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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.

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Hallmark Society General Meeting
Monday, December 12, 2005 - 7:30 pm
James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street
Guest speaker: Richard Linzey
"A Career in Ruins"
Refreshments to follow



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Administrative Director: Helen Edwards
 Hours: Wed-Thurs mornings
 Location: #18 Centennial Square
 Phone/ fax: (250) 382-4755
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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 E & N Roundhouse National Historic Site faces an uncertain future. See page 8 for cover story. Helen Edwards photo. 🏠

Photo Credits


All photos by Helen Edwards except pages 3,6, and 13 which are by Nick Russell. 🏠

**Deadline for Spring 2006 newsletter:
 February 15, 2006.**

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Of Interest

Hallmark member Jim Colwill, a long-time collector of automobile mascots has just published a book called *The Automotive Mascot: A Design in Motion Volume 1: The Early Years*

It is volume 1 of 3 planned, and concentrates on the early years 1909-1925. The book contains over 300 pages of well researched and beautifully photographed (by the author) "art" mascots.

The book is available at Recollections Mall at 817A Fort Street. Perhaps a unique holiday gift for the "him" or "her" in your life. 🏠

Calendar

- December 12, 2005** Hallmark Society General Meeting. James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street, 7:30 pm. Guest speaker: Richard Linzey: "A Career in Ruins." See page for details.
- February 20-27, 2006** Heritage Week. Author's night meeting. Details later.
- May 3, 2006** Hallmark Society Awards Night. St. Ann's Academy, 8:00 pm.
- May 6, 2006** South Vancouver Island Regional Heritage Fair, sponsored by Historica. Royal BC Museum, Clifford Carl Hall, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

RIP Mary Elizabeth Bayer

by Helen Edwards

On September 7, 2005, the heritage world lost its most ardent supporter. Mary Elizabeth Bayer was certainly a great Canadian. At a time when devotion to your country and patriotism are considered unseemly, she defied convention and celebrated her love for this country of ours. I am a loyal Canadian - I sing the national anthem at public events and tear up when it is played following an Olympic victory - but could never articulate my love in the way that Mary Liz did.

I first met her when I was a young mother, trying to find a useful outlet for my scant volunteer hours. I had an interest in the preservation of heritage, so she encouraged me to do what I could from home. I remember attending long-ago Hallmark meetings when she was Chair of the Heritage Canada Foundation and recall her "greetings from Heritage Canada." Once the children were all in school, I discovered how much I loved the research process. Here again, Mary Liz encouraged me to seek answers to the mysteries of old photographs and manuscripts. She was the first to applaud my first public speech on the activities of the Hallmark

Society at a long ago Heritage Society of BC conference. Her words "It's about time somebody told our story" led me to further public speaking and eventually to a position on the Board. I was thrilled when I was asked to participate in CAN, a coalition of arts and heritage groups that was trying to bring the case for financial support to the provincial government.

I reflect on my current position as the first president of the Heritage Legacy Fund of British Columbia that I would have likely never been able to serve the heritage community as I do now without the unflinching support of Mary Liz.

This spring I was asked who had had the greatest influence on my life. After my mother, the first name that came to mind was Mary Elizabeth Bayer. She was a role model, mentor, and most importantly, a good friend. Farewell, Mary Liz. Canada has indeed lost its greater supporter, and the arts and heritage community, its shining light. 🏠

Hallmark Society Newsletter Winter 2005

Notes from Nick

Heritage Cat: Self-portrait.

Sampson Russell, shortly before his death, aged 20, this Summer, with the new Hallmark president. Sam was such a James Bay fixture, that Kabuki drivers pointed him out, when passing his 1891 home.



Thank you!
I am honoured to have been elected president of Hallmark Society at the recent annual general meeting. And –for those who couldn't attend- No, this was not a palace coup: John Edwards decided to retire after leading the organization with energy and enthusiasm for some eight years, and I've been elected to attempt to fill those substantial shoes.

