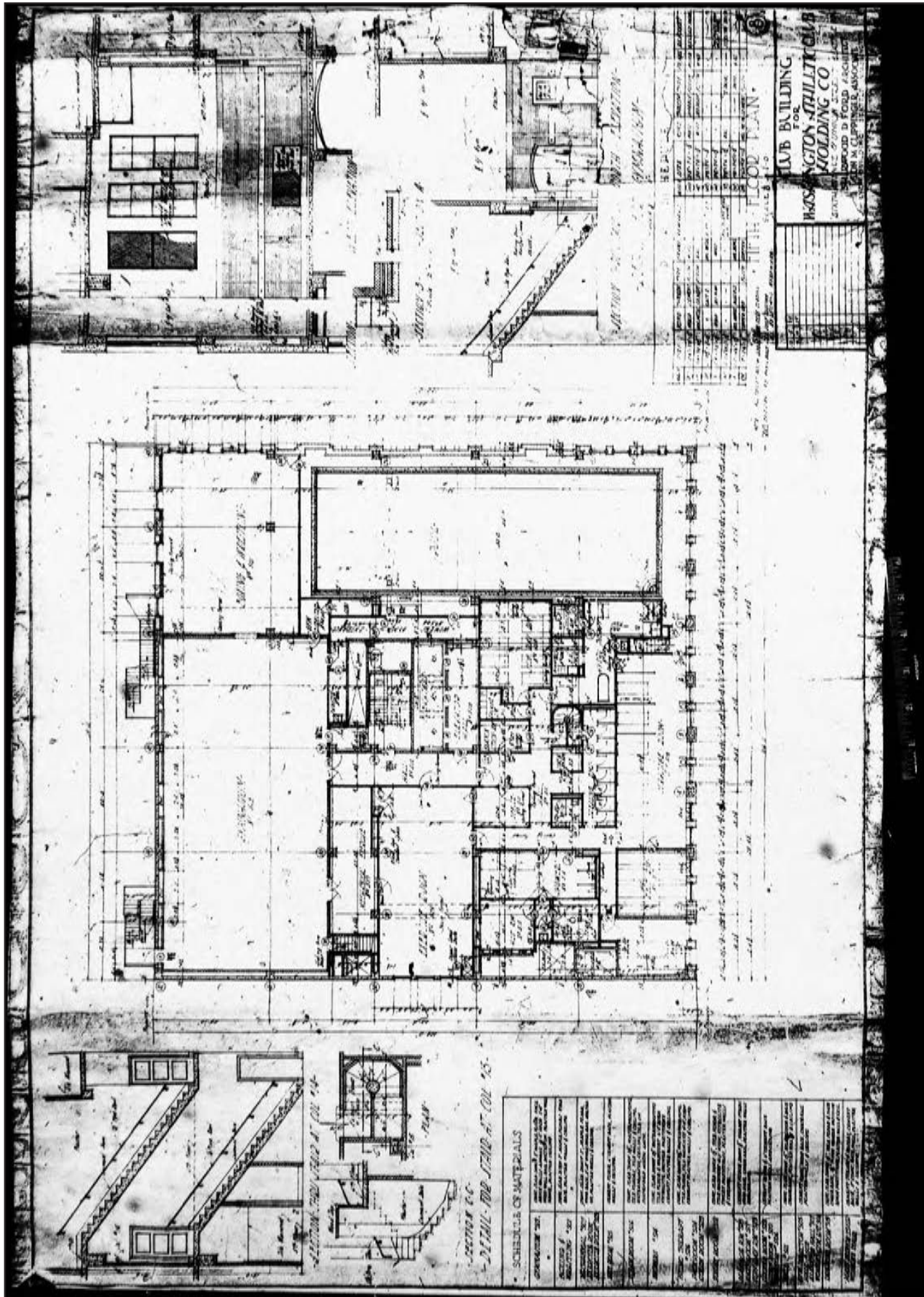
1929. Second floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



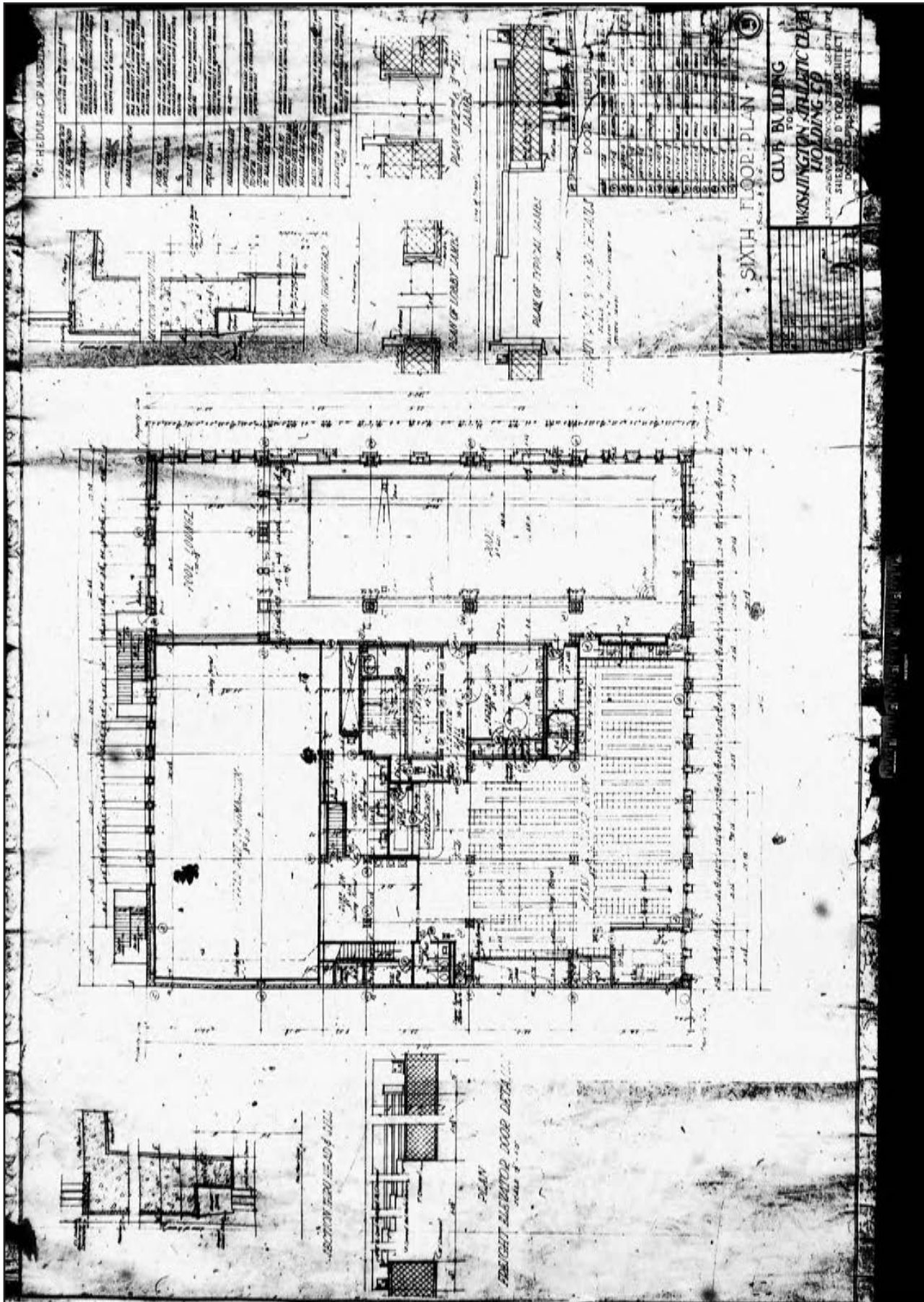
1929. Third floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



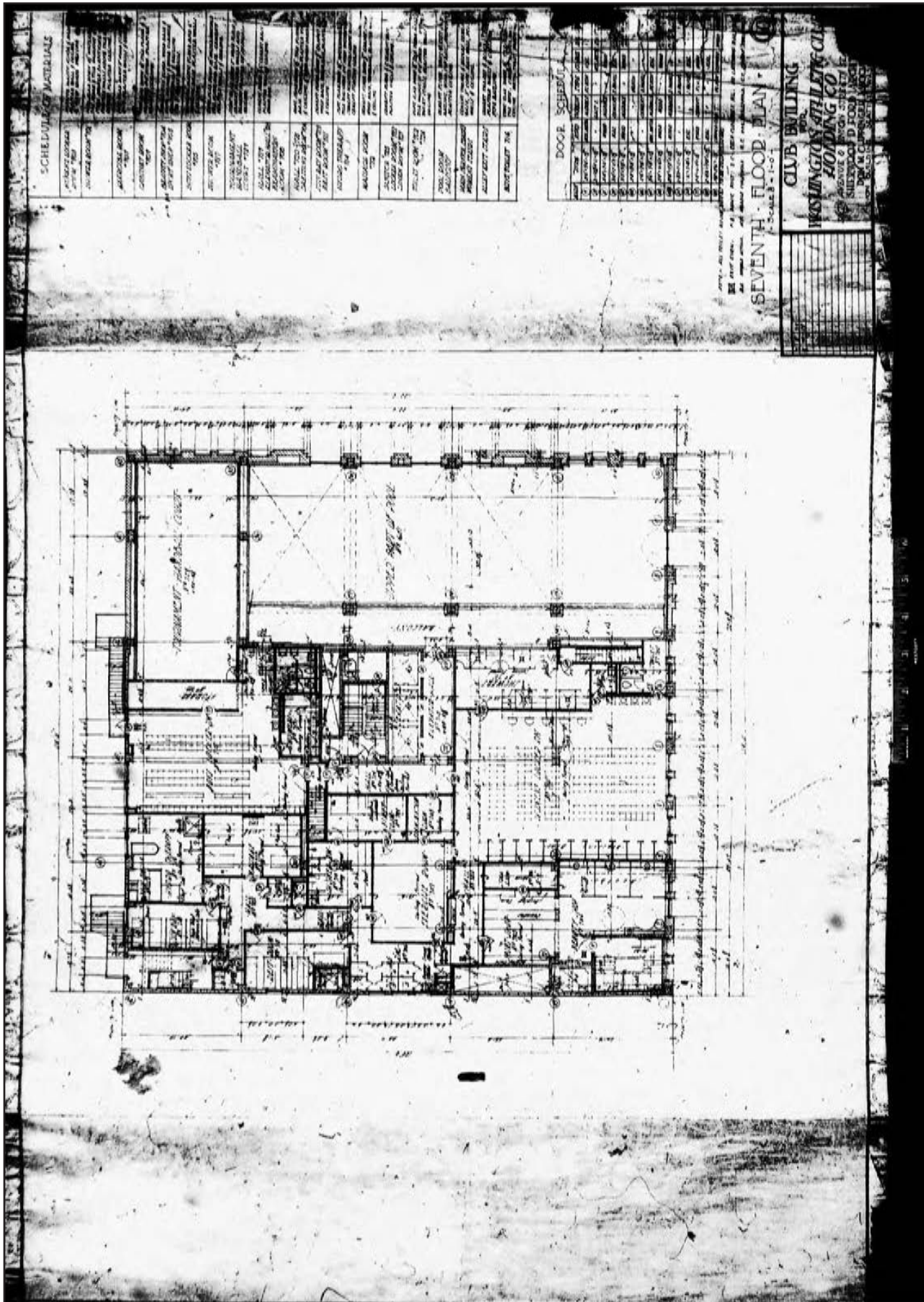
1929. Fourth floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



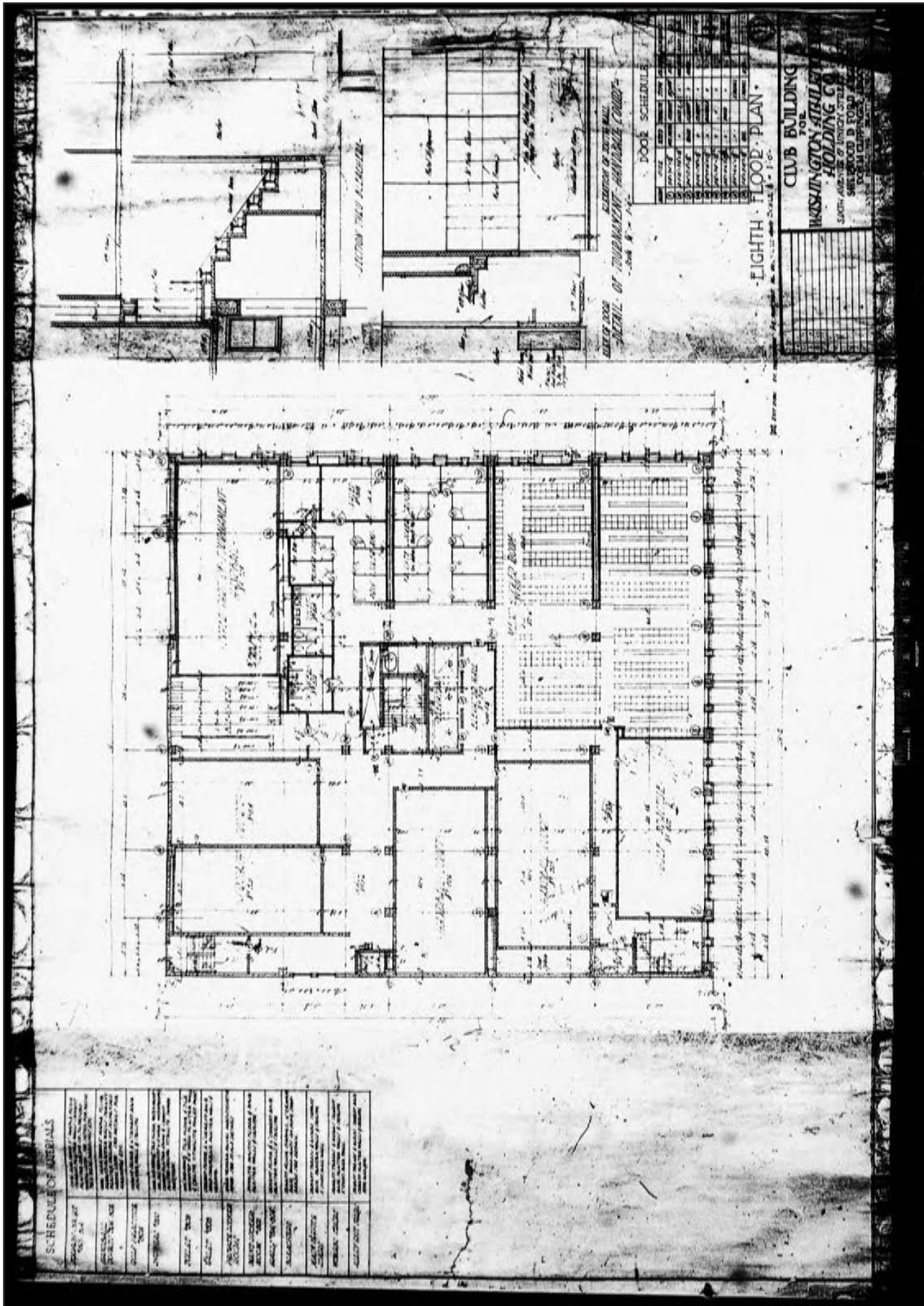
1929. Fifth floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



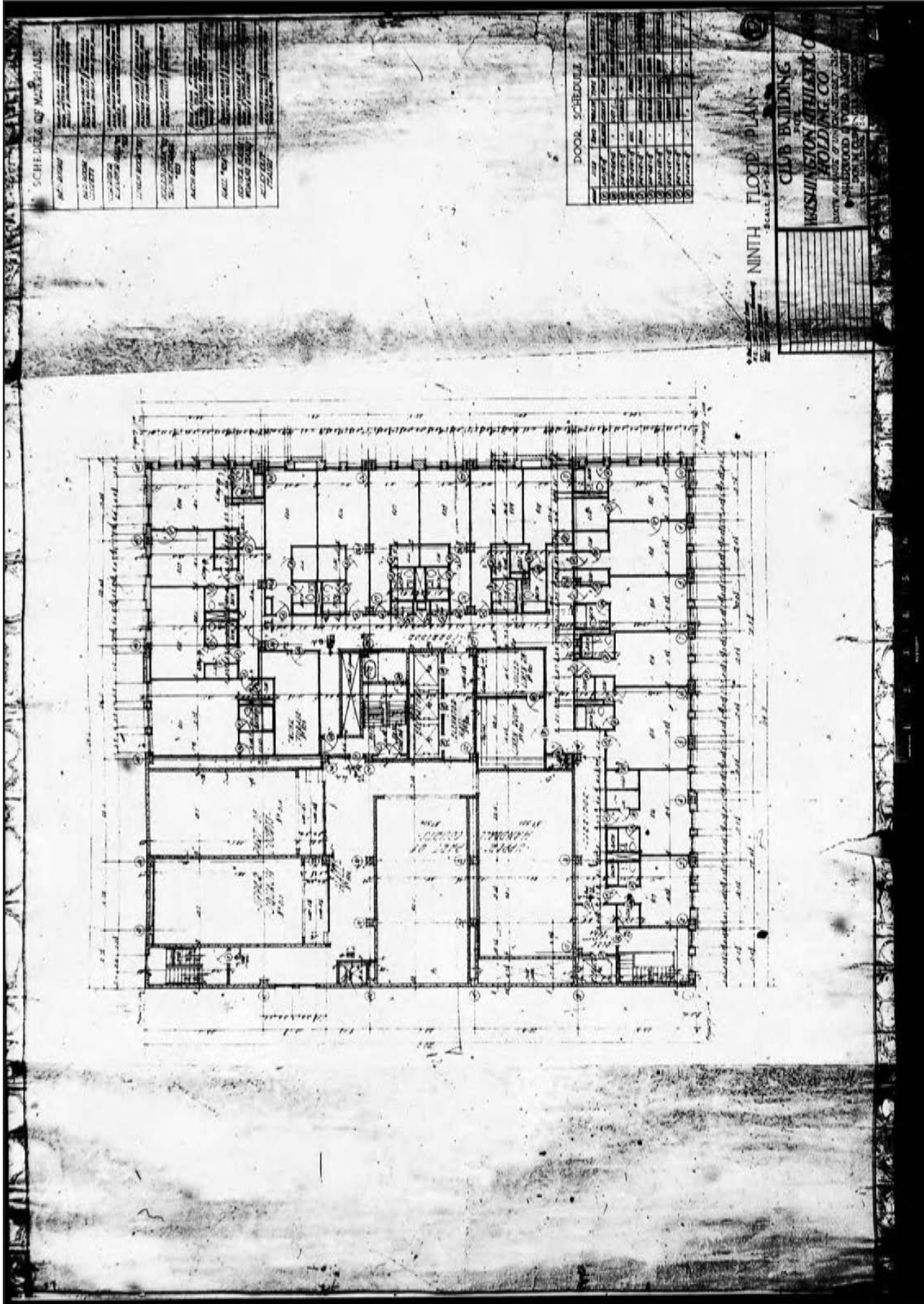
1929. Sixth floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



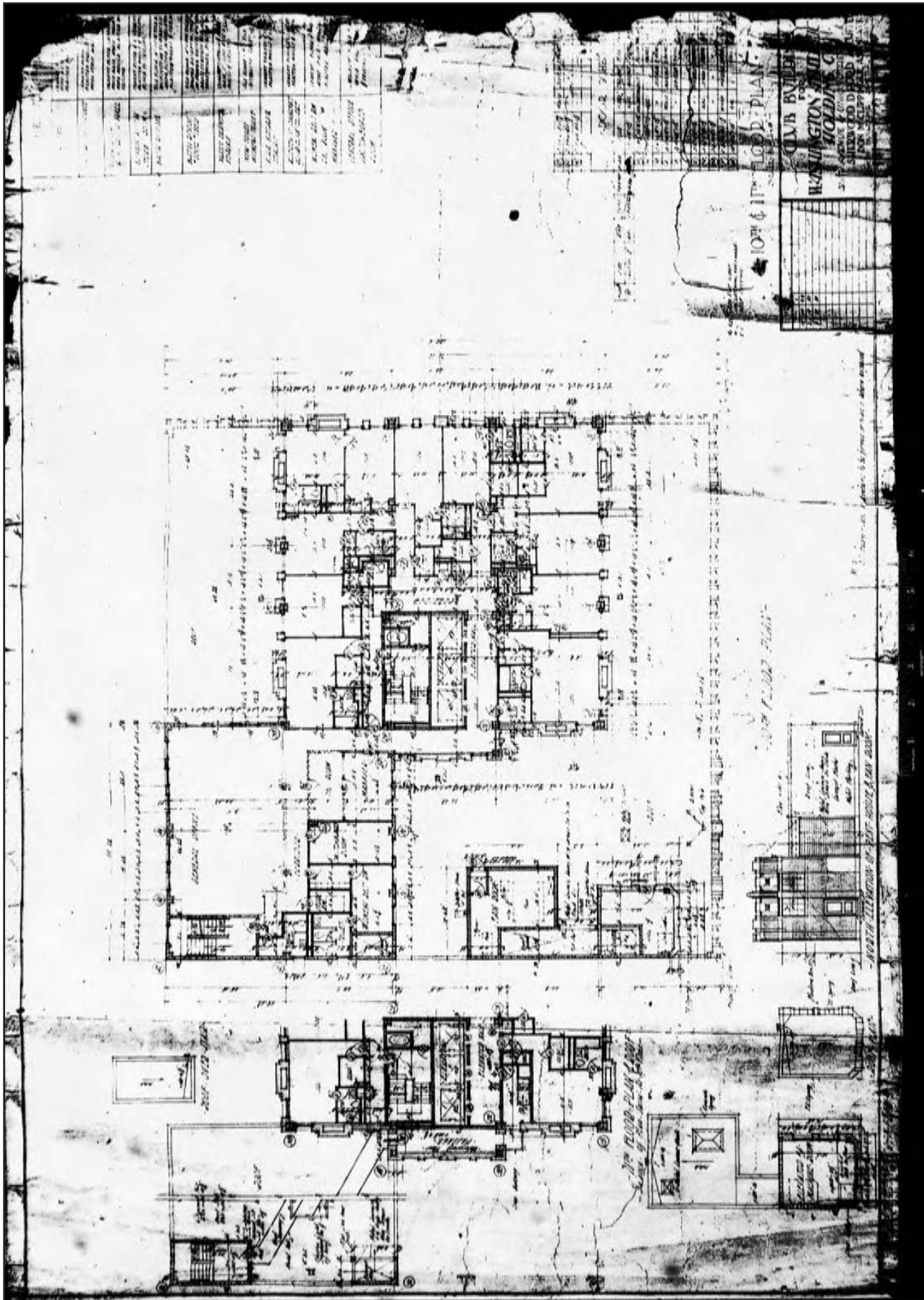
1929. Seventh floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



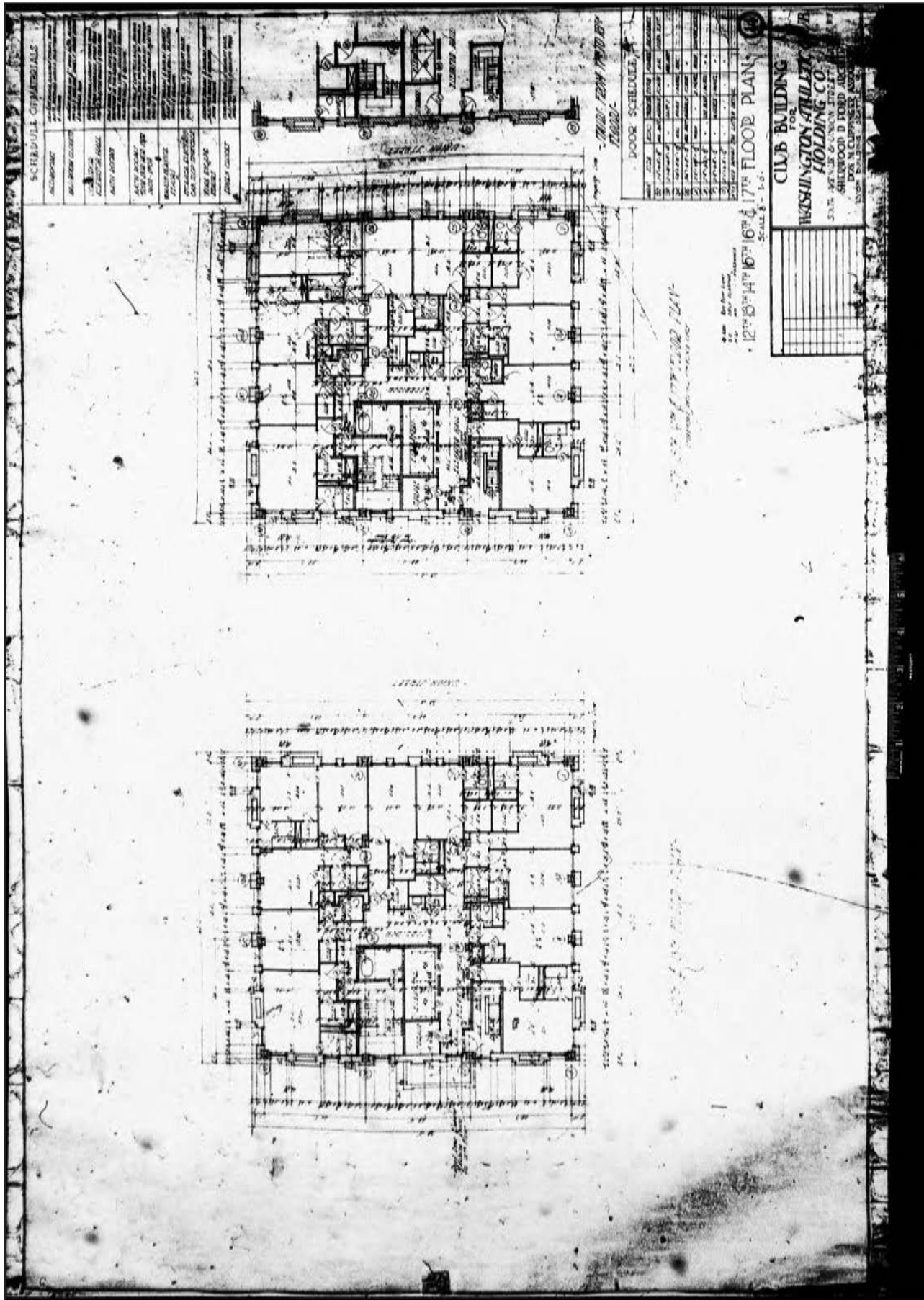
1929. Eighth floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



