

City of Nanaimo Community Heritage Register



NANAIMO
Culture
Heritage 
IT'S WHO WE ARE

NANAIMO
THE HARBOUR CITY




Cover photo courtesy of the Nanaimo Community Archives
Church Street, Nanaimo BC (circa 1920s)

NANAIMO
Culture  Heritage
IT'S WHO WE ARE

Adopted: 2002-OCT-07
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Updated: 2011-MAR-14
Updated: 2013-APR-22
Updated: 2014-OCT-20
Updated: 2015-NOV-23
Updated: 2016-MAY-16
Updated: 2019-OCT-07
Updated: 2022-OCT-03

For more information on Nanaimo's heritage, please visit
the City's website at www.nanaimo.ca or contact the
Heritage Planner at 250-755-4472 or
chris.sholberg@nanaimo.ca.

Historic Buildings:

<input type="checkbox"/> 512 Albert Street	Nanaimo Maternity Home
<input type="checkbox"/> 763 Albert Street	Holland / Morrison Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Albion Street	Simpson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 70-76 Bastion Street	B.C. Telephone Exchange
<input type="checkbox"/> 121 Bastion Street	Commercial Hotel
<input type="checkbox"/> 133-41 Bastion Street	Eagle's Hall
<input type="checkbox"/> 2290 Bowen Road	Beban House
<input type="checkbox"/> 100 Cameron Road	Nanaimo Centennial Museum
<input type="checkbox"/> 100 Cameron Road	Rowbottom Residence (Miner's Cottage)
<input type="checkbox"/> 990 Campbell Street	Steel Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 Cavan Street	Provincial Liquor Store
<input type="checkbox"/> 20 Chapel Street	Christian Science Society Building
<input type="checkbox"/> 41 Chapel Street	Shaw Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 100 Chapel Street	St. Paul's Anglican Church
<input type="checkbox"/> 2-4 Church Street	Earl Block (Grassick's)
<input type="checkbox"/> 5-17 Church Street	Great National Land Building (Bank of Commerce)
<input type="checkbox"/> 208 Colviletown Trail	Gallows Point Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage
<input type="checkbox"/> 19 Commercial Street	Nash Hardware
<input type="checkbox"/> 35 Commercial Street	Caldwell Block
<input type="checkbox"/> 37-45 Commercial Street	Hall Block
<input type="checkbox"/> 83-87 Commercial Street	Rogers Block
<input type="checkbox"/> 93-99 Commercial Street	Hirst Block (Dakin Block)
<input type="checkbox"/> 101 Commercial Street	Ashlar Lodge Masonic Temple
<input type="checkbox"/> 120 Commercial Street	Gusola Block
<input type="checkbox"/> 143-155 Commercial Street	Parkin Block
<input type="checkbox"/> 172-174 Commercial Street	A.R. Johnston & Co. Grocers
<input type="checkbox"/> 221 Commercial Street	Modern Cafe
<input type="checkbox"/> 223 Commercial Street	Free Press Building
<input type="checkbox"/> 445 Comox Road	First Nanaimo Scout Hut
<input type="checkbox"/> 112 Craig Street	Craig Street Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 1421 Cranberry Avenue	Hendrickson / Maunus Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500 Cranberry Avenue	Cranberry Avenue Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 1518 Cranberry Avenue	Cranberry Avenue Bungalow
<input type="checkbox"/> 467 Eighth Street	Garland Farmhouse
<input type="checkbox"/> 1526 Extension Road	Stark's Barn
<input type="checkbox"/> 715 Farquhar Street	Western Fuel Company House #24
<input type="checkbox"/> 1009 Farquhar Street	Provincial Government Mine Rescue Station
<input type="checkbox"/> 750 Fifth Street	Nanaimo Military Camp (Building #613)
<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Fitzwilliam Street	Ranger's Shoes
<input type="checkbox"/> 315 Fitzwilliam Street	St. Andrew's Presbyterian (United) Church
<input type="checkbox"/> 403-9 Fitzwilliam Street	S&W Apartments
<input type="checkbox"/> 411 Fitzwilliam Street	Mitchell's Market
<input type="checkbox"/> 413-7 Fitzwilliam Street	T&B Apartments
<input type="checkbox"/> 418 Fitzwilliam Street	Adirim's Junk Store (later the Zorkin Building)
<input type="checkbox"/> 426 Fitzwilliam Street	Angell's Trading
<input type="checkbox"/> 428 Fitzwilliam Street	Central Dairy
<input type="checkbox"/> 432 Fitzwilliam Street	Occidental Hotel
<input type="checkbox"/> 437 Fitzwilliam Street	Rawlinson & Glaholm Grocers
<input type="checkbox"/> 580 Fitzwilliam Street	Vancouver Island Regional Library
<input type="checkbox"/> 815 Fitzwilliam Street	Shaw Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 824 Fitzwilliam Street	Priestley Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 825 Fitzwilliam Street	Beattie Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Fourteenth Street	John Wilson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 423 Fourth Street	Fourth Street Store
<input type="checkbox"/> 375 Franklyn Street	Harris Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 750 Franklyn Street	McCourt Residence
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 Front Street	Globe Hotel
<input type="checkbox"/> 28 Front Street	Tom Brown's Auto Body
<input type="checkbox"/> 31-35 Front Street	Nanaimo Court House
<input type="checkbox"/> 54-66 Front Street	Nanaimo Post Office and Federal Building
<input type="checkbox"/> 94 Front Street	Bastion

<input type="checkbox"/>	102 Fry Street	Young Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	797 Girvin Road	Girvin Avenue Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	55 Haliburton Street	Jones / Bevilockway Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	111 Haliburton Street	Haliburton Street Miners' Cottage
<input type="checkbox"/>	545 Haliburton Street	Rowe Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	602 Haliburton Street	Haliburton Street Methodist Church
<input type="checkbox"/>	644 Haliburton Street	Krall Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	703 Haliburton Street	Hayes Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	724 Haliburton Street	Haliburton Street Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	3190 Hammond Bay Road	Pacific Biological Station Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	908-912 Hecate Street	York Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	130 Howard Avenue	Lewis Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Irwin Street	Smith / Wilson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	16 Irwin Street	Smith/Tait Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	167 Irwin Street	"Fernville" The Land Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	1904 Jingle Pot Road	Brick Cottage
<input type="checkbox"/>	4334 Jingle Pot Road	Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church
<input type="checkbox"/>	150 Kennedy Street	Cowman Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	190 Kennedy Street	Cunningham Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	304 Kennedy Street	Freethy Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	305 Kennedy Street	Wilkinson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	307 Kennedy Street	Woodman Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	536 Kennedy Street	Pargeter Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	547 Kennedy Street	Adams Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	639 Kennedy Street	Dykes Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	115 Machleary Street	Layer-Hall Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	320 Machleary Street	Rowbottom Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	395 Machleary Street	Hitchen Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	407 Machleary Street	John Johnston Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	411 Machleary Street	Parrot Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	426 Machleary Street	Rowley Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	2126 Meredith Road	Meredith Road Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	408 Millstone Avenue	Millstone Avenue Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	627 Millstone Avenue	Beevor-Potts Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	39 Milton Street	Newbury Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	45 Milton Street	Young-Pargeter Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	129 Milton Street	Wilton / Welch Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	133 Milton Street	Wood Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	347 Milton Street	Ledingham Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	368 Milton Street	Rogers/Violette Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	442 Milton Street	Leynard Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	469 Milton Street	Milton Street Bungalow
<input type="checkbox"/>	164 Mount Benson Street	Galbraith Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	184 Mount Benson Street	Van Houten Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	225 Newcastle Avenue	Westwood / Giovando Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	34 Nicol Street	Nanaimo Fire Hall #2
<input type="checkbox"/>	2249 Northfield Road	Northfield School
<input type="checkbox"/>	757 Northumberland Avenue	McCannel Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	465 Park Avenue	Park Avenue Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	20 Pine Street	Pine Street Bungalow
<input type="checkbox"/>	259 Pine Street	Pine Street Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	420 Pine Street	Clements Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	546 Prideaux Street	Harrison Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	639-41 Prideaux Street	Jones Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	1343 Quinn Lane	Oikari Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	746 Railway Avenue	Spence House
<input type="checkbox"/>	508 Rosehill Street	Rosehill Street Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	678 Second Street	Newbury Farm House
<input type="checkbox"/>	241 Selby Street	Brackman-Ker Milling Building
<input type="checkbox"/>	279 Selby Street	Gilbert Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	321 Selby Street	Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Station
<input type="checkbox"/>	471 Selby Street	Manson Residence

