

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Home School

and/or common Home School

2. Location

street & number 6th and "C" Streets not for publication

city, town Home, Lakebay P.O. vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Washington 98349 code 53 county Pierce code 053

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Linder

street & number 2440 Snyder

city, town Bremerton vicinity of state WA 98310

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pierce County Courthouse

street & number County-City Building

city, town Tacoma state Washington 98402

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Washington State Inventory of
title Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date January 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

city, town Olympia state Washington 98504

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The unincorporated community of Home is located on Longbranch Peninsula, a southward-pointing finger of land in Pierce County about half-way between Tacoma and Shelton. Home is a collection of houses on large lots, each of which is about two acres. The houses, which are scattered on a steep hillside, all face east to exploit a pleasant marine view. Many architectural styles are represented, with modern houses interspersed with others of older styles. The former school, which is now a private home, is located above the main part of the community in a neighborhood with few other nearby houses. Because of a dense growth of trees around the house and on the adjacent vacant lots, the building seems quite isolated.

The single story Home School, which is essentially a two-room building, has an L-shaped floor plan with a large, high-ceilinged room occupying each wing. The roof is two intersecting gables of rough new shakes. The exterior is the same as it was when the building was constructed, and the interior has been altered relatively little. Even indoor plumbing was not installed until 1978. Siding is narrow clapboards up to the eaves and shaked gable ends. The building has many small-paned windows, of which some are double-hung and others are stationary. The fenestration suggests that the designer wanted to give students as much natural light as possible. Each gable end has a single centrally placed window that brings additional light into the classrooms. Home School is a simple, utilitarian building with a faintly bungaloid character. About the only decorative features are the gracefully curved, yet solid brackets under the eaves. Inside, the former classrooms have a rustically elegant spaciousness. Behind the school is an unpainted deteriorated building which served as a play shed during bad weather.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the Home School rests on its association with George Allen, a founder of this unique settlement, and on the fact that it is the best extant reminder upon which Home's history can focus. The community of Home flourished from 1898 until World War I as a haven for non-conformists, and considerable attention was attached to it because of some residents' advocacy of anarchy, free love, and nude bathing.

Home was founded by three families, including that of George and Sylvia Allen, all coming from a disintegrating communitarian settlement in the Cascade Mountains. They decided on the site of their new community in 1896 and were determined that toleration and independence would prevail. In 1898 they formed the Mutual Home Association, a land-holding entity that allocated up to two acres to new members. The theory was that no more than two acres were needed to provide an abundance of food for an average family. Title to the land was held in common and did not pass to the member. The association existed from 1898 to 1919, when it was dissolved because of internal dissension. During this period the settlement became famous for the non-conformist philosophies and lifestyles of its inhabitants. Many radicals of national stature visited the remote community, including Emma Goldman, "Big Bill" Haywood and William Z. Foster. Newspapers published in Home regularly advocated anarchy, and the settlement soon gained the reputation of being a nest of anarchists. When President McKinley was assassinated by a self-proclaimed anarchist, Home became a convenient focus for the ensuing public outrage. Advocacy of free love and nudity also offended the sensibilities of more conventional society, drew attention to Home, and enhanced its fame. In a celebrated 1901 trial, tracts written by a seventy-five year old woman on free love were declared obscene. Because of her material was sent through the mails, the town lost its post office. The effect of this verdict still remains, since the post office geographically in Home is officially designated with the name of a nearby community. Efforts to restore the historic name have thus far been unsuccessful.

George Allen and his wife Sylvia were well-educated, and both had been school teachers before they helped found Home. They continued to teach for many years, often simultaneously, in Home's two-room schoolhouse. They, like many of Home's residents, were intelligent and concerned that the young receive an education. The record of their students is good, with several achieving positions of some eminence in the larger community. Allen was active in the affairs of the Mutual Home Association to its end and persisted, in spite of a court order, to try to perpetuate its existence. He lived in Home for fifty years and taught school well into the 1930's.

Public buildings imply taxes, perhaps collected coercively, and this would have been at odds with the widespread belief in anarchy. Nevertheless, residents of Home were not unwilling to volunteer time, material and money for community purposes. The first school appeared in 1898 and, in 1902, a large public building called Liberty Hall was completed with two rooms for school use. The subject of this nomination was built near Liberty Hall in 1910. Together with Liberty Hall, the school was the center of the community. Here residents and visitors expounded on their ideas and here was where the settlement met to

9. Major Bibliographical References

LeWarne, Charles Pierce. Utopias on Puget Sound 1885-1915, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1975.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Vaughn

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

UMT NOT VERIFIED

A

1	0	5	1	7	8	4	0	5	2	3	5	5	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing					

C

Zone				Easting				Northing					

D

Zone				Easting				Northing					

E

Zone				Easting				Northing					

F

Zone				Easting				Northing					

G

Zone				Easting				Northing					

H

Zone				Easting				Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Section 26, Township 21 N, Range 1 West of Willamette meridian, Block 31, Book 9 of Plats, Page 75.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James H. Vandermeer, Historian

organization Office of Archaeology and
Historia Preservation

date April 1981

street & number 111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11

telephone (206) 753-9685

city or town Olympia

state Washington 98504

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Jacob E. Thom

date 2/22/82

For HCRS use only

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

date 4/12/82

for Keeper of the National Register

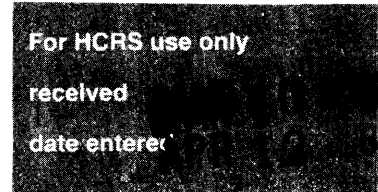
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

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make community decisions or simply to dance or be entertained. The school, where portraits of Karl Marx and Mikhail Bakhtin once hung, remains as a reminder of the animating spirit of Home and the unusual community it produced.