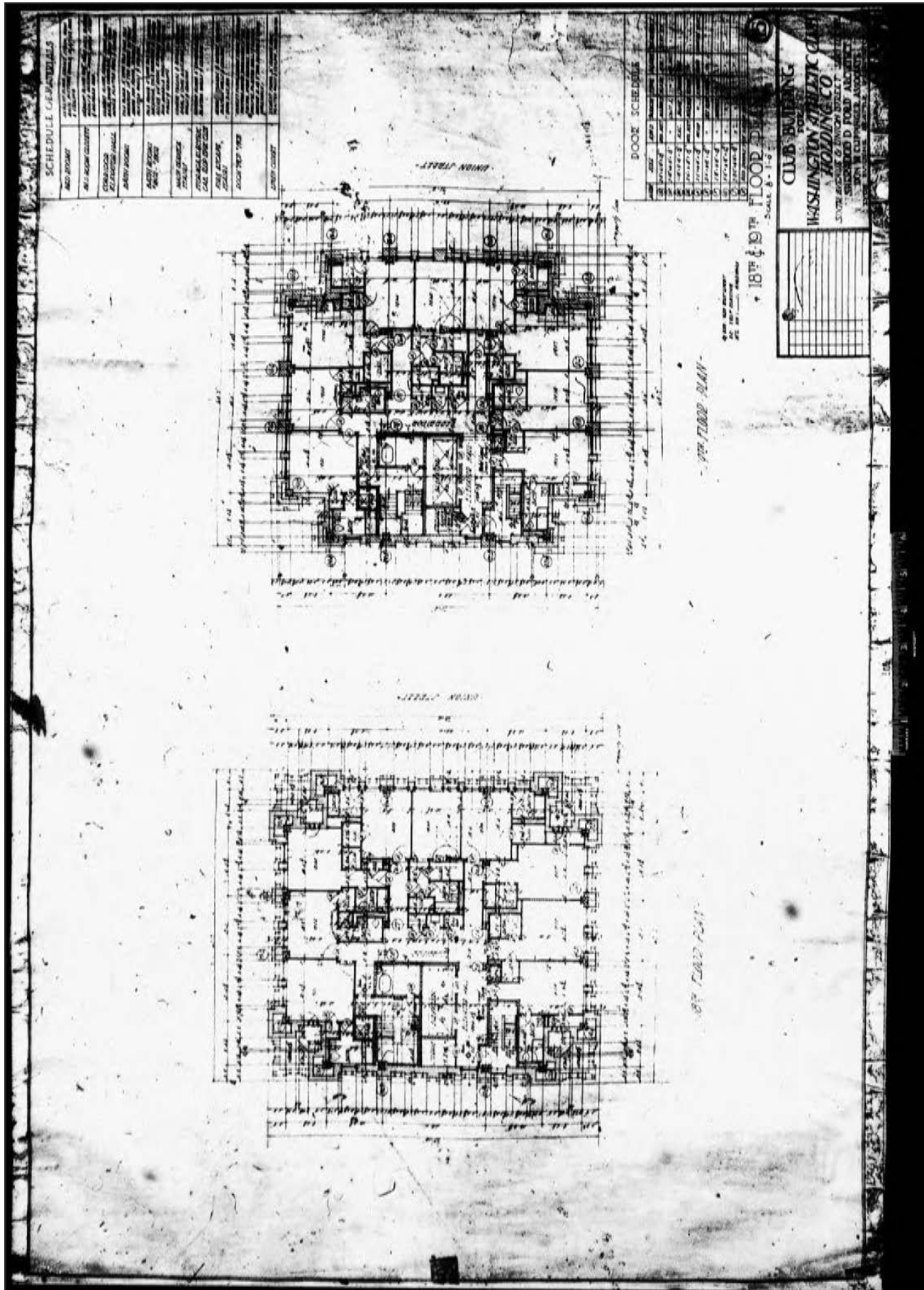
1929. Ninth floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



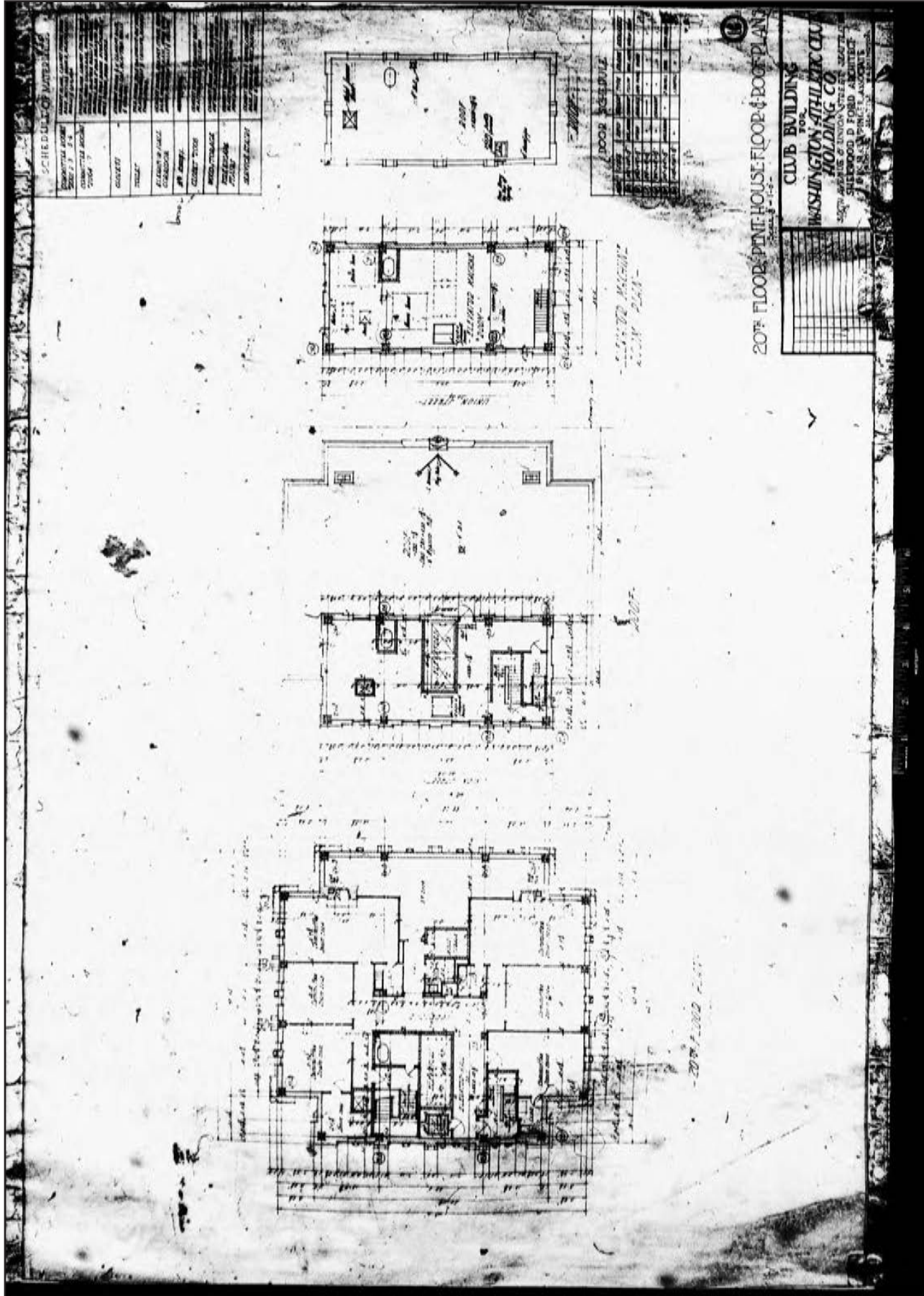
1929. 10th & 11th floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



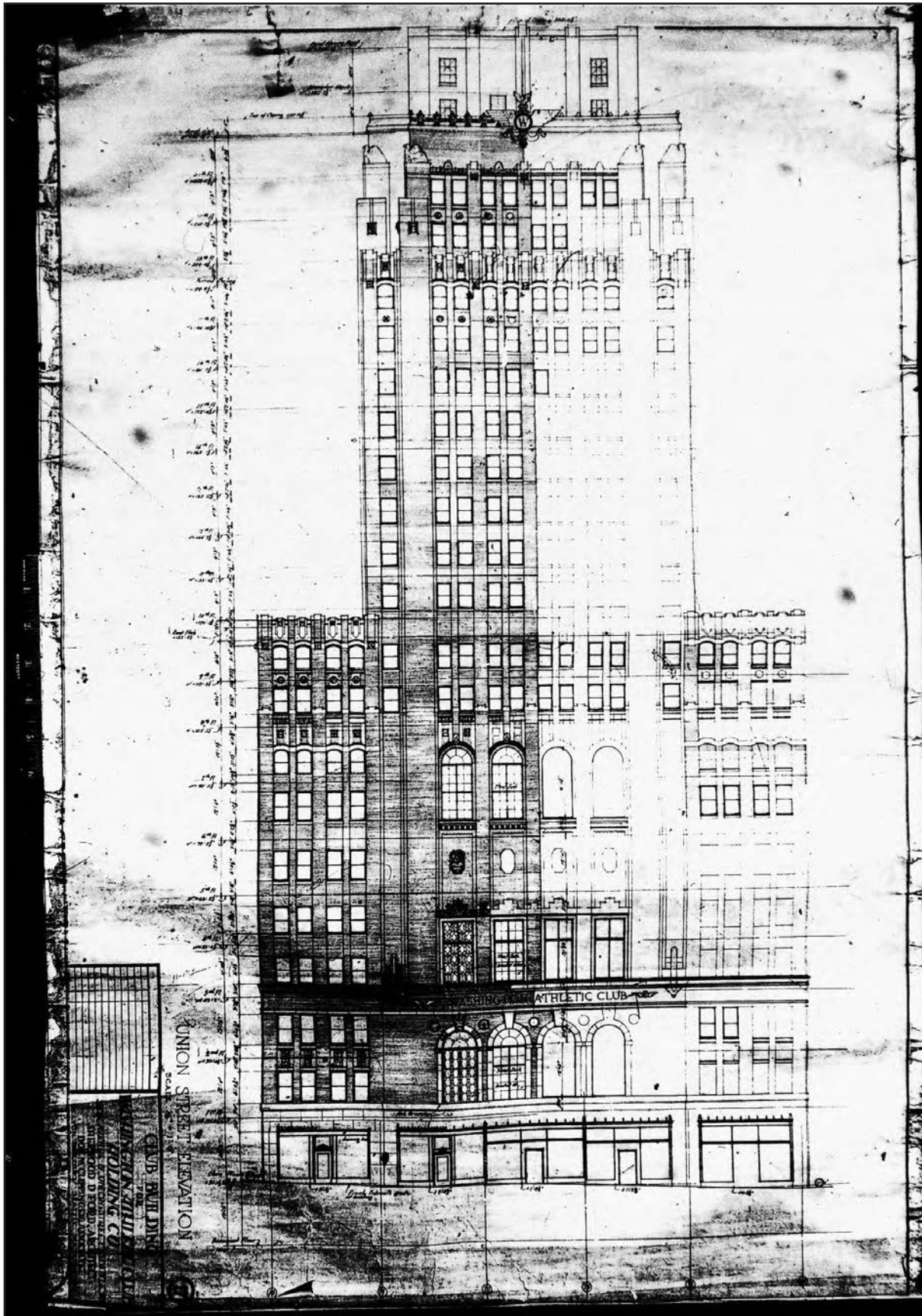
1929. 12th - 17th floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



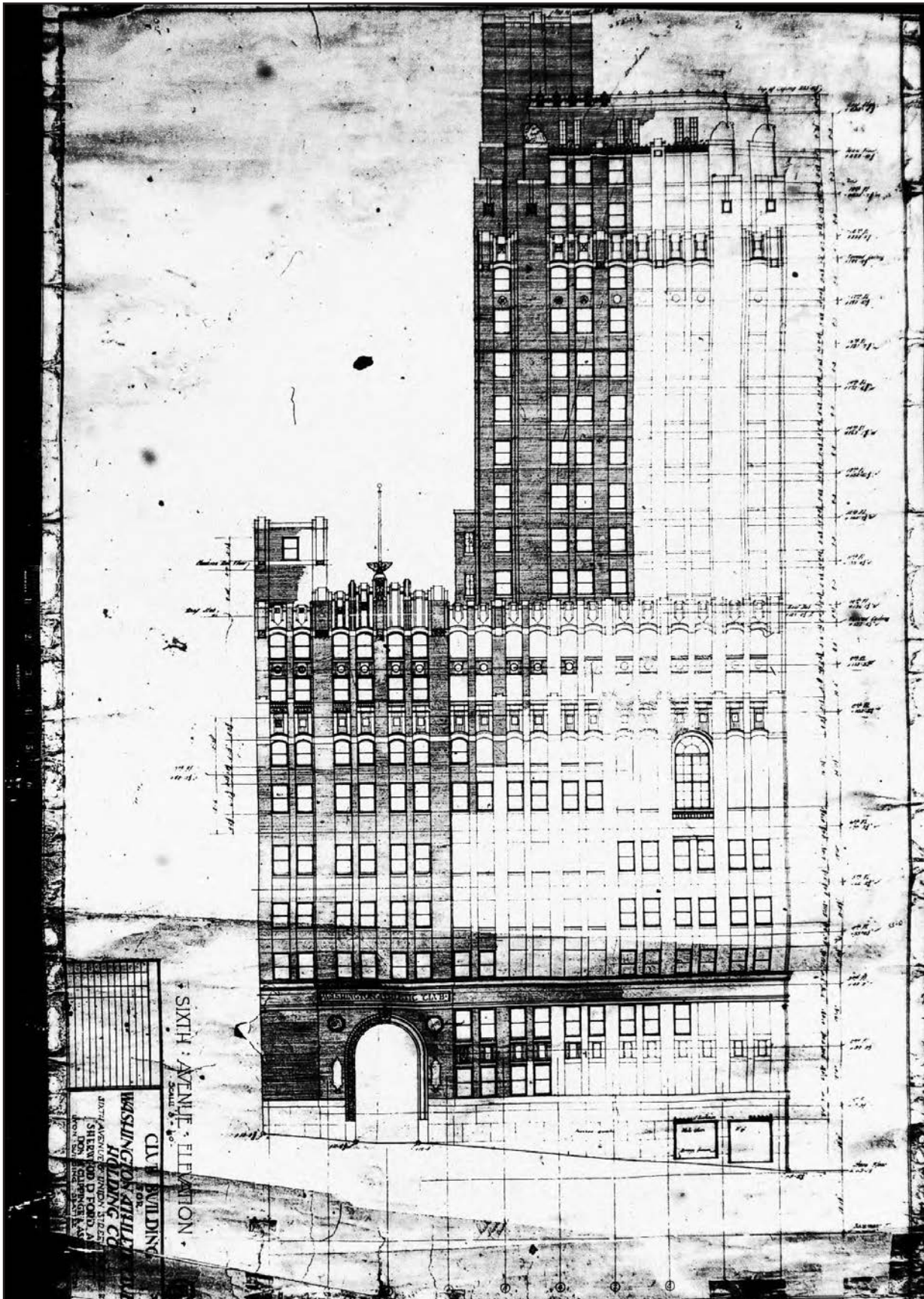
1929. 18th - 19th floor plan, original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



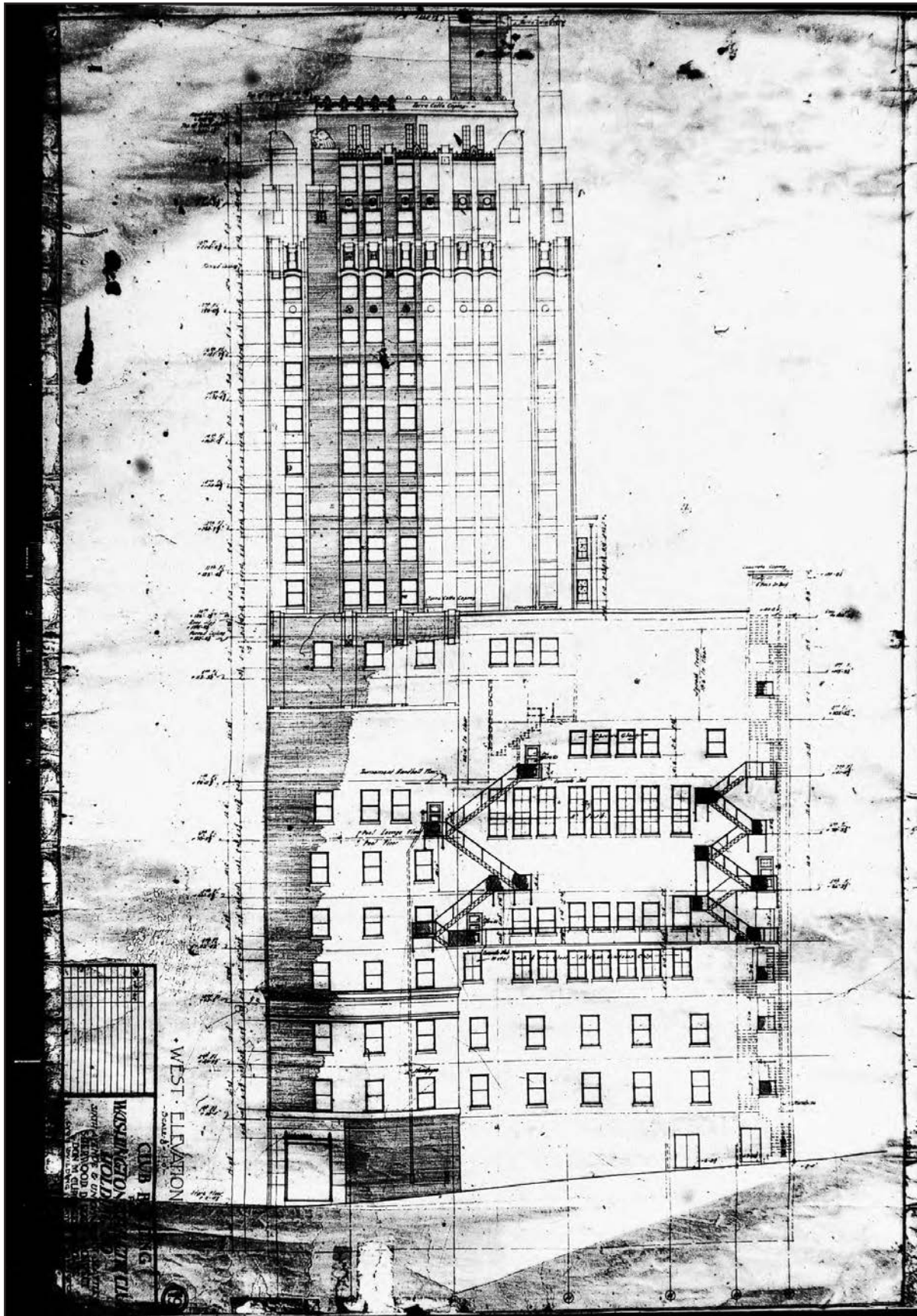
1929. 20th floor, penthouse, and roof plan; original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



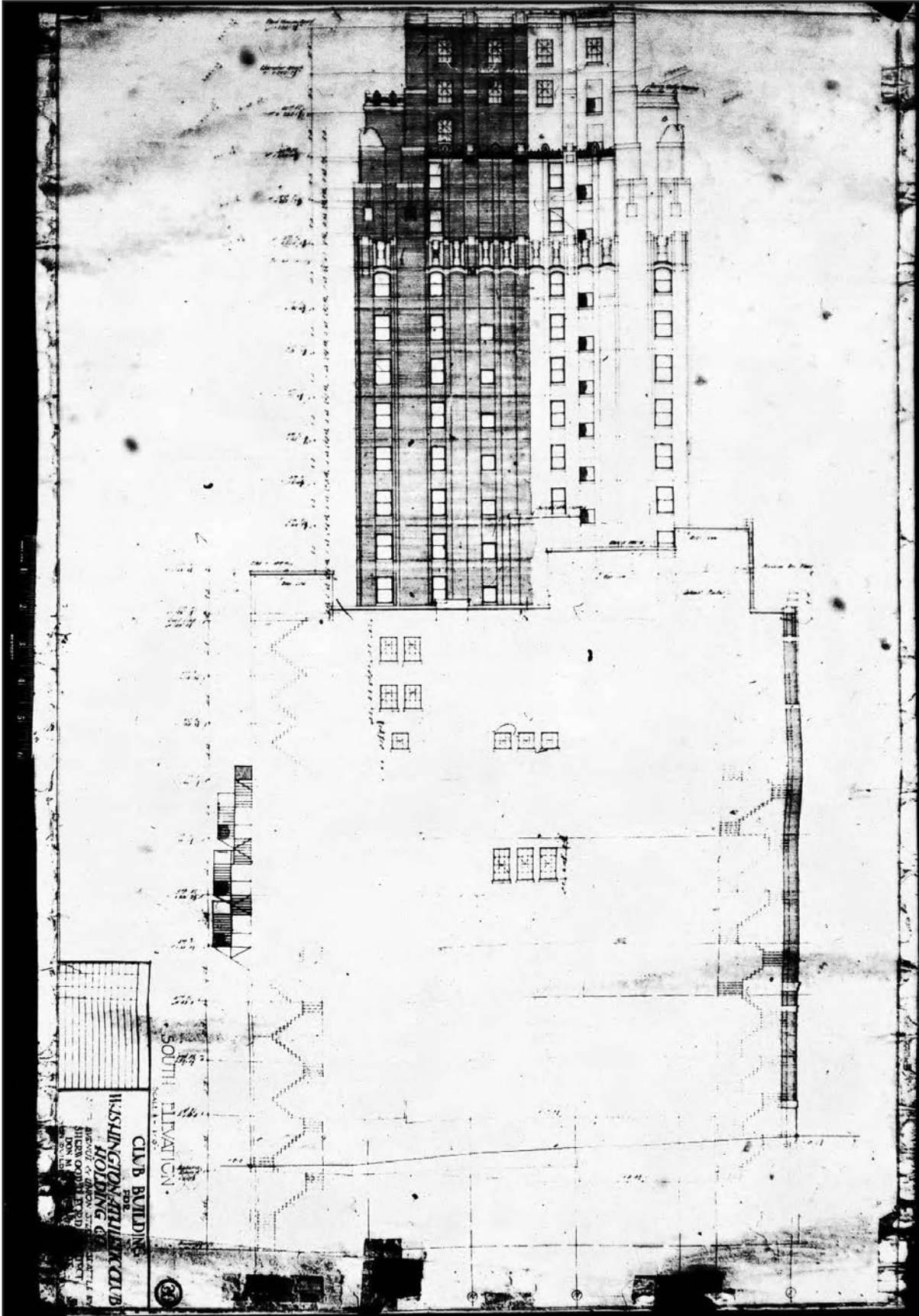
1929. Union Street (north) elevation; original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



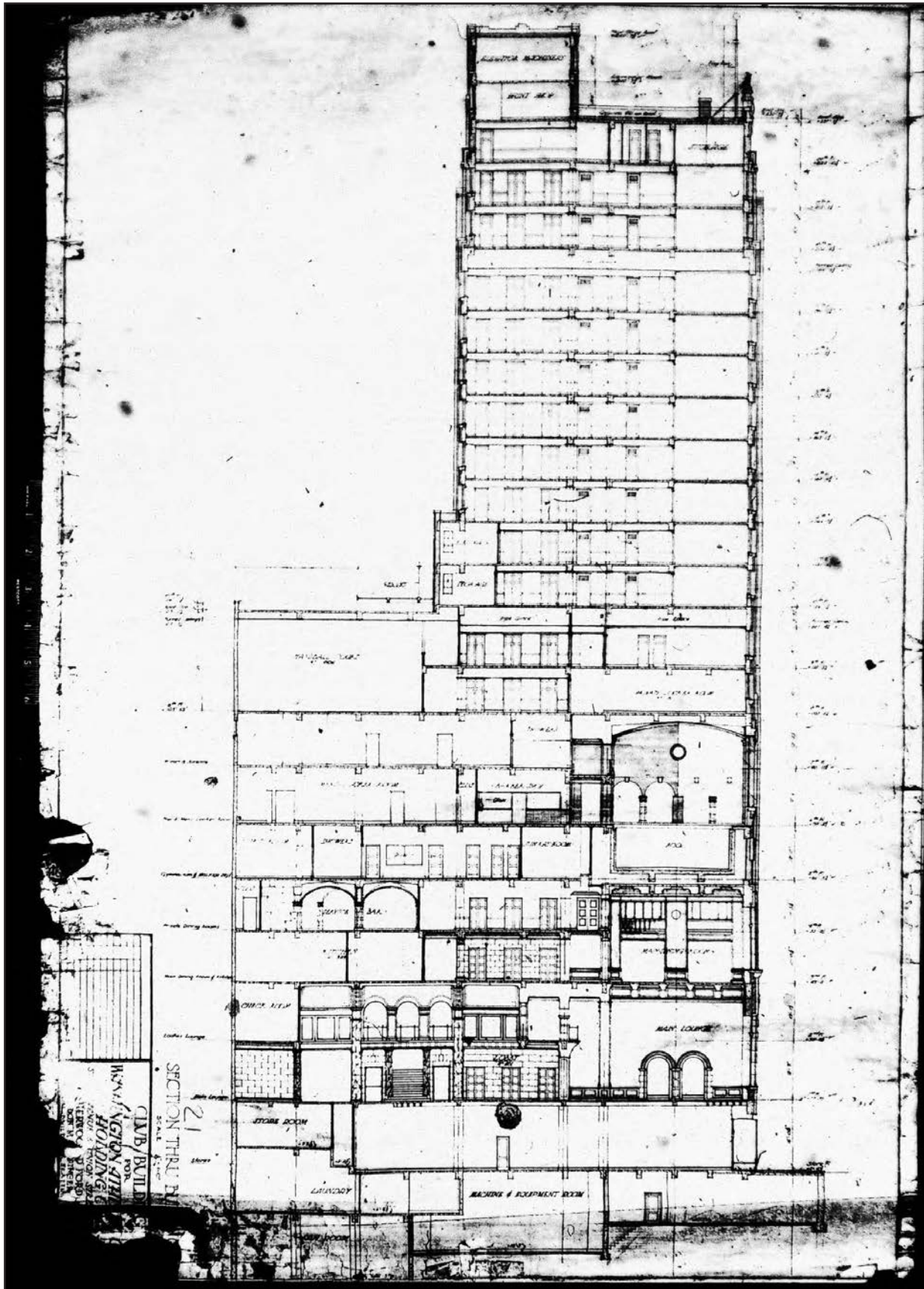
1929. Sixth Avenue (east) elevation; original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



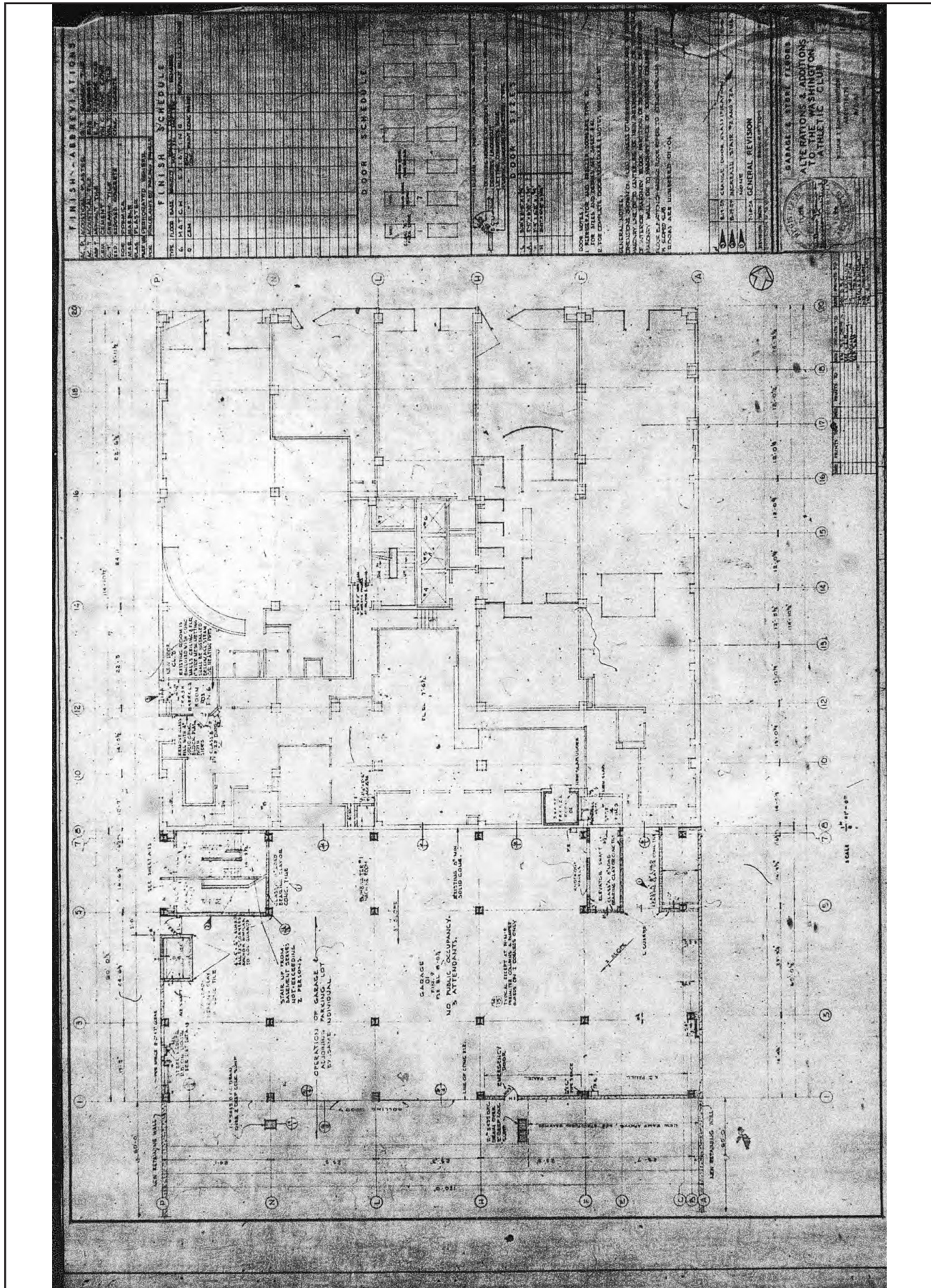
1929. West elevation (alley); original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