<input type="checkbox"/>	610 Selby Street	Beck Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	673 Selby Street	Sullivan Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	151 Skinner Street	Reid Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	275 Skinner Street	Palace Hotel
<input type="checkbox"/>	36 Stewart Avenue	Johnston Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	185 Stewart Avenue	Daniel Galbraith Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	255 Stewart Avenue	Sloan / Isaacson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	404 Stewart Avenue	Hoggan's Store
<input type="checkbox"/>	505 Stewart Avenue	Stephens' Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	405 Terminal Avenue North	Galloway Building
<input type="checkbox"/>	725 Terminal Avenue North	Egdell Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	755 Terminal Avenue North	Wardill Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	40 Thetis Place	Williams Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	225 Vancouver Avenue	Schetky Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	261 Vancouver Avenue	Sharp Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	441 Vancouver Avenue	Ekins Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	461 Vancouver Avenue	Bird House
<input type="checkbox"/>	523 Vancouver Avenue	Granby Mine Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	33-35 Victoria Crescent	Victoria Crescent Commercial Building
<input type="checkbox"/>	34 Victoria Crescent	Davidson Block (Queens Hotel)
<input type="checkbox"/>	39-45 Victoria Crescent	Nanaimo Pioneer Bakery (Johnson's Hardware)
<input type="checkbox"/>	63 Victoria Crescent	Terminal Hotel (Eagle Hotel)
<input type="checkbox"/>	98 Victoria Road	McRae Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	302 Victoria Road	Booth Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	413 Victoria Road	Victoria Road Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	421 Victoria Road	Isherwood Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	624 Wakesiah Avenue	Crewe Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	285 Wall Street	Gulliford Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	291 Wallace Street	Willard Service Station
<input type="checkbox"/>	455 Wallace Street	City Hall
<input type="checkbox"/>	481-489 Wallace Street	Brumpton Block
<input type="checkbox"/>	499 Wallace Street	Merchant's Bank of Canada
<input type="checkbox"/>	529 Wentworth Street	Aldred House
<input type="checkbox"/>	674 Wentworth Street	Jenkins Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	697 Wentworth Street	Wilson Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	718 Wentworth Street	Crossan Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	850 Wentworth Street	Connaught Barracks Stable
<input type="checkbox"/>	904 Wentworth Street	Wells Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	911 Wentworth Street	Ivers/Honey Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	959 Wentworth Street	Tuck Residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	2896 105 th Street	105 th Street Residence

Historic Sites/Cultural Landscapes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	555 Bowen Road	Nanaimo Public Cemetery
<input type="checkbox"/>	100 Cameron Road	Piper Park
<input type="checkbox"/>	4700 Ledgerwood Road	Wellington Cemetery
<input type="checkbox"/>	301 Machleary Street	St. Peter's Cemetery
<input type="checkbox"/>	104 Esplanade Street	Robins Gardens
<input type="checkbox"/>	620 Park Avenue	Robins Park
<input type="checkbox"/>	105 St. George Street	Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers
<input type="checkbox"/>	1598 Townsite Road	Chinese Cemetery
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 Wallace Street	Pioneer Cemetery Park

Historic Structures:

<input type="checkbox"/>	85 Front Street	Dallas Square Cenotaph
<input type="checkbox"/>	85 Front Street	Welsbach Gas Lamp
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Front Street	Dugout Canoe
<input type="checkbox"/>	101 Gordon Street	EJ Hughes Mural
<input type="checkbox"/>	28 Nicol Street	Pioneer Square / Little Bastion
<input type="checkbox"/>	201-255 Stewart Avenue	Sloan Estate Gateposts and Stone Wall
<input type="checkbox"/>	205 Terminal Avenue North	Castaway Motel Neon Sign
<input type="checkbox"/>	626 Terminal Avenue	Nanaimo Italian Centennial Fountain
<input type="checkbox"/>	645 Wakesiah Avenue	Harewood Colliery Dam

Historic Building	Heritage Value/ Character Statement
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Name: Nanaimo Maternity Home
Location: 512 Albert Street
Date: Circa 1915

The Nanaimo Maternity Home building is a good example of a vernacular, Edwardian era building. The simple, L-shaped plan has an overall restrained appearance. Although there have been some changes to the exterior over time, most notably the stucco cladding and replacement windows, the basic form and integrity of the building remains intact.

The building operated as a maternity home from approximately 1915 to 1940. Although the nearby Nanaimo Hospital (388 Machleary Street) had a maternity ward as early as the late 1890s, many local residents chose nursing or maternity homes for pre and post-natal care. Hundreds of Nanaimo children were born here, many under the care of Nurse McCree, who practiced in Nanaimo from 1929 – 1947. The building is a unique, tangible reminder of the range of medical care options for women in early Nanaimo.

Located on a corner lot, the Nanaimo Maternity Home building is part of a group of heritage buildings in this section of one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Holland/Morrison Residence
Location: 763 Albert Street
Date: Circa 1896

This tall house reflects the verticality of the Queen Anne style. A two storey projecting bay runs up the full height of the front façade, and is decorated with 'fishscale' shingles and scroll-cut brackets. There are arched windows in the front gable and in the panelled front door. The large lot retains some early landscape features, including mature shrubs and hedges. The house was built by William Morrison, a tailor, on land acquired from Andrew Haslam; it is unknown if Morrison ever lived here.



Name: Simpson Residence
Location: 18 Albion Street
Date: 1921

Built in 1921, the Simpson Residence is a very good example of an interwar, vernacular building. This relatively modest one and one-half storey building with its steeply pitched front gable roof and front door with transom and sidelights also features a wrap-around verandah. The building is substantially intact.

Located in Harewood, the Simpson Residence is a tangible reminder of the area's early development. In 1884, Samuel Robins, Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, purchased Harewood Estates, a large parcel of land between Nanaimo and the base of Mount Benson. Robins subdivided the area into five-acre lots and made them available to mining families as homesteads at affordable prices. Robins envisioned farming as a way for miners to provide for themselves whenever coal markets were depressed. Over time, many of the farms were subdivided into standard size building lots, although the rural character of the area remained well into the 1970s. The Simpson Residence, built by coal miner David Simpson, is a good example of the type of working class housing that was built in the area in the early part of the 20th century.

The residence stands in contrast to most of the adjacent housing, which was built during the 1950s and 1960s. Consequently, the building is an important heritage landmark on the street.



Name: BC Telephone Exchange
Location: 70-76 Bastion Street
Date: 1908

The first private telephone system in British Columbia ran from the Dunsmuir Mine at Wellington to the dock at Departure Bay. The Nanaimo Telephone Company was incorporated in 1890, and the first Telephone Exchange was located in the Cavalsky Store, with Laura Cavalsky acting as operator. From 1893 until 1908 it operated from the building on Commercial Street that later housed the Daily Free Press. The Nanaimo Telephone Company merged with B.C. Telephone, and from 1908 until 1960 the exchange was located at 76 Bastion Street. B.C. Telephone introduced the busy signal in Nanaimo in 1955, and direct dialling in 1957.

Originally these were two separate buildings. The taller building to the west was built prior to 1908, and was owned by the Knights of Pythias; B.C. Telephone opened its exchange here in 1908. In 1911, it was extended to the rear, and was renovated in 1926, with a new front façade. The smaller building to the east was originally built in 1926 as a garage, with a store above. They were later joined with an addition that now forms the main entry.

The B.C. Telephone Exchange building is a very good example of a vernacular Edwardian style commercial building and is significant as an early example of the adaptive reuse of buildings to suit corporate needs. The façade redevelopment modernized the building and projected a more utilitarian, progressive image, appropriate for a service provider, than the original elaborate façade.



Name: Commercial Hotel
Location: 121 Bastion Street
Date: 1913

The Commercial Hotel is a tangible reminder of the social and economic importance of hotels in Nanaimo history. Like most mining communities, early Nanaimo had a large population of single, often transient men. As affordable housing alternatives, hotels functioned as living quarters and, in the saloons and restaurants typically located on the ground floor, as social centres.

Associated with Nanaimo's earliest commercial development, the Commercial Hotel has operated continuously in Nanaimo since 1875. The first Commercial Hotel was located on the adjacent corner. In 1913, this new structure was built as an addition and the original hotel was eventually torn down.

Designed by architects Breseman and Durfee, who also designed Victoria's First Congregational Church and St. James Hotel, the Commercial Hotel is a very good example of the Edwardian Commercial style and features the simplicity and overall restrained appearance typical of this style. Despite some alterations, much of the building's original character is intact, including the brick facing, projecting metal cornices and storefront piers.



