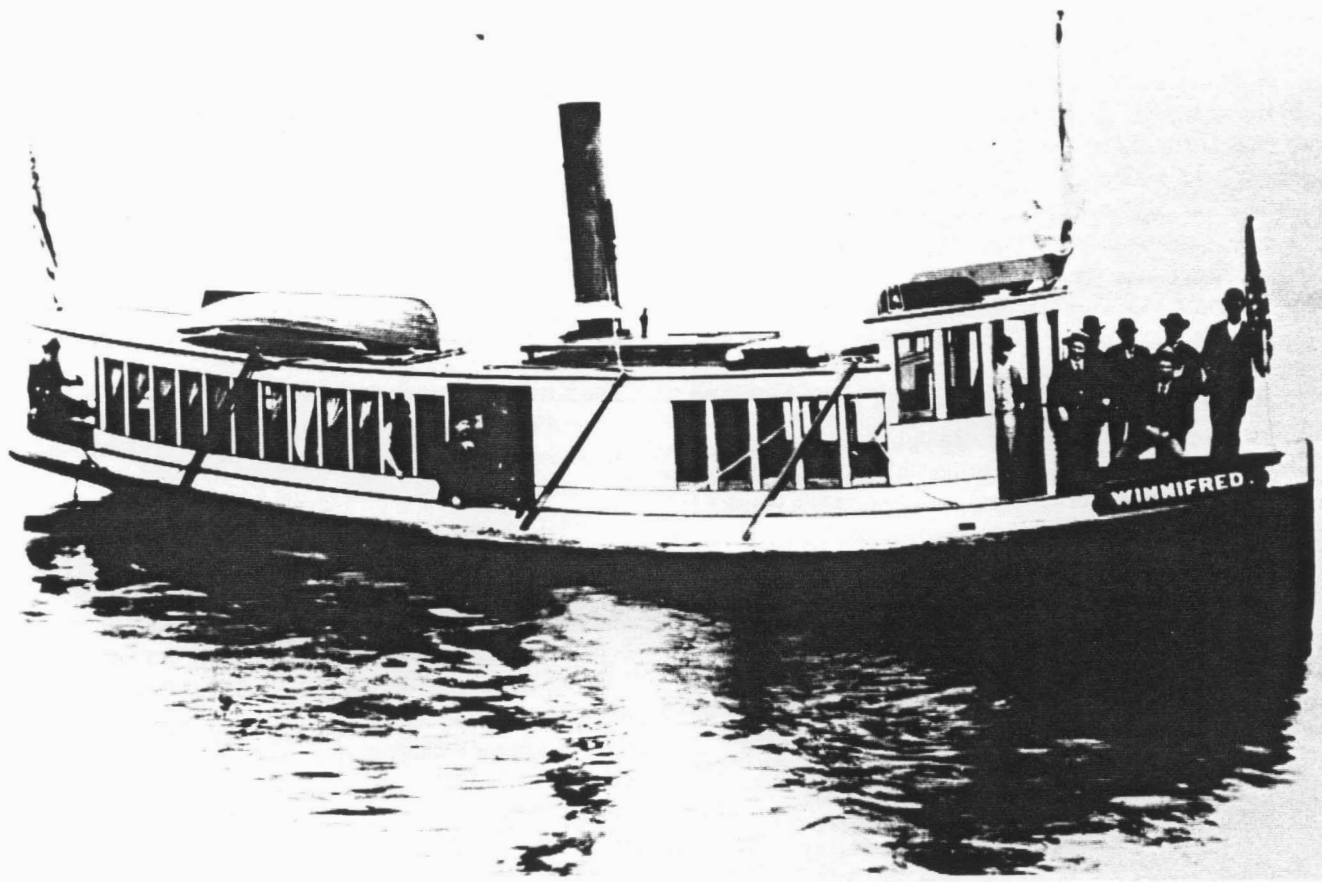


BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

THE JOURNAL OF
THE KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By
Barbara Loomis

For this Special Edition of Blackberry Preserves I would like to give you a little history of the Kirkland Heritage Society, formerly the Kirkland Historic Commission. The Kirkland Historic Commission was formed in 1976 by people who owned older homes in Kirkland. Initially, we got together to discuss how to renovate our homes. Most of us did all the work ourselves and we would pass along information about how to jack up our houses as well as the proper jacks to do it.