And I certainly don't propose any instant, revolutionary changes, though you may be interested in my general philosophy, and my credentials.

My background:

I inherited my interest in history, and began work early: As a 12-year-old, I was washing Romano-British pottery at archaeological digs, and years later became an early member of and then president of the Archeological Society of B.C., and founder of its newsletter, *The Midden*, now in its 37th year.

Sharon and I took on our first heritage restoration with a 1930s cottage overlooking the Fraser River, 40 years ago. (We had already left a London flat and its garden much nicer than we found it.) From the Valley, we moved to a 1912 house in Regina, and spent 15 years doing a credible

restoration there. While there, I chaired the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee for a term, and Heritage Regina. Since then, here in James Bay, we have won two heritage awards for our work on our unusual mansard-roofed house (1891). With friends, we are also restoring an 1870s house on Rudlin Street, and I've been a volunteer with The Land Conservancy working on the Ross Bay Villa (1860s) for most Saturdays over the last five years. So I have a history with History.

The Society:

I believe the importance of the Hallmark Society to the community has never been greater than now. With property prices spiraling, the greedy want to grab and demolish any little house where they might squeeze in two or three littler houses. Hallmark members are going to have to push back, fighting to preserve the important buildings –even, occasionally, lying down in front of bulldozers.

Why is heritage important?

Of course there are aesthetic reasons for preserving heritage buildings: Most old buildings have elegance, charm and interesting family associations, and clusters of them give warmth and livability to a streetscape. And there are environmental reasons: It's been proved that it's usually cheaper to restore an old building than to replace it and clog up landfill sites with truckloads of trashed old-growth lumber.

But above all –here in Victoria—there are *economic* reasons that everybody should recognize as vital: Victoria has very few revenue generators, but Tourism is dominant. Tourism brings in direct and indirect dollars to the Capital Regional District at all levels –from buses to hotels to restaurants to carriage tours. And that multiplies out to the employees, their families,

—continued on page 4

and eventually virtually every business and individual in the area.

And why do they come, these visitors with the fat wallets? They arrive here—says Tourism Victoria—in large part to see the heritage town. They don't come here primarily for the golf or for the beaches or for the casinos. They are not looking for an Eiffel Tower or a Millennium Wheel or a Russian submarine or a Dukw car/boat.... They are wandering, blissfully, around the old streets, admiring the heritage buildings of Wharf Street, the charm and history of Bastion Square, the elegance of the Empress and the old ferry terminal and the Legislature. Then they do a heritage walking tour of Downtown, or wander further afield, taking a carriage ride round James Bay, touring the Castle, doing a double-decker tour from Chinatown to Dallas Road. They love our city for its atmosphere.

That ambience is Victoria's key to survival and success. Every time an entrepreneur demolishes an ancient structure downtown and replaces it with a steel and glass thing, he diminishes our appeal. Every time a developer bulldozes a little Queen Anne bungalow, he makes that street less appealing. Who wants to walk or ride or drive down streets with parking lots or remnants of what was obviously once a fine streetscape?

Of course cities evolve and there must be change, growth and development. But let's not lose sight of the big picture: Victoria's desirability as a place to visit and a place to live. 🏡

Historica Fair News

The South Vancouver Island Regional Heritage Fair will be held on Friday, May 5, 2006 in the Clifford Carl Hall at the Royal British Columbia Museum. The event, funded by Historica, brings together students in grades 4-9 for a day of sharing and learning. Students can work alone or in groups. They select a topic with a Canadian history theme - personal, local, provincial or national - then conduct research and present a final report in a variety of media with a written research report mandatory.

Volunteers judge the projects, and students spend the day in group activities including tours. There are a number of awards with the most prestigious being selected to attend the National Fair in Halifax, NS in July. This year we hope to have our three-dimensional winning entries on display in Victoria, Oak Bay and Saanich municipals halls. We are also seeking local corporate sponsorship to help defray the expenses.

Last year's winner is still talking to his teacher about his time in Saskatoon last July. This makes all the work worthwhile.