Name: Eagle's Hall
Location: 133-41 Bastion Street
Date: 1934

Purpose built as a lodge and dance hall with rentable commercial space for the Fraternal Order of Eagles in 1934, the Hall is Nanaimo's earliest and one of the most striking examples of Art Deco style architecture. The exterior features stylized geometric ornamentation rendered in cast concrete and remains in substantially original condition. Much of the interior is also intact, including Art Deco light fixtures, the staircase, balustrade and original wooden dance floor.

Designed by Vancouver architects McCarter & Nairne, the provincial masters of Art Deco style, the Eagle's Hall is a rare case of a building designed by non-resident architects and/or contractors. The firm dominated public architecture in Vancouver during the mid-20th century and is best known for the Marine Building and the Georgia Medical-Dental Building.

The cast concrete eagle sculpture over the front entry is a tangible reminder of the Eagle's long association with the building and of the importance of fraternal organizations in the cultural, economic and social life of the city. Before the institution of Medicare and government pensions, organizations like the Eagle's provided medical and other benefits to their members. In coal mining communities like Nanaimo where accident and death rates were exceptionally high, such benefits were crucially important.



Name: Beban House
Location: 2290 Bowen Road
Date: 1930

Francis Beban, a native of New Zealand, moved to San Francisco in 1906, and moved to the Cumberland area the following year. At first he cut timber for the mines, and became foreman in charge of the stable at Extension. He made his wealth as a sawmill owner, and also owned one of the biggest horse racing stables in the province. In 1930, he bought this 160-acre property at North Field, and this striking country house was built by James Green at a cost of \$25,000. Over the next 20 years Frank and his wife Hannah developed the property with gardens, and also built a horseracing track on the property.

Beban House is a rare and sophisticated local example of Rustic style architecture. Popular in the 1930s, rustic architecture was based on a design philosophy of sympathy with the surrounding landscape. Beban House has many of the features typical of this style including its log construction, stone foundations and chimneys, small paned windows and overhanging roofs. Beban house is significant because its interior is one of the most intact and well-preserved 1930s interiors in public ownership in British Columbia. Beban House's size, park-like setting and its location on a slight rise make it a highly visible landmark in this neighbourhood.

Located on a major thoroughfare, Beban House gives Nanaimo one of few tangible links with its history in the north end of the city.



Name: Nanaimo Centennial Museum
Location: 100 Cameron Road
Date: 1967

Built in 1967 as a legacy project for Canada's 100th anniversary, the Nanaimo District Museum building is a good example of modern, vernacular institutional architecture. Reflecting the trend toward diverse, eclectic architectural modernism, the quirky octagonal design was meant to symbolically echo the design elements of the nearby Bastion, constructed by the Hudson Bay Company (1853-1855).

The Nanaimo District Museum is significant as the location of the city's museum for approximately forty years. The Centennial Museum is also significant for its association with local architect, Les Barley. Born in England in 1911, Les Barley came to Nanaimo, via Toronto, in 1948 to work as an architectural assistant for Thomas McArravy. Barley eventually became partners with McArravy and later with Weismiller. During his career, Barley worked throughout the mid-island, designing institutional buildings including the Legion on Wallace Street, an addition to the Malaspina Hotel, Nanaimo District Secondary School, Bowen Park Complex, the Nanaimo Golf Club House and numerous schools. He retired in 1977.

The Nanaimo Centennial Museum is located on a prominent rock outcrop within the City's downtown core. Set in a municipal park that includes a miner's cottage and other mining-related artefacts, the Museum building is part of an integrated coal mining education and interpretive site.



Name: Rowbottom Residence (now "The Miner's Cottage")
Location: 100 Cameron Road
Date: Circa 1897

Frederick Rowbottom, who emigrated from Yorkshire to Nanaimo in 1872, bought his property at 830 Farquhar Street in about 1887, and this house was built approximately ten years later. By 1890 Rowbottom was an employee of the Vancouver Coal Company, but soon afterwards began work as a stone mason, and was responsible for the masonry on the Nanaimo Opera House and the Queen's Hotel. He died in 1909 at the age of 60; his wife Mary Ann sold the house to Emma Eliza Kemp in 1917. The cottage later shared the lot with another house and with Manson's General Store. Jane Agnes Beck acquired the property in 1941 and her son inherited it eleven years later. The house changed hands again in 1955, and then passed to the Arthur Sutton family, who donated it in 1977 to the Nanaimo Historical Society when road widening necessitated demolition or relocation. It was moved to Piper's Park adjacent to the Nanaimo District Museum, and rehabilitated to provide a tangible reminder of how many of Nanaimo's early residents lived. It was designated a municipal heritage site on February 18, 1980.

A good example of vernacular working class housing, the Miner's Cottage represents Nanaimo's dominant 19th century housing form. From the 1850s to the end of the 19th century, hundreds of similar structures were built in the Nanaimo area. Unframed, these cottages were constructed by nailing vertical boards to a floor base. Horizontal boards were then nailed perpendicularly to the vertical boards. This simple construction method required little skill and few tools and was, consequently, a cheap, easy-to-build choice for miners and other labourers. Worker's cottages were very modest; there was little or no ornamentation and square footage was typically under 500.

The only building of its type that is open to the public, the Miner's Cottage has significant educational value as an example of the living arrangements and lifestyles of 19th century British Columbian industrial workers. Set in a municipal park that includes a regional museum and other mining-related artifacts, the cottage is part of an integrated coal mining education and interpretive program.



Name: Steel Residence
Location: 990 Campbell Street
Date: 1936

Built in 1936, the Steel Residence is a very good example of the type of modest, vernacular housing that was popular in Nanaimo during the depression. Interesting features of this Craftsman-inspired house include the jerkin-headed (clipped gable) roof, inset front porch and the decorative moulding and built-in cabinets in the living room. The house also features original light fixtures and door hardware. The house is substantially intact and has been very well maintained.

This house was built by the Steel Brothers, prolific local contactors from the 1920s to the 1950s. They owned a number of lots in this area and their workshop, later converted to a house, is still standing at 994 Campbell Street.

The Steel Residence is part of a grouping of heritage buildings in one of the city's oldest neighbourhoods, adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Provincial Liquor Store
Location: 25 Cavan Street
Date: 1949

The Provincial Liquor Store is a very good example of Streamline Modern architecture. Built of cast-in-place concrete, this horizontally proportioned building is minimally detailed. Glass block, a typical feature of this style, was used for the windows and curved entry walls.

The Provincial Liquor Store is significant as one of few local buildings constructed by the provincial government. Built in 1949 to a standardized plan created by the Department of Public Works' Assistant Chief Architect Lord Wilfred Hargreaves, the Liquor Store is one of only two known surviving examples of this particular plan. The other is located in Prince George. Hargreaves also designed the Queen's Printers building in Victoria. Hargreaves was born in Manchester in 1880, and like many architects, followed the railway boom west. After working in Winnipeg, Spokane and Calgary, he established himself in Victoria in 1909. He served overseas in the First World War, and in 1930 became the Assistant Chief Architect for the B.C. Department of Public Works, a post he held until his retirement.

The Provincial Liquor Store is evidence of Nanaimo's post Second World War economic renewal and represents, in its striking modernity, a shift towards a different aesthetic in the downtown core.



Name: Christian Science Society Building
Location: 20 Chapel Street
Date: 1932

Renovated in 1932, the Christian Science Society Building is a very good example of Classical Period Revival architecture. Typically monumental in scale and often featuring massive order columns and other oversize elements, this style was very popular for churches and public buildings during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Christian Science Society Building is, however, a very modest rendition of the style; more appropriate to the small congregation it served in Nanaimo and the financial constraints of its construction during the Depression.

A good example of early adaptive re-use, the building, original a residence known as the McDonald Property, was substantially renovated in 1932. Renovations included removing the interior partitions, setting the house on a concrete foundation and covering the outside in stucco. Since that time, the building has remained remarkably unchanged and continues to serve the function for which it was renovated.



Name: Shaw Residence
Location: 41 Chapel Street
Date: 1921

Built in 1921 for Joseph H. and Florence Shaw, the residence is a very good example of late Craftsman style architecture. The house is notable for its refined handling of wood detailing. The overall cladding is cedar shingle, with twinned coursing to mark the foundation level. The exposed rafter ends, projecting brackets and the multi-paned casement windows with their tapered surrounds are all typical of the Craftsman style. The original front door, with its bevelled glass inserts and brass hardware, remains in place.

The building, one of only three remaining single-family houses in the downtown core, is a tangible reminder of the historic presence of this housing form in the downtown area. From the 1850s until the 1930s, Nanaimo's downtown included an eclectic mix of commercial, industrial and residential buildings, including single-family homes. By the 1930s, residential neighbourhoods adjacent to the downtown core were firmly established. Although the upper stories of commercial buildings and hotels continued to provide living accommodation, no new single-family housing was built downtown after 1930.

The Shaw Residence is an exceptional example of a building that takes full advantage of its site. Located at the top of a cliff, the building is a prominent landmark and has spectacular views of Mount Benson to the west and the harbour to the east. At the time this house was built, Joseph Shaw was the manager of Sampson Motors, 20 Front Street. In 1924 he became the manager of Nanaimo Motors, but the Shaws seem to have left Nanaimo soon after, as they are not listed in directories after that year.



Name: St. Paul's Anglican Church
Location: 100 Chapel Street
Date: 1931

St. Paul's Anglican Church is significant as one of the oldest, continuously functioning parishes in British Columbia, linked to both the ecclesiastic history of the province and the earliest social and spiritual development of Nanaimo. Built on land given by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1859, the current building is the third church on the site. Built in 1931, St. Paul's Anglican Church is an excellent and the only identified local example of Gothic Revival architecture, a popular style for churches in this period. The building's modest proportions and minimal ornamentation reflect its construction during the Depression. St. Paul's Anglican Church was designed by architect J.C.M. Keith, best known for Victoria's landmark Christ Church Cathedral.

Keith was born in Scotland in 1858, the son of an Anglican clergyman. He settled in Victoria in 1891, and three years later won the competition to design Victoria's landmark Christ Church Cathedral. Recommended by the Bishop, Keith's first design for this church was rejected as too costly, estimated at \$80,000 without furnishings. His second design was also rejected at being too expensive. His third and final design was built at a tender price of \$23,296 by Turley Brothers of Parksville. The first service was held on January 3, 1932.

The exterior of the church is distinguished by its stained glass windows and decorative pre-cast concrete trim. The interior has survived in intact condition, including a fir plank ceiling, plastered walls, a stone baptismal font, oak altar railings and pulpit, and a large fir organ case. The perpetual light to the left of the altar is an original miner's lamp, presented to Mr. Freeman in 1914, by the Wolfe Company of Germany when he was the manager of the Jingle Pot Mine. The landscaped grounds in front of the church, combined with the adjacent Dallas Square Cenotaph plaza, form a significant park area at a busy downtown intersection. The front garden, with a winding path that leads to the main entry, creates a barrier from the street and a secluded, peaceful ambience appropriate to a church building.



Name: Earl Block
Location: 2-4 Church Street
Date: Circa 1888-1890

The Earl Block is significant as the only surviving example of the many Italianate style buildings that predominated at this downtown intersection by the late 19th century. Built in 1888 during the economic boom precipitated by the completion of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway and the expansion of the No. 1 Coal Mine, this highly detailed brick building speaks to the mood or prosperity and possibility prevalent at the time. It is an important tangible reminder of Nanaimo's economic heritage.

Two stories in height, with a flat roof, the building marks a prominent intersection. The facades display highly ornamental detailing, including segmental arched window openings with projecting heads and keystones, brick pilasters with recessed lines, and projecting stringcourses. The original double-hung wooden windows have also survived. This Downtown landmark was designated as a municipal heritage site in March of 1977.



Name: Bank of Commerce
(now Great National Land Building)
Location: 5-17 Church Street
Date: 1914

Sympathetically rehabilitated in 1997, the Bank of Commerce is Nanaimo's premier example of Classical Period Revival architecture. Built in 1914 during the 1912-1914 coal miners' strike, the building's classical conservatism represented tradition, stability and prosperity during a fractious and volatile period. Built to standards plans designed by Bank of Commerce staff architect Victor Horsburgh, the building transcends mere copying and responds dramatically to its prominent downtown corner location.

The Bank of Commerce Building's monumental presence, manifested in four massive columns, makes it second only to the Bastion as the city's most recognizable landmark.

The Bank of Commerce is an important intact example of the type of bank architecture that predominated throughout Canada during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



Name: Gallows Point
Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage
Location: 208 Colvilleton Trail
Date: Circa 1912

In 1852 a Hudson's Bay Company shepherd was murdered near Saanich, and outraged Governor James Douglas was determined that law and order would prevail in the new colony. He dispatched a ship from Victoria to apprehend the two native suspects, one of whom was from Cowichan and the other the son of a chief from Nanaimo. They refused to surrender, however, and two more ships were dispatched to the area. After they were apprehended, they were tried on the quarterdeck of the S.S. Beaver on January 17, 1853, and hung the same afternoon, the first trial by judge and jury under English law on the Coast. The site of the hanging was originally called Execution Point, but subsequently became known as Gallows Point.

The Gallows Point Light Keeper's Cottage's value resides in its direct association with coal mining activity in the Nanaimo area. From the late 19th century to around 1938, the New Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company and its successor companies developed extensive mine workings on Protection Island that extended far out into the harbour and back towards Nanaimo. The Protection Island Mine was a long-term, significant employer and a major resource and, as such, a key element in the city's economic development. By the 1940s, its demise along with that of other area mines, signalled the end of the coal era and prompted the development of other industries.

The Gallows Point Light Keeper's Cottage speaks to the critical importance of navigational aids in a coastal community dependent on the safe and efficient movement of large cargoes of coal, other goods, and people, particularly in pre-aircraft days. The fixed red anchor light, first installed at nearby Gallows Point in 1900 was replaced by a more powerful beacon in 1905 and was initially operated by miners from the Western Fuel Company. In the 1920s, a foghorn was also installed to reinforce safety and navigational concerns. The light was eventually automated and remains an important aid to navigation for both pleasure and working craft.

Built around 1912, the Gallows Point Light Keeper's Cottage is a good example of a modest Edwardian residence. The building's simple form and massing reflects its utilitarian purpose and the minimal ornamentation that was characteristic of the era after the architectural exuberance of the Victorian period. A later addition is sympathetic to the building's original character. The surrounding grounds, including the trees, shrubs, flower beds and pathways are important elements of the site's value as a park.

The Gallows Point Light Keeper's Cottage is an excellent example of the adaptive re-use of a historic resource. This building and another residence built in 1938 were abandoned about 1980 when the lighthouse was automated. The two-acre site is now owned by the municipality and leased to a local service group who make the building available for special events.



Name: Nash Hardware
Location: 19 Commercial Street
Date: 1909

Alfred Nash opened a painting and decorating business in Nanaimo in 1891, and in 1912 started retail operations as Nash Paint and Wallpaper. Four years later he began stocking hardware. In 1936 Nash Hardware moved into an existing building on this site.

The Nash Hardware Building is a very good example of late Art Deco architecture. Originally built in 1909, the building received an Art Deco style facelift in 1945. The new façade represented a modern design aesthetic that was increasingly popular in post-war Nanaimo and particularly appropriate to a building supply business.

The building is significant as part of a continuous line of similarly scaled and largely intact historic buildings located on the west side of Commercial Street.



Name: Caldwell Block
Location: 35 Commercial Street
Date: Circa 1908

Built in 1908, the Caldwell Block is a good example of a modest, vernacular Edwardian style commercial building. The original brick façade is obscured by stucco but some of its features, including a cornice with brackets and moulded fascia, are still visible. Traces of the painted Caldwell's Clothing House sign, which occupied the building from at least 1920 until the late 1930s, are visible on the building's east side. Despite alterations, the building has maintained its character and reinforces the Edwardian era appearance of the west side of Commercial Street.



Name: Hall Block
Location: 37-45 Commercial Street
Date: 1925

The Hall Block is significant because of its association with Dr. G.A.B. Hall. Dr. Hall was the long time physician and surgeon to the Western Fuel Company miners and had a lengthy record of community service, including a term as Mayor from 1930-31. Hall represents the intrinsic connection between doctors, coal companies and the coal mining population. In a city with exceptionally high accident and death rates, these connections were especially significant.

Built in 1925, the Hall Block is a simple, symmetrical and well-proportioned example of an inter-war period building in a vernacular Edwardian Commercial style. With only minor alterations, the Hall Block maintains much of its original character.

Situated in the middle of one city block of largely intact and similarly scaled buildings, the Hall Block is a significant part of the Commercial Street streetscape.



