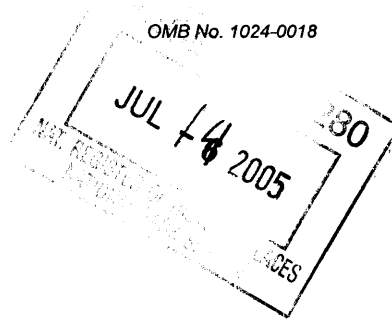


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
Other names/site number Mercer Island VFW Post #5760

2. Location

street & number 1836 72nd Avenue SE not for publication
city or town Mercer Island vicinity
State Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98040

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 ___ nationally ___ statewide locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

6/30/05

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby, certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet
 - ___ determined eligible for the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet
 - ___ determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - ___ removed from the National Register.
 - ___ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

8-24-05

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse, Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall, Civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century and Early 20th Century

Revivals: Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood: Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1922

Significant Dates

1922

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation**Architect/Builder**

Williams, Ernest R. (Architect)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

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

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 Engineering
- Record# _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	10	5	56	920	52	71	408	3							
	Zone	Easting			Northing				Zone	Easting			Northing		
2								4							
	Zone	Easting			Northing				Zone	Easting			Northing		

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carl Lind
 organization Mercer Island VFW Post #5760 date February 2005
 street & number 3023 Country Club Rd. NW telephone (360) 866-1145
 city or town Olympia state WA zip code 98502-3738

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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

name Mercer Island VFW Post #5760
 street & number 1836 72nd Avenue SE, PO Box 101 telephone (206) 232-6390
 city or town Mercer Island state WA zip code 98040

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 7 Page 1 of 2

Narrative Description:

The Keewaydin Clubhouse is prominently sited at the intersection of N. Mercer Way and 72nd St. SE in a well-kept residential neighborhood on the north end of Mercer Island, Washington. The building sits on a pie shaped lot which slopes gradually from the west to the east before coming to a steep bank. Here, 72nd Street is approximately 10 feet below the Clubhouse lot creating a steep cliff on the northeast side. The southwest side of the lot is covered by asphalt and serves as a parking area for the building. Vegetation is limited to one large fir tree near the entrance of the building and evergreen bushes on the northeast side of the building. To the front and rear of the building are small areas of lawn. The building faces to the northwest.

The Keewaydin Clubhouse, constructed in 1922, is a one-story wood frame structure designed in the Colonial Revival style. The T-shape plan consists of an approximately 86' x 42' main volume from which a 42' x 20'7" kitchen wing extends from the southwest elevation. A hip roof covers the main building and is sheathed with composition shingles.

The clubhouse rests on a concrete foundation and yields a partial basement (crawl space). The exterior walls are covered with 6' exposed lap siding. A simple entablature consisting of a boxed cornice and plain frieze surrounds the building at the roof wall juncture, as does a water table at the floor line. The southwestern most slope of the roof contains an eyelid vent dormer and a stone chimney rises from the ridge of the roof above the dormer. Originally a flat roofed open porch, measuring 10'x 50', extended along the north elevation of the building and offered a view of Lake Washington. In 1966 the open porch was enclosed and incorporated into the interior of the main building.

Vertical, multi-paned (an assortment of four, six and eight lights) windows, both fixed and casement types, with plain trim and simple heads are placed in groups of two, three, or four on different elevations of the building. The main entrance to the clubhouse is located on the northwest end of the building. A flight of seven poured concrete risers with simple metal handrails provides access to the entry from the parking lot. Pairs of engaged square wood pilasters flank the recessed opening which contains a set of plain, wood double doors. Per historic images the original doors contained small leaded glass windows. A sign above the entrance reads "V.F.W. POST 5760."

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 7 Page 2 of 2

To the rear of the kitchen a small addition was added for storage space (date unknown). To the southeast corner of the building is another small addition for storage space (date unknown). This change squared up the southeast corner of the building in plan (see attached floor plan). Both of these spaces are accessed from the inside only.

The interior of the clubhouse consists of two large rooms – the primary meeting room in the main volume and a smaller kitchen/dining hall in the southwest wing. The large 36' x 66' meeting room contains a small wooden open stage on the southeast end, and a large stone fireplace on the southwest wall. While acoustical tiles have been added to the ceiling, the boxed beams remain. The lath and plaster walls have partially been covered in 1970's era paneling. The Wilkeson Sandstone fireplace is highlighted by a cast stone mantel and a large overmantel, with an ornate bas-relief plaster panel. The sculptural piece is unsigned and features a variety of clothed and unclothed Greek dancers and musicians. Flanking the bas-relief are two crested shields "19" and "22" denoted the date of the building completion. The meeting space contains a wooden dance floor surrounded by a periphery of carpeted area.

