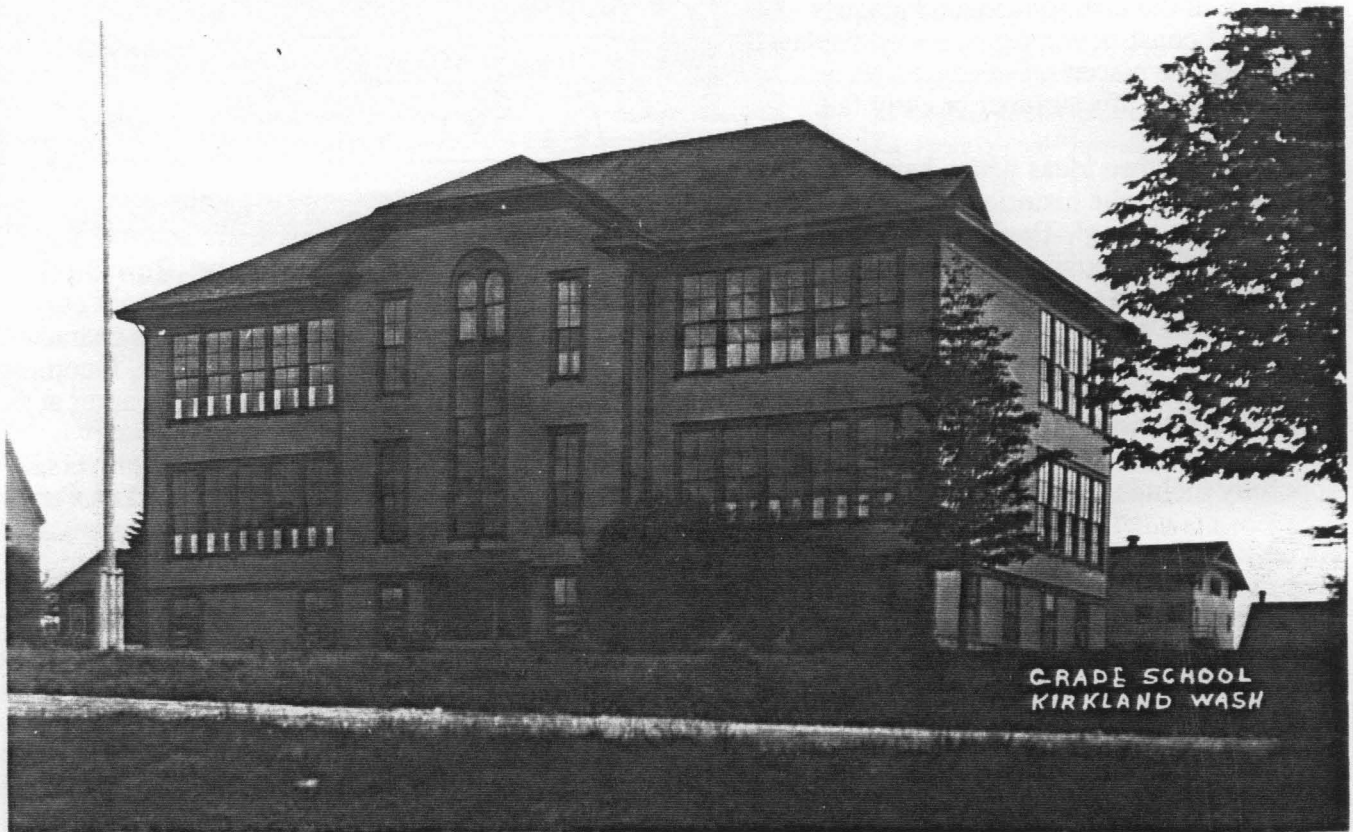


# Blackberry Preserves

The Journal of the  
Kirkland Heritage Society



GRADE SCHOOL  
KIRKLAND WASH

## Central School

Built in 1905 by J.G. Bartsch  
Present Site of Kirkland City Hall



**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**  
by  
**Bob Burke**

As you will see when you read this issue of the *Blackberry Preserves*, a lot is going on in KHS right now! During this next year the visibility of historic structures in Kirkland and KHS will increase significantly. The printing of the new Historic Walking Tour Brochure is scheduled for later this spring; 6 to 8 historic interpretive markers should begin to be installed this summer; and more of the distinctive wood plaques with the date of construction prominently displayed should also be placed on selected sites around the City, hopefully this summer or early fall.

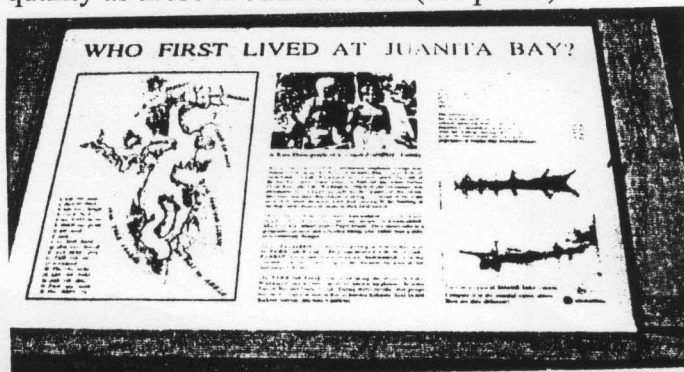
It is exciting when ideas which have been around a while, such as the historic interpretive markers, suddenly get going! **Paul Hoerlein**, then a member of the Kirkland Parks Board attended a KHS meeting last year when the idea was first presented - he said he would talk to **Lynn Stokesbary**, Parks Director, and suggested I follow up. I did. Now, thanks to **Richard Jamison**, President, **Kirkland Rotary** we have been able to initiate the program to hopefully include 6 - 8 markers this year!

As we complete the inventory of potential historic sites in Kirkland, we will be initiating another membership effort. We have also identified a large number of bungalows built in the 1910's and 20's. Last year one of our most successful monthly programs was on Bungalows. We are thinking that we should now develop a special workshop with 3 or 4 sessions (probably with a nominal charge) dealing with: researching your home's history; assistance in identifying the architectural characteristics; information on remodeling and restoration; and resources for materials and furnishings.

If you feel such a program would be of value, please call me. The Board will be meeting in the next month to discuss future programs and efforts in 1997. If there is enough interest we may try to do it this fall. Please call me at -- 827-6550 (o) or 828-4095 (h).

**INTERPRETIVE MARKER PROGRAM  
STARTING TO TAKE SHAPE  
THANKS!!  
KIRKLAND ROTARY  
and  
KIRKLAND PARKS AND  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

For about a year we have been discussing the idea of expanding the City's interpretive marker program to include 15 to 20 additional historical markers. These are proposed to be the same high quality as those in Juanita Park (see photo).

