

# History of Lake Washington Sailing Club

Presentation by John Mathias  
April 22, 2020 (via Zoom)



Penguin dinghies, circa 1954. Edward "Bodie" Aubrey in 3522.



7-3-48



1949 photographs, from California State Library digital collections.

Is the lake the former course of the Sacramento River?





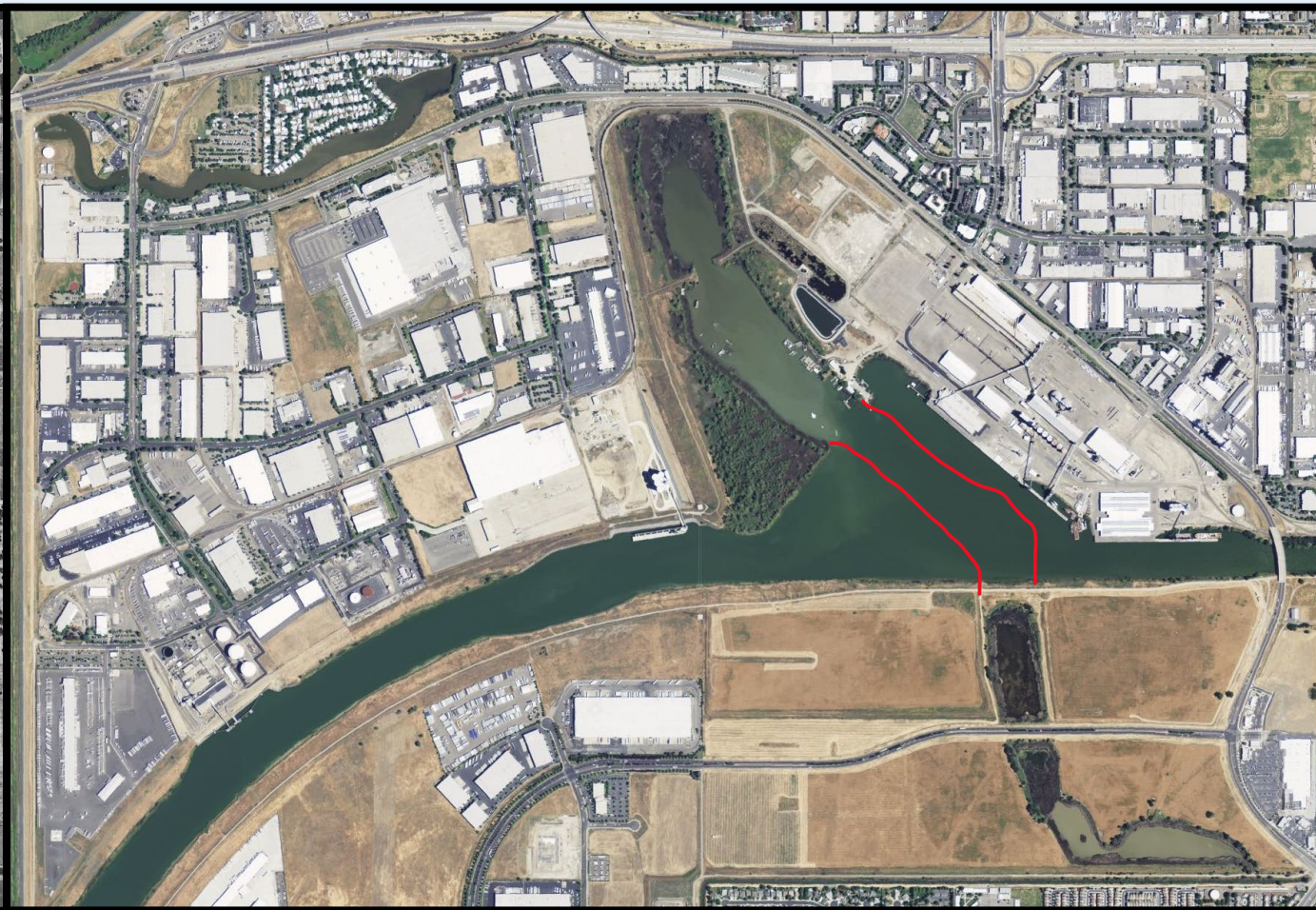
1937 Aerial Photograph of  
Lake Washington, from UCSB  
Aerial Photography  
Collections.

- Named after the “Town of Washington”, the original name for West Sacramento





# Washington Lake Then and Now

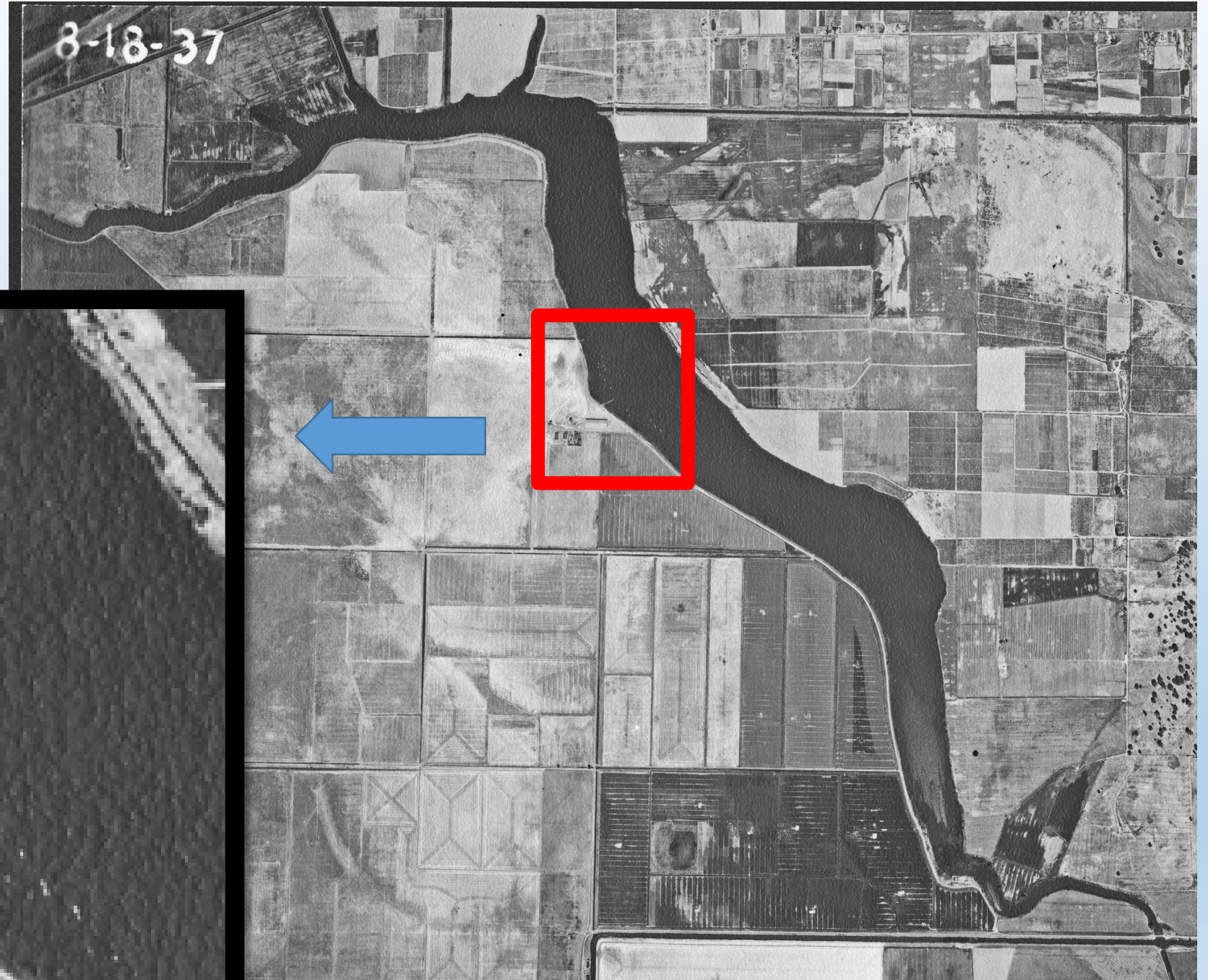


2011-3 NAIP Imagery



## 1937 Aerial Lake Washington

- Boats and dock are visible on west side of lake. Access was on a road along the west side of the lake from the south end of the lake.
- Alaska Packers barn visible.





## 1952 Aerial Photo

- Docks and boats visible on west side of lake.
- Boathouse north of dock
- New access road to clubhouse
- Ship channel route is visible.





# Historic Maps of Lake Washington vicinity.

- “Road Across the Tule”
- “Tule or Bullrush Swamp overflow’d in winter”
- Town of Washington shown.



From 1855 “Map of the Mining Region of California”, drawn by Geo. H. Baker

## From 1848 “Gold and Quicksilver District of California”





# Lake Washington in the 1850s: Ferries and Hunting

Sacramento Daily Union, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1852

**TWO TRAVELLERS** to Cache and Putah Creek. Napa and Suisun Valley. On and after the 12th inst., Bushnell's Ferry across Lake Washington, the nearest practicable route to and from Sacramento City, will be open to the travelling community at all times. Thankful for past favors hopes to merit a continuance of the same.  
jel2 lw  
JOHN POST,  
A. B. WEBB.

San Joaquin Republican, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1854

**A LONG ROPE.**—In Yolo county, says the *State Journal*, the late rains have increased the size of Lake Washington until it is now at the ferry, five miles wide. The boat still makes its regular trips, the ropes having been stretched almost four miles and a half. All of the low tule lands are overflowed.

Sacramento Daily Union, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1856

**LAKE WASHINGTON.**—Three miles from Washington, in Yolo county, Lake Washington is situate. It is a body of water about six miles in length, and in many places over six hundred yards wide. It is a great place of resort for sportsmen during the hunting season. On Thursday last, an otter, four feet and a half in length, was killed there by Dr. J. P. Sharkey, of Sacramento. This lake is said to be some six feet higher than the Sacramento river, and if any system of irrigation were adopted, the lake could be made to supply water for thousands of acres of land lying between it and the river.



## Lake Washington in the 1800s

Sacramento Daily Union, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1861

An Act to amend an Act for the protection of game [prohibiting the killing of any flat-billed duck between the 1st of March and the 5th of September, except in the counties of San Bernardino and Los Angeles, where they may be killed between the 1st of August and the 1st of April].

Mr. MORRISON stated that he had introduced that bill because young ducks were killed in such numbers and at such times that soon they would be extinct in the State. Recently, 2,000 young ducks were killed on one day on Washington Lake, Yolo county. The bill was passed.

Sacramento Daily Union, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 1865

Petition of John McLaren, representing that he is the owner of a lake—called Washington Lake—in District No. 18; that formerly said lake was used by him as a fishery, and brought him an income of \$1,500 per year; that by reason of the canal in said District having been turned through said lake the waters thereof have been greatly diminished during the fishing season; that the fishes which in former times did continually and contentedly disport themselves therein until called for, do now evacuate his premises by means of said canal in great multitudes; that he is damaged thereby at least \$1,000 per year, and praying that a weir may be set to prevent the escape of the fugitives, was read and placed on file for reference to Committee on Accounts.

Sacramento Daily Union,  
November 14<sup>th</sup>, 1885

RAID ON FISHERMEN. — On Thursday night four men went out to Washington lake, where some Chinamen are engaged in taking fish, and robbed several submerged fish cages of their contents, securing altogether about 800 pounds of fish. The raiders were armed with guns, and when the Chinese remonstrated against the robbery they were silenced by threats of violence. The men are known, and warrants were out yesterday for their arrest.

Sacramento Daily Union, April  
24<sup>th</sup>, 1888

NOTICE—ALL PERSONS ARE HEREBY forbidden trespassing on the lands or fishing within the boundaries of the property known as the McLaren Ranch, or Washington Lake, Yolo county. The above-described property can be rented for fishing purposes by applying to R. S. CAKEY, Sacramento. By order of  
S. H. KIRBY,  
MRS. SUSAN A. J. KIRBY.  
Per E. W. BUSHNELL, Attorney in fact.  
apl4-lmTTS4p\*

Sac. Daily Union, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1872

Inspection of the City—Call on Governor Booth—Fishing Excursion—The Professor's Views—Lecture—Reception.

Professor Agassiz spent a few hours yesterday forenoon in making a tour of the city, viewing its various objects of interest. He called upon Governor Booth and was received with great cordiality. In the afternoon a party consisting of the Professor, his wife, Dr. Steindachner, B. B. Redding, Fish Commissioner of the State of California, Drs. Simmons, Logan, Montgomery, Nelson and Curtis, Rev. J. H. C. Bonte and I. N. Hoag, Corresponding Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, left the city on a fishing expedition, for the purpose of catching new varieties of fish. The party first visited Washington Lake, in Yolo county, about three or four miles southwest of Sacramento. It was expected that they would meet fishermen fishing with nets, but they were much disappointed to find that they were not on the ground. Dr. Steindachner caught a fresh water mussel in the lake and appeared to prize the fish very highly.



Lake Washington circa 1910, photos from  
California State Library online catalog.



NOTICE TO HUNTERS—I Will Cause  
the arrest of any and all persons  
who hunt, shoot or trespass on  
Washington lake, Green's lake and  
land surrounding the same. E. L.  
Glatz, Lessee, 410 L street.

Sacramento Union, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1906





Lake Washington between 1910 and 1913;  
photos from California State Library online catalog.





# Lake Washington between 1910-13





- 1907 – West Sacramento Land Company
- June 22, 1913 – Water carnival was held and West Sacramento Land company opened public fishing on the lake
- 1914 – Proposal to develop a park at Lake Washington





## WATER REGATTA WILL ATTRACT COAST STARS

Lake Washington Carnival To-  
day Will See Best Swimmers  
and Crews of Coast.

FLY-CASTING STARS ENTER

Rowing Races Will Be Headlin-  
ers With Plenty of Features to  
Keep Things on the Move.

“Lake Washington in West Sacramento will today be the mecca of lovers of water sports. The biggest regatta ever held on fresh water west of the river starts at 11 o’clock this morning and will continue throughout the afternoon with the best oarsmen, swimmers, divers and water poloists on the coast entered in the various events. In addition a flycasting tournament of bigger proportions than ever before attempted here will be on the day’s program. The day’s festivities start this morning with a novel street parade in which the visiting bay city oarsmen will march up K street about 8 o’clock after their arrival on a specially chartered river steamer. The line of march will extend up K street to the Hotel Sacramento where the Fifth regiment band of San Francisco will give a free open air concert at 10 o’clock. The scene will then be shifted to Lake Washington for the big regatta after which the contestants will return and another free band concert will be given at 7 o’clock in the evening. ....”





June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1913 Water Carnival



## June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1913 Water Carnival





# June 22, 1913 Water Carnival





Sacramento Union, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1914

A document presenting reasons why the city should purchase, with the William Land memorial fund, property adjoining Washington lake in the holdings of the West Sacramento company, was submitted to the city commission yesterday by Rufus R. Wilson, manager of the land sales department of the company. The arguments were filed.

### Sacramento Bee: July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1927

- 250 acres had originally been set aside for a park.
- The Alaska Packers property on the west shore was planted with a peach orchard and alfalfa fields.
- The lake was about ten feet deep.

## LAKE WASHINGTON IS BEAUTY SPOT

Large Body Of Water In West  
Sacramento District Edged  
With Trees

WEST SACRAMENTO, July 23.—One of the chief beauty spots of the West Sacramento section is Lake Washington, which extends southeast from the Yolo Causeway to the Jefferson Boulevard, the main road of travel in this district. The lake, which is a natural lake bed augmented by water pumped into the district for irrigation purposes, is four miles long, a third of a mile wide and about ten feet deep.



# History of Pleasure Boating in Sacramento

- 1860s-1880s: At least ten rowing clubs formed during this time period.
  - The Undine Boat Club was one of the largest
- 1860s: Sailing regattas were held on the Sacramento River, often on July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Early 1900s: Power boating started to become popular; power boat races were held.
- **1934: LWSC was organized.**

Whitehall boat



Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 17,  
Number 2637, 9 September 1859

Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 29,  
Number 4452, 28 June 1865

SACRAMENTO REGATTA CLUB.—A meeting of the Sacramento Regatta Club was held at the Bridge House last evening. The days for the sailing and rowing matches and the prizes were fixed as follows: Monday, September 19—first class sail boats, first prize, \$150; second prize, \$50. Same day—Whitehall boats with one pair of sculls, \$50 and \$25. Wednesday, September 21—second class sail boats, first prize, \$100; second prize, \$50. Same day—Whitehall boats, two pair of sculls, \$50 and \$25. Friday, September 23—Whitehall sail boats without center boards, first prize, \$100; second prize, \$50. Same day—\$150 for any row boat; and also Whitehall boats with three pairs of sculls, \$50 and \$25. It is probable that other prizes will be offered.

REGATTA.—Arrangements have been made by the Fourth of July Committee for a Whitehall boat race, to take place on the afternoon of the Fourth of July. We understand that the Independent Sacramento Regatta Club, which meets at Cady & Morrison's, on Front street, has made arrangements for a race, on the same day, between the Pride of the Capital and the Prairie Bird. The sum of \$250 on each side has been, or will be, put up, as soon as the terms of the race in detail are arranged. The two boats differ materially in size, which circumstance renders it necessary that the proper discount be allowed to the one which carries the least sail. Both boats are owned at Washington, and are well known to those of our citizens who are addicted to boat riding.



# LAKE WASHINGTON IS TRANSFORMED BY YACHTSMEN

**Sailing Craft Now Dot Water  
Which Was Desolate Waste  
Few Years Ago**

For nearly a quarter of a century Lake Washington, five miles southwest of Sacramento, and located in Yolo County, was little used for pleasure.

The lake, filled with water backed up from the Sacramento River, was desolate. There were no buildings along the shores. Breezes blew forlornly across the tule lined water.

## Now Busy Harbor.

But to-day Lake Washington is a busy yacht harbor. About thirty trim sailing boats bob restlessly with the rolling water.

On the shores are a boat and clubhouse, a wharf and derrick, all owned by the Lake Washington Sailing Club. Many Sacramento boat owners are busy polishing their craft, others mending their sails. The breezes fill trim-cut sails that send the boats gliding swiftly and silently along. The lake is reserved for the sailers and no motor boats are allowed on it.

## Formed Two Years Ago.

Two years ago several Sacramentans, interested in sailing, met at the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce to discuss the possibilities of organizing a club. Organization up to that time had been discouraged because there was no suitable place to sail. The Sacramento River was ruled out by the swift current and the unreliable wind. Then Lake Washington was suggested, which settled the problem.

The group organized the Lake Washington Sailing Club, and started seeking members. The club's growth was steady and to-day there is a membership of twenty-eight.

## Clubhouse Is Built.

Through personal subscription the members built a clubhouse and a wharf. They also own other necessary equipment. Meetings are held every other Tuesday, when racing rules are discussed and business is transacted.

Among the boats is a registered fleet of snipe class sailing boats. The snipe, a one-design sailing boat sloop-rigged, carrying 119 square feet of sail, is one of the fastest types on the lake. There are fleets throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and South America. The Sacramento fleet is No. 58.

## Fleet Is Named.

Another fleet, the bug class, has about ten boats, eleven and a half feet long and carrying sixty-five square feet of sails.

There are also several miscellaneous types on the lake.

On alternate Sundays the club holds races. A regatta was held last July 4th.

## Inexpensive Sport.

A. A. Saville, the secretary of the club, who won the snipe class

## Sailing On Lake Washington



trophy, holds that sailing is an inexpensive sport.

## Low Cost.

"An excellent boat, completely equipped," he said, "only costs about \$300. The best part of it is the power is free. The yachts are easily launched and shored, and with a trailer the owners can take them to the lake or to the coast. The only cost after the initial price, is for a coat of paint once a year."

The officers of the club are: Norman Ford, commodore, V. D. Quick, vice commodore; Ben Butler, fleet captain, and Saville, secretary-treasurer.

## Proud Of Harbor.

The members are quick to boast of the excellence of their "inland harbor," and say because of the location of the lakes, the prevailing winds are ideal for a three-mile triangle race course. Night sailing is held each Thursday for the members and their families. The public is invited. The boats also sail Saturday afternoons and Sunday.

A man once built a steamboat on a high rock at New Haven, Conn., to be ready for the second flood. He finally sold his rock and moved away. He left the boat behind.

## Sacramento Bee Article from July 29, 1936

- The club was "formed two years ago."
- About 30 boats were kept in the lake; there were 28 members.
- The club owned a "clubhouse, wharf, and derrick."
- Meetings were held every other Tuesday.
- There was a fleet of Snipes (Fleet # 58), a fleet of the "bug class," and other miscellaneous boats.
- There was a regatta held on July 4<sup>th</sup>, as well as racing on alternate Sundays.
- Club secretary A.A. Saville won the Snipe class trophy.
- Norman Ford was Commodore, V.D. Quick was Vice Commodore, and Ben Butler fleet captain.
- Pictured: Norman Ford in the inset and A.A. Saville in a snipe.

Increasing in popularity in Sacramento is the sport of sail boating. Two years ago there was one sail boat in Sacramento area. To-day there are twenty-eight. And boatsmen attribute the success of the sport to the excellent facilities of Lake Washington, an irrigation reservoir, five miles from the city. The picture at the top is a gen-

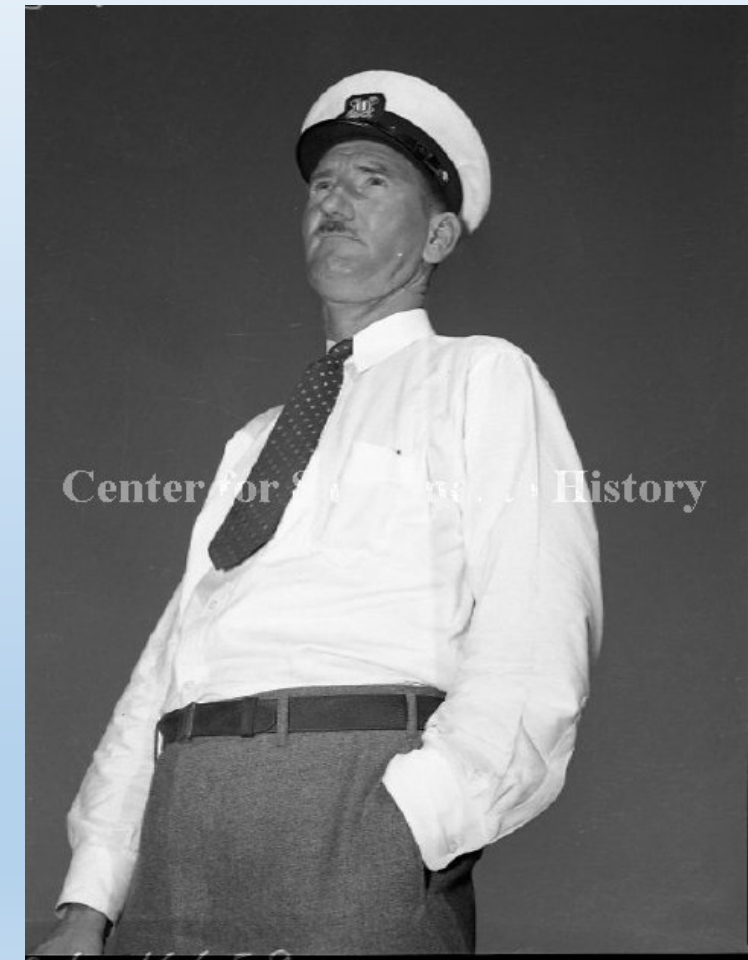
eral view of the lake, showing several of the fleet of boats. The center left photo shows the clubhouse of the Lake Washington Sailing Club. The picture at the right is of Norman Ford, the commodore of the club. The lower photo is of A. A. Saville, the secretary-treasurer of the organization, hoisting the sails on his snipe.   
Rec Photos



## Boats anchored on Lake Washington in 1936



Norman Ford; first  
commodore of LWSC





## Early History of LWSC

- LWSC was formed on September 17, 1934 by Al (A.A.) Saville and others
  - Saville had formed Sea Scouts Ship No. 3 in 1932 and was the commodore (or vice commodore?) of the Sacramento District of Sea Scouts
- First clubhouse was built in October 1935.
- The club's first regatta was held on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1936.
- In 1938, LWSC joined the Small Boat Racing Association of Northern California (SBRANC) and began competing regularly against other sailing clubs, including Clear Lake Yacht Club, Corinthian Yacht Club, Ionic Sailing Club (now Stockton Sailing Club), Lake Merritt Sailing Club, Richardson Bay Yacht Club and San Francisco Yacht Club.
- The first major regatta hosted by LWSC was the 1938 SBRANC spring regatta. Classes included the Snipe, Sun, Moon, and National One Design.
- The Snipe was the primary boat sailed in the early days of the club. The club was home to Snipe fleet # 58.
- Nils (N.H.) Lund, a founding member of the club, designed an 11-foot dinghy called the Bug, which was also popular with club members.



# Summer Evenings Revive Interest In Moonlight Sailing On Lake Washington



Moonlight sailing on Lake Washington provides many a thrilling hour for Sacramentans who revel in the possession of their sun and snipe boats. The Lake Washington Sailing Club opened the Summer season recently with a moonlight sail followed by an old fashioned wiener roast on the lake shore. Sailing into the wind, upper left, and from left to right, Warren Smith, William A. Meyer, Jr., Jane Praet and Geraldine Bond.

## Miss Carlson Will Be Wed To John Ferguson

The Fremont Presbyterian Church will provide the setting for the marriage of Miss Dorothy Carlson and John Ferguson at 2:15 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Rev. Robert T. McFarlane of Seattle, former pastor of the church, will read the service. He is an uncle of the bridegroom.

J. A. Carlson will give his daughter in marriage.

Mrs. George Lambert of Roseville will be the matron of honor, with Miss Lucretia Carder, Miss Louise Eaton as bridesmaids, and the young sister of the bride, Miss Virginia Carlson, acting as junior bridesmaid. George Lambert is the best man, and the ushers are Harry Carlson, brother of the bride, and George Atterbury.

Preceding the ceremony Miss Ethel Mackey will sing "The Indian Love Call and I Love You Truly." Emil Martin will accompany her. He will also play the wedding march from Lohengrin and the Mendelssohn Wedding Song.

The altar of the church will be bowered with greenery with baskets of white flowers and cathedral candles.

White mousseline de soie will fashion the bridal gown made over white taffeta. It is form fitting and the high waisted bodice is finished with scallops at the bust line, into which the rounded neckline is sketched and finished with a ruching.

Small buttons are ranged down the back of the bodice and the sleeves are full and short. The skirt is cut circular with a slight train.



Mrs. Lorraine Phillips, upper right, sails before the mast. "Heeling over" is demonstrated in the center picture by Vice Commodore Benjamin Butler, left, and Frank Young as they put the snipe yacht, Woolietoot, through its paces. After a brisk sail a few wieners prepared over the bonfire have a flavor all their own. Preparing to satisfy their hunger are, left to right in the lower right picture, Commodore and Mrs. A. A. Saville, Vice Commodore and Mrs. Butler.



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Bee Photos

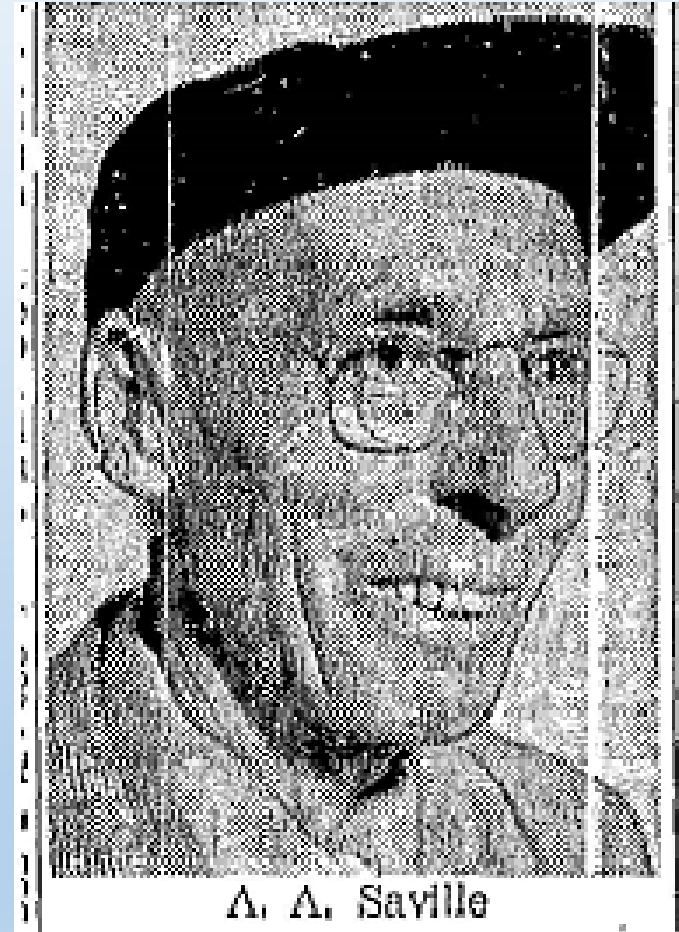


# Early LWSC History Continued

- In the 1940s, International 14s and El Toros joined the Snipe as boats popular with club members
- In 1945, a boathouse to store boats was purchased from the Sacramento Junior College rowing program.
- In the 1950s the Penguin became a popular boat; regattas attracted over 100 boats.
- 1956-62: Boy Scouts held the Al Saville regatta; location of the regatta moved between Sacramento or Rio Vista; the regatta included sailing and seamanship events. Saville trophy was awarded to the winner.

## Early Members

- A.A. Saville – founder of LWSC and second club commodore.
- Norman Ford – first commodore and manager of the Alaska Packers.
- N.H. Lund – designed and built the Bug dinghy, which was sailed by many club members.
- Ben Butler –third LWSC commodore
- Earl Barnett – architect who designed the Memorial Auditorium and the Sutter Club.





Members of the Lake Washington Sailing Club will turn out in force Sunday on their Yolo County reservoir course for a full program of races to celebrate the club's 20th birthday anniversary.

According to E. V. E. Harris, race chairman, the sailing events will start at 1:30 PM. All active skippers of the Snipe,



A. A. Saville

# Sunday Race Card Will Mark Sailing Club's 20th Year

By Ed Burt

## Windup With Supper

Charter members will be honored during the program, which will be concluded with a potluck supper prepared by a committee headed by Mrs. Charles Shalz and Elizabeth Saville.

Those to be honored at the anniversary party are Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Saville, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Alan Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Coulter, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Butler, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Ballard and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Duensing.

The club was formed in 1934 by Saville and is one of the oldest members of the Northern California Small Boat Racing Association, an organization made up largely of bay area groups.

A feature event each year on the Yolo lake is a small boat regatta which attracts dozens of small sailing craft from the bay and delta districts.

Sacramento Bee;  
September 15, 1954.





## Snipe Dinghy

- The Snipe is a 15 ½ foot, two-person dinghy designed in 1931.
- By 1936 it was the largest racing class in the world.
- It is still sailed worldwide.



Lake Washington in 1953



Picture of Snipe dinghies  
from Sacramento Room  
Digital Collections,  
possibly LWSC members:

“This 1940 photograph captures sailboats and motorboats making their way upstream along the Sacramento River. To the left of the photograph are grain barges while, on the right side, are grain storage facilities on the Yolo County side of the river.”





## Lake Washington 1950s; Sacramento Library Sacramento Room

### Snipes and El Toro dinghies

A 1953 regatta included the following classes:

- Clipper
- Snipe
- Mercury
- International 110
- Penguin
- Shamrock
- Blue Jay
- Melody
- El Toro
- Coast 13





## *Motor Boating* magazine, July 1952



Snipes getting away from the Lake Washington Sailing Club float at Sacramento, California, add technical interest to this photograph made with a twin-lens reflex camera. A light yellow filter was used to provide greater contrast between sails and sky



Sacramento, California

SPORTS

THE SACRAMENTO BEE, V

# 14 Year Old Girl Will Skipper Boat In Races Sunday

By Ed Burt

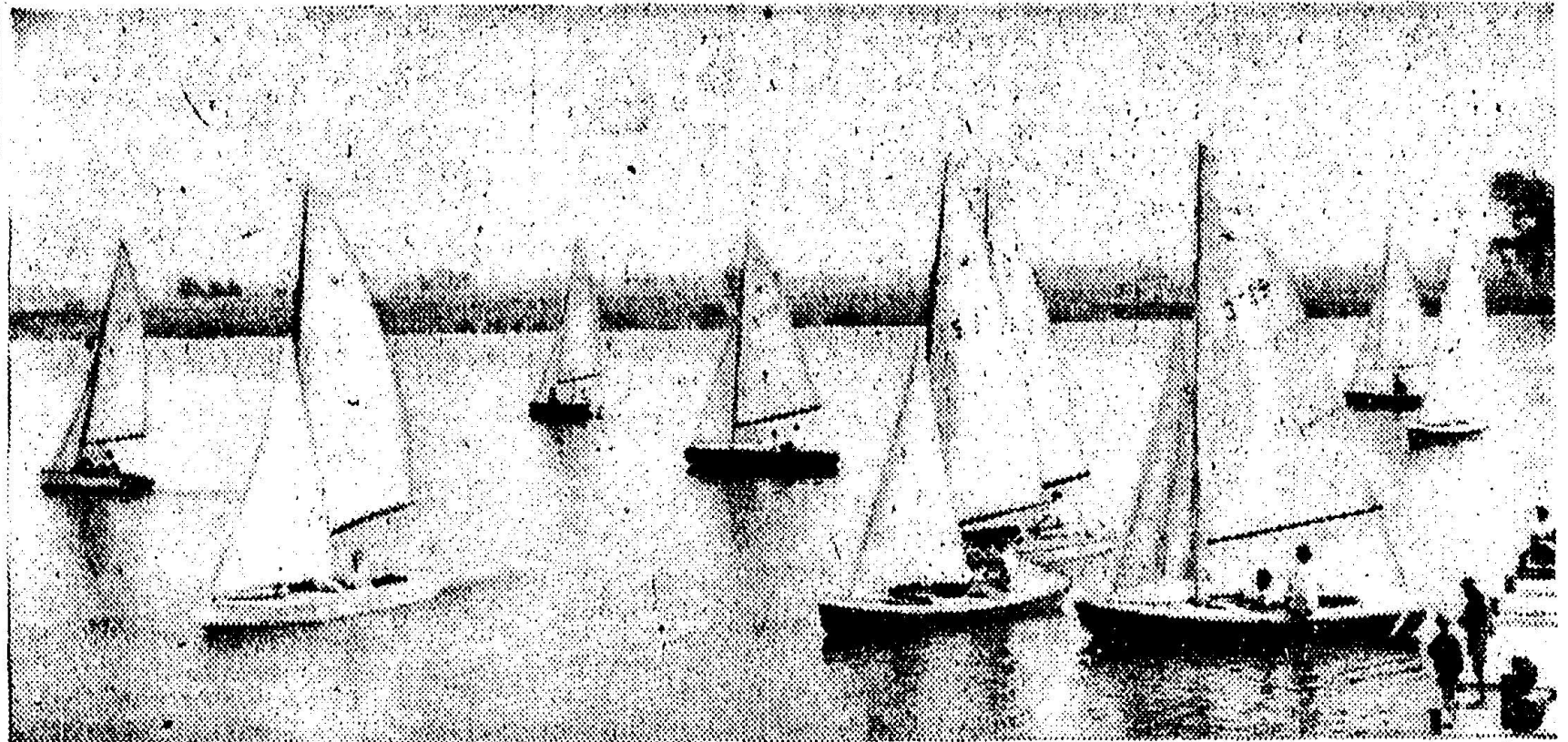
Officials of the Lake Washington Sailing Club revealed today 14 year old Sharon Johnston of Piedmont will be an entry in the

Northern California Small Boat Racing Association regatta Sunday on Lake Washington in Yolo County.

## Won Top Awards

Miss Johnston, skipper of diminutive El Toro class sailboat, won top awards in races last year in Seattle and Honolulu as well as the Pacific Coast championship.

The youthful member of the



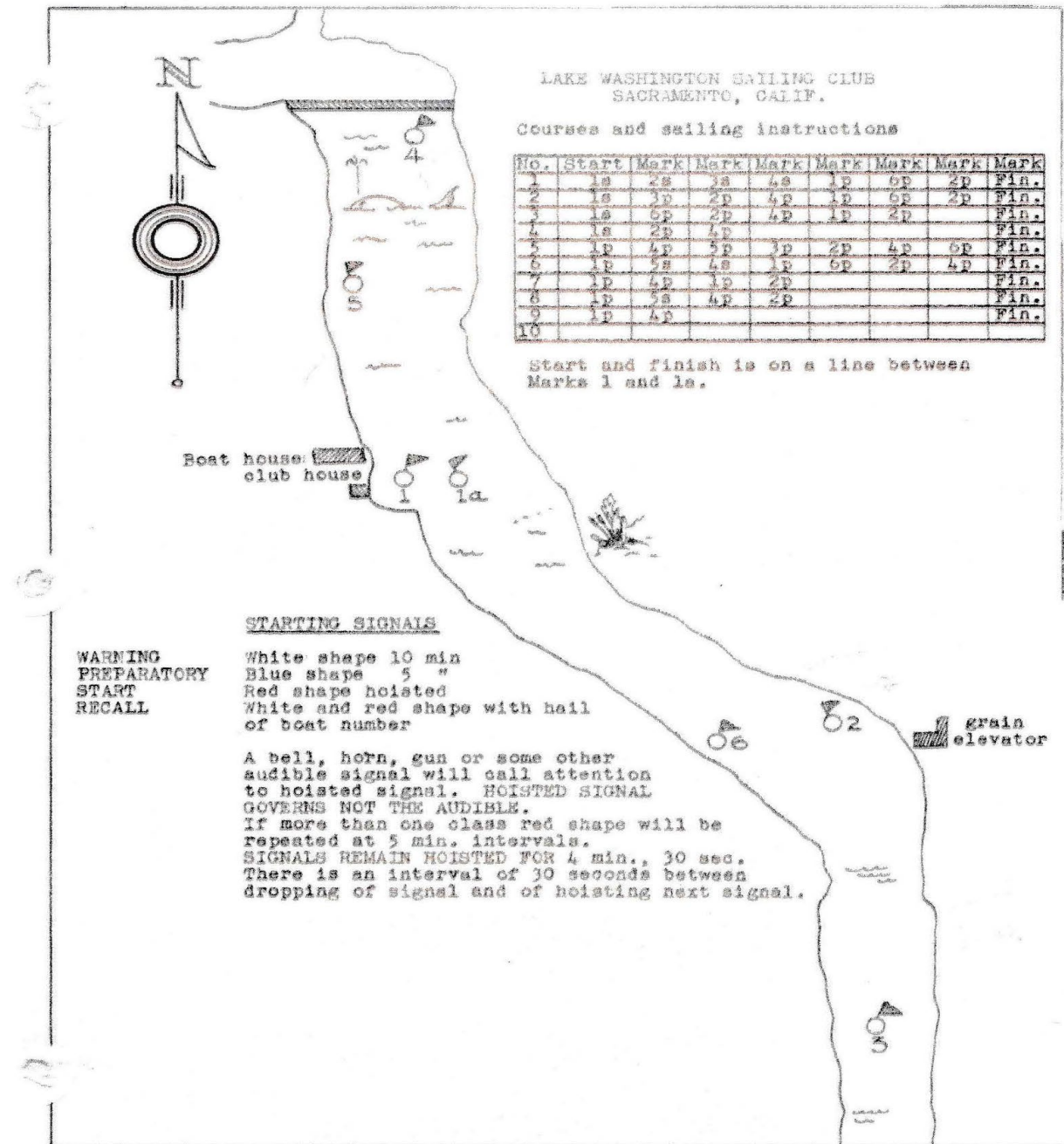
**WINDJAMMERS** — Sailing craft of the Northern California Small Boat Racing Association will converge Sunday on Lake Washington in Yolo County for a sanctioned regatta.

Boats of the host Lake Washington Sailing Club are pictured tuning up on the race course. A record entry list is expected from many Northern California cities.



# 1954 LWSC Course Diagram

- Start finish line was off of clubhouse dock.
- Club house and boat house are illustrated.





# Center for Sacramento History

An aerial photograph of Lake Washington in 1953. The lake is a large, calm body of water in the center. The shoreline is visible with several buildings and a clubhouse. The surrounding area is a mix of land and water, with some fields and roads visible.

Lake Washington in 1953,  
Alaska Packers buildings and  
LWSC clubhouse visible on the  
near shore of the lake.



Lake Washington -1950s





## Harold N. Ouye Home Movies: Reel 89

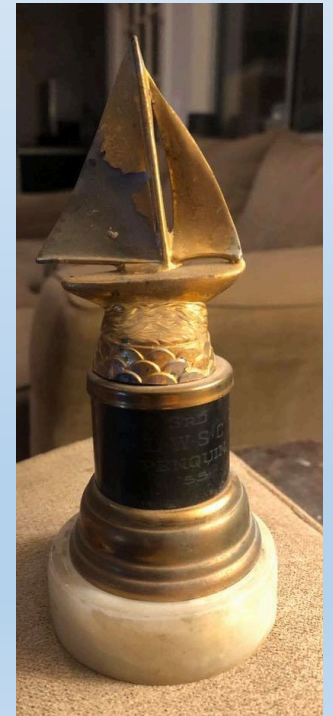
- Home video taken around 1953
- [https://archive.org/details/casacsh\\_000341](https://archive.org/details/casacsh_000341)
- Sailing starts at 4:08 of the video.





## Penguin Class - 11 ft. long one-design class

- Designed in 1938 to be home- built from plywood
- Became popular at LWSC in the 1950s and was raced at LWSC until the 1970s





## August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1949 – Groundbreaking ceremony at Lake Washington for the Sacramento/Yolo Deep Water Channel

- Port was approved in 1946 Rivers and Harbors Act
- Non containerized port limits port traffic
- Cargo includes rice and other grains, lumber, cement, wind turbine blades
- Depth of channel and turning basin is 30 feet
- First ship arrived in June 1963



Motorboat races



U.S. Congressman J. Leroy Johnson



## Sacramento Room Digital Collection:

“The Port of Sacramento's nascent deep water channel is pictured here on January 18, 1954. The two silos are on the north bank of the channel.





From Sacramento  
Room Digital  
Collection:

January 18, 1954





Lake Washington -  
1960





Lake Washington  
- 1960





Lake Washington  
- 1960





The barge canal and Stone Locks under construction.

The barge canal was intended for use by barges carrying rice and grain down the Sacramento River from the upper Sacramento Valley.





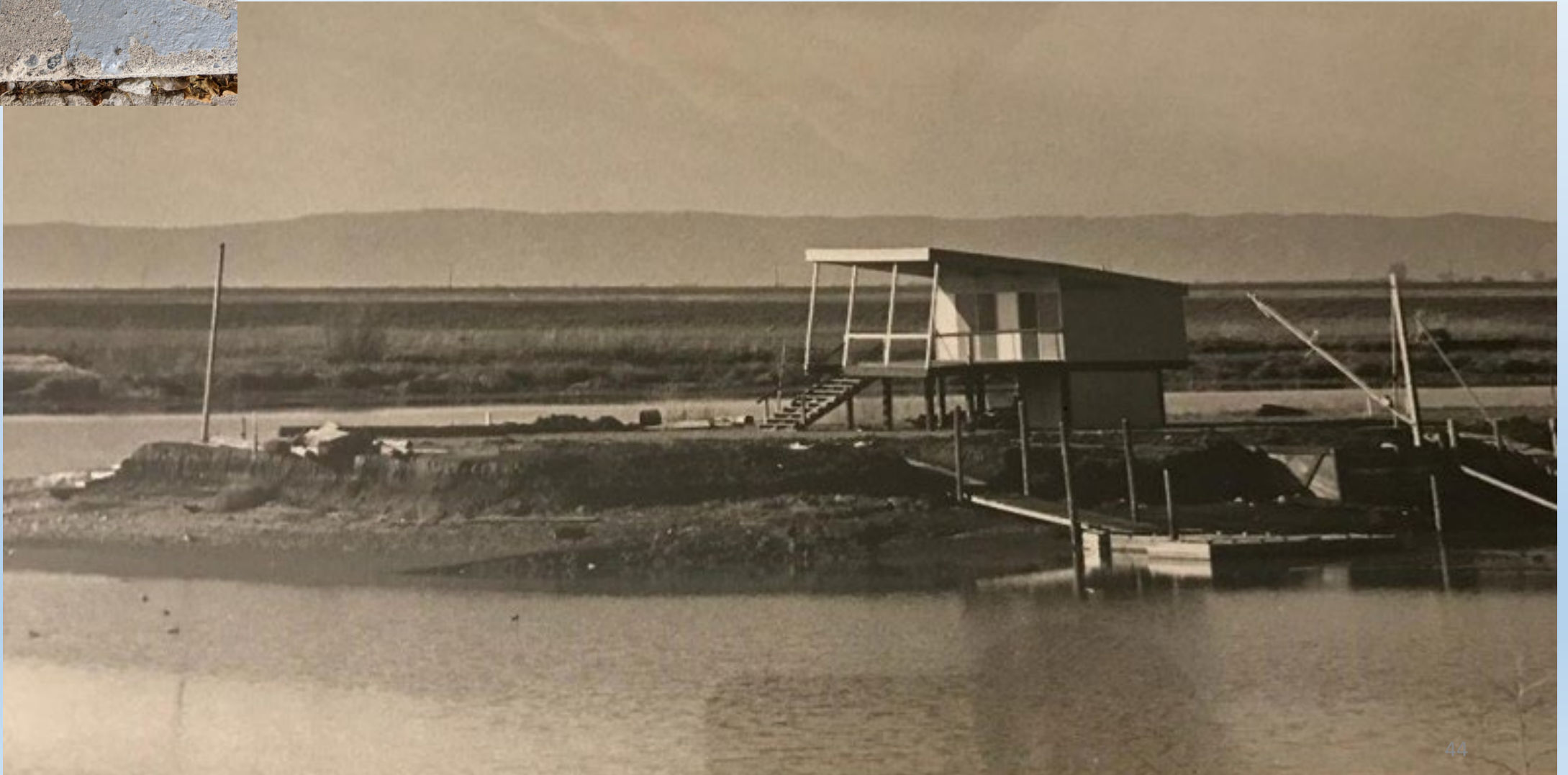
# Key Dates

- 1949: Groundbreaking for the Port of Sacramento project.
- October 1958: last regatta on the original Lake Washington
- In 1959 and 1960, the club held events on Lake Natoma and Lake Folsom while port construction was ongoing.
- In 1961, the club members resumed sailing on Lake Washington
- The current clubhouse was built in 1962/3.
- August 1963: first cruise through the locks to Discovery Park.
- About 1978 – first Windsurfer regattas at Lake Washington (Windsurfer Fleet 49)
- 1987 – Stone Locks were closed permanently
- ??? - 2020- Lasers are primary racing fleet
- 2019 Capitol Cup Regatta; revival of windsurfing racing?
- 2020 – Storage Yard Project!!!!





# LWSC Clubhouse – early 1960s





Sacramento -Yolo Port District - Deep Water Channel Project, Port of Sacramento and barge canal locks. The excursion boat Mansion Belle enters the barge canal. The Mansion Belle is the first passenger vessel to do so. About 150 leaders of business, industry and government made the trip to attend ceremonies marking the driving of the first pile in the development of the wharf. Photo published March 2, 1962.

This boat was once owned by John Wayne and was in the movie *Blood Alley*. It's now abandoned north of Sacramento off of Garden Highway and Riego Rd.





# Taipei Victory; June 29, 1963

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNgAjQywfoK>

Port footage starts at 4:30 of the video.





May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1966; From the Bee caption:  
"Some of the many Sacramento area  
residents who are expected to visit  
the patrol submarine Sea Fox,  
moored in the Port of Sacramento,  
toured the vessel yesterday."







**July 1, 1976;** From the Sacramento Bee caption: "Workers continue construction of an earth-fill dam across the upper end of Lake Washington at the Port of Sacramento. Once completed, the resulting reservoir will serve as a cooling off basin for the mountains of wood chips still smoldering from a June 29 fire. After the chips have been extinguished, they will be allowed to dry and then, possibly, be sold for fuel. If work continues as scheduled, the temporary dam should be finished by Monday."



# Out-Of-Control Port Blaze Exhausts 175 Fire Fighters

By WAYNE WILSON  
Bee Staff Writer

yesterday, continued to burn out of control. Fire officials said control still systems used to carry the chips piles.





## Whales at the Lake!!!!!!!

- May 2007 – Delta and Dawn spent 6 days at the lake.
- Access to the lake was restricted.



Whales at Sherman Island heading back towards the ocean after leaving Lake Washington.

# List of LWSC Commodores

1934-7: Norman Ford	1958: E.B. (Bodie) Aubery	2007: Richard Leijonflycht
1938: A.A. (Alfred) Saville	1959: Bill Hyde	2008: Richard Leijonflycht
1939: Ben Butler	1960: Fred Hawley	2009: Stephen Jacobs
1940: M.L. (Myrt) Ballard	1961: Wayne Brown	2010: Ryan Schofield
1941: Edward Anderson	1965: John Burdette	2011: Ryan Schofield
Noel Walsh	1966: Robert Loomis	2012: Ryan Schofield
Henry Duensing	1971: Warren Johnson	2013: David Potter
E.V.E. Harris	1972: Lewis Terry	2014: David Potter
1947: Eugene Williams	1975: George Reiner	2015: David Potter
1948: Jack Lovell	1976: Bill Butler	2016: Rich Glovin
1950: Dewitt Nelson		2017: Rich Glovin
1951: Rod Stebbins	1977-2002:???????????	2018: David Potter
1952: Ken Murray		2019: Janyne Reckner
1953: Daniel Buckley	19??: Dan Clark	2020: Janyne Reckner
1954: Charles Shalz	2003: Brian Boyington	
1955: Donald McDonald	2004: Steve Fishman	
1956: Louis DeWitt	2005: Steve Fishman	
1957: Chris R. Jones, Jr.	2006: Ryan Schofield	



# Resources

- California Digital Newspaper Collections - <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/>
- Sacramento Bee Archives
- *Port of Sacramento*, West Sacramento Historical Society
- Center for Sacramento History
- Sacramento Library; Sacramento Room digital collections
- California State Library digital collections
- UC Santa Barbara library aerial photograph collection

# Contact Information

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2019 Delta Dinghy Ditch



Additional Slides Follow for Reference

## AQUATIC PROGRAM FOR LAKE OPENING

Rowing, Swimming, Fly-Casting and Other Sports on Slate at Lake Washington.

The announcement of the West Sacramento Land company that Lake Washington is to no longer remain a private property, accessible only to a favored few, has been received with acclaim by Sacramento city and county sportsmen. Lake Washington has long been recognized as one of the best black bass waters in Northern California, if not in the entire state.

The opening of the lake to the public will occur next Sunday, June 22. The West Sacramento Land company has made considerable preparation to make the day a gala event. The Fifth Infantry band, San Francisco, will supply the music, and there will be fly-casting, swimming and diving features, as well as a regatta between the Dolphin Boat club of Sacramento and the best local oarsmen. The Alameda oarsmen—champions—will be here also.

The California Fish and Game commission, now that Lake Washington is no longer a private property restricted to private use, has taken an interest in the lake, and has announced that it will see that the waters are stocked with the best of Eastern game fish, and the commission will also endeavor to keep the lake well stocked with fish at all times.

During the coming week the lake will be seined, and the thousands of carp that now infest the water will be taken out. The black bass will be returned to be caught by anglers from time to time.

No expense is being spared by the West Sacramento Land company in fitting up the place as a pleasure resort. The Sacramento Fly Casters' club will make this lake the scene of its tournaments this summer, and several contests have already been arranged.

The San Francisco fly casters will be challenged to compete for a season's record cup. A trophy will be given for the best cast made by a man, and another for the record made by a woman. No professionals, however, will be allowed to compete for the prizes.

A platform 50 feet high is being erected for the benefit of the divers. Boulevards are being made around the lake; weeping willows are being planted to furnish shade, and the lake will be protected by mounted patrolmen.





June 29, 1974; from the Bee caption: "Squadron flagship HMCS Saskatchewan leads the HMCS St. Croix and the HMCS MacKenzie up the ship channel toward the port of Sacramento. The three Canadian destroyers, part of a training squadron, are visiting today and tomorrow. Open house will be observed from 2 to 4:30 PM today and tomorrow for area residents who wish to go aboard the ships. Each ship carries a normal complement of 12 officers and 198 men.





Location unknown, but  
looks like Lake  
Washington. Possibly  
Coronado 15s.



RAFT IS NOT RACING, COOLING OFF I GUESS

Sailboat on the Sacramento in the 1930s;  
Tower Bridge visible in the background.



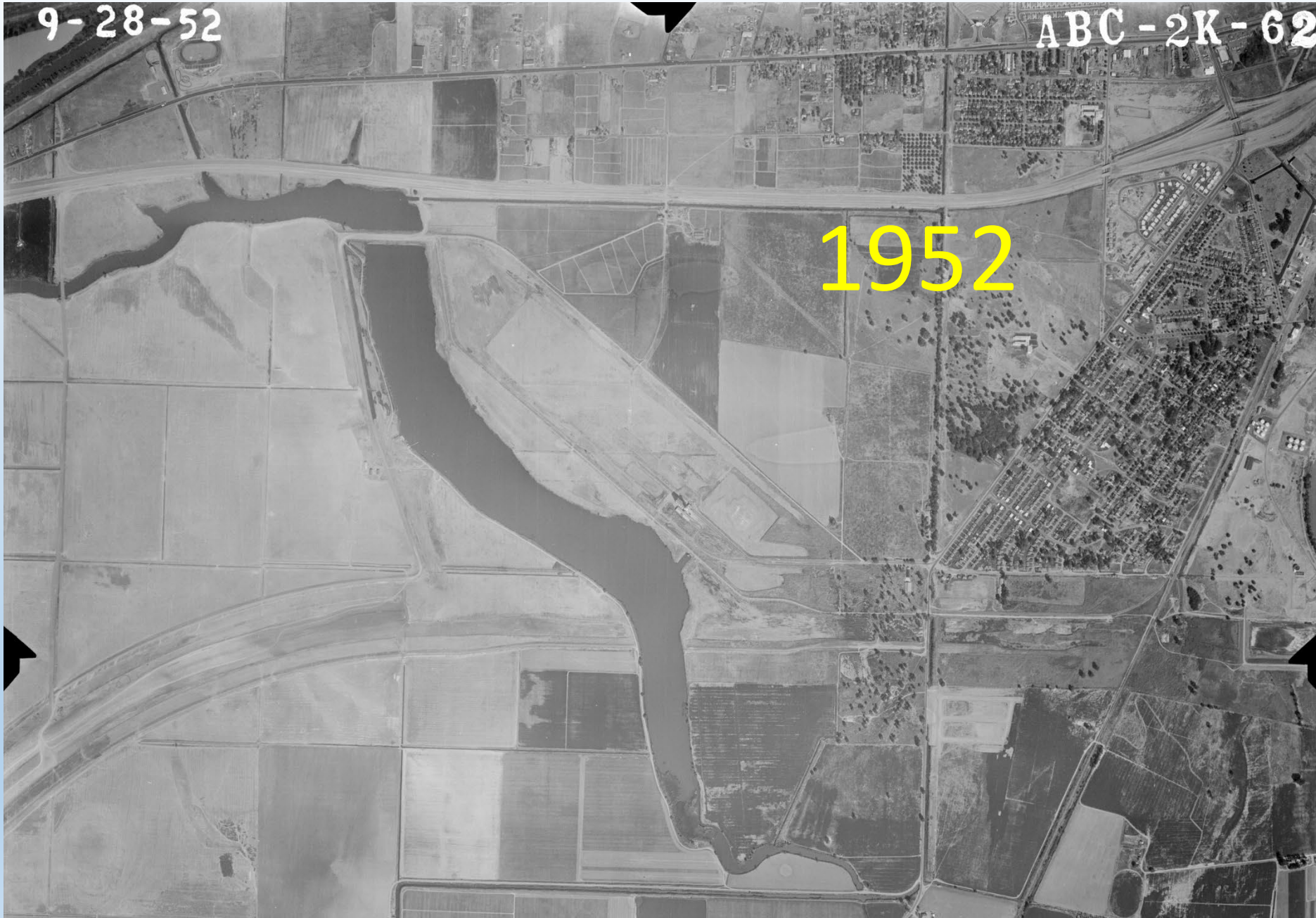




9-28-52

ABC-2K-62

1952









1976



1981