Name: Rogers Block
Location: 83-87 Commercial Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Rogers Block is a very good example of a vernacular Edwardian-era commercial building. John Hirst, one of Nanaimo's early settlers, arrived in 1863, and amassed property in and around the Downtown area, including the property on which this building stands. Hirst died in 1882, survived by his wife Harriet, three daughters and eight sons; his holdings were then managed by the Hirst Estate Land Company. One of the daughters was Louise Agnes, who married Francis James Rogers, who acted as Secretary for the Company. This building was underway when her husband died in 1912, and Louise Agnes Rogers arranged for its completion. It was built by contractor J. Henry Walker, originally from Ontario, who also built the Terminal Hotel. The two storey brick façade is enlivened by the original projecting metal cornice above the storefront, and by an elaborate pressed metal cornice that continues the one on the adjacent Dakin Block. The name of the building and the date of construction are displayed in raised lettering. The two front bay windows were removed in an earlier renovation, but were reinstated as part of the rehabilitation work undertaken in the mid-1980s.

The Rogers block is significant because of its association with the Hirst and Rogers's families, early merchant families who played prominent roles in the social and economic life of Nanaimo. The building also forms part of a continuous line of heritage buildings located on the West side of Commercial Street.



Name: Hirst Block (now Dakin Block)
Location: 93-99 Commercial Street
Date: 1911

Built in 1911, the Hirst Block is a superior example of the Edwardian-era commercial building style in Nanaimo. The front façade is beautifully detailed with elaborate tan-coloured brickwork and a projecting pressed metal cornice. Three round-arched windows on the second floor have decorative bevelled glass in the upper sash. The building was sensitively rehabilitated as part of a 1985 Downtown Revitalization program.

The building is the eastern cap of a continuous line of substantially intact buildings located on the west side of Commercial Street. An elaborate pressed metal cornice at the roofline continues the one on the adjacent Rogers Block and reinforces the sense of connectedness to the rest of the street.

The Hirst and Dakin families were part of Nanaimo's early commercial elite and played prominent roles in the City's economic, social and political life. Charles Dakin was born in Asherton, Derby, England. After he moved to Nanaimo he operated a men's wear and shoe store. He was one of the prime movers in the community fundraising drive to build a new hotel, which resulted in the opening of the Hotel Malaspina in 1927. Dakin bought this building in 1922, but did not move his business here until three years later.



Name: Ashlar Lodge Masonic Temple
Location: 101 Commercial Street
Date: 1923

Purpose-built in 1923 as a meeting lodge and commercial space, the Ashlar Lodge Masonic Temple is an excellent example of the Classical Period Revival architectural style. The rigid symmetrical front elevation that typifies this style has been modified by the placement of the lodge entrance door at the extreme eastern side of the building. The door placement accommodates the ground-floor commercial space the Lodge depended on to cover building expenses. Characteristic elements of this style, such as the pediment over the lodge entry, were intended to suggest antiquity and permanence.

Still used for lodge meetings, the building exemplifies the historic and continuing importance of fraternal societies to the cultural, economic and social life of Nanaimo. The building occupies the same site as an earlier lodge that was built in 1873, the first Freemason's Lodge in British Columbia.

The Lodge is part of a grouping of historic commercial buildings located on Nanaimo's main downtown thoroughfare. Its prominent corner location, with large storefront windows on both the front and side elevations, adds to its street presence. The Lodge is also significant for its association with Alexander Ernest Henderson, best known, in partnership with George W. Grant, for the design of the Vancouver City Hospital (now known as the Heather Pavilion) of Vancouver General Hospital in 1903. Locally, Henderson also designed the Nanaimo Hospital on Machleary Street.



Name: Gusola Block
Location: 120 Commercial Street
Date: Circa 1937

Constructed around 1937 by Mr. and Mrs. Alex Gusola this building replaced an earlier pre-1900 structure which burned down in 1936. The Gusola's operated the "Nanaimo Smoke Shop" a tobacco shop and razor repair service in the building for many years. The building has also been occupied by a number of restaurants and retail stores.

The building was designed by local contractor, W. E. Turley of Turley Brothers Contractors and clearly exhibits a late Art Deco style influence. With a few notable exceptions, most of Nanaimo's buildings were not architect designed. The building shares some basic similarities with the B.C. Hydro Building (13 Commercial Street) constructed in 1941, the most apparent being the triangular building form. However, this building is much simpler in detail. The Gusola Block's blend of architectural styles exemplifies the predominantly vernacular nature of Nanaimo's architecture and underlines the city's modest, working class character.

A significant rehabilitation and adaptation of the building to a mixed residential/commercial use was completed in 2007. Although altered, the building still retains much of its original integrity and along with the B.C. Hydro Building (1941), the Eagles Hall (1934), and Tom Brown's Autobody (1937) forms part of the Downtown core's Art Deco influenced building history.

The Gusola Block forms part of a significant cluster of heritage buildings located at a prominent intersection on the main downtown thoroughfare, and is an excellent example of a building designed to fit an irregularly shaped lot. The triangular lot was defined by Nanaimo's original topography; until the inner harbour was filled in the 1960s, this lot followed the line of the original waterfront.



Name: Parkin Block
Location: 143-155 Commercial Street
Date: 1922

Designed by local architect and contractor Daniel Egdell and built in 1922, the Parkin Block is a very good example of the type of vernacular commercial building built in downtown Nanaimo just after the First World War. The building continues the traditional appearance of the Edwardian-era but has a more eclectic façade treatment. Predominantly stucco, the façade is highlighted by simple brick detailing that outlines the edges of the building and structural elements.

The building was built for John Parkin, a native of Nanaimo, who was born on February 4th, 1867. After clerking in his family's store, he joined the local Fire Department, and within three years he became the City's first Fire Chief. Parkin and his family lived above the Fire Hall, and held family gatherings every Saturday night during which the youngsters used to amuse themselves by sliding down the fireman's pole. Parkin was Fire Chief for forty years. In 1937, at the age of 70, he directed the fight against one of Downtown's largest fires. It was mid-winter - Parkin got very wet, and as a result developed pneumonia. He died at the Fire Hall on February 25th, 1937.



Name: A.R. Johnston & Co. Grocers
Location: 172-174 Commercial Street
Date: 1898

Built in 1898 to replace an earlier building at this site, the Johnston Block is a very good example of a simple, vernacular commercial building. The two storey rear portion of the building has a stone foundation and hip roof. The interior of the one storey front portions retains the original pressed tin ceiling. The exterior has been stuccoed but the foundation is still visible at the side and rear and is a rare local example of early stone construction.

Illustrating Nanaimo's early commercial development, the A.R. Johnston Block is one of very few pre-1900 buildings still standing. The building was part of a complex that included a store, warehouse and wharf and originally backed onto Nanaimo's now infilled inner harbour. The siting underlines the historic importance of harbour access and water transportation to early merchants operating in isolated Nanaimo.



Name: Modern Café
Location: 221 Commercial Street
Date: 1910
(façade rebuilt 1950s)

The Modern Café Building is an excellent example of the stylistic evolution of a building over time. Built in 1910 in the Classical Period Revival style, the building was significantly altered in the early 1950s. Like the adjacent Free Press Building, the Modern Café Building acquired a simple, international style façade that projected a more modern, progressive outlook.

The Modern Café neon sign, erected in the mid-1940s, is a rare surviving example of the type of signage that proliferated in downtown Nanaimo from the 1940s until the 1980s. Recently refurbished, the sign is a well loved and highly visible landmark.

Located on Nanaimo's main downtown thoroughfare, the Modern Café Building forms part of a significant cluster of heritage buildings located at the intersection of Church, Chapel and Commercial Streets.

The Modern Café Building is significant because of its association with A.E. Planta, who built and operated an insurance, financial services and real estate business in this building from 1910 to the mid-1930s. Planta was active in local politics serving as an alderman for eight terms, mayor for eight terms and a school trustee for many years before his 1917 appointment to the Canadian Senate. Planta Park in the Hammond Bay area of the City is named for the family.



