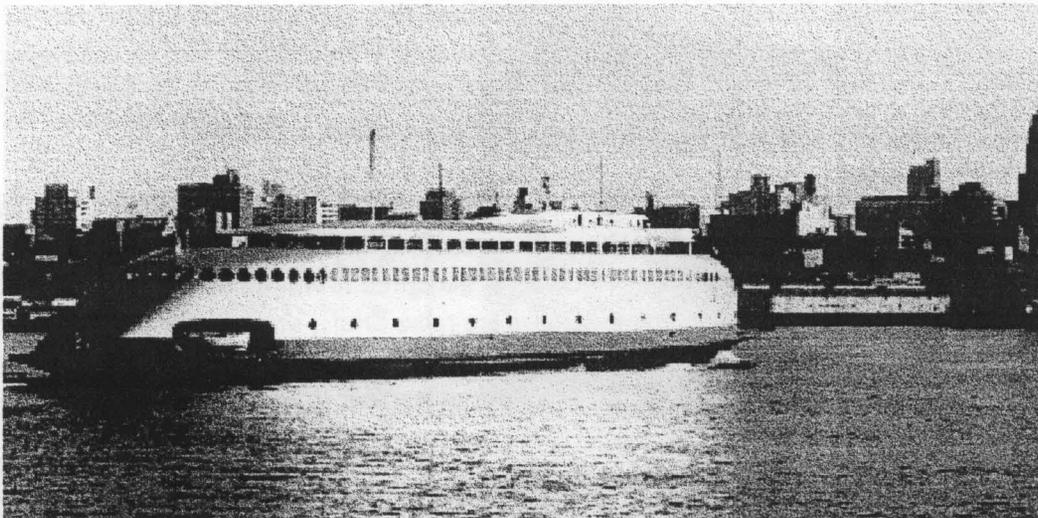


Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the
Kirkland Heritage Society

Kirkland
Historic Commission/Heritage Society

Celebrates
"20 Years"



KALAKALA

COME ABOARD THROUGH SLIDES AT THE APRIL 30TH KHS PROGRAM

Volume V Issue 4

April 1997



Kirkland Heritage Society

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by
Bob Burke

Several items to highlight! First, please place the evening of **May 22, Thursday, 1997** on your calendar!! That is the night we will have a potluck dinner at the Kirkland Woman's Club to celebrate the 20th year of establishing the Kirkland Heritage Society (We will not have a meeting on our regular night, the 28th). We are researching past officers, members and documents to invite all of those who were instrumental in the "early days" of the Kirkland Historic Commission. If you have any information, please contact **Barbara Loomis** - 827-7194 who is compiling the history.

Second, **Shannon Harris** has volunteered to Chair the Program Committee. Thank You!! She will be working with **Loita Hawkinson, Paula Riggert** and **George Harris** who have been responsible for refreshments, publicity and rides. If you have ideas for future programs, please contact her at 822-2478. Thanks again Shannon!

Third, we also have a volunteer to Chair the Booth at the Kirkland Art Festival. **Vic Newhard** will be coordinating that effort and we Thank You Vic!

Ideas for Downtown Kirkland

I had the opportunity to visit San Diego this last week at our national planning association meeting. The Gaslamp Quarter is their original downtown and now a historic district protected by the City starting in 1976. The ordinance establishing this district talks about retaining the "distinctive architectural character that existed from 1880 to 1910 and the designated historical landmarks". The key elements governing the overall structural form and design

continuity are similar to those which should be considered in Kirkland's downtown.

In addition to recognizing the historic landmarks which we have designated and given to the Planning Commission, the design guidelines should consider "scale and proportion, fenestration, materials, color, texture, detail and decorative features." One of the major concerns which now faces the Gaslamp area is that it's success which has been generated primarily by local business interests is now attracting national chains where their interest is not on enhancing the Gaslamp Quarter to benefit the overall community, but to enhance their individual store's bottom line. We are seeing that conflict in our downtown with some of the new development.

STATUS OF AMERICAN LEGION OFFER

Our initial offer to purchase the American Legion building was not accepted and KHS was placed in a second back-up position. The accepted offer did not close, so the first back-up offer is now being considered. We presented a second offer with slightly more money, but still maintaining a one year period to raise funds (this appears to be the primary concern with our offer - they would like to get cashed out within 30 days). **Laura Westlund** has been key in making all these offers. Thanks!!

