United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Bon Marche Department Store
other names/site number Bon Marche Building; Macy's Building

2. Location

street & number 300 Pine Street
not for publication

city or town Seattle
vicinity

state WASHINGTON code WA county KING code 033 zip code 98122

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this __X__ 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 __X__ meets __ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

____ national  ______ statewide  ______ local

Applicable National Register Criteria

____ A  ______ B  ______ C  ______ D

Signature of certifying official/Title  Date

WASHINGTON SHPO

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property __ meets __ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official  Date

Title  State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register  ______ determined eligible for the National Register

____ determined not eligible for the National Register  ______ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain:)

________________________________

Signature of the Keeper  Date of Action
Bon Marche Department Store                         King County, WA
Name of Property                                           County and State

5. Classification

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

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

6. Function or Use

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7. Description

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<td>roof: Built-up</td>
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<td>other:</td>
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Bon Marche Department Store  
Name of Property  
King County, WA  
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Designed by noted Seattle architect John Graham, Sr., construction of the four-story Bon Marche Department Store (known today as the Macy’s Building) commenced in February 1928 within the heart of Seattle’s downtown retail district. After eighteen months of construction, the department store opened for business in August 1929. When the Bon Marche needed to expand their downtown store, they approached John Graham & Company, an architecture firm led by John Graham, Jr., the son of the original architect. Construction began on the four-story addition in April 1954 and was completed in October 1955. The restrained Art Deco of the original 1929 building and the more modern style of the 1955 addition were appropriate for the two periods of construction and the Modern addition is compatible with the original design, resulting in a handsome downtown building.

Alterations to the building’s exterior since the 1955 addition have been minimal and interior renovations have retained key character-defining features, showcasing the building’s design, workmanship, and materials. The building continues to operate as a department store in the city’s shopping district, retaining integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association.

Narrative Description

Setting

Located in the heart of Seattle’s downtown shopping district, the eight-story Bon Marche Department Store occupies over 800,000 square feet and covers an entire city block. The site slopes down slightly from west to east and north to south and is bounded by Third Avenue (west), Fourth Avenue (east), Pine Street (south), and Stewart Street (north). All four elevations of the building serve as primary facades, but loading bays are located on the west facade. The design and construction of the building demonstrate a level of permanence and the store’s prominence within the city.

The Bon Marche Department Store stands amidst buildings constructed during different eras in Seattle’s history. Across Third Avenue to the west is a nine-story, concrete, modern-style parking garage (1960) – connected to the Bon Marche Building by a pedestrian sky bridge, also constructed in 1960. The garage was built to provide parking for department store shoppers and the general public. To the east, across Fourth Avenue, are Westlake Center (1989), an indoor, four-story shopping mall and adjacent outdoor plaza; the twelve-story Mayflower Park Hotel (1927); and the twelve-story Times Building (1916). The ten-story Securities Building (1913) is located across Olive Way to the north. A six-story office building (2002) and a two-story commercial building (1920) are located across Pine Street to the south. Nearby National Register of Historic Places listed buildings include the Moore Theatre and Hotel (1907), New Washington Hotel (1908), United Shopping Tower (1929), the Medical Dental Building (1925), and the Times Building (1916).

The building retains its exterior character-defining features, massing, and scale and helps anchor the retail district in downtown Seattle. The building has continually operated as a department store since it first opened in 1929, even with ownership changes and the eventual name change from Bon Marche to Macy’s. The building is well maintained and remains a prominent landmark in Seattle.

Exterior

The eight-story Bon Marche Department Store features a rectangular plan with chamfered corners and measures 250 x 360 feet. The chamfered corners both opened the visual space at the street intersections and provided an excellent location for signage. The 1929 portion of the building reflects the Art Deco style, utilizing predominately geometric and naturalistic motifs. The 1955 addition complements the 1929 building, but is characterized by restrained ornamentation, in keeping with the clean lines of Modernism.
WALLS

Smooth, rectangular limestone blocks with granite at the base clad the reinforced concrete building. The limestone at the first four stories consists of Baalbek buff Indiana oolithic limestone. For the four-story addition in 1955, the builders utilized limestone from the same quarry, but this limestone has more pink tones than buff. This color difference is evident between the fourth and fifth stories. Specifications for the building dated 1928-1929 indicate that great care was taken by the architect, John Graham, Sr., in the selection of the material. The limestone chosen was free from defects and uniform in color, texture, and quality. Indiana limestone was chosen for its strength, durability, and sense of permanence.

Ornament on the building is restrained and focused mainly on the original first four stories—geometric and naturalistic Art Deco detailed carved in low relief. The building’s original cornice design featured more elaborate carved ornament, also in low relief. A shaped parapet capped the fourth story. Both the cornice and shaped parapet were removed with the addition of the upper four stories, making the transition from the fourth to fifty story a smooth continuation of the facades. At street level, the building features two colors of granite. Large panels of a darker colored granite runs beneath the storefronts and continues approximately half way up the wall surface beneath the marquee. Smaller panels of lighter, buff colored granite clad the wall surface between the darker granite and the marquee. The limestone at the first story (located above the marquee) is slightly rusticated in comparison to the upper stories, with deeper mortar joints, giving the building a weightier appearance at the base. Octagonal medallions inset with a floral basket design are located above the marquee in regularly spaced intervals on the north, east, and south elevations where there is additional rusticated limestone, which reflects the building’s response to its sloping site. Four of the eight sides of each medallion are curved. A subtle beltcourse with a fret band carved in low relief separates the first and second stories, located above the rusticated limestone. The center bays on each facade protrude slightly, providing additional depth to the building’s predominately smooth wall surfaces on the upper stories.

The building features six interior stairwells which are evident on the exterior through the treatment of ornament on the facade. The north, south, and east sides of the building each contain two of these stairwells. A pattern of hexagons and floral/triangular designs define the stairwell sections on the third to seventh stories. Small, segmental arched window openings with decorative spiral motif grilles provide natural air circulation for the stairwells and are located between floors. At the second story, above major entrances, the stairwells feature recessed balconies with octagonal and spiral motif grillework framed by floral patterned lintels.

Although all four facades can be considered primary, the west elevation contains the building’s loading bays. And the west elevation also does not feature the stairwell inset balconies above the entrances or the decorative vertical bays above these balconies.

WINDOWS AND SPANDELS

The building features original, double-hung, one-over-one and two-over-two, wood sash windows in single, double, or triple configurations. Sills are limestone. Several windows have the glazing replaced by louvered vents, but the frames and sash remain intact. A few windows have been replaced entirely with the louvered vents. The 1955 addition infilled window openings at the chamfered corners with limestone – outlines of the openings remain visible. Windows from the 1955 addition match the original building’s windows.

