

5G 3525

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 Daughters of the American Revolution - Rainier Chapter House

other names/site number DAR Lodge - Seattle

### 2. Location

street & number 800 East Roy Street  not for publication

city or town Seattle  vicinity

state Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98102

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria

A  B  C  D

Signature of certifying official

Date 12-20-19

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 of the Keeper

Date of Action 3/20/2019

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
0		<b>Total</b>

**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

1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS:  
Colonial Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE  
walls: WOOD: Weatherboard  
roof: ASPHALT  
other:

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

---

## 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.)

## Site

The Daughters of American Revolution - Rainier Chapter House sits on the northeast corner of E Roy Street and Harvard Avenue E at 800 East Roy Street in Seattle, Washington. The meeting house lies within the previously listed Harvard-Belmont Historic District and was considered a contributing resource at the time of listing.

The building is sited towards the rear and east side of the lot which allows for a small side yard and shallow circular driveway in the front of the building off Roy Street. The flat lot is void of grass and contains flower beds and mature bushes. Two large trees are located in the west side yard which is protected by a low simple iron fence line. Access to the rear of the chapter house is via an untended rear planting area.

The building is within the National Register listed Harvard-Belmont Historic District (listed in 1982) and was listed as a contributing resource.

## Exterior

The chapter is a two-story rectangular building with a full with a full height portico. In 1927 the rear northeast corner was pushed out to expand the kitchen. The building rests on a stone and concrete foundation and has a hip roof covered in asphalt shingles. The eaves are enclosed and a highlighted by rows of corbel blocks. Highlighting the roof are six gable dormers; three in the front and one on each of the additional roof slopes. Original to the building, these are decorative in nature and provide light to the attic area only, although when opened they may have provided a form of cooling the second floor ballroom space through a series of vents. The windows have been replaced within vinyl units and are divided into eight panes. At the crest of the roof is an octagonal cupola. This eight sided structure also has newer vinyl windows and has a cooper roof with a decorative weather vane with an eagle.

Like Mount Vernon, the exterior of the chapter house has been "rusticated". This is a technique which gives a wooden building the look of stone. The effect is achieved by cutting and beveling the wooden siding boards at regular intervals to simulate stone blocks, and by applying sand to the surface to imitate the rough texture of stone. All exterior walls of the house have this treatment.

The full height portico is integrated under the main roof of the chapter house and is supported by eight square wood columns. Two engaged pilasters are found at each corner of the building under the portico. The portico is approximately eight foot deep and is poured concrete covered in slate. Three original pendant light fixtures hang from the ceiling on long iron chains. The portico is one step above the ground level and has no railing. Like Mount Vernon, above the portico on the roof was originally an ornate *Chinoiserie* style balustrade. This feature was destroyed in a storm in the early 1930s and has not been replaced.

A majority of the windows are fifteen-over-fifteen wood double hung units with simple surrounds. The main façade windows are highlighted by green wooden shutters. On the west façade is a grand Palladian style window. At Mount Vernon, this window is found on the east façade in the "new room". At the Chapter House it is found on the west façade highlighting the Memorial Room. The window consists of a central arched unit flanked by two narrow rectangular units. Other windows are 6-over-9 units and 9 pane fixed units.

Entry to the chapter house is via three doors at the front of the house under the portico. The main door, slightly offset from center, is an eight-panel solid unit capped with a triangular pediment. Two, six-panel solid

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

doors out found further to the edges. The original intent of three entry doors was to allow separate access to different spaces within the building.

At the rear of the building is a set of double doors topped with an arched fan light at the stair landing. Raised above the ground approximately 6 feet this door is accessed via a short flight of metal stairs. Other exterior doors are found on the east façade and are modern fire proof doors.

At the southwest corner of the chapter house is a large stone cornerstone. It faces Harvard Avenue and reads:

*Rainier Chapter  
D.A.R.  
Laid by the M.W. Grand Lodge  
F & AM of Washington  
Jan 14, 1925  
Robert C. McCroskey G.M.*

## Interior

The interior of the Chapter House maintains a high degree of integrity with little changes from 1925. The house is primarily furnished with a variety of donated antique furniture, pictures, rugs, curtains, silverware and brick-a-brac. The chapter formed a subcommittee to study decorative motifs and furniture of the period. Reportedly some of the pieces have a deep provenance such as the fire place irons which reportedly came from President James Buchanan.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR

#### **Entry Foyer:**

Entering the main door, which is offset to the east, you step inside a wide formal foyer. At the north wall is a grand "L-Shape" staircase with turned birch newel post, handrail and balusters. The room has hardwood floors and wallpapered plaster walls with painted chair rail. The various cased door openings are painted formal surrounds with broken pediments. The foyer has deep crown molding and a central crystal chandelier which was brought from John and Eliza Leary's 1<sup>st</sup> home on Madison Street.

#### **Memorial Room:**

To the west of the entry is the Memorial Room, the main social gathering area for the chapter. This large open space room is highlighted by a central fireplace on the south wall. Originally wood burning, the gas fireplace has a firebox of black marble surrounded by a painted wood mantel consisting of classical order elements. The over mantel features a large mirror caped with a "Swans neck" style broken pediment. Such arraignment is similar to Mount Vernon's fireplace found in the west parlor.

The large room is divided into three sections by deep molded and painted box beams resting on engaged, paired pilasters. The room has hardwood floors with tall baseboards and smooth plaster walls with painted chair railings. The various cased door openings are painted formal surrounds with broken pediments highlighting six-panel mahogany doors. The space is illuminated by six crystal chandeliers. The window cornices and tie backs are pressed metal gilt finish and were donated by Mrs. Leary. This room also features the grand Palladian style window which is reminiscent of Mount Vernon's window (found the "New Room"). Per historic images the now all painted white room, originally had a contrasting trim color.

#### **Dining Room:**

To the east of the foyer is the dining room. A smaller, narrower space than the Memorial Room, the dining room can be divided into two sections by a wall of folding multi-panes glass doors. When closed, the southern room served as a formal sitting area when the house had a live-in manager. The room has hardwood floors and wallpapered walls with a painted chair rail. The northern end of the room is highlighted by two built-in

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

corner china cabinets, ornately finished with "swans neck" broken pediments and finials. The east wall features a faux sideboard which serves as a pass through to the kitchen.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**Kitchen:**

At the northeast corner of the chapter house is the kitchen. Access is through the dining room or house manager office. Expanded in the 1927, the space was reportedly remodeled in 1952, and then again in the 1970s. However it still retains some original cabinetry, including a non-operational original dumb waiter. This room has linoleum floors, wall papered walls and Formica countertops as well as contemporary appliances.

**House Manager Office:**

Accessed via a shallow butler's pantry (with original cabinetry) the House Manager's Office is located in the southeast corner of the building. This small room has a private bath containing the original cabinetry and bathtub. The sink dates to the 1950s and the toilet is newer.

**2nd FLOOR**

**Ballroom:**

The Ballroom and its support spaces are approximately 2,000 sq. ft. and encompasses the entirety of the second floor space. Orientated to the east and west, the east end of the ballroom supports a large raised stage area. The original thrust stage (with shallow arc) retains its original simple proscenium arch with chamfered corners. Doors to the north and south of the stage take you to back of the house spaces. The northern door (to the left of the stage) takes you to a half bath and storage room above the kitchen area, recently remade into a bride's room. The southern door (to the right of the stage) leads to a half bath for men. Additionally there are two other small ante rooms that are used for storage of tables and chairs.

The main ballroom space is highlighted by the underside of the chapter houses hip roof and is supported by a series of large arched braces with finials. Connected by a ring of moldings at the top of the braces, at the base of each brace are original Colonial style sconces. The ballroom floor retains its original oak planks. The stairwell is open and pierces in the northeast corner of the ballroom floor.

