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**NORTH SLOPE HISTORIC DISTRICT
PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Narrative Statement of Significance:

Summary

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as a cohesive neighborhood that represents the broad pattern of the social and economic history of Tacoma. As such the district represents a cross culture of individuals, both famous and ordinary, whose skills and talents contributed to the development and growth of the city. The early residents included professionals, business proprietors, railroad employees, independent trade people, and celebrities, all living in a close knit neighborhood.

The district is also eligible under Criterion C as an area that embodies the distinctive characteristics of homes built in Tacoma from 1881 to 1955. Many of these dwellings represent the work of a master craftsmen and/or architect, and a majority of the resources possess high artistic values representing significant characteristics of architectural styles popular during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The homes in the North Slope Historic District are uniquely separated from surrounding neighborhoods by the street layout of the 1880s. The streets were laid out wide at Commencement Bay and narrow at the south end of the District where N Grant Ave. runs between Division Ave and N Steele St. While the District's homes are only part of Tacoma's rich historical treasure chest of historic homes, this area offers a high concentration of intact historic resources.

The settlement pattern and building styles are a direct reflection of the periods of national economic growth and stagnation as their dramatic fluctuations impacted Tacoma. Stylistic influences from the East Coast, Midwest, and California combine with local vernacular styles and material created a unique local appearance. The common influences and represented styles include Victorian and Stick style structures, the classic American Foursquare, the Craftsman style, and the California bungalow. Three waves of development, plus architectural and social trends, combined to create a neighborhood reflecting local history, character and diversity.

Period of Significance:

The period of significance for Tacoma's North Slope Historic District beginning in 1881, the date of the oldest extant houses in the District. By 1902, 25 percent of the houses in the District had been built and by 1914, one-half of the homes had been built. There were many additional homes added in the 1920s and by 1929, 78% of the homes had been built in the District. Building became a slow steady process after that and by 1955, 89 percent of all homes had been built.

After 1953 the number of new homes built each year started to decline, and by the end of 1955 homes that fit the form and feel of the "older" homes stopped. In 1955 that the City of Tacoma changed the zoning laws encouraging apartment houses to be built. As a result, many historic homes in the district were destroyed in the name of progress.

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Criterion A:

Early History

Early in the 1850s, the tree-lined shores of Commencement Bay began to lure sawmill operators and loggers eager to provide lumber for the California Gold Rush, and quickly a tiny, dreary lumber-mill settlement grew at the mouth of the Puyallup River, on what is known today as Tacoma's Tide Flats. Tacoma officially began in 1852, when Nicholas Delin filed a Donation land claim at the head of Commencement Bay and built a small sawmill to supply local settlers with lumber. Many of his mill workers built cabins in the area around the mill.

The Donation Land Law of 1850 brought growth to the Oregon Territory (present day Washington State was a part of this territory). The law provided that 160 acres could be given to each settler. To obtain title, the settler had to cultivate his claim for four years. The Homestead Act passed Congress in May 1862, and provided that a settler could obtain title to 160 acres if he lived on the land and improved it. In addition, a settler could obtain title to 160 acres if he paid \$1.25 per acre for the land, and by purchasing the land direct there was no residence requirement. The Homestead Act attracted thousands to the West.

Also influencing development in Tacoma was legislation signed by President Abraham Lincoln, on July 2, 1864, which offered up to 40 million acres of public land as reward for completion of a railroad between the Great Lakes and Puget Sound. Like previous laws, this one allowed public land to be purchased for \$1.25 per acre. These land claims were for 320 acres to individual male settlers or 640 acres to married couples. Speculators were eager to stake claims and develop their homestead because word was out that a railroad was coming.

Job Carr, a Civil War veteran, was one such speculator. He arrived in Commencement Bay in November 1864, and filed a claim on the southern shore of Commencement Bay where it flows into Puget Sound. In 1865 his sons, Anthony and Howard, helped him build a cabin in present day Old Town. Carr had learned the Northern Pacific Railroad would be building a line to Puget Sound which would bring growth to the area, and he hoped his claim would be the terminus of the railroad.

Carr built his cabin and settled in to wait for the railroad. However, it was M. M. McCarver, a Portland promoter that got real estate development started in Tacoma. McCarver promoted his new "Tacoma City" to the railroad, and sold lots that brought in residents.