If you would like to help with organizing the event or judging, please let us know at 382-4755 or svirhf@hallmarksociety.ca. 🏡

Say goodbye!

by Nick Russell

Well, not really goodbye. But as more concrete structures crowd around Downtown, so vistas change or disappear. As we climbed Blanshard northwards past the Church of Our Lord, we used to get a good view of 780 Blanshard, described by Don Luxton as "one of the best buildings of this period in the province." (See his inventory, CRD Art Deco and Moderne, n.d., n.p.) Built by the province in 1949-50, it is a wonderful art deco structure. A different façade can, of course, still be seen if you proceed southbound on Blanshard. But from the top of the hill, the fine view of the church will soon be obliterated by the same development. Why do vistas and streetscapes count for nothing in city planning? 🏡



Meet the Speaker

Richard Linzey is married to Kim a Canadian. They have four children and live in an old house in Burnside. In private practice in England, Richard designed social housing, community facilities and commercial offices. Since 1992, he has practised as a UK registered architect working exclusively in the conservation of historic places and landscapes. During his time with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England - English Heritage - Richard managed an in-house architectural team that designed visitor facilities, and conserved historic places from the Stone Age to the Cold War. Since 2002, he has worked in Canada as both a consultant, and more recently, as a heritage planner for the City of Victoria. Richard is an authority on post-mediaeval coast defence and has written a number of books on historic fortification. 🏡

It's Not Too Late

The deadline for 2004 charitable gifts is December 31, 2005. Please consider the work of the Hallmark Society when you are planning your year-end giving. We are trying to keep our costs as low as possible - and membership fees affordable - but there is always a need for additional funds. Thank-you for considering our request. 🏡



Interior of Aviation Museum

any indication, they are certainly fulfilling their mandate. Our group was divided into two smaller groups so in preparation for a tour of the facility by highly knowledgeable guides. There is so much more to this museum than merely old planes; we learned much about aviation history and how important it was in the creation of our modern world. Many of our party were interested to view a replica of the Gibson twin plane. Built in Victoria (purportedly in the back yard of 146 Clarence Street) and tested on what is now the grounds of Lansdowne Middle School, this was the first airplane completed designed, built and flown in Canada. The museum also showcases examples of other historic aircraft including a Bell helicopter.

On the grounds outside the main building is the wreckage of Tony Onley's airplane. It has been donated to the museum by his widow and will be restored once the estate is settled. The restoration of historic craft is one of the most significant undertakings of this dedicated body of volunteers. The restoration workshop, even uninhabited, is filled with creative energy. We were able to view aircraft in different stages of repair and learn how this work is carried out.

Our final stop was in the Memorial Room that

houses information on the armed forces that have used Patricia Bay, movies that were shot on site and in the vicinity, and collections of flying memorabilia. Once again, memories were revived. In fact, our hosts had trouble closing up for the day – some of us just didn't want the tour to end.

Both sites are run by volunteers and rely on public support to survive. Plan to visit one or both with your guests or family. You won't be disappointed! 🏠

RIP Inez O'Reilly

On October 11, 2005, the Hallmark Society lost one of its most supportive patrons. Inez O'Reilly was best known in Victoria for preserving the O'Reilly home – Point Ellice House and its intact collection of Victoriana – when all the properties around the site were descending into industrial squalor. I can still remember touring the house when she and her husband John still lived there. For the great sum of \$1.00, you could have as many tours as you wanted. I recall how proud Inez was of the property, and, even though she was an O'Reilly by marriage, she was perhaps the best steward the property could have had then.

The O'Reillys sold the property to the Provincial government which operated it as a historic site; it is now managed by the Capital Regional Mental Health Association.