**BASEMENT**

**Basement:**

The basement of the chapter house contains a variety of secondary support spaces. These include the Women's Lounge/Restroom. Here you will find a separate lounge area containing a wall of mirrors and shallow desk area for makeup. This area was specifically designed by the architect and boasts its original sconce lighting. A separate toilet and coat closet area is up a single flight of steps. Next door is the Men's Lounge, restroom and coat area.

Also in the basement is a walk-in vault concrete vault which was funded by Seattle First Bank, it houses Rainier Chapter's paperwork and other historical documents. The steel door and mechanism was built by the Diebold Safe & Lock Co. from Canton, Ohio.

Additional rooms in the basement were originally designed for an onsite manager's living quarters, storage and mechanical space. The living quarters contain a small bath with original fixtures. These spaces are void of decorative details and have concrete walls, exposed plumbing and electrical, and simple door trim. The floor are concrete, covered in tile.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**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.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1925 – 1927

**Significant Dates**

1925 - construction

1927 – kitchen enlargement

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Huntington, Daniel R. (Architect)

Hedeem, Carl (Builder)

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

---

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

The Rainier Chapter House is historically significant at the local level under Criteria "A" for its direct connection to Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), a national women's club focused around celebrating the memory and spirit of the American men and women who achieved American independence. Founded in 1895, the Rainier Chapter of the DAR sought to build themselves their own chapter house; a feat not accomplished by a majority of the DAR chapters. In fact, the Rainier Chapter House is the only purpose-built chapter house west of the Mississippi.

The Chapter house is also historically significant under Criteria "C" as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type and period of construction. Completed in 1925, the facility was designed to accommodate a variety of functions at once, and sought to replicate what has been referred to as "America's ancestral home", George & Martha Washington's House at Mount Vernon. Additionally the house is eligible as a project that represents the work of noted Seattle architect Daniel R. Huntington, whom expertly executed the DAR's vision of a social meeting house.

The period of significance begins in 1925, the year the house was completed, and ends in 1927 the year the kitchen was expanded. Note that the Chapter House was previously listed as a contributing resource in the Harvard-Belmont Historic District.

## **DAR – Daughters of the American Revolution**

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) was founded on October 11, 1890, during a time that was marked by a revival in patriotism and intense interest in the beginnings of the United States of America. During that time, women felt the desire to express their patriotic feelings and were frustrated by their exclusion from men's organizations, which in their minds, were formed to perpetuate the memory of their male ancestors who fought to make the country free and independent. As a result, a group of women in Washington D.C. formed their own organization and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) has carried the torch of patriotism ever since.

The objectives laid forth in the first meeting of the DAR have remained the same for over 100 years of active service to the nation. Those objectives are: 1) *Historical* - to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; 2) *Educational* - to carry out the injunction of Washington in his farewell address to the American people, "to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge, thus developing an enlightened public opinion ... "; and 3) *Patriotic* - to cherish, maintain, and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty. Since its founding in 1890, the DAR has admitted more than 900,000 members.

In the years immediately following the organization of the DAR, a great interest was manifested in the historic spots associated with the war for American independence. As such, plans by various chapters were formulated to record the history of the significant locations and to mark them with appropriate monuments. Later the organization extended its work to include all points identified with the country's history at both a national and state level. As such, each state organization was urged to locate and definitely mark the places linked with its state's own history, either by action of the state organization or by individual chapters. Sites marked in the state of Washington by the various chapters included a wide array of sites from points of discover in the 1790s, to graves of important pioneers, the location of the Oregon Trail, to native American battlefield sites.

## **DAR Rainier Chapter**

The Rainier Chapter in Seattle was an early DAR Chapter. It was organized on September 20, 1895 with 15 charter members and was the second chapter to be organized in the state. The original members included:



DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

Mrs. John C. Cole (Regent); Mrs. Eliza Ferry Leary (Vice Regent); Mrs. A.P. Mitten (Treasurer); Mrs. John P. Fay (Registrar); Mrs. George H. Hilbron (Recording Secretary); Mrs. John L. Gow (Corresponding Secretary); Mrs. Daniel Kelleher; Mrs. Samuel J. Kennedy; Mrs. Gilbert S. Meem; Mrs. W.A. Peters; Mrs. John P. Pratt; Mrs. Thomas M. Reed; Mrs. Charles E. Shepard; Mrs. Clarence A. "Bessie" Smith; and Mrs. Robert C. Strudwick.

The Chapter, named after Mount Rainier, was granted a National Charter (No. 155) on December 13, 1895. While some of the ladies were from very wealthy families, others were not. The betterment of the people of Seattle was one of their primary goals. First Chapter president Mrs. Eliza Ferry Leary and other chapter members were essential to helping the start of the Seattle Children's Hospital, the YWCA, and various other city endeavors. They often assisted in helping the Red Cross.

One of their early projects was a joint effort to facilitate building a "welcoming cottage" at the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. Rainier Chapter Regent Eliza Ferry Leary was named chairman of the committee to oversee this project and to work with Chapter Regents throughout the state. Under her leadership, donations of cash and furnishings came in from all over the state and a "bungalow" at the Exposition was built in less than six weeks, just prior to the opening. The total cost was \$986.90 which was aided by donations from nine Western Washington DAR Chapters. Other activities included raising funds to support the efforts in WWI.

In the beginning, Chapter meetings were held in the homes of members, but it was quickly realized that the group needed a bigger facility to accommodate their growing membership. Larger functions were often held in Faurot Hall on the second floor of the IOOF building, or in various hotel ballrooms around the city. By the late teens, a small group of Chapter members began exploring the idea of building their own chapter house building.

### **Chapter House Planning**

Reportedly in June of 1920, during a special meeting at the home of chapter member Mrs. David "Nettie" Bowen, members organized a short play that revealed that the Chapter had successfully purchased two lots on Capitol Hill on Federal Avenue. While Chapter minutes reveal that the attending members were elated at the news, difficulties were ahead for the project. The cost of the lots totaled \$4,400 and the terms were set at 10% down with 10% interest on the remainder the note.

Since it had taken the Chapter three years to save about \$470.00 to acquire the down payment on the land the members realized they needed a better and more aggressive plan to fund their new building. As a result they launched a grass roots campaign to raise money through a variety of outside events. These included Bridge parties, teas and receptions, bazaars and rummage sales. Members also set up tables at Pike Place Market where they sold used clothing, joking that the "shoe department" was their biggest money maker. One member at the time noted, "*We cleaned out nearly every attic in the City*". They also raised money by selling hand-embroidered baby clothing. At the time, baby clothing was not being made commercially on a large scale and the Chapter was very successful in selling these handmade layettes.

Optimistic by their fundraising efforts, the members were confident that a chapter house could be built. In May of 1921, they formed a "Building Corporation" to oversee the design and construction of the permanent Chapter House. Mrs. Eliza Ferry Leary was elected chairman.

It was likely at the urging of Leary that the Chapter House would be modeled after George Washington's home at Mount Vernon. Leary was very familiar with Mount Vernon. She had been appointed a life member of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union at the recommendations of Washington State Governor Albert F. Mead and Professor Edmund Meany in 1907. For the past sixteen years she had been traveling each year to Mount Vernon and stay there for a period of two weeks to a month as the representative of Washington State.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

While the buildings design was progressing, in April of 1924 the Chapter hit its first snag in their building project, a zoning problem. One of the two lots the Chapter had purchased was subject to a zoning restriction which allowed only a single family residence to be constructed on the site. Additionally the neighbors had formed a committee to prevent any publicly accessible building to be constructed on their street. As a result the Chapter consulted with prominent civil engineer, and then newly appointed Seattle Planning Commission member, Ernest B. Hussey, whom happened to be the husband of a chapter member. They failed to get the zoning changed at the site. Upset and running out of options, Chapter Regent Nettie Bowen then instructed the real estate company that sold the property to the Chapter to find two new suitable building lots. The new location (the nominated site) was on East Roy Street and was zoned correctly. Reportedly some type of trade was made.

