COLLEGE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

From the National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Summary Paragraph

The College Park neighborhood of Tacoma is a cohesive walkable single-family residential area of one to two story tall homes built primarily before Second World War, with an average construction date of 1924. Developed during the a peak in home construction and growth in Tacoma, the period between 1910 and the mid-1930's. The area was developed and shaped by two main street-car line and was at the end of the a third. It represents a typical early streetcar neighborhood of the period that grew out into the undeveloped land west of downtown Tacoma. During the mid to late 1920's and 1930’s it was also influenced by its proximity to the new site of College of Puget Sound campus, the present University of Puget Sound. During this period, the then college moved from its previous site at Sixth Avenue and Division Streets, the current site of Jason Lee Middle School (1924) to the site of pre-world war one residential development known as Rose Park (13th and Lawrence) and the Tacoma athletic fields and track used by the local YMCA.

The College Park neighborhood exhibits the full range of residential architectural styles prevalent during of pre-war and post-world war two in Tacoma. These styles are also documented in pattern books and kit home catalog of the time, but with a primary influence of Craftsman, Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival houses. Most of its residences are relatively modest structures, built for young professionals and the working class, but with a few good examples of high-style architect-designed homes and buildings.

The period of significance for the College Park Historic District begins in 1890 following the expansion of the street car lines along Sixth Avenue to approximately Union Ave to the south of the neighborhood, the K street line to the east and the Point Defiance line to the north along the current 21st street.

The date of 1890 coincides with the earliest contributing homes within the district and ends in 1960 with homes built on a combination of vacant lots and earlier homes during the post war years. With the readily available transit lines and the power that came with the street cars, the homes represent modern home styles of the time built within a relatively short period of time. With the introduction of the automobile the homes also represent early homes built with a car in mind or homes that were adapted to function with the car. The district has retains a strong level of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. 96 percent of homes within
the neighborhood contribute to the character of the historic district. Many individual buildings within the district demonstrate a high level of integrity.

**Setting**

The College Park neighborhood is located northwest of downtown Tacoma, between the University of Puget Sound Campus or Union Avenue to the west, the Buckley addition to the east, the Commercial district along Sixth Avenue on the south and the North 21st street, a major arterial street through Tacoma’s north end neighborhood. The land within the district boundary was developed under a number of smaller plat’s or developments that reside between the two large plat’s of the Buckley addition to the east and the much larger Second School Land addition to the west of Union Avenue. The neighborhood falls within the greater North End neighborhood of Tacoma as does the other historic districts like North Slope Historic District which lies east of the Buckley addition, approximately 6 blocks away. The area has been known over the years by various names; West side; North end and as early as 1920’s as the college district, but that name has not been used in recent memory.

The topography of the area is generally flat or low rolling hills across the district with the exception of the Buckley gulch that runs from roughly north 16th and Junett Street across the northeast corner of the district and continuing down to old town and the waterfront many blocks away. The gulch once extended to at least north 13th and Junett Street but has been filled in over time. The highest elevations in the district occurring along Union Avenue to the west, the general area could be considered a bowl or shallow valley between higher elevations to the east and west. The street patterns in the district are a fairly uniform grid, but with some dead end streets caused by the Buckley gulch and the occasional street grid shift found in Tacoma’s north end. Refer to attached site plan for street, lot and building layout. The major north-south arterial are North Alder Street and Union Avenue, the major east-west arterial streets are North 21st street and Sixth Avenue two blocks south of the district. Streets typically have sidewalks and curb on both sides and almost all have mid-blocks alleys that accommodate garages, sheds and trash pickup. In the blocks without alleys, garages are located either behind the house, accessed by a driveway, or on sloping lots, dug into the front of the lot at the sidewalk. Some garages have been added to the homes over time or were originally designed into the basements with access from the street or off the alley.

Residential landscaping varies considerably. A typical street has front yards traditionally landscaped with lawn, planting beds, shrubs and small trees. Some houses have large trees in either the front or rear yards. Some home owners have opted to removed lawns and have landscaped the front yard with groundcovers, shrubs and other plantings. In some blocks, houses sit above the street with rockeries or retaining walls. While a few
houses have tall fences in front, these are relatively unusual; rear fences are more common. Most blocks have street trees, although there is great variety of tree species and little uniformity having been planted over time by individual homeowners rather than the city or developer. In some blocks they vary considerably in location, size and species, while other blocks are lined with a single species of trees. Most lots are set up in a traditional density urban single family layout with street parking, curbs, planting strips of lawns and street trees, concrete sidewalks, landscaped front and side yards, larger landscaped back yards with a garage or outbuilding on the alley.

**Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources**

Contributing resources to the historic district constitute a substantial percentage of the total buildings. A relatively small number of buildings have alterations significant enough for them to be considered non-contributing historic structures within the district. The most common such alterations are additions to the rear of the home or an additional roof dormer. The presence of newer window sash or cladding was not necessarily considered significant if the overall character of the building remained and the window arrangement did not alter the homes overall appearance. Outbuildings such as garages and sheds are present on many sites. Only a few Homes built before the 1920 where built with a garage from the offset but many have been added over the years. Determination of their age or an understanding of alterations that have occurred to the outbuilding is limited by the information available. As ancillary structures outbuildings have been listed with their associated residence rather than as separate contributing structures. The district has 566 historic contributing residential properties, primarily detached single-family residences and a few two family homes. Construction dates were derived from a combination of Pierce County Assessor’s records, the Tacoma Public Library building records

The average year of construction of all the homes in the neighborhood is 1924. The vast majority (over 94 percent) were built prior to 1942, with about six percent of all resources built during or shortly after World War II. Less than one percent of buildings within the district were constructed after the period of significance (1960).

**Residential Architectural Styles and Periods**

Although the earliest historic contributing house in the district dates to 1890, construction occurred primarily between 1910 and 1940, and exhibit a range of residential architectural styles commonly found in other older neighborhoods of the Pacific Northwest: Queen Ann, Craftsman, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival, other styles/types including American Foursquare, Prairie and Spanish Revival. The residential designs and layouts of many of the homes directly correlate with the designs found at the time in pattern books; kit built home and lumber yard home designs of the period. Many of the homes within this district where originally built by contractors and
carpenter for resale or investment property rather than as custom designs for individual home owners. Styles from the post-World War II period are found in smaller numbers, include Minimal Traditional, and Ranch. Below is a general description of predominant building styles, as well as their general distribution within the district. Residential architectural styles are generally well distributed throughout the district, and correlate directly with the construction dates of individual buildings. However, there are some notable exceptions, where building styles are clustered in certain areas within the district.

**Queen Ann (1880-1910)**

The Queen Ann style is represented in some of the earliest homes within the district. This style was influenced by a group of English architects in the 19th century as a return to the British roots of design in medieval structures, the most widely known of these architects was Richard Shaw. The style is known for having steeply pitched roof forms, and towers forms, irregular shapes and often a dominant front gable façade. Later smaller forms adopted a lower profile hip roofed cross gable form. The facades are often asymmetrical in layout and textured with materials to avoid flat uniform surfaces. Materials and features such as pattern shingles, wood ascent trim, Bay windows and variety of siding profiles act to break up the pattern of the façade. Front porches of either partial or full width, often a story in height, extending across one or more exterior walls. The style is broken into two subgroups; the first is based on a characteristic the variation of shape and the second displays a distinctive pattern of decorative detailing. (McAlester 2013:345-372).

**Arts & Crafts – Craftsman (1900-1930)**

The Craftsman style is the most represented styles in the District, and comprises approximately 48 percent of the district buildings. This style was influenced first by the English Arts and Crafts movement, Asian architecture and a style of small homes sometimes referred to as the California Bungalow. This style was immensely popular in the United States in the first thirty years of the 20th century and is a style that has shown resurgence in the last twenty years in new construction. Typical houses, many of which are bungalows (one or one and a half story homes) feature wood cladding (shingles or lapped bevel siding), low-pitched gabled roofs, decorative beams or braces under gables, exposed wood rafters, and overhanging eaves. Dormers are typically gabled or shed, houses often have exterior stone or brick chimneys and partial or full façade front porches, with a roof supported by square box columns (McAlester 2013:568-578).

Although Craftsman-style houses are evident throughout the district, there are two areas where the majority of these houses are clustered. On the south end of the district, North 7th to 10th Streets and on the North 16th to 21st streets, this correlates with the
best direct access to the street car lines at the time of their construction. Many of these houses are bungalows with designs probably derived from pattern books and constructed between 1905 and 1924. While the houses vary they typically feature traditional Craftsman characteristics such as shallow-pitched gabled roofs with overhanging eaves and knee brackets; prominent front porches with sturdy piers of brick or stone, tripartite windows with divided lights some with leaded stained glass. Craftsman period, 1905-1930 (McAlester: 567).

The Prairie style is an American architectural style that developed during the same time as the Craftsman style principally in the mid-west. The style is known for its low horizontal appearance with shallow roof slopes and large overhangs. It is not a common style found in Tacoma but there is one example in district, at 1016 North Junett Street (1926).