The once enclosed porch contains a small sink/bar area in the northeast corner of the room. The French doors, which once opened to the porch area were reinstalled as permanent fixed windows on the northeast wall. The kitchen wing was upgraded in the 1960s and contains newer cabinets and countertops as well as 1960 period appliances. Both bathrooms have also been upgraded and contain 1960s era wallpaper, sinks and cabinetry. Just inside the entrance to the building is an original pedestal style drinking fountain.

Despite several cosmetic upgrades, the Clubhouse retains a high level of architectural integrity. Spatial volumes, room configuration, and major interior features such as the fireplace remain intact.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 8 Page 1 of 3

Statement of Significance:

The Keewaydin Clubhouse is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion "A" as a resource that represents the pervasive influence of community clubs and civic organizations in early 20th Century America. The Clubhouse is also historically significant under criterion "C" as a building that embodies the distinctive characteristics of early 20th Century community clubhouses as a building type.

Completed in 1922, the Keewaydin Clubhouse (later the Mercer Island Community Club) served as a community meeting place for the residents of Mercer Island, Washington until the early 1960s. In 1966, it was purchased by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 5760 in whose ownership it remains today.

The Keewaydin Club was organized on November 29, 1921 by members of the Mercer Island Community Club. The club combined all of the Island's north end improvement clubs. As a new organization, the following officers were elected to serve one year terms: W.S. Foster (president), H.C. Raymer (vice-president), C.H. Cole (secretary), Dr. L.E.A. Hooey (treasurer) with trustees G.A. Abramson, N.V. Berglind and H.H. Riley. Early promotional material for the club denotes that: *"The Keewaydin Club was formed for social purposes exclusively. It is meant to serve as a medium for cementing the friendly relationship of the members, fostering a spirit of neighborliness, elevating the social life of the community and furnishing an adequate place in which to congregate when the need presents itself."*

Based on that premise, club members began planning immediately for a building devoted strictly to social purposes. In May of the following year a lot was purchased and cleared, concrete was poured, and on a single day, July 1, approximately 60,000 feet of lumber and 58,000 shingles were hauled up the steep slope from the barge that had brought the cargo from Seattle. The Clubhouse was completed in 1922 using volunteer labor by a variety of club members. Seattle architect Ernest R. Williams, who was a member of the club, designed the restrained Colonial Revival building.

To date little information has been found regarding the formal training or background of Ernest R. Williams. The Keewaydin Clubhouse is the only verified building designed by him. The earliest reference to Williams is the 1910 Seattle Polk

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 8 Page 2 of 3

Directory where he is listed as a draftsman for the prominent Seattle architectural firm of Graham & Myers.

By 1914 Williams apparently left the firm and is listed as a draftsman with the South Seattle School District No. 1. Two years later in 1916, Ernest and his wife Kate had moved to Mercer Island (exact location unknown). Upon moving to the Island, Ernest took on another new job as a draftsman for architect J. R. Nevins, whose offices were located in the Hoge Building in downtown Seattle. Polk directories note that Williams was employed by Nevins from 1917 until at least 1924. Ernest R. Williams died in March 1933 at the age of 45.

Williams designed the Clubhouse in the Colonial Revival vein and took full advantage of the triangular shaped lot. To the northeast side of the building was an open porch, which afforded expansive views of Lake Washington. To the southwest was a kitchen and dining wing. The main entrance, highlighted by a formal classical surround, complete with sets of double pilasters, presented a fitting entry for club members. Other typical Colonial details utilized by Williams included a deep frieze board and multi-pane casement windows.

The origin of the name Keewaydin is not definite, but may have derived from an Indian word meaning "the north wind" or "home wind," (for when the wind blew from that direction the trail led home). For reasons unknown the club changed its name to the Mercer Island Community Club shortly after the Clubhouse was built, but continued to call the building the Keewaydin Clubhouse.

The Clubhouse continued to serve as a social center for the growing community of Mercer Island for the next 50+ years. During the 1930s and 40s the organization shifted its focus from purely social issues to community issues, such as discussing problems ranging from fire protection, to water rights, to transportation issues. Other activities included a variety of lectures, and a monthly forum, which gave the island residents a strong voice in county and state governmental policy. Among the more notable projects in which the community club played an active role was the construction of the Mercer Island (later renamed Lacey V. Murrow) floating bridge.

Some of the members from the Club's most active years during the 1920s and 1930s included: John Dunney, voted an honorary member in 1924; C. H. Cole, J.W. Baker,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 8 Page 3 of 3

C.E. Goodson, M.W. Tomlinson, John H. Van Harten, C.V. Lersea, C.E. Williams, P.A. Kenyon, E. R. Williams, H.H. Hawkins, and O.B. Daniels.

By the early 1960s, the Community Club, after the merger with the South End Club, discontinued meeting in the clubhouse and it stood vacant for several years. Then in 1966, VFW Post 5760 purchased the building. The VFW post currently utilizes the building as its meeting hall, and rents meeting space to other Mercer Island organizations including the Masons, Eastern Star, Job's Daughters, Irish Dancers, and the Sons of Norway among others.