But there were problems with the East Roy Street lots as well. When preliminary plans were submitted to the City a group of East Roy Street neighbors filed a protest with the City, noting that the Chapter House was not suitable use for the neighborhood. However zoning allowed for the proposed use and Cornish Arts College, a public building, had already been constructed already across the street from the site in 1921. Additionally, directly to the east of the lots were shops and small stores. The neighborhood lost their appeal and plans by the Chapter were approved.

After the corporation was formed the committee needed to hire an architect. Regent Leary asked noted local architect Daniel R. Huntington to submit plans and estimates for a Chapter House fashioned after Mount Vernon. Reportedly other architects also submitted plans to the Building Committee but in the end they chose Huntington. The intent of the members was to showcase the good works of DAR by constructing and maintaining a Mount Vernon replica which would be available to rent by the general public.

### **Architect: Daniel Riggs Huntington**

Architect Daniel Riggs Huntington was born in Newark, New Jersey on December 24, 1871 and spent his early life in New York City. He was educated at Columbia Grammar School, a preparatory school for Columbia College/University. Huntington began his architectural career in 1889 in Denver Colorado, initially working as a draftsman for the architectural firm of Balcomb & Rice. In 1894 he returned to New York and took a job in the office of W. Wheeler Smith, working there for six years. Around 1900 he returned to Denver and formed a partnership with fellow Balcomb & Rice draftsman, William E. Fisher. Together they designed several Classical Revival style homes across the city including the grand Smith Mansion (1902). For reason unknown, the partnership was dissolved and in 1905, Huntington moved to Seattle.

By 1907 Huntington had formed a brief partnership with James H. Schack. Work of the Schack & Huntington firm included several residences; the First Methodist-Episcopal Church (1908); the Mines Building (a.k.a. Oriental Building) for the Alaska- Yukon-Pacific Exposition (1908, demolished); the original Arctic Club Building (Morrison Hotel, 1909); and the Delamar Apartments (1909).

After Schack and Huntington parted ways around 1909, Huntington continued working independently for a few years. During this time he designed the Shumway Mansion in Kirkland (1910) and the Sanitary Market (1909, destroyed). He shared credit for the latter structure with his talented draftsman (and soon to be partner) Carl F. Gould. As Huntington & Gould, the two men completed a number of mixed-use buildings and several houses including a home for Mrs. E.H. Shumway (1910); and the David Newbrand House (1911) both in Seattle.

In 1912, Huntington formed a brief two-year partnership with yet another architect. This time with Arthur Loveless and together they designed several residences and apartment buildings around the city. They also designed at least one building in Juneau, Alaska; a two-story frame building (1913).

At the same time in September of 1912, Huntington was appointed as the City Architect for the City of Seattle, a position he held until late 1921. During this period he is credited with the design of numerous public projects

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

scattered throughout the city. Projects include several Seattle City Light projects such as the Lake Union Steam Plant (1912, 1914, 1917, 1921); the Wallingford Fire and Police Station (Station No. 2, 1913); Firlands Sanitarium (1914); the University, Fremont and Ballard Bridges (1919); several fire stations including station No. 33 (1914), station No. 12 (1914), station No.2 (1920), and station No.7 (1920). His last project with the city was the Fremont Public Library (1921).

After leaving civil service in 1922, Huntington returned to private practice and continued to design a variety of structures. Reportedly he also taught briefly at the University of Washington (1923-24). Important subsequent commissions include the DAR Rainer Chapter House (1925); the Northcliffe Apartments (1925); Fire Station No. 16 (1928); the Frederick Kirsten House (1925); and the Warren G. Harding Memorial (1925) in Woodland Park.

In 1927, Huntington formed yet another partnership, this time with Longview Archibald N. Torbitt. Together the firm of Huntington & Torbitt designed the West Seattle Dairy (1927); and the Piedmont Apartments (1928) in Seattle. They also worked with local Hoquiam architect, Edwin St. John Griffith, to design the Bank of Hoquiam (1925); the Seventh Street Theater (1928); and Hoquiam City Hall (1929). For reason unknown, the partnership was dissolved after two years, and each went their separate ways.

Huntington left active practice after the onset of the Depression, although he was reportedly employed as an architect at Washington State University from September 1944 until August 1946. Following his retirement, he moved to Oregon City in 1947, but returned to the Seattle area in 1955 where he died on May 13, 1962.

Despite his numerous partnerships, Huntington was well regarded by his business associates and professional colleagues. He was elected president of the local AIA chapter from 1918-19 and again in 1925, and was an active member of the Seattle Fine Arts Society. He was a frequent speaker at a variety of social and civic club meetings. After he retired he took up painting. His oil and water color renderings were widely admired, with works show in local and regional galleries as well as in New York City.

Despite having firm plans at hand, the financing of the building was uncertain. The Building Committee had an estimate from Daniel Huntington that the construction costs would run about \$30,000. Washington Mutual Savings Bank agreed to loan \$15,000.00 which would be personally secured by fifteen of the Chapter members. However, the Bank required that any additional money should be raised by selling bonds to interested investors. In August of 1924, Regent Nettie Bowen, sent a form letter to all DAR and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) members in the greater Seattle area and to the larger Seattle businesses requesting that they buy construction bonds. She wrote:

"We are financing the building by selling bonds, and paying 6% interest on the same. We expect to rent the building for dances, card parties, concerts, musicals, luncheons, banquets, teas and receptions. Four different functions can be going on at the same time. There is a crying need for meeting places of this kind for women in Seattle."

The letter writing campaign was a huge success and before long 248 bonds had been sold; which varied in amounts from \$25.00 to \$500.00 with a maturity of twenty years. With designs and financing in hand, the Daughters need a competent builder to construct the facility.

The Chapter decided to hire Seattle builder Carl Olof Hedeem, who at the time was a prominent contractor in the community. They let the official contract to Hadeem in November of 1924. The proposed cost for the structure was \$40,000. A detailed description and rendering of the building followed in the local newspaper in January. The proposal was for a "faithful replica" of George Washington's home in Mount Vernon, Virginia.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

### **Builder: Carl O. Hedeem**

Builder Carl Hedeem was born in Solvesborg, Sweden on May 2, 1884. He immigrated to the United States in 1901 and arrived in New York City at the age of 16. For reasons unknown he moved to Seattle around 1907 and reportedly took a job as a carpenter for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. After the fair he continued to work in construction, specializing in residential work.

Known residential projects include several houses around the University District and within the Ravenna-Cowen neighborhood. These include Hedeem own house (1738 NE Naomi Place, 1917); the Vincent House (1711 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, 1918); a house at 1809 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> St. (1917); the Pearce House (1717 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, 1915); and a home at 1721 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> Street (1914). Other houses across the city include the F.M. Brennan House (305 NE 50<sup>th</sup> St, 1923); a later house for himself at 6523 18<sup>th</sup> Ave NE (1919); and the Revelle House (1803 NE 52<sup>nd</sup> St, 1923). Most of the houses he constructed from the late teens through the 1920s were either Colonial Revival or Prairie style. Several homes were designed by architect Andrew C. Willatsen.

With his business booming, in 1922 Hedeem moved his offices into the American Bank Building in downtown Seattle. He then expanded his business to larger projects. These included the nominated building; the Elber Arms Apartments (2442 10th Avenue N, 1925); commercial building at 2626 California (1927); and the Acacia Fraternity (1928). Outside of the city Hedeem's company was hired to build the US Post Office in Pasco (1931); and the US Post Office in Colfax (1932).

During the Great Depression, Hedeem became a superintendent for the West Coast Construction Company (1938-1941), but after the war he returned to his independent business. After he retired in 1960 his son took over the firm. Hedeem passed away in Seattle on March 20, 1969.

### **Chapter House Construction**

Hedeem was a skilled and proficient builder, and almost exactly four months later the building was completed. A formal cornerstone ceremony was held on January 14, 1925 and was presided over by the Grand Lodge of Washington Free & Accepted Masons. Grand Master Robert C. McCroskey was in charge of laying the cornerstone and delivering an address of the day with Regent Bowen. In the cornerstone was a copper box containing the records of the chapter and newspaper articles on the construction of the building.