**American Foursquare (1895-1920)**

This housing type is generally square in plan, but occasionally rectangular, and is two-and-a-half stories in height, typically with a hipped roof with deep overhangs eaves. Cladding is typically wood, and may have full or partial-width porches, hipped-roof bay windows at 2nd floor corners, and large central dormers (Schweitzer and Davis 1990: 161-68). Most of the American Foursquare dwellings within the district are either Craftsman and Colonial in appearance.

**Colonial - Colonial Revival (1900-1940)**

Approximately 8 percent of houses in the district are in the Colonial Revival style. They are widely distributed throughout the district in no discernible pattern. The Colonial Revival style is generally considered the most popular architectural style in the United States, reflecting the influence of early English and Dutch residences (McAlester 2013:409-432). The majority of houses within this district are one or one and a half stories in height but two story homes are also present.

The homes have gabled or hipped roofs sometimes with clipped gables and are rectangular or square in plan. The facade is symmetrical with a centered entrance, typically flanked by pairs of double-hung sashes (often multi-paned). The entry has a portico or an entry vestibule rather than a porch, with Colonial detailing and millwork such as pilasters, columns, fanlights or sidelights. Bevel cedar siding and shingle cladding are the two most common siding materials but brick siding is also found within the district. While many of the homes have a mixture of colonial influences some do fall within the styles of Cape Cod and Williamsburg revival styles.

**Colonial - Dutch Colonial Revival (1910-1940)**

The Dutch Colonial is a subtype of the Colonial Revival style, with similar facades, entries, multi-paned window sash and detailing, but are distinguished by a gambrel roof.
Examples are widely distributed throughout the district. Dutch Colonial-style houses can be one and one-half stories, with the gambrel containing almost a full second story of space or two and a half stories with large attic spaces. Early examples of this style within the district often feature a front-gambrel roof design, while later examples in the 1920s and 1930s have side gable layout. Typical gambrels roof form is a must sometimes with long shed dormers (McAlester 2013:424).

**Colonial - Garrison Revival (1930-75)**

The Garrison Revival style is a late interpretation of the Colonial Revival style. This style is characterized by a symmetrical entry and fenestration and an overhanging second story (McAlester 2013:426).

**Tudor Revival (1910-1940)**

Approximately 17 percent of houses within the district are in the Tudor Revival style, also referred to as Composite Tudors or English Cottages, making this the one of the most common styles found within the district. There are many varied examples within the district, the majority of which were constructed in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Tudor Revival-style homes within this district are generally clad in wood although stucco and brick cladding is also present as well as a combination of materials. Brickwork can be patterned or clinkered, and stonework is often evident in trim, chimneys, and quoins. Many houses have decorative half-timbering detail, arched doorways, and others have large exterior chimneys, often stepped with patterned brick and stonework. Windows are typically tall and narrow, often presented in bands, and have multi-pane glazing, occasionally diamond-shaped or rectangular and sometimes with lead muntins. Windows can be casement, double-hung, oriel, and semi-hexagonal one- and two-story bays. Roofs are steeply pitched and often side-gabled, and the front façade is typically dominated by a front-facing gable, some with clipped gables. Stylistic variations of the Tudor Revival include Elizabethan, and Cottage style (McAlester 2013: 450-66). The Tudor Revival style is well represented and widely distributed throughout the district.

**Other Pre-World War II Revival Styles**

Other revival styles are found in the district, but are limited in number but are quite distinctive. These include: Spanish Revival Pueblo Revival Neo-Classical Regency Revival Beaux Arts/Classical Revival

**Minimal Traditional (c. 1935-1950) and Ranch (c. 1935-1975)**

With the district largely built before the mid-1940’s, the Minimal Traditional and Ranch styles are lightly represented They are mainly seen as infill, but some are clusters near
the edges of the district. Minimal Traditional houses are about twice as common as Ranch-style houses. The Minimal Traditional style house is generally smaller, with minimal architectural details (McAlester 2013:587-590). The roof is generally gabled or hipped, with narrow eaves. Entries are near the center and are recessed or have a simple stoop. Window sash are generally wood, with one-over-one double- hung sash, but sliding and fixed picture sash, including corner windows and geometric pattern (circular or hexagon) are present.

The Ranch style, less common within the district, typically has a broad single-story form, is often clad in brick, wood or both. It has low-pitched gabled or hipped roof with overhanging eaves and no dormers (McAlester 2013: 897-903). The entry is often asymmetrically placed sometimes out of view from the street and sheltered by the main roof of the house rather than a porch. Houses often include attached garages or carports. Within the district this style is mostly associated with two family dwelling built in the early 1950’s after the city land use code was changed to allow their construction within the neighborhood.