VFW Post 5760 was chartered shortly after the termination of World War II. Principal organizers were Nelson Rochester, Ben Jacobsen and Harry Marshall. Chris Lillions was the first post commander in 1945-46. The organization's purpose is fraternal, patriotic, historical, and educational. Typical of its local outreach programs are the annual Spaghetti Dinner in support of the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program, the annual Poppy Sales in support of hospitalized veterans and the Voice of Democracy Student Essay Contest. Current and past members of the Post and its Ladies Auxiliary include Mercer Islanders former Washington State Senators Jim Horn and Emilio Cantu, former State Representative Fred May and former Mercer Island City Council member Nan Hutchins. Both Jim Horn and Fred May were also former Mayors of the City of Mercer Island.

The Keewaydin Clubhouse is a rare, surviving example of an intact, early community clubhouse in King County and is the only remaining community clubhouse on Mercer Island. The building also represents the only known work of architect E.R. Williams, and is a good example of the Colonial Revival style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet –

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

Section number 9, 10 Page 1 of 1

Major Bibliographical References

Gellatly, Judy. Mercer Island Heritage. Mercer Island Historical Society, 1989.

Bullis, Kay. King County Historic Sites Survey. 1978.

Seattle Directory, R. J. Polk Publishing Company, 1910-1924.

"Ernest R. Williams Dies." *The Argus*, March 11, 1933, p. 5.

Architects File cards, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Historic Preservation Program, 700 3rd Avenue, Suite 400, Seattle, WA 98104.

Architects Reference Files, Special Collections and Preservation Division, Allen Library, University of Washington Libraries, Seattle, WA 98195-2900.

Biography file cards, Seattle Public Library, Seattle Room, 1000 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101.

Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl (ed.), *Shaping Seattle Architecture: A Historical Guide to the Architects*. University of Washington Press, 1998.

Woodbridge, Sally B. and Roger Montgomery, *A Guide to Architecture in Washington State*. University of Washington Press, 1980.

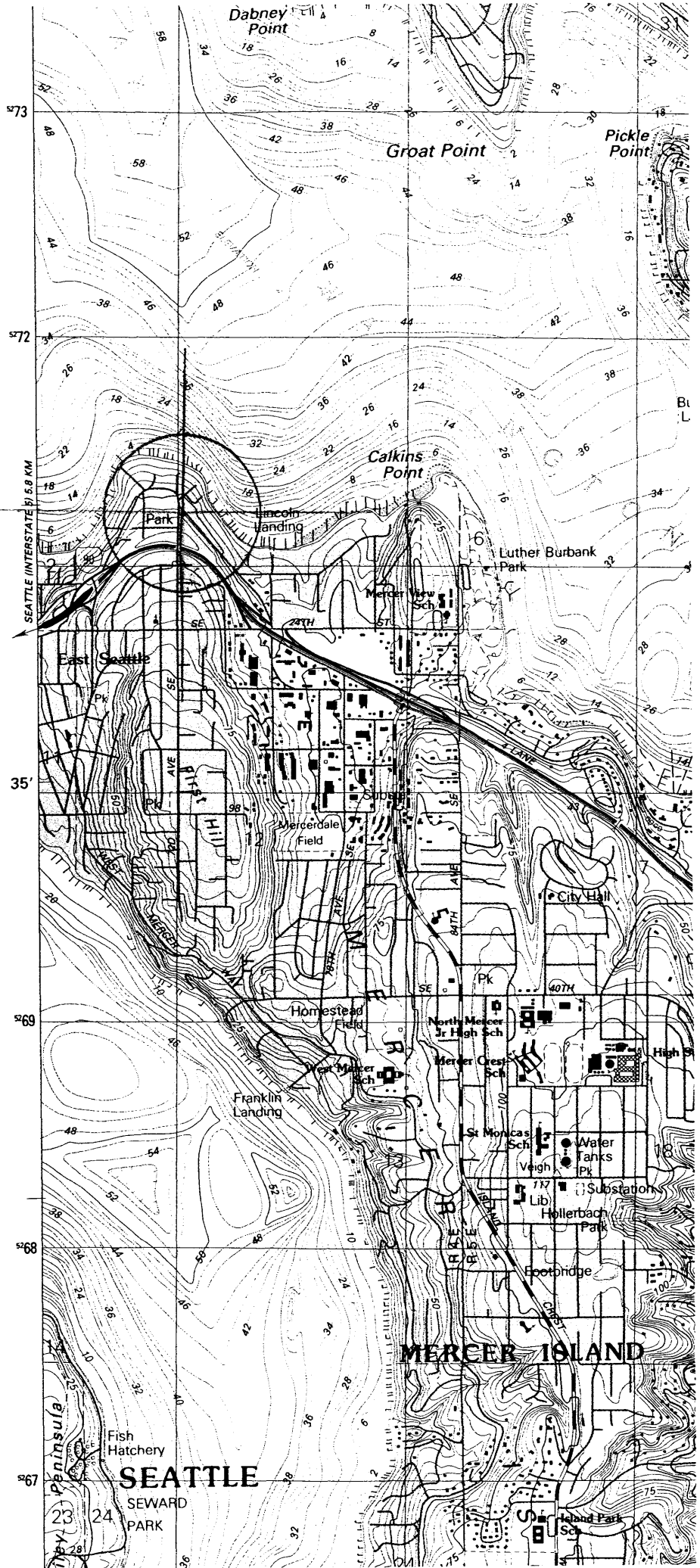
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated property is located in Section 1, Township 24N, Range 4E of the Willamette Meridian in Mercer Island Washington, and is legally described as Lot 1, Block 4 of the McGilvra's Island Addition. It is otherwise identified as Tax Lot 531510-0201 at the said location.