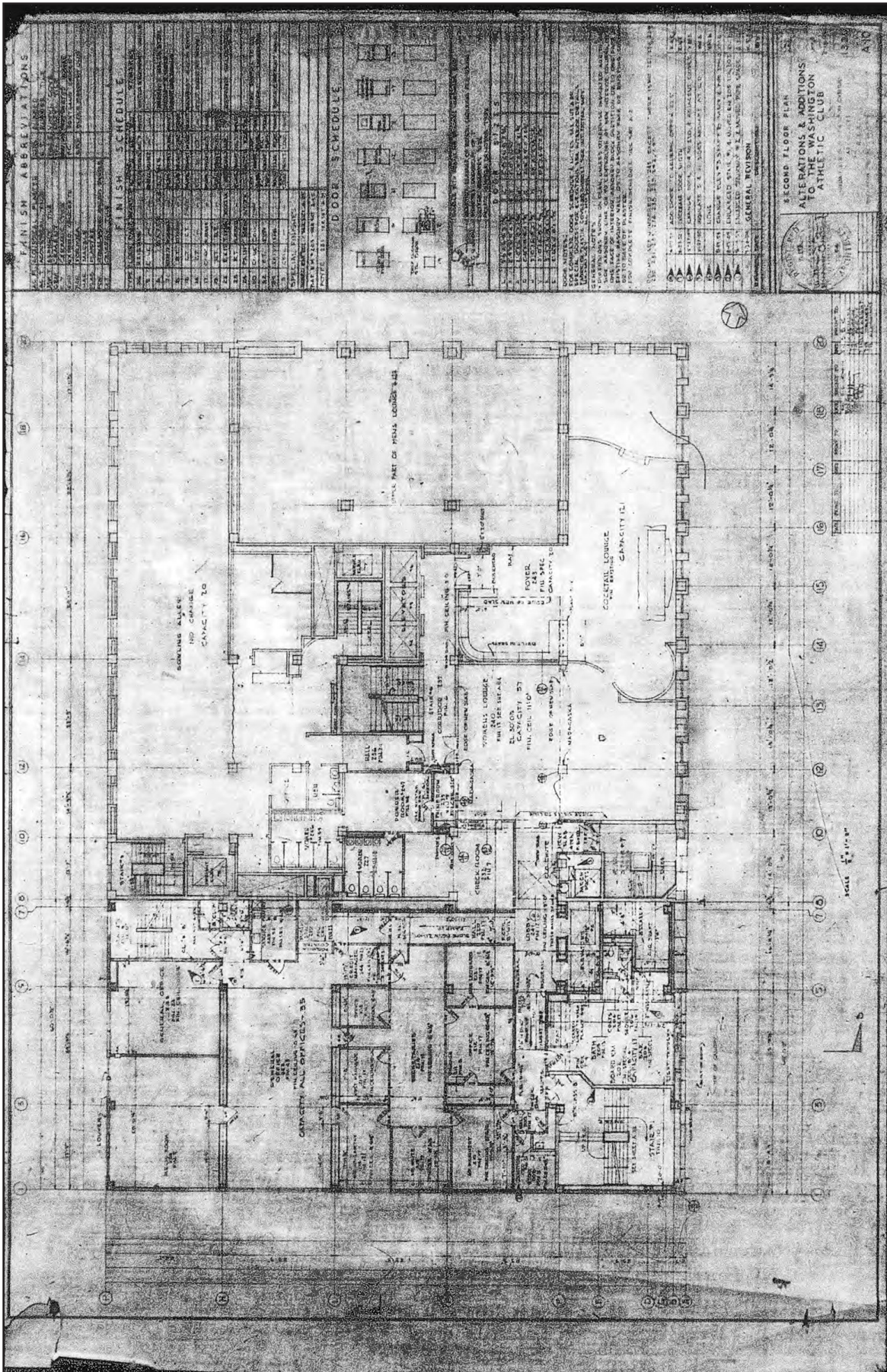


1929. South elevation; original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

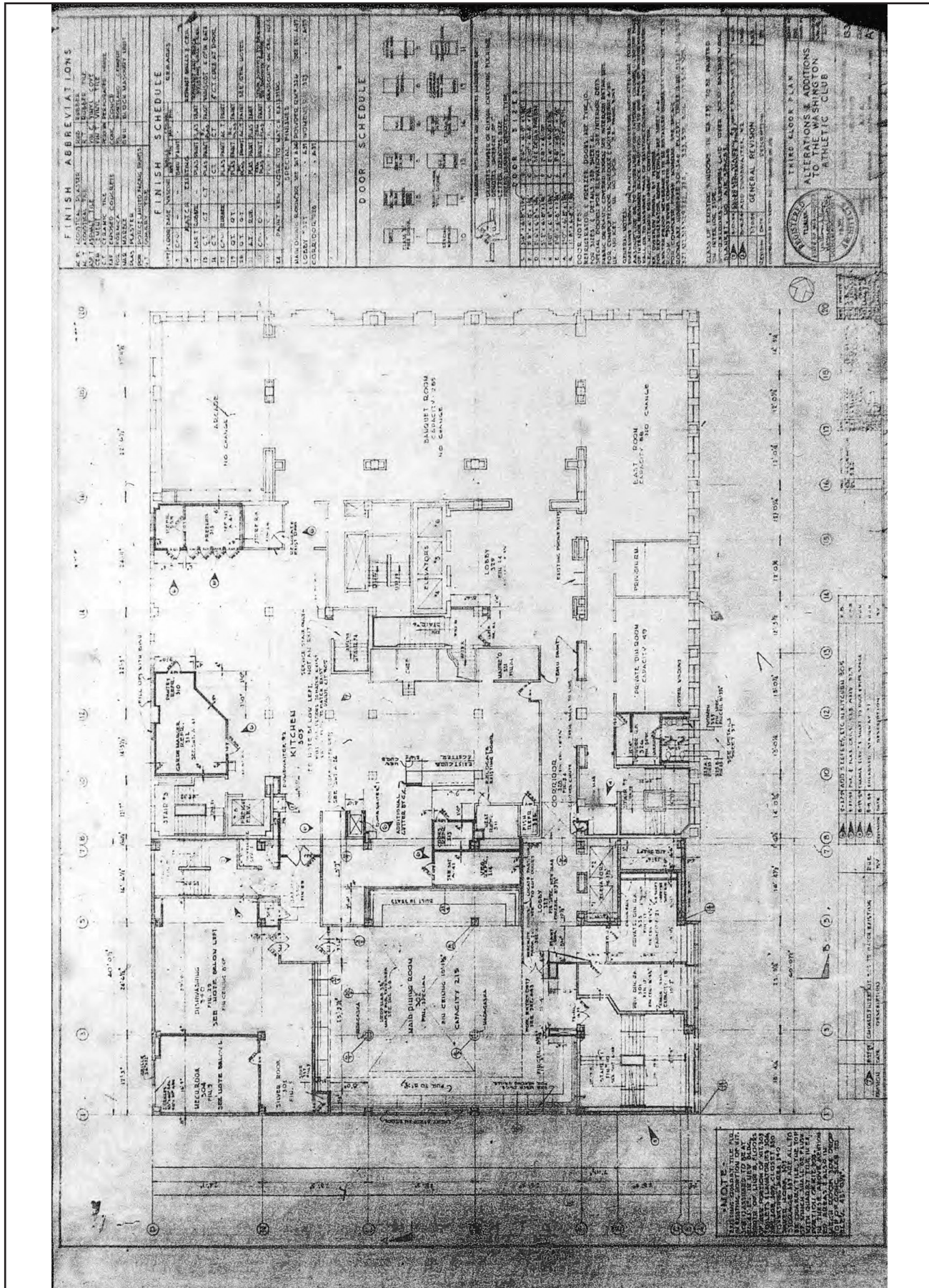


1929. Section through building; original drawing by architect Sherwood Ford. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)

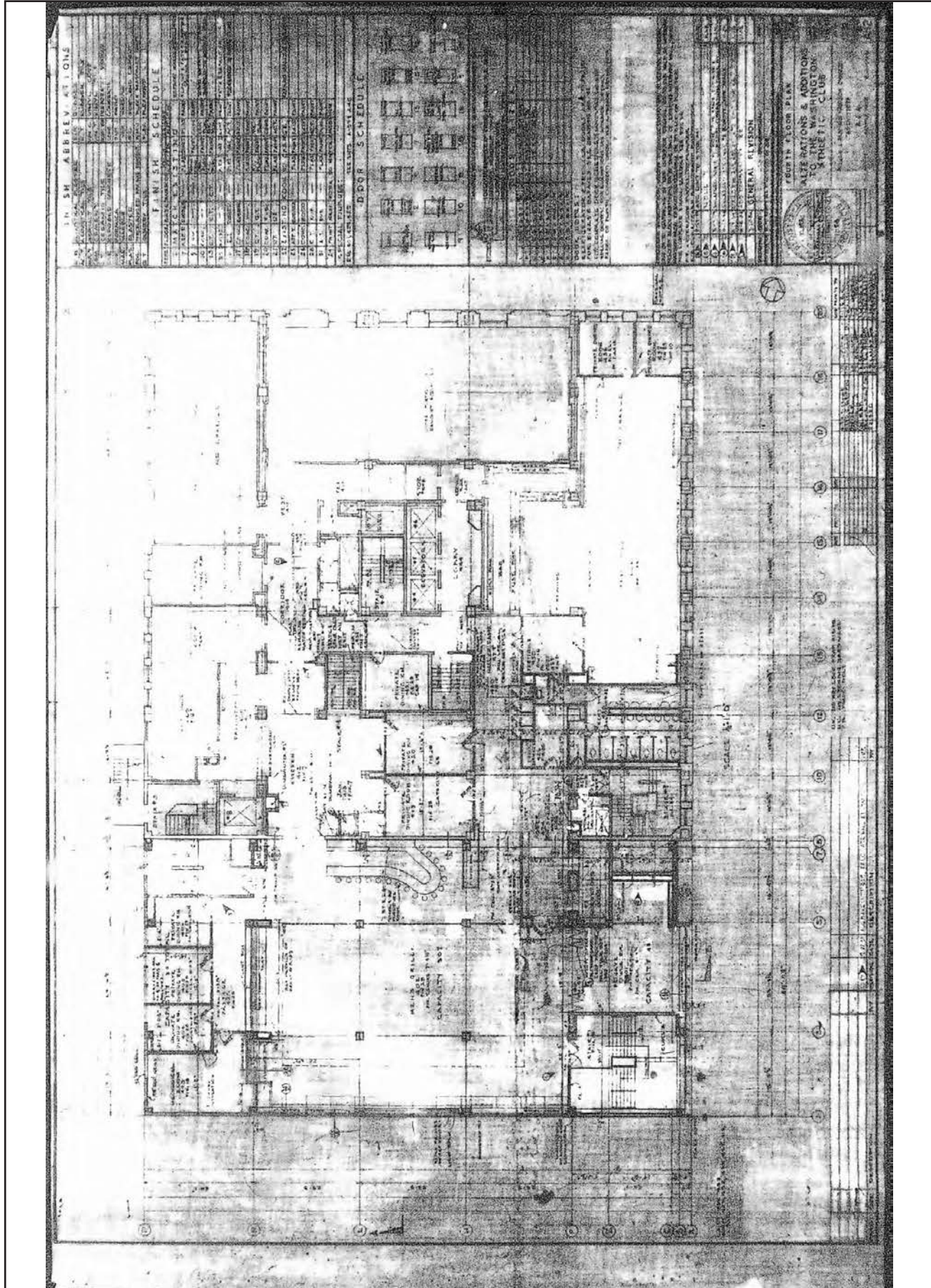




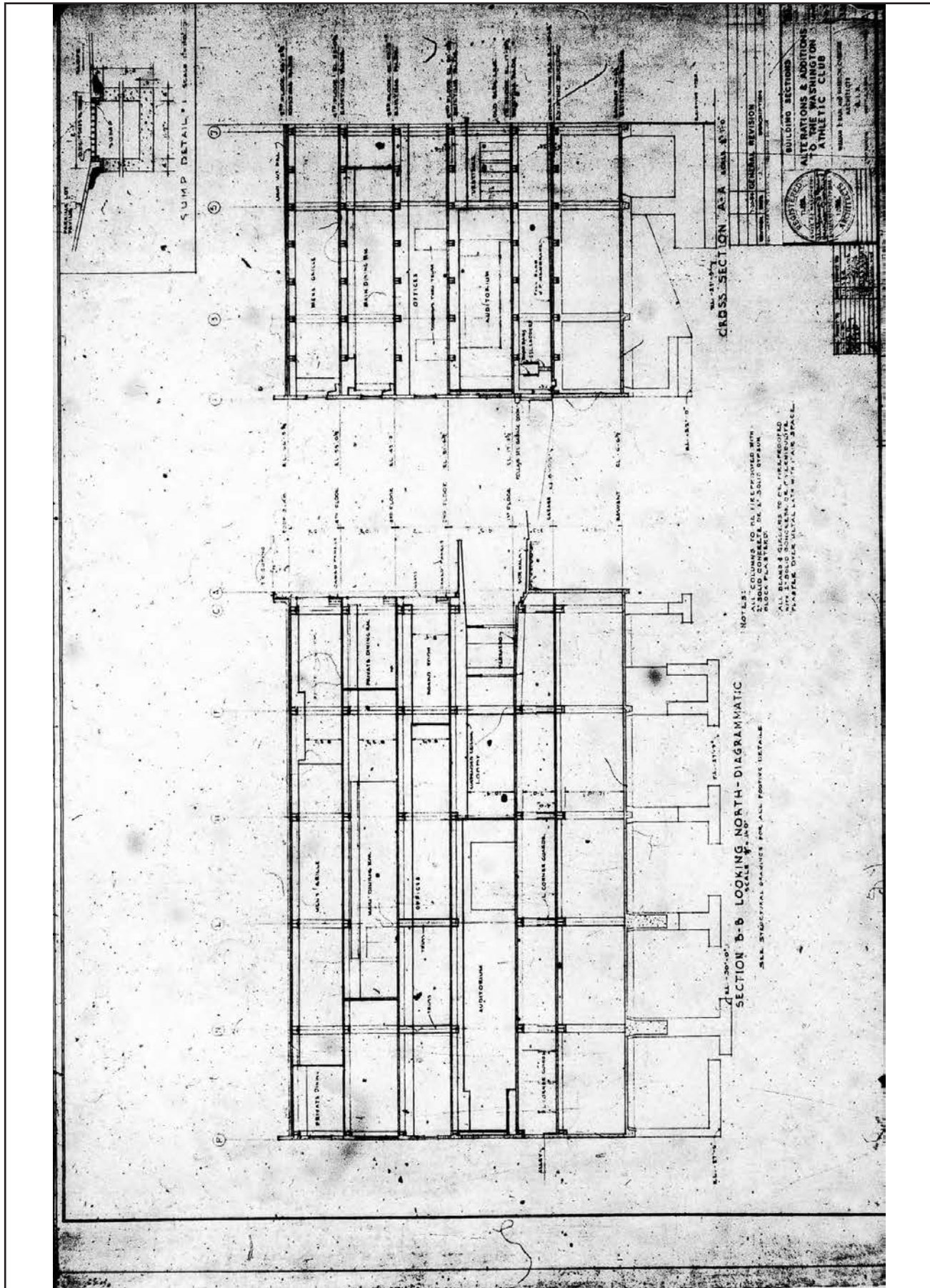
1954. Second floor plan; drawing for addition by Bain & Overturf. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



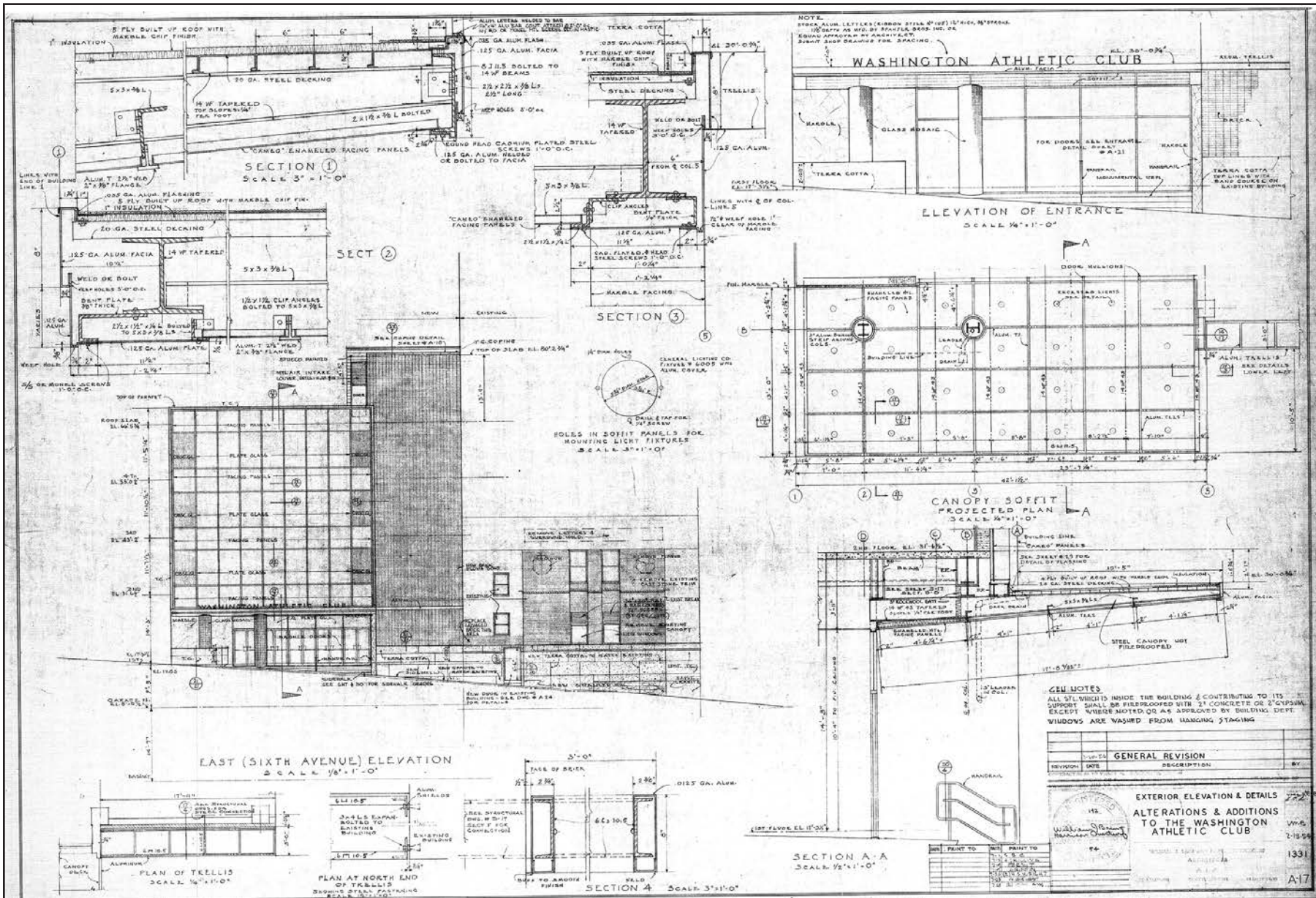
1954. Third floor plan; drawing for addition by Bain & Overturf. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



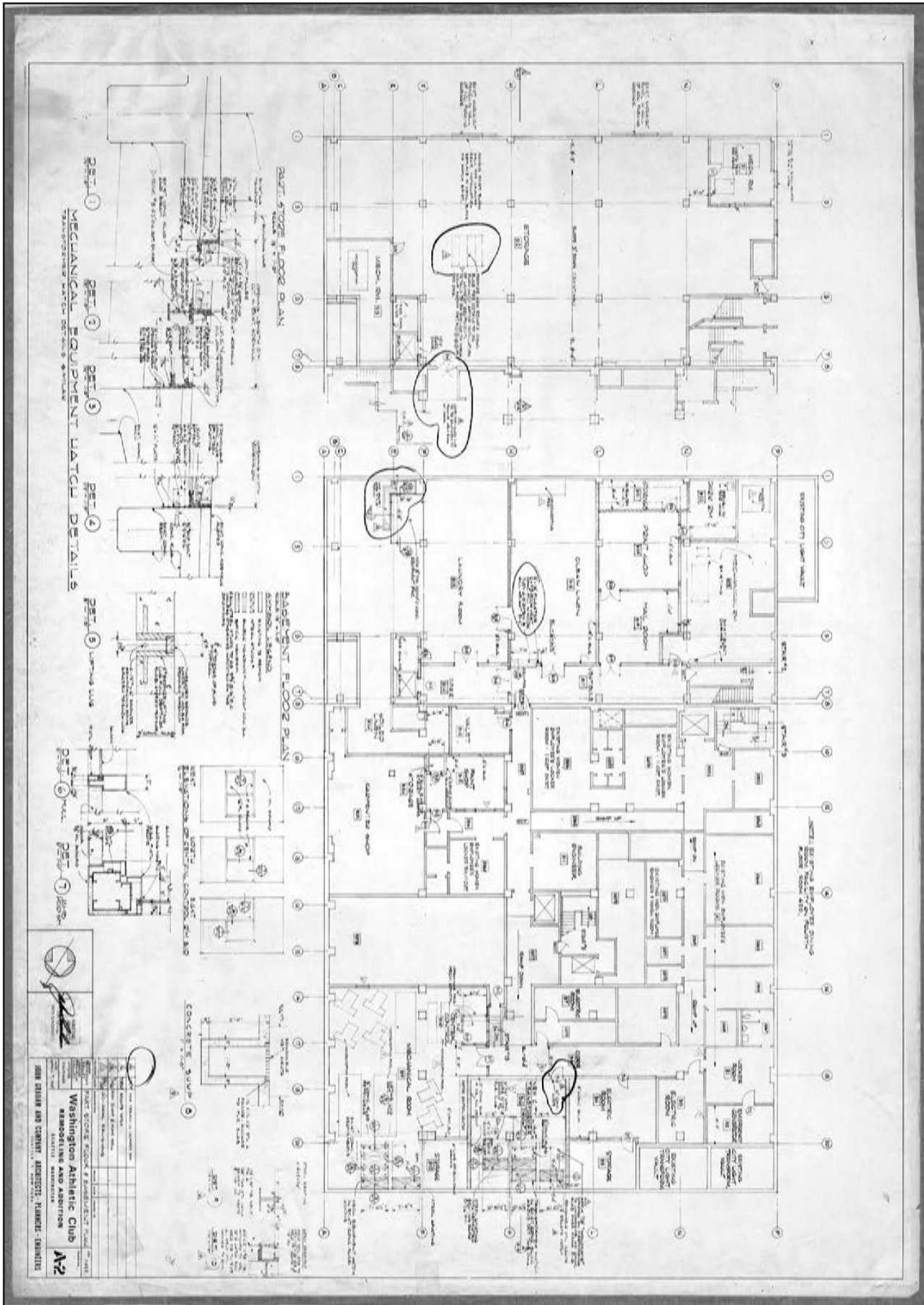
1954. Fourth floor plan; drawing for addition by Bain & Overturf. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



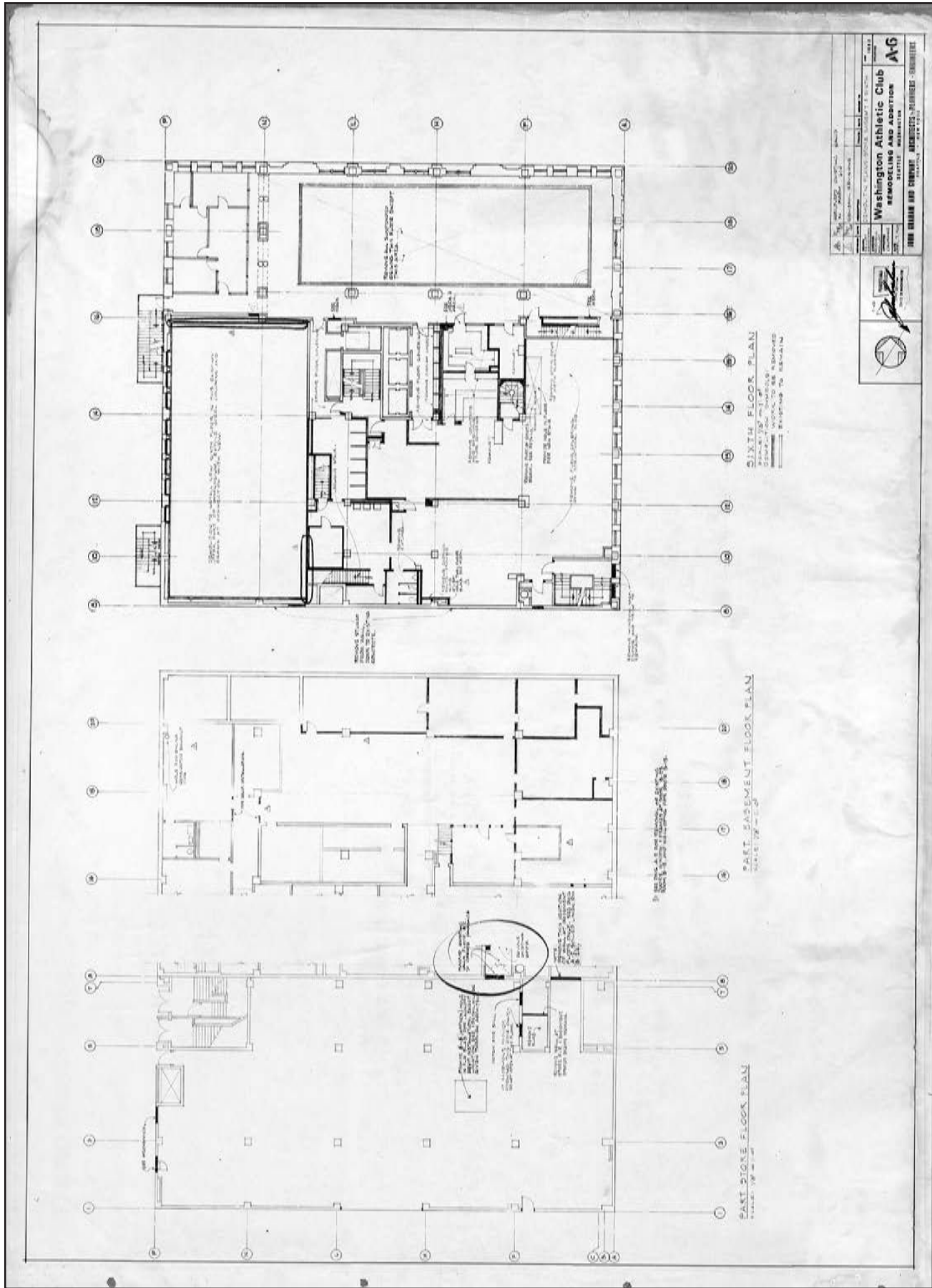
1954. Cross-sections; drawing for addition by Bain & Overturn. Source: City of Seattle Dept of Construction and Inspections (SDCI)



