The Vancouver Heritage Foundation

OPEN VANCOUVER HERITAGE HOUSE TOUR

Sunday June 4, 2006 10am - 5pm

The Vancouver Heritage Foundation

Open Vancouver is a fundraising event in support of the Vancouver Heritage Foundation

GUIDELINES FOR VISITORS

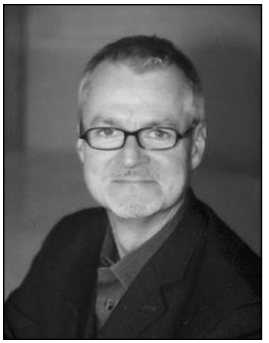
Welcome to the 4th annual Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour.
We know that by choosing to participate in this event, you are someone who respects and values heritage homes.
In order to ensure that the tour is successful and problem-free, we ask you to adhere to the following guidelines:

ALL SHOES MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE ENTERING TOUR HOUSES. WE RECOMMEND WEARING SHOES THAT CAN EASILY BE REMOVED.
You will be given a clear plastic bag to hold your personal belongings.

- This numbered guidebook is your ticket. For security reasons the passport on the back cover will be stamped at the entrance to each house. Only ticket holders will be admitted.
- The houses are open for visiting from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in whatever order you decide. Early birds and latecomers will not be admitted. Expect a line-up outside some of the homes.
- Interior photography is prohibited.
- We regret the lack of handicap access.
- We suggest that young children are not suitable visitors and no strollers will be permitted. Please leave your pets at home.
- When parking, please be aware of the needs of neighbours and other tour participants. Do not block driveways or streets. If possible, arrange to car-pool with friends, as parking is limited.
- We suggest that you leave any parcels or large bags in your car or at home.
- No food, drink or smoking will be allowed on tour properties.
- When viewing gardens, please stay on pathways and do not pick flowers or take plant samples.
- Do not enter any rooms which have been roped off or which have closed doors. Avoid touching furniture, art and household items.
- Note that washroom facilities are not provided in the houses. Please plan to make washroom stops in public facilities in the area or at Hycroft, 1489 McRae Avenue. (See map in the centre of this guidebook).
- A bicycle tour of selected houses will leave 2544 Columbia at 10 am.
  RSVP to the Vancouver Heritage Foundation at (604)264-9642
- The organizers maintain the right to remove or refuse entry to any visitor who, in the unlikely event, refuses to adhere to these guidelines.

Please feel free to ask questions of our terrific volunteers.
Have a wonderful day!

Greetings from the Chair of the Vancouver Heritage Foundation



Its hard to believe that this is the fourth annual Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Vancouver Heritage Foundation, I want to thank you for supporting us in this event, as we open the doors of some of the city's most interesting heritage houses.

The volunteer committee chaired by Joan Hebb have found a wide range of heritage houses for you to explore. From Point Grey to Shaughnessy, Strathcona and Hastings-Sunrise to Mt. Pleasant, choose your own itinerary and explore. Or hop on your bike and let Gordon Price lead the way. Again this year The University Women's Club will be serving light lunches and Ivan Sayers will be will be displaying period clothing at Hycroft.

As you are touring the town think of your favourite houses from the past tours and drop by the VHF booth on Columbia Street to let us know which house is your winner. We are already planning for 2007, our fifth anniversary celebration of Open Vancouver. Our guidebook shows you the support this event has from our sponsors Thompson & Page, Benwell Atkins, Dexter Associates Realty and Alexander Holburn Beaudin Lang. Their participation and yours makes Open Vancouver the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Vancouver Heritage Foundation.

Enjoy the day and please join me in thanking our huge team of volunteers and the wonderful homeowners who make it all possible.

Robert Lemon MAIBC
Chair VHF

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Pre-Tour Lecture

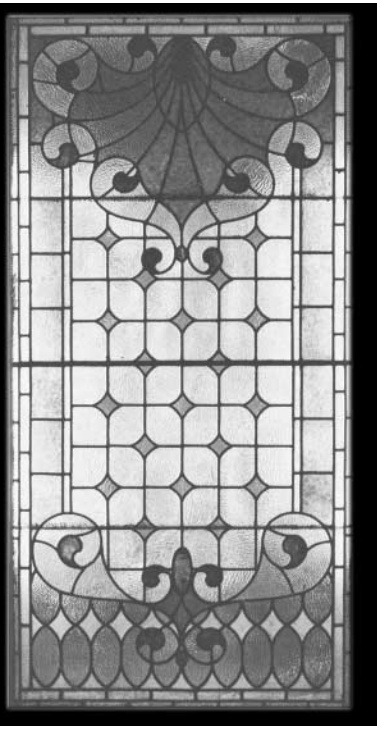
"from the inside out"

The story of Bloomfield stained glass

Illustrated presentation by Jim Wolf
Best selling author and heritage planner
Tuesday, May 23rd, 7:30 pm tickets $8
at the Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut St.

Don't miss this evening dedicated to the
colourful history of reknowned stained glass artists
who lived and worked in 2544 and 2532 Columbia Street
(Houses numbers 7 & 8 in your guidebook
open to visitors on Sunday, June 4th)

tickets at www.vancouverheritagefoundation.org
or call 604.264.9642 ~ limited seating.



John wants to walk you back in time.

John
Heritage Walk
Tour Guide

HERITAGE WALKING TOURS

10:00 am – 12 noon
May 27, June 24, July 29,
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Meet at City Square's Food Court.
Benefiting the Vancouver Heritage
Foundation. $10 per person.

12th & Cambie | (604) 876-5165

CITY SQUARE
get to know us

To book heritage walking tours visit www.vancouverheritagefoundation.org or call (604) 264-9642

About the VANCOUVER HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Vancouver's 120-year history is short, but it is colourful. From the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1887 with its accompanying influx of workers who lived in Chinatown and Yaletown, to the Klondike-era merchants in Gastown, each chapter in our development makes up the story of our city. It is this story that endures and is recounted through the city's heritage buildings.

The Vancouver Heritage Foundation pays tribute to the city's history by curating and celebrating the city neighbourhoods and buildings. Through public awareness activities for the public, education programs for building owners and granting programs that are an economic incentive for the maintenance and restoration of buildings, the VHF brings Vancouver's built environment to the public.

