

[View this email in your browser](#)



PRESERVE

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

EMAIL: hallmarkheritagesociety@gmail.com

Welcome to Hallmark Heritage Society Awards 2024!

Join us for a night of celebration and recognition of our community's heritage preservation efforts. The event will take place at the beautiful 1863 Wentworth Villa Architectural Heritage Museum on Tue May 07 2024 at 7:30. Come early to mingle with fellow enthusiasts and view the museum exhibits. Stay to applaud the winners of this year's awards and enjoy light refreshments after the event. Don't miss out on this special evening honouring our heritage!



Wentworth Villa
1156 Fort Street

[BOOK YOUR
TICKET HERE](#)

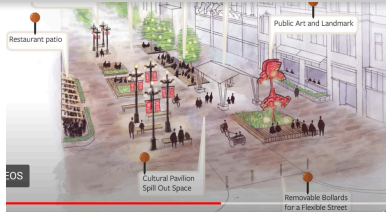
Victoria
Foundation Vital
Signs Survey
[CLICK HERE](#)



VITAL SIGNS SURVEY

Each year, with the arrival of Spring, The Victoria Foundation takes the temperature of the Capital Regional District with the Vital Signs Survey.

The survey allows you to express your opinions regarding housing, the environment, art and culture, and personal safety; these and many other factors shape how we feel about living in and around Victoria.



Government Street Refresh

[Click to View](#)

modern city and we should all participate in this survey so planners and politicians are not solely shaping it.

While there are no explicit questions regarding heritage and heritage preservation, some questions offer an opportunity to bring these subjects to the fore.

Please take the [Victoria Foundation Vital Signs Survey](#).

From John Dam, Hallmark Heritage Society President.

The Revitalization of the Sheam & Low, Lee Mong Kow, & Sing Lee Buildings

The oldest and most intact Chinatown in Canada is currently undergoing a transformation of its built heritage. While carefully maintaining the character of the district, the function of the buildings are being energetically revitalized. One project speaks to this effort above all others at this time – the conservation of the Sheam & Low, Lee Mong Kow, and Sing Lee ‘block’ at the northwest corner of Fan Tan Alley. All three were built during the boom and bust of the closing Edwardian Era and capably represent the economic and cultural sentiment of the time.

Today, they are being prepared to undergo a transformation envisioned by the Salient Group, and its President Robert Fung, that will see them as vital and busy as they once were 125 years ago. The three dual-use buildings, fused into one ‘block’ by a continuous facade, are expressive of the Chinese influx and influence into this part of town.

Like most buildings in Chinatown, the architecture presented the appearance of assimilating ‘western’ design along the street, while holding on to cultural traditions in the inner cores with thriving theatres, tenements, and gambling houses. Commercial activity

John Dam Photos



539 - 541.5 & 543 - 545.5
Figsard Street



539 - 541.5 & 543 - 545.5
Figsard Street
Courtyard

time, entertainment venues like the the Shake Shake Hand Club.

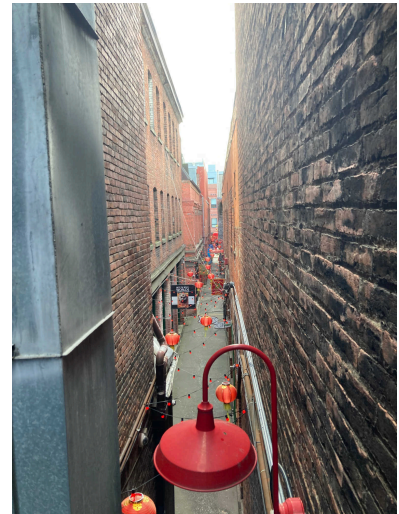
The renovation and repurposing of the buildings is being guided, in a large part, by the recent discovery of the original spatial demarcation and artifacts, during the current development process. This unique circumstance has become the focus of the preservation strategy to retain character while revitalizing function. Based on the discoveries made, it is the goal of Salient to stabilize the building and reintroduce use that will help it, and the neighbourhood, remain relevant, evolving on the strength of its historic authentic past. The restoration work will be complex and detailed, maintaining the existing tenancies and commercial activity throughout the process, while adding new commercial enterprises.

An experiential micro-hotel will re-create spaces evocative of the historic residential past to provide opportunities to share this history with guests and encourage visitors to engage with it while a restaurant is planned as a new economic use for the forgotten courtyard.

Completion of the building preservation work is expected by the end of this year while the courtyard renewal is anticipated to proceed immediately after.