During this time, speculators were still unsure of the location for the "end" of the railroad and had to wait until 1873 to learn that Tacoma was selected as the terminus of the transcontinental Northern Pacific Railroad. Unfortunately for Carr and McCarver, the railroad stopped two miles short of McCarver's "Tacoma City". Instead the railroad started its own city, called "New Tacoma". This left McCarver and his supporters high and dry. The Railroad selected the New Tacoma site because of the large accumulation of property and long stretch of waterfront that a group of shrewd developers had managed to assemble just south of the fledgling community of Tacoma City.

Once the ending site was chosen, the Northern Pacific Railroad engaged an aggressive campaign to attract investors and working families from the East and Mid-west. The Tacoma Land Company, headquartered in the Northern Pacific Railroad Building, posted invitations advertising:

"If you want a home or an investment ... GO TO TACOMA, because ... Tacoma is at the head of Puget Sound, the Mediterranean of America"... Tacoma will be the shipping port for all the

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wheat raised in eastern Washington and much of Oregon ... Tacoma is in the heart of the finest timber in the world ... Tacoma's climate is excellent...."

Land speculators, as well as every type of businessman and entrepreneurs began to move into the bustling railroad town along Commencement Bay where the rails ended and wharves and mills quickly proliferated. As a result, Tacoma rapidly developed as an important point of shipment for the Pacific Northwest's vast untapped natural resources (and eventually the many agricultural products of the interior) to destinations along the West Coast and to the far off Orient and South Pacific. The city's importance expanded exponentially when the railroad tracks were finally completed to St. Paul, Minnesota in 1887, connecting Tacoma with all points East.

Land speculation in Tacoma led to the platting of residential lots far in advance of the market and McCarver, after hearing that he lost his bid to have his city become the ending point of the railroad, shifted his focus on the North Slope becoming a residential neighborhood. Quickly he hired a civil engineer to survey the property that he had purchased from Job Carr. Carr's sons, Howard and Anthony ran the lines and the survey was soon completed. The street plat for this area was laid out starting parallel to the waterfront of Commencement Bay, and continuing up the hill. When the plat for "New Tacoma" was completed, the streets followed a north-south, east-west grid making a 45-degree offset in the previously laid out area. The offset remains today and uniquely defines Tacoma's North Slope Historic District.

Soon Tacoma City became known as Old Town, and the area became a working class neighborhood occupied by fishermen, longshoremen and mill workers who patronized the many saloons found there. The North Slope area was considered part of "New Tacoma" became the middle class neighborhood. Old Town, incorporated in 1875 and New Tacoma defined its limits in 1883. Then in 1886 when Tacoma submitted its territorial charter, the two cities joined together and became "Tacoma".

Property Ownership

The area of the bounded by the North Slope Historic District, first belonged to Job Carr, his son Howard Carr, and James W. King. These three had the original homestead claims for almost all of the property in the District.

- Job Carr's homestead claim, has a sale date of 4/27/1868 and was recorded 5/15/1872. This was a donation claim for 160 acres and an "excess" cash claim for 6.31 acres. Carr paid \$10 for the first 160 acres and \$1.25 per acre for the excess. A copy of the record books from that time show the total cost of \$17.88 3/4! Job Carr's farm house was built on this site and known at that time as Job Carr's Hill.
- James W. King's homestead claim, had a date of sale of 8/4/1868 and was recorded 5/15/1869. This was a cash purchase of \$1.25 per acre for 160 acres, for a total cost of \$200.00.
- Howard Carr's homestead claim, has a date of sale of 8/17/1868 and was recorded 5/15/1869. This was a

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cash purchase of \$1.25 per acre for 160 acres, for a total cost of \$200.00.

Job Carr's farmhouse was located at the present day address of 715 N Sheridan. Roland Borhek, an architect, who replaced Carr's farmhouse with a two-story frame house, tore down his farmhouse in 1920.

Growth & Development

The Pacific Northwest's untapped natural resources were a draw that caused the population of Tacoma to grow rapidly. Many people came to "get rich", as they expected money to flow in because the railroad would open up the mid-western and east coast manufacturing centers to the area's products. There were jobs and opportunity.

The waterfront tracks, warehouses and docks were part of an infrastructure that connected shipments of grain, lumber and manufactured goods to stations and ports up and down the West Coast. Tacoma was intended to be the predominant northwest terminal, connecting the Pacific Northwest to Midwestern and eastern manufacturing centers. The fact that Tacoma's port was sheltered from all except north winds played a major factor in the selection of Tacoma as the western terminus.