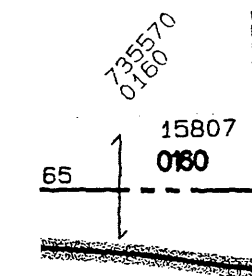
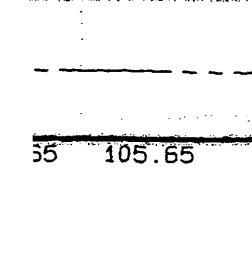
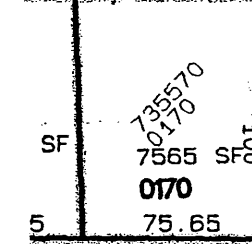
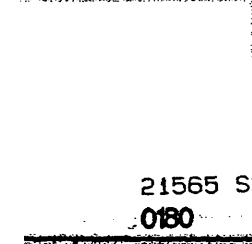
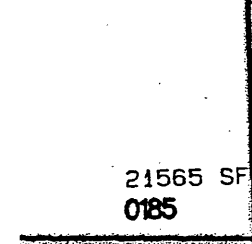
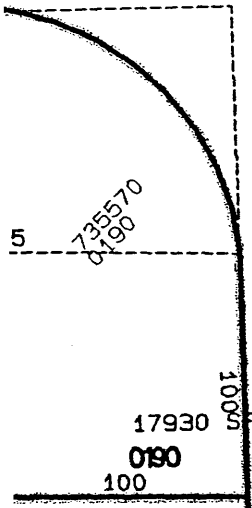
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated property includes all of the property associated with the Keewaydin Clubhouse.

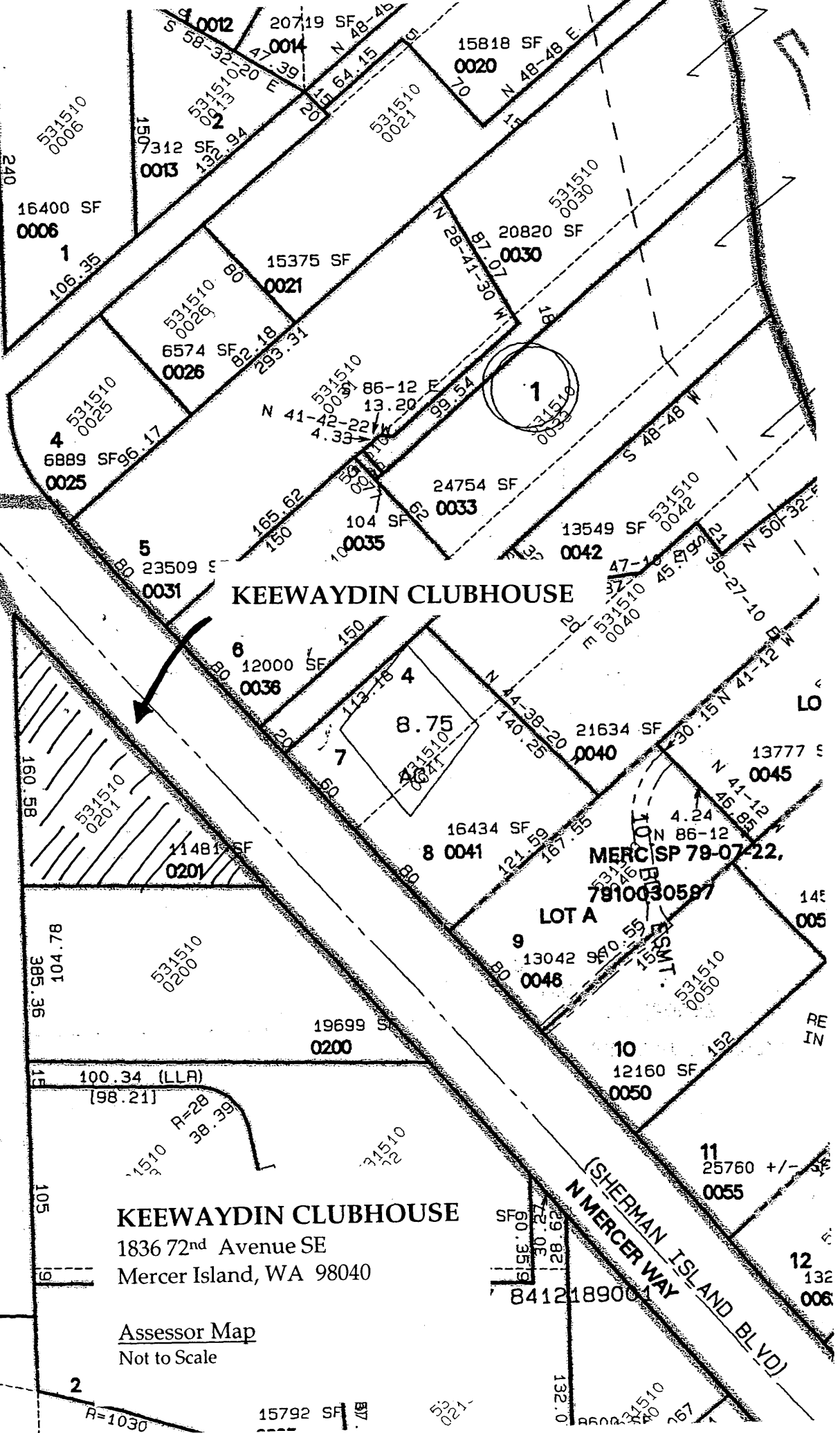
KEEWAY DIN
CLUBHOUSE
ZONE 10
556920 E
5271408 N



