

# NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

10 212

Operation Breakthrough

Preliminary Report

## EXISTING BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENTAL REGULATIONS IN KING COUNTY (SEATTLE), WASHINGTON

Sponsored by  
Department of Housing  
and Urban Development



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

## NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

The National Bureau of Standards<sup>1</sup> was established by an act of Congress March 3, 1901. Today, in addition to serving as the Nation's central measurement laboratory, the Bureau is a principal focal point in the Federal Government for assuring maximum application of the physical and engineering sciences to the advancement of technology in industry and commerce. To this end the Bureau conducts research and provides central national services in four broad program areas. These are: (1) basic measurements and standards, (2) materials measurements and standards, (3) technological measurements and standards, and (4) transfer of technology.

The Bureau comprises the Institute for Basic Standards, the Institute for Materials Research, the Institute for Applied Technology, the Center for Radiation Research, the Center for Computer Sciences and Technology, and the Office for Information Programs.

**THE INSTITUTE FOR BASIC STANDARDS** provides the central basis within the United States of a complete and consistent system of physical measurement; coordinates that system with measurement systems of other nations; and furnishes essential services leading to accurate and uniform physical measurements throughout the Nation's scientific community, industry, and commerce. The Institute consists of an Office of Measurement Services and the following technical divisions:

Applied Mathematics—Electricity—Metrology—Mechanics—Heat—Atomic and Molecular Physics—Radio Physics<sup>2</sup>—Radio Engineering<sup>2</sup>—Time and Frequency<sup>2</sup>—Astrophysics<sup>2</sup>—Cryogenics.<sup>2</sup>

**THE INSTITUTE FOR MATERIALS RESEARCH** conducts materials research leading to improved methods of measurement standards, and data on the properties of well-characterized materials needed by industry, commerce, educational institutions, and Government; develops, produces, and distributes standard reference materials; relates the physical and chemical properties of materials to their behavior and their interaction with their environments; and provides advisory and research services to other Government agencies. The Institute consists of an Office of Standard Reference Materials and the following divisions:

Analytical Chemistry—Polymers—Metallurgy—Inorganic Materials—Physical Chemistry.

**THE INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED TECHNOLOGY** provides technical services to promote the use of available technology and to facilitate technological innovation in industry and Government; cooperates with public and private organizations in the development of technological standards, and test methodologies; and provides advisory and research services for Federal, state, and local government agencies. The Institute consists of the following technical divisions and offices:

Engineering Standards—Weights and Measures—Invention and Innovation—Vehicle Systems Research—Product Evaluation—Building Research—Instrument Shops—Measurement Engineering—Electronic Technology—Technical Analysis.

**THE CENTER FOR RADIATION RESEARCH** engages in research, measurement, and application of radiation to the solution of Bureau mission problems and the problems of other agencies and institutions. The Center consists of the following divisions:

Reactor Radiation—Linac Radiation—Nuclear Radiation—Applied Radiation.

**THE CENTER FOR COMPUTER SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY** conducts research and provides technical services designed to aid Government agencies in the selection, acquisition, and effective use of automatic data processing equipment; and serves as the principal focus for the development of Federal standards for automatic data processing equipment, techniques, and computer languages. The Center consists of the following offices and divisions:

Information Processing Standards—Computer Information—Computer Services—Systems Development—Information Processing Technology.

**THE OFFICE FOR INFORMATION PROGRAMS** promotes optimum dissemination and accessibility of scientific information generated within NBS and other agencies of the Federal government; promotes the development of the National Standard Reference Data System and a system of information analysis centers dealing with the broader aspects of the National Measurement System, and provides appropriate services to ensure that the NBS staff has optimum accessibility to the scientific information of the world. The Office consists of the following organizational units:

Office of Standard Reference Data—Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information<sup>3</sup>—Office of Technical Information and Publications—Library—Office of Public Information—Office of International Relations.

<sup>1</sup> Headquarters and Laboratories at Gaithersburg, Maryland, unless otherwise noted; mailing address Washington, D.C. 20234.

<sup>2</sup> Located at Boulder, Colorado 80302.

<sup>3</sup> Located at 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

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NBS PROJECT

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by

The Building Research Division Team

E. O. Pfrang, Manager

Sponsored by  
Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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for use within the Government. This report  
and review. For this reason, the  
whole or in part, is not authorized for  
Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.  
the Report has been specifically prepared

Approved for public release by the  
director of the National Institute of  
Standards and Technology (NIST)  
on October 9, 2015

Accounting documents intended  
subjected to additional evaluation  
listing of this Report, either in  
Office of the Director, National  
the Government agency for which  
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS



## INTRODUCTION

This report lists the regulatory documents that apply to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Operation Breakthrough site in King County (adj. Seattle), Washington. The documents, insofar as they are obtainable, are also furnished. The content of the report is as follows:

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REGULATORY DOCUMENTS

Included in the following list are the offices from which the documents are available, as well as the cost of the document, if any, should additional copies be required.