Then we expanded our efforts to the Community to tell them some of the history of Kirkland. We put on home tours and did research on the history of those homes. We collected photographs and produced a Walking Tour Brochure. The State Centennial was in 1989 and in conjunction with the Kirkland Woman's Club we did a tour of our 100 year old buildings. Then we rested for three years.

A number of factors led to the need to revive the Kirkland Heritage Society in 1992: The annexations of Rose Hill and Juanita; The number of people who don't realize the unique historic resources of Kirkland; and The Growth Management Act which has as one of the State wide goals is to "Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites and structures that have historical or archaeological significance."

We have monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of the month at the Kirkland Congregational Church at 7:00 PM. We have an educational segment at each meeting;

learning about such things as architectural styles, the history of Kirkland and Lake Washington and land use planning in Houghton. Committees report on the various activities to achieve our goals.

"The mission of the Kirkland Heritage Society is to identify historic resources; to encourage their preservation; to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret the history and heritage of Kirkland and its people; and to promote public involvement in and appreciation of its heritage and cultures."

The goals of the Kirkland Heritage Society are:

- ◆ To record historical data.
- ◆ To locate, designate and register historic sites, place names and structures.
- ◆ To work with city officials for the preservation of Kirkland's Historic Resources.
- ◆ To create and promote legislation for the preservation of historic sites.
- ◆ To encourage the private sector to acquire endangered sites and preserve them.
- ◆ To establish a repository to preserve and safely store artifacts, to provide accessibility to our local history, and.
- ◆ To publish a picture book with our historical photos.

The Kirkland Heritage Society relies on the support of our members to fund our goals and activities including the Blackberry Preserves Newsletter. As a member of the Kirkland Heritage Society you are an important part of an organization dedicated to the preservation and development of Kirkland's heritage. Help us to continue to educate, inform and advocate on behalf of Kirkland's architectural history and heritage resources. As a membership benefit of the Kirkland Heritage Society you will receive the Blackberry Preserves Newsletter each month. We do hope you'll enjoy this issue and join us soon.

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES is produced by the Kirkland Heritage Society, 304 8th Ave. W., Kirkland, WA 98033, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's heritage. Matthew W. McCauley, Editor. For more information call 823-6838.



Kirkland Waterfront—Circa 1900

The photo above was taken from a long wharf which extended from the bottom of Market Street. The view is facing east, where Kirkland Way and Lake Street intersect. The road winding up the hillside went all the way to Redmond.

The wharf with the false-fronted building on the at the right of the picture is the steamer dock. In order to accommodate large freight, it was much more elaborate than most of the other steamer landings of that time period—which were usually simple planks jutting out of the mud bank. The lake was nine feet higher then, and when it was lowered, in 1916, after the Lake Washington Ship Canal opened, much of the water on the left drained away exposing what is now the parking area at Marina Park. This steamer dock was replaced with one better suited to the double-ender car ferries that came later.

The sign atop the building in the center of the photo advertises Refund cigars for five cents and the building at the far left was the Kirkland Livery and Feed Stable.

This area was a landing well before the Kirk years, of the 1890's. It was originally settled by the DeMott family and was first known—logically—as DeMott's Landing. KHS member Jerry Marsh owns an artifact to be proud of. It is an 1880's-era canvas steamer freight bag with "DeMott's Landing" written on the outside.

Clearly, Kirklanders of the photo's era weren't concerned with waterfront parks. The shoreline was a working one and it resembled, on a smaller scale, that of Seattle during the same time period, complete with a small log raft, in front of the center building, waiting for transport to the mill.

When viewing this old scene, remember something important: There was no pile driver working the lake in those days. The pilings in the photo were driven the hard way. What looks like a wharf, at the left of the photo, is actually a road build on pilings over the water. It occupies the site of present-day Lake St.