Hopefully, they will eventually accept our offer by providing more time to close to preserve the building. If accepted it will mean a very active year for KHS as we raise funds, seek grants and low interest loans as well as continue to work on all of the other things we have started. I was extremely pleased with the positive response we received from our membership!!

KHS BOARD / COMMITTEE MEETING 5:30 p.m. April 30, 1997

With the 20th Anniversary dinner planning, election and lots of other items on the Agenda, we need to meet a little earlier before our regular meeting.

EVOLUTION OF A HOUSE

by Barbara Loomis

This last weekend the historic sites committee drove around Kirkland working on the survey. We were categorizing buildings based mostly on *architectural integrity* as we don't have the history of most of them. Part of our discussion was about the evolution a building may take over time. When we are fortunate enough to have old pictures of a building it is interesting to observe that evolution. As owners come and go with different needs they leave their mark on the building. Architectural styles of the time change and sometimes influence remodeling that may be done.

When I was on the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission we were constantly looking at that evolution and having to decide when was the buildings most historic period and has the architectural integrity been maintained? A rule of thumb that I used was: *if the original owners came back would they recognize the building?*

I'll use this house as an example only because I have these pictures and know some of the history.

This house was built in 1889 by the Kirkland Land and Improvement Company for an unknown steel mill executive. It sat vacant for many years.

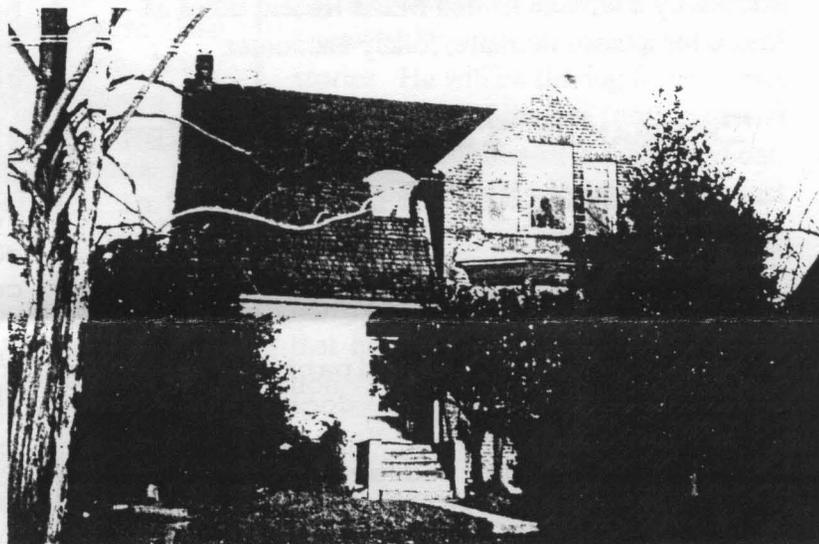
The first picture shows the house as it looked c. 1905. Notice the roof structure over the bay window is not attached to the bay. There is also a brick arch over the roof that is not consistent to the design. The second picture, c. 1935, the area between the bay and roof has been filled in so the roof is no longer floating. The trees and bushes certainly have grown in 30 years!

The last picture is contemporary. You can see that the bricks have been painted, the porch has been opened up, there are new stairs and railings (done about 5 years ago), the area under the bay is filled in and an addition was put on the back in the '50's.

