

1449

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name Shawnee House

other names/site number Shaw, Millard F. and Josephine, House

2. Location

street & number: 11608 SW Shawnee Road not for publication: N/A
city or town: Vashon vicinity: N/A
state: Washington code: WA county: King code: 033
zip code: 98070

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.)

[Signature] 10/23/00
Signature of certifying official Date

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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register [Signature]
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] 11/22/00
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property <u>X</u>	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> private	building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<u> </u> public-local	<u> </u> district	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u> public-State	<u> </u> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u> public-Federal	<u> </u> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
	<u> </u> object	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Domestic secondary structure
Domestic secondary structure
Domestic secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Category; Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals
Subcategory; Colonial Revival/Arts and Crafts
Other Stylistic Terminology; Eclectic

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Stone; Limestone
roof: Other--Composition Tile
walls: Wood Shingle

other: Brick; Wood

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Exploration/Settlement

Transportation

Period of Significance

1907-1932

Significant Dates 1916

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Van House, Max A.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: Island Landmarks

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 2.25 Acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	<u>10 539060</u>	<u>5247565</u>	3	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____

See continuation sheet.

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary J. Matthews, Exec. Director, and Assistant Stacie Bennett

organization Island Landmarks date August 20, 2000

street & number P.O. Box 13112 telephone 206-463-2445

city or town Burton state WA zip code 98013

12. Additional Documentation

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 Judith and David Parker

street & number P.O. Box 1964 telephone 206-463-9785

city or town Vashon Island state WA zip code 98070

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 7 Page 1

 Shawnee House
name of property
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Narrative Description

Shawnee House is located on Vashon Island Washington, approximately one mile southeast of the small village of Burton. The house was built in 1916 for Tacoma businessman Millard F. Shaw and his wife Josephine, and was designed by architect Max A. Van House, who was also from Burton. Dramatically situated on the western shore of lower Quartermaster Harbor, the house is a landmark of the Shawnee community, which was named for "Shawnee Rancheree,"¹ the 1932 subdivision of Mr. Shaw's original 40-acre parcel. The house is a grand example of the merging of the Colonial Revival with the Arts and Crafts styles. The 5,500 sq. ft. house is in good condition, retaining integrity of design, materials, location, and setting, including several significant interior features. Classic architectural details including Tuscan columns and Palladian windows combine with wood shingled walls, a gambrel roof, attached conservatory, and gardens unifying house and landscape to present an estate of unusual ostentation for Vashon Island. Three outbuildings--the original garage which has been altered, a contemporary garage set into an embankment, and a tool shed--are non-contributing.

The nominated area consists of approximately 2.3 acres and is bounded by Quartermaster Harbor tidelands on the east, S.W. Shawnee Road on the south, Vashon Highway S.W. on the west, and small lots (approx. one acre)--with what was originally seasonal cabins, now expanded single family homes--on the north. The acreage slopes down to the water from the west, and the facade faces the harbor, on the east.

SITE

The integration of the architecture of Shawnee House and its surrounding landscape was skillfully designed, it is assumed, by Van House and is important to the site's significance. The house was built on a series of terraces complemented by rustic stone walls, meandering stone and concrete walks amid old-fashioned herbaceous borders, embankments planted with ground cover and rock gardens, and a variety of ornamental trees and shrubs, all opening onto an uninterrupted, expansive lawn. The repetition of the rough-cut, uncoursed rubble used in the outer wall for flower borders and retaining walls is a major theme of the landscape. The same type of natural rock is used in the house's foundation, effectively tying the house and grounds together to form a single, organic unit; thus, in spite of the architect's formal classicism, the house appears to grow out of its landscape.

¹Unknown author. "Tea Served at Shawnee House," typewritten report, unknown date.

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Narrative Description (Continued)

The front lawn is enclosed on the east and south by an uncoursed rubble wall approximately two feet in height, which has romantic origins. The rock was supposedly ballast from sailing ships anchored at Dockton, a dry-dock and shipyard which once flourished across the harbor on the western shore of Maury Island.² The stone wall borders the entire east side of the property, approximately 100', with seven piers approx. 36" in diameter spaced at average intervals of 15'. Originally the wall was continuous;³ at an unknown date an opening flanked by two piers was inserted, providing access to the beach. A concrete bulkhead with a central stair was constructed in 1985 approx. 10' to the west, to protect the rubble wall.

An intimate garden, enclosed by the stone wall, was created on the south side of the house. Inside the wall mature trees and shrubs, including an exotic spruce and rhododendrons, provide a barrier to S.W. Shawnee Road. The garden is entered through an opening flanked by two piers at the end of the stone wall; hinges in the pier indicate that a gate was once a part of the wall's design. A terraced walk with stone-lined steps meanders through the garden, leading to what was originally the main entry on the northeast end of the conservatory. The stone walk straightens into a concrete sidewalk which runs directly in front of the east elevation, where access to the lawn is provided from the basement level. Original photographs show a stone-lined herbaceous border on either side of this sidewalk, delineating the garden area from the broad sweep of the lawn.

On a terrace above the garden, a gravel driveway approx. 80' in length provides access to the house from S.W. Shawnee Road. The driveway leads to the main entrance used today, located at the northwest corner of the conservatory. On the east side of the driveway is a concrete sidewalk bordering a formal garden in the Italian style, with an arbor as its centerpiece; the garden complements the house's elegant Colonial Revival style. This garden was installed by the present owners in 1985. On the west side of the driveway is an embankment, planted with ground cover, retained by a low stone wall.

In 1916, at the same time of the house's construction, Shaw built a pier and a road to the growing town of Burton for the transportation of supplies, mail, and visitors by the Mosquito Fleet. The road, built of planks along the beach, connected Shawnee to the Burton pier, built in 1894. Both the pier and the road were removed at an unknown date; however a few remaining pilings, which contribute to the significance of the site, identify the original location of both structures.

² Unknown author. "Tea Served at Shawnee House," typewritten report, unknown date.

³ Photograph, east facade of Shawnee house looking south from the beach road, c. 1927. Photocopy of photograph, courtesy of Judith and David Parker family collection.

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Narrative Description (Continued)

North of the main entrance a service area leading to the kitchen is closed from view by a white wooden fence. On the west side of the driveway, opposite the entrance, a two-car garage and a three-bay storage area was installed in the late 1980s; the garage opening is located on the south side of the fence, and the roof is covered with flowering vegetation which effectively diminishes its visual impact. The three storage bays feature double doors and are in the service area north of the fence, not visible from the drive or yard. The roof of this garage, which forms a part of the upper terrace, is flat and has a small, formal garden planted on its north end; the garden and upper terrace are accessed from the service area by a small stair. The exposed walls of the garage are wood shingle and the wood trim is painted white. This garage is a non-contributing feature.

The terrace at the top of the embankment overlooking the driveway is the site for two outbuildings. It is accessed from S.W. Shawnee Road by a white wooden gate which opens onto a grass drive. West of the drive are the original garage/workshop and a tool shed.