Information about the programs and activities of the Foundation can be found at www.vancouverheritagefoundation.org and in "Old News", the VHF's bi-annual newsletter. Highlights include:

- **True Colours,** an exterior paint granting program that has scraped, colour matched and painted three dozen homes in their original and authentic colours over the last six years.
- **The Historical True Colours colour card** making the original colours of Vancouver, such as Strathcona Red, Pendrell Green and Kitsilano Gold, available through Benjamin Moore retailers.
- The move, rehabilitation, and sale of the **Leslie Lane House**, a turn of the century Victorian style cottage which was donated to the VHF along with its moving costs for use as a demonstration and fundraising project.
- **Restore It!** a granting program that helps with the maintenance and restoration of the exterior fabric of the city's heritage houses.
- **Open Vancouver Sacred Sites Tour** bringing visitors into cathedrals, churches and temples to experience their architecture and history.
- And today's **Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour** which welcomes over 1500 people into heritage houses spread throughout the city bringing the city's history and development alive.

The Vancouver Heritage Foundation's wide array of programs and special events is the result of the dedication and commitment of a wonderful team of volunteer Directors and key donors. We sincerely appreciate the donation of their time, expertise and financial resources.

point grey

get to know your neighbourhood:

Bordered by English Bay on the north and Pacific Spirit Park on the west, Point Grey is Vancouver's most western neighbourhood. Point Grey takes its name from Captain George Grey, a friend of Captain Vancouver. Spanish navigators to Vancouver in the 1790s also left their mark with names such as Spanish Banks and Langara and Blanca Streets.

In 1908 Point Grey broke away from South Vancouver and became a municipality. Still considered very remote, Point Grey at the early part of the century was mostly bushland with a couple of farms and the Industrial School Fourth Avenue, a school for wayward boys that opened in 1904 and is now the site of the West Point Grey Academy.

In 1909 the arrival of the 4th Avenue streetcar opened up the area for development. That year James S. Rear built Aberthau in the Tudor revival style at 4397 West 2nd, the first large house in the area and now the West Point Grey Community Centre. By 1913 many houses started to dot the area around Jericho Beach, including Brock House, now a seniors centre and restaurant right at the water. The addition of a single track street car in 1912 that rode up 10th Avenue to Sasamat then north to 4th Avenue and along 4th to Drummond Drive opened up the higher elevation of Point Grey to a growing middle-class. It also explains why Sasamat is conspicuously wider than other streets in the area. Point Grey and South Vancouver amalgamated with the City of Vancouver in 1929.

BC Telephone Company operators (in bathing costumes) at the beach, 1915
Photographer: Frank, Leonard
City of Vancouver Archives, scanned collection, CVA-17-90

Like much of the west side of Vancouver, Point Grey's streets have witnessed the demolition of many of the small, older homes from the 1920s and 1930s and their replacement by much larger ones. The oldest survivor of all is actually a recent arrival to the area: the Hastings Mill store, built in about 1865 on Vancouver's downtown waterfront and moved in 1930 to Pioneer Park at the foot of Alma Street.

1826 Blanca Street

THE HANNING HOUSE
Style: English Arts & Crafts
Date: Circa 1911
Architect: believed to be Sharp and Thompson
Original Owner: Mary Adelaide & Henry Edgeworth Hanning
Vancouver Heritage Register Status: "B"

Slated for demolition just three years ago and at the time considered a possible candidate for relocation to become the PNE prize home, this lovely old Arts and Crafts house instead went through a restoration, with a compatibly designed duplex built adjacent to the south. The redevelopment of the property included re-subdividing the land by turning the north-south subdivision (the property line went through the middle of the building) to become an east-west subdivision running behind the house. The house was raised by almost two feet to allow for a basement suite, but otherwise the original quirks and heritage features were left untouched. These changes were made as part of a Heritage Revitalization Agreement with the City.

The owner has carefully restored the original fireplace tiles and all the mahogany woodwork in the house. The uniquely styled fir mantel on the west side of the living room was rescued out of the dumpster from Abbott House on Georgia Street. The old front doorway has been retained, but bricks which in the 1950s had been used as facing over the original living room fireplace tiles, have been used to rebuild the front stairs. Rather than an imposing entrance on West 2nd, the front door opens onto Blanca with its back to the view, almost like a servant's entrance. Instead of a front entrance, an original verandah wraps around part of the first floor and overlooks Westmount Park.

Directly above the first floor verandah, the main bedroom has one of four Arts and Crafts tiled fireplaces, now converted to gas. The bedroom opens onto an intriguing second storey balcony which, with its sliding panels, doubles as a sleeping porch. A third-floor bedroom directly above is now an artist's studio with a balcony addition to take advantage of the staggering views.

Other period touches include wood-paneled walls, leaded glass windows and an extensive built-in buffet in the dining room. The deep brown, almost black paint on the exterior half timbering and the off-white plaster is the original colour scheme of the house. The house has changed hands several times over the years. John Cowdry had the house built for his daughter Mary in 1912. Mary lived in the house with her husband Henry Hanning, a time-keeper for Armstrong Morrison Paving Co. on Granville Street.

Flower Arrangements by: **Mahonia Floral Works**
7211 Gilbert Rd. Richmond BC, 604.739.1230

4446 West 5th Avenue

Style: Craftsman
Date: Circa 1913
Architect / Original Owner: C.W. Misener
Vancouver Heritage Register Status: "B"

This West 5th Avenue house is a fine example of a craftsman-style home built shortly before the outbreak of World War I. One of the first houses built on the block, the value of the house in 1913 is listed in the building register at $3,500. In photos acquired by the current owner, and likely taken in the early 1920s, the house is shown with a wooden City sidewalk in front and nothing on the north side of the street. Other early homes can be seen on the south side of the street and the Queen Mary Elementary School (1915) is visible in the distance.

While not much is known about the history of the house, the City Directories at the Vancouver Archives show that C.W. Misener designed, built and owned the house in 1913. From 1918 through to the 1940s it was the home of J.W. Barron, a manufacturer's agent; and in the 1950s George and Dorothy Jackson, the owners of Jacksons Meat Market, a Fourth Avenue institution until just a few years ago, lived in the house. Dorothy Jackson, who now lives on a heritage farm in Ladner, related to the guidebook researchers that the Jackson's were long-time butchers in London, England before immigrating to Canada in 1905. The senior Jackson started by working night shift at a meat-cutting plant and selling meat from a wheelbarrow to Kitsilano houses. Mrs. Jackson recalls a 1950s renovation that removed the dark wood paneling, plate rail and light fixtures in the dining room and the black iron face-plate over the fireplace.