This was a slow period for Kirkland, as is evidenced by the lack of waterfront activity. The steel mill had fizzled, several years earlier, and with it the dream of Kirkland becoming an important industrial center. Kirkland's waterfront did boast a woolen mill and a shingle mill (both out of the photo, they were behind the photographer) but those were peanuts compared to what had been planned, besides, shingle mills were a dime a dozen in those days.

Kirkland's location did help commerce at this time. Travelers bound for Seattle often stopped overnight, back in then it took two days to get to Seattle, from Redmond. The old Kirkland Hotel, on Lake Street and Kirkland Ave. and the Lake House, in Houghton, accommodated these weary travelers. Kirkland, of course, lacked the notorious 'box houses' and other, similar forms of waterfront 'entertainment' for which Seattle's shoreline was infamous (or famous, depending on your point of view). The Kirkland Hotel was said to have served excellent pie, though.

South of this photo, in Houghton, a small shipyard was beginning to grow. Slowly, at first, building small lake steamers. By World War One, thanks to a new canal, it would be building military ships and in the process employing Kirkland's labor force. So from the point of view of this photo, prosperity was just around the corner for Kirkland—at least until the Great Depression...—M.M.

KHS MEMBERS' FORUM

We never intended to live in Kirkland. In 1975, Dale and I were looking for an old home needing little, if any, remodeling. To avoid the toll bridge, we originally wanted to live in a family neighborhood, in Seattle. Housing was scarce and we were watching our modest down payment shrink as home prices skyrocketed.

One Friday morning our realtor called and said he was about to list an old home for a fragile, elderly woman. The house, he assured us, was everything we wanted—with nooks and crannies galore. The neighborhood was quiet with terrific schools and parks. Then the realtor said, sternly "...this house is in Kirkland and whatever you have against the bridge, Mrs. Hawkinson, you're wrong."

So Saturday morning we obediently headed for Kirkland, with five-year-old Fred in tow. We could only look over the gates at the house which was barely visible from the street. My husband, Dale, said he thought it looked like a lot of work and hated it. I thought it looked spooky and charming—I loved it. We called a temporary truce and went downtown and spent the day at Marina Park. Fred fed the ducks and played on the rocks. We bought chocolate stars at the candy counter at Richardson's Ben Franklin. We were falling in love with Kirkland.

That afternoon, as Dale drove slowly by the old home on 9th Ave. he said, "If there is a house inside that yard lets buy it."

So we moved to Kirkland in time for Fred to start first grade with Mrs. Meiser, at Peter Kirk. Carly also had Mrs. Meiser, seven years later. This is another reason we love Kirkland—people tend to stay here, giving the community a sense of continuity.

We enjoy Kirkland for the same reason we enjoy our home. It's the nooks and crannies. We tend to have one foot planted firmly in the past with just a cautious toe into the future. In the world that embraces conformity and shuns the free spirit, Kirkland allows Kirkland to follow their hearts.

To improve Kirkland I would like to see more of the older buildings preserved. People love the mix of the old and the new, but, unfortunately, because it is often cheaper to tear down the old and rebuild, we are losing our sense of yesterday. Before the first bridge was build across Lake Washington, Kirkland was an energetic town with a strong identity. I hate seeing the reminders of that time lost.—**Loita Hawkinson**

(Ed. Note: We thank Loita for her essay and encourage members' contributions.)

The Woodinville Historical Society and Peanut Butter Publishing, of Seattle, have just released Village in the Woods: Woodinville's Early Days 1870-1920, edited by Suzi Freeman, Gloria Kraft and Linda Packard. Based on a series of oral history interviews undertaken in the 1970's for the U.S. Bicentennial, the work is not merely a chronological listing of names and dates, but an engaging series of stories told by people who lived the experiences. Working the mills, riding log rafts downriver, visiting the resorts and dancehalls, remembering the steamboats and railroads, recounting the tragedies and relating the simple pleasures of small town living are just a few of the memorable facets of Woodinville history included in the book. Excerpts from the oral histories are entertainingly interwoven with historic photos, vintage clippings from period newspapers and historical narratives. The overall result is a book which successfully captures the essence of village life in the early years and a valuable addition to the history of the eastside. The cost is \$14.95.