While the upper stories blend well with the lower, original stories, their spandrels and lintels differ. The windows on the original first four stories feature decorative spandrels and lintels. Windows at the second story have low relief lintels characterized by a leaf, fern, and vine design. The spandrels between the third and fourth stories are decorated with a shield, cross, and spiral design. Spandrels between the third and fourth stories in the center bays of the east and west facades and in the chamfered corners feature octagonal medallions with a floral design. Spandrels between the added stories feature simple panels.
MARQUEE

The building’s major architectural feature is its original copper marquee, which continuously wraps around the entire building, providing shelter for pedestrians and window shoppers. The fascia of the cast ornamental marquee features an intricately carved pattern of underwater motifs, including fish, snails, seahorses, and scallops. The marquee is flat (except above each entrance) and steps up or down with the gentle grade change and above the loading dock along Third Avenue to accommodate truck deliveries. The marquee is more prominent with a low-pitch gable form above each entrance. This distinction from the rest of the marquee highlights the entrances and provides visual cues to those looking to enter the building. The marquee is constructed of steel with sheet metal ceiling material; copper comprises the decorative fascia.

STOREFRONTS AND ENTRANCES

The building’s storefront display windows serve as advertisement for the department store. Large plate glass display windows with bronze frames wrap around the entire first story. Originally, the building had 38 display windows – six on the west elevation, eight on the north, twelve on the east, eight on the south, and one at each of the building’s four chamfered corners. The storefront window at the southwest corner was altered in the 1990s to accommodate a café with a recessed entrance. This recessed entrance has a set of bronze anodized aluminum frame glass double doors with transom and side lites. Six more storefronts have also been altered, three on the south elevation, one on the west, one on the east, and one on the north. The storefront immediately east of the southwest corner was modified to accommodate a pair of exiting doors from the service stairway. The storefront east of the south elevation entrance was removed to create an entrance to the transit tunnel. A display window at the east end of the south facade was converted to house a recessed elevator entry servicing the transit tunnel with added tile infill within the original display window opening. A display window on the west elevation, immediately south of the staff entrance, was infilled. A display window on the east elevation was modified in order to accommodate a doorway to provide exiting. A storefront on the north elevation was modified to accommodate a pair of exiting doors. The remaining storefronts (31) are intact.

ROOF

The roof contains the usual rooftop features, such as mechanical equipment, a large air shaft, and an elevator penthouse constructed of concrete masonry units and clad in corrugated metal siding. Rooftop features are concentrated on the rear west side of the roof, closest to the parapet line. Three of the building’s six stairways terminate in roof access through a small stair penthouse with a single door. The flat-topped, hipped roof is coated with a built-up bituminous roof material.

Interior

Upon the original four-story building’s completion, splashy spreads in The Seattle Times called out the new building as “an emotionally inspiring vista of beauty, convenience and merchandise to those who visit it.”1 The interior ornamentation and spatial organization contributed to the attractiveness of the space and ease of use for shoppers. The interior of the Bon Marche Department Store remains remarkably intact given the nature of the retail business. Each sales floor maintains its open spatial volume and the back of the house and service areas are largely unchanged. The interior configuration originally consisted of sales floors from the basement through sixth floors, with storage space in the sub-basement, seventh, and eighth floors. Each sales floor consists of a re-configurable volume with added features such as dressing rooms, display cases, and bathroom built out and reconfigured within the space as need. Back of the house and service areas extended around the west and north sides of the sales floors to provide quick restocking and access to the freight and staff elevators. Interior organization grouped elevators (for passengers, employees, and freight) along the west side of the building. This vertical circulation column provided access to each floor. A bank of six passenger elevators is located on the west side of each floor and the doors face east. The elevator bank wall has a concave curve. The elevator bank wall on the first floor features a distinctly Art Deco wood surround. Vertical fluting highlights each elevator. Wood molding arranged in a fan pattern cap each elevator, along with a brass sign indicating the elevator’s number and its direction (up or down). A bronze plaque with the

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Profile of Josephine McDermott is centered on the elevator bank wall. The building originally had eight passenger elevators—two were removed in the late 1980s. Two employee and four freight elevators are situated behind the passenger elevators and the doors open to the west. Another freight elevator is located at the end north end across from the bank of employee/freight elevators. Escalators were located in the south central portion of the original four-story building and then extended later to service the upper floors. Alterations have replaced all of the escalators and opened the first floor adjacent the escalators to provide a light well down to the basement.

Periodic renovations have installed drop ceilings, new mechanical systems, and altered finishes and colors throughout each floor. In order to remain contemporary, and thus competitive, these are changes that department stores must undertake. Walls consist of painted sheetrock with drop acoustical tile and painted sheetrock ceilings. The notable exception is the decorative plaster ceiling on the first floor and the decorative column capitals on the first through fourth floors. Floor finishes are carpet, tile, or wood over concrete floors.

The following is a description of each floor.

**BASEMENT**

The building’s basement level is a sales floor that houses menswear and also accesses the King County Metro Transit (Metro) Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel station. The basement has sheetrock walls and ceilings with carpet and tile floor finishes. The floor plan is reconfigurable with added partitions for dressing rooms and displays. The building has sub-basements, which house mechanical, electrical, heating and ventilation equipment; storage areas; and spaces for retail support, carpentry, display development, and stock preparation. The basement was remodeled in 1989 and 1990 to accommodate the Metro tunnel station.

**FIRST FLOOR**

The first floor measures 25 feet in height, the tallest floor in the building. It consists primarily of a large reconfigurable sales floor containing various departments, including cosmetics, women’s shoes, handbags, hosiery, and seasonal items such as hats and gloves. The first floor remains the focus of the building in terms of decorative details and customer; the greater height of this floor helped provide the sense of grandeur. A Seattle Times spread heralding the building’s completion complimented the “pleasing harmony” of finishes throughout the ground floor, highlight the light buff color of the walls, ceiling, and columns, the walnut and glass fixtures, Roman travertine type of marble on the floor, and the black and green marble display counters. Character-defining features include the open, reconfigurable volume; curved, wood-framed, wood-faced elevator wall with crystalline capping; octagonal-shaped columns with carved floral motif capitals; and the wavy, layered ceiling treatment (likely added with the 1955 addition).

**MEZZANINE**

The mezzanine level (11 feet in height) is located above the first floor runs the length of the west end and extends along both sides of the elevator shaft and does not project further east into the building. Alterations enclosed the north end of the mezzanine to provide back of house staff spaces—concurrent with the alterations which closed off the north entrances. The mezzanine level along the west side houses a café in the south end and a makeup and cosmetology school in the north end. Decorative metal railings, with an overlapping chevron pattern, extend along the east side of the mezzanine level. Previous alterations installed a partition wall set back behind the railing along the north end of the western mezzanine.

**SECOND THROUGH FOURTH FLOORS**

Floors two through four contain sales floors featuring large reconfigurable volumes. The flexibility of the floors was noted in *The Seattle Times* even upon the completion of the original four-stories. The second floor originally featured a display

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room/auditorium which featured a folding curtain partition, allowing the room to function as an auditorium for fashion shows or regular sales space. Stock and staff spaces group along the perimeter of the second through fourth floors. Added partitions within each floor frame in dressing rooms, bathrooms, and displays. Each of these floors measures 15 feet 6 inches high. These floors house women's clothing and intimates, children's clothing, bed and bath items, furniture, and housewares. The passenger elevator bank walls on these floors feature painted smooth plaster walls and painted metal trim. The floors retain the original octagonal columns with floral motif capitals. The north side of the third floor contains added offices for Macy's.

Finishes consist of painted sheetrock on the walls and ceilings along with acoustical tile drop ceilings and contemporary tile, carpet, and wood floor finishes.

**FIFTH THROUGH EIGHT FLOORS**

When the addition opened to customers in October 1955, only the fifth and sixth floors were open and ready for customers. The seventh and eighth floors remained relatively unfinished. Passenger elevator connections were roughed in to these floors but not initially finished out for the top two floors. Floors seven and eight provided needed storage space connected to the lower floors via the freight elevators.

The fifth floor was also partially unfinished when the addition opened in 1955 and was utilized for temporary sales and display. The finished portion of the fifth floor contained the Bon Marche's carpet-and-rug department, furnishings department, and interior decorating service.

The Bon Marche's dining rooms moved to the new sixth floor with the completion of the addition. The sixth floor contained three restaurants – the Cascade Room, Men's Grill, and Jet Room. A moveable partition separated the Cascade Room and Men's Grill. The Jet Room functioned as a fast-service cafeteria, taking its name, décor, and even service from the city's airplane industry. The sixth floor also contained furnishings for the kitchen and utility room, the book department, a customers' lounge, and a lost-and-found department. Gradually floors five and six transitioned to use as sales floors through the installation of seasonal sales displays, such as a place for children to meet Santa Claus during Christmas.

The seventh floor originally contained the wholesale contract sales department.

Today, floors five and six are vacant – Macy's moved out of these floors in late 2015 – and feature large reconfigurable volumes. Added stock and staff spaces group along the perimeter. Added partitions within each floor frame in dressing rooms, bathrooms, and displays. The passenger elevator bank walls on these floors feature painted smooth plaster walls and metal trim. The octagonal columns do not have capitals on these floors. The north side of the fifth floor contains previously added and currently vacant offices. The north side of the sixth floor contains an added former employee lunchroom and office space. Finishes consist of painted sheetrock on the walls and ceilings along with acoustical tile drop ceilings and contemporary tile, carpet, and wood floor finishes.

The seventh floor measures 15 feet 6 inches high. Originally a reconfigurable volume with exposed framing for storage, alterations added offices and conference and training rooms for a former modeling agency. Added escalators connect down to the sixth floor and up to the eighth floor. Passenger elevator bank walls on this floor feature painted smooth plaster walls with simplified metal trim. Finishes consist of painted sheetrock on the walls and ceilings along with acoustical tile drop ceilings and contemporary tile, carpet, and wood floor finishes.

The eighth floor is 15 feet in height. Originally a reconfigurable volume with exposed framing for storage, alterations added office spaces. As originally designed in 1955, the eighth floor contains no windows because the floor was used for storage. A set of added escalators connect down to the seventh floor. Passenger elevators on this floor feature painted smooth plaster...
walls with simplified metal trim. Finishes consist of painted sheetrock on the walls and ceilings along with acoustical tile drop ceilings and contemporary tile, carpet, and wood floor finishes.

Alterations

The building maintains its spatial relationships and reconfigurable volumes that characterize the large department store. Its main architectural features (particularly those on the first floor) have been preserved. The most substantial alterations to the building was to the exterior, when four stories were added in 1955. However, the same architectural firm that designed the original building also designed the addition; thus, the same limestone cladding was used and the building maintained its massing and form though it lost some of its original details.

Following is a list of known alterations to the building:

- **1954-1955**: Four-story addition constructed. Original cornice and parapet of the 1929 building were removed. Corner windows were filled in with limestone blocks. Original elevator penthouse was removed.
- **1955**: Portion of unfinished 5th floor utilized for temporary sales and display. Partitions (possibly temporary) installed on 6th and 7th floors.  
- **1960**: Constructed skybridge pedestrian crossing over Third Avenue, connecting building to parking garage (1601 Third Avenue)
- **1965**: Three escalators modified
- **1967**: Escalators added between seventh and eighth floors. Exterior exit doors replaced.
- **1962**: 7th floor altered and converted from storage area to furniture sales and office space
- **1974**: Alterations to portions of the 6th floor
- **Ca. 1980s**: Bronze anodized aluminum doors installed in all nine entrances.  
- **1989**: Basement renovation to accommodate Metro bus tunnel station (Westlake transit station). Display window along Pine Street removed and open doorway installed that leads to an interior lobby and stairs down to the transit tunnel  
- **Ca. 1990**: Southwest corner storefront bay altered to accommodate an entrance for a café. Bronze anodized aluminum doors, transom, and side lites installed. Note: Macy’s has the original bronze storefront frame in storage.  
- **Ca. 1990**: Display window along Pine Street converted to an exit doorway from the southwest service stairway. Alteration involved cutting display window trim and angling part of the trim back into the recessed entrance. Two interior vestibule doors utilized as the exit doors, which do not require exterior hardware. New granite and stone panels installed along the east side of the opening.  
- **2005**: New Macy’s signage added to building. Original “Bon Marche” sign remains on building.  
- **1929 through present**: Periodic changes to update floor, ceiling, and wall finishes  
- **1955 through present**: Periodic changes to reconfigure open spaces on seventh and eighth floors  
- **Elevator upgrade**: All existing elevators are original but have been upgraded over the years. Two passenger elevators (one on each end) were removed in the late 1980s.  
- **Undated interior upgrade**: Copies of “Spirit of Northwest Industry” panels installed near the escalators. The panels are copies of sculptor Dudley Pratt’s panels which adomed the The People’s First Avenue Bank. Dillon Works fabricated the panels out of fiberglass and bronze powder infused resin.  
- **Display window alterations**: Undated changes to the display windows over the years include the following:

  - Regular alterations and upgrades to display boxes behind plate glass display windows for marketing needs. Current display boxes consist of painted sheetrock clad wood stud assemblies.

