

DEC 26 1989

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Kirkland Woman's Club
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number 407 First Street not for publication
city, town Kirkland vicinity
state Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98033

3. Classification

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district | <u>1</u> | <u> </u> buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <u> </u> | <u> </u> structures |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u> </u> | <u> </u> objects |
| | | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing:
n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Janice J. ... Dec 11, 1989
Signature of certifying official Date
Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Entered in the National Register

Melora Byers 1/26/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Clubhouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls stucco

roof asphalt shingleother

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Kirkland Woman's Club is a one story, rectangular wood frame structure with a stucco veneer and a low pitched gable roof. The clubhouse, which measures approximately 45 by 50 feet, is located on two lots in a residential neighborhood just north of the downtown commercial district. The building is surrounded by a small lawn in front and a back yard which slopes to the west. Shrubbery is planted along the facade. Constructed in 1925, the building reflects the domestic scale and character of surrounding houses.

The building is composed of a gable-roofed front (east) section housing the clubroom and library and a flat-roofed rear section containing the kitchen and storage rooms. A central enclosed stairwell provides access to the rear of the building. The house rests on a concrete block foundation with a basement beneath the rear portion (where the lot slopes downward) and a crawl space beneath the front of the building.

The ridge of the gable roof runs parallel to the facade of the building. The roof is sided with asphalt shingles and has overhanging eaves with a boxed cornice and gable returns on the side elevations. Two exterior brick chimneys, covered with stucco, rise against the side walls of the structure and through the gable peaks. The rear flat-roof section has a raised parapet at the corners and on the enclosed stairwell.

The front (east) facade of the building is dominated by a central entry bay composed of three double-leaf French doors. Each door has multiple glazed panels separated by wood muntins beneath multi-paned transom windows. Each leaf of the central double door has six horizontal rows of three panes; the transom has two rows of six panes. Each leaf of the flanking doors is glazed with six rows of two panes beneath transoms with two rows of five panes. The entry is sheltered by a shed-like extension of the main roof which projects out over the French doors. The roof extension has a boxed cornice and is supported by large wood brackets placed between the doors. A concrete ramp with metal railing leads to the concrete stoop in front of the entry. The ramp replaced the original two concrete steps.

On either side of the central bay are large windows composed of multi-light casement units separated by wood mullions beneath multi-paned transoms. The original sash and glass was replaced with single pane, metal sash windows in the late 1960s and restored to its original appearance in 1989. The original mullions and transom bars remain. Similar windows flank the chimney on the south wall and banded windows composed of four vertical panes flank the chimney on the north side. Like windows on the front facade, both sets of side windows maintain the original frames, mullions, and transom bars, and have multi-light casement units similar to the originals.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

The clubhouse interior contains 2,016 square feet, including a large open meeting space in the front (east) half of the building and a rear kitchen and storage rooms. The front meeting space is divided between the clubroom to the south of the front entry and the library to the north. Originally, the library and clubroom were separated by folding doors which could be opened or closed as necessary. Those doors have been removed but the distinction between the rooms is indicated by shallow projecting walls and a box beam in the ceiling.

At either end of the hall are large fireplaces. The fireplace against the south clubroom wall has a large brick surround with a plain mantle, brick voussoirs and a raised decorative keystone. The fireplace against the north library wall is smaller and constructed of concrete block with stone voussoirs. Baseboard and cornice moldings run throughout the library and clubroom and the library has a chair rail molding. The library and clubroom both feature cove ceilings covered with plaster and the floors have narrow gauge oak flooring. The original light fixtures, including hanging globes and hanging flower-shaped lights, remain in the meeting hall. A doorway in the west wall of the library leads to the storage rooms and a single leaf door and French door in the west wall of the clubroom lead to the kitchen. A French door leads from the storage room to the outside through the north wall. The kitchen includes some original cabinetry. Beneath the kitchen and storage room is a basement with concrete walls and dirt floors.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance

1925 - 1937

Significant Dates

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

John Hanford Wester

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Built in 1925 to serve as both clubhouse and public library, the Kirkland Woman's Club has played a significant role in the civic and cultural life of the community for over 60 years. From its construction until 1948, the clubhouse was the permanent home of the Kirkland library. In addition, for many years the club was the site of a free pediatric clinic, and the setting for literary and musical events, and the center of the club's various civic and charitable projects. Designed and financed through voluntary donations, the club is an important reflection of the role of women's organizations in community affairs in an era before large-scale government funding. Today, the clubhouse retains good integrity, and the multi-light casement windows were recently replaced in kind.

