

649 ADMIRALS ROAD



This well-preserved house was built in 1901. The original owner is undetermined, but the earliest known occupant was Rev. William Washington Bolton, who founded the Saint Michael's University School. The architect is also unknown.

The design of the house is quite simple, yet impressive. The foundation and first storey of this building are of cement brick, those bricks below the first floor level being cemented over and scored to imitate stone ashlar masonry. Actual stone columns support the base of the porch which extends across the front and down most of the length of the Admirals Road side of the building. Wooden lattices block the spaces between the stone foundation columns; square wooden columns support the shed roof which covers the porch and a simple balustrade surrounds it.

The medium pitch roof is finished in slate tiles, as are the sides and roofs of the three evenly spaced dormers on the road (west) side of the main gable. A small shed-roofed gable on the east side was added later. The north and south gable ends are finished in shiplap and shingle siding. The south gable features a recessed balcony with turned spindle balusters and wooden fancywork. The front door is double-leaved with glass panels inset. Most of the windows are of the

tall, narrow double hung type with a single large pane below and sixteen small panes above. There are several small square nine-paned windows, some with coloured glass, in the gable ends.

Known to many as the 'Peter N. Cotton House' for the architect who restored it and lived in it for many years, this is a unique and well-known landmark in Esquimalt.