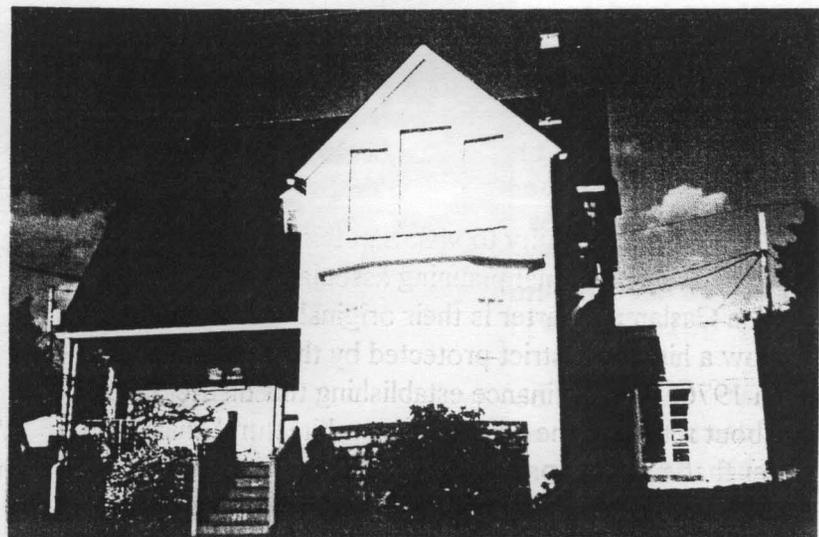
So what do you think, would the original owner recognize their house?



c. 1905



c.1935



1997

TALES FROM THE BREMERTON DAILY NEWS SEARCHLIGHT

by
Alan J. Stein

Huh? I bet you were looking for the *Tales From The East Side Journal* column. Since our topic this month is the Kalakala, I've broken from tradition so I can share with you a marvellous article from the 7/3/35 Bremerton paper that details an intimate tour of the boat during her maiden voyage.

Most news articles that I have unearthed about the Kalakala's maiden voyage are usually all the same. They give the stats on the boat (length, width, beam, etc.) and tell how unique her exterior is. This article, written by a woman named Marie Rosen, takes us inside for a more intimate, folksy encounter.

**THOUSANDS THRILLED BY NEW
STREAMLINED FERRY BOAT**

by Marie Rosen

While throngs of anticipating spectators milled about the dock yesterday afternoon, the silver Kalakala, almost an hour late, steamed around the point for its official welcome to Bremerton. And as the Zeppelin-like ship rode into sight, almost skimming over the gray water, murmurs of the waiting crowd crecendoeed to enthusiastic ejaculations of approval.

Adding contrast, the old Chippewa, which had preceded the Kalakala by about 10 minutes, slipped unobtrusively from the landing to make way for the new arrival. The eyes of the crowd however were focussed on the huge streamline craft being guided to its moorings by a tug.

That the new boat is the last word in modern design and can compare favorably with any ship on the coast, was the agreement of all who visited the Kalakala

on her maiden cruise. At midnight guests were still marvelling at the beauty of the interior design and harmonious decorations.

A restful and spacious atmosphere has been achieved through the absence of surplus ornamentation and detail, indirect lighting and a preponderance of curvilinear lines contributing greatly to the impression. In the downstairs lounge a color scheme of brown and white has been used, with richly upholstered seats, instead of the customary leather coverings.

Adding contrast, there is a large marine painting, done in brilliant blues, and framed in silver. Brown corduroy-covered chairs are found in the adjacent observation room. Upstairs, similar chairs are finished in a dark-blue shade of the same fabric, with curtains of figured red adding a bright touch.

The unusual restaurant drew capacity crowds throughout the afternoon and evening due to the company's thoughtful gesture of providing complimentary refreshments - pink and white ice cream for the kiddies; beer and sandwiches and coffee for the grown-ups. But even with the multitude of people, one could not help admiring the unusual circular counters - two rows of them in chromium finish; bordered with bright upholstered stools of red leather. Gay red curtains added further to the festive air.

Just off the dining room astern, one finds a partly enclosed deck over which are scattered natural-colored wicker chairs and tables. Many visitors enjoyed refreshments here, admiring the cream and green drapes and green enameled walls.