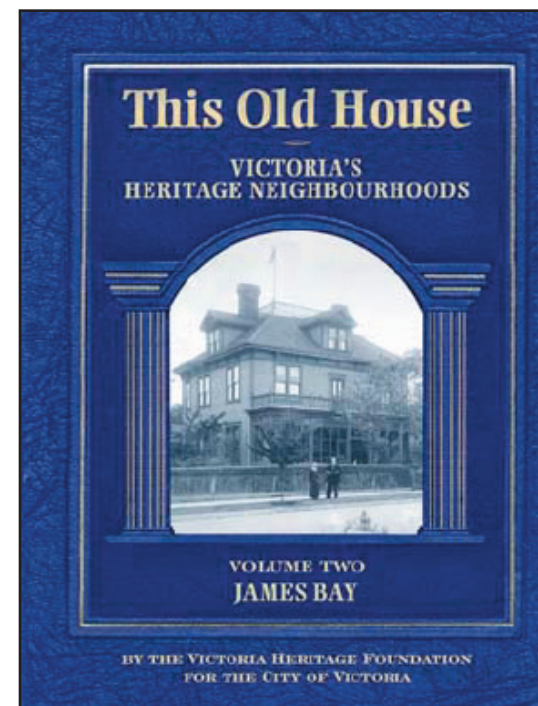
Along with Mary Graham, one of our founding members, Inez had a deep interest in the preservation of heritage at all levels and was a generous supporter of the Hallmark Society. We will miss her quiet enthusiasm and her life-long dedication to our cause. 🏠

Notice of Meeting

The Christmas General Meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, 2005 at the James Bay New Horizons Centre, 234 Menzies Street. The business meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. Our guest speaker will be Richard Linzey, a heritage planner with the City of Victoria who will present "A Career in Ruins" - relating his work in England to what he does today. See page 13 for biography.

As in past years, please bring seasonal goodies to share with your fellow members. 🏠

Hot Off the Press



Available at fine book stores, Victoria City Hall and the Hallmark Society office. \$24.95. 🏠

AGM Report

The Annual General Meeting of the Hallmark Society was held at the James Bay New Horizons Centre on Monday, September 19/ 2005. President John Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. The President outlined the events of the past year, including significant gains and losses and the thirty-first awards night. Administrative Director Helen Edwards presented the financial report and answered questions from the membership. She also gave a short summary of the summer project and its ongoing funding. Almost all the 6,000 photographs taken during the summer of 2001 have now been scanned and will be added to a database of the properties covered.

The following were elected for the upcoming year: President (2-year term) Nicholas Russell Vice-president (1-year term) Cornelia Lange Secretary Tim Lomas Treasurer Ken Johnson Director (1-year term) Russell Fuller. John Edwards becomes Past-president and continues to serve on the board.

There are several vacancies on the board that must be filled from the general membership. Monthly meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of each month in members' homes. Please think about joining the board and lightening the load.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Larry McCann from Uvic's Geography Department who gave a most interesting and illuminating lecture on the history of the Uplands. We learned how this development was part of a North American movement and just how significant the Uplands are in urban development history. Watch for a book on the subject - sure to be a thought-provoking read. A lively question and answer session ended the evening. 🏠

The Gossett House: Gone but not forgotten

by Nick Russell



One of the pleasures of visiting the Saanich Historical Artifacts Society facility recently (See Helen's report elsewhere in this issue), was seeing again the old Gossett House.

Old-timers may recall the fierce debate about saving this metal building, which stood beside the King's/Queen's Printer building on Superior St. The building was already 100 years old when the provincial government decided they needed the site for more of their ugly offices in the 1980s.

By then, it was used for storage, and had long since lost its wraparound porch.

If you call up the archival picture (G-01986) from the Provincial Archives website, you'll see it as it was, described as a warehouse, although it still had the wonderful array of big doors and windows that it was built with. You can read more of the story in [This Old House: James Bay](#), newly published by the Victoria Heritage Foundation on behalf of the City of Victoria. But in a nutshell, it was a prefabricated bungalow sheathed with corrugated iron, delivered for Col. Moody's Royal Engineers in 1858/9.