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7. Building permit no. 432975 and 436983, 1955, Microfilm Library, DPD.
8. Building permit no. 497948, Microfilm Library, DPD.
Bon Marché Department Store  King County, WA
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- Conversion of a display window at the east end of the south facade to house a recessed elevator entry servicing the transit tunnel with added tile infill within the original display window opening.
- Installation of a doorway in a portion of the southeast corner display window to provide access for a corner retail space.
- Installation of an exit doorway in a north display window along 4th Avenue to provide exiting.
- Modification of a display window along Stewart Street at the west end to accommodate a pair of exiting doors from the service stairway.
- Installation of a mirrored finish on display window glass at one location on Stewart Street, one location on 3rd Avenue, and one on Olive Way.
- Infill of a display window along 3rd Avenue immediately south of the staff entrance.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A  Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

B  removed from its original location.

C  a birthplace or grave.

D  a cemetery.

E  a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F  a commemorative property.

G  less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCIAL
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1929 - 1955

Significant Dates
1929 (date of construction)
1955 (date of construction, addition)

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
John Graham, Sr. (Architect)
John Graham & Company (Architects - addition)
Teufel & Carlson (General Contractor)
Bennett & Campbell (General Contractor – addition)
The Bon Marche Department Store (known today as the Macy’s Building) occupies an entire city block in downtown Seattle – the first and only department store to do so – a monument to the city’s retail strength in the Pacific Northwest. The building is eligible for individual listing to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C at the local level of significance. The period of significance begins in 1929 with the completion of the first four stories and ends in 1955 with the completion of the four story addition. The building is eligible under Criterion A for the area of significance of Commerce due to its association with broad patterns of history that led to the development of downtown Seattle as a commercial and retail center. The building is also eligible is under Criterion C as a striking example of Art Deco architecture with a compatible Modern addition as designed by prominent Seattle architects John Graham, Sr., and John Graham & Company, respectively.

Seattle’s Retail District

Seattle’s current retail district first developed around the turn of the twentieth century and continued growing through the late 1920s. The Great Depression and World War II effectively halted most development in the city. The post-war years inspired a resurgence in the economy and a wave of construction. Today, this vibrant urban center is a product of Seattle’s growth and expansions dating back to the mid-nineteenth century. The construction of the Bon Marche Department Store (1929) and Nordstrom (1937) buildings helped cement the district as the city’s retail core.

The Bon Marche

The story of the Bon Marche in Seattle is tightly linked to the growth and development of the city. From its humble beginnings as a dry goods store, the Bon Marche, often simply called “the Bon,” grew to become one of the finest retail establishments on the West Coast. Born near Keil, Germany, Edward Ludwig Nordhoff (1858–1899)—the store’s founder—immigrated to the United States in 1881, after living in Holland and Paris. Nordhoff briefly settled in Buffalo, New York, where his older brother Rudolph lived, before relocating to Chicago. He worked at Willoughby and Robey, a department store, where he met his future wife, Josephine Patricia Brennan (1871–1920). They married in 1888 and had a daughter, Eleanor Josephine (1888–1966) within their first year of marriage. Two sons, Arthur “A.A.” Alphonsus (b. 1895) and Edward Joseph (1893–1973) followed in subsequent years.

In 1889, the Nordhoff family moved to Seattle, hoping the milder climate would improve Edward’s chronic health problems. Using their life savings, Edward and Josephine opened their own dry goods store in Seattle’s Bell Town neighborhood in 1890, quite a distance from other businesses which were mostly concentrated in the rebuilt, post-fire Pioneer Square to the south. They named the store the Bon Marche after the original Bon Marche in Paris. Their store managed to survive the economic difficulty of the early to mid-1890s and quickly grew once Seattle’s economy rebounded. Unfortunately, Edwards’ health problems returned and he died of tuberculosis in 1899, leaving the Bon Marche store to Josephine. Following Edward’s death, Josephine and Edward’s brother, Rudolph (1853–1945), ran the store along with Frank McDermott (1869–1944), taking it to new heights during Seattle’s most prosperous decade.

Needing a larger store, the Bon Marche relocated in 1900, moving closer to the city’s growing business district, yet the store remained on the district’s outskirts.11 The business district expanded within a few short years and soon the store found itself in the heart of the retail district. In 1901, Josephine and Frank McDermott married, solidifying their partnership in life, as well as in business. The store underwent numerous expansions, growing with consumer demands, becoming not only a full-fledged department store but the third largest cash store in the country.12 Between 1900 and the early 1920s, the store’s annual sales

rose from $340,000 to $8 million. By the time of her death in 1920, Josephine Nordhoff McDermott was one of the most successful business people in Seattle, maintaining the largest number of shares in the Bon Marche.

By the early 1920s, the Bon Marche had again outgrown its location. Frank Radford, a long-time Bon Marche employee, joined Frank McDermott and Rudolph Nordhoff in running the business. Plans for another new building on a new site were underway by the mid-1920s. Erecting a large new building on a new site would end the frequent expansions of the existing buildings, which were cobbled together over the decades. With their usual foresight in real estate and business, the owners of the Bon Marche had acquired (before World War I) a full city block bounded by Pine Street, Stewart Street, Third Avenue, and Fourth Avenue. At the time, this area was still east of the hub of the retail district but close to Frederick & Nelson (1918), the Bon’s competitor, located at Fifth Avenue and Pine Street.

THE 1929 BON MARCHE BUILDING

Construction on the original four-story Bon Marche department store building began in February 1928 was completed in August 1929. Early architectural drawings for the building were dated 1926. Permits and final plans by architect John Graham, Sr., were issued in 1928. Teufel & Carlson served as the general contractor. While under construction, Frank McDermott and Rudolph Nordhoff, recognizing their ailing health, decided to sell the company. New York-based Hahn Department Stores purchased the Bon Marche. This gave the Bon Marche a parent company with the resources to not only make the business thrive in its new building, but also to allow it to expand to other geographic locations in later years.

The Bon Marche’s new $5 million home with twelve acres of retail space opened to great fanfare on August 5, 1929. The building occupied an entire city block—the first and only department store in Seattle to do so and remains that way. Over 135,000 celebrated during the grand opening ceremonies. A souvenir booklet that told the story of the Bon Marche from 1890 to 1929 was distributed. All 1,100 employees were on hand at their stations ready to serve the public. With nine entrances, a grand marquee around the entire building, and thirty-eight display windows throughout, the new building struck an imposing sight. The Seattle Times described the building as “severe in design but attractive in its very simplicity of features.” Department store officials called the store a “veritable paradise of merchandising convenience.” The building contained a state-of-the-art lighting system at the time. The indirect lighting “shed a soft, diffused light over goods, fixtures and persons, resembling daylight and bringing out the true colors of merchandise.”