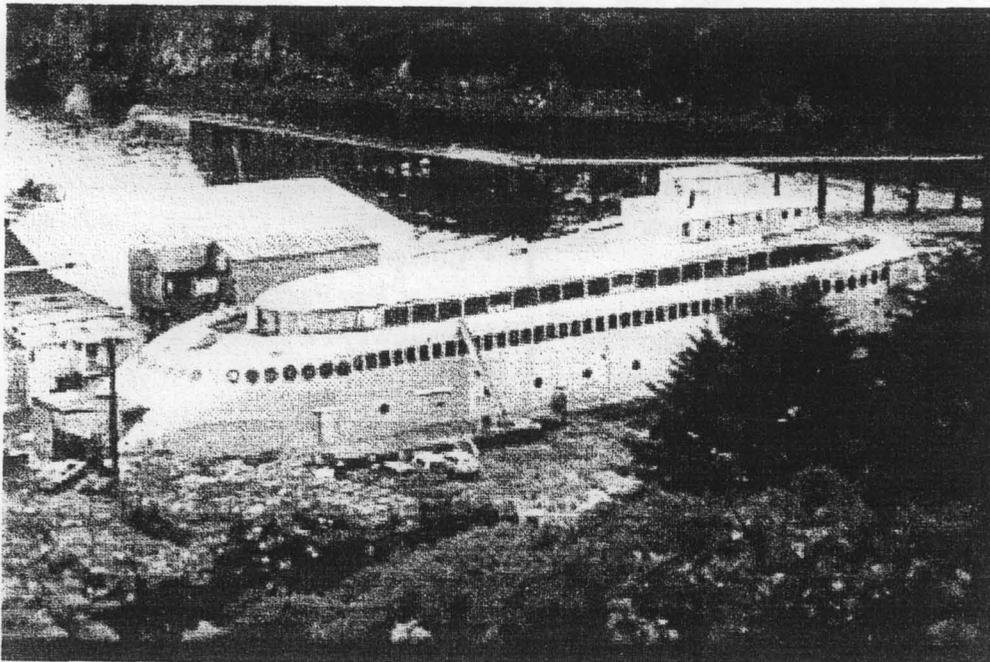
(Tales From the Bremerton Daily News Searchlight cont.)

Husbands who disappeared yesterday while on the inspection tour were pretty sure to be located in the taproom below, drinking beer with cronies who had also paused in their wanderings for a bit of cool refreshment. The taproom, just off the locker section where navy workers may change clothes enroute, will be a popular rendezvous if yesterday's enthusiastic approval can be regarded as a barometer.

Even the engine room, with its aluminum-finished machinery humming busily, was open to visitors, as well as the pilothouse and captain's quarters on the upper deck.

Difficulties with the steering gear prevented the Kalakala leaving on schedule for the promised cruise to Bainbridge, but those on board were so busy investigating every nook and few even noticed it was after 4 o'clock when the boat finally pulled out. Children waited patiently until 6 o'clock for their turn to take a look at the new ferry. In the evening, two orchestras provided music for dancing until midnight.

"A beautiful ship", was the unanimous verdict of all who inspected the Kalakala. Many commuters who had been pleased to learn the run to Seattle would be made in 45 minutes felt, after viewing the ship, that they wouldn't mind if the trip took twice as long.



Kalakala as she sits on the beach in Alaska, waiting for restoration and a return to the Puget Sound area.

April Program - Come Aboard the Kalakala!

This month's program is an informative slide show about the efforts to save the Kalakala. The Kalakala is the world's first streamlined vessel, and she was built at the Lake Washington Shipyard in 1935. Currently in Alaska, the boat lies sitting on a beach, after being recently used as a fish cannery.

Alan's work as historian for the Kalakala Foundation, the nonprofit group leading the charge to save the vessel, has unearthed many interesting facts and stories. He will be sharing these stories and a wealth of images (both past and present) of this one-of-a-kind ferryboat. If you remember the Kalakala or are just discovering her for the first time, make sure to attend our April meeting to learn more about a piece of Kirkland history that has achieved worldwide recognition.

TELL ME ABOUT...

by Christina Brugman

Sometimes twenty years seems like a long time for me to have lived in the Juanita area. There have been lots of changes. Meadows are replaced by condos; the horses are gone; there are traffic lights where none were needed before. It gets hard to even remember what was there before unless we look at the movies the grandparents took when they moved out here in the 1940's, or hear stories about great-grandmother's chicken farm in the 1920's.

Films, photos, mementos, buildings, and furniture help us to keep in mind our family members who saw a different Juanita than we do, but probably the greatest treasure of all is the oral histories that one of the uncles thought to make. On those tapes we hear the voices of the people who remembered what it was like long before we were born. The transcripts of those tapes share those memories, ideas, opinions, and stories with the whole family scattered all over the country.

There are dozens of people in the Kirkland area who have stories to tell and memories to share. They are the older people who live quietly among us and don't even think that their lives are important or interesting, or that their photos are of any use to anyone. Not true!

