



All members are entitled to voting privileges at Annual and General Meetings, receive four Newsletters a year and access to the Society library and archives which contain information on over 10,000 buildings in the Capital Regional District. Memberships are due September 30th and are tax-deductible. The Society also offers special events and tours for members. New memberships are pro-rated quarterly.



Membership Application

- Student.....\$15.00
- Individual\$25.00
- Family.....\$35.00
- Group/corporate\$50.00
- Individual Life.....\$200.00
- Corporate Life (20 yrs)\$400.00

New Renewal

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I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Hallmark Society of \$ _____

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Hallmark Society Awards Night
Tuesday, May 3, 2005
St. Ann's Academy Auditorium - 8:00 pm

Reception to follow in chapel

Dedicated to Preserving Historic and Architectural Landmarks



Your voice in heritage preservation in the Capital Region since 1973



Administrative Director: Helen Edwards
 Hours: Mon afternoon; Tues-Thurs mornings
 Location: #18 Centennial Square
 Phone/ fax: (250) 382-4755
 office@hallmarksociety.ca
 http://www.hallmarksociety.ca

Mandate

The Hallmark Society was formed in 1973. Our mandate is to encourage the preservation of structural, natural, cultural, and horticultural heritage within the Capital Regional District. We accomplish these goals through education, public speaking, advocacy, tours, exhibitions, and the annual Awards Night. We are a non-profit society, financed principally by membership dues and members' contributions.

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Cover Photo

The Point Wilson Lighthouse. First stop on the Port Townsend Tour. See page 8 for cover story. 📷

Photo Credits


All photos by Helen Edwards except top of page 11 which is BCARS. 📷

**Deadline for Summer 2005 newsletter:
 May 15, 2005.**

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SVIRH Fair 2005

The South Vancouver Island Regional Heritage Fair will be held on Friday, May 6, 2005 at the Royal BC Museum. Students in grades 4-9 will present the results of their research into historical subjects of interest to them. Each year this event grows as new national sponsors lend their support and we gain local support as well. The Royal Bank of Canada is a new sponsor, joining HBC as the event's corporate underwriters. Locally, we could not undertake an event of this magnitude without the support of the staff at the Museum. Not only do they donate the excellent venue, but they also provide staff support for student events.

This year we are pleased to offer the students hands-on workshops in making mitts from Hudson Bay blankets. All workshop staff and materials are donated.

If you would like to help with this event - we need judges, set up and clean up crews, and organizational assistance - please let us know. You will be amazed at the quality of student work. These are the heritage preservationists of tomorrow - show them you care! 📷

Calendar

- April 6-10, 2005** Society of Architectural Historians conference, Vancouver, BC. See <http://www.sah.org> for details.
- May 2, 2005** Hallmark Society Awards Night. St. Ann's Academy, 8:00 pm.
- May 5, 2005** South Vancouver Island Regional Heritage Fair, sponsored by Historica. Royal BC Museum, Clifford Carl Hall, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- May 19-21, 2005** Treasures of the Collection. Presented by the Canadiana Costume Society at the Saanich Fairgrounds. 10 am - 5 pm. See page 10 for details
- May 29, 2005** 26th Annual New Westminster Homes Tour. Phone 604-525-1910 for details.
- September 19, 2005** Hallmark Society Annual General Meeting. James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street, 7:30 pm. Guest speaker to be announced.

Heritage Week GM Report

The Heritage Week meeting was held on Heritage Day, Monday, February 21, 2005 at the First Church of Christ Scientist, 1205 Pandora Avenue. We had our largest turnout in years, possibly due to members' curiosity about this Fernwood landmark.

Ken Grant, well known to Hallmark members as a two-time Award of Merit winner for restoration, and a member of the church, outlined the history of the building. Beautifully sited at the high eastern end of Harris Green, this church was designed by George Foote Dunham and C.G. Wallwork of Portland, Oregon. The design is neo-classical, following that of the mother church in Boston, constructed some thirty years earlier. It symbolizes the moral precepts of the church, reason and order, which are traditionally associated with the classicism of the Greeks and Romans. Church Historian Jean Warren outlined the history of the Christian Science movement and tied worldwide activities to the local practitioners. Ken then returned to the podium to relate stories of the continued need for restoration of the historic building. The work is done as funds allow with virtually all moneys coming from the congregation. The highlight of the evening was the impromptu organ concert on the historic organ. Due to the incredible acoustics of the auditorium, the music resounded throughout. It was a moving experience.