Formal dedication of the building took place on the evening of April 11, 1925. It was a relatively quiet affair with just an open house, dinner and flag raising ceremony. The event was open by invitation only and was limited to members of the Rainier Chapter, the Lady Stirling Chapter, the University of Washington Chapter and their escorts, as well as members of the DAR whom might be visiting the city, the SAR, the Grand Lodge of Washington, and those who aided in the project financing. Governor Roland Hartley and his wife were in attendance as well. Dinner and dancing went into the night until midnight. The first outside event hosted at the new facility was two days later on April 13; a play put on in the upstairs ballroom by the North Broadway Circle of the Fruit and Flower Mission.

Upon completion, the new Chapter House facility proved to be a huge success and played host to a variety of events as soon as the house was opened. Both dignitaries and average Seattleites enjoyed the house. Within the first couple of months opening events included bridge and mah jong tea with Sigma Kappa Alumni; musicals by the Women's Council of St. Mark's Church; series of lectures by a variety of speakers whom spoke on a wide range of topics, a variety of weddings, and of course chapter house meetings. Today it continues to play host to Chapter specific events and a plethora of outside events.

When the Chapter House was completed in 1925 the total cost of construction and furnishings was \$45,200.00. Although the final construction cost was one-third more than the original estimate made, the Chapter members had sold enough bonds to cover all the expenditures. The interior was mainly furnished by donated items; many of which were valuable antiques in their own right. Tables, chairs, sofa, pianos, pictures,

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

rugs, curtains, needlepoint, silverware and “bric-a-brac” were all received by the building committee. Each was to be marked with a brass plaque bearing the name of the donor. Chapter members were extremely generous with donations of furnishings. The chandelier in the entrance hall was a gift of Regent Leary, and was originally a fixture in her first home (a mansion located next door to the Lincoln Hotel). Leary also donated priceless bronze cornices for the Memorial Room.

Inside the building was arraigned to accommodate multiple functions happening at the same time with separate exterior entry doors. The main entry was through a large colonial hall which allowed access to the second floor ballroom and stage as well as the basement powered rooms. Off the hall was the Memorial Room to the west, and a dining/reception room to the east. The Memorial Room was planned to have a series of cast bronze decorative wall panels highlighting the important people in the history of the chapter and community.

To design the house reportedly Huntington had prepared his plans and specifications based on images and drawings of the original house; which by that time were likely provided by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association. The first measured drawings of Mount Vernon were completed in 1900 and were featured in American Architect & Building News. He also had Leary's assistance and added some very accurate details to the building which replicated those found on George & Martha Washington's home in Virginia. These included cutting and finishing the exterior siding to look like stone (a unique detail found at Mount Vernon and other Colonial era homes). Huntington also took great care with designing a corner cabinet in the parlor that was said to be “reminiscent of the one in George Washington's dining room”. Per the original plans, additional detailing was afforded to doors and windows surrounds, interior casework, fireplace mantels, and the ladies dressing room mirrors.

### **Mount Vernon Replica**

The idea to create a replica of Mount Vernon in Seattle was at the time unique to Washington State and the greater DAR community.

Author Justin Gunther writes:

From high style to everyday buildings, both residential to commercial, buildings across the United States have featured designs fashioned on Mount Vernon. The house's distinct elements have become significant components of the American architectural vocabulary. Both the trained and inexperienced eye can identify Mount Vernon's influence on the built environment. Combined with the need for a national identity, the house's popularization through tourism, print media, decorative arts, and expositions elevated Mount Vernon from a family home to an archetype of American strength and endurance. And today George Washington's contributions to architecture have embedded themselves into our culture, serving as symbolic reminders of the father and foundation of our nation.

The historic house's distinctive architectural elements show up on countless buildings, both residential and commercial. Mount Vernon's unique two-story piazza, a George Washington innovation, is the most copied component of the Mansion and has become one of the most identifiable features of American architecture. Washington emerged from the Revolution as the central figure in the American consciousness. A man of uncompromising principles, noble carriage, and impenetrable dignity, Washington commanded an intense respect in his role as hero and president of the new republic. After his death on December 14, 1799, the mourning nation elevated Washington to an almost godlike status. The apotheosis of Washington gave the fragile American experiment a symbol of strength, and his spirit became a foundation for the nation's identity.

To experience his spirit firsthand, Americans and foreigners alike visited Mount Vernon. Washington's beloved plantation, more than anywhere else, and soon it became a tangible reminder of the founding father, and a materialization of his character and ideals. With their humility and grandeur, the buildings and

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

gardens presented visitors with a reflection of Washington's pragmatic yet sophisticated mind. The hoards of travelers eager to walk the hallowed ground were initially hosted by descendants of the Washington family, who continued to own Mount Vernon during the first half of the 19th century.

Tourism developed as a national pastime during this period. By the 1830s, America was no longer engaged in wars or preoccupied with clearing wilderness to establish cities. Transportation vastly improved with the construction of turnpikes, invention of the steamboat, building of canals, and birth of the railroad industry. Such conditions allowed people to focus more on leisure time and travel, and tourism played an important role in the creation of an American culture. Establishing tourist sites during the country's infancy helped shape the nation's identity and position on the world stage. Mount Vernon, the home of the most revered American, was quickly adopted as a destination and became a significant component of the national image.

Similar to other 19th-century tourist attractions, Mount Vernon functioned as a sacred place. Visiting Mount Vernon gave travelers the opportunity to connect with one of the greatest and noblest men in history and escape to a place that stood apart from ordinary reality. The patriotic journey to Mount Vernon was seen as a way to improve one's character and support the nation by fostering an appreciation for the country's founding values.

During the 1850s, many Virginia plantations suffered from the gradual elimination of profits resulting from the exhaustion of soils and changing market forces. Among them was Mount Vernon, and these conditions forced John Augustine Washington, Jr., the final family owner, to sell the estate. Understanding the importance of preserving his ancestor's home, he refused to surrender the property to speculators. He approached both the federal government and the Commonwealth of Virginia, but politicians were preoccupied with debates over land and slavery that would eventually lead to the Civil War.

Luckily, a group of women under the direction of Ann Pamela Cunningham banded together to raise the necessary funds. They created an organization called the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union with the mission to restore the severely decayed Mount Vernon and open its doors to the public as a museum. John Augustine Washington, Jr., agreed to sell them the estate after much negotiation, signing a contract of sale in 1858. With no standards to follow, the Ladies' Association diligently undertook the challenging task of restoration. And the saving of Mount Vernon marked the birth of America's preservation movement and established a model for the creation of national shrines.

Central to the success of Mount Vernon as a museum was improving access to the estate. After the Civil War, regular steamboat service from Washington, D.C., provided an alternative to traversing the notoriously bad roads of the area. Between 1892 and 1896, the Washington, Alexandria, & Mount Vernon Electric Railway was constructed creating a cheap, convenient, and extremely popular way to make the journey. As automobiles became the preferred mode of transportation, Congress authorized the construction of the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway in 1928. This parkway, linking Arlington Memorial Bridge to Mount Vernon, was completed in 1932, a symbolic year marked by the nationwide celebration of the bicentennial of Washington's birth. Praised as "America's Most Modern Motorway," the road was "the ultimate blend of modern engineering, landscape architecture, historic preservation, and patriotic sentiment."