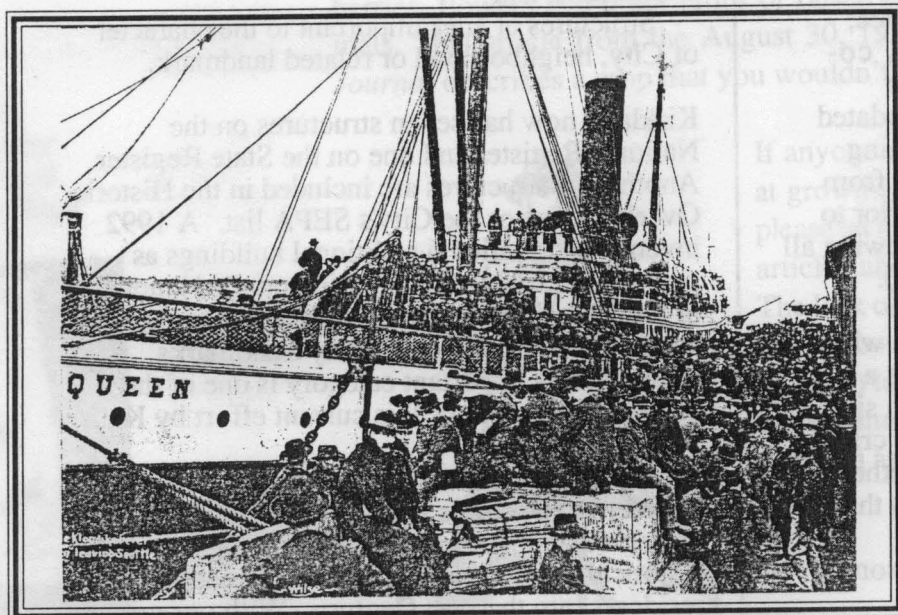


Last year **Barbara Loomis and Bob Burke** spoke at a Kirkland Rotary meeting about our history and its importance to the City's character. A discussion with **Richard Jamison**, incoming President, led to their idea to place a marker at the entrance to the City Ferry dock in downtown Kirkland to commemorate their 60th anniversary which will be celebrated this August. The City of Kirkland also is going to install interpretive markers on the new pump station adjacent to Marina Park. The new Shumway condominium on Lake Washington Boulevard on the site of the Shumway mansion is also going to install two markers. We have had conversations with others who have expressed interested in participating. The KHS Board will be considering whether to place a marker along Waverly Way across from the location of Peter Kirk's home - our KHS Symbol.

A committee will be meeting with **Marc Connelly and Mark Johnston**, Kirkland Parks Department, to identify the themes, select appropriate text and photographs and to get the markers in place as soon as possible. If you are interested in working on this or would like to find out more about being a sponsor of an interpretive marker, please call Bob Burke - 827-6550 (o) or 828-4095 (h).

KHS FEBRUARY PROGRAM

KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH CENTENNIAL



*KLONDIKE FEVER, by ANDERS BEER WILSE*  
 Argonauts and their supplies going aboard the steamship  
 "Queen" on the Seattle Waterfront, c. 1898  
 MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND INDUSTRY PHOTO

Reed Jarvis, Chairman of the Klondike Gold Rush Centennial Committee of Washington State will present a program on the celebration of the Klondike Gold Rush Centennial in 1997 and 1998. The presentation includes a slide show which utilizes historical photographs, and explains the significance and impacts of the Gold Rush and an overview of the activities that are being planned for the Centennial.

Kirkland Congregational Church, 106 - 5th Avenue, 7 PM February 26.

*"Cultural resources are physical entities with qualities such as mass, color, and texture, some which express historical or cultural associations...it is the ability to connect one generation to another that gives them their most valued attribute: an inherent capacity to mold and reinforce our identities as social creatures."*

Cultural Resource Management Guideline  
 NPS-28, Chapter 1.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you Jeanne & Hilbert Bartels for your continued Sustaining/Supporting Membership

Members are the lifeblood of the organization. We need members for operational money, program attendance, and volunteers. We now have 85 members but would like more so we are now offering a special half year rate!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Special Half Year Rate  
 Now - June 30, 1997

- Individual \$10
- Family \$13
- Senior/Student \$5
- Sustaining/Supporting \$50
- Life Member \$1,000
- Organization/Government \$50
- Professional/Business \$63
- Corporate \$125

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: (206) 827-7194

**SURVEY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
FOR  
KIRKLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The Planning and Historic Sites Committee, **Lynette Friberg and Velda Wilson**, co-chairs, is working to complete a list to be attached as an Appendix to Kirkland's updated Comprehensive Plan. After the two training sessions last fall, we received a print-out from King County listing all structures built prior to 1957. We have placed a priority on reviewing all properties built prior to 1947 (fifty years).

