



# THE HALLMARK SOCIETY

Dedicated to Preserving Historic and Architectural Landmarks

P.O. BOX 1204 VICTORIA B.C. V8W 2T6 CANADA

FEBRUARY - MARCH NEWSLETTER

1980

# WE DID IT!



HOUSE MOVING FRIDAY MARCH 14.  
WATCH FOR IT!  
(MEETING STILL ON AT NEW LOCATION)

## JACKSON HOUSE SAVED!

The saving of this house happened only because countless hours of time were spent by Foundation Trustees writing letters, making phone calls, attending meetings and doing plain old leg work. Although we may not be thanking him six months from now, we must give credit to one of our members, Doug Berry, for letting us know that the house was available. Working against a demolition freeze deadline of March 3rd, the biggest problem was to find a suitable new site for the house. (The problem of having no funds to buy a lot if we did find one was safely put away in the dark recesses of our minds.) After searching for

suitable sites, it became evident that the best site - if not the only site - was a parking lot on Parry Street used by government employees. John Keay tackled what almost turned out to be an insurmountable obstacle - getting~ a commitment from someone out of four or five agencies involved in government parking lots to consider our acquisition of the lot.

Russ Irvine, Director of the Heritage Conservation Branch and Executive Director of the B. C. Heritage Trust had given us support from the beginning. at this point he became directly involved in our cause and did a fantastic job in obtaining the support of the Minister responsible, the Hon. Evan Wolfe, arranging meetings of all concerned, and coming up with a proposal satisfactory to everyone. Through his efforts and those of Mike Young and Martin Segger of the B. C. Heritage Trust, the Trust at its February 29 meeting agreed to cover the cost of moving the house (\$25,000) and buying the lot from BCBC (about \$35,000). This will give us time (six months from the time of resiting, approximately September 30, 1980) to raise the \$60,000 to buy the house and property from the Trust on a first refusal basis.

Each of the Trustees has devoted a great amount of time to get the project to this stage. Now it is up to you, the Society members, to actively support the Fund-raising Drive.

Three committees have been struck and all need help. They are:

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE John Keay : chairman. Primarily involved with the practical considerations of moving the house and putting suites in both the basement and the attic to provide revenue.

RESTORATION COMMITTEE Stuart Stark : chairman. Working closely with the Technical Committee, the Restoration Committee is concerned with restoring the 1901 appearance of the house, exterior and Main Floor. This will involve research for accurate results.

FINANCE FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE Jim Lee : chairman Our most important committee will be responsible to raise money, secure grant support and other finances. It will also keep a tight reign on expenditures -to keep the entire project viable.

PUBLICITY / INFORMATION COMMITTEE No chairperson yet. To work closely with the Finance Committee and the press. We need some imaginative people to help here.

TO ALL INTERESTED MEMBERS

COME TO OUR HOUSE

A meeting will be held in the Jackson House on Sunday afternoon, March 16th at 2.00 P.M. (Note: water has been shut off, no toilet available).

If you wish to help save this house in any way (from licking stamps and addressing envelopes, to photography, to research, to securing mortgages at low interest rates) please come to the meeting. This is your chance to see how the house looks NOW.

If you want to help but cannot make the meeting, please phone Stuart Stark 386-0215. A good model of the house (in restored condition) would be extremely useful for Fund Raising Prospective. Model makers please come to the meeting.

THE JACKSON HOUSE - A brief history Built in the summer of 1901, this house was owned by Mary Ann E. Jackson, wife of Richard Jackson, a manager of the Insurance Division of the B. C. Land and Investment Co. Both Jacksons were members of pioneer Victoria families. Richard's parents, Dr. and Mrs. William Jackson came to Victoria around Cape Horn in 1863. Mary Ann's parents were Mr. and Mrs. William White. Richard and Mary Ann lived at 522 Simcoe Street for five years. When they sold the house, it was altered (probably in the 'teens) to provide more accommodation in the attic. At some point the front verandah was boxed in and the front hall extended onto the porch as well. Today, though neglected, the house is sound and has several fine interior features, including a

double parlour/dining room with sliding doors. Each of the main rooms features a wide bay window, and nearly all mouldings are intact. The exterior detailing is quite special and unlike any other house in Victoria. It will be especially attractive when painted as it was in the summer of 1901.