Coupled with the draw of George Washington, Mount Vernon's accessibility from the capital city made the house museum one of the most visited in the world. Swarmed by tourists, Mount Vernon became known as "The Mecca of America." The millions that toured the plantation took with them the image of Washington's home, making Mount Vernon a familiar visual component within their psyche. The intense pride felt by visitors ingrained the experience as sacred in their minds.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

Those unable to travel to Virginia in the 19th and early 20th centuries experienced Mount Vernon through publications, prints, postcards, and decorative arts. Engravings of Mount Vernon appeared in widely circulated periodicals like Harper's Weekly and Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper; travel volumes like Nathaniel P. Willis and William H. Bartlett's American Scenery; and books like Benson J. Lossing's Mount Vernon and Its Associations. Lithographs of Mount Vernon by Currier and Ives, who described themselves as "Publishers of Cheap and Popular Pictures," were widely purchased due to their affordability and hung in homes throughout America. Pictures of Mount Vernon were so common that John S. Adams wrote in his 1856 book *Town and Country; or, Life at Home and Abroad*, "*The house I need not describe, as most persons are acquainted with its appearance, from seeing the numerous engraved representations of it.*" Postcards became popular in the early 1900s, and their prolific circulation spread the Mount Vernon image. Tourists to Mount Vernon chronicled their visit by sending postcards of the house and grounds to friends and family who could not come along. Lastly, decorative arts like Seth Thomas clocks, Staffordshire plates, Whelan sterling silver spoons, and even kitschy souvenirs like pennants were adorned with the image of Mount Vernon, adding a bit of patriotic value to these objects and reminding their owners of Washington's home.

Expositions coupled with the Colonial Revival were also instrumental in popularizing Mount Vernon. Historians trace the beginnings of the Colonial Revival to the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition. Held in the city deemed sacred for its association with the Declaration of Independence, the show commemorated the nation's 100th birthday. Even though the exposition highlighted the latest technological wonders, visitors got caught up in the celebratory spirit of the country's founding. They were enthralled by the "Colonial Kitchen," an allegedly accurate depiction of early American life. Such romanticized interpretations of the past established the basis for the Colonial Revival movement, a socially constructed ideal that looked to early America for both inspiration and answers to modern problems. As historian Mary Miley Theobald points out, "Unsettled times often encourage people to turn to the past. Americans of the late nineteenth century had only to look back one hundred years to see an era that by comparison looked idyllic: a Golden Age of American values." Reviving all things colonial became an antidote to societal ills like economic depression, rampant corruption in government, and increasing European immigration that threatened the "real" America.

Colonial became the undisputed national style after the Chicago Columbian Exposition of 1893. Although a year late, the exposition celebrated the 400th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America. Pavilions for the eastern states competed with one another for colonial ambience. Massachusetts reconstructed the John Hancock House, Pennsylvania replicated Independence Hall, New Jersey and Connecticut re-created rooms where Washington slept, and New York showcased Washington relics. But Virginia reproduced the ultimate symbol of colonial America— Mount Vernon. The millions that visited the exposition saw this reconstruction complete with portraits and furniture resembling the originals. With Mount Vernon as the pinnacle example, colonial was promoted as the most fashionable architectural style.

Faithful reconstructions of Mount Vernon were later included in the exhibition buildings of the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco; the 1926 Sesquicentennial International Exposition in Philadelphia; the 1931 Exposition Coloniale Internationale de Paris; and the 1932 George Washington Bicentennial Celebration in Brooklyn, New York.

The Home Construction Division of Sears, Roebuck and Company was chosen as the contractor for erecting the Mount Vernon reproductions at both the Exposition Coloniale Internationale de Paris and the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration in Brooklyn. These opportunities prompted the company to offer a Mount Vernon-inspired house as part of their 1930s line of mail-order catalog homes. Called "The Jefferson," the model capitalized on the name of another founding father, but the two-story, square-columned front porch and whitewashed brick walls with green shutters were "designed along the same lines of historic Mt. Vernon [because] this southern colonial home spells success." Not as conservative as

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

the popular bungalow models, "The Jefferson" kit had a price tag over \$3,000 and provided materials and instructions to build an eight-room, two-bath house.

Sears was not the only company to promote suburban homes in the form of Mount Vernon. Developers across the country took advantage of Mount Vernon's popularity and that of the Colonial Revival style. The architecture's uncomplicated forms were simple to design and build, and Mount Vernon's distinctive two-story piazza could be easily added to homes with a basic rectangular plan. A more romantic notion called "associationism" provides further explanation as to why houses were patterned on Mount Vernon. The idea that architecture shaped character led people to purchase homes that personified noble colonial virtues. In addition, the chasteness and restraint in form was refreshing to those raised in the Victorian era, providing an escape from the decorative abundance and ornamental fuss that surrounded them in their childhood.

The use of Mount Vernon's motifs was not limited to residential architecture. The house's architectural elements were adapted to lend distinction to a wide array of commercial buildings. Travelers taking to the roads rather than the air encountered motels designed with Mount Vernon in mind. These motels, which often included "Mount Vernon" in their names to reinforce the connection, were built along major highways throughout the country. Owners of roadside motels betted on traveler's familiarity with Mount Vernon, hoping a columned portico and a cupola would give their establishment an edge. It is human nature to search for comfort in the unfamiliar, so after hours of exhaustive driving, motorists searched out stops that seemed pleasant, relaxing, and familiar. A motel resembling Mount Vernon exuded those characteristics and was a welcome sight to weary travelers.

Today examples of Mount Vernon-inspired buildings populate the American landscape. They exist in a wide range of interpretations and stretch from coast to coast and span a large time frame. Some of these maintain loose associations to Mount Vernon while others are almost exact replicas. Besides airports and motels, there are gas stations, convenience stores, shopping malls, warehouses, funeral homes, banks, and office buildings. Notable examples include Pacific Savings & Loan, in Los Angeles, California (1960); Mountcastle Funeral Home in Woodbridge, Virginia; and Mount Vernon Self Storage in Richmond, Virginia. In Washington State, as recently as 2008, a loosely inspired Mount Vernon replica was built outside of Port Angeles as a hotel – The George Washington Inn. One other Mount Vernon replica was built in Seattle, the home of Northwestern Life & Accident Co. (1220 e 43<sup>rd</sup> St., demolished). This building was a more liberal interpretation, smaller in scale and without the second floor dormers. It was built in 1933.

The Rainier Chapter House serves as an intact example of the replica phenomenon. Its south façade is almost a spot on replica of the Potomac side of George & Martha Washington's Home, while the rear elevation, which faces adjoining lots and is not seen by the public, takes a more liberal approach to the recreation. The Rainier Chapter House is also an early example of effort to create replicas of Mount Vernon and came before the replicas were built in Paris and Chicago for the various international expositions.



DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

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

Gunther, Justin, "Mount Vernon: An Architectural Legacy" Society for Commercial Archaeology - <https://sca-roadside.org/mount-vernon-an-architectural-identity/>

Huntington, Daniel R. – Architectural Plans, Daughter of the American Revolution – Sheets 1-2 & 4-11, no date.

Wagner, Laura Virginia Through Historic Years with Eliza Ferry Leary - Dogwood Press, Seattle, WA 1934

Various Scrapbooks (newspaper clippings and photos) from the Rainier Chapter, DAR vault.

### **The Seattle Daily Times**

"\$40,000 in Clubhouse - Rainier Chapter, D.A.R. Let's Contract" – Nov 7, 1924

"Rainier Chapter D.A.R., to Have Memorial Home" - January 11, 1925, pg 13.

"Daughters of the Revolution Gather" - January 14, 1925, pg 8.

"Corner Stone of D.A.R. Home is Laid in Seattle" - January 15, 1925, pg 17.

"World News Portrayed in Pictures" - January 15, 1925, pg 4.

"Mah Jong and Bridge Tea Friday: Rainier Chapter, D.A.R., Is to Entertain at Home of Mrs. Chal P. Bryant" - January 18, 1925. Pg 8.

"Hom of D.A.R. To Be Used April 13" – March 8, 1925

"D.A.R. Home to be Dedicated April 11" – April 5, 1925, Pg 8.

"Formally Open DAR Memorial Home: Rainier Chapter Gives Appropriate Reception" - April 12, 1925. pg 19.

"Patriots Day Observed in City: Colonial Breakfast to be Served in New Home of Rainier Chapter DAR" – April 12, 1925, pg 9.

"D.A.R. Opens Its Colonial Home" – April 12, 1925, pg 6.

"Sigma Kappa Alumnae are entertaining as the new..." – April 17, 1925.

"Church Women Plan First Musical" – April 19, 1925, pg 8.