EDITORIAL OPINION

Cemetery House Decision
A Win-Win

Mai Maki reported in a July 4 *Journal American* story that the city of Kirkland has agreed to an arrangement with the Blakemore family, giving them the 1923 craftsman bungalow that served for decades as the caretaker's residence at the Kirkland Cemetery. The house was slated for demolition to make way for the planned cemetery expansion.

According to the story, the Blakemores will move the house to property they are buying on NE 112th, in Juanita, near A.G. Bell Elementary School. They plan to enlarge the 950 square foot home with a basement to about 2,000 square feet.

Marshall and Julie Blakemore run the Shumway Mansion with her parents, Salli and Dick Harris. The families moved the 10,000 square foot mansion to Juanita from Kirkland in 1985, perhaps the most photographed Kirkland event in recent memory.

The apparent end to the controversy over the caretaker's house's fate demonstrates that a win-win is often possible in cases like these. Clearly, the city of Kirkland acted in the best interests of the community by allowing the structure to survive. The decision should be applauded and we hope this positive attitude towards the importance of preserving our community's historic resources continues to prevail in similar, future cases. This illustrates a cost-free way for the city to buy an enormous amount of goodwill. Bravo city of Kirkland.

We also salute the Blakemores for setting a great example. We hope they save some money and enjoy their new old home.

(The opinions expressed are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the KHS)

**HISTORIC LANDMARK
DESIGNATION
By
Barbara Loomis**

There is some confusion as to what it means to be listed as an Historic Landmark. There are different designations depending on where the property is and how significant it is. Kirkland has an Historic Landmark Overlay Zone; King County (in unincorporated areas), has King County Landmark Designation; and then there is State and/or National Register designation. Through a series of articles I will try to clarify the different designations.

We can't determine any significance without first having a criteria. The National Register of Historic Places provides the basic criteria that other jurisdictions vary to suit their needs. The following criteria are designed to guide the states and the Secretary of the Interior in evaluating potential entries to the National Register:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and:

1. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
2. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
3. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
4. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes,

structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance with the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

1. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
2. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
3. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his/her productive life; or
4. a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
5. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
6. a property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historic significance; or
7. a property achieving significance with the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

The City of Kirkland and King County both have a 40 year criteria instead of 50 year.

Next month we will look at some of the most often asked questions about Landmark Designation:

- ◆ Can I paint my house whatever color I want?
- ◆ How much money can I get to restore my house?

Kirkland's historical society emerges from three-year hiatus

By Mai Maki
Journal American Staff Writer

Many people have difficulty with the notion that something younger than they are can be historically valuable.

That's the biggest challenge for Barbara Loomis as she revives Kirkland's historical society after a three-year hiatus.

The Kirkland Heritage Society began meeting in the fall to once again provide a voice for preservationists and to organize educational campaigns to share Kirkland's rich history with the general public.

Although few residents recognize the historical qualities of the buildings and places that surround them, Kirkland is probably the most historically rich Eastside city, Loomis said.

"There's been a tremendous influx of new people to Kirkland and a lot of them have no idea what a historical town we have," Loomis said. "A lot of Kirkland's charm is defined by its historical houses and buildings, not just the lakes and parks."

"The more you know about your community and its history, the better care you will take of it," she said.

Those curious about local history have few sources to turn to, Loomis said. The city's only historical survey, *Our Founding Fathers* by Arline Ely, is out of print.

LOOMIS' BACKGROUND is in historical preservation. Eighteen years ago she and her husband bought one of Kirkland's few fine examples of intact Queen Anne-style architecture. The couple restored the 1889 Market Street home and secured a spot for it on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

The house needed a lot of work, and Loomis became active in the Kirkland Historic Commission to get and give tips on do-it-yourself preservation. The commission had about 25 members then, many of them stay-at-home mothers who made careers of fixing up their houses.

Eventually, though, the women finished their houses, their children grew up, and many went back to work. The historical commission eventually went dormant after its workload became too much for the dwindling membership.

The new Heritage Society, with

about 35 participants, sees itself as a continuation of the commission, even though there isn't much overlap in membership.