Following the slide presentations, we joined members of the congregation for juice and sweets. Thanks to all who provided food; the socialization was enjoyed by us all. We were also able to view original plans and an original copy of the first *Christian Science Monitor* which mentioned Victoria in one of its articles.

President's Message

by John Edwards

It was only a matter of time before the large estate at 1322 Rockland Avenue fell under the hammer of a development proposal. Known as *Schuhuum*, it consists of 2.2 acres. The Vancouver architect calls this a "Heritage Restoration and Townhouse/ Apartment infill."

Some know it as the Caroline Macklem Home operated by the Anglican Church Women until 1998. It's just down from Government House. The original house was built in 1894 by W. R. Wilson; the porte cochere was added in about 1900 by Samuel Maclure. Over the years, changes have been made to accommodate seniors. Subsequent to the seniors, the house was leased to a so-called Baron (some called him the "bogus baron") who came from Tualatin, Oregon, and now seems to have returned to his school board job in that state. It is rumoured that during his tenure many of the stained glass windows disappeared.

The present owners' plans are to build a forty-unit apartment on the Gillespie Place side with parking underneath for seventy-five cars. They also propose to build six townhouses off Royal Terrace plus a three-car garage and caretaker's unit. The original house and coach house are to be restored with the unsympathetic additions removed. In summary, it is an addition of forty-seven units, plus eighty-four parking spaces.

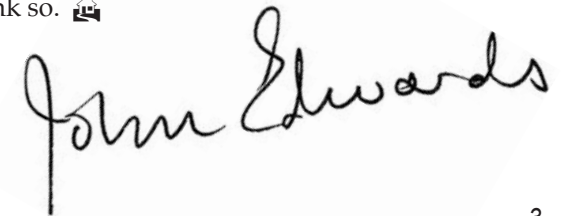
On February 24, 2005, the Rockland Neighbourhood Association held a meeting regarding this proposal. There were 107 in attendance, with almost as many opinions. The main feeling was that the development was unsympathetic to the Rockland area, and certainly contained too many suites. There was

concern about the noise and time for the blasting, and not many believed it would be done in six weeks. Others were concerned about the oak trees and the gardens near Purcell Place. The proponents intend to make the main unit similar to English Arts and Crafts in materials, but no details were given. One person asked about finances and funding for the project, but this question likewise was not answered. Of course, the Rockland Plan was last updated in 1987 and like just about every other Community Plan in the city is outdated.

The sales pitch to local residents is that you can sell your large mansion (to a wealthy Albertan) when the children leave, rent one of these new apartments, and still live in the area.

At the end of a long evening, several people said it was the beginning of the end for Rockland, opening the door to other infills. Several said it's just too big and they do not want anything like Songhees in Rockland (the word "Songhees" came up several times). My concern, also expressed by others, was if the rental units are built first, what guarantee do we have the funds will still be available to restore the 1894 residence. Perhaps the heritage house should be restored first, and let's see what sort of a restoration they do before any apartment construction permits are approved.

I asked why an "across-the-pond architect" is involved. He gives his qualifications as having done "heritage houses, complete with new infill townhouses in both Cambie and West End areas." Infill in the Cambie area - this is one of Vancouver's busiest main streets. Is that comparable to a project on the door step of Government House? I don't think so. 🏠



In Memoriam - John Bovey

from AABC Newsletter

Volume 15 No.1 Winter 2005

by Gary A. Mitchell, CRM, Provincial Archivist and Director, Royal BC Museum Corporation

In the early hours of 12 Jan 2005, John Bovey passed away in Winnipeg. He and his wife, Pat had just returned from a baby-sitting stint with their only grandchild in London, UK. A funeral is planned for Winnipeg and a memorial service in BC at a later date.

For over thirty-five years, John Bovey was a provincial/territorial archivist (NWT, MB and BC) and was involved in many of the key developments of the Canadian and British Columbian archival networks.

Within his tenure in British Columbia (1979-1999), many notable achievements occurred which further the documentary heritage of our province. With John at its helm, the BC Archives and its archivists integrated records management and archival administration into a single coordinated program; developed a standardization approach to BC government records classification and scheduling (and copied to various degrees in other Commonwealth jurisdictions); pioneered the use of the Internet for archival reference and research; and established a funding program for Community Archives. Our staff members contributed heavily to the research undertaken for the Rules of Archival Description and John was a founding member of the BC Archives Council.