Collecting oral histories in the Kirkland area got a good start in 1993 when the city of Kirkland provided a grant to interview older residents. Lorraine McConaghy organized the project in which over 30 interviews were conducted.

Among those interviewed were: Al Leland, who was Mayor of Kirkland at one time, and instrumental in the development of highways on the Eastside; Don Watson whose family had a chicken farm above Houghton in the 1920's; Arlene Yarbrough, one of the few African Americans to live in Kirkland in the 1950's; Ruth Nelson, from a very early Juanita family; Jerry Marsh whose uncle built the Marsh Mansion on Lake Washington Boulevard; Orval Higginbotham,

who was a minor league baseball player for Kirkland's team, the K9's; and Dr. McKibben, family physician to so many Kirkland families. Many of the interviews from the original project are at the Kirkland library. Check them out and learn a little Kirkland history!

When that project ended, Lorraine and I agreed to co-chair the Oral History Committee of the Kirkland Heritage Society to continue collecting oral histories. At the present time we have about five members who are either conducting interviews or learning how to do so. In the last year we have added 5 more interviews, and have been given some remarkable photographs, especially of the Juanita area.

We are always looking for new members to help us collect as many interviews as possible. We have the names of many, many interesting people, but very few to interview them. We're happy to work with anyone who wants to learn how! Please join us at our meetings, or give me a call to see what we are doing!

The next meeting of the Oral History group will be on May 6, 1997 at 7:30 PM at the home of Paula Riggert: 130 - 13th in Kirkland. For directions, call Paula at 828-6103. For information about the group, call Christina Brugman at 821-3605.

Kirkland Historic Interpretive Markers!

We are working with the City on the preparation of text, photos and installation of 8 historic interpretive markers by August. The topics covered are:

- Kirkland Ferry Dock and the ferries
- Lowering Lake Washington / impact on Kirkland
- Moss Bay Park and adjacent downtown buildings
- Shumway Family and Mansion
- Peter Kirk's House - Fir Grove, and Family
- Marsh Mansion and Family
- Houghton History and Development.

Do you have any articles, photographs, reminiscences about any of these? We'd like some more personal history to include, so, if you do, please call Bob Burke at 827-6550. We need this information by May 1st in order to meet our production deadline! Thanks for your help!

CALENDAR

April 28, May 5, May 12
Historic Seattle Lecture Series:
Community Building Through Preservation. Call 622-6952.

April 29
AKCHO 9:30 am
The Seattle-Tacoma Interurban Railway. Tukwila Community Center. Wendy Morgan (206) 246-2165

April 30
KHS Board 5:30 pm
KHS Program 7 pm
 Alan Stein will do a presentation about the Kalakala.

MAY IS MUSEUM/HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

May 6
Oral History Meeting
7:30 pm
 Paula Riggert's house: 130-13th, Kirkland. Call Paula for directions, 828-6103. For Oral History information call Christina Brugman, 821-3605.

May 22 (Thursday)
Kirkland Historic Commission/ Heritage Society "20" Year Celebration!!
6:30 pm
 Kirkland Woman's Club, 407-1st Street. Pot Luck Dinner, RSVP Shannon Harris, 822-2478 or Barbara Loomis 827-7194. Come hear how the Kirkland Historic Commission first started. Meet and reminisce with some of the founders.
Elections.

May 27
AKCHO 9:30 am
Falls City Masonic Lodge Hall

Unless otherwise noted KHS meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Kirkland Congregational Church, 106-5th Ave., Kirkland.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

All of the current members of the Board have expressed a willingness to continue to serve the KHS and are hereby nominated for 1997-1999:

Bob Burke, President
Lynette Friberg, Secretary
Loita Hawkinson, At Large

The bylaws provide that additional nominations can be made at the April meeting and from the floor at the time of the election in May. In both cases, the person nominated has to indicate that they are willing to serve. The term of officers begins July 1, 1997.



EDITORS NOTES

BY

BARBARA LOOMIS

IT WASN'T UNTIL I WAS

PUTTING LABELS ON **Blackberry**

Preserves THAT I REALIZED THAT

MATT MCCAULEY HAS MOVED

TO BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

NOT BOSTON AS I STATED IN

LAST MONTHS BP. WE WOULD

STILL LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

MATT!