At the west property line, which faces busy Vashon Highway S.W., the islands' major north-south thoroughfare, a mature English laurel hedge maintains privacy. The western portion of the property, behind the house and outbuildings, was originally pasture and is now open space with a few remaining apple trees surviving from the original orchard planted by the Shaw family. This area is enclosed on the north side with a latticed wood fence, with a gate and arbor draped with a grape vine, providing access to the adjacent property, which also includes ornamentals which were originally part of Shawnee House. Rhododendrons, lilac, native shrubs, roses, and various species of mature trees, including oak, chestnut, and hemlock enhance the landscape surrounding the house; they are planted in rock-lined beds on the outside boundaries of the yard, gradually receding in order for the lawn to open up and sweep to the Sound.

The original forty-acre Shaw estate included a major water source, what is today called Fisher Creek, which was dammed by Shaw and used as a power source. While this major outlet to the Sound is no longer located on Shawnee House property, a tributary of Fisher Creek continues to descend down the steep bank west of Vashon Highway S.W., below the highway, emerging as a creek which forms the northern boundary of the lawn. A long, open shed situated just north of this creek, on the beach, was probably for boat storage. This building is no longer extant.

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EXTERIOR

Shawnee House is a four-story wood frame building with a full basement and attic. Due to the slope, the house is constructed on two levels, with the main entrance on the west elevation at the second floor and a secondary entrance opening onto the lawn on the east, with the rest of the basement level below grade. The house is rectangular in plan, with the central mass featuring two projections: a conservatory, 15' X 16', on the south; and what was originally a two-story wing with a breakfast room and pantry on the second floor, approx. 7' X 20', on the north. Significant design features are multi-pane casement windows with architrave trim, walls sheathed in wood shingle, and classical detailing.

The simple rectangular massing and gambrel roof create an impression of the Dutch Colonial Revival style, but actually the house represents a synthesis of the Colonial Revival with the Arts and Crafts. The inset porch on the second story facade, overhanging eaves with exposed "rafter ends" (the term used by the architect), multi-pane casement windows, and shed dormers projecting from the lower slope of the roof on both sides of the ridge are Arts and Crafts features. The roof, originally wood shingle, today is sheathed in composition tile. In the dormer a pair of casement windows flanked on either side by a single casement window open onto a canvas deck; original plans show flower boxes along the deck's edge; these are no longer extant. Two brick chimneys project on either side of the roofline.

The house is sheathed in wood shingle; original photographs of a light-colored wall surface present a striking contrast to the house today, which has weathered to a dark brown. A prominent water table separates the shingled wall from the foundation, which is constructed of rough-cut irregular rubble and provides a natural aesthetic. On the first floor facade trellis attached to the foundation repeat the octopartite motif found in the porch balustrade. The trim is painted white, presenting a stark contrast to the dark wood shingle.

On the facade, the inset porch at the southeast corner of the second story features a Tuscan colonnade, and a balustrade with a decorative octopartite motif in a central panel. The original architectural drawings show a pair of casement doors leading from the porch to the living room; however, it is believed that this design was not executed, and today a large single-light window with a multi-pane transom was substituted for the doors. Access to the porch from the interior is achieved through a pair of casement doors on the south elevation from the dining room.

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On the north end of the second story facade the porch opening is balanced by a large window consisting of a central light with a multi-pane transom, flanked on either side by multi-pane casement windows. On the basement level, a bi-panelled door with a six-light sash is centrally located, beneath the central bay of the porch. Fenestration at this level consists of pairs of six-light casement windows with concrete sills.

On the south elevation, third floor level, two windows with a pair of multi-pane casement sash are flanked on either side by a small multi-pane fixed sash, set under the eaves. A Palladian window under the gable peak crowns the elevation.

On the southwest corner of the south elevation, second floor level, is the conservatory wing, an interesting feature of the house which was originally divided into three rooms: on the south, a plant room with a concrete floor and basin; and on the north, a work room and entry vestibule. The original design, which called for the main entrance of the house to be placed in the conservatory wing, is an unusual plan.

The conservatory has a flat roof that was originally layered with canvas, but has since been replaced with several different types of waterproofing membranes, the most current and existing replacement being a torch-down material called "Derby gum" which the current owners installed in 1985.⁴ At the roofline is a box cornice supported by slightly projecting belt course featuring decorative exposed rafter ends. A wide fascia runs between the belt course and the window heads. Pairs of multi-pane casement windows separated by pilasters wrap around the east, south, and west elevations. The original windows deteriorated and the present windows are reproductions installed in the late 1980s.

The present owners use an entrance on the conservatory's west elevation to provide access to the house, since this entrance opens onto the driveway. The house's original entrance was on the east elevation of the conservatory, through a segmentally arched opening; the full-length casement door is also segmentally arched. A hood over this entry features a curved pediment with flared ends supported by decorative scroll brackets. concrete stair leads into the garden. This stair was originally balustraded, with the same octopartite motif, but the balustrade was removed at an unknown date, and replaced by a chain and posts.

⁴ Judith Parker, interview by Stacie Bennett held at the Shawnee house, Burton, Washington, 22 March 2000.

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On the house's west elevation, the main entrance today features the same segmentally arched opening and door as the original entry; however, instead of a hood, access is gained through a small portico with a single Tuscan column on the southwest corner. At the north end of this elevation an inset porch provided for outdoor dining; at an unknown date the porch was enclosed and the interior wall removed, allowing for an expansion of the kitchen. A door leads from the kitchen to the outside service area.

On the north elevation, the projecting pantry and breakfast room featured the same flat roof, box cornice, and decorative rafter ends as the conservatory. In 1991 a third floor was added; it was shingled and multi-pane casement was added. In this same year a porch was added which reproduces the original design features of Tuscan columns and a balustrade with ornamental panels. Another alteration has been made to the second story facade of the breakfast/pantry room wing. Originally, this wall, which faced the front lawn and the Sound, was an unbroken shingled wall. Before the present ownership, a single-light fixed window was inserted. At the basement level, there is an entrance onto the lawn.

OUTBUILDINGS

Van House's original garage design, which featured a Palladian window and arched casement doors, was considerably simplified in actual construction. What was built was a one-story gabled building sheathed in wood shingle, with exposed rafter tails and multi-pane casement sash. Original photographs show a large opening on the south end of the east elevation, for the carriage; this was removed at an unknown date, and replaced with a shingled wall. The north and south elevations both feature two windows with a pair of casement sash; a rectangular window replaced Van House's original Palladian design in the gable.

In the late 1980s the garage was altered by the addition of a large two-story workshop and office with a gambrel roof. The new addition carries out the typical design features of Shawnee House, including wood shingle sheathing and multi-pane sash. Another significant alteration to the garage is the removal of a doorway and casement window on the west elevation and two modern, panelled overhead garage doors installed. Because of the addition and the altered west elevation, the garage is considered a non-contributing building.

Two more non-contributing buildings have been added to the site. A two-car garage with a three-bay storage area was built into the embankment to the west of the main house in the late 1980s; it is described in "Site." A third outbuilding, used as a tool and machinery shed today, originally was a stable, built c. 1980.