Name: Free Press Building
Location: 223 Commercial Street
Date: 1893
(façade rebuilt 1956)

The Free Press Building is important because of its role in Nanaimo's cultural development. Founded in 1874 by George Norris, the paper was originally published bi-weekly in a small Hudson's Bay Company building on the site of today's Globe Hotel. Six months later, operations were moved to a larger, wood-frame building on this site. In 1893, the current brick building was erected with 3 stories. The building was damaged by fire in 1930 and the third floor was eventually removed in 1956 when the building underwent a major renovation. George Norris died in 1902 but the paper continued to be published by his sons, George E. Norris and W. F. Norris, until 1954 when Thomson Newspapers purchased it. At this time, the name of the paper was also changed from the "Nanaimo Free Press" to the "Daily Free Press" in order to reflect the paper's wider regional focus. In 1993, building renovations included the conversion of a ground floor restaurant into the circulation office, and the removal of some front doors to make a large reception area. In 1998, the Southam chain purchased the paper. The Free Press, now known as the Nanaimo Daily News, is currently published from offices in the Northfield Industrial Park. After Victoria's Times Colonist, the Daily News is the second oldest continuously published paper in British Columbia. The long publishing history demonstrates the historical roots of this institution in Nanaimo and the evolution of communications on Vancouver Island. In geographically isolated 19th century Nanaimo, where alternate communication links were either non-existent, infrequent or unreliable, the Free Press provided local information and an important larger "window on the world."

The Free Press Building is an excellent example of the stylistic evolution of a building over time. Originally built in the Victorian Italianate style, the building was significantly altered in 1956 as a result of an earlier fire. More recently in 2014, the building has been altered to accommodate a new web design office and restaurant use. Many of the elements of the original elaborate façade, including the brickwork and arched window openings, can still be seen on the building's rear and side elevations.

The building forms part of a significant cluster of heritage buildings located at the intersection of Commercial, Church and Chapel Streets and has a prominent street presence due to its location flush with the Commercial Street right-of-way.



Name: First Nanaimo Scout Hut
Location: 445 Comox Road
Date: 1930

Built in 1930, the First Nanaimo Scout Hut is an excellent example of a vernacular adaptation of the Rustic architectural style. Inspired by rustic park lodges, this style, with its emphasis on simplicity, use of natural materials and sympathy with the landscape, was particularly appropriate for the Boy Scouts whose basic principles include self-reliance and respect for the integrity of the natural world. Although the building has been altered over time, its form is essentially intact and it continues to serve the purpose for which it was built.

Located on a high rocky outcrop in a municipal park, the building is a highly visible symbol of the scouting movement in Nanaimo and, by extension, the continuing importance of local organizations to the vitality and richness of community life.



Name: Craig Street Residence
Location: 112 Craig Street
Date: Circa 1912

Built around 1912, the Craig Street Residence is a very good example of a pre-WWI Edwardian-style building. Modest in scale, this house displays many stylistic features typical of the Edwardian era but also has some special decorative touches. Most notable is the coloured glass in the unusual stepped triple casement window in the front dormer.

The Craig Street Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings in Fairview, a small residential neighbourhood that eventually bridged Harewood, a farming area to the west and the Old City, a mixed commercial and residential area, to the east.

The landscape features a mature sumac, a large mature oak and a Mountain Ash at the front.



Built about 1913, the Hendrickson / Maunus Residence is a very good example of an Edwardian era farmhouse. The building's solid, symmetrical appearance and minimal decoration reflects the era's move away from the ornamental excesses of Victorian times. The building's square plan, cross-gabled roofline, full open front verandah, wood siding, remaining original windows and shingle insets in the gable ends are typical features of this style.

The Hendrickson / Maunus Residence speaks to the early history of Chase River, an area that originally developed south of Nanaimo as a separate mining and small-scale farming community in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. As Nanaimo grew, the physical distinction between Chase River and Nanaimo blurred. Today, the Chase River area is a mix of commercial and residential buildings, but surviving early farmhouses such as this residence, typically sited on large lots, are evidence of the original rural character of the area.

Name: Hendrickson /
Maunus Residence
Location: 1421 Cranberry Avenue
Date: Circa 1913

The Hendrickson / Maunus Residence forms part of a concentration of Edwardian era farmhouses in the area. Its location, close to the road and on a major road, makes it a neighbourhood landmark.



Built around 1912, the Cranberry Avenue Residence is a very good example of the type of farmhouse that was commonly built during the Edwardian era in the rural areas surrounding Nanaimo. Typical characteristics of this style include the square floor plan, cross-gabled roofline with tall gabled capping each façade, full open front verandah with square columns, horizontal twin bevelled wooden siding, double hung wooden sash windows, shingle insets in gable ends, stained glass transoms in the living room window and original front door with oval glass inset. The building's solid, symmetrical and substantial appearance and minimal decoration reflects the era's move away from the ornamental excesses of the Victorian era.

Name: Cranberry Avenue Residence
Location: 1500 Cranberry Avenue
Date: Circa 1912

The Residence is significant as a rare early remaining building in Chase River, an area that originally developed south of Nanaimo as a separate mining and small-scale farming community in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. As Nanaimo grew, the physical distinction between Chase River and Nanaimo blurred. Today, the Chase River area is a mix of commercial and residential buildings but surviving early farmhouses such as this residence, typically sited on large lots, are evidence of the original rural character of the area.



Set in a rural landscape, this Edwardian bungalow has been very well preserved. Boxy in form, with a bellcast hip roof, the massing is relieved through the use of an inset corner verandah, with square columns. Leaded glass transoms in the casement windows provide a decorative note.

It is located on the same 2.5 acre parcel as 1500 Cranberry Avenue, and appears to have been a smaller parcel subdivided at the same time. It is probable that the house was built at the same time as the subdivision, but may be the earlier of the two buildings.

Name: Cranberry Avenue Bungalow
Location: 1518 Cranberry Avenue
Date: Circa 1912



Name: Garland Farmhouse
Location: 467 Eighth Street
Date: Circa 1912

The Garland Farmhouse speaks to the direct role local coal companies played in shaping the physical, economic and social development of the Nanaimo area. In 1884, in one of the earliest known examples of community planning in British Columbia, Samuel Robins, the Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, purchased Harewood Estates, a large parcel of land between Nanaimo and the base of Mount Benson. Robins subdivided the area into "Five Acre" farms and made them available at affordable prices. Robins envisioned small-scale farming as an alternate means of sustaining mining families during coal market depressions. The Garland Farmhouse is located on one of the original five-acre farm parcels.

The first known owner of this property was Nathaniel Williams, who appears to have lived here as early as 1893, but he is not listed as resident after 1910. George and Antossi Garland purchased the property in 1925, demolished the house on the property, then bought and relocated the current house from a lot on Seventh Street next to the Bruce Street intersection at a cost of \$300.00.

Built around 1912, the farmhouse is a very good example of an Edwardian bungalow. Characteristics of this style include the simple, boxy form, horizontal lapped, twin bevelled wooden siding, double hung wooden sash windows, stained glass in living room window, cross gable roof, side gable dormers with hip returns, and full open front verandah with square chamfered columns. The building's solid, substantial appearance and minimal decoration reflects the era's move away from the ornamental excesses of the Victorian era and its function as a working farmhouse.



Name: Stark's Barn
Location: 1526 Extension Road
Date: Circa 1880

Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Louis Stark made his way to California and eventually to Vancouver Island. As a black man, Stark was seeking a place where he and his family could live as free people. He eventually established a farm in Chase River in the 1870s. Stark is credited with developing what is now known as the Stark apple. His daughter, Emily, was the first teacher at North Cedar School, a significant achievement for a black woman in 19th century British Columbia. Louis Stark was murdered in 1895. It is speculated that Stark, who had significant coal measures on his property, was murdered so that others could acquire clear access to this coal.

This small barn is an excellent example of an early agricultural building and one of the last visible reminders of the area's farming heritage.

The building is located amidst mature vegetation on a large lot in a compatible rural use area, and is prominently viewed from both Extension Road and the abutting Chase River School.



Name: Western Fuel Company House #24
Location: 715 Farquhar Street
Date: Pre-1908 (rebuilt 1916)

The Western Fuel Company House #24 is a direct link with Nanaimo's coal mining history, the city's primary industry for almost 100 years. The Western Fuel Company, successor to the Hudson's Bay and Vancouver Coal Mining and Land companies, was Nanaimo's single largest employer from 1903 to the end of the 1930s. During the Western Fuel Company period, miners experienced tremendous change including mine mechanization, bitter labour conflicts, including the infamous 1912-14 strike and, eventually, the decline of the industry and the loss of their livelihoods.

