

HERITAGE

Vancouver

Newsletter

The B.C. Bungalow

By Susanna Houwen



Pre-fabricated B.C. Bungalow

Colonial bungalow built by the British

A TRUE BUNGALOW IS CHARACTERIZED BY ITS LOW-SLUNG pyramidal roof over

a single storey of inter-penetrating inner and outer spaces through the use of a verandah which surrounds the building; living spaces flowing together without the use of a central hall.¹ It was a form of housing that had been used throughout the British colonies since its practicality was discovered in Bengal India in the late eighteenth century; *bangla* or *bangala* referred to indigenous Bengali huts.² It was suitable for both heavy rains and high temperatures. A verandah on all sides meant the occupants would always be able to find a side in the shade and prevented the walls from absorbing the heat of the blazing sun.³ During the rainy season, the verandah shielded the walls from the driving rain, thus reducing the absorption of moisture into the interior walls, and it allowed doors and windows to be open.

When Europeans adapted the bungalow they closed in sections of the verandah and used the remaining sections for informal entertaining. In New England the bungalow became associated with a retreat from care and was used primarily for vacation cottages. This association was further reinforced by the bungalow's popularity in California, thus becoming almost synonymous with "sun and fun."⁴ In many of these American vacation cottages "the living room rises to the rafters the lack of insulation and great open upper space would be a drain on heat coming from the one fireplace in the house, but it was meant to be occupied only during the summer months."⁵ However, in the

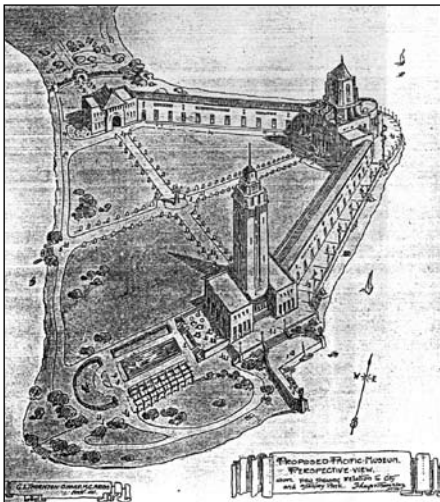
1900s, the bungalow was seen as a house form that was practical for British Columbia's climate.⁶ While some areas of British Columbia were relatively well-settled, there were other areas that were virtually untouched. Therefore, there were two types of bungalows built in British Columbia: homes built by workers away from their workplaces as symbols of increased economic freedom, and those built by employers near the workplace to house or attract a labour force. The difference between bungalow building in these two areas can be shown by comparing the terms B.C. Bungalow, and California Bungalow., The California Bungalow, whatever its size or quality of workmanship, denoted the sort of house that was associated with the rise of the suburban phenomenon, and eventually came to apply to any small house built in the suburbs.

On the other hand, the B.C. Bungalow was associated with settlement architecture and company housing. The B.C. Bungalow was a one-storey house of squarish plan capped by a pyramidal roof, with a verandah or porch space at the front only a square building is the cheapest way to plan a house because it results in the least wall space for the greatest floor area.⁷ This style came into its own as the mass-produced, mail-order house. A company wishing to locate its works far from an established labour force could order pre-cut materials by rail, and set up rows and rows of identical bungalow style housing almost overnight.⁸ In western Canada, the bungalow form was chosen for its popularity and, in turn, was made popular by its use in pre-fabricated housing. These houses were not symbols of freedom to the inhabitants, but of their employment.

See *Bungalow* on page 2

Upcoming Events

Vancouver's Public Spaces



Pacific Museum

January 20 Vancouver's Unbuilt Spaces Up To 1938

Donald Luxton:

Don Luxton has a BArch UBC specializing in architectural history. He works as an heritage consultant working with municipalities to manage heritage resources and has completed many heritage inventories, including heritage interiors for the City of Vancouver. He'll look back at some of the Vancouver public spaces that have been lost either because they never got past the idea and planning stage or because of insensitive re-development. Will he reveal why Vancouver doesn't have a recognizable civic center?

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

PNE/Hastings Park

By Susanna Houwen

I attended a workshop on the reuse of building materials last autumn and was surprised to find myself in a step-by-step slide show on the dismantling of the BC Pavilion. Seeing its deconstruction only reinforced what an incredible structure it was. Clear wood columns, cut from first growth timber, supported the structure continuously from foundation to roof, and showed no signs of rot. A recent City publication states that work has now started on the greening of the former location of the BC Pavilion. Ten acres at this location will be known as the "Sanctuary," and will be formed by a pond and marshes planted with sedges and grasses. It is scheduled to be opened July 1999. The same workshop also showed how the former Pure Foods Building, a concrete Art Deco building, was crushed into rubble and used as fill on the waterfront of Burrard Inlet. It certainly is odd to be in the other camp! The new final date for the PNE/Playland is September 1999.

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Bungalow from cover

1. Alan Gowans, *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: 1986) 77.
2. Janet Pott, *Old Bungalows in Bangalore, South India* (London: 1977) 14.
3. Peter Moffit, *The Australian Verandah* (Sidney: 1976) 33.
4. Gowans, 77.
5. Clay Lancaster, *The American Bungalow 1880-1935* (New York: 1985) 85.
6. Moffit, 18.
7. George Allen, *The Cheap Cottage and Small House* (New York: 1919) 54.
8. Gowans, 59.

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Mark Your Calendar

Continuing

Electric Generation, an exhibit on the history of the introduction of electricity to the Maple Ridge area at the Haney House Museum, south end of 224th Street in Maple Ridge. 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is by donation.

Now until June 19, 1999

Unearthed From the Silence, an exhibit on the Japanese Canadian community of Steveston, BC, and the effects of the internment at the Richmond Museum, 7700 Minoru Gate. 9:00 A.M. to 9:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is by donation. 231-6457.

January 27, 1999

Nancy Knickerbocker will speak to the Vancouver Historical Society on her upcoming biography of the fascinating life of Mildred Osterhout Fahrni, one of Canada's pioneer peace-keepers. A 1923 graduate of UBC, Mildred Fahrni walked with J.S. Woodsworth, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King advocating people's capacity to transform themselves, and the world, through active non-violence. Vancouver Museum 1100 Chestnut Street, 7:30 P.M. Wednesday. Admission is by donation. 878-9140.

February 1999

Heritage Week/Awards Night activities contact David Murphy at City Hall for details at 873-7056

February 18, 1999

AGM New Westminster Heritage Preservation Society
New Westminster Public Library
Auditorium 7:00 P.M.

Thursday February 25, 1999

Working Heritage: The Preservation of Industrial Sites. An all-day conference at SFU Downtown. Contact Heritage Vancouver (Susanna, Peter, or Jo) to reserve a seat.

The Dirt on Areaways

By Justine Murdy

Have you ever noticed purple or clear glass blocks set into downtown sidewalks? As a child I thought they were delightful ornaments to cheer up perambulators too weary to look at the world. Well in fact these glass blocks are illuminating spaces underneath the sidewalk—spaces which the City of Vancouver refers to as “areaways.”

Since 1886, property owners in the downtown core were charged taxes for sidewalks that aligned their lots, even though using the space above the sidewalk wasn't permitted. Some clever owners saw the potential of using the space under the sidewalk to their advantage. By paying a minimal encroachment fee to the City, basements could be extended into the area under the sidewalk. Glass blocks illuminated these spaces. Early twentieth century businesses like the Hotel Europe in Gastown or the Sam Kee Building in Chinatown provide extant examples of developed areaways—Angelo Colari installed the famous Tivoli Saloon in the first, and Chang Toy created a public bathhouse in the second.

As Vancouver grew, its infrastructure needs intensified. A desire to keep streets free of visual obstructions such as overhead wires, and the introduction of gas and steam lines among other utilities, caused the City to reconsider its areaway practices. Initially utilities were routed under the streets, but any repairs to these amenities meant that vehicular traffic was seriously affected. Areaways with their location under pedestrian walkways became the preferred spaces for routing gas and steam lines, power and fiber optic cables, etc. This compounded by a concern that sidewalks over areaways might collapse under the weight of firetrucks in the event of an emergency has caused the decline of the presence of areaways in Vancouver.

Since the sidewalks and their areaways are on city-owned property (with very few exceptions) and since the buildings in question are structurally independent of the areaway, the City has adopted an unofficial policy of having areaways filled in. This is required when a property owner applies for a development permit. In cases where the areaways are being used for storage or non-essential uses, the City makes areaway fill-ins a condition of the Development Permit being issued. A new wall must be built from the building's outer wall to the basement floor, and the areaway filled in with sand to prevent methane or natural gas build up. Sand is the fill of choice, since it is easy to dig up when utilities routed under the sidewalk need repair. So, that's some of the dirt on areaways! (Special thanks to the City Surveyor for the 'inside scoop').

Since 1984, Justine Murdy has worked throughout British Columbia as a heritage research & planning consultant. As the Architectural Institute of British Columbia's tour guide (1997 & 1998), she became intimately familiar with Vancouver's rich architectural legacy. She serves as the Provincial Representative of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Caruukl.

Downtown East Side

City of Vancouver

In November, City Council approved a \$1 million contribution to purchase and renovate the Sunrise and Washington Hotels on East Hastings Street. The total budget for the project is \$5.5 million, and is in cooperation with local, provincial and federal partners. When the project is completed, there will 144 single room occupancies (SRO's) for low income single people, and the pub at ground level will be replaced by retail and health services.

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Heritage Vancouver is a non-profit advocacy society whose mandate is to:

- Encourage the study and understanding of heritage preservation with a local and regional perspective.
- Support the conservation of the heritage that we have inherited.
- Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
- Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.

Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3

604.254.9411

<http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

A Great Year Ahead of Us

Dear Members

I hope you have all had a good holiday-Happy New Year! I know you may still be feeling a little bit sluggish after all those holiday goodies, but let's get off to a running start this year!

As I warned you last year, the deadline for City of Vancouver Heritage Award Nominations sneaks up on you, and will be past by the time you receive this newsletter. Luckily, most of the projects and people up for nomination have been submitted. The awards themselves will be presented on February 15, during Heritage Month.

The deadline for saving the CPR Telegraph Building at 99 Alexander Street has also passed. A letter has been sent to Marathon on behalf of Heritage Vancouver requesting that this deadline be extended to allow a plan to be assembled for saving it. The crux of the plan to save the building is to assemble approximately \$100,000, which represents the shortfall between revenue that can be generated from rents and the cost of its rehabilitation.

Trader Vic's/the Polynesian Room has a little more breathing space than we at first believed, being scheduled for demolition sometime in July, rather than this month. This only means, how-

ever, that we have a real chance of saving it, not that we can take a break. Saving this unique structure will present a real challenge, due to the number and complexity of relationships surrounding it.

You may have noticed that the newsletter has metamorphosed once again. Brock Piper, a new board member and professional graphic designer, has taken over as editor. This is part of our on-going project to improve the newsletter. Remember that the newsletter is produced by volunteers who donate their time, so please have some forgiveness for typos and lateness.

Let's make this a great year!

Susanna

Susanna Houwen
President

**Membership
Renewal**
If we have not received
your membership renewal
we will have to cancel
your newsletter mailing.

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52.

Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual: \$20 Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

Family: \$25 Corporate: \$50

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Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE
 Vancouver
 Newsletter



Birks:

the Building that Started it All

by Graeme Foster

In the spring of 1974, a monster crane was positioned near the corner of Georgia and Granville. It lifted a couple of mini-backhoes into the open top storey of the Birks Building. Like bull calves in a china shop, the backhoes raced around the floor, systematically levelling all salient features such as walls, doors, and fixtures. A hole was then made and the backhoes were lowered to the next storey to repeat their work, and so on, down to ground level.

By November, nothing remained to be crumbled by the wrecker's ball. Some of the Grey Cup fans, then in town for the big game, may have stopped and wondered what lunacy had brought about the end of one of the most beautiful and fabled buildings in Western Canada.

Anyone who grew up in Vancouver in the fifties and sixties will remember the ivory-tinted exterior and rich wood interior of Birks. Robin Ward describes it as "the finest of all Vancouver's Edwardian buildings."

It was designed by Sommervell and Putnam, a Seattle partnership, who were among the most able architects working in Vancouver at that time. It was an exquisitely composed work from its ground floor canopy to the neo-Romanesque window treatment and delicate cornice on the top storeys. Tiled with decorative terracotta and gracefully turning the Georgia/Granville corner, it was as fabled in Vancouver as the Montreal-based jewelry store inside.

This raises the usual post-demolition query whenever a beautiful structure is demolished, "If everyone wanted to keep it, then why did it have to go?" In this case the answer rests with the Birks family, which was divided on the issue of preservation; City Council, which did not have the power to stop the developers; and the developers themselves who pursued the Vancouver Centre project with single-minded energy.

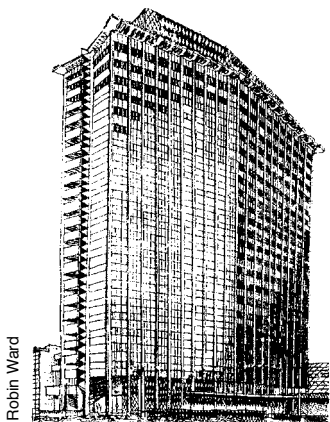
A fourth factor perhaps rests in the spirit of the age, the seventies. The philistine decade which brought us disco, ludicrous clothing and fern bars was now preferring octagonal high rises, faceless exteriors, and malls. From Granville Street to Cranbrook, malls were manifest. Malls denuded the streets of shoppers and turned small towns into ghost towns. Malls did battle to out-mall other malls. Malls made sense in the freeze and humidity of Toronto but made less sense in benign Vancouver. Malls could do without the Birks Building.

The seventies also saw the end of the War in Vietnam and an era of powerful men in large buildings making ill-advised decisions affecting millions of people far away. Such is the irony that the main players in the Vancouver Centre project were residents of Montreal and Toronto, having only a business interest in the fate of the building. Events could have

See *Birks* on page 3

Upcoming Events

VANCOUVER'S PUBLIC SPACES



Robin Ward

BC Electric Building

Wednesday February 17 Losses & Legacies : Vancouver's Burrard Street Robert Lemon, MAIBC

Robert, former City of Vancouver Heritage Planner, is an architect and preservation consultant. During his tenure at the city, he initiated the ground breaking Recent Landmarks program. He will look back at the evolution of one of Vancouver's major thoroughfares in its heyday, the postwar period. The Burrard corridor includes such modernist icons as the Customs House, Burrard Building, former BC Electric Building/Dal Grauer substation, and the former Central Library.

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

February is Heritage Month

Monday Feb. 15

Annual Awards for Heritage Conservation in the City of Vancouver
6-9 PM Hotel Vancouver Ballroom
Reception/Awards

Monday Feb. 15

1:30 PM
73 Things You may Not Know About Greater Vancouver
Presentation by Chuck Davis.
West Vancouver Seniors' Centre,
695-21st Street.

Tuesday, Feb. 16th

Photo Retrospective of the Ferry Building and Ambleside Landing
Opening Reception 7 -9 PM,
Ferry Building foyer,
Argyle & 14th, West Vancouver
925-7290.

Wednesday Feb. 17

7:00 PM
Early West Vancouver Development, a talk by Ken Block followed by awarding of the West Vancouver Prize for The North Shore Heritage Committee Heritage Photo Contest.
West Vancouver Seniors' Centre,
695-21 st Street.

Wednesday Feb. 17

3:00-5:00 PM
Heritage Reception with Early Photos of Horseshoe Bay
Troll's Restaurant, 6408 Bay Street,
Horseshoe Bay
921-7755.

Thursday Feb. 18

7:00 PM
Historic Yale, B. C.
Slide Show Documents the place where gold fever hit B.C. West Vancouver Museum and Archives,
17th & Esquimalt, West Vancouver
call 925-7236 for info.