While all of this was occurring, the North Slope Historic District neighborhood maintained a clear physical proximity to the business and commercial core of Tacoma. As such, the neighborhood attracted both middle and upper class citizens. Among them were medical professionals. Livings within the district were six physicians, six dentists, an oral surgeon, a chiropractor, and two pharmacists. Harbor Master John B. Cliff, Captain Vance D. Trout, Port Captain for Tacoma Oriental S. S. Co., and master mariner Captain Frank G. Purington also all made their homes in this district.

Many famous individuals lived within this District as well. Among these were opera singer Signor Foli, who spent his summers at 1319 North 4th Street, baseball player Edwin F. Hutchinson who lived in a simple American Foursquare at 824 North Grant Avenue, and the well known architect Roland E. Borhek and his family (715 N Sheridan Avenue). Ernst Lister, who served as governor of Washington from 1913-1919, lived at 1402 North 5th Street. Architect Carl Darmer, the favored architect of the Northern Pacific RR Co., also lived in the neighborhood.

Streetcars took residents to the North Slope neighborhood from the downtown. Cable cars were used in the neighborhood until 1938. They were replaced by trolleys then replaced by buses. The old trolley lines are still visible in N 11th St. from N L St. South to N Cushman Ave. where a concrete ribbon, a few feet wide, extends down the center of the entire street.

As more and more families came to settle in Tacoma, city officials wanted to insure that residential areas remained residential. By 1895, Tacomans had begun to establish zones where certain uses, specifically saloons, would be allowed. Local property owners could reject the location of other business within residential parts of Tacoma. By 1918, Tacoma had a zoning code, dividing the city into residential and industrial areas. A planning commission came two years later.

It was the creation of strong neighborhood improvement clubs that held the residential districts together and kept them residential. By 1907, members of the various groups got together to form a citywide federation in order to have a strong voice when dealing with the city for improvements. Today, the citizens of Tacoma still have strong neighborhood organizations and band together to keep the city on its toes.

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Boom Times

With three exceptions, about 6 new houses were being built each year during the period of significance. The numbers ranged from one house to a high of twelve. The three exceptions, boom periods, were notable because the numbers greatly exceeded the norm.

The first boom period started in 1890 and lasted 3 years. In that 3-year period, 116 new homes were built. The area suffered a depression in 1893 and building almost stopped. Only 2 new homes were built in 1893 and 1894.

A second wave of development did not get underway until 1900. The good times lasted fifteen years and scattered a variety of classic and regional American Foursquare homes throughout the district before abruptly ending with the onset of World War I. Over the period from 1901 to 1915 a total of 329 new homes were built, about 22 being built each year.

The third "boom" period of growth paralleled the national post-World War One recovery as more modern Craftsman style homes filled the district. Development again came to a halt with the Stock Market crash of 1929 and ensuing Great Depression. Eighty-five percent of the homes in the District were built from 1883 to the end of World War II.

The "boom years" are summarized as follows:

Boom Times

	YEARS	NUMBER NEW HOMES	AVERAGE BUILT PER YEAR
First Boom <i>Ended with the panic of 1893</i>	1890-1893	116	38
Second Boom <i>Ended by W.W. I</i>	1900-1915	329	22
Third Boom <i>Ended with the Great Depression</i>	1920-1929	228	25

As Tacoma's North Slope Historic District developed, buyers had many available lots to purchase. This wide range of choices gave rise to a checkerboard or hopscotch pattern of development. Such a pattern is reflected today in the building styles and construction dates of the houses throughout the area where the Victorians and Foursquare homes are juxtaposed with Craftsman bungalows. The buildings manifest the influence of locally available lumber and an eclectic Northwestern mixing of styles. These physical features are distinguishing characteristics of the homes in the District.

Criterion C

Eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, the North Slope Historic District has a high concentration of dwellings, which represent the work of local craftsmen and architects. This collection, as a whole, represents significant characteristics and trends of architectural styles popular during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

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Descriptions of the various architectural styles found within the district can be found in section 7. The following is a description and list of some of the more prevalent designers and builders in Tacoma who's work can be found within the North Slope Historic District.

Builders and Architects

Design and building in the early years of the North Slope development was led by individuals acting as combined architect, builder and contractor. Bringing varying degrees of experience to the job, these individuals, many whose names are unrecorded, were the first to develop the residential neighborhood. As pioneers of residential development in Tacoma, their work soon augmented by schooled professionals who moved into to the area after leaning about the pending building boom.