That made it one of the very oldest surviving houses in Victoria (after the St. Ann's Schoolhouse). But corrugated iron doesn't have a lot of appeal. It's unfortunate the government didn't have the vision to retain it and restore it. But at least it was saved... So, one of Victoria's oldest buildings is being slowly restored ... out in Saanich. 🏠

Awards 2006 Promo

What is going on in your neighbourhood? Is someone restoring their house? Awards Night 2006 will be here sooner than you think. We have booked St. Ann's Academy Auditorium for Tuesday, May 2, 2006. If you have a suggestion for an award winner, please contact the office and we will help you with the nomination. If you wish our list of guidelines that will enable you to write your own nomination, please let us know and we will send it to you (the guidelines are also available on our website at <http://www.hallmarksociety.ca>). We have added sample "winning" nominations to our website to further assist preparation. See page 13 for an official nomination form.

We are also looking for volunteer to serve on our awards committee. This is a short-term commitment and will ensure that the work for the event is shared by more members. Remember, we cannot see everything. It is up to our members to act as "our eyes" in the neighbourhoods. Keep us informed! Thank-you. 🏠

Hallmark Society Fall Tour

By Helen Edwards



Piano once owned by Governor Kennedy.

On October 22, 2005, a hardy group of Hallmark Society members journeyed to the Saanich Peninsula for a tour of two sites: Heritage Acres and the British Columbia Aviation Museum.

We began our afternoon at *Heritage Acres*, the home of the Saanich Historical Artifacts Society. This award-winning site comprises 29 acres and houses an interesting collection of historic buildings and artifacts. Our first stop was the Willard Michell building which houses thousands of vintage items – enough to make the collectors among us drool with anticipation. A special display at the entrance featured early gramophones, radios, and other music-playing machines. The centerpiece of this exhibit was a piano that once had a home at Government House.

Next stop was the Blacksmith Shop where we had a demonstration of the fine craft of creating useful items in a forge. The Blacksmith shop produces items that are used to repair equipment around the historic site; a sideline is the production of metal items for homeowners who need a special set of hinges or other hardware. Plant hangers

of diverse sizes are also made on site. We also learned the specialized craft of mending wagon wheels – not something we use everyday, but... you never know.

The Moody-Gossett House, a prefabricated metal building sent from England for Col. Moody in 1860, was saved from certain destruction by the SHAS. Visitors can now view a glimpse of life as it was during the early days of our province, with original hardware and fittings throughout. The rooms are furnished with period pieces and their richness presents an interesting contrast to the corrugated exterior.

The John Newman Boathouse, built with a legacy from John Newman, contains not only several boats that he designed and built, but also examples of his extraordinary photographs. Members may recall the story of the Newman brothers and their house in Central Saanich. John was a talented photographer who was able to see the beauty in everyday objects and won several international awards for his work. This exhibit is worth the price of a visit alone.

Our hosts served us tea and goodies in the 1913 Saanichton schoolhouse, moved from Mount Newton Cross Road in the 1980s and now used for meetings, school tours, and receptions. One room is furnished as it would have been years ago; the sight of the old *Dick and Jane* series of readers brought back memories to many of those in attendance. During our tea, the Society was presented with an award from the Heritage Society of BC – fitting since Hallmark nominated them for the provincial award. We then thanked our hosts and traveled to Norseman Road.

The British Columbia Aviation Museum was formed to provide visitors with "a world class aviation museum experience." If our visit was

tangible backdrop to this theme.


Hence, the primary interpretive, and hence major marketing themes, would have a local, Provincial and National connection -- themes which we hope will prove universal enough in their appeal to attract capital contributions to this project from a wide variety of sources. There are huge financial and liability issues with the site as it currently exists. The business plan presently being discussed is really just a proposal for an initial operating capability, essentially an order of magnitude estimate of costs to establish a minimal on-site public presence. It assumes nothing more than a portable classroom structure as an info centre/gift shop/restroom, possibly located on adjacent city property, and with site access restricted to scheduled, guided, hard hat tours. It has some very big assumptions:

1. that the site is made available at some nominal fee (\$1/year) from whatever controlling agency is involved;
2. that city zoning and neighbourhood association support for a heritage attraction on the site is forthcoming;
3. that satisfactory liability insurance and public safety/security arrangements can be made;
4. that start up costs can be accrued from any coalition partners in this endeavour;
5. that environmental contamination issues can be resolved to the satisfaction of federal and provincial agencies whose involvement will be triggered by any change or modification of use, especially in a public access way.

