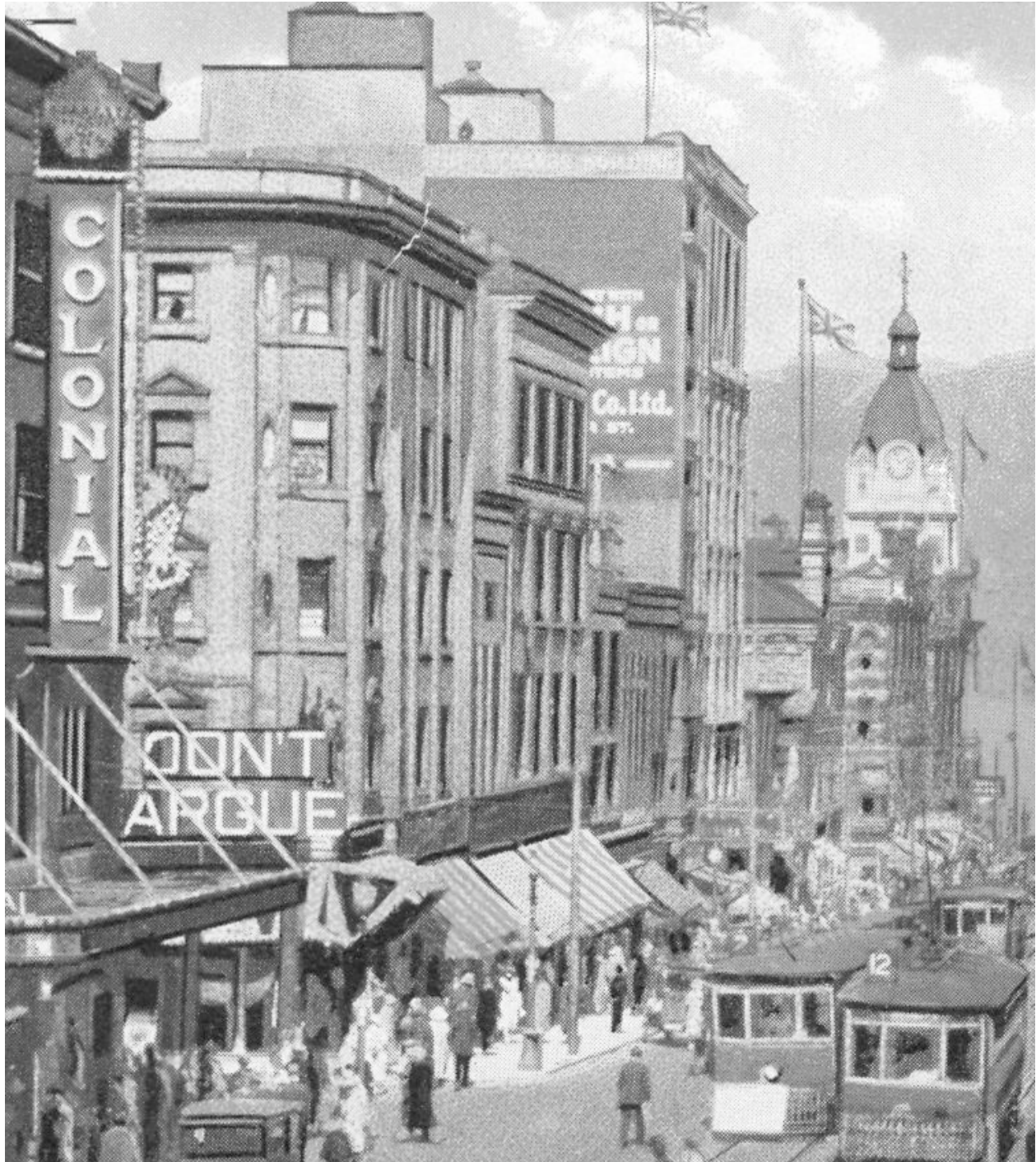
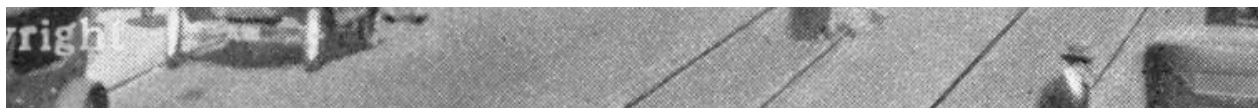


British Columbia **HISTORY**

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This Issue: Tribute to Anne Yandle | Fraser Canyon Park | Bells | and More



British Columbia History

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John Atkin,
921 Princess Avenue, Vancouver BC V6A 3E8
e-mail: johnatkin@shaw.ca

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Please submit books for review to:

Frances Gundry
PO Box 5254, Station B., Victoria BC V8R 6N4

Subscription & subscription information:

Alice Marwood
8056 168A Street, Surrey B C V4N 4Y6
Phone 604-576-1548
e-mail amarwood@telus.net

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British Columbia Historical Federation

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Patricia Roy - 602-139 Clarence St., Victoria, BC, V8V 2J1
proy@uvic.ca

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FAX 250.227.9449
lymbery@netidea.com

Second Vice President

Webb Cummings - 924 Bellevue St., New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0 Phone 250.358.2656
wwcummings@telus.net

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kpwelwood@shaw.ca

Members at Large

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coxtony@shaw.ca

Lorraine Irving - 1131 East 23rd Ave., Vancouver, BC, V5V 1Y8 Phone 604.874.8748
Loir1824@aol.com

Ex-Officio

Past President

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jgresko@telus.net

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bhynek@telus.net

"Any country worthy of a future should be interested in its past"
W. Kaye Lamb, 1937

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The British Columbia Historical Federation awards two scholarships annually for essays written by students at BC colleges or universities, on a topic relating to British Columbia history. One scholarship (\$750) is for an essay written by a student in a first or second year course; the other (\$1000) is for an essay written by a student in a third or fourth year course.

To apply for the scholarship all candidates must submit (1) a letter of application and (2) a letter of recommendation from the professor for whom the essay was written. First and second year course essays should be 1,500-3,000 words; third and fourth year, 1,500 to 5,000 words. All essays must be on a topic relating to the history of British Columbia. By entering the scholarship competition the student gives the editor of BC History the right to edit and publish the essay if it is deemed appropriate for the magazine.

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A Certificate of Merit and fifty dollars will be awarded annually to the author of the article, published in BC History, that best enhances knowledge of British Columbia's history and provides reading enjoyment. Judging will be based on subject development, writing skill, freshness of material, and appeal to a general readership interested in all aspects of BC history.

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Remembering Anne

Anne McMaster (Carson) Yandle, 1930-2006

One October, Anne Yandle took the ferry to Gabriola Island to participate in a tribute to Malcolm Lowry and his final novel, *October Ferry to Gabriola*. When her turn came to speak, she stood with folded arms, twinkling eyes, sly smile, and with the lilt of Irish laughter in her voice turned her presentation, dryly entitled "The Lowry Collection at UBC" into something warm and meaningful for every one in her audience of scholars, collections, writers, librarians, artists, assorted bookworms, and a representative group of Lowry's friends and neighbours.

She began with a little about herself, "In 1961, I was a fairly recent immigrant and knew little about Canadian literature. I was interested in Canadiana, and took the position in Special Collections because, to me, it was the best job in the library, the best job in B.C."

Then, as she spoke about the Lowry Collection, how it came to be, how it developed, and the people involved, she, perhaps inadvertently, revealed how her unique blend of hard work, people skills, canniness and sheer charm, made her a beloved and respected doyenne of the book community, and a magnificently successful fund raiser.

While presiding over and nurturing the books, manuscripts, and memorabilia, she found their intrinsic value enhanced by their human associations. We who have enjoyed her kindly hospitality, appreciate the understatement in her remark, "Although I don't operate a hotel, many of these people have stayed at my house from time to time and have become firm friends." Some guests tried her patience more than others, like the Lowry biographer who "burned gallons of midnight oil and drank pints of her gin telling her about his detective work in piecing together his book." But they provided material for the wicked and witty stories with which she spiced her conversation.

And she did like to talk about people. When I moved to Gabriola from Vancouver, she became my major source of news. Our final exchange of e-mails concerned two sets of mutual friends who seem about to live

happily ever after. She found us interesting, amusing, and for the most part likeable. Researchers whom other librarians considered tediously obsessed, she enjoyed for those obsessions, and usually managed to earth in their particular interest something to benefit Special Collections. She loved connections, putting people in touch with each other, even matching the right book with the right reviewer, not necessarily the most favourably deposed reviewer.

Of course, she tended much more than the Lowry Collection. A browse of the UBC Rare Books and Special Collections web page turns up documents from Canadian authors, Pre-Raphaelites, trade unions, political parties, explorers and pioneers and writers of books for children. She took an interest and delight in every part of her trust, preserving and adding to the collections, and sharing her interest and delight. She once led me deep into the stacks to gaze upon an *Alice in Wonderland* illustrated by Salvador Dali. One could not predict what might strike her as wonderful.

When I first came to know her well, in the late 70s, British Columbia was gearing up to celebrate the Captain Cook Bicentenary. Anne would come to coffee break full of excitement about rare editions of the *Journeys*, and anecdotes about historians and geographers. But it was not only the Very Important Explorers and Eminent Scholars who mattered to her.

While appreciative of the achievements and contributions of professional historians, scholars, and writers, she valued the little community histories and self-published personal memoirs, and believed the mandate of the large British Columbia libraries should include collecting British Columbia publications. After her retirement she used her new freedom to find these modest documents and bully libraries into acquiring them. Through Marco Polo Books, which she and Jill Rowland started after her retirement, and their catalogues and displays at book fairs exhibitions and conferences, notably the Annual Conference of the British Columbia Historical

Federation, she publicized and promoted the printed record of the province and its people.

She had an infinite capacity for friendship. She visited us when we were sick and empathized with our triumphs and disappointments. She loved Bard on the Beach and concerts at the Chan Centre. She cared about books and buildings and people and fair play. She cared about us.

We miss her very much.

Phyllis Reeve

Anne Yandle had many friends who were interested in British Columbia's history; and she frequently introduced those who shared this common interest. Often this happened to me and in one case the individual involved was Dr. W. Kaye Lamb.

While I was working at Selkirk College, Anne contacted me at the Library in late 1997, to ascertain whether or not we would be interested in receiving complete sets of Champlain Society (including the Ontario series) and Hudson's Bay Record Society publications. The major BC public university libraries already had these publications and did not wish to have duplicate copies. Such a collection was deemed to be a most useful asset for college faculty and student researchers, so arrangements were made with Dr. Lamb's daughter, Elizabeth Hawkins, to ship the books from Ottawa to Castlegar, naturally, an inventory was taken when the shipment arrived.

During this evaluation, it was discovered that the provenance of the collection was historical in more ways than one. The earlier imprints were originally the property of Dr. Lamb's friend, Judge F.W. Howay and when Dr. Lamb inherited the collection he continued to subscribe to the same series number. It also became evident that a few of the titles relating to British Columbia were not included in the shipment e.g. David Thompson's Narrative and the Journal of Lady Aberdeen. It was assumed that Dr. Lamb had packed them in his move back to Vancouver —this assumption

proved to be correct.

In May 1998, while attending the BC Historical Federation's Surrey conference, Anne and I visited Dr. Lamb at his West End apartment. He was bedridden, but alert and loquacious. After the usual introductory small talk (he was my first library employer as the National Librarian of Canada), I broached the topic of the missing titles and vividly remember his cryptic response: "Greedy bugger aren't you!" This remark took both of us completely by surprise, but we frequently had a chuckle about it whenever we met.

Selkirk College Library did receive these "missing" books to complete the set where they are now safely shelved in a locked, glass cabinet.

R.J. (Ron) Welwood

It is with great sadness that the members of the Vancouver Historical Society and the British Columbia Historical Federation mourn the death of Anne Yandle, one of their longest serving members. Anne died of cancer on December 12th, 2006 after a comparatively short illness.

Anne was born near Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, December 27, 1930. She grew up there with her two brothers Robert and David. She received her B.A and B.Com at Trinity College Dublin before coming to Canada in the late 1950s. Anne worked briefly at the Vancouver Public Library before attending McGill University School of Librarianship. Her career as a member of the Special Collections Division of the University of British Columbia Library began on July 1961. By the time of her retirement in 1991, Anne had developed one of the most outstanding research collections in North America with special emphasis on British Columbia history and literature.

Very soon after settling in Vancouver, Anne joined the Vancouver Historical Society where she became one of the most active members. Anne's love for history, especially that of her province, was always reflected in her work. As W. Kaye Lamb wrote in 1937, "any country worthy of a

future should be interested in the past".

Anne served on many committees and through her various contacts she was always able to suggest names for speakers and projects. One of the most important projects was the Vancouver Bibliography which was published in four volumes in 1986. It is now on-line at the University of British Columbia as a result of Anne's efforts.

Anne and her husband Phil published and edited the *BC Historical News* (now *BC History*) for more than ten years. Anne also began to edit the book review section of the *News* which she continued until her death. After her retirement, Anne and her friend Jill Rowland established Marco Polo Books. The collection was always heavily oriented to BC history and travel. Anne always had a table at the annual conference of the BCHF where she met friends and made new acquaintances. Anne was a wonderful friend. She gave support to all who needed help. Her home was always open to everyone.

Anne lived life to the fullest, enjoying travel, music, opera, theater and outdoor activities. Although Anne maintained membership in many societies, she gave most of her support over the years to the Vancouver Historical Society and the BCHF. Both organizations and her many friends have suffered a great loss.

Melva Dwyer

Anne Carson was born in Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, on 29 December 1930, and died in Windermere Hospice on 12 December 2006. After obtaining her degree in Commerce in Dublin, she came to Canada. She worked as a library assistant for Vancouver Public Library before leaving to attend McGill Library School. After graduation in 1961, she was hired, along with two classmates, to work in the University of British Columbia Library. She worked in Special Collections, which Basil Stuart-Stubbs confidently left her in charge when he became University Librarian. Anne was responsible for the development of the many fine collections, including British Columbia and Canadian history, early children's literature,

and for encouraging her colleagues to build the manuscript collections, University Archives, and the historical maps and cartographic archives, and she was one of the first librarians to see the value of ephemera and alternative literature.

Anne built up relationships with both the antiquarian and new book dealers around the province, and with leading dealers around the world. On her sabbatical year, she spent six months working with dealers in England, and six months at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington, New Zealand. She was one of the founding members of the Special Collections Interest Group of the Canadian Library Association, and served as president of the council of the Bibliographic Society of Canada.

Anne was very well-known in the Irish community in Vancouver, and provided a home-away-from-home for many visitors and new residents. When it became known that a special reproduction of the Book of Kells was to be undertaken, the Irish in Vancouver gathered money to buy a copy for Special Collections, and had a special stand built to display the book.

Anne was well known, and well thought of, across the campus, and around the city and province, and she had friends across the country and around the world. When she took early retirement in December 1991, many people from the Library, SLAIS, the Irish community in Vancouver, book dealers and others from off-campus were in attendance. She was active in her retirement in the Alcuin Society, the Bibliographical Society of Canada, the British Columbia Historical Society - later the Federation (continuing her interest in the *British Columbia Historical News*, now *British Columbia History*, which Anne and her husband Phil had founded), the Friends of Simon Fraser University Library, the Friends of Vancouver City Archives, the Friends of the British Columbia Archives, and running Marco Polo Books. Anne left us with one of the most notable special collections in North America, a wonderful collection that should be the pride-and-joy of the University of British Columbia.

Frances M. Woodward

Stanley Park's Lost Garden

Reclaiming a Lost Landmark

By Charles Hay

Chris Hay is a UBC graduate with majors in both history and anthropology. This background proved most useful with the long research into the history of the rock garden.

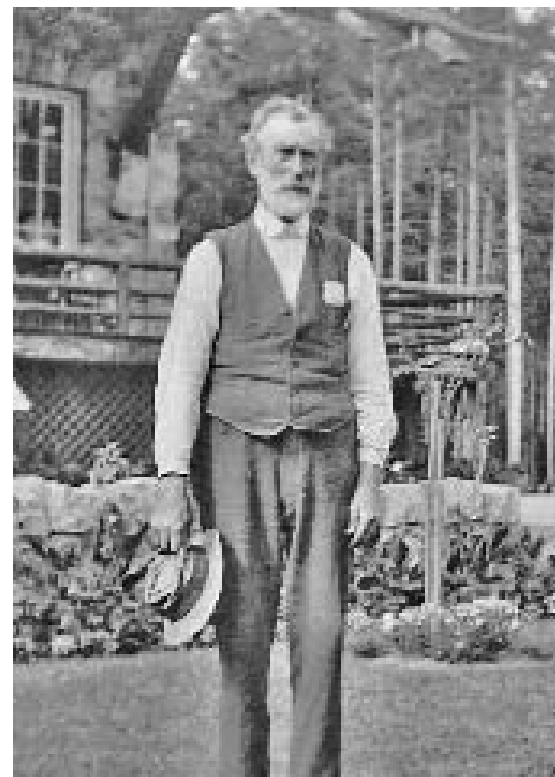
UPDATE: Chris has had good publicity about the garden in the local and national media. And the wind storms earlier this year, which damaged much of the park, also revealed more of the Rock garden. It would seem much more of it exists than previously thought.

Vancouver's Stanley Park is well known for its many attractions such as Siwash Rock, Lumberman's Arch, Lost Lagoon and the Hollow Tree. However, few people remember or are aware of a garden that was once the park's feature attraction and a source of civic pride in the young city. Overgrown and unknown today, the Stanley Park rock garden was entirely the creation of one man, John Montgomery. He began work on the garden in 1911 and at the time of his death in 1920 it had grown to an amazing size and prominence. Yet, somehow the exact location and significance of this garden was forgotten until recent research into the family history of John Montgomery shed new light on it.

For almost 120 years Stanley Park has served its citizens well not only as a playground and naturalist's delight but also as a focus of civic pride. In 1886 Vancouver's first city council petitioned the federal government for the lease of 1,000 acres (400 hectares) of this former military reserve for park use.¹ The request was granted and on September 27, 1888 the park was officially opened and named in honour of the then Governor General of Canada, Lord Stanley² who dedicated the park in person on October 29 the following year.³

In the early 1900s the City of Vancouver was experiencing tremendous growth. As the population increased from 24,750 people in 1900 to 93,700 in 1910⁴ and the park became more popular, late in 1910, the Vancouver Parks Board started to plan a large entertainment area within the park⁵ near the entrance at Coal Harbour where a small refreshment pavilion (1905)⁶ and bandstand had outlived their usefulness. The Board decided to relocate and replace the bandstand and to demolish the old pavilion and build a new one.⁷ After much deliberation over several different pavilion designs, the board selected Otto Moberg as the architect to design both the pavilion and the bandstand.⁸ The rustic chateau-style pavilion measuring 133 feet by 53 feet was to be constructed with an exterior of stone on the lower floors, half-sawn logs for the upper floor and was to be surrounded by a spacious open verandah.⁹ The landscape plan included spacious lawns, ornamental plantings, lily pond, pathways and a substantial bandstand.