The district does have several structures designed by notable local architects: Bullard & Hill, Larkin & Barton, C.A. Darmer, Tuttle & Woodruffe, Ambrose Russell, Emanuel J. Breseman, Oliver Perry Dennis, Proctor & Ferrell, and Frederick Heath.

The styles of these buildings represent what was most popular in America at that time of there construction. Most are not high styles, just good solid examples of what worked within the tastes and budgets of their owners. Prevalent styles show excellent representations of Queen Anne, stick styles, classic American foursquare, and the Craftsman style.

The following is a list of some of the more notable architects, contractors and builders who worked within the North Slope Historic District.

Combined Architects, Builders and Contractors

James J. Brennan

James J. Brennan was the owner, architect and contractor for his own home 1311 North 10th Street, 1889.

Duff, R. D.

BAIN & DUFF

The partnership with Alexander M. Bain and R.D. Duff created many dwellings within the district. Together they acted as architect and contractor for the Lincoln K. Boyle Residence at 1315 North 11th Street (1889), the Bain Building at 1102 North Sheridan Avenue (1889), Professor Max Meyer Residence at 1105 North Sheridan Avenue (1889) and the Nelson E. Handsaker Residence at 1017 North Cushman Avenue (1889). Acting alone, Duff was the architect and contractor for the John Handsaker Residence at 1015 North Cushman Avenue (1889), and the Frank Durr Residence at 809 North Sheridan Avenue (1892).

H. G. Horn

He was the architect and contractor of the George W. Race Residence at 909 North Cushman Avenue, (1889).

Grant, J. N.

He was the architect and contractor of the John M. and Salome Ferris Residence at 802 North Sheridan Avenue (1889).

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Neilly, P. J.

He was the architect, builder, and contractor for the Lorenz Y. Stayton Residence at 1012 North Cushman Avenue (1889).

O'Hara, James

He was the owner, architect, and contractor of his own residence at 801 North Ainsworth Avenue (1889).

Shutes, John A.

He was the Owner, architect, and carpenter of his own residence at 919 North Ainsworth Avenue (1889).

Bertleson

Bertleson was the architect and contractor for the Everett C. Miller Residence at 1311 North 9th Street (1890).

Lemley, Burton E.

Burton E. Lemley was the owner and architect for his own home at 615 N. Cushman (1910).

Gingrich, Ivan

Ivan Gingrich was the owner, architect, and contractor for his own home at 717 North Cushman Avenue (1927).

Professional Architects

These schooled professional architects, practiced alone or in firms, and elevated the level of residential design in the North Slope neighborhood. Most notable are Larkin & Barton, Emanuel J. Breseman, Bullard & Hill, Carl August Darmer, Ambrose J. Russell, Tuttle & Woodruffe, Proctor & Ferrell, Oliver Perry Dennis, Frederick Heath, and Bullard & Hill.

Oliver Perry Dennis

PROCTOR & DENNIS

O. P. Dennis worked as an architect in the Tacoma area from 1888-1895. Most of his work was done in partnership with John G. Proctor under the name Proctor & Dennis. Proctor later practiced in California. Oliver Perry Dennis was responsible for the Frank H. Graham Residence at 515 North Sheridan Avenue (1892), the Peter Voorhees Residence at 517 North Sheridan Avenue (1892), the Aaron R. Titlow Residence at 1605 Division Street (1893), and the John H. Wyandt Residence at 508 North Ainsworth Avenue (1893).

Carl August Darmer

DARMER & FERRELL / DARMER & CUTTING

C.A. Darmer was born in Stralund, Prussia in 1858 and received traditional architectural training there as well as apprenticing in building trades. C. A. Darmer followed his profession for a few years in his native country. This was followed by several years in England, Africa, and Australia before stopping in San Francisco in 1882. He was so impressed with the appearance of the country he decided to settle and

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learned about American building techniques before taking a position in the firm of Warren Williams in Portland, Oregon. Darmer followed the lead of many young architects and builders and relocated to Tacoma after a series of disastrous fires in 1884. Darmer work for W. Ferrell for a time until becoming a partner. Together they designed residences but entire business blocks, schools, churches, and hotels in and around Tacoma. Seven years later he organized another partnership with Otis Cutting and by 1914 was considered independent. Though credited only to Darmer, during the time of Darmer & Ferrell was the John R. A. Cort-van-der-Linden Residence at 1601 North 8th Street (1892) and then during the time of Darmer & Cutting, were the Howard C. Lucas Residence at 1505 North 6th Street (1903), the Thomas H. Dobson Residence at 1509 North 6th Street (1903), and the George W. Boggs/David A. Worden Residence at 1501 North 6th Street (1903).

