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*Encouraging the study and understanding of heritage preservation with a local and regional perspective.*

Volume 12 Number 11

Newsletter

November 2003

# They'll put their money where your house is

*Vancouver Heritage Foundation grants help homeowners restore houses to their original beauty*



Photo courtesy of the Vancouver Heritage Foundation

The detailing on this Mole Hill home was restored with VHF help.

The chimney's falling and the shingles are rotting. The roof's leaking and the gutters are sagging. The paint is peeling and the foundation is sinking. Sometimes you feel like throwing up your hands and shouting three blasphemous words: Heritage houses suck!

But there's help available, and what could be more encouraging than good hard cash? Recognizing the benefits that heritage restoration brings to the wider community, the Vancouver Heritage Foundation is opening its wallet to homeowners through two grant programs — Restore It! and True Colours.

Restore It! offers \$2,500 to homeowners who are willing to have their house designated as a heritage building in the City of Vancouver. The money goes toward maintenance and restoration of the building's original exterior.

True Colours offers \$2,000 as well as the services of a heritage consultant to help determine an historically accurate colour to repaint your home's exterior. This innovative program, launched in partnership with Benjamin Moore & Co., has recreated the

distinctive residential palette widely used during Vancouver's pre-WWI building boom.

Join us on Nov. 19, when Robert Lemon and Donald Luxton discuss some success stories and promising future projects. They'll also explain how heritage homeowners can cash in on these exciting programs.

The event is part of the Mechanics of Heritage Preservation, Heritage Vancouver's six-part speaker series.

For those who are confused about the distinction between Heritage Vancouver and the Vancouver Heritage Foundation, it's really not confusing at all. Our goals are the same and our membership overlaps. But our work differs. The VHF is largely (but not entirely) a fundraising organization that provides grants, while Heritage Vancouver directors serve on city committees, lobby city council and present monthly public events.

For information about other Heritage Vancouver events, watch our newsletter or visit our recently redesigned Website, [www.heritagevancouver.org](http://www.heritagevancouver.org).



presents  
**Colourful Money**  
Wednesday, Nov. 19  
7:30 p.m.  
Vancouver Museum  
1100 Chestnut St.  
Free for Heritage Vancouver members, \$5 for non-members

Nov. 5 **Vanishing B.C.** Painter, writer, historian and Heritage Vancouver co-founder Michael Kluckner discusses his work in progress. 7 p.m. Free. White Rock Library 15342 Buena Vista. (604) 541-2201. [www.michaelkluckner.com](http://www.michaelkluckner.com)

Nov. 6 **Industrial Designers' Show: Opening Reception.** Architectural Institute of B.C. 5:30 p.m. 440 Cambie St. (604) 683-8588.

Nov. 8 **How to Look at Neighbourhoods.** John Atkin explores some districts that aren't always associated with history and heritage. 10 a.m. \$5 Vancouver Museum members, \$10 non-members. Meet at westbound 99B-line bus stop, Broadway and Clark Drive. [www.johnatkin.com](http://www.johnatkin.com)

Nov. 11 **Stimson-Green Mansion and Dearborn House.**

Tour two of Seattle's most stately, historic residences with Larry Kreisman. Second Tuesday of each month, 1 p.m. Pre-register at (206) 622-6952. [www.cityofseattle.net/commnty/histsea/events/](http://www.cityofseattle.net/commnty/histsea/events/)

Nov. 11 **Learning From Historic Sites Quarterly Members Meeting.** Mimi Sheridan discusses Seattle's legacy as a film distribution centre. 7 p.m. By donation. 2320 Second Ave., Seattle. (206) 622-6952. [www.cityofseattle.net/commnty/histsea/events/](http://www.cityofseattle.net/commnty/histsea/events/)

Nov. 13 **Vanishing B.C.** See Nov. 5 for details. 7 p.m. Murrayville Library #100, 22071 48th Ave., Langley (604) 533-0339.

Nov. 15 **Richmond Temples of Faith Trip.** A bus tour to four prominent places of worship. 10:15-4:15 p.m. \$30, lunch included. Richmond Museum, 7700 Minoru Gate. (604) 231-6460.

Nov. 16 **Around City Hall.** Archie Miller leads a walking tour celebrating the 50th anniversary of New Westminster City Hall and its environs. 1:30 p.m. Memorial Plaza, Royal Avenue and Sixth Street.

*The Lower Mainland's most comprehensive list of heritage and history-related events*

## mark your calendar

Nov. 19 **The City Halls of New Westminster.** An illustrated talk by Archie Miller. 7:30 p.m. New Westminster Public Library, 716 Sixth Ave.

Nov. 19 **Colourful Money.** See page 1 for details.

Nov. 19 **Vanishing B.C.** See Nov. 5 for details. 7 p.m. George Mackie Library 8440 112th St., Delta. (604) 594-8155.

Nov. 20 **On Crossing the Fraser.** An engineer discusses the engineering marvels that connected Lulu Island with the continent. 7 p.m. By donation. Richmond Museum, 7700 Minoru Gate. (604) 231-6460.

Nov. 22 **Neon Bus Tour.** Hop on a vintage B.C. Electric bus with John Atkin and Angus McIntyre for an illuminating look at Vancouver's neon nightlife. Then sample some traditional East End fare at Wally's Burgers. 7 p.m. Vancouver Museum members & students \$20, non-members \$25. Pre-register: (604) 734-7368.

Nov. 27 **Building the West: The Early Architects of British Columbia.** Heritage advocate Donald Luxton discusses his award-winning book with the Vancouver Historical Society. 7:30 p.m. Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut St. (604) 878-9140.

Nov. 29 **How to Look at Neighbourhoods.** See Nov. 8 for details. Meet at westbound 99B-line bus stop on Broadway just west of Main.

Dec. 13 **How to Look at Neighbourhoods.** See Nov. 8 for details. Meet at westbound 99B-line bus stop on Broadway just west of Cambie.

## Ongoing events and attractions

**Walking Tours with John Atkin.** The historian and heritage advocate has a schedule too busy to list here. Does anyone know Vancouver better? [www.johnatkin.com](http://www.johnatkin.com)

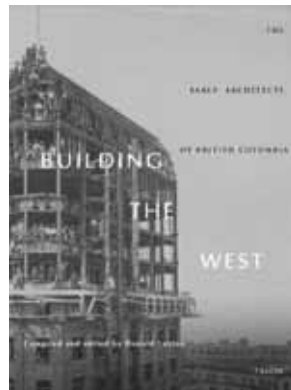
**Chinatown Walking Tours.** Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. \$6 adults, \$4 seniors, students, kids. Chinese Cultural Centre, 50 East Pender St. Call (604) 658-8883 to confirm.

**Industrial Designers' Show.** Architectural Institute of B.C. Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5 p.m. starting Nov. 7. Free. 440 Cambie St. (604) 683-8588.

**Roedde House Museum,** 1415 Barclay St. Tour this 1893 Queen Anne Revival house. Wed.-Fri. 2-4 p.m. \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, under 12 free. Phone (604) 684-7040 to confirm, arrange group tours or inquire about Sunday tea-and-tours and Christmas events. Afterwards, walk along Barclay Heritage Square.

**Irving House,** 302 Royal Ave., New Westminster. Tour an 1865 home. Sat.-Sun. 12:30-4:30 p.m. By donation. The adjacent museum opens 11:30-4:30 p.m.

**London Heritage Farm,** 6511 Dyke Rd., Richmond. Tour an 1880s house and 4.6-acre farm. Sat.-Sun. 12-4 p.m. By donation. (604) 271-5220 or [londonhf@telus.net](mailto:londonhf@telus.net) for weekday group tours or teas. Nearby sites include Britannia Heritage Shipyard Park, Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Steveston Museum and Steveston village itself.