In March, 1911 the board decided to proceed with construction and called for tenders. Ulysses G. Patterson was the successful bidder. Work proceeded quickly and by May the bandstand was open. Although the pavilion was completed later that same year it was not officially opened to the public until



May 4, 1913. By the end of 1914 the lawns and gardens surrounding the pavilion were finished.¹⁰

In the early years many Vancouver citizens contributed to the evolution of Stanley Park. Unfortunately, as time passed, many of their achievements and stories have been forgotten. One such story was the important and lasting contribution made by a Scotsman John Montgomery. Montgomery was born in Strachur Argyll, Scotland on March 24, 1844.¹¹ He was apprenticed as a butcher and eventually opened his own shop in Peebles. On September 17, 1873 John married Barbara Allan Campbell¹² and together they raised a family of nine children. With the success of his business he soon became a councillor and Dean of Guild for the Town of Peebles. After his children had grown John concentrated on his great passion of landscape gardening and "possessed a very fine garden of his own".¹³

With four of their children having immigrated to North America, John and his wife soon contemplated it as well. Their eldest son John had left the British navy in Esquimalt and became a quartermaster aboard the ill-fated steamship *Valencia* which, sank in January 1906 off the west coast of Vancouver Island with the tragic loss of 136 lives,¹⁴

Charles Montgomery standing in front of the Stanley Park Pavilion
Author's Collection (below)

Charles and visitors in the upper Rock Garden, 1917
Author's Collection (right)



(this tragedy resulted in the building of the West Coast Lifesaving Trail on the coast of Vancouver Island). As well, John and Barbara's eldest daughter Annie, a trained nurse, had arrived in Vancouver in 1898 and had married Malcolm Griffith a successful contractor. With the encouragement of Annie and the financial backing of her husband the family was eventually persuaded to emigrate.

On June 18, 1908 Montgomery, his wife Barbara and two of his younger daughters sailed on the maiden voyage of the Allan Line's *SS Hesperian* from Glasgow to Montreal, arriving in Vancouver by train three days later.¹⁵ For several years the family ran a rooming house at 1232 Hornby Street¹⁶ in downtown Vancouver. Nearby stood Stanley Park whose majestic beauty had captivated John from the time of his arrival in the city. Montgomery visited Stanley Park regularly and in 1909 at the age of 65 applied for a position as park gardener. The Vancouver Park Board who recognized his remarkable gardening expertise eagerly accepted his application.¹⁷ By early 1916 the Montgomery family had moved to 1560 Comox Street so John would be closer to his daily work in Stanley Park. This early West End residence survives and is listed on the Vancouver Heritage Register.¹⁸

Excavations for the foundation of the new pavilion had left an unsightly heap of boulders that concerned the park commissioners. While working in the area, Montgomery noticed this pile of rocks and saw an opportunity to use it. When he asked, the commissioners told him that they planned to bury the rocks in a deep hole. Montgomery responded, "Why they are priceless? let me have them," as he proposed to build a rockery. The commissioners, likely startled by this unusual request, accepted his suggestion and instructed Montgomery to lay out a sample for them. On seeing it, the commissioners told him to "carry on" and soon gave him complete responsibility for the design and upkeep of the rock garden.¹⁹

Starting on the north side of the pavilion, Montgomery used an irregular ravine as a foundation for the gardens. Boulders were placed on the slope of the ravine and added adjoining rock-lined pathways to form a feature garden of much magnificence. Several rose covered arbours arching over the meandering pathways greatly enhanced its elegance. Simple yet effective, these rustic structures added that extra element of beauty to the garden surroundings.

The 1914 Vancouver Park Commissioners Annual Report described the "the principal feature of the scheme being the layout of a sunken rock garden, in which almost every kind of rock plant, flower, water lily and various flowering shrubs are planted."²⁰ The rock garden was adorned with a wide variety of perennials such as rock iris, alpinas and various heathers, likely many from Montgomery's native Scotland. Some of the larger flowering plants included rhododendrons, azaleas and roses. These were well placed among larger evergreen shrubs and trees giving a welcoming balance with the many other varieties of plants throughout the rock garden. The floral diversity of the rock garden was complimented by many special rock plants obtained from Europe.²¹ A 1927 *Vancouver Sunday Province* feature article entitled "Where Spring Carpets the Rocks with Bloom and Verdure" described the garden's skillful composition as follows:

*So cleverly, so carefully, has the rock garden been built, grounded with greenery of tender plants and fern-like wild ones. There, one will notice, things are planted in longish drifts, and not in clumps or patches, the length of the drift going with the natural stratification. Again, as the season advances, one will notice the further care in selecting the plants whose colours will harmonize with the corner of the rockery to which they have been assigned.*²²

Notes

Abbreviations: BPC (Board of Park Commissioners); COV (City of Vancouver); VPB (Vancouver Park Board - includes: Board of Parks, Board of Parks and Public Recreation) All of these records are located in the City of Vancouver Archives (CVA).

1. BPC, *Fourth Annual Report*, 1914-1915, 8.
2. *The Daily News Advertiser* [Vancouver], September 28, 1888, 4
3. Stanley Park Dedication, January 1958, AM0054.013.04329, CVA
4. BPC, *First Annual Report*, 1911, 67.
5. VPB Minutes, November 9, 1910, 157-158; November 23, 1910, 162-163; *Daily News Advertiser*, November 24, 1910, 1&7
6. VPB Minutes, March 8, 1905, 268; March 22, 1905, 269; April 12, 1905, 270.
7. BPC Second Annual Report, 1912, 44.
8. VPB Minutes, January 25, 1911, 179; February 22, 1911, 184; March 8, 1911, 190.
9. *The Daily Province*, [Vancouver], February 27, 1911, 13
10. VPB Minutes, March 8, 1911, 190 and March 22, 1911; *Daily News-Advertiser*, March 23, 1911, .1; BPC *First Annual Report*, 1911, 22 and *Third Annual Report*, 1913, 17 and *Annual Report*, 1914, 9.
11. John Montgomery, Birth, March 24, 1844, Parish Church Registers, Strachur, Argyll, Scotland
12. John Montgomery, Barbara A. Campbell, Marriage, November 26, 1873, Parish Church Registers, Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland

13. *Daily World*, [Vancouver], March 16, 1920, 9

14. Wreck of the Steamer Valencia, *Report to the President of the Federal Commission of Investigation*, April 14, 1906, (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1906), 9

15. Montgomery Family Documents, Author's Collection

16. "John Montgomery," *Henderson's City of Vancouver Directory*, 1910, 395

17. VPB Minutes, March 24, 1920, 2 [130]; Canada Census 1911, Vancouver, B.C., District 9, 4; *Daily World*, March 16, 1920, 9.

18. Elizabeth Letitia Montgomery, Marriage Certificate, Peebles, Scotland, November 25, 1905; "1560 Comox Street," City of Vancouver Heritage Register, October, 2005, 15

19. *Daily Province*, February 27, 1911, 13 and March 18, 1920, 6; *Daily World*, March 16, 1920, 9; J. Mitchell Boyd, Editorial, *Vancouver Sunday Province*, April 3, 1927, 9

20. BPC Annual Report, 1914, 9.

21. VPB Annual Report, 1921, 11.

22. *Vancouver Sunday Province*, March 27, 1927, 1.

23. BPC Fourth Annual Report, 1914 -1915, 32 and VPB Minutes - Memorandum Re-Framing the Estimates for the Year 1916, February 21, 1916.

24. "John Montgomery," *Daily World*, March 16, 1920, 16; VPB Minutes, March 24, 1920, 2;

25. *The Vancouver Sun*, July 7, 1934, 19; *Daily Province*, July 7, 1934, 16.

26. *Daily World*, Vancouver, March 18, 1920, 11.

27. BPC Annual Report, 1920, 12-13.



By 1915 this incredible garden stretched almost a mile. Starting near the Coal Harbour entrance to Stanley Park at the main park drive, it followed the north edge of the pavilion grounds, continued back behind the pavilion and eventually joined up with Pipeline Road. In 1916 there was a further significant expansion to the north of the rock garden in the flat land leading down to Coal Harbour.²³ Many visitors to the nearby pavilion and bandstand would have been enticed by the colour and variety of plants to enjoy the peaceful surroundings away from the activity of the main lawn. These plants and foliage, visible in later postcards, show the lavish beauty of the garden at the height of its splendour. Such observations clearly recognized Montgomery's talents as a master gardener and his remarkable skill to transform this once overlooked area to a major destination within Stanley Park.

Montgomery worked daily on these rock gardens as a park employee from the time of the pavilion's construction in 1911 until his death on March 20, 1920 at age 74. His death brought recognition for all that he had achieved. The Park Board noted his contribution at their monthly meeting on March 24, 1920 and in the local newspaper. Many other tributes appeared in the local newspapers recognizing Montgomery's amazing contribution.²⁴

Many family members, friends and dignitaries including Superintendent of Parks William S. Rawlings and Allen S. Wootton (park civil engineer who later designed the Malkin Bowl)²⁵ and representatives for the park commissioners and employees attended the funeral as did Montgomery's friend and fellow park employee Joe Fortes the well known lifeguard at English Bay beach.²⁶

The 1920 Parks Board Annual Report again paid homage to their recently deceased employee John Montgomery. It stated:

This garden representing as it does one of the outstanding features of our park system, extends for a mile, and to try and maintain it with only one regular gardener is to attempt the impossible, if it is to be kept to the standard worthy of its importance. At least one extra man will in future have to be allotted to this work. Its contents represent the work of years' accumulation and development, and are far too valuable to risk deterioration and loss through lack of proper attention.²⁷

Unfortunately this view did not last and for unknown reasons, in the early 1960's, the rock garden was abandoned although many of its stone foundations remain in place. This could have been a result of cost cutting measures, other emerging garden priorities or, perhaps, simply a result of ever increasing shade from the large trees surrounding this north facing garden. This once highly regarded park



*The Rock Garden pictured in a booklet published for the City's Jubilee in 1936
Frank Gowen photograph
(far left)*

*The Stanley Park Pavilion and the garden photographed in 1916
Frank Gowen photograph
Author's Collection (left)*

rock garden eventually became just a memory.

John Montgomery held a prominent role in both the development of Stanley Park and in the city itself. His rock garden lasted as a major tourist and visitor site in the park for more than 50 years.²⁸ Referred to by various names over the years — rock garden, rockery, sunken garden and grotto — it was featured in postcards and tourist booklets from as early as 1916.²⁹ Both the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Parks Board featured pictures of it in various annual reports over the years.

Adjacent to these former magnificent rock gardens stood the Stanley Park Pavilion which the City of Vancouver now lists as a “Class A” heritage building. In 1924 the pavilion had a new addition completed on its south side containing a ballroom on its upper floor and a dining area below.³⁰ Recently renovated in 2005-06, the pavilion still holds a prominent and prestigious position in the daily activities of Stanley Park.

The grounds surrounding the pavilion also have historical significance. On September 22, 1919, Edward Prince of Wales, later King Edward VIII, gave a speech from the pavilion bandstand. He commended the excellent services rendered by the city and province during World War I and awarded decorations to many soldiers or their next of kin. The

crowd at this event was noted as being the largest ever assembled in the history of Vancouver. On July 26, 1923 President Warren Harding, the first United States president to visit Canada while in office, spoke from the pavilion bandstand to an equally large and enthusiastic crowd. Following his untimely death a week later, a large memorial was dedicated to his memory on September 16, 1925. It faced the north side of the bandstand where Harding had given his last public speech. The bandstand was replaced in 1934 by the Marion Malkin Memorial Bowl, an outdoor amphitheatre.³¹

Just to the north of the pavilion and in its shadow lies an equally valuable legacy, the rock garden. It was a testament to the thoughts and dreams of John Montgomery who was able to see the beauty in something as simple as some discarded rocks and then create from them a most magnificent garden. Unfortunately, unlike the other surrounding heritage features John Montgomery's work has been allowed to fade away. The one-hundredth anniversary of the rock garden is fast approaching. If the remaining portion is recognized as an historic site and dedicated to its creator John Montgomery, future generations will be able to appreciate his work and remember the outstanding contribution of an early citizen of Vancouver. •

28. VPB Annual Report, 1960, 63&65.

29. Stanley Park Rock Garden, Postcard, 1916, F. Gowen (Official Park Photographer), Author's Collection

30. 610 Pipeline Road, [Pavilion], City of Vancouver Heritage Register, October, 2005, 23; BPC Annual Report and Financial Statement, 1923, 40-41 and BPC Annual Report and Financial Statement, 1924, 33.

31. *Daily World*, September 22, 1919, 1 & 14; *Daily Sun*, September 23, 1919, 2; *Daily World*, July 26, 1923, 1, 2 & 3; BPC Annual Report and Financial Statement, 1923, 12, *Daily World*, July 27, 1923, Part 2, 9; *Daily Province*, September 16, 1925, 1 & 4; *The News Herald*, [Vancouver] July 9, 1934, 8.

A Tradesman's Paradise

Class, Ethnicity & Housing, Fernwood, Victoria, 1880-1916.

By Jude Goertzen

Jude Goertzen is a mature 4th year undergraduate at the University of Victoria majoring in History, and Greek and Roman Studies.

The city of Victoria presents a microcosm of a British Columbian historical phenomenon. "The Great Migration"¹ of British immigrants between the completion of the CPR in 1885 and the outbreak of war in 1914 resulted in a British legacy that was unparalleled in any other area of Canada. Victoria was shaped and fashioned by the architects, artisans and residents who chose to work and live there. The physical legacy of this migration is evident in the work of such legendary architects as Francis Rattenbury and Samuel Maclure. Rattenbury's Empress Hotel and Parliament buildings and the many private homes that Maclure designed for the well-to-do have been well documented. Less is known of the many more ordinary British immigrants and the houses they built. This segment of Victoria's society can be studied by examining the city's heritage homes and determining who their first residents were, why they came, and how they influenced Victoria's society.

Historians have often portrayed Victoria in simplistic terms; dominated by a white collar, gentrified, upper class British colonial gentry. Architectural historian Robin Ward, for example, described Victoria as the "home of British Columbia's pioneering aristocracy," and included in his list of "colonial high society" such "greats" as James Douglas, Matthew Baillie Begbie and Francis Rattenbury.² Janet Bingham, another architectural

historian, asserted that "Victoria's upper class consisted largely of old colonial government families" rather than "the successful businessmen, lawyers and judges" that made up Vancouver's upper class.³ Despite such notable exceptions as the coal miner Robert Dunsmuir who built Craigdarroch Castle and the dry goods salesman David Spencer who established a chain of department stores and built a mansion on Moss Street in the fashionable Rockland area, journalist Harry Gregson claimed that, "those engaged in trade were considered to rank lower than those of good birth." Gregson argues that acceptance required the hallmark stamp of land, or an upper position in government or the Hudson's Bay Company.⁴ Wealth, however, speaks, and the marriage of Dunsmuir's daughter, Jessie Sophia, to Sir Richard John Musgrave of Waterford, Ireland, "was the social highlight of the season" Yet, the illusion of old, colonial aristocracy persisted. In 1913, "an English actress passing through town apparently warmed many hearts by declaring that 'Victoria is like a bit of old London, it is wonderfully responsive, magnificently English, and charmingly educated.'"⁵

This essay will argue against these statements by studying the results of an extensive survey of the Fernwood neighbourhood of Victoria and the heritage homes that are either registered or designated. This study reveals that the majority of the inhabitants were

Town of Victoria, Vancouver Island, 1861 from the official map. J. Despard Pemberton, Surveyer General BC Archives CM B69

"Fernwood", 1863; the B.W. Pearse residence. BC Archives C-08746 (top right)





British or of British descent; that most built their homes themselves in British styles, and that most of these home owners were trades-people who, over time, became the 'new and emerging' middle and upper class of Victoria. Relatively humble British origins combined with upward social mobility were the distinguishing feature of the Fernwood settlers. Few members of the 'colonial high society' popularized by most historians of Victoria⁶ settled in Fernwood. These findings apply only to Fernwood but future scholarship could determine if the Fernwood patterns occur elsewhere in Victoria.

Fernwood was originally part of the First Nations territory known as Swengwhung (Songhees). In 1850, James Douglas, on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, purchased this land for the paltry sum of seventy-five pounds. Such dispossessions of the Native people were common throughout British Columbia and were accomplished without apparent resistance. Once the area had been surveyed, Roderick Finlayson, Chief Trader for the HBC and Benjamin W. Pearse, assistant Colonial Surveyor, bought it for one pound per acre.

From the beginning, Fernwood was a 'good' neighbourhood. The first houses built here were country estates such as Pearse's Fernwood Manor built in 1861. Dr. T.J. Jones spent \$8000 building *Trebatha* in the 1880s, and Rattenbury designed the third Victoria High School that was opened in 1902.⁷ In the 1880s, a building boom saw the beginnings of a

and allowed for little social mobility whereas the active and burgeoning economy of Victoria provided an unprecedented opportunity for those with a good work ethic and an entrepreneurial spirit to rise. As early as 1859, a Victoria booster in England noted that "in no case of any other new town do I know of so many small proprietors who own their own houses on their own land."⁹

Who were these entrepreneurs, one of whom described himself as an "umble tradesman"?¹⁰ According to the Victoria Heritage Foundation's history they were primarily tradesmen and the majority were British (fig.1). Of the eighty homes for which sufficient background information was determined, British immigrants owned forty-one and the children of British immigrants owned another six. Of these forty-seven, the greatest number of owners (ten), were carpenters. An additional thirteen were directly involved in the building trades as bricklayers, masons and builder/architects. Of the entire eighty houses surveyed only twelve could be classified as owned by professionals. That included a mayor, a master mariner, a Lieutenant-Governor and assistant Receiver-General (both English), a teacher, an accountant and a Forestry Engineer, also of British origin.¹¹

Between 1880 and 1916 these immigrants constructed their homes in a distinctly British pattern, the Arts and Crafts style, Queen Anne, Italianate and Vernacular; the Canadian-born inhabitants followed suit.¹¹ Of the ninety houses examined, seventy-nine

larger migration of less affluent citizens to this still fashionable area and the construction of smaller, more accessible houses.⁸

The new settlers came to Victoria for many different reasons. Vancouver Island reminded them of that other, slightly larger island and its temperate climate reminded them of Devon and Cornwall. More importantly, the economic climate in Britain was stagnant

Notes

1. Jean Barman states that "by 1914, there had been, in essence, a single massive generation of British immigration [to British Columbia]." Jean Barman, "The World that British Settlers Made: Class, Ethnicity and Private Education in the Okanagan Valley," 600-26 in W. Peter Ward and Robert A.J. McDonald, ed., *British Columbia: Historical Readings* (Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1981).

2. Robin Ward, *Echoes of Empire: Victoria & Its Remarkable Buildings* (Madeira Park, BC: Harbour Publishing, 1996), xiii.