Spaulding, Russell & Heath

The architectural firm of Spaulding, Russell & Heath was responsible for the Frederick H. Murray Residence at 402 North Sheridan Avenue (1901), and the Burton A. Moore Residence at 414 North Sheridan Avenue (1901).

Spaulding was trained as a Marine Architect. He was associated with the firm of Spaulding, Russell & Heath for only one year.

Frederick Henry Heath

HEATH & SPAULDING / SPAULDING, RUSSELL & HEATH / HEATH, GOVE & BELL, 1911-
Born in La Crosse, Wisconsin F. H. Heath received his architectural training primarily through the firm of Warren H. Hayes in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Heath arrived in Tacoma in 1893, and in 1901 established business as an architect. Heath was, for a period, the official architect for the Tacoma School Board and responsible for the conversion of the old Tacoma Land Hotel into Stadium High School. F. H. Heath, or the firm, with which he was partnered, was responsible for schools, office and public Buildings, hospitals, churches, homes. This includes St. Patrick's, First Church of Christ Scientist, First Lutheran, First Baptist and Sixth Avenue Baptist. He is credited alone with the Forbes P. Haskil, Jr. Residence at 521 North Ainsworth (1906).

George W. Bullard

BULLARD & HAYWORTH / BULLARD & HILL

Bullard was born in Illinois and was a graduate of the University of Illinois. He came to Tacoma in 1890 and opened the firm of Bullard & Hayworth. Some time later Bullard formed a new partnership with I. H. Hill. The firm is best known for their design of the YMCA Building, the First Congregational Church, the First Christian Church, the State Historical Society Building, and Epworth Methodist Church. G. W. Bullard is credited with the Louis B. Stewart Residence at 514 North Sheridan Avenue (1902), the James F. Hopkins Residence at 1521 North 5th Street (1903), the William T. Fletcher Residence at 817 North Sheridan (1906), and the Mrs. Mamie Bettman Residence at 1115 North Steele (1908).

Proctor & Ferrell

The architectural firm of Proctor & Ferrell was responsible for a number of residences and commercial structures throughout Tacoma. The majority of these buildings are no longer standing, such as the Pierce County Courthouse on South G Street. Within the district the firm was responsible for the Governor Ernst Lister Residence at 1402 North 5th Street (1903).

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John C. Proctor was considered an "aggressive pioneer" in the architectural field in the west and served for a period as Washington State Architect. He is credited as the designer of the Washington Exposition Building, 1890, Western State Hospital, and the Washington State Capitol Building. In 1891 he formed a partnership with W. Ferrell.

William Ferrell's architectural training was considered to be similar to that of many "frontier" architect-builders. In 1891 he withdrew from his partnership with C.A. Darmer and formed a new partnership with J. Proctor.

Tuttle - Woodroffe

The architectural firm of Tuttle - Woodroffe was responsible for the Albert E. Cromwell Residence at 1401 North 6th Street (1907) and the William J. & Mary Love Residence at 607 North Cushman Avenue (1907).

Rollin S. Tuttle was trained as an architect and initially worked with his brother Paul Tuttle who was a contractor. Together they were responsible for designing and building several homes in Tacoma. After what had appeared to be an enthusiastic trip to Southern California in 1906, Rollin decided to join forces with another architect, Arnott Woodroffe.

Arnott Woodroffe was a former head draftsman for the firm Russell & Babcock. He once stated that he received the most satisfaction from the design of homes in the Bungalow Style. In 1907 Woodroffe purchased the firm and by 1908 Rollin had disappeared from the scene. That year he entered into a partnership with Arnold Constable.

Russell & Babcock

The architectural firm of Russell & Babcock was responsible for the Roy E. Davison Residence at 1414 North 5th Street (1907). Everett Phipps Babcock came to Tacoma from New York and was first commissioned to design the Carnegie Library. He formed a partnership with Ambrose J. Russell in 1893.

Ambrose J. Russell was born in Trivandram, India in 1857. The son of a Scottish missionary he lived there for five years. The in 1862 the family moved to Sydney, Australia and then on to the United Kingdom. He received his architectural education at the University of Glasgow and was awarded a scholarship to the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He eventually came to America in 1884 and was first employed in the office of H. H. Richardson, in Boston. In 1892 in moved to Tacoma via St. Louis. Later he partnered with Gaston C. Lance.