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INTERIOR

Shawnee House has many intact interior features designed by Van House.⁵ There have been some changes in plan, mainly between 1984 and 1991 when the current owners began correcting dry rot throughout the house. The house exhibits many of the details common in the homes of the wealthy during this historical period: push-button light switches, decorative base and crown mouldings, full-length casement doors, windows with original hardware, hardwood floors, a billiard room, and a working servant communications system with a call button beneath the table inset in the dining room floor and master bedroom. The most significant change to the interior took place at an unknown date, before the present owners, when the entire first floor interior woodwork, including the fireplaces, was painted white. Although it is not specifically noted in the plans, the woodwork was probably varnished fir, a part of the Arts and Crafts tradition which is still intact in the basement. The brick fireplaces were also probably designed for a natural finish, to add deep color and a rustic texture to the room.

Most of the interior walls are lathe and plaster, however, some of the more deteriorated walls were replaced with thin gypsum wallboard over the original lathe.⁶ With the exception of the basement fixtures, most of the original Arts and Crafts lighting fixtures were missing when the present owners purchased the house in 1984; they have been replaced with vintage fixtures similar in style. The original radiant heating system is still used as the only heat source for some of the rooms, however a supplementary propane heating system has been installed.

The Basement

The large room in the basement noted on architectural plans as the "billiard room" is the most intact room in the house, and exhibits the original finishes and design details of the Arts and Crafts style. The basement is accessed from the first floor by a panelled stairway from the service hall. The billiard room is significant for its dark panelling with the original varnished finish. This panelling is in an unusual configuration: it is composed of vertical planks 5' in height, spaced 1" apart, and finished with a plate rail. The wall surface behind the planks have been painted white, producing a striped effect; this probably was not original. The woodwork is said to have been designed after that in the main salon of the U.S.S. Constitution.⁷ On the west elevation is one of the house's most interesting interior features, a massive fireplace built of irregular brick, with large inset

⁵ Max A. Van House, original architectural blueprints, undated.

⁶ Parker interview.

⁷ Parker interview.

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masses of molten brick, said to have come from "the bottom of a brick kiln at the old Burton brickworks."⁸ A brass insert is not original. Designed as a dark space to relax, away from the sunny beach, this room retains much of its original character, including built-in seating, varnished fir beams at the ceiling which have darkened over time, original plaster walls, a maple floor, and original light fixtures.

The service area of the basement, including the laundry room, a small bathroom, and a storage space have been remodelled, although they are still used for work and storage. The original heating room has had sheet rock walls, a propane furnace, and an updated electric panel added. The current owners installed new vinyl flooring and new bathroom fixtures, with the exception of the original toilet, which features a round bowl and elevated tank. The original doors and windows were re-used, which is significant because the architect's plans call for a specific door design to be used in the basement between the billiard room and the furnace room.

The First Floor

Conservatory

The conservatory wing originally consisted of a room for plants, a work room, and entry vestibule. The wall between the work room and vestibule has been removed, forming an open entry area from which two steps lead up into the hall. The vestibule's original red tile floor has been replaced with new 12" X 12" ceramic tile. The plant room originally had a central basin, a concrete floor, and built-in seating on three walls. These features have been removed and the conservatory is used today as a small sitting room. In 1985 the conservatory windows were replaced in-kind. The plaster has been replaced with gypsum dry wall, and the new tile floor installed in the vestibule was continued into the plant room.

As has been previously described, the main entry of the house today is at the northwest corner of the conservatory. The full-length, multi-pane, segmentally arched door and architrave trim is a trademark of Van House's work, and is repeated throughout the house. A picture of Van House shows him standing in front of a similar entry, and although the building is unidentified, the arched entry appears to be characteristic of his work.⁹

⁸ Unknown author. "Tea Served at Shawnee House," typewritten report, unknown date.

⁹ Photograph, Max A. Van House at a residence in Swan Lake, Montana, c. 1939. Photograph courtesy Alice Arnold Smith family collection.

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Narrative Description (Continued)

The main hall is largely intact, including the original stair to the second floor. The design for the stair and newel post is included in Van House's drawings.¹⁰

Alterations in the conservatory and hall include:

1. Replacing original conservatory windows, in-kind.
2. Removal of the original basin in plant room.
3. Removal of the original benches which lined the perimeter of the plant room.
4. Changing use of room from plant room to sitting room.
5. Installing new tile over the original concrete floor of the plant room.
6. Removing the wall between the work room and the vestibule.
7. Replacing the original tile floor of the vestibule with new tile.
8. In the hall, an entrance into a room on the west, originally a bedroom, has been removed. A new entrance has been placed on the bedroom's north elevation.
9. Removal of the stair's stringer moulding and raking moulding.
10. Painting the newel post and balusters of the stair white.

Living Room

The living room is accessed from the main hall through a pair of full-length casement doors. The original-floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace is structurally intact, but has alterations in finish. Van House's design shows four decorative tiles inset in the brick, two over the lintel and, over the mantel, one on either side of a panel reserved for a painting. The specifications call for "tapestry brick facing."¹¹ The specifications were apparently not followed, as there is no evidence of the described decorative tiles. The floor in the living room the floor is of two materials: inexpensive fir has been used in the center of the room, and was meant to be covered by a rug. Oak was used for the borders.

¹⁰ Photograph, original architectural drawings, sheet 12, undated.. Photograph courtesy of Judith and David Parker family collection.

¹¹ Photograph, original architectural drawings, sheet 9, undated. Photograph courtesy of Judith and David Parker family collection.

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Narrative Description (Continued)

Alterations in the living room include:

1. A new brass fireplace insert.
2. New tiles on the hearth, perhaps placed over the original tiles.
3. The fireplace, mantel, and all woodwork in this room has been painted white.
4. Bookcases, 4' 1/2" in height, have had the multi-pane leaded glass doors removed, but have been saved in storage.
5. A new cabinet has been added, over the bookcases.
6. The central light fixture is period, but not original.

Dining Room

A pair of full-length casement doors connect the living room with the dining room. A coffered wainscoting 6' in height, finished with a plate rail, is a beautiful feature of this room. The west elevation features a built-in china closet on either side of the fireplace. The upper doors of the china closet, segmentally arched with leaded glass, are original, as is the green tile in the hearth and fireplace surround, and the hanging sconce fixtures on either side of the mantel.

Alterations in the dining room include:

1. A new brass fireplace insert.
2. The hardware on the china closet.
3. The central light fixture, while period, is not original.
4. The woodwork in this room was probably varnished fir, and was painted white at an unknown date.

Kitchen

The kitchen has been extensively remodeled, however original details in the butler's pantry are intact, including the hardware, cabinets, and the porcelain sink with two long-neck brass faucets and the original fir countertop and back splash. The original linen chute, or wood lift as it is called on the architectural plans, still functions. The kitchen remodel in which the porch was enclosed, the interior wall removed, and the breakfast room altered, took place at an unknown date.

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Narrative Description (Continued)

Alterations in the kitchen include:

1. Enclosing an inset porch on the northwest corner of the house, removing the interior walls, and expanding the kitchen.
2. Removing the wall between what was the breakfast room and the pantry; and boarding up the door between the kitchen and the pantry.

Second Floor

The stair to the second floor is central to the plan, and ends at a landing. On the west side of the house are two bedrooms; on the east, the master bedroom and dressing room; and on the north, accessed from the hall, the bath. The second floor's original hardwood floors are all intact, and the master suite, including the sleeping room and adjoining dressing room, is in original condition. The dressing room has a fireplace on the west wall with 3" X 3" ceramic tiles on the hearth and surround.

Alterations to the second floor include:

1. In the southwest bedroom, a closet was turned into a desk niche.
2. A wall on the east elevation of the southwest bedroom has had a door inserted, to provide access to the master bedroom closet.
3. In 1991 the north wall of the original bathroom was moved three feet to the south, creating a smaller space with a sink, toilet, and small shower. A second bathroom was placed in a third floor addition to the breakfast room/pantry wing. The new bathroom has new plumbing fixtures.

Attic

There is a full attic that has been finished for storage and a guest bedroom.

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Statement of Significance

Shawnee House embodies in its construction, design, ownership, and history an urban affluence which found its expression in the building of homes on the beaches of Puget Sound in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The western shore of lower Quartermaster Harbor on Vashon Island was the location of one such community, Magnolia Beach, which was founded by wealthy Tacoma-area residents. The imposing architecture, expansive gardens and grounds, and major Mosquito Fleet dock make Shawnee House the grandest estate of this era. Shawnee House is also significant due to its architect, Max A. Van House, who moved to Vashon Island as a young child, lived close to the Shaw family, and designed Shawnee House while working for the Tacoma architectural firm of Heath and Gove. His later career included many important buildings in Tacoma and Butte, Montana.

While Shawnee House is significant in its representation of an era, the original Shaw property is also important to Native peoples, historically as the site of the major outlet of the Fisher Creek Watershed, today known as Fisher Creek. This creek was once a habitat for trout and the primary source for fresh water along what was known as "the Shawnee flats."² Because of the creek, the western shore of Quartermaster Harbor--including what became Magnolia Beach, the present site of Shawnee House, and the Shaw property before it was subdivided--had been occupied by Native Americans for centuries before its history began to be recorded by the later pioneers. The site may have archaeological potential due to its historical documentation, however this nomination only concerns the historic era. No known archaeological work has been done in this area to support aboriginal occupation.

Evidence of Native American buildings--specifically on the site of what was to become Magnolia Beach, of which Shawnee House was a part--comes from testimony given in a 1926 trial from Lucy Gerand, a Native American who lived on Vashon Island; and Thomas Talbot Waterman, a turn-of-the-century linguist. Gerand referred to her people as the "Shomamish," and associated them with the Puyallup Indians from the Puyallup River region. According to Gerand, the tribe spent the winter season--mid-November to March--in longhouses, several of which were located in Quartermaster Harbor.³ According to Waterman, ". . . along the north shore of Quartermaster Harbor's outer harbor, starting from the west and heading east, the house site named "AHL-al-ul," old houses," was located at what is now Magnolia Beach."

In 1841 the first step towards white settlement of the island took place when the United States Exploring Expedition charted Vashon and Maury Islands and the harbor; it is to the expedition's famous leader, Commander Charles Wilkes, that the harbor owes its name, "as a fancied haven for the spirits of his petty

²Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, "Fisher Creek Watershed Stories - as told by its neighbors," Vashon, WA, 1998. p. 17.

³David Buerge, "Indians of Vashon-Maury Island," 1994, a manuscript prepared for the McMurray School, Vashon, WA. p. 6.

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officers.”⁴ According to Oliver Van Olinda, a late nineteenth century local historian and photographer, Quartermaster Harbor is also Vashon Island's Massachusetts Bay, complete with its own equivalent of Plymouth Rock. In 1877 Salmon Sherman, John Gilman, Daniel Price, and their families sailed from Tacoma and landed on the bay's northeastern shore, also at a famous rock, to establish what is popularly believed to be “the first pioneer settlement.”⁵

At the end of the nineteenth century, another event took place that had far-reaching consequences for the harbor: Puget Sound was connected to eastern markets by the transcontinental railroads. This development had a profound impact upon the physical and economic growth of western Washington. One result was the flourishing of a new leisure class, which manifested its wealth by building seasonal and, in some cases, year-around residences along the pristine shores of islands adjacent to metropolitan areas. Since automobile ferries were not yet established and travel by land was still difficult, the transportation offered by the Mosquito Fleet made these communities possible. Quartermaster Harbor, with its protected bay and easy accessibility to Tacoma (only eight miles from Burton by steamer), became a natural location for this phenomenon.

In the late 1890s the first effort to establish a recreational development on Quartermaster Harbor took place when the North Tacoma Improvement Company and the Tacoma Yacht Club purchased all of Sections 31, 32, and 5 on Maury Island in 1889. The Tacoma Yacht Club Park, an area that later became Manzanita Beach, was platted in 1892 on a tract 1,000' deep running 2,200' along the shore of the southeast side of Quartermaster harbor. Called a “real estate promoter's dream,”⁶ the ten acres donated to the Yacht Club are in the center of the plat, with 11 roads planned to lead to houses on plats 25' X 300'. The community of Rosehilla was planned as a part of the Yacht Club development but was not actually platted until much later, in 1911.

The club house was begun in 1890, “a typical Victorian mansion some 125' square, three stories tall, with an enormous veranda that looked out over Quartermaster Harbor; most of the ground floor was taken up by a huge dining room and ballroom.”⁷ The Club appeared to be flourishing until the Panic of 1893 when bills could not be paid and the club property, including 10 acres, the mansion, and furniture were all sold at auction for

⁴Robert Hitchman, Place Names of Washington (WA: Washington State Historical Society, 1985), p. 244.

⁵Roland Carey, Van Olinda's History of Vashon-Maury Island (Seattle, WA: Alderbrook Pub. Co., 1985), p. 8, and photographs from the Van Olinda collection at the Univ. of Washington, Special Collections Division.

⁶Mary J. Matthews, “Marjesira Inn.” 18 July 1994, a nomination for King County Landmark designation, Seattle, WA. p. 7.2.

⁷Matthews, p. 7.2.

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\$800.00.⁸ By 1899 the Yacht Club had been re-established, but not at Manzanita. No houses were built during this early period before the Panic, and it was not until 1904 that serious construction of summer housing began at Manzanita.

