



photo credit: Ihor Pona/ for Smallworks

Sunday, June 5
10am - 5pm

Tickets \$40 or \$30 with valid student ID

The annual Heritage House Tour, now something of a Vancouver tradition on the first Sunday of June, returns for its 14th year. Far from routine, the tour offers a wide-ranging selection of unique historic homes that showcase how older houses can be restored, updated and enjoyed. The tour is a great way to experience different neighbourhoods, get inside inspiring spaces and discover more about our city's history through the stories of individual houses - their architects, builders and residents.

This year, we tour the rich history of Vancouver through the homes of those that were part of it, including one built in 1915 for a local businessman (pictured above). The home features many lovely pieces of stained glass including an impressive window over the staircase with bison, thistles and a beaver, and has been carefully restored and updated.

Also on the 2016 tour is a Craftsman home built in 1909 which had several owners before being willed to the Catholic Church who converted it into a children's home in the 1960s. It remained in this use until 1996, although run by different organizations. In those 30 years, the house saw many renovations that caused damage to the original historic fabric. Vacant for several years, it was purchased by the current owners who have worked diligently for a number of years replacing missing elements, restoring original floors and reinstating the floor plan, to create a beautiful family home. Join us June 5th, to see inside these and other heritage homes throughout Vancouver.

Join us for the 2016 **VANCOUVER SPECIAL HOUSE TOUR** -
Saturday April 16th
details on page 3

Welcome to VHF's Spring 2016 newsletter, introducing our programs, projects and updates for the coming months. For the latest news throughout the year, be sure to check our website regularly and subscribe to our bi-weekly e-newsletter.

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OLD SCHOOL WORKSHOPS & COURSES

This spring, Old School returns to some favourites including our popular *Researching the History of a Building* courses. Taking place at the City of Vancouver Archives and the Vancouver Public Library Special Collections, the expert instructors know their way around the resources in both these locations and are able to offer useful insight into how to maximize your efforts and find the most information.

Heritage 101 also returns, offering a solid introduction to heritage conservation and its framework in Vancouver, taught by experts in the heritage field.

John Atkin will lead us on another intriguing *Neighbourhood Zoning Walk*, this one in South Shaughnessy. See how this area has evolved in response to 1990s era guidelines meant to preserve and maintain single-family housing character and retain outdoor spaces, trees and views.

Old School teaches homeowners and professionals skills and knowledge for the care and maintenance of older buildings.

Many of our programs are eligible for Professional Development credits. Visit our website for more information.

BROWN BAG LUNCH & LEARN

BCIT Downtown, 555 Seymour Street
Wednesdays, 12pm – 1:30pm
\$15 / \$9 with valid student ID (inc. tax)

Learn about the state of heritage in Vancouver today with experts in architecture and design, city planning and other related fields. Bring your lunch and your questions and learn about the issues, projects and topics that are relevant to the future of Vancouver's historic neighbourhoods and buildings.

EVENING LECTURES AT HYCROFT

1489 McRae Avenue
Tuesdays, 7:30pm - 9:30pm
\$15 / \$9 with valid student ID (inc. tax)

Located in beautiful Hycroft Manor, VHF's Evening Lectures offer illustrated talks that look at the history of Vancouver, covering the events, movements and people that shaped our city.

***Please note *The Crescent: From the CPR and the Garden City to Today* is an afternoon seated lecture followed by a walking tour with limited capacity.**

Thank you to the University Women's Club at Hycroft.

Researching the History of a Building

Discover how to research the unique stories of a building and learn vital information that can be used to guide future conservation decisions. These sessions illustrate the types of resources available to researchers, and how to best utilize them.

- City of Vancouver Archives: with John Atkin
February 23, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, \$20
- Vancouver Public Library: Special Collections
March 1, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Free, but registration is required

Heritage 101: Understanding Heritage Conservation

March 5, 9am - 4:30pm, \$110

A comprehensive introduction to the theory and practices that inform the conservation of heritage buildings and sites.

Neighbourhood Zoning Walk: South Shaughnessy

April 24, 10am - 12pm, \$30

See how design, landscaping and streetscapes in South Shaughnessy have been shaped in response to 1990's design guidelines.