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you and welcome Melissa and Jeff Thirloway for your Supporting membership. We also welcome Frank Rosin as a new member.

I've included this form in BP so you can pass it along to family and friends who might be interested in joining KHS. I will invoice everyone in May/June for your annual renewal.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Special Introductory Offer \$5
April - June 30, 1997

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student | \$12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organization/Government | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional/Business | \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | \$250 |

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your membership is the first important step in helping achieve our goals. Interested in helping on other projects? Please indicate the areas in which you would be able to volunteer.

Serve on a Standing Committee:

- _____ Archives and Collections
- _____ Education and Research
- _____ Membership and Funding
- _____ Planning and Historic Sites
- _____ Monthly Programs

Work on specific activity:

- _____ Exhibit at Community Events
- _____ Home Tour
- _____ Do Photography/Update Slides
- _____ Install Original Street Name Signs
- _____ Video on Kirkland History
- _____ School Education Program

Name _____

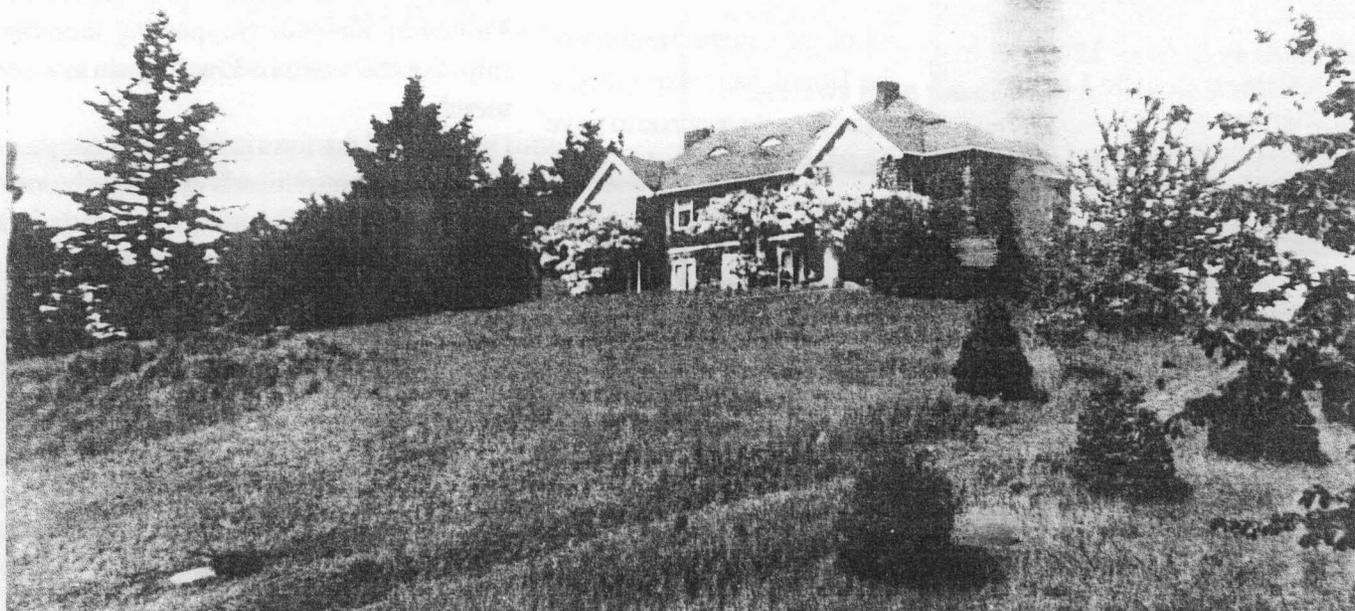
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home# _____ Work # _____

Organization/Firm _____

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
 Kirkland Heritage Society, 304 - 8th Ave. W.,
 Kirkland, WA 98033. Phone: (425) 827-7194



SHUMWAY MANSION

Built on Lake Washington Blvd. in 1910 by J.G. Bartsch for \$40,000!

Blackberry Preserves is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 304 - 8th Ave. West, Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. To contribute articles or for more information on KHS, please call Barbara Loomis, Editor, 827-7194.



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