It was on the harbor's western shore that the island's most important summer community, Magnolia Beach, was eventually established. The site of the development was homesteaded in 1878--only one year after the Shermans landed in the harbor--by Silas Cook, and named for his hometown, Magnolia, Iowa.⁹ In 1902 C.A. and Della Cook subdivided part of the homestead into 23 lots in dimensions of 100' X 500', widths that were unusually spacious compared to those of 25' and 50' at Manzanita and a later development south of Magnolia Beach, Harbor Heights. The expansive lot sizes encouraged the construction of large summer residences, no doubt contributing to Magnolia Beach's reputation as "the haven of the upper crust of the summer people."¹⁰

Magnolia Beach was the first planned community on Quartermaster Harbor to be platted for summer residences, followed by Harbor Heights in 1906, Northilla in 1909, and Rosehilla in 1911. None of these communities were to achieve the social and financial success of Magnolia Beach; Harbor Heights, for example, was:

... A real estate salesman's plat with property that would have been nearly impossible to build upon. The plat shows a street "Beach Way" leading up to three streets that parallel the beach. Since the west side of the harbor has an even steeper bank than the east side, the road just could not have been climbed. There is no evidence the roads were ever put in. In fact a house which has apparently been there as long as any of the other houses, sits in the middle of the site of Beach Drive.¹¹

In 1906 the flamboyant Ira Case, President of the Tacoma Soap Company, moved from Tacoma and built a four-story building which served as a residence, grocery, bakery, post office, and inn. Case, his wife Jessie, and daughter Margaret christened the rambling house "Marjesira," an acronym of their names¹² and it became the hub of the community. The construction of Marjesira encouraged the building of other summer residences on

⁸Matthews, p. 7.2.

⁹Hitchman, p. 174.

¹⁰Howard W. Lynn, Lieutenant Maury's Island and the Quartermaster Harbor (Vashon, WA: Beachcomber Press, 1975), p. 54.

¹¹Matthews, p. 7.2-7.3.

¹²Matthews, p. 7.3.

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Magnolia Beach, and it eventually influenced the entire west side of the harbor, from Burton south. When Shawnee House was built in 1916, it was considered a part of Magnolia Beach.¹³

The development of a community closely aligned with Tacoma had political as well as economic implications. No where has this been more succinctly stated than in Howard W. Lynn's account of the growth of Quartermaster Harbor, *Lieutenant Maury's Island and the Quartermaster's Harbor*:

... unseen is an invisible wall that divides this small island so palpably that one can almost feel it. From the earliest times there has existed what old timers call the Mason-Dixon line. This runs laterally across the island from Portage to Lisabeula. Anyone north of this line (the area which has the agricultural land, the largest town and the bulk of the industry, both at present and in history) is a total stranger to anyone living south of the line. There is no apparent political, economic, or social difference that can be noted as accounting for this division, it is just there. North of the line the trade is with Seattle, south of the line is with Tacoma. Even today interviews are noted in which someone will be speaking of an old time neighbor, one he went to school with in the early years of the century, and note that, "a few years ago he moved up there" indicating an area north of the line. The friend is gone, he moved to a foreign country perhaps five miles away over good roads.¹⁴

Magnolia Beach was the focal point of two attempts, in 1907 and 1911, to solidify the island's connection with Tacoma:

There was almost a very distinct geo-political division between these two halves of Vashon Island. When the county lines were drawn for what was to become Washington State, Vashon and Maury Islands were included in King County. In the August 30, 1907 issue of the *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, appears a large front page headline, "PIERCE COUNTY TRIES TO STEAL VASHON ISLAND." The story, datelined Tacoma, August 29, goes on to explain that an election had been held on the island to annex the area south of the Lisabeula-Portage line to Pierce county and that the proposition had been defeated by only a very narrow margin....Old timers remember this election. What happened was that only after the election had been called (at the instigation of residents of Quartermaster Harbor) was it realized that there were few eligible voters. The instigators of the election could not vote since they were summer residents

¹³Max A. Van House, original architectural blueprints, undated. Island Landmarks collection.

¹⁴Lynn, p. 11.

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and registered in Tacoma (Pierce County.) The permanent residents of the island voted, and Burton and Dockton voted in favor of annexing to Pierce County, but they lost by only a very few votes. Some think this was by only three or four votes . . . Annexation was raised again in 1911 when Ira Case of Magnolia, then serving as a Representative in the Washington State Legislature, introduced a bill in the house of Representatives to annex all of Vashon and Maury Islands to Pierce County. The Bill passed in the House but died in the Senate.¹⁵

The village of Burton became the commercial center for the summer communities. Prior to 1890, Burton was still deep woods; it was Miles F. Hatch, who had arrived on Vashon Island in 1880, who was the first to recognize the strategic value of Burton's location as the junction point for freight and passenger traffic between Vashon Island and Tacoma. Located at the head of the bay, with a direct connection to the interior farms, the site soon became the shipping point to Tacoma for the island's agricultural production. During the peak years of the summer communities, c. 1900-1925, Burton was enjoying a fervent period of prosperity, due in part to the establishment of a regional educational institution, the Vashon College and Academy, which opened in 1892. Another boost to Burton's growth took place in 1894 with the construction of an extensive dock by M.F. Hatch. This dock established Burton as a major shipping point for Mosquito Fleet steamers.

By 1907 Millard F. Shaw and his wife Josephine had moved to Vashon Island from Tacoma¹⁶ and purchased a forty-acre parcel north of Magnolia Beach and south of Burton.¹⁷ An early photograph of the Shaw parcel is in the family collection, probably dating to the late 1880s, could mean that the Shaws had purchased land on the harbor much earlier than 1907.¹⁸ The property was strategically located, with expansive frontage on the Sound. At its eastern border flowed the main tributary of the Fisher Creek Watershed, Fisher Creek, at that time known as "Burrows Creek," named after the Burrows brickyard to the north; it was later called "Shawnee Creek," after the Shaws. Shaw dammed the creek to provide electricity for Shawnee House¹⁹ and a sawmill, from which he milled his own lumber.²⁰ According to John V. Hamilton, who at one time lived in Shawnee House, ". . .

¹⁵Lynn, p. 11-12.

¹⁶Carol A. Nausin, telephone interview by Stacie Bennett at Island Landmarks, Burton, Washington, 13 March 2000. Mrs. Nausin is the granddaughter of Lucille Shaw (DeRosure), adopted by Millard and Josephine Shaw.

¹⁷Site map, 1907. Island Landmarks collection.

¹⁸Photograph, early view of cleared property looking west from Quartermaster Harbor, site of current Shawnee House, c. 1900. Photograph courtesy of the Bruce E. Donald family collection.

¹⁹John Hamilton, telephone interview by Stacie Bennett at Island Landmarks, Burton, Washington, 29 March 2000. Mr. Hamilton is a long time Vashon Island resident whos family lived at the Shawnee house from 1946 until the 1970's.

²⁰Hamilton interview.