Other & Non-traditional Home Styles

Not every home fits neatly in to a single style, some are eclectic and use elements from other styles, some were designed to be unique or at least turned out that way. Architectural styles have developed over time and are often coin to aid in categorizing homes of like appearance into groups and not always by the architect or designer who layout out the work at the time. This category of home is dedicated to the homes that defy the conventional styles for the good or bad.

Accessory Structures (Ancillary buildings)

Accessory structures within the district are generally small garages or sheds that are not the dominant or primary structure on a site (tax parcel). Ancillary structures could be classified as historic contributing to their site if they were built during the period of significance, as indicated in Pierce County Assessor’s records and/or City permit documents and retain a fair level of integrity of location, materials, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association. In general, historic contributing ancillary structures retain much of their original materials and form, and are situated on the property in the same or similar manner as during the period of significance. The garage door was not considered as a determining factor of whether the accessory structure is contributing or noncontributing. Of the 348 accessory structures reviewed in the historic district, 209 contribute to their associated home.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The College Park Historic District is a cohesive and highly intact collection of early 20th to mid-century houses that reflect the architectural styles typical of this period in
Tacoma’s development. It is significant at the local level and is eligible as a National Register of Historic Places, historic district under Criteria A as it relates the unique development patterns found within the City of Tacoma and the people who lived and live within these homes, as well as Criteria C for the wealth of architectural styles and workmanship found within the district. The period of historic significance begins in 1890 the date of construction of the earliest building in the district and ends in 1960, at the tail end of post war infill actives in the area.

Although the first plat in the district (Baker’s First) were filed by John S. Baker in 1889, development did not begin in earnest until almost twenty years later during the boom times in Tacoma following the turn of the twentieth century up to the great depression. With the first street car line in 1888 that extended the K street line up North 13th to Cedar street and down North Cedar Street to North 21st street the district began to change. This line was replaced only a few years later with a new line up 21st street bypassing the middle of the district. The streetcar lines along sixth Avenue, North 21st Street (Point Defiance line) and North 12th (K Street line), attracting early investment in the district only to be stopped by the depression of 1893, the depression of 1930’s and the entry into World War One and Two yet it continued to develop. With the coming of the University to the site west of the district a new push for homes grow from the center of the district and to the north of the university. The Districts early fits and start, booms and busts are represented in the architectural styles present in the district today. Construction occurred within the district during a 70 years period, but principally between 1910 and 1940, with a variety of Craftsman and revival styles ranging from modest cottages and builder's houses to higher styled architect-designed residences. The district was generally developed by the late 1930s, so it was by-passed and relatively unchanged by the dramatic post-World War II growth that occurred in many neighborhoods of Tacoma. While a few modern house forms appeared in the district over time most of the original Craftsman and Tudor Revival residences have remained intact to the present day. Some of these newer buildings were two family homes built in the 1950’s reflecting the post war demand for housing but were owner occupied homes built with materials and of a scale that fit in with the context of the surrounding neighborhood. The neighborhood retains its basic integrity as a pre-World War II Tacoma neighborhood as well as a unique neighborhood identity all its own.

**Early Development 1880’s-1910**

Little is known of the area prior to the clear cutting of timber in the1880’s. Settlers first came to build small homes and farms in the area as early as 1890. At the time the western City limits was near the present day Union Avenue and this was on the ragged fringe of Tacoma. The Sixth Avenue streetcar was extended west to approximately Proctor Street in 1889. The K street streetcar was extended west to north 12th and Pine Street to meet up with a steam powered streetcar that ran down north 13th street
before turning north towards Pt. Defiance in 1888. This line was later moved to align
with north 21st street in 1890, leaving the end of the K street line at North 12th and
Pine. A rail line operated by the Union Pacific run along what is now Union Avenue to
approximately 26th street, but was discontinued as early as 1888 and sold for scrap buy
John S. Baker. In 1896 there was also an athletic track and field operated by the Tacoma
Athletic Club, noted in the Polk Directory as the “Tacoma Athletic Park” used by the
YWCA on the present grounds of the University of Puget Sound. A large horse racing
track was further west on the west side of Union Avenue. For the most part the area
had been logged and in use as small farms or left as stumps and debris until it was
platted into residential lots. One of these farms was the Star Berry and Poultry Farm
(1907) owned by Govnor Teats although one house on the original frame dates back to
1895 (1201 N. Alder St.). A small lumber mill also operated near present day North 12th
and Pine (1896).