Former Remand Centre: Converting a Former Jail into Community Housing

February 24

w/ Jonathan Oldman, Executive Director of Bloom Group and Naomi Brunemeyer, Asset Manager of BC Housing

Taylor Manor: Creating Supportive Housing inside a 100-year-old Mansion

March 30

w/ Architect Mitch Sakumoto, Merrick Architecture

St. George's Renovation & Restoration: Updating a 1912 School

April 27

w/ Robert Lemon, Robert Lemon Architect Inc. and Neil Piller, Director of Operations, St. George's School

Selling Vancouver to Tourists: 1890 - 1960

February 16

w/ Michael Kluckner, Author and Artist

How Streetcars and Real Estate Shaped Vancouver

April 5

w/ John Atkin, Civic Historian

The Crescent: From the CPR and the Garden City to Today

May 29, 1pm - 3pm*

w/ Adrienne Brown, Landscape Architect

VANCOUVER SPECIAL HOUSE TOUR



Saturday, April 16
1pm - 5pm
 \$30/\$23 with valid student ID

Now in its 8th year, this tour is an opportunity to explore Vancouver's very own housing style and how these and other homes can lend themselves to adaptation to modern living. Perhaps the most prolific housing style

in the city, the Vancouver Special was relatively quick and affordable to build, and popped up across Vancouver between the 1960s and 1980s. Offering generous spaces over two floors, new owners have been creative in reusing and restyling these ubiquitous boxes, making them their own. The reuse and adaptation of existing buildings is an important theme for the future of our neighbourhoods and can make a major contribution to achieving sustainability goals – the rethinking of the Vancouver Special offers inspiration for other building types and housing styles. Join us on April 16th as we get inside more examples of revamped Vancouver Specials, each one showing the potential of a common housing style to a creative homeowner.

STUDENT ACCESS PROGRAM

Interest in our Student Access Program is picking up with students from UBC School of Community and Regional Planning leading the charge. There are now 24 students enrolled in the program eager to attend events in 2016. If you're interested in donating to help a student attend our programming, or if you are a student who would like to be added to the list, visit vancouverheritagefoundation.org/get-involved/student-access-program.

Save the Date!

Vancouver Bus Tour
 Evening tour of downtown
 neon and more
 March 23rd

HERITAGE WEEK 2015



February 15 - 21

Heritage Week celebrates built heritage across BC and kicks off with National Heritage Day across Canada. In 2016, the theme is "Distinctive Destinations: Experience Historic Places."

Heritage tourism offers adventure, storied history, vibrant culture and stunning landscapes for every age

group and interest: from trendy neighbourhoods to sacred landmarks and grand hotels. VHF invites you to join us for a series of events that explore Vancouver's unique heritage places – those that have long been a draw to the city and those that are waiting to be discovered.

Thank you to Heritage Week partners Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, Emelle's Catering, Roundhouse Community Centre, University Women's Club at Hycroft and Vancouver Rowing Club.

Official Heritage Week Launch

February 15, 12pm - 1pm

Free

Join us at the Roundhouse Community Centre for a reading of the Heritage Week proclamation with Deputy Mayor, Councillor Heather Deal, a short walking tour with John Atkin and free coffee

Selling Vancouver to Tourists: 1890 - 1960

February 16, 7:30pm - 9:30pm

\$15 or \$9 with valid student ID

Evening Lecture at Hycroft with Michael Kluckner

Spending the Night: Vancouver's Historic Hotels

February 20, 10am - 12pm

\$15

Walking tour in downtown Vancouver with John Atkin

Historic Stanley Park: From British Enclave to Urban Oasis

February 21, 9:30am - 12pm

\$20 or \$15 with valid student ID

Walking tour of Stanley Park, coffee and lecture at Vancouver Rowing Club with Maurice Guibord

WALKING TOURS: APRIL TO OCTOBER

All walking tours \$15/each (inc. tax)



Walking tours begin again this spring with new themes from guides Maurice Guibord and John Atkin. Maurice looks at cultural history and architecture with tours of Grandview and its numerous repurposed religious buildings, the industrial legacy of False Creek East, Art Deco in downtown Vancouver, the incredible history found in Mountain View Cemetery and the hidden history on the PNE grounds.