In addition to the impressive lighting system, the new building offered eight-passenger elevators, modern escalators, and a reconfigurable floor plan that facilitated changes for an enjoyable shopping experience. The basement and first three floors offered a vast amount of sales floor spaces, housing many departments of merchandise and a beauty salon (third floor). The tearoom, bakery, employees’ cafeteria, kitchen, employees’ rooms, and stock/receiving rooms were located on the fourth floor along with a smaller sales area. The large penthouse occupied the rear western third portion of the roof and housed the elevators, carpenter and cabinet shop, shop window trimmers’ room, and other spaces. As a result of the opening of this grand new Bon Marche and the nearby Frederick & Nelson building, the heart of Seattle’s retail district shifted east, anchored by the two department stores. The Nordstrom department store followed shortly after, constructing their new building in 1937 at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Pine Street, just a block east of the Bon Marche.

THE 1955 EXPANSION

The Bon Marche survived the Great Depression and World War II years. Hahn Department Stores evolved into Allied Stores Corporation and became the parent company of the Bon Marche in 1933. By the mid- to late 1940s, Allied began considering expansion into the suburbs with branch stores in order to take advantage of the developing areas outside of Seattle. Riding the wave of the post-war economic boom, the deep pocketed Allied Stores financed the construction of a mall with the Bon Marche as its anchor tenant. The Northgate Mall, located north of Seattle, opened in 1950 to serve a regional population.

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14 The Seattle Times, August 4, 1929: 16.
15 Ibid.
16 Ibid.
offering an alternative to downtown shopping. However, the Bon Marche downtown remained the flagship store and continued to thrive post-war.

The original 1929 building was designed for a future addition, evidence of the Bon Marche’s foresight based on its history of expansion at its previous site. Plans to add onto the downtown store were underway by the 1940s, but the U.S. involvement in World War II tabled the expansion. By the early 1950s, the time for expansion had come. To design the addition, the Bon Marche called upon architecture firm John Graham & Company, led by John Graham, Jr., son of the original architect for the 1929 building. Architectural drawings and permits for the addition were dated 1953. Construction began in April 1954 and was completed by October 1955 at a cost of $3 million. Bennett & Campbell served as the general contractor. The expansion added four floors and a penthouse to the existing four-story building. The Seattle Times marveled at the construction of the reinforced concrete addition, particularly since the store remained in operation during the construction. There was minimal disruption to shoppers and to traffic flow while large hoists carried many tons of concrete, steel, and other materials up the sides of the building.17

The addition of the four floors made the Bon Marche the largest department store west of Chicago.18 The store now had more than one million square feet of space. Although not all the space was needed at the time, Allied Stores anticipated continued population and economic growth in the region. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, Allied Stores continued to open branch stores in Washington (Tacoma, Yakima, Bellingham, Walla Walla, and Spokane, among others) and Oregon (Eugene). By the late 1970s, the Bon Marche had twenty-seven stores in five states (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Utah). The Bon Marche saw new ownership in the 1980s; Allied Stores Corp. merged with Campeau Corp. in 1986. The Bon Marche became the subsidiary of Federated Stores, Inc., a component of the giant Campeau Corp. and the parent company of Macy’s, “America’s Department Store.” In 2005, Federated Stores changed the Bon Marche to Macy’s (after an interim name of Bon-Macy’s), thus ending the long history of the home-grown Seattle retail giant. In 2007, Federated Stores, Inc. changed its name to Macy’s Inc.

Whether called Macy’s, the Bon Marche, or the Bon, the building remains steeped in its association with Seattle’s growth and development. Its connection to the retail industry continues.

The Architects: John Graham, Sr. and John Graham & Company

It is rare for a building to be designed by members of two generations of the same family at different times, but this was the case for the Bon Marche building. Prominent Seattle architect John Graham, Sr. designed the original, 1929 four-story building while his son, John Graham, Jr., was the architect (through his firm, John Graham & Company) for the 1955 four-story addition.

JOHN GRAHAM, SR. (1873 – 1955)19

Born in 1873 in Liverpool, England, John Graham, Sr. received his architectural training through apprenticeship. He first visited the Puget Sound region in 1900, moving to Seattle in 1901. He first entered into partnership with David J. Myers in 1902. Their firm, Graham & Myers, designed many significant Seattle buildings, including three apartment buildings, the Kenney Presbyterian home, a few large residences, and several pavilions for the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. The partnership lasted for eight years until 1910 when Graham established an independent practice. His earliest projects after going out on his own include the Joshua Green Building (1913) and the Ford Assembly Plant (1913), both in Seattle. Graham’s work with Ford was not limited to Seattle, the Ford Assembly Plant was one of many buildings across the country for which Graham supervised construction for the automobile manufacturer. Graham even maintained a Detroit office during this time (1914-1918). Graham also went on to design a terra cotta building for Frederick & Nelson—the Bon Marche’s main competitor— in 1918. The Frederick & Nelson Building at Sixth Avenue and Pine Street in Seattle currently houses the Nordstrom flagship store and is a City of Seattle Landmark.

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With the 1920s, Graham entered the most prolific decade of his career. Graham was known for his diversity—working with a wide range of building types and architectural styles. He designed numerous buildings in Seattle including the Colonial Revival Seattle Yacht Club (1921), the Romanesque-style Dexter Horton Building (1924), and the Art Deco-styled Roosevelt Hotel (1929) and Exchange Building (1931). Graham’s reputation spread, designing buildings in England, China, Japan, Canada, and throughout the United States. In 1935 he merged with the Shanghai engineering firm of William L. Painter. They opened a New York office of Graham & Painter in 1937, headed up by Painter and Graham’s son, John Graham, Jr. Graham & Painter designed the Cocoa-Cola Bottling Plant (1940) and Edgewater Apartments (1940), both of Seattle. The partnership ended as World War II began. Graham increasingly transferred the business to his son, John Graham, Jr., from that point onward, officially retiring in 1945/46. Graham, Sr. passed away in Hong Kong in 1955 after a prosperous career known for both excellence and eclecticism.

**John Graham, Jr. (1908–1991)**

Born in Seattle in 1908 to John Graham, Sr., and his wife Hallie (née Jackson), John Graham, Jr., studied to become an architect like his father. Graham, Jr., first attended the University of Washington (1926-1928), before transferring to Yale University, earning a B.F.A. in 1931. Graduating during a difficult economic time, Graham, Jr. went to work in retail, even working as a general merchandise manager for the Bon Marche, experience which helped shape his department store designs in later years. In 1937 he joined his father’s firm, but then moved to New York to help man the New York office of the firm after it merged with William Painter’s engineering firm. While in New York, Graham Jr. primarily supervised the firm’s department store design. When the New York office closed during World War II, Graham Jr. began designing war housing projects.