3. Janet Bingham, *Samuel Maclure Architect*, (Ganges, BC: Horsdal & Schubart Publishers Ltd., 1985), 74.

4. Harry Gregson, *A History of Victoria, 1842-1970* (Victoria: The Victoria Publishing Co. Ltd., 1985), 100.

5. Derek Pethick, *Summer of Promise: Victoria, 1864-1914* (Victoria: Sono Nis, 1980), 175

6. Historians, including Peter Baskerville have restricted their analysis to the upper classes and, by so doing, have overlooked the complexity and diversity of what was, after all, a British immigrant society that in fact attracted a representative cross-section of the British class or social system. Baskerville states that "between 1880 and 1900 the nature of Victoria's fortunes changed dramatically, but the composition of its ruling class and the attitudes which that class promoted changed imperceptibly if at all." Peter A. Baskerville, *Beyond the Island: An Illustrated History of Victoria*, (Burlington, ON: Windsor, 1986), 68.

7, 8. The Victorian Heritage Foundation for the City of Victoria, *This Old House: Victoria's Heritage Neighbourhoods* (Victoria, BC: Victoria Heritage Foundation for the City of Victoria, 2004), 12, 17.

9. Donald Fraser (1859) quoted in Baskerville, *Beyond the Island*, 28.

10. Terry Reksten, "More English than the English" *A Very Social History of Victoria* (Victoria BC: Orca, 1986), 94.

11. Barman's research shows that between 1891 and 1921, nearly 175,000 British immigrants settled in BC, of whom about 24,000 were middle or upper class, leaving a very sizeable immigrant population majority of tradesmen and labourers. Jean Barman, *Growing up British in British Columbia* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1984), 2.

12. The dates used here reflect the available data correlated into tables 1 and 2.

13. *This Old House*, 84.

14. *This Old House*, 148.

15. Bingham, *Samuel Maclure Architect*, 65.

16. *This Old House*, 152.

17. *This Old House*, 35.

18. *This Old House*, 81.

19. Baskerville, *Beyond the Island*, 26.

20. *This Old House*, 36.

21. *This Old House*, 41.

22. *This Old House*, 63. Rankha was a member of the Canadian Women's Icelandic League until her death and this small Icelandic community has also left an architectural legacy in Victoria. *This Old House*, 38. Reksten, "More English than the English," 94.

23. Ward, *Echoes of Empire*, xiii.

24. Ward, *Echoes of Empire*, xi.

fall into one of these four categories (fig.2).

British architects developed the Queen Anne style from the 1860s. Twenty-three of the Fernwood heritage homes were built in this style. Only sixteen of them were self-built but they included *Rosslund* at 1270 Yates Street, a landmark structure that was designed and owned by the Mitchell family from Ontario.¹³

The Arts and Crafts style, which British artists and architects also created, was also popular locally. According to *This Old House*, these architects were "reacting to several features of late Victorian life, principally the dehumanizing effects of industrialization."¹⁴ In Victoria, Samuel Maclure, the

architect son of a British immigrant and member of the Royal Engineers adapted the Arts and Craft style to make what became known as the Craftsman style uniquely Canadian by using local wood and stone. It shared commonalities with the flexible interiors used by Frank Lloyd Wright, his famous American contemporary.¹⁵

Architects, however, had little direct effect in Fernwood. Of the eighty-eight heritage homes examined only two or possibly three, were definitely designed by an architect (fig.2). In Fernwood, the most popular style was the Vernacular, which also included the Folk Victorian style. Thirty Fernwood homes were

Figure 1
The District of Fernwood: Occupations and birth origins for resident/owners of heritage houses built and occupied between 1880 and 1916.

Occupation	Great Britain	Canada	Other
Carpenter	10	6	
Sales (dry goods, furnishings)	3	3	
Builder/Architect	4		2 (US/Iceland)
Bricklayer	4	1*	
Contractor/Painter	2	2	
Master Mariner	1	3	
Mason	2		
Store Owner	1	1	
Ships Steward	1	1*	
Farmer	1	1	
Watchmaker/Jeweler	1	1	
Baker	1	1	
Clerk	1	1	1 (Iceland)
Miner	1		1* (Australia)
Railway Dispatcher		1	
Army Major	1		
Accountant		1	
Reverend	1		
Mill Owner			1 (US)
Superintendent (Railway)		1*	
Boat builder		1	
Retired	1		
Boot Maker		1*	
Commercial Traveler	1		
Grocer		1*	
Vice-President Tramway		1*	
Lt-Governor	1		
Plumber			1 (Denmark)
Farrier/Blacksmith	1		
Doctor		1	
Assist. Receiver-General	1		
Pipe layer			1 (Italy)
Freight-Hauler			1 (Iceland)
Teacher		1	
Forestry Engineer	1		
Veterinarian	1		

Source: *This Old House*, 12-87

Numbers accented by an asterisk indicate birth of British immigrant parents. Survey covers eighty of the one hundred houses listed. Churches, schools and houses with insufficient information were omitted.

of this kind, that is, structures “built or designed by someone without formal training...not conforming to any established styles.”¹⁶ These thirty houses were mainly self-built. The owners did not necessarily do the work themselves but instead of hiring architects they employed small, local contractors, who they directly supervised. Not all of the houses were owner-occupied; seven were used as rental income. (fig. 2).

Three exceptions to this self-built principle were a Folk Victorian cottage at 1192 Fort Street that was designed by John Teague, an architect, who was commissioned by a Scottish farrier and blacksmith. Parfitt Brothers, local building contractors built the other two. The Parfitt Brothers, who came from a coal-mining village in Somerset, were an extremely important addition to the Fernwood community. Between 1910 and 1914 these master builders constructed five houses, one apartment block, one shop/complex, one commercial office/apartment

block and *Oaklands School*. Their own home was an Edwardian Vernacular Arts and Crafts house at 1921-23 Fernwood Road built in 1909. In 1914 it was replaced with a two-storey commercial block. They also built in other areas of Victoria and became one of “Victoria’s best known and longest surviving construction firms.”¹⁶

Several other contractors built their own homes. John Creed, for example, was a small building contractor and an artisan in art glass and leaded lights. His home at 1621 Fernwood Road reflects these skills and it was probably built with the help of his family and his brother George, a carpenter.¹⁷ Hutchinson Hodges, a builder and contractor from Yorkshire, built his own house at 2103 Fernwood Road in stages, as time and money became available. Hodges’ enterprise perfectly illustrates how these immigrants operated and attests to their entrepreneurial spirit and hard work.¹⁸ Hodgson is also remembered for his thirty

Figure 2

The District of Fernwood: House styles for the period between 1880 and 1916.

Style	# of homes	Architect employed
Arts and Crafts (Craftsman)	5	
Arts and Crafts (Classical)	1	
Arts and Crafts (Bungalow)	2	1 Samuel Maclure
Arts and Crafts (British)	1	
Queen Anne	15	1 John Teague (possibly)
Queen Anne (Italianate)	2	
Queen Anne (Victorian)	1	
Queen Anne (severe/simplified)	2	
Queen Anne (Edwardian)	2	
Italianate	6	
Italianate (Late Victorian)	2	
Italianate (Vernacular and Queen Anne)	2	
Italianate (Cubical)	5 [a]	
Edwardian eclectic	1	
Romanesque Gothic	1	
Mansard or Second Empire Style	3	
Gothic Revival	2 [b]	
Vernacular	6 [c]	
Vernacular Foursquare	2	
Vernacular (front-gabled)	4	
Edwardian Vernacular (Arts and Crafts)	12	
Folk Victorian	6	1 John Teague
Two-storey Cubical	1	
Neoclassical	1	
Colonial Bungalow	3	

[a] popular with working class in Victorian era
 [b] one of the oldest, very rare, Wentworth Villa, 1862.
 [c] popular working class houses, generally rented.

Source: This Old House, 12-87.

This part of the survey examined eighty-eight of the one hundred homes and excludes schools, churches and apartment blocks.



House possibly in the Fernwood neighbourhood
BC Archives F-07720

years of breeding “prize brahma chickens in the back yard.”¹⁹ These exceptionally large chickens originated in Brahmaputra, India; their size may explain why he wanted to breed them.

What these examples show is that the immigrants who lived and built homes in Fernwood were tradesmen who achieved upward social mobility by the value of their own enterprise. There are many examples of this ‘rise in society’ within both the British immigrant sector and the population outside of it. Perhaps the most remarkable rise can be attributed to T.W. Paterson. Born in Scotland in 1851, he emigrated to Canada with his family in 1854. After working as a railway labourer “shoveling dirt...along the Welland canal,” he came to Vancouver Island where he made his fortune as a railway contractor and investor. Paterson owned 1162 Fort Street which was built in 1905-06. In 1909, he became Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia.²⁰

While the British were prominent, Fernwood was also home to forty Icelandic families who settled in the Spring Ridge area in the 1880s. One of them, Thorkel “Kelly” Johnson, built three of the Fernwood heritage homes. Another couple of Icelanders, Oliver and Gudrun Johnson emigrated as adults and were married in Victoria in 1888. Gudrun, who specialized in moving freight, was commissioned to move the old “Bird Cages” to a new site on Government Street. His son, Byron Ingemar “Boss” Johnson, who with his brothers ran a building supply company was premier of British Columbia from 1947 to 1952.²¹ In 1975, when she was 92, Rankha, the daughter of Thorston K. and Ragnhilder Anderson - still lived in the house they

built (c. 1889; 1899).

There appears to have been little ‘class’ snobbery in Fernwood. The rector of St. Barnabas Anglican Church lived next to a farmer, and a major and a lawyer of unknown origin lived next to a paint and paper salesman. Lieutenant-Governor, Thomas Paterson, was flanked on one side by an English sea captain and an Irish miner on the other. The lone Italian, Guiseppe Zarrelli, a pipe-layer by trade, lived next to an Icelandic joiner and a carpenter from Nova Scotia (fig.1). Occupation and status seem to have been of little consequence in this fashionable

area of Fernwood yet there were some tensions and, as Terry Reksten states, “the ‘first families who would have continued to be members of the middle class had they remained in Britain, formed the nucleus of Victoria’s aristocracy. They found it easy to remember that they belonged to the professional class and hard to forget that some of the families who were elbowing their way into their ranks had made their fortunes ‘in trade.’”²²

Observers of Victoria’s history and architecture are left with a quandary. Victoria has been presented for almost a century as a “milieu that attracted a corps of British colonial officials lured by prospects of comfortable retirement in a clubbable setting complete with English climate and Scottish coastal scenery.”²³ It has been accepted as an “Outpost of Empire” that contains a “lingering, somewhat eccentric British air.”²⁴ The reality is somewhat different. In fact, tradesmen, not the white-collar, gentrified or ‘high society’ immigrants who have dominated historical interest, provided the foundation of Fernwood and perhaps Victoria generally. Fernwood owes its architectural and cultural heritage to British tradesmen, especially to carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers and masons. It would be interesting to know the extent to which tradesmen also dominated the economy and the atmosphere of Victoria generally in the three decades before the First World War. Blanket generalizations about Victoria’s languid and genteel atmosphere do not apply to this part of Victoria. It will be up to future historians to ascertain if a ‘genteel Victoria’ existed at all. •

The Ingraham Hotel Beer Parlour 1960 - 2003

A Victoria, B.C. Institution

By Glen Mofford

At one time the Ingraham Hotel housed the biggest beer parlour in British Columbia and had the unique distinction as the largest selling Labatt's house in the world. But after forty-three years in business the Ingraham Hotel closed its doors in 2003 and reopened as a Hotel 8. In 1957 Victor Ingraham, a colourful and dynamic entrepreneur, who had previously owned the Yellowknife Hotel and the Arbutus Hotel in Courtenay hired Farmer Construction to build his new hotel at 2915 Douglas Street near Topaz. The 50-room Ingraham Hotel opened June 28, 1960 at the cost of one million dollars, "aimed mainly to provide top-class accommodation for commercial travelers."¹ The hotel featured two banquet rooms, a dining room, coffee shop, lounge and a huge 500-seat beer parlour at its rear by the parking lot.² The three-story building front facing Douglas Street was painted in a checkerboard of lemon yellow and robin-egg blue, and boasted a distinctive hotel sign best described as something out of a 'Jetson's cartoon'. The base, painted bright yellow, was in the shape of a rocket ship, which rose several feet off the ground into an oval shape with the word Ingraham written in black on a white background and topped with two intersecting circles.

From 1927 to 1964 beer parlours in British Columbia were required by law to provide a separate entrance for men and another for ladies with escorts. Inside the Ingraham, an artificial wall divided the beverage room in half, separating the sexes and thereby avoiding the potential volatile mix of men, women and beer.³ The Ingraham beer parlour had an ingenious retractable wall that was set on wheels. When one side of the beer parlour filled with thirsty customers, two waiters would wheel the wall to the emptier side allowing for more space while complying with liquor regulations. When customers walked through the swinging doors, they would first notice neatly uniformed rows of tables covered in fire-red terry-cloth that was used to soak up spilled beer. Lavish red leather chairs from the T. Eaton Company provided patrons with comfort while they sat and enjoyed their ten-cent glass of draft or a twenty-five cent bottle of beer. The chairs proved to be so popular that they began to mysteriously disappear and eventually had to be replaced with less expensive seating.

The early beer parlours of Victoria and Vancouver were, by law, very basic and simple beverage rooms. The new Ingraham beer parlour was



Len Ingraham in his memento filled office

no exception as there were no television sets, no games, no food and no drinks for sale other than draft or bottled domestic beer. Liquor regulations prohibited customers to stand or walk with a beer so if a customer wished to move to another table a waiter was summoned to move the beer on his tray. In spite of these restrictions, the beer parlour became an instant success. The majority of customers were mostly male, blue-collar workers who filled up the men's side after work and on weekends. Most patrons ignored the spartan-like atmosphere of the early beverage rooms and treated it as their own social club. It was a place where they could relax, swap stories and enjoy the companionship of their friends and co-workers while consuming cheap beer.

Service in the Ingraham, like many beer parlours in the 1960's was excellent. Albert, a waiter in the Ingraham from 1962 to 1965, recalled that management demanded first-class service from the staff. Any waiter who kept a thirsty customer waiting for more than five minutes would be pulled aside after his shift and given a stern warning. Waiters, (there were no waitresses until the mid to late 1970's) were well dressed in a white collar shirt with black bowtie, black slacks and shining black shoes. Waiters did not carry moneychangers in those days but carried one and two dollar bills in their fingers, larger denominations in their top shirt pocket and coins in their trouser pockets. A good waiter could make a comfortable living off his tips so naturally the tables

Greg Moffat is a Victoria based writer who believes that the social history of local drinking establishments has not yet been uncovered. There is so much to discover under the beer-soaked history of Victoria's saloons, beer parlours and pubs.

Notes

1. "New Hotel to Cater to Business Public," *Victoria Daily Times*, June 28, 1960.
2. In 1935, the Victoria Cycle Racing Club built the first "cycledrome" on this site. The wooden structure lasted five years before vandalism and the elements forced its demolition in 1940.
3. Robert A Campbell, *Sit Down and Drink Your Beer*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2001), 31.
4. John McKeachie, "Passing of an Era - The Ingy Has Been Sold," *The Victorian*, March 29, 1972, 4.



that tipped the most received extra attention. Waiters were kept very busy in the Ingraham, especially on Friday and Saturday nights when the place would often fill to capacity. The standard full beer tray held twenty, eight-ounce glasses of draft beer which weighed approximately 22 pounds. In an hour a waiter might carry as much as 300 pounds of beer.

Victor Ingraham died from heart failure at Saint Paul's hospital in Vancouver, BC on November 14, 1961. Ownership of the hotel went to his 31 year old son, Len. Like Victor, Len loved and promoted sports and during his tenure the beer parlour became a favourite watering hole for all kinds of sports teams. Len was a member of 28 organizations including the Shriners. His many associations and sponsorship of sports teams ranging from "stock cars, super stocks" to "baseball, lacrosse, bowling, curling, basketball, and hockey" earned him the nickname of Mr. Hospitality. Len managed the Ingraham Hotel until April 2, 1972, when he sold the hotel to Ian Duncanson and Neal Patterson. Neal had owned the Empress Hotel in Chilliwack.⁴

By the late 1960's and into the 1970's liquor regulations became less restrictive. As laws regarding drinking relaxed the beer parlour went through a metamorphosis from a paltry drinking room to a much more congenial place for customers to gather and enjoy. New changes allowed for the selling of BC cider, wine, spirits and imported beer giving patrons a good choice of products. The décor at the *Ingy*, as it was affectionately called by the regular customers, changed with the addition of four pool tables, two shuffleboard tables, a cigarette machine, a few

television sets, a jukebox and food service. The food service was located near the centre of the pub. A copy of the Ingraham Hotel "grub menu" from 1971 contained its own charm as customers were encouraged to "try our horrible golden bilingual French Fries," or to order "hot corned beef on rye samwich, not in the bottle." The retractable wall and the separate entrances were no longer required but the separate entry signs remained as relics of an antiquated past. During the 1970's and 1980's the pub continued to do a good business. The games tables were popular with customers as was the addition of more television sets. Sports teams would meet at the Ingy after the game and a steady stream of regulars loyally drank at their favourite tables in the pub.

But by the mid to late 1990's the age of the "beer barn" was in decline and business at the Ingy began to wane. Prices for beer increased while attitudes towards drinking were changing. The economics of the city was shifting from resource-based to 'high-tech' jobs requiring computer skills. The British Columbia Forest Products sawmill on Gorge Road closed while small industry continued to shrink and the new global economy began encroaching on traditional types of employment. Also more people began to stay at home and simply went to the pub less. An attempt to lure customers back and generate revenue by providing live music was not enough to attract customers on a regular basis or to fill the large 500 seat pub.

The Large Family, owners of a Vancouver Island grocery chain, purchased the hotel in May 2002. By August, the Liquor Board amended its regulations to

allow private liquor stores to compete with Government owned stores and the Ingraham received one of the first licenses under the new Act. It was a shrewd move as the new owners of the Ingraham hotel purchased their license before a City of Victoria zoning by-law restricted the size of private liquor stores. The Ingy Pub was to be replaced by the largest privately owned liquor store in Victoria. The taps went dry for good after forty-three years at closing time Saturday August 8, 2003.

A Hotel 8 has replaced the once familiar Ingraham Hotel and a Liquor Plus private liquor store

now operates where the beer parlour once stood. A small pub, eventually opened where the *Big I cabaret* used to be inside the hotel. To remind the public of these changes the current owners coined the slogan, "It's not the Ingraham anymore." Past customers and staff who have fond memories of time spent in the Ingraham beer parlour and lament its passing, have little reason to celebrate. Like the fate of the cyclodrome that preceded it, the Ingraham beer parlour succumbed, for better or for worse to an ever-changing world. •

Are you glad you came?



INGRAHAM HOTEL
2915 Douglas Street
Victoria, B.C.

INGRAHAM HOTEL



Grub Menu

A Proposal for a New Park in the Fraser Canyon

By Charles Hou

Charles Hou is a retired Burnaby high school teacher who was the recipient of the first Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History and for many years gave his students a first hand experience of BC history by leading them on a hike over the gold rush trail from Port Douglas to 29 Mile House.