Saturday Feb. 20

Fundraiser for the Vogue Theatre restoration of the neon marquee
918 Granville
Impressionist, singer and comedian
Andre Philippe Gagnon entertains
\$55 to \$155,
280-4444

Saturday Feb. 20

2:00 PM
Heritage Week Ceremony and Reception Presentation of the 1999 Heritage Achievement Awards:
An annual event recognizing achievements by individuals, groups, and organizations who have contributed to West Vancouver heritage awareness and preservation. Everyone is welcome. Reception follows.
West Vancouver Museum and Archives,
17th & Esquimalt, West Vancouver
925-7295.

Sunday Feb. 21

12:00-4:00 PM
Free tours of Gastown, hosted by the Gastown Business Improvement Society and the Canadian Tourist Guide Association of B.C.. Contact Leanne Sali at the Gastown Business Improvement Society.
683-5650

Thursday Feb. 25

Working Heritage: The Preservation of Industrial Sites
An all-day conference at SFU Downtown.
Contact Heritage Vancouver (Susanna, Peter, or Jo) to reserve a seat.

Thursday Feb. 25

BC's Industrial Sites: The Transition to Cultural Tourism
Speaker: Brian White
7-8:30 PM SFU downtown
Free lecture

Friday Feb. 26

The Economics of Conservation
9-5 PM SFU downtown
Register through SFU \$100 includes lunch and course material
Workshop with Joseph Rypkema

Now until June 19

Unearthed From the Silence, an exhibit on the Japanese Canadian community of Steveston, BC, and the effects of the internment at the Richmond Museum, 7700 Minoru Gate.
9:00 A.M to 9:30 P.M., Monday to Friday,
10:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday and Sunday.
Admission is by donation. 231-6457

Vancouver Heritage Commission Report

By Susanna Houwen,
HV Representative

Another B-listed building under threat has come before the Commission. The Bank of Nova Scotia at 1196 Granville Street (and Davie) is a modest Art Deco structure whose interior is one of those listed on the as-of-yet-unofficial Interiors Register. The proposed use for the building requires a larger building than the existing one, setting up an all too familiar choice for the Commission. The application may be turned down with the result that no work occurs to the building, or the application may be accepted with the result that portions of the building will be restored and maintained but it's original integrity will have been destroyed by extensive additions.

The Province Building at 198 West Hastings Street may be looking a little more like its old self in the future. The owners have applied to be granted a heritage density transfer bonus in return for the refurbishment of the lobby, circulation spaces, and exterior masonry and the building's designation. Although we may need to critically examine the role that density transfers are having in eroding built heritage in Vancouver, in this case this incentive tool may do just exactly what was intended.

Many people have been waiting, with some trepidation, for a project to be proposed for the properties north of the Hudson's Bay Company on Granville Street. This is the streetscape that is anchored at the Dunsmuir and Granville corner by what was once the BC Electric sales building. There is now a proposal to build a tower at 600 Granville Street. Although some of the facades are covered with corrugated metal, some are exposed, but none are listed. No preservation except the facades of the BC Electric building is proposed.

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Birks from cover

been stopped or modified with a united stand by the Birks family. But the Birks family were not the Woodwards and no compact of noblesse oblige existed between them and the people of Vancouver.

Most people on City Council favoured keeping it or perhaps incorporating it into the development. Alderman Bill Gibson even flew out to Montreal to see if Birks or the Bank of Nova Scotia could be dissuaded from demolition. Mayor Art Phillips was coolly non-committal over the issue, saying he "didn't particularly get any vibes from the old Birks Building, and would be happy as long as they kept the clock."

In Victoria, Municipal Affairs Minister Jim Lorimer was adamant in his refusal to wade into the Birks battle. As Dave Barrett's NDP entered a contentious part of its term, the provincial government was unwilling to take on any more challenges.

As Harry Rankin remarked, "we were all rather innocent and inexperienced when it came to heritage issues." Council's concerted effort to save Birks came far too late in the day when the deal was already a fait accompli. The same can be said for protests organized by UBC's School of Architecture and by various citizens groups. The protests were late, largely unpublicized and unfocused.

Even as workers took out the top cornices, a last-ditch protest of UBC students, design professionals and architects was playing out on the street below; complete with a Dixieland band playing New Orleans funeral dirges, black arm bands, and a banner reading, "Henry Birks and Sons Building, 1913-1974." Commemorative speeches were read before the group marched back to the old Vancouver Art Gallery on West Georgia.

Perhaps the final irony is that when Birks entered into partnership with the Borgosesia Group of Europe in 1993, they were persuaded to move their Vancouver store to more tasteful quarters-the old crnc building on the corner of Hastings and Granville, now designated as a Class A heritage site.

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Un-Built Heritage



Proposed Park

The topic of our January speaker, Don Luxton, was civic designs that didn't always make it past the planning stage. Like our built heritage, these plans say a lot about what Vancouverites hold dear. Did you know that a proposed site for city hall was the northwest end of the Burrard Bridge? That the current city hall design was once proposed to be located just south of Victory Square? That Vancouver once had the opportunity to purchase the land north of the Hotel Vancouver for a park? The images shown by Don showed how astonishingly different Vancouver might have looked, if only!

Many kudos go to our new newsletter/publicity person, Brock Piper who really packed them in by getting press releases picked up by the Courier, the West Ender, and the Sun supplement Queue, as well as an article in the Courier that Wednesday. We had fifty attendees in January. The West Ender did a large article a week later titled "A question of SPACE" highlighting our series. Thank you for your hard work, Brock; it is really appreciated!

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Words from the President

It's February-Hug an Old Building!

Dear Members,

February is important because February 14-20, 1999 is Heritage Week throughout British Columbia! This month's newsletter lists some of the many activities related to heritage preservation in greater Vancouver. The gala event kicking off Heritage Week in Vancouver is the bestowing of the Vancouver Heritage Awards, which will take place at the Hotel Vancouver on Monday, February 15, 1999. Keep your eyes open for activities in your area, get out there, and participate! To contribute to the events of Heritage Week (which has metamorphosed into an unofficial Heritage Month, since there are too many activities to fit into one week) Heritage Vancouver is host-ing a conference Thursday, February 25, 1999: Working Heritage:

the Preservation of Industrial Sites in British Columbia. We put this conference together partially in response to the sad destruction of the Canron building last spring. Industrial buildings often do not make it onto heritage registers, but form an important part of our cultural landscape and deserve to be preserved if feasible. Contact Heritage Vancouver for registration information about this one-day conference if you would like to attend.

Susanna

Susanna Houwen
President, Heritage Vancouver

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- Support the conservation of our built heritage.
- Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
- Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.

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Charitable donation #1073758-52.
Membership fees are not tax deductible.

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Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

Family: \$25

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Donation: \$ _____

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HERITAGE

Vancouver

N e w s l e t t e r

Q&A

on Heritage Protection in New Zealand



New Zealand Historic Places Trust home, Antrim House, Wellington

LAST MONTH DIRECTORS OF HV MET INFORMALLY WITH, Dr. Tom Fookes an Associate Professor in the School of Planning at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He was a Visiting Scholar at the UBC Centre for Human Settlements during January and February 1999. Dr. Fookes provided a brief outline on how New Zealand deals with heritage; who is preserving, how, with what money, and what kind of buildings?

HV: What is the institutional basis for heritage protection in New Zealand?

TF: The lead authority for heritage protection is the Historic Places Trust (Pouhere Taonga), an independent corporate body with charitable status. The Trust is not a Crown agency nor a government department but it is mandated through the Historic Places Act. Its mission is to promote the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand. It operates through income from members (individual, corporate, and local authorities), donations, and bequests. The New Zealand Lottery Grants Board provides annual funding and grants are made by the Department of Conservation. The Minister of Conservation has political responsibility for heritage law, and he is currently carrying out a review of the effectiveness of the legislation.

HV: What are the “sticks” in New Zealand to encourage heritage preservation?

TF: The “sticks” are produced through two sets of legislation; the Historic Places Act and the Resource Management Act:

- Buildings, areas, and structures like road and rail bridges are listed on the Historic Places Trust Register (using a two category system) for protection, preservation and conservation. The Register is specified under the Historic Places Act. The Act requires the Historic Places Trust (HPT) to be consulted where there are proposals affecting items on the Register. This link with the Trust is also provided for in the Resource Management Act (RMA), under which development consents are obtained, with the parties (local authority and applicant) required to consult with the Trust where items on the Register are affected. In addition, local authorities (eg., Auckland City Council) may establish Schedules as part of District/City Plans required by the RMA. The Schedules do not necessarily include entries on the HPT Register. Application for consent to develop places included in the HPT Register and the Schedule to the Plan has to take the acknowledged heritage value into account. It does not imply absolute protection.

- Buildings and heritage areas can also be designated in District/City Plans under the RMA.

See **New Zealand** on page 3

Upcoming Event

VANCOUVER'S PUBLIC SPACES



Wednesday March 17 *Vancouver's Hidden Public Spaces* by John Atkin

There are many unusual public spaces in Vancouver that passersby wouldn't notice unless they stumbled upon them. John Atkin, a veteran wanderer of the downtown core and innercity neighbourhoods will present a slideshow and talk about some of these spaces.

One of John's recent pet projects has been the production of "Glowing in the Dark" a documentary about the history of Vancouver's glorious neon signage. He was a key contact person for information about neon signs and he was also featured being interviewed. John also was guest curator for the upcoming neon sign exhibit at the Vancouver Museum which opens March 13. John has been a past president of Heritage Vancouver.

General Meeting
third Wednesday
of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

VHC Report

By Susanna Houwen

As you probably all know by now, the decision has been made to retain the Lions Gate Bridge in something like its existing form. The planned scenario is to retain the two vertical towers and the catenary cables. The catenary cables are the thicker cables that hang in semi-circular arcs from the towers. The thinner, vertical hanging cables will be replaced. The entire structure of the bridge deck will be replaced, section by section. The new bridge deck sections will be substantially different in appearance from the existing. For example, the stiffening trusses that run the length of the bridge will no longer be there. There will still be only three traffic lanes, but these will be wider, and sidewalks will extend past the current profile. Although Heritage Vancouver is pleased that this important landmark will not be absent from Vancouver's skyline, it is a shame that such a large volume of historic fabric will be removed from an A-listed site.

The Province has assembled a short list of contractors to undertake this work, which will be started soon. The Heritage Commission was asked to review the scenario described above, although it was presented as a fait accompli. The Commission was also asked to provide direction about further design details. With some direction from Peter Vaisbord and Don Luxton, I fought for increased authenticity in these details. For example there will be new lamp standards and guardrails that could be in the style of the originals. Also, the bridge requires re-painting, and this could be according to the original scheme. Unfortunately efforts to require that the new bridge sections/design more closely resemble the existing were not supported by the rest of the Commission.

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New web-site of interest:
Canadian Association of
Professional Heritage Consultants
(CAPHC) www.caphc.ca

Mark Your Calendar

March 11

Builders of Vancouver
Whatever Happened to Broadway?
MacMillan Bloedel Lectures on
Architecture Series
Presented by The Urbanarium
Robson Square Conference Centre
6:00 P.M.

March 24

*Design in Process: Bilbao, Berlin,
Dusseldorf & Prague*
**Randy Jefferson, Frank Gehry &
Associates**, Los Angeles
MacMillan Bloedel Lectures on
Architecture Series
Robson Square Conference Centre
6:00 P.M.

March 31

Deadline for *True Colours* grant
applications (see enclosed sheet).

Wednesday, April 14th

8:30 P.M. *Trader Vic's Social*
After the MacBlo lecture that night,
everyone is welcome to join fellow
heritage advocates for a social
at the threatened
Trader Vic's/Polynesian Room.

Saturday, May 8th

*True Colours: A Workshop for Heritage
Homeowners.* This practical, hands-on
workshop is designed to provide the tools
for choosing historically accurate exterior
paint colours for heritage and "heritage
style" houses. SFU City Program
tel: 291-5254 fax: 291-5098
city@sfu.ca

May 15th

Deadline for Nominations to
the HSBC Awards.
Guidelines are available at
www.islandnet.com/~hsbc.

Now until June 19

Unearthed From the Silence,
an exhibit on the Japanese Canadian
community of Steveston, BC, and
the effects of the internment at the
Richmond Museum, 7700 Minoru Gate.
9:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M., Monday to Friday,
10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday and Sunday.
Admission is by donation. 231-6457

June 24-26th

*Heritage Society of BC Annual
Conference* This year's conference takes
place in BC's "northern capital," Prince
George, and will be hosted by the
Prince George Community Heritage
Commission. Details will be available
closer to the date.

This is done by a Heritage Protection Authority, which the RMA specifies as a stated Government Minister (eg., Conservation), a local authority (eg., the Auckland City Council), or any corporate body recognized by the Minister for the Environment (applying statutory criteria). A Heritage Protection Authority (HPA) has to agree to any development affecting the designated site. The public designation process includes an appeal to the Environment Court and the HPA may be required to compensate the owner where "reasonable use" of the building is no longer possible due to the required heritage protection. The compensation (or purchase) outcome means this provision is not a preferred option.

HV: What are the "carrots" used in New Zealand to encourage heritage preservation?

TF: Firstly, the Historic Places Trust can be the owner of properties and its first call for funds is to acquire and maintain properties. These are open to the public. The Trust welcomes bequests and some tax deductibility is possible. However, New Zealand doesn't have statutory provision for Foundations, which often play a key role in North America's heritage protection. Secondly, Local authorities (eg., Auckland City Council) can provide incentives through the Local Government Act, such as rate (property tax) relief, reduced fees, or grants/loans, but these are discretionary. For example the Wellington City Council has made grants to help with up-front costs when preparing a development application with heritage provisions. Thirdly, provision can be made in District and City Plans for transferable development rights and height bonuses where heritage protection is concerned. Facadism has also occurred, but its application is usually of questionable value. Finally, local authorities can try to set conditions on development consents to achieve heritage objectives but these are able to be appealed to the Environment Court.

Part Two next month

SEATTLE HERITAGE

Historic Seattle First Hill Lecture Series and Tours

Volney Richmond Jr. Auditorium, Virginia Mason Hospital North Pavilion, 1201 Terry at Seneca on First Hill, Seattle. Lecture series and afternoon tour are \$45 for members of Historic Seattle and \$55 for non-members. Lecture series and both tours are \$60 for members of Historic Seattle and \$70 for non-members. Call Historic Seattle (206) 622-6952.

March 16

7-9:00 P.M.
Shaping First Hill and A First Family on First Hill
Paul Dorpat and Larry Kreisman will speak about early settlement of First Hill.

March 23

7-9:00 P.M.
Growing Pains and Recollecting First Hill
Steve Sheppard and a panel of residents discuss the changing demographics and the impact of zoning and zoning code requirements on First Hill.

March 27

First Hill Tour, Optional Morning Program and First Hill Self-Guided Tour
Three-hour guided walking tour by Seattle Architectural Foundation and an afternoon self-guided walking tour of residential units.

March 30

Re-defining First Hill
Panel discussion with institutions, neighbourhood groups, and residents.

.....

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Kathy Ellis
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City of Vancouver Heritage Awards 1999

Awards of Honour

Connaught Apartments
2300 West Broadway
Michas Family, Jennifer Bell

Architecture Centre
440 Cambie Street
AIBC, 440 Cambie St. Development Group, Busby + Associates Architects Ltd., Robert G. Lemon Architecture & Preservation, Roger Hughes + Partners, Architects

The City Program, SFU at Harbour Centre
Judy Oberlander, Program Director

The Stanley Theatre
2750 Granville Street
The Stanley Theatre Society, Proscenium Architecture + Interiors Ltd., Commonwealth Historic Resource Mgmt. Ltd.

Royal International College
409-413 West Hastings Street
Keiko Norisue, Don Stuart Architect Inc., Robert G. Lemon Architecture & Preservation

Words from the President

Get Ready for Spring

Dear Members,

Did we all enjoy Heritage Month? Yes! A bill was introduced once again in the federal parliament suggesting that Heritage Day be a national statutory holiday. What a boost this would be for heritage conservation. Two highlights of the month were the City of Vancouver Heritage Awards and the conferences discussing heritage conservation.