Graham Jr. returned to Seattle in 1946 upon his father’s retirement, taking over John Graham & Company. He began designing what was to become one of his most prominent designs—the Northgate Shopping Center (1950), anchored by the Bon Marche. The Northgate design garnered Graham Jr. much attention and he became a national leader in shopping center design. He went on to design numerous regional shopping centers throughout the country, including: Gulfgate, Houston (1962, destroyed); Capitol Court, Milwaukee (1957, destroyed); North Shore, Peabody, Massachusetts (1958); and Alana Moana, Honolulu (1959). Under the management of John Graham, Jr., the firm designed numerous apartment buildings, shopping centers, hotels, motels, restaurants, hospitals, churches, schools, and even the 600-foot tall Space Needle (with Victor Steinbrueck) for Seattle’s 1962 World Fair. Although he followed in his father’s remarkable footsteps, John Graham, Jr., made his own unique mark on the Seattle skyline and its surrounding communities.

**The Contractors: Teufel & Carlson and Bennett & Campbell**

The contractors for the original 1929 building were Teufel & Carlson. Although the Bon Marche once again retained John Graham & Company for the 1955 addition, they used a different general contractor, Bennett-Campbell, Inc.

**Teufel & Carlson**

The Bon Marche retained Teufel & Carlson as their general contractor for the construction of the new Bon Marche Department Store building. Teufel & Carlson formed in 1925 under the leadership of George Teufel (1884-1961) and Paul N. Carlson (1885-1969). Before forming their own partnership, Teufel and Carlson had worked together on the construction of the Olympic Hotel in Seattle (1924) under Robert C. Reamer, the on-site architect. After establishing Teufel & Carlson, the company worked on several buildings designed by Reamer, including the Fifth Avenue Theater (1926) in Seattle, Lake Quinault Lodge (1926), Gallatin Gateway Railroad Station in Yellowstone (1927), and the Seattle Times Building (1931). The

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construction company also built bridges, including the National Register listed and Conde B. McCullough designed Umpqua River Bridge (1936) on the Oregon Coast Highway at Reedsport, Douglas County, Oregon.

Born in Muscatine in 1884, Iowa, George Teufel arrived in Seattle in 1906. Apparently self-educated, Teufel earned a civil engineer license and went to work for the Seattle Electric Co. and later the Grant, Smith & Co. He partnered with Paul N. Carlson in 1925; a partnership which lasted until at least 1940. After ending his partnership with Carlson, Teufel went into business for himself, George E. Teufel Co. Inc. His company constructed the G. E. Building in Tukwila (1962), the Tibbetts Methodist Church (1955), and several schools, including the Queen Anne High School (1955) and the Sherwood Forest Elementary School (1960). Teufel passed away in 1961.

Born in Kansas in 1885, Paul N. Carlson graduated from Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas, in 1906 and then moved to Seattle. For the next three years he worked for the Great Northern Railway as a surveyor, primarily in Washington and Montana. He returned to school, attending the University of Illinois. During World War I, he served as a supervisor of a Portland, Oregon, shipyard. Eventually he returned to Seattle and began working in construction. Before his partnership with Teufel, Carlson worked on the Olympic Hotel, White-Henry-Stuart Building, Cobb Building, and Skinner Building, all in Seattle. As Teufel & Carlson, Carlson worked on numerous buildings, including the Bon Marche, Rhodes of Seattle, and Swedish Hospital. After ending his partnership with Teufel, Carlson operated on his own as a general contractor. One of the buildings Carlson constructed was the Ballard Branch of the Peoples National Bank (1957) in Seattle, designed by McClelland & Osterman. Carlson passed away in 1969.

BENNETT-CAMPBELL, INC.

Bennett & Campbell (or Bennett-Campbell, Inc.) were awarded the contract for the 1955 expansion of the Bon Marche Building. Bennett & Campbell was a construction firm owned by A. Gordon Bennett. Bennet was a businessman, involved in numerous businesses in Seattle, including Trans-Pacific Research & Capital, Inc., Eastgate Investment Corp., and A. Gordon Bennett & Associates. The construction firm also served as the general contractor for a remodeling project on the Bon Marche’s warehouse at 123 Boren Avenue North, the iconic Hat ‘n’ Boots gas station in Seattle’s Georgetown neighborhood, and a dormitory on the Pacific Lutheran University campus in Parkland, Washington.

Architectural Styles – Art Deco and Modern

The original 1929 building was constructed in the Art Deco style, particularly evident with the cornice, marquee, and multiple instances of low-relief carvings. By the time the Bon Marche was ready to construct an addition to expand their merchandising space, Art Deco was no longer in vogue. The applied ornamentation of Art Deco had given way to the clean lined simplicity of Modernism. The design for the addition married well with the original building and did not compete; emphasis remained at the pedestrian level with the decorative marquee and rich material palette. Art Deco motifs were continued on the vertical stairwell elements but not carried over to the spandrels beneath the upper story windows. Today the addition appears almost seamless with the original building at first glance; a subtle color difference between the limestone of the upper and lower stories the only giveaway to passersby that the upper four stories are an addition.

ART DECO

The original 1929 four-story building boasts striking Art Deco details, with a stylized cornice, prominent marquees, and decorative low relief carving present on all four facades. Art Deco began as decorative style in Europe, as an almost geometric version of the delicate Art Nouveau, and appeared in furniture, interior design, figurative arts, metal work, and even furnishings, such as light fixtures. Art Deco emphasized geometric patterns, either angular or curvilinear, often with bold colors. The term “Art Deco” was coined after the 1925 Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes held in Paris, an exhibition intended to showcase the export of Parisian decorative goods.

Sleek yet stylized, Art Deco became known for its applied ornamentation, which featured expressions of geometry, such as chevrons and zigzags; machinery; botany, with floral and naturalistic motifs; and nationalism. Low relief decorative panels are common on Art Deco buildings, typically located around windows, at beltcourses, and roof edges. Smooth wall surfaces provide sharp contrast to the bold details. The style embraced new technology, evident in its incorporation of machined decorative elements and use on modern building types like the skyscraper. Art Deco also had a vertical emphasis, evident in its application on high rise construction, its use of stepped parapets to highlight entrances, or application of reeding or fluting around windows and doors.

MODERN

The four-story 1955 addition to the Bon Marche Building marries well with the original 1929 building through its use of materials and design elements. The addition is an example of the 20th Century Modern Movement in architecture during the post-WWII era and serves as an excellent example of compatible design that has gained significance in its own right. Modernism rejected the decoration and ornamentation of previous styles, instead emphasizing minimalism and functionality. The addition showcases simplicity; clean lines and smooth wall surfaces dominate on the upper stories. The architects continued the low relief carved vertical element at the stairwells on the new stories, but opted for simplified spandrels between the windows and a minimal cornice consisting of a modest cap at the parapet.