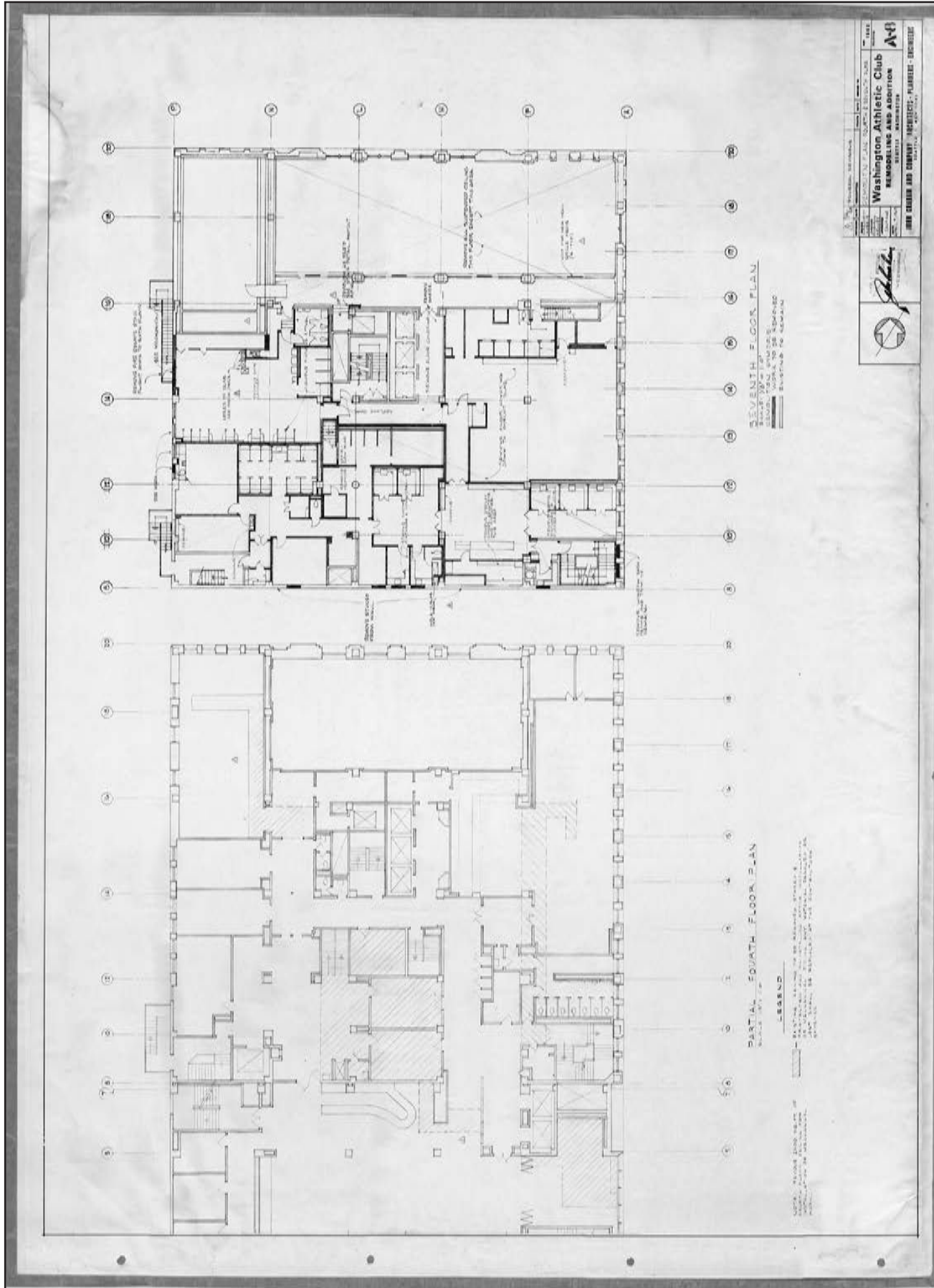
1954. East elevation, entrance elevation; details; drawing for addition by Bain & Overturf. Source: WAC



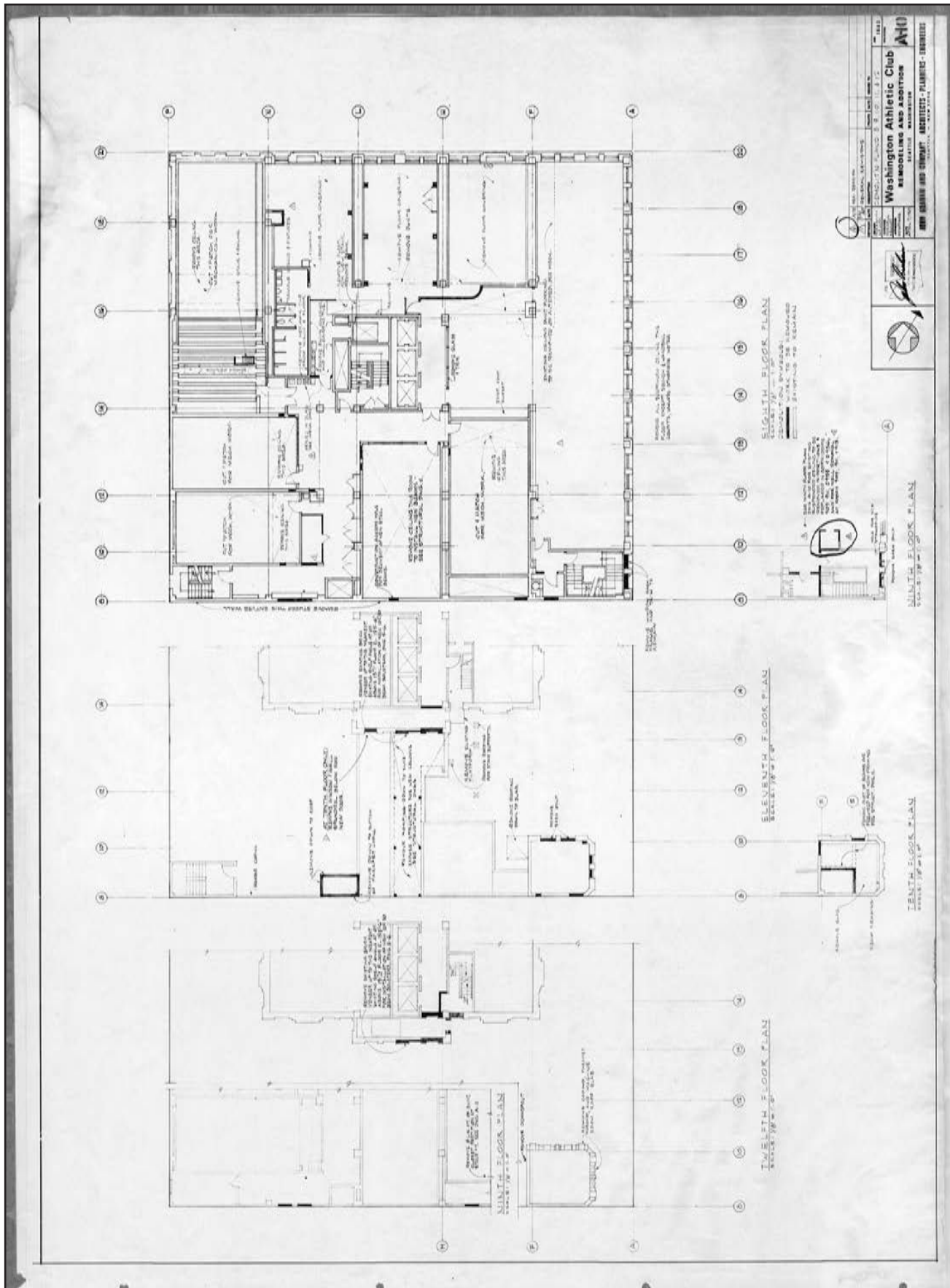
1969-70. Partial store floor and basement plan for addition completed in 1970; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



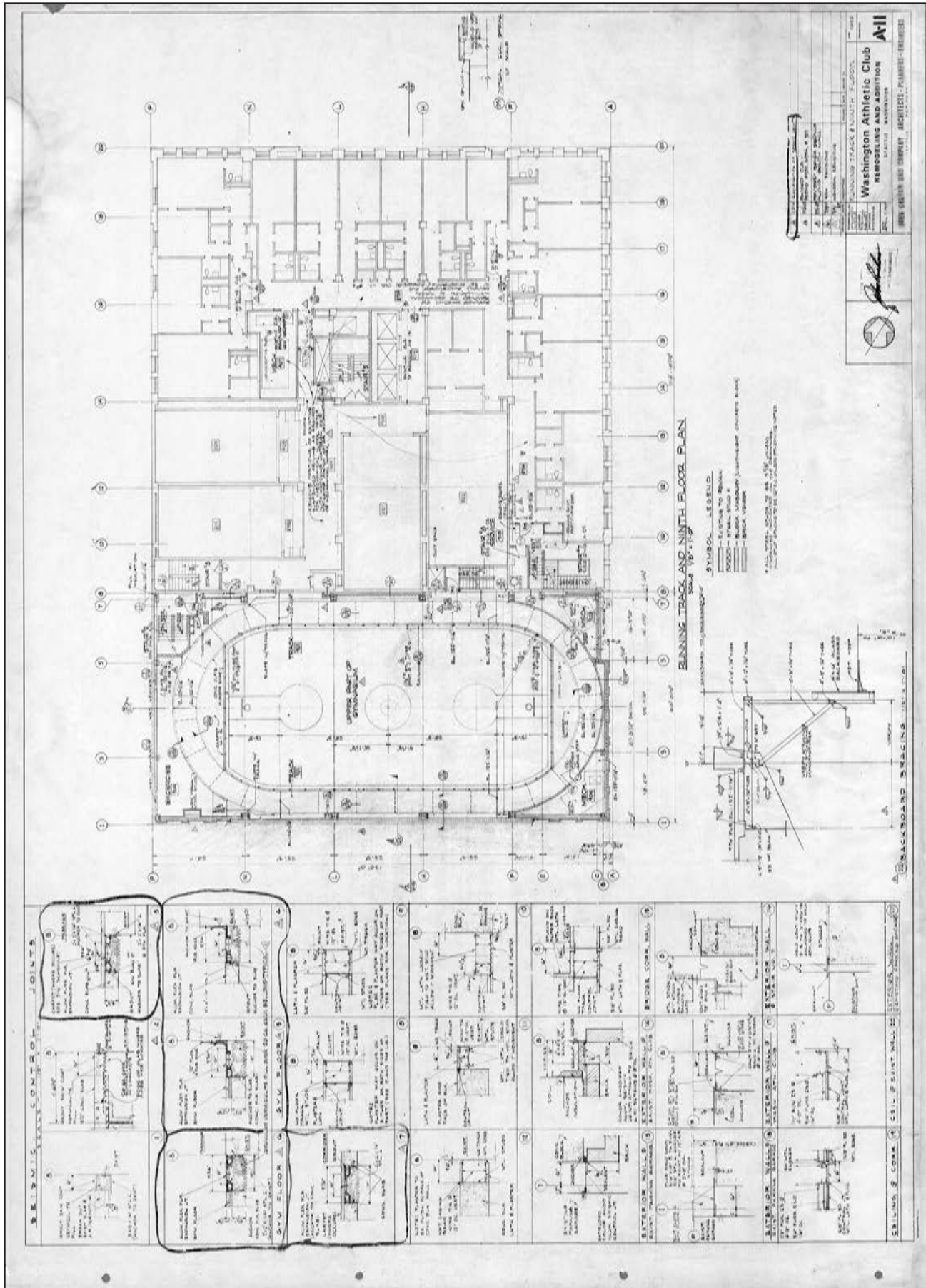
1969-70. Demolition plan - sixth floor, partial store and basement; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



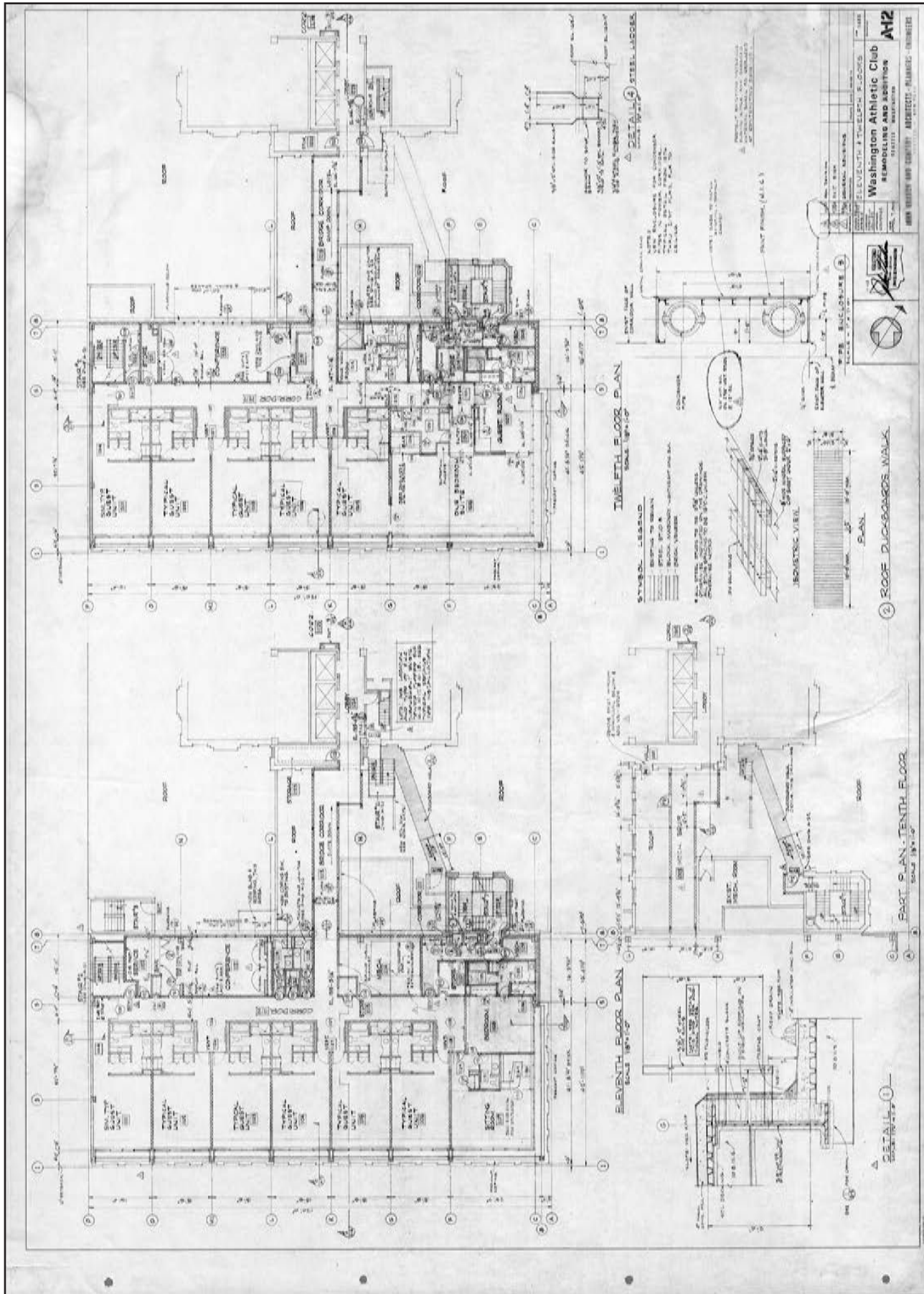
1969-70. Demolition plan - fourth and seventh floors; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



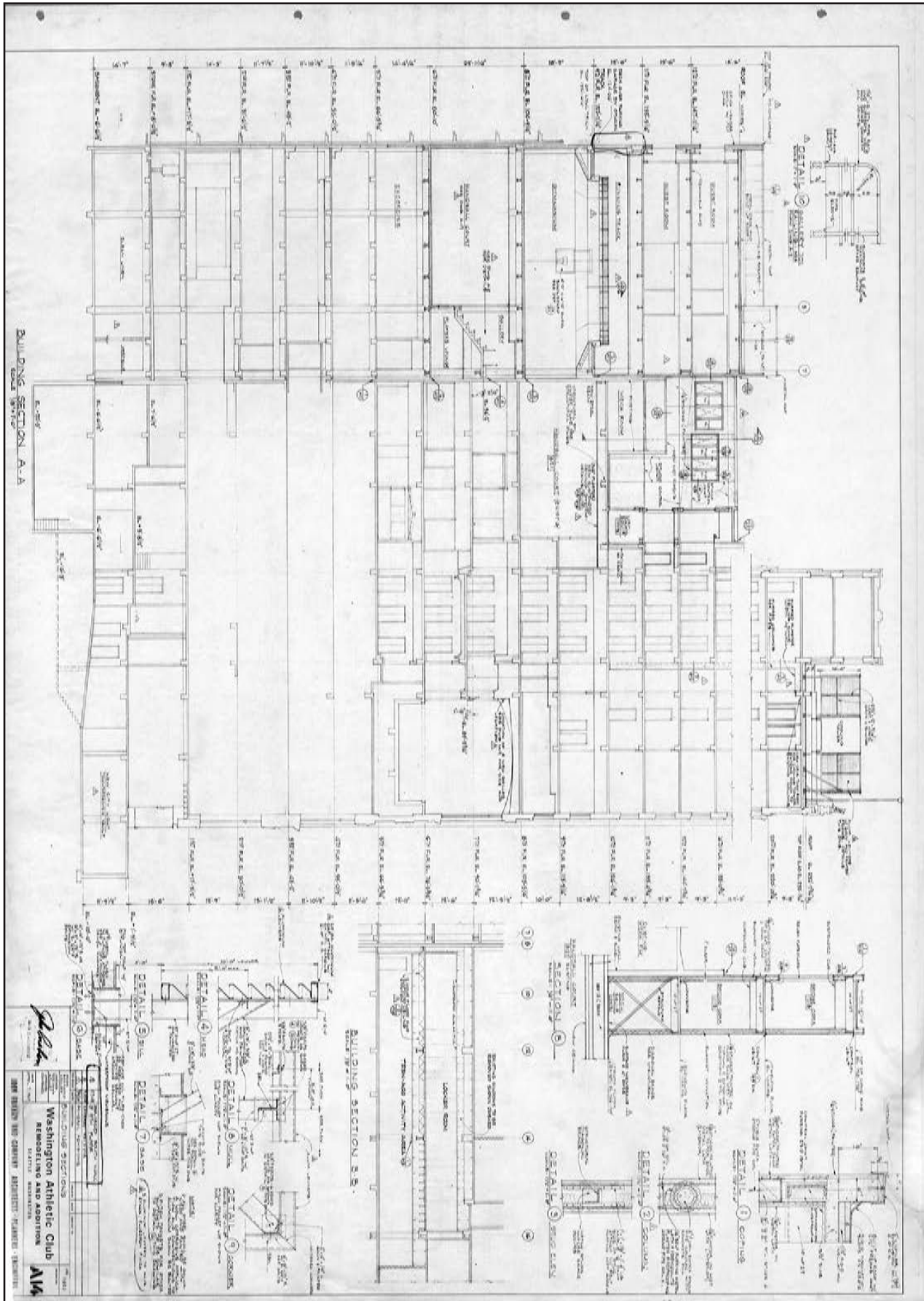
1969-70. Demolition plan - 8th - 12th floors; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



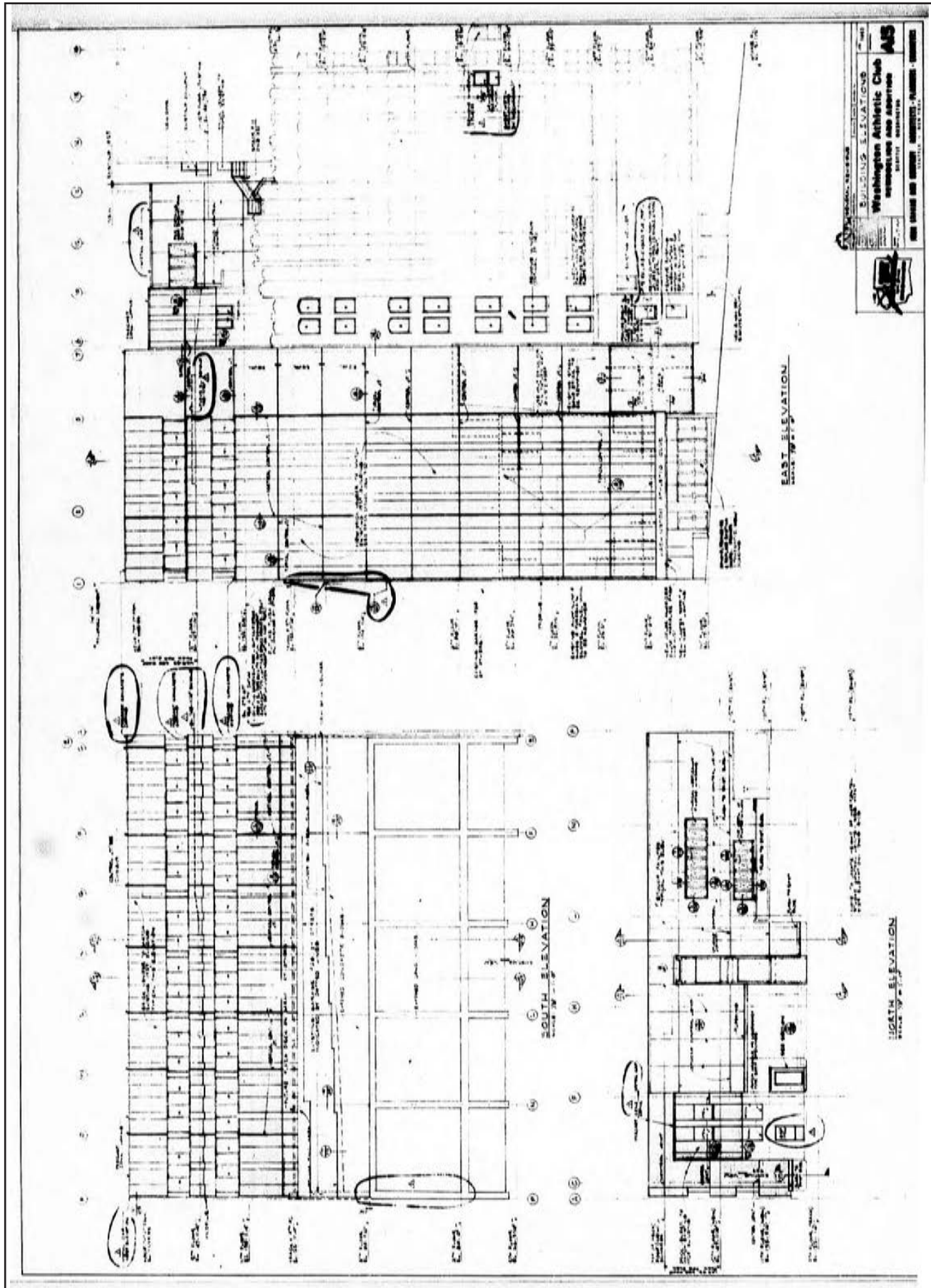
1969-70. Running track and ninth floor; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



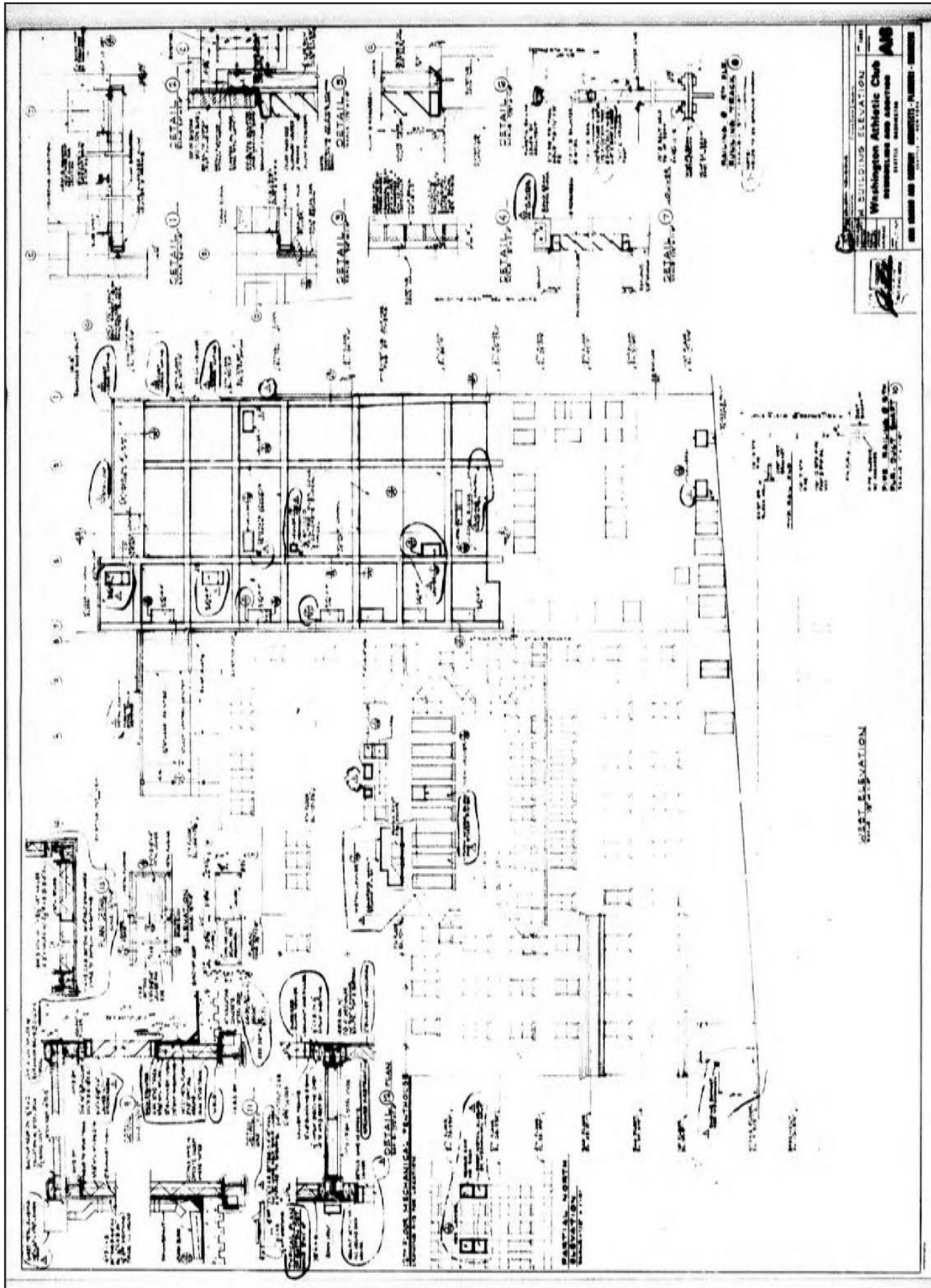
1969-70. 11th and 12th floors; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