"Beautiful New Clubhouse to be Utilized" – April 26, 1925.

"Lectures Will Aid Building Fund" - May 4, 1925, pg 8.

"D.A. R. Series of Lectures to Open" - May 10, 1925, pg 8.

"New Home of Rainier Chapter D.A. R." - May 31, 1925, Pictorial Section pg 3.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

“Benefit Planned by Catholic Daughters” – September 6, 1925.

“Chapter Will Welcome Guests” – September 13, 1925.

“Summertime is Not All Vacation for Clubwomen” – July 20, 1952

“DAR Clubhouse: They made it Mount Vernon, Northwest” – Nov 4, 1990.

**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: DAR Rainier Chapter House

---

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

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

**UTM References**      NAD 1927 or      NAD 1983

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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

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

1	<u>47.625275°</u> Latitude	<u>-122.322061°</u> Longitude	3	<u>    </u> Latitude	<u>    </u> Longitude
2	<u>    </u> Latitude	<u>    </u> Longitude	4	<u>    </u> Latitude	<u>    </u> Longitude

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

The nominated are is located in Section 29, Township 25, Range 04E, east of the Willamette Meridian, in King County Washington, and is legally described as Yeslers' Sarah B, 1<sup>st</sup> Addition.

It is otherwise known as Tax Parcel No. 983120-0275 at the said location.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area encompasses the entire urban tax lot that is occupied by the DAR Rainier Chapter House.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Cynthia C Johnson-Sakuma, Regent (Edited by DAHP Staff)  
organization Daughters of the America Revolution date October 2018  
street & number 800 E Roy Street telephone (206) 323-0600  
city or town Seattle, WA state WA zip code 98102  
e-mail cindylivs@aol.com

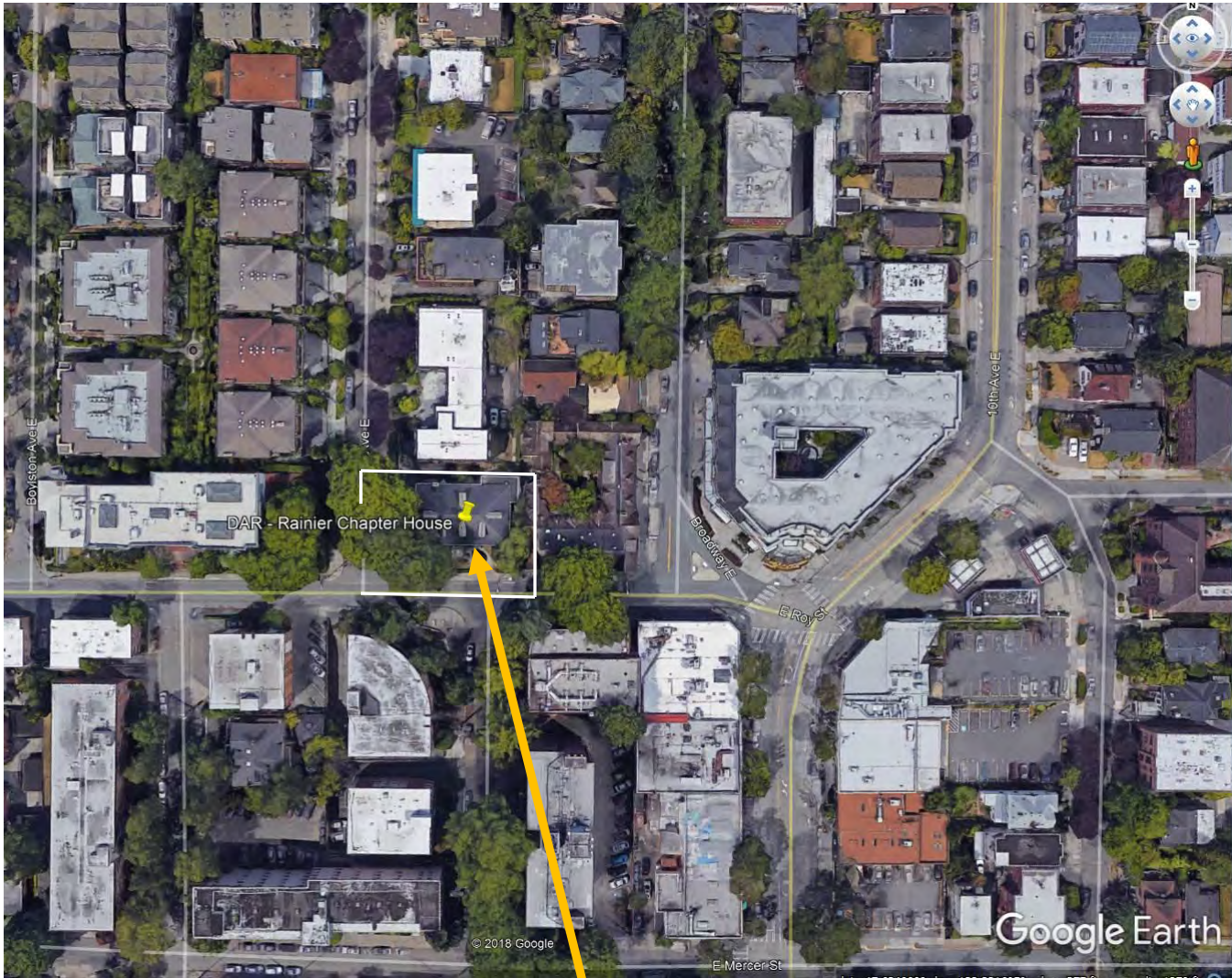
DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)



Google Earth - Edit Placemark

Name:

Latitude:

Longitude:

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

King Co, WA

Name of Property

County and State



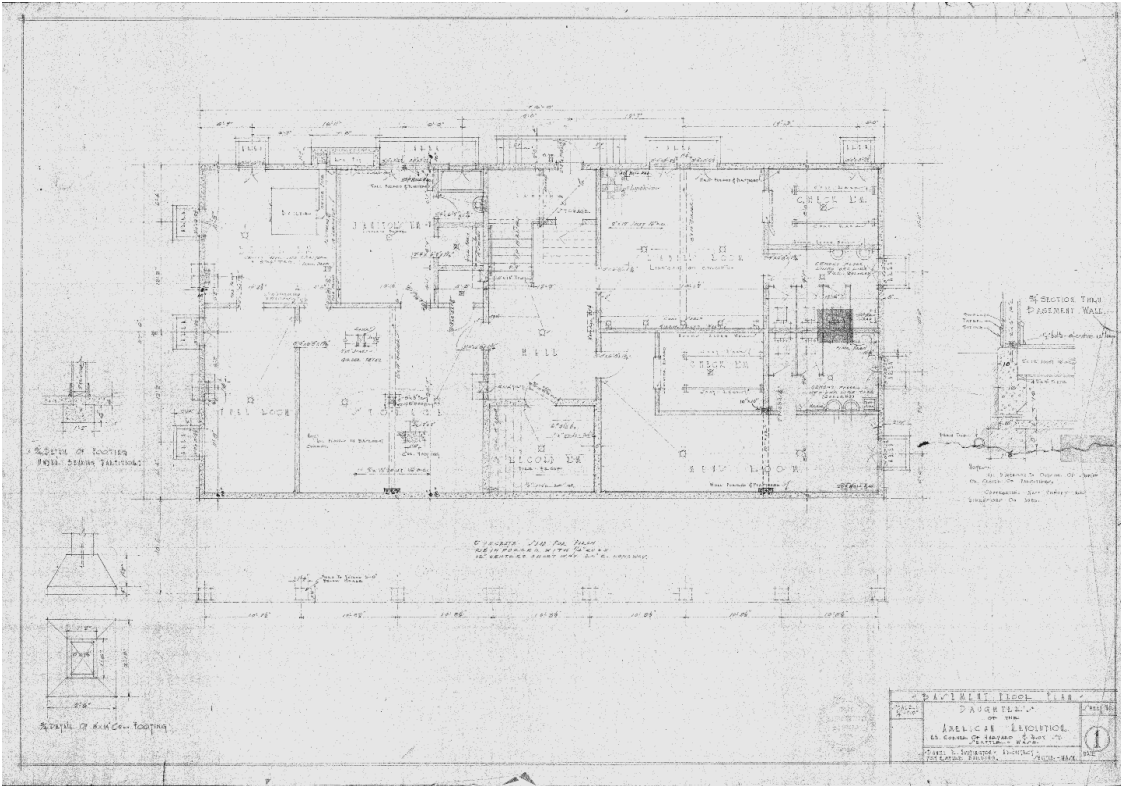
**DAR – Rainier Chapter House**

Parcel Map

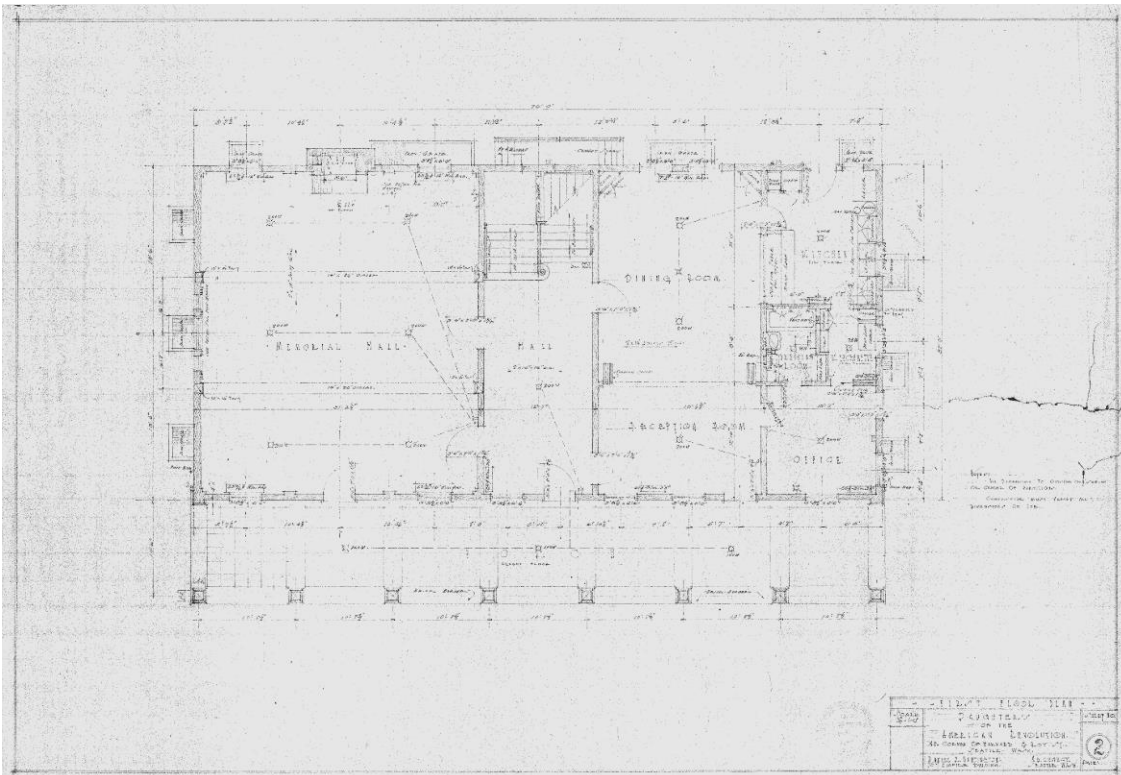
Tax Parcel No. 983120-0275.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



**DAR Rainier Chapter House Plan**  
Basement Plan



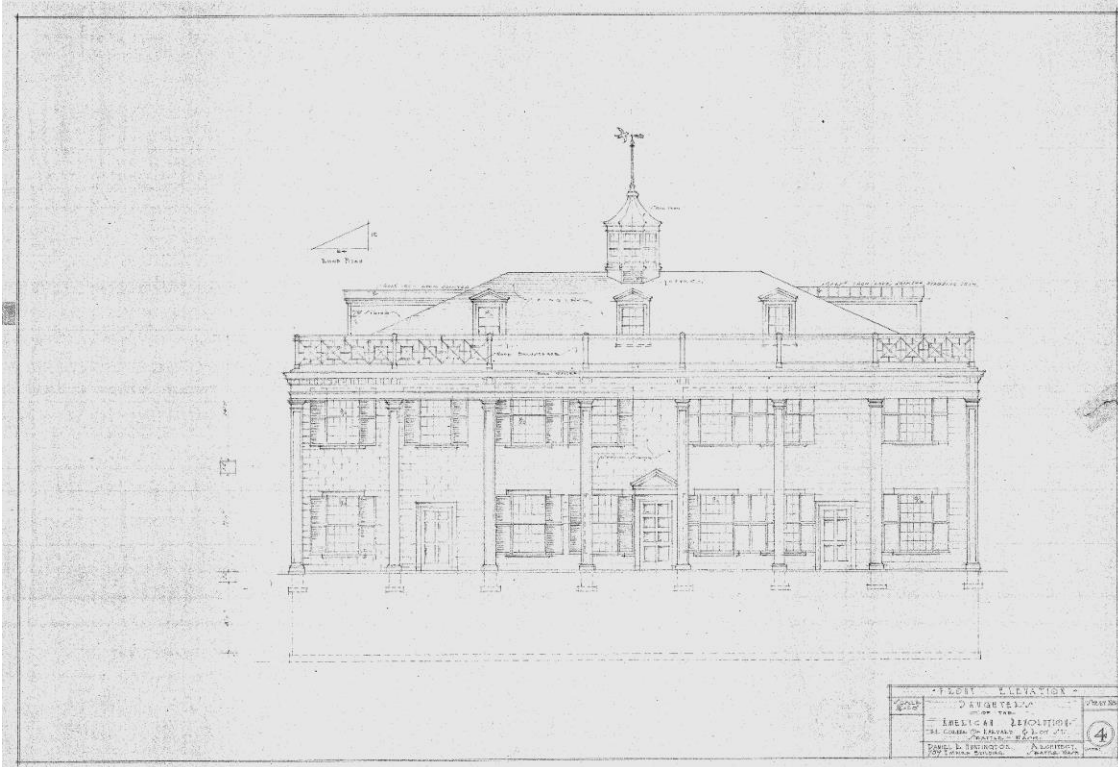
**DAR Rainier Chapter House Plan**  
First Floor