Historical Background: Kirkland, Washington, was developed in the late 19th century by Englishman Peter Kirk and his associates (incorporated as the Kirkland Land and Improvement Company) who hoped to establish a giant steel mill and company town at the site. Land for the town was cleared in 1891 and 1892, after which engineers surveyed the site and laid out a town. In addition to houses, five brick commercial buildings were constructed in the center of town (of which three survive and are listed in the National Register). But the mill was crippled by the depression of 1893 and by 1899 the last of the company's assets were sold.

The sale dashed hopes the Kirkland would become the "Pittsburgh of the West" but the town did not die. Several businesses, including a woolen mill started in 1892, continued to operate. In 1905, the town was incorporated as a third class city and slowly evolved as a service center on the east side of Lake Washington. Ferry service connected the town with Seattle and the Lake Washington Ship Canal (completed in 1917) insured that Puget Sound ship traffic could reach Kirkland docks.

As the city grew, the need for social and cultural services, like a library, became more apparent. To address those needs, eight women, meeting at the home of Mrs. L. Blake Baldwin on January 20, 1920, convened the first meeting of what would become the Kirkland Woman's Club. In addition to Mrs. Baldwin, the women present include Mrs. Glenn Johnson, Miss Emma Shumway, Mrs. S.E. Lamberth, Mrs. A.B. Newell, Mrs. Ernest McKibben, Mrs. J.H. Digby, and Mrs. George Davis. Following the meeting, the women extended written invitations to 34 other women in the community. A month later, the young club was federated with the General Federation of Woman's Clubs.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Information on the club's history was derived from the Kirkland Woman's Club yearbook, minutes, and other papers, 1925-1986, available at the clubhouse. In addition, the following unpublished histories of the club are available in manuscript form at the clubhouse:

- Bryant, Josephine. A Short History of the Kirkland Woman's Club, Kirkland, Washington, 1986.
- Anderson, Lillie Mae. The Kirkland Woman's Club, Kirkland, Washington, n.d.
- Sutherland, Mrs. W.A. The Golden Years, 1920-1970, Kirkland, Washington, n.d.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

UTM References

A

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 0 |
|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 7 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

 Zone Easting Northing

C

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

B

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

 Zone Easting Northing

D

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 5 and 6, Block 207, Kirkland Addition.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the clubhouse.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leonard Garfield from information supplied by Patti Nast
 organization Archaeology and Historic Preservation date Revised August, 1989
 street & number 111 W. 21st Ave., KL-11 telephone (206) 586-2901
 city or town Olympia state Washington zip code 98504

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2

The women were quick to reach their initial goal: within a few months, the club had established a small lending library in the city council chambers and had begun other activities, like study groups and child health clinics, for which they would be come respected. By 1924, the women articulated their goals in incorporation papers. "The purpose and object of the corporation," the papers read, "shall be to promote the intellectual growth of its members, to promote and maintain a public library and child welfare station, and to lend its support towards the solutions of the altruistic problems of the day."

To achieve these goals and house the library, the club needed a permanent clubhouse. In 1925, Guy Farrar of Burke and Farrar, a large east side real estate firm, offered the club two free lots near downtown on which to erect a library structure. Local architect (and later mayor) John Hanford Wester donated the plans, the club secured a loan for \$2,000 and the women raised an equal amount through donations of materials and labor. The cornerstone of the new building was laid in March 1925, and the first meeting in the clubhouse was held in June. The library began immediately; the facility was open two days and three evenings a week, a librarian was hired, books were donated by the community, shelves were made by high school boys, and a local school teacher created the first catalogue. The library remained at the clubhouse until 1948 when it was turned over to the city and moved into City Hall.

In addition to supporting the library, the club established a well-baby clinic held monthly at the clubhouse beginning in the 1920s. The clinic treated hundreds of babies each year for several decades and was staffed by the town's three physicians during the period--Drs. Davis, Sherwood, and McKibbens. During the late 1920s and through the Great Depression, the club provided food, clothing, and other assistance for needy families. In 1928, the club helped establish the local chapter of the Parent-Teachers Association, furnished the nursery in the Kirkland hospital in the 1930s and, through the ensuing decades, worked with the Camp Fire Girls organization, helped established an east side music festival, supported tree plantings, and held numerous musical events and social gatherings at the clubhouse. Moreover, the club loaned their facilities to other organizations. For example, the American Legion met at the clubhouse in the 1930s prior to constructing its own structure.

The loan for construction of the clubhouse was finally paid off in 1937 and the structure has served the multiple purpose of the club with few interior or exterior changes. However, as early as 1931, club minutes report that the windows of the structure were poorly insulated and sealed and, in the 1960s, the original panes and muntins were replaced with single pane metal sash set within the original frames, mullions, and transom bars. In 1989, multi-light casement units were installed again, and the clubhouse exterior appears exactly as it did originally.