The first tract of land to be developed, of the four primary additions in the district, was
John S. Baker’s First Addition in 1888. John Sherman Baker (1861-1955) came to Tacoma
with the Northern Pacific Railway in 1881 as a bookkeeper, helped found the Tacoma
Grocery company (West Coast Grocery) and then the Fidelity Trust Company in 1889
becoming president it 1904, a position he held for almost sixty years. Mr. Baker best
known as a banker also funded the first baseball team and field in Tacoma at 15th and
Sprague streets. He was one of the first State Senators to serve in Olympia after the
state was added in 1889, (1889-1904) and friend of Allen Mason the prominent Tacoma
real estate developer. Baker Middle School in the Fern Hill Neighborhood is named in
John Baker’s honor. The Second tract developed was the Badgerow Addition in 1909 by
Gordon R. Badgerow (1846-1916) an attorney and real estate developer from Sioux City,
Iowa, who visited the City in 1885 and, had a second home in Tacoma. Egbert M.
Badgerow, son of Gordon and Adella, opened an office at 3001 North 21 street in
Tacoma and went on to manage the sales of the lots in the addition after his father’s
death in 1916. The third tract was the Bullett’s Addition in 1909, by James C. Bullett a
member of the board of director for the Fidelity Trust Company and friend of John
Baker. The final prominent tract was developed by Govnor Teats (1858-1926) on his
former berry and poultry berry farm, Star Berry Farm, in 1923, the College Addition.
Teats was a prominent attorney with his two brother at the firm of Teats, Teats and
Teats. He served in the Washington State House of Representatives 1911-1913 and ran
for a number of offices including Lt. Governor in 1913 for the Bull Moose Party. Later in
life he was named a judge for Pierce County Superior Court. His home still stands at the
corner of 13th and Alder within the grounds of the University of Puget Sound..
The other smaller plats or portion of plats that make up the district include the
Andrews; Bolcoms (1890); Coulter’s; Glyndon; Muller-Lindahl (1912) and Tibbal’s
Additions.
This was a period of optimism and expansion in Tacoma that ended with the panic of 1893 and subsequent loss of 50,000 Tacoma residents who left the City in search of work. It was a period in which few homes were built across the City and this district fared no better than most, it was a quiet time for construction.

**Intensive Development: 1910-1940**

College Park’s most intensive period of development occurred in the period from about 1910 to 1940, corresponding with the boom years Tacoma experience just prior to world war two and up to the years of the great depression and start of the Second World War. For Tacoma these were vibrant years of logging, lumber and shipping along with the hay day of the railroads that helped build the City of Tacoma. This was the dominate period that shaped both the character of the City and the College Park neighborhood. This was the era of the streetcar line and early growth in automobile use in everyday life. The period of Craftsmen bungalows and English Tudor cottages, Small functional house on small garden lots built by carpenters based on catalog plans, homes for resale to the new middle class. This is the period that shaped the district we know today.

**Post-World War II Development: 1945-1970**

In the period during and after World War II, the City of Tacoma experienced significant growth due to the need for worker housing to man the ship yards and mills and then the return of servicemen and women after the war. Yet the district which was limited on space experienced only a few infill projects. Most of the new housing in the city was built quickly on large tracts of vacant land to the south and west the established neighborhoods in Tacoma. With the opening of the new narrow bridge and the removal of the toll in 1965 more and more people moved out in to the new parts of town or the suburbs, leaving the district unaltered.

**Recent Development: 1970 to present**

As the years progressed more and more of the housing stock turned form owner occupied homes to rental units, in some ways this helped preserve the homes in an unaltered state. The period of rental house appears to have maxed out in the early 1980’s and since the 1990’s with the rise of home prices in neighboring cities and the resurgence in the an appreciation of these historic homes the number of rentals has dropped off as homes have been purchased and restored. Very few homes have been built in the district since 1970 and thankfully only a few have been poorly altered over time.

**Significant Architects/Builders**
A great majority of houses in district appear to have been based on plans taken from published plan books, catalogs, lumberyard plan sets or from designs provided by architects to a builder or developer. These designs were often used repeatedly, so that similar houses can often be seen in proximity to one another. Some of these architects and builders have been identified. In addition, a number of high-style houses designed by architects for specific clients have also been identified. Most of the larger homes found in the district appear along northern part of the neighborhood near the Buckley gulch and north 21st Street. A brief overview of some of the more prominent local architects and builders are provided.