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{Shaw} had a dam across there, across the creek, a big dam, and a generator, and he used the water for irrigation. It was at least forty acres, log berries and currents. . . M.S. Shaw was certified by King County to take water from the creek, up to 120 cubic feet per second. That's a lot of water!"²¹

The tidelands on the Shaw property, which ran between what is today S.W. Shawnee Road and Fisher Creek, were known as the "Shawnee flats." Islander Bob Gordon recalls:

As kids we used to fish for trout on Shawnee Creek. The trout loved it up there and all along the shoreline, especially along the Shawnee flats. You could go along and see the trout in the water. Along the beach between the creek and Burton, it was just sandbanks and natural shoreline. At the Shaw house they had a lot of pie cherry trees, back up from the beach, abutting the Shawnee Road. Those cherry trees went a long way up the hill.²²

The area today still commemorates the Shaws' ownership through its name, "Shawnee Beach." Fourth-generation islanders Gene and Peggy Sherman also remember:

Where Fisher Creek comes in, where the long tide flat is, the creek went parallel to the shore for quite a ways and left a spit or a sandbar outside of it. Well, this was great for the Indians because they could go in there and put their canoes into the lagoon and be safe from the weather. The lagoon at Shawnee used to look the same as the one you can still see at Gospel Point, over at Camp Burton. But Shawnee's all been filled up, and houses built on it. . . . The Shaw family built a house near the mouth the creek, which is how that area came to be called Shawnee. This was more or less the end of the road, so to speak. The road up the hill to Tahlequah wasn't in yet, and neither was the road to Burton.²³

Millard Shaw was the owner of the Pineo-Shaw Shingle Company in Spiketown, Washington, a former coal mining town on South Prairie Creek, 1-1/2 miles south of Buckley, in north central Pierce County.²⁴ John V. Hamilton believes the Shaws may have owned a shingle mill on Vashon Island, but there is no further information on this supposition.²⁵ The Shaws first built a two-story wood frame house northwest of Shawnee

²¹Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p.10.

²²Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p. 17.

²³Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p. 16.

²⁴Hitchman, p 284.

²⁵Hamilton interview.

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House, where they lived until 1916, the year of the construction of Shawnee House; they eventually moved back into the old frame house because Josephine claimed that the location of Shawnee House on the water was "too damp."²⁶ The frame house was torn down in the early months of the year 2000.

In 1916 Shaw commissioned Architect Max A. Van House to build a landscaped 5,500 sq. ft. house in a style combining Dutch Colonial Revival with the Arts and Crafts. On Vashon Island, settled largely by middle-class farmers, carpenters, lumbermen, fishermen, and small-town tradesmen, it was highly unusual for a house to be architect-designed; the cultural sophistication and the financial requirements for such an endeavor were not commonplace. In this respect Shawnee House is the grandest commission identified on the island to date.²⁷ What makes it even more significant locally is its architect, Max A. Van House, an island resident who designed Shawnee House when he was twenty-eight years old.

Max Allen Van House was born in 1888 in Moscow, Minnesota. When he was still a child, the family moved to Vashon Island, and his father, A.J. Van House, purchased twenty acres directly north of the Shaw property, on what is now Fisher Creek, and established a truck farm, growing greenhouse cucumbers and tomatoes for Seattle's winter market.²⁸ The A.J. Van House Greenhouses was noted in a special greenhouse edition of the "Vashon Island News", February 11, 1915:

A.J. Van House near Burton has been operating one house 20 X 100 feet for the past three years with very satisfactory results. His shipments last year were, 200 boxes lettuce, 600 dozen cucumbers. Mr. Van House is planning to enlarge his plant.²⁹

The Van House family was well-known in Burton; A younger brother, Kenneth, was a teacher at the Vashon College and later became Burton's postmaster,³⁰ and members of the family still live in Burton today. In her poem *The Burton Post Office*, island historian Marjorie Stanley mentions the Van House family: ". . . Ken Van House in the 'new post office' I knew so well--and his family--so many stories to tell! His sister Doris with her beautiful voice oft sang 'Ave Maria,' the song of my choice. Always she sang it with a feeling so rare, it brought tears to my eyes as I listened there."³¹

²⁶Bob Gordon, interview by Stacie Bennett at Island Landmarks, Burton, Washington, 29 March 2000. Mr. Gordon is a Vashon Island historian and long time resident.

²⁷Island Landmarks, "Vashon Maury Island Community Landmark Program," March 2000.

²⁸Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p. 16.

²⁹Vashon Island News, 11 February 1915, volume VIII, number 43.

³⁰Garland Norin, ed., The Past Remembered II (Vashon Island, WA: Vashon Maury Island Heritage Publication, 1991), p. 107.

³¹Marjorie R. Stanley, Historical...Sometimes Hysterical...Rhymes of Vashon-Maury Island (Vashon, WA: Beachcomber Press Inc., 1984), p. 19.

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When Van House was twenty, in 1908, he went to work as a draftsman in the office of George W. Bullard, whose firm, Bullard and Hill, designed the Washington State Historical Society and Museum in Tacoma in 1911. In 1914 he became a draftsman for the firm of Heath and Gove, yet another important regional partnership, perhaps best known for their design for the Paradise Inn, built on Mt. Rainier in 1917, and for their extensive commercial work in Tacoma.³² Also at this same time, in 1913-1916, he began work on two island commissions, Shawnee House for Millard and Josephine Shaw, and the Burton High School. Van House lived in Burton and commuted to work in Tacoma by the *Verona*³³ which was making three and sometimes four round trips daily in 1915. Delightful family photographs document the *Verona*, probably at the Shawnee dock.

Another reason Van House may have still been living in Burton was his future bride, Alice Boyington, whose family had moved to Burton in 1905. Alice too came from a established Burton family--her mother, Mrs. Augusta Hunt, was Burton's postmistress before Kenneth Van House took the job. Marjorie Stanley commemorated Mrs. Hunt, the postmistress, in her poem, "Augusta Hunt:"

I see Augusta Hunt standing in the door.
She was town benefactor, who always did
more than expected. In 1921
she built the post office building, and when done,
gave space to the Women's Club library there
for a minimal rent that she deemed was fair.
So the library of 1916
found a home till King County came on the scene."³⁴

³²Alice Arnold Smith, telephone interview by Stacie Bennett at Island Landmarks, Burton, Washington, 8 March 2000. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Walter Arnold, Max Van House's business partner in Butte, MT.

³³Tacoma City Directory, 1914. Tacoma Public Library.

³⁴Stanley, p. 19.

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In 1924, Van House began a partnership in Butte, Montana with Mr. Walter Arnold, advertising their concern as "Architecture and Concrete Engineers."³⁵ Throughout the mid-to-late 1920s and 1930s, Arnold and Van House are recognized as significant contributors to the commercial architecture of the city of Butte. Proficient in the Art Deco style, they designed such important projects as the gymnasium building for the State School of Mines; the B.P.O.E. Building; a department store for the Symons Dry Goods Company; and the Harrison Avenue Theater.

Van House was also active in Seattle during this time, apparently having businesses in both cities. His Seattle projects reflect an eclectic historicism: the Gothic Revival, represented by the Elinburt Apartment Building, built in 1927-28; the Jacobethan Revival, the style of the Ideal Investment Apartment Building, 1930-31; and the building for the Chong Wa Benevolent Association, located in the International District, and influenced by Chinese architecture. Van House may have worked with Wing San Chin, the first Chinese graduate from the University of Washington School of Architecture, to design this building.³⁶

In the 1930s, Van House is believed to have worked in Juneau and Anchorage, Alaska during a Depression-era building boom, and in Burbank, California. He was still practicing architecture in the 1950s, ten years prior to his death in 1966. His obituary records a second wife, Julia, and two daughters, Faye and Mrs. Philip Hennig, as surviving him.³⁷

Max Van House is primarily recognized as a commercial architect, and Shawnee House is his only recorded residential commission. His design for the Burton High School has been noted as "the finest school building on the island."³⁸ Unfortunately this fine building served for only fifteen years, when, in 1930 Vashon and Burton high schools were joined in a new building, the Union High School, at Center. The Burton High School was torn down in the early 1950's.