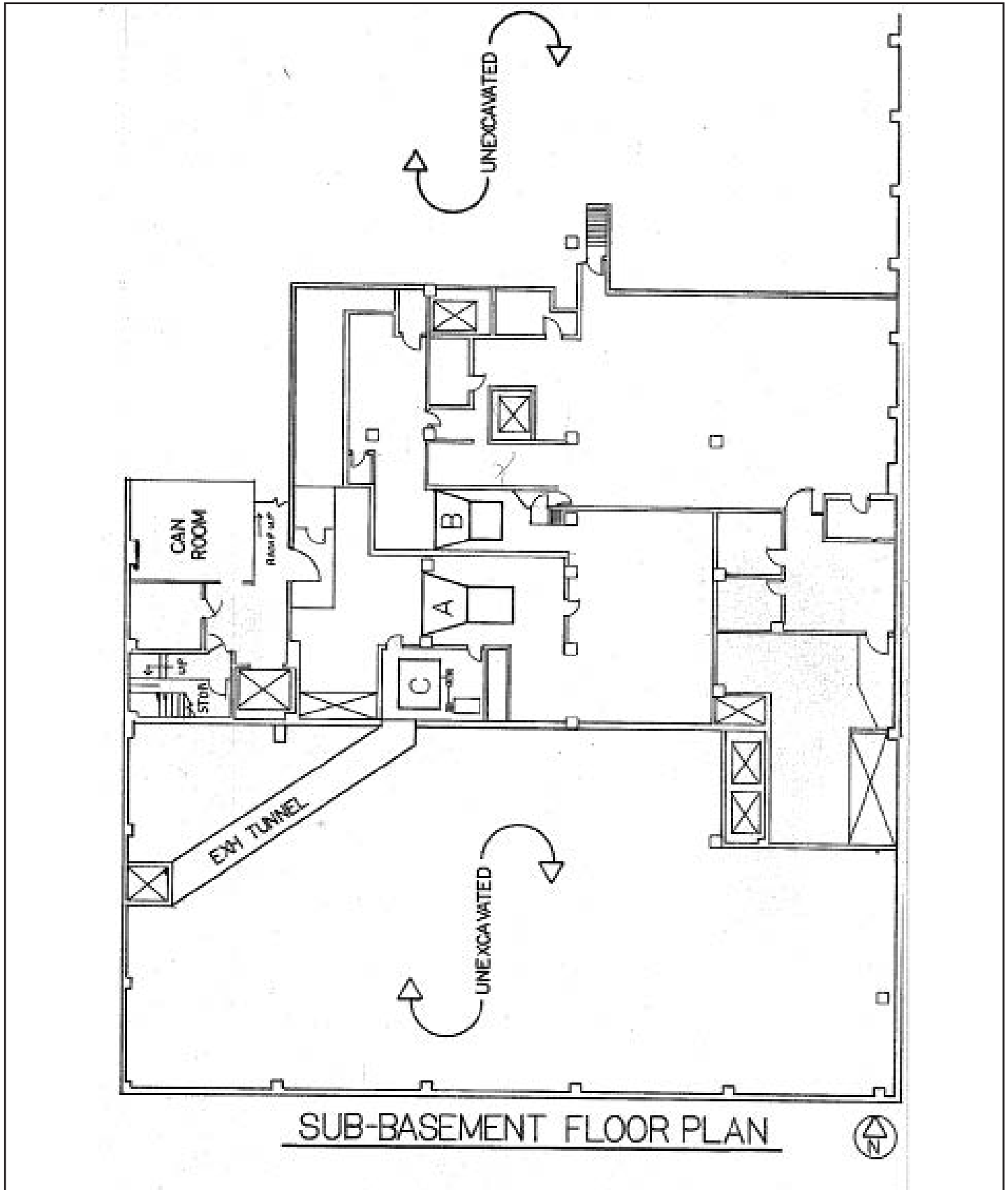
1969-70. Building sections; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



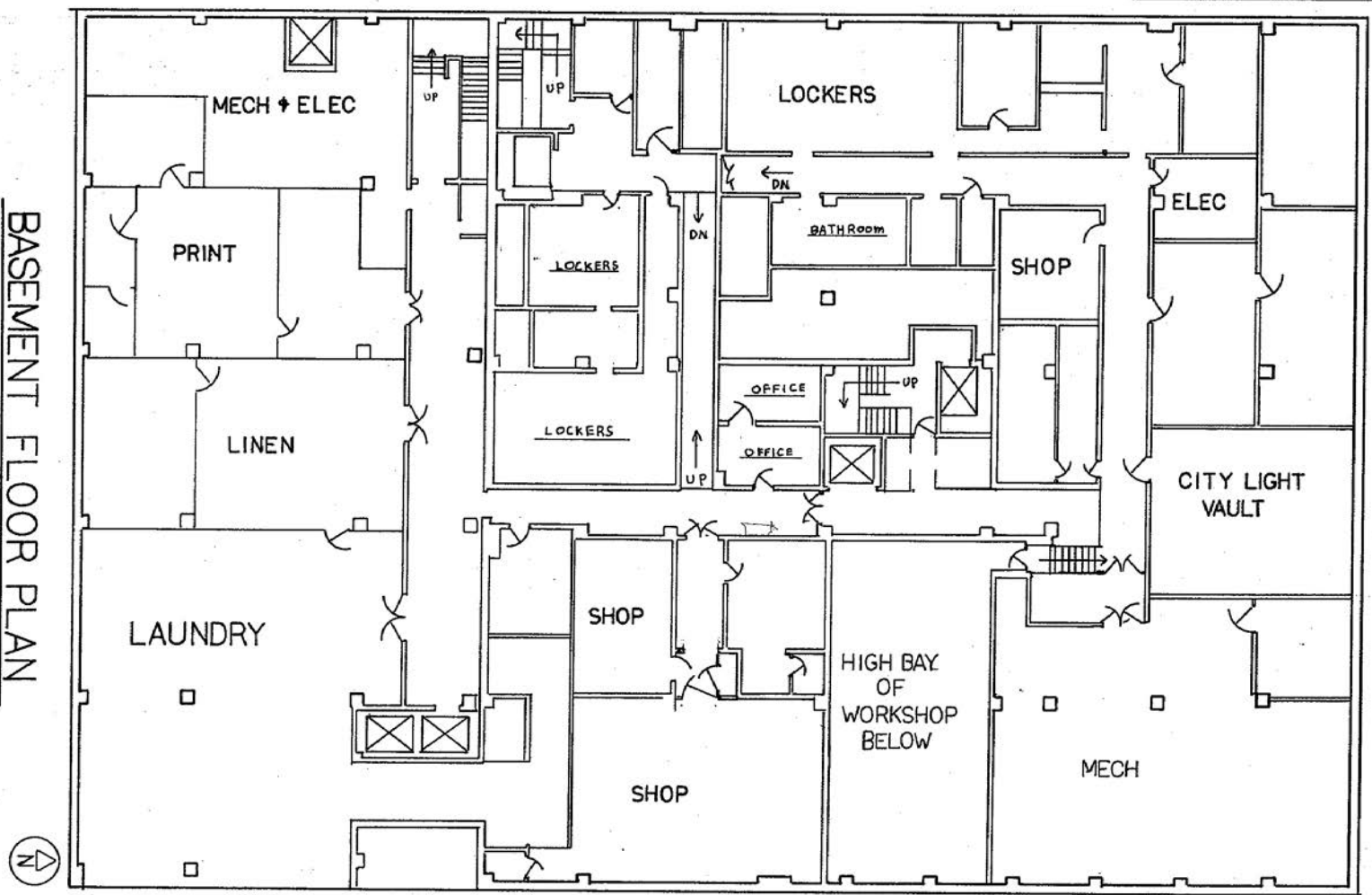
1969-70. South, north, and east elevations for addition completed in 1970; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



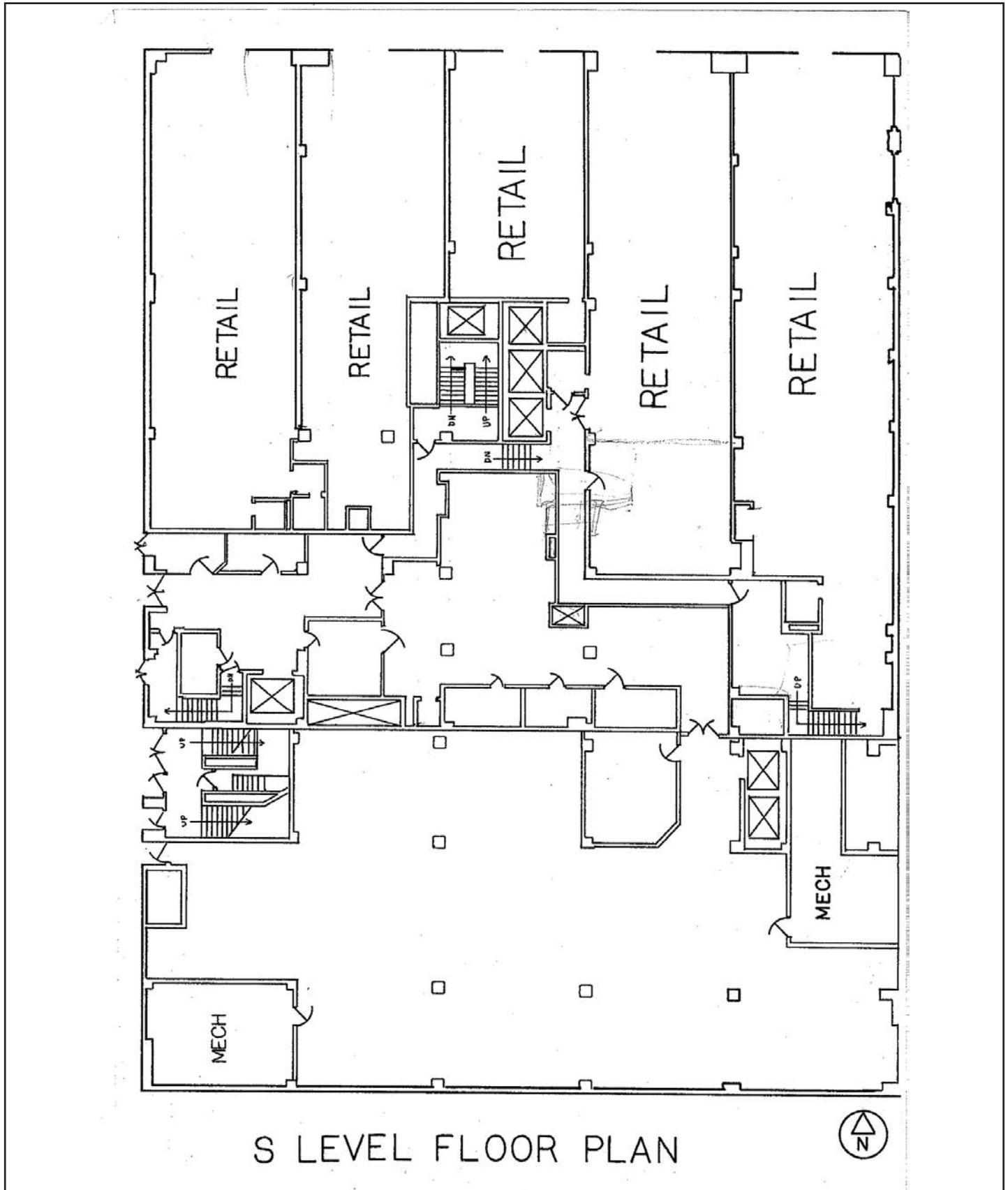
1969-70. West elevations for addition completed in 1970; drawing by John Graham and Company. Source: WAC



The following pages include a complete set of current floor plans (sub-basement through 23rd floor) for the building prepared by facility and engineering staff at the WAC for internal use.

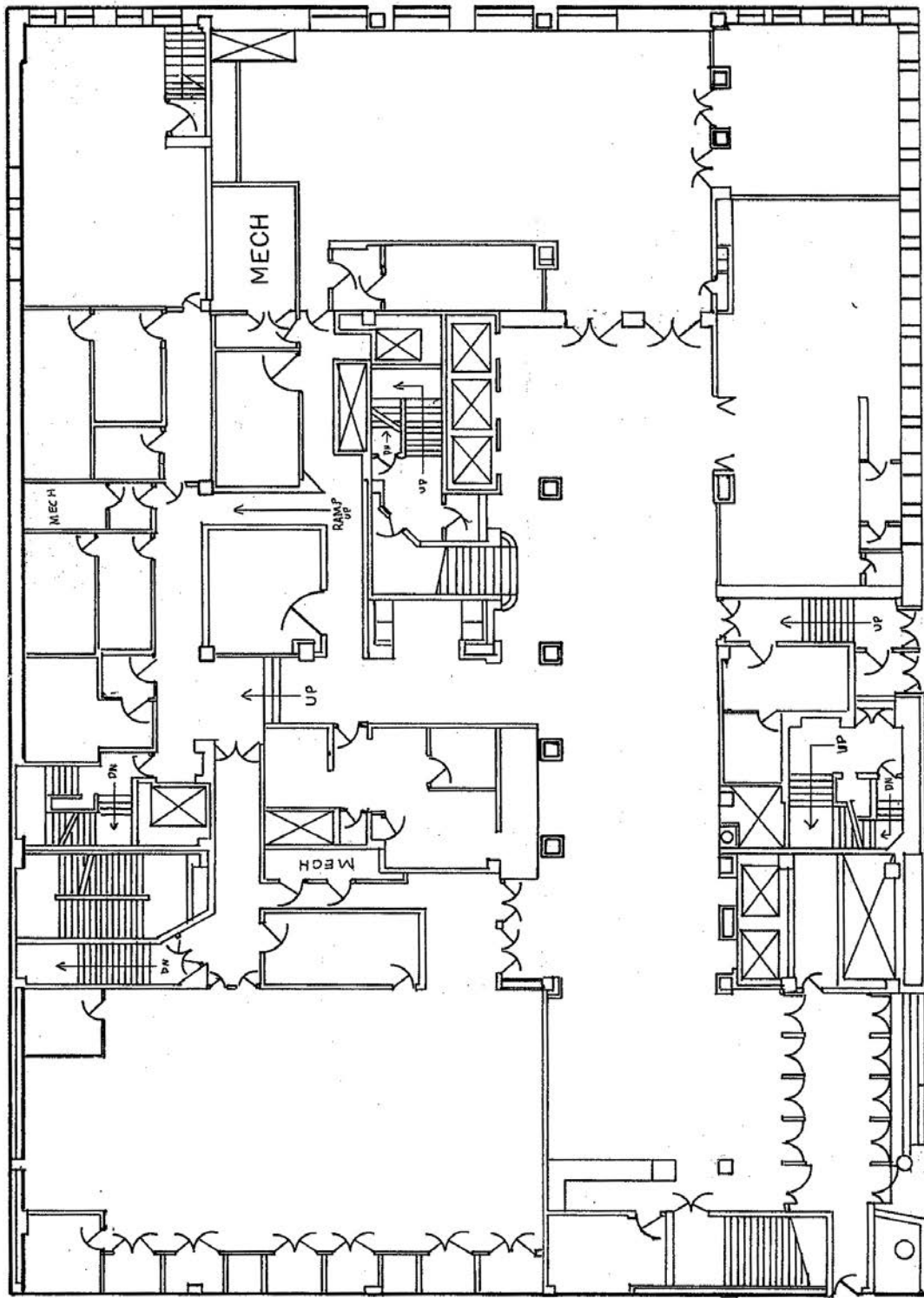


BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



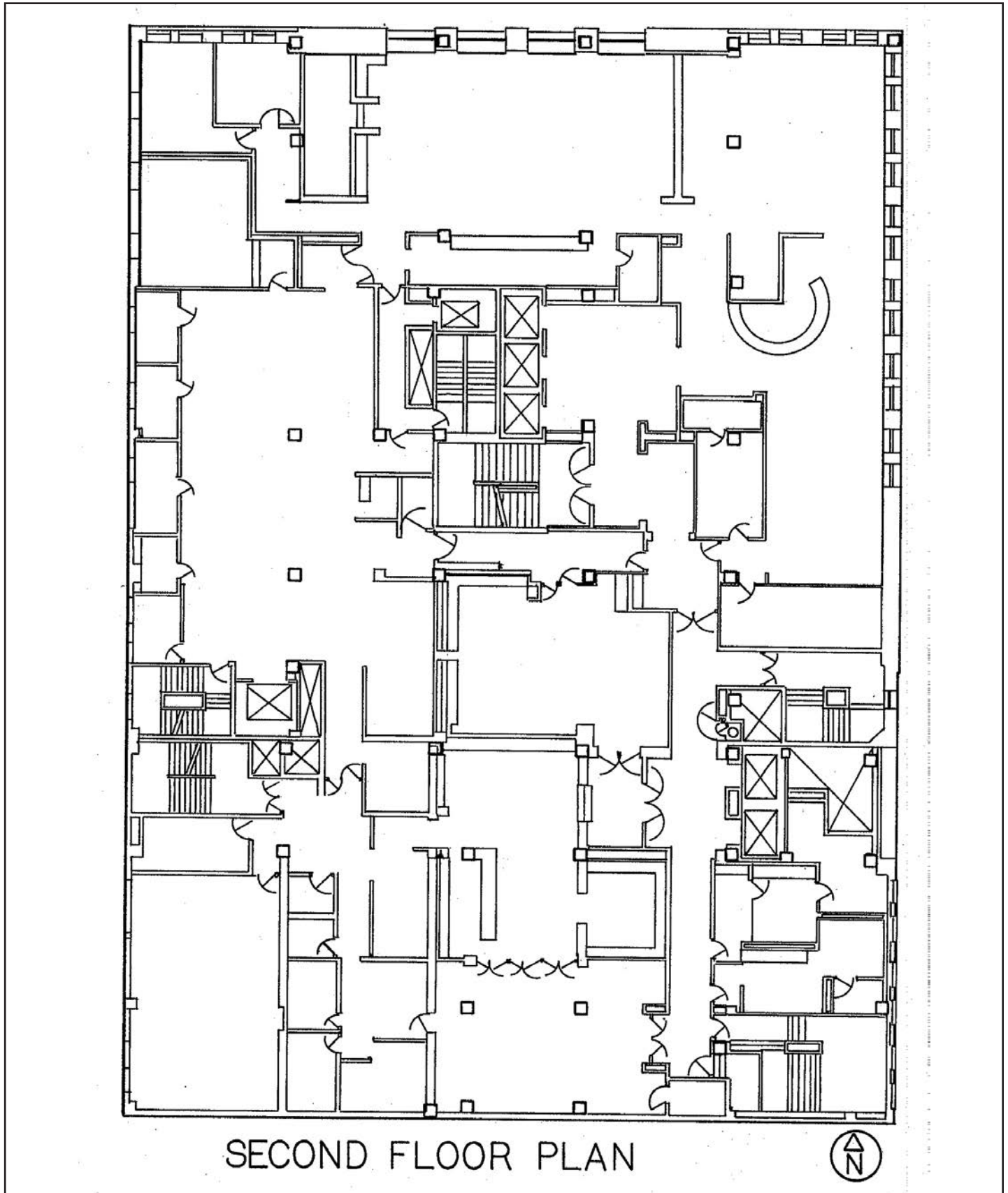
S LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

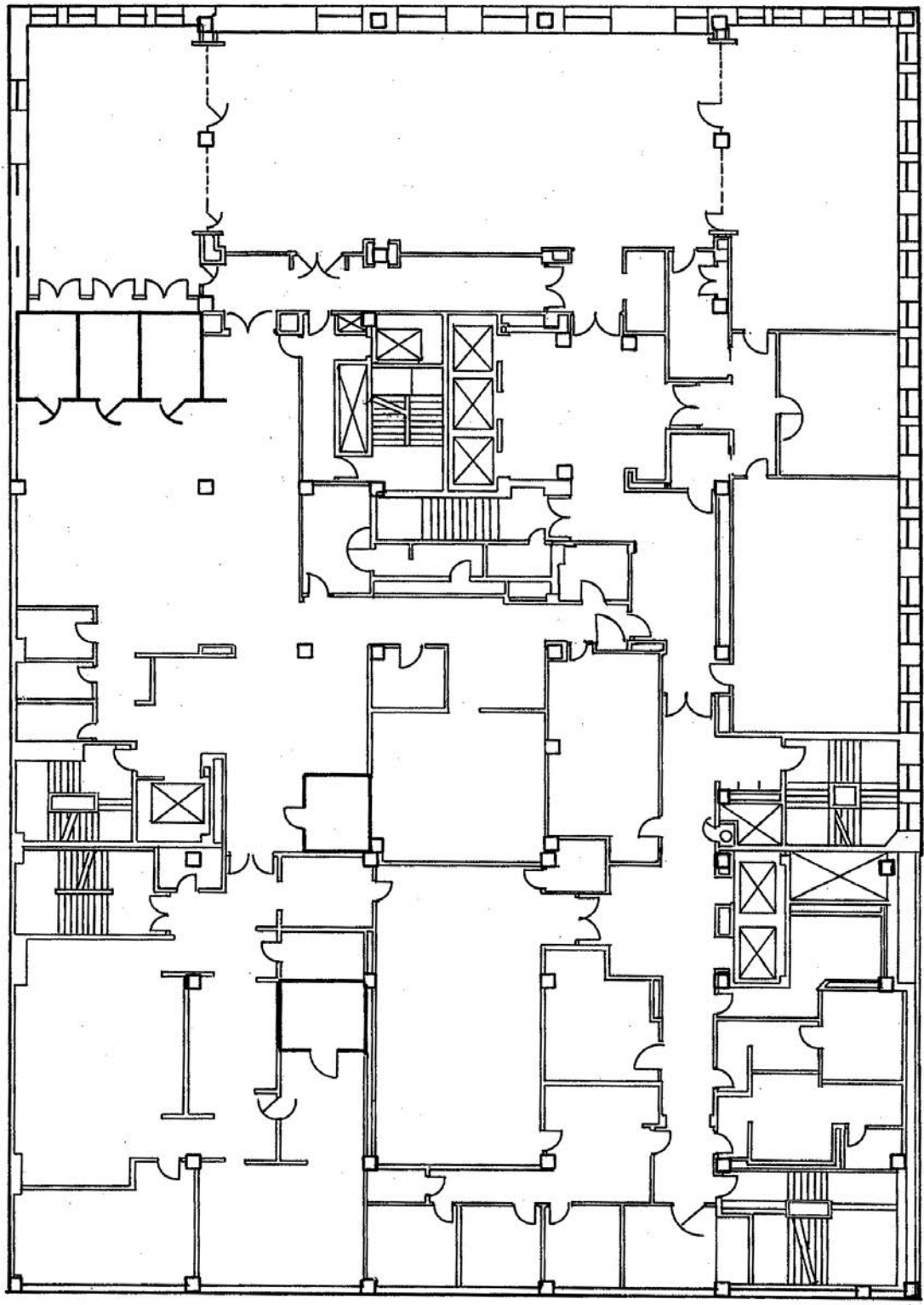
Also known as the store level.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