John will walk the neighbourhoods along the length of the "zero points" of Vancouver, the streets that act as a start point to east and west Streets: Carrall Street downtown and Ontario Street across False Creek. Each tour will offer up different elements of Vancouver's history. Full tour schedules and specific walk themes will be posted on our website in coming weeks.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR HERITAGE PROJECTS



To contribute to the Heritage Action Plan, VHF has prepared a study on financial incentives and support for heritage conservation. The study looks at available financial programs for heritage work in the City of Vancouver. Financial incentives that motivate and support the retention, restoration and rehabilitation of heritage buildings

and sites can take a variety of forms, including grants, loans, property tax relief and bonus density. VHF would like to see more available in Vancouver to encourage heritage conservation and regular effective maintenance of historic properties.

VHF's grants are the only city-wide program regularly available to all types of Heritage Register structures including privately-owned sites. A Heritage Revitalization Agreement can be a valuable option when undertaking a one-off major project for restoration and there are currently some incentives available in Vancouver's recognized historic districts.

For properties owned by a non-profit or government organization more can be available, including grants through Heritage BC, Community Gaming Grants, and specific programs for cultural facilities. We will be sharing more information about available programs in the Get a Grant section of the VHF website this spring.

PLACES THAT MATTER



We wrapped up 2015 with plaque #84, and celebrated 5 plaques telling the history of West Hastings Street at a summertime lunch event with treats, live music and a free walking tour! We are working hard to recognize more sites in 2016 including the former Temple Shalom on West 10th Avenue which

was firebombed in 1985. Stay tuned for future PTM announcements in the works. Join us on [facebook.com/PlacesThatMatter](https://www.facebook.com/PlacesThatMatter) for the latest news.

VHF GRANTING PROGRAMS

HERITAGE ENERGY RETROFIT GRANT

Launched in September of 2015, the Heritage Energy Retrofit Grant pilot program now has the first 20 homes working through the program. We are excited to see the first results come back so we can start analyzing the success of the program to retain historic features and fabric, while improving energy efficiency. We are hopeful that the Heritage Energy Retrofit Grant will become part of our regular granting program.



Granting in 2015 supported a number of great projects, including the drafting of a Conservation Report for one home and a Statement of Significance for another. Both these documents are incredibly important for restoration and long-term maintenance of a heritage building. One of these buildings was not even mentioned in real estate sale materials but it is now undergoing restoration, rehabilitation and recognition on the Vancouver Heritage Register.

True Colours revisited three houses. It has been 15 years since these homes were part of the Mole Hill restoration and social housing rehabilitation. Re-painting has once again revived their beauty.

The Beacon Hill/Park Grocery historic corner store and apartments were given a Restore It grant to assist with efforts to convert it back to a commercial storefront, including restoring wood windows. Also to be restored are original 1908 Coca-Cola etched transom windows.

A Restore It grant was also provided to the Queen Charlotte Apartments to restore original wrought iron exterior lights. Broken and missing fiberglass panes were replaced with period-appropriate glass, the iron work was professionally restored, and electrical components refurbished. The new lighting was proudly in place during the Queen Charlotte's participation on the 2015 Heritage House Tour.

ONLINE RESOURCES

If you have not explored our website recently, grab a coffee and take a few minutes to peruse. In addition to the Vancouver House Styles web tool and information on the Heritage Action Plan, there are also case studies of heritage projects and our two newest online resources:

An Introduction for Homeowners: The 2014 Vancouver Building By-Law

This guide for homeowners considers renovations to an older home, clarifying what you do or do not need to address, including door hardware, windows and stairs. The guide can be a really good starting point when planning a project. It is available in the Learn With Us section of the website.

Heritage Site Finder Interactive Map

This interactive map of the Heritage Register is now fully mobile-friendly with more information and images added with the help of 50 volunteers. Most of the over 2200 sites now have a recent image and many also have descriptions and history. The map has received overwhelmingly positive feedback. We continue to welcome your feedback and would love to hear about a heritage building you have a personal connection to. We are also always looking for more volunteers if you'd like to help. More information is in the Get Involved section of our website.

"This summer I biked around Vancouver using the map to explore different heritage sites in the city. It's a really great tool!"