This list includes nearly 1,650 properties which are over 50 years in age. Although age is a threshold criteria for evaluating whether a site may have historic potential, it is only one criteria; others include the architectural style, whether the building has been remodeled to the extent that it no longer has integrity, and whether it is associated with events or the lives of persons significant to our past.

We have broken down these sites by decade and will be compiling them by each of Kirkland's neighborhoods. The initial analysis shows the following age pattern. Structures built:

- Prior to 1900                    51
- 1901 - 1910                    62
- 1911 - 1920                    399
- 1921 - 1930                    302
- 1931 - 1940                    406
- 1941 - 1947                    424

Not all of these structures will meet the criteria to be included on the list of structures designated as having historic significance to Kirkland. At the present time KHS has identified some 357 structures with potential significance; however with this additional data it is likely that this list will expand by 90 to 100 structures. After the preliminary visual survey of these structures is complete, we will review it with the neighborhood associations. Once this is done, the Board of the Kirkland Heritage Society will act on the recommendation of the Planning and Historic Sites Committee as to which buildings should be recommended to the City.

The final list will be prioritized based on their relative historic importance (some already are designated or identified as having the potential for historic register designation):

- National Register of Historic Places;
- State Register of Historic Places;
- Kirkland Register of Community Landmarks; and
- Structures or sites important to the character of City, neighborhood or related landmark.

Kirkland now has seven structures on the National Register and one on the State Register. Another 12 structures are included in the Historic Overlay Zone or the City's SEPA list. A 1992 inventory identified 6 additional buildings as potentially eligible for inclusion on the National or State Registers. The City does not currently have a Register of Community Landmarks. Initiating this important category is one of the primary objectives of this current effort by KHS.

Kirkland is blessed with a rich history and a number of structures and sites which, if preserved and interpreted, will provide a historical context for the community and its residents into the 21st Century. With our growth and increasing pressure for development we are in danger of loosing those assets which make us unique as a community and provide such a high quality of life and community character.

A second aspect of this effort is to identify another 15 to 20 of the most outstanding and representative community landmarks on which to place plaques. Plaques were placed on 20 structures by the Kirkland Historic Commission. This will increase the visibility of historic sites throughout the City and its neighborhoods.

**BOARD ELECTION RESULTS**

The election of members of the Kirkland Heritage Society Board took place at the January Membership meeting. A quorum was present, no nominations were made from the floor and the following people were elected unanimously:

- **Lynette Friberg**, Secretary;
- **Barbara Loomis**, Communication Officer;
- **Christina Brugman**, At-Large Position.

All of these officers will serve until the term of the person they replaced is complete and then they will be eligible to run again.

**Congratulations!!  
Thank you for agreeing to serve!**

TALES OF THE EASTSIDE JOURNAL

by  
Alan J. Stein

Most of us know that during the Great Depression, many Kirkland residents supplemented their income through agriculture. Many residents grew berries, flowers and other crops or raised chickens and other farm animals. This article from the August 30, 1934 edition of *The East Side Journal* describes a crop that you wouldn't expect in the Northwest.



If anyone can remember these attempts at growing "Virginia Weed" in the area please let me know. I have found no other articles about it in the old newspapers. The lack of reported success and the fact that I haven't seen packs of *Kirkland Kools* in local supermarkets leads me to believe that tobacco growing didn't quite catch on as a profitable East Side investment.

**Eastside Ranchers Raise Tobacco Crops**  
: : *Plants Six Feet Tall* : :  
**Virginia Weed Does Well on Local Soil**

Eastside housewives, who have literally cursed the existence of tobacco when their husbands and guests have ignored numerous ash trays and coated rugs and other household furnishings with unsightly ashes, will perhaps be disgusted to know that the tobacco plant does very well in Kirkland, and on the Eastside.

Several Eastside ranchers have reported fine condition of their experimental tobacco crops. A. E. Walker, of Houghton, reports a crop of what he believes to be Burley tobacco. He has fifty-two plants, and almost every plant is over six feet tall. At the top, like some cultivated garden plant, a huge cluster of bluish-pink bell-like flowers bloom.