His life long passion for history and heritage can be highlighted by his early research work, while a student at UBC, on Margaret Ormsby's *British Columbia: A History* and by his later two-term appointment as the BC member to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Many of us will remember his little black book where the details of little and great events were recorded for posterity. His natural curiosity and his love of historical trivia was gigantic as his little script revealed the names, events and dates of significance. Whether the feast day of saints, the major naval battles of Nelson, the number of funnels on the Empress of Ireland, or the last day of snowfall in Victoria the little black book recorded it all. Dare I say that I and many of the senior archivists have had their stories recorded in his "book."

As great as his passion for our history and heritage, his love for his family was much greater. His quiet support and pride in the achievements of his wife, Pat, as Director of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and latterly, of Winnipeg Art Gallery; his daughter Alex, earning her Ph.D., publishing her thesis and her work at the British Museum; and daughter, Catherine, working with British television, was ever present in his conversations. The recent arrival of grandchild, Georgia was the topic of every conversation and her pictures filled his already bursting billfold.

Of all the achievements that his archives created, may will remember John the person, the great storyteller and raconteur, who could bring an entire hall to laughter as he recited a tale or story from our history. 🏠

The Harris-Douglas Wall

by Mary E. Doody Jones

An impressive wall of red brick guards the vacant lot, where the 1940s Mount St. Mary Hospital stood. The front Burdett Ave. section is ornate with an iron fence above the brick and special gates, while plainer, ten-foot-high sections march down Vancouver St. in staged levels to match the land forms. At its base is a stone foundation. These plainer but magnificent forms continue on southern McClure St. to a large iron back gate. The wall's combination of ostentation with privacy indicates an important Victorian estate. The wall was built by Dennis Harris, who had a varied and influential career, and his wife Martha Douglas, the youngest child of James Douglas. He came from England, worked as a surveyor for the CPR in the 1870s and married in 1878. The couple looked after Amelia Douglas in her house until her death in January, 1889. Their new estate, including the wooden house *Eastdon* built in 1890, with modern conveniences and the wall afterwards, cost more than \$20,000. Dennis Harris was a prominent and influential citizen and he and Martha, educated in England, were cultural leaders. He became a businessman who promoted BC in England, city engineer, mapmaker, alderman in the 1880s and 90s. He and George Hargreaves designed businesses and residences in the 1880s. Their remaining buildings are on the east side of Government Street's 1000 block in similar vernacular Italianate style. Comparisons with other walls show that this one is unique - having the Douglas family association and being the only brick and iron kind. It is more impressive than others, like the *Gisburn* stone and iron version at Rockland Ave. and Moss St. In 2002, refusal of the city's request for registration meant the wall had no protection.

Since site bids had to start at \$4 million, any winning developer needs all the density permitted



to make a profit. The developer made a first dense proposal which removed the Vancouver St. sections and most of the back. Council was persuaded in January to add the wall and others as "special interest" for registration to the Humboldt Valley Precinct Plan. The developer, told to find a heritage consultant, now seems willing to keep the whole wall. Other dangers include the large amount of blasting this rock-bound site for parkades. (The last two buildings had no basements.) The south wall already has a problem. Richard Linzey, the assistant heritage planner who studied and worked on structures in England, states this "bowing," caused by alternate heat and coolness, is not so serious; the wall needs "consolidation" for protection during the two years of construction.

If you are concerned about these issues, write to Mayor and Council with copies to Steve Barber, heritage planner. Or you can email Pam Madoff and the mayor (pmadoff@city.victoria.bc.ca ----- mayor@city.victoria.bc.ca). You can express concerns about: a too high and dense development overwhelming the dignity of the wall and surrounding heritage area and effects of much blasting damaging existing structures there. 🏠

In Memoriam - Hugh Peet

Longtime Hallmark members will remember Hugh Peet, best known for his restoration, together with Martin Whitehead, of *Maplewood* on Arthur Currie Lane. The project won an award at the 1986 ceremony.