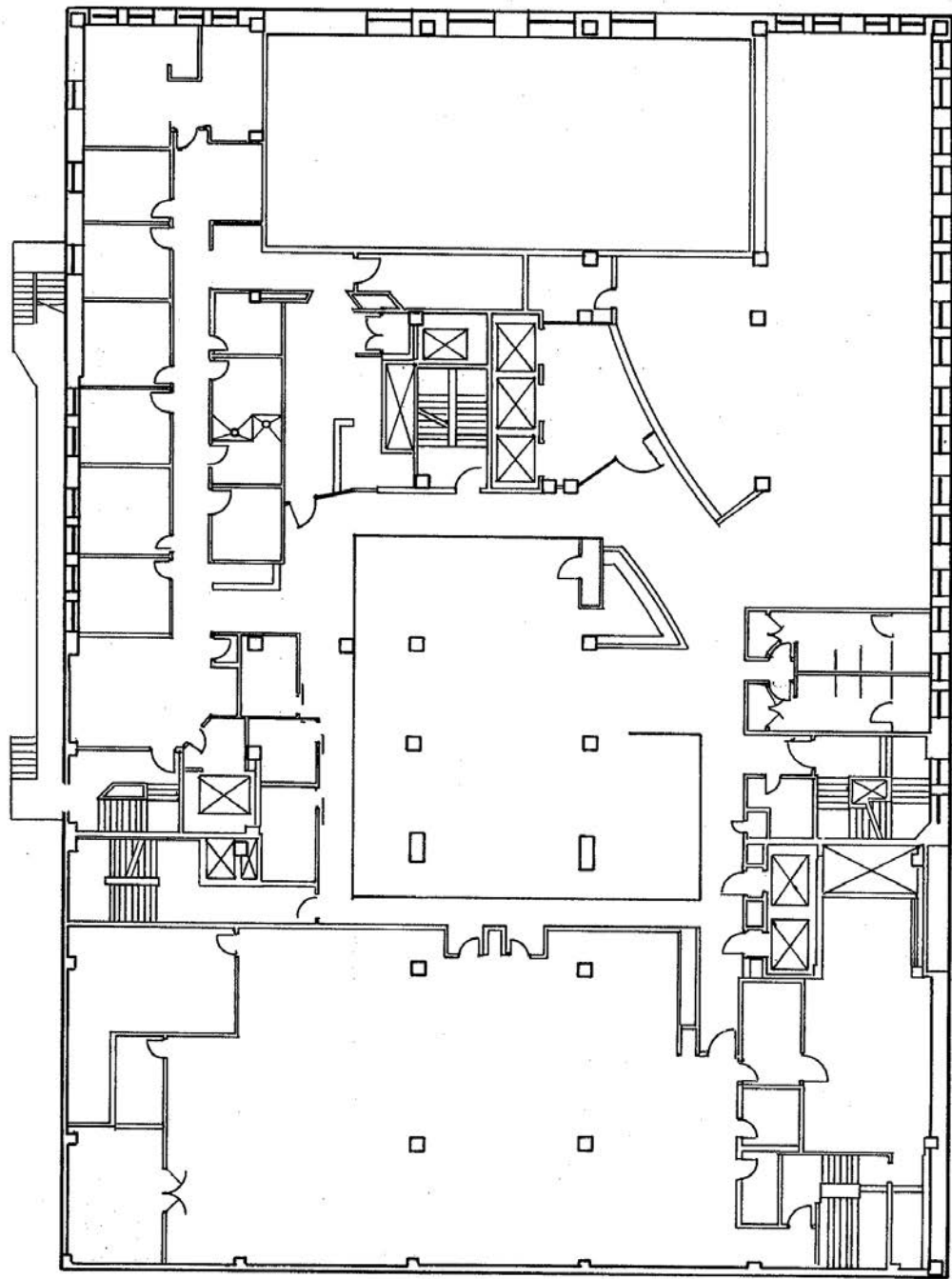




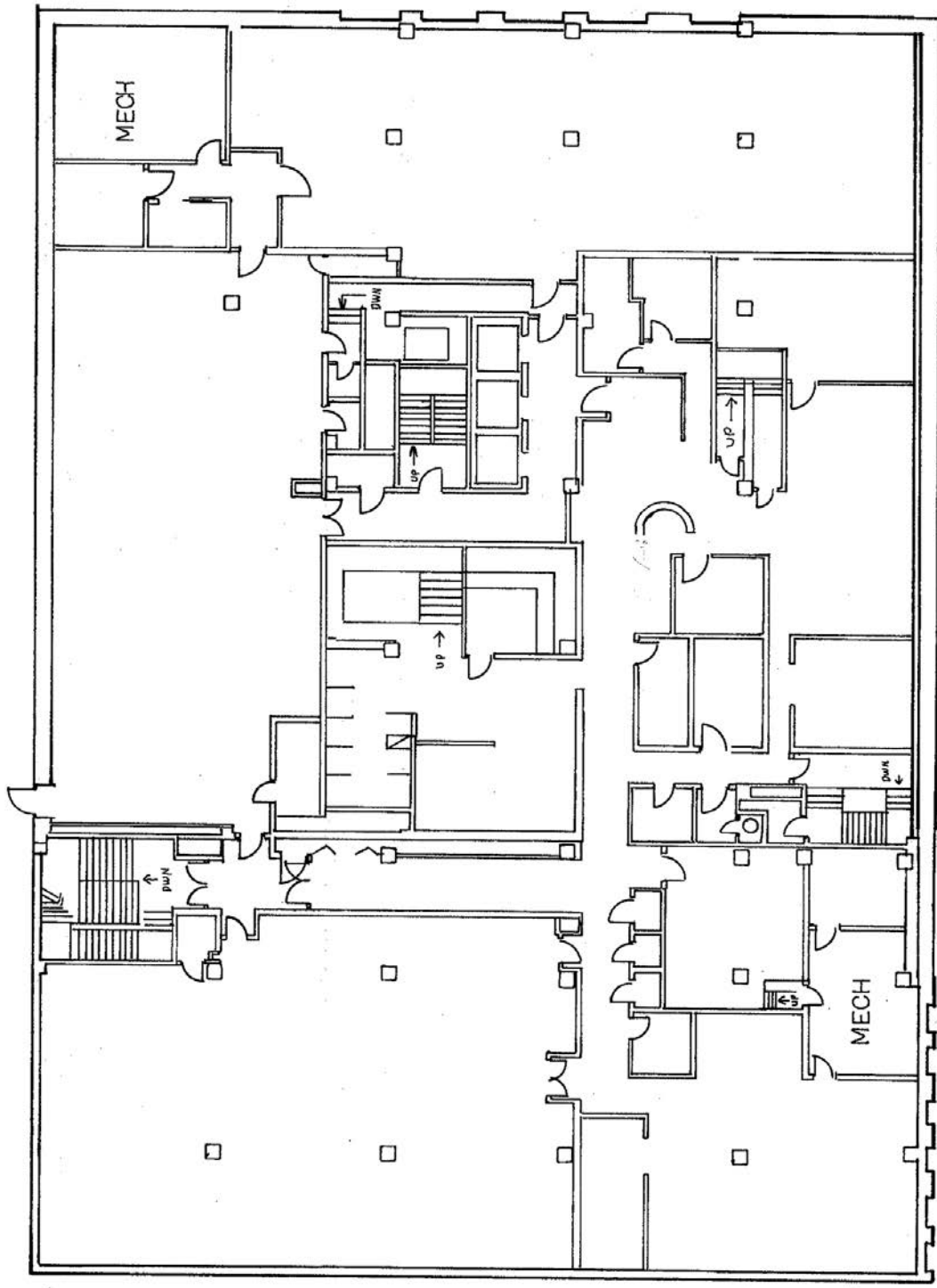


THIRD FLOOR PLAN

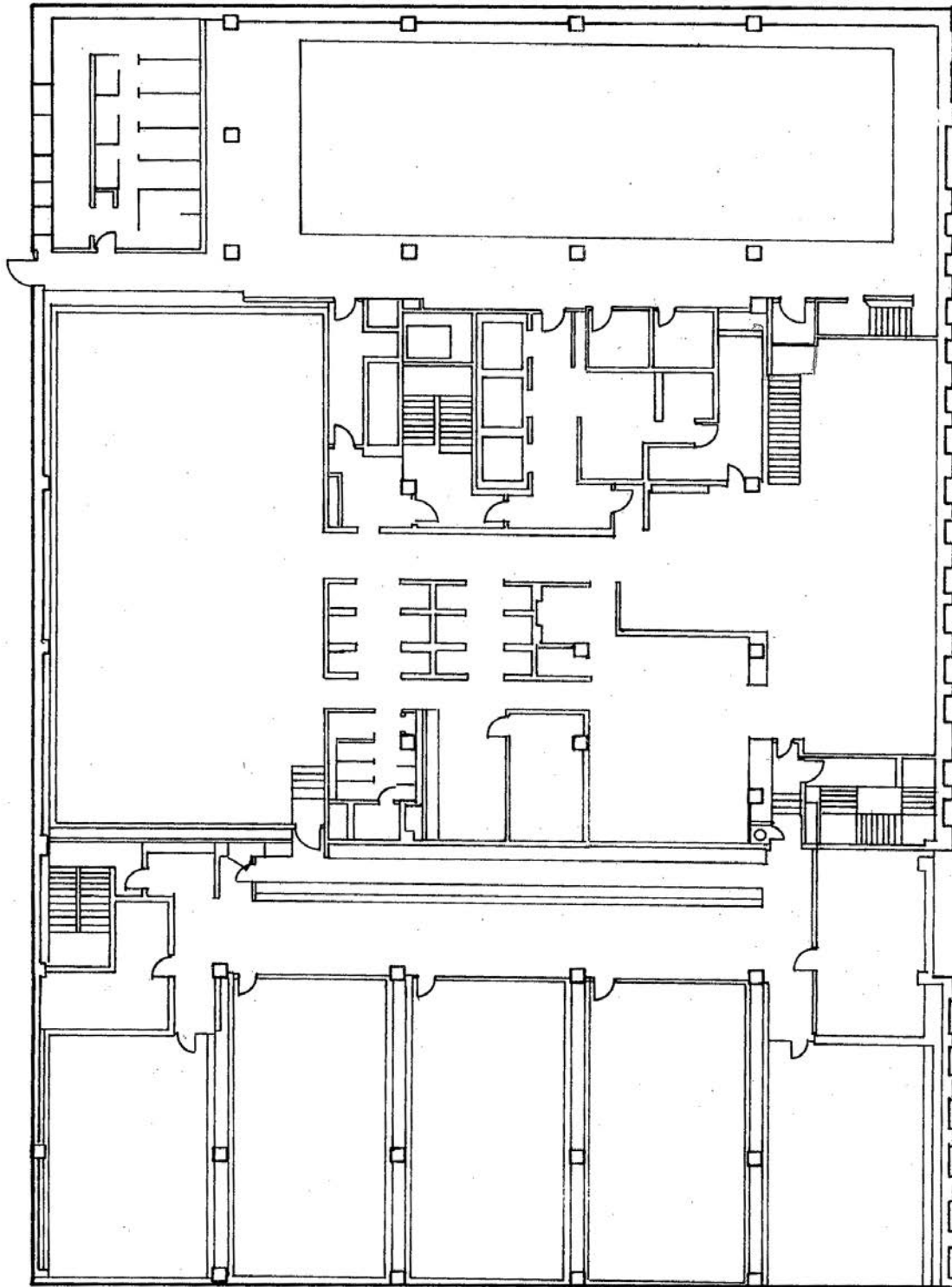




FOURTH FLOOR LAYOUT

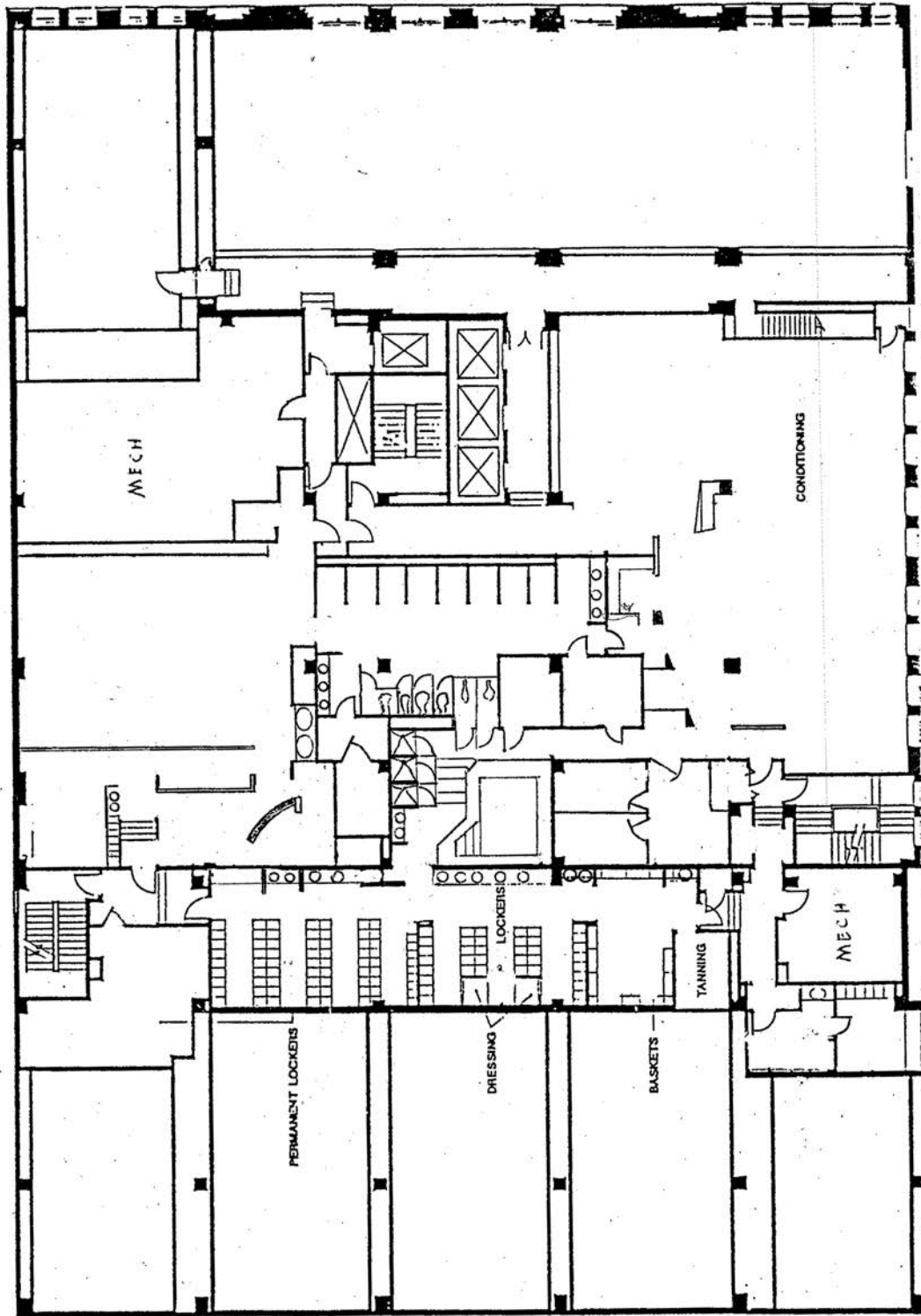


FIFTH FLOOR LAYOUT

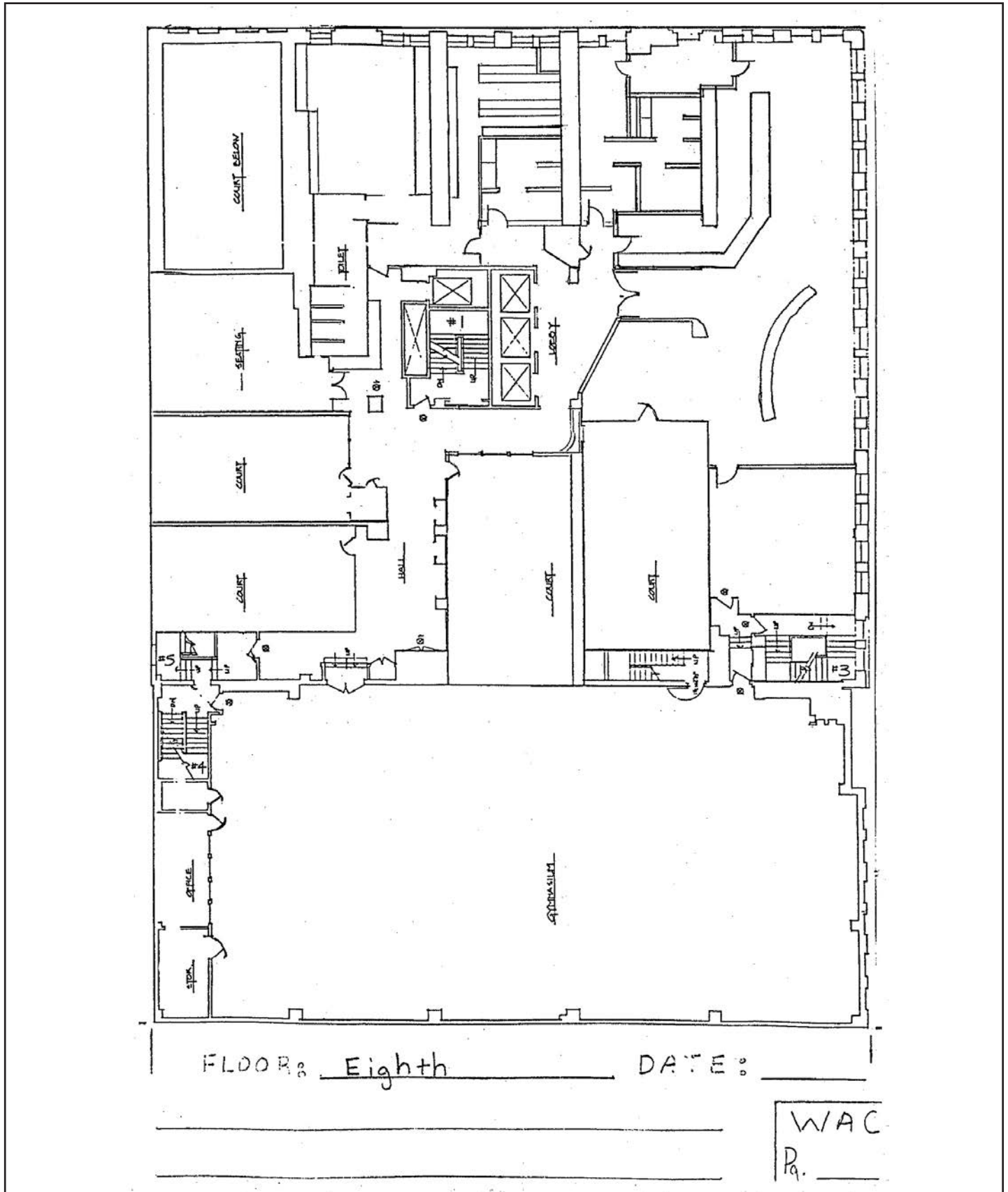


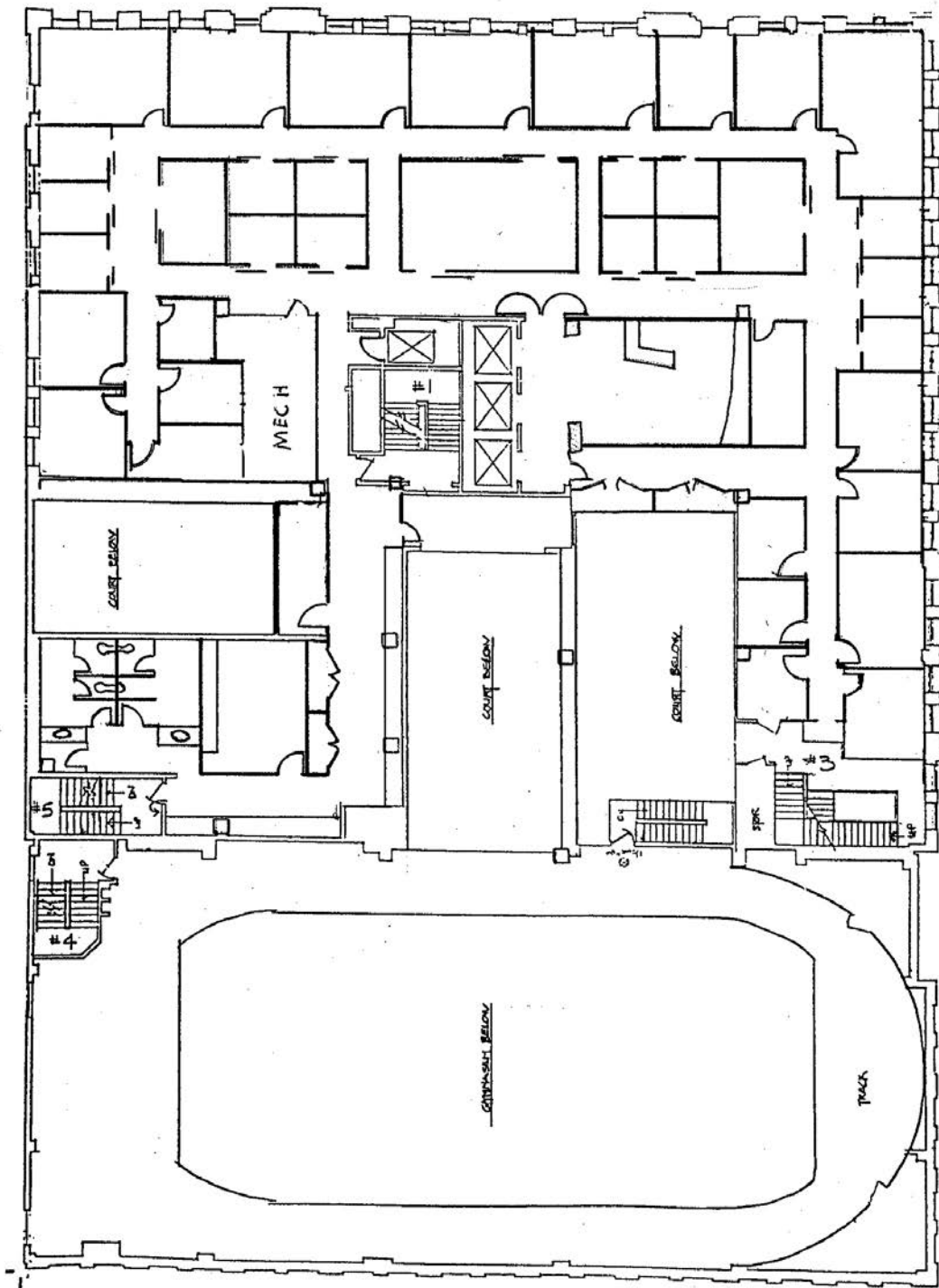
SIXTH FLOOR PLAN





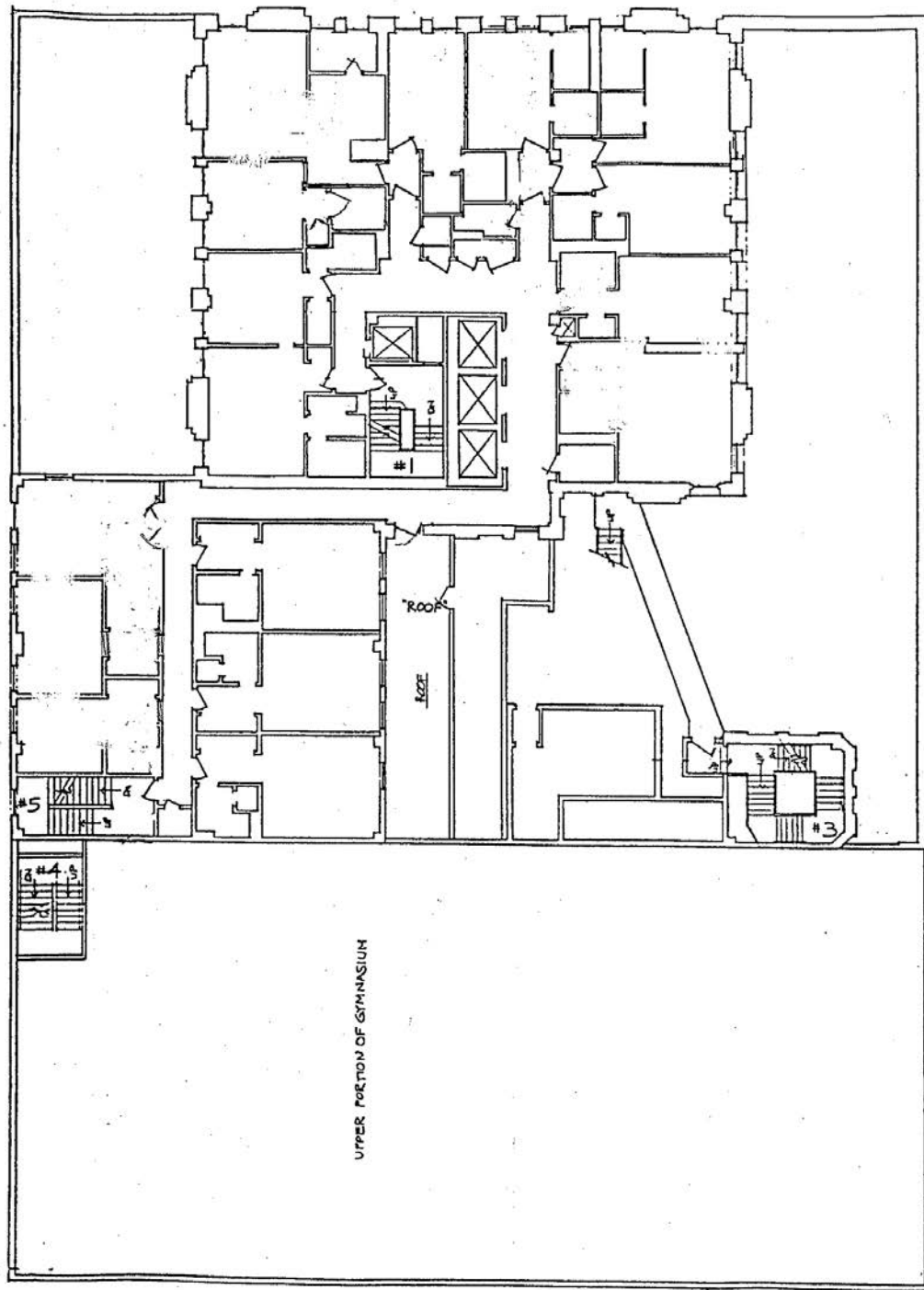
7TH FLOOR





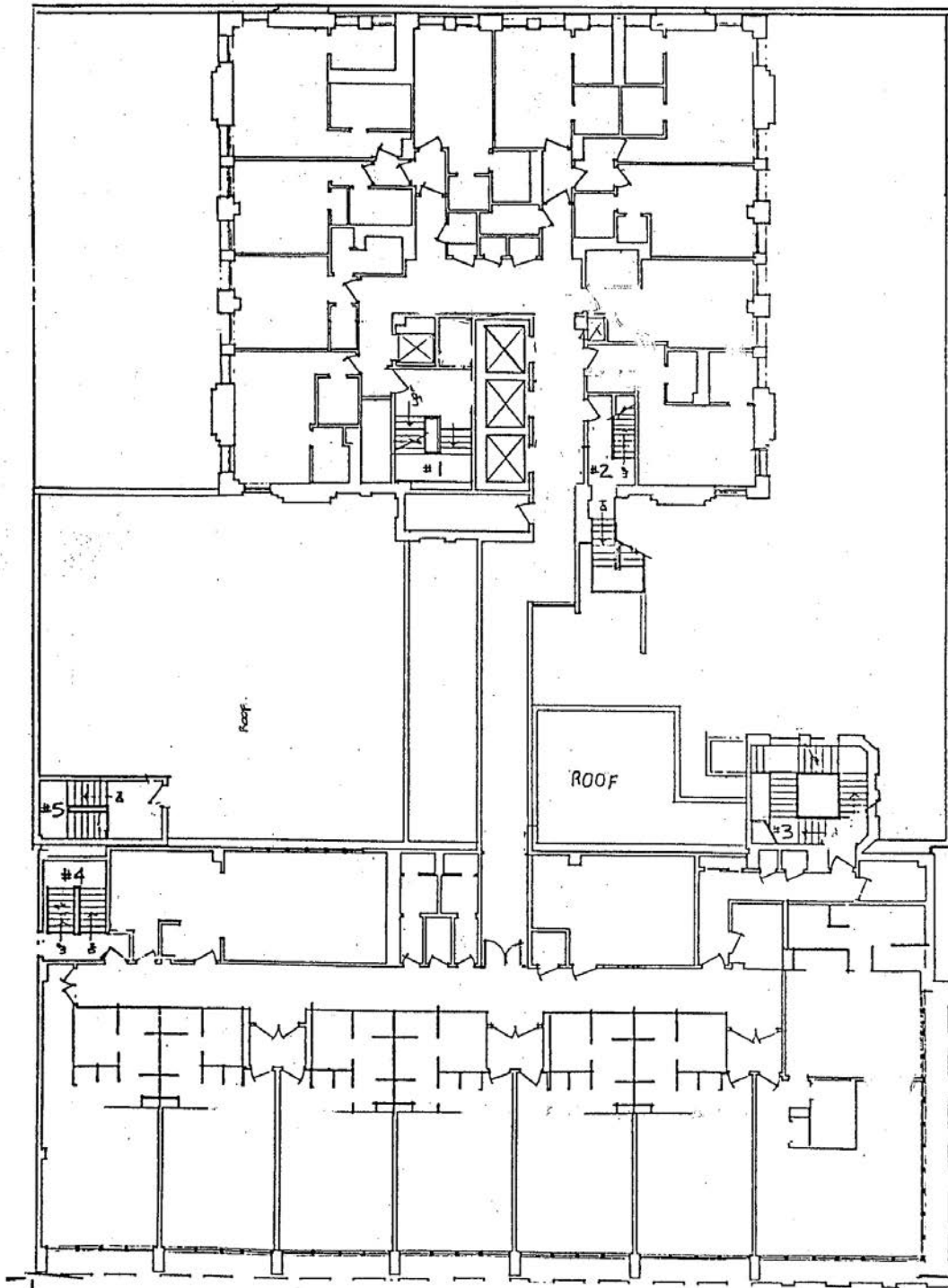
FLOOR: Ninth DATE: _____

WAC
Pg. _____



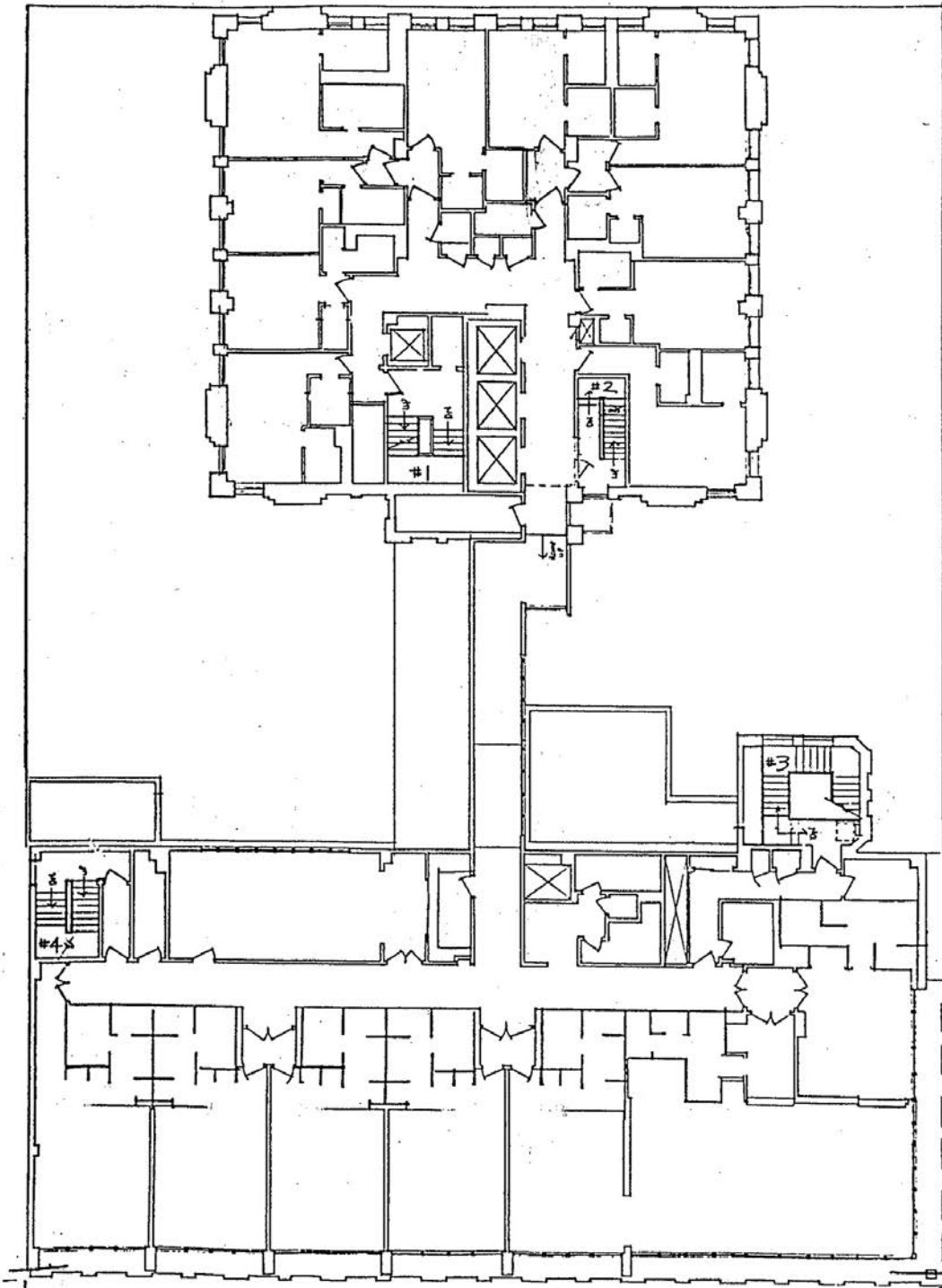
FLOOR: Tenth DATE: _____

WAC
Pg. _____



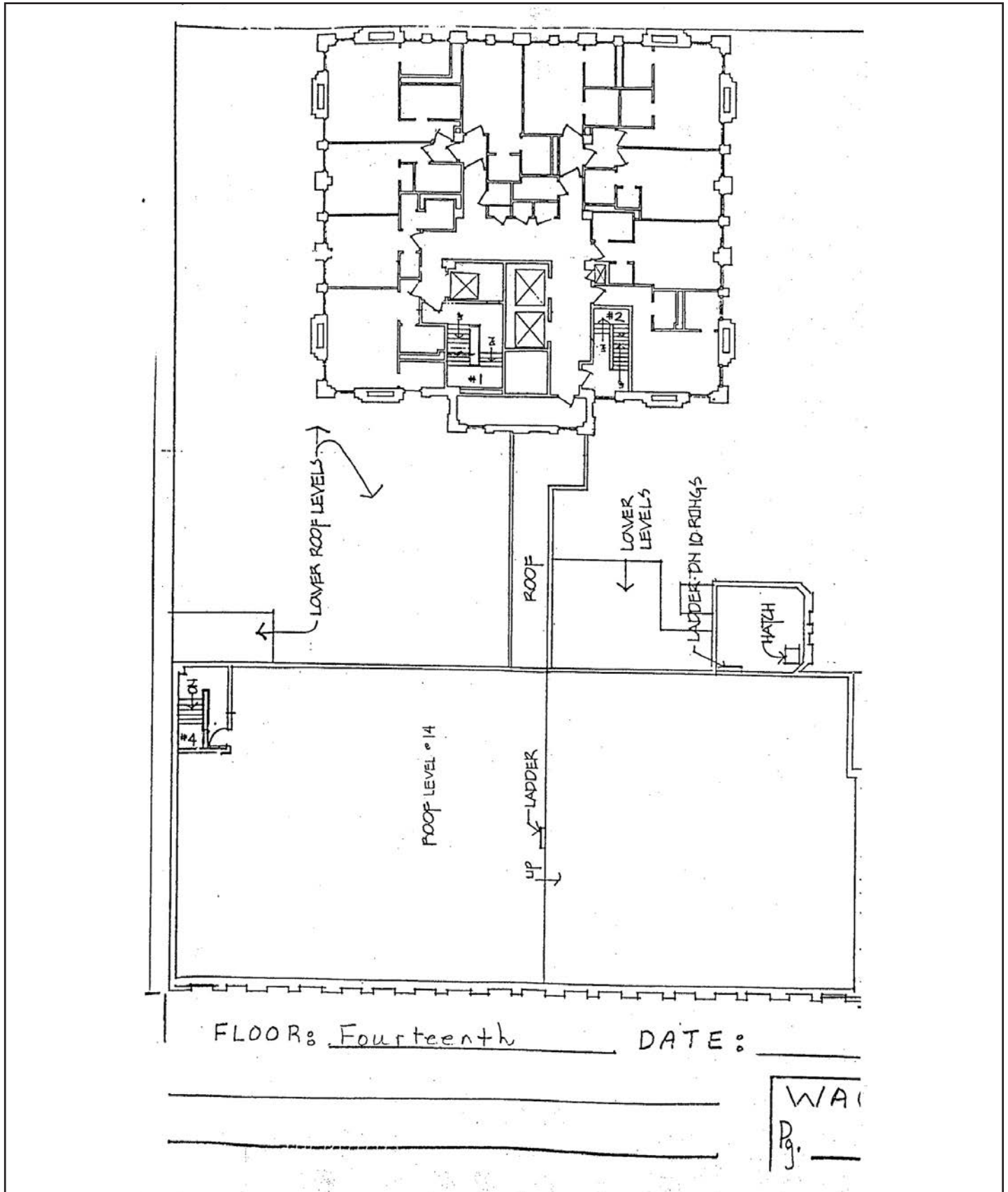
FLOOR: Eleventh DATE: _____

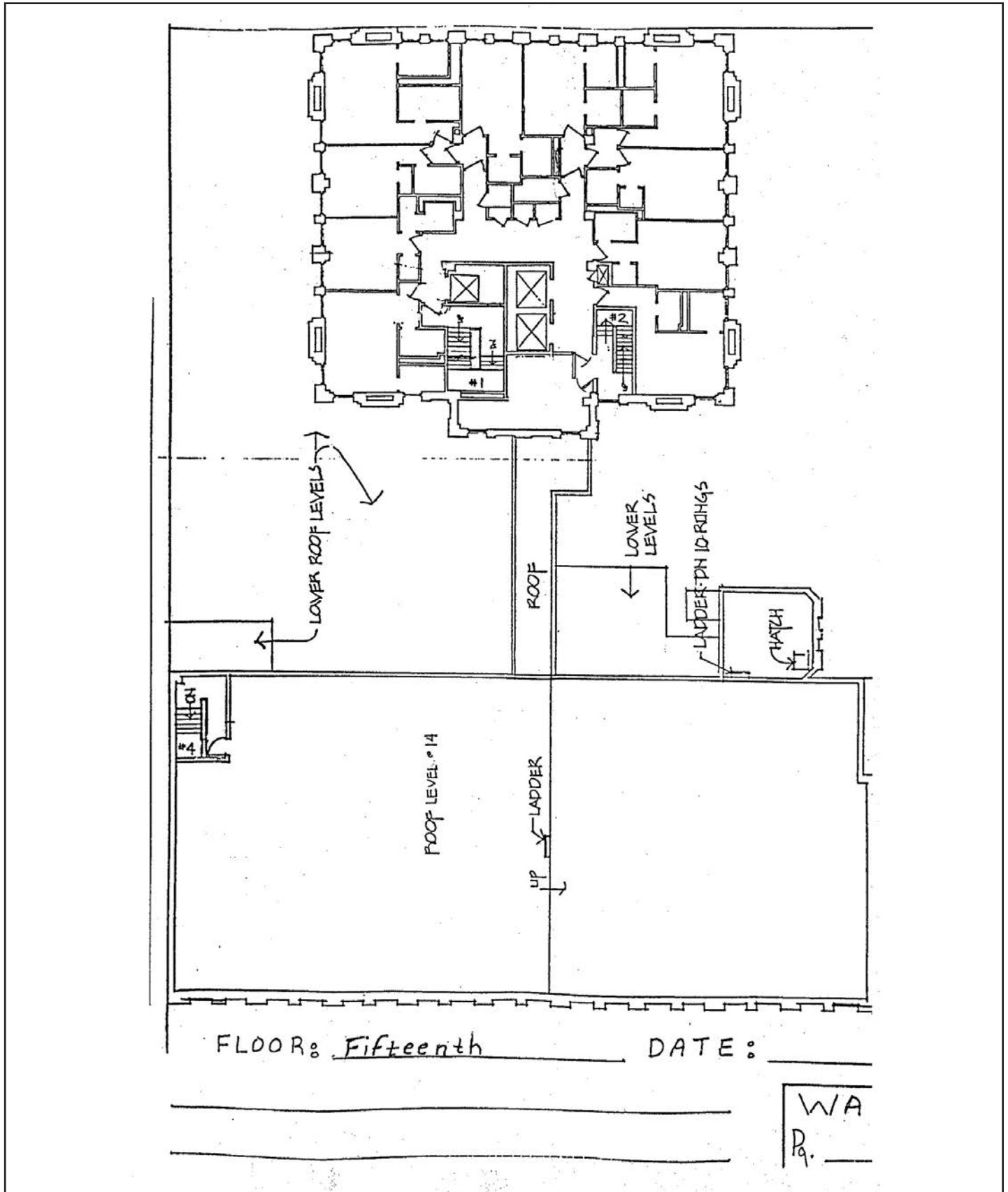
WA
Pg. _____

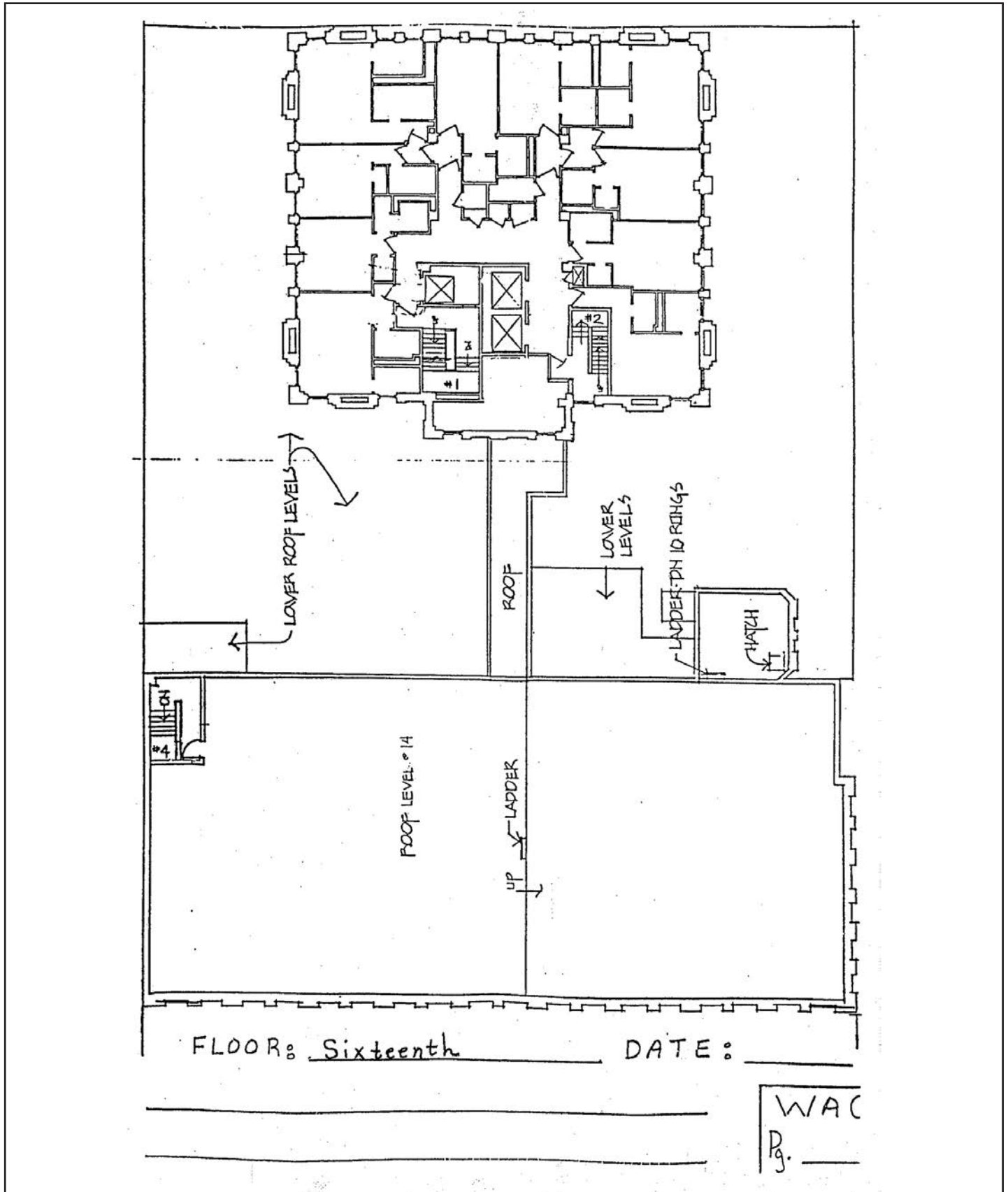


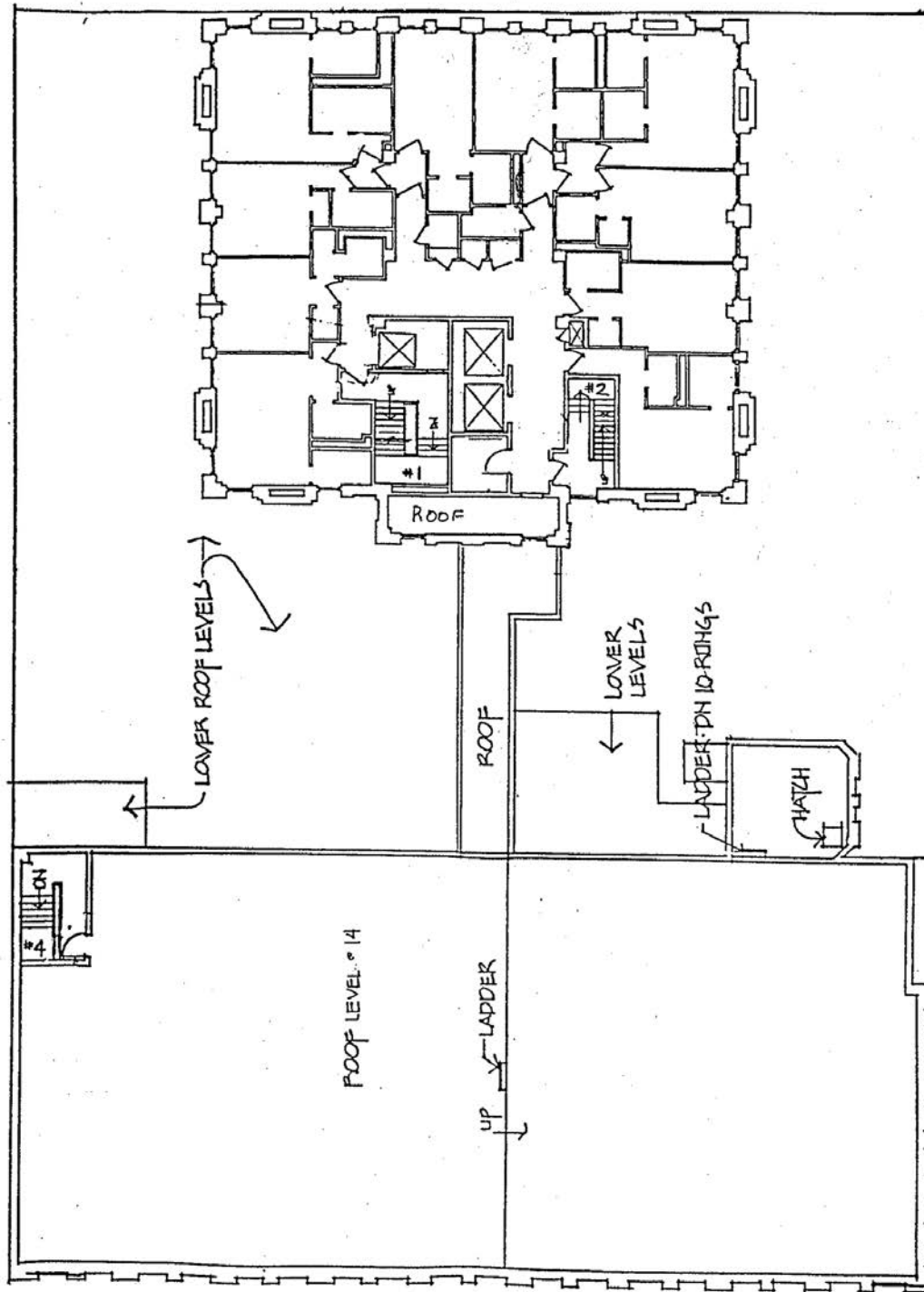
FLOOR: Twelfth DATE: _____

WAC
Pg. _____



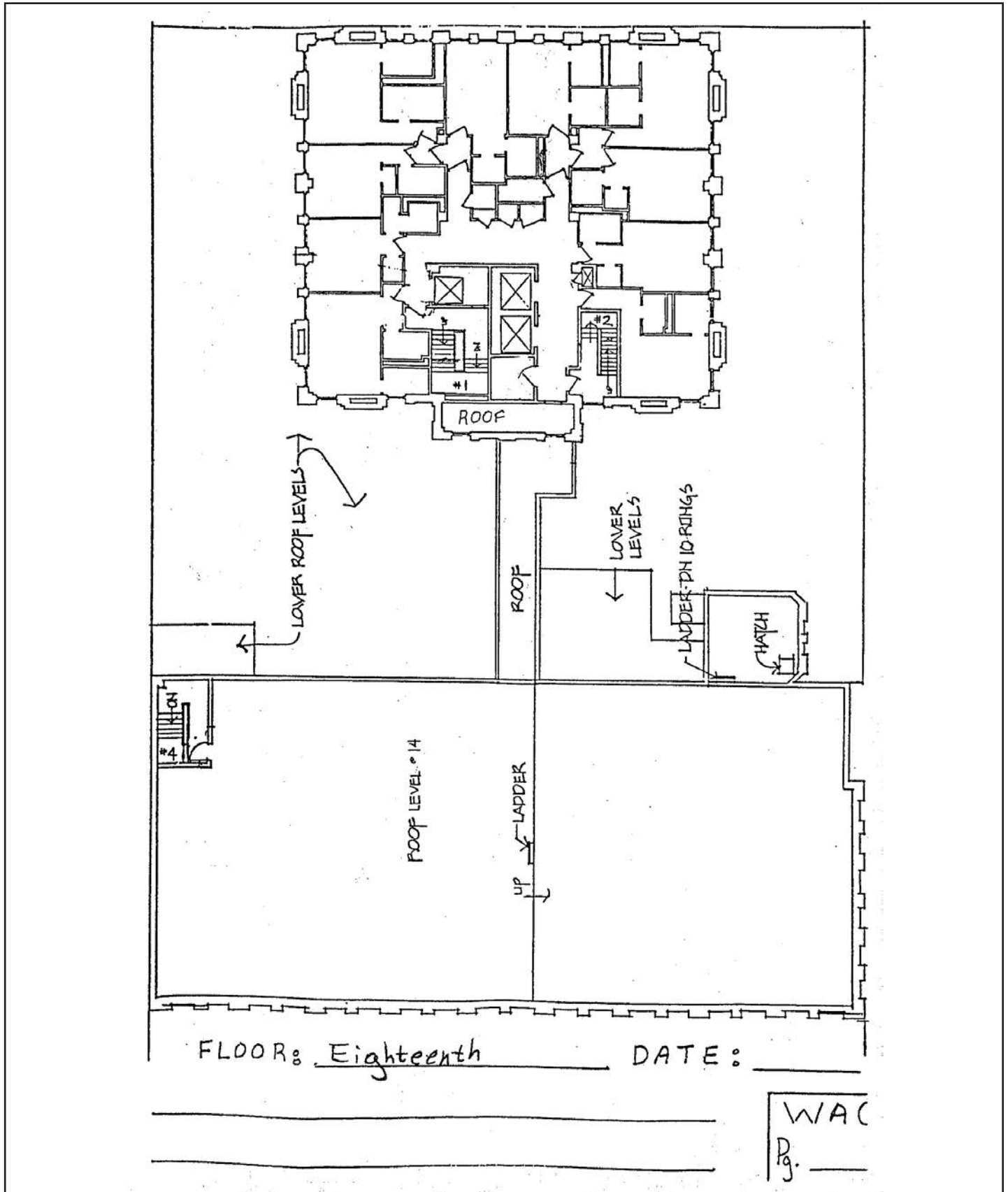


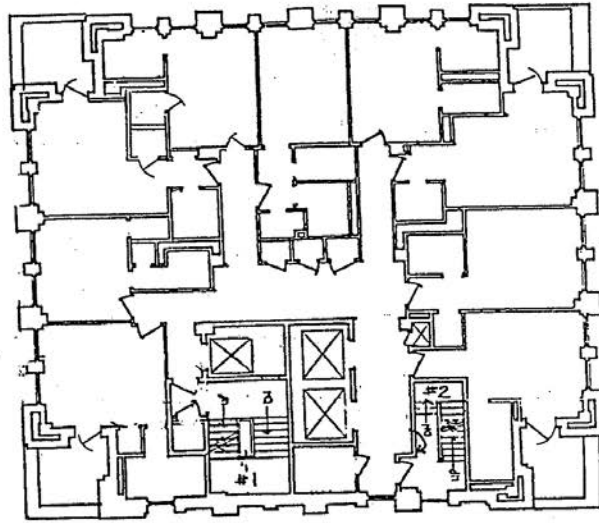




FLOOR: Seventeenth DATE: _____

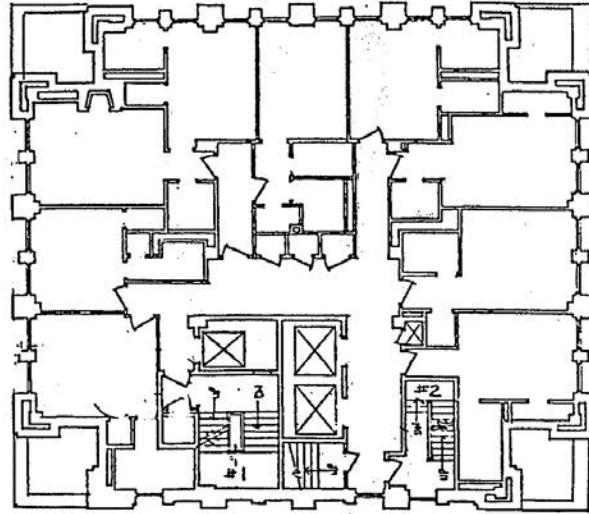
WAC
Pg. _____





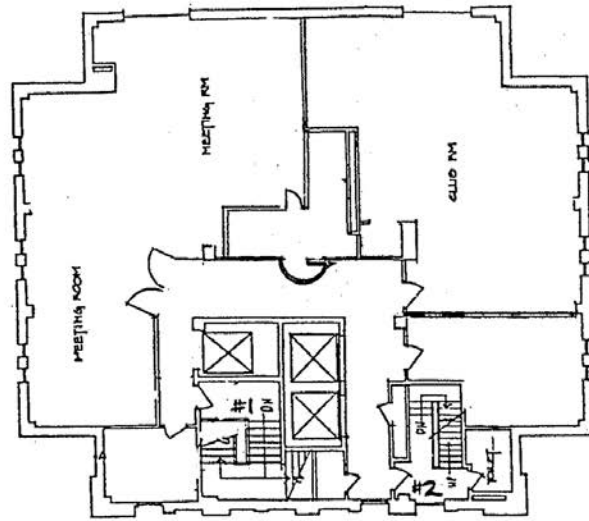
FLOOR: Nineteenth DATE: _____

WA
Pg. _____



FLOOR: Twentieth DATE: _____

WAC
Rq. _____

