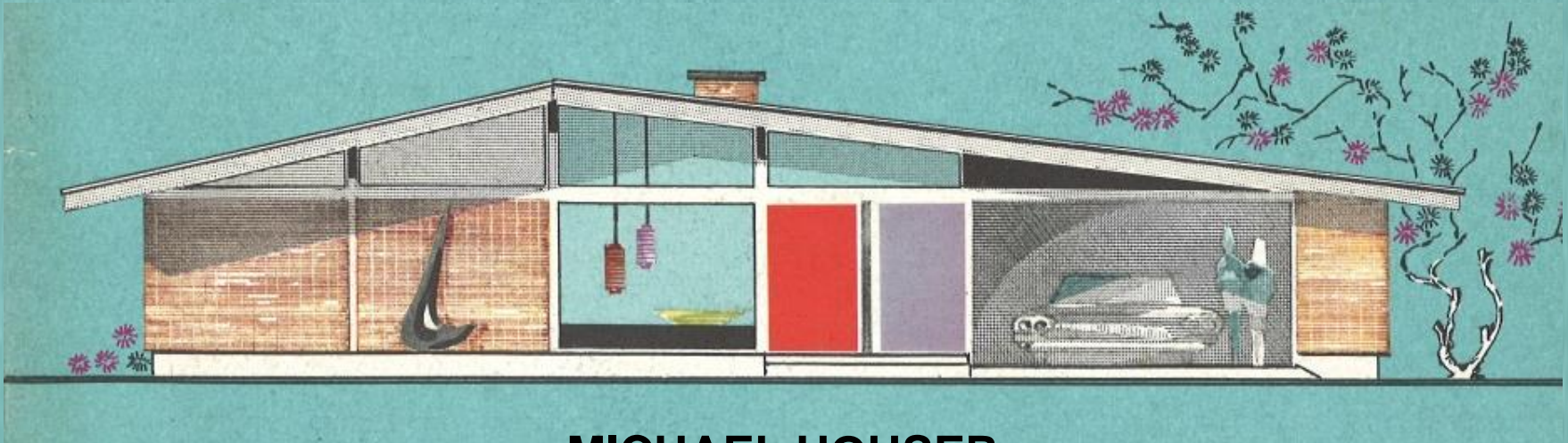




MID-CENTURY MODERN ARCHITECTURE

IN WASHINGTON STATE



MICHAEL HOUSER

State Architectural Historian

DAHP - Olympia, WA

June 2014

QUONSET HUT

1941-1960

Round/arched roof

Usually made of structural steel ribs

Typically built in 10' increments

Exterior sheathed in various materials depending on manufacturer/sub-type

Rectangular plan resting on concrete foundation

Round form sometime hidden by false front facade

Little to no side windows



Main entry typically found on short/arched end

Shop Moses Lake, c.1960

QUONSET HUT

History



Quonset Village: Whidbey Island Naval Station 1952

Quonsets FOR FARM AND INDUSTRY

ALL-STEEL BUILDINGS AT LOW COST

Adaptable to hundreds of farm and industrial uses, Quonset buildings are filling a steadily increasing need for low-cost, all-purpose structures.

Available in a variety of sizes, Quonsets are framed with Stran-Steel *available* framing members for strength and rigidity and the simple attachment of exterior and interior collateral members.

Features include clear-span construction (except in the Multiple), for 100% usable floor space... all-steel materials, for fire-safety, permanence, and freedom from weather and rodent deterioration. The Stran-Steel framing system permits the easy addition of sections or the dismantling of the entire building for re-erection elsewhere.

Stop in today for details and prices.

Quonset buildings are products of Great Lakes Steel Corporation, a unit of National Steel Corporation.

*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

STRAN-STEEL FRAMING

We are now serving this territory and have on hand these buildings for immediate delivery.

Eugene Steel Building Co.
523 Lawrence Street Phone 6284J Eugene, Ore.

I am interested in a Quonset 40... 20... 24
Quonset Multiple... for use as a
Building length is to be... feet.
I would like to have literature sent to me
I would like to have a representative call

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Quonsets are Products of Great Lakes Steel Corporation

They drove a nail into a steel beam
—AND STARTED A NEW SYSTEM OF BUILDING

STRAN-STEEL

THE STRAN-STEEL CORPORATION
GREAT LAKES STEEL CORPORATION

JUST RIGHT
for a score of Farm uses

THE STRAN-STEEL "Quonset 24"

GREAT LAKES STEEL CORPORATION
UNIT OF NATIONAL STEEL CORPORATION

An Opportunity to Buy **QUONSET HUTS** and Other Utility Buildings AT LOW FIXED PRICES!