On February 15, the official Heritage Day, the City of Vancouver hosted a gala celebration at the Hotel Vancouver ballroom to award the City of Vancouver Heritage Awards. This year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the City's heritage program. Ray Spaksma, who started the program in 1974 as a City planner, was the keynote speaker. Once again, the food was excellent, the drinks somewhat expensive, and the location beautiful. Please know that Heritage Vancouver members are welcome to the awards gala, and we hope to see more of you next year.

The end of the month was marked by a gathering of heritage professionals, advocates, and developers to talk about the nuts and bolts of preserving buildings. The Industrial Heritage Conference hosted discussions of the conservation of Granville

Island, the Steveston cannery row, the Wallace/Burrard/Versatile Shipyards, the McLean Mill in Port Alberni, and sites in Seattle. At a free public evening lecture, Brian White spoke on the role of cultural tourism in remote towns. The Economics of Heritage Conservation Conference brought a special guest from Washington DC to speak about the financial realities of preserving buildings. Proceedings of the Industrial Heritage Conference are available for sale, if you were unable to attend but would still like the information.

So what next for March? Time to start thinking about the spring and summer. Our speakers series on public spaces in Vancouver, started by Don Luxton and Robert Lemon continues through June. Heritage Vancouver will be hosting a series of walking tours this summer, so stay tuned for details about that. Tentative plans are to offer a tour each weekend to cover many areas throughout Vancouver.

Susanna

Susanna Houwen
President, Heritage Vancouver

Heritage Vancouver is a non-profit advocacy society whose mandate is to:

- Encourage the study and understanding of heritage preservation with a local and regional perspective.
- Support the conservation of our built heritage.
- Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
- Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.

Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3

604.254.9411

<http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

Membership Renewal
If we have not received your membership renewal we will have to cancel your newsletter mailing.

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

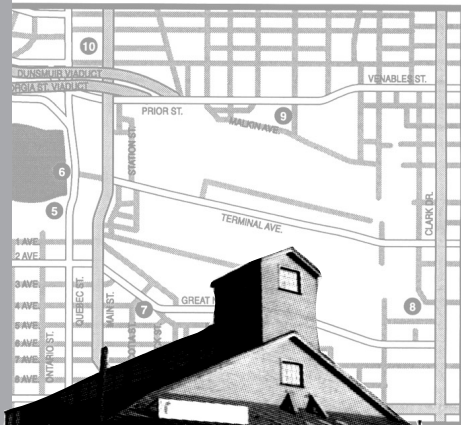
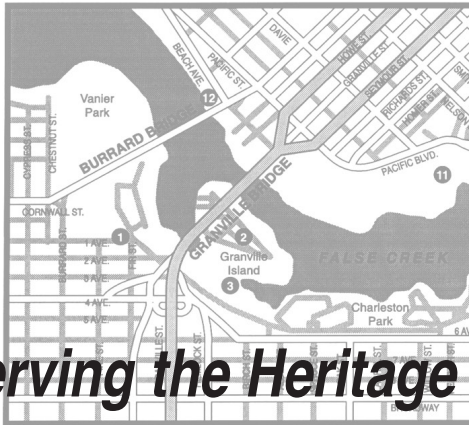
Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual: \$20 Supporting (no newsletter) \$5
 Family: \$25 Corporate: \$50
 Donation: \$ _____ Patrons: \$100

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE
Vancouver
 Newsletter



Preserving the Heritage of

False Creek



by Don Alexander

S

outheast False Creek is the last large parcel on False Creek available for redevelopment. Largely vacant since the Indy was transferred there, it was released from its industrial designation by City Council in the late 1980s.

Council has declared its intention to redevelop the site as a model sustainable community.

As the redevelopment of Southeast False Creek has become more imminent, a number of community and interest groups have seen this as a last *best chance* to build on the positive legacy of South False Creek and Granville Island, while avoiding the high density, exclusiveness, and placelessness of the more recent north shore developments. Much of the leadership for these efforts has come from the adjacent Mount Pleasant community, where advocates for heritage and the arts, and creek and environmental restoration, have been active for many years. Such activists do not always speak with one voice. They are currently divided between those who advocate a model sustainable community, and those who advocate turning the entire area into parkland.

Leading the fight for a sustainable community is the South East False Creek Working Group (SEFCWG) which was formed in early 1996. It has served as a coalition for most of the groups having a vision for the site. The Working Group has also helped stimulate the formation of new groups. As a result of a presentation given at the Group's first major pub-

lic outreach event *Springfest in March '97* the False Creek Heritage Trail group was formed. This loose-knit organization is made up of a variety of members, including historian Bruce MacDonald (current president of the Brewery Creek Historical Society) and activists from the Working Group itself. The idea that our group is working to promote is that of a linear trail around the basin of False Creek that amalgamates the notions of an urban greenway, natural and cultural heritage, and community and public art.

Bruce MacDonald has made an inventory of the heritage of Southeast False Creek, and has written about the distinctive pattern of street names proposed by early landowner, Israel Powell, to celebrate the new federation of Canada. He has related some of the stirring industrial history when Southeast False Creek was the cradle for warships and bridge components. He's talked about the distinctive architecture of the City Works buildings, and discussed how the Salt Building stands on pilings driven into the water off what was then the shore of the Creek.

Already, 36 sites have been identified throughout False Creek as worthy of interpretation, and three themes have been proposed to knit the sites together. These are: the impact of changing land uses on the environment over time; grassroots history; and trends in urban planning and design. Examples of grassroots history would include the Squamish village of Sun'akh and the granting and dispossession of the Kitsilano reserve; the transportation and industrial history of **See False Creek on page 2**

Upcoming Event

VANCOUVER'S PUBLIC SPACES



Wednesday April 21
Vancouver's Waterfront Reinvented

A new mythology
by **LANCE BERELOWITZ**

A significant defining characteristic of Vancouver is its proximity to the Pacific Ocean. Our waterfront lands are some of the most vibrant public spaces in the city (consider False Creek, Granville Island, and the seawall). Some have even argued that one of the reasons Vancouver doesn't have a well-defined civic center is that we are *edge people*; we tend to gravitate to our shorelines. Yet it wasn't so long ago that many of these waterfront areas were heavily industrialized and polluted—places to avoid rather than recreate in. Re-development has changed this considerably and continues to do so. Lance Berelowitz will discuss this issue and challenge our notions of Vancouver's waterfront heritage. What is that legacy and what are we creating with it? Are we protecting a heritage or is it becoming homogenized?

Lance is a Vancouver-based urban planner. He is the principal of Urban Forum Associates, a town planning and urban consultancy founded in 1992. Lance is a member of the Vancouver City Planning Commission and he co-chaired the downtown sub-committee of the Commission. He is widely published in national and international media concerning Vancouver's waterfront.

from cover **False Creek**

the area; and efforts by low-income and immigrant communities (Chinatown, Strathcona, and Mount Pleasant) to defend themselves against racism, freeways, and urban renewal while lobbying for parks and affordable housing. The efforts of the Women's Monument advocates and pioneers for urban sustainability are also worthy of attention.

The False Creek Heritage Trail Group has recently joined forces with seven other organizations, including the SEFC Working Group, to apply for funding from the Bronfman Foundation for something we're calling *The Salt Building Project*. The goals of the Project are to:

- continue interweaving the many projects, organizations and individuals working towards a sustainable Southeast False Creek
- organize community-based outreach and non-traditional events which emphasize community knowledge and public input
- create an Urban Sustainability Centre to support social, environmental, economic and heritage developments on the site, with the Centre to eventually be housed in the Salt Building
- organize celebrations of sustainability and the creation of a Southeast False Creek vision through celebrations, tours, and other events
- to merge expertise and local knowledge through a series of community design charrettes.

Thanks in part to the Heritage Trail Group's participation, the proposal strongly incorporates a heritage per-

spective. It declares that "Education and awareness of our historical inheritance is an integral part of every aspect of this project, including tours, events, public art, and the [proposed] historical archive. The Salt Building Project will help facilitate the creation of the False Creek Heritage Trail beginning in Southeast False Creek; create interpretative signs for the Domtar Salt Building, and pass on the stories of Southeast False Creek through mentorship and historical tours."

This project dovetails nicely with the efforts by the Vancouver Heritage Commission to encourage an approach to development that would *layer* new development onto what's already there, enabling new construction to insert itself into the existing spatial and temporal fabric. And it dovetails well with the Heritage Trail Group's suggestion that the Salt Building would make an excellent interpretative centre for the Heritage Trail as a whole. Somewhat frustrated by the limits of a public participation process to date, which enabled the demolition of the Canon Building, these groups would like to create a *beach-head* on the site so that the public can authentically be a part of shaping Southeast False Creek in a way that respects the history of the Basin and the aspirations of adjacent neighbourhoods.

Heritage Vancouver was one of the groups we approached for a letter of support for the Bronfman bid, and discussions are ongoing concerning a joint application for funds for a trail feasibility study, pilot walking tours, and a False Creek trail guide. To contact the False Creek Heritage Trail Group for more information, e-mail Don Alexander at dalexana@sfu.ca or Diana Smith at ecosol@web.net.

Don Alexander is an assistant professor in the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University, and helped found the False Creek Heritage Trail Group in 1997. He has been involved in planning and urban sustainability issues for a number of years, both as an activist and as a researcher.

**General Meeting
third Wednesday
of each month**

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

Mark Your Calendar

Two events in April in the series by MacMillan Bloedel Lectures on Architecture Series
Robson Square Conference Centre
6:00 P.M. Call for info 874-4488

Wednesday, April 7
Scenic Motion: Dynamic Space
Jean-Pierre Perreault, *Fondation Jean-Pierre Perreault*, Montreal

Wednesday, April 14
Process City -Tokyo
Itsuko Hasegawa,
Itsuko Hasegawa Atelie, Tokyo

Wednesday, April 14th
8:30 P.M. *Trader Vic's Social*
After the MacBlo lecture that night, everyone is welcome to join fellow heritage advocates for a social at the threatened Trader Vic's/Polynesian Room, at the Bayshore Inn

Now until April 2000
City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Vancouver Museum
1100 Chestnut

Saturdays, April 17 & May 15
City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Neon Bus Tours
Join historian & author John Atkin aboard The Transit Museum Society's vintage 1947 BC Electric Fageol Twin Coach for a magical tour of Vancouver's famous neon nightlife.
7:00-10:00 P.M. \$25 / Students \$20
Pre-registration required
Call 736 4431 ext. 395

Saturday, May 8th
True Colours: A Workshop for Heritage Homeowners. This practical, hands-on workshop is designed to provide the tools for choosing historically accurate exterior paint colours for heritage and *heritage style* houses. SFU City Program tel: 291-5254 fax: 291-5098 city@sfu.ca

May 15th
Deadline for Nominations to the HSBC Awards.
Guidelines are available at www.islandnet.com/~hsbc.

June 24-26th
Heritage Society of BC Annual Conference This year's conference takes place in BC's *northern capital*, Prince George, and will be hosted by the Prince George Community Heritage Commission. Details will be available closer to the date.

Continued from last month Heritage in New Zealand

HV: What are some of the groups involved in helping save old buildings?

TF: The role of the Historic Places Trust has been explained. The Trust has volunteer regional committees whose members maintain a watching brief over their local authorities and developers. This is an important adjunct to the Head Office of the Trust in Wellington, whose staff are available to help on local issues. Recently the Manager, Heritage Advocacy, and its Legal staff played an active role with local advocates in presenting evidence to the Environment Court in a case for saving two adjoining buildings in Christchurch's Cathedral Square. The absence of Foundations has also been mentioned. However, there are Incorporated Societies such as the Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch Civic Trusts which have an active advocacy role but depend on members for funding, similar to Heritage Vancouver. There is also the highly successful Napier Art Deco Trust, which had its origins in the local Community Arts Council (sound familiar?). Its success is shown in the photo of Tennyson Street. There are examples of private benefactors gifting or allowing the use of heritage buildings for public use, such as Auckland City's Contemporary Art Gallery. Finally, we shouldn't ignore individuals and companies with heritage buildings who don't have to be coerced into retaining them because they can see commercial value in the building (eg., as a colonial-style restaurant).

HV: Can Heritage Vancouver members access more information about heritage in New Zealand?

TF: The best source now is through the World Wide Web (Internet). The Historic Places Trust has a web page: <http://www.historic.org.nz>. So too has the Art Deco Trust which is: <http://hb.co.nz/artdeco>. The Historic Places Trust also publishes a smartly presented magazine *New Zealand Historic*



Napier, New Zealand, Art Deco buildings on Tennyson Street illustrate cohesive architecture

Places which comes out five times a year; enquires to PO Box 2629 Wellington, New Zealand.

HV: Do you have any concluding comment?

TF: I may have given the impression that things are pretty good on the heritage front in New Zealand. Just as here in Vancouver some people believe this but serious heritage folk see too much not being saved to feel comfortable about the effectiveness of protection. This is certainly so in places such as Auckland where there is a lot of property investment waiting to happen. We are very dependent on local politicians and their planning staff maintaining a positive attitude towards heritage protection. I am sure HV members will agree, that is not a terribly comfortable situation to be in. But it makes groups like the Heritage Vancouver Society even more important as an advocate for sensitive heritage treatment.

.....

Seattle Heritage Events

Wednesday April 14
Your House's Skin: Siding, Windows, and Doors

Wednesday April 21
The Space Around Your Home: Landscape, Garages, Outbuildings and Decks

Both these events 7-9 P.M. at Good Shepherd Center 4649 Sunnyside Ave. North, Wallingford WA.
\$10 US at the door for both events, if there is space and \$18 US in advance

Historic Seattle 1117 Minor Ave.
Seattle WA USA 98101
206-6952 F: 206-622-1197
info@historicseattle.org

Words from the President

Fighting for Recent Commercial Heritage

Dear Members,

The exhibit City Lights: Neon in Vancouver has now opened at the Vancouver Museum, and I highly recommend it. A selection of signs has been pulled from the museum's storage, some of it restored, some of it reunited with its various pieces. This is a chance to get up close to some of the signs that have disappeared from Vancouver's streetscapes. You'll also learn about how signs are designed and see the giant paper that they are laid out on, life size. The exhibit is very well curated, and gives the visitor a sense of how these signs would have looked in context. Visiting the exhibit also gives an expanded audience a chance to see a screening of *Glowing in the Dark*, an entertaining documentary about the history of neon in Vancouver and Las Vegas. There are also bus tours, for which Heritage Vancouver members receive a discount off their fare. Led by John Atkin, these tours are aboard a 1948 Fagel bus, and meander all over Vancouver looking at neon signage, ending at Wally's Drive-In. An on-board slide-show fills in the gaps and allows views of signage that is no longer there.

This exhibit ties in with a change of heart in Vancouver about its neon

history. There are the beginnings of rejuvenation of neon on Granville Street, once known as part of the *Great White Way*. The tall sign-as-building on the Vogue Theatre has been re-lit, and a change in signage by-laws for this area means that other merchants will be able to add new neon signs, some of them animated. Think also of the efforts made to save that 85 feet tall Broadway landmark, the Bow/Mac sign, once the tallest sign in the world. We hope to see the eventual restoration of the Pitman sign on the Dick Building at the southeast corner of Granville and Broadway.

Heritage Vancouver is pushing to extend this change of heart about mid-twentieth century signage to the buildings of that era, as well. There is a proposal to remove all but a portion of the Bank of Nova Scotia building at Granville and Davie, and most of the buildings north of the Hudson's Bay Co. on Granville Street. Cross your fingers.



Susanna Houwen
President, Heritage Vancouver

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- Support the conservation of our built heritage.
- Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
- Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.

Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3

604.254.9411

<http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

Heritage Vancouver E-mail Bulletin

If you would like to receive notice by e-mail of Heritage Vancouver meetings, events and news, please drop a note to Ian Fisher at ifisher@interchange.ubc.ca.