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



DAR Rainier Chapter House Plan  
Front Elevation



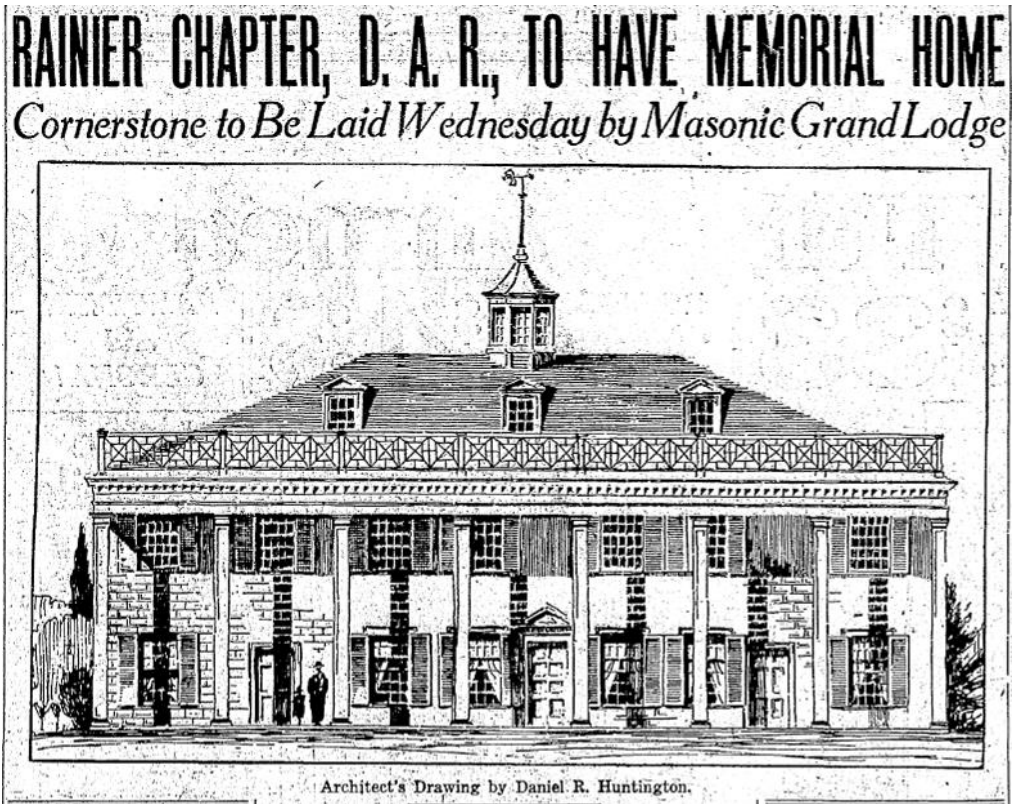
DAR Rainier Chapter House Plan  
Rear Elevation

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



**Architect Daniel Huntington rendering of Rainier Chapter House**  
Seattle Times – January 11, 1925



George & Martha Washington's Home: Mount Vernon - Mount Vernon, Virginia. Built 1758, 1774, 1776  
Photo courtesy of: <https://bountifultravel.com/mount-vernon-picture/>



DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State

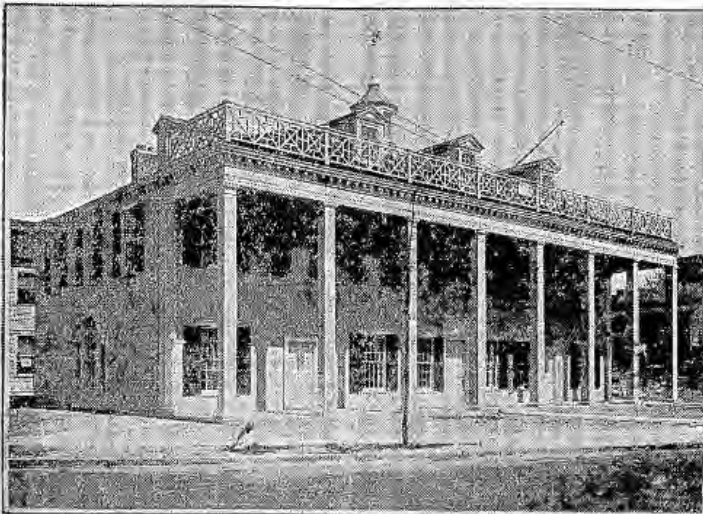


**CORNERSTONE OF D. A. R. HOME IS LAID**—Members of Rainier Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, witnessed the fulfillment of their dream to erect a chapter home in Seattle when the cornerstone of their memorial home at Harvard Avenue and Roy Street was laid yesterday. The ceremony of putting the stone in place was conducted by the Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons, in the presence of officers and members of the chapter and their friends. A copper box containing records of the chapter and newspaper articles on the construction of the memorial was placed in the stone before it was set in place by Robert C. McCroskey, most worshipful master of the grand lodge. The address of the day was delivered by Mrs. David W. Bowen, regent of Rainier Chapter. In this photograph, left to right, are Mr. McCroskey, Mrs. Bowen and Walter F. Meier, senior grand warden. (See news columns.)

Cornerstone Laying Ceremony  
**Seattle Times** – January 15, 1925

## FORMALLY OPEN D. A. R. MEMORIAL HOME

*Rainier Chapter Gives Appropriate Reception*



New Memorial Home of Rainier Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

Governor and Mrs. Hartley in Receiving Line—Beautiful Structure at Harvard Avenue North and Roy Street is Faithful Replica of Mount Vernon, Washington Mansion Overlooking Potomac River.

Formal Opening Ceremony  
**Seattle Times** – April 12, 1925

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



DAR Rainier Chapter House – May 31, 1925

Note porch roof balustrade.



DAR Rainier Chapter House – c. 1935

Note missing porch roof balustrade, removed after a storm.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



Images from Seattle Times Rotogravure Pictorial - "New Home of Rainier Chapter D.A.R."  
Seattle Times - May 31, 1925

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Attached is map of Harvard-Belmont Landmark District with two color photos showing the outside of Rainier Chapter House.

**Name of Property:** DAR - Rainier Chapter House

**City or Vicinity:** Seattle

**County:** King                      **State:** WA

**Photographer:** Cindy Johnson-Sakuma (Sept 24, 2018) & Michael Houser (Sept 13, 2018)

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**



1 of 20 – Main Façade of Chapter House

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



2 of 20 – Southwest corner of Chapter House showing porch and Palladian style window.



3 of 20 – Rear/North Elevation of Chapter House. Not stairs and exterior door which opens to stair landing.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



4 of 20 - Porch of Chapter House looking east.



5 of 20 – Detail of entry door and siding.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



6 of 20 – West façade showing second floor fire escape.



7 of 20 – Rear / North Façade Northeast corner showing kitchen extension (1927).

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



8 of 20 – Detail of Palladian style window on West elevation.



9 of 20 – Cornerstone at Southwest corner of Chapter House.



DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



10 of 20 – View of main Entry Foyer looking south towards second floor stair.



11 of 20 – Entry Foyer looking south towards main entry door.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



12 of 20 – View of Dining Room looking North.



13 of 20 – View of Memorial Hall looking northwest.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House

Name of Property

King Co, WA

County and State



14 of 20 - View of Memorial Hall looking southeast.



15 of 20 - Detail of Memorial room fireplace.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



16 of 20 – View of Kitchen looking northeast showing kitchen expansion area.



17 of 20 – View of Kitchen looking south showing original cabinetry.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



18 of 20 – View of second floor ballroom. View towards stage looking east.



19 of 20 - View of second floor ballroom. View looking west.

DAR - Rainier Chapter House  
Name of Property

King Co, WA  
County and State



20 of 20 – Basement Ladies Powered Room.

---

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

---

name Rainier Chapter Regent  
street & number 800 East Roy Street telephone (206) 323-0600  
city or town Seattle state WA zip code 98102

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.













































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Daughters of the American Revolution-Rainier Chapter House

Multiple Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State & County: WASHINGTON, King

Date Received: 2/5/2019      Date of Pending List: 2/28/2019      Date of 16th Day: 3/15/2019      Date of 45th Day: 3/22/2019      Date of Weekly List: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference number: SG100003525

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason For Review:

X Accept       Return       Reject      3/20/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)-Rainier Chapter House is locally significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Social History (Women) and Architecture. Home to the local DAR chapter, the two-story, wood frame building served as a significant local social and cultural venue in Seattle. Designed by local master architect Daniel R. Huntington, the 1925 building was modeled after Virginia's Mount Vernon and reflects both the enthusiastic popularity of Colonial-style Period Revival design in the early decades of the twentieth century and the DAR's patriotic objectives to honor America's past. As one of the few purpose-built chapter houses completed by a local chapter in the West, the building represents the significant contributions of the local chapter to the organization's broader national goals and their dedication to supporting a strong local presence in the community.

Recommendation/ Criteria Accept NR Criteria A and C

Reviewer Paul Lusignan      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229      Date 3/20/2019

DOCUMENTATION:      see attached comments : No      see attached SLR : No

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

February 1, 2019

RE: **Washington State NR Nomination**

Dear Paul:



Please find enclosed a new National Register Nomination form for:

- **Daughters of the American Revolution: Rainier Chapter House – King County, WA**  
(an all-electronic nomination)

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

Sincerely,

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

E-Mail: [michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov)