ON SALE MAY 16 through JUNE 5 OFFERED CONCURRENTLY TO ALL QUALIFIED BUYERS

The famous utility buildings of the Armed Forces—tested and proved by arctic willow and tropic tempest—can be used for a variety of purposes. Also interesting housing. Now WAA offers you an opportunity to buy these buildings and parts for them at typical WAA money-saving prices.

QUONSET HUTS: 20 ft. Northern, Type complete 27' 6" wide with and without windows. In previous inventory 20 ft. 20 ft. wide, 12 ft. 6" deep, 10 ft. high, and 12' 6" wood framing, massive 1/2" steel studs, 1/2" steel joists, galvanized steel, weather-resistant exterior, electrical, window and door.

QUONSET HUT PARTS: Miscellaneous hardware, fittings, accessories, including pipes, valves, conduits, etc. Also 20 ft. 20 ft. wide, 12 ft. 6" deep, 10 ft. high, and 12' 6" wood framing, massive 1/2" steel studs, 1/2" steel joists, galvanized steel, weather-resistant exterior, electrical, window and door.

CONVERSION UNIT PARTS: Bolter, 20 ft. 20 ft. wide, 12 ft. 6" deep, 10 ft. high, and 12' 6" wood framing, massive 1/2" steel studs, 1/2" steel joists, galvanized steel, weather-resistant exterior, electrical, window and door.

STEEL WAREHOUSE: Prefabricated steel storage warehouse, complete 20 ft. 20 ft. wide, 12 ft. 6" deep, 10 ft. high, and 12' 6" wood framing, massive 1/2" steel studs, 1/2" steel joists, galvanized steel, weather-resistant exterior, electrical, window and door.

WAR ASSETS ADMINISTRATION
SEATTLE REGIONAL OFFICE
1409 Second Avenue, Seattle 1, Washington

Quonset Buildings

FOR EVERY FARM USE

Space
AT AN ECONOMICAL PRICE

THE Quonset 40
AN ALL-STEEL BUILDING OF MANY USES - FIRE RESISTANT - ECONOMICAL - FEASIBLE IN USE AN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT OF STRAN-STEEL

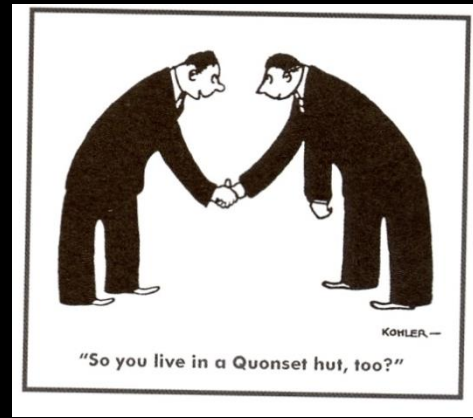
Spokesman Review
1948

Daily Olympian 1947

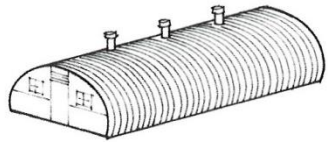


QUONSET HUT

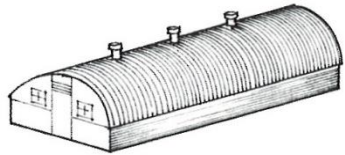
Models



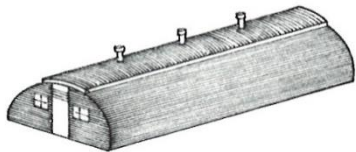
Quonset Hut T-Rib, Quonset Hut Redesign, Pacific Hut, Emkay Hut, Armco Hut, Jamesway Hut, Stran-Steel Hut, Portaseal Hut, Butler Hut, Corwin Hut



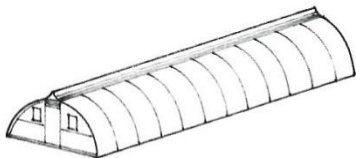
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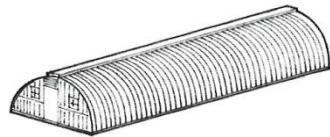
2. QUONSET HUT—REDESIGN