The Hallmark Society wishes to thank the family for directing memorial donations to the Society and to acknowledge the generous donations from Hugh's friends and acquaintances. 🏠

December GM Report

The Christmas General Meeting was held on December 8, 2004 at the James Bay New Horizons Centre. There were over 50 members in attendance.

Our guest speaker was Jennifer Nell Barr who presented a Power Point slide show on the revised and enlarged "This Old House." Her talk focussed on the builders and contractors who worked in Fernwood and the structures which speak to their talents. Many of the notable builders in Victoria have left their mark on Fernwood as well as other neighbourhoods. Jennifer answered questions from the audience, many of whom were hearing this information for the first time.

The publication is the first in a series of four which, when completed, will chronicle the heritage structures of Victoria in detail. The volume on James Bay is due to be published in 2005. 🏠

In Memoriam - Katie Dawson

The Hallmark Society has lost an energetic member with the death of Katie Dawson. The wife of John Dawson, who won an award for his role in the creation of Dominion Brook Park in North Saanich, Katie was as involved in the activities in the park as her husband. Until very recently she edited the newsletter for the Friends of Dominion Brook Park. Her enthusiasm for heritage preservation will be missed. 🏠

Office Moves Again!

The Hallmark Society office has moved again - just up Centennial Square to #18. This is a smaller location but has the advantage that it is closer to Douglas Street. We could not have made this move without the help of Ken Johnson's crew, Nick Russell, Ann Lee and Gordon Switzer, and John Edwards. Once again, our files are organized and ready for use.

We are please to be open four days a week for the foreseeable future. Our current hours are Monday afternoon and Tuesday to Thursday mornings. It is still best to call ahead if you wish to visit the office as we may be working outside of the office. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers without whom we could not offer our services to the public.

We also welcome Christine Eastgaard who is helping with grant applications and possible fund raising strategies. 🏠

Awards Night 2005 – May 3, 2005

The thirty-first annual Awards Night will be held this year at St. Ann's Academy Auditorium, 835 Humboldt Street, commencing at 8:00 pm. As in previous years, the evening will begin with local municipalities presented plaques to property owners who have received heritage designation status during the preceding year.

The Awards Jury will be selecting winners from the numerous nominations received. Who will win this year? Will there be a Louis Award? Will there be a winner of the Michael Williams Award? If you do not attend, you will get the news second hand. We are now soliciting sponsors for this important event. If you know of a potential donor, please let us know. Sponsors are mentioned in the awards program distributed at the ceremony and in a special edition of the newsletter, and receive a tax receipt.

Please note: To assist with catering and seat assignment, admittance to this event will be by reservation only. One of the benefits of membership is a seat for the ceremony. Seats will be available according to your membership category: student and individual members - 1 ticket; family membership - 2 tickets; group or corporate membership - 3 tickets. Additional tickets will be available from the office at a cost of \$10.00 each. Reservations will be accepted, and tickets sold, at the office between April 22nd and May 2nd. Complete the form below and return it to the office, phone 382-4755, fax your request to 382-4755, or send e-mail to office@hallmarksociety.ca. Late reservations may be accepted, depending on availability of seating. Tickets can be picked up at the office or held for you at the door.

PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME WE KNOW YOU ARE COMING. EVERYONE WHO WISHES TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY MUST MAKE A RESERVATION.

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

I wish to reserve _____ tickets for the Hallmark Society Awards Night.

Payment enclosed (if applicable) _____

The Heritage Detective

In the words of the old song: "You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone." It is quite interesting to walk around neighbourhoods with a camera in hand. The discerning eye can detect subtle changes, then record them. There are also hidden "gems" which only come to life when adjacent buildings are demolished. Such is the case of the building which according to the painted signage on the rear of it, once housed Dinsmore Bros. The firm not only cleaned cars but also undertook repairs. A quick perusal of city directories shows that William Dinsmore began a sales career with National Motors on Yates Street in 1916; his brother James was a carpenter. By the following year, William is the manager of National Motors and James is listed as a salesman.