Architectural Comparisons

Constructed in 1929 with a 1955 addition, the Bon Marche is a unique downtown department store in Seattle, distinctive for its size and architectural style. However, there are a few comparable properties in Seattle against which to measure the Bon Marche’s significance. These properties include the Frederick & Nelson Building (1918), F. W. Woolworth Company Store (1940), and the Great Northern Building (1928).

The ten-story Frederick & Nelson Building (500 Pine Street, Seattle, WA, 1918) was designed by John Graham, Sr. in the Neo-Renaissance style, and is clad in white terra cotta. Although a decade older than the Bon Marche, the Frederick & Nelson Building has much in common with the Bon Marche Building. Each building received a substantial addition of several stories in the 1950s, four stories for the Bon Marche in 1955 and five stories in 1952 for Frederick & Nelson. Both additions were also designed by John Graham & Company, under the leadership of John Graham, Jr. The expansions at both stores were major and quite extensive, but the Frederick & Nelson’s modernization was quite dramatic, creating a significant departure from the building’s original appearance. The building retained its terra cotta ornamentation, but lost its elaborate cornice design with the additional stories and replaced some windows with infill to give a cleaner, less ornate appearance. Like the Bon Marche Building, the Frederick & Nelson Building retains its historic department store function; it has operated as the Nordstrom Department Store since 1995.

The three-story F. W. Woolworth Company Store (301 Pike Street, Seattle, WA, 1940). Designed by architect Harold B. Hillman in the Art Deco and Streamlined Modern/Moderne style, the building features a prominent chamfered corner entrance. The

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building is a later example of Art Deco in the city and although alterations have modified the storefronts, the building retains much of its Art Deco styling at its upper floors. The building's height, banding at the marquee, and low-relief carving compare well with the original four-story portion of the Bon Marche Building. Additionally, the materials and level of detail on the Bon Marche reflect the store’s department store status in comparison with the F. W. Woolworth Company Store’s role as a “five and dime.”

The four-story Great Northern Building (1404 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA, 1928) was designed by architect Robert C. Reamer in the Art Deco style, and features Indiana limestone, low relief carving, and ornamental terra cotta. Although the same height as the original four-story Bon Marche Building, the Great Northern Building occupies a more modest footprint. The two buildings share similar expressions of Art Deco ornamentation, showcasing low-relief carving with naturalistic motifs. Both buildings are clad in Indiana limestone, with panels of granite at street level. The Great Northern Building retains its original cornice of carved stone and terra cotta, an element removed from the Bon Marche with its four-story addition.

Summary

The Bon Marche Building remains in its original location and maintains a setting, feeling, and association similar to when it was built. Its 1955 modern addition represents a prevalent shift in architectural style during the mid-twentieth century. Other than the cornice band from the 1929 building, the exterior of the original first four stores remains largely unchanged and the interior’s first floor retains much of its original design and finishes. The spaces and volumes of all eight floors have largely been retained. Changes in finishes are expected due to the nature of retail business.

The Bon Marche Building exemplifies commercial enterprise and growth in Seattle in the twentieth century. For almost eighty years, the building has been home to the largest department store in the region (first the Bon Marche, now Macy’s). The building has been a monument to commerce and has serve the stores well, adapting to growth in post-war Seattle when the addition was constructed in 1955. With its prominent full city block location in the heart of the downtown retail district, the Bon Marche Building has served as an anchor in the district for over eight decades. It remains as the first and only full city block department store building in Seattle and stands as a good example of the work of both John Graham, Sr. and Jr.

Bon Marche Department Store ________________________________ King County, WA
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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Askin, Tim. *Great Northern Building.* Historic Property Inventory Report, Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, September 2013.


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*Pacific Architect and Builder.* Volume 61, Number 4, April 1955, 34.

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*The Seattle Times.* "Many Expected to be Present at Bon Marche." August 1929: 16.


---. "Color, Quality in Expanded Carpet Section." October 1955: 30.

---. "Decorating Department is Expanded." *Seattle Times,* October 1955: 16.

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---. "Memorial For George Teufel Set." February 1961: 34.  

University of Washington Libraries Special Collections, Photograph Collection. John Graham Papers (Manuscript Collection) and Architects Files (John Graham and Company).  

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  
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey  

Primary location of additional data:  
× State Historic Preservation Office  
Other State agency  
Federal agency  
Local government (City of Seattle, King County)  
University (University of Washington Special Collections)  
Other  
Name of repository: Seattle Public Library  
Museum of History and Industry  

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):  

10. Geographical Data  

Acreage of Property  1.86 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)  

UTM References  NAD 1927 or NAD 1983  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)  

1 10T 549709.05 527333.73  
Zone Easting Northing  
3 Zone Easting Northing  
2 Zone Easting Northing  
4 Zone Easting Northing  

Or Latitude/Longitude Coordinates  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)  

1 3  
Latitude Longitude  
Latitude Longitude  
2 4  
Latitude Longitude  
Latitude Longitude  

Verbal Boundary Description  (Describe the boundaries of the property.)  

Section 31 Township 25 Range 4 Quarter NE: DENNYS A A 6TH ADD LESS STS & VAC ALLEY ALL BLK 52 HIST EX RCW 84.26
Bon Marché Department Store
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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundary description is the legal description of the property, encompassing tax parcel 197720-1320, courtesy of the King County Assessor. It includes the building.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Katie Chase, Partner
date December 2015
organization Artifacts Consulting, Inc.
te telephone 253-572-4599 x105
city or town Tacoma
state WA zip code 98402
e-mail katie@artifacts-inc.com

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: See attached graphics pages for photo index. Includes historic photographs, contemporary photographs, and original drawings.

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

name Macy’s (sub basement through 4th floor); Attn: Todd Scheffler
date 513.579.7672
city or town Cincinnati
state OH zip code 45202

name Pine Street Owner, L.P.
date 415.247.1230
city or town Greenwich
state CT zip code 06830

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.
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Projected Coordinate System: NAD_1983_HARN_StatePlane_Washington_South_FIPS_4602_Feet
Projection: Lambert_Conformal_Conic
False_Easting: 1640416.66666667 False_Northing: 0.00000000
Central_Meridian: -120.50000000 Standard_Parallel_1: 45.83333333 Standard_Parallel_2: 47.33333333
Latitude_Of_Origin: 45.33333333 Linear Unit: Foot_US

Geographic Coordinate System: GCS_North_American_1983_HARN Datum: D_North_American_1983_HARN
Prime Meridian: Greenwich Angular Unit: Degree

Site Map

Property shown outlined in black. The property boundary follows the King County tax parcel boundary. Base image courtesy of ESRI.
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Property shown outlined in black. The property boundary follows the King County tax parcel boundary. Base image courtesy of ESRI.
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**Historic Photographs**

The following historic photographs show the nominated building and previous Bon Marche buildings:

**Historic Photograph 1.** Ca. 1890s. First Bon Marche store located on Front Street (now First Avenue) and Cedar Street in Seattle’s Bell Town neighborhood. Source: University of Washington Special Collections.