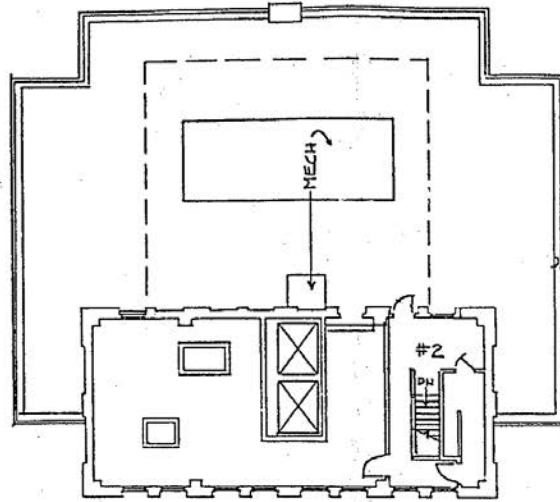


TWENTY - FIRST FLOOR PLAN
FLOOR LEVEL 21

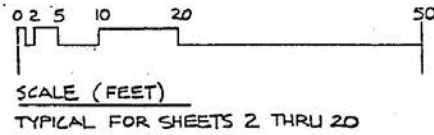


FLOOR: Twenty First DATE: _____

WA
Pg. _____

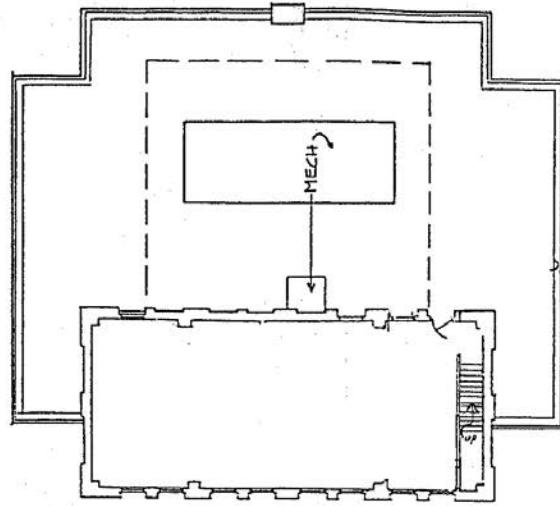


TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR PLAN & ROOF FLOOR PLAN
FLOOR LEVEL 22

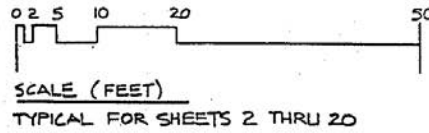


FLOOR: Twenty Second DATE: _____

WAC
Pg. _____



TWENTY-SECOND FLOOR PLAN & ROOF FLOOR PLAN
FLOOR LEVEL 22



FLOOR: Twenty Third DATE: _____

WAC
Pg. _____

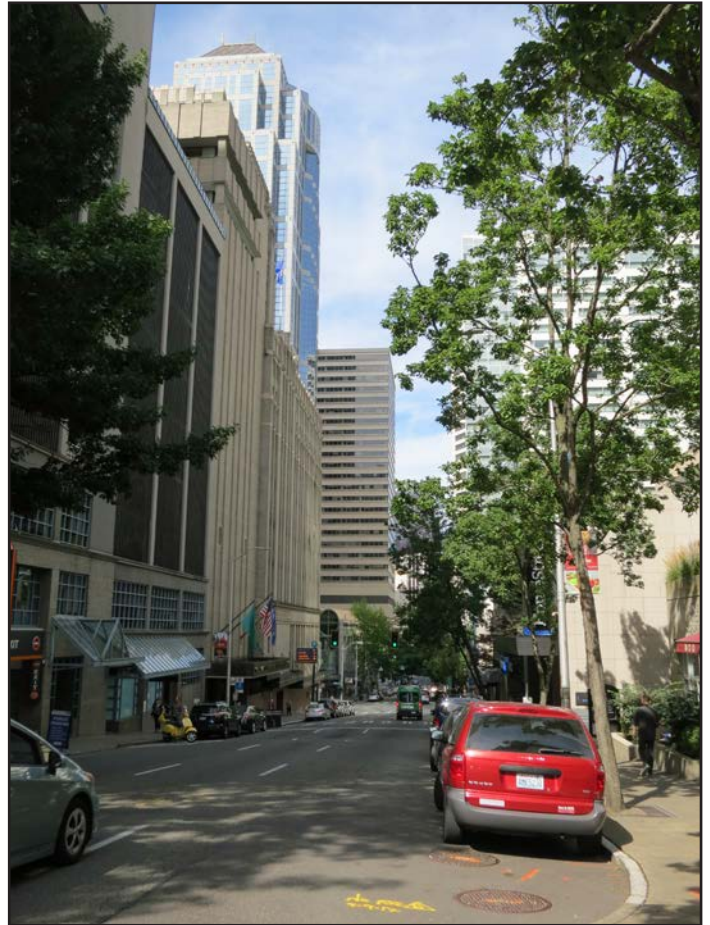
Contemporary Photographs

Name of Property: Washington Athletic Club
City or Vicinity: Seattle
County: King
State: WA
Photographer: Eugenia Woo
Date of Photographs: September 2017
Location of original files: Historic Seattle, 1117 Minor Ave, Seattle, WA 98101

Description of photographs and number:



0001. Streetscape (6th Avenue) looking south; view of north facade.



0002. Streetscape (6th Avenue) looking north. East facade visible.



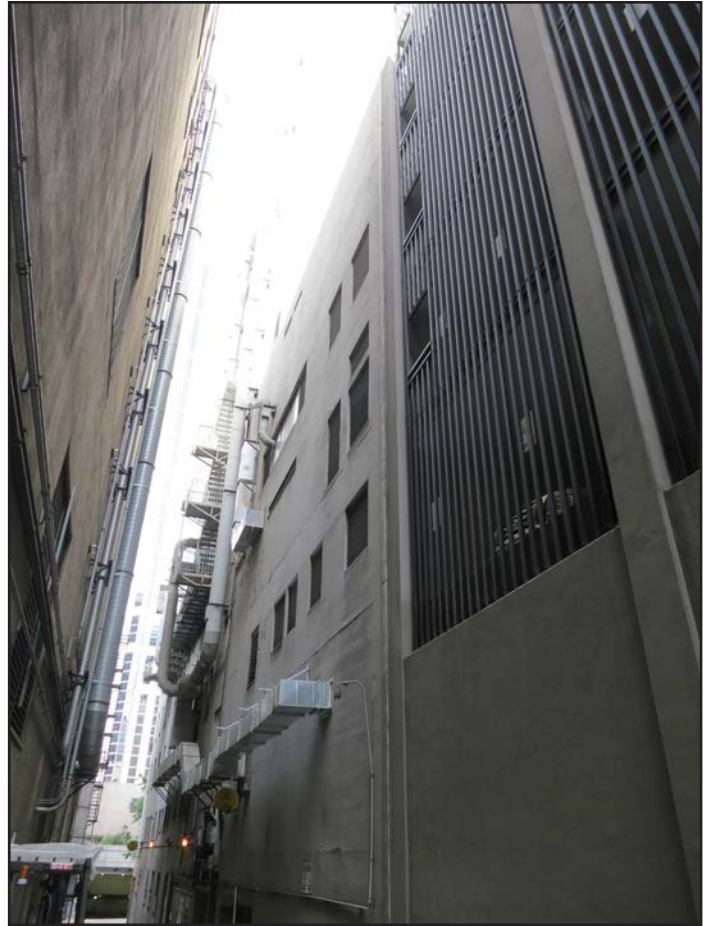
0003. Streetscape (Union St) looking southwest. East (left) and north (right) facades.