George W. Bullard, Architect (1856 - 1935)

George Wesley Bullard was one of the Tacoma’s better-known and prolific architects of the late 19th first half of the 20th century. He was born in Illinois and was a graduate of the University of Illinois school of Engineering (1882) Masters in Architecture and worked in Springfield Illinois until 1890. He arrived in Tacoma in 1891 teamed up with Albert Hayward and served as the Building Inspector for the City of Tacoma 1892-1893. In 1907 he formed a partnership with Irwin Hill, University of Illinois graduate (1899) that lasted until 1917 when Hill joined the firm of Woodroofe, Griffin and Hill, Bullard remained a sole practitioner for the remainder of his life. A prominent architect of the City his work covered a wide variety of building types from residences to school building such as the original Grant Elementary school that once graced north 11th and Grant street just a few block east of the proposed historic District. Other fine examples of his work are the Ferry Museum, currently known as the research facility of the Washington State Historical Society and the second campus of the University of Puget Sound at Sixth and Sprague. George Bullard was elected the first president of the Washington State Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1895. He passed away in Tacoma after being struck by a street car at the age of 79.

Otis Cuting, Architect (1874 - 1955)

Otis Cutting was born in New Tacoma in 1874 and was listed as a draughtsman as early as 1889 working for R. L. Robertson and Blackwell. He was an partner early in his career with Carl Darmer, He lived in the neighborhood at 1906 North Junett. He passed away in in Tacoma at the age of 81.

Carl A Darmer, Architect (1859 - 1952)

Carl August Darmer was one of the Tacoma’s better-known and prolific architects of the late 19th first half of the 20th century. He was born in Stralsund Prussia (Germany) where he was trained as an architect through apprenticing under other architects. He arrived in San Francisco in 1882 before moving on to Portland Oregon where he worked
for the firm of Warren Williams. In 1884 he moved on to Tacoma and partnering with William Farrell 1885-1892, After 1900 he formed a new partnership with Otis Cutting. He passed away while visiting Alabama at the age of 93.

Oliver P. Dennis, Architect (1858 - 1927)

Oliver Perry Dennis was born in New York where he attended schools in Coldchester and Mayville, New York and worked for four years in Minneapolis as a draughtsman. He began a partnership in a company named W.H. Dennis & Company and they built several well-known building in Minneapolis including the Mankato Hotel. In 1888 Dennis moved to Tacoma, Washington where he partnered with John G. Proctor 1888-1893 their work included the Nelson Bennett Residence, Massasoit Hotel, Pierce County Courthouse, the Original Puget Sound University building and Fairhaven Hotel along with a number of residences. The produced a great deal of work in a very short period of time By. 1895 Dennis had moved on to Los Angeles where he teamed up with Lyman Farwell and later Henry Harwood and several other partners over the years, Some of his California work includes the Hollywood Hotel, the Columbia Trust Building and Los Angeles High School. He also built a number of residential homes throughout Southern California. He died and is burred in Hollywood California.


William Farrell was born in New York. He is thought to be Tacoma's first resident architect, arrived in the fall of 1883, immediately set-up his architectural office and was inundated with work. One of his first commissions was this brick building at 715-17 Pacific Avenue for Dr. Bostwick. Another of Farrell's early commissions was the prestigious, new Chamber of Commerce Building at 12th and Pacific which necessitated hiring a partner, Carl August Darmer. Together, Farrell & Darmer designed many of the brick buildings built in the 1880s along the west side of Pacific Avenue between South 9th and 13th Streets His partnership with Carl Darmer lasted from 1885-1992, In 1892 he formed a new partnership with Sherman and John G. Proctor 1901 - 1908. Architect of the Ezra Meeker Residence in Puyallup (1885)

Clinton H. Hagenbuch, Builder (1875 - 1933) Born in Pennsylvania

Hans Hansen, Builder

Irwyn H. Hill, Architect (1875 - 1928)

Irwyn Horatio Hill was born in Illinois and attended the University of Illinois (1899) and Chicago Art Institute (1897-1898), He left Illinois for Houston Texas in 1900 but soon left of Tacoma to take a draftsmen position buy 1903. He went on to partner with George Bullard in 1907-1918 before leaving to team up with Woodroffe and Griffin, than Hill, Mock and Griffin and finally Hill, Mock and Morrison Architects.

Larry Jardeen, Builder

Norman Jardeen, Architect (1900 - 1992) Norman Jardeen was born in Nebraska. Ole I
**Johnson, Builder (--)**

**Gaston C. Lance, Architect (1877 - 1964)**

Gaston C. Lance was born in Romania and arrived in the Seattle in 1906 where he worked as an artist and designer he arrived in Tacoma sometime after 1909 were is opened up ship design and carpentry shop. He worked as the Art director for Weaver Productions, the film studio at Titlow Beach between 1924 & 1928. Following the closure of the film studio he joined the Ambrose J. Russell, Architect as a draftsman but quickly moved into a position of responsibility and was named a Partner in 1930. While not trained formally as an Architect his was recognized for his design skills and worked the rest of his life as a prominent member in the profession. In 1931 the firm of Russell and Lance was joined for two years by Allen Gordon Lumm. In 1936 Irwin E. Muri joined the firm of Russell, Lance and Muri. Following A. J. Russell’s death in 1938 John E. McGuire joined the firm. Lance, McGuire and Muri Architects continued to work into the mid-1950’s.