MID-CENTURY MODERN HOUSE TOUR



This sold-out tour visited a variety of Mid-Century Modern homes including Arthur Erickson's personal home and garden, pictured left. The modest Erickson home was an excellent juxtaposition

to the impressively designed Danto Residence, one of Erickson's earliest residential commissions. The tour also went to new heights by opening several apartments in the converted BC Electric Company building, now a residential development called The Electra. The day wrapped with a reception at a remarkable mid-century home recently featured in a Tim Burton-directed film.

LANEWAY HOUSE TOUR



A record number of people attended the 2015 Laneway House Tour reflecting strong interest in this form of densification without demolition. Five newly constructed lane homes built behind existing residences were open,

including one designed around a mature magnolia tree and one offered as a vacation rental. We also looked at a historic infill, designed as part of conservation efforts for the 1936 Art Moderne Barber Residence.

THE WALL: FAITH MOOSANG



The WALL at the CBC Plaza welcomed a new art installation by local interdisciplinary artist, Faith Moosang. Utilizing 164 images from the CBC Archives and Wikimedia Commons, Faith's work, entitled *down.town*, explores the extent of

buildings lost from downtown Vancouver between 1954 and 2015 and how much was recorded as news. An artist's talk in November officially launched the art and explained the artist's research process and findings. A companion website was also launched which assists the viewer in exploring the complex artwork.

CITY DRINKS: AN EVENING IN SHAUGHNESSY



Started in 2014, the popular fundraising evenings, City Drinks, took us to a remarkable private residence in First Shaughnessy in October. With the Disher House offering an atmospheric backdrop, guests enjoyed a silent auction of local items as well as a special performance by Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's Maestro Bramwell Tovey. The evening was a great success, enjoyed by all and raising funds to support VHF's educational programming and grants. We will continue this series in 2016, so look for coming announcements.

SPECIAL EVENT WALKING TOURS: KITSILANO

In 2015, a number of special one-off walking tours were offered. Two in particular looked at the cultural history of Kitsilano.

In the Footsteps of the Past: Retracing South Asian History in Kitsilano



In September, Cultural Researcher and Curator, Naveen Girn and Filmmaker and Researcher, Paneet Singh led a tour of Kitsilano focusing on the lesser known Sikh history. In 1908, the first Sikh Gurdwara in North America opened here. This religious, social and political gathering place was situated near homes owned by the South Asian community and the saw mills where they worked. The walking tour retraced the area's

living legacy, pointing out lost and still existing buildings that illustrate the intercultural past of Vancouver, the fight against racial discrimination, and the stories that still resonate today.

Ki-Chi-Ra-No: A Pre-War Japanese Canadian Community

Working with the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre, we explored Kitsilano's Japanese Canadian history. Offered in May to honour Asian Heritage Month, the tour was led by Research Archivist Linda Kawamoto Reid. Kitsilano, or "Ki-Chi-Ra-No" to the locals, was home to the second largest Japanese Canadian community in Vancouver. From 1904 to 1942, over one thousand people settled here building kyabins (cabins), storefronts, a church, a Japanese language school and a public bath. Families ran businesses, worked in the local industry, and children attended Henry Hudson Elementary.

More Kitsilano history can be discovered in the Historic Kitsilano map guide, available on our website.

HERITAGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Heritage Action Plan process moved forward in 2015 with a full year of discussions, public consultation and debate. The main development during the year was the recommendation to create Vancouver's first Heritage Conservation Area for the First Shaughnessy neighbourhood, approved by Council on September 29th. This distinctive neighbourhood, laid out by the CPR in the early 20th century with an estate-like quality of landscaping and large homes, has been recognized and managed by the City of Vancouver as an important historic area for over three decades but now has stronger tools to help deter demolition of remaining historic homes and retain the special character of streetscapes.

The Heritage Register also received attention when the public had the opportunity to nominate sites to be added. Development of a framework is well-underway to bring greater understanding to the significance of sites and help guide updates.

Consultation on ways to encourage retention of older homes and neighbourhood character is expected in the coming months, a topic of particular concern to many across the city. Also expected to receive action in 2016 are other challenges to heritage conservation including processes, and incentives that can encourage retention and rehabilitation of buildings and sites.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we launch into a fresh year of programming at VHF, we are excited to share a varied line-up of talks and workshops, tours to look forward to, a round-up of heritage news, and updates on special projects and granting. Raising awareness of Vancouver's history and built heritage, and supporting heritage conservation projects is as important as ever. Redevelopment pressures continue across the city, but we are encouraged by the enthusiasm we encounter every day for the history and heritage of Vancouver, and the care that many owners put into their buildings.