When Shawnee House was built, Shaw also constructed a major dock which served as the terminus of a road (today, S.W. Shawnee Road; in the 1940s, Fisher Road) which proceeded west up the steep bank, along Fisher Creek, to the M.F. Hatch Rd. (today Old Mill Rd. S.W.) Bob Gordon again recalls:

³⁵Smith interview.

³⁶David Rash, telephone interview by Stacie Bennett at residence, Seattle, Washington, 13 March 2000. Mr. Rash is an architectural historian.

³⁷Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 14, April 1966, p.26.

³⁸Carey, p. 51.

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The Shawnee road was a farm-to-market road, and the Shawnee dock was a county dock because of that. It would be maintained by the county for the farmers, so they would have access to get the farm produce into town. The county docks were at Shawnee, Burton, Dockton; all the rest were private docks, mostly built by community associations, like the Magnolia Beach Association. But the steamers stopped at all of them.³⁹

Another account of this area recalls the significance of the dock:

The Shawnee Dock at the mouth of Fisher Creek served that little community and whatever was up the creek--there were quite a few ranches up in there. A trail went up through that canyon, out the south side of the creek. On the north side of the canyon, there was a greenhouse, the Van House's greenhouse, that grew cucumbers and tomatoes for the winter market. There was also a chinchilla farm up there for a few years, between the greenhouse and the bay, and a mink farm farther up towards Burton.⁴⁰

The Shawnee pier was several hundred yards long, with a plank road lined on either side by a pedestrian walkway. After supplies and passengers were unloaded from the Mosquito Fleet, buggies would travel the length of the dock to the beach, to a pier and plank road. This "beach road" traversed the entire distance between Shawnee and Burton, the only access by land between the two areas at the time. Family photographs from 1927 show the road and pier in front of Shawnee House and a later photograph from 1939 shows the pier with a small white building constructed at its end. King County eventually took possession of all of the harbor docks and the plank road built by Shaw, but they were costly to maintain; none of them remain today. The few pilings that still exist along the beach in front of Shawnee House stand as a testament to the community's early years of maritime transportation and the role that the Shaws played in the growth of Vashon Island.

The steamer *Verona* had a colorful history. Built by the Martinolich Shipyard across the harbor in Dockton in 1910, this 112-foot vessel figured prominently in the incident of "Bloody Sunday" on November 5, 1916." On this date, three hundred members of the International Workers of the World (Wobblies) left Seattle on the

³⁹Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p. 17.

⁴⁰Vashon Maury Island Land Trust, p. 16.

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Verona and *Calista* to demonstrate in favor of the I.W.W. strike that was occurring in Everett. The boats were denied permission to dock by the local Sheriff and his posse. The result was a breakout of gunfire--to this day it is unknown who shot first--that killed seven people, and wounded nearly fifty, with an unknown number lost overboard and presumed drowned.⁴¹

In 1932 the Shawnee community was dramatically changed when a new road was built from Center to Tahlequah. The new road ended Shawnee's isolation: the community was no longer dependent on the beach road for access to Burton; the farms and ranches to the west had a new way to access other markets besides Tacoma. The new road, today known as Vashon Highway S.W., went directly through the Shaw property. The old frame house ended up on the west side of the highway, with Shawnee House on the east. In this same year, Shaw subdivided his forty acres and named it "Shawnee Rancheree."⁴² Within a few years, these lots would all have small beach cabins; within seventy, large, sprawling residences.

Today Shawnee House is the only tangible reminder of a rich and varied history. The Shaw family were important to the growth of the summer communities south of Burton, and they are still remembered through the place names which owe their origins to the family: "Shawnee Road," "Shawnee Beach," "Shawnee Creek," "Shawnee flats," and simply "Shawnee."

Shawnee House also represents the historical trend for wealthy Tacoma residents to buy and build houses on the shores of Quartermaster Harbor; aspirations of the Shaw family, built on the timber industry, important to local history; and, as a work of architecture, it may be the only surviving residential building left to interpret the design career of Max A. Van House, whose art was surely influenced by his childhood growing up on Vashon Island, on the Shawnee flats. It may be that the clinker brick in the basement fireplace of Shawnee House are the only surviving reminders of the Burrows brickyard on the island today. In its construction and design Shawnee House is truly significant to Vashon Island history.

⁴¹Lynn, P. 31.

⁴²Unknown author. "Tea Served at Shawnee House," typewritten report, unknown date.

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Photographs

In addition to all photographs listed on the continuation sheet for Section 12, Pages 1 and 2, the following photographs were used for reference; Island Landmarks retains negatives for all photographs listed:

1. Southeast view of Shawnee house and surrounding property to the north, from the Shawnee dock, c. 1927. Photocopy of the photograph courtesy of Judith Parker. Location of negative is unknown.
2. View of Shawnee house, East elevation, and beach road and Shawnee dock, looking South from the beach road, c. 1927. Photocopy of the photograph courtesy of Judith Parker. Location of negative is unknown.
3. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, unnumbered sheet, undated. Front and North elevations, photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
4. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, sheet 2, undated. First and second floor plans. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
5. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, sheet 4, undated. South and rear elevations. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
6. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, sheet 5, undated. Details for conservatory windows and section through conservatory and vestibule. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.

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General Bibliography & Sources (Continued)

Photographs (continued)

7. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, sheet 10, undated. Details for living room fireplace and other finish. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
8. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, unknown sheet number, undated. Elevations of breakfast room and details for dressing room fireplace. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
9. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, Sheet 12, undated. Details of stair. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
10. Photograph of original architectural drawing set, unknown sheet number, undated. Garage elevations and details. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Family Collection.
11. Photograph of cleared property, view looking West from Quartermaster Harbor of current site of Shawnee House, c. 1900. Photograph courtesy Bruce E. Donald Family Collection.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The Shawnee house is located in Section 24, Township 22, Range 2. Its parcel number is 242202:068

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel upon which Shawnee House is sited today, a parcel of 2.25 acres and including all contributing buildings and landscape features that have retained their integrity. Fronting on Quartermaster Harbor, the parcel extends west up the slope to Vashon Highway S.W., its western boundary. The southern boundary of the parcel is S.W. Shawnee Road. The northern boundary is comprised of small, approximately one acre, lots that were originally seasonal cabins, now expanded single family homes.

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Island Landmarks retains negatives for the photographs listed. Island Landmarks, P.O. Box 13112, Burton, WA 98013, 206-463-2445, mmatthews@centurytel.net.

Maps

1. Site map of current 2.25-acre property of Shawnee House. King County Assessor's Map, 1990.
2. Site map of current 2.25-acre property showing contributing and non-contributing buildings and vegetation. Not to scale. By Stacie Bennett for Island Landmarks, April 15, 2000.
3. Location of Josephine Shaw's forty-acre parcel, 1907. Map, Island Landmarks, Burton, WA.

Photographs

All photographs were taken by Stacie Bennett on April 7, 2000.