The Fraser River Canyon is one of Canada's most important transportation corridors, and has as much significance in the history of British Columbia as the St. Lawrence River has in that of Central Canada. The convergence of the many historic events which took place in the canyon make it the logical place for an historic park. The canyon, which separates the Coast and Cascade Mountains, provided our ancestors with natural resources and some of the greatest road and railroad construction challenges in our history. It is important to manage and protect this part of the Fraser canyon for future generations. This article proposes the creation of an historic park centered in the Fraser River Canyon between Alexandra Bridge and Hell's Gate (the Black Canyon).

Historic parks help to interest students and the general public in the history of their province and country. They are also a good way of interesting people from outside the country in our past. The Fraser Canyon an ideal place for such a park. A park would preserve the footprints of the past in the Fraser canyon - archaeological sites, settlements, trails, roads, railways and fishways - and celebrate some of the most significant events in British Columbia's history, including Simon Fraser's 1808 trip down the Fraser River. The 200th anniversary of Fraser's trip also provides an opportune time to commemorate the many historic, artistic and cultural contributions the native (Nlaka'pamux) people of the area have made to the development of British Columbia.

The Fraser Canyon offers ideal locations for hiking, mountain biking, rafting and horseback riding. The Anderson's Brigade Trail, in particular, offers challenges to anyone interested in participating in sports and recreation. The trail offers both historic significance and great views of the canyon. Other hiking, mountain bike and horse trails could be rebuilt (e.g. the Douglas Portage from Yale to Spuzzum, the Cariboo Wagon Road and Fraser Canyon highway from Alexandra Bridge to Spuzzum, Lake House to Boston Bar, Chapman's Bar to Alexandra Bridge etc.).

Communities along the Trans-Canada Highway through the Fraser Canyon have suffered an economic decline due to competition from the Hope-Princeton Highway, the Coquihalla Highway and the Pemberton to Lillooet Highway. An historic park centered in the middle of the Fraser Canyon between Hope and Lytton would be one way of revitalizing this route. The area is within easy driving distance of the Lower Mainland and is already on one

of the most spectacular drives in the world (Vancouver-Squamish-Pemberton-Lillooet-Lytton-Hope-Vancouver).

At the present time the Hell's Gate Airtram is the biggest tourist attraction in the canyon. The proposed park and museum would give tourists another reason to visit the canyon and provide employment opportunities for people living in the valley. This would provide increased long term business for restaurants, service stations, motels, bed and breakfast establishments, rafting, guided tours and horse rental companies and other small businesses, and would help create long term employment to offset the closure of the sawmill at Boston Bar.

The proposed park would start at Alexandra Bridge, in the heart of the Fraser Canyon and near where the Hudson's Bay Company fur brigades crossed the Fraser River in 1847-49. It would extend east to the dividing line between the Fraser and Anderson River watersheds and then north to Anderson's Brigade Trail, where it would head in a northwesterly direction to Hell's Gate. The Canadian National Railway would form the western boundary, except for Chapman's Bar and the land included in Alexandra Provincial Park. The park would include nearly all of the important historic sites in the Canyon. It would not include reserve land and other private property unless it was purchased and became part of the proposed park. The park would preserve the viewshed experienced along Anderson's Brigade Trail.

The best way to provide tourists with information about the history of the park would be to build a museum at Yale outlining the significant history of the area. Native sites are found throughout the canyon, some dating back over 10,000 years and recognition of the contribution of the native people to our past presents an obvious museum theme. Simon Fraser visited here in 1808, and his trip set in motion major events that would dramatically change the natives' way of life. Yale would therefore be a logical place for exhibits on life in the canyon before the gold rush and a commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Simon Fraser's trip down the Fraser River.

The museum would provide tourists with an introduction to important sites throughout the Fraser Canyon and the problems involved in the construction of a railway in the canyon. Yale was the headquarters of construction for the railway through the Canyon and has a Chinatown dating back to the gold rush.

Nearby, Alexandra Bridge is already the site of a small provincial park. The museum could focus on the construction of the bridges in the area, the history of the Royal Engineers, and the work of the men who constructed the Cariboo, Fraser Canyon and Trans-Canada highways and the hydroelectric transmission lines. Work needs to be done to preserve the second bridge built at the site as it offers a spectacular location for viewing the river and native fishing sites. A trail could be built connecting this bridge to the new bridge to the south and to Alexandra Lodge.

Alexandra Lodge is found at the southern end of Anderson's Brigade Trail. The trail starts just north of the lodge and has a significant place in BC history. It is one of the ten best hiking trails in the province. Chapman's Bar, one of the many bars in the canyon mined during the gold rush, is just across the highway from the lodge. The lodge itself is a fine example of the type of resting place built all along the Cariboo Wagon Road and the Fraser Canyon Highway. It was likely built around 1864 and underwent extensive renovations in 1929. The brigade trail, following a trail used by the native people for centuries, connects with the Bluffs trail overlooking the Black Canyon.

The Bluffs trail can also be accessed by means of a logging road that starts just east of Alexandra Bridge. If this road were upgraded and paved, tourists who are not able to hike up Anderson's Brigade Trail could drive to the site. The view from the ridge is what makes the brigade trail one of the best hikes in the province. The small lakes in the area provide good picnic sites, with room left over for people interested in hiking and camping. Relatively easy hiking trails exist along the ridge, around the lakes and to Gate Mountain. A Lake House built in 1848 once stood near the large lake. A museum at Yale would inform tourists about the history of the trail and would likely result in a major increase in its use.

As part of a forestry exhibit detailing the history of logging in the canyon, mention could be made of the forestry lookout on Gate Mountain. This is an excellent site for viewing the extent of logging in the area as well as the mountainous terrain surrounding the Fraser Canyon. On a clear day you can see for over twenty miles in all directions.

The Hell's Gate airtram already enables viewing of the fishways which helps spawning salmon pass through the obstructed part of the canyon. Like Alexandra Bridge, it is an excellent site for viewing the most difficult section of the river. The CPR, CNR and remnants of the early trails and wagon road can be seen.

The proposed museum at Yale would describe the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian National Railway through some of the most difficult terrain in the world, and illustrate life in a railway community. Many people are fascinated by railways, and they are still of prime importance to the provincial and national economies.

At present there is an art gallery and museum at Siska. The local band members are very interested in the portrayal and use of plant materials. An ecology centre here or in the museum could portray the transition of plant and animal life from the coastal rain forest to semi-arid terrain.

Timeline of Significant Events in the History of the Fraser Canyon

8000BC - the approximate occupation date for Nlakama'pamux people in the Fraser Canyon

1808 - Simon Fraser descends the Fraser River to Georgia Strait

1812 - the American-owned Pacific Fur Company erects Fort Kamloops

1813 - the North West Company purchases the Pacific Fur Company; Fort Alexandra built

1821 - union of the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company

1826 - fur brigade takes furs from New Caledonia to Fort Vancouver and returns with supplies on the Cariboo-Okanagan route

1827 - the Hudson's Bay Company erects Fort Langley

1828 - George Simpson canoes the Fraser River from Lytton to Fort Langley

1843 - the Hudson's Bay Company builds Fort Victoria

1846 - Alexander Caulfield Anderson explores the Harrison-Lillooet route and the Coquihalla-Similkameen route to Kamloops; the Oregon treaty extends the border between British and American territory from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean along the 49th parallel

1847 - Anderson explores a route from what is now Yale to Spuzzum to Kequeloose to the Anderson River, which connects with a trail to Fort Kamloops

1848 - the Hudson's Bay Company's annual fur brigade uses the 1847 route to and from Alexandra; the HBC erects Fort Yale

1849 - the fur brigade uses the Anderson Fur Brigade route on the way from Alexandra to Fort Yale and returns via a new and better route from Fort Hope to Alexandra; Fort Victoria replaces Fort Vancouver as the Hudson's Bay Company's headquarters on the west coast

1858 - over 20,000 gold miners head up the Fraser Canyon in search of gold; a canyon war between the natives and miners erupts; miners erect a crude mule trail from Boston Bar to Lytton to connect up with the HBC trail from Yale to Boston Bar; British Columbia is made a Crown colony; a cable ferry is completed across the Fraser River at Spuzzum

1869 - Governor James Douglas upgrades the mule trail from Yale to Lytton

1861 - Douglas orders the Royal Engineers to survey a wagon route up the canyon

1862 - the Royal Engineers and private contractors begin construction of the Cariboo Wagon Road

1863 - Joseph Trutch completes a suspension bridge north of Spuzzum (the first Alexandra Bridge)

1864 - likely date for the completion of Alexandra Lodge; Francis Bernard begins stagecoach service from Yale to the Cariboo

1865 - the Cariboo Wagon Road is completed from Yale to Barkerville

1871 - British Columbia enters Confederation; Canada promises to build a railway across Canada within ten years

1880 - rail contractor Andrew Onderdonk begins construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Yale

1882 - a CPR steamboat, the Skuzzy, passes through Hell's Gate

1885 - Donald Smith drives the last spike on the CPR at Craigellachie

1894 - floods destroy Alexandra Bridge

1910 - construction of the Canadian Northern Railway through the canyon begins

1913 - the Canadian Northern Railway construction results in a significant blockage of the Fraser River at Hell's Gate, and catastrophic loss in salmon spawning

1924-26 - a new Fraser River highway is constructed through the canyon; a new bridge is completed at Alexandra

1948 - work is completed on a fishway to help spawning salmon pass through Hell's Gate

1950s - a forest fire lookout is built on top of Gate Mountain

1970 - the Trans-Canada Highway is completed in the Fraser Canyon

1971 - an air tram is constructed at Hell's Gate

1970s - mountain clubs reopen Anderson's Brigade Trail

1980s - river rafting begins on the Fraser River between Boston Bar and Yale

British Columbia Historical Federation Newsletter

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YOU MAY COPY AND CIRCULATE TO YOUR MEMBERS

From the President's Desk

Our members have been busy during the last few months, although much of the activity has been behind the scenes. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, Ron Welwood, Chairman of our Web Committee, and our new webmaster, Alistair Fraser, have brought our bchistory website up to date and are now redesigning it. Some of the changes are definitely behind the scenes and only a "techie" will understand them, but the public face will also be undergoing some changes. A very big "thank you" to both of them. Do watch for the changes at www.bchistory.ca

Our last Newsletter also mentioned the CBC's Almanac's Gold Rush project. The deadline for submissions has been extended to April 15th. The easy way to submit a story is to go to www.cbc.ca/bcalmanac and click on Gold Rush Connection. Do remember to identify yourself as a member of the BCHF.

I look forward to seeing you in Victoria in May.

Patricia Roy
President, BC Historical Federation.

New underground tunnel completed

The Sullivan Mine and Railway Historical Society celebrated the running of a full train through the new underground tunnel which passed with flying colors. The surface work on the rail line extension has been completed and the underground mining displays are underway.



The new attraction will open this spring and is expected to be a big tourist draw. The

project was funded under the Canada/BC Infrastructure program and Teck Cominco Ltd.

Those who attended the BCHF Conference in Kimberley will recall the exciting train ride and tour hosted by the Sullivan Mine and Railway Historical Society. If you vacationing in the Kootenays this year be sure to stop by for a historic train ride and tour.

ROOTS AROUND THE WORLD

BIENNIAL GENEALOGY SEMINAR
28 APRIL 2007

Rick Hansen Secondary School in Abbotsford
with workshops, marketplace, visual displays and six
featured speakers

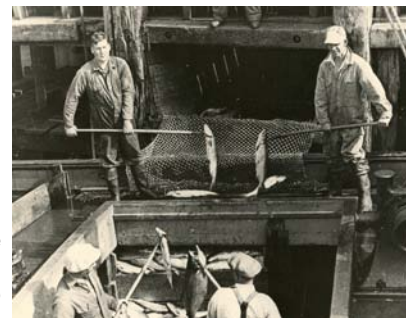
full details on www.abbygs.ca

The History of B.C. Packers

The Richmond Museum is developing a virtual museum which is called *In Their Words* which will tell the story of B.C. Packers from the perspective of the people who worked there.

In the 1880's, there were three canneries in Steveston and by 1899 there were 15. By the late 1890s there were more than 50 fish canneries along the B.C. coast and the intense competition that resulted drove many canneries to the brink of financial collapse.

In 1902, the B.C. Packers Association was formed and bought 42 canneries and by 1905, the company had closed down all but 15. The company's Steveston operation was a major employer in Richmond until it closed in 1997. The Imperial Landing site was rezoned for waterfront condos and as part of the redevelopment agreement, the company donated its archives, 900 artifacts and \$200,000 to the city for the development of a museum display.



The development of the virtual museum website will cost \$179,439 with the Department of Canadian Heritage covering the lion's share with a grant of \$106,853 with the balance coming from the City of Richmond, Richmond School District and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. The website is directed at school children and is intended to be an educational tool. A team of 30 people are developing the new website which is scheduled to be launched at the end of March. In April check it out at www.intheirwords.ca

PICTURE: An unloading crew using peughs to throw salmon from a boat into BC Packers Cannery. City of Richmond Archives 1978.34.19

Auditor General Sheila Fraser released a Status Report on February 13th which includes a chapter on the conservation of historic buildings owned by the federal government. While Parks Canada has made some progress since her 2003 report, Ms. Fraser says in a media release that the government is still not doing enough for federal heritage property managed by other departments.

"The loss of heritage buildings and sites means that future generations will no longer have access to significant aspects of our history," Ms. Fraser said. "It is therefore important that the federal government strengthen its conservation regime for built heritage and set priorities to decide which heritage buildings and sites should be -preserved."

THE B.C. ARCHIVES WILL BE CLOSED MAY 7 THRU 12

If you were planning on doing some research while in Victoria, stay over after the conference, it reopens on Monday the 14th

Heritage Award presented to Annette Fulford



For the past ten years, Annette Fulford has written and edited the Maple Ridge Historical Society Family History Newsletter, which is widely circulated throughout the community and to genealogy organizations. Using a variety of research tools and techniques, she has been a tremendous resource to others seeking to record their family trees.

Annette Fulford receives award from acting Mayor Ernie Daykin.

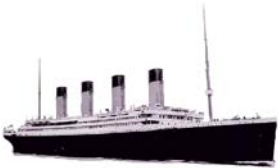
Welcome to our new Members

- West Vancouver Historical Society
- The Friends of St. Ann's Academy, Victoria
- Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation

The B.C. Historical Federation represents 113 Societies, Affiliates and Associates with a membership of 12,200+ working for the preservation of British Columbia's history.

WHILE AT THE VICTORIA CONFERENCE DON'T MISS THESE EXHIBITS

TITANIC - THE ARTIFACT EXHIBIT with over 280 artifacts from the final resting place of the Titanic. The exhibit runs from April 14th thru October 14th at the Royal British Columbia Museum. A Titanic gift shop will be open offering books and mementos related to the exhibit.



Reserved entry time tickets on sale in person at the door or on line at

www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca. Plan ahead and order your tickets for a time that fits your schedule. The RBCMuseum is just four blocks from the Conference site.

STEAMSHIP TRAVEL IN B.C. - The Maritime Museum of B.C. have mounted an exciting exhibit of pictures, memorabilia and artifacts from the many ships that serviced the communities on the west coast of B.C. For the B.C. historian and those who have fond memories of the Canadian Pacific Steamships and Union Steamships, this exhibit is one you won't want to miss. The Maritime Museum is located at 28 Bastion Square which is 15 minute walk from the Conference site. Open daily 9:30 am - 4:30 pm.

W. Kaye Lamb Essay Scholarships

The BCHF awards two scholarships annually for essays written by students at BC colleges or universities on a topic relating to British Columbia history. A \$750 scholarship for an essay written by a student in a first or second year course and a \$1,000 scholarships for an essay written by a student in a third or fourth year course.

All essays must be on a topic relating to the history of British Columbia. Full details on www.bchistory.ca

Deadline is 15 May 2007

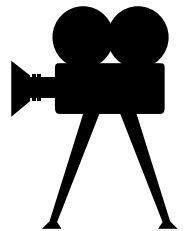
AROUND THE PROVINCE

TOUCHSTONES NELSON new museum opening was a great success with over 3,000 people visiting over a four day period. For the first two months of operation, Touchstones had 600+ paid admissions.



The exciting new facility has generated a membership boom to nearly 800 with a city population of less than 10,000.

VANCOUVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY has been reviewing the incredible collection in the Vancouver CBC Archives and recently had Archivist Colin Preston presenting some of their treasures. While CBC opened their TV studios in 1953, the collection also includes footage of Vancouver and its residents, shot by professional film companies and amateurs alike.



A recent presentation by Colin Preston to the VHS included coverage of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth being driven down Georgia Street in 1939 as thousands lined the sidewalks and cheered. Everything is in motion, showing the hustle and bustle of 60 and 70 years ago. A fascinating peek into Vancouver's past.

KAMLOOPS HERITAGE RAILWAY SOCIETY enjoyed another very successful year in 2006 and are looking into the possible purchase of another two coaches to add to its rolling stock. The group of 200+ members logged over 12,000 volunteer hours in 2005. If you are traveling to the Kamloops area this summer, be sure to take in the historic train ride.



bchistory.ca

A new, improved website is currently under construction and should be launched by the end of spring. Negotiations are underway to change our internet service provider to provide the Federation more flexibility.

Alistair Fraser, our web designer and Ron Welwood have spent countless hours on this project and the Federation is very grateful for their volunteer expertise.

The web designers are looking for free use of historic photographs and especially panoramas from around the province to display on the site. A description of the photographs and sources will be acknowledged. Please forward to Ron Welwood at r-fwelwood@shaw.ca

BCHF Newsletter

mail - c/o Ron Hyde
#20 - 12880 Railway Ave
Richmond, B. C. V7E 6G2

Comments & suggestions to

Co-Editors Ron Hyde
Ron Welwood

rbhyde@shaw.ca
r-fwelwood@shaw.ca



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VOICES OF A VANCOUVER NEIGHBOURHOOD



EDITED BY PEGGY SCHOFIELD

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Voices of a Vancouver Neighbourhood

EDITED BY PEGGY SCHOFIELD

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 **ROYAL BC MUSEUM**

Origins of the Vancouver Name

Another Possibility

By John Robson

The City of Vancouver and Vancouver Island (plus several other features around the world) derive their name from that of George Vancouver, a late-eighteenth century British surveyor-explorer. As a surname, Vancouver is very rare and only made its appearance about the middle of the eighteenth century with George Vancouver's own family. It then all but died out as members of the family had mostly female children if they had children at all.

