

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington
COUNTY: Walla Walla
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: DEC 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Kirkman House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
214 N. Colville St.

CITY OR TOWN:
Walla Walla

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#4-Honorable Mr. McCormack

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Walla Walla CODE: 071

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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Miss Carolyn Retzer

STREET AND NUMBER:
214 N. Colville St.

CITY OR TOWN:
Walla Walla 99362

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Walla Walla County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
5th and Poplar Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Walla Walla 99326

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

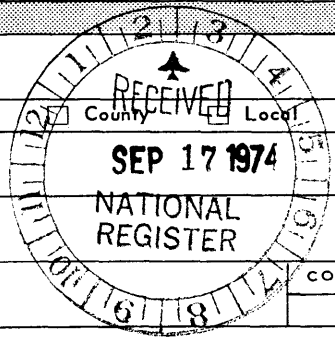
TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:



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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Kirkman Home is a two story brick residence, notable for its achievement of unusual grandeur in a comparatively small scale building. Each individual detail is interesting in itself, possessing both quality craftsmanship and appealing decoration.

The style is a vague suggestion of Georgian Colonial, although the design does not conform in many respects. In contrast to red brick walls is white woodwork with classical Roman features including Tuscan and Corinthian porch columns, pediments, and semi-circular arched architrave mouldings that incorporate pilasters and keystones.

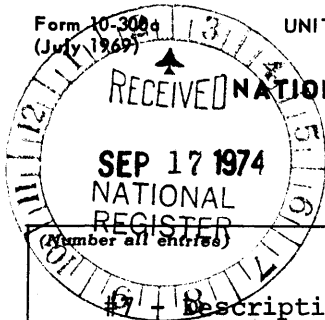
There is no ornamental brickwork anywhere on the building with the exception of two chimney caps, which are corbeled with stringcourse. All of the walls are plain flat brick surfaces fifteen inches thick; relief is provided by pre-manufactured grey terra cotta components. These include quoins, belt course, water table, sills and elegant lintels in several shapes and variations. Woodwork is confined to the front and side porches, the window bays and window frames, and the cornices and frieze.

Located on a corner lot, the building consists of two rectangular masses with the largest in front facing southwest. Individually they approximate cube forms, although somewhat shorter in the vertical and front to back dimensions. The rear section is of the same basic proportions, except that it is not only a little smaller but also shallower from front to back, as though it had been "tucked in" behind the main structure. It is also offset a few feet along the wall toward the north corner to compensate for a deviation from the square plan where one half of the main northwest facade is extended outward, creating a nominal wing. The remaining section of wall in front is then flush with the northwest side of the offset section at the rear.

In front of the building is an open single story wood porch that runs almost full width, stopping just short of the quoins. Along the porch roof is an entablature with a narrow cornice and frieze bowing outward in two segmental curves, one on either side of a straight section which would otherwise be a pedimented portico over the centrally located main entrance. In line with the straight section in the middle are the outside corners of the cornice, which return perpendicular to the facade. There are six free standing columns supporting the porch roof under the frieze. Two corinthian columns on pedestals flank the the entrance where beams span from the frieze across the ceiling to the wall, creating a coffered affect and completing the pedimented portico. Tuscan columns stand at outside corners, and two more of this type are located under the center point of the porch curves where the arc is furthest forward.

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7 - Description (1)
Kirkman House

Facing the sidestreet and across the northwest wall of the smaller building mass in back, is a simple one story porch. This extends forward far enough so that its cornice is flush with the adjoining face of the short wing described as an extension to the main building in this quadrant. Supported by decorative posts under a boxed frieze, the roof has a very gentle slope to allow room for windows on the second floor.

The roof for the front portion is a low truncated hip formerly crowned by an open walk with ironwork balustrade. The balustrade was removed after storm damage, although the salvaged portion now decorates a Yakima, Washington dress shop. On the back section is a nearly flat shed roof with only enough pitch for drainage.

An elaborately bracketed cornice and frieze surrounds both roof sections on all sides. The boxed soffit has a moderate overhang of the same approximate dimension as the wide frieze board. Brackets are placed at intervals equal to the width of one window opening and all fenestration is observant of this relationship.

Within the front porch, on both sides of the entrance, is a wood frame bay window from floor to ceiling. One has the typical flattened octagon plan with round-headed windows in each of the three completely exposed facets. The other is a rectangular projection where two similar windows occupy the side facing forward, which is roughly the same as the total width of the other bay. The enframing for these windows consists of woodwork pilasters with arch and keystone.

The front entrance has double doors with a round headed window of beveled glass centered in the upper two thirds of each. The doors are contained in an opening, arched at the top, where the part above is glazed in an exquisite etched glass lunette.

Windows are, in general, arranged symmetrically, one above another and in horizontal alignment. They have a moderately tall and narrow double hung sash. All arched openings on the ground floor are semicircular, while those on the second floor are segmental.

Quoins decorated with raised panels occur on the outside corners of the building portion in front. Panels in a similar shape are repeated in wood between brackets where they occur on the frieze. Quoins are also placed on the front wall at the upper floor directly behind the corinthian columns of the entrance portico. The cornice above these is extended into a second pediment, where cornice brackets are doubled over the quoins creating an appearance of pilasters. Brackets are

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#7 - Description (2)
Kirkman House

also doubled above all other quoins on both sides of the corner, for a total of four brackets each.

The remaining ornament consists of carvings and cut out designs that are dispersed throughout the composition with some degree of inter-relationship.

The interior has been divided into apartments, although partitions were added without destroying mouldings or decorative carpentry. A bronze statuette depicting a woman holding up a lamp known as the "Light of the World" stands atop the newel post for the front stairs. The entrance hall retains its intricate oak parquet floor, and ceilings on the first floor are twelve feet high. The house was originally heated by fireplaces, and three were faced in marble. One marble fireplace remains intact.

A sleeping porch has been added to the rear of the building although the exterior is otherwise unaltered.



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) 1876 (earliest documented reference)

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Kirkman was born in Lancashire, England in 1831, where his boyhood centered around the estate of Sir Robert Peel. The estate had been purchased by three Scottish brothers named Grant, and William's father was a foreman in the Grant factories. In 1853, at the age of twenty-two, he emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts.

He traveled to the Pacific coast in 1854 where he mined for gold in California and on the Fraser River in British Columbia. Later, with a moderate fortune, he sailed for Australia, and in 1858 visited the Sandwich Islands. From there he rejoined prospectors in Canada.

In 1862 he went south to San Francisco and the following year bought cattle on the Umpqua River in southern Oregon for transportation to market in Boise, Idaho. After various business ventures, in 1866 he took an eighty-mule pack train from Walla Walla to the mines in Montana. On this trip he became interested in the possibility of operating a dairy ranch, but instead returned to California. He married and returned to Walla Walla in 1868 to raise beef cattle in partnership with a man named John Donley. He bought out Donley in 1890 and founded the Walla Walla Dressed Meat Corporation.

Kirkman was a delegate to the 1892 Republican National Convention in Chicago. From there he began an extended tour of Europe, and in 1893 he died on the train while returning home.

The William Kirkman family was among the first established and successful households in Walla Walla. Four generations of descendants have lived in the home at 214 North Colville Street. William Kirkman Jr. served as a state legislator from this district for the years 1919-1927, holding seats in both the House and Senate. William L. Kirkman, the grandson, was for several years an official in the Walla Walla division of the Bonneville Power Administration.

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen B.L. Penrose occupied the home for some time. He was president of Whitman College for forty years, from 1894 through 1934. Mrs. Kirkman, the builder's widow, eventually donated the property to Whitman College which thereafter used it as a

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gilbert, Frank T. Historical Sketches of Walla Walla County. Portland: A. G. Walling Publishing Company, 1882.
 Lyman, William Dennison. County of Walla Walla, Washington Souvenir, 1905. Salem: Statesman Publishing Company, 1905.
 _____ . History of Walla Walla County. n.p.: W. H. Lever, 1901.
 _____ . Old Walla Walla County. Vol. I and II. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1918.
 McDonald, Lucile. Where the Washingtonians Lived. Seattle: Superior Publishing Company, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

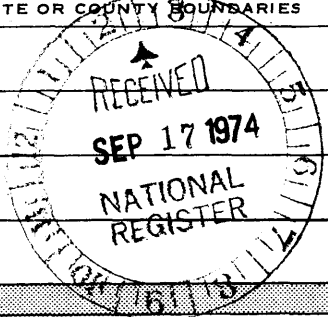
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		46° 04' 13"	118° 20' 22"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
11/39646
5102510
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



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Robert Wayne Hergert

ORGANIZATION: Historical Architectural Development Inc. DATE: 5 July 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
1846 Center Street

CITY OR TOWN: Walla Walla STATE: Washington CODE: 99362
 CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name Charles H. Odegaard
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State
Parks and Recreation Commission

Date Sept. 13, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Martensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/27/74

ATTEST:
W. S. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date DEC 26 1974

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#8 - Significance

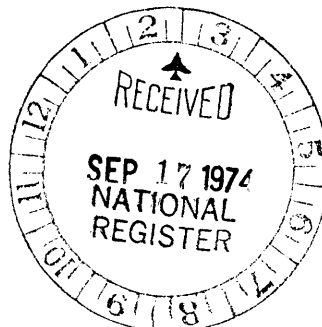
Kirkman House

men's dormatory.

The Kirkman family home is now the oldest residence in Walla Walla. It is located at the edge of the commercial district, and the city has actually grown up around it.

The Kirkman house was certainly among the finest residences in the Northwest at the time of its construction, and it is also one of the most interesting survivors from that period. It is built with the distinct intention of permanence that is characteristic of many early 19th century domestic buildings in England. Kirkman may have developed a preference for the sturdiness and stability of solid masonry as a youth in Lancashire. This quality is a rarity not only for the time, but for the inland location as well.

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#9 - Bibliographical References

Kirkman House

Mitchell, Claire. Walla Walla Remembers. n.p.: Summerfest, Incorporated, 1969.

Rose, A. P.; Shaver, F. A.; and Steele, R. F. An Illustrated History of Southeastern Washington. Spokane: Western Historical Publishing Company, 1906.

Walla Walla Union Bulletin. Builder hailed from England, August 24, 1969.

Walla Walla Union Bulletin. Classic Columns, March 31, 1974.

Walla Walla Union Bulletin. Rebuild or Destroy, July 26, 1973.