It is a tall order, and I am aware than many of the local enthusiasts tend to brush these issues aside in their fervor to save the site.

The original proposal outlined in a vision summary prepared in 1995 suggested that the former CP Transport site opposite the E&N

Roundhouse National Historic Site area, be incorporated as a transportation hub for renewed railway service/bus depot as well as the location of a modern interpretive facility for the roundhouse site itself. It also proposed that the museum pursue acquisition of the Janion Hotel, a vacant (but privately owned) building which abuts the end of track property of the E&N railway on Store Street. For many decades that was the headquarters for the E&N Land Company which administered the land grant acquired with the railway, and the CPR companies associated with it (for example, the Pacific Logging Company). I mention this latter item only because that building remains a viable heritage project in its own right, and will doubtless be a consideration when end of track/blue railway bridge issues are on the table.

As I have already pointed out, there are significant hurdles from seismic/fire/safety perspective for what is essentially a disused industrial site with many pitfalls (literally!) for the unwary and significant environmental contamination issues. The potential costs of developing a museum on such an extended site, even without these hurdles, will be in the millions, although progress may perhaps be better measured not so much in terms of how much but how long. In an ideal world, both sites (that is, the CP Transport warehouse and property, and the E&N Roundhouse site and buildings) would be donated to an appropriate charitable agency and the ball could start rolling. I am a realist however and recognize that this is unlikely. A 'partial' commercial development of the E&N Roundhouse NHS is not likely to be supported by the railway groups, and in any event would abrogate the NHS designation, which recognizes both the historical and architectural significance of the site as an integrated whole. 

AWARD NOMINATION

Category of nomination (tick one)

- Award of Merit
- Communication Award
- Mark Madoff Medal
- Michael Williams Award
- President's Award

Nominee _____

Mailing
Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Project
Address _____

Project details (attach up to one full page)

Nominator _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Attach supporting documents including photographs or slides, press clippings, letters of support, to substantiate the nomination. Deadline is January 31, 2006. Late nominations may not be accepted.

Mail to: Hallmark Society Awards Jury c/o 810 Linden Avenue, Victoria, BC V8V 4G9.

E&N Roundhouse NHS

History of Proposals and Thematic Interpretation Suggestions

by Tim Lomas

Editor's note: This is background material which was sent to MP Keith Martin in response to threats to this nationally designated site, one of only three intact roundhouses in Canada, the only one west of Ontario, and unique for its age and style, with direct connections (through the railway services) to Sir John A. MacDonald and Canadian Confederation. Mr. Martin has responded and there has been some interest from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Historical Synopsis.

A variety of proposals for heritage preservation/museums have been put forward for the roundhouse site over the years. In the early 1970's, the then Provincial Museum proposed a railway museum for the site. This went no farther than discussions as a trial balloon, but 'as found' drawings were made of the roundhouse building itself and still exist somewhere. A more concerted effort was made around 1985-86 when a city councilor, John Cooper, generated a lot of publicity for a heritage facility involving the roundhouse. His group even managed to assemble a 'heritage work train' of sorts – boxcars, cabooses, flatcars, a Jordan spreader etc. There was no support from local or provincial governments and the proposal died. The assembled railcars were dispersed; most I believe going to the Ladysmith railway museum up island until that effort was closed by the town council.