The society's projects include putting together an inexpensive book of Kirkland's historical photos; operating educational booths

at community fairs; writing, printing and distributing free pamphlets on self-guided walking tours around the city; reviving the city's old street names from the times of Peter Kirk and including them on the numbered signs; and honoring people who

have preserved the historical integrity of their homes and properties.

The Heritage Society meets monthly and publishes a monthly newsletter, *Blackberry Preserves*. For more information, contact Loomis at 827-7194.

This article originally appeared in the June 23, 1993 issue of the *JOURNAL-AMERICAN*. Reprinted with their permission.



Andrea Marchese/Journal American

Barbara Loomis is working to make the Kirkland Heritage Society an important element in the city's cultural landscape. She has refurbished the interior and exterior of her historic home.

KHS MEMBER PROFILE

THIS MONTH: LAURA WESTLUND



Laura Westlund

If you live in Kirkland, chances are good that Laura Westlund knows your house—she may have even sold it during her 30-year career as a realtor specializing in Kirkland's older and historic homes—longer than any other Kirkland realtor.

Laura, a KHS member since its old Kirkland Historic Commission days, says the older homes are a large part of what makes Kirkland a special community. "People really like what the older homes east and west of Market St. have to offer. They can walk downtown and do things and a lot of the eastside—like Bellevue—can't say that. Most of the calls coming in to my office are from people looking for something from the 1920's, or older, near downtown Kirkland." But she cautions that demand is high and buyers need to be aware of pitfalls.

Laura said she has seen "hundreds" of Realtors come and go from the Kirkland area, in the last 30 years, but said she attributes some of her success to her intimate knowledge of this market. Among local Realtors, she is often consulted as the authority on Kirkland's homes. She seems to be able to recite information about nearly any Kirkland house one you name, as though she is discussing an old friend. She said showing the tract homes in other communities is easier because the houses are so similar, but Kirkland's older homes are like individuals and her experience pays off in helping her clients get the most for their homes. She points to recent sales where the Realtors lack of knowledge about the older home market cost their clients \$10-15,000. "Older homes in Kirkland account for 90 percent of my business," she said.

Because the homes are so different, she said she hesitates to give an average price. For the most part, she said the market diversity is reflected in a

rough \$123,000-475,000 price range. She said several "booms" have caused prices to rise significantly, and that the demand for these homes is much greater than the supply—especially for the 1800's vintage Kirk-era homes.

She said the really historic homes only show up on the market every few years, since their owners "tend to hang on to them." People such as Barbara and Chuck Loomis, who have owned their magnificent 1889 home for 20 years and don't plan to sell any time soon, reflect the common sentiment of historic home owners. She said these homes usually sell "in a day or two on the market."

According to Laura, these neighborhoods reflect an "eclectic mix" of residents, which adds to their desirability for home buyers. But she says there is something for everyone. She said many people choose to live in Kirkland simply because of its historic homes and flavor.

Her knowledge of local history has helped her, too; she said most people are very interested in their home's past, and she has helped many of her customers learn about theirs—beyond the sketchy, dry facts provided by title company records. Her vast experience and market knowledge also helps customers avoid potential money pits but she still stresses the importance of a good structural inspection when buying an older home.

She said older homes are often better investments than newer, comparably priced homes. Right now, she said, the market is brisk, with a good inventory and homes usually selling within a month of being listed. She attributes this market to good inventory and the current low interest rates.

Laura has owned numerous properties in Kirkland, herself, including older homes. She also built and owned the Kona-Tiki and Mai-Tai apartments, on Market St.. She said she chose those names since, at that time, so many apartment names sounded alike to her. She found the names in Trader Vic's drink menu, knowing they would not be confused with other buildings.

Conscious of her reputation in the community, she is very discerning in choosing associate agents who work through her office. She said she has two working there now, but will expand to as many as five. She said, "I don't care if my business is large, I want caring, quality people. That's what it takes to last in Kirkland. I don't want someone who is here today and gone tomorrow, I'm very selective."

Whatever she is doing must be working, she has listed and sold several homes three or more times over her career and her clients are very loyal, with most returning to her for their next home.

Laura's office is located at 1320 Market St. and her business number is 827-4916. Anyone considering buying or selling a home in the area—of any era—should definitely take advantage of her experience and Kirkland-market expertise.—M.M.