0005 50 0015 50



72ND AVE S.E.



KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE

MERC SP 79-07-22,
7810030587

LOT A

KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE

1836 72nd Avenue SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Assessor Map
Not to Scale

(SHERMAN ISLAND BLVD)
N MERCER WAY

↑
N
Y

2
R=1030

15792 SF

841218900

132.0

N

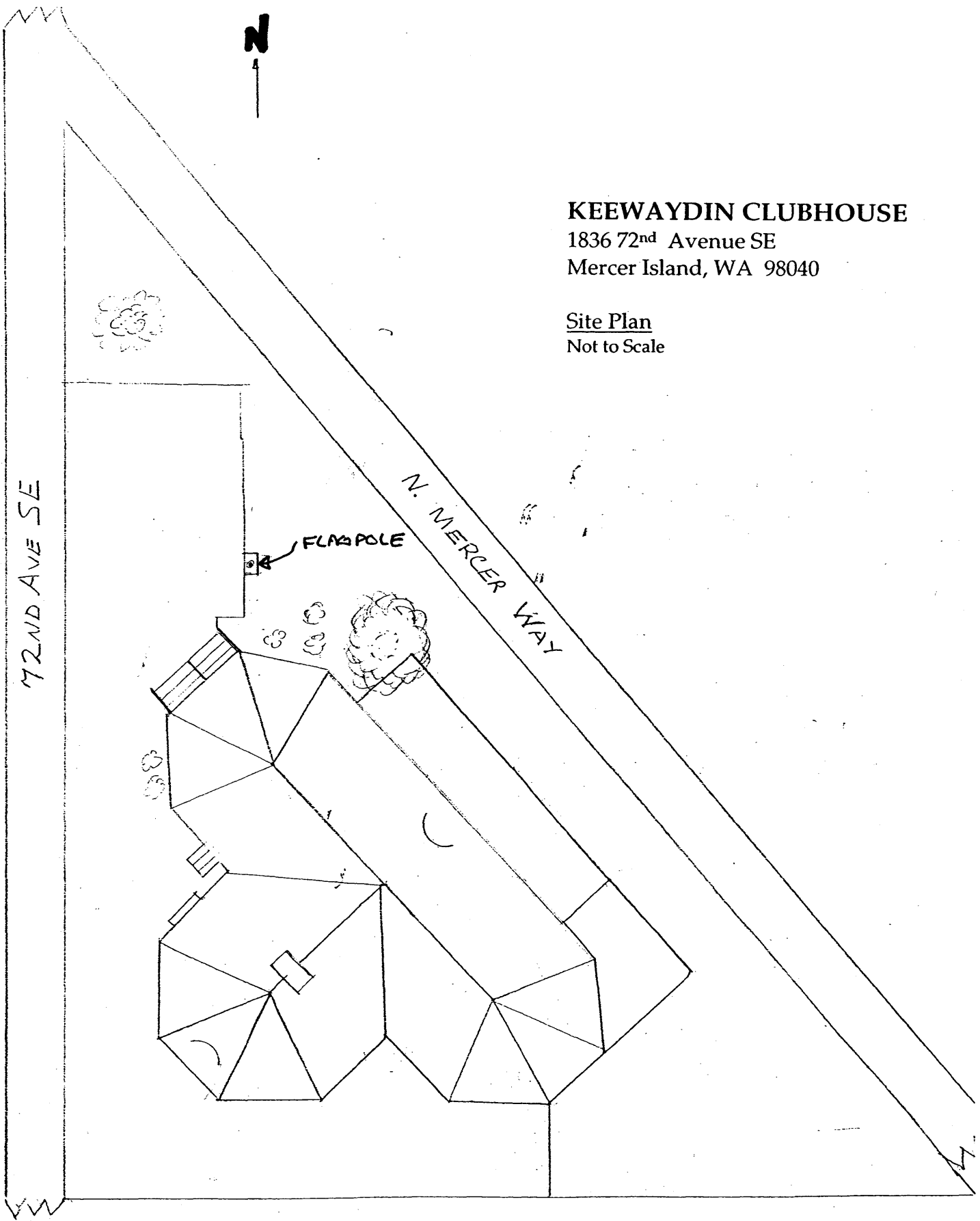
KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE

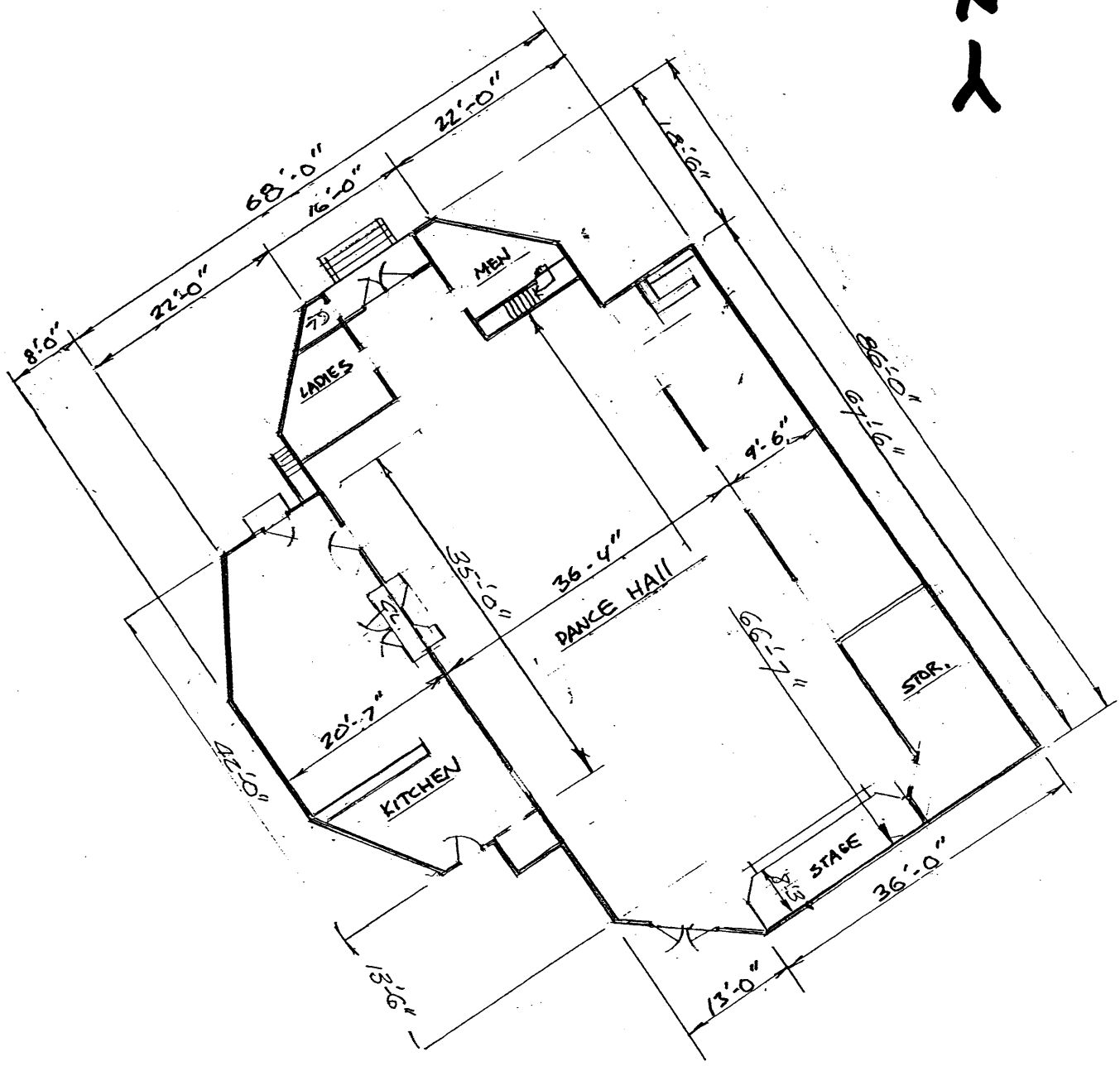
1836 72nd Avenue SE

Mercer Island, WA 98040

Site Plan

Not to Scale





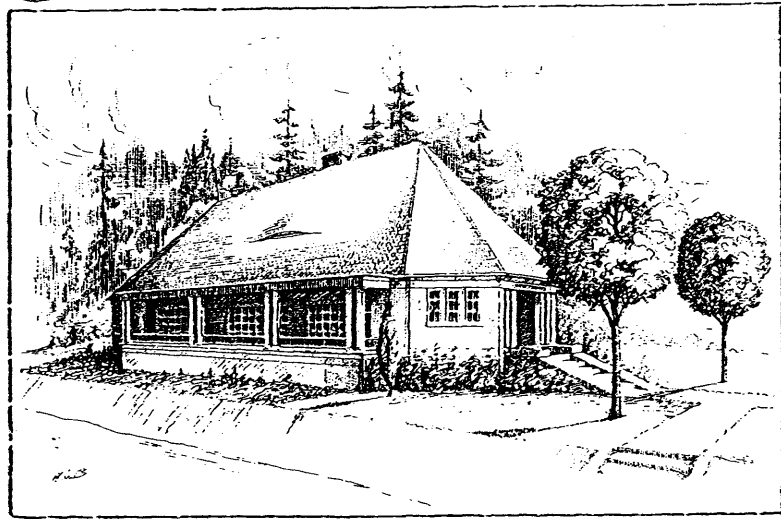
KEEWAYDIN CLUBHOUSE

1836 72nd Avenue SE
 Mercer Island, WA 98040

Floor Plan
 Not to Scale

Keewaydin Club

of
Mercer Island



Year Book
1922



OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE KEEWAYDIN CLUB

C. H. COLE, Secretary
E. R. WILLIAMS, Architect
N. V. BERGLIND, Trustee

H. C. RAYMER, Vice-president
L. E. A. HOOEY, Treasurer
H. H. RILEY, Trustee

W. S. FOSTER, President
G. A. ABRAMSON, Trustee

(Photos by James & Merritt)

HISTORY OF THE KEEWAYDIN CLUB

THE Keewaydin Club is a young organization. It has been in existence less than a year, yet has made such wonderful progress and taken such remarkable strides toward its original objective that it has attracted wide notice and come to be recognized as a brilliant example of what may be done by a suburban community when the proper spirit of cooperation, unity of purpose and general social relationship is behind the movement.

Its membership embraces a large share of the population of the northern part of Mercer Island. They are mostly young business and professional men who have attained success in their chosen lines, men of force who have worked and won, who still work, but not to the extent where work alone is allowed to dominate the good things that may be squeezed out of life. Their code of ethics embraces the Golden Rule. They are in love with life and their fellow men. They live on Mercer Island, because they love its natural beauty, the tranquil peace of the wooded hills, the wild things therein and the broad expanse of limpid Lake Washington, flecked with gold from a low-hung sun or awash with molten silver from a rising moon.

Keewaydin, "the North Wind," was to the early tribes "the Home Wind," for when the North Wind blew the trail led home. When the red hunter felt the first vagrant draught from the north he abandoned the chase and faced toward the security and comfort of his distant home fire. The North Wind suggested home, rest, social intercourse with his fellows, and the enjoyment of the season's labors. Kee-way-din came to mean to him the pleasures that are the reward of industry, the feast, the dance and relaxation from the cares of responsibility. The name was suggested by Mrs. H. S. Woolley, and adopted as most appropriate for the new club.