Adrien Mansvelt, the consul for the Netherlands at Vancouver in the 1970s, researched Vancouver's ancestry and produced a genealogy that has been accepted by most people since that time, even though there is little or no documentary evidence for some of the facts included therein. In Mansvelt's version, a Reint Wolter van Coeverden, a Dutch landowner, was George Vancouver's great grandfather. He was part of an old Dutch family from Coevorden, a small town in northeastern Holland on the German border. Reint Wolter married an English woman, Jane Lillingston, in 1699 and together they had a son, Lucas Hendrik. Lucas moved to Britain, where he married a local woman called Sarah. By the middle of the eighteenth century, the family surname had metamorphosed to Vancouver and Sarah Vancouver, George's grandmother, was living in King's Lynn in Norfolk. She was listed as a property owner, suggesting that her husband was already dead. In June 1749, their son John Jasper Vancouver married Bridget Berners, the daughter of a local family with property at Wiggenhall St. Mary the Virgin, a few kilometres to the south of King's Lynn. Bridget's father, William Berners, had, however, already dissipated the family fortune some years earlier. George Vancouver was born in King's Lynn, Norfolk on 22 June 1757, the sixth and final child of John Jasper and Bridget Vancouver.

Unfortunately, the documentary evidence for Lucas Hendrik van Coeverden's arrival in Britain and his marriage there does not appear to exist rendering the crucial part of this lineage of the Vancouvers flawed.

In July 1794, George Vancouver was exploring the Northwest Coast of America. He sent Joseph Whidbey, master of Vancouver's ship, the *Discovery*, off to explore the inlets to the east of Cross Sound in Southern Alaska. Whidbey ventured through Icy Strait and then up Lynn Canal and down Chatham Strait (all named later by Vancouver) before returning to the ship. Vancouver chose to name various features seen by Whidbey after his own family, including Berners Bay and Point Bridget after his mother,

Bridget Berners. The point at the junction between Icy Strait and Lynn Canal, Vancouver named Point Couverden

... a point, which I called after the seat of my ancestors, Point Couverden... (Voyage. Vol. 4, p. 1354)

This would seem to corroborate Mansvelt's connection between the King's Lynn Vancouvers and the Dutch van Couverdens. However, some doubt remains. Vancouver ascribed many of the names to features on the Northwest Coast of America after he had returned to Britain and he was still dealing with the exploits of 1794 just before his death in 1798. At about the same time as George was writing up the narrative of his voyage in the middle- to late-1790s, his brother, Charles, was getting married. On 06 March 1798, Charles married Louise Josephine van Coeverden, one of his supposed distant cousins, in Vollenhove in the Netherlands. It is possible that Vancouver's choice of name for the point in Alaska was a way of flattering his new sister-in-law's family and cementing the relationship between the two families.

The lack of documentary evidence for Vancouvers and van Couverdens in England and, especially in King's Lynn and Norfolk, prior to 1750, caused me to look elsewhere and for variant names. A genealogical search produced some results and with them an alternative version for the origins of the Vancouver name.

An Abraham Vangover married Martha Allen at the Society of Friends in Suffolk in 1680/1. Abraham and Martha Vangover had the following children, all baptised at Saint Mary at the Quay, Ipswich, Suffolk:

Name Baptised

Mary	10 March 1681
Sarah	16 January 1683
James	10 December 1687
Martha	02 August 1690

The James Vangover born in 1687 married Sarah Green at Ipswich St Clement Suffolk on 27 April 1712. James and Sarah Vangover had children but so far I have only been able to trace a few records, all from Ipswich, including:

Name Baptised

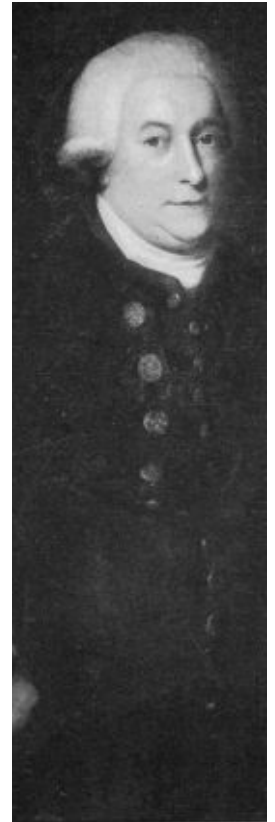
Jonas
James
Abraham

Buried

February 1713/14
13 February 1714/15
26 February 1717/18

I believe James and Sarah Vangover to be George Vancouver's grandparents with Sarah Vangover being the woman of property living in King's Lynn in the 1750s. By that time James Vangover had

John Robson is the Map Librarian at the University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand.



Select Bibliography.

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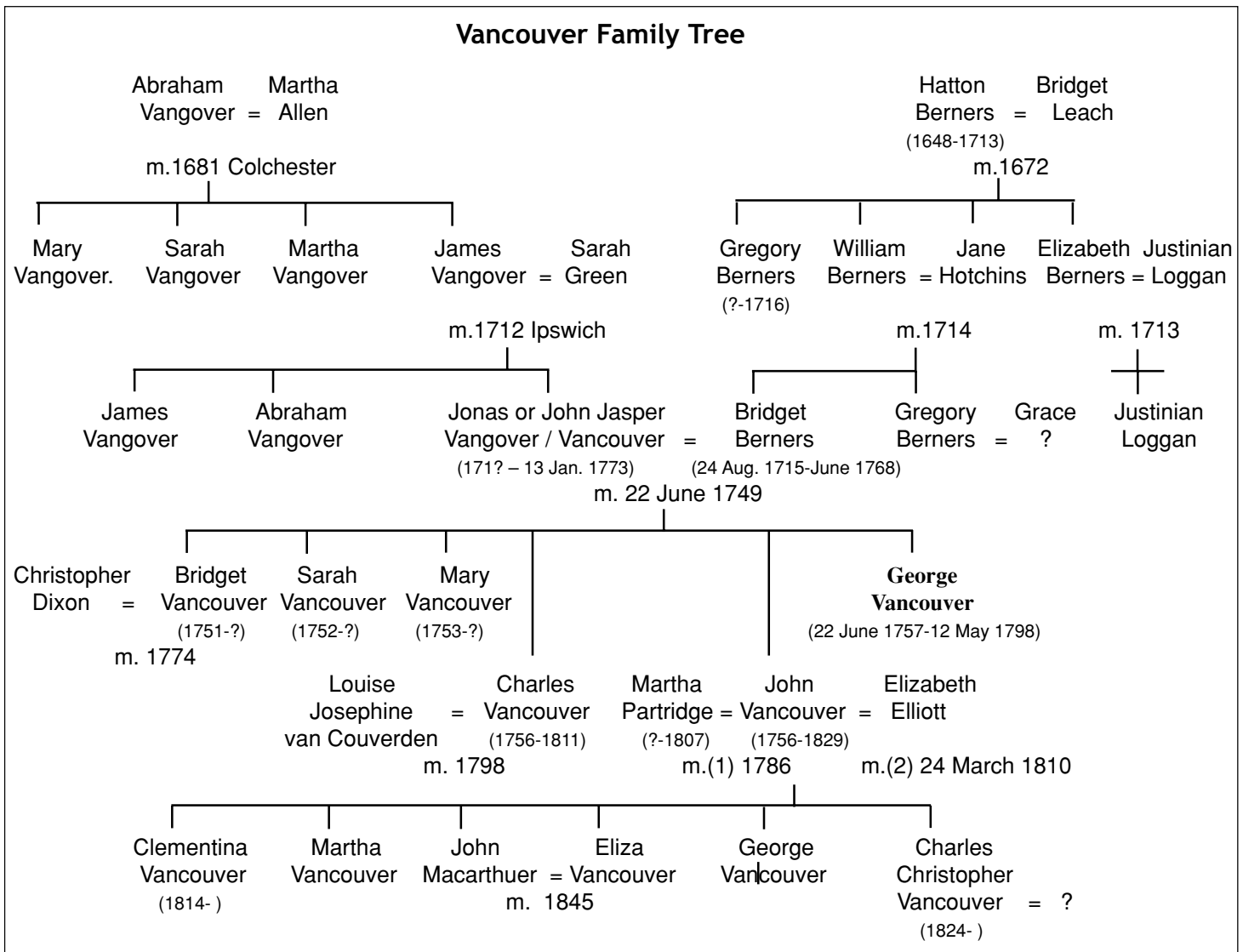
died. As yet, I have not found a birth record for a John Jasper Vangover but I do wonder whether Jonas could be the man later known as John Jasper Vancouver? We do not know how either Vancouver or Vangover would have been pronounced in the eighteenth century and the new spelling may represent a mistake in transcription on the part of a clerk when recording a birth or some other official event.

Also, given that the Berners were an established land owning family in the county, it is understandable that John James Vangover sought to boost his own lineage by claiming connections with similar families of note and the van Couverdens in the Netherlands suited his purpose. Vangover was looking to advance in the world and gain status in King's Lynn so a

pedigree with landed gentry in it would help his cause. By the time George Vancouver was an adult such claims may have become established truth in the family!

Interestingly, as the Vancouver name came into usage, the surname Vangover died out in Suffolk and Norfolk, thus strengthening the case that the change had occurred. Of course, this has still not explained the origins of Abraham Vangover but Suffolk is close to the Dutch coast and traffic between the two was common. A Dutch origin is still, therefore, possible but at an earlier date than previously suggested and not necessarily with the Van Couverdens.

This version of events is by no means one hundred per cent proven but I believe it offers a more credible version than has been presented before now. •



King's Lynn Celebrates

It's the 250th Birthday of Captain George Vancouver

On 21 June 2007, the arrival of the majestic tall ship *Earl of Pembroke* at the Boal Quay in King's Lynn will herald the start of the Captain Vancouver Festival in King's Lynn.

The Festival will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of George Vancouver, the town's great maritime sailor and navigator.

Born in King's Lynn, on 22 June 1757, he went to sea as a midshipman with Captain Cook when he was just 14 years old, and after an illustrious naval career was given his own ship, *The Discovery*. He went on to navigate and survey the uncharted North West American coast producing the first maps of the area and thus securing his place in this country's maritime history.

A long weekend of festivities has been organised by the Borough Council, with the generous support of local businesses, to mark this important anniversary of the town's most famous naval son.

Nick Daubney, Deputy Leader of the Borough Council, commenting on the festival, said: 'This event gives us the perfect opportunity to celebrate the town's unique history and rich maritime heritage as well as developing Lynn's reputation as a festival town. We hope that visitors will come and sample what the town has to offer. Over the festival weekend there will be opportunities to sample local seafood, take guided tours around the historic heart of the town, observe traditional trades of the sea such as rope making, be amused by street entertainers and characters from the town's past and rekindle the spirit of maritime King's Lynn in the late 1700s.'

Just some of the events planned for the weekend include:

18-28 June - *Vancouver's Lynn Exhibition - Pen & wash buildings of 18th-century Lynn by artist Don Noyce.*

20 June - *author of Captain Vancouver North-West Navigator, Ernest Coleman, will talk about Captain Vancouver and his incredible voyage and accomplishments.*

21-24 June - *The Earl of Pembroke will be moored along the waterfront throughout the festival giving visitor's the opportunity to step on board, meet the crew and explore below deck.*

21 & 23 June - *sausage and mash supper. Step back in time for an evening in the company of Captain George Vancouver, who will read excerpts from his journals.*

21 June - *Fans of Fashion - discover the world of 18th-century fashion and the secret language of the fan.*

21 June - *'By George he did it' - entertainment in words and music inspired by 'A Voyage of Discovery' researched and written by Richard Morley.*

22 June - *A Great Navigator and Surveyor - lecture by local historian Bryan Howling.*

22 June - *People's Banquet - a rumbustious family banquet with music.*

23 & 24 June - *Interactive Drama 'Voyage of Discovery'.*

22 & 23 June - *Feast of music - many local bands will be performing by the waterfront in King's Staithe Square, showcasing the wealth of established and emerging talent in the area.*

23 June - *Playford Ball - a spectacular event reflecting the dance, music and costume of the late Georgian period under the direction of the MC Nicolas Broadbridge.*

In May, a Captain Vancouver Exhibition in the town's historic Custom House will introduce the world of George Vancouver through pictures, storyboards and a reproduction of his Great Cabin. The exhibition will run through until October.

Vancouver Marine artist John Horton will have an exhibition of his Captain George Vancouver pictures in King's Lynn and through the generosity of Mr. Peter Legge and Mr. Joseph Segal there will also be a parallel exhibition at the Vancouver Maritime Museum. •

For Whom the Bell Tolls

The story of the *Puako*

By Dudley Booth

Dudley Booth is the custodian of the Littlebury photograph collection.

He became interested in the *Puako* after discovering one of Littlebury's photos showed the vessel on her last voyage; being towed into Burrard Inlet on her way to the scrapyard.

That photo was used by model maker Steve Priske to assist in the creation of his model of the *Puako*.

In the old foundry in Oakland California the brass was heated to a bright red then slowly poured into the mold that held the name and date of the ship that was to be launched by Boole & Co. The name *PUAKO* and the year 1902 was cast onto the face of the beautiful bronze bell. It would be mounted just forward of the helm within easy reach of the helmsman who would announce the hour by the tolling of the bell.

During normal times the bell would toll 108 times a day and more often when in fog, warning other ships of its presence. The *PUAKO* would be a four masted sailing ship called a Barquentine and destined to sail the oceans of the world. The passages would be lengthy and slow with the ship powered only by the wind. The cabins were not heated in the cold climes, nor cooled in the tropics, so comfort was minimal for crew and passengers for most of the journeys.

After the first few days, most of the fresh food would be exhausted and from then on salted fish and meat would become the rations. Bread would be as hard as a rock and milk non existent. Bathing would be with salt water or not at all except when it rained, for fresh water was in limited supply and only to used for cooking and drinking. The ship was rarely level so living conditions always had the decks tilted away from the wind. During all these times the bell announced the hour and when it tolled eight bells, it was time for the crew to change watch.

The home port of the *PUAKO* was San Francisco and she was owned by Hinds, Rolph & Co. The *PUAKO* took lumber and other materials to Hawaii and returned laden with sugar for the C&H Sugar Mill, thus the *PUAKO* was one of the Sugar Ships. James Rolph Jr. became the Mayor of San Francisco 1910-1912.

It would only be four years after the launch of the *Puako* that the

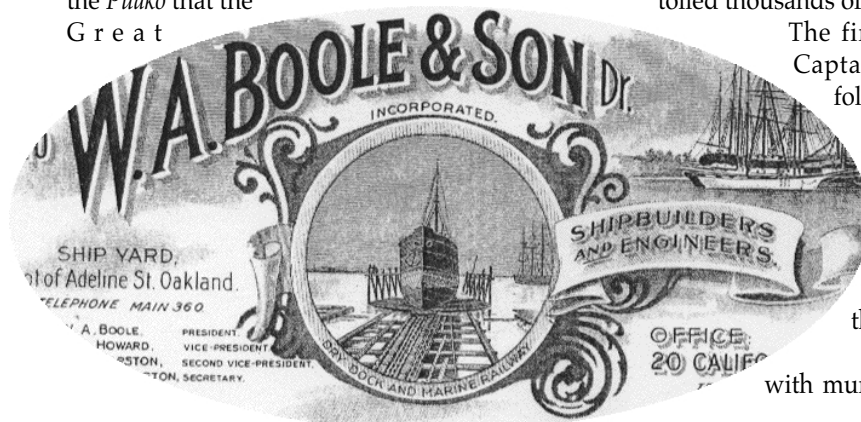


Earthquake struck this city, setting it afire and crumbling much of it to the ground. Perhaps the bell tolled this event as well.

Other ports of call included Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., as well as Capetown, South Africa and Australia. During all these ocean passages the bell tolled thousands of times.

The first Master of the *PUAKO* was Captain George Seeley 1902 - 1907; followed Captain Adolph "Hellfire" Pedersen and his two sons who he appointed as his mates. Pedersen was Master of the *PUAKO* from 1907 until 1918 when he and his sons were arrested for the mistreatment of the crew.

Captain Pedersen was charged with murder and taken to New York for





Here we see Captain Helms and his wife Mary Catherine in the cockpit of the four masted Barkentine Puako. Behind the couple we can see the ship's bell. Helms was master of the Puako from 1919-1925 . (opposite page)

The ship's bell (this page, left)

This ship model of the four masted skysail Barkentine Puako was built by model shipwright Steve Priske in 2005. The model measures over 4 feet long and features all sails set. It took about 1,300 hours to complete this scratch built model.

All Photos for this article provided by Steve Priske - Model Shipwright - Historian.

For more information on the Puako's history and sugar ships in general visit Steve's website <http://tallshipsofsanfrancisco.com>

trial. During the time when Pedersen was Master, the bell tolled innumerable times, often calling to the attention of the crew the extreme cruelty being put upon one of their fellows.

After the arrest of Pedersen in Capetown South Africa, Captain Pearson was enlisted to bring the *PUAKO* from South Africa to her home port of San Francisco. The bell now had a more mellow ring to it, no longer bringing terror into the eyes of the crew.

From 1919-1925 the Master of the *PUAKO* was Captain Charles E. Helms. The era of sailing ships was rapidly drawing to a close and being replaced with steam powered ships. At this time the *PUAKO* found itself in the seaport city of Victoria, B.C. where it lay tied to the dock unattended awaiting sale by auction. The ship fell silent as was the beautiful bell.

The destiny of the *PUAKO* was that it be sold to Hecate Straits Towing Co., then towed from Victoria to Vancouver and there dismantled with rigging and masts removed as well as much of the decking. It became a hollow hulk to be used as a barge for lumber and towed to ports along the coast of British Columbia. The *PUAKO* name was changed and she became the *DRUMWALL*. The bell, together with all the valuables, were removed from the ship vanishing into the hands of the unknown and the mellow tone was not to be heard again for decades.

By a strange twist of fate the *PUAKO* bell found itself mounted on the wall of a tavern in Anacortes, Washington where it hung for many years. Perhaps

on occasion as the smooth nectar served therein lingered on the tongue, some may have heard the *PUAKO* bell toll once more, calling for another round of drinks from the bar.

The tavern was sold but the tavern owner decided the bell had sentimental value and was not to be left behind. As the years took their toll, as they do for all, the *PUAKO* bell fell into the hands of her son and heir.

Curiosity, timing and generosity played out the next act in the life story of the bell. The tavern owner's son was curious about the *PUAKO* and was seeking to discover something about this ship upon which the bell once hung. His search took him to a prestigious ship model builder Steve Priske. Priske had just completed building a large model of the *PUAKO*, accurate in every detail for Walt Bulski, the grandson of Helms, the last captain of the *PUAKO*.

Bulski was contacted by Priske and made aware of the connection of the bell with the tavern owner's son. Soon, Bulski's children got involved with the owner of the bell, with Bulski unaware of their activity.

There was a birthday party in 2006, it was Walt's 79th and the surprise that awaited him was beyond his wildest dreams. The bell tolled once more.

As time goes by, the destiny of the bell will take other directions that future generations will discover and hopefully they too will hear the tolling of the *PUAKO* bell. •

Con Jones & the Don't Argue tokens of Vancouver, B.C.

Token History

by Ronald Greene

Con Jones was a flamboyant sportsman, tobacconist, club and pool room operator in Vancouver, B.C., from 1904 until 1929. He issued an interesting and diverse group of tokens and gaming chips over that time.