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (no newsletter) \$5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate: \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Patrons: \$100 |

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE
 Vancouver
 Newsletter



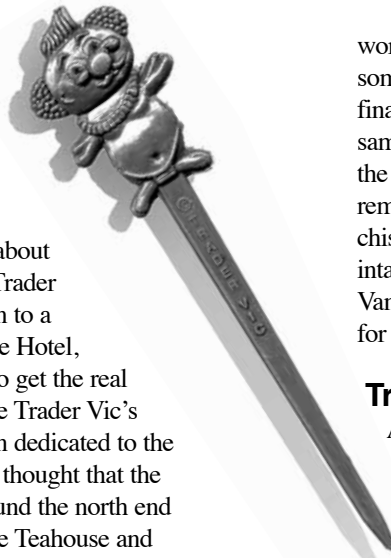
TRADER VIC'S

Recent News on Trader Vic's

by *Susanna Houwen*

There has been some confusion about what will be happening to the Trader Vic's building, so I have spoken to a manager at the Westin Bayshore Hotel, where Trader Vic's is located, to get the real deal. Our initial understanding was that the Trader Vic's building was situated on land that has been dedicated to the Parks Board. This is not the case. We also thought that the whole complex of spaces which wrap around the north end of the hotel, including spaces known as the Teahouse and Trafalgar Room, were to be demolished. Although they will be extensively renovated, this is not the case. It seems that the distinctive A-framed structure is a little too distinctive for renovation, and is the only piece that is scheduled for removal. It will be replaced by an structure of contemporary design.

Parties wishing to move the A-frame building to another location have expressed interest, and the hotel is currently



working out the details. If moved, the A-frame building will land somewhere in the Vancouver or Vancouver Island region. The final appearance of the A-frame building will likely not be the same as its current one, as most of the interior fixtures belong to the Trader Vic's franchise. Some artifacts have already been removed and sent to San Francisco, where the Trader Vic's franchise headquarters is located, but the interiors are still essentially intact. You have one month left to experience a piece of Vancouver history. Trader Vic's is scheduled to close its doors for the last time on Friday, May 28, 1999.

Trader Vic's Trivia

All those who attended the Trader Vic's Farewell Bash had the opportunity to win a genuine Trader Vic's souvenir. All you had to do was answer a few trivia questions. Janet Leduc was the lucky winner of a giant oar-shaped swizzle stick, topped with a tiki-man. How do you do with these brainteasers?

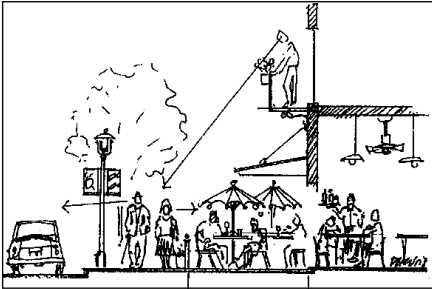
Questions A

1. Where was the first Trader Vic's Restaurant built?
2. When was the Vancouver Trader Vic's Restaurant built?
3. What was Trader Vic's last name?

Continued on page 3

Upcoming Event

VANCOUVER'S PUBLIC SPACES



'Eyes on the street' in an active station environment

Wednesday May 19 *New Priorities in the Design of Public Spaces* by Phillips Farevaag Smallemberg

Chris Phillips and Marta Farevaag will give a talk on change over time to the design of streets and public spaces. As a landscape architect and urban planner involved in a variety of public realm and open space projects in Vancouver, including the Hastings Park Restoration Plan, a recent design charrette for the City's Southeast False Creek development site, and several of the new SkyTrain stations, Phillips and Farevaag will discuss their sense of the rapidly changing paradigms for public places involving sustainability, community involvement, pedestrian-orientation, and accessibility to transit.

Both Chris and Marta are principals with Phillips Farevaag Smallemberg a firm specializing in landscape architecture, planning, and urban design. Many of the firm's projects address heritage resources; most involve the affected community through public workshops and meetings. Chris finished his degree in Landscape Architecture at the University of Guelph and moved to Vancouver in 1979. Marta has a degree in Planning from U.B.C. and has worked with Chris since 1979 on many planning and design projects.

Seattle Heritage Event

Thursday May 13
Virginia McAlester
Author of *A Field Guide to America's Historic Neighborhoods and Museum Houses: the Western States*
Room 147 (Auditorium), old Architecture Hall on the University of Washington campus, NE 40th and 15th Avenue NE, Seattle

Historic Seattle 1117 Minor Avenue.
Seattle WA USA 98101
206-6952 F: 206-622-1197
info@historicseattle.org
www.ci.seattle.wa.us/commnty/histsea

President's Words *continued from back*

Why do we try to preserve old buildings, at all? Some people have the mistaken impression that heritage advocates are trying to freeze time, or wish to live in the past. This is not the case. In trying to preserve buildings, we are trying to ensure that layers of occupancy exist in the same place, rather than previous traces being constantly eradicated. The record of past existence is evidence that we can expect to exist in the future—that is, that we endure. Evidence that we have existed in the same place for a long time helps to strengthen a sense of community. It is these layers of occupancy, through the preservation of buildings of every age, that we are trying to achieve, not a city frozen in time.

Susanna

Susanna Houwen
President, Heritage Vancouver

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

Mark Your Calendar

May 1
Gulf of Georgia Cannery opens for season Hours: Thursday to Monday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. 664-9203
www.harbour.com/parkscan/ggc

Tuesday, May 4
Hallmark Society Awards
Cowichan Valley Heritage House Tour,
Duncan 12:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.
tickets \$15
250-746-8774 or 250-746-6612

Saturday, May 8th
True Colours: A Workshop for Heritage Homeowners. This practical, hands-on workshop is designed to provide the tools for choosing historically accurate exterior paint colours for heritage and *heritage style* houses. SFU City Program tel: 291-5254 fax: 291-5098 city@sfu.ca

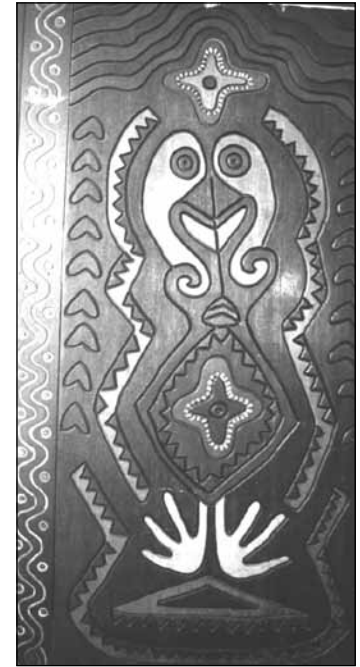
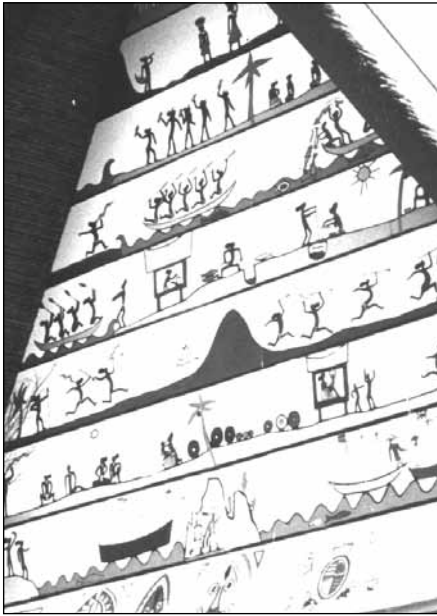
Now until April 2000
City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Vancouver Museum
1100 Chestnut

Saturdays, May 15, September 11
City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Neon Bus Tours
Join historian & author John Atkin aboard one of The Transit Museum Society's heritage buses for a magical tour of Vancouver's famous neon night-life. 7:00-10:00 P.M. \$25
Students and Heritage Vancouver members \$20
Pre-registration required Call 736 4431

Saturday, May 15
Deadline for Nominations to the HSBC Awards.
Guidelines are available at
www.islandnet.com/~hsbc.

Sunday May 30
20th Annual New Westminster Heritage Homes Tour
Presented by Heritage Preservation Society of New Westminster
A tour of Victorian, Edwardian, and Arts & Crafts homes and mansions. \$20.00 (including refreshments)
Sales start Saturday, May 8th at Vintage Lighting 615-12th St. and Anvil Bookstore 706-6th St., New Westminster (tickets sell out fast)
Enquiries: Robert Johnson 520-3099 Christopher Bell 524-9502

May 21-22
Benefit Concert for the South Hill Candy Shop
Vogue Theatre
A heritage building and restaurant that was destroyed in a fire last month



4. What city was Trader Vic in when he got the idea to start the restaurant?
5. And for the grand prize what was Trader Vic's most notable physical trait?

Here are some bonus questions, for those who love a challenge.

Questions B

1. What feature of the restaurant décor almost prevented its opening?
2. What is the location of another Polynesian theme restaurant in Vancouver?
3. What material is the roof of Trader Vic's made of?
4. What local architect designed the building?
5. What was Trader Vic's nationality?



Answers on the back page

Words from the President

Heritage Vancouver is a non-profit advocacy society whose mandate is to:

- Encourage the study and understanding of heritage preservation with a local and regional perspective.
 - Support the conservation of our built heritage.
 - Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
 - Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.
- Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3
- 604.254.9411
- <http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

Why Save Old Buildings?

Dear Members,

We had a disheartening setback in the beginning of April. A proposal made by a group calling itself the Dance Centre to demolish most of the Bank of Nova Scotia at the corner of Granville and Davie Streets succeeded at City Council. Their proposal is to preserve only the two-story Granville Street façade and construct a new seven-story building on the rest of the lot. Most upsetting was the fact that the developer is receiving a heritage density bonus for doing this! Please know, as you see construction of this project progressing that Heritage Vancouver fought tooth-and-nail to prevent this from occurring.

Some members have brought up the issue of the scope of buildings and monuments we are working to preserve, in terms of the age and types of buildings. Why do we, for example, wish to save an early-twentieth-century building such as this 1929 Art Deco temple bank? Some people feel only those buildings more than 100 years old ought to be saved. At the risk of pointing out the obvious, if buildings are not allowed to survive, they will never become 100 years old! Rather than just allowing fate to decide which buildings do survive, we point out now buildings that are good examples of design or are meaningful, and work to ensure that they are preserved.

Why do we have an interest in commercial buildings, signage, civic monuments, and industrial buildings, as well as the usual interest in old houses? Why an interest in the quirky, as well as the beautiful? All of these building types are necessary to make up the whole fabric of our environment. Sometimes it is not the most beautiful pieces that have the most meaning. The term "environment" has come to mean only trees, but means all of the myriad pieces that make up your neighbourhood. To destroy any piece of our environment is to deny a piece of our selves.

continued on page 2 **President's Words**

Heritage Vancouver E-mail Bulletin

If you would like to receive notice by e-mail of Heritage Vancouver meetings, events and news, please drop a note to Ian Fisher at ifisher@interchange.ubc.ca.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| A Answers | B Answers |
| 1. San Francisco | 1. Explicit fertility figures |
| 2. 1961 | 2. The Waldorf Hotel |
| 3. Bergeron | 3. Verdigris copper |
| 4. Los Angeles | 4. Reno Negrin |
| 5. He had a peg-leg | 5. French-Canadian |

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

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City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual: \$20 Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

Family: \$25 Corporate: \$50

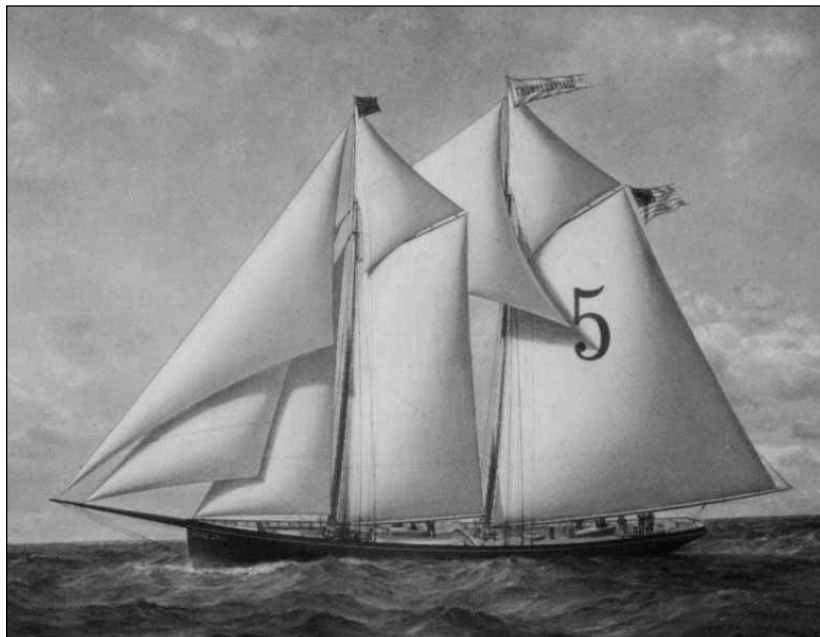
Donation: \$ _____ Patrons: \$100

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE

Vancouver

N e w s l e t t e r



“ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT VESSELS IN NORTH AMERICAN MARITIME HISTORY” sits in Vancouver’s False Creek under tattered plastic tarps. The pilot schooner *Thomas F. Bayard* was commissioned by Captain Henry Virden of Lewes, Delaware and launched in Brooklyn, New York on March 13, 1880. Her working career spanned over seventy years from her intended role as a pilot schooner, to Klondike Gold Rush freighter, Bering Sea sealing ship and finally a lightship anchored at the mouth of the mighty Fraser River.

The *Nautical Gazette* wrote on March 20, 1880, “Of the many builders of this class of vessel in this vicinity, none have achieved the success and reputation of the Poillon Bros. Such fine examples as the *T.S. Negus*, *Columbia*, and the *A.M. Laurence*, attest fully their skill in this branch of naval architecture, and to their latest construction, the subject of this article, we would respectfully call attention of our readers. The *Thomas F. Bayard* was launched from Messrs. Poillon’s yard at Brooklyn on the 13th inst. She is 94 feet long overall, 85 feet long on the water line, 21 feet extreme breadth... and is built of the best material, the

hull being finished ‘smooth, fair, and workmanlike’ in its carpentry.” Of her designer William Townsend they said “... if the skilful hand of Mr Townsend has not lost his cunning, the *Thomas F. Bayard*, his latest achievement, will prove speedy, staunch and buoyant in her arduous service she has to perform.” (Townsend’s 1867 creation *Sappho* was the winner of the first America’s Cup race in 1871.)

Bayard’s duties as a pilot schooner ended when the independent and competing pilots formed a pilot’s association which soon replaced their sailing fleet with steamships. Sold to new owners in 1898 she was sailed in a winter’s passage around Cape Horn in 166 days to San Francisco to ferry freight and passengers to Alaska for the Klondike Gold Rush. After a number of voyages in this capacity she passed through many hands including, Captain Fred Hackett and his Cocos Island Hydraulic and Treasure Company. While there is no evidence that she actually sailed to the Cocos in search of treasure, it’s still a neat thought.

After the gold rush and the dreams of treasure, Captain Hans

See **Bayard** on page 3

Upcoming Event

VANCOUVER'S PUBLIC SPACES



Nathan Hoehn

Robson Square

Robson Square is one of Vancouver's most significant public spaces. Designed to house the city's art gallery, conference facilities and provincial law courts, the complex's surrounding public areas act as our de facto civic center. This is where political and public protests are often staged, sports heroes are greeted by adoring crowds and people simply 'hangout' at their leisure.

It would seem from a street level, especially on a sunny day, that the public spaces are well-used. However the retail and public areas below street level are not. This on a street that is billed as one of the most expensive, sought-after retail streets in Canada.

So for the past several months, Arthur Erickson's architectural office has been working on plans to revitalize these areas. One of the members of the team working on the project is planning to give a presentation to Heritage Vancouver about some of their schemes for this important public space. Permission from the client, British Columbia Building Corporation, must be obtained first.

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MEMBERS AT LARGE

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General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, June 1

DOCOMOMO.BC Meeting
3846 West 10th Avenue
(Robert Lemon's House)
5:30 P.M. Please RSVP 224-2414.
Membership fees for DOCOMOMO International are due. (Individual memberships are \$50us/year). They must ensure a minimum of 10 members in order to maintain good standing for their Working Party. Take your cheque to the June 1st meeting.