AWARDS NIGHT - Sunday, February 17, 1980 A highly successful night -- elegant surroundings -- 150 guests. Thanks to Angele Segger, Candy Wyatt for convening and food, Bruce Gibson Bean for the flower arrangements, Philip Graham for photos, and to all who helped serve wine and food and take tickets. Special thanks to the Conservatory of Music students Susan Grant-Evans and Arnie Sahlen who supplied such pleasant piano accompaniment, and to David Bulmer who arranged for them to come. Thanks too to the 'Colonist' and CHEK-TV for their excellent news coverage.

Our most coveted award - The Louis Award to:

- The Society for the Preservation and Maintenance Of Craigdarroch Castle, for "saving Victoria's landmark residence".

Awards of Merit to:

- Sharie and John Hayes for "a sympathetic adaption" of 1765 Rockland, a 1913 Maclure house into seven suites.
- Constance and Foster Isherwood for "a meticulous restoration and adaptive reuse of 1192 Fort Street. (The circa 1892 Walter Walker house)
- Les and Shirley Beach for "an enthusiastic restoration" of their residence at 215 Wilson Street. ('Wilsmere' - an 1890's Victoria West house)
- Dick and Anne Zeer for "the continuing preservation" of a turn of the century Metchosin farrnhouse at 3670 Happy Valley Road.
- William Gidden and John Gidden for a "sympathetic addition" to 605 Courtney Street. (1903 Metropolitan Block, Thos. Hooper, architect.)

As a Patron of the Heritage Building Foundation, His Honour Henry P. Bell-Irving presented the First Annual Peter Cotton Memorial Competition Book Prizes. The



Theme this year was "Finding History in Houses", and the winners were : Cecile Hambleton, a Grade 6 student at St. Patrick's School, for best visual presentation, and Christa Zimakas, a Grade 7 student at Norfolk House School, for best written presentation.

Congratulations again to all the Winners!

LOST & FOUND - If you lost a blue and gold scarf at Awards Night, we found it. Phone Stuart" 386-0215. Our January 30th General Meeting was excellent and well attended. So much is being planned (and achieved) this year and there were many reports given, volunteers enlisted, and coffee and tea served, and "Europa Nostra" a film reinforcing everyone's enthusiasm for the Society's work was shown.

#### HERITAGE FAIR MAYFAIR MALL

The Fair that ran for the week of February 4th to 9th, 1980, was a great success. All the groups that put on displays were very happy with the great interest shown by the public in the displays. The Mayfair Mall management complimented the professional way that the Fair had been handled. Take a bow Hallmark Society! The Hallmark booth and display brought a lot of comment and questions - some doozies - and much interest was shown in our Inventory, and people joined.

#### WELCOME to 44 New Members

Many thanks to all members who helped, and especially to members of the Newcomers Club who turned out to assist at the Hallmark booth. Thank you : Mark and Cathie Aitken, Dodie Arter, Kerry Armour, Connie Barkes, Carole Bergh, Peggy Burnand, Jay Coulter, Rosemary Cross, Mary Emerson, Catherine Hodgins, Diana Kane, Ramona McElroy, Betty MacDonald, Jean McInnes, Peggy Marian, Tom and Betty Mayne, Bill Murphy, Don Reksten, Bert Rowe, Dorothy Rikli, Eleanor Smith, Stuart Stark, Isla Tuck, Peter Walton, Jill Sewell.