Con Jones was born in Australia in 1869 of Irish parents. He brought his wife and young children to Vancouver in 1904, where he was to spend the rest of his days. He obtained his first business licence in July of that year, for a pool room with nine tables. By 1912 he held licences for 60 tables. In 1919 when Jones had 62 tables, the next largest pool room operator in the city had only 12 tables.¹

His first billiard parlour was known as Con's Billiard Room at 320 Cordova St. West. In 1908 he took over the Tooles Billiard Parlour location at 47-49 Hastings St. East, changing the name to the Limit Pool Room. In late 1914 Con Jones installed a bowling alley at 330 Cordova St. West, which he gave up by 1919. By 1909 he had added the Brunswick Pool Room at 58 Hastings St. East. The Brunswick Pool Room, moved in 1912 to 26 Hastings Street East and was still running until 1936 when it became the Brunswick Sports Club. Over the years Con Jones operated at a dozen different locations and at each of these locations he sold tobacco and candy.

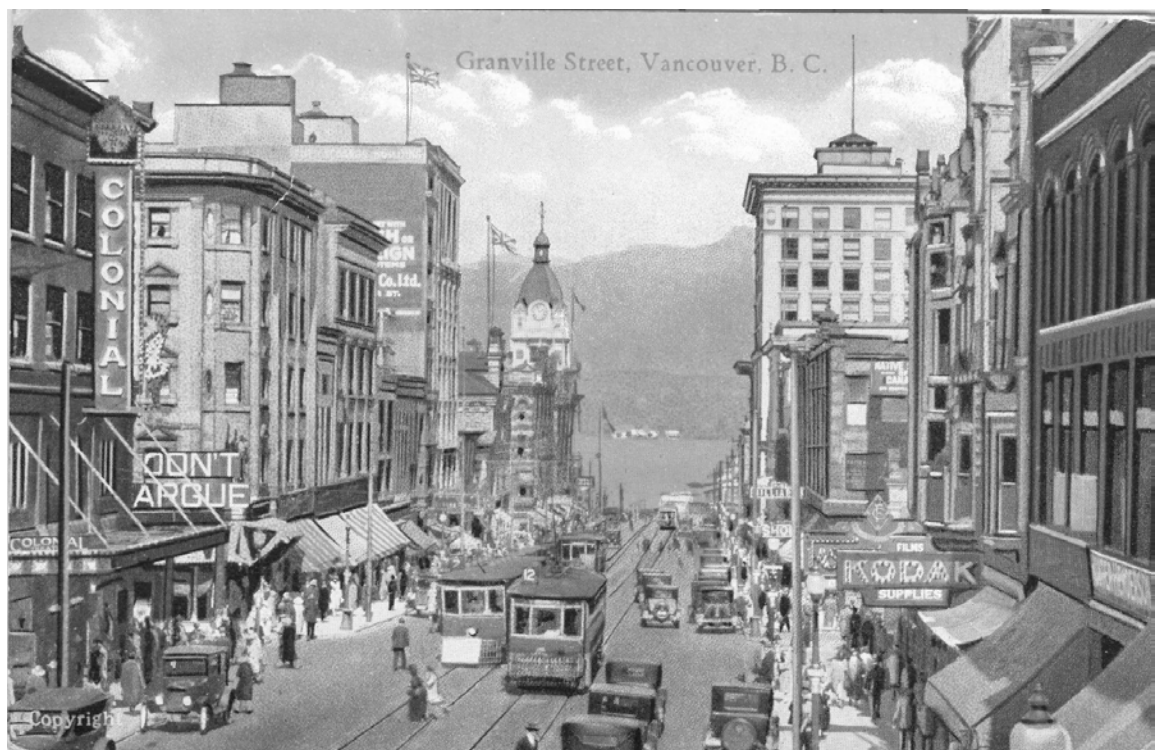
Con Jones is famous – at least in Vancouver –

for his slogan “Don't Argue,” which he started using in his regular newspaper advertising August 25, 1914. The ad read, “Don't Argue! Con Jones sells fresh Tobacco.” Some time later he registered “Don't Argue” as a trade mark.

From September 1911 until August 24, 1914, Con Jones had been running a regular ad in the *Vancouver Province* which read, “Go with the Bunch to the Brunswick Pool Rooms.”

From the time that he arrived, Con Jones was involved with association football (soccer) and field lacrosse. He was the manager of the Vancouver lacrosse team in 1911 when they defeated the defending Minto Cup champions, New Westminster to take the Cup. In those days the Minto Cup was emblematic of the Senior Lacrosse Championship of Canada.²

Another of Con Jones' involvements, the National Sports Club, was incorporated in 1901 as the English Bay Bathing and Athletic Club. On October 31, 1906 it changed its name to the National Sports Club. Con Jones was its secretary treasurer for a number of years. In 1909, he tried to obtain a liquor licence for the club but the licence was declined as “not in the interest of the public,” which was the standard reason for a licence refusal.³ The club operated a card room at 320 and later at 330 Cordova



Con Jones' “Don't Argue” sign on Granville Street is often mistaken for a advertisement for theatrical production.

Street West for some years, and it is probably where the gaming chips described below were used. While gambling was illegal the club avoided prosecution by charging the players for use of the cards and tables and not taking any part of the stakes. According to the city prosecutor this made it impossible to obtain a conviction.⁴ The club was last listed in the 1913 city directory and was dissolved in 1924 for failure to file annual returns.⁵

In 1918 Con Jones arranged a three year lease from the Parks Commission for the Brockton Point athletic grounds. He agreed to pay \$700 a year rent and to spend \$5,000 to put the grounds into the best possible condition. For this he would have exclusive use of the grounds on Saturdays, public holidays and some other days.⁶ In September 1920 he bought a

two-block tract of land opposite Hastings Park (the site of the Vancouver Exhibition, later the Pacific National Exhibition) from John Callister which became known as Con Jones Park. He used the site for professional baseball and Pacific Coast League soccer. After Jones died, mortgage payments stopped and the property reverted to Callister. His heirs donated it to the city and today it is known as Callister Park.⁷

In May 1929 Con Jones incorporated a company, Con Jones Limited, to take over his business. The transfer was effected May 17, 1929 and just two weeks later he suffered a brain hemorrhage, which led to his death June 3, 1929, two months short of his sixtieth birthday.⁸ He was survived by his wife, four sons, a daughter, and a brother.



Notes

1. Vancouver City Archives, Business Licence Registers 383, location 126-A-2, et al
2. *Vancouver Province* September 11, 1911, p. 10. gives a full account of the final game, but no mention of Mr. Jones.
3. GR0095 Provincial Police files, Vol 1, 413
4. *Victoria Colonist*, November 28, 1936, "Gambling is big menace, Vancouver Inquiry told"
5. GR1438 Attorney General, Registrar General, (Registrar of Societies) S0087, on microfilm B04406
6. *Vancouver Sun*, April 27, 1918, p. 3
7. www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/parkfinder_wa/index
8. *Vancouver Sun*, June 3, 1929, p. 1, Death Certificate 1929-09-417156, microfilm B13136
9. In 1920 the bowling alley at 330 Cordova W has become the Vancouver Bowling Alley operated by Patrick Keough and A. Morgan, but the Jones listing still shows a bowling alley at this address. Possibly the listing was inadvertently left unchanged from 1919
10. Con Jones Ltd., tobacconists were listed in 1955, but not 1957



At various times Con Jones and his successor company, Con Jones Limited, operated at the following locations:

- 320/330 Cordova St. W** by 1906 to 1919¹
 - (Con's Billiard Room 1906-1910), (possibly from 1904)
 - (National Sports Club 1907-1908, 1910-1913)
 - (Con Jones' Bowling Alley 1914-1919)⁹
- 601 Granville** 1926 to 1932
- 622 Granville** 1925
- 698 Granville** 1931
- 718 Granville** 1921 to 1930
- 898 Granville** 1933
- 26 Hastings St. E.** 1912 to 1938
 - (Brunswick Pool Room)
- 47 Hastings St. E.** 1908
 - (Limit Pool Room)
- 58 Hastings St. E.** 1909 to 1912
 - (Brunswick Pool Room)
- 612 Hastings St. W.** 1920 to 1955¹⁰

Con Jones was a prolific issuer of tokens. His first piece was an encased cent issued in 1909 or early 1910 when Con Jones was already operating at several

locations, but had not yet adopted the "Don't Argue" slogan. All known piece contain 1909 Lincoln Head cents. There was also a 1927 Jubilee of Confederation. He also issued nearly a dozen different tokens, of which six could be exchanged for a 5 cent candy. These "premium" tokens had different addresses 601 Granville St, 718 Granville St, 26 Hastings St. E., and 612 Hastings St. W., and different shapes for each location. The four token issuing locations were only operating simultaneously from 1926 to 1930. This would argue (and Don't Argue!) for their period of issue starting with 1926.

Ever since they were discovered by numismatists the Don't Argue gaming chips were rare, no more than 2 or 3 of each type being known. This changed in 2004 when a trunk once belonging to Con Jones came up at an auction sale in Vancouver. Inside there was a large quantity of gaming chips. Now the pieces are quite common. The chips are known in denominations of 5 (cents), 25, 100 and 500. •

Archives and Archivists

*Edited by Sylvia Stopforth,
Librarian and Archivist, Norma Marian Alloway Library,
Trinity Western University*

Submitted by Lisa Codd, President of the AABC

Preserving the Past While Planning for the Future

Preserving the past is a complicated business. Our clients and visitors are often drawn to museums, archives, and heritage sites to find comfort in connecting themselves to history. Families visit historic sites so parents and grandparents can share stories about the past with children. Genealogists access archives to find the documents that tell them who they are, and where they came from. While these visitors seek comfort and stability in our product, behind the scenes our organizations can be anything but comfortable and stable.

While we are busy preserving the past, who is making sure our associations, archives, museums, and historical societies are going to continue into the future?

As a sector, we are facing many challenges. Funding from government is less certain, and we have seen cuts to federal programs including modest programs like the Museums Assistance Program (MAP), the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund (CHPIF), and student employment programs that we rely on.

Volunteerism is in decline in our society, especially among the types of volunteers we typically rely on. Succession planning is a challenge for many organizations as baby boomers retire and long-serving board members and volunteers face burn-out. Our legal and administrative world is more complicated, as a variety of regulatory frameworks - from firearms licensing to privacy legislation - impact our museums and archives.

This past year, the Archives Association of BC (AABC) has been working toward implementing strategic planning as a way to sustain our organization in the face of a changing business environment. The work has shown the value of taking the time to assess the challenges we are facing, and to bring people together to find solutions. With funding from the Centre for Sustainability's Arts Partners in Organizational Development (ArtsPOD) program, we were able to work with a consultant to complete an organizational assessment. This helpful tool provides an assessment of what is working in the organization, and what is not. It helps people agree on realistic steps that can be

taken to begin implementing change.

We are now ready to embark on the next step in our journey: with additional support from ArtsPOD we are establishing a strategic plan. This plan will help us develop concrete plans for the next three to five years, and will include a review of our mission, goals, and strategies. We will examine the roles and responsibilities of board members and volunteers. Finally, we will evaluate our programs, and develop means of raising the money required to implement those plans.

Most importantly, we will get together to talk about and create solutions that will work for the organization. Those of us in the business of preserving the past often forget that an organization is made up of people: the collections we care for and programs we offer are the by-product of strong and sustainable organizations.

More information about the ArtsPOD programs can be found at: HYPERLINK "<http://www.centreforsustainability.ca>" <http://www.centreforsustainability.ca>

For more information about the AABC, visit HYPERLINK "<http://aabc.bc.ca/aabc/>" <http://aabc.bc.ca/aabc/> •

Submitted by George Brandak, Manuscripts Archivist UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections

What's New at Rare Books and Special Collections at the UBC Library

On August 30th, 2005, Rare Books and Special Collections opened its doors for researchers at the garden level of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, 1961 East Mall, on the site of the former north wing of the Main Library. Reference services are provided in temporary quarters until the permanent reading room is opened in ca. November, 2007.

Since the move, Rare Books and Special Collections has a new website (<http://www.library.ubc.ca/spcoll/>). To view manuscript collections, click on manuscript collections and on the ensuing

page click on the letter of the alphabet of the name of the fonds or collections you wish to see; you can view either a brief description or, by clicking on its pdf, view a finding aid to it. If researchers can identify the box number(s) required prior to a visit, retrieval time will be shorter. Most archival material is in the Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) and a robot will retrieve the material for researchers, upon request. Books, photographs, and audio-visual material are still in a vault. The hours are still 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, and the office phone no. is 604-822-2521.

Rare Books and Special Collections has attempted to follow its mandate of acquiring significant research material relating to the economic, political, cultural, and literary activities of British Columbia.

Owing to the archival backlog that has occurred in following this practice, RBSC has become very selective in accepting material until the backlog is significantly reduced.

The following is an example of the kinds of archival materials that have been acquired between 2004 and 2006. All fonds and collections are available for research unless otherwise noted.

Forestry:

Mike Apsey Research Collection on the Lumber Wars, 1980-1994, 15 meters of textual records. The Collection consists of textual records, reports, briefs, correspondence, printed material and other items relating to Canada-United States trade issues with specific reference to softwood lumber export and tariffs.

Mining:

Albert (Bert) Reeve fonds consists of his records generated in the exploration and operating process of Blackdome Mines, 1970s to the 1980s, including 118 maps, 399 slides and an ingot made of the 200,000th ounce of gold produced.

Fishing:

Two lease agreements for fishing rights from First Nations people regarding the use of their fishing territories near Inverness Cannery, 1877 and 1878.

A letter from J. Thain to his son describing conditions in BC regarding commercial fishing for salmon, July 17, 1877.

The Homer Stevens fonds consists of records created during his leadership of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union including correspondence, prison publications, and subject files from his year at Mt. Thurston Camp; he was imprisoned for contempt of court, 1967-1968.

The Lee Straight fonds consists of scrapbooks containing over 30 Roderick Haig-Brown letters relating to fishing and conservation.

The British Columbia Wildlife Federation fonds consists of minute books, 1956-1966.

Politics:

The fonds of Rosemary Brown, politician, feminist, author, and social activist, consists of correspondence, subject files, speeches, lecture material, day planners, research notes, and articles on various issues such as discrimination, inequality of women, affirmative action, and sexual assault. The papers also include material gathered and created for the books, *Being Brown: An Autobiography* and *African Canadians*.

Labour:

Detailed work record books kept by Leslie Coppan, a longshoreman, in which he listed in detail each firm he worked for as well as his compensation, 1957-1988.

The Janet Nicol Collection consists of correspondence, clippings, questionnaires, and printed material relating to a union campaign to organize Vancouver office workers, 1988-1989 by the Service, Office, and Retail Workers of Canada (SORWOC) and clerical organizing in general in BC.

Cultural groups:

Additions continue to the Doukhobor Manuscripts Collection including over 40 letters written by Peter V. Verigin, 1912-1924.

Accruals to the Jim Hamm Doukhobor Research Collection continue to add photographs, interviews, and documents related to the production of his film, *The Spirit Wrestlers*.

Literature and Art:

The Roy Miki fonds consists of material relating to his poetry and literary career as well as significant records pertaining to the activities of the Japanese Redress Committee.

Accruals to the records of the Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia and the Alcuin Society arrive on a scheduled basis.

Accruals to the Jack Shadbolt fonds and Doris Shadbolt fonds, are to be processed and are not available in 2006.

Good luck to all in their future research. •

In the last issue the captions were dropped from the images that accompanied the article. Here they are: A 1950s clipping, Fritz Wurster Collection, and Skating on Kitimat's outdoor rink opened in 1962 at City Centre, Max Patzelt Collection.

UBC Library - Rare Books Home Page

http://www.library.ubc.ca/spcoll/

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Book Reviews



Books for review and book reviews should be sent to:
Frances Gundry, Book Review Editor, BC History,
P.O. Box 5254, Station B., Victoria, BC V8R 6N4

Carving the Western Path: Routes to Remember.

R.G. Harvey. Surrey, Heritage House, 2006. 190p., illus. \$18.95. pb.

Not only did Premier Bill Bennett follow his father's policy of building roads but he is also indirectly responsible for turning district highways engineer R.G. Harvey into a historian. In responding to the premier's request for a talk on the Okanagan Highway to a Kelowna Chamber of Commerce meeting, Harvey uncovered a wealth of documents in his office. That "hooked" him on history; this is his fifth history of transportation in British Columbia.

This volume includes extended versions of two articles that previously appeared in the *British Columbia Historical News*;¹ as well as essays on the early trails and roads of the Okanagan Valley; the roads and ferries at Kootenay Lake; an informative account of the Highways Department ferries, their predecessors and successors; and on the impact of weather on roads and bridges. Harvey used a variety of secondary sources and government records — some of which he believes have since been destroyed — to provide the setting. His engineering knowledge allowed him to give clear explanations, for example, of how avalanche control and reaction ferries work. Most significantly he is a good story teller whether relating his own experiences or those of his contemporaries.

Harvey regards many highway workers as heroes. He records a ferryman's rescue of a logging truck driver who floated downstream atop his load after his truck went into the Skeena River. Their work was not always appreciated. After one foreman stood in a freezing lake for almost an hour holding an injured woman after a bus skidded into the lake during a sudden change in weather, an insurance adjuster chided him for not having had the road sanded. Nor did bystanders always understand engineering principles. When an ice jam threatened Quesnel, a city councillor suggested having the Royal Canadian Air Force bomb the jam; Harvey, the engineer in charge, rejected the idea lest

the bomb destroy the pulp mill.

Harvey cites several instances of politics influencing transportation policies including the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement on freight rates. He attributes the lack of a good road on the west side of Okanagan Lake between Kelowna and Vernon to the influence of Forbes G. Vernon, the long-time Member of the Legislature for Yale. In his own time, Harvey rues the privatization of many activities of the Highways Department. He argues "coastal ferry division ran smoothly for many years. It had no labour problems, it did not build the wrong kind of ferries, it suited the job and it fully fitted the truism 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.'" (p. 129) He notes how its workshops devised snow plows and sanding trucks that were superior to their commercially made counterparts and researched alternative fuel sources for its ferry fleet.

A nice assortment of well-chosen photographs and a fine selection of clearly drawn maps enhance this lively and informative glimpse into the history of transportation which Harvey correctly describes as the "key" to developing British Columbia.

Patricia E. Roy is the president of the BC Historical Federation

¹ "The Trek of the Huscrofts in 1891," *British Columbia Historical News*, 35.2 (Spring 2002), 2-7; "The Crows Nest Railway," *British Columbia Historical News*, 37.3 (Summer 2004), 17-22.

Interred With Their Bones: Bill Miner in Canada 1903-1907

Peter Grauer. Kamloops, B.C., *Partners in Publishing*, 2006. 642 pp. Illus., bibliog. \$35.

