

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	King
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 14 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Creative Arts League Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Peter Kirk Building *use this*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
620 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Kirkland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#2 - Honorable Lloyd Meeds

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Washington	98033	King	033
	53		

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: (Specify) <u>art studies</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Creative Arts League

STREET AND NUMBER:
620 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Kirkland

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
King County Auditor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Seattle

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

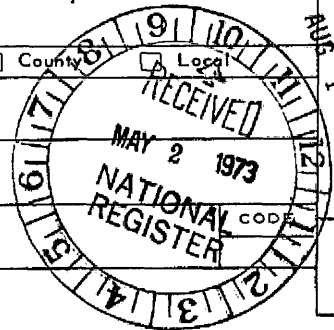
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	King
ENTRY NUMBER:	14 1973
DATE:	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed in 1891, the Creative Arts League Building is composed of red brick and stands two storeys high. Despite being occupied by many different businesses over the years, the exterior of the building has remained unchanged. The building stands on a sloping lot and is basically a flat square structure.

A double-door main entrance is located in the northwest corner under the turret. A fan is located directly above the doorway and a semi-elliptical compound arch surrounds the entire entrance. The turret has a finial on top, arcature directly below the eaves, and three double-hung bay windows with eyebrows.

The north side of the building has a parapet with entablature located just below the roofline. The second-storey windows on this side of the building are part of an arcade with the exception of one window which is separated from the others. All the second-storey windows are double-hung. The first-storey has a series of squat slightly-arched rectangular windows, with a larger one separated from the others. The four smaller windows all have brick lugsills.

The west side of the building is crowned with a pediment. Directly below is the parapet which is a continuation from the north side of the building. Below the parapet is an uninterrupted arcade of windows similar to those on the north face. On the ground floor are two entrances and four full-length windows topped by small mullion windows.

In 1962, the Creative Arts League purchased the building and did some restoration work, particularly on the exterior. The league was also able to retain all the original windows.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1891

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

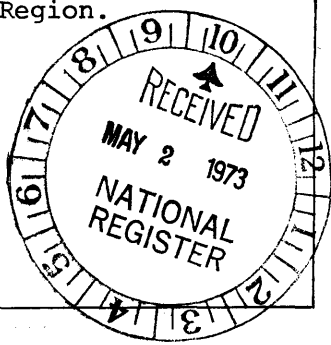
Peter Kirk, an Englishman, arrived on the east side of Lake Washington in 1888, intending to develop a gigantic steel mill complex. The location appeared promising because coal fields were located nearby and water transportation was at hand. Interestingly, at this time the nearby community that eventually became known as Kirkland had not even been incorporated.

The Kirk Building, as well as other brick structures, were erected as part of this complex. The proposed mill was located to the east of these buildings. The nation-wide panic of 1893, however, put an abrupt end to the steel mill development; and the Kirk Building was afterwards owned and used by mercantile store owners.

Eventually, the building was abandoned until the Creative Arts League purchased the structure with the intention of preserving it as a significant landmark in Kirkland's early history. Built in late Victorian style, the building is the finest remnant left over from Kirk's aborted project.

The building exhibits several interesting architectural features. For instance, at the roof line on the west end of the structure stands a lone triangular pediment that contrasts sharply with the nearby arched windows. Also interesting are the sculptured parapets and the sculptured semi-elliptical arches above the main entrance and windows. These creme-colored features are extenuated by the common red brick background. The turret, as might be expected, has become the trademark of the building.