The Cityscape Committee Chairperson Peter Walton reports it is now proceeding well. Members are working on a variety of interests heritage legislation, historic

street furniture and streetscapes; progress in preservation in Greater Victoria municipalities; reviewing the Society's inventory with a view to publishing it.

The next meeting of the Cityscape Committee is Tuesday, March 25th at 8.00 P.M. New members are welcome to work on any of the above projects or one of your own. (Phone Peter at 386-6102)

#### PORT TOWNSEND WEEKEND BUS TOUR - MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 1980

Don't miss this fun weekend in historic Port Townsend, Wash. viewing its heritage buildings, browsing through antique shops and relaxing on the waterfront (for 5 minutes maybe!) We will tour inside as many houses as we can and will certainly visit such landmarks as Starrett House, Manresa Castle, the D.C.H. Rothschild House, the Customs Building, the Jefferson County Historical Society Museum (in the City Hall), Port Wilson Lighthouse and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A tentative itinerary is as follows:

May 31	Lv. Victoria, MV "Coho"	10:30 a.m.
	Ar. Port Townsend	1:00 p.m.
	Lunch, etc.	1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
	House tours	2:30 to 5:00 (?)
	To Fort Worden accommodation	
June 1	House tours	10:00 to 12:00 a.m.
	Lunch	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
	House tours or free time	1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
	Lv. Port Townsend	3:30 p.m.
	Lv. Port Angeles	5:15 p.m.
	Ar. Victoria	6:40 p.m.

This fabulous weekend will only cost \$30 to \$40 (Canadian) per person, not including meals, but including transportation (rental 18 passenger school buses or passenger vans) and accommodation at Fort Worden on the outskirts of Port Townsend. There are number of choices re room and meals that you will have to decide in advance. (See Reservation Form on last page)

#### ACCOMMODATION

We have booked one 6 bedroom (2 1/2 baths) and four 3 bedroom (1 bath) houses at Fort Worden. These Victorian houses are the old Officers Quarters and are situated on tree-lined "Officers Row" near the beach, and face on the grassy Parade Ground. These facilities include a fully-equipped kitchen, living room and dining room. (See Reservation Form on last page). We must have your booking (i.e. money in) by March 28th at the latest so that we can decide if this tour is going to be "economically viable". If there are not enough bookings, we will have to cancel and refund your deposit. Phone Don Reksten, 592-3512 between 6 and 7.30 p.m. on weekdays, anytime weekends, for more information.

Programs offered at the Newcombe Auditorium this month and of interest to our members are:

Saturday, March 8th Main Street and Europa Nostra.

Two excellent films examining our architectural heritage.. Damage, destruction and the various methods adopted to preserve buildings are shown. 8.00 p.m. Free admission.

Friday, March 14th Victoria Builds A well illustrated talk by award winning authors Martin Segger and Doug Franklin. The social history of Victoria'S architecture, monographs of well known buildings and suggested tour routes will be presented. 8.00 p.m. Free admission.

Saturday, March 29th Victorian Architects and Architecture

A presentation of four half hour B.B.C. films with Sir John Betjeman. Well known Victorian era architects and their works are examined. 8.00 p.m. Admission free.

"Instead of a Meeting" Because of the Jackson House pressure, your Executive is unable to present a General Meeting in March. Instead we urge members to attend Stuart Stark's talk at the Newcombe Auditorium on March 30th. at 2.00 p.m. in the afternoon. Admission is free. Stuart will give an illustrated talk on Oh, What a Lovely House. Afterwards there will be a short walking tour of the James Bay area. Be sure and attend.

**VOLUNTEERS** We have 4 or 5 people from Hallmark ready to conduct the above walking tours of James Bay after Stuart's talk. We could use 4 or 5 more. Instructions and write-ups will be given to all volunteers. Tour will go past the Jackson House, and will provide us with an ideal opportunity to spread the good word.

**REMEMBER THESE DATES** March 16. Come and see our house this Sunday 2 p.m. 522 Simcoe Street March 28. Have your trip money by this date.