The following ten years saw a variety of 'wishful thinking' proposals, no more than a few pages each, which were put forward by various rail enthusiast groups in the area. In 1994 I was retained by the railway groups as a consultant to make a more concerted effort in lobbying

for a railway heritage facility, in part because of my involvement as assistant director during the creation and opening of the Revelstoke Railway Museum. The result of my efforts was the creation of a coalition of sorts of those railway enthusiast groups and the establishment of a charitable foundation, The Roundhouse Museum Society, to actually operate a museum facility

on the roundhouse site. The effort was eventually abandoned in 1996 as a result of several factors, including inability to gain any form of access to the site (you can't fundraise for a 'ghost' museum), but also a lack of political support at the Provincial and municipal level. The City of Victoria did provide a small grant but support from outlying municipalities was lacking. The Roundhouse Museum Society currently still exists in a caretaker fashion, in the hopes that there may still be a mechanism to provide site access and begin the process of transforming it into a major heritage attraction.

Current Efforts.

The BC Railway Historical Society has made a small sum available for the preparation of a Business Plan for the site. This in reality will need to be a strategic plan/order of magnitude assessment for a heritage facility. The unknowns of site access and operating costs are so great that it will preclude any meaningful business plan without more information. I have recommended that they do not proceed with a detailed plan (they have asked me to prepare this) until there is more clarity on the relationship of the Island Corridor Foundation's (ICF) potential role, if any, and indeed if the roundhouse site will even be



E & N Roundhouse, boarded up, November 2005.

part of the ICF discussions. There is clearly room for significant City of Victoria participation here since there are related issues such as the Johnson Street railway bridge etc. I have had recent discussions of a very informal nature with the city councilor responsible for heritage, as well as with the director of the Land Conservancy of BC. Both parties have expressed an interest in seeing the site preserved, and may have a role to play in any operating agency/transfer agreement should the site be made available for a heritage attraction development.

At present, the suggestion is that the Roundhouse Museum Society, since it still exists for the purpose of establishing a museum on the site, be used as the managing entity of such a museum. An alternative is available in the form of the E&N Division of the Canadian Railway Heritage Association. There is no need to operate multiple agencies for the site but a dual agency set-up, such as exists at Revelstoke and elsewhere, might be necessary for other reasons. Certainly the local CRHA chapter will be essential if any railway artifacts appropriate to the site are to be made available on loan from CRHA's Delson facility. I would hope, that if the site can be retained for a heritage attraction, that a mechanism could be found to bring the historical CPR #8000 Baldwin Diesel locomotive out to Victoria, perhaps on 'permanent' loan once suitable conservation safeguards were in place

Interpretive Goals

Thematically, the site interpretation would be anchored by two, possibly three, major topics:

1. Industrial change, focusing on the change from

steam to diesel on railways but also in a larger sense the nature of Victoria as a once booming industrial centre (originally BC's primary industrial centre until the arrival of the CPR at Vancouver) and now a much changed post-industrial community. This would also detail the four major railways that once operated in the Victoria area, explore the nature of the Bonanza kings such as Robert Dunsmuir, who built the railway prior to its acquisition and expansion by the CPR, and explore the transition from rail to road to air traffic.

2. The second theme would be Canadian confederation. Since we view the last spike at Cliffside, near Shawnigan Lake north of Victoria, driven by Sir John A. MacDonald, as the final act completing a promise he made in 1873 as Victoria's MP, there is a direct connection to the promises made that brought British Columbia into the Canadian confederation. The railway itself has been the subject of several constitutional legal challenges over passenger service, land grant forestry taxation and other issues.

3. A third major theme has been proposed more recently: A celebration of the Canadian Pacific Railway which of course is synonymous to many with confederation. Given the recent devolution of Canadian Pacific into five separate entities and the disappearance of the CP name/logo from the airline, hotel, telecommunications, trucking and trans-oceanic shipping industries, I anticipate that this would be a very marketable adjunct to any heritage facility, provided of course there was support from your company to pursue this thematic direction. Victoria is an ideal location for this theme given its long connection to BC Coastal Steamships, CP Transport Trucking, and the Empress boats and of course the railway and its telecommunication services. There is also a substantial architectural heritage of CPR built structures still extant in Victoria to provide a