1. Shawnee House, facade (east elevation).
2. Shawnee House, original main entrance on east elevation of the conservatory, detail of hood.
3. Shawnee House, southwest corner of the conservatory, detail of rafter ends.
4. Shawnee House, north elevation, showing third story addition made to the breakfast room/pantry wing; and porch added to northeast corner of the house, both in 1991.
5. Shawnee House, northeast corner of the conservatory, detail of garden.
6. Shawnee House, drive to the entrance used today, Italian garden on the right.
7. Shawnee House, Garage/Workshop. On the right is the original garage building; on the left is the gambrelled addition.
8. Shawnee House, Interior, massive fireplace in basement Billiard Room, showing molten brick inserts from the Burrows brickworks, originally north of the house on the beach between Shawnee and Burton.
9. Shawnee House, Interior, Billiard Room. Note ceiling beams and panelled wainscoting.
10. Shawnee House, Interior, second floor, living room. Original fireplace, with built-in bookcases on the right. Cabinet addition over the bookcases is not original.

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Photographs (Continued)

11. Shawnee House, Interior, second floor, dining room. Original fireplace and china cabinets.
12. Shawnee House, Interior, second floor, dining room. China closet.
13. Shawnee House, Interior, first floor, pantry.

Archival Photographs

1. Portrait of Millard F. and Josephine Shaw, c. 1930. Photograph courtesy of Carol Nausin, Shaw Family Collection.
2. Southeast corner of Shawnee House, c. 1920. Photograph courtesy of Bruce E. Donald, Shaw Family Collection.
3. South elevation of Shawnee House, c. 1920. Photograph courtesy Carol Nausin, Shaw Family Collection.
4. East elevation of Garage, c. 1920. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Collection.
5. View looking west to Shawnee House and property from the Shawnee Dock, c. 1916. Photograph courtesy of Carol Nausin, Shaw Family Collection.
6. The *Verona*, Mosquito Fleet steamer at the Shawnee Dock, c. 1920's. Photograph courtesy Bruce E. Donald, Shaw Family Collection.
7. Aerial view of Shawnee House and partial site, c. 1989. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Collection.
8. Facade (east elevation) of Shawnee House, 1984. Photograph courtesy Judith and David Parker Collection.
9. Max A. Van House at his residence in Swan Lake, Montana, c. 1939. Photograph courtesy Alice Arnold Smith, Van House Family Collection.
10. Photograph of blueprint, Shawnee House, front elevation and north elevation, Architect Max A. Van House. Undated. Collection of Island Landmarks, courtesy of Judith and David Parker.

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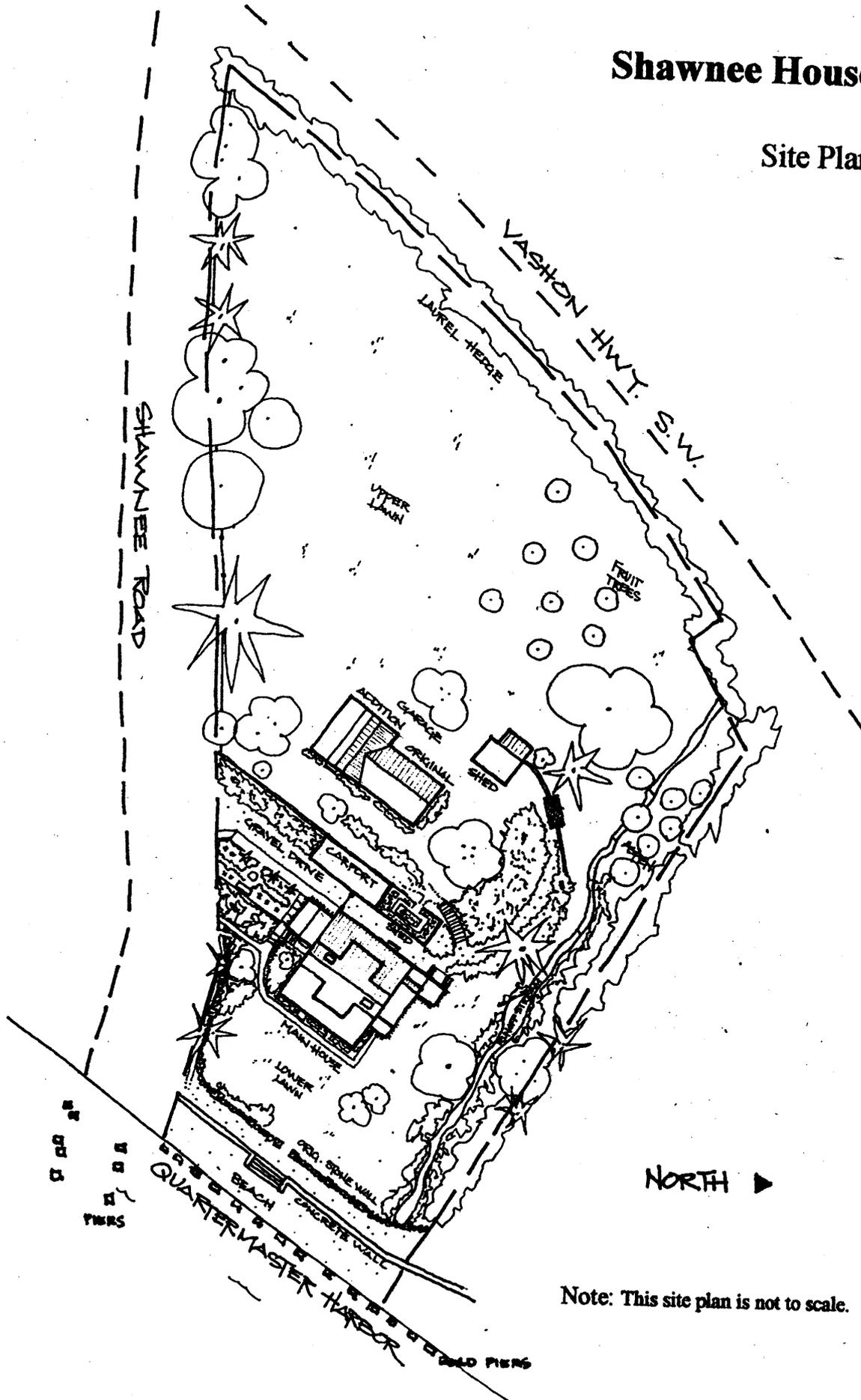
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Archival Photographs (Continued)

11. Photographic copy of a postcard of the Gymnasium Building for the State School of Mines in Butte, Montana, c. 1925, Arnold and Van House, Architects. Photograph courtesy of Alice Arnold Smith, Van House Family Collection.
12. Photographic copy of a postcard of the B.P.O.E. Building in Butte, Montana, c. 1930, Arnold and Van House, Architects. Photograph courtesy Alice Arnold Smith, Van House Family Collection.
13. Photographic copy of a view of the Burton High School, Burton, WA., M. A. Van House, Architect. From the *Vashon Island News*, 17 June 1915.

Shawnee House

Site Plan



Note: This site plan is not to scale.