Although arcades, pediments, and parapets are common enough, the Creative Arts League Building has combined all in a rather quirkish and colorful fashion seldom seen in the Puget Sound Region.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pamphlets published by the Creative Arts League
 Newspaper articles in the "East Side Journal" files
 Articles in the files of the Kirkland Library
 Bagley, Clarence, History of King County. Chicago: S.J. Clark Publishing Co., 1929

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

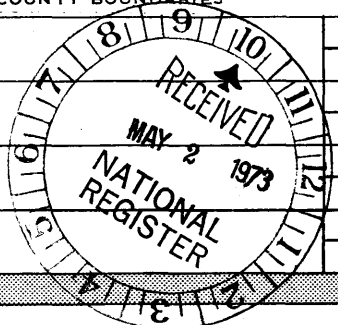
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N47° 40' 55"	W122° 12' 29"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

10/55945
 5281030
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles O. Morgan, President of Board of Directors

ORGANIZATION: Creative Arts League DATE: August, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER: 620 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN: Kirkland STATE: Washington CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Charles H. Odegaard</u> Charles H. Odegaard</p> <p>Title <u>Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission</u></p> <p>Date <u>April 26, 1973</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert H. Utley</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>8/14/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>Carroll Mountz</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>8 6 73</u></p>
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NAME

Historic Peter Kirk Building

Don't list, already on NR

Common Creative Arts League Building

Site No. _____

LOCATION

Number & Street 620 Market Street

Not for Publication _____

City or Town Kirkland

Zip 98033

Incorporated Unincorporated _____ Community name Kirkland

Congressional District 2 Community Planning District Market

State Legislative District 45 Zoning Historic Cultural Artistic

County Council District 3 Shoreline Environment Urban

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Private
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work in Progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> Arc. Site	<u>ACCESSIBLE</u>	Threatened by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Unrest.	<input type="checkbox"/> Neglect	<input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

OWNER OF PROPERTY: Creative Arts League

Number & Street 620 Market Street

City or Town Kirkland State Wa. Zip 98033

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sec 6 Twn 25 Rng 5 (TL)

BLK 193 LOTS 15 & 16 KIRKLAND ADDITION

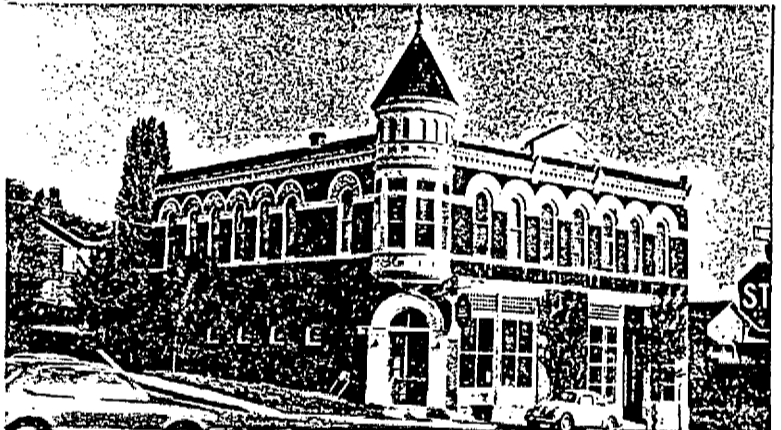
UTM: 10/559400/5280860

PRESENT REGISTER STATUS

Nat. Register State Register
 Other _____

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITUATION
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	
<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	Date _____



PRESENT & ORIG. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Peter Kirk Building is generally late victorian in character and the exterior, in spite of many owners and periods of neglect appears the same as it did in the late 1800's. There have been some interior changes--stairway moved and addition of fire-escape stairs in rear, also the addition of a mezzanine. The land on which it sits is sloping. The building is basically square, measuring 59' x 55'. The roof is flat with a continuous parapet on the north and west faces (aprox. 3 ft. high). There is an isolated pediment rising above the roof line on the west face. There is a decorated entablature with dentils and stylized brackets, the entablature is metal. The building material is brick in stretcher bond pattern. It is two stories with no basement. Second story windows are tall semicircular with radiating voussoirs and continuous sills; they are all double hung sash. The western face on street level has store front windows, full length topped by 48 section "lights". The north face main level windows are squat segmented w/radiating voussoirs and a surround with trim. The entrance is semi-circular w/radiating voussoirs and a surround with trim. The recessed doors are double with windows. There is a two section fan transom above the doors. The main entrance is topped on the second level by a turret with a candle-snuffer roof. The turret has four double hung windows topped by leaded stained glass lights. There is a metal finial atop the turret roof.