0004. North facade and partial west facade, looking southeast.



0005. Alley looking south. The WAC building is on the left. Partial west (alley) facade visible.



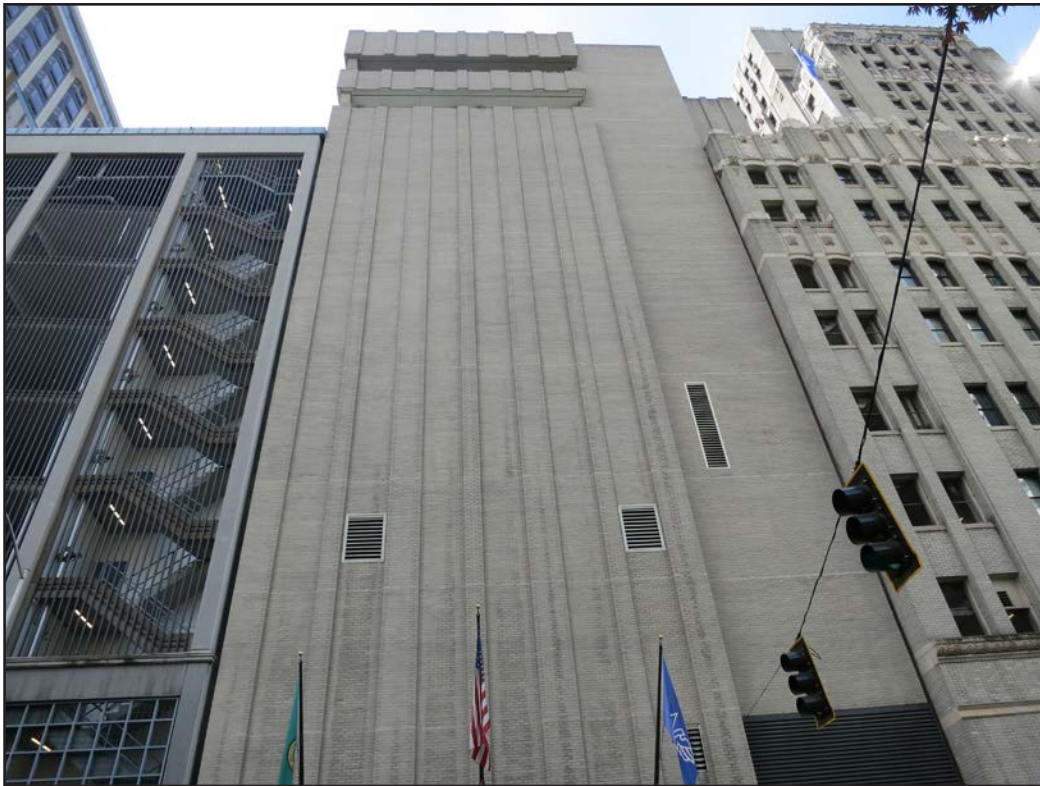
0006. West (alley) facade, looking north.



0007. East facade, looking west. Original 1930 building on right; 1970 addition on left.



0008. East facade, looking west.



0009. East facade of 1970 addition. Partial east facade of original 1930 building on right.



0010. East facade of 1955/1970 addition, looking west. Main entrance to the WAC.



0011. Main entrance to the WAC, looking north.



0012. East facade and partial north facade, looking southwest.



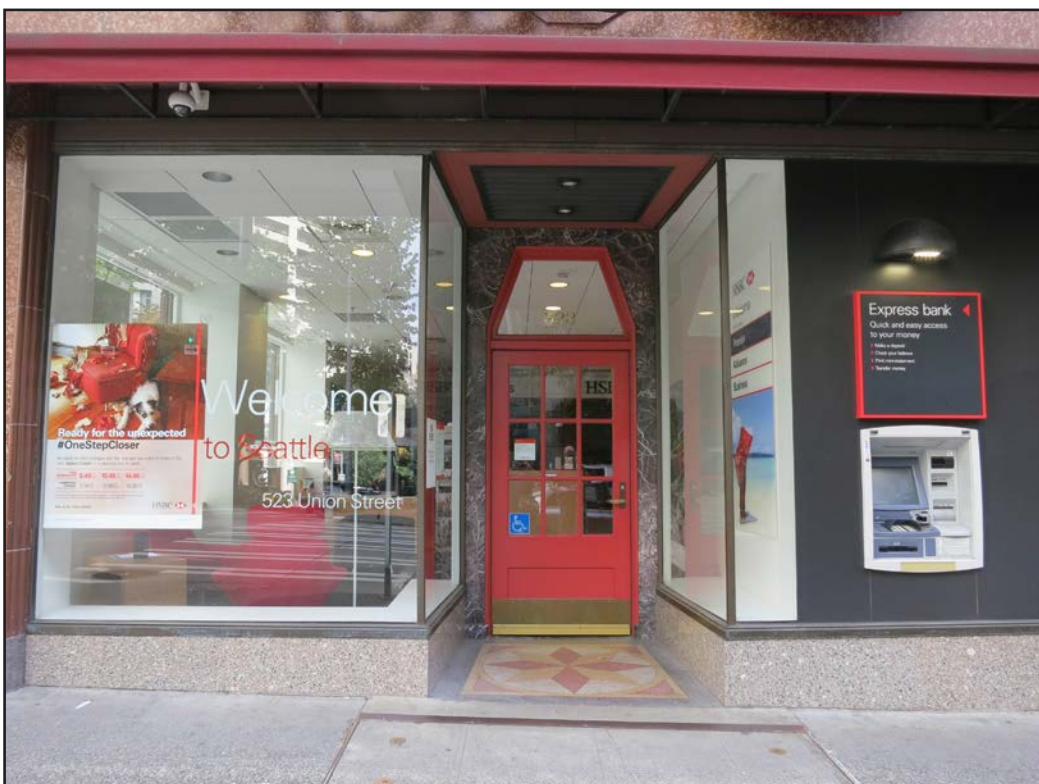
0013. North facade and retail storefronts, looking southeast.



0014. North facade and retail storefronts, looking south.



0015. North facade and retail storefronts, looking west.



0016. Retail storefront at east end of north facade, looking south.



0017. North facade windows, decorative elements, building name; looking south.



0018. East facade windows, decorative elements, building name; looking west.



0019. East facade windows and decorative elements; looking west.



0020. North facade decorative elements and details; looking south.



0021. East facade of 1970 addition and partial east facade of original 1930 building, looking west.



0022. Interior, basement level.



0023. Interior, first floor lobby.



0024. Interior, first floor lobby.



0025. Interior, first floor lobby - original drinking fountain, stairs, and limestone cladding.



0026. Interior, first floor lobby - original elevators and limestone cladding.



0027. Interior, first floor lobby - original decorative molding above elevators.



0028. Interior, first floor - main lounge / event space.



0029. Interior, first floor Voogd Library - original wall panels and ceiling.



0030. Interior, first floor Voogd Library - original wall panels, shelves, cabinets, and ceiling.



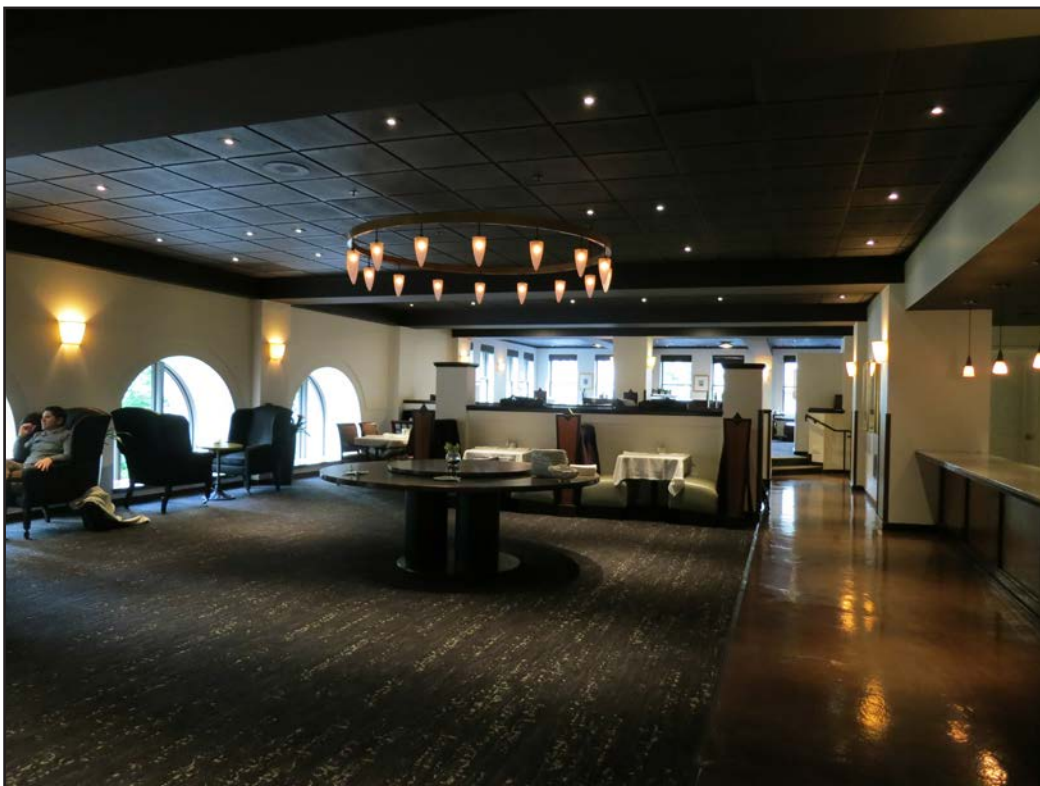
0031. Interior, first floor Voogd Library - original wall panels, windows, and ceiling.



0032. Interior, first floor event space in former auditorium of 1954 addition.



0033. Interior, second floor elevator lobby.



0034. Interior, second floor - den area of Torchy's Restaurant and Bar.



0035. Interior, second floor - hallway and entrance to Hagerty's Sports Bar.



0036. Interior, third floor - Crystal Ballroom, main event space in building.



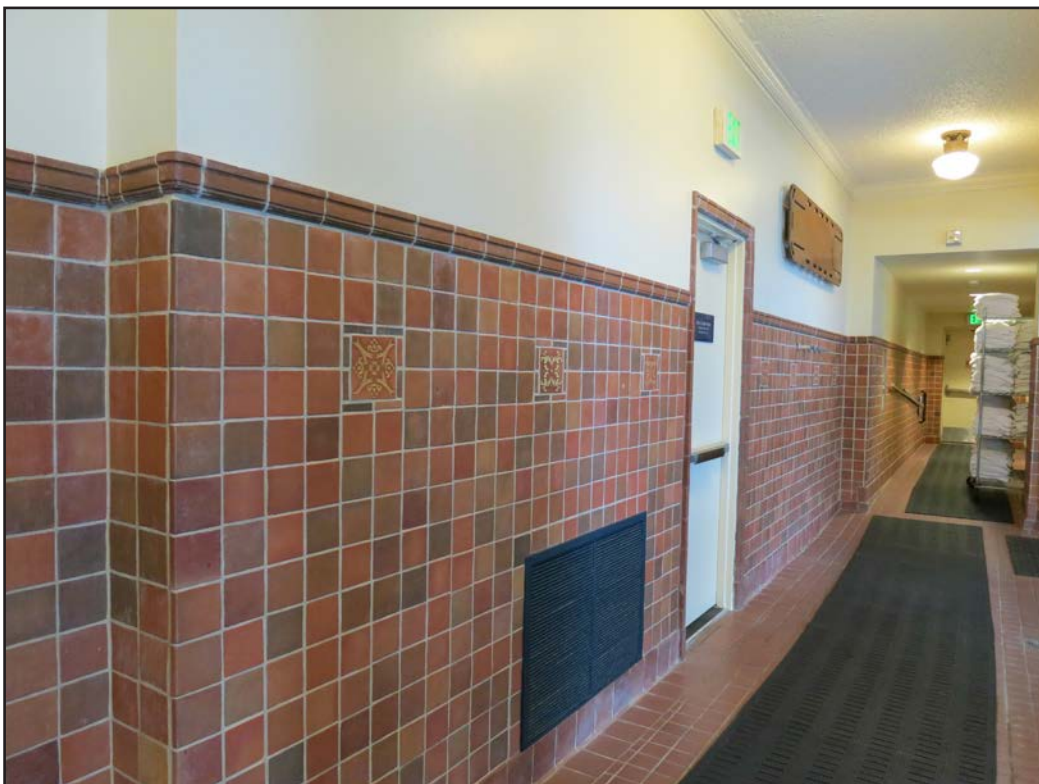
0037. Interior, fourth floor fitness room.



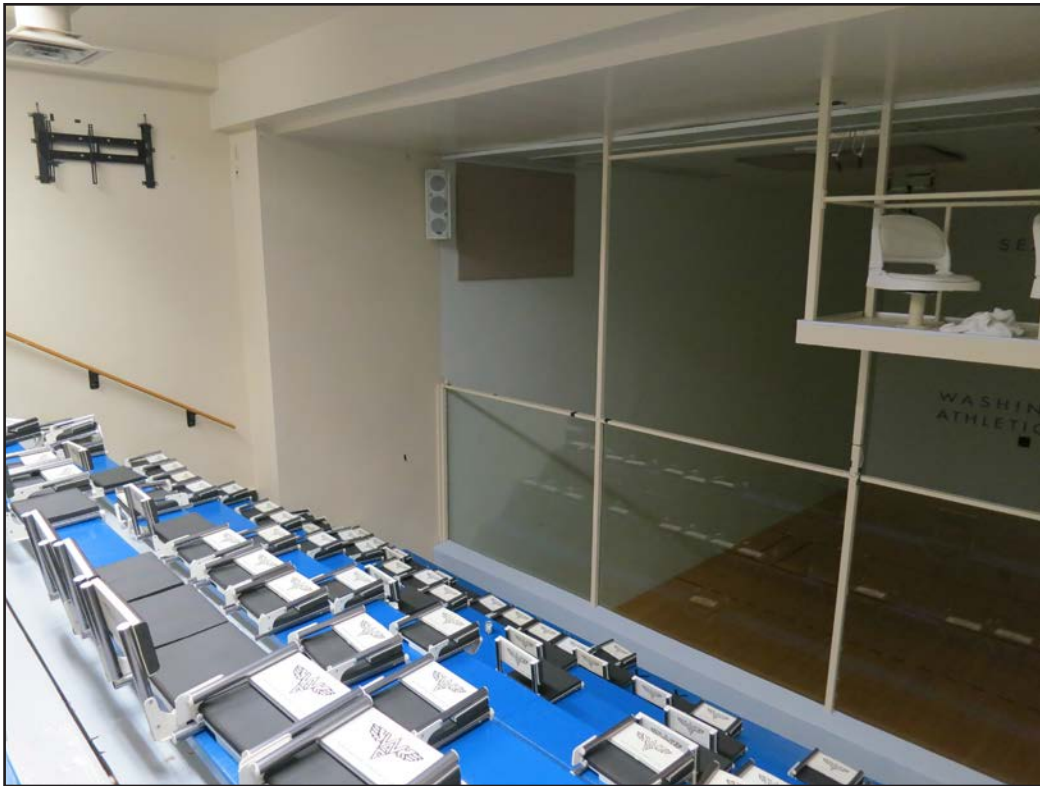
0038. Interior, sixth floor elevator lobby.



0039. Interior, sixth floor - pool (retains original wall, ceiling and floor finishes and lighting)



0040. Interior, sixth floor - original art tile in pool area.



0041. Interior, eighth floor - viewing area overlooking sport court #1 below on seventh floor.



0042. Interior, eighth floor - WAC Cafe.



0043. Interior, eighth floor - Gymnasium and running track in 1970 addition.



0044. Interior, eighth floor - Gymnasium and running track in 1970 addition.



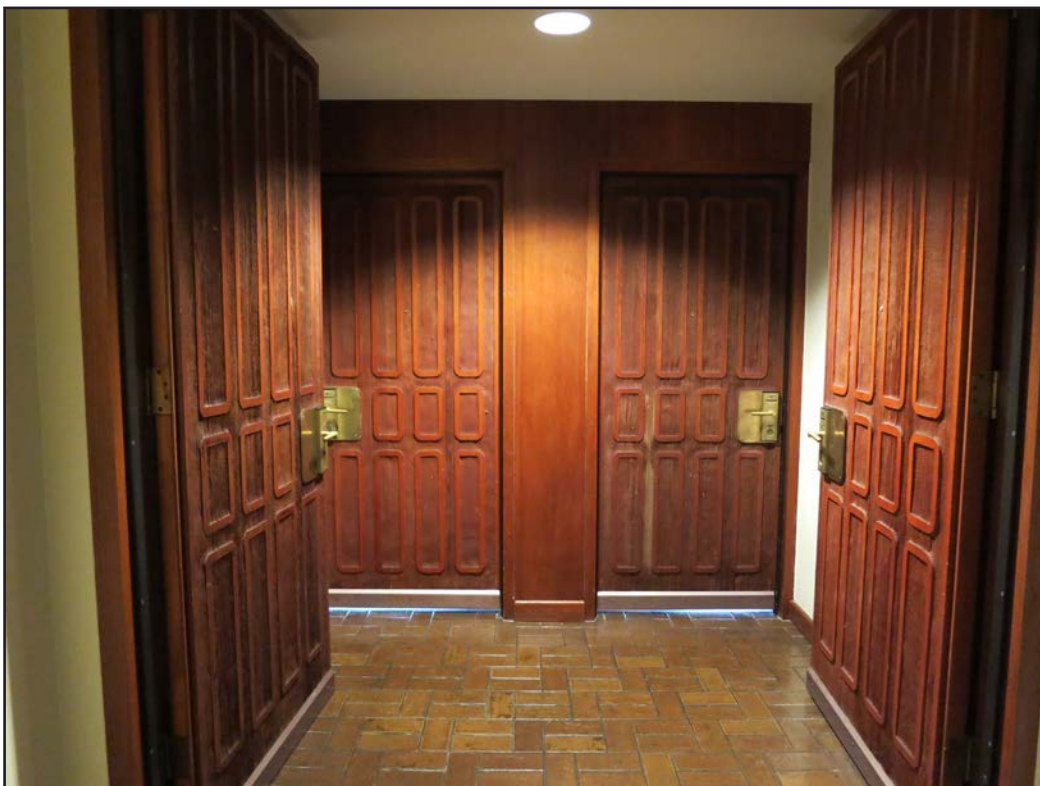
0045. Interior, 12th floor corridor ramp connecting the original 1930 building with the 1970 addition. View looking north; exterior of the original building visible through windows.



0046. Interior, 12th floor corridor in 1970 addition.



0047. Interior, 12th floor board room in 1970 addition.



0048. Interior, 12th floor - entry area into hotel guest suites in 1970 addition.



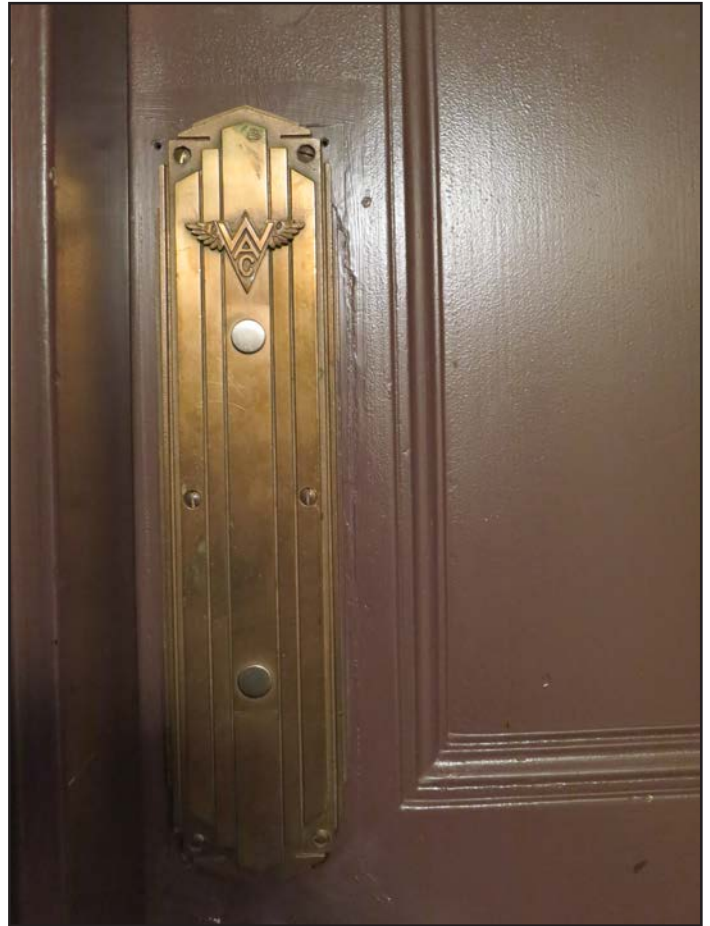
0049. Interior, 12th floor hotel guest suite in 1970 addition.



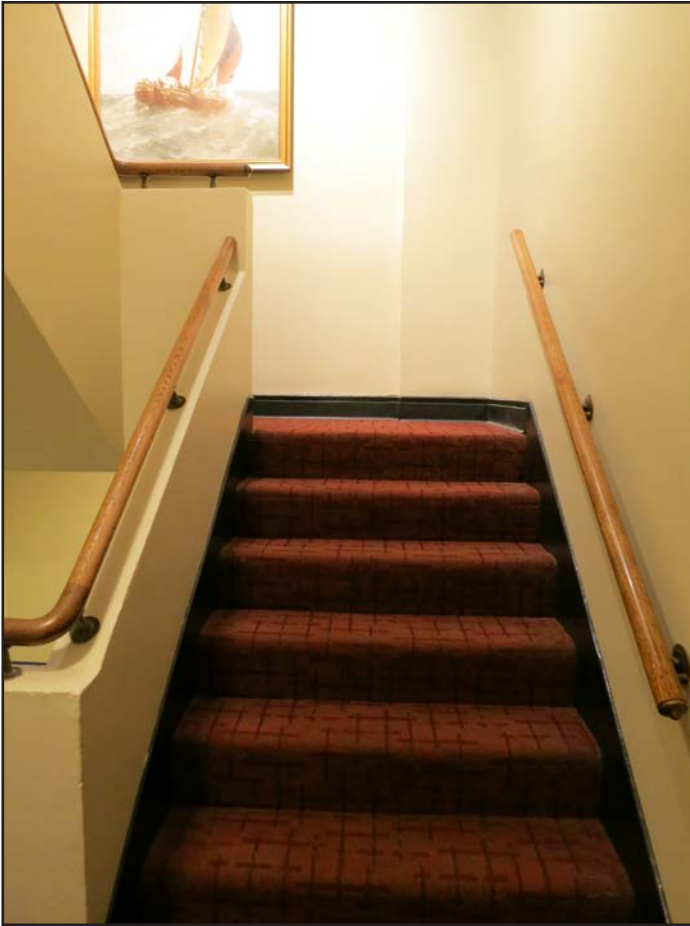
0050. Interior, 15th floor hotel corridor (typical) in original 1930 building.



0051. Interior, stairs (typical) on hotel floors (10-20).



0052. Interior, original escutcheon on door with WAC insignia.



0053. Interior, stairs - 21st floor of original 1930 building.



0054. Interior, Top of the WAC event / meeting space - 21st floor of original 1930 building.



0055. Interior, 101 Club on 21st floor in original 1930 building.



0056. Interior, elevator machine room - 23rd floor of original 1930 building.



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TV screen displaying a news broadcast with a woman's face.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 3/28/2018 Date of Pending List: 4/18/2018 Date of 16th Day: 5/3/2018 Date of 45th Day: 5/14/2018 Date of Weekly List: 5/18/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 5/14/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date _____

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

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

March 27, 2018

RE: Washington State NR Nominations

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed three new National Register Nomination form for:

- **Hulbert House – Grays Harbor County, WA**
(an all-electronic nomination)
- **Mount Zion Baptist Church – King County, WA**
(an all-electronic nomination)
- **Washington Athletic Club – King 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