Rebuilt in 1916 from an old house on the site, the Western Fuel Company House is a rare and very good example of company housing. Although it is known that the company built a number of houses, very few have been identified. No company housing built after this residence is known to exist. The expensive features of this house suggest that it was intended for a managerial or supervisory employee. The house features a very unusual cross gambrel roof and cross hip dormers, an open front verandah supported on square columns; decorative elements include bevelled glass in the front door and sidelights, and a cross-leaded feature window.



Name: Provincial Government Mine Rescue Station
Location: 1009 Farquhar Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Provincial Government Mine Rescue Station is a good example of a vernacular, utilitarian building and one of the oldest known local uses of corrugated iron cladding.

The building is exceptionally important as a rare, direct link to Nanaimo's coal mining industry, the most important economic activity for almost 100 years. Nanaimo's coalmines were among the most dangerous in the world with over 2000 injuries and fatalities recorded during the coalmining era. During this period, from the early 1850s to the early 1950s, the threat of mining disasters was always present and mining conditions were the source of repeated labour conflicts and community disruptions. Although accidents could never be completely prevented, Mine Rescue Station operations did much to improve the situation by providing practical training and communicating provincial-level commitment to the community.

The Station's value resides in its location in one of the City's oldest mixed-use neighbourhoods, adjacent to the former site of one of the largest coal mining complexes in British Columbia history (the No. 1 Mine).



Name: Nanaimo Military Camp (Building #613)
Location: 750 Fifth Street
Date: Circa 1941

Designed as a barracks, the building is a basic utilitarian form and design commonly used by the military in its day. Later stucco siding has obscured what would likely have been the original wood siding.

Building #613 was built around 1941 as Other Ranks quarters, accommodating 140 men. Originally, one floor in height with supporting timber beneath, a concrete basement was later added. It is the last remaining "H" hut on the site of the former military camp and is still located in its original position.

The building currently houses the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps Amphion, which was formed in 1943. The corps was named after the HMS Amphion, a Royal Navy submarine active in World War II. The Sea Cadets first occupied the building in 1955 and have been at this location ever since. One of the last remaining buildings of the Nanaimo Military Camp, the building is now surrounded by parking and other buildings that form part of the Vancouver Island University campus.



Name: Ranger's Shoes
Location: 310 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: Circa 1920

Built around 1920, the Ranger's Shoes Building is an excellent example of a small, very simple, vernacular Boomtown or False-Front style commercial structure. The false front façade increased the apparent size of the building and provided ample space for a large painted sign while the windows at the ground level provided a showcase for goods display. Over the years changes have been made to the building roofs, storefront, and windows. A significant rehabilitation of the building was completed in 2007, improving the foundation system and replacing the stuccoed storefronts with a replicated wood siding based on the building's original appearance.

The building is significant for its contemporary function as an outdoor art gallery. Lined with framed paintings, the exterior east wall of the building, adjacent to a narrow alley, has been used to showcase local art since the mid-1990s.

Ernest Ranger established his shoe repair business at 312 Fitzwilliam Street in 1920. G.A. Moore opened an auto upholstery business at 310 Fitzwilliam Street at the same time. Both businesses operated for over 20 years from these spaces. In the 1950s, Bayliss Neon Signs, a Victoria company, established a branch office at 310 Fitzwilliam Street.

The building forms part of the Fitzwilliam Street commercial building grouping and is a prominent part of the historic Fitzwilliam Street streetscape.



Name: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
(now St. Andrew's United Church)
Location: 315 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1893
(church hall constructed 1927)

Built in 1893, St. Andrew's United Church is a good example of Late Victorian church architecture. The church follows the square floor plan with second floor horseshoe gallery typical of Late Victorian Presbyterian churches, its original denomination. A large hall at the rear, built in 1927, features a two-storey auditorium with a balcony. The church retains much of its original character despite some later alterations, most notably a stucco finish over the original brick walls.

Still in use, the Church represents the historic and continuing spiritual, social and cultural importance of the building to Nanaimo. In addition to church services, the building has long hosted community events such as concerts and festivals.

St. Andrew's United Church is significant because of its association with the historic national merger of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches in 1925 and it speaks to the historic and continuing complex and often divisive religious issues that confront communities. In Nanaimo, the merger was controversial. A large proportion of Presbyterians voted against union and the subsequent legal battle over the division of the property was the only union litigation case in British Columbia.

St. Andrew's United Church is also significant because of its association with American architect Warren H. Hayes, a specialist in church design who is credited with the development of the diagonal auditorium form. He designed a number of buildings throughout the United States including the Scottish Rite Temple in Minneapolis and Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota and is known to have provided the plans for at least two churches in Canada.

The manse, rock wall, landscaped grounds and attached hall all have a historic and physical relationship to the church and are an essential part of the site's value. The church's tall bell tower and substantial mass dominate this corner of Fitzwilliam Street and make the building a highly visible historic landmark.



Name: S&W Apartments
Location: 403-409 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1910

Built in 1910, the S&W Apartment Block is a very good example of an Edwardian era apartment-type commercial building. Its restrained appearance and simple massing set the tone for the architectural aesthetic in this neighbourhood and the form of the street's development as a commercial strip. The building remains substantially intact.

The S&W Apartment Block, Nanaimo's first known apartment building, is significant because it represents the introduction of a new housing form in the city. Until its construction, housing forms consisted of single-family homes, boarding houses, dormitories or hotels. The construction of this commercial building with its self-contained apartment units on the second floor spurred the development of similar buildings in the area and signalled Nanaimo's move towards more sophisticated, urban housing options.

The ground-level shops have housed a variety of businesses over the years, including the Farmer's Market, and Perry & McGarrigle's Meats. Hyman Angel also had his Second Hand Goods business here until he built his own building at 426 Fitzwilliam Street. Several prominent businessmen made their residences in the apartments above, such as George Grigor, of Grigor's Dry Goods, and N.E. Carter, of the Sprott-Shaw Business Institute. The stores and apartments remain in full use today.

In order to design the building, owner T.J. Stephen engaged the services of William Arthur Owen, one of Nanaimo's early professional architects. Owen was born in Swansea, South Wales in 1881, and left England in 1904 due to 'tubercular trouble'; he practiced in Nanaimo from 1911 until 1914, after which he served as City Engineer for three years.



Built in 1922 by Thomas B. Mitchell to house his market and meat shop, the building exemplifies the type of simple, functional commercial structure commonly built in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Both the large front windows, designed to showcase merchandise, and the rear loading bays emphasize the building's functionality. Later renovations significantly modified the building's original appearance but its essential form is still intact.

The Mitchell's Market building is part of a substantial grouping of heritage buildings in this area.

Name: Mitchell's Market
Location: 411 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1922



Built in 1920, the T&B Apartment Block is a very good example of an early apartment-type commercial building. Although original plans have not been located, the similarities of this building to the S&W Apartments suggests the possibility that W.A. Owen may also have been the architect of this structure. The square projecting bays and small gable roof over the central window recall the Swiss Chalet style that was popular for residences of the period.

The building, an integral part of the Fitzwilliam Street corridor, is part of a grouping of historic buildings located in this neighbourhood.

Name: T&B Apartments
Location: 413-417 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1920



This building was constructed by Nathan Adirim in 1931 to house his second-hand store. In the mid-1930s, the building was used by MacDonalds Wholesale Grocery and by Safeway. Later, the police station and public health department also occupied the building. Around 1962, real estate developer Mladen Zorkin purchased the building and set up his offices here.

The building is significant for its association with Zorkin, who developed numerous recreational, commercial and residential properties on mid-Vancouver Island. In addition to opening the first trim mall in British Columbia at Terminal Park in Nanaimo in the 1950s. Zorkin later developed other areas of Nanaimo and properties at French Creek and Columbia Beach in the Parksville / Qualicum area. Zorkin is also significant for his role in the publication of the Vancouver Island-based Croatian Voice newspaper. Zorkin used the pro-Croatian newspaper as a platform to advocate for Croatian independence. During the course of his lobbying effort, he met with Prime Minister's Lester Pearson, John Diefenbaker, Pierre Trudeau, Brian Mulroney and Jean Chrétien.

The Zorkin Building is part of a grouping of similarly scaled historic commercial buildings on the north side of this city block.

Name: Adirim's Junk Store
(now the Zorkin Building)
Location: 418 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1931



Built in 1926, the Angell's Trading Building represents the style of the majority of commercial buildings constructed during the interwar period in Nanaimo. A simple, functional building, it takes full advantage of its sloped site to bring light into the exposed basement and accommodate loading facilities at the rear. The oversized front windows designed to showcase merchandise further emphasize the building's functional quality.