THE YEARS IN YOUR EARS

By
Alan Stein

(This column provides a fictional conversation from Kirkland's past based on Alan's research for the Kirkland History Project .)

August, 1946

"Tommy, quit poking Mary Kay; and fix your shirt Stevie, it's hanging out. Would you look at all these people! I haven't seen this much celebration since the war ended! Oh look, honey, way over there! It's Bob and Ellen. HEY! HEY BOB!"

"Mom, I gotta go. I told Gloria that I'd meet her up at the church."

"Well you can at least say hi to Bob and Ellen, can't you?"

"Aw, gee Mom! I told her I wouldn't be late this time!"

"Oh, let the boy go Louise. We'll catch up with you later, son. Geez Louise, was I that jittery when we were dating? It's been so long that I can't remember. Hi Bob, Ellen. Oh, Stevie had to run off to see his girlfriend. He's taking her to the street dance and carnival later tonight, but he's gotta see her today, too. Where do these kids get the energy?"

"My, Ellen, that dress looks so nice on you. I wish I'd looked as good carrying my babies as you do carrying yours. Why, when Stevie was on the way, I...."

"MOM!! TOMMY CALLED ME A PIGGY!"

"I DID NOT!"

"Yeah he did, Ma! I was over there talking to Laura, and you know she's in the swimming races with me, and Tommy came up, and he asked us what we were talking about, and I said that I was talking about the races, and he asked me if I were in the swimming races, and I said yeah, and he said that I must be swimming in the ones with the pigs!"

"Tommy! Did you say that?"

"Nooooo..."

"Don't you lie to me young man! Now apologize to your sister. And Mary Kay, why don't we meet you and your friend down at the park?"

"Hey Bob, what do you think about those pig races? I told Louise we should watch it from somewhere where we could get on the newsreels. I tell ya, I never thought it would take a bunch of swimming farm animals to get kirkland on coast-to-coast radio and all the theatres. What a world! Did you hear how they came up with the idea for the races? Somebody read somewhere that when they were doing those A-bomb tests on Bikini Island, they found a bunch of pigs swimming way offshore, and they were surprised to find out that they took so well to water. I don't see what the big deal is, though. You could tie my hands and feet, and strap a grand piano to my back, and if you dropped a bomb in my backyard I'd swim like a bat outta Hell, too!"

"Henry! Watch your mouth. You know little pitchers...." So tell me Ellen, who got your vote for Festival Queen? We voted for Jean Lund. I know her family and she's such a pretty girl. I sure hope she wins."

"I hope I win! Not the contest--the car! Every vote we cast increased my chances of winning that '46 Chevy. I've been driving my old jalopy since before the war and you wouldn't believe how much wear and tear three kids can put on an auto."

"TOMMY! Stay away from that dog! OH, now look at you! We're not even here fifteen minutes and you already look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Henry, I've got to go find someplace to clean him up. Why don't you come with, Ellen? Henry, we'll meet up with you and Bob at the races. Tommy, I don't know how many times I've told you...."

"Kids! Y'see what you've got to look forward to? I tell ya, Bob, in about 10 years you're gonna look back to when you were fighting your way across Europe and you're probably gonna feel a bit of wistful nostalgia. Ah, I'm just kiddin'. Hey, I think we've got time to grab a couple beers before the race. Lets go."

Football at the Central School: 1917



News Briefs

Kirkland First Baptist Church recently purchased two large, mounted aerial photographs of downtown Kirkland, dating from 1932 and 1956. They are of high quality and allow clear identification of buildings and features. The 1932 shot depicts the lumberyard and wharf at the foot of Market St. as well as the woolen mill near Waverly and 4th St. W and the pilings from the shingle mill on the lake at the end of 2nd St. W. The 1956 view shows a run down ferry slip and much of the World War Two structures, and fuel tanks. The photos will be on display in the church, which originally formed in Houghton, 103 years ago. Mrs. Betty Wigen, of Juanita, a long-time church member, said Kirkland First Baptist Church originated from a group of missionaries sent from Seattle to the eastside to work with the Indians living here. She is checking into the existence of 1800's-era records from those missions.