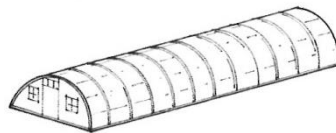
3. QUONSET STRAN-STEEL HUT



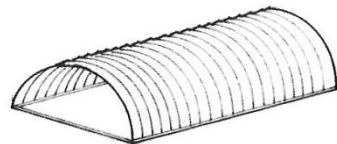
4. PACIFIC HUT



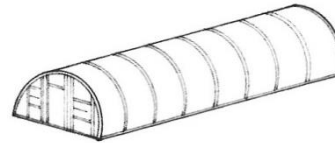
5. BUTLER HUT



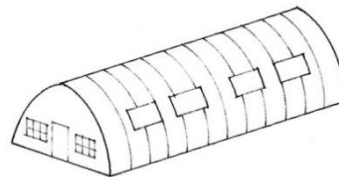
6. JAMESWAY



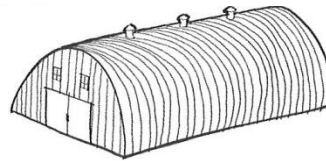
7. ARMCO HUT



8. PORTASEAL HUT



9. EMKAY HUT



10. COWIN HUT



Stran Steel Hut Olympia



Pacific Hut Seattle



QUONSET HUT

History

Poier Motors Chevrolet Dealership

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST September 18, 1948

"New Model" in car dealerships wins public approval

Poier Motors Chevrolet and Oldsmobile Sales and Service Snohomish, Washington

Spacious, Clean-lined QUONSET MULTIPLE Sets the Trend

All Quonsets[®] are framed with Stran-Steel nailable framing

All Quonsets... the 20, 24, 32, 36, 40 and Multiple... have a sturdy framework of precision Stran-Steel members. This high-quality framing material features a patented nailing groove, so that building materials can be nailed directly to the Stran-Steel members. Flexibility of construction with Stran-Steel framing permits unlimited variations and adaptations of the basic Quonset buildings.

You'll see them more and more... the smart, inviting Quonsets that provide sales and service facilities for progressive car dealers. These streamlined buildings strike the right note in architectural design... just as the sleek new cars on saleroom floors strike the right note in automotive design. Both cars and Quonsets are functional in line. Both derive structural strength from a precision framework of steel. Both are engineered to take full advantage of mass production economies. All of which points to the fact that Quonsets are the modern answer to building needs. Their attractiveness and lasting good looks stem from modern ideas, modern materials, modern methods. It's a pleasant change to step into a Quonset... the new building on the American scene.

GREAT LAKES STEEL CORPORATION
Stran-Steel Division • Dept. A • Peninsula Building • Detroit 26, Mich.
Canadian Address • 495 Sandringham Avenue • Toronto, Ontario
A UNIT OF NATIONAL STEEL CORPORATION

...and hundreds of other adaptations

Quonset Theatre Quonset School Quonset Resort



Snohomish, 1948



QUONSET HUT

Examples



Building Mount Vernon, c.1955



Mess Hall: VA Hospital Lakewood, c.1945



Building Seattle, c.1965



VFW Hall McCleary, c.1955

QUONSET HUT

Examples



Building Port Townsend, c.1955



Building Wenatchee, c.1960



Building Mount Vernon c.1956



Building Ferndale, c.1950



Building Prosser, c.1948



Building Garfield, c.1950

QUONSET HUT

Agricultural Examples



Barn Whitman Co., c.1960



“Farm in a Day” Moses Lake 1952



Schorzman Farm Quincy, c.1957



Aldrich Farm Walla Walla, c.1955

QUONSET HUT

Residential Examples

Driverless Auto Plunges 25 Feet Off Bank Into Quonset-Hut Home



WHERE AUTOMOBILE LANDED: This gaping hole in the side of the **quonset hut** home of Capt. and Mrs. William A. McClure, 15401 Maple Wild S. W., made an impromptu "picture frame" for the McClures this forenoon. The hole was made by a driverless automobile which plunged off the embankment onto the home at 2:30 o'clock this morning.

Seattle Times July 6, 1949

QUONSET HUT

Hut 20x52. 2 1/2 acres. Sound and mountain view. 1 1/2 acres cleared. West of Aurora in North Edmonds district. \$4,500, \$500 down and \$25 per month.

Seattle Times March 6, 1949



House Tacoma, c.1958



House Lacey, c.1952