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PRESERVE

Your voice for heritage in the Capital Region and the Islands since 1973

Fall 2023



**John Dam, B.A.Sc. M.Sc.
P.Eng. CAHP. President
of the Hallmark
Heritage Society**

President's Message

As the winter seasons approaches, the Hallmark Heritage Society board is working on a number of initiatives towards revitalizing the interest of our core membership while sparking the interest of a new generation towards how our built heritage can best be conserved.

Following another successful and well attended AGM, our new Events Committee is now busy putting together the details for our Christmas Party. Our website, well established and increasingly resourceful, will be receiving ongoing attention towards improving presentation and efficiency while expanding its information base. The Archives Committee is continuing it efforts towards providing one of the most comprehensive sources of information on historic buildings in the CRD.

All of these efforts are intending to bring the Hallmark Heritage Society back to the forefront as the champion of built heritage conservation with improved accessibility, greater resources, and a bigger presence.

Now we ask you, the membership, what do you want the Hallmark Heritage Society to be for you? Is it continuing to advocate on behalf of the community, provide more educational opportunities, or more social events? Maybe you're wondering how you might be able to contribute back to the Society? Do you have an interest in joining any of our committee's (Website/Social Media, Archives, Special Events) or spearheading a new

we plan our course of action."

Cheers

HALLMARK CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY EVENT

Please join us at Hallmark's annual Holiday/Christmas party 7:30 pm, Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at the historic Wentworth Villa, 1156 Fort Street, as we welcome Charlayne Thornton Joe, former longtime City of Victoria Councilor and member of the Victoria Chinatown Museum Society as she gives an illustrated presentation on Victoria's Chinatown—the oldest in Canada—through the faces of the people and the buildings of this historic neighbourhood.

As has been our tradition for many years, we ask members and attendees to bring some holiday goodies to share with everyone. But if you can't do that, please come anyway and enjoy our meeting, Charlayne's presentation, the company and the goodies in the warm and inviting ambience of Wentworth Villa, Victoria's Architectural Heritage Museum.

For free tickets to this event, please click the [LINK](#) below.

[**CLICK FOR TICKETS**](#)



Charlayne -front center, c
1964, City Hall in background



Remains of Langford Farm Dairy Building. c 1956 BCA G-00994



Colwood Cheese and Dairy House, 2011, Stuart Stark Photo



Dairy and Cheese House - Colwood, BCA 17948

Before the Gold Rush, before the establishment of the more famous Craigflower Farm and Schoolhouse, in May of 1851, Captain Edward Edwards Langford, with his family and a groups of hired servants of the Hudson's Bay Company subsidiary, the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, arrived at Fort Victoria and proceeded west to manage the 250 hectare Esquimalt farm bound by Esquimalt Harbour, Millstream Creek, and Colwood Creek.

The Captain immediately set about building up the farm, which he renamed 'Colwood' after his home in England, with numerous outbuildings to serve its operations of producing meat and dairy for the Fort. After decades of community growth and redevelopment, the only remnant of that farm is the Colwood Dairy and Cheese House, an 18" thick limestone walled structure constructed for the storage of milk, cheese and other dairy products.

Today, in the midst of current residential development, the property owners have committed to preserve the historic structure by moving it closer to Goldstream Avenue, restoring its' original building assemblies and finishes, and placing it on land dedicated to Colwood for the purpose of being a public park and potential gathering place."

WHAT HAPPENED AT 1734 HOLLYWOOD CRESCENT?

Click on photo for larger size

About two years ago the home at 1734 Hollywood Crescent, at the request of the owner, came before the City of Victoria Heritage Advisory Panel, to be considered as a candidate for Heritage Designation, the highest level of protection a municipal body can bestow. The Panel approved the proposed designation but, later, the owner withdrew the application.

same address being proposed for demolition to be replaced with two unremarkable, square boxes, partially oriented towards the residential street but also partially designed in the “gallery-style” type specifically discouraged in the Missing Middle Design Guidelines.

When the Missing Middle proposals were brought forward for public consultation and subsequent approval by Victoria Council, we saw many neighbourhood friendly designs and phrases that mollified some of our concerns. Yes, we would get increased density in single-family residential areas, but these incursions would be designed, to quote the Guidelines, “To ensure a good fit and sensitive transition to existing adjacent buildings to minimize impacts on neighbours, and contribute to an enhanced, varied, and evolving streetscape and neighbourhood context” and “To achieve buildings of high architectural quality and interest with human-scale building proportions that support and enhance the established streetscape character and pattern.”

The proposed development, shown here with illustrations from the City Development Tracker, is a “blockbuster” and does not in any way relate to the surrounding neighborhood. It is simply an attempt to push as much density onto the 6636 square foot lot as possible and still ask for variances as to side lots and height.

This is an endeavor to get a desperate Council to approve anything, no matter how architecturally ugly and inappropriate for the neighborhood, as they strive to show that the Missing Middle legislation is working, and they are ahead of the proposed provincial land rezoning.

The neighbor immediately to the west is being faced with a blank, 38-foot-high wall some 6 ½ feet from his property line. Nearby properties are a substantial risk of having their property taxes increase to reflect the “highest and



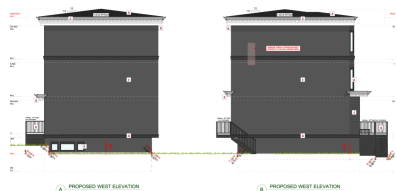
1734 Hollywood Crescent



South, or Hollywood Crescent elevation of proposed development.



Robertson Street Elevation of proposed development



West Elevation of proposed design - showing 38 foot wall facing the home at 1726 Hollywood Crescent

for similar developments to take place upon them.
City Council,

The Gonzales neighborhood and the residents of Hollywood Crescent must start now in opposing this inappropriate design. It is in no way sympathetic to the street and must be redesigned.



North Elevation - What the Robertson Street Neighbor will see.



The Street Today

HOW TO SILENCE THE PUBLIC

Over the past year or so, the Victoria City Council has slowly taken taken small, seemingly innocent steps, purportedly to speed up meetings.

They have regulated the number of persons who may address Council and reduced the opportunities.

They have reduced the time allowed for such occasions to 3 minutes per speaker, down from the previous 5 minutes.

Utilizing recent Provincial legislative changes, they have eliminated many public hearings on zoning and other land-use matters. They merely have to cite that the proposed changes were contemplated, no matter how vaguely, in the Official Community Plan, a document that was created long before Council could use it in such a manner.

changes are contemplated that will make land use changes even easier and with less input from residents and taxpayers. WATCH FOR IT ! COMING IN JANUARY !

With all the changes the Provincial Government is proposing regarding zoning and other municipal planning, it is not clear what a City Council is going to be doing? If all land use matters are regulated at the Provincial level, why do we need a City Council and Planning Department?

**THE HALLMARK HERITAGE SOCIETY
NEEDS YOUR HELP !**

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS OUR GREATEST STRENGTH.
HELP YOUR ORGANIZATION GROW AND CONTINUE
THE TASK OF HERITAGE PRESERVATION.
CLICK THE BUTTON TO THE RIGHT AND RENEW
OR JOIN WITH HALLMARK !**

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time to renew
your
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