The current owners have lovingly restored and rehabilitated the house, and in 2002 won a City of Vancouver Heritage Award for the front façade restoration and conservation of the streetscape.

4446 West 5th Avenue in the 1920s, homeowner's collection

Flower Arrangements by: **Expressive Designs Florist**
3714 W 10th Ave., Vancouver BC 604.732.6648

charles burwell kerrins van norman

get to know your architect:

At six foot four inches in height and 230 lbs, "Charlie" was a presence as big as his name. He was known for his extravagance, for being the "father of modern architecture in Vancouver," and for playing "the meanest piano in town." (Sean Rossiter, Saturday Review, The Vancouver Sun, April 9, 1994.) He employed many future "names-on-the-door" architects, including Arthur Erickson, and Bill Birmingham of Birmingham Wood.

In the early part of his career he was well known for his period house designs which ranged from New England colonial houses to French Norman manors. Van Norman designed residences for prominent businessmen such as General McRae (a country home at Qualicum beach), H.R. MacMillan., G.F. Strong, James McGavin, H.F. Reifel, John Lecky and Dr. Frank Hebb. Between 1930 and 1955 he designed more than 200 homes that were built in Vancouver, West Vancouver, University Endowment Lands, and throughout the province. Other Van Norman houses to drive by are: 4762 W. 2nd, 2886 Blanca, 4629 W. 2nd.

At the beginning of World War II his residential practice took a new turn as he designed contemporary houses in addition to his earlier traditional "storybook" houses. He developed an interest in prefabricated housing for export to Britain, some for the Department of Veterans Affairs. In the years after World War II, Van Norman also did many commercial plans for department stores and schools. He designed Canada's first regional shopping centre, Park Royal in West Vancouver, as well as the Burrard Building and Beach Towers.

His modernist masterpiece was a new City Hall for Revelstoke, an uncompromising design startling for its time. Another project was a new Company Store in Powell River, 1941, so at odds with the townsite's traditional architecture that people thought a spaceship had landed.

Charles Van Norman was a graduate of the University of Manitoba and came to Vancouver in the late 1920s. He worked briefly under Townley and Matheson before starting his own architectural practice in 1930. He became a member of AIBC in 1930 and a Fellow in 1960. He was in private practice from 1930-1950 including a period of work with McCarter and Nairne. He became a partner in CBK Van Norman and Associates from 1955 until 1968 and continued to work up until his death in 1975.

2553 Wallace Crescent

Style: Georgian Revival
Date: 1939-40
Architect: CBK Van Norman
Original Owner: Roy G. & Doris Selman

Designed in 1939 by CBK Van Norman, this house was built in 1940 for Roy G. Selman, construction superintendent for Canadian Wood Pipe and Tanks Ltd., a company which manufactured wire-wound and continuous wood stove pipe, wood tanks, and waterworks systems.

Much of Van Norman's mid-twentieth century residential design work was based loosely on a "Cape Cod cottage" style which reflected a modernist sensibility but used historical details to promote an image of traditional domesticity. Without breaking free of tradition, he employed a clean-line aesthetic that would pave the way for the introduction of modern styles. Some of his best houses combined American Colonial elements grafted onto modernistic forms.

The Wallace Crescent house is a futuristic rancher with its canted (think air traffic control towers) dining room window. Little has changed from the original design, although the interior designer owner has added her own colour palette and sensitively updated the bathrooms, kitchen and master bedroom. Retained are the original rough plaster walls and the hand-forged iron screens on the doors leading to the courtyard from the living room and study.

The house has a linear plan with the living room wing expressed with deep granite pilasters between full length casement windows. The front door is the original copper design. Granite veneer appears on the exterior contrasted with white stucco and a cedar shingle roof. Heavy wood brackets appear as architectural accents around the house. The rancher layout is tight to the rear, set back on property which sits above the street with a river rock retaining wall. Essentially a one storey home, there is a 6.5 foot attic, now converted into children's bedrooms, plus a high basement with light wells for the additional bedrooms below. In the east side-yard a former greenhouse has been renovated for use as a studio and office.

See house # 4 at 4161 Crown Crescent; also designed by CBK Van Norman, a 3-block walk to the west.

Flower Arrangements by: **Earthrise Garden Store**
2954 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver, BC 604.736.8404

4161 Crown Crescent

Style: European 'Storybook" Style
Date: 1938
Architect: CBK Van Norman
Original Owner: A.M. Shanahan

In contrast to the more modernist Van Norman-designed house at 2553 Wallace Crescent (#3 on the tour), this house on Crown Crescent is very traditional. Its European 'storybook' style derives many elements from medieval or gothic buildings such as the exterior half-timbering on the upper level stucco, the gabled wall dormers and steeply pitched roofline, the leaded windows throughout, and the 'hood' or 'drip' molding over the entrance.

Once you pass through the lush garden and enter the house, you find the principal rooms as they were in 1938. Original mahogany woodwork remains throughout the main floor, although the living room fireplace is wood grain paint and the den mantel is pine (thought to be original). The marine-themed den includes decorative tiles and pegged wide plank floors similar to ships' decking. The leaded glass windows are almost floor to ceiling, and opening the north windows in the living room and dining room you can step through to a small porch almost as if it was intended to be used as a door.

The basement is meant for living and not simply for storage and utilities. It is full height and finished with a fir floor and moldings, and has a large recreation room with an original fireplace.

There are a number of Van Norman-designed light fixtures in the house including the entrance hall ceiling fixture, the hall wall-sconces, and a hanging light in the den that was originally in the dining room. The staircase light fixture is also an original Van Norman design as is the beautiful stained glass window at the landing. Van Norman also designed all the forged iron window and door hardware in the house – interesting in light of the forged iron door screens he designed on Wallace Crescent.

Over the past 68 years, the house has had only 4 owners. It was built for A.M. Shanahan, President of Shanahan Ltd. Importers, who lived there until 1964 when he sold to S.J. Gallagher. Gallagher's residency was short-lived and he sold just three years later to the Paul W. Richardson family. The current owners purchased the house in 1991.

Flower Arrangements by: **Oasis Flowers**
2793 Arbutus St. Vancouver BC 604.730.7992

shaughnessy

get to know your neighbourhood:

The neighbourhood was named in honour of CPR president Sir Thomas Shaughnessy. Its principal streets bear the names of his daughter, Marguerite, and several early members of the company board of directors: Angus, Marpole, Hosmer, Osler and Nanton.