American stagecoach and train robber Bill Miner spent thirty-three years incarcerated in the San Quentin Penitentiary and the years 1903 to 1907 roaming around British Columbia. Kamloops author Peter Grauer spent the years 2000 to 2006 researching, writing and editing his six hundred and forty-two page book about Miner's life, especially the four years here. The result of Miner's time in B.C. was a lifetime jail sentence in the BC Penitentiary for his May 8 1906 train robbery near

Kamloops that has been spun into a legend and was once discussed in the House of Commons. The result of Grauer's effort is a meticulously researched, entertainingly-written, must-be-read volume of twenty-eight chapters that he states, is "a modest attempt" to assemble "all of this primary and secondary material [about Miner and the robbery] into one definitive volume." Grauer's caveat about the claim of the "definitive volume", however, is that he knows there is more material about Miner still out there so he encourages his readers to contact him with it at his website www.billminer.ca. Arrangements can also be made there to purchase his self-published book or to have him appear as a guest authority on the legendary Miner and his myth.

With its anecdotal, colourful and easily readable style, *Interred With Their Bones*, will appeal to a general readership interested in learning more, a lot more, about Miner as the man glorified in the feature film, *The Grey Fox*, and often presented in publications as a Robin Hood who stole from banks and railroads to provide funds to the poor, even if the poor were the "soiled doves" and women with "chequered careers", or the hangers-on or poker-playing horse thieves and cattle rustlers he befriended. But as Grauer's interviews and well-documented research show, "Old Bill" aka George Edwards, had a large following of law abiding friends and admirers as well.

For an audience of historians, researchers and archivists, the book's approximately 80 pages of detailed end notes, the extensive bibliography, subcategorized by books, censuses, collections, directories, Emails, interviews, journals, manuscripts, letters, maps, government documents, newspapers, unpublished notes, periodicals, voters' lists, websites, and an index will delight them no end. So too will the fact that Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops is now the repository for Anthony Martin's entire private collection of the materials he "rescued from the closing of the B.C. Penitentiary." And all readers will

undoubtedly be captivated by Grauer's newly found documentation strongly substantiating that Miner's trial may have resulted in a gross miscarriage of justice for one of the accused, an alleged accomplice identified by witnesses as The Third Man during the Ducks (now Monte Creek) robbery.

What readers will also find is a carefully structured story with Bill Miner centre stage but surrounded by a fully fleshed out early 1900's world of wide ranging references to well and lesser known individuals of the time (Prime Minister Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Kamloops' first Black alderman, John Freeman Smith), to major and minor historical events (the arrival of the telephone and the minutes of Kamloops City Council), and to the geography of British Columbia, especially the Similkameen and Kamloops areas. The book is also replete with insights into the motives and make-up of key characters. There are the Jekyll and Hyde descriptions of Miner, who despite all the documented evidence to the contrary, staunchly claimed he was not the American robber and ex-convict Bill Miner but rather trapper, prospector and rancher, George Edwards. At times Grauer presents Bill posing as a friend and confidant to teenagers, a gentleman to ladies like Susan Allison, "the first white woman in the Similkameen Valley," and a free spender with cowboys and ranchers. At other times he shows him as he smooth talked gullible followers into doing his bidding, stole horses, or was involved in Canada's second but abortive train robbery near Mission, or as he escaped from the B.C. Penitentiary after serving only a year of his lifetime sentence for the Ducks robbery. His accomplice, William "Shorty" Dunn was eventually released from prison, returned to the Princeton area, and then settled in the Burns Lake region where as John William Grell he became a Canadian citizen just before his accidental death by drowning. Well profiled too is the life of the easily-led second accused accomplice, Ontario-born Lewis Colquhoun who died in prison of tuberculosis at 34 years of age. Grauer also

makes a compelling case for the involvement of Paul Stevens of Little Fish Lake in the Ducks affair and outlines the roles reclusive Princeton area rancher and horse thief, Jack Budd, played with Miner and others of his cadre over the years.

Each chapter centres on an issue, event or character integral to the unity of the book. But within each chapter there are also sub-stories and threads of stories tied back to earlier chapters or cast forward to later ones. And the chapters involved in the chase and capture of the train robbers proceed from different points of view before converging into the finality of the capture, all adding to the drama and tension of the day-by-day documented records of the pursuits. Early on Grauer mentions that all statements in quotation marks are accurate transcriptions not fictional accounts, and cites their sources throughout.

Among the main chapter and sub-chapter stories are those of the CPR officials and their employees affected by the robberies at Mission and Ducks and of the law enforcement officials who brought the robbers to justice. Officers such as BC Provincial Police Superintendent, F.S. Hussey, BCPP Chief Constable Ernest Pearse and Constable William Fernie both of Kamloops and their colleagues and Indian trackers are painstakingly accounted for, as are the members of the Royal North West Mounted Police detail who captured and brought the bandits to the Kamloops Gaol after a shootout in which Shorty Dunn was wounded but Miner, Colquhoun and their captors were unharmed. The account of the trial with its excerpts from the transcripts and extracts from newspapers of the day about the exploits of prosecutor, Frederick Fulton, and defence attorney, Alexander McIntyre, both of Kamloops, makes for compelling reading, especially with the subsequent revelations about McIntyre's weaseling attempts to collect more than his fair share of legal fees from the defendants, based on rumours of bonds stolen from the earlier Mission robbery but never recovered. For heightened interest there are the archival photographs of the accused taken by

Kamloops photographer, Mary Spencer, and the allegations around them and their newspaper publication for the fairness and impartiality of the trial, a trial which occurred in two versions, the first a three day affair which resulted in a hung jury, the second following immediately in one day and resulting in a conviction. And the depiction of W.S. Seavey as the braggadocio American detective attempting to usurp credit for the capture of the trio illustrates that not all the morally corrupt of the era were on trial.

Equally riveting in the book is the detailed description of prison life for the convicts in the New Westminster B.C. Pen and especially of the byplay of the outsiders, guards and convicts who contributed to Miner's escape and to the unfortunate consequences for the Acting Warden of the time, the paranoid David Dominick Bourke. After Miner's escape, which neither Dunn nor Colquhoun participated in, he disappeared from Canada only to resurface in rumoured sightings. But as Grauer points out, "The fact remains that no reliable information exists for where Miner went directly after his escape nor how he got back to the United States." What is known, though, as Grauer records, is that Miner was later imprisoned in Newton County, Georgia and died on September 2, 1913 in the Midgeville prison.

But while Bill Miner died after spending most of his life in prison, Old Bill's legend lives on a hundred years after the Ducks robbery, a fact Peter Grauer willingly acknowledges and even encourages. Grauer's yeoman service in separating the facts from the fiction of Bill Miner's (aka George Edwards') years in Canada deserves widespread recognition. His benchmark book should be top-of-the-charts reading and a part of every library collection in Canada.

M. Wayne Cunningham, Kamloops, B.C.

Tweed Curtain Pioneers.

Betty Gordon Funke. Victoria, B.C., Trafford Publishing, 2004. 114p., illus. Paperback. \$17.95

Every community is filled with women whose activities support and unify the area. Their influence is often lost to history. In "Tweed Curtain Pioneers," Betty Gordon Funke points out that "in the past, men held the spotlight" even though there were females who were vital to their regions. In an effort to highlight the accomplishments of women on Vancouver Island, Funke presents "sketches of women who took a back seat" in the Oak Bay area of Victoria. Their endeavours "made a difference" and include Ida Uthoff who was a painter, art teacher and founder of the Victoria School of Art; Margaret Alice Beckwith who, among other things, organized a number of Oak Bay playgrounds, formed a committee to help restore "the oldest standing school in Western Canada, and in her later years was president of the BC School Trustees Association; Harriet Pat Brown who, in 1962, helped inaugurate the Oak Bay Tea Party and participated in the event for over 40 years; and E. Marjorie Hill, the first female graduate of architecture from a Canadian university, who designed several buildings in Victoria including "the first purpose-built seniors' housing built in Canada." The only group profile is of the seven women who, in 1911, carved an oak reredos for the Church of St. Mary the Virgin. In 1959, the reredos was moved to the Memorial Chapel in the new church.

Each biography is short, well researched, and often amusing. In some cases, the use of footnotes or other supplementary material would have been useful for the reader. For example, Funke mentions the "clashes and conflicts" between James Douglas and Richard Blanshard but does not give any background or explanations for those antagonisms. Likewise, she mentions that Edythe Hembroff-Schleicher, "the Emily Carr watchdog" made enemies and caused controversy, but does not elaborate any further. That said, each profile does contain

intriguing material. One example is the story of Alma Russell, who in 1897 was "the first trained librarian west of Ontario." She was hired to classify and catalogue, by hand as there was not a "typewriting machine," the 20,000 or so books in the BC Legislative Library. Alma was dismayed to learn that the city librarian catalogued his books according to size and colour. She could not dissuade him from the practice. While she lost that battle, Alma was successful in other endeavours: to name a few, she made up library loan boxes of 100 books that were distributed to small towns across the province. Alma also devised methods to catalogue historical maps and the material held in the Pacific Northwest History collection, and she was a founding and active member of the British Columbia Library Association. Alma worked so hard that she had two nervous breakdowns and "had occasion many times to muster to my aid every ounce of courage I possessed."

Betty Gordon Funke is an award-winning journalist and has taught creative writing at Camosun College, the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre, and the Braille Institute in Los Angeles. She is a "pioneer" herself for recording and preserving the contributions of Oak Bay's female "leaders".

Sheryl Salloum writes for Vancouver magazines.

Philip Timms' Vancouver, 1900-1910.

Fred Thirkell and Bob Scullion. Surrey, B.C., Heritage House, 2006. 192p. 200 b&w illus. \$39.95 hard cover.

People once used the postal system to send short messages to friends and relatives. To cater to the potential market at the beginning of the twentieth century commercial photographers produced picture postcards illustrating local scenes and events. One of them, Philip Timms "deliberately set out to produce a photographic record of Vancouver and its neighbouring municipalities." (p. 8) He left over 3,000 photographs of which more than 1,500 became postcard images. In addition to his artistic eye, Timms had a sense of humour or, perhaps, a sense of what

Vancouverites might send to eastern friends. Among several snow scenes in Vancouver is one of a line of street cars on Granville St. led by one advertising, "Skating. Trout Lake. Ice Kept Swept." On the face of the card, he printed, "Must we admit it?"

Drawing on about 200 examples of Timms' cards, Fred Thirkell and Bob Scullion divided their work into a number of sections, mainly geographical. Well known photographs such as an automobile parked in Stanley Park's hollow tree, the hustle of Hastings Street under a banner "Many Men Making Money Means Much for Vancouver," and the fishing fleet at Steveston are here but so too are a number of lesser known images such as those of the rural area of Eburne, the mill town of Port Moody, and of industries such as shipping and wholesaling. Two sections concern the company town at the Canadian Pacific Lumber Company Mill at Barnet on Burrard Inlet and the Britannia townsite and copper mine on Howe Sound. Among the action photographs are those of a dredge digging drainage ditches on Lulu Island and of a logging train in the Capilano Valley. There are, of course, pictures of people at play in Stanley Park and at English Bay and of Dominion Day parades. A striking image is that of neatly dressed Japanese children waiting to visit two Japanese cruisers in 1909 but curiously there are no pictures of Vancouver's Chinatown but there is an image of "the [Indian] Mission" in North Vancouver.

Much has changed and the authors explain what happened to buildings that are no more. Some such as the New Westminster Exhibition Buildings and King Edward High School disappeared from fire. Others were victims of "progress." The Arcade on Hastings St. was demolished by 1910 to make way for the Dominion Trust Building. The authors rue the loss of such important buildings as the Rattenbury-designed Bank of Montreal in New Westminster and its replacement by "a less-than-inspired *Art Moderne* structure." (p. 163). Some structures have been transformed. The North Vancouver School

became the city hall and now houses the city's archives and museum. In showing the surviving buildings, including the original Pantages Theatre, Thirkell and Scullion plead for preserving them and for rehabilitating Hastings Street that in 1910 was a premier shopping area. The authors praise past and present efforts to revive Gastown, the north part of Main Street, and Granville St.

Thirkell and Scullion introduce this, their seventh history based on postcards, with a brief biography of Timms and his extended family. Each section has a few paragraphs of background and each image, a paragraph or two on its circumstances and often on the architect involved. Despite minor slips such as putting the opening of the original Vancouver Hotel in 1867 and referring to the Canadian Bank of Canada rather than the Canadian Bank of Commerce, their descriptions are generally historically accurate. This is a fine, nostalgic and celebratory look at Vancouver approximately one hundred years ago with a clear message for heritage planners.

Patricia Roy

Far West: The Story of British Columbia.

Daniel Francis. Madeira Park, Harbour Publishing, 2006. 175 p., illus., maps. \$36.95 hard cover.

Daniel Francis set out to write a book about British Columbia's history that will be suitable for readers aged nine and up. He provides background information about the unique society that emerged in British Columbia in the last few hundred years and shows that British Columbia is a rich mix of the native cultures that have been here for centuries and the cultures of the people who have come here from all over the world in search of wealth and a new way of life. He brings the book up to date by explaining how we are currently attempting to meet the challenges presented by our environment, our treatment of First Nations citizens, our ethnic mix, our increased urbanization and our changing economy. Francis succeeds in his task primarily by his ability to write history clearly and simply, making the book

accessible to both young people and adults. He makes the book interesting by providing sidebars on topics of high interest and relevance, supplementing the narrative with short descriptions of BC places, BC persons, BC creatures, fast facts and short quotations, and with an abundance of well chosen photographs, drawings, paintings, maps and original illustrations. For those unfamiliar with BC place names he provides some help with pronunciation and numerous easily read maps locating most of the places. The illustrations are lavish and make the book appealing as a coffee table book for readers who want a quick and easy overview of British Columbia's history. The book will likely appeal to students, new Canadians, people who have moved here from other provinces, and BC residents who want to improve their knowledge about our past. Francis has done a fine job of covering the basics of our history – the people, events and topics which are essential for anyone who wishes to understand how our society and culture have evolved. His book will help people understand what makes our province tick, and is just the sort of book BC residents should have on hand when entertaining guests from outside the province or country. Selection is always a problem when writing such a short book. Daniel Francis misses some topics such as the *Komagata Maru* incident and skips over other important topics such as World War II and labour history. However, he does such a fine job of dealing with Native history and weaving in some women's history and ethnic history that such deficiencies will barely be noticed. In any case the book is a great tease – it shows the reader that BC history is really interesting and unique, and it will whet the reader's appetite to learn more about our past. There are many books about BC available for scholars and people with a deeper interest in history, but this is the best non-academic book currently available for young people and the general public. There are a few errors in the book. Francis states that Alexander Mackenzie hiked through "snowbound mountain passes" to reach the Fraser River, while

Mackenzie actually canoed up the Peace and Parsnip Rivers in May and June. He misidentifies a well-known photograph of a wagon train on the Cariboo Wagon road as being taken on the Fraser River rather than on the Thompson River. He also repeats the myth that Begbie was called the "hanging judge" by his contemporaries. There is no contemporary written record of this term, and in fact it was only after his death that writers used the expression to romanticize his career. But these are minor flaws. The Ministry of Education should see to it that this book is available and used in every school in the province. Children raised in BC need to know more about the history of their province before they learn about the rest of the country and the world.

Charles Hou is a retired Burnaby high school teacher who for many years gave his students a first hand experience of BC history by leading them on a hike over the gold rush trail from Port Douglas to 29 Mile House.

Greenpeace - the inside story.

Rex Weyler. Vancouver, B.C., Raincoast Books, 2005, 624 p., illus. \$24.95 paperback

Wow, what a rush. Reading Rex Weyler's account of his active participation in the Greenpeace movement is like being on the bucking deck of a zodiac crashing through the bloody wake of a fleeing whaler - exhilarating, but simultaneously sad.

The men and women who formed this radical sect brought the eyes of the world to focus on the high seas where both human and animal atrocities were being played out in secret by some of the most powerful nations in the world. And whether it was quietly slipping into the exclusion zone of a nuclear test site, chasing down Japanese and Russian whalers or confronting Newfoundland sealers, the men and women of Greenpeace had several overriding characteristics in common: social conscience, principles and courage.

Although some had careers that synced neatly with the movement – Bob Hunter was a Vancouver Sun columnist whose colleague once asked him if he was reporting the news or making it, and Ben Metcalf was a CBC personality – many others suspended or abandoned their

chosen fields for the greater good.

Irving and Dorothy Stowe epitomized the latter. Trained as a lawyer and social worker respectively, both were so heavily burdened by the nuclear bomb at Hiroshima that from then on they adopted the Quaker concept of "bearing witness" where speaking out is not only encouraged but is a responsibility.

"World changers aren't planners." Weyler writes at the beginning of his book, "The planners come later, with critics and social philosophers to mop up and win the awards." In fact, it was probably the ragtag nature and idealistic zeal of the founding members that made them so effective and in hind sight, so endearing.

Long haired, bearded and more prone to follow the readings of Fu His's 5000 year old Book of Changes, the I Ching, than a concrete operating plan, these "world changers" elevated the status of the environmental movement from fruitless intellectual sparring to direct, non-violent action fashioned after Gandhi's teachings.

But despite the influence of Gandhi, Native American spiritual mythology and the Quakers, the evolution of Greenpeace, from the basement of the Unitarian Church on Oak St. in Vancouver – where upon leaving one night, Irving Stowe said, "Peace," and Bill Darnell quietly added "Make it a *green* peace" – to world headquarters in Europe, was bound to lead to some personality clashes.

Despite common goals, nothing is common about achieving them, and whenever egos and intellects are involved, the tussle to be right, and heard, often rubs up against another's sentiments. To give the members their due, however, the environment always came out on top.

I wholly recommend Weyler's book. Not only is it a well researched and well written history of the evolution of the Greenpeace movement told in a dramatic style by an insider, but it is also an intimate look at the key players, their foibles, their doubts, their strengths, but mostly their confidence that they had the juice to make a difference. And so they did.

Eric Jamieson, North Vancouver

Labour of Love: a memoir of Gertrude Richards Ladner 1879 to 1976

Sheila J. Rankin Zerr, Glennis Zilm and Valerie Grant. ZGZ Publications, 2006. 113 p., illus. \$30. To order, contact Sheila J. Rankin Zerr, 5333 Upland Drive, Delta BC V4M 2G3. Add \$5.00 for postage.

This is a fascinating book. The co-authors found a Memoir dictated by Gertrude Ladner prior to her death in 1976. Her daughter, Edna Ladner, prepared a nine page booklet for family members. Valerie Grant inherited Edna's papers in 2002. These included a note book containing Gertrude's handwritten recordings of lectures to her class in 1903-1905.

The Memoir by Edna is presented as Chapter two for nine pages in French Script. Chapter three is a typed copy of those words with a multitude of footnotes. Those footnotes are definitely useful explanations but make for stilted reading.

Chapter four is "History of Provincial Jubilee Hospital and Admission Booklet." The history names many early figures in Victoria, and describes the steps taken to provide nursing or medical care until the PRJH was established in 1891. The text does not state which of Queen Victoria's Jubilees was commemorated in the naming of this hospital (it must have been the Golden Jubilee in 1887). The contents of the Admission Booklet provided for those who might apply to the Training School for Students Royal Jubilee Hospital is on a par with "Rules for Teachers" in the same era. Your reviewer could visualize the scenario in those very early years – and was very thankful that circumstances were more comfortable fifty years later.