Western Architectural & Engineering Company

The Western Architectural & Engineering Company was responsible for the Douglas V. Wood residence at 717 North Ainsworth Avenue (1907).

Barton & Larkin

The architectural firm of Barton & Larkin is responsible for the Neal A Jones Residence at 708 North Ainsworth Avenue (1908).

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No information is available for partner Vere F. A. Barton. Partner John P. Larkin was responsible individually for the Abel P. Henriot Residence at 515 North Ainsworth Avenue (1907).

Bullard & Hill

The architectural firm of Bullard & Hill was responsible for the Patrick J. Sweeney Residence at 622 North Cushman (1909).

Irwyn H. Hill was a graduate of the University of Illinois. Not long after arriving in Tacoma in 1902, Hill associated with G. W. Bullard, perhaps a classmate at the University of Illinois. The firm is best known for their design of the YMCA Building, the First Congregational Church, the First Christian Church, the State Historical Society Building, and Epworth Methodist Church. From 1918 to 1923, Hill was with the firm of Hill, Mock & Griffin.

Sutton, Whitney & Dugan

The architectural firm of Sutton, Whitney & Dugan was responsible for the Harvey E. Warren Residence at 902 North Grant Avenue.

Albert Sutton was born in Victoria, Canada in 1867 and spent his boyhood in Portland, Oregon. This was followed by two years at the University of California. While there he worked as draftsman for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company until 1895 when he open the firm of Pickles & Sutton, Architects in Tacoma. The following year he returned to San Francisco forming Sutton & Weeks, remaining there until 1910. Sutton moved to Hood River, Oregon briefly and then returned to Portland, Oregon forming Sutton & Whitney in 1915. The in 1918 Mr. Sutton came to Tacoma to establish Sutton & Whitney, Architects, Earl N. Dugan, associate. Albert Sutton was responsible for the Arthur E. Bull Residence at 704 North Cushman Avenue (1893).

Harrison A. Whitney was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and worked for a period in Boston and later Chicago. He relocated to Portland, Oregon where he worked as head draftsman at Whidden & Lewis until partnering with Mr. Sutton in 1912.

Earl Nathaniel Dugan was born in Boone County, Iowa in 1877 and worked briefly in Chicago after graduating from the University of Illinois in 1906. He relocated to San Francisco after the earthquake and fire before finally moving to Tacoma in 1910. He was instrumental in founding the Tacoma Society of Architects.

Emanuel L. Breseman

Emanuel L. Breseman was responsible for the Hilda Chisholm Residence at 1321 North 5th Street (1916), the Ralph A. Younkin Residence at 650 North Sprague Avenue (1922), and the Thomas P. Hanson Residence at 654 North Sprague Avenue (1922).

Roland E. Borhek

Roland Borhek was born and raised in Boston and worked for a number of years in eastern architectural firms. In 1905 he moved west and joined the firm of A. Warren Gould in Seattle. In 1910 he moved to Tacoma and opened his own office designing many of Tacoma's most notable buildings. Among them are

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The Walker Apartment Hotel, the Rialto Theatre, and the Puget Sound Bank building. Roland E. Borhek was responsible for his own residence at 715 North Sheridan Avenue (1920).

Andrew D. Gendron

Little is known about Andrew Gendron. His name first appears in a 1921 newspaper article as the architect engineer for the planned Gray Gables at 1617 Division Street (1922). The 1922 City Directory lists him as Vice President of Riehl & Russell, Inc. a Real Estate, Loan and Insurance business. By 1923, there is no evidence of A. D. Gendron in Tacoma and Riehl & Russell are no longer doing business.

Lance & Russell

The architectural firm of Lance & Russell was responsible for the dwelling at 1505 Division Street (1929).

Gaston C. Lance was born in Bucharest, Romania to French parents in 1877. He left Paris at 18 moving throughout Europe for many years until coming to Seattle in 1909. In 1921 he purchased a carpenter shop in Tacoma and worked at designing and building boats. He eventually met Ambrose J. Russell and they became partners.

Paul Thiry

Known as the father of modernism in the Pacific Northwest, Paul Thiry is notable as the architect of some of the best period buildings around the state of Washington during the 1950, 60s and 70s. His Brutalist style 1970 sanctuary addition to the Christ Episcopal Church (1970) is one of the more notable later buildings in the district. Thiry was a graduate of the architecture school at the University of Washington (1928) and studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in France.