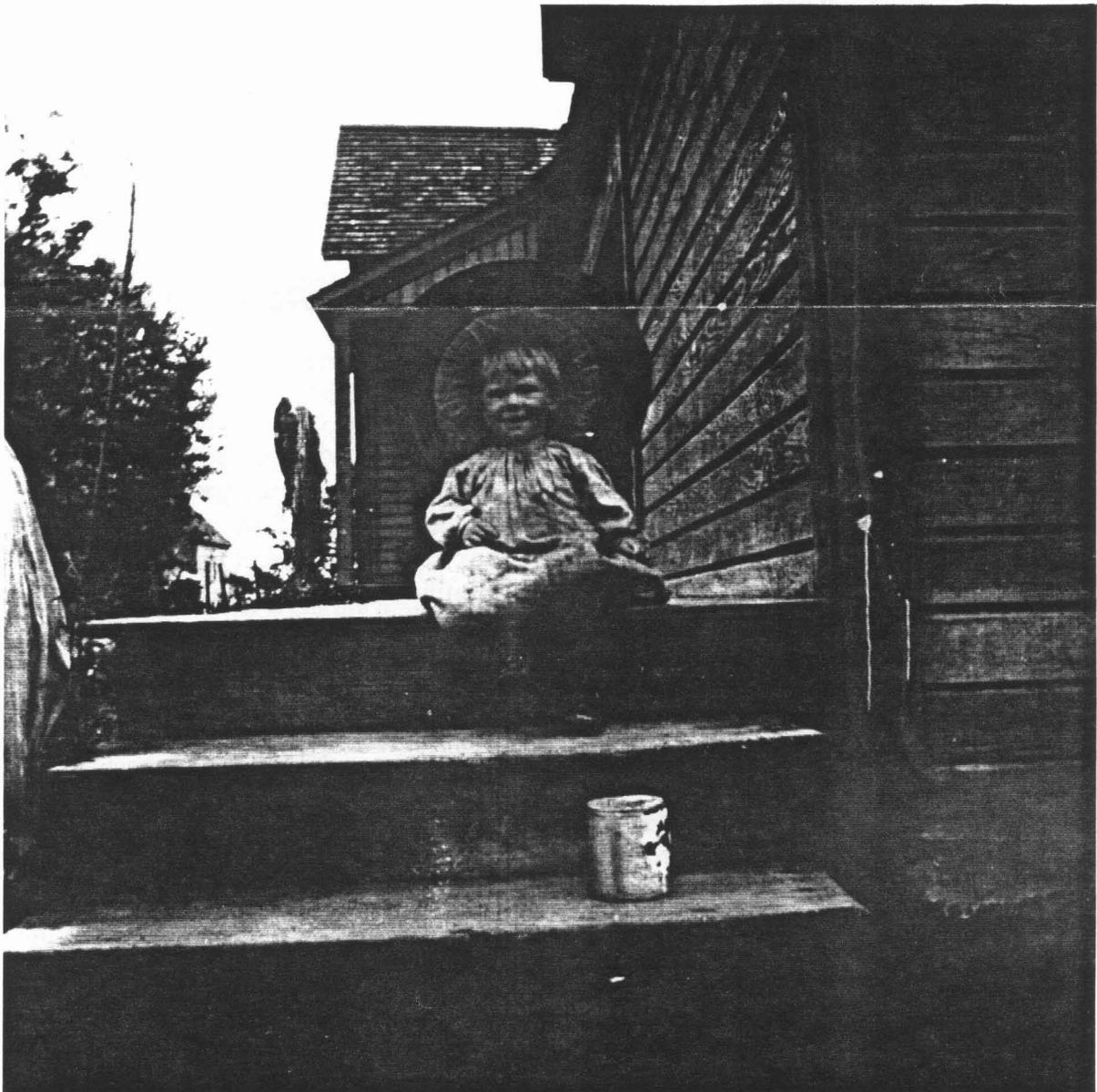


Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society



Volume III., Issue 1

January, 1995

The Years In Your Ears

By
Alan Stein

Here's a special holiday treat. Instead of the usual fictional accounting of local history, I have come across a real Years In Your Ears. Back in the 20's, the city of Kirkland and the East Side Journal ran a campaign to convince folks back east to move out here to the promised land. On Dec. 12, 1922, the Journal printed an example of a letter that Kirklandites could use to write to their friends. I now reproduce this letter in entirety with the same spelling and grammar as it was first published. Enjoy.

Mr. Come Out Easterner
Kirkland, Wash
Podunk, Iowa
Nov 15, 1922

Dear Mr. Easterner,

I duly received your communication of recent date and hasten to reply. You say you are thinking of "going west." I read between the lines of your brief letter. I know how I felt before I came out here from the Middle West. You are thinking of the coming winter. I know you are, because I remember how I looked forward with dread to the cold of the winters in the section of the country where you live, and to shoveling snow and paying for heavy winter clothing and enduring all the inconvenience of that rigorous climate.

You didn't state exactly what you want in the line of a home town and

climatic conditions. What sort of town are you looking for, anyway?

Why do you demand in the shape of a location, for instance? Take a map - a railroad map will do - and find Puget Sound. Then locate Seattle. Look next for Lake Washington. Find on the eastern shore of the lake a most beautiful valley stretching up from the shoreline - and there you will see Kirkland.

I remember, Mr. Easterner, you once told me you had visited Switzerland and other European countries. You may recall our visit after your return when you interested me greatly in your recital of all you saw. I remember quite well what you said you saw, and you made me want to visit those countries myself. But really your descriptions do not come up to the reality in the beauty of the location of my home town from which I write. From my front porch I can see the Cascade mountains, crowned with snow all the year round. From my front yard I can see Mt. Rainier, the highest peak on this continent except one. From my side window I look out upon beautiful Lake Washington and a wonderful city beyond, and from my back window I can see the Olympics. From a spot nearby I look down upon one of the most beautiful valleys in all the world - the nestling place of the greater part of my home town - Kirkland. In another valley nearby are homes and little ranches, with chicken houses and small orchards, quite hidden among the trees and in secluded nooks. I have traveled extensively in this country - north, south, west and east - and I have never seen a location so beautiful for a town. Perhaps, Mr. Easterner, you don't value natural beauty as highly as I do, but I am sure you will be happier here than you would be in

most places, because of the surroundings, other things being equal.

In your letter you said something about this climate being rainy. Well, it does rain in the winter, but it seldom snows or freezes enough to spoil spuds in the hills. It isn't cold enough to induce some people to change their summer underwear to heavier weight. And lots of people don't carry umbrellas at all. Why, Mr. Easterner, the rainfall here is less than New York, take it all the year around. And the summers - I can't describe the weather in the summer time. I don't claim that the winter rains are altogether in my liking, but believe me, I prefer the rain to your snow and freezing. I've tried both and I know.

Maybe you want an occasional touch with city life? Oh, well, that's easy. I drove my Lizzie over to the center of Seattle, around the lake the other day in fifty minutes, and public conveyance will get me there in the same time. And you should not forget that Seattle has about 3500,000 people with all the advantages of a modern metropolis. I don't need to speak of the advantages of living in a town so near to a big city because I remember you telling me once that you moved from a city to a suburb to get away from the noise and crowded street cars and excessive expense of living into more congenial surroundings. Kirkland is located just right in all these particulars. Four miles of water separate Kirkland from Seattle; that's far enough to keep them separated in numerous ways satisfactory to the suburbanite - taxation, for one thing. And yet we have the benefits of the big stores, markets, and amusements which a progressive city offers.

Mr. Easterner, really what is it you are looking for in your future home

town? Knowing you as I do, I suppose you want a moral atmosphere in which to rear your children, for I remember that you have several interesting boys and girls in your family. Well, assuming that you will agree with me that churches make for morality in a town, Kirkland is all right in this respect. I myself have been much interested to note the progress of the Community church which is made up of Christian people of many denominational complexions. At present this church has a regular he-man for pastor who is a first-class preacher and a good leader. What I like about this church is that the members of it have seem to have forgotten their microscopic denominational differences and are getting down to their one great big job. This fact will appeal to you, know. But if you happen to have friends or neighbors who are thinking of coming west who are Catholic or Christian Scientists or Episcopalians, just tell them they can find churches of their kind here.

Referring again to your communication, I note that you must continue to earn money after you come west. Well, I imagine you can do as well here as elsewhere. You can work in Seattle while you are getting a start in the chicken or fruit business, as many do. Or you can live here and commute permanently. Many are working in Seattle while getting their local chicken business started. The combination of fruit and chickens is especially fine for this section. Don't forget what a splendid market Seattle affords. Some people are specializing in one thing and some in another. I know one woman, a widow, who is raising turkey, and three who are making a specialty of capons. Lettuce is shipped from this section by the car load. I have no doubt you

yourself have eaten some that came from here, for it largely goes east.

Kirkland has grown a great deal in the last year. Many of the newcomers have engaged in what is sometimes called the three-story industry - that is, chickens on the ground floor, berry fruits on the second, and tree fruits on the top floor. I think this section is destined to become the greatest chicken and fruit raising district. With eggs selling at 45 or 50 cents a dozen, as they are now, the chicken industry isn't to be sneezed at.

Well, Mr. Easterner, in looking over this letter, I find I have been boosting Kirkland without trying to do so. But you indicated that you wanted to know something about the place, so I have rambled on. Now I am reminded that you are a great believer in our public school system and in education in general for your children. Kirkland can satisfy you in this respect, I am sure. We have a fine union high school and a splendid grade school. Just now we are erecting a new high school building in Kirkland proper and at Rose Hill, adjoining this place, is another school building just being finished. The teachers are the best that money can hire. Our new superintendent is a cracker-jack. He apparently knows his business, and besides being an up-to-date school man, he believes it is his duty to get in and help boost the town in all good ways.

That reminds me to say that I never heard of a place where the people believed so thoroughly in helping each other. The other day I was going down town when I met a Ford sedan piled full of boxes. I was told that the owner of the machine was helping one of the merchants move from one store building to another. And that same evening three or four trucks, the same sedan, a light

delivery truck and perhaps twenty men and boys were at work until eleven o'clock helping the same man move his stock. All the work was donated, too. Can you beat it? And there is a man here who was crippled in an accident. He thought he would like to start a little store and lunch stand near the school house, and one Sunday half a dozen carpenters came over and before you knew it his little place of business was up. I like such a spirit as that. And so would you.

You better make up your mind to come out. We will see that you get acquainted in short order. I never in my life met such nice people. There isn't a stuck-up in the whole town

Yours Truly

A Kirklander

Next Meeting: Tuesday,

January 24

Potluck Dinner at Lorraine

McConaghy's House

We'll meet on a TUESDAY this month instead of the usual Wednesday. Lorraine has graciously offered not only to hold our meeting and potluck dinner at her home but she will also give a slide presentation on *The Seattle Times* newspaper's early years. As some of you may know, Lorraine is currently working on a book project on the *Times*' history for its upcoming centennial, so her presentation should be especially interesting. Lorraine's address is 12121 NE 66th St.--near the Houghton landfill--**but please call her first to RSVP and**

coordinate what food to bring. Her number is 827-2927.

February Meeting

February 22, 1995, 7:00pm

The next meeting will be held at the home of Jeanne and Hilbert Bartels, 202 5th Ave. W., Kirkland at 7:00pm. This is generally referred to as the Tompkins /Bucklin Home, an early vernacular farmhouse built in 1889. Ron and Joanne Bucklin saved the home from demolition after it was condemned by the City following a fire in the late 70's.



Membership

(A big thanks to Barbara Loomis. She has taken on the thoroughly unglamorous task of organizing our membership roster with regard to renewals and the like. While the excitement of putting this information together is only rivaled by the thrill of filling out a tax form, it is of critical importance--ED.)

By **Barbara Loomis and Bob Burke**

Membership provides the financial and volunteer resources which make the Kirkland heritage Society able to function. The KHS was very active in 1994. Our award winning public information (i.e. "A Look to the Past"

and *Blackberry Preserves*), our work on planning issues with the city Growth Management Commission and special events have made a very positive impact on historic preservation in Kirkland. A lot of work lies ahead and we need you and new members.

We welcome those members who have renewed and our new members for November and December. Your support makes a difference!

Recent Renewals: *Thanks!!!*

Jerry Marsh Nona Ganz
Inge Theisen Laura Westlund
Myron and Marlene Lewis
Jenine and Zach Heitz

New Members: *Welcome!*

Feliks Banel and Anne Tilley
Gary Wolfstone Bill Petter
Joan McBride Bill Ballantine
Vincent Amela Don H. Watson
Jeanne and Hilbert Bartels
Dr. David Asmussen
Mel and Shirley Hogsett
Michael & Luanne Carter

Status Report: Growth Management Policies on Historic Preservation

Barbara Loomis and Bob Burke have been working together with the city of Kirkland's Growth Management Commission and city planning staff to get goals and policies on historic preservation in the city's Comprehensive Plan required under the state Growth management Act. In December, a meeting with staff resulted in a draft policies based on the report on Historic Preservation submitted to the city by KHS. At their January 5 meeting, the

Commission provided direction to staff to prepare 3-5 policies with text dealing with the identification, preservation and processes for historic preservation, considering design guidelines/regulations, incentives and neighborhood conservation. A separate section on implementation will be considered at a later date.

Barbara and Bob will be working with the staff on the revised draft to be submitted in late January for consideration by the Commission in early February. We will keep you informed of our progress and when the public hearings on the completed plan will be held.

Historic Properties in Kirkland

By
Bob Burke

One aspect of the Kirkland heritage Society is to identify historic properties and to develop programs such as installation of plaques to recognize them; to help develop legislation that assists in their preservation; and to work with owners and others to uncover background information and potential funding sources.

One method of recognition is by placing a property on a Register of historic Places either at the local, state, or national levels. The criteria for placement on the national Register are that the structure:

- is significant in history, architecture, archaeology, and culture; and
- possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

In addition, properties may:

- be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our history; or
- be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction, represent work of a master, etc.; and
- have yielded or may yield information important to pre-history or history.

People often equate placement on one of these registers with a moratorium on any future changes to the structure. This is simply not true. Placement on a register may mean that additional review steps must be taken if changes are desired, but it may mean that building codes are relaxed and that grants are available to assist owners with maintenance or renovations that preserve or improve the property's integrity.

Historic preservation in Kirkland has been officially recognized since the adoption of the Land use Policies Plan of 1977, which listed a number of historic structures. This was one year after the Kirkland Historic Commission (now known as Kirkland Heritage Society) was founded. In 1981 five structures were placed on the State and national Registers for historic places. These were: Loomis House, Joshua Sears building, Campbell Building, Peter Kirk building, and Dr. Trueblood/Creger House. The marsh Mansion was added about 1987. The Kirkland Woman's Club was added to the national Register for historic places in 1989. The Kellett/Harris House was placed in the State Register in 1994. These properties are identified in the following photos:

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STRUCTURES ON STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS FOR HISTORIC PLACES