**Charles W. F. Lundberg, Architect (1882 - 1964)**

Charles Frederick Lundberg was born in Colorado. He arrived in Tacoma around 1908 (City Directory)

**Roy S. Mason, Architect (1886 - 1973)**

Roy Skinner Mason was born in Minnesota and arrived in Tacoma in time to graduate for Tacoma High School in 1905, the first class to graduate in the current Stadium High School Building. Graduating in the same class as Stanley Shaw another well know Tacoma Architect and fellow member of the schools Architectural Club. Graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture form the University of Illinois in 1910 and returned to Tacoma in 1911 and took up a position of draftsmen for George Bullard a prominent Architect and alumni of the University of Illinois. By 1913 Roy Mason had opened his office and operated his business in the city for only a few years before moving to Portland Oregon in 1914, by 1920 he was back in Tacoma but moved to Los Angeles in 1924 and then on to Maryland in 1926 where he lived and worked for many years. He passed away in Charlotte, Florida in 1973.

**Peter Madsen, Builder (1858 - 1945)**

Born in England, Brick Masonry Contractor, His Sons were also builders and all were born in Minnesota: Hans F. Madsen (1888- and Carl Madsen (1902- ). Carl Madsen was an electrical contractor later in life. ); Albert L. Madsen (1900-1938):

**Ernest T. Mock, Architect (1888 - 1950)**
Ernest Thorton Mock was a native son of Tacoma and a graduate of the Tacoma Public School System. E. T. Mock began his architectural training studying architecture under the guidance of the prominent Tacoma firm of Bullard and Russell, where he apprenticed and worked for twelve years. He then spent a short period of time working in San Francisco before returning to Tacoma to establish the architectural firm of Parker & Mock in 1916 just prior to World War I. Following a short stint in government service during the war, Mock returned again to Tacoma this time to stay, teaming up with two local architects to form the architectural firm of Hill, Mock and Griffin (1918-1922) which became the firm of Hill and Mock (1923-1929), Hill, Mock & Morrison (1929-1931) and after the death of Irwin H. Hill, Ernest Mock formed his final partnership with Nelson J. Morrison. This was a partnership that would last E. T. Mock to the end of his life in 1950, Mock and Morrison Architects (1936-1953). Mock lived just east of the District at 2804 north 19th street in the Buckley addition. The Tacoma News Tribune noted in his passing “Many Tacoma school buildings whose architectural design are pleasing to the eye stand as a monument to Ernest T. Mock, One of the leading Architects of the Pacific Northwest. Tacoma has been fortunate in its Architects who have contributed so much to the City. Among this group, Ernest Mock has a high reputation and had won a firm standing in architectural circles”.

Silas E. Nelson, Architect (1894 - 1987)

Silas Edward Nelson was born in Wisconsin and attended high school in Portland Oregon. Studied and apprenticed under George Gove and Frederick Heath of the firm of Heath and Gove in Tacoma starting in about 1910. Si Nelson served as a naval architect during WWI; Silas Nelson returned to the architectural profession following the war and quickly opened his own firm in Tacoma around 1920. He received his architectural license from the State in 1924, license were a relatively new requirement having only been established in 1916. Silas Nelson was known for his Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival home designs and was publish in a number of national magazines and plan books during the twenties and thirties. His designed changed to a more modern style during the mid-thirties thru the post war years. By the 1950’s his designs had move into the International with the exception of his work for the University of Puget should, where he maintained the gothic revival style of the older buildings on campus. Silas Nelson career in Tacoma last over 60. His work included over 150 homes his designs covered a wide variety of project types including fire station, libraries, schools car dealerships and office buildings. He retired in 1971 at the age of 77 and pasted away in Tacoma in 1987.

Harry J. Potter, Builder (1879 - 1966) Harry Jefferies Potter was born in England

Potter & Merrill

Arthur Potter Merrill (1878-1919)
Was born in Peabody, Massachusetts and graduated from M.I.T (1899-1901). He started work in Boston in 1899 as a draftsman before moving to Tacoma in around 1909 to work for Tacoma Tile. Following his partnership with Potter, Merrill teamed up with Frank Mahon in 1913. By 1919 Merrill had moved on to Long Beach CA., His Death was noted in The Technology Review (MIT) as December 1919, he died in Pasadena California at the age of 41.