Wednesday, June 9

Southill Overflowing
A follow-up to the two benefit shows at the Vogue for the South Hill Candy Shop owners whose Main Street heritage venue was torched by an arsonist in April. Entertainment to be confirmed, no cover charge, but a hat will be passed and merchandise — a compilation CD featuring regular Southill performers and "The Great Songwriter Fire of '99" t-shirt — will be on offer. Western Front, 303 E. 8th, 876-9343 7 P.M.

June 24-27

21st Annual Conference of Heritage Society of BC

Heritage-Scapes
Prince George
Further info Jan Thomas 582-1332
hsbcjan@bc-alter.net
\$165

Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Richmond
open for season Hours: Thursday to
Monday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. 664-9203
www.harbour.com/parkscan/ggc

Sunday, July 18

Clayburn Heritage Day
Clayburn, BC
House tours, music, brick-plant site
tours, art show, historic photos

Now until April 2000

City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Vancouver Museum
1100 Chestnut

Saturday, September 11

City Lights-Neon in Vancouver
Neon Bus Tours
Join historian & author John Atkin
aboard one of The Transit Museum
Society's heritage buses for a magical
tour of Vancouver's famous neon night-
life. 7:00-10:00 P.M. \$25
Students and Heritage Vancouver
members \$20
Pre-registration required
Call 736 4431

from cover **Bayard**

Blakstad purchased *Bayard* on behalf of a syndicate which put her to work in the notorious Victoria-based Bering Sea sealing hunt. She survived treacherous conditions on those long voyages. The hunt was discontinued by international treaty in 1911, much of which was negotiated by her namesake a Delaware Senator, Secretary of State and United States Ambassador to Britain (the first to hold that title).

After a short lay up in Victoria the Canadian government bought *Bayard* and outfitted her to serve as the lightship *Sand Heads 16*. With her 70 foot tall masts and bowsprit removed, along with other alterations, she was then anchored in the Fraser River where she sat for the next 40 years. The conditions were far from gentle and more than once she rode her anchors and was grounded on the shore. Her original construction prevented serious mishap and she was always quickly back on station.

At the end of her working life she was sold to interests who thought she could serve as accommodation for a fishing resort. Later she became a live aboard and it was in this condition that the Vancouver Maritime Museum discovered and purchased her with the view towards restoration. After an initial flurry of activity funds dried up and interest waned. *Bayard* was tied up in a slip on False Creek where she has sat largely neglected for the past 14 years.

The schooner *Thomas F. Bayard* is not only the last known example of her type, but she is only one of two remaining vessels built by the Poillon Yard (*Coronet*, the other survivor, is currently undergoing a full restoration at the International Yacht Restoration School in Rhode Island). She is also the last Bering Sea sealing ship, one of the the last of the Klondike Gold Rush freighters and is the oldest ship afloat in Canada.

The *Thomas F. Bayard Restoration Society* continues to work towards finding a way of returning this wonderful vessel to seaworthiness to serve as the flagship and floating ambassador for the City of Vancouver.

John Atkin one of Heritage Vancouver's past presidents keeps himself occupied with old neon, old boats and old theatres.



Gastown's CPR Telegraph Building the day before it was torn down late April.

Brock Piper

Reflections Upon the CPR Telegraph Office Building

by *John R. Stuart*

The recent loss of the pre-World War I CPR Telegraph office gives us pause to consider the former importance of this lately decrepit building. There isn't much doubt that it was a building of interest to the heritage community. City staff went to bat for its retention and it was Provincially designated as part of the Gastown cityscape. Now demolished, this little building still has the power to speak to the very issues of what Canada is as a nation.

Early on it became obvious that if there was to be "The National Dream", as Pierre Berton would have it, there needed to be a way to move settlers to exploit the bounty of the land and then move what they produced to market. In our huge country the means of doing that was the railroads. Witness the bulk loading terminals surrounding Burrard Inlet that gave Vancouver's motto "By Land and Sea We Prosper" real substance.

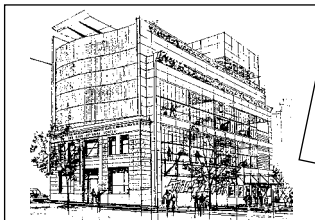
It turned out that the movement of people and goods efficiently was greatly facilitated by an effective means of communication. People down the track could then know when the train was coming, where it was going, what it was carrying. The telegraph was an

essential ingredient in the efficient operation of the railroad. More than that, it showed that Canada was on the leading edge of technical innovation. Considering the very nature of our country, how could it be otherwise?

Is it possible that sometimes we focus too much on the bricks and mortar of preservation? What is beyond dispute is that the CPR Telegraph Building was important as a symbol of the glue that holds our vast country together. The CPR is one of Canada's great institutions. Vancouver's massive CPR station is an important icon for the mass movement of people in the early development of Canada. In a way the little telegraph office was even more important. It was at once an icon for how that system of domestic travel and commerce was made to work effectively and, as is becoming increasingly important, how our business community will go forward into the future riding waves of increasingly sophisticated networks of communications.

*John Stuart is the Curator of the N. Vancouver Museum & Archives
stuartj@direct.ca*

Words from the President



Development
Permit Board
June 28, 5:30 PM (approx)
Committee Room 1
Vancouver City Hall
(same floor as Council Chambers)

How are Buildings Saved?

Dear Members,

I wrote last month about the proposal for the 1929 Art Deco Bank of Nova Scotia at the corner of Granville and Davie Streets, the "Dance Centre." There is one last chance to influence the decision regarding this project, the Development Permit Board hearing. Since it is in their interest, the proponents will likely have a large number of people there to show their support. It is essential that Heritage Vancouver members make their opposition to the project known. Ideally, members would say a few words to indicate their support for the Heritage Vancouver position, but even filling the audience is helpful. For all of you who would like to take an active role in conserving heritage buildings, this is your opportunity! I look forward to seeing you there.

When I first became interested in heritage advocacy, I thought my volunteer efforts would involve paintbrushes and hammers. I was so disappointed to learn that most advocacy societies spent most of their time talking in committee meetings. What, I thought, did that have to do with heritage conservation? I soon found out-everything! It is in these committee meetings that all the important decisions are made. I strongly encourage anyone who is concerned about buildings in this city to join a committee that deals with an issue close to your heart.

Susanna

Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver

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advocacy society whose mandate
is to:

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- Support the conservation of our built heritage.
- Promote public awareness of heritage preservation through lectures, publications, tours and newsletters.
- Collect, document and preserve records of heritage structures, landscapes and urban design.

Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3

604.254.9411

<http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

Industrial Heritage Conference binders

For sale for \$25, available for purchase at our monthly meetings, or by e-mailing Susanna Houwen (schouwen@interchange.ubc.ca) fee to mail is \$3.50

Thank You

Belated thanks to Don Luxton for supplying the trivia information for last months article on Trader Vic's

Join Heritage Vancouver

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Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

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Individual: \$20

Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

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Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE
Vancouver
N e w s l e t t e r



600 Block Granville Street

Historic and Architectural Significance



This is a Heritage Vancouver Report presented to Vancouver Mayor Owen and City Council last month.

Importance of the 600 block

The east side of the 600 block Granville contains some of the city's oldest buildings west of Gastown and several facades of great stylistic importance. The Hudson's Bay Department store, an A-listed site, anchors the south end of the block. The balance of the block is the subject of a development application by Laurence Doyle Architect. The former B.C. Electric Showroom—listed as a 'B' on the Vancouver Heritage Register—is the only building north of the Bay proposed for retention in the current scheme. This is unfortunate because, based on research in

this report, there is a strong case for inclusion of several of the remaining buildings on the Register. We believe that the buildings were overlooked during the 1986 survey because historic facades were concealed, and/or historic significance was not known. This is to be expected: the sheer volume of sites considered in a citywide inventory makes in-depth research impossible. However, the Register is a "living" document that may be augmented as new information comes to light. The purpose of this report is to provide that information.

See Granville on page 2

Historical Background

The earliest buildings in Vancouver date from the period of reconstruction following the Great Fire of June 1886. 1887 marks the arrival of the first transcontinental passenger train, and the opening of the CPR's Hotel (Hotel Vancouver #1) at the southwest corner of Granville and Georgia. The land grant to the CPR comprised a large portion of the Downtown peninsula, southwest of the original townsite, between Hamilton and Burrard Streets. The placement of the hotel and other institutions along the Granville alignment was intended to pull development westward to the CPR's holdings. In 1888, construction work began on the first Granville Bridge, in the same year, streetcar tracks were installed along Granville Street, spurring construction of the street's first permanent commercial buildings. One of the first businesses was the Hudson's Bay Company, which in 1891 moved from Cordova Street to a brick and stone building constructed two years earlier at 622 Granville, a half block north of its present location. That building, at 622 Granville, still exists.

By the turn of the century, Granville Street was established as a major retail and commercial artery. Development in the 600 block continued into the 1920s, including the present Hudson's Bay Department store (1926), the Woolworth store, and the B.C. Electric Showroom (1928). Since the opening of Pacific Centre Mall in 1970, Granville Street has suffered economic decline, accelerated in 1990 by Bramalea Corporation's termination of leases in anticipation of demolition for their Block 33 / 43 proposal. Since Bramalea's collapse, many of the premises have remained vacant and essentially abandoned. In a deplorable example of demolition by neglect, many of the buildings are now in an advanced state of deterioration that detracts from their historic and architectural significance.

Building Inventory

1 600 Block Granville Street (East Side) B.C. Electric Showroom — 600 Granville (1928, Hodgson & Simmons; McCarter and Nairne)

The B.C. Electric Showroom was designed as a showcase for modern domestic electrical appliances as part of the company's effort to promote consumer use of its hydroelectric power. The magnificent facade is a testament to the enduring evocative power of classical design in the late 1920s, given the futurist program of its retail function. More emblematic of that program was a 2 ½ storey projecting neon sign (since removed) bearing the letters 'B.C. Electric' on the Granville Street facade. In nighttime photos of the era, the sign shone like a beacon from the corner of Granville and Dunsmuir as if heralding the new electric age.

The buildings two facades are among the city's most elegant and urbane. The principal architectural feature consists of a series of ornate two storey cast bronze windows bracketed by decorative bronze balconies projecting from the flanking second storey windows. Despite its Classical composition, the remaining ornamentation is restrained, limited to consoles above the arched third floor windows, quoins, and shallow bas-relief panels below the cornice line. The cornice itself barely projects from the facade, and the over-all impression is one of lightness and simplicity consistent with the modernizing trend of the late 1920s evident in contemporary structures such as the Hotel Georgia (R.T. Garrow / John Graham Sr. (1927)). The showroom also has significant interior decoration.

Since the 1950s the building has been home to a number of retail fashion stores, its most recent tenant being the Arts, Science and Technology Centre (precursor to Science World). The building has been abandoned for over ten years and is showing serious signs of neglect.

2 608 and 610 Granville (1898)

The original late Victorian facade featured repeating oriel windows and recessed balconies corresponding to the two 25 foot-wide Granville St. frontages. By the 1940s, the facades had been 'modernized' for two separate tenants—Rae-son shoes at 608, and a Kodak photographic franchise at 610. The Kodak frontage is concealed by corrugated sheet metal. The Rae-son facade, a stylish 'billboard' framing the 'Rae-son' lettering, has since been stuccoed, and the lettering removed. At the retail level, curved glass display windows and a swirling Terrazzo entrance pavement remain.

3 Crewes Block / Hudson's Bay #2 — 622 Granville (1888/9)

This building was among the first to be constructed on Granville Street. In 1888, streetcar tracks were laid on Granville and across the newly constructed Granville Bridge (1889) linking Vancouver with the south side of False Creek. The opening of Granville Street spurred the first north/south commercial development west of Main Street. Early photographs show construction of the tracks and roadbed, with the contemporaneous construction of the first permanent buildings. 622 Granville was one of these very early buildings. Built as the Crewes Block in 1888/9 it became, in 1891, the first Hudson's Bay Company Store on Granville, after the HBC moved from their original retail store on Cordova Street in Gastown. The original brick and stone facade was replaced in 1948 by a striking Moderne facade designed for Saba's. The three storey cast stone composition incorporates stylized inset columns with horizontal shadow-banding at base and capital, reflecting the divisions of the Classical order and the streamlined forms of the jet age. The facade is a small but important link in Vancouver's post-war transition from historicism to Modernism, and should be added to the Register.

4 Woolworth's — 632 Granville (c.1920)

Originally a Woolworth's store, it was occupied almost continuously as such until the mid-1980s. The building was constructed in two phases—the northern part in the early 1920s and the southern addition in the 1930s.

5 648 Granville (1892)

This building was part of the initial development of Granville Street. The existing corrugated sheet metal cladding conceals a 3 storey late Victorian brick and granite facade comparable to examples in Gastown. This is among many fine buildings that missed inclusion in the Heritage Register because the original facade was hidden from view and historical research was not done. (See also #2). (Similar cladding concealed the 1887 former Post Office building at 428 W. Hastings Street, now the Royal International College. In that case, archival research indicated a handsome neo-classical facade, which has now been revealed and restored, and was the recipient of a 1999 City of Vancouver Heritage Award).



Woolworth's - 632 and 648 Granville



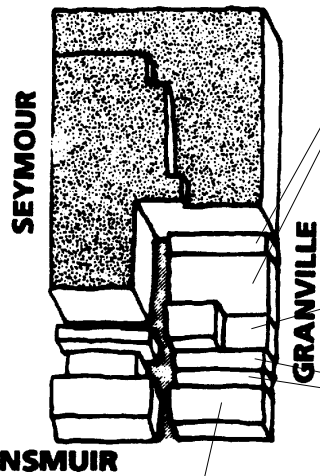
622 Granville, HBC, Crewes Block



622 Granville, Saba Bros. Moderne facade at the Crewes Block



608-610 Granville, now extensively altered



BC Electric Showroom



BC Electric Showroom today

City Of Vancouver Archives

City Of Vancouver Archives

S. Hanwen

Vancouver Public Library

Vancouver Public Library

B. Piper

Words from the President

Summer Heritage in B.C.

Dear Members,

Summer is a great time to get out and see some heritage sites, especially since some are only open in the summer. Last summer I went on a driving tour through BC seeing various heritage sites on the way: the Grist Mill in Keremeos, Guisachan House in Kelowna, O'Keefe Ranch outside of Armstrong, and Fort Steele Heritage Town. And of course there are a lot of heritage sites right here in the Valley: London Farm and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery in Steveston, Haney House in Maple Ridge, Kilby General Store near Agassiz, Fort Langley, and Clayburn Village between Abbotsford and Mission, just to name a few. Thinking about visiting Vancouver Island? Take a look at Craigflower School and Farmhouse, Helmken House, Point Ellice House and the town of Ladysmith, also just to name a few. When you visit interpretive heritage sites and pay your admission fee, you are actively supporting these sites. Show BC that you care and have some fun doing it! Have a great summer, and we will see you again in September, same time, same place.



Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver

Mark Your Calendar

June 26-27

Coal Miner Days Annual three-day fest celebrates the coal-mining heritage of Sparwood, BC.
Phone (250)425-6590.

Sunday, July 18

Clayburn Heritage Day

House tours, brick plant tours, Shakespearean plays, art show, historic photos, fiddlers, an old-fashioned general store and the friendliest villagers in the Valley. This 1905 village was made a Heritage Conservation Area in 1996 and boasts quaint brick cottages and vestiges of what was the largest brick manufacturer in the province.

July 31-August 1

Ladysmith Celebration Days

Multicultural festival kicks off with a parade and soapbox derby downtown. Festivities at Transfer Beach include logger sports, fireworks, entertainment, and an ethnic food fair. A good excuse to take a look at main street heritage conservation in action. Phone (250) 245-2112.

September 17-19

North Shore Heritage Weekend

A variety of interesting heritage activities including the popular heritage home tour and a boat tour up Indian Arm
Further enquiries:
Home Tours, Robb Utendale 983-7357 ext 651
Harbour Tours, Shirley Sutherland 987-5618

Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Richmond open for season Hours: Thursday to Monday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. 664-9203
www.harbour.com/parkscan/ggc

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Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (no newsletter) \$5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate: \$50 |
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HERITAGE

Vancouver

Newsletter

Erickson our season finale



by John R. Stuart

ROBSON SQUARE REVISITED

On June 16, as part of Heritage Vancouver's Public Spaces series, Arthur Erickson and Rainer Fassler (Architectura) discussed proposed changes to the Robson Square complex Erickson designed in the mid seventies. The main public spaces, particularly the below-grade areas, have not attracted people as intended, and commercial activities such as cafes and restaurants have languished. The BC Buildings Corporation, the Provincial Government agency that owns the site, has asked Erickson to take a second look at Robson Square to try to remedy some of its shortcomings. Heritage Vancouver will be following the process closely to ensure that changes to the complex do not negatively impact the former Rattenbury/Hooper courthouse (Art Gallery) or compromise the modernist architectural legacy of the site. John Stuart, HV member and curator of the City of North Vancouver Museum, provides some personal insights into Erickson's presentation.

Arthur Erickson's visit to the June meeting of Heritage Vancouver was a real treat. He and Rainer Fassler from the Vancouver firm, Architectura, presented some of the current thinking on contemplated renovations to the plaza at Robson Square. While waiting to see what eventually comes forward, what I found particularly interesting was Mr. Erickson's approach to architectural problem solving.

Upon reflection, our practice of establishing the architectural merit of heritage buildings by associating them with examples which were designed to meet the requirements of another time and place is really quite curious. For example, the Marine Building (McCarter & Nairne, 1929) is considered one of Vancouver's finest heritage buildings, partly because it is a highly realized example of a style defined elsewhere, ie. Art Deco, defined in Paris at the 1925 Exposition. Similarly, Rattenbury's Court house (1912, now the Vancouver Art Gallery) incorporates Classical Greco-Roman architectural elements that were re-interpreted in the Italian Renaissance, re-discovered in 19th Century Britain, and then imported to Canada. Likewise, many of our turn-of-the-century commercial and industrial buildings borrow from the Chicago style, an American adaptation of Classical precedent. But by valuing (and evaluating) our architecture as examples of styles developed elsewhere, are we not implicitly valuing the accomplishments of the elsewhere as centres of architectural thought, at the expense of our own unique experience?

See Erickson on page 3



UPCOMING EVENT

1999-2000 Speakers Series

Writing About Local Heritage

Heritage Vancouver is inviting authors of books on local heritage to speak during the September 1999 to June 2000 speakers series. In each three-part series, the speakers invited will examine an aspect of Vancouver's heritage. The first three-part series, entitled *People Live in These Buildings* and taking place September 15, October 20 and November 17, consists of authors who have written about social history in Vancouver. Stay tuned for details about the January to March and April to June series.

PEOPLE LIVE IN THESE BUILDINGS

Part 1

Wednesday, September 15

Raymond Culos

author of *Vancouver's Society of Italians*

Raymond Culos is a local author who has written about the history of the Italian community in Vancouver. His book may be purchased at a discount at the meeting.

Part 2

Wednesday, October 20

Cindy Krepchenko

Walking Stories Tours

recipient of Heritage Trust grant to develop tours.

Going ... going

HV member Peter Vaisbord and his partner Carole caught the above photos of Trader Vic's while camping at Ruckle Provincial Park on the southern tip of Saltspring Island over the BC Day long weekend. A favourite Vancouver watering hole since the early '60s, the Polynesian-styled building faced demolition to make way for a public seawall — part of a deal struck with the City as part of major renovations and increased development planned for the Westin Bayshore Hotel property. The main structure was privately purchased for a proposed winery on Vancouver Island, and what you see here is the building being barged past Saltspring on its way to Brentwood Bay. Unfortunately, the structure is still threatened, as the slope up to the purchaser's property is apparently too steep, and the former landmark is currently sitting at the base of the hill. Know of anybody on the Island who needs a used tiki room?

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking — please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

Mark Your Calendar

September 17-19

North Shore Heritage Weekend

A variety of interesting heritage activities including the popular heritage home and boat tour up Indian Arm
Further enquires:

Home Tours, Robb Utendale 983-7357
ext 651 *Harbour Tours*, Shirley
Sutherland 987-5618

Wednesday, September 22

Vancouver Historical Society

meeting at Vancouver Museum 1100
Chestnut St. for more info VHS
878-9140 or www.vcn.bc.ca/vhs

Monday, September 27

Hallmark Society AGM

at 7:30 P.M. South Park Annex,
660 Michigan Street, Victoria
election of officers, silent auction, guest
speaker Dennis Monaker author of *The
Gorge of Summers Gone*, will takes us
behind the scenes in Victoria's heritage
buildings.

Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Richmond
open until October, hours: Thursday
to Monday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. 664-9203
www.harbour.com/parkscan/ggc

Sunday, October 3 at 1:00 P.M.

Field Trip Tour of HMCS Discovery,

Deadman's Island, Stanley Park
to register: Peggy Imredy, Vancouver
Historical Society, P.O. Box 3071,
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X6

October 20-26

**Association for Preservation
Technology (APT) Conference**
in Banff

October 21-23

Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Conference

St. John's, Newfoundland
T 613-237-1066 F 613-237-5897
E hercanot@sympatico.ca

November 13-14

First Annual Vancouver Heritage Fair

at the Seaforth Armoury hosted by the
Vancouver Heritage Foundation



from cover **Erickson**

One of the key tenets of Modernist thought is the need to be responsive to local conditions, such as climate, topography, site context etc. This reality is particularly evident on the West Coast: Designs drawn from other times and places do not necessarily work well in our cool, damp, and gray climate. The need to adapt building forms and materials to local conditions was a compelling message in Erickson's approach to Robson Square. Thus, large sheets of plate glass, properly sealed against the moisture, form the basic design solution for enclosing outdoor spaces that have been under utilized partly due to inclement weather. Glass helps maximize the amount of natural light able to penetrate the space, but perhaps more importantly, maintains our connection with the surrounding landscape — a need which seems to be felt more keenly here on the West Coast than in other places in the world. At any rate, we do not have the climactic extremes of an Athens or a Chicago. Therefore, with minimal intervention, sometimes just a sheet of glass that visually dematerializes, we can enjoy our temperate climate for most of the year. I believe that Mr. Erickson's success comes, in no small part, from his ability to design architecture that minimizes the impact of walls, roofs and other support systems. Robson Square is one of our most important public spaces. I'm looking forward to seeing Erickson's completed proposal.

*John R. Stuart is the Curator of the N. Vancouver Museum & Archives
stuartj@direct.ca*

HSBC Conference in Prince George

June 23 to 26, heritage advocates from all over the province gathered in BC's Northern Capital to celebrate heritage landscapes. The highlight of the conference was keynote speaker Jan Penney from Sovereign Hill, an extensive heritage site in Australia. It was inspiring to hear that heritage sites can become financially viable enterprises while not losing their curatorial integrity. Popular programs such as vignettes, student-immersion days, and an evening show with plenty of action keep visitors coming, while scrupulous adherence to principles of authenticity in the acquisition of artifacts and the dress and demeanor of staff ensure that what those visitors see while they are there is as accurate as possible.

1999 North Shore Heritage Weekend, September 17, 18, 19

North Shore Heritage Weekend is a celebration of heritage across the North Shore. This event is sponsored by the three North Shore Heritage Advisory Commissions. Below are only some of the many events scheduled.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF RON THOM a slide show and discussion regarding Ron Thom's early work Friday, Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.; District of North Vancouver Municipal Hall, 355 Queens Road, North Van.

LOWER LONSDALE LOOKABOUT walking tour with stories of North Vancouver's early personalities Saturday, Sept. 18 at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 19 at 2:00 p.m.; P.G.E. Station, at the foot of Lonsdale Ave.

INDIAN ARM GUIDED BOAT TOUR tour Indian Arm by boat! Saturday, September 18, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.; departing from Waterfront Park, North Vancouver.

WEST VANCOUVER HERITAGE INFO. BOOTH - learn more about our heritage resources and programs Sept. 18 & 19, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m., Ambleside Beach, next to the Ferry Building.

NORTH VANCOUVER MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE Saturday, Sept. 18 and Sunday, Sept. 19, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.; North Van. Museum & Archives, 209 West 4th St.

GENERATIONS: 5 DECADES OF ART IN WEST VANCOUVER, 1912-1962 Saturday, Sept. 18, and Sunday, Sept. 19, 12:00 to 4:30 p.m., West Vancouver Museum & Archives, 680 - 17th St.

HERITAGE HOME TOUR - visit a selection of the North Shore's most distinctive heritage homes Saturday, September 18, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., Various sites across the North Shore. A limited number of \$15.00 per person tickets will be sold at the West Van Municipal Hall, Third Floor, 750-17th St. (925-7236) and North Van. City Hall, 141 - 14th St. (987-7351). Ticket sales must end Wed., Sept. 15.

MEMORIES OF DEEP COVE view an exhibition of historic photographs of Deep Cove Saturday, September 18, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Deep Cove Cultural Center, 4360 Gallant Ave.

HERITAGE HOMES OF THE CRAFTSMEN - join Roy Pallant to view houses built around Stokers Farm Saturday, September 18, 1:30 p.m.; Meet at North Vancouver District Municipal Hall, 355 Queens Road.

POINT ATKINSON LIGHTHOUSE TOUR - join Don Graham for an look at the Point Atkinson Light Station Sunday, September 19, 10:00 a.m., meet at the gate to the Lighthouse compound.

HERITAGE HARBOUR BOAT TOURS - view North Vancouver's historic waterfront Sunday, Sept. 19; noon, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. sailings; departure from Waterfront Park, North Vancouver.

NORTH VANCOUVER HERITAGE DISPLAY BOOTH - heritage display depicting photographs and brochures Sunday, September 19, 12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m.; at Waterfront Park, North Vancouver.

Some events require pre-registration or purchase of a ticket — call 925-7236 for more information.

Words from the President

Hope you had a good summer

Dear Members,

Do you remember that in the Summer issue of the newsletter I suggested that we should all put our money where our mouth is and actively support heritage by attending some heritage sites this summer? Well, I managed to see some heritage sites myself and sent some out-of-town visitors to some others. My husband took young guests from the Netherlands, who were dead-set against seeing any museums, to the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Britannia Shipyards and London Farm, all in Steveston. They were all pleasantly surprised by what they found there. A lot of fun and not the usual dusty articles in glass cases. While in Prince George for the HSBC conference, I visited Huble Homestead, Fort St. James, Cottonwood House and Barkerville with my brother and my little nephew. Five years old, he was thrilled to cook bannock on a stick over an open fire and build a miniature piece-sur-piece log house. My husband and I stopped at the BC Museum of Mining in Britannia Beach on our way up to Whistler and found it to be well worth the visit. A very fun tour through a mining tunnel, demonstrations of mining equipment, and a chance to go into that distinctive structure terraced on the side of the mountain. If your family is like mine, stops at heritage sites are ostensibly for the one heritage buff of the group, but everyone ends up having a good time. I hope you and your family had a good time this summer, too!

Susanna

Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver

Update re: Bank of Nova Scotia

On July 27, the final nail was hammered into the coffin of the 1929 Bank of Nova Scotia building, at the corner of Granville and Davie Streets. Three speakers defended the building, and decried the heritage density bonus that is being given for the retention of a small portion of the building. Unfortunately, the words said by these speakers were more of a eulogy than a defense, since the building's fate had long ago been decided. It is ironic that in New Westminster, at a branch of similar vintage, there is actually a banner on the front of the building celebrating their longevity at that location.

The Electrical Heritage Society of BC is looking for electrical artifacts related to residential wiring early in this century. Contact Nes Romaniuk, society president at Elworthy Electrical Services Ltd. in Burnaby, 604-299-4341 if you would be willing to make a donation of something.

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (no newsletter) \$5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate: \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Patrons: \$100 |

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE

Vancouver

Newsletter

GASTOWN PAST HOPE?

by Donald Luxton

GASTOWN, designated as a Provincial Heritage Area in 1971, is being preserved mainly by neglect. There have been many assaults on its historic character, enabled by a confused administrative framework. Could several new initiatives reverse the trend of decline?

Drastic change is the last thing that you would want to see in a designated heritage area, but that is what is about to happen in Gastown, one way or another. The historic birthplace of Vancouver is now an area in crisis. Depressed property values, arson and neglect have contributed to its decline. Marathon Realty has just gotten away with *demolition by neglect* on the 1912 CPR Telegraph Building, and the historic 1886 Terminus Hotel sits as a burned-out shell. A recent development proposal that would have swallowed the Malkin Warehouse finally started a full-scale debate about the future of Gastown. Only one thing is certain — that something has to give.

There is no one person or group to blame for this situation, rather it is a tangled web of conflict that has grown over time. A vacuum in leadership has allowed a tortured administrative framework to remain in place despite the knowledge that it is not working, and the lack of a sustainable economic base is causing the disintegration of Gastown's historic building fabric.

The biggest problem is a mindset that lumps Gastown, and its sister heritage area Chinatown, with the greater problems of the Downtown Eastside. The implications for preservation are staggering. Long-standing City policies have concentrated low income and social housing in this area (seen any built lately in Coal Harbour or Concord Pacific? Let alone Dunbar or Kerrisdale...) but the lack of sobering and treatment centres, and an overall tolerance of crime and drug abuse have set the stage for rancorous conflict between the business community (and homeowners) and those who want to maintain the area as a resource (some would say ghetto) for the poor. The first draft of the Vancouver Agreement, a trilateral gov-



Gastown south side of 100 Block Water Street in the 1920s (These are the buildings that were replaced by the Water Street side of the Woodward's Parkade in 1971).

VPL, PHOTO #20826

UPCOMING EVENT

1999-2000 Speakers Series

Writing About Local Heritage

Heritage Vancouver is inviting authors of books on local heritage to speak during the September 1999 to June 2000 speakers series. In each three-part series, the speakers invited will examine an aspect of Vancouver's heritage.

Wednesday, October 20

Cindy Krepchenko

Walking Stories Tours

recipient of Heritage Trust grant to develop tours.

Vancouver Block and Roger's Building

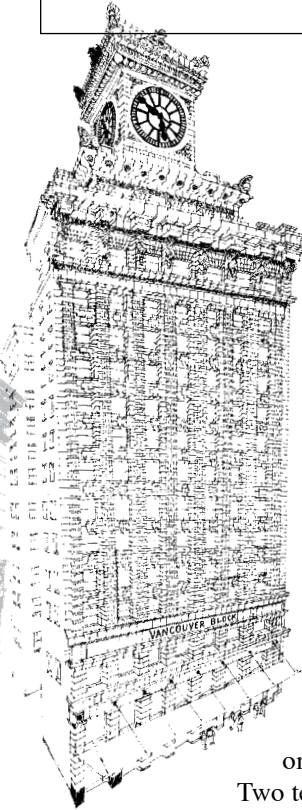
These two distinctive commercial blocks on Granville Street, both owned by Equitable Real Estate, will be receiving face-lifts that will bring them back to a semblance of their original appearance. The Roger's Building, the building where Dunn's Taylors is located, will have a storefront remodeled in an historic way and will have its unique portico brightened up with the use of more glass and lighting. The Vancouver Block, which currently is suffering from the darkening effect of a heavy canopy, will receive a mixture of restoration and new sympathetic work. Both storefronts will be re-built using modern materials which refer to the original storefronts. The new canopy will be

VANCOUVER'S First Annual Heritage and Antiques Fair

For the first-ever Vancouver event of its kind, the Seaforth Armoury will be transformed into a showcase of everything of interest to the heritage homeowner, the prospective heritage building owner and the heritage admirer.

Sponsored by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation with the assistance from the Simon Fraser University City Program

See **Mark Your Calendar** for details.



glass, as the original was.

Two terracotta column capitals that were removed during previous up-dating efforts will be re-cast from the remaining existing ones. Although we are always happy to see buildings restored to their former glory, this methodology of restoring where original material remains and doing something obviously modern where the evidence is not detailed enough to make a reconstruction is very proper from a pure heritage conservation point of view. Above all, we should support moves that guarantee continued use of a building while not destroying historic fabric.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, October 3 at 1:00 P.M.
Field Trip Tour of HMCS Discovery,
Deadman's Island, Stanley Park to register: Peggy Imredy, Vancouver Historical Society, P.O. Box 3071, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X6

October 20-26
Association for Preservation Technology (APT) Conference
in Banff

October 21-23
Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Conference
St. John's, Newfoundland
Further info:
Maggie Villeneuve
Heritage Canada Foundation
PO Box 1358, Stn B
Ottawa, ON K1P 5R4
T 613-237-1066 F 613-237-5897
E hercanot@sympatico.ca

Saturday / Sunday
November 13-14
Vancouver's First Annual Heritage and Antiques Fair
Historic Seaforth Armoury
1650 Burrard Street
hosted by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
\$10 for one day / \$18 for both days
Information / Registration
Joanna Tee, Event Manager
T 604-444-4746 F 604-444-4741
E cem@bc.sympatico.ca



Hallowe'en Walking Tour

What creepier place to spend Hallowe'en than in a cemetery? Join Heritage Vancouver Sunday, October 31 at 3:00 pm for an hour-and-a-half walking tour through Vancouver's most historic cemetery. Explore the *neighbourhoods* to find out what well-known figures lay buried beneath the cold earth.

Tickets will be available for advance purchase at the AGM, October 20, or phone Susanna at 734-2933 to reserve a place. \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under.

October 18-21, 1999

Conference on Cultural Heritage Tourism

PEMBROKE, ONTARIO

Designed to increase awareness of cultural and heritage resources as a means to real economic stimulus within the tourism sector. Participants will learn about identifying cultural assets and resources, how to develop partnerships and create packages for new cultural and heritage based tourism product, and how to effectively promote these to target markets. Culture and heritage have become the focus of what travellers want from their vacation experiences, and increasingly what influences their decision about where to travel and spend their tourism dollars.

For further information contact the Conference Coordinator at 613-732-7068 or visit the conference web site www.bonnecherepark.on.ca/conference. Conference Administrator Tel: 800-868-8776 or 613-732-7068 Fax: 613-732-3386

October 24, 1999

Ladies of the Lake

Burnaby Heritage Village and Ceperley House Gallery present a walking tour of Deer Lake. Starting from the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, the tour will highlight five historical and contemporary women who have had an influence on Deer Lake and Burnaby. Also included is an interpretive tour of the exhibit of Muriel Yewdale pieces of art presently showing in Ceperley House Gallery. This event is to celebrate Women's History Month in October. Meet at the Shadbolt Centre atrium at 1 pm. \$7 for adults, \$3 for children.

Gastown from cover

ernment initiative for the revitalization of the Downtown Eastside, did not recognize the boundaries of the heritage areas and did not mention the word *heritage* once.

Possibly the City's most stunning administrative oversight is that it has never allowed the transfer of density outside the area (a standard preservation tool) even though it is now possible in Chinatown. Gastown limps along without preservation standards, guidelines, revised zoning, heritage incentives or even effective enforcement of existing regulations. The City clings to its A, B and C Heritage Register categories, and their hierarchy of conservation respect, even for legally protected buildings! It is safe to say that heritage is often a token consideration.

One sad example is the recent situation at the Metropole Hotel, 320 Abbott Street, where all of the original

windows were removed — without a permit — by a local housing society. Dozens of holes were drilled through the brick walls for bathroom vents — because it was cheaper than taking them through the roof. But it is not just housing societies that are compromising the historic character of Gastown. Look at what has been done in the name of market housing — a series of bizarre pseudo-historic pastiches along the north side of unit block Alexander Street, whereby smaller facades have been extruded upwards to a uniform 75 feet, destroying the historic integrity of the individual buildings and the entire streetscape.

But there may be hope. Several current initiatives may actually make a difference. The City, which purchased the Woodward's Parkades, is studying the possibility of bringing their hulking facades more into keeping with the character of the area. The new waterfront convention centre may provide a real economic boost. A density transfer is finally being considered, to help preserve the Malkin Warehouse in a relatively intact condition. Even more significant is a joint study planned by the City and the Province for a Heritage Conservation Strategy for Gastown, which may include the transfer of the designations to City jurisdiction. And truly miraculous is the possibility of tax incentives for heritage preservation, which the City is now discussing, and which coincidentally are about to be considered by the Federal government. Could significant financial incentives finally be offered, almost thirty years after heritage designation was imposed?

Gastown's past may be historic, but its future could not be more uncertain. Only time will tell if an appropriate management framework can be developed that will actually promote heritage conservation and preserve this heritage area for the future.

Donald Luxton is a Vancouver-based heritage consultant specializing in architectural restoration and municipal heritage planning. He is the Vice-Chair of the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee and Chair of its Design Review Sub-Committee.

RENEW BY THE AGM AND REAP THE REWARDS

After several years at the same rate, two categories of the membership dues are going up this year. The individual rate will now be \$25 and the family rate will now be \$30. The corporate and patron rates will remain at \$50 and \$100, respectively.

To make the transition easier, we are offering a special incentive if you renew early. If you send in your membership dues by October 20, you can renew at the old rates. Also, when we receive your membership dues, we will send you a complete set of four walking tour brochures published by the City of Vancouver, scheduled for release October 30. These are in two colours and cover Shaughnessy, Yaletown, Chinatown and Gastown.

Please note that all memberships expire in October.

**General Meeting
third Wednesday
of each month**

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

NOTICE

ANNUAL General Meeting

Wednesday
October 20, 1999
7:30 P.M.
Ray Whittick Lounge
Vancouver Museum,
1100 Chesnut St.

Words from the President

Year in review

Dear Members,

Well, it is time again for our Annual General Meeting. How far we have come since last October! Last fall, we elected an almost completely new slate of board members, with myself as a wet-behind-the-ears president. Peter Vaisbord and Jo Scott-B were our only veterans, taking the positions of vice-president and past-president. We set out to have a really productive year, and I think we have accomplished that. My main goal was to de-centralize the tasks of our group, so that more people can feel involved and HV benefits from the input of many people. Justine Murdy gives our organization a professional appearance with prompt and informed inquiry returns, and has recently taken over the speakers program. The membership is now in the capable hands of Ian Fisher. Karen Russell and Hugh McLean are working on an informational brochure, a revised edition of *H is for Heritage*. Stephane Hoffman has got our finances neatly in hand. Beverly Cramp organized a really outstanding line-up of speakers through January to June, with Arthur Erickson as the grand finale. Brock Piper consistently puts out a great newsletter, and we continue to receive compliments about the improved content, format and design. In addition, many of our board members act as liaisons with other heritage organizations. For example, Margot Keate, our recording secretary, is also the recording secretary for the First Shaughnessy Design Panel, and I am the HV representative on the Vancouver Heritage Commission. Special events are also important; Jo, Peter and I planned the very successful Industrial Heritage of BC conference in February.

With all these advocacy activities, and many more too numerous to mention, we feel sure you'll agree that you are getting good value for your money when you support Heritage Vancouver with your membership fees.

Susanna

Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver

Binning House Saved

West Vancouver Council officially designated the B.C. Binning Residence on Mathers Crescent as a Municipal Heritage site. (this must be one of the first buildings ever to receive recognition as a national historic site before receiving municipal recognition). You may remember that Council earlier in the process received a letter in support of the designation from docomomo. This is the first privately owned building in West Van to be designated.

At the request of Mrs. Binning, Council designation both the exterior and the interior of the house — despite some legitimate concerns about how to regulate the interior, the architectural and cultural importance of the house as a whole was highlighted and Council accepted that it was important to designate the interior. A big thank you has to go out to Don Luxton, who spoke to Council last week about the importance of the building and the designation process in general — he was able to ease any concerns that Council may have had. In the end, Council was quite glowing in thanking Mrs. Binning for this tremendous gift to the community.

Council also adopted a Maintenance Bylaw to ensure that the building is properly maintained.

BOW/MAC Sign Misunderstood

Readers of the *Georgia Straight* don't seem to get this *layering of history* idea. Some narrow minded readers voted the re-vamped sign, with the Toys R Us sign layered over, as the Best Eyesore in Vancouver and termed the *idiots* that created it the people in Vancouver closest to hell! Just one more time, for the record: the BOW/MAC is an important landmark on Vancouver's skyline and has been preserved in a way which does not damage historic fabric.

Join Heritage Vancouver

Annual membership runs from October 1st to September 30th. Members receive a monthly newsletter, free admission to monthly speakers' programs and reduced rates for tours and other activities.

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual: \$25 Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

Family: \$30 Corporate: \$50

Donation: \$ _____ Patrons: \$100

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3

HERITAGE

Vancouver

Newsletter

The

STRATHCONA

Porch Project

by Bill Jeffries

Back in the first half of the 90s most community activists and heritage buffs realized that we were in a sad way here in B.C. There was no public money available for residential heritage renovation with the exception of local programs such as the one operated by the City of Victoria. Yes, CMHC had funded the resurrection of buildings such as the Manhattan Apartments in downtown Vancouver, but all in all, many of us saw the crying need to do something about heritage loss in a context of virtually no public financial support. We thought, 'What a different place B.C. would be if we had government monies for heritage restoration and if there were several large foundations to catalyze public involvement in heritage projects.' In the mid-1990s the Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation from Montreal announced a new initiative, the Urban Issues Program, which helped to fill this void.

The Urban Issues Program was not specifically designed to undertake restoration projects, but the potential for social transformation through heritage was at its core. The Porch Project proposed linking the restoration of porches to the relation between the public and private realm, building neighbourhood morale, and creating safer streets. We partnered with the SFU City Program, whose head, Judy Oberlander, was a key member of the project committee. Our neighbourhood historian, John Atkin, was on the project along with six other people, including James Burton from Birmingham & Wood, who were the project architects. I managed the project. What we undertook was the renovation of the porches of some pre-1920 houses in *Vancouver's First Neighbourhood*,



If left unattended small problems can become large headaches



See **Strathcona** on page 3

UPCOMING EVENT

1999-2000 Speakers Series **Writing About Local Heritage**

Heritage Vancouver is inviting authors of books on local heritage to speak during the September 1999 to June 2000 speakers series. In each three-part series, the speakers invited will examine an aspect of Vancouver's heritage.



Construction of Lions Gate Bridge

Wednesday, November 17 Lions Gate

Presentation by Lilia D'Acres and Donald Luxton, the authors of a new book on the history and construction of the Lions Gate Bridge. The bridge is once again a source of controversy as reconstruction begins on the bridge deck this January. Lions Gate tells a story of intrigue and mystery, which weaves together the personalities and history of those who brought the bridge into existence, and those who opposed its construction. The original idea for this book was generated in Heritage Vancouver's five year battle to preserve the bridge, which was instrumental in reversing public and government opinion that favoured replacing this landmark of our city.

Books should be available for sale

VANCOUVER'S First Annual Heritage & Antiques Fair

For the first-ever Vancouver event of its kind, the Seaforth Armoury will be transformed into a showcase of everything of interest to the heritage homeowner, the prospective heritage building owner and the heritage admirer. There will be heritage bus tours of the city.

*Sponsored by the Vancouver
Heritage Foundation with the
assistance from the Simon Fraser
University City Program*

See **Mark Your Calendar** for details.

Mole Hill Receives Funding

The Mole Hill Community Housing Society will receive \$11.5 million in conditional funding to provide at least 120 affordable housing units within the Mole Hill neighbourhood. The funding is through the HOMES BC program, and includes a partnership with the City of Vancouver. Twenty-six houses built between 1888 and 1942 will be transferred to the society when renovations are complete. One of these houses is Mace House (1888), one of Vancouver's four oldest houses. The housing society is a branch of the Mole Hill Living Heritage Society, who has been working for many years to preserve these historic homes and their community.

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

New members are
welcome by donation.

Mark Your Calendar

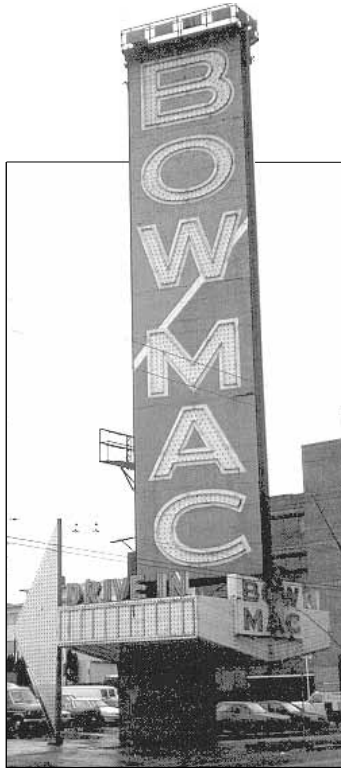
Friday, November 12
**Opening night reception for
Vancouver's First Annual
Heritage and Antiques Fair**
Hosted by His Worship Mayor
Philip Owen of Vancouver
Cocktails, wine, hors d'oeuvres
6 P.M. Officer's Mess
Seaforth Armoury
1650 Burrard Street
Proceeds go to the Vancouver
Heritage Foundation \$100

**Saturday / Sunday
November 13-14**
**Vancouver's First Annual
Heritage and Antiques Fair**
Historic Seaforth Armoury
1650 Burrard Street
hosted by the Vancouver Heritage
Foundation 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
\$10 for one day / \$18 for both days
Information / Registration
Joanna Tee, Event Manager
T 604-444-4746 F 604-444-4741
E cem@bc.sympatico.ca
Full updated info on the website
www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/heritagefair

Thursday, January 27, 2000
**Vogue Theatre Restoration Society
Evening with Dionne Warwick**
8 P.M. 918 Granville Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1L2
tickets \$150 each
T 331-7904

Hidden Beauty May Come to Light

For many years, the Heather Heritage Society has been trying to focus attention on the historic structures hidden in the area bounded by Heather Street, 10th and 12th Avenues. Behind some rather mundane recent structures is the original 1907-08 Vancouver Hospital building. You can still see pieces of the original stone facades. At one point it was felt that all of the structures on this parcel should be demolished to make way for park land. It now seems possible to keep this historic structure and possibly pieces of some other buildings of note. Stay tuned for updates over the coming months.



which lies just east of Chinatown. The funding stretched over three years. Homeowners contributed funds, so were financial partners in their restorations, and SFU granted the use of facilities and equipment and help with matters such as translation. With a total of about \$100,000 we fixed up thirteen houses, published a book about *preserving Strathcona's heritage* (now out of print) and produced a half-hour video on the project itself. We contributed a varying percentage of the renovation costs to different houses. Over time, we refined the Porch Project's funding procedures. Our first porch was the most expensive for us, whereas porches in the last year had limited fixed funding amounts. The Project paid for between 35 and 70 percent of the total cost of the work.

The project might be of some interest to others who are hoping to get a grass-roots renovation scheme off the ground. We still have a slide show on the project. The consensus in the neighbourhood is that the Porch Project accomplished quite a bit with minimal means, and that it has catalyzed a wonderful set of heritage spin-offs in some blocks, such as the 600-block Union Street. It has also raised the profile of the neighbourhood elsewhere in the city — a counter to the usual negative coverage these areas receive. One could see it simply as thirteen houses being repaired in a neighbourhood where a hundred more need help. But, combined with Strathcona's *heritage incentive zoning*, which has been in place since 1992, we hope that the Porch Project achieved a minor success in the heritage versus demolition equation.

Bill Jeffries has lived in Strathcona since 1989 and is a passionate advocate for the place of Strathcona's heritage architecture in Greater Vancouver's overall architectural fabric. He lives on Hawks Avenue, which some people feel is the most intriguing block in the entire city.

What is that thing?

by John Atkin

"This has to be the goofiest piece of heritage preservation I have ever voted for." — Mayor Philip Owen.

Mayor Owen was referring to the final result of months of negotiation, brinkmanship, refusal and eventual partnership leading to the successful preservation and reuse of what was once North America's largest free standing neon sign. At over 80 feet in height and 20 feet in width it was unveiled in 1958 by the *Bowell Maclean* automobile dealership on Broadway — Vancouver's auto row. This brilliant orange, red and white landmark was visible from a distance of over 10 miles. But the car lots were gone and the developers had moved in.

The preservation, adaptive reuse, restoration or even reinstallation of neon signs in Vancouver is a relatively new concept for the City's heritage planners. With the *Bow-Mac* sign they were to get their feet wet in a big way.

Preservation of the *Bow-Mac* sign was not an easy sell as initial efforts were decried by both the developer and heritage advocates. The final design was arrived at in an effort to provide *Toys R Us* with the visibility the *Bow-Mac* would afford them while preserving the sign itself. The design involved layering the new elements on top of the existing sign. To ensure visibility the new sign was mounted on a metal screen to provide an element of transparency and was designed so that the original was not damaged or altered. The *Bow-Mac* sign was treated as an artifact and conserved to allow a future full restoration.

It may not be to everyone's taste but it certainly has made sign preservation a hot topic.

.....

Words from the President

Important Events

Dear Members,

There are two important events for the heritage community in November. The first event is Vancouver's First Annual Heritage and Antiques Fair, which is a fundraiser for the Vancouver Heritage Foundation. Heritage Vancouver is sharing a booth with several heritage advocacy groups: the Canadian Art Deco Society, docomomo.bc, Heather Heritage Society, and Roedde House Preservation Society. We are also co-producing bus tours of historic neighbourhoods, with the Vancouver Trolley Company. These tours will visit the True Colours houses, and is a fundraiser for HV and VHF. Please swing by the Seaforth Armoury the weekend after Remembrance Day.

The second event is the city elections which will occur this month. Please pay close attention to candidates' campaigns, and support those who state that they will help to further the goals of heritage preservation. You can send a message to City Hall by voting accordingly.

SUSANNA

Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver

Outstanding Volunteers

At the October AGM, several volunteers were recognized for their outstanding service. It was difficult to choose who should receive awards this year, highlighting the fact that we have a lot of dedicated volunteers! Jo Scott-B and Peter Vaisbord received Awards of Recognition for long-term service, and Brock Piper and Beverly Cramp received Awards of Appreciation for service in the past year. Thank you, and congratulations!

New Faces on the Board

After an almost completely new board last year, we added just three fresh faces to the Board for 1999-2000. These were: Terry Brunette, David Monteyne, and Lisa Wilkinson. Please make them feel welcome. Thank you also to those board members who are staying on. We appreciate the quality of continuity that repeat terms creates.

Heritage Vancouver
PO Box 3336, Main Post Office
Vancouver BC V6B 3Y3

604.254.9411

<http://home.istar.ca/~glenchan/hvsintro.shtml>

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Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual: \$25

Supporting (no newsletter) \$5

Family: \$30

Corporate: \$50

Donation: \$ _____

Patrons: \$100

Please send cheque or money order to: Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Y3



HERITAGE



Vancouver

N e w s l e t t e r

Vancouver Modern

The Architecture of Harold Semmens and Douglas Simpson

by ROBERT MOFFATT

Bursting upon Vancouver's blossoming architectural scene in the late 1940s, Harold Semmens and Douglas Simpson quickly became renowned as the city's most uncompromising Modernist architects. Today, the legacy of their firm Semmens Simpson survives in the striking buildings that brought them acclaim and helped Vancouver become a centre of leading-edge architecture.

Both Semmens and Simpson followed remarkably similar paths. Born on the Prairies in 1916, they graduated from the University of Manitoba's architecture school in the late 1930s enamoured with the revolutionary Modernist design pouring out of Europe. Following their war services they left for Vancouver and joined forces in 1949.

They couldn't have arrived at a better time. Vancouver was growing rapidly and, freed from the harsh climate and stifling conservatism of Eastern Canada, architects were experimenting with new designs and materials.

The two began with their own houses. Building on adjoining lots in the UBC Endowment Lands, Semmens and Simpson explored the airy openness, spatial variety, and integration of inside and outside expanded upon in their later work. *Bi-nuclear* floor plans physically separated living and sleeping areas for maximum privacy, while floor-to-ceiling window-walls and glassed-in entrances opened up interiors to the outdoors. Roofs had deep overhangs for suncreening, and exteriors were typically natural wood siding and fieldstone. Interiors were unornamented and functional. The pair often adapted residential design principles to smaller institutional commissions such as their own Pender Street offices, St. Anselm's Church at UBC, and the Collingwood branch of the Vancouver Public Library.

Semmens and Simpson branched into apartment design in 1950 with the massive Hycroft Towers. Rising from its steep site above the South Granville neighbourhood, the T-shaped structure was once the largest apartment building in Canada and even boasted its own service station. Simpson's ingenious features included space-efficient *storage walls* and removable party walls which allowed reconfiguration of the units into 1, 2, and 3-bedroom combinations.

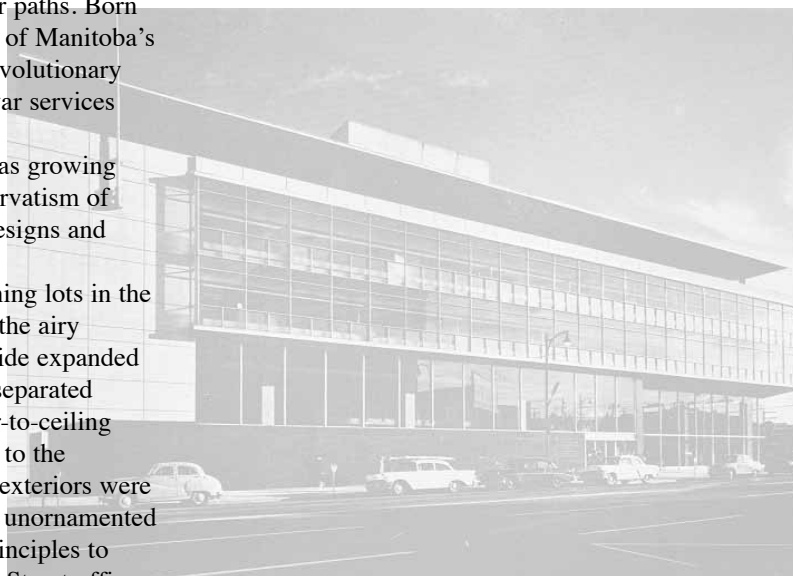


photo Harry Cantlon

Downtown VPL main facade, late 1950s

UPCOMING EVENTS

2000 Speakers Series

We have an exciting line-up of speakers and related activities for the coming year. Heritage Vancouver's 2000 Speakers Series will focus on Vancouver's historic areas, including Mole Hill, Gastown, and Mount Pleasant. Speakers will discuss the history of these areas, and what lies ahead in the future. The lectures will act as primers to follow-up activities such as walking tours.



photo B. Piper

HV member's summer vacation photo of a heritage hotel in Coalmont, B.C..

Wednesday, December 15 Ninth Annual Open Slides Night

Every year we wonder, will people come to an unstructured event so close to Christmas? And every year the answer is Yes! All of you who would like to take a break just for yourself, bring a 3-12 slides (or some photos to put on an opaque projector) and join us for this traditionally cozy event. There will be Christmas treats and a draw for a Heritage Vancouver t-shirt.

Wednesday, January 19, 2000 Mole Hill

Exciting new plans are underway for this West End neighbourhood, since the provincial government announced its intention to fund social housing here. Sean McEwen, the project architect, will update HV members on the proposed plans. He will be joined by Norm Hotson, Don Luxton, Blair Petrie and Peter Kreuk, who are also involved in the project. This panel will reflect on the process that led to this point, and about the neighbourhood's bright future.

Heather Pavilion Plans

After extensive meetings with all of the stakeholders in the VGH planning process, six plans have been developed by the design consultants, which show various ways that park land can be delivered while retaining the historic Heather Pavilion and allowing development of *biotech* space. When the Laurel Pavilion tower was completed, 5.1 acres was promised for open space. Since then, the value of retaining the historic first hospital building has been recognized, complicating and enriching the planning process. Stay tuned for opportunities to view the plans and lend your input.

Is it a building or a billboard?

Everyone is familiar with the mixed history of the former Vancouver Public Library Downtown Branch. While we are always fortunate when historic buildings are saved, we sometimes ask ourselves whether the end result maintains the values we were originally trying to preserve, and that is the case with the VPL Building. As part of the original agreement when the building's preservation plan was hammered out, yet another sign will be added to the Burrard Street facade. Efforts have been made to make the signage as transparent as possible, but it will mean that the building will vary even further from its library roots.

General Meeting third Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Museum
Ray Whittick Lounge
(business meeting 7:30,
speaker's program 8:30)
There's plenty of free
parking—please join us!

Non members are
welcome by a suggested
donation of \$2.00

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, December 12 Make Christmas Crackers at the Richmond Museum

Make your own traditional Christmas crackers to decorate your table. \$12 per person, ages 8 and up. Pre-registration is required. Please call 231-6457 to register. 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. The Richmond Museum is located in the Richmond Cultural Centre 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond BC.

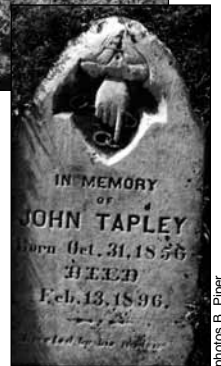
Thursday, January 27, 2000 Vogue Theatre Restoration Society Evening with Dionne Warwick

8 P.M. 918 Granville Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 1L2
tickets \$150 each
T 331-7904

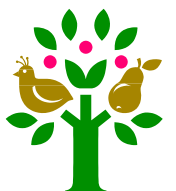
HV Halloween Tour a Success



HV's Halloween cemetery walking tour was a great success with 43 attendees lead by Lorraine Irving from the B.C. Genealogical Society. Lorraine's stories of betrayed lovers and dedicated police officers were intriguing and we look forward to working with her next year.



photos B. Piper



from cover **Semmens Simpson**

Building upon their success in residential commissions, the two began a prolific string of commercial and institutional buildings. What set their buildings apart from most was a careful attention to the details that humanize a building and make it a pleasant and stimulating environment. Their offices for BC Sugar, winner of a Massey Silver Medal, included a large rear courtyard enclosed by a high brick wall, a lush refuge from the sugar refinery directly behind. The courtyard feature also defined the later Harris office building on Pender Street, a U-shaped structure enclosing a central garden. Even industrial buildings were special; their long-demolished Seven-Up bottling plant allowed passers-by views of the bottling process through a glass wall. But the best of Semmens and Simpson's office designs was the exquisitely-detailed Marwell Office Building of 1952. Marble slab walls, floor-to-ceiling glazing, and extensive plantings defined the entrance, set off by a long rectangular reflective pool flowing right under the front window-wall and into the reception area. The building won the first Massey Gold Medal and cemented their early reputation.

The pinnacle and breaking point of Semmens and Simpson's partnership came with the downtown Vancouver Public Library. The library featured briskly rectilinear geometry, exciting

multi-level interior spaces, and near-transparency between indoors and outdoors. Huge window-walls invited pedestrians inside, automated metal sunshades shielded the south facade, and a long, low black granite wall tied the composition to the site. An enormous Lionel Thomas tile mosaic symbolizing the quest for knowledge dominated the entrance wall. The building received great acclaim and netted the firm's fourth Massey Medal, but tensions between Simpson and Semmens grew intolerable. After protracted disagreements, the partnership officially ended in September 1957 just as the library was finally opened.

Now managing separate offices, Semmens designed a tower for Imperial Oil, Simpson did the United Kingdom Building, and both completed several houses. Simpson struck gold in 1961 with his Bayshore Inn, which led to lucrative commissions for similar resort hotels in Hawaii and Australia. But his new success was short-lived he died in 1967. Mean-while, Semmens left Vancouver for Montreal in 1962 and, like his former partner, died prematurely a mere three years later.

A member of Heritage Vancouver for several years, Robert Moffatt is a corporate communications and public relations professional with an interest in modern design and architecture.

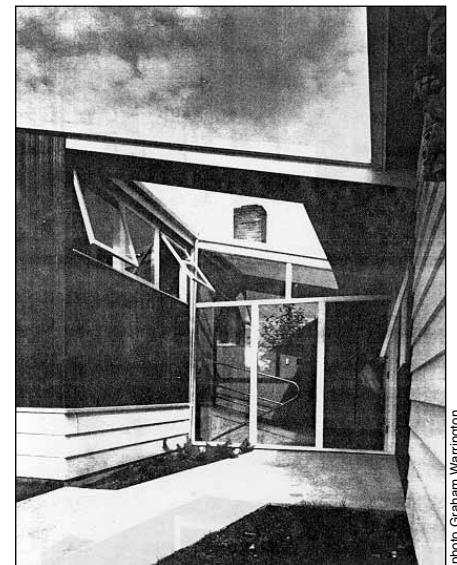


photo Graham Warrington

Entrance, D. Simpson Residence I, 1949



photo Robert Moffatt

Hycroft Towers, 1999

Selected Buildings by Semmens and Simpson

Douglas Simpson Residence I 1948
4862 Queensland Road, Vancouver

Harold Semmens Residence I 1949
4872 Queensland Road, Vancouver

Kitsilano War Memorial Community Centre 1950
2495 West 12th Avenue, Vancouver

V P Library, Collingwood Branch 1950
2985 Kingsway, Vancouver

Hycroft Towers 1950-51
1445 Marpole Avenue, Vancouver

St. Anselm's Church 1952
5210 University Boulevard, Vancouver

Semmens Simpson Office Building 1952
1272 West Pender Street, Vancouver

BC Sugar Refinery Ltd. Offices 1952
123 Rogers Street, Vancouver

Harris Office Building 1954, addition 1957
1161 Melville Street, Vancouver

Del-Wood Apartments 1954
2005 Pendrell Street, Vancouver

Vancouver Public Library 1955-57
750 Burrard Street, Vancouver

United Kingdom Building 1959-60 (Simpson,
major addition 1973)
409 Granville Street, Vancouver

Imperial Oil Company Building 1960 (Semmens)
1281 West Georgia Street, Vancouver

Dr. S.A. Mc Fetridge Residence 1961 (Semmens)
6105 Glendalough Place, Vancouver

Words from the President



Happy Holidays



Dear Members,

Are we all looking forward to Christmas? First, let's take a look back at November. The highlight of November was Vancouver's First Annual Heritage Fair. In case you have been living under an old house for last few months, the Heritage Fair was an extravaganza hosted by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation to highlight heritage houses and raise funds for granting programs. The Fair averaged 1300 people a day, and made a badly-needed infusion in the Foundation's bank account. Events included the launch of a new book, *Lion's Gate*, historic narrated fashion shows by Ivan Sayers, and of course bus tours of historic residential neighbourhoods by Heritage Vancouver board members. Many thanks to Peter Vaisbord, Stephane Hoffman and Karen Russell for their help in giving the tours.

As for Christmas, well that is a time we traditionally take a break. The December meeting is *Open Slides Night*. Drop in with some slides of old buildings from anywhere around the globe and enjoy a nice relaxing break from Christmas shopping. If you would really like to experience some heritage ambience this Christmas, I highly recommend Craigdarroch Castle in Victoria, which always puts on all its Victorian Christmas finery.

See you in the year 2000!

Susanna

Susanna Houwen,
President, Heritage Vancouver



Last newsletter for members who have not renewed by the end of 1999

Correction

When listing our new HV board members for 1999-2000, David Monteyne's name was mistakenly included. Our two new board members are Terry Brunette and Lisa Wilkinson.

Know a great heritage project?

The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2000 City of Vancouver Heritage Awards is Friday, January 7, 2000. It sounds like a long way off, but it rushes up very quickly after the holidays! It is highly recommended to assemble your submission before Christmas. Contact Justine Murdy, Heritage Planning Analyst at the CoV for more information at 873-7056.

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