Loomis House



Joshua Sears Building



Campbell Building



Peter Kirk Building



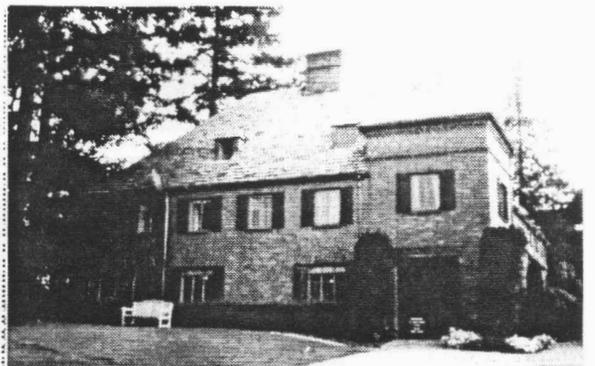
Kellet/Harris House ①



Dr. Trueblood/Creger



Woman's Club ②



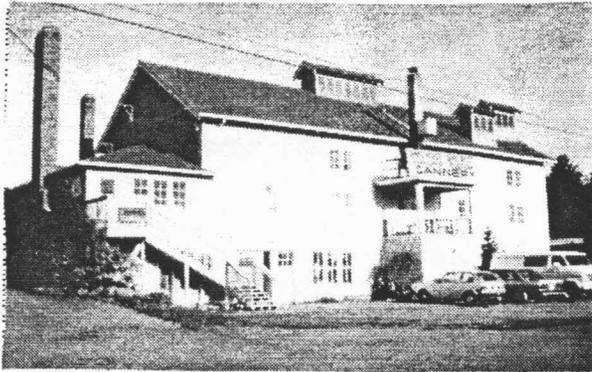
Marsh Mansion

① Only on State Register
② Not on 1983 SEPA List

Blackberry Preserves

The 1992 inventory of Historic Resources contracted by the city of Kirkland identified six additional structures as having the potential for the national Historic Register, they are: Rev. Newberry Home, Nettleton/Green Funeral Home, Sutthoff house, Kirkland Cannery, Shumway Mansion, and Landry House.. These properties are identified in the following photos.

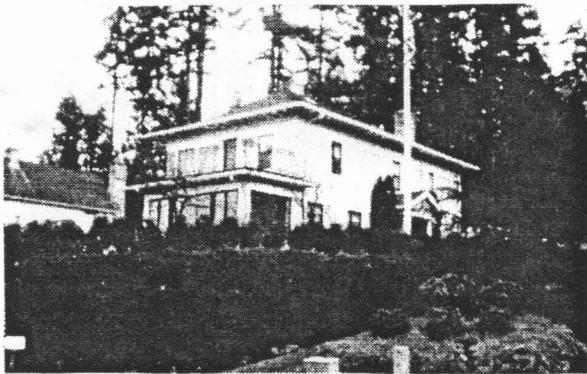
The Kirkland Heritage Society is working with the city for funding to complete a city-wide inventory of historic properties. part of this effort will be to work with property owners to complete necessary applications to place additional structures on the State and national Registers.



Kirkland Cannery



Shumway



Sutthoff-Sanitarium



Rev. Newberry House



Nettleton/Green Funeral Home



Landry

SIGNAL OIL COMPANY



*Stove and
Furnace Oil*

OLDSMOBILE

SIMPSON MOTOR SERVICE



PHONE 1011

FERRY SCHEDULE

Seattle - Kirkland

LEAVES KIRKLAND		LEAVES SEATTLE (MADISON PARK)
*5:35 A.M.	 <p>25¢ for Car and Driver</p> <p>— 20 MINUTES TO SEATTLE —</p> <p>Hourly trips to and from Kirkland except early and late trips.</p> <p>*5:35 a. m. and 6:05 a. m. trips omitted Sundays and holidays.</p> <p>LAKE WASHINGTON FERRIES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">East 5100</p> <p>LESCHI PARK SEATTLE</p>	*6:05 A.M.
6:35 A.M.		7:05 A.M.
7:45 A.M.		8:15 A.M.
8:45 A.M.		9:15 A.M.
9:45 A.M.		10:15 A.M.
10:45 A.M.		11:15 A.M.
11:45 A.M.		12:15 P.M.
12:45 P.M.		1:15 P.M.
1:45 P.M.		2:15 P.M.
2:45 P.M.		3:15 P.M.
3:45 P.M.		4:15 P.M.
4:45 P.M.		5:30 P.M.
6:00 P.M.	6:30 P.M.	
7:00 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	
8:00 P.M.	8:30 P.M.	
9:00 P.M.	9:30 P.M.	
10:00 P.M.	10:30 P.M.	
11:00 P.M.	11:30 P.M.	
12:10 A.M.	1:15 A.M.	

Kirkland Transfer Co.

Daily } FREIGHT & BAGGAGE
to } Piano and Furniture
Seattle } Moving

SEATTLE AUTO FREIGHT DEPOT
Main 8153

PHONES



KIRKLAND Office. 2876
Kirtley. 601
Tillman 2561

**Back Cover of April, 1944 Lake
Washington Telephone Co. Phone
Directory**

**Live from the Lake Washington Shipyards, its Caesar Romero!
On KIRO with Chris Gilson and Bill Blase, April 6, 1945.**



Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 10635 NE 120th, Kirkland, WA 98034, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. Matthew W. McCauley, Editor. For more information call: 823-6838 or 827-7194.

**Kirkland Heritage Society
10635 NE 120th
Kirkland, WA 98034**