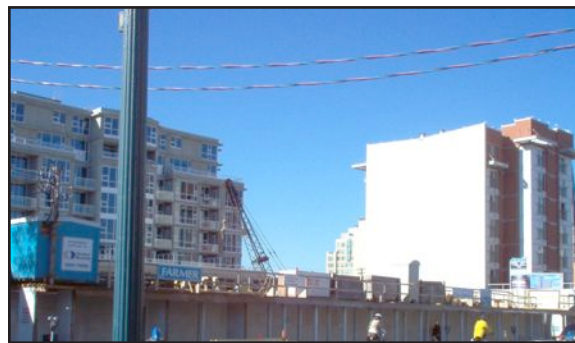


The brothers had evidently learned much from their experience at National Motors. In 1928 they opened Dinsmore Bros Garage at 845 Yates Street, just up the street from their former employer and right in the heart of the "automobile row." Among the other businesses on this block were Auto Electric and Battery at 847 Yates and Whitaker and Revercomb wholesale auto part at 843 Yates. In 1931, the business moved to larger quarters at 904 Yates Street, and seems to have become a victim of the Great Depression, as the firm disappeared from the listings in 1933-1934 with William working for Jameson's Electric and James with Shell Oil.



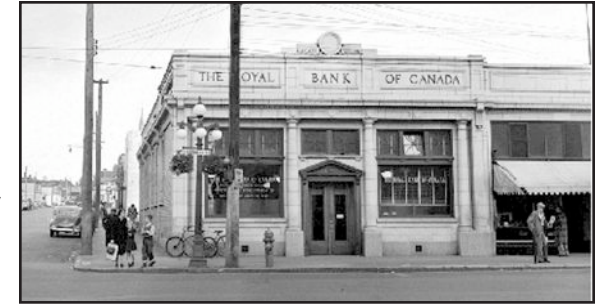
Are there any members who were familiar with this firm? Does anyone know anything about the building?

Of course, change is inevitable and we can see in the current photographs that the housing units on View Street are now complete and the original building on Yates Street has been demolished and will soon be replaced by housing. 🏠



Heritage at Risk

This building at 1511-15 Douglas Street, designed by prominent Victoria architect C. Elwood Watkins sometime before 1933, has been the home of City Hall News for years; the adjacent (to the north) Royal Bank of Canada was "modernized" by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; this branch has recently been closed. The facade features fine examples of terracotta with a greenish tinge, still in fairly good condition. As the CIBC branch has been closed, there will be pressure to redevelop the entire block. The property is now listed with an international real estate firm. There are rumours that the Royal Bank of Canada will abandon their 1940s branch to the south, providing a larger parcel for redevelopment. The area to the east is currently parking lots.



This One's Going

The former Jefferies Silversmiths building at 1026 Fort Street has been sold for development. The interior demolition is underway and will likely be nearing completion when you receive this newsletter. The rear portion of the complex (see lower photo) is said to be one of the earliest buildings on the block. The Tudor front was added in the 1930s when what is now Antique Row was made to look "English." The site will be used for high-rise housing.

The face of Fort Street is changing; the rising values of real estate make the one-storey building economically unfeasible. This is the third building to be demolished or radically changed in the last few years. When will it stop??? 🏠



Treasures of The Collection

The Canadiana Costume Museum is pleased to announce an exciting presentation at the Saanich Fairgrounds, where they are showcasing the most beautiful, unusual and interesting collection items, some dating back to the 18th century. There will be over 200 articles on display, including robes from the 1700s, evening dresses from the 1800s, as well as clothing and accessories from 1780 to 1930.

The show runs from May 19-21, 2005 and is open from 10 am to 5 pm. The Saanich Fairgrounds are at 1528 Stelly's Cross Road, Saanichton; the #75 bus stops at the fairground entrance.

Admission to the show is only \$5 and groups are very welcome. There is "two for one" admission deal for people using wheelchairs if they need to have an attendant with them. The exhibition building is one level and there is ample parking near the door.

As an added feature, you can bring your treasures for evaluation by experts, at no additional cost.

Thursday	May 19, 1-4 pm -	medals and other insignia
Friday	May 20, 1-4 pm -	lace
Saturday	May 21, 1-4 pm -	clothing, textiles, jewelry and small personal items

On Saturday May 22, the added feature is a lace-making demonstration from 1-4 pm.

The project is supported with funding from the Victoria Foundation and from the Saanich Peninsula Arts Council.

For further information:
phone: (250)381-2206
email: aprend29@hotmail.com or alansdell@shaw.ca

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual general Meeting of the Hallmark Society will be held on Monday, September 19, 2005 at the James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street, beginning at 7:30 pm.

On the agenda will be annual reports, the election of officers, and heritage updates.