In 1907 Richard Marpole, general superintendent of the CPR, announced that the company planned to create an exclusive suburb for Vancouver's upper class citizens on the hilly slopes south of False Creek. The Montreal landscape architect Frederick Todd and his assistant, L.E. Davick, a Danish engineer, were placed in charge of the $2 million project which was to include such amenities as a lawn bowling club, golf course and tennis courts. The design of Shaughnessy Heights reflected Todd's enthusiasm for the "garden city" concept of urban landscaping. The homes of the rich were surrounded by hedgerows and broad lawns.

The pre-World War I "golden age" of Shaughnessy Heights home construction included a variety of architectural styles: 18th century Georgian townhouses, Spanish colonial haciendas, federal style homes, Cape Cod cottages and oversized California bungalows. The favoured society architects of the period were Samuel Maclure of Victoria and his Vancouver partner C.C. Fox.

Golf Tournament at Shaughnessy Golf Club, 1925
Photographer: Thomson, Stuart
CVA, scanned collection, 99 - 3127

By 1920 the society pages of Vancouver newspapers were an intimate chronicle of the lives of Shaughnessy residents as they moved through an endless whirl of balls, dances, yacht parties, charity meetings and afternoon teas. Social standing in "CPR Heaven" was often determined by the status of the guests invited to one's home.

'HYCROFT' - 1489 McRae Avenue
Alexander Duncan McRae commissioned architect Thomas Hooper to design Hycroft - a home for his family and also one of the earliest and grandest estates in Shaughnessy. The elegant interior includes beautiful stained glass, marble and wood fireplaces and decorative tile all imported from Europe as well as ornate ceiling plasterwork. In 1942, McRae gave Hycroft to the Government of Canada for a dollar, as part of his contribution to the war effort. It was converted to a convalescent home for war veterans and was an annex of Shaughnessy Hospital for 18 years until 1960. After two years of vacancy it was purchased by the University Women's Club of Vancouver in 1962. The process of restoration continues to this day.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION - The University Women's Club of Vancouver was founded May 11, 1907, the second in Canada. Its membership is drawn from 102 universities and colleges from around the world. For more information on its activities and centennial plans call (604)731-4661 or contact www.uwcvancouver.ca.

TOUR EXHIBIT - The Original Costume Museum Society, members of the Alliance for Arts and Culture, will be holding a display of womens' and mens' haberdashery (circa 1912) in the Hycroft mansion. Curators: Ivan Sayers and Klaus Jahnke.

Before you enter the building, don't miss the two rare vintage cars of the same period, parked outside for your enjoyment, courtesy of Lorne & Peter Findlay.

LUNCH - Cafeteria-style light lunch at Hycroft, 1489 McRae Avenue, 12pm-2pm $10.
Reserve ahead at 604.731.4661
Limited seating.

4051 Marguerite Street

Style: Prairie School Style
Date: 1930
Architect: John Adrian Pauw
Original Owner: Brenton T. Lea
Vancouver Heritage Register Status: "A"

This house is Vancouver's finest example of the Prairie School style of architecture. Its architecture is directly inspired by the work of Frank Lloyd Wright, which is evidenced in the wide roof overhangs, construction of the house directly on grade with no basement, the strong horizontal lines expressed through long continuous eaves, the surface texture on the chimney and exterior walls, and the many doors linking inside with out, creating an intimate relationship between the house and its surroundings.

Other interesting architectural features to note are the pleasing mix of exterior materials including variegated brick on the ground floor, a wood upper storey and shingle roof, and the stunning curved front entrance with stained glass detailing.

The original owner of the house, B.T. Lea, was a contractor who worked with transient Dutch designer J.A. Pauw on several Vancouver houses, (including the Heritage Register "A" listed Dutch gabled house at 4629 West 2nd Ave., just down the street from tour house #1). B.T. Lea also built and lived in the house next door, at 1751 W King Edward Ave., which is thought to have been designed by J.A.Pauw as well. Pauw was educated in the Netherlands, worked in Brussels and Amsterdam and participated in the competition to design the League of Nations Building in Geneva in 1926.

Mr. Lea and his wife Agnes lived at 4051 Marguerite for just five years before Mr. J.C. Munro bought it, followed a year later by Sam & Florence Levi. In 1947 Mr. W.R McPhie, "Hauling Contractor", bought the house and his family continued to own the property until 1988.

In 1996 the sympathetic kitchen and family room addition, along with the restoration of the original house, won a City of Vancouver Heritage Award.

Interior staircase at
4051 Marguerite Street

Flower Arrangements by: **Celsia Florist**
1930 Arbutus St. Vancouver BC 604.731.3314

1550 Angus Drive

Style: Tudor Revival
Date: Circa 1910
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Richard Knox Walkem

When development began in Shaughnessy Heights in the summer of 1909, its treed boulevards, parks and large lots immediately drew the upwardly mobile and well connected. Richard Knox Walkem, a successful lawyer and businessman from Ontario was one of the area's first residents. A cousin of British publisher Lord Beaverbrook, nephew of an Attorney-General and a Justice of the Supreme Court of B.C., and younger brother of George Walkem head of West Coast Shipbuilders and Vancouver Iron Works, Richard Walkem was also a founding member of the Shaughnessy Golf Club.

Built on the south side of the street with views of the North Shore mountains and the downtown core, the Walkem house garden is well-treed with English walnut, hawthorn and horse chestnut. It is directly across from the Arts and Crafts style Shaughnessy House, another early home which was built for Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the CPR.

Although the owner was Canadian-born, Walkem's Tudor Revival residence was built to fit into the otherwise British character of the neighbourhood. A typical element of Tudor style is the half timbered gable enhanced by the slight overhang above the top floor. The horizontal wood siding, the bay windows and leaded glass windows are all common to early Vancouver architecture. The house also has a foursquare composition with a square central-hall plan and a room to either side.

Only four families have lived in this almost century-old house. Walkem lived in the house until his death in 1962. Later owners made interior changes that included the plastering of ceilings, installation of wall-to-wall carpeting, and construction of a full kitchen suite in the second-storey bedroom. The current owners have uncovered and refinished the original floors, repaired damaged ceilings and walls, upgraded the bathrooms, renovated the kitchen to compliment the style of the house, and painted the exterior in an authentic Tudor-style colour scheme.