**VANCOUVER MUSEUM STORE**

**Customer Appreciation Night**  
Thursday, November 20  
5:00 - 9:00 pm

**Door Prizes!**  
**20-40% off**  
**all merchandise**

**Meet local artists and suppliers**

1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver  
(just over the Burrard Street Bridge)  
tel: 604-736-4431 ext. 387  
[www.vanmuseum.bc.ca](http://www.vanmuseum.bc.ca)

# B.C.'s Modern Era documented on disc

by Carol Kroeger

Walk down Burrard Street and ask passersby to identify historic structures — buildings worthy of preservation. Chances are they'll point to the city's oldest church, Christ Church Cathedral, or the Art Deco Marine Building. But how many people would include the Modernist Dal Grauer Substation or Bentall Centre?

Most people still don't recognize the value, both from an historical and cultural perspective, of works from the Modern Era. Worse still, they are generally unaware that every year we lose award-winning examples of British Columbia's unique and expressive Modernist architecture. DOCOMOMO British Columbia hopes to change this by bringing to light some of the most significant examples of the Modern Movement and our own unique West Coast style with the new CD-ROM, BC.MOMO: Modern Movement Architecture in British Columbia.

This CD documents a survey of over 50 key examples of B.C.'s Modernist architecture, an extensive collection of diverse building types from all regions of the province. Projects covered range from the delicate post-and-beam pavilions of West Vancouver to the robust industrial buildings found high in the Rocky Mountains. The CD also includes biographies of 40 B.C. architects, essays on B.C.'s Modernist heritage, an extensive research bibliography, interactive maps, a timeline and links to related Websites.

Architecture enthusiasts will be delighted by the hundreds of historical and contemporary photographs and drawings — many



of which have never before been published. The CD is available for \$30 from [www.docomomobc.org](http://www.docomomobc.org), Inform Interiors and the Vancouver Heritage Foundation.

DOCOMOMO BC is a working party of DOCOMOMO International. Founded in the Netherlands in 1988, DOCOMOMO International is a non-profit group dedicated to DOcument-

St. James' Anglican Church, 303 East Cordova St.  
Adrian Gilbert Scott, London, Architect  
Sharp & Thompson, Associated Architects 1935-1936

When the decision was made by St. James' parish in Vancouver to build a new church, the rector, Reverend Canon Wilberforce Cooper, asked his distant relative, famed English church architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, to provide the design. Pleading that he was too busy, he passed on the commission to his brother Adrian Gilbert Scott (1883-1963), also a distinguished church designer. When the plans arrived in Vancouver, they were not what the parish had anticipated.

Scott's daring design was a free adaptation of 14th century Gothic, and bore more than a passing resemblance to his earlier Anglican Cathedral in Cairo. There are touches of exotic, almost Byzantine motifs, but the predominant overall influence was

the stripped-down modernism of the Late Art Deco era.

The use of monolithic reinforced concrete was not Scott's first choice; originally he would have preferred a brick facing. He was studying recent experiments with concrete finishes in industrial atmospheres, and determined that it would be feasible to leave off the expensive brick facing; ultimately



Photo: John Roaf

the finish was dictated as much by economics as by style. This remarkable structure was completed in 1936, with Sharp & Thompson acting as the local supervising architects.

—Reprinted by permission of DOCOMOMO.BC from BC.MOMO: Modern Movement Architecture in British Columbia (copyright 2003). See accompanying story.

ing and CONserving MODern MOvement architecture around the world.

Currently based in Paris, DOCOMOMO has a membership of 2,500 design professionals, historians, preservation officers, researchers and teachers from around the world. Canadian working parties include B.C., Ontario and Quebec.

For further information contact:  
[www.docomomobc.org](http://www.docomomobc.org)  
[info@docomomobc.org](mailto:info@docomomobc.org)



Gillespie House, from Vanishing British Columbia by Michael Kluckner.

## Vanishing B.C. makes national appearance

The completed book isn't due for over a year, but Michael Kluckner's work in progress isn't hard to find. The November-December issue of Canadian Geographic now on newsstands features a preview of Vanishing British Columbia.

An artist who has captured much of our heritage in watercolours, a prolific writer on heritage issues, the founding president of Heritage Vancouver and a

sheep farmer too, Kluckner co-wrote Vancouver Walks: Discovering City Heritage. He's also known for several books, including Vanishing Vancouver and Vancouver The Way It Was, that combine his painting with his research and writing.