The Keewaydin Club originated among the members of the Mercer Island Community Club, an organization that has existed for a number of years on the northern section of Mercer Island. The old club was not interested in the social life of the neighborhood entirely, but in the upbuild and welfare of that part of the Island generally. It is to the activity of this group of enterprising men that credit must be given for a large part of the splendid public improvements that have been secured for the north end of the Island, making it the most desirable suburban home district in the county, and an ideal place to raise a family of youngsters, of which many flourishing examples are in evidence.

The Keewaydin Club was formed for social purposes exclusively. It is meant to serve as a medium for cementing the friendly relationship of the members, fostering a spirit of neighborliness, elevating the social life of the community and furnishing an adequate place in which to congregate when the need presents itself.

The Club was organized and incorporated on November 29,

(Continued on page 4)

HISTORY OF THE KEEWAYDIN CLUB

(Continued from Page 2)

1921, after Attorney James W. McBurney had read and explained the charter and by-laws. These were accepted with some modifications, and the following officers were elected to serve one year: W. S. Foster, president; H. C. Raymer, vice-president; C. H. Cole, secretary; Dr. L. E. A. Hoey, treasurer; trustees, G. A. Abramson, N. V. Berglind and H. H. Riley.

The recognized need of the newly formed club was a clubhouse. It was at once decided to erect one on a lot situated at the corner of East Street and the famous boulevard, which had been previously purchased for that purpose. Mr. E. R. Williams, a prominent architect and member of the Keewaydin Club, here took charge and by his inspiring, enthusiastic and self-sacrificing efforts, created a building of such magnitude, utility of plan and

(Continued on Page 22)



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HISTORY OF THE KEEWAYDIN CLUB

(Continued from Page 4)

beauty of design as to gain for him the lasting esteem of the Club and the community to which he gave so much.