Living room at 1550 Angus Dr.

Flower Arrangements by: **Granville Island Florist**
Granville Island Market Vancouver BC, 604.669.1263

mount pleasant

get to know your neighbourhood:

Mount Pleasant was Vancouver's first suburb. H.V. Edmonds, a New Westminster municipal council clerk, bought up all of the land north of Broadway in 1869 speculating, accurately as it happened, that the area would become home to the terminus of a transcontinental railway. In the 1870s a bridge built across False Creek helped to open up the area as did the purchase of the remaining land by the Hastings Sawmill which the mill then cleared and developed. In 1887 the railway created spectacular growth in Vancouver and Edmonds named the new subdivision Mount Pleasant after his wife's birthplace in Ireland.

Four years later, the arrival of the streetcar continued to spur growth, and by the turn of the century Mount Pleasant was a village with its own stores, fire hall, nurseries, greenhouses, churches and hundreds of new homes.

By the beginning of World War I the population of Vancouver was five times larger than it had been just 15 years before and the former village of Mount Pleasant was overtaken by the growing city. A 1912 pre-war real estate boom created the landmark Lee Building at Main and Broadway, followed in 1916 by the post office at 15th and Main (now Heritage Hall). In 1936, after much controversy, Mount Pleasant-born Mayor Gerry McGeer saw his dream of a new Vancouver City Hall constructed at Cambie and 12th Avenue.

Many of the beautiful old houses were lost to the apartment boom in the 60s and 70s, but there are still some fine examples of the original homes.

Mount Pleasant, waiting for the street car, 1908
Photographer: Timms, Philip T.
City of Vancouver Archives, scanned collection, Dist N121

After visiting the Bloomfield house and studio it is well worth taking a walk along the 100-block of West 10th, voted the "Most Beautiful Block" in the city in 1999. The Davis House at 166 West 10th was restored by the descendants of the original family in the 1970s. Tour visitors are welcome to wander up the driveway of 166 West 10th to see the wonderful restoration and artifact- filled back garden. Continue along the block and there are Edwardian and Queen Anne style houses including the 1888 Thomas Clark house moved from 243 East 5th to the rear of 130 West 10th. The Clark House was saved because it is thought to be one of the oldest houses in Vancouver.

2544 Columbia Street

THE BLOOMFIELD RESIDENCE
Style: Queen Anne
Date: Late 1890s
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Henry Bloomfield
Heritage Register Status: "A"

In the late 1890s, after emigrating from England and first working in New Westminster and Victoria, Henry Bloomfield & Sons Stained Glass Artists built a family home and opened a studio at Columbia & 10th Avenue in Mount Pleasant. The area was booming due to the recent arrival of the streetcar and the railway on the north shore of False Creek. Bloomfield built an elaborate Queen Anne style family home on the corner. Next to it he built a simpler style building with a basement where he and his sons, James and Charles, crafted some of the most beautiful stained and leaded glass of the times. In this studio, and in their earlier New Westminster location, the Bloomfields created Vancouver's official coat of arms, much of the stained glass for the parliament buildings in Victoria as well as numerous commissions for the houses of the monied gentry such as "Gabriola" (the B.T. Rogers house at Davie & Nicola) and Shaughnessy's Hycroft.

THE BLOOMFIELD RESIDENCE:
On the exterior of the house details of the Victorian period are seen in the gables and fretwork, the fineals on the gable tops, the brackets and fish-scale shingles in the gables, and the stained and leaded glass windows throughout. This house was extensively renovated in the 1990s. In the interior, French doors were added with stained glass which replicates the original Bloomfield bay windows in the living room. Also note the original stained glass "piano" windows in the dining room and above the staircase leading to the basement. Reproduction stained glass can be seen above the French doors heading into the kitchen and on the French doors leading into the master bedroom and dining room. The house also features a restored Victorian gas ceiling fixture and two pairs of matching Victorian gas wall sconces.

On the exterior, the house is painted in a colourful and imaginative colour scheme. Much of the replicated main floor and the wrap-around porch remain authentic to the period. The columns have been custom turned to match the original and the gingerbread carefully selected for the period. The city restored the original cobblestone granitoid pavement outside the house on Columbia. In the days of horse drawn carriages, cobblestone provided good traction for the horses climbing up slopes like Columbia Street.

Flower Arrangements by: **Thomas Hobbs Florist**
2127 W 41st Ave. Vancouver BC 604.263.2601

2532 Columbia Street

THE BLOOMFIELD STUDIO
Style: Queen Anne/Edwardian
Date: 1895 (water connection application)
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Henry Bloomfield
Heritage Register Status: "A"

THE BLOOMFIELD STUDIO:
Whereas the house at 2544 Columbia Street has conformed over the years to various degrees of modern living, this former studio has been largely left untouched except for the early 1900s addition of a second floor. The studio is built in a much simpler style than the more elaborate Queen Anne family home. The outside woodwork is original and the roof, replaced 10 years ago, has cedar shingles of the period. The studio still has the original room configuration, the high ceilings, the original glass light fixtures and perfect first growth fir floors, quite likely harvested from trees in the area. The front parlour which looks west, has a very interesting piece of clear leaded glass in a hexagon design. In the dining room there is fir wainscoting and a Victorian fireplace. A small niche or perhaps library has two fine examples of Bloomfield stained glass. The windows sit one on top of the other and are unusually different from each other. One has an intricate design of tulips and leaves in bold colours while the bottom piece is a geometric design with more subdued blue tones. Speculation is that this mismatched pair were seconds, rejected by clients.

Leaving a legacy of beautiful stained glass, the Bloomfields closed their family firm in 1906. James left Vancouver for the United States and subsequently Toronto. Father Henry retired and stayed in Vancouver, while Charles owned the BC Plate Glass and Import Company.

Not surprisingly, considering its origins, the current owners of the studio have dug up a collection of broken pieces of stained glass in the garden.