**1** The King County Building Code 1968

(Price: \$2.00) Building Department  
King County Court House  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104

**2** Uniform Building Code, 1967 Edition

(Price: \$10.60) International Conference of Building  
Officials  
50 South Los Robles  
Pasadena, California 91101

**3** Uniform Building Code Standards, 1967 Edition

(Price: \$19.50) International Conference of Building  
Officials  
50 South Los Robles  
Pasadena, California 91101

**4** Plumbing Code, City of Seattle and King County

(Price: \$1.00) Seattle-King County Department  
of Public Health  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104

**5** Mechanical Code, King County

Building Department  
King County Court House  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104





- 6** Rules and Regulations for Installing Electric Wire and Equipment and Administrative Rules, 1969

Department of Labor and Industries  
Electrical Inspection Division  
310 E. Fourth Avenue  
Olympia, Washington 98501

- 7** National Electrical Code, 1968 Edition, NFPA No. 70

(Price: \$2.00)

National Fire Protection Association  
60 Batterymarch Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

- 8** Laws Governing Elevators and Other Lifting Devices - Moving Walks, 1969

Department of Labor and Industries  
Division of Elevator Inspection  
Box 207  
Olympia, Washington 98501

- 9** Safety Code for Elevators, Dumbwaiters, Escalators and Moving Walks A17.1, 1965, and Supplements A 17.1a and A17.1b

(Price: \$7.50)

American National Standards Institute  
1430 Broadway  
New York, New York 10018

(see Commentary on Regulations - Elevators)

- 10** RS Single-Family Dwelling Classification, Chapter 24.08 of King County Zoning Code

King County Planning Department  
King County Courthouse  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104

- 11** Planned Unit Development, Chapter 24.56 of King County Zoning Code

King County Planning Department  
King County Courthouse  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104



**12** Platting Resolution

King County Planning Department  
King County Courthouse  
3rd and James Streets  
Seattle, Washington 98104

**13** Safety Standards for Construction Work

Department of Labor and Industries  
Division of Safety  
310 E. Fourth Avenue  
Olympia, Washington 98501



## COMMENTARY ON REGULATIONS

Note: The several regulatory codes, state and county, applicable to the King County, Washington site, together with such other generally recognized codes and standards as may be referenced in them, furnish the housing system producer and/or site developer with all the requirements for usual house construction on the site. These may be subject to waiver procedures to the extent the proposed housing system is at variance with the existing requirements.

### Factory-Built Housing

The development of regulations governing the construction of factory-built housing has been authorized, and their promulgation is expected about July 1, 1970. Evaluation of construction under these rules and regulations will be by the state, and any approval granted will be mandatory and binding on all local jurisdictions.

The enabling legislation specifies that insofar as practicable, the regulations shall follow the standards and specifications of 1. the Uniform Building Code, 2. the Uniform Plumbing Code, 3. the Uniform Mechanical Code, and 4. the National Electrical Code.

The act also provides for acceptance of factory-built housing constructed under the regulations of another state and approved by that state, if the rules and regulations of the other state are at least equal in their requirements to those prescribed under the Washington State Act.

### Administration

The building and mechanical codes are administered by the King County Building Department; electrical and elevator installations are regulated by the state Department of Labor and Industries; plumbing is under the supervision of the joint Seattle-King County Department of Public Health.

All building contractors must be registered by the state. Plumbing contractors must additionally be licensed, and registered by the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health.

The Uniform Building Code provides for a board of appeals (appointed by the county commissioners); application for variances and exceptions to the plumbing code are made to the Director of Public Health; electrical code to the Chief Electrical Inspector (State).



## Building Code

References the Uniform Building Code 1967, and the Uniform Building Code Standards 1967, with a small number of revisions and amendments to the building code. Additional chapters have been added as follows: Chapter 56 - Waterfront Structures; Chapter 58 - Incinerators; and Chapter 70 - Grading and Filling Land (UBC Chapter 70 deleted).

## Elevator Code

The elevator code applicable to King County is promulgated by the State Department of Labor and Industries. The principal requirement in the regulations is "Conveyances to be safe and in conformity with law." It is further stated that the provision that the equipment and installation be reasonably safe to persons and property and in conformity with the applicable state rules, regulations and statutes can be met by demonstrated conformity to the rules and regulations in the Safety Code for Elevators, Dumbwaiters, Escalators and Moving Walks (ANSI, A17.1). No year is given for the elevator code, and it is assumed that the current edition is applicable. In the absence of any specific and detailed requirements in the Washington State Code, a copy of the A17.1 code is being furnished as guidance.





ADMINISTRATION--KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Government: King County: Board of County Commissioners

Population (county, including Seattle) 1960: 935,000

Population (metro. area Seattle, Everett) 1965: 1,187,000

Administration of Codes:

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Building )<br>Mechanical) | King County Building Department<br>King County Courthouse<br>3rd and James Streets<br>Seattle, Washington 98104<br>Robert Krueger, Director<br>(216) 344-4141                          |
| Plumbing                  | Seattle-King County Health Department<br>904 Public Safety Building<br>Seattle, Washington 98104<br>F. J. King<br>(206) 583-2054   |
| Electrical                | Washington Department of Labor & Industries<br>Electrical Inspection Division<br>210 E. 4th Avenue<br>P. O. Box 207<br>Olympia, Washington 98501<br>John C. Hewitt<br>(206) 753-6348   |
| Elevator                  | Washington Department of Labor & Industries<br>Division of Building Construction Safety<br>and Inspection<br>Box 207<br>Olympia, Washington 98501<br>David D. Larson<br>(206) 753-6348 |
| Zoning                    | King County Planning Department<br>King County Courthouse<br>3rd and James Streets<br>Seattle, Washington 98104<br>Edward Sand, Director<br>(206) 344-4141                             |