Our guest speaker is yet to be determined but we will have full details in the next newsletter.

Plan to attend and also think about running for office. Remember, many hands make light work! 🏠

We Lost this One

by Rosemary James Cross

In 1938, Mr. F.B. Ward chose an English Arts & Crafts style house with a minimum of half-timbering, to fit into his semi-country site at Christmas Hill. Even after the new Patricia Bay Highway was built below the house, it could hardly be seen from that busy road because of the oak trees. Developers purchased the house in the early 1980s, with plans for a large housing development. Concerned neighbours were assured the house would be retained, upgraded and incorporated in the final development scheme. In the interim, these neighbours found the house had a number of different tenants with varying degrees of desirability. Some littered the garden with old cars and garbage. A religious group, wandering home from their early morning hilltop devotions, helped themselves to firewood from neighbours' piles. Eventually the house stood empty.

Now one dark and stormy night, actually about twilight on Christmas Eve, 1986, a bulldozer chugged up the hill. The neighbours, busy with last-minute Christmas preparations, barely noticed. In the gathering dusk, the bulldozer systematically destroyed the house. Early next morning, although

it was Christmas Day, workmen came and burned all that remained of the building. A neighbour whose aunt had lived at the house was distraught about this cloak-and-dagger demolition.

The demolition seriously upset heritage supporters. The Hallmark Society, Victoria's heritage group dedicated to preserving historic and architectural landmarks, had made municipal building departments aware of the need to keep a lookout for late-night activity at empty buildings with heritage value. But Christmas Eve is a difficult time to keep a regular eye on things. It is unrealistic to expect staff to be available, or busy police, to respond to such a call, as the developers were well aware. The property stood as an unkempt lost cause for a decade. Then late in 1997 development of almost identical houses started at a distant corner of the property. The aesthetic value of individuality in designs has been lost in this new era of development schemes.

Editor's Note: This is an excerpt from *The Life and Times of Victoria Architect P. Leonard James*. The long awaited book by Rosemary James Cross

Books and Magazines Wanted

One of our office volunteers is cataloguing our library. Her efforts have underlined the fact that we have some serious deficiencies in our collection. As we do not have sufficient funds to acquire new books as they are published, we must rely on donations.

We are looking for books and magazines dealing with architectural history, historic preservation, methods of conservation, specific techniques, and any other subjects that might interest our office visitors. Please check your attics, "junk" piles, or wherever you stash the books you no longer need but hate to throw out. Books can be delivered to the office during regular office hours (please phone first) or we can arrange pickup of multiple volumes. Thank-you for your help. 🏠

Port Townsend Tour

On Friday, March 18, 2005, a hardy group of eleven Hallmark members made the trip to Port Townsend. Departing via Coho ferry to Port Angeles, we made our way to Port Townsend, different cars stopping in different places - all enriching the local economy!

Port Townsend is a treasure for those of us who adore old buildings. Originally named 'Port Townshend' by Captain George Vancouver (for his friend the Marquis of Townshend) in 1792, Port Townsend was immediately recognized as a good, safe harbor, which it remains to this day. The official settlement of the city took place on the 24th of April, 1851. Called the "City of Dreams" because of the early speculation that the city would be the largest harbor on the west coast, wealthy and prosperous, somehow though, those early dreams failed to materialize...

By the late 1800s Port Townsend was a well-known seaport, very active and banking on the future. Many homes and buildings were built during that time, with most of the architecture ornate Victorian. With the other Puget Sound ports growing in size, Port Townsend saw a rapid decline in population when the Northern Pacific Railroad failed to connect the city to the eastern Puget Sound city of Tacoma. By the late 1890s the boom was over.

Railroads were built to reach more areas in the 1870-1890s and Port Townsend was the northwest extension of the rail lines. Its port was large and frequented by overseas vessels, so shipping of goods and timber from the area was a major part of the economy. Much of the buildings were built on the speculation that Port Townsend would become a booming shipping port and major city. When the depression hit, those plans lost the capital to continue and rail lines ended on the east side of Puget Sound, mainly in Tumwater, Tacoma and Seattle. The town shrank and investors looked elsewhere to make a good return.