James Bloomfield painting stained glass window, 1900. (Installed in Holy Trinity Anglican Church in New Westminster) Photograph: Mrs. D. Sewell collection, from *Rainbows in our Walls*

Flower Arrangements by: **The Flower Factory**
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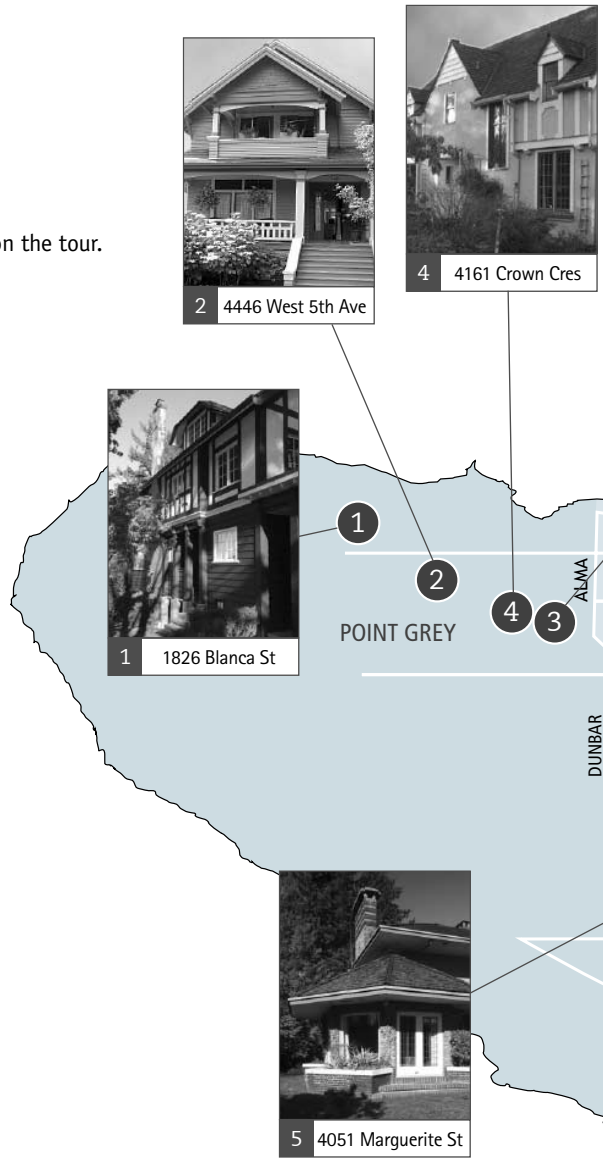

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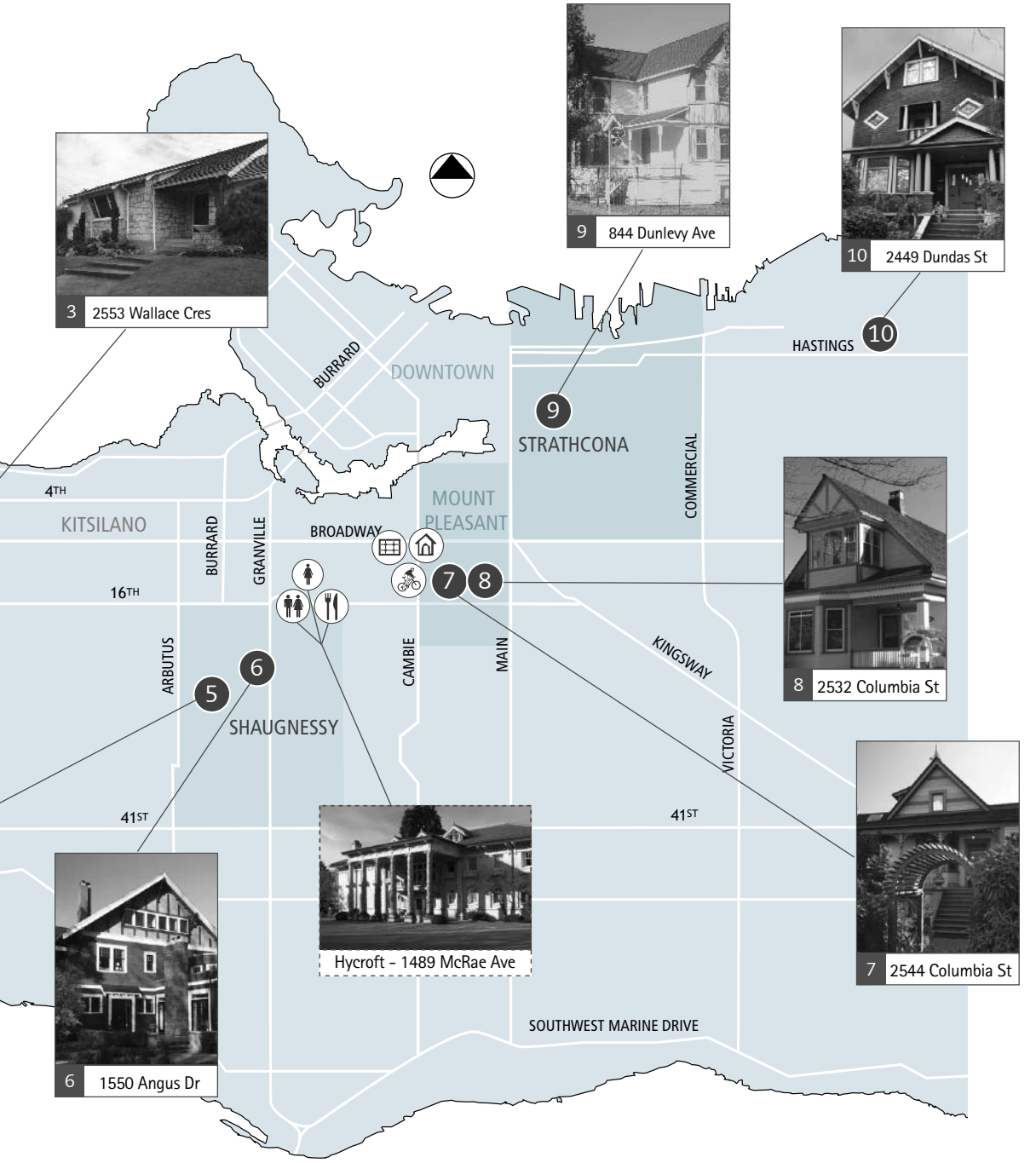
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strathcona

get to know your neighbourhood:

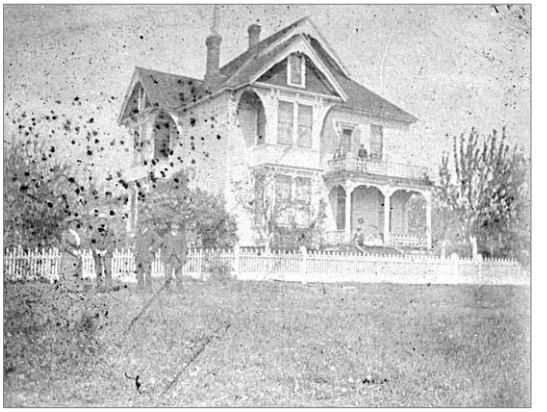
The neighbourhood of the lumberman and the mechanic, as the 1891 Williams Directory described it, eventually took its name from the school named for Lord Strathcona, a Director of the Canadian Pacific Railway who drove the last spike of the CPR in 1885. Ironically, this neighbourhood was developed on land owned by the CPR's biggest competitor: the Vancouver Improvement Company, controlled by David and Isaac Oppenheimer.