KHS members enlarged and mounted 12 historic photos for display at the Kirkland Festival of the Arts. Also mounted were two maps, one of Kirkland with the old street names and the second was the recently acquired Ruth Nelson, "Juanita Remember When" map of Juanita c. 1900-1918. KHS hopes to use these materials in future displays and presentations.

Local journalist Andrew Tarica, of *The Kirkland Courier*, has traveled east for an historical vacation/adventure. Andrew is re-tracing the old Mullen Military Road from Fort Benton to Fort Walla-Walla. He extensively researched the old path using historic maps and journals and said he plans to write a story for *Blackberry Preserves* about his experiences and discoveries. Coincidentally, the route takes him past some prime fishing areas...Hmmm.

The COVER: JOHN ANDERSON And The *WINNIFRED*

John Anderson never lived in Kirkland.

We never named any streets or parks after this Swedish immigrant, yet he left an indelible mark on Kirkland's history and gave its people much more than the old ferry clock at the end of Kirkland Ave. With the *Winnifred*, Anderson first realized the American Dream, a dream that eventually evolved into a small empire on Lake Washington and employment for hundreds of Kirklanders.

John Anderson was 20 years old and had only \$20 to his name when he hit the dock in Seattle, in 1888. By that time, he had already spent six years at sea. He became ill on an Atlantic crossing and his ship left him behind when it sailed home. After he recovered, he signed on an American vessel, sailed around the horn, and stayed ashore when he decided he liked Puget Sound country.

At that time, there were few steamboats on the lake, but a young developer, named C.C. Calkins, was building a grand hotel and planned community--East Seattle--on Mercer Island. Calkins had just built the sleekest, fastest steamer on the lake, the *C.C. Calkins* Anderson signed on as a deckhand and, with Anderson's deep sea experience, Calkins was happy to hire him.

Things went well for Anderson, but not for Calkins who, like Peter Kirk, suffered irrevocably in the 1893 Financial Panic. Anderson gained boiler experience and eventually sat for his master's license. He worked hard on the *Calkins*. He learned the lake and was well-liked by the settlers living in the tiny villages along its shore.

Anderson saved his money and when Calkins had to sell his boat, the new owners asked Anderson to become her master. The new owners soon lost the boat, however, and the *Calkins* was finally laid up, at Houghton. But, by that time Anderson had saved enough money to buy his own lake steamer, and he and a partner bought the 52' propeller *Winnifred*. In the cover photo, Anderson is seen on the bow, second from the left, just outside of the wheel house.

Anderson married young Emilie Matson, the pretty daughter of a Seattle machinist. The two bought a modest home, near Leschi, in 1895.

Anderson operated his boat all over the lake and into Lake Sammamish, via the slough. He hauled freight and passengers and made good money connecting with stage routes. He saved his earnings and bought a second boat, the *Quickstep* and began building and buying more.

Prior to 1916, the lake was nine feet higher than its present level. Back then, the Black River drained the lake and fed into the Duwamish River, which flowed into Puget Sound. During times of

high water, it was possible--but difficult--to bring boats up the rivers into the lake (this was all well before the Chittendan locks were built). Anderson brought more boats into the lake via the rivers than anyone else.

People built boats near the Curtis property, in Houghton at today's Carillon Point, since the 1880's. In 1901, Captains Bartsch and Tompkins developed a primitive shipyard there, which employed about 12 men.

Anderson consolidated with the captains in 1907 and the yard became the Anderson Shipbuilding Company, with Anderson as president. He brought the payroll up to 30 employees, which came as a shot in the arm to Kirkland/Houghton. The first boat they built was the *Atlanta*, designed to haul tourists around the lake in addition to regular routes. (NOTE: *The Atlanta was christened in 1908 by Alicia Stewart Forbes, KHS member Dorris Forbes Beecher's mother.*)

The shipyard began turning out more of these elegant boats in anticipation of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. He also operated several lakeshore parks, including Atlanta Park, near the shipyard. Customers rode his steamers to the parks for dances and picnics. His nephew, the late Capt. Robert Matson, told me, in 1980, that Anderson made more money from the excursion side of his business than he did from regular steamer/ferry service or the shipyard. All of his endeavors seemed to put money into Kirkland bank accounts and food on Kirkland/Houghton tables.