Chapter five, "Gertrude Richard's Notebook", consists of verbatim notes made by a conscientious, sometimes struggling student. Fountain pens were relatively new in those years. Gertrude alternated between red ink and dark blue ink. There were spaces in the notes where she had obviously missed something said by the lecturer. Many of the pages would be classified as *Materia Medica*. Oh the struggle to spell correctly and to understand the similarities and differences of the listed medications. Sections of this chapter might be daunting

for some readers, but for anyone with a nursing, pharmaceutical or medical background it is a delight.

Chapter six, "Nursing Uniforms – Early 1900s" is a great piece of history with some novel illustrations. Last but not least are detailed pages, "References, Bibliography and Index."

The authors capitalized on the available reference material to tell the story of a student training in the first School of Nursing in British Columbia. Also, Gertrude typifies "an average nurse" who worked for a few years, married, moved with her husband's job transfers, and settled to participate in community affairs. Gertrude Richards had a famous sister, Eveline, who founded the Pitman Business College in Vancouver. Her husband's family name is perpetuated in the community of Ladner. *Labour of Love* is a nice story presented well under the presenters own banner.

Naomi Miller graduated from U.B.C. in 1951 and has a B.Sc. in nursing.

"High Water: Living with the Fraser Floods"

by K. Jane Watt published by the Dairy Industry Historical Society of British Columbia. 2006. #200 - 32160 S. Fraser Way, Abbotsford B. C. V2T

Dr. K Jane Watt states in her book *High Water: Living with Fraser Floods* many of the people she talked to felt that we are in a time of historic forgetting. That is likely true: few regard the Fraser River as the heart and soul of British Columbia and few indeed realize the significance to us all of the lands behind the dykes of the Fraser River estuary. Dr. Watt's book, supported by the Dairy Industry Historical Society is certainly a timely reminder as collectively we contemplate disastrous floods of 1894 and 1948 in the context of a rapid growth of the human population, new demographics and sustainability of the regional economy.

High water displays a fascinating collection of archival photos and oral histories documenting attempts since 1870 to establish homes, farms, industry, and supporting infrastructure on the Fraser

alluvium. It is also a story of the devastation caused by the fury of some of its freshets, the cutting of railroads and other transportation links and the isolation of Vancouver and nearby cities.

Dr. Watt addresses some of the issues around the Rivers' management past and present - the complexities, engineering, biological, economic and societal might require another book.

As one of the thousands of volunteers who manned the dykes and loaned a tractor, I am inclined to ask a few minor questions as an educational item for the public of today. Would it have been useful to expand on the weather in the reference to the Fraser's tributaries snowpacks and great lakes of the watershed? And also more about the recession of the flood waters and the resilience of the farmers? - by late summer the floodplain was green again and the stench of dead vegetation gone. There is a lesson here the death of crops was largely due to anoxia (loss of dissolved oxygen) as the temperature of the shallow receding waters rose; some farmers saved their plants, in some areas by quickly pumping or draining.

V.C. Brink has spent over 50 years working to conserve BC's natural legacy

Bill Bennett: A Mandarin's View

Bob Plecas. Vancouver, Douglas & McIntyre, 2006. 298 p., illus., bibliog., \$22.95 paperback.

At the outset of his book Bob Plecas admits it is neither a full-blown biography nor an academic account, nor is it written by an historian or a politician. Rather as a former career civil servant who previously worked for six premiers and twenty-five ministers in ten ministries, his account presents a personal view aimed at telling the background stories of "honest men and women making tough decisions to the best of their ability." Primarily it is about their leader, Kelowna's Bill Bennett, who took the Social Credit Party to three election wins and served for eleven years as B.C.'s Premier. It is also "a setting the record straight" account for the man whom Plecas found had both a

public persona presented by the media and a private face that not many, even some of his closest colleagues got to know. His hope for his book is that it will help "Bill Bennett's contributions to be remembered," that it will help the public better understand the man behind the accomplishments, and that it will provide a base for historians and researchers for further studies. And while Bennett was completely cooperative with Plecas, he informed him that it was to be Plecas's book, that he was to "tell the story as you see it, and let the people be the judge."

For general readers as well as historians, archivists and political scientists, the book provides valuable insights into the political manoeuvring and thought processes of politicians during a particularly volatile period of B.C.'s modern history. Readers on whatever side of the political spectrum will recall or be introduced to the controversies and clamour around such events as the Transpo that morphed into Expo, the BC Place Stadium, the SkyTrain, the Coquihalla highway, BC Lotteries, the "dirty tricks" scandal, the BCRIC shares that broadcaster Jack Webster re-christened the BRIC shares, and the early 1980's restraint program and attendant budget and legislation that resulted in Operation Solidarity, the subsequent strikes, and the settlement with the Kelowna deal between Premier Bennett and union representative Jack Munro. As well, Plecas points out, there was the initiation of the Auditor General's position, the passage of the Ombudsman Act, the issuance of Native Tree Farm licences, the settlement of various Native land claims, and the start-up of B.C.'s first Ministry of the Environment. While Plecas provides many of the insights about these events, his views are frequently supplemented with the stories, quotations and filtering of others such as mandarins Norman Spector and Jim Matkin, business guru Jimmy Pattison, politicians Grace McCarthy, Bud Smith, and Dave Barrett, union icon Jack Munro, reporter Marjorie Nichols, politician turned broadcaster Rafe Mair and others whom he interviewed. His broad ranging research, both primary and

secondary, provides a lot of facts and figures but it also presents a multitude of colourful quotations and intriguing, illuminating anecdotes about incidents such as the "Not a dime without debate," slogan, the rise and decline of the Kamloops-based Majority Movement, the defection of three of the five Liberal MPs to the Socreds, the disasters that occurred when Diana and Charles toured the pavilions at Expo, the creation of "Gracie's Finger" in the electoral redistribution, and the "B.C. is not for sale" retort. The chapter on Dave Barrett describes the contrast between his management, organizational and leadership style and that of Bennett's, and the chapter on the federal-provincial discussions for the repatriation of "the Constitution with a notwithstanding clause" highlights the behind-the-scenes drama and tension that infused the talks along with the humorous intrigue of a document being surreptitiously passed to Saskatchewan Premier Allan Blakeney in an elevator.

Without belabouring his view of Bennett's private face, Plecas inserts more stories and comments about the former Premier's commitment to his family, his arm's length relationship to his colleagues and staff with whom he never lunched, dined or drank socially, his respect for his father, his sense of humour, his private life penny pinching attitude that affected his concern for public spending, and the perception of others about him as a man of integrity, honesty and single-minded dedication to any task he undertook. There is a chapter on his early years that expands on these views and how he came to achieve them, and several pages of photographs show him in various settings, formal and informal.

There is little doubt that former mandarin Bob Plecas has told Bill Bennett's story as he saw it. It's a story well worth reading both for its own sake and as a benchmark for the biographies and studies yet to come.

M. Wayne Cunningham, Kamloops, BC

Red Goodwin.

John Wilson. Vancouver, Ronsdale Press, 2006. 170 p.
\$9.95 paperback.

The outlines of Albert (Ginger or Red) Goodwin's saga are reasonably well known to B.C. readers. A coal miner and union activist, Goodwin had worked as a miner in his native Yorkshire and in various mines across Canada. He was active in the United Mine Workers of America as well as the Socialist Party of Canada, many of whose members provided the core membership of the Communist Party of Canada when it was formed in 1921.

As a Socialist Party member, Goodwin opposed World War I. He held that worker should not be fighting worker. Initially, Goodwin was classified unfit for army service but following his leadership in a strike, he was reclassified as fit for combat service overseas. He fled to the forest near his old stamping grounds at Cumberland, B.C. and was shot to death by Special Constable Daniel Campbell on July 27, 1918. Campbell was charged with manslaughter but the assize jury of the day refused to commit him to trial.

John Wilson notes in the epilogue to *Red Goodwin*, his fast-paced, easily read novel for young adults, that two biographies of Ginger Goodwin provided the historical background for his story. Those two were *Ginger* by Susan Mayse (1990) and Roger Stonebanks' *Fighting for Dignity: the Ginger Goodwin Story* (2004). Citing these two biographies with their somewhat different takes on aspects of the life and influence of Ginger Goodwin underlines the debate that clusters around him.

However, Wilson doesn't write to settle the controversies swirling around Goodwin. He doesn't play with the hints of conspiracy that show up in some literature nor does he take his story past the date of Goodwin's death to deal with possibilities of a cover up. His novel opens in Cumberland on July 20 and closes on the fateful day, July 27. From the prologue, the reader knows that Goodwin dies on July 27.

The central figure of Wilson's novel is 16 year old Will Ryan, recently orphaned

when his Captain father is killed at Passchendaele. Will is sent from his home in England to live with his uncle, a superintendent at Robert Dunsmuir's mine in Cumberland. Will's contacts with Goodwin and his meetings with a labourer's bright son, Jimmy Wong and a miner's young daughter, Morag, begin the process of his re-education. Will's decision to race to warn Goodwin of the ambush in the making is a final step in the process even though he doesn't succeed.

The other characters, Morag, Jimmy, Will's uncle Charles and Goodwin are hardly three-dimensional, and to some extent exist to declaim their positions on racism, the place of women, corporate control and a class society. We meet Ginger Goodwin, for example, primarily to hear his arguments and reasoning. For all of the rhetoric the story is exciting and filled with twists and tragedy and brings the attitudes of the era to life. It manages to be both instructive and engaging.

Ross Carter is a retired college administrator and Historian and editor of *Historiana*, the newsletter of the Bowen Island Historians, and *Marlais*, the newsletter of the Dylan Thomas Circle of Vancouver.

Olivia's Mine.

Janine McCaw. iUniverse, Inc., New York, 2006. 235p,
\$16.95 paperback.

Historical novels set in British Columbia, especially ones for young adult readers, are rare, so new ones such as *Olivia's Mine* are always welcome. The novel's main character, Olivia Fitzpatrick, learns many life lessons when she follows her ambitious husband Frank, from Seattle to the mountainside copper mining village of Britannia Beach a short distance north of Vancouver. Olivia knows none of the 500 miners and their families at Britannia Beach when she arrives by steamship in 1912, but as she finds a way to belong and cope with disasters and miracles, the reader comes to appreciate the hardships, prejudices and joys of small town life only a few generations ago.

Predictably the central characters are

Caucasian and drive the plot, from mine boss John McMichael to Olivia's friends Lucy Bentall and Sarah Leiboldt, while those of other cultural backgrounds, such as Frenchie Cates, a Scots-Metis, and the Yadas, a Japanese couple, whose son Jimmy is proudly Canadian-born, provide foils who are humorous and wise.

The story belies the idea that nothing happens in a small town, as everything seems to happen at Britannia Beach in the decade Olivia lives there. There is a landslide, a fire, a cave in and a flood—events which really did occur. Many lives are lost, including those of people close to Olivia. And though cultural groups live separately within the town and intolerance is considered normal (another fact of history), people pull together in many instances as Olivia discovers. Women play a traditional role on the surface, but Olivia proves there are windows of opportunities to take charge and this she does, despite her husband's unappealing fits of jealousy.

Still these were paternalistic times, with miners fired 'Donald Trump' style and no trade union in place. (The miners unionized after the Second World War.) Alcohol and prostitution, in moderation, is tolerated as a release for the workers. These facts as well as mining safety concerns, such as miners' lung disease, are woven into the story but for the most part, the common working man's hardships are downplayed in favor of romantic intrigues. Despite all the town's disasters (not to mention the First World War and the Spanish flu epidemic), the author has a talent to deliver a happy ending as Olivia's determination and the towns peoples' strengths carry the day.

Janet Nicol, Vancouver, B.C. is a high school history teacher and freelance writer.

Miscellany

John Anthony Crosse

November 17, 1925 - October 31, 2006

A force of nature has ventured on, leaving ears ringing with conversations shared and stories recounted.

"As I was driving through the southern States in my boss's car, which he didn't know I had, on my way to the Grand Caymans to sail with a Galician piper friend ..." was a typical beginning from John Crosse's world of tales.

He wove his stories in and out of other talk, repeating his adventures often enough, with sufficiently different perspective and detail each time, that they could only be true, however extraordinary. There was always something in them relevant to the current topic, as he lit on new connections and understandings, never just reminiscing for the sheer fun of it, although it was fun, without fail.

John's family and pedigree meant a great deal to him. He was a great-great-great-grandson of Rev. Henry Williams, chief negotiator of New Zealand's Treaty of Waitangi. He claimed to be the Prince of Wales from a distant royal affair, and he was proud of traces of Maori blood in him, although, in the official record, none existed, as expected.

He'd danced with Princess Margaret, cutting in on Peter Townsend. His mother knew Sir Edmund Hillary, having sat beside him on a very long plane trip, where she didn't once mention Mt. Everest, to his great relief, but engaged him entirely by saying, "I understand you keep bees."

John graduated from Kings College at Cambridge, had a Masters Degree in Engineering from Purdue University, Indiana, and had worked, he said, on a Ph.D. in Sunbathing at Rochdale in its Roachdale days. He'd been a marine engineer, sailor, executive, professor, historian (author of *Thermopylae and the Age of Clippers*), and more. He'd married his talented artist cousin Pamela Crosse, moving to Canada with her and their son Andrew in 1959.

At age 70, John learned from Andrew how to employ "sheer grit" to temper his

worst depressive and manic episodes, which had profoundly affected his life till then. John loved learning, and to learn something so vital from his son gave him particular joy.

Andrew wrote that his dad "did not own a car ... he rode a bike. He lived in a humble basement suite in Kitsilano and enjoyed every day of his life and every person he met. His favourite greeting to a stranger was "Where are you from?" He had "buddies" around the world, from Cairo to Christchurch. He had so many friends, from the affluent to the poor. All were meaningful to him."

John Crosse burst into my life after a talk I gave in 1992 about Captain George Vancouver. John was so excited by the stories I retold through Vancouver's triumphs and torments that he spent much of his remaining years researching and writing about the Spanish explorer Narvaez, for his early mapping of the BC coast, and English sailor Thomas Manby, for his love of young women, wherever met. John also, in his final decades, kept journals—dozens of them, in total—of his daily encounters, a treasure trove of life lived large.

John died after a bike ride, on the crisp, clear afternoon. Near five o'clock, he felt a little weak and walked for a block with the help of a stranger. On the corner of his street, he collapsed of a heart attack. The young woman from next door gave him CPR, and an ambulance arrived in two minutes, but he slipped away quickly and painlessly.

Man, what a day! he would have said. I kick off with a young woman kissing me, and they get the excitement of an old guy dying on the street to tell their friends. What a perfect Hallowe'en night.

And so John's stories have come to an end, but not his voice, as it echoes in the heads of those who heard him and continues to stir the hearts of those who loved him.

Brenda Guild Gillespie was one of John's history buddies.

Margaret Ormsby Prizes

The Margaret Ormsby Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2006 winners of the Margaret Ormsby Prize for the best essay in British Columbia History. Marlene Roseboom of the University College of the Fraser Valley has won for her essay "The Evolution of the Kwakwaka'wakw Potlatch: From Pre-contact to Post-ban" and Callie Joyce Smith of Malaspina University College for "Cricket, Culture and Empire in Victoria, B.C." The prize of \$300 is awarded annually to the top essays at UCFV, Malaspina University College, Thompson Rivers University, and the University of BC Okanagan. The Scholarship Fund is now administered by the Vancouver Foundation and donations can be made to the scholarship via "The Endowment Fund for the Promotion of British Columbia History".

Index to the British Colonist On-Line

This spring saw an expansion to the on-line collection of histories of Victoria in the Victorian era including Leona Taylor's index to the British Colonist from 1858-1919. This index makes much of the historic Colonist easily findable by historians for the first time. Other new additions include work on time capsules and cornerstones in Victoria, the BC Electric Railway Company, the gardens and the surveying of the distinguished Pemberton family, and the first death of a policeman on duty in the city. See www.victoriasvictoria.ca

John Lutz

Patu on Display

Richard Wells would like readers to know that the model he made of the patu featured in the Banks island article (Vol.39 No. 3) is on display at the Port Hardy Museum.



The British Columbia Historical Federation is an umbrella organization whose members have a common goal for the preservation and display of British Columbia's history.

MEMBER SOCIETIES are local and regional historical societies, museums archives, historic sites, etc. with dues paying members.

Membership fees are \$1 per member with a minimum of \$25 and maximum of \$75 for a calendar year.

AFFILIATE GROUPS are organizations, museums, archives, historic sites, etc. without dues paying members. Membership fees are \$35 for a calendar year

ASSOCIATES are individuals who, because of geography or other approved reason, cannot become a member of a Member Society.

Membership fees are \$25 for a calendar year

All memberships include one subscription to BC History magazine and the BC Historical Federation Newsletter.

For further information contact:
Ron Hyde, Membership Chair
#20 - 12880 Railway Avenue
Richmond, B.C. V7E 6G2
phone/fax 604-277-2627

rbhyde@shaw.ca



Our postcards come from Ron Hyde.

Top: the Sicamous Hotel. Built in the early 1900's the well known Sicamous Hotel was a Tudor style affair with 75 rooms and a large elegant dining room. Dances were well attended and were dressy and posh affairs. The hotel was demolished in 1964 but the Chamber of Commerce notes there are still many inquiries about the hotel.

Bottom: Chief White Elk is standing in front of the Hollow Tree in Stanley Park in the 1920s. The Vancouver Courier noted that the man who held fundraising Indian shows across Europe for "starving" children on reserves, and who suggested to Mussolini that fascists and Indians march side by side to Geneva was in fact an Italian-American actor and con man whose real name was Edgardo Laplante.

Ron Greene notes that the photo of the touring bus shown here last issue was taken at 906 Government Street in Victoria, at the C&C Taxi Service office.

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PO Box 5254, Station B.,
Victoria BC V8R 6N4

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8056 168A Street,
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Phone 604-576-1548
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25th Annual Competition for Writers of BC History Lieutenant-Governor's Medal for Historical Writing Deadline: 31 December 2007

The British Columbia Historical Federation invites book submissions for their annual Competition for Writers of BC History. Books representing any facet of BC history, published in 2007 will be considered by the judges who are looking for quality presentations and fresh material. Community histories, biographies, records of a project or organization as well as personal reflections, etc. are eligible for consideration. Reprints or revisions of books are not eligible.

Lieutenant-Governor's Medal

The Lieutenant-Governor's Medal for Historical Writing will be awarded to an individual writer whose book contributes significantly to the history of British Columbia. Additional prizes may be awarded to other books at the discretion of the judges.

Publicity

All entries receive considerable publicity. Winners will receive a Certificate of Merit, a monetary award and an invitation to the Awards Banquet of the Federation's annual conference.

Submissions

For mailing instructions please contact:
Barb Hynek,
Chair/Judge of the BCHF Book Competition
2477 140th Street, Surrey, B.C. V4P 2C5
Email: bhynek@telus.net
Phone: 604.535.9090

Books entered become property of the BC Historical Federation.

By submitting books for this competition, authors agree that the British Columbia Historical Federation may use their names in press releases and Federation publications regarding the book competition.