This year's Strathcona Tour house is on the corner of Prior Street, named after Edward Gawler Prior (1853-1920) a shareholder in the Vancouver Improvement Company and an MLA. In 1902 Prior became the fifteenth premier of BC and from 1919-1920 he was lieutenant governor of BC.

The corner of Prior and Dunlevy is probably the most visible gateway to Strathcona coming from both east and west. Tens of thousands of commuters and residents pass by the Queen Anne Gothic home that stands on the northeast corner (Tour house #9) on a daily basis. To some degree, it represents a peek into the character of Strathcona, a standing witness to the history of this fascinating and unique neighbourhood.

In the late 1960s, the nearby Georgia Street viaduct was built as the first piece of a Vancouver freeway system, linking the TransCanada highway with a proposed tunnel under Burrard Inlet. The neighbourhood mobilized to fight the freeway plans and redevelopment proposals which called for Strathcona, Gastown and Chinatown, to be largely demolished and renewed. Fortunately, resident protests forced the City to abandon further construction and demolition, and embark on a program of home improvements saving what was left of Vancouver's oldest neighbourhood.

Adapted from:
Strathcona: Vancouver's First Neighbourhood
by John Atkin.



The Sentell residence on Grove Crescent ca. 1902
City of Vancouver Archives, scanned collection, Bu P70.2

844 Dunlevy Avenue

Style: Queen Anne Gothic
Date: 1899
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Harriet Slade
Vancouver Heritage Register Status: "B"

When the current owners first saw this Queen Anne Gothic-style house they were struck by both the scarcity of the style in Vancouver and the compositional beauty of the house. They loved the two-storey bay windows with gingerbread brackets, the scalloped shingles and turned porch columns. While they knew they were buying a shell which the neighbourhood had long thought to be abandoned and haunted, they also recognized the house had some assets such as the concrete foundation, rare at the time, and a sound structure comprising a blend of balloon and timber framing.

"It was just a gorgeous little building," says the owner, an architect. "It had all of the elements of a stately mansion, but in a really tiny form. It had never been renovated and the proportions of the rooms, the size of the windows and the quality of the materials, easily made us look beyond the fact that it smelled like dog pee."

Since buying the 1,800 square foot house in the summer of 2004 the owners have worked full-time on the house. The first thing they did was remove all of the old trim, the hardware, original window sashes and doors to save them from scavengers. Next they jacked up the house to repair the foundation and wood rot. They refinished the fir floors that were still salvageable and replaced some of the bad boards with equally old wood from demolition sales. All of the woodwork and original windows have now been restored and re-installed.

The new homeowners discovered that the house also has a fascinating history. In 1899 when Harriet and Frederick Sentell, a one-time Vancouver Alderman and contractor, applied for water service, the corner of Dunlevy and Prior was virtually waterfront property. False Creek extended from Main Street to Clark Drive with Grove Crescent (now Atlantic Avenue) at the water's edge. The Sentells, well known builders in Vancouver, also built the first City Hall on Powell Street after the great fire of 1886. The house sold in 1920 to the Winchcombes, a family who had previously lived in a small and now demolished Queen Anne house next door. George Winchcombe, the grandson, lived at 844 Dunlevy until 2004.

Flower Arrangements by: **Full Bloom Flowers**
831 Commercial Dr. Vancouver BC, 604.255.1866

hastings sunrise

get to know your neighbourhood:

In 1863 Colonel Moody of the Royal Engineers decided Khanamoot, the sheltered bay at the northern edge of the district of Hastings/Sunrise, was the logical place to develop a future saltwater port. He supervised the creation of a government town reserve that became known as the Hastings Townsite. Today the district of Hastings/Sunrise comprises the northern half of this original reserve, occupying the northeast corner of Vancouver, the area east of Nanaimo Street and north of Broadway. The word "Sunrise" was not associated with the region south of 1st Avenue until the 1940s, when a new subdivision named Sunrise Ridge was built and a nearby park was named Sunrise Park.

In 1865, the Brighton Hotel was built at Khanamoot as a seaside resort for holidaying residents of New Westminster. In 1869 the site was renamed Hastings, after Rear Admiral Hastings of the British naval fleet stationed on the Pacific coast, and the first subdivision lots in the future Vancouver were put up for sale. Sawmills and shingle mills were built and in the following decades the Hastings Townsite was logged over for its giant cedar, fir and hemlock. A real town never developed here even after the Canadian Pacific Railway came steaming right through it en route to Gastown. Despite its slow and humble development, Hastings still earned a significant spot in the history of Vancouver as the site of the city's first road, hotel, wharf, post office, museum and subdivision.

Significant residential development of the Hastings Townsite began only after Vancouver spread outwards to the area around 1911, the year the landowners of the Hastings Townsite voted 1,200 to 1 to join the City of Vancouver. The building boom took off in the 1920s and by the end of the 1940s most of the available land was covered with single family housing. Despite the complete industrial development of the waterfront a park was created at the old site of Khanamoot and Brighton and New Brighton outdoor pool was opened in 1936.

The New Brighton Hotel, 1886
City of Vancouver Archives, scanned collection, Dist P13

2449 Dundas Street

Style: Late Edwardian
Date: 1910
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Charles August Peterson
Vancouver Heritage Register Status: "A"

When a "For Sale" sign went up back in 1988 everybody pretty much figured that it was the end of the dilapidated old house. Everyone except the next door neighbours, who lived in an almost identical house built in the same year and were determined to save it from the bulldozer. Both artists, the new owners could see the potential. "We knew that underneath the junk there would be something good."