The present owners are seriously engaged in preservation work on the building. It has become a cultural center in the community.

SIGNIFICANCE

Builder(s) Kirkland Investment Company
Architect(s) and/or Engineer(s) _____
Date(s) Built 1891 Present Level of Significance:
Most Significant Period 1850-1900 National State Local

STATEMENT OF HISTORY & SIGNIFICANCE

The town of Kirkland was planned (and platted) with the expectation of its becoming "The Pittsburg of the West". Peter Kirk, an Englishman and steel mill owner (Moss Bay Hematite Iron and Steel Ltd., Derbyshire), arrived in this area in 1888 after doing extensive research into the possibility of building a gigantic steel mill complex on the north eastern shore of Lake Washington. His findings were very promising; close proximity to water, nearby coal and coke mines, mineral deposits in the Cascade foothills and the railroads beginning to open the area. After two years of extensive preparation, actual construction on the mill began in 1890. Until the mid 1880's there had been only a scattering of settlers (aprox. 100) with no greater expectations than just becoming a small community and someday a town.

Peter Kirk's dream caught the imagination of investors and speculators and they began buying up land, clearing, building roads and permanent buildings to house stores, Banks, and hotels. A group of Seattle businessmen, including Leigh Hunt (Hunt's Point), Walter Williams and Peter Kirk himself, formed the Kirkland Investment Company. One of the newly formed company's first endeavors was the building of a large (two story) brick business structure on the corner of Market St. and 7th Ave. (Picadilly St.) which was to have been the main road to the mill. The building became known as the Kirk Building. Four other buildings of a similar type were built by other business people and the grouping of five buildings became what was intended to be the center of the new "Boom Town". The mill and its support industries would have employed thousands.

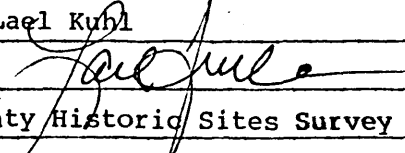
The Kirk Building originally housed a large merchantile and drug store on the street level and the offices of Kirkland Investment Co. on the upper level. Peter Kirk gained national recognition with his western Pittsburg dream. But he was plagued with financial problems and trouble getting the railroads to cooperate. Then in 1893, the whole country was swept with a financial panic and the mill venture was suddenly over. The mill which Kirk built is gone as is his home in Kirkland, leaving the Kirk Building as the sole structure left standing in which he was directly involved. It represents the unique beginnings of the town and commemorates the man himself.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Ely, Arline. Our Foundering Fathers, The Kirkland Library: Overlake Press, 1975.
- Brant, Janet. "Don't Despair, Peter Kirk-----". Eastside Journal, Nov. 19, 1975.
- Stokes, Arline. "Steel Mill, Impossible Dream", Eastside Journal, July 12, 1972.
- Bagley, Clarence. History of King County, Chicago; S.J. Clark Pub. 1929.
- Sanger, S.L. "Kirk Building in Trouble", Seattle P.I., March 6, 1977.
- Smith, Julie. "Kirklanders seek \$250,000 to save 'Soul' ", Journal American, Jan. 26, 1977.
- Sherrard, Wm. Robert. "The Kirkland Steel Mill", Master Thesis (U. of W.), 1958.
- "Areas Oldest Landmark to be Restored", Eastside Journal, Jan. 11, 1962.

INTERVIEWS

Griswold, Martha. -Creative Arts League Officer- 620 Market St., Kirkland-822-7161
9-28-77.

FORM PREPARED BY (PRINT): Lael Kuhl
Signature  Date 9-29-77
Organization King County Historic Sites Survey
Address 1955 6th Avenue W., Seattle, 98119 Phone 284-8556