Walker started growing the tobacco from seed two years ago. The first time he tried he had no results. But the second time, with the assistance of a Japanese nursery man, his at-

tempt was a success.

The Houghton rancher, formerly a resident of Arkansas tobacco region, plans to keep, himself in cigars, cigarettes and smoking tobacco over the winter. Walker did admit, however, that the cigars he has made so far have been rather strong tasting—in fact, one burned the end of his tongue.

Another Eastsider to grow the plant successfully is Floyd Croft of Medina. Croft has been growing tobacco quite extensively on his Medina property and has had good results with it.

According to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, tobacco flourishes over wide areas, but it is best suited to a region having a mean temperature of not less than 40 degrees, and where autumn frosts do not occur. The plant requires rich and abundant fertilizer as it quickly exhausts the soil, and the soil has a great bearing as to the quality of the tobacco.

**CALENDAR**

**February 25**

**AKCHO 9:30 AM**

Brainstorming panel on AKCHO at the Center for Wooden Boats.

**February 26**

**KHS Board 6 PM**

**KHS Program 7 PM**

The role Seattle played in the **Klondike Gold Rush** will be presented in slides by Reed Jarvis of the Klondike Gold Rush Centennial Committee of Washington State.

**February 27**

**Oral History Meeting  
7:30 PM**

Inge Theisen's house: 12231-95th Place NE, Kirkland. For information call Christina Brugman, 821-3605.

**March 8**

**KHS Board/Committee  
Workshop**

This is tentative, time and place to be announced at our Feb. 26 meeting.

**March 25**

**AKCHO 9:30 AM**

Viewing the new exhibit at the Nordic Heritage Museum.

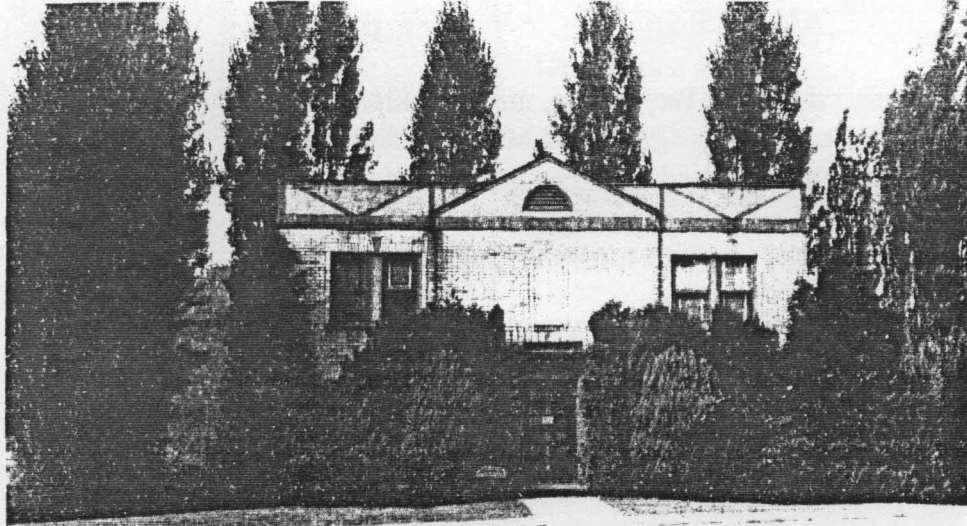
**March 26**

**KHS Board 6 PM**

**KHS Program 7 PM**

**Dr. Ernest McKibben** will make a presentation on the early days of Kirkland's History.

*KHS meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month at 7 PM, at the Kirkland Congregational Church, 106-5th Ave, Kirkland.*



## KIRKLAND HOSPITAL

KIRKLAND AVENUE AT THIRD STREET

PHONE Kirkland 1001

From the EASTSIDE DIRECTORY, 1947

**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.



Kirkland Heritage Society

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