During the $70,000 renovation the owners found a bottle of English dark oak stain in the walls so the floors and stairs have been restored to this colour. One light bulb per room and only two electric plugs in the entire house led to new wiring; all kitchen and bath fixtures were re-glazed and reinstalled, and the wood-burning Clayburn-brick fireplace* was refurbished with a liner and flue. Missing are the original stained glass piano and foyer windows, but other fine examples of stained glass remain. Note the upstairs sleeping porch, accessible from both front bedrooms.

A mixture of family homes, bungalows and the occasional stately mansion, the newly cleared Hastings-Sunrise subdivision in 1910, would have been largely lower-class with a scattering of CPR management near the waterfront New Brighton Station. 2449 Dundas is one of the area's first houses, its timbers and woodwork hewn from old-growth trees most likely felled the area.

The house has had remarkably few owners. Charles August Peterson built the house in 1910 and lived there until 1938, selling it to Hazel Thomas who turned it into a boarding house during the war, adding several makeshift kitchens which were later removed in the renovation. Thomas's daughter Dorothy inherited the house and lived there with her husband until old age and illness forced them out in 1988.

In 2004 this house won a City of Vancouver Heritage Award for its restoration and is well-worth a visit.

* Clayburn village near Abbotsford was the first company town in BC. The Clayburn brick factory continues to be the largest brick manufacturer in BC today. After the discovery of fire clay deposits in Sumas Mountain in 1905, Charles Maclure, brother of noted architect, Samuel Maclure, founded the Vancouver Fire Clay Company, later known as Clayburn Company Limited.

Flower Arrangements by: **The Flowerbox**
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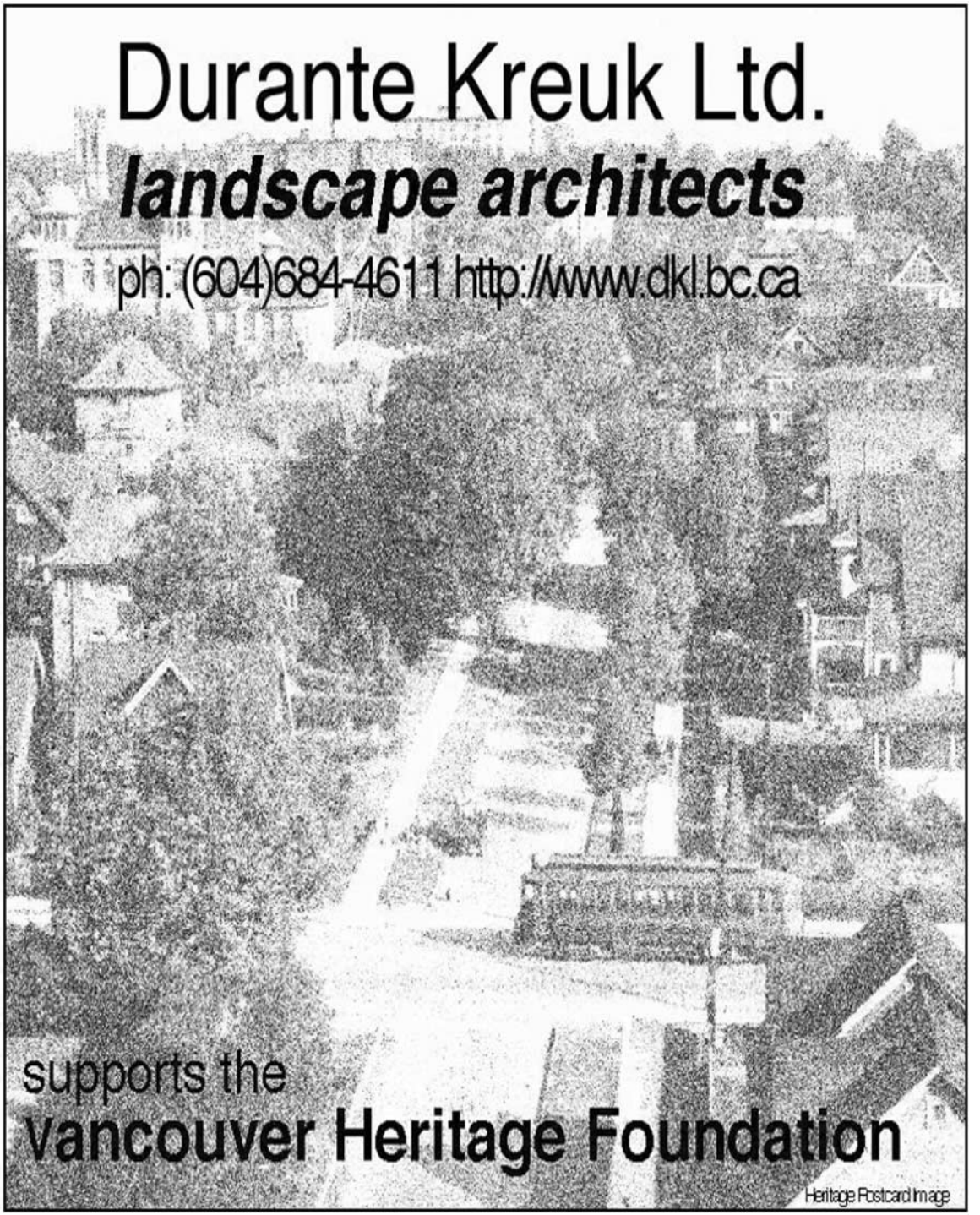
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The upcoming 5th Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour
Sunday, June 3, 2007

In 2007 we will be celebrating our 5th annual Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour!
In preparation for the fifth year anniversary we will be holding a contest at this year's VHF booth calling all tickets holders to vote for: **BEST HOUSE ON TOUR**

All tour house addresses and images from the first four tours will be on display at the VHF booth and eligible for your vote! No matter how many tours you have participated on, whether this is your first time or your fourth, come visit the VHF outside 2544 Columbia St. (house # 7) to vote in this fun contest.

Which is your favourite?

(Images, addresses, and voting at the VHF booth, 2544 Columbia Street House #7)

The Vancouver Heritage FOUNDATION

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS!

Open Vancouver Heritage House Tour 2006 would not have been possible without the tremendous effort of over 200 people who have volunteered their time, expertise and homes. We appreciate their contributions to ensure the success of the Tour.

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Generous help was also contributed by:

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Cathy Barford, Hycroft Heritage Preservation Foundation
The University Women's Club of Vancouver
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