Myron Prescott Potter (1879-1936)

Was a graduate of M.I.T. (1896-1897), He started work in Boston in 1899 as a draftsmen before moving to Tacoma around 1907 and first teamed up with Charles Lundberg but that partnership ended in 1909 and a short time later he teamed up with Arthur Merrill. The first and one of their best known works in the Tacoma Commercial Club Building (1909) at S. 11 and A Street, a commission they won through a design competition in 1909 over more established Tacoma architectural firms. Potter moved to Chicago to take a position with American Terracotta Company in 1913, by 1915 Potter had moved on to Cleveland Ohio and died in West Newbury MA at the age of 57.

Henry J. Schneider, Builder (1875 - 1949) Born in German

Lewis Snyder, Builder ( - 1990)
Sutton Whitney and Dugan, Architects

The firm is known as one of the premiere architectural firms in the NW in the 1920 & 30’s. Responsible for a number of high profile projects in Washington and Oregon. Their work included the first buildings and site plan for the University of Puget Sound on its current site; Annie Wright Seminary and National Bank of Tacoma.

Albert Sutton (1867-1923)

Born in Victoria, BC Canada, raised in Oregon, two years a University of Southern California, Died in Tacoma of a heart attack at age of 56. Teamed up with Whitney while working in Oregon and returned to the Tacoma to open an in 1918.

Harrison A Whitney (1877-1962)

Born in Iowa, attended Armor Institute in Chicago, graduate of M.I.T (1904), managed Portland Oregon office

Earl Nathaniel Dugan (1878-1956),
Associate Partner in the Tacoma office. Born in Iowa, he started his career in Tacoma as a draftsman in 1908, Partnered with Burt A Lewis in 1913, Went on to join Sutton in 1918 and left firm in 1922 to create the firm of Mock, Morrison and Dugan in 1922. Earl Dugan pasted away in Seattle in at the age of 78.

Tuell, Builder
Tuell Brothers Frank Henry (1875-1941) & Oscar L. Tuell (1875-1960) Both born in Maine

Rollin S. Tuttle, Architect (1885 - 1931)

Rollin S. Tuttle arrived in Tacoma in about 1904 with his brother Paul Vincent Tuttle (1881-1955). Soon after he teamed up with Arnott Woodroofe, refer to Woodroofe for additional information. After leaving Tacoma Rollin moved back Minnesota, listed in 1911 the Minneapolis City directory in 1911, than on to Watertown, MA for a few years before resettling in Los Angeles, California and then onto Oakland, CA where he continued to practice architecture and as an pastor, Rev. Rollin Tuttle. Two projects of note in California are the United Methodist Church in Woodland (1925) and the Hafer Methodist Church in Costa Mesa (1927)

Arnott Woodroofe, Architect (1879 - 1976)

Arnott Woodroofe was born in England was known to be a talented delineator and worked in the profession from 1894 to 1898 when he moved to London to attend course at the Architectural and the Regens Street Polytechnic School. While there he worked briefly for Ralph Neville a noted Arts and Crafts architect. In 1898 Woodroofe moved to Canada to work for Sir Andrew Taylor and opened an office in Vancouver BC 1899. In 1904 Arnott Woodroofe moved to Tacoma where he took a draftsmen position with the firm of (A.J.) Russell and (Everett P.) Babcock. By 1906 Arnott had teamed up with Rollin S and Paul V. Tuttle to form the firm of Tuttle and Woodroofe. By 1907 the Tuttle brothers had moved on and Woodroofe joined forces with Arnold Sutherland Constable (1885-1981) and the firm of Woodroofe & Constable. Constable was also of British origin having studied at the University of Durham, Kings College. In 1913 Constable moved on to Seattle and three years later Woodroofe formed another firm with Jack DeForest Griffin and Irwin H. Hill. In 1918 Woodroofe moved on to Spokane where he continued to practice architecture into the 1950’s.

Arnott Woodroofe passed away in Spokane in 1976 at the age of 97. (biog. R.I.B.A., Directory of British Architects 1834-1914, 2001, Vol. ii, 1055). While in Tacoma the work of Arnott Woodroofe is associated most closely with Craftsmen and California Bungalows styles with a bit of Swiss flare. Over 60 projects are associated the firms Arnott Woodroofe partnered in while in Tacoma most of which are residential.

Anthony J. Zeh, Builder (1881 - 1949)