**Historic Photograph 2.** Ca. 1908. Bon Marche store located at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Pike Street. Source: University of Washington Special Collections.


**Historic Photograph 8.** Ca. 1930s. View of the rooftop and elevator penthouse of the Bon Marche Building, looking northeast. Source: Museum of History and Industry.

**Historic Photograph 9.** Ca. 1940. View of south and east facades, looking northwest (corner of Fourth Avenue and Pine Street). Source: University of Washington Special Collections.

**Historic Photograph 10.** 1957. Partial view of north facade and view of west facade, looking southeast. Photo taken two years after the four-story addition was construction. Source: Puget Sound Regional Archives.


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**Historic Photograph 1.** Ca. 1890s. First Bon Marche store located on Front Street (now First Avenue) and Cedar Street in Seattle’s Bell Town neighborhood. Source: University of Washington Special Collections.

**Historic Photograph 2.** Ca. 1908. Bon Marche store located at the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Pike Street. Source: University of Washington Special Collections.

Bon Marche Department Store


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Bon Marche Department Store


Historic Photograph 10. 1957. Partial view of north (Olive Way) facade and view of west (Third Avenue) facade, looking southeast. Photo taken two years after the four-story addition was construction. Source: Puget Sound Regional Archives.
Bon Marche Department Store


Bon Marche Department Store
King County, WA

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Bon Marche Building
City or Vicinity: Seattle
County: King
State: Washington (WA)
Photographer: Katie Chase, Artifacts Consulting, Inc.
Date Photographed: September 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photograph List

1 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking southwest at Olive Way (north) and Fourth Avenue (east) elevations.
2 of 27. Bon Marche Building, central Fourth Avenue (east elevation) entrance.
3 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking northwest at Fourth Avenue (east) and Pine Street (south) elevations.
4 of 27. Bon Marche Building, southwest corner (Third Avenue and Pine Street) entrance with intact marquee.
5 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking northeast at Pine Street (south) and Third Avenue (west) elevations. Note the skybridge connecting to the building, constructed 1960.
6 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking southeast at Third Avenue (west) and Olive Way (north) elevations.
7 of 27. Bon Marche Building, central Third Avenue (west elevation) entrance.
8 of 27. Bon Marche Building, stairway at basement level.
9 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor, northwest corner. Note ceiling detail and column capitals.
10 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor, southwest corner.
11 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor elevator bank and lobby area.
12 of 27. Bon Marche Building, second floor elevator bank and lobby area.
13 of 27. Bon Marche Building, second floor, central portion.
14 of 27. Bon Marche Building, third floor, central portion.
15 of 27. Bon Marche Building, fourth floor, looking west towards elevator bank.
16 of 27. Bon Marche Building, fourth floor, central portion.
17 of 27. Bon Marche Building, fifth floor, central portion.
18 of 27. Bon Marche Building, sixth floor, central portion.
19 of 27. Bon Marche Building, seventh floor, room in southern portion of building.
20 of 27. Bon Marche Building, escalators, seventh floor.
21 of 27. Bon Marche Building, eighth floor, north central portion.
22 of 27. Bon Marche Building, penthouse mechanics.
23 of 27. Bon Marche Building, roof, looking west.
24 of 27. Bon Marche Building, roof, looking east.
25 of 27. Bon Marche Building, employee stairwell. Entrance located on west elevation.
26 of 27. Bon Marche Building, stairwell, southern portion.
27 of 27. Bon Marche Building, stairwell example.
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1 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking southwest at Olive Way (north) and Fourth Avenue (east) elevations.

2 of 27. Bon Marche Building, central Fourth Avenue (east elevation) entrance.
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3 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking northwest at Fourth Avenue (east) and Pine Street (south) elevations.

4 of 27. Bon Marche Building, southwest corner (Third Avenue and Pine Street) entrance with intact marquee.
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5 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking northeast at Pine Street (south) and Third Avenue (west) elevations. Note the skybridge connecting to the building, constructed 1960.

6 of 27. Bon Marche Building, looking southeast at Third Avenue (west) and Olive Way (north) elevations.
Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

King County, WA
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7 of 27. Bon Marche Building, central Third Avenue (west elevation) entrance.

8 of 27. Bon Marche Building, stairway at basement level.
9 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor, northwest corner. Note ceiling detail and column capitals.

10 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor, southwest corner.
Bon Marche Department Store
King County, WA

11 of 27. Bon Marche Building, first floor elevator bank and lobby area.

12 of 27. Bon Marche Building, second floor elevator bank and lobby area.
Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

King County, WA
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13 of 27. Bon Marche Building, second floor, central portion.

14 of 27. Bon Marche Building, third floor, central portion.
15 of 27. Bon Marche Building, fourth floor, looking west towards elevator bank.

16 of 27. Bon Marche Building, fourth floor, central portion.
Bon Marche Department Store

Name of Property

Bon Marche Building, fifth floor, central portion.

Bon Marche Building, sixth floor, central portion.
Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

19 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, seventh floor, room in southern portion of building.

20 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, escalators, seventh floor.
Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

King County, WA
County and State

21 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, eighth floor, north central portion.

22 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, penthouse mechanics.
Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

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23 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, roof, looking west.

24 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, roof, looking east.
25 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, employee stairwell. Entrance located on west elevation.

26 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, stairwell, southern portion.
27 of 27.  Bon Marche Building, stairwell example.
Bon Marche Department Store
King County, WA

Original Drawings

The following drawings cover the 1929 building and the 1955 addition.

Historic Drawing List

Drawing 1 of 16.  Drawings for 1929 Bon Marche Building, John Graham, Sr. Third Avenue (west) and Olive Way (north) elevations
Drawing 2 of 16.  Drawings for 1929 Bon Marche Building, John Graham, Sr. Fourth Avenue (east) and Pine Street (south) elevations
**Bon Marche Department Store**

**King County, WA**

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

**Drawing 1 of 16.** Drawings for 1929 Bon Marche Building, John Graham, Sr. Third Avenue (west) and Olive Way (north) elevations
Bon Marche Department Store

King County, WA

Name of Property

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Drawing 2 of 16. Drawings for 1929 Bon Marche Building, John Graham, Sr. Fourth Avenue (east) and Pine Street (south) elevations
Bon Marche Department Store
King County, WA

Bon Marche Department Store
Name of Property

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