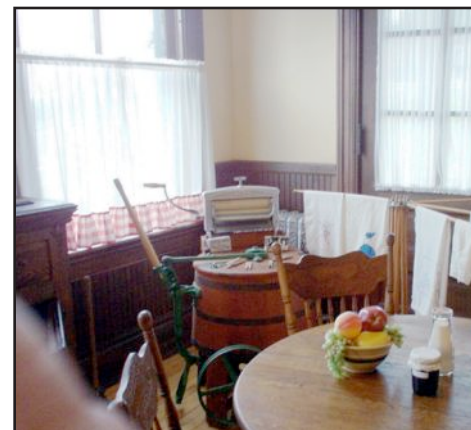
Many people left the area and pretty much abandoned the structures. There was no real economy until the early 1920s when the paper mill was built, but even with that, most of the buildings and homes were uninhabited until the 1970s when people began coming here to find cheap homes and to drop out or retire. Because of the speed at which the economy fell initially and the non-existence of any industry or economy to replace it, none of the buildings were torn down or built over. They basically were preserved as time capsules for the next 100 years when the value of keeping them intact was appreciated and fostered.

The reason for our visit was the annual Victorian Festival, an event that has grown from a one-day tour to a four-day celebration of heritage. There are a multitude of events to keep visitors busy including walking tours, a candlelight dinner and tour of homes, an antique auction, a Victorian fashion show, cemetery tours, the "history's mysteries" contest with prizes to the winners, concerts, museum displays, and theatrical events. The tour that drew us to Port Townsend was the annual Heritage Homes and Building Tour.

We began at the The Point Wilson Lighthouse. Established in 1879, it is the welcome beacon of Puget Sound, marking the last leg of a long and difficult sea road from the open waters of the Pacific. Here, the main shipping channel narrows and makes a sharp southward turn into Puget Sound. The original light was a 46-foot frame tower rising from the keeper's dwelling with a fog signal building nearby. A new lighthouse was commissioned and was ready for service by 1914. Constructed of reinforced concrete, the forty-six foot octagonal tower was designed to withstand the wind. Now automated, the Point Wilson Light is monitored by computer from the Coast Guard Air Station at Port Angeles. The local Coast Guard Auxiliary serves as caretakers to the station.

Our next visit was to Alexander's Castle located on the grounds of Fort Worden. It was built by John B. Alexander who was rector of St. Paul Episcopal Church from 1882 to 1886. He purchased the site in May 1886; construction began soon after. According to local stories he built it for a prospective Scottish bride in a style reminiscent of his native country. It is likely that the bricks used in its construction were fired on the site since as late as the 1960s the kiln was still in the basement. The marriage never took place and Alexander used it for his consular residence in 1887 when he was appointed the British vice-consul of the region. The building is currently undergoing rehabilitation work to prepare it for public use.

Our third stop was the the spectacular Commanding Officer's Quarters. Located at the end of Officer's Row at Fort Worden, the building was completed in 1904. Thirty-three different families called this home during the days of the fort. The building has been refurbished according to the late Victorian period. As such, it provides a special glimpse into the life of an officer and his family in the first decade of the last century. The nearly 6,000 square foot quarters also has 10 foot high pressed tin ceilings, pocket doors, Palladian windows, and brass chandeliers. The movie *An Officer and a Gentleman* was filmed here.



The M.V. Lotus, built in 1909, is a 93-foot power yacht which retains her original lines and interior decor. Built almost exclusively from native Douglas fir, she is one of the last examples of wooden boat building from the Edwardian era. The interior showcases polished wood lit by soft brass fixtures and natural light from vaulted skylights. Many original fixtures remain and all have been carefully maintained. Look for this vessel at future Wooden Boat festivals in Victoria. It is worth a visit.

Our final house of the day was the Rothschild House, Washington State's smallest park. The house is almost unchanged from when it was built in 1868. Ninety percent of the furniture remaining in the house belonged to the Rothschild family and nearly all was purchased between 1860 and 1886. D.C.H. Rothschild, or the Baron, as he became universally known, was born in Bavaria in 1824. After traveling extensively around the world and engaging in several business enterprises, he settled in Port Townsend in 1858 and began a business under the name of "Kentucky Store". His widow Dorette remained in the house until her death in 1918, allowing only minimal changes, such as a bathroom. Her daughter lived there for nearly 78 years, until her death in 1954. The last member of the family donated the house to the state and it opened as a historic site in 1962. 🏠