The main part of the building is in the form of an oblong octagon, 37 feet by 87 feet, all of which is given over to the dance floor, except a double cloak room at the right and left of the main lobby. A pretentious wing, running off from this, contains the dining room and kitchen, with all the accessories contained therein that will make easy of realization the many jolly banquets anticipated by the Club as the years roll by. A mammoth fireplace cheerfully dominates the main hall, from which a tier of twelve French doors give access to a grand portico extending the full length of the building and overlooking the winding tree-rimmed boulevard, the broad irradiant expanse of Lake Washington and the haze-veiled peaks of the distant Cascades.

Under Mr. Williams' supervision the clubhouse was built by the members personally. The work commenced about the middle of May, 1922, when all available club members assembled at the building site and in one day cleared the lot. The excavating and concrete work was done in June, and on July 1 a feat equal to an old-fashioned log rolling was performed, when twenty-seven club members, among whom were included doctors, lawyers, merchants and manufacturers, architects, brokers, mechanics and clerks, moved, in one day, 60,000 feet of lumber and 58,000 shingles from a barge on the lake up a stiff grade to the point of building. From then on, all working together, the structure was soon up and now stands, a monument to the high ideals, live-wire qualities and ambitions of the builders.

TELEPHONE: MAIN 4924

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CELEBRATE OPENING

Pictured above are members of the new community club at their first luncheon in celebration of the club's formation.

The new community club at Roanoke opened its doors with a gala luncheon Monday. The club has been christened "Keewaydin" and boasts a

huge fireplace and large dance floor.

Mrs. Vinal was opposed to the name Keewaydin as that was the name of her Campfire group. Keewaydin means north wind. But as long as the Campfire group is no longer meeting Mrs. Vinal says she supposes it is all right.

FERRY BREAKS SEWER PIPE

The ferry Calypso piled up last night on top of the Ogden's sewer pipe last night during her moonlight run. It took the entire neighborhood four hours to get her afloat again.

Magic Lantern Show Slated

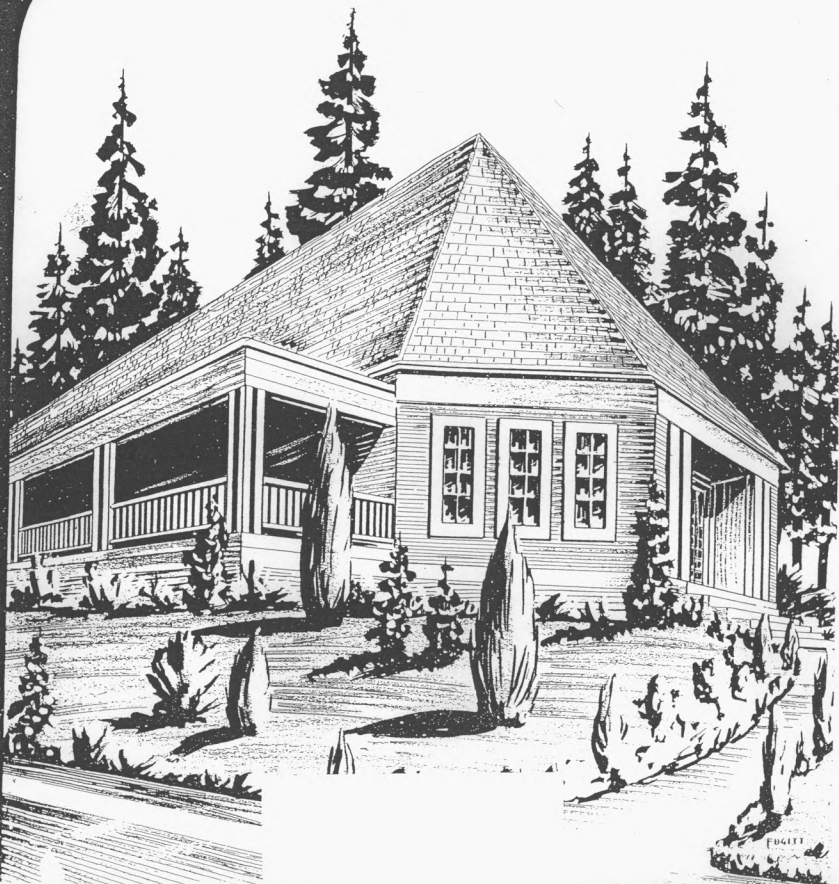
Mercer Island's first "Magic Lantern" show will be held Saturday evening above

No fooling, folks, we are deeply indebted to Mrs. Virginia Ogden, Full

Mrs.
rce.

MERCER ISLAND CLUB

ANNUAL YEAR BOOK
1940



BRIDGE ACHIEVEMENT NUMBER

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