Anderson boats were often named from mythology, including: *Cyrene, Xanthus, Fortuna, and Urania.*

With the newly opened ship canal, Anderson began constructing ocean-going vessels, launching the first, the *Osprey* in 1918. By that time the yard employed about 400 local men.

Anderson went on to sell his interests in the yard in 1923, and by then it was also turning out double ender car ferries for use on the lake and the sound. Successful in business, he went on to run the Lake Washington ferrys for the state of Washington. He operated them at a loss, but it was a much smaller loss than when the state had run the boats themselves.

The Murrow floating bridge, from Seattle to Mercer Island, opened in 1940 and eliminated all but the Kirkland-Madison Park ferry routes.

Capt. Anderson died in May, 1941. Emilie continued to manage the ferry run until 1948, when she turned it over to the city of Kirkland. His nephew, Capt. Matson, master of the *Leschi* made the final Kirkland-Madison Park ferry run in 1950.

Without Anderson's efforts providing employment and transportation, Kirkland might have had a very different history.--M.M.

MINUTES: JUNE 30 MEETING

The June 30 meeting started at 7 p.m. at the Kirkland Congregational Church. Barbara Loomis opened the meeting and those attending signed in.

Because the May meeting was a potluck social and tour of the 1889 Loomis home, minutes were not taken. The current membership roster was distributed and new members Jenine Heitz and Dorris Forbes Beecher were welcomed.

Treasurers Report: Laura Westlund reported that the balance of the savings account is \$4300, with \$457.08 in checking.

Newsletter: The July edition of *Blackberry Preserves* will be distributed at the Kirkland Arts Festival on July 10 and 11. Additional copies will be printed. Any contributions need to be ready by July 7.

Kirkland Art Festival Booth: KHS will staff a booth at the Kirkland Arts Festival, July 10 and 11. The purpose of the booth is to promote public awareness of KHS and the value of Kirkland's history to the community. Membership brochures will be distributed to the public. Discussion followed as to what types of items, maps, and photos will be displayed at the booth. The items being offered for sale (i.e. Sarsaparilla, pinwheels, wooden nickles) will maintain the theme of promoting nostalgia and the prices will be low. An overnight stay at the Shumway Mansion will be raffled. Matt McCauley, Alan Stein and Melanie Pate will work on enlarging photos for the display. A sign-up sheet was passed around for shifts at the festival.

Rose Hill School: Copies of the "Historic Property Inventory Form" for the property located at 122nd Ave. NE and NE 90th St. were distributed. This form identifies the age of the structure, type of construction and style of architecture as determined by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, in Olympia. This property is for sale and the building is scheduled for demolition in August.

Program: Susan Busch presented "The History of land Use in Houghton." She recently completed her Master in Architecture and Urban Design Degree, at the University of Washington. Susan now teaches at the UW and is a KHS member. The program traced houghton as a community whose growth was influenced by its relationship to Lake Washington and the economic needs of its

inhabitants. Susan's talk and maps were very interesting.

Scheduled Meetings:

Arts Festival Meeting, 7/6, Loomis home.
Board Meeting, 7/13, 7 p.m., Loomis home.
General Meeting, 7/28, 7 p.m. Kirkland Congregational Church.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Transcribed by Patricia Stupfel, KHS Secretary

**Membership in
The
Kirkland Heritage Society**

I would like to join those working to
save the heritage of Kirkland.

Corporate Membership \$250.00
 Professional Membership \$125.00
 Sustaining/Supporting \$100.00
 Family Membership \$ 25.00
 Individual Membership \$ 20.00
 Senior / Student \$ 10.00

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME# _____ WORK# _____
FAX# _____

I would like to make an additional
contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Checks should be made payable to:
The Kirkland Heritage Society
304 - 8th Ave. West
Kirkland, Washington 98033
(206) 827-7194



An 1890's vintage Kirkland Land Company Business card.

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY
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Kirkland, WA
98034