**539 - 541.5 & 543 - 545.5
Fisgard Street From Fan
Tan Alley**



**Looking down Fan Tan
Alley from above**



The Capital
Cultural District
Video

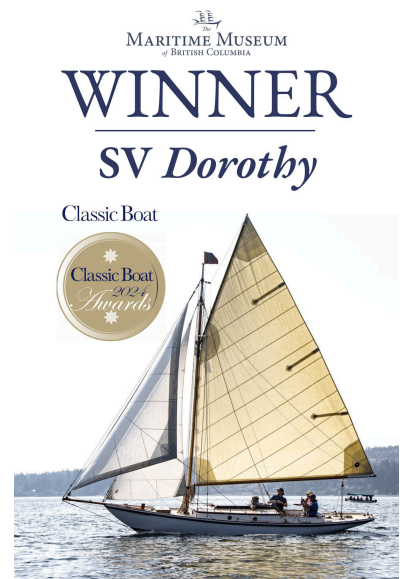
Most of you are aware of the proposed redevelopment plans for the Rock Bay area which will include the historic and heritage-designated Capital Iron buildings. The proponent of the first phase, Reliance Properties, has released an excellent video showing what are, at this time, the rough outlines of the scope of the development. The video speaks of shoreline development, wonderful walkways, and a new art gallery but little of the actual architectural design concept. Will this be another copy of the rusty iron facades someone imagined existed historically or will the owner and architects take advantage of the existing architectural void and create something new and exciting?

SV Dorothy Wins

SV Dorothy, Oldest Canadian-built Sailboat, Wins 2024 Classic Boat Award

The Maritime Museum of BC's classic 30' sailboat Dorothy, built in Victoria in 1897 is back in the winner's circle! Supporters of Dorothy's extensive refit and continued sailing along the BC coast have been anticipating the news of the 2024 Classic Boat Awards, administered by the yachting world's most prestigious magazine, UK- based Classic Boat Magazine.

The results are in: Dorothy, the sole Canadian boat in her competitive category, won a Classic Boat Award! The announcement was made today at Royal Thames Yacht Club in London.



On Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 7:30 p.m., the Victoria Historical Society presents at the James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street, Brian Thom speaking of Cordova Bay Archeology

covering an area of the Saanich peninsula between PKOLS (Mt Douglas) and Cowichan Head – essentially the treaty of Cordova Bay. This treaty, made with WĒTÁM,ELTW (Whutsaymullet as it was written then) and numerous other families who attended, was nearly identical to the other Vancouver Island treaties, promising to set aside the village sites and enclosed fields as well guarantees around hunting and fishing rights. While families were living in at least two longhouses in the village known as TEL,ILĆE (as it is written in SENĆOŦEN) / ʔəl̓íʔč (as it is written in ləkʷəŋən) in Cordova Bay in the 1850s, the lands that housed and sustained the community were never reserved, and indeed came to be privately owned in the decades that followed. Today, the archaeological footprints of the original people of TEL,ILĆE / ʔəl̓íʔč are found throughout Cordova Bay, but very few have been well documented. In the summer of 2023, the University of Victoria's Anthropology Department partnered with Tsawout First Nation to undertake archaeological mapping and excavations on all the Cordova Bay waterfront properties held by the District of Saanich, and in intertidal area. This talk will share something what this archaeological work revealed, alongside oral histories and other records of the Cordova Bay area.



Date and time:

Panel Discussion:

**Saturday, May 11, 10:30am-
12:30pm**

Exhibition:

**Thursday May 9-Saturday
May 11
11am-4pm**

**Location: Wentworth Villa,
1156 Fort St, Victoria**

HEART OF THE CITY: CENTENNIAL SQUARE EXHIBITION+ PANEL DISCUSSION

Join us for a limited showing of an exhibit about the design history (and future) of Victoria's historic and beloved Centennial Square. The exhibit will conclude with a panel discussion involving experts in the fields of heritage, architecture and urban design.

Panelists include architect Chris Gower, Heritage advocate Pamela Madoff, architect Jim Kerr, and local historian John Adams

LINKS TO OTHER EVENTS

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Exhibition: Out
of Place

Walking Tour
Chinatown
Architecture

Art In Public
Panel

Missing
Middle
Walking Tour

**Want to share this issue of the Hallmark
Newsletter?
Click the SHARE picture to the right and it will
show an easily shared web-based copy.**



Copyright (C) 2024 Hallmark Heritage Society. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