Key dates are ready for your calendar including the Vancouver Special and Heritage House Tours. Heritage Week events offer an early opportunity to get out and explore historic places – an important asset even for a young city, telling Vancouver's story and helping set it apart as a special place to live, work and visit.

I would like to say a big thank you to all who supported VHF with a donation last year. We could not deliver the programs, projects and support that we do without generous donations from individuals who share our belief that heritage places and older buildings can contribute greatly to our city's future. We welcome donations at any time in the year!

The whole staff team looks forward to welcoming you to events, assisting with heritage projects and celebrating heritage successes through the year.



Judith Mosley
VHF Executive Director

HERITAGE IN VANCOUVER

Chinese Society Legacy Program



Vancouver's Chinatown was designated as a National Historic Site in 2009, giving national recognition to the importance of the neighbourhood to the history of the city, province and beyond. The heritage buildings have long been considered a central component in plans to sustain and

revitalize Chinatown, and in particular the Chinese family, clan and benevolent society buildings. A City-commissioned study in 2015 focused on twelve historic society buildings that are felt to anchor the cultural heritage. Known to be in need of significant repairs, restoration and rehabilitation to ensure their survival, the report concluded that major work is essential within 3-5 years to stabilize the buildings, and more to support their continued use for a sustainable future. In December, Council approved the Chinese Society Legacy Program, committing \$3.6 million towards the estimated \$36 million needed.

Burrard Bridge



VHF has pursued restoration of the historic lighting on the Burrard Bridge for over a decade, commissioning a study and recommendations in 2005 on the subject. With major works now planned for the bridge, it has been confirmed that the

pedestrian lamp standards will finally be replicated and reinstated as part of the project.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



The past year was an important one for heritage in the City of Vancouver with the Heritage Action Plan underway. With Judith Mosley, our Executive Director, taking the lead, Vancouver Heritage Foundation has worked in a number of ways to support this initiative. These included sitting on its Advisory Panel, preparing a supporting report on potential financial incentives for heritage retention, and liaising with the other heritage groups in the city around information gathering and coordinated support.

2016 promises to be a packed year of tours, lectures, and courses. VHF is working to expand the range of grants offered to help conserve heritage buildings – more details on these initiatives will be available soon. The coming year will also see the wrap-up of the Heritage Action Plan with updates available on the VHF website.

Judith has now been Executive Director for two years and has maintained our annual tour and lecture schedules while adding new events including evenings for donors to be updated on the Heritage Action Plan and for social gatherings with live music in heritage venues. The Board of Directors has a diverse range of backgrounds and experience and provides strong support to Judith and the VHF staff. I feel that VHF will be in capable hands as I leave the Chair this spring. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to serve on the Board over the last nine years.

Yours truly,

Marta Farevaag
VHF Chair

VOLUNTEERING



The beginning of every year is our time to reach out and invite volunteers to sign up for 2016 events they would like to be part of. In addition to four annual house tours, VHF continues to build content on the VHF Heritage Site Finder and we welcome new researchers and photographers to this effort. If you were a house tour volunteer in 2015, you can anticipate receiving an email invitation to sign up for 2016's house tours. This year's sign-up will go to all 2015 volunteers and will ask for emergency contact information, offer additional relevant

information to all volunteers, plus outline opportunities and perks available. We ask that you read all of the information included so you are aware of new volunteer opportunities, role responsibilities and expectations prior to signing up. We look forward to another exciting year of events, and working with all of you in 2016!

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Vancouver Heritage Foundation is a charitable organization supporting the conservation of Vancouver's built heritage through public awareness and education activities, granting programs that encourage financial investment in built heritage and fundraising to protect Vancouver's built heritage in perpetuity.

VANCOUVER HERITAGE FOUNDATION Spring 2016 Newsletter

Homes in the Riley Park/Little Mountain neighbourhood



Spring 2016 Newsletter

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- 2016 House Tours
- Heritage Action Plan update
- NEW courses and lectures
- VHF project updates
- Fall Review
- AND MORE