Vanishing B.C. excerpts can be seen at [michaelkluckner.com](http://michaelkluckner.com) and in person when Kluckner presents illustrated talks on Nov. 5, 13 and 19. See page 2 for more details.

## Past-presidents present at AGM

There wasn't a Secret Service agent in sight but Heritage Vancouver's Oct. 15 AGM was honoured by the attendance of several former presidents.

Scott Barrett (our most recent prez), Janet Leduc, Jo Scott-B and John Atkin (who chaired the meeting) were all there. The only ones missing were Susanna Houwen and our first president, Michael Kluckner. This ongoing level of involvement is highly valued. The president's job is a tough one, and the continuing interest of all our former leaders is very much appreciated.

As for our future, it looks bright indeed thanks to a fresh roster of outstanding volunteers. Joining the board are Helen Joannides, Autumn Sweet, Stephen Mikicich and Shirley Sutherland.

We're grateful for their offer to help and look forward to working with them, each of whom brings impressive qualifications and inspiring enthusiasm to the cause of heritage preservation.

## Ours is really a site to see

If you haven't visited our Website lately, you're in for a surprise: heritagevancouver.org has discarded its dowdy demeanour and blossomed into a bright, attractive showpiece.

The makeover comes courtesy of John Atkin. Along with the redesign, he's added lots of new material, including information about our speaker series, text and photos for our Top 10 lists dating back to 2001, a selection of newsletter articles and updated links to related sites and organizations.

Take time to browse. The links offer a number of treats, including the work of artists and photographers like Dennis Bourassa, Teresa Waclawik and Fred Hume. Another link, seevancouverheritage.com, lists the Heritage Inventories of New Westminster

and each of the three North Shore municipalities, as well as text — and photos — of the Vancouver Heritage Register. Photographer and Web designer Maurice Jassak has even documented Vancouver's vintage buses and interurban cars. Further browsing will bring further delights.

Our own site will feature regular updates in addition to new material and enhanced navigation.

Atkin brings several attributes to his new role as HV Webmaster. A writer, editor, historian, graphic artist, heritage tour guide and heritage advocate, he's a co-founder and past president of Heritage Vancouver. For more information on his work, especially his walking tours, check him out at johnatkin.com.

### Info requested on City Square stained glass

The administration of the City Square shopping centre at 12th and Cambie is planning to restore the stained glass windows in the original auditorium of the Provincial Normal School (circa 1909).

Please e-mail Brenda Norman at bnorman@ceiarchitecture.com if you have any information (photos, plans, etc.) that would help the owners determine the original configuration of the windows.

—Reprinted with permission from the Vancouver Historical Society Newsletter, October 2003.

## Join Heritage Vancouver!



### Who are we?

Heritage Vancouver is a non-profit group that promotes advocacy and awareness of Vancouver's "built" environment.

In most cases that means protecting buildings and other structures of significant architectural or historical merit.

We believe passionately that some structures are irreplaceable — not only as important reminders of our

past, but also as part of a distinctive Vancouver landscape — and therefore should be preserved.

### What do we do?

Our board members lobby city council, serve on city committees, talk to the media and present monthly talks and tours that are open to the public.

Each year we produce our Top 10 list of endangered sites. We also publish

a newsletter 11 times yearly, offering an interesting perspective on our city and providing the Lower Mainland's most comprehensive list of heritage and history-related events.

### Join us!

Heritage Vancouver members receive a newsletter, advance information about upcoming events, and discounted or free admission to our own events.

Individual membership \$25, Family \$30, Corporate \$50, Patron \$100.

Members receive a monthly newsletter and reduced rates for Heritage Vancouver events.

**Heritage Vancouver, P.O. Box 3336, Main Post Office, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3Y3  
(604) 254-9411 [www.heritagevancouver.org](http://www.heritagevancouver.org)**

Charitable donation #1073758-52. Membership fees are not tax-deductible.