

Historic Property Safeway (Demolished)
Inventory Report for 609 4th Ave E, Olympia, WA 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Safeway (Demolished) **Field Site No.:** 3534
Common Name: **OAHP No.:** 6
Property Address: 609 4th Ave E, Olympia, WA 98501
Comments:

County **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**
[REDACTED] T18R02W 14 TUMWATER

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 10 **Easting:** 508004 **Northing:** 5210183

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
78200500500 Leasehold 9900338500 Swans L5 to 8 Block 5

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
.5

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: ss **Date Recorded:** 9/9/2005 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA-MODERN

Owner's Name: **Owner Address:** **City/State/Zip:**
Stanford & Susan Roberts 307 Lake Hancock Dr Coupeville, WA 98239

Classification: Building **Resource Status** **Comments**
Within a District? No Demolished

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:
Local District:
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Commerce/Trade - Business
Current Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Plan: Rectangle **No. of Stories:** One

Structural System: Concrete - Block

Changes to plan: Intact **Changes to interior:** Moderate
Changes to original cladding: Intact **Changes to other:**
Changes to windows: Intact **Other (specify):**

Cladding Concrete - Block **Foundation** Concrete - Poured
Style Modern **Form/Type** Commercial
Roof Material Asphalt / Composition **Roof Type** Barrel Vault

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1962-1963</u>
<u>Architecture/Landscape Architecture</u>		Architect: <u>Hall Dykeman Architects, Supr. Charles B. Ogden</u>
<u>Commerce</u>		Builder:
		Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance Safeway Stores was incorporated in 1914 to operate a chain of grocery stores in Southern California. When it merged with Skagg's grocery stores on March 26, 1926, Safeway had 332 stores and Skagg's operated almost as many in Northern California, the Rocky Mountain States, and the Pacific Northwest. In 1931 the MacMarr grocery chain was merged into Safeway, and in 1934 MacMarr's president, Lingan A. Warren, became president of Safeway.

By 1955 Warren's policies of pushing Safeway brands and meeting any competitor's price, no matter how low, produced inadequate profits as far as some stockholders were concerned. Charles E. Merrill, who had got Warren his job 20 years before, owned the largest block of stock (6%), and he forced Warren to retire. The board of directors then chose Merrill's son-in-law, Robert A. Magowan, as Safeway's president and chairman. Magowan reversed Warren's pricing and buying policies, and decentralized Safeway's operations.

Safeway stores located in Olympia at 509 Capitol Way in the 1920s. This store replaced the former downtown store and is an increasingly rare example of this style of Safeway building.

Description of Physical Appearance This a Classic arched glass center design Safeway store. The rectangular building is set on a poured concrete foundation and constructed of concrete block. The glass panel front faces north and the glass panels extend around the sides of the projecting center front section. The building is fronted by the parking lot. The enframed panels are arched on the top section and a "SAFEWAY" letter panel is centered on the front section, otherwise it is glass, with one entry. The bottom panels on the front of the building are solid red fiberglass. The entire building has a barrel vault roofline. The roofline extends over the center, arched, glass area and extends into flat sides flanking the center which creates a recessed area for the side entries into the glass panel center section. The backs of the side elements are faced with sandstone brick, now painted. The side canopies are supported by round metal posts. There appears to be a newer automatic door which is in the east side of the front which replaces some of the original glass panels.

Major Bibliographic References <http://www.grocerteria.net/safeway/1960.html#>
<http://www.trivia-library.com/a/safeway-stores-business-information-and-history.htm>
Thurston County Assessor's Records.

PHOTOS



View of North façade

taken 1/15/2006

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments: