

Review of Victoria and Area Historic Plaques and Markers



Review of Victoria and Area Historic Plaques and Markers

Contributors: M. Segger, L. Kaisla

INTRODUCTION

Victoria boasts some of the earliest commemorative markers issued by the Historic Sites and Monument Board of Canada (HSMBC). The country-wide plaquing program commenced in 1919, starting with markers focused on Canada's constitutional, political and military history, particularly the achievements of major leaders. For instance, the plaque commemorating Sir James Douglas, the first Governor of British Columbia, can be found in the Parliament Buildings.

Later themes included the experiences of everyday people and major currents in Canada's history such as exploration, industrialization, and immigration. Today, there are over 2,100 of these 'designations' of national historical significance, with 48 HSMBC plaques located in the Greater Victoria area. (There are a further nine provincial plaques).

The 2019 [Framework for History and Commemoration](#), part of the National Historic Sites System Plan, calls for a "careful review" of existing designations. It suggests that one or more of the following criteria could prompt such a review:

- Significant new research and scholarship
- A public request
- Public discussion or controversy related to the designation
- The absence of an integral part of the history or historical perspective, especially in relation to Indigenous people
- An internal review, or at the request of the Board

The Framework cites typical instances where a review of an existing plaque might be warranted:

"... people who are known to have held anti-Semitic and racist attitudes, who believed in eugenics or who proposed and carried out colonial policies and actions against Indigenous peoples. This group of designations also includes national historic events such as specific religious orders implicated in the running of Indian Residential Schools, or organizations that engaged in and promoted racist practices."

This document provides an overview of the federal plaques in the Victoria area. We encourage readers to examine these commemorations through the lens of contemporary scholarship and our current social and cultural sensitivities.

SOURCE: <https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/cadre-framework/cadre-2019-framework>



Creation of the Province of British Columbia National Historic Event (NHE)

Victoria, British Columbia. Province created in 1871.

Address: 501 Belleville Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1948-05-17

Dates: 1871 to 1871 (Significant)

Other Name(s): Creation of the Province of British Columbia (Designation Name)

Importance: This designation has been identified for review.

Existing plaque: Confederation Garden Court, Victoria, British Columbia

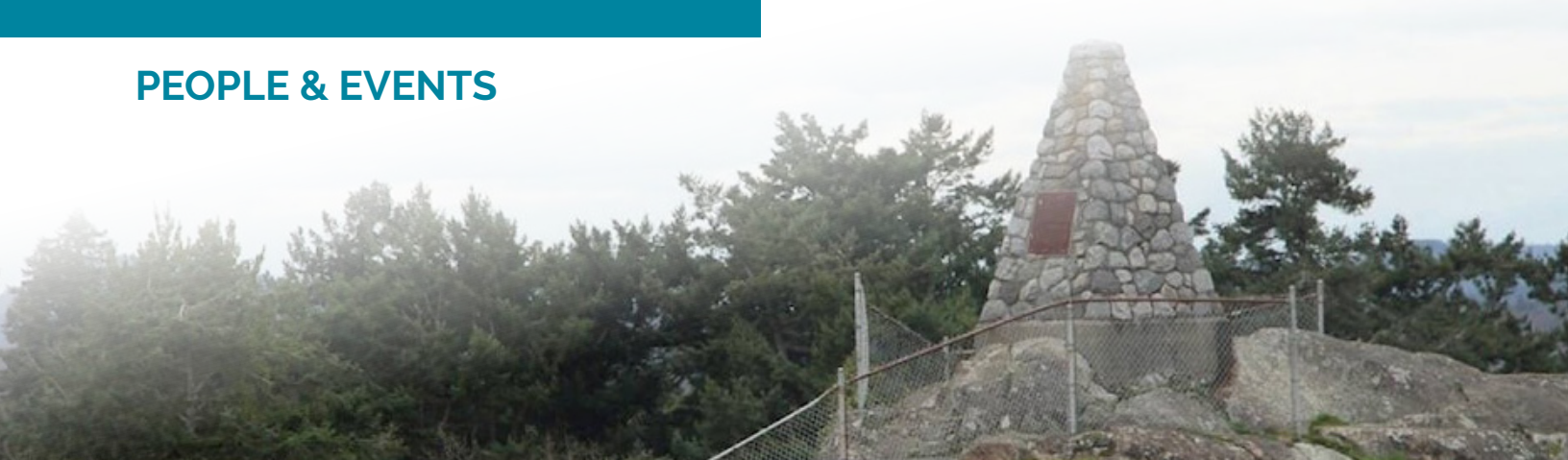
Plaque Text:

*The province of British Columbia was created on July 20, 1871. Formerly a crown colony established by the union in 1866 of Vancouver Island with the mainland colony of British Columbia, the addition of the Pacific coast province made Canada truly a nation "from sea to sea". With provincial status came success for the movement toward self-government. The first Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia was Joseph W. Trutch and the first premier was John Foster McCreight.**



*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons - outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=941



Exploration of the Strait of Juan de Fuca National Historic Event (NHE)

Victoria, British Columbia. British, American and Spanish explorations beginning in 1787.

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1924-06-04

Other Name(s): Exploration of the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2005-033

Importance: This designation has been identified for review.

Existing plaque: 166 Dennison Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

*Competition for sovereignty and trade drew Europeans to the Pacific Northwest coast in the 1780s. Although long known to First Nations people, the strait received its present name in 1788, when John Meares christened it for the Greek pilot who claimed to have ventured there in 1592. In 1792, Spanish and British expeditions entered the strait, circumnavigated Vancouver Island, and proved that this was not the Northwest Passage. Surveys from these voyages served the immediate territorial ambitions of rival European empires and provided a firm basis for later commercial ventures.**



*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons - outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=933



Old Town Victoria National Historic Event (NHE)

Victoria, British Columbia. Commercial district of western Canada's principal port until 1900.

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1990-11-16

Other Name(s): Old Town Victoria (Designation Name)

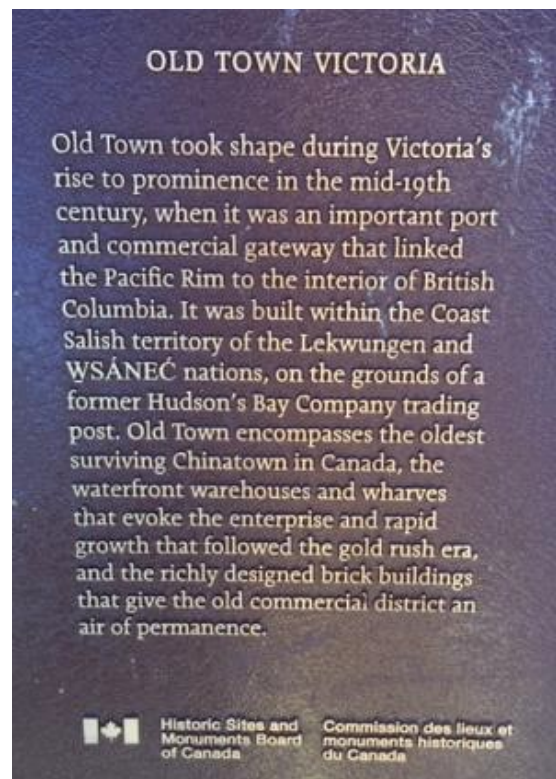
Research Report Number: 1987-41, 2008-SDC/CED-07

Importance: Commercial district of western Canada's principal port until 1900

Existing plaque: At the intersection of Wharf, Government and Humboldt Streets, Victoria, BC.

Plaque Text:

Old Town took shape during Victoria's rise to prominence in the mid-19th century, when it was an important port and commercial gateway that linked the Pacific Rim to the interior of British Columbia. It was built within the Coast Salish territory of the Lekwungen and W_SÁNEC nations, on the grounds of a former Hudson's Bay Company trading post. Old Town encompasses the oldest surviving Chinatown in Canada, the waterfront warehouses and wharves that evoke the enterprise and rapid growth that followed the gold rush era, and the richly designed brick buildings that give the old commercial district an air of permanence.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=1642

Carr, Emily National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Noted painter and writer.

Address: 207 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1950-05-31

Life Date: 1871 to 1945

Other Name(s): Emily Carr (Designation Name)

Importance: This designation has been identified for review

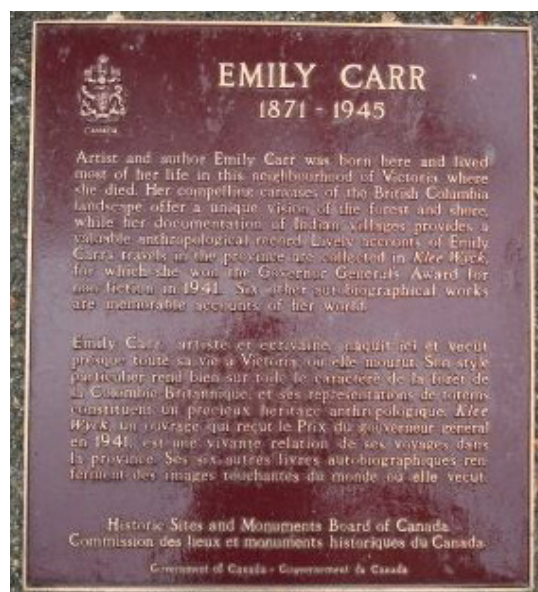
Existing plaque: 207 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

*Artist and author Emily Carr was born here and lived most of her life in this neighbourhood of Victoria where she died. Her compelling canvases of the British Columbia landscape offer a unique vision of the forest and shore, while her documentation of Indian villages provides a valuable anthropological record. Lively accounts of Emily Carr's travels in the province are collected in "Klee Wyck", for which she won the Governor General's Award for non-fiction in 1941. Six other autobiographical works are memorable accounts of her world.**

*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons - outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=942





Demers, Bishop Modeste National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia First Roman Catholic bishop of Vancouver Island, 1846, missionary to the Columbia district.

Address: 835 Humboldt Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1973-06-11

Life Date: 1809 to 1871

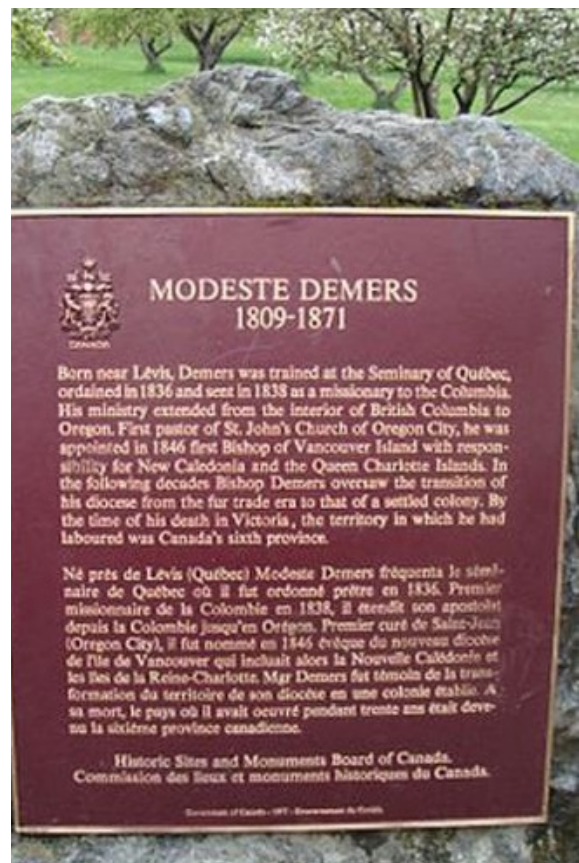
Other Name(s): Bishop Modeste Demers (Designation Name)

Importance: This designation has been identified for review

Existing plaque: 835 Humboldt Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

*Born near Lévis, Demers was trained at the Seminary of Quebec, ordained in 1836 and sent in 1838 as a missionary to the Columbia. His ministry extended from the interior of British Columbia to Oregon. First pastor of St. John's Church of Oregon City, he was appointed in 1846 first Bishop of Vancouver Island with responsibility for New Caledonia and the Queen Charlotte Islands. In the following decades Bishop Demers oversaw the transition of his diocese from the fur trade era to that of a settled colony. By the time of his death in Victoria, the territory in which he had laboured was Canada's sixth province. *Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons - outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.*



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=914



Blanshard, Richard National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. First Governor of Vancouver Island (1849-51).

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1951-05-30

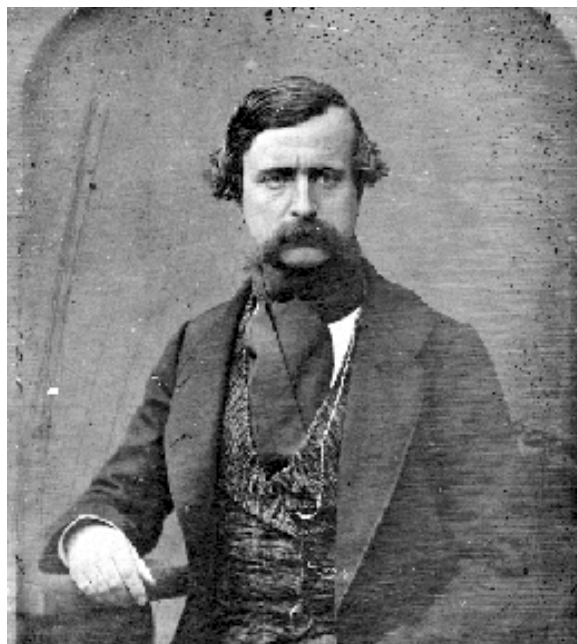
Life Date: 1817 to 1894

Other Name(s): Blanshard, Richard (Designation Name)

Existing plaque text: First Governor of Vancouver Island (1849-51) Victoria, British Columbia (no plaque found).

Plaque Text:

Born in England, educated at Oxford, and called to the bar in 1844, Blanshard was appointed first Governor of Vancouver Island in 1849 and assumed office in March, 1850. Disappointed by conditions in the colony, discouraged because gold strikes in California were retarding population growth and economic development, and suffering poor health, he resigned in November of the same year. Nevertheless, communications were so slow that he was unable to leave Victoria until September, 1851. He died in London.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=940



Watt, Margaret 'Madge' Robertson National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Key driving force in the foundation of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) in 1933, first president from 1933 to 1947.

Address: 4430 Happy Valley Road, Metchosin, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2007-06-08

Life Date: 1868 to 1948

Other Name(s): Watt, Margaret 'Madge' Robertson (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2005-090

Importance: Key driving force in the foundation of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) in 1933, first president from 1933 to 1947

Plaque Text:

In 1909, Madge Watt helped found the first Women's Institute in British Columbia, bringing rural women together to learn agricultural and domestic skills and to promote civic reform. After moving to Britain in 1913, she used the Canadian model to establish Women's Institutes there, leading women during the First World War in a critical campaign to alleviate food shortages. Following the war, Watt became a driving force behind the foundation of a major international rural women's organization, the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), serving as its first president from 1933 until 1947.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=11470



De Cosmos, Amor National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Premier of British Columbia (1872-74), founded the British Colonist.

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1938-05-19

Life Date: 1825 to 1897

Other Name(s): De Cosmos, Amor (Designation Name)

Importance: Premier of British Columbia (1872-74), founded the British Colonist

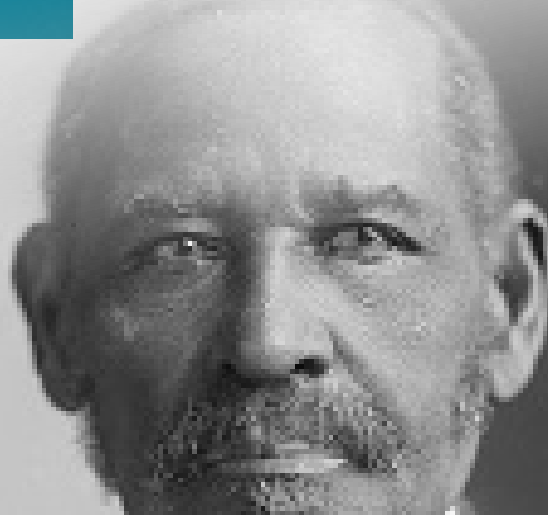
Existing plaque: Bastion Square near Wharf Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Amor De Cosmos (Lover of the Universe) was the name adopted by William Smith of Windsor, Nova Scotia, while in the California goldfields. In 1858 he arrived in Victoria and founded the opposition journal, the Colonist. For over two decades his irrepressible pen and exuberant oratory championed the causes of responsible government and Confederation. He sat for Victoria in the Legislative Assembly (1863-74) and in the House of Commons (1871-82), and served briefly (1872-4) as provincial premier. Defeated in 1882, the stormy petrel of British Columbia politics retired from public life. He died in Victoria.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=1518



Gibbs, Mifflin Wistar National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Politician, businessman, and defender of human rights.

Address: 265 Menzies Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2009-04-20

Life Date: 1823 to 1915

Other Name(s): Mifflin Wistar Gibbs (Designation Name)

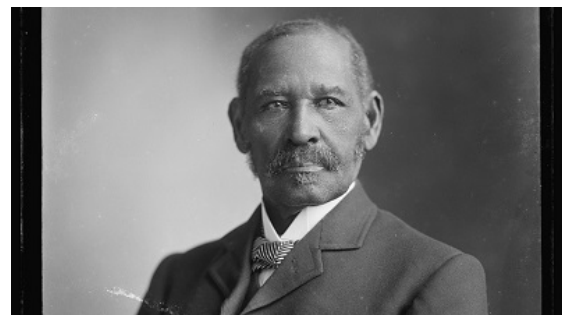
Research Report Number: 1997-008, 2008-012

Importance: Politician, businessman, and defender of human rights, he was the recognized leader of the Black community in Vancouver Island during its early years between 1858 and 1870.

Existing plaque: 265 Menzies Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

After helping lead the exodus of 800 Black residents from San Francisco in 1858, Gibbs became the recognized leader of their community on Vancouver Island. He strove to make these newcomers a force in colonial politics and, as a member of Victoria City Council, he became the first Black person to hold elected office in British Columbia. This innovative entrepreneur, who invested in mining and trade, also encouraged the integration of Black settlers and advocated for their rights. Though he returned to the United States in 1870, Gibbs remains a revered historical figure in the province's African-Canadian community.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=12539



Begbie, Sir Matthew Baillie National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Famous judge, Chief Justice of British Columbia (1870-94)

Address: 28 Bastion Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1959-11-25

Life Date: 1819 to 1894

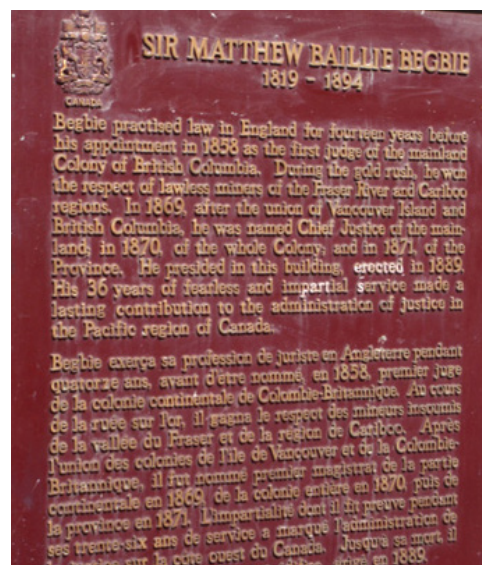
Other Name(s): Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie (Designation Name)

Importance: This designation has been identified for review

Existing plaque: 28 Bastion Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

*Begbie practised law in England for fourteen years before his appointment in 1858 as the first judge of the mainland Colony of British Columbia. During the gold rush, he won the respect of lawless miners of the Fraser River and Cariboo regions. In 1869, after the union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, he was named Chief Justice of the mainland; in 1870, of the whole Colony; and in 1871, of the Province. He presided in this building, erected in 1889. His 36 years of fearless and impartial service made a lasting contribution to the administration of justice in the Pacific region of Canada. **



*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons - outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=939



Musgrave, Sir Anthony National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Governor of Newfoundland (1864-69) and British Columbia (1869-71).

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1975-11-28

Life Date: 1828 to 1888

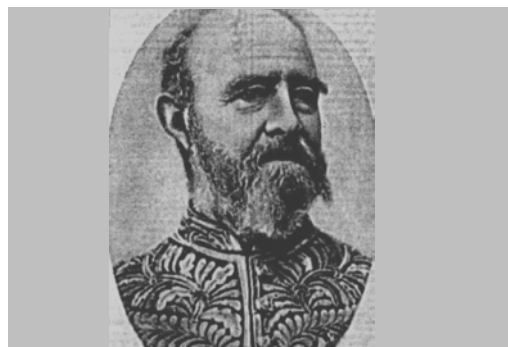
Other Name(s): Musgrave, Sir Anthony (Designation Name)

Importance: Governor of Newfoundland (1864-69) and British Columbia (1869-71), led British Columbia into Confederation

Existing plaque: Government House, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

A career Imperial civil servant, Anthony Musgrave served as governor of Newfoundland (1864-69) and British Columbia (1869-71). Both terms of office were marked by a strong personal effort to encourage the two colonies to unite with the new Canadian confederation, and it was under his direction that British Columbia entered the Dominion on July 20, 1871. Musgrave, who was knighted in 1875, subsequently held vice-regal office in Natal, South Australia, Jamaica, and Queensland where he died.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=920

Smith, Mary Ellen Spear National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. An accomplished politician.

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2007-06-08

Life Date: 1863 to 1933

Other Name(s): Smith, Mary Ellen Spear (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2006-029

Importance: This designation has been identified for review

Existing plaque: Confederation Garden Court, Victoria, British Columbia (no plaque found)

Plaque Text:

A significant figure in the campaign for the vote for women in British Columbia, Mary Ellen Smith became one of the few suffrage activists in Canada to make a successful transition to electoral politics. During three terms as a member of the provincial Legislative Assembly from 1918 to 1928, she ably represented newly enfranchised women by leading important initiatives of social legislation, notably the establishment of minimum wages and generous mothers' pensions. By gaining a prominent role with the B.C. Liberals, Smith inspired women to find their political voice within mainstream parties.



*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons: outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=12091



Douglas, Sir James National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Governor of Vancouver Island (1851-63), first Governor of British Columbia (1858-64).

Address: Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1944-05-24

Life Date: 1803 to 1877

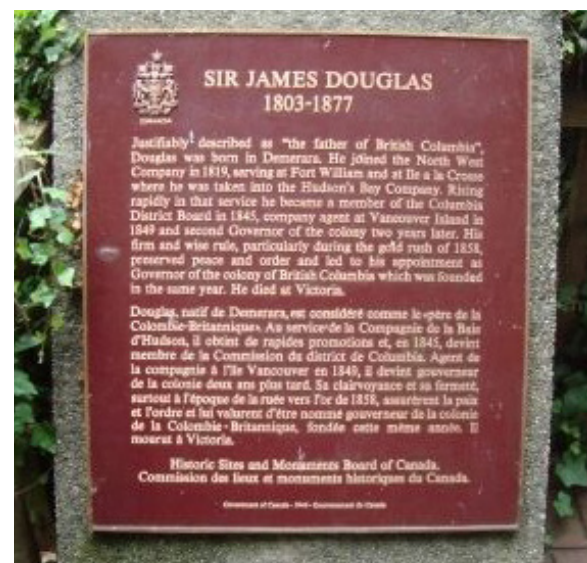
Other Name(s): Douglas, Sir James (Designation Name)

Importance: Governor of Vancouver Island (1851-63), first Governor of British Columbia (1858-64)

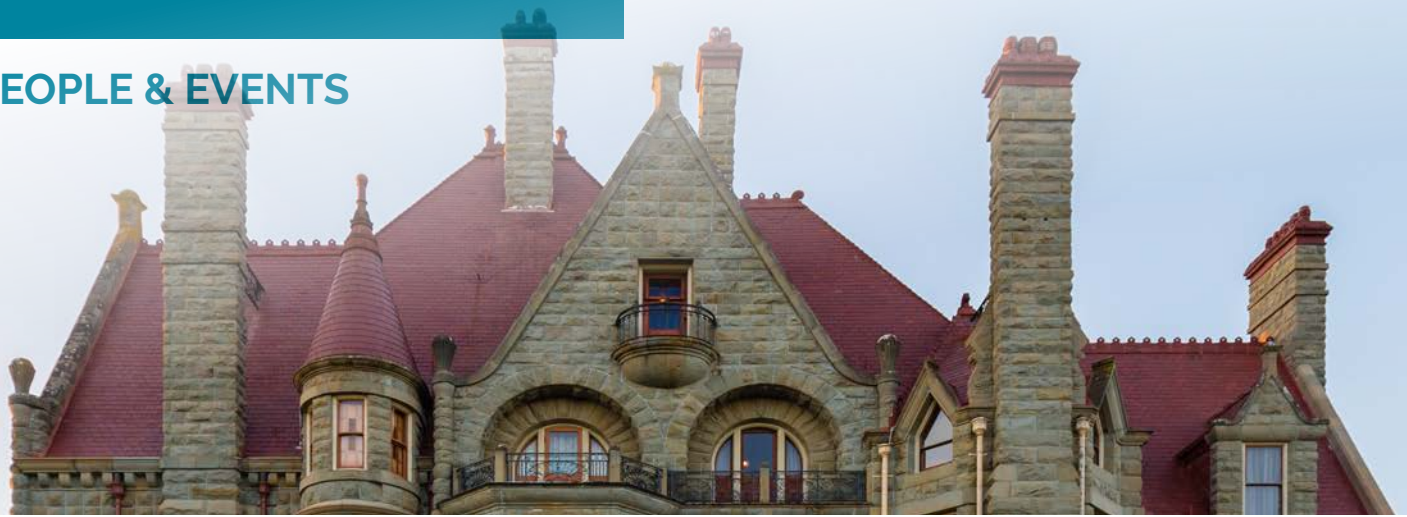
Existing plaque: Parliament Buildings British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Justifiably described as “the father of British Columbia”, Douglas was born in Demerara. He joined the North West Company in 1819 serving at Fort William and at Ile a la Crosse where he was taken into the Hudson’s Bay Company. Rising rapidly in that service he became a member of the Columbia District Board in 1845, company agent at Vancouver Island in 1849 and second Governor of the colony two years later. His firm and wise rule, particularly during the gold rush of 1858, preserved peace and order and led to his appointment as Governor of the colony of British Columbia which was founded in the same year. He died at Victoria.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=943



Dunsmuir, Robert National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Discovered coal near Nanaimo (1869).

Address: 1050 Joan Crescent, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1971-10-14

Life Date: 1825 to 1889

Other Name(s): Dunsmuir, Robert (Designation Name)

Importance: Discovered coal near Nanaimo (1869), began commercial empire

Existing Plaque: 1050 Joan Crescent, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Born into a family of Ayrshire coalmasters, Robert Dunsmuir achieved renown as a leading Canadian businessman. He developed the Wellington Mine near Nanaimo, which soon made him one of the richest men in Canada and, through his labour practices, one of the most controversial. Dunsmuir's commercial empire expanded to include railways, shipping, lumbering and iron works. Dunsmuir was elected to the British Columbia legislature for Nanaimo in 1882, and named president of the Executive Council in 1886. He died before the completion of his imposing mansion, Craigdarroch Castle.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=944



Ravenhill, Alice National Historic Person (NHP)

Victoria, British Columbia. Educator as well and social reformer.

Address: Shawnigan Lake, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2008-08-26

Life Date: 1859 to 1954

Other Name(s): Alice Ravenhill (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2007-84, 84A

Importance: Highly effective educator as well as a social reformer; affected educational reforms through her work with the British Columbia Women's Institutes

Existing plaque: 1775 Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Road, Shawnigan Lake, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

With her innovative lectures, courses, and publications, this educator and social reformer first established her pre-eminence in public health and home economics in Britain. After coming to Canada in 1910, Alice Ravenhill worked with the University of British Columbia, Victoria College, branches of the Women's Institute, and the Province to initiate effective educational reform. Later in life, she encouraged an understanding of Aboriginal societies and traditions by writing a pioneering text for schoolchildren and by founding the Society for the Furtherance of British Columbia Indian Arts and Crafts.



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=12001



Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Roundhouse National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Early West Coast railway facility, 1913.

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1992-06-04

Dates: 1912 to 1913 (Construction), 1912 to 2007 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: R.A. Bainbridge, CPR division engineer, Victoria (Architect), E.R. Doe & Brother (Builder)

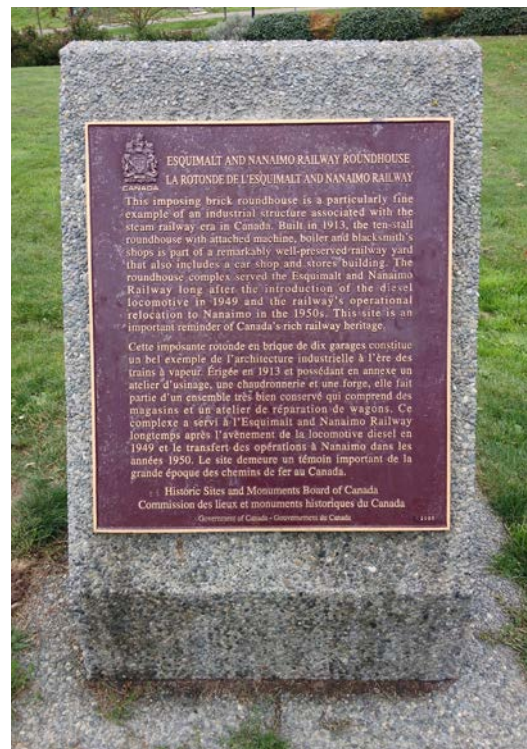
Other Name(s): Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Roundhouse (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1992-SUA Feb, 2004-085

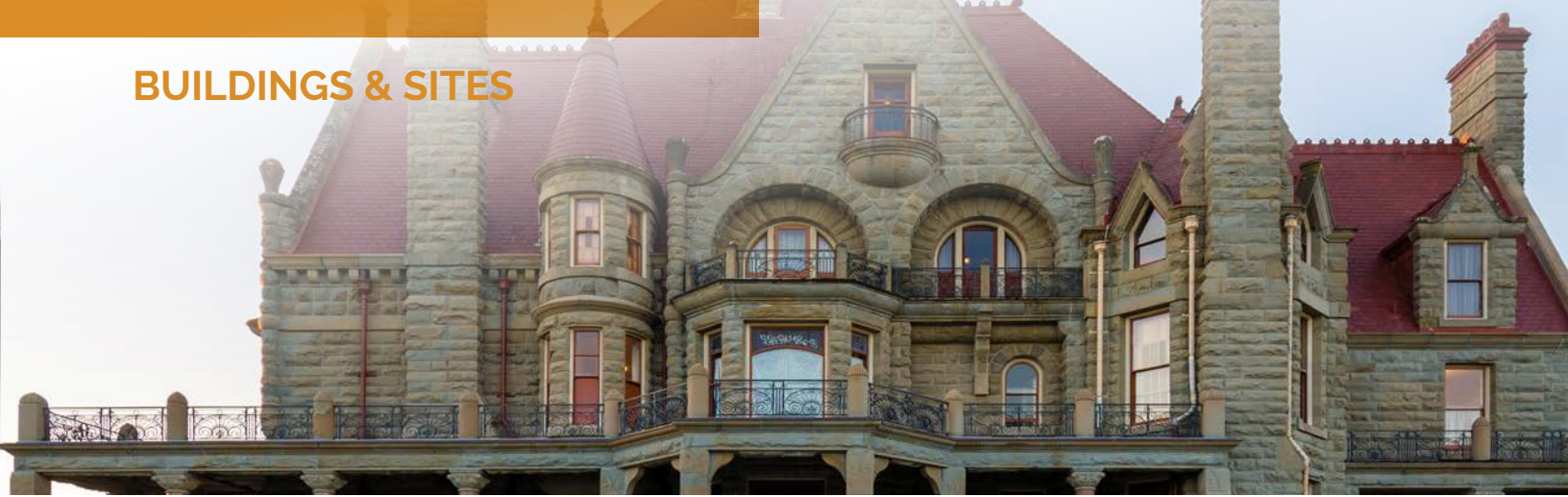
Existing plaque: 251-253 Esquimalt Road, Victoria, British Columbia (no plaque found)

Plaque Text:

This imposing brick roundhouse is a particularly fine example of an industrial structure associated with the steam railway era in Canada. Built in 1913, the ten-stall roundhouse with attached machine, boiler and blacksmith's shops is part of a remarkably well-preserved railway yard that also includes a car shop and stores building. The roundhouse complex served the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway long after the introduction of the diesel locomotive in 1949 and the railway's operational relocation to Nanaimo in the 1950s. This site is an important reminder of Canada's rich railway heritage.
Approved 1999



SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=97



Craigdarroch National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Baronial sandstone mansion of Robert Dunsmuir, 1887-90.

Address: 1050 Joan Crescent, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1992-06-04

Dates: 1887 to 1890 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Robert Dunsmuir (Person); Craigdarroch Military Hospital (Organization); Victoria College (Organization); Victoria Conservatory of Music (Organization); Warren H. Williams (Architect); Arthur L. Smith (Architect); Thomas Moffat (Builder); John Mortimer (Builder)

Other Name(s): Craigdarroch (Designation Name); Dunsmuir Castle (Other Name); Craigdarroch Castle (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 1970-17, 1992-10

Existing plaque: 1050 Joan Crescent, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Built for coal magnate Robert Dunsmuir, Craigdarroch symbolized the desire of late 19th-century industrialists to assert their social position through conspicuous displays of wealth. Completed in 1890, the eclectic mansion features exquisite detailing in stone, stained glass, wrought iron and fine woods. Designers, craftsmen and materials were drawn from all over North America, marking a new age in construction made possible by transcontinental rail systems. This imposing landmark is among the largest and most ornate 19th-century mansions in Western Canada.



PEOPLE & EVENTS

Description of Historic Place

Situated on the summit of the highest hill adjacent to downtown Victoria, British Columbia, Craigdarroch National Historic Site of Canada is a well-known and prominent landmark. Its Scottish Baronial design combines an eclectic fusion of elements borrowed from various architectural styles to evoke the romantic image of a hilltop castle. Built between 1887 and 1890, the castle is distinguished by its distinctive combination of materials, asymmetrical massing with a strong vertical emphasis, steeply-pitched picturesque roofline, and rich contrast of materials, colours and details. The building occupies a remnant of the original 11-hectare (28 acres) Dunsmuir estate and dominates the surrounding Rockland residential area of Victoria. The designation refers to the house on its legal lot as of 1992.

Heritage Value

Craigdarroch was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1992 because: it is an imposing landmark and a fine and early example of an eclectic mansion in the west; and, it is illustrative of an age when the conspicuous display of wealth was the accepted norm.

Occupying a hill overlooking downtown Victoria, Craigdarroch's dramatic profile was purposefully designed to assert the wealth and social stature of its original owner, Robert Dunsmuir, a wealthy industrialist who had amassed his fortune from Vancouver Island coal. Craigdarroch epitomizes the "bonanza castle," a term used to describe oversized mansions built as symbols of success for wealthy North American industrialists during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

No expense was spared to ensure that Craigdarroch was the largest, most elaborate mansion in western Canada. Architect Warren H. Williams combined elements from a variety of architectural styles to create a dramatic design that was intended to evoke the impression of a castle from Dunsmuir's native Scotland. The high level of craftsmanship evident in the exterior masonry and detailing is also evident in the wall and floor surfaces, stained glass, and joinery found throughout the interior. The combination of native and imported materials—British Columbia sandstone and granite, locally manufactured wrought iron, Italian marble and Vermont slate, terracotta tile from California, and imported interior wood panelling—was unprecedented in western Canada at the time, and established new standards for opulence within the region. Craigdarroch is one of the earliest, most flamboyant and best preserved of the bonanza castles built in Canada.

Craigdarroch subsequently housed the Craigdarroch Military Hospital (1919-21), Victoria College (1920-1946) and the Victoria Conservatory of Music (1968-79). It is now operated as a house museum

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1992.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage value include: its hill-top location which makes it clearly visible from downtown Victoria, especially from Fort Street, and which affords sightlines from the building towards the Juan de Fuca Strait, Olympic Mountains, Sooke Hills, Mount Douglas and Mount Tolmie; the mix of stylistic elements deriving from Jacobean (pedimented dormers, balconettes, corbelling), Queen Anne Revival (variations in colour and texture), Romanesque Revival (window detailing, circular tower and stonework), and Chateau (steep hipped roof, round spires and decorated gables), architectural vocabularies which convey the eclecticism characteristic of late

Victorian architecture; the historic exterior building materials, including grey granite (foundation and staircases), pink granite (verandah and entrance columns), grey sandstone (exterior walls, eaves and pediment trim, chimneys), Vermont red slate (roof surfaces), terracotta (roof ridge and hip caps), lead (balconette decks); the exterior forms and elements including the carriage entrance, circular tower, tower balcony, circular bay, verandah, fenestration, carved stone capitals and column details, brackets, finials, and urns; the original interior plan and spatial organization which creates separate spheres for public and private activities and conveys a hierarchy of space from public rooms to private family chambers and service areas; the original interior materials and craftsmanship, including fireplaces, wood and tiled floor surfaces, imported wood panelling in main hall, library and stairwell, stained glass windows, fireplaces, doors, mouldings and carved details such as thistle motifs and moral inscriptions, built-ins, elaborate plasterwork in the main hall, original painted ceiling surfaces and architectural hardware; the original elements that reflect luxury features of a Victorian mansion, including spacious bathrooms, generous natural lighting, and labour-saving devices such as a laundry chute and dumbwaiter; its setting within a landscaped garden.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=93



Estate of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Cultural landscape; served as the residence of the Governors and Lieutenant Governors of the province.

Address: 1401 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2002-11-01

Dates: 1911 to 2001 (Construction); 1865 to 1865 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy (Governor of Vancouver Island) (Person); Frederick Seymour (Governor of British Columbia) (Person); Sir Anthony Musgrave (Governor of British Columbia) (Person); Sir Joseph William Trutch (Lieutenant-Governor from 1871 to 1876) (Person); Edgar Dewdney (Lieutenant-Governor from 1892 to 1897) (Person)

Other Name(s): Estate of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia (Designation Name); Government House (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 2002-OB8, 2002-OB11

Existing plaque: 1401 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This magnificent estate, residence of the Crown's representatives in British Columbia, is a cultural landscape that boasts a long and remarkable association with this high office. In 1865 the government of the colony purchased Cary Castle, a house located on this site, to serve as the residence of the governor of Vancouver Island. When British Columbia entered Confederation in 1871, Cary Castle became the home to the province's lieutenant governors. The present structure, built in 1957-1959, is the third official residence to occupy the site. Its porte-cochère is a link with the past, in that it was part of the previous building destroyed by fire. The grounds of the estate, originally laid out in the early 20th century under a succession of lieutenant governors, include Picturesque gardens that are constantly evolving, a fine shaded pond, mature trees and a rare Garry Oak ecosystem. The outbuildings, known as the Mews and constructed between 1872 and 1903, are reminders of how a great estate was run in the 19th century. The rich mosaic of varying landscapes gives a charm to an estate that is a notable part of the history of British Columbia.

Description of Historic Place

The Estate of the Lieutenant Governor is an evolving cultural landscape of some 14.6 hectare situated on a height of land known as the Rockland Escarpment in a residential area of Victoria with commanding views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The site contains a mosaic of varied landscapes that includes 5.7 hectares of gardens, agricultural lands, a mature stand of Douglas fir, and an extensive Garry oak ecosystem. The site also contains the official residence built in 1957-59 following a fire that destroyed its predecessor, a group of five service buildings known as the Mews constructed between 1872 and 1903, a former gardener's cottage (1903), and a former chauffeur's cottage (1929). The formal recognition refers to the 14.6 hectare estate including landscape features and related buildings.

Heritage Value

The Estate of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia was designated a national historic site because: it is a cultural landscape that has had a long and noteworthy connection since 1865 with an official function, namely serving as the residence of the Governors and Lieutenant Governors of the province, three of whom have been recognized as being of national historic importance; and it is remarkable for its aesthetic qualities, consisting of a variety of different landscapes, picturesque gardens that have been and may be augmented from time to time, agricultural lands with an old mews, and a valuable ecosystem of Garry oaks.

The present residence, built in 1957-59, is the third official residence to occupy the site. It sustains the building-site relationship of its predecessors through its placement, modified Tudor Revival style elements and the retention of the porte-cochere from the previous residence destroyed by fire. The grounds of the estate, originally laid out in the early 20th century to a plan inspired by the great English estates of the Edwardian era, contains an array of ornamental gardens that have evolved over time. The rich mosaic of picturesque, pastoral and natural landscapes lends a distinctive quality to an estate that is a notable part of the history of British Columbia.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 2002.

Character-Defining Elements

Key features contributing to the heritage value of this site include: the site in its defined boundaries and its continuous association with the vice regal office since 1865; its location on a conspicuous ridge that makes it a visible landmark within the city; the siting of the official residence and the historical relationship between it, and its predecessors, and the site; the residence's stone porte-cochere, a surviving remnant from the previous residence; the unimpeded sightlines from the residence to the surrounding estate grounds and to the Strait of Juan de Fuca; the picturesque design elements developed after 1911, notably, the mosaic of gardens (including English, herbal, perennial, alpine, rock, rhododendron, and rose gardens, various other flower gardens, and a duck pond), an agricultural area (orchard, nursery garden, fields), winding lanes and pathways, mature trees, and an 8.9 hectare Garry Oak ecosystem); the group of service buildings known collectively as the Mews (built between 1872 and 1903), and the two staff cottages (built in 1903 and 1929) which, through their age, forms, massing and materials, convey a sense of historical processes associated with the operation of a great estate in the 19th and early 20th centuries; the stone perimeter wall; the accessibility of the estate's gardens to the general public.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=10051&i=45779



Pemberton Memorial Operating Room National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. A rare surviving example of a surgical facility from the time when hospitals were shifting from being mainly charitable organizations to scientific institutions.

Address: 1900 Fort Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2005-11-28

Dates: 1896 to 1896 (Construction); 1918 to 1918 (Significant); 1896 to 1925 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Dr. John Chapman Davie (Person); J.D. Pemberton (Person); John Teague (Architect)

Other Name(s): Pemberton Memorial Operating Room (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2004-063, 2004-033, 2001-013

Approved Inscription: Royal Jubilee Hospital 1900 Fort Street, Victoria, British Columbia (no plaque found)

Inscription Text:

Constructed in 1896 and originally connected to the Royal Jubilee Hospital by a corridor, this operating room reflects the dramatic developments of the 19th century in medical knowledge and surgical techniques. Its easily cleaned ceramic tile floor, modern hot water system, and attached sterilizing room, derived from Joseph Lister's aseptic principles, helped to reduce post-operative infection and encouraged the undertaking of more complex surgeries. Its design marked the shift from the grand surgical amphitheatres of the Victorian era to the smaller operating rooms of the 20th century. Approved 2007



Description of Historic Place

The Pemberton Memorial Operating Room is located in the heart of the Royal Jubilee Hospital complex in Victoria. The site consists of an octagonal brick operating room built in 1896 and two sterilizing rooms, one original, the other added in 1918. The two sterilizing rooms comprise a single rectangular brick structure that is attached to a single wall facet of the octagonal operating room. Large windows, with sandstone lintels and concrete sills, dominate six facets of the exterior. A ventilation cupola graces the peak of the octagonal operating room roof, with a smaller ventilator located on the ridge of the hipped roof covering the sterilizing room section. The designation is limited to the existing building built in 1896 with its 1918 addition, within its footprint.

Heritage Value

The Pemberton Memorial Operating Room was designated a national historic site of Canada in 2004 because: it is a rare surviving example of a surgical facility from the period of transition of hospitals from primarily charitable to scientific institutions; with its easily cleaned ceramic tile floor and radiused plaster walls, modern hot water system and attached sterilizing room, it illustrates the surgical practices of the 1890s, in particular the aseptic principles introduced by Joseph Lister; and, its design, octagonal in plan and without seating for viewers, represents an important shift from the grand surgical amphitheatres of the mid-19th century to the small operating suites of the 20th century.

The operating room was designed by noted Victoria architect John Teague in consultation with Dr. John Chapman Davie, the driving force behind the introduction of Lister's theories of antiseptic surgery to Victoria. Incorporating elements of both 19th- and 20th-century design, this building illustrates the transition that was taking place in hospital design at this time. The structure was designed to provide a space that could be kept clean and provide a sterile environment, suitable for operation. The large windows that punctuated the walls of the operating theatre provided ample natural light while the ceramic tiled floors, plastered and painted walls could be easily cleaned, disinfected and well-ventilated with the aid of the modern plumbing, heating and ventilation systems. Although originally linked to the main hospital by a wooden corridor, the operating room is defined as a discrete form so as to minimize the risk of contamination from the outside. The site is currently surrounded by recently landscaped garden features and a parking lot that provide buffers between it and the larger modern hospital complex and a contemporary chapel.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, December 2004.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: the relationship of the building to its surroundings as a discrete structure, separate from surrounding buildings; the massing and plan,

including the octagonal form of the operating room, spatial relationship between the operating room and sterilization rooms, and roof profiles; the functional intent of the original design as expressed through large window and door openings, floor plan, roof vaulting; the original interior finishes suitable for a sterile operating theatre, notably the ceramic floor tiling, plastered and painted walls, plumbing and hot water system; the original exterior wall materials and detailing, notably the solid brick walls, rubble stone foundation, stone and concrete sills and lintels, boxed eaves, roof cupolas and chimney.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=11831



Craigflower Schoolhouse National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Oldest surviving school building in western Canada, 1854-55.

Address: 2765 Admirals Road, Craigflower, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1964-10-27

Dates: 1854 to 1855 (Construction); 1854 to 1911 (Significant); 1927 to 1927 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Kenneth McKenzie (Person); Charles Clarke (Person); Hudson's Bay Company (Organization); Native Sons and Native Daughters of B.C. (Organization); Puget's Sound Agricultural Company (Organization)

Other Name(s): Craigflower Schoolhouse (Designation Name); Maple Point School (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 1964-38, 1969-12

Existing plaque: 2765 Admirals Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Built in 1854-1855, Craigflower Schoolhouse was one of several established and paid for by Vancouver Island's colonial administration. It was constructed with lumber obtained from a steam-powered sawmill at the Hudson's Bay Company's Craigflower Farm. Its one schoolroom served children from the farm and nearby districts, while the upstairs provided living quarters for the teacher's family and student boarders. The schoolhouse operated from 1855 until 1911, and since 1931 has served as a museum. It is the oldest surviving school building in Western Canada.



Description of Historic Place

The Craigflower Schoolhouse National Historic Site of Canada is a two-storey timber-framed building located on the north bank of the Gorge Estuary in the greater Victoria area. Built in 1854-1855, to meet the educational needs of children at Craigflower Farm, the building's five bay plan, gable roof, Georgian proportions and white clapboard exterior echo the form and design of the nearby Craigflower Manor House National Historic Site of Canada. The schoolhouse is a conspicuously sited historical landmark. Official recognition refers to the building on its lot.

Heritage Value

The Craigflower Schoolhouse was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1964 because: preserved virtually intact, it is the oldest surviving school building in Western Canada.

The Craigflower Schoolhouse was constructed with lumber obtained from a steam-powered sawmill at the Hudson's Bay Company's Craigflower Farm. Designed with a schoolroom and accommodation for the teacher and his family on the main floor and several rooms for boarders on the second floor, it served children from the farm and nearby settlements. The building was also used for church meetings and public gatherings. After the schoolhouse ceased operations in 1911, the building quickly fell into disrepair. In 1927, it was acquired and restored by the Native Sons and Native Daughters of British Columbia and preserved as a museum. Its well-preserved interior and exterior illustrate architectural and construction practices associated with the transition from fur trade to settlement on the West Coast, and convey the importance attached to education during the early stages of European settlement in Western Canada.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1964, June 1983.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: the situation of the schoolhouse on its original site and relationship between the building and its grounds and the waterfront; its siting on the north bank of the Gorge Estuary opposite the Craigflower Manor House National Historic Site of Canada and the former site of the Craigflower Farm settlement; its rectangular, two-storey massing under a gable roof with end chimneys, and its two clapboard lean-tos located on the south-west side and along the rear; its mortice-and-tenoned timber frame construction with clapboard siding; its use of local construction materials; its five-bay façade with evenly spaced double-hung multi-pane windows; its pedimented and protruding single entryway; its surviving original interior layout, materials and finishes, including original furnishings.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=95



Craigflower Schoolhouse National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Oldest surviving school building in western Canada, 1854-55.

Address: 2765 Admirals Road, Craigflower, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1964-10-27

Dates: 1854 to 1855 (Construction); 1854 to 1911 (Significant); 1927 to 1927 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Kenneth McKenzie (Person); Charles Clarke (Person); Hudson's Bay Company (Organization); Native Sons and Native Daughters of B.C. (Organization); Puget's Sound Agricultural Company (Organization)

Other Name(s): Craigflower Schoolhouse (Designation Name); Maple Point School (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 1964-38, 1969-12

Existing plaque: 2765 Admirals Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Built in 1854-1855, Craigflower Schoolhouse was one of several established and paid for by Vancouver Island's colonial administration. It was constructed with lumber obtained from a steam-powered sawmill at the Hudson's Bay Company's Craigflower Farm. Its one schoolroom served children from the farm and nearby districts, while the upstairs provided living quarters for the teacher's family and student boarders. The schoolhouse operated from 1855 until 1911, and since 1931 has served as a museum. It is the oldest surviving school building in Western Canada.



Description of Historic Place

The Craigflower Schoolhouse National Historic Site of Canada is a two-storey timber-framed building located on the north bank of the Gorge Estuary in the greater Victoria area. Built in 1854-1855, to meet the educational needs of children at Craigflower Farm, the building's five bay plan, gable roof, Georgian proportions and white clapboard exterior echo the form and design of the nearby Craigflower Manor House National Historic Site of Canada. The schoolhouse is a conspicuously sited historical landmark. Official recognition refers to the building on its lot.

Heritage Value

The Craigflower Schoolhouse was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1964 because: preserved virtually intact, it is the oldest surviving school building in Western Canada.

The Craigflower Schoolhouse was constructed with lumber obtained from a steam-powered sawmill at the Hudson's Bay Company's Craigflower Farm. Designed with a schoolroom and accommodation for the teacher and his family on the main floor and several rooms for boarders on the second floor, it served children from the farm and nearby settlements. The building was also used for church meetings and public gatherings. After the schoolhouse ceased operations in 1911, the building quickly fell into disrepair. In 1927, it was acquired and restored by the Native Sons and Native Daughters of British Columbia and preserved as a museum. Its well-preserved interior and exterior illustrate architectural and construction practices associated with the transition from fur trade to settlement on the West Coast, and convey the importance attached to education during the early stages of European settlement in Western Canada.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1964, June 1983.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: the situation of the schoolhouse on its original site and relationship between the building and its grounds and the waterfront; its siting on the north bank of the Gorge Estuary opposite the Craigflower Manor House National Historic Site of Canada and the former site of the Craigflower Farm settlement; its rectangular, two-storey massing under a gable roof with end chimneys, and its two clapboard lean-tos located on the south-west side and along the rear; its mortice-and-tenoned timber frame construction with clapboard siding; its use of local construction materials; its five-bay façade with evenly spaced double-hung multi-pane windows; its pedimented and protruding single entryway; its surviving original interior layout, materials and finishes, including original furnishings.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=95



Bay Street Drill Hall National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Fortress-like World War I drill hall, 1914-15

Address: 715 Bay Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1989-06-22

Dates: 1914 to 1915 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: W.R. Wilson (Architect); Department of Public Works (Builder)

Other Name(s): Bay Street Drill Hall (Designation Name)

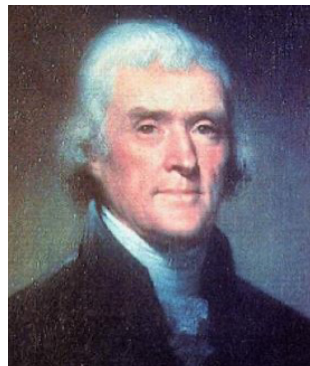
Research Report Number: DRILL HALLS - 1989

DFRP Number: 17337 00

Existing plaque: 715 Bay Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

When constructed by the federal government in 1914-1915, this armoury was one of the largest and most up-to-date in the country. Its scale reflects the dramatic increase in military participation following Canada's strong performance during the South African War, while the exuberant design expresses the city's long and enthusiastic support of the volunteer militia. Its highly functional interior plan is combined with an imposing exterior reminiscent of a medieval fortress. An important training and recruitment centre, the Bay Street Armoury has served continuously since the First World War.



Description of Historic Place

Bay Street Drill Hall National Historic Site of Canada is a massive building of brick, steel and concrete construction with a design that conveys the impression of a monumental medieval fortress. The scale of the building, its rich architectural detailing, extensive facilities, and central location on Bay Street near downtown Victoria, British Columbia, reflect the pride in which Canada's emerging military was held at the time of its construction and its important role in Canadian history in the early 20th century. Official recognition refers to the building on its legal lot at the time of designation.

Heritage Value

The Bay Street Drill Hall was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1989 because: it is a good representative example from the third phase of drill hall construction in Canada (1896-1918); its scale reflects the dramatic increase in military participation following Canada's strong performance during the South African War, while the exuberant design expresses the city's long and enthusiastic support of the volunteer militia; an important training and recruitment centre, the Bay Street Armoury has served continuously since the First World War.

The Bay Street Drill Hall was built during the militia building campaign of 1896 to 1918, during which over 100 drill halls and armouries were erected across the country. The purpose of this campaign was to expand the visibility of the Canadian militia following its successful involvement in the South African War and in preparation for the First World War. The new drill halls and armouries played a significant role in the militia reform by functioning as both training and recruitment centres. The results of these training programs were impressive, and enrolment in the militia increased dramatically, particularly in the West.

Built between 1914 and 1915, the Bay Street Drill hall consists of a large two-storey hall, surrounded by armouries, storerooms, lecture rooms and mess rooms. The building exhibits elements of the Tudor Revival style, as evidenced in its central, octagonal tower with crenellated parapet, its ceremonial balcony and its keystones that combine to create an image of medieval fortifications.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1989; Plaque text, 1992.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage value include: its prominent location on Bay Street in a mixed residential, commercial and industrial district on the edge of the downtown core of Victoria, British Columbia; its two-storey massing and symmetrical façades with strong horizontal emphasis; its elements which speak to the Tudor Revival architectural style evoking medieval fortifications and embodied in a central, octagonal tower, four circular bartizans (corner turrets), buttressed wall corners, crenellated parapets and additional decorative features including a central Tudor-arched entry recalling fortress gates, a ceremonial balcony, belt courses, corbelling and keystones; its structural elements, including the massive elliptical steel truss system supported by concrete wall buttresses faced in brick; the extensive and regularly-spaced fenestration, including circular and flat, multi-pane sash windows; the elements which speak to the third phase of drill hall construction in Canada, namely the interior layout with a large, central drill space surrounded by spaces for ancillary functions including spaces for weapons storage and a firing range, for physical training and educational programmes, washrooms and mess halls; the surviving original Tudor Revival style interior features, including fireplaces, wall panelling and faux beams in the officers' mess.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=89



Victoria City Hall National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Earliest extant western town hall; Second Empire style, 1878-1890.

Address: 1 Centennial Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1977-11-17

Dates: 1878 to 1890 (Construction); 1963 to 1963 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Roderick Finlayson (mayor) (Person); John Teague (Architect)

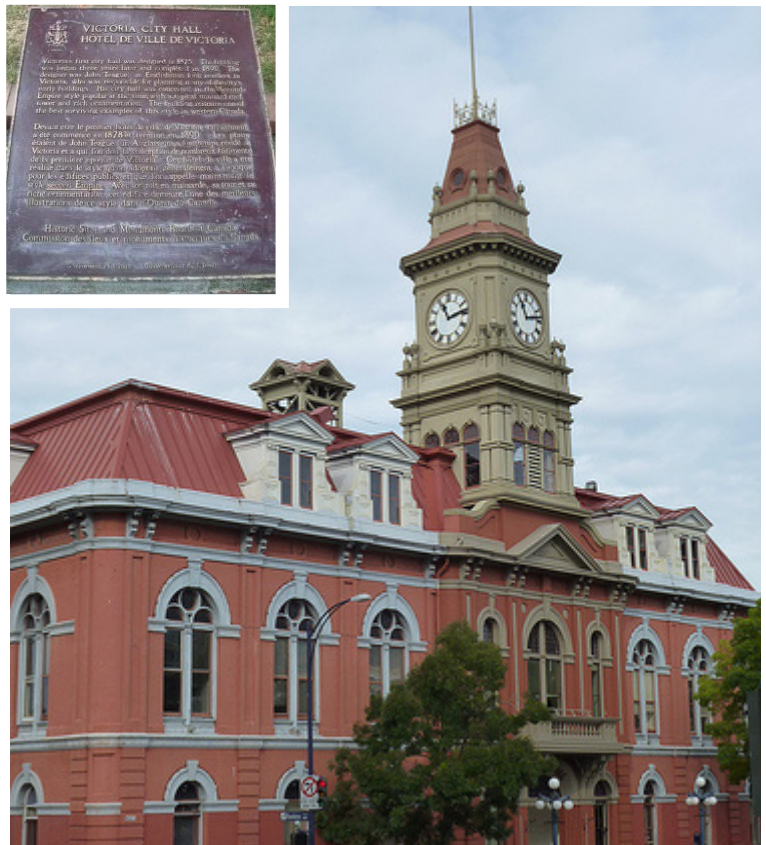
Other Name(s): Victoria City Hall (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1977-57, TOWN HALLS

Existing plaque: 1 Centennial Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Victoria's first city hall was designed in 1875. The building was begun three years later and completed in 1890. The designer was John Teague, an Englishman long resident in Victoria, who was responsible for planning many of the city's early buildings. His city hall was conceived in the Second Empire style popular at the time with a typical mansard roof, tower and rich ornamentation. The building remains one of the best surviving examples of this style in western Canada.



Description of Historic Place

The Victoria City Hall National Historic Site of Canada is a two-and-a-half storey brick building designed in the Second Empire Style. Architectural elements including a prominent central clock tower, a mansard roof with dormers, and numerous decorative wall features, reflect the building's intended stature as an enduring monument to civic pride. The formal recognition refers to the building on its lot.

Heritage Value

Victoria City Hall was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1977 because it remains one of the best surviving examples of public architecture in the Second Empire style in western Canada.

Victoria City Hall illustrates Canadians' longstanding desire to create landmarks as expressions of civic pride and optimism for the future. Built in three stages between 1878 and 1890 to defray costs, the building's scale was justified through the accommodation it provided for a wide range of civic functions including council chambers, municipal offices, fire hall, public market and jail. A rear annex was added in 1963. The Victoria City Hall continues to affirm the vision of its builders, both as the seat of local government and as an enduring architectural landmark.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, November 1977.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: those architectural elements that convey the rich variety of forms, textures and ornamentation that characterise the Second Empire style such as the central clock tower and balconied main entrance, mansard roof and dormers, eave brackets, the articulation of the wall plane with quoins, pilasters, belt courses and round-headed window, and the polychromatic brickwork of the original exterior wall surfaces; surviving evidence of the original interior layout and ornamentation of main public spaces; the symmetrical exterior massing, with a prominent central tower that expresses the building's role as a civic landmark and embodies the distinctive qualities of 19th-century public architecture in the Second Empire style.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=106



223 Robert Street National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Queen Anne Revival style residence, 1905.

Address: 223 Robert Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1990-11-16

Dates: 1905 to 1905 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: James McLearen Muirhead (Person)

Other Name(s): 223 Robert Street (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: Queen Anne Revival - 1990-SUB

Approved Inscription: British Columbia

Inscription Text:

This house is a fine example of Queen Anne Revival architecture in Canada. The facade, with its bay window and recessed corner tower, exhibits an elegant asymmetry. Rich in contrasts and relief, the picturesque composition is further enlivened by a dormer window, gables, and chimneys. Designed by architects Hooper & Watkins in 1903 for James Muirhead, of the sash and door factory Muirhead & Mann, this home is also noted for its woodwork, reflecting the skills developed in this region during the golden age of the lumber industry in Canada.



Description of Historic Place

223 Robert Street is an ornate one and one-half storey wooden residence designed in the Queen Anne style. Built in 1905, its picturesque quality is enhanced by its location in a residential cluster containing several houses of similar style, scale and age. The house occupies a lot located near the waterfront in the Victoria West area of Victoria, British Columbia. The formal recognition refers to the building on its lot.

Heritage Value

223 Robert Street was designated a National Historic Site of Canada because it is a particularly good example of the Queen Anne Revival Style, as expressed in domestic architecture.

On the West Coast, hallmarks of this architectural style, including cornertowers and rich decorative detailing, were occasionally applied to wooden picturesque cottage designs with striking results. The house built for James McLearen Muirhead in 1905 is an outstanding example, replete with an octagonal corner tower affording ocean views and a rich array of exterior and interior wood detailing supplied by the Muirhead family's local planing mill.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, November 1990.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: its siting on its original city lot and its location near the waterfront; the relationship between the house and the waterfront; its materials and forms, all of which are consistent with domestic architecture in the Queen Anne Style, including its rectangular massing under a hipped roof, elaborated by a corner tower, projecting gable-roofed bay, brick chimneys, decorative bracketing and eaves detailing, varied fenestration, and exterior wall surfaces; surviving elements of the original interior plan and detailing, notably panelling and joinery in the main hall and parlour, four fireplaces, carved columns, ceiling plasterwork, stained glass and mouldings.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=88&i=75082



Congregation Emanu-el Temple National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia Oldest surviving synagogue in Canada, built in 1863.

Address: 1461 Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1979-11-15

Dates: 1863 to 1863 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Gold Rush (Event); Lumley Franklin (Person); Selim Franklin (Person); John Wright (Architect)

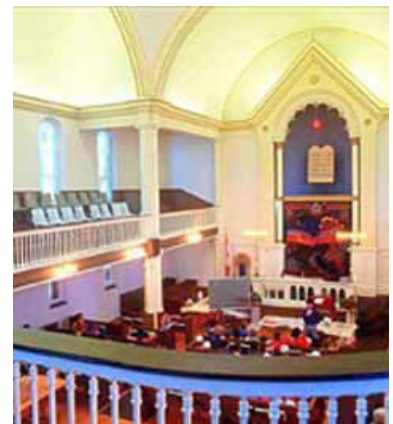
Other Name(s): Congregation Emanu-el Temple (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1979-30

Existing plaque: 1461 Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

The Congregation Emanu-el Synagogue was built in 1863, just five years after the arrival of the first members of Victoria's Jewish community during the Fraser River gold rush period. Its opening was widely celebrated in Victoria for, despite their small numbers, members of the congregation played leading roles in the social, economic and political life of both the town and the colony. The oldest surviving synagogue in Canada, the building is a testament to the devotion and resourcefulness of its founders, as well as a rare example of the 19th century Romanesque style synagogue architecture in Canada.



Description of Historic Place

The Congregation Emanu-el Temple National Historic Site of Canada is a two-storey red brick building located on a prominent intersection in downtown Victoria, British Columbia. Built in 1863, the synagogue is distinguished by its well-preserved Romanesque Revival exterior and its interior detailing. Its setback of approximately two metres from the sidewalk on both street fronts helps differentiate the synagogue from neighbouring commercial and office buildings. Official recognition refers to the building on its legal lot.

Heritage Value

The Congregation Emanu-el Temple was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1979 because it is: the oldest surviving synagogue in Canada; a rare early surviving example of the 19th century Romanesque Revival style synagogue architecture in Canada.

The building was constructed just five years after the arrival of the first Jewish settlers in British Columbia in 1858. Although small in size, Victoria's Jewish community played active and dynamic roles in the economic, cultural and political life of the young city and the colony. When completed in 1863, the synagogue was an impressive addition to the city's skyline and an assertion of the commitment of this small but significant cultural community to the future of British Columbia.

The synagogue's design, provided by prominent west coast architect John Wright, utilized Romanesque Revival forms often chosen in the 19th century by the Jewish people as an appropriate expression of their culture and spirituality. Once common throughout Europe and North America, few Romanesque Revival style synagogues now survive. As the oldest synagogue building in the country, Congregation Emanu-el Temple is of outstanding value as a rare and well-preserved link to that design tradition, and for its associations with the history and traditions of Canada's early Jewish communities.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, 1979.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that contribute to the heritage character of the historical site include: the continuous function of the building as a synagogue; the footprint of the synagogue and the historical relationship between the building and its site, including the setbacks on both street frontages; sightlines of the synagogue from Blanshard Street and Pandora Street; the exterior forms, massing and design features of the building that are associated with Romanesque Revival style synagogue architecture including the rectangular massing with a pedimented central section flanked by corner pavilions, hipped roof, curved sanctuary, red brick walls articulated by shallow pilasters, corbelling and voussoirs, round headed windows and doors, a triple entrance with twin ornamental columns, wooden eaves detailing, and a circular window in the pedimented gable; surviving original interior elements including the historic spatial organization, the sanctuary, gallery and railings, pedimented portal form defining the entrance to the Holy Ark, vaulted ceiling, stained glass windows and skylight, the Bema, interior pilasters, original pews and original wall surfaces.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=92



Empress Hotel National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Landmark Château style railway hotel, 1904-08

Address: 721 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1981-01-15

Dates: 1904 to 1908 (Construction); 1910 to 1912 (Significant); 1928 to 1928 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Canadian Pacific Railway (Organization); Francis Mawson Rattenbury (Architect); W.S. Painter (Architect); J.W. Orrock (Architect); Gribble & Skene, B.C. General Contract, E.G. Prior, Barrett Brothers (Builder)

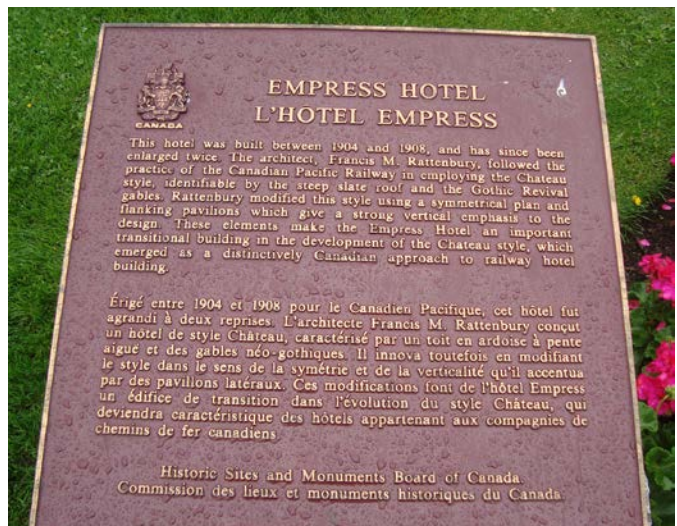
Other Name(s): Empress Hotel (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1980-21

Existing plaque: Mounted on outside wall at entrance 721 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This hotel was built between 1904 and 1908, and has since been enlarged twice. The architect, Francis M. Rattenbury, followed the practice of the Canadian Pacific Railway in employing the Chateau style, identifiable by the steep slate roof and the Gothic Revival gables. Rattenbury modified this style using a symmetrical plan and flanking pavilions which give a strong vertical emphasis to the design. These elements make the Empress Hotel an important transitional building in the development of the Chateau style, which emerged as a distinctively Canadian approach to railway hotel building.



Description of Historic Place

The Empress Hotel is an early-20th-century stone hotel, constructed in the Chateau style. It is prominently located at the head of the inner harbour in the city of Victoria. The formal recognition consists of the building on its legal property at the time of recognition.

Heritage Value

The Empress Hotel was designated a national historic site in 1980 because it is a Chateau-style hotel of national significance as an architectural type.

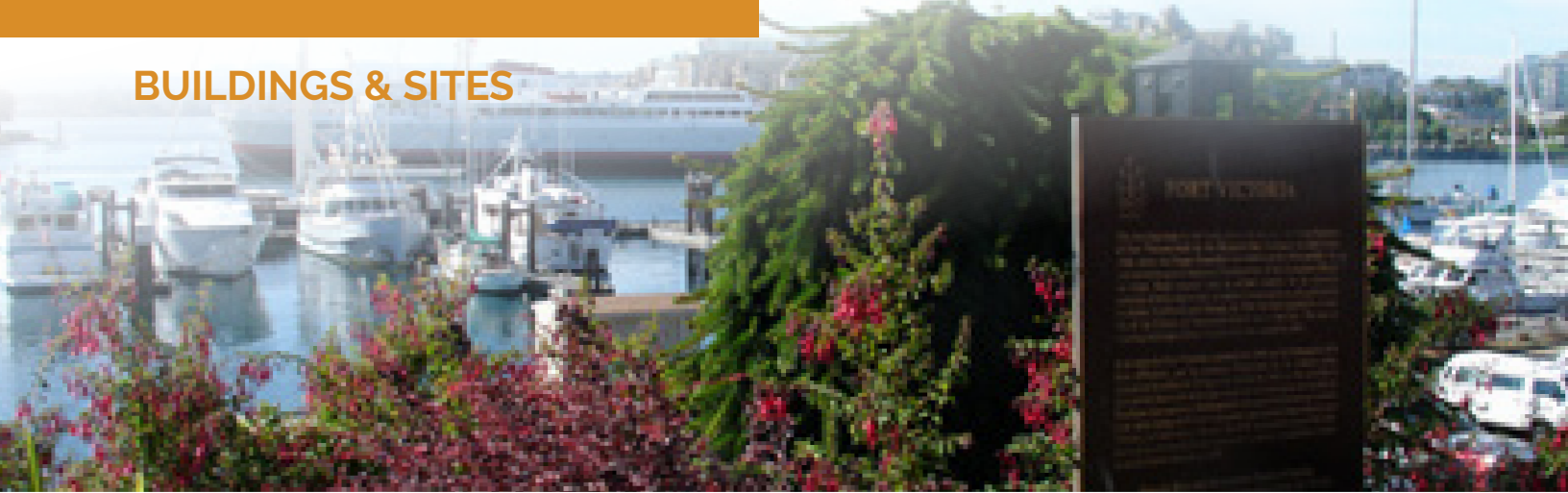
Built for the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR), the Empress Hotel is one of a series of Chateau-style hotels built by Canadian railway companies in the early 20th century to encourage tourists to travel their transcontinental routes. Popular with the travelling public for their elaborate decor and comfortable elegance, these hotels quickly became national symbols of quality accommodation. The Chateau-style vocabulary used by the railway hotels evolved as a distinctly Canadian architectural type. The Empress signals the beginning of this evolution from a strictly Chateau-style design towards one that incorporated contemporary forms. Built in 1904-08 to designs by Francis M. Rattenbury, the Empress was enlarged in 1910-12 to designs by W.S. Painter and in 1928 to designs by J.W. Orrock.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, 1980.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that relate to the heritage value of the Empress Hotel site include: elements which typify Chateau-style railway hotels, including its massive scale, stone and brick cladding, steeply pitched copper roofs, ornate gables and dormers, domed, polygon turrets, high-quality materials, and dramatic setting; its asymmetrical plan, with arcaded central loggia, and projecting pavilions accented by vertical strips of oriel windows; the layout and interior detailing of the original principal public rooms on the ground floor, including the original entrance foyer, palm court, ballroom, dining room, library and linking staircases; its unimpeded view of the harbour; its prominent location and imposing presence at the head of Victoria's inner harbour; the presence of landscaped gardens around the hotel which separate the building from the denser urban areas.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=96&i=51272



Fort Victoria National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Site of 1843 Hudson's Bay Company post.

Address: Wharf Street at Broughton, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1924-06-04

Dates: 1843 to 1843 (Construction); 1849 to 1849 (Significant); 1846 to 1846 (Significant); 1858 to 1858 (Significant); 1861 to 1864 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Richard Blanshard (Person); Hudson's Bay Company (Organization)

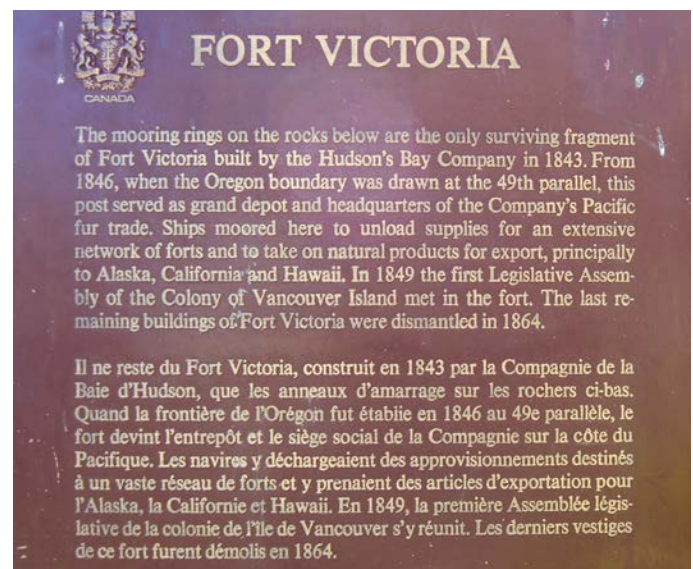
Other Name(s): Fort Victoria (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 2009-SDC-CED-073

Existing plaque: Wharf Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

The mooring rings on the rocks below are the only surviving fragment of Fort Victoria built by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1843. From 1846, when the Oregon boundary was drawn at the 49th parallel, this post served as grand depot and headquarters of the Company's Pacific fur trade. Ships moored here to unload supplies for an extensive network of forts and to take on natural products for export, principally to Alaska, California and Hawaii. In 1849 the first Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island met in the fort. The last remaining buildings of Fort Victoria were dismantled in 1864.



Existing plaque: mounted on concrete wall in front of steps to Old Victoria Custom House on west side of Wharf St at the very end of Broughton St. Government House, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Founded by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1843 Fort Victoria became, after 1846, the headquarters of the Company's trade in British territory west of the Rocky Mountains. When the Colony of Vancouver Island was formed in 1849 Victoria was the capital and in the fort the first Legislative assembly met. The gold rush of 1858 led to the development of the City of Victoria. The early history of the city and the colony is closely intertwined with that of the fort. The last of the original buildings was demolished in 1862.



Description of Historic Place

Fort Victoria National Historic Site of Canada is located on the southern end of Vancouver Island in Victoria, British Columbia. Now located in downtown Victoria at the intersection of Fort Street and Government Street, the site was established by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1843. The only extant remains of the 19th-century fort include the palisade, two bastions and three mooring rings located west of the fort site in Victoria Harbour, adjacent to Malahat Building / Old Victoria Custom House National Historic Site of Canada. Official recognition refers to the footprint of Fort Victoria, including the palisade and bastions, as well as three nodes formed by three remaining mooring rings.

Heritage Value

Fort Victoria was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1924 because: founded in 1843, Fort Victoria became, after 1846, the grand depot and headquarters of the Hudson's Bay Company's trade in British territory west of the Rocky Mountains; in 1849, the first Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island met in the fort.

The heritage value of Fort Victoria lies in its historical associations with the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) trade activities and its role as an early political centre in British Columbia. In 1843, the Hudson's Bay Company established Fort Victoria on the coast of James Bay, in what is now the City of Victoria. The fort was constructed as a result of American encroachment on British territory. Fearing that the United States would assume control over the Oregon Territory and the lands to the north, the British established the fort to lay visual claim to the land. In 1846, the Oregon border was established at the 49th Parallel, and the Victoria post became the grand depot and headquarters of the HBC's pacific fur trade. Ships moored at Fort Victoria to unload supplies for an extensive network of forts and to take on natural products for export, principally to Alaska, California and Hawaii.

In 1849, the first Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver met at the fort, and the following year the Colony of Vancouver Island was founded under governor Richard Blanshard, with Fort Victoria as its capital. After a brief population boom in 1858 due to the Gold Rush, the fort property was sold, the palisade was torn down and within a few years, the last of the buildings were demolished.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Plaque Text, 1949, 1972.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements that contribute to the heritage character of the site include: its location at Victoria Harbour in Victoria, British Columbia; the three extant mooring rings located west of the fort site on Victoria Harbour; the integrity of any surviving or as yet not identified archaeological remains associated with Fort Victoria which may be found within the site in their original placement and extent, including the two bastions and palisade; the views from the fort site and the mooring rings to Victoria Harbour.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=100&i=51320



Malahat Building / Old Victoria Custom House **National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)**

Victoria, British Columbia. First Victoria custom house; 1873-76; Second Empire Style.

Address: 1002 Wharf Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1987-11-20

Dates: 1874 to 1875 (Construction); 1875 to 1899 (Restoration)

Event, Person, Organization: T.S. Scott (Architect); Maurice Humber (Builder); Smith and Clark (Builder)

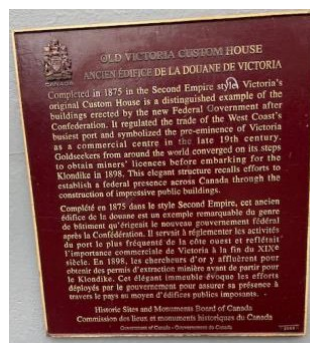
Other Name(s): Malahat Building / Old Victoria Custom House (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1979-24, 1987 Additional Material

Existing plaque: 1002 Wharf Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Completed in 1875 in the Second Empire style, Victoria's original Custom House is a distinguished example of the buildings erected by the new Federal Government after Confederation. It regulated the trade of the West Coast's busiest port and symbolized the pre-eminence of Victoria as a commercial centre in the late 19th century. Goldseekers from around the world converged on its steps to obtain miners' licences before embarking for the Klondike in 1898. This elegant structure recalls efforts to establish a federal presence across Canada through the construction of impressive public buildings.



Description of Historic Place

The Malahat Building/Old Victoria Custom House is a three-storey, mansard-roofed, brick building, built in 1874-5. It is located on a waterfront site, overlooking the harbour of the city of Victoria, British Columbia. The formal recognition consists of the building on its legal property at the time of designation.

Heritage Value

The Malahat Building/Old Victoria Custom House was designated a national historic site in 1987 because: it is closely associated with Victoria when the city was the pre-eminent commercial centre on Canada's Pacific Coast; and it is a rare surviving example of a 19th-century Second Empire style federal building.

As the customs house for Victoria from 1875 to 1899, the Malahat Building served the city's import and export trade during a time when Victoria was the busiest centre on the West coast. Mining licenses for the Klondike gold rush were administered here.

The Malahat Building is one of the few surviving examples of the federal buildings erected across Canada by the newly formed government following Confederation. By erecting a series of imposing buildings to provide necessary government services, especially post offices and custom offices, the Dominion government sought to establish a federal presence across the country. Built in 1874-75, the Malahat Building is a relatively plain example of the imposing Second Empire style adopted for these buildings under Thomas Seaton Scott, first Chief Architect of the Department of Public Works (1872-1881). Its modest design and materials are in keeping with the relative size of Victoria at that time.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minute, November 1987.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements which relate to the heritage value of the Malahat Building include: its simple, centralized, block plan on a high basement; its three-storey elevation, with a roof-top viewing deck; its three-bay facade with central entry; its Second Empire style, evident in the mansard roof, classicized decorative treatment, and hooded dormers; its restrained detailing, including a bracketed wood cornice, stone corner quoins, string courses, and cut-stone window and door trim with keystones; its solid brick construction on a stone basement; surviving original layout and finishes; its location on the waterfront; its siting, abutting the sidewalk, on a site sloping down to the shore; its broad viewscape of the harbour.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=107



Dominion Astrophysical Observatory National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. World-renowned observatory where many discoveries about the nature of the Milky Way galaxy were made, using the observatory's 1.83-metre reflecting telescope and spectroscopes.

Address: 5071 West Saanich Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2010-01-12

Dates: 1914 to 1918 (Construction); 1918 to 1960 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: John Stanley Paskett National Historic Person (Person); William King (Person); Ottawa Dominion Observatory (Organization); Warner and Swasey (Architect)
John A. Brashear (Architect)

Other Name(s): Dominion Astrophysical Observatory (Designation Name); Plaskett Telescope, DAO (Other Name); National Research Council Centre of the Universe (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 2008-057

DFRP Number: 17324 00

Existing plaque: 5071 West Saanich Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Since this world-renowned observatory opened in 1918, significant discoveries about the size and structure of the Milky Way have been made here, using the facility's 1.85-metre reflecting telescope. Strategically situated on this hill and built following the most advanced design techniques, it was remarkable for the precision of its optical system and its instruments. The pragmatic, classically-embellished building is indelibly linked to the work of J. S. Plaskett and other notable astronomers who have used the observatory to better understand the universe, giving Canadian astronomy important international status.



Description of Historic Place

Dominion Astrophysical Observatory National Historic Site of Canada is located at the top of a hill, 227 metres above sea level in Victoria, British Columbia. The observatory, built from 1914 to 1918, is a cylindrical structure 20.2 metres in diameter and 22.3 metres high that is topped by a domed roof with two arched slats that open to allow the telescope to focus on the night sky. The distinguished two-storey steel frame building is clad in painted white metal panels, and features classically inspired architectural embellishments such as pilasters, stringcourses, and arches. Official recognition refers to the footprint of the observatory building.

Heritage Value

The Dominion Astrophysical Observatory was designated a National Historic Site of Canada because: it is a world-renowned observatory where many discoveries about the nature of the Milky Way galaxy were made, using the observatory's 1.83-metre reflecting telescope and spectroscopes, and where collaborative research with international observatories gave Canadian astronomers an important international role; it was built using the world's most advanced design for an observatory, after extensive consultation at the international level, and was remarkable for its accuracy, clarity of optical lenses, and spectroscopes, thus improving measurements of radial velocities, spectroscopic parallaxes and spectroscopic orbits; it is directly associated with the work of Canadian astronomer John Plaskett, who discovered at the observatory the largest known solar binary mass in 1922, and with many other notable and internationally respected Canadian astronomers who used the observatory to better understand the universe and improve the technical equipment used in land-based observatories; its otherwise pragmatic metal-clad exterior features pilasters, entablatures and other classically inspired architectural embellishments applied to its steel-framed structure.

The Dominion Astrophysical Observatory (DAO) was built following new developments in reflecting telescope technology during the early 20th century. In 1914 Canadian astronomer and the first DAO director, John S. Plaskett, designated a National Historic Person of Canada, successfully lobbied the federal government for funding to build a new observatory with a very powerful reflecting telescope. From the time of its completion in 1918 until the 1960s it was one of the world's main astrophysical research centres.

Many discoveries were made using the observatory's 1.83-metre reflecting telescope and spectroscopes at DOA. The most important early work was the identification and classification of higher temperature stars. In 1922, Plaskett discovered a spectroscopic binary that was four times larger than any previously discovered. During the 1920s and 1930s, the DAO also produced in-depth studies on the nature of star evolution and motions in space, which notably added to the understanding of the rotation of the Milky Way and how stars age. Much of the DAO's work was focussed on specific classes of stars, for which the observatory and Canadian astronomers received international attention.

The DAO was constructed using the world's most advanced design for an observatory in the early 20th century. The 1.83-metre telescope, remarkable for its accuracy, clarity of optical lenses and spectroscopes, was a major engineering accomplishment and briefly the largest in the world. The focal ratio of the telescope was ideal for the stellar spectroscopy at the Observatory, and its asymmetrical mount gave it access to most of the sky, the first of this type for a reflecting telescope. Electrical drives were avoided in favour of precise and traditional mechanical movement with roller ball bearings, allowing for a more reasonable cost without losing precision.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board, Minutes, December 2008; Report - Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Saanich, British Columbia, 2008-057.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that contribute to the heritage character of the site include: its remote hilltop location in Saanich, British Columbia; its strategic siting 227 metres above sea level; its simple cylindrical massing topped by a domed roof with two arched slats that open to allow the telescope to focus on the night sky; the building shell, designed to be structurally light and allow for easy rotation; its exterior metal cladding, painted white with blue accents; its projecting entrance portico consisting of blue double doors, a round-arched transom, flanking columns that support a small pedimented roof, detailed with stringcourses and an entablature of the Dominion of Canada coat of arms above the door pediment on the front porch; the classically inspired architectural embellishments applied to its steel-framed structure such as the stringcourses, pilasters and arches; its massive poured-in-place reinforced concrete H-shaped pier for the telescope, rising approximately ten metres from the foundation; its 1.83-metre reflecting telescope, including the telescope mirror, the asymmetrical shaped mounting and the fixed spectroscope shielded in a solid box and covered in a temperature case; the interior features, including the original steel wheels connected to weights and pulleys used to rotate the dome; the round drum with riveted side panels, pilasters and double windows accented in blue; the nine-and-one-half ton polar axis; the original telescope control equipment, including the roller ball bearings that support the polar and declination axes of the telescope, the device used for changing mirrors to function in different operational modes and the optical lenses; its functional interior layout with the ground storey holding the vacuum mirror-coating machine and the drum's pulleys; and the upper storey, which is built around the telescope's pier and holds the telescope equipment, the former darkroom and a computer room; its original terrazzo floors, including the inscription referring to the intended 1916 opening of the observatory.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=12531

BUILDINGS & SITES



St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Excellent example of High Victorian Gothic, 1892.

Address: Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1990-02-23

Dates: 1890 to 1892 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Perrault and Mesnard (Architect); J.H. Donovan (Builder)

Other Name(s): St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: GOTHIC REVIVAL-1989

Existing plaque: Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Soaring skywards with its bold array of coloured brick, stone and slate, St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral displays the confident spirituality that characterizes the best religious architecture of the High Victorian Gothic style. Designed in 1892 by Perrault and Mesnard of Montréal, St. Andrew's was inspired by the medieval cathédrale of Europe, whose emphatic verticality and picturesque asymmetry greatly appealed to 19th-century Roman Catholic taste. The wall patterns, created by combining building materials of different colours, are a distinctive feature of the mature phase of the Gothic Revival style.



Description of Historic Place

St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral National Historic Site of Canada is an imposing heritage landmark in the urban core of Victoria, B.C. The cathedral's twin-towered design has a strong vertical emphasis and a picturesque asymmetry that is enhanced by a soaring spire and a bold combination of red brick, pale grey stone, slate and metal building materials. Ornate vaulting, stained glass and galleries contribute to the sense of grandeur within the well-preserved interior. The designation refers to the cathedral on its legal lot at the time of designation in 1990.

Heritage Value

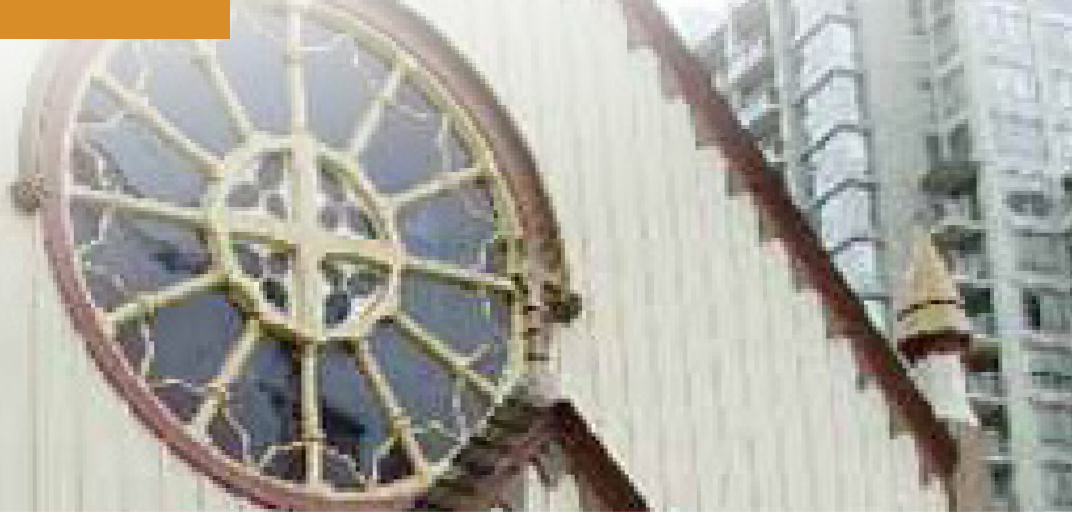
St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1990 because: it is a fine representative example of the Gothic Revival Style.

Designed in 1892 by Perrault and Mesnard of Montreal, and built by contractor J.H. Donovan, St. Andrew's was inspired by the medieval cathedrals of Europe, whose emphatic verticality and picturesque asymmetry greatly appealed to 19th-century architectural taste. The influence of French Gothic Revival style is evident in the twin towered façade, centre rose window and the triple entrance portal. Features such as the rich array of contrasting colours and materials created by the red-brick walls with grey stone trim and slate roof were characteristic of the High Victorian Gothic Revival Style.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage value include: the complex cruciform plan, including the complementary but not identical front towers, single tall spire, narthex, nave, transepts, polygonal apse and two galleries above the narthex, reflecting the influence of French Gothic sources on the design; the use of French Gothic-inspired detailing including triplet entranceway, corner piers and wall buttresses, decorated parapets, the rose window located above the main entrance, polished granite columns and wall surrounds on the main entrance, rose windows on both transept end walls, and trefoil windows on the walls of the nave and apse; the High Victorian taste for rich and varied surface design evident in the use of polychrome in the slate roofing, detailing of red brick wall surfaces with limestone, the use of polished granite details, the diaper-work panels on the front façade, ornate metal eaves and roof ornamentation; interior features including the ornamental vaulting, stained and coloured glass windows, decorative plaster detailing, columns and galleries.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=104



Church of Our Lord National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Fine example of Carpenter's Gothic Revival on the West Coast.

Address: 626 Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1990-06-22

Dates: 1875 to 1875 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Rev. Edward Cridge (Person); John Teague (Architect); Samuel Maclure (Architect); Haywood & Jenkinson (Builder)

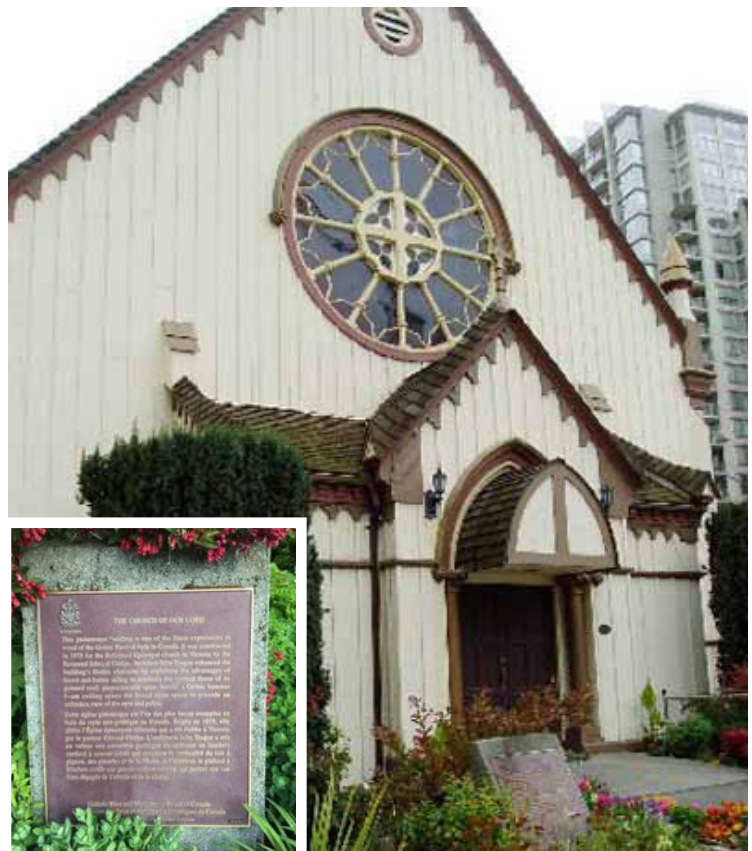
Other Name(s): Church of Our Lord (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: GOTHIC REVIVAL -1989

Existing plaque: 626 Blanshard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This picturesque building is one of the finest expressions in wood of the Gothic Revival style in Canada. It was constructed in 1875 for the Reformed Episcopal church in Victoria by the Reverend Edward Cridge. Architect John Teague enhanced the building's Gothic character by exploiting the advantages of board-and-batten siding to reinforce the vertical thrust of its pointed roof, pinnacles and spire. Inside, a Gothic hammer beam ceiling spans the broad open space to provide an unbroken view of the apse and pulpit.



Description of Historic Place

The Church of Our Lord National Historic Site of Canada is an important architectural landmark located in the heart of Victoria, British Columbia. The building's exterior incorporates design elements from traditional Gothic style buildings of brick and stone, all skillfully adapted to wood construction. A roof-top spire, corner pinnacles, and board and batten siding, all crafted from California redwood, convey a sense of verticality to the design. Inside, a Gothic hammer beam truss system spans the nave, offering an unbroken view of the apse and pulpit. In 1913 an annex was added to the south side of the church. Official recognition refers to the church and its annex on their legal lot.

Heritage Value

Church of Our Lord was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1990 because: it is one of the finest examples of Carpenter's Gothic on the West Coast of Canada.

Following a dramatic schism within the city's Anglican diocese, the Reverend Edward Cridge had the Church of Our Lord designed by noted pioneer West Coast architect John Teague, and constructed in 1875 by builders Haywood and Jenkinson for the Reformed Episcopal Church in Victoria. The building's Gothic Revival character was enhanced by exploiting the advantages of board and batten siding, which reinforced the vertical thrust of its gabled roof, pinnacles and roof-top spire. The church interior includes a fine example of hammer beam vaulting. Famed regional architect Samuel Maclure designed a complementary 1913 church annex known as the Cridge Memorial Hall.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1990.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: the form and massing of the church with its rectangular, single-storey body under a gable roof, truncated transept arms, and polygonal apse; the Gothic Revival style elements translated in wood including the rose window over the entry porch, the large traceried pointed arch windows of the side elevations, the elaborate pointed arch windows on the transept ends, the corner buttresses capped with pinnacles, the wall buttresses, the Gothic arched entrance and vestibule, and the spire-topped belfry; the High Victorian taste for surface variety and texture evident in the decorated frieze and gables, board and batten siding; the Gothic Revival style interior features including the hammer beam truss system; the use of California redwood as a primary building material; the complementary design and materials of the Cridge Memorial Hall.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=91



Emily Carr House National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Birthplace of Emily Carr, early West Coast Italianate, 1863-64.

Address: 207 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1964-10-27

Dates: 1863 to 1864 (Construction); 1863 to 1937 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Emily Carr (Person); Richard Carr (Person); Wright and Sanders (Architect)

Other Name(s): Emily Carr House (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 1964-002, 039

Existing plaque: 207 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Artist and author Emily Carr was born here and lived most of her life in this neighbourhood of Victoria where she died. Her compelling canvases of the British Columbia landscape offer a unique vision of the forest and shore, while her documentation of Indian villages provides a valuable anthropological record. Lively accounts of Emily Carr's travels in the province are collected in "Klee Wyck", for which she won the Governor General's Award for non-fiction in 1941. Six other autobiographical works are memorable accounts of her world.



Description of Historic Place

Emily Carr House National Historic Site of Canada is a two-storey Picturesque-Italianate style house located on a residential lot in the James Bay district of Victoria, British Columbia, which was the childhood home of artist Emily Carr. The formal recognition refers to the building on its lot as of 1964.

Heritage Value

Emily Carr House was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1964 because: it is associated with artist and author Emily Carr, who was born in this house.

Emily Carr (1871-1945), one of Canada's most famous painters and a well-known author, lived most of her life in this neighbourhood of Victoria. Built for her father, Richard Carr, the house and its environs had a profound impact on Emily Carr's formative years, as she acknowledged in her books. It was here that her desire to create and her appreciation of art were kindled. The location of the house is significant because of its proximity to Beacon Hill Park and to the ocean shoreline, which played important roles in shaping Carr's lifelong appreciation of the natural environment and her unique vision of coastal British Columbia.

The house is an excellent and well-preserved example of a Picturesque Italianate villa designed by John Wright (firm Wright and Sanders), a prominent early West Coast architect.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1964.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: the relationship between the house, Beacon Hill Park and the shoreline; the placement of the house on the property and the historical relationship between house and garden landscape; the Picturesque Italianate treatment of a two-storey, three-bay house form, with its projecting central bay with balconied entrance, ground floor verandah, round-headed paired windows on the upper storey, roof finials and decorative wooden trim, and paired brick chimneys; the surviving original interior plan, including the upstairs bedrooms, in particular the one in which Emily Carr was born; any surviving historic woodwork, wall finishes and detailing dating from the time of the Carr family's residency from 1864 to 1937.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=90&i=48949

BUILDINGS & SITES



Royal Theatre National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Classically inspired vaudeville theatre, 1913.

Address: 805 Broughton Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1987-11-05

Dates: 1912 to 1913 (Construction); 1912 to 1930 (Significant); 1930 to 1972 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Victoria Opera House Company (Organization); Famous Players (Organization); William D'Olyly Rochfort (Architect); Eben W. Sankey (Architect)

Other Name(s): Royal Theatre (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: THEATRE STUDY, 1987-05, 1998-22

Existing plaque: 805 Broughton Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Constructed in 1912-1913 during the Victoria building boom, this structure originally opened as the Royal Victoria Theatre, owned by a group of local entrepreneurs. Theatres of this type, presenting live dramatic, musical and vaudeville performances, were constructed across Canada between 1913 and 1930. While they were among the grandest theatres ever built in this country, few now exist. This theatre's impressive brick and terra cotta facade and ornate classically-inspired interior have provided an appropriate setting for generations of events central to the social and cultural life of Victoria.



Description of Historic Place

The Royal Theatre is a large, brick-faced theatre building occupying most of its urban lot in downtown Victoria.

Heritage Value

Royal Theatre National Historic Site was commemorated as a building of both historic and architectural significance because it is one of the finest surviving large-scale legitimate theatres in Canada.

The heritage value of the Royal Theatre is illustrated by the building itself, its monumentality and grandeur of surviving fabric. Built as The Royal Victoria Theatre in 1912-13 by the Victoria Opera House Company (William D'Olyly Rochfort and Eben W. Sankey, architects), this theatre was a venue for live dramatic, musical and vaudeville performances. Famous Players acquired the building in 1930, changed its name to the Royal Theatre, and established its primary use as a movie theatre. The Royal Theatre was restored as a live theatre in 1972.

Sources: HSMBC Minutes, June 1987, November 1989, February 1990, July 1998; Commemorative Integrity Statement.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage values include: the box-like, five-storey massing, the symmetrical organization of the facade, the division of the facade into three, horizontal zones, including a terracotta-faced lower zone, large, fenestrated middle zone, and attic zone with decorative cornice, the surviving classically inspired, exterior detailing including the arched entry, terracotta window surrounds, some with balustraded balconies, bas-relief panels and friezes, cornice and balustrade, exterior facing material on the facade, including ground floor terracotta facing laid to resemble stone, the polychrome and banded, diamond-patterned brickwork, and the terracotta cornice, the interior layout, defined as a sequence of spaces from the central Broughton Street entrance to the auditorium, the grand interior volumes, particularly the auditorium with its cantilevered balcony and proscenium arch, the ornate, classically-inspired interior detailing, particularly of the auditorium with its proscenium, pedimented doorway surrounds, the ceiling mouldings, swagged cartouches, rosettes and sculptures, the prominent siting of the building on the corner of the intersection of Broughton and Blanshard Streets.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=103

St. Ann's Academy National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. 19th-century private girls' school.

Address: 835 Humboldt Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1989-06-22

Dates: 1871 to 1910 (Construction); 1871 to 1973 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Sisters of St. Ann (original owners and occupants) (Organization); Brother Charles Michaud (Architect); Charles Verydhen (Architect); John Teague (Architect); Thomas Hooper (Architect); Father Adrian Joeseph Vullinghs (landscape design) (Architect)

Other Name(s): St. Ann's Academy (Designation Name); St. Ann's Convent (Other Name)

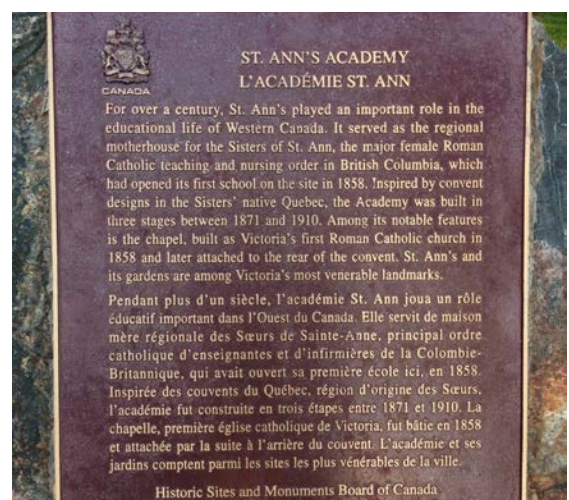
Research Report Number: 1984-047, 89-026, 1989-OB-01, 1997-074

Existing plaque: 835 Humboldt Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

*For over a century, St. Ann's played an important role in the educational life of Western Canada. It served as the regional motherhouse for the Sisters of St. Ann, the major female Roman Catholic teaching and nursing order in British Columbia, which had opened its first school on the site in 1858. Inspired by convent designs in the Sisters' native Quebec, the Academy was built in three stages between 1871 and 1910. Among its notable features is the chapel, built as Victoria's first Roman Catholic church in 1858 and later attached to the rear of the convent. St. Ann's and its gardens are among Victoria's most venerable landmarks.**

*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons: outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.



Description of Historic Place

The St. Ann's Academy National Historic Site of Canada is comprised of a monumental brick-clad building and former gardens which occupy approximately 6.25 acres of land within Victoria's original urban core. The garden contains a formal processional allée created with tree rows and hedges, an orchard containing approximately 100 original fruit trees, a novitiate garden, a formally landscaped area containing several historic trees, structural remnants, formal gardens, hedges, historic paths and walkways, and additional plantings established by the Sisters of St. Ann around the Academy building and along sections of the site perimeter, and a perimeter wall and gates. The designation refers to the building in its landscape.

Heritage Value

St. Ann's Academy was designated a national historic site of Canada because of its role in the cultural and educational life of Western Canada for over a century, and because of its landmark status - due to its scale and the surrounding open space (formerly the gardens) - in the community.

Arriving in Victoria in 1858, the Quebec-based Sisters of St. Ann responded to the educational and nursing needs on the West Coast by opening a succession of convents, hospitals and mission schools throughout British Columbia, Yukon and Alaska. Their success created a demand for larger accommodations in Victoria which was met by construction of the first section of the present building in 1871, then by further additions in 1886 and 1910. From 1871 until its closing in 1973, St. Ann's retained its stature as an important educational institute, and continues to symbolize the Sisters' contribution to education and social service in Western Canada.

The distinctive architecture of St. Ann's Academy reflects the strong influence of French Canadian religious orders during a formative period in the history of British Columbia. It was the largest building in the province in 1871, and remained the tallest masonry building in Victoria for most of its history. While the 1871-86 and 1910 sections of the building embody the neo-baroque characteristics of 19th-century Quebec convent design, the chapel is a unique transplantation of traditional 17th- and 18th-century Quebec ecclesiastic design tradition to the west coast. Built as the original Roman Catholic cathedral in Victoria in 1858 by Brother Charles Michaud, the original timber framed building was moved to its current site and incorporated into the academy complex in 1886. The heritage value of the chapel resides in its well-preserved interior massing and design features.

The landmark qualities and monumental scale of the Academy were enhanced by its positioning on the property, and by the landscaping of a formal driveway, rows of tree, hedges, formal gardens, orchard and perimeter walls. These elements impart an enclosed quality to the site, producing a tranquil setting that symbolized the religious and institutional character of the academy and communicated its separateness from the city beyond. The coherent treatment of building and landscape reflects over 100 years of continuous ownership and stewardship by the Sisters of St. Ann.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1989; Commemorative Integrity Statement, 2000.

Character-Defining Elements

Character-defining elements of the site include: the site in its defined boundaries; the siting and positioning of the Academy building within the landscape; the monumental scale of the Academy building and the surrounding open space; key sightlines which convey a sense of the Academy's visual prominence, including views from Blanshard, Humboldt, Burdett and Quadra streets and from Beacon Hill Park; the sightline between the Academy and St. Joseph's Hospital on the opposite side of Humboldt Street; the masonry wall and entrance gate on Humboldt Street and holly hedge on Blanshard Street which convey the sense of containment; the form, massing and exterior design features of the 1871-86 building including the symmetrical Palladian plan and classical elements such as the central pavilion flanked on both sides by 5-bay wings, pedimented portico over the front entranceway, pilasters, formal split staircase with decorative urns, cupola, balustraded balconies, gable roof with dormers, fenestration; the form, massing and exterior design features of the five-storey 1910 wing, including the slate-covered mansard roof with dormers, eaves brackets and frieze, pilasters, belt courses on the first level, pedimented entrance, recessed balconies with classical columns, fenestration and auditorium wing; original exterior surfaces, including brick walls painted in grey tones to present the appearance of stone, stone foundation walls on 1871-86 section, concrete foundation walls on 1910 section; original interior elements including the surviving layout, original floor, wall and ceiling materials, wooden mouldings, doors, wainscoting, architectural hardware and stained glass windows in the chapel, auditorium and 1871-86 sections; the form, massing and exterior design features of the chapel, including brick sheathing, buttresses, fenestration, and the wooden substructure; spatial configuration, form and interior elements within the chapel including the 1913 Casavant organ, barrel vault, structural columns, curved staircase to choir loft, confessional, carved rosettes, sacristy, and plaster wall surfaces; the driveway extending from the front gates, designed in the tradition of a formal 'grand allée,' flanked by two historical sequoia trees; at the left of which is an orchard area containing approximately 100 historical fruit trees planted in rows, and which divert into subsidiary lanes immediately in front of the main entrance staircase, and the flanking rows of trees and holly hedges; the novitiate garden area behind the convent wing of the 1886 building, including the original brick walkway and surviving historical plant material; the formal gardens and arboretum area on the western side of the site, including the topography, pathways, rows of arboretum trees, shrubs and hedges associated with the original Vullinghs landscape plan, and historic trees in the Academy Green area to the right of the driveway; surviving cultural resources, including the remnant corner marker of a former cemetery, a sundial plinth, metal rose arbour frame, battleship fountain and pond; historic paths and walkways and vestiges of structural fabric associated with them; formal plantings around the Academy building, including holly trees, rhododendrons, box hedges and flower beds; perimeter plantings of mature trees including black locust, false cypresses, maples, Garry oak and laburnum.

SOURCE: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=105



Begbie Hall National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Nurses' residences were central to the nursing culture.

Address: 2101 Richmond Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1998-03-12

Dates: 1926 to 1926 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing (Organization)

Other Name(s): Begbie Hall (Designation Name); Pavillon Begbie (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 1997-71

Existing plaque: 1900 Fort Street, Victoria, British Columbia (Plaque has been removed)

Plaque Text:

*Built in 1926, Begbie Hall represents the recognition and development of nursing as a profession. This residence housed students of the Royal Jubilee Hospital's School of Nursing who cared for patients as part of their training. Its modern lecture rooms, laboratories and reference library supported the scientific education that was critical to their work. Here, as elsewhere in Canada, a place of their own helped nurses shape a professional role indispensable to health care within the hospital and in the community. Their success inspired women to assume new roles in society.**

*Note: This designation has been identified for review. A review can be triggered for one of the following reasons: outdated language or terminology, absence of a significant layer of history, factual errors, controversial beliefs and behaviour, or significant new knowledge.



Description of Historic Place

Begbie Hall National Historic Site of Canada is located in the Royal Jubilee Hospital complex in Victoria, British Columbia. It is a large, three-storey brick building with a flat roof that was purpose-built as a nurse's residence. The site is now part of a large institutional setting. Official recognition refers to the building on its footprint.

Heritage Value

Begbie Hall was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1997. It is recognized because: it commemorates the contribution of nurses and nursing to scientific medicine and to women's agency as health care professionals; it commemorates the residence, which was central to the nursing culture, and speaks to the training and professionalism of nurses, to their social life, to the development of their unique culture and to the emergence of leaders in the field of nursing.

Built in 1926, Begbie Hall represents the recognition and development of nursing as a profession. This former women's residence was purpose-built to house students of the Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing, who cared for patients as part of their training. The hospital was founded in 1890, and the school of nursing in 1891. Its modern lecture rooms, laboratories and reference library supported the scientific education that was critical to their work. Here, as elsewhere in Canada, a place of their own helped nurses shape a professional role indispensable to health care within the hospital and in the community. Their success inspired women to assume new roles in society. This former women's residence now houses the Corporate Head Offices of the Capital Health Region.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1987.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that contribute to the heritage character of this site include: the location in an institutional setting as a component of the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria; the purpose-built residential architecture including: the three-storey massing set under a flat roof, red brick construction; the regular placement of doors and windows, including the porticoed entrance; the exterior detailing including the banding under the parapet; the interior's functional design that reflects its function as a residence, a site of learning and of leisure activity that includes the reception room and recreation hall called the Pink Room, the reference library, the octagon-shaped historic operating room, the Woodward Room, the classrooms in the basement, the nursing lab, instructors' offices and some bedrooms that remain in their original state; the interior detailing including the surviving original fittings and finishes of the learning, recreational and accommodation areas.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=1837



Victoria's Chinatown National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Oldest surviving Chinatown in Canada with cohesive groupings of historic buildings.

Address: Pandora, Fisgard, Government, Herald Streets, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1995-11-24

Dates: 1875 to 1923 (Construction); 1858 to 1923 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Kwong Lee (Person); Tai Soong (Person); Yang Wo Sang (Person) Chinese Canadians (Organization); Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (Organization); D.C. Frame (Architect); John Teague (Architect)

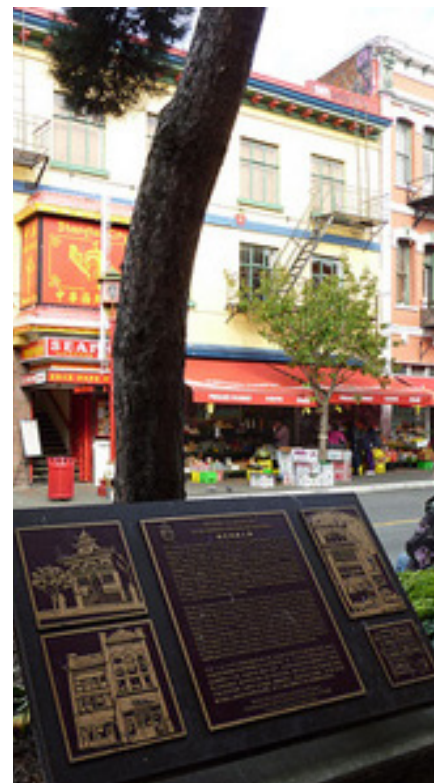
Other Name(s): Victoria's Chinatown (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1988-036, 1995-030, 2005-SDC/CED-065

Existing plaque: Fisgard Street near Fan Tan Alley Pandora, Fisgard, Government, Herald Streets, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

The oldest and most intact Chinatown in Canada, this district represents an important chapter in the complex history and heritage of Chinese Canadians. As the major immigrant port of entry on the west coast before World War I, Victoria boasted the largest concentration of Chinese Canadians in the country. They established a self-contained and identifiable neighbourhood which offered a complete range of commercial, residential and social amenities. Focused on Fisgard Street, it was made accessible by a distinctive layout of alleys and passageways. Its cohesive groupings of buildings adapted standard forms and designs found elsewhere in the city. Their flared temple-styled roofs, inset and projecting wrought-iron balconies, additional "cheater" storeys, interior courtyards, and brightly hued tiled overhangs give the area its distinctive character. Victoria's Chinatown is a richly textured reminder of the early years of Chinese settlement in Canada.



Description of Historic Place

Victoria's Chinatown is an identifiable neighbourhood of tightly built primarily two and three-storey mixed-use brick buildings in a three-block area of downtown Victoria, British Columbia. Focussed on Fisgard Street, its interior is accessed by a distinctive layout of alleys and passageways. The cohesive grouping of buildings adapts standard forms found elsewhere in the city, decorated with flared temple-style roofs, inset and projecting wrought-iron balconies, interior courtyards and brightly hued tiled overhangs. A ceremonial entry arch was erected as part of a 1980s revitalization program. The official recognition refers to two nodes comprising some 33 buildings and the open spaces between them.

Heritage Value

Victoria's Chinatown was designated a national historic site of Canada because: it is the oldest surviving Chinatown in Canada; it was the largest urban centre of Chinese population in Canada through the first decade of the twentieth century; it is one of a very few Chinatowns in North America to retain cohesive groupings of high heritage value and is dominated by its historical buildings.

The heritage value of this site is embodied in the diverse collection of structures within the district, their spatial connections, and ongoing role in commercial, social and institutional activities of the Chinese Canadian community. It speaks to the fact that, for nearly three decades before the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed, Victoria was the first port of entry of most Chinese immigrants and remained an important enclave until after World War II.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, November 1995.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements contributing to the heritage value of this site include: the plan, incorporating the standard grid of urban blocks with interconnecting interior alleyways; placement of most buildings tight to the sidewalk, usually abutting one another; one and two-storey brick tenement buildings within the inner core area; the predominance of brick construction; typically Italianate-inspired, rectilinear massing of two to three-storey, flat-roofed buildings, with large ground-floor shop windows, and upper floors with doorways originally opening onto balconies; surviving balconies; occasional use of Chinoiserie motifs including upturned eaves and tiling, and detailing such as roof ornaments, domes, prominent parapets, pressed metal cornices and flagpoles; more elaborate 20th-century designs as illustrated by the Chinese Public School with its square massing elaborated with decorative balcony, upturned overhanging eaves with heavily worked bracketing and roof-top "pagoda" lantern, and the Gee Tuck Tong Benevolent Association Building with recessed upper floor balcony and "cheater storey" inserted between ground and second floors; post-1900 buildings with an internal corridor accessing an inner core area; reinforcing late 20th-century buildings including the Chinatown Care Centre and the Chung Wah Mansion housing complex.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=852&i=51311



Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Picturesque early house and gardens, 1861.

Address: 2616 Pleasant Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1966-10-26

Dates: 1861 to 1864 (Construction); 1861 to 1975 (Significant); 1875 to 1889 (Addition)

Event, Person, Organization: Peter O'Reilly (Person); O'Reilly family (Organization)

Other Name(s): Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House (Designation Name); Point Ellice House (Plaque name)

Research Report Number: 1965-006, 1966-042, 1968-013

Existing plaque: 2616 Pleasant Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This Italianate cottage and its gardens exemplify the British Picturesque aesthetic pursued by people of means in suburban areas across Canada during the 19th century. Point Ellice House was built in 1861, then enlarged and landscaped in stages between 1875 and 1889 by Peter O'Reilly, a prominent provincial government official. It was once surrounded by the homes of other members of Victoria's early gentry. Today the house, its furnishings, and restored garden setting comprise one of the finest examples of this once prominent design tradition, now largely vanished in the wake of urban expansion.



Description of Historic Place

Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House National Historic Site of Canada, is located on a treed parcel of land overlooking the Gorge Waterway in Victoria, British Columbia. It is an attractive, asymmetrical, one-storey Victorian cottage set in an informal picturesque garden with winding paths, mature trees and selective planting. Of timber construction, the house is distinguished by its picturesque gingerbread details, such as its bracketed eaves, and its bowed roof verandah with balustrades and finely necked columns. The formal recognition refers to the building and its grounds.

Heritage Value

Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1966. It is recognized because: the house, its furnishings, and restored garden setting comprise one of the finest examples of the British Picturesque aesthetic.

Built in 1861, the house was then enlarged between 1875 and 1889 during the ownership of Peter O'Reilly, Chief Gold Commissioner for British Columbia and a prominent resident of Victoria. The house was acquired by O'Reilly in 1867 and was continuously occupied by successive generations of his family until 1975. The aesthetic tastes of prosperous gentry in the Victorian period are perfectly expressed through the eclectic development of this picturesque cottage, its lavish garden setting, and its interior spaces, which have remained virtually unchanged and are filled with the accumulated possessions of the O'Reilly family. Once surrounded by stately homes in one of Victoria's most fashionable residential neighbourhoods, Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House now represents a rare example of a 19th-century design tradition that has largely vanished in the wake of urban redevelopment. The site currently operates as a museum.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1966, 1991.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that contribute the heritage value of this site include: its location overlooking the Gorge Waterway, with access to the property by both land and water; the unchanged relationship of the house to its garden in its picturesque setting, both designed for their total effect as an individual picture of studied irregularity, and the views from the interior to the exterior; the design of the house as a one-storey rambling Victorian cottage, as expressed through the shallow pitched gable roofs, wide overhanging bracketed eaves, verandahs and porches, fluted brick chimneys, bay windows, spacious fenestration, attractive detailing, rough cast exterior wall surfaces, and classical detailing around the main entrances; the asymmetrical floor plan and interior configuration with its narrow halls and enclosed rooms, and the physical integrity of its finishes, including floor surfaces, wall coverings, ceilings, doors, mouldings and fittings; the mature historic garden and landscaping features, including the croquet and tennis lawns, pathways, rose bushes, flower beds, mature trees and shrubs, and the sequoia tree planted by Peter O'Reilly; the collection of O'Reilly family furnishings and decorative objects; the existing form and materials of the carriage shed.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=101



Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Picturesque early house and gardens, 1861.

Address: 2616 Pleasant Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1966-10-26

Dates: 1861 to 1864 (Construction); 1861 to 1975 (Significant); 1875 to 1889 (Addition)

Event, Person, Organization: Peter O'Reilly (Person); O'Reilly family (Organization)

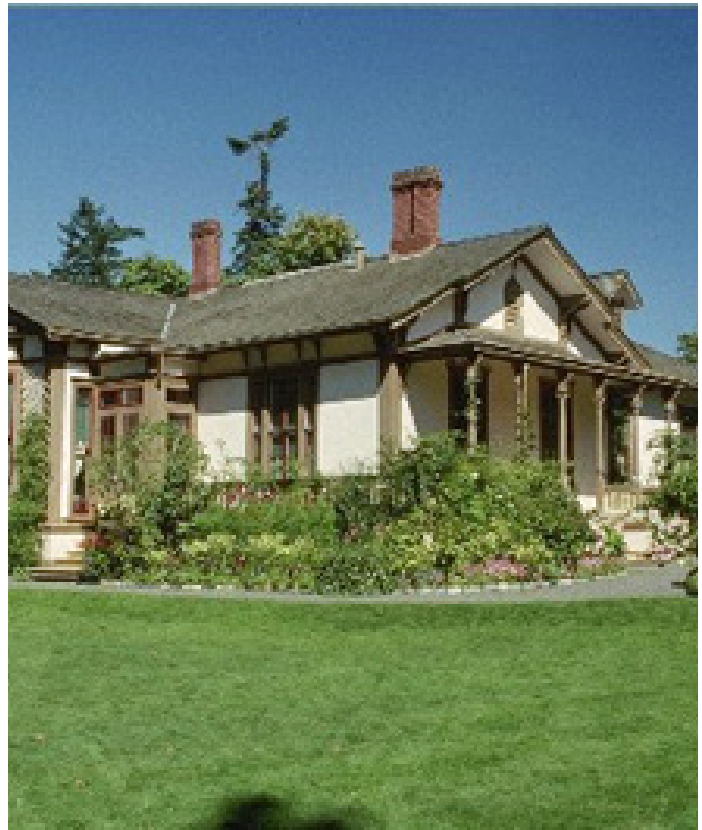
Other Name(s): Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House (Designation Name); Point Ellice House (Plaque name)

Research Report Number: 1965-006, 1966-042, 1968-013

Existing plaque: 2616 Pleasant Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This Italianate cottage and its gardens exemplify the British Picturesque aesthetic pursued by people of means in suburban areas across Canada during the 19th century. Point Ellice House was built in 1861, then enlarged and landscaped in stages between 1875 and 1889 by Peter O'Reilly, a prominent provincial government official. It was once surrounded by the homes of other members of Victoria's early gentry. Today the house, its furnishings, and restored garden setting comprise one of the finest examples of this once prominent design tradition, now largely vanished in the wake of urban expansion.



Description of Historic Place

Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House National Historic Site of Canada, is located on a treed parcel of land overlooking the Gorge Waterway in Victoria, British Columbia. It is an attractive, asymmetrical, one-storey Victorian cottage set in an informal picturesque garden with winding paths, mature trees and selective planting. Of timber construction, the house is distinguished by its picturesque gingerbread details, such as its bracketed eaves, and its bowed roof verandah with balustrades and finely necked columns. The formal recognition refers to the building and its grounds.

Heritage Value

Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1966. It is recognized because: the house, its furnishings, and restored garden setting comprise one of the finest examples of the British Picturesque aesthetic.

Built in 1861, the house was then enlarged between 1875 and 1889 during the ownership of Peter O'Reilly, Chief Gold Commissioner for British Columbia and a prominent resident of Victoria. The house was acquired by O'Reilly in 1867 and was continuously occupied by successive generations of his family until 1975. The aesthetic tastes of prosperous gentry in the Victorian period are perfectly expressed through the eclectic development of this picturesque cottage, its lavish garden setting, and its interior spaces, which have remained virtually unchanged and are filled with the accumulated possessions of the O'Reilly family. Once surrounded by stately homes in one of Victoria's most fashionable residential neighbourhoods, Point Ellice House / O'Reilly House now represents a rare example of a 19th-century design tradition that has largely vanished in the wake of urban redevelopment. The site currently operates as a museum.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1966, 1991.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements that contribute the heritage value of this site include: its location overlooking the Gorge Waterway, with access to the property by both land and water; the unchanged relationship of the house to its garden in its picturesque setting, both designed for their total effect as an individual picture of studied irregularity, and the views from the interior to the exterior; the design of the house as a one-storey rambling Victorian cottage, as expressed through the shallow pitched gable roofs, wide overhanging bracketed eaves, verandahs and porches, fluted brick chimneys, bay windows, spacious fenestration, attractive detailing, rough cast exterior wall surfaces, and classical detailing around the main entrances; the asymmetrical floor plan and interior configuration with its narrow halls and enclosed rooms, and the physical integrity of its finishes, including floor surfaces, wall coverings, ceilings, doors, mouldings and fittings; the mature historic garden and landscaping features, including the croquet and tennis lawns, pathways, rose bushes, flower beds, mature trees and shrubs, and the sequoia tree planted by Peter O'Reilly; the collection of O'Reilly family furnishings and decorative objects; the existing form and materials of the carriage shed.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=101



Rogers Building National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Intact retail building in Queen Anne Revival style; home of Rogers' Chocolates, 1903.

Address: 913 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1991-03-01

Dates: 1903 to 1903 (Construction)

Event, Person, Organization: Hooper and Watkins (Architect)

Other Name(s): Rogers Building (Designation Name); Rogers' Chocolate Shop (Other Name); Rogers' Chocolates Building (Other Name)

Research Report Number: QUEEN ANNE REVIVAL

Existing plaque: 913 Government Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This shop is a delectable adaptation of the Queen Anne Revival style to small commercial buildings. English in origin, the style was well-loved in Canada for its eclectic and picturesque composition. This 1903 facade combines classical details with the bay window that characterized commercial buildings of the style. These features harmonize well with the generous panes of glass, so suitable for well-lit interiors and for generous display space for merchandise. Architects Hooper and Watkins have captured the spirit of the style with this distinctive shopfront and its handsome interior.



Description of Historic Place

The Rogers Building is a small Victorian era commercial building with a fanciful Queen Anne Revival-style shopfront. It is located in the downtown area of the city of Victoria. The formal recognition consists of the building on its legal property.

Heritage Value

The Rogers Building was designated a national historic site in 1991 because this shop is a delectable adaptation of the Queen Anne Revival style applied to small commercial buildings.

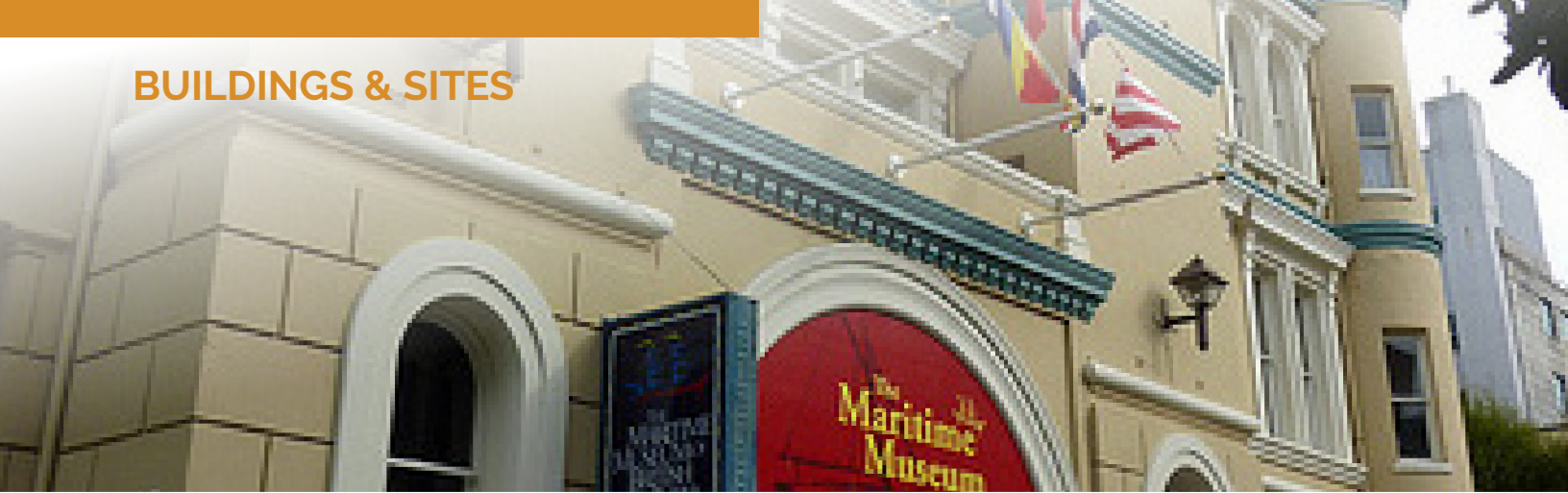
The facade of the Rogers Building typifies commercial applications of the Queen Anne Revival Style. Original fixtures and decorative features in the store's interior create a warm, inviting atmosphere typical of the style.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, November 1990.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage values include: its Queen Anne Revival style design, including classically inspired detailing, plate-glass display windows at street level, a prominent bay window on the second floor, and red-brick piers and pilasters decorated with white trim; the decorative shopfront including ornate glazing with a delicate canopy of leaded lights over the recessed entrance way, small superimposed leaded windows across the back of the display windows, the marble and tile finishes of the entrance way; The scale and two-storey massing in relation to the two buildings immediately to its south; original surviving interior fixtures and decorative detailing, including glass-fronted cabinets, curve-topped glass counters, tall wall mirrors, the ornate broken pediment above the mirrors, and the turned wooden spindle design below the mirrors.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=102&i=50932



Former Victoria Law Courts National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Earliest British Columbia court house, distinctive eclectic design, 1887-88.

Address: 28 Bastion Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1981-11-13

Dates: 1887 to 1888 (Construction); 1898 to 1901 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Herman Otto Tiedeman (Architect)

Other Name(s): Former Victoria Law Courts (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: COURT HOUSE-1980, 2007-CED/SDC-44

Existing plaque: Maritime Museum (The Old Court House) 28 Bastion Square, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

Opened in 1889, the Victoria Law Courts was the first major public building constructed by the provincial government after union with Canada. Previously, court sessions had been held in one of the colonial administration buildings located on the site of the present provincial legislature. Removal of the courts to Bastion Square marked an important stage in the evolution of British Columbia's court system and the start of a programme to erect permanent court houses in judicial districts throughout the province. Trials continued to be held in the building until 1962.



Description of Historic Place

Overlooking James Bay in Victoria, British Columbia, the Former Victoria Law Courts National Historic Site of Canada is a rectangular three-story building with a horizontal emphasis which was purpose built to house the Supreme Court of British Columbia. The late 19th-century eclectic design provides an interesting combination of various stylistic elements. With an asymmetrical yet balanced composition and a flat roof, the building features a lively synthesis including two interesting round corner towers, heavy cornicing, prominent stringcourses, round arched windows, and rustication of the ground floor. The building is a visual focal point in the Bastion Square complex overlooking the waterfront area. While the courts were relocated in 1962, the building has since been converted and currently houses the Maritime Museum of British Columbia. Official recognition refers to the building on its legal lot at the time of designation.

Heritage Value

The Former Victoria Law Courts was designated a national historic site of Canada in 1980 because: it is representative of the judicial institution in British Columbia; this first major public building constructed by the provincial government after union with Canada marked an important stage in the evolution of British Columbia's court system and the start of a programme to erect permanent court houses in judicial districts throughout the province; its unique design used a composite of various stylistic elements and was determined by the utilitarian priorities of the court house function.

Completed in 1889, the Former Victoria Law Courts marked an important stage in the evolution of British Columbia's court system. It was the first major public building built in British Columbia after Confederation, and its construction ushered in a concerted phase of courthouse construction throughout the entire province. Over the next seven years, it was followed by a succession of brick or stone court buildings in Vancouver, New Westminster, Vernon, and Nanaimo. However, the building remained unique in its eclectic architectural style, composed of various stylistic elements, resulting from the architect Herman Otto Tiedeman's intentions to provide a functional building where utilitarian considerations of the building took precedence over aesthetics.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1980, June 1985, December 2007.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements contributing to the heritage value of this site include: its location on Bastion Square, overlooking the waterfront area at James Bay in Victoria, British Columbia; its rectangular plan and solid three-storey massing with a flat roof; the horizontal emphasis expressed through its rectangular massing accented by stringcourses and heavy cornicing; its original entrance contained within a set of triple arches elaborated with voussoirs; its eclectic architectural style as evidenced in its irregular fenestration consisting of large, deep windows, some with circular capping and others massive and square, its heavy cornicing, crenellations, double four-tiered towers flanking the arched entrance on the south façade, and its circular capped towers at each corner of the east façade; its three-foot thick stone basement walls, and its brick-clad, concrete sheathed exterior partially grooved to simulate stonework which contribute to the building's solidity; any remaining elements of the original interior; views from the former courthouse to the waterfront, and vice versa.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=108&i=57047



Craigflower Manor House National Historic Site of Canada (NHS)

Victoria, British Columbia. Fine example of an agricultural settlement company residence, 1853-56.

Address: 110 Island Highway, View Royal, Victoria, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1964-10-27

Dates: 1853 to 1856 (Construction); 1853 to 1856 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Kenneth MacKenzie (farm bailiff) (Person); Hudson's Bay Company (Organization); Puget's Sound Agricultural Company (Organization)

Other Name(s): Craigflower Manor House (Designation Name)

Research Report Number: 1964-037

Existing plaque: 110 Island Highway, Victoria, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

In 1853-56, Kenneth McKenzie built this house for the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary of the Hudson's Bay Company. As the overseer's residence it was the focus of Craigflower Farm, the senior of four farms on the island whose employment of colonists marked the transition from fur trade to settlement on the northwest coast. When McKenzie was manager, the Manor was a centre of social life for Victoria residents and Royal Navy officers from Esquimalt. Built mainly from native materials, it is a fine example of early domestic architecture in Western Canada.



Description of Historic Place

The Craigflower Manor House was built between 1853 and 1856, mainly from materials cut, hewn and milled in the vicinity. It is a two-storey timber frame building with a moderately-pitched gable roof, end chimneys, and a classically-inspired symmetrical five-bay plan with a pedimented central entrance. The manor house occupies a parcel of land overlooking the Gorge Waterway in the Greater Victoria district. The designation refers to the house on its legal lot.

Heritage Value

Craigflower Manor House was designated a national historic site in 1964. Built for the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, it is a fine example of early domestic architecture in Western Canada.

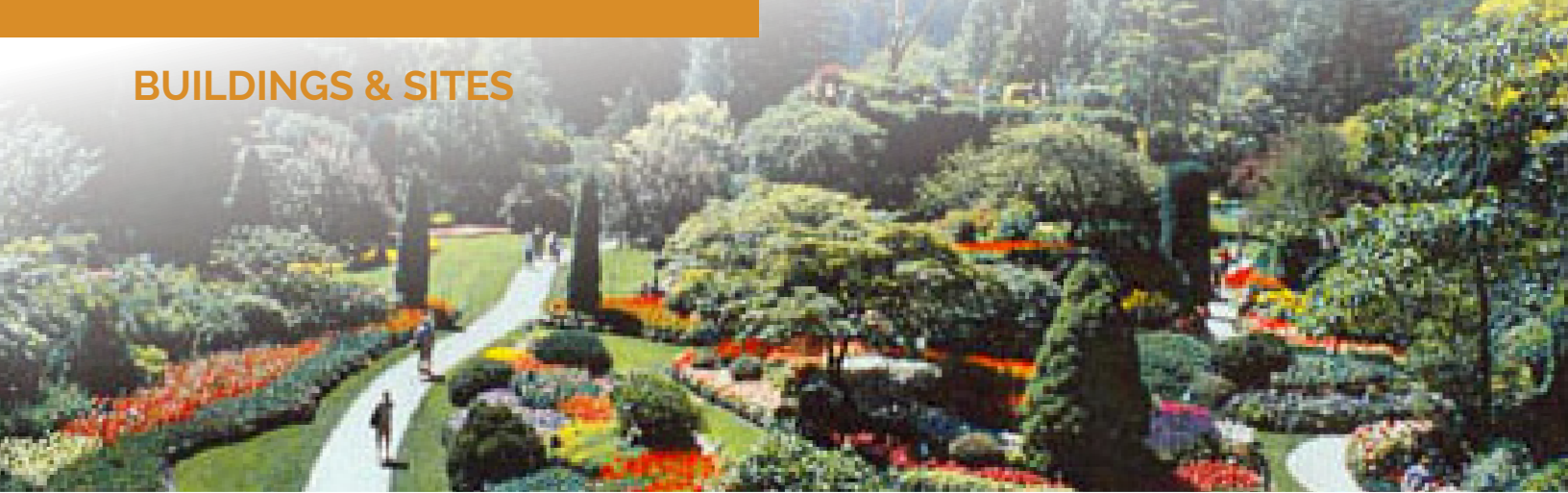
As the residence of bailiff Kenneth MacKenzie, it was the focus of Craigflower Farm, the oldest of four farms on Vancouver Island whose employment of colonists marked the transition from fur trade to settlement on the northwest coast. This transitional stage is reflected vividly in the design of the Manor House, which combines Hudson's Bay Company construction systems with Scottish architectural influences and craftsmanship adapted to the use of local materials.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, October 1964.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: its site, defined as the land bordered by Admirals and Craigflower Roads, and the Gorge Waterway, and the prominent position of the house on a grassy knoll; the unobstructed view of the house from Admirals and Craigflower Roads, Craigflower Bridge and the waterway; its materials and forms, all of which are expressive of a significant phase in the historical development of western Canada, including: Hudson's Bay Company post-and-groove framing on ground floor and mortice-and-tenoned timber frame system on second floor, Georgian five-bay plan, pedimented entrance, moulded window heads and window pediments, the front door and its hardware, gable detailing, fenestration, rough-sawn horizontal clapboard siding, brick chimneys; central hall interior floor plan and surviving historic interior features and fixtures.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=94



Butchart Gardens National Historic Site

Brentwood Bay, Victoria, British Columbia. A floral garden attraction founded by Jenny Butchart in 1921.

Address: 800 Benvenuto Drive, Saanichton, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 2004-10-12

Dates: 1904 to 1939 (Construction); 1904 to 1939 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: Jennie Butchart (Person); Ian Ross (Person); Isaburo Kishida (Architect); Butler Sturtevant (Architect); Rasul Robillard (Architect); F.J. Cole (Architect); Samuel Maclure (Architect)

Other Name(s): Butchart Gardens (Designation Name); Butchart's Gardens (Other Name)

Research Report Number: 2004-030

Existing plaque: 800 Benvenuto Drive, Saanichton, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

In 1853-56, Kenneth McKenzie built this house for the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary of the Hudson's Bay Company. As the overseer's residence it was the focus of Craigflower Farm, the senior of four farms on the island whose employment of colonists marked the transition from fur trade to settlement on the northwest coast. When McKenzie was manager, the Manor was a centre of social life for Victoria residents and Royal Navy officers from Esquimalt. Built mainly from native materials, it is a fine example of early domestic architecture in Western Canada.



Description of Historic Place

Butchart Gardens National Historic Site of Canada is an internationally-known public attraction that has been open to visitors since 1904. It is located on the Saanich Peninsula, approximately 21 kilometres north of Victoria, British Columbia. The gardens occupy the site of a former quarry and borders on Tod Inlet. The designated area of the gardens occupies approximately 5.26 hectares and corresponds to the areas developed under the guidance of Jennie Butchart between 1904 and 1939. The gardens provide dramatic floral displays in a variety of garden settings and styles set against a backdrop of mature trees and shrubs and linked together by a network of paths and transition areas. Throughout the garden are viewpoints offering glimpses of Tod Inlet and the hills beyond. Official recognition generally corresponds with the historic gardens laid out by Mrs. Jennie Butchart between 1904 and 1939, and includes the residence that was remodeled and enlarged for the Butchart's by architect Samuel Maclure.

Heritage Value

Butchart Gardens was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 2004 because: it represents the remarkable combination of three aspects of Canadian gardening history. First, the gardens represent the traits of an early 20th-century estate garden through its different types of gardens such as the Japanese Garden, the Rose Garden, the Italian Garden, the Star Pond and Jennie Butchart's Private Garden. Second, the gardens evoke the early twentieth century beautification movement as expressed through the Sunken Garden. And third, the gardens rely upon the Victorian bedding out system to achieve their outstanding floral displays. These three aspects of the Butchart Gardens have been conveyed through the successive visions of Butchart family members, notably Jennie Butchart and Ian Ross; the transformation of a limestone quarry into a sunken garden of massive dimensions and dramatic aesthetic qualities represents an exceptional creative achievement in Canadian gardening history. Moreover, as the garden has matured and evolved, its beauty has become more distinctive.

The layout of the gardens as a series of clearly defined spaces or "rooms," each with its own character and style, was characteristic of Edwardian landscape design. The largest and most distinctive of these is the Sunken Garden, which occupies the former limestone quarry. Accessed by a switchback staircase that leads 15 metres (50 feet) down to the undulating floor of this garden, the initial core of the landscaping process begun by Jennie Butchart. The garden floor contains beds of annuals interspersed amongst flowering trees and shrubs planted up to the base of the towering quarry walls crowned by mature Douglas firs, cedars and Lombardy poplars. Other spaces include the Rose Garden featuring beds of hybrid tea roses, rose arches, and boxwood hedges; the Japanese Garden begun in 1906 by Jennie Butchart and Japanese landscaper Isaburo Kishida with its complex network of interconnected ponds criss-crossed by paths and bridges, moss-covered ground surfaces, bamboo, and meticulously pruned-trees and shrubs; the Star Pond as a formal water feature in the shape of a twelve-pointed star interspersed with beds of annual flowers with a frog fountain as its centre-piece; the Italian Garden, a formal sunken garden defined by a rectangular concrete terrace that encloses a cross-shaped water feature.

The Butchart residence is evidence that these beautiful gardens were once part of a private family estate. Originally a small summer residence, this rambling bungalow was enlarged and remodeled through renovations carried out between 1911 and 1925 to plans by celebrated west coast architect Samuel Maclure. This former residence is flanked by a broad patio area known as the Piazza, the Italian Garden, and by Jennie Butchart's original private garden. The latter is a small formal garden containing flowerbeds, a gazebo and a pond that is enclosed by latticed fences.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 2004.

Character-Defining Elements

The key elements relating to the heritage value of this site include: its location on the Saanich Peninsula, approximately 21 kilometres north of Victoria, British Columbia; its topography, including the quarry site, rock walls, and undulating garden surfaces; its organization according to Edwardian garden design principles, including a hierarchical progression from formal gardens adjacent to the Butchart residence to the naturalistic backdrop of the forest; the major garden areas, notably the Piazza, Sunken Garden, Japanese Garden, Rose Garden, Italian Garden, Star Pond, concert lawn area, Jennie Butchart's private garden in their original extents, elements, designs and planting schemes; notable landscape features dating from the 1904 to 1939 period, including mature trees, shrubbery, flower beds, ponds and associated water features, fountains and statuary, arbours, retaining walls, bridges, flower beds, hedges and pathways; the former Butchart summer residence, its evolved footprint, massing, materials, and notable design features, including its bell-cast hipped roof, exterior sheathing, fenestration and architectural detailing associated with the Maclure renovations; vestigial historical elements associated with the original industrial history of the site, including the concrete smokestack; other elements surviving from the 1904 to 1939 period including the orchard, and organ house; the controlled views, including views of Tod Inlet

Source: <https://parks.canada.ca/culture/designation/lieu-site/jardins-butchart-gardens>

BUILDINGS & SITES



Union Club of British Columbia

Victoria, British Columbia. An Edwardian Gentleman's Club House built in 1911.

Address: 805 Gordon Street, Victoria, British Columbia

Other Name(s): Union Club; The Union Club of British Columbia

Construction Date(s): 1912/01/01

Listed on the Canadian Register: 2004/08/17



Description of Historic Place

The Union Club is a four-storey brick and terra cotta building on a sloping lot on the corner of Gordon and Humboldt Streets in downtown Victoria.

Heritage Value

The Union Club is valued as a monument to Edwardian high society. Originally intended for the men of Victoria's wealthy elite, it is significant that this has continued to be the home of the Union Club, one of the oldest and most exclusive private clubs in western Canada, since 1912. With many of Victoria's and British Columbia's most prominent and influential citizens as club members, this building has a notable association with political, economic, and social power throughout the province.

Designed by San Francisco architect Loring P. Rexford, this building is representative of the fashionable gentlemen's club image which was the basis for the Union Club's foundation in 1879. Notably, the program for this building was drawn up with the help of prominent Victoria architect Francis Mawson Rattenbury, who had undertaken a survey of club houses and interiors during his travels. The academically correct Italian Renaissance Revival Style, and elevated situation on the sloping lot, are well suited to the club's elite image.

The Club's juxtaposition with the Empress Hotel and the Belmont Building is significant, as together these structures create a quadrant which is unmistakable in its English pride and sophistication, well suited to the period of economic prosperity prior to the First World War. These buildings form a backdrop of historic places in the northeast corner of the Inner Harbour, and mark the entrance to Victoria's Old Town District.

Source: City of Victoria Planning and Development Department

Character-Defining Elements

The character-defining elements of the Union Club include:

- the relationship between this building and the nearby Empress Hotel and the Belmont Building;
- the Italian Renaissance Revival Style elements, such as the terra cotta ground floor, the portico, the combined use of arched and rectangular windows, the front entrance balcony, the deep rich tone of the brick, the decorative horizontal bands and cornice, and the curved bay on the south side, and all terra cotta elements;
- the unobstructed views of the building from the Inner Harbour area;
- the image of historic power and wealth manifested in its solid massing, rich detailing, and elevated situation on its sloping lot;
- intact historic interior elements such as spatial configurations, woodwork, and surface finishes relating to the authentic design of the building.

Source: <https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=1490>



[Uplands National Historic Site](#)

Uplands Estates, Oak Bay, Victoria. Prestige garden subdivision designed by landscape architect John Olmstead in 1907.

(No plaque yet)

Uplands is a residential subdivision of 188 hectares located in the northeastern section of Oak Bay, the oldest suburban municipality in Greater Victoria. Designed in 1908 by John C. Olmsted, senior partner at Olmsted Brothers, for Winnipeg real estate developer William Gardner, it is an exceptional example of subdivision design and planning and is among the finest works of a renowned landscape architect. The integrated use of design elements such as a gently curving street pattern, sensitivity to local topography and flora, large, irregular lot shapes, ample provision of parks, and the use of protective deed restrictions helped preserve the subdivision's character and changed the way suburbs were planned well into the 20th century. The subdivision's heterogeneous collection of high-quality, architect and builder designed single-family houses illustrates a variety of trends in Canadian suburban housing, from the Arts and Crafts to 21st century Neo-Modern styles. Uplands also preserves elements of First Nations archaeology and landscape practices. Uplands Park contains several First Nations burial cairns, and the preservation of the Garry oak meadows within the park and subdivision are attributed, in part, to the seasonal burning practices of the Songhees First Nation that preceded European colonization.

Uplands contains 600 single-family dwellings housing roughly 2,000 people. Its idyllic coastal site is bordered by the Salish Sea, the Uplands Golf Course, the Municipality of Saanich to the north, and Oak Bay to the southeast. Uplands is among the earliest subdivisions in Canada wholly planned as a residential park – a group of houses arranged in a pastoral setting. The Olmsted firm designed Uplands in the tradition of naturalistic or garden suburbs like Llewellyn Park, New Jersey (1853) and Riverside, Illinois (1869). Novel in Canada at the turn of the century, the residential park typology proved deeply influential.

Uplands' organic design sits in dramatic contrast with the surrounding municipalities of Greater Victoria, whose boundaries encompass a patchwork of gridiron subdivisions with small, rectangular lots. Like other planned subdivisions in Canada and around the world, Uplands developed in phases. The first house was completed in 1912, and construction continued until 1976, by which time every lot had been built on. A number of the houses in Uplands were designed by Canada's and British Columbia's leading architects.

John Charles Olmsted's respect for local landscapes and his technique of planning "with the land" had the benefit of preserving elements of First Nations archaeology and landscape practices. The Garry oak savannahs that John Olmsted found on site when he first visited in 1907 have successfully been protected and can be seen in yards, parklets, and in Uplands Park, a large natural park covering 31 hectares of land deeded by William Gardner to the municipality in 1946.

The National Program of Historical Commemoration relies on the participation of Canadians in the identification of places, events and persons of national historic significance. Any member of the public can nominate a topic for consideration by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.



Source: <https://parks.canada.ca/culture/designation/lieu-site/uplands>



Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site

Colwood, British Columbia. 19th-century coastal artillery fort.

Other Name(s): Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site of Canada Fort Rodd Hill; Fort Rodd Hill; Victoria-Esquimalt Fortifications

Links and Documents: Parks Canada [Website](#) for Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site of Canada

Construction Date(s): 1895/01/01 to 1897/01/01

Listed on the Canadian Register: 2009/08/19

Existing plaque: 603 Fort Rodd Hill Road, Colwood, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

From 1878 to 1956 coast artillery installations protected the city of Victoria and the naval base at Esquimalt. Temporary batteries were constructed in response to the Anglo-Russian crisis of 1878, and in the 1890s Canada negotiated with Great Britain for the building of a series of permanent defences to be manned by British troops. Canada took control of these fortifications in 1906 and, by the end of the Second World War, they had been rebuilt and greatly expanded. They were declared obsolete in 1956.



Description of Historic Place

Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site of Canada is a 19th and 20th century coastal defence site strategically located on Esquimalt Harbour near Victoria, British Columbia. It contains three artillery batteries set within an open, park-like site, linked by an historic circulation pattern. The site includes additional buildings and structures located outside individual batteries. The fort is surrounded by natural forested areas on the north and west, Esquimalt Harbour on the east, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the south. Official recognition refers to the property of the site at the time of designation (1958).

Heritage Value

Fort Rodd Hill was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1958 to:

- commemorate the role of the Victoria-Esquimalt fortifications (1878-1956) in the defence of Victoria and the naval base at Esquimalt, and by extension the defence of Canada and the British Empire.

The heritage value of Fort Rodd Hill lies in the integrity and legibility of its cultural landscape. Its strategic location and setting as well as the layout, orientation, nature and composition of the many defence structures it contains witness almost a century of change in military design and requirements.

In 1878, Canada first built temporary batteries at Macaulay Point using surplus British naval ordnance. This battery was meant to protect the port of Victoria and the Esquimalt naval harbour during the Anglo-Russian crisis of that year. In the 1890s, Canada negotiated with Great Britain for the construction of a series of permanent defences for the Victoria-Esquimalt area, to be manned by British troops in defence of the Empire. Construction began on Fort Rodd Hill in 1895 and Canada assumed control of these fortifications in 1906, extensively enlarging and rebuilding them by the end of the Second World War. They were declared obsolete in 1956. The site was subsequently acquired by Parks Canada.

Sources: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, 1958, 1992; Commemorative Integrity Statement, November 1996.

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements contributing to the heritage value of this site include:

- its strategic location and orientation at the entrance to Esquimalt Harbour;
- its profile, deliberately minimized by the strategic use of topographical features;
- its spatial organization in three separate batteries (Upper Battery, Lower Battery, Belmont Battery);
- the massing and profile of individual batteries, their layout, design, and orientation, the integrity of their component buildings, structures and spaces, the interior layout, materials and details, and the disposition and orientation of individual buildings and structures within each battery;
- the integrity and function of spaces, pathways, roads, trails, communication lines and viewscales between batteries;
- the massing and profile of individual structures and buildings outside the batteries, particularly those of greater interest with regards to function, original design and components, including the World War II Hut, Warrant Officer's Quarters, Battery Commander's Post, Searchlight No. 7, Searchlight Engine Room, Canteen, Fortress Plotting Room;

- their simple utilitarian forms, and the elements of their design, form, and materials that speak to their military role, their construction materials and craftsmanship, particularly the stone masonry, and interior evidence of early original materials, layout and finishes;
- the integrity of the machinery and special features of each building which reflect its purpose;
- the placement and orientation of each building and structure within its compound and its setting in relation to the dominant landscape features of the battery;
- the integrity of topographical land forms and vegetation strategically linked to the setting of individual structures and batteries;
- residual evidence (such as archaeological footprints, vestiges of earlier structures integrated in the footings of newer buildings) relating to the military use of buildings, structures, individual batteries and the overall cultural landscape over the 1895-1856 period;
- views to Esquimalt Harbour, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada.

Source: <https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=13469>



Fisgard Light House National Historic Site

Colwood, British Columbia. First lighthouse on the West Coast of Canada.

Other Name(s): Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada; Fisgard Lighthouse; Phare de Fisgard

Links and documents: Parks Canada [Website](#) for Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada

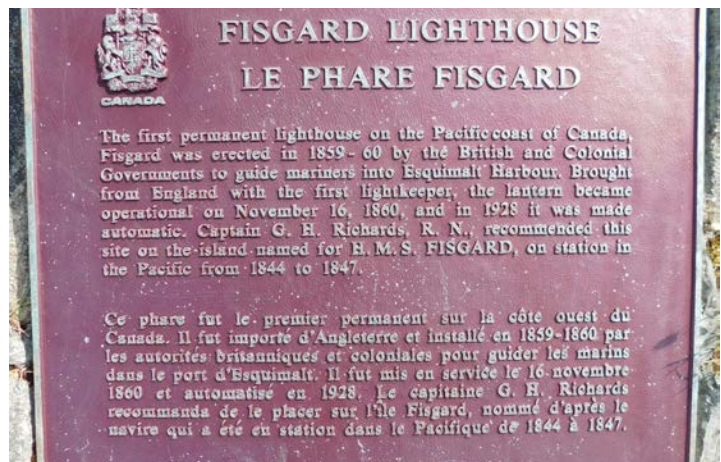
Construction Date(s): 1859/01/01 to 1860/01/01

Listed on the Canadian Register: 2004/06/16

Location: Fort Rodd Hill NHSC Ocean Boulevard, Colwood, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

The first permanent lighthouse on the Pacific coast of Canada, Fisgard was erected in 1859-60 by the British and Colonial Governments to guide mariners into Esquimalt Harbour. Brought from England with the first lightkeeper, the lantern became operational on November 16, 1860, and in 1928 it was made automatic. Captain G.H. Richards, R.N., recommended this site on the island named for H.M.S. FISGARD, on station in the Pacific from 1844 to 1847.



Description of Historic Place

Fisgard Lighthouse and its light keeper's residence comprises a two-storey residence with attached cylindrical light-tower, located on Fisgard Island on the east side of the entrance to Esquimalt Harbour, just north of Juan de Fuca Strait.

Heritage Value

Fisgard Lighthouse was designated a national historic site in 1958 because it was the first permanent lighthouse on the Pacific Coast of Canada.

Fisgard Lighthouse was built in 1859-60 by the British and Colonial governments to mark the entrance to Esquimalt Harbour. It was designed by Joseph Pemberton and John Wright of Victoria, and built by John Wright and John J. Cochrane. It was in continuous operation until 1957 when a fire at the lighthouse temporarily halted its use as a navigational aid. Once repaired, it became a national historic site and has since been restored for public viewing. It remains in service as an aid to navigation. The heritage value of Fisgard Lighthouse lies in the strategic location of the lighthouse, and the legibility and completeness of the tower, lantern and house as a landmark on their island site.

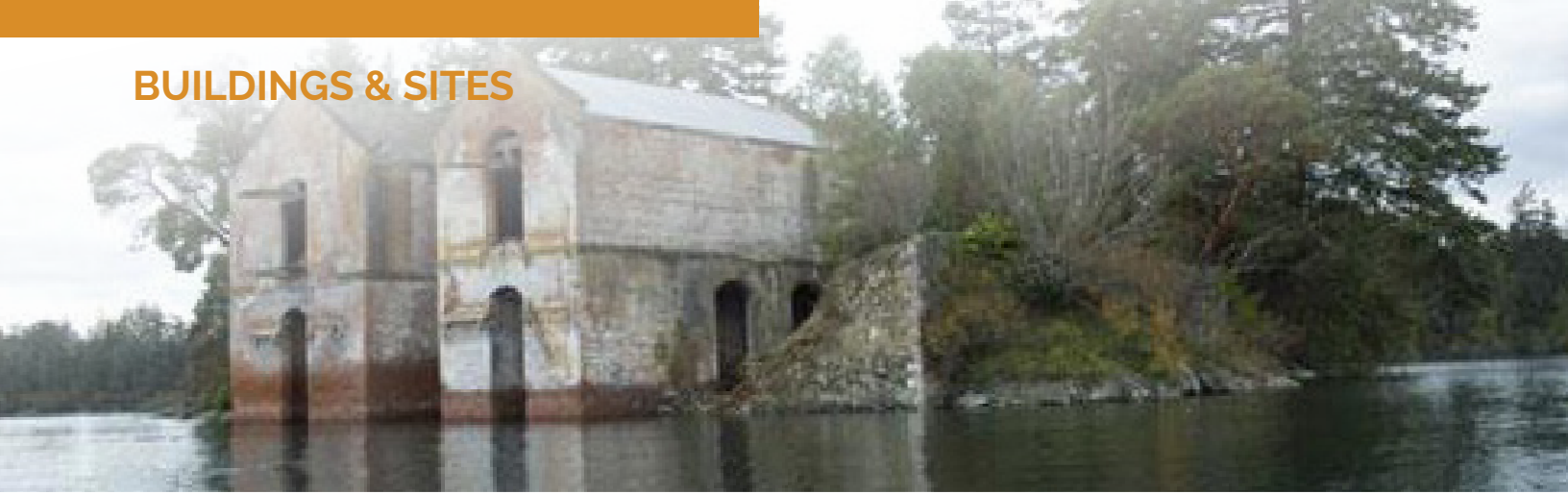
Sources : Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, 1958 Minutes; Commemorative Integrity Statement, November 1996.

Character-Defining Elements

Key features contributing to the heritage value of this site include:

- the prominent location of the lighthouse at the entrance to Esquimalt harbour;
- its complex massing comprised of two simple forms, cylindrical tower and attached rectangular house;
- the tapered proportions of the 17,06 metres (56 ft.) lighthouse with its delicately balanced walkway and recessed lantern, and vertical subdivision into base, tower and lantern;
- the light residing in the lantern and evidence of previous lights (and light technology);
- the tower's Gothic Revival exterior details including its pointed windows, brick corbelling below the lantern platform, arrow-shaped weathervane and lantern;
- the tower's Gothic Revival interior details, particularly the open-work geometric pattern of the stairway;
- the distribution of space in the lighthouse and its physical and functional connection to the residence;
- the simplicity of the house design with its symmetrical proportions, central chimney, balanced apertures, and gable roof;
- the Gothic-Revival style ground floor windows and weatherproofing shutters of the house;
- the quality and workmanship of original materials, particularly imported original fabric such as the lantern and cast iron staircase in the tower, the granite base and cap of the tower, the exterior brick of the house, the cement covered brick of the tower (painted white since 1863);
- evidence of the mode of life at the station such as the storehouse cistern and foundations;
- evidence of the purpose of station operation such as the mooring rings and the walkway of the tower, walkways on the island, the meteorological structures, cable anchors and causeway and remnants of early buildings and structures at the station;
- the orientation of the lighthouse tower and light keeper's house on the island;
- viewplanes from the lighthouse to Esquimalt harbour and naval dockyards, Hatley Park, the Juan de Fuca Strait and back across the causeway to Fort Rodd Hill.

Source: <https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=1253&pid=0>



Cole Island

Esquimalt Harbour, Colwood, B.C. 19th Century cluster of Royal Navy munitions storehouses.

Other Name(s): Magazine Island; Cole Island

Listed on the Canadian Register: 2009/04/16

Description of Historic Place

Cole Island is a low-lying, partially-treed, 0.6 hectare island in Esquimalt Harbour, west of downtown Victoria. It is located close to the active Esquimalt naval base, which it once served as a repository for naval ammunition and arms. On the island are four single-storey brick magazines (buildings for the storage of gunpowder and ammunition) and a guardhouse. Two of the magazines, the most prominent structures when viewed from a distance, stand on lofty arched brick piers over the water. Fifteen other structures, including a jetty, survive only as surface remains.

Heritage Value

Cole Island is valued as the location of the former naval magazine complex of a nineteenth-century Royal Navy dockyard, as a former seasonal site of importance to First Nations, and as a recreational site.

Cole Island, now owned by the Province of British Columbia, is nationally and provincially significant as part of the Esquimalt Naval Sites National Historic Site of Canada that commemorates, through a wealth of built resources, a continuum of defence themes such as the Imperial defence period, the creation of the Royal Canadian Navy, and naval institutions in wartime. Along with the former Royal Naval Hospital, the Esquimalt Dockyard and the Royal Navy Cemetery, the surviving buildings on Cole Island contribute to a homogeneous grouping of naval structures that evoke the distinctive sense of place of a nineteenth-century Royal Navy Dockyard, which helped protect British trade interests in the Pacific.

From the establishment of a British navy presence in the northwest Pacific Ocean in the mid-1840s to its use by the Royal Canadian Navy until the end of the Second World War, Cole Island served as a magazine for the storage of ammunition and powder for the supply of the Pacific naval squadron. Its location at a distance from the naval base reflects the dangers inherent in the storage of ammunition, and the need to protect the Dockyard from a devastating explosion.

The standing buildings and their function-specific internal arrangements illustrate the type of naval weapons and ammunition stored there from ca. 1880 until 1945. Internal evidence demonstrates that the standing magazines were used for the storage of projectiles, barrels of gunpowder and other explosive material, such as gun-cotton.

Footprints of other structures illustrate the organization of a complex designed to receive, overhaul, store and issue naval ammunition. The cartridge store arrangements, in particular, illustrate that naval ordnance of the time used separate cartridge and projectile ammunition. The remains of a drying room serve to show that ammunition often arrived wet and unstable after a sea voyage, and the location of the drying room on the end of a wharf shows just how dangerous wet, unstable ammunition was known to be. The remains of a small-arms store serve as a reminder that naval vessels were equipped with side-arms for the crew and the marines on board.

The guardhouse and the remains of an associated garden illustrate that this was a secure place of great value to the British and later the Canadian navies, that required a permanent guard. The fire hydrant system, supplied from the nearby Vancouver Island mainland, illustrates the need for fire-fighting measures in a magazine complex.

Today the island is also valued by First Nations for its former traditional use as a seasonal fishing and camping site and by kayakers, boaters and local people as a picturesque recreational site.

Source: BC Heritage Branch properties files

Character-Defining Elements

Key elements which define the heritage character of Cole Island include its:

- island location in Esquimalt Harbour
- proximity to the Esquimalt naval base and deep water
- five standing buildings, including filled shell stores and guardhouse
- remains of the wharf
- remains of the other buildings, including small-arms stores, powder magazines, and cartridge stores
- remains of infrastructure, including fire hydrant system and barrow runs
- remains of the garden and imported plant species





Hatley Park / Former Royal Roads Military College National Historic Site of Canada Colwood, British Columbia.

Address: 2005 Sooke Road, Colwood, British Columbia

Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)

Designation Date: 1995-07-06

Dates: 1908 to 1913 (Construction); 1908 to 1995 (Significant)

Event, Person, Organization: James and Laura Dunsmuir (original owners, 1908-1937) (Person); Department of National Defence (Royal Roads Military College, 1941-1995) (Organization); Samuel Maclure (Architect); Brett & Hall (landscape architects) (Architect); Isaburo Kishita (landscape design—Japanese garden) (Architect); George Gibson (wood carving) (Builder)

Other Name(s): Hatley Park / Former Royal Roads Military College (Designation Name); Dunsmuir Estate (Other Name); Hatley Castle (Other Name); Royal Roads University (Other Name); Royal Roads Military College (Other Name)

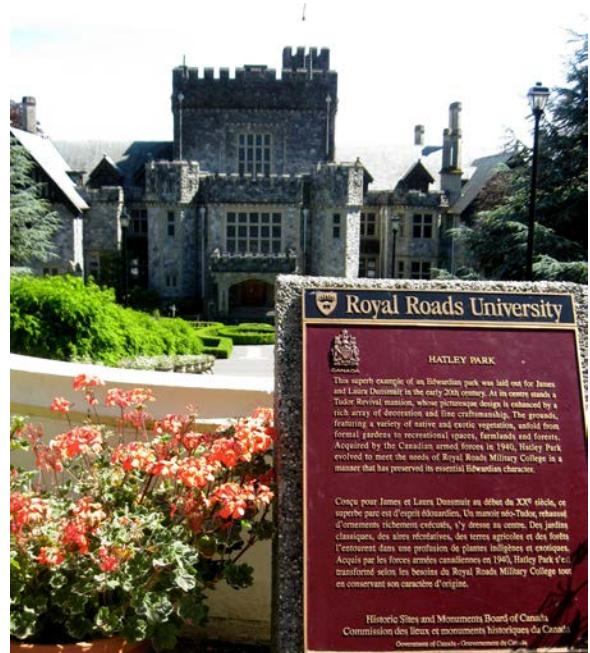
Research Report Number: 1995-035

DFRP Number: 17452 00

Existing plaque: 2005 Sooke Road, Colwood, British Columbia

Plaque Text:

This superb example of an Edwardian park was laid out for James and Laura Dunsmuir in the early 20th century. At its centre stands a Tudor Revival mansion, whose picturesque design is enhanced by a rich array of decoration and fine craftsmanship. The grounds, featuring a variety of native and exotic vegetation, unfold from formal gardens to recreational spaces, farmlands and forests. Acquired by the Canadian armed forces in 1940, Hatley Park evolved to meet the needs of Royal Roads Military College in a manner that has preserved its essential Edwardian character.



Description of Historic Place

Hatley Park is a 228.84 hectare estate situated on the edge of Esquimalt Lagoon, with Hatley Castle, a Tudor Revival-style manor house, as the centrepiece of an evolved Edwardian landscape that is comprised of four zones: the gardens, the recreation spaces, agricultural lands and forest. The estate also contains a variety of elements that reflect its lengthy role as a military college and the evolving landscape of Hatley Park. These include the adaptation of several auxiliary buildings to classroom space and staff accommodation, as well as an overlay of purpose-built structures, two sports fields and a parade square dating from the 1940s to the mid-1970s. The designation refers to the landscape with its Dunsmuir-era buildings.

Heritage Value

Hatley Park or the Former Royal Roads Military College was designated a national historic site because: its distinctiveness as an evolved cultural landscape defines its national significance—the integration of architecture and landscape with Hatley Castle at its centre, its gardens, lawns, forests, playing fields, recreational lands, agricultural lands, ancillary buildings, roads, pathways and other features all contribute to its remarkable sense of place; it is a superb Canadian example of an Edwardian park which remains practically intact in its plan, the extent of its grounds, and the quality and variety of its features; while its defining features as an Edwardian park remain clearly intelligible, the institutional imprint of Royal Roads Military College, which occupied Hatley Park for over 50 years is apparent and, in many ways, complementary.

Built in 1908-09 for James Dunsmuir, wealthy industrialist and provincial politician, Hatley Castle is notable for its Tudor Revival design by famed west coast architect Samuel Maclure, and for its central relationship to the Edwardian landscape devised by landscape architects Brett and Hall. The Dunsmuir family lived here until 1937. In 1940 the estate was purchased by the Department of National Defence to accommodate Royal Roads Military College.

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Minutes, June 1995.

Character-Defining Elements

Aspects of this site which contribute to its heritage value include: the organization of the property according to Edwardian design principles, including the use of a hierarchical progression from the formal through the naturalistic to the forest; its distinctiveness as an evolved cultural landscape from its original design as an Edwardian park through its adaptation to encompass the institutional imprint of Royal Roads Military College; the orientation of the castle to the lagoon, and the controlled vistas both into and out of the site, including views from Hatley Castle to Esquimalt Lagoon, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Olympic Mountains; the system of roadways, service lanes and foot paths that date from the Edwardian estate and from the military college period; Hatley Castle as the centrepiece of the estate and as the hub of the estate plan, and the integration of the house and formal gardens through the plan and materials; the Tudor Revival style of the castle with its four-storey massing and castellated tower block; the high quality of the castle's design, craftsmanship and Arts and Crafts aesthetic as illustrated by Tudor arches, half-timber details, banks of stone mullioned and oriel windows, end towers, decorated gables, granite walls, Tudor chimney pots and crenellated parapets; the well-preserved interior plan and the interior decorative scheme which incorporates a wide range of materials and which exhibits an Arts and Crafts methodology and design aesthetic that reinforces the Tudor Revival style of the building's exterior; the 1913 perimeter wall along Sooke Road and the original main gatehouse, their

forms, massing and materials; the organization of the estate into four distinctive landscape zones: garden, recreational, agricultural and forest; the hierarchical ordering of the Garden Zone into nine 'garden rooms' which include the upper and lower terraces, Italian garden, Neptune Court, Rose Garden, Japanese garden, English garden, and lawn area; the physical values and distinctive character of each of the garden rooms defined by the plan, layout, architectural elements, original plant material, and by sympathetic additions executed by the military college; physical values of the Recreation Zone including the three artificial lakes stocked with fish, interconnecting water course, and fish ladder, croquet lawn with its level grassed playing area enclosed by cropped hedges, riding trails and pathways; physical values of the Agricultural Zone including former agricultural buildings (greenhouse, head gardener's house, two stables, dairy barn, herdsman's cottage, roothouse, footman's house, laundry and butler's cottage), their siting, massing, exterior forms and materials and interior modifications associated with their adaptation to military college functions, former paddocks, field patterns and fencing; physical values of the Forest Zone including its importance as a buffer between the estate and the outside world, as a frame and contrast to the three more cultivated zones, as a vital component of the aquifer that sustains the watercourses and wetlands within the estate lands, and as a significant ecological reserve encompassing wildlife habitat and stands of 300-year-old Douglas fir with "old growth" attributes; the Grant Block and other post-1940 buildings that respect the aesthetic intent of the Edwardian estate and chart the evolution of the cultural landscape during the military college era.

Source: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=868