The Angell's Trading Building is significant because of its association with prominent local contractor and designer Alexander Forrester. Typical of many men of his time, Forrester, in addition to his busy construction business, was very active in civic affairs, serving both as alderman and school trustee for many years. Forrester was born in Kingskettle, Fifeshire, Scotland, and came to the city in 1891.

Name: Angell's Trading
Location: 426 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1926



Name: Central Dairy
Location: 428 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1929

Built in 1929, William Bell operated the Central Dairy from this building throughout the 1930s and 40s. The building is a good example of the type of simple, vernacular style of commercial building that was constructed during the interwar period in Nanaimo. Like many buildings of this era, the lower floor was a service and work area while the second floor provided a residence for the original owner. Although the building has been renovated over the years, its essential form remains intact.

The Central Dairy building is an integral part of a significant grouping of historic commercial buildings on this street.



Name: Occidental Hotel
Location: 432 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1886-1887

The Occidental Hotel's value resides in its role as a gateway building. Located at a prominent intersection, the building marks the western entrance to one of Nanaimo's oldest commercial areas. The angled corner entry mirrors the entry on the building directly across the street and creates a visual funnel, reinforcing the impression of entering a new and distinct space. Tall, imposing and located at a prominent intersection, the Occidental Hotel is a highly visible landmark.

Built in 1886, the Occidental Hotel is very good example of Victorian Italianate architecture, one of the most popular 19th century styles in North America for a wide variety of building types, from houses and small apartment buildings, to commercial and institutional structures. The Occidental Hotel features the vertical proportions and tall, rounded windows and doors typical of this style.

The Occidental Hotel is significant because of its association with prominent Victoria architect John Teague, who came to Victoria in 1862 as an engineer for the Royal Navy at Esquimalt. After designing some of the navy buildings, he went into private practice, designing a wide variety of buildings, from hospitals and churches to business blocks and private homes. Remarkably prolific, Teague designed over 350 buildings and greatly influenced the character of early architecture in Victoria. His buildings include Victoria City Hall, the Freemason's Meeting Hall, the East Block of St. Ann's Academy, Scholefield House and the Church of Our Lord.

The substantial and handsome Occidental Hotel speaks to the mood of prosperity and possibility prevalent in the 1880s by the completion of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway and the expansion of the huge No. 1 Coal Mine. Located one block from the train station, the Occidental Hotel was the first business to take advantage of the opportunities the nearby train station provided. Over time, other businesses were established and the area eventually became an important secondary retail district within a predominantly residential neighbourhood.

The Occidental Hotel has been in continuous use as an eating and drinking establishment for over 100 years.



Name: Rawlinson & Glaholm Grocers
Location: 437 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1916

Built in 1916, the Rawlinson & Glaholm building is a very good example of a modest, elegant Edwardian era Commercial building. The building's size is in keeping with the pedestrian scale of this mixed residential and commercial area. The building was designed by architect E. J. Bresemann, who with partner Durfee, also designed Victoria's First Congregational Church and St. James Hotel and Nanaimo's Commercial Hotel.

The Rawlinson & Glaholm Building's value resides in its role as a gateway building. Located at a prominent intersection, the building marks the western entrance to one of Nanaimo's oldest commercial areas. The angled corner entry mirrors the entry on the building directly across the street and creates a visual funnel, reinforcing the impression of entering a new and distinct space.



Name: Vancouver Island Regional Library
Location: 580 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1961

The Vancouver Island Regional Library is a very good example of West Coast vernacular style. Developed after World War 2, this regional style typically used post and beam construction which allowed for greater freedom in the positioning of windows and partitions than did standard stud construction. The style's modern ambience was appropriate for new institutional buildings such as libraries.

The Vancouver Island Regional Library is significant for its association with the architectural firm of McArravy and Barley. One of the pioneers of the use of modernism on Vancouver Island, Thomas McArravy was Nanaimo's most prominent architect for many years. His best known work is the Nanaimo City Hall. McArravy later partnered with Les Barley and the firm designed a number of local landmarks including the Salvation Army Building and the Nanaimo District Senior Secondary School. After McArravy retired, Barley partnered with Weismiller and designed the Bowen Park Complex, the Nanaimo District Museum and many other institutional buildings throughout the mid-island area.

The Vancouver Island Regional Library speaks to the municipal government's earliest attempt to streamline community services for efficiency and easy public access. By the mid-1960s, the police station, health unit, library and fire hall were all located in what was historically known as Lubbock Square, just outside the downtown core. The library and health unit have since moved to other locations. The fire hall and main police station remain and are tangible reminders of the area's early importance as a central location for most of the city's protective and community services.



Name: Shaw Residence
Location: 815 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1910

Built in 1910-11 by George N. Shaw, manager of International Correspondence Schools, the Shaw Residence is a very good example of a modest Craftsman style bungalow. Long and low in form, this simple building features a few decorative elements typical of the Craftsman style including a stained glass panel in the second floor window, triangular brackets under the porch roof and double-hung wooden sash windows.

The Shaw Residence is a good example of a building that takes full advantage of its hillside site. Located at the crest of a long, gentle slope that rises from the harbour, the building's east facing windows provide views of the harbour and distant mountains while the front entry faces a less attractive view of the street.

The Shaw Residence is part of a significant cluster of exceptionally intact and well maintained historic buildings in this neighbourhood.



Name: Priestly Residence
Location: 824 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1895

Built in 1895, the Priestley Residence is a very good example of a transitional Late Victorian/Early Edwardian style bungalow with many of the features typical of this style including a simple, rectangular form, cedar shingle siding and restrained ornamentation.

Originally owned by J.W. Priestley, a carpenter, this modestly scaled residence is significant as an example of the superior housing, both in design and construction that typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods. J.W. Priestley's daughter Dorothy Priestly, later became a public health nurse for the local health authority.

The Priestley Residence is part of a significant cluster of exceptionally intact and well maintained historic buildings in this neighbourhood.



Name: Beattie Residence
Location: 825 Fitzwilliam Street
Date: 1910

Built in 1910, for George Beattie, owner of Beattie and Hopkins Printers, the Beattie Residence is a sophisticated and unusual example of an Edwardian-era Craftsman style bungalow. The building features many of the hallmarks of this style including its long and low proportions, double hung wooden-sash windows, front gable roof, inset verandah, squared chamfered columns, exposed rafter ends and triangular eave brackets. The building also has some unusual design elements including its tapered concrete foundation wall and an inset corner verandah without a supporting corner column. These eccentric features set the Beattie Residence apart from other Craftsman residences in the city.

The Beattie Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, that typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.



Name: John Wilson Residence
Location: 18 Fourteenth Street
Date: Circa 1890

The name of this residence's original builder and occupant are unknown, however, the building was later the home of John Wilson, a miner at the Reserve Mine in the 1920s.

In excellent condition, this building is a very good example of a vernacular workers cottage of which few examples remain. The building has a side gable roof typical of this housing form, with extended back addition and a front porch running the buildings entire width. Gingerbread detailing is a recent addition and not typical of buildings from this period which tended to be utilitarian in appearance.

The building is located on a corner lot and is sited prominently on Fourteenth Street. It represents a rare surviving example of the early miner's cottage building form still located on its original site.



Name: Fourth Street Store
Location: 423 Fourth Street
Date: Circa 1910

Built around 1910, the Fourth Street Store Building represents a type of building that was once common throughout the city but had all but disappeared by the 1950s. By that time, the small corner store, typically staffed by a family who also lived in the building, was in decline and would soon be almost wholly replaced by supermarkets, shopping centres and chain outlets. In substantially original condition, this building is the most intact early commercial-residential building in the Harewood area.

The Fourth Street Store Building is an excellent example of a simple, vernacular Boomtown or False-Front style structure. The false front facade increased the apparent size of the building and provided ample space for a large painted sign while the large windows at the ground level provided a showcase for goods display.

The height of the Fourth Street Store Building, particularly in relation to the smaller residential buildings that surround it, and its siting very close to the street make it a neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Harris Residence
Location: 375 Franklyn Street
Date: 1898

Built around 1898 for Morgan and Harriet Harris, the Harris Residence is a striking and rare surviving example of the exuberant Queen Anne Revival architectural style. The asymmetrical massing, high hip roof and the rich but simple ornamentation found on this house are characteristic of the style. This charming house is the exception to the rule of generally plain building stock in Nanaimo. This building has survived in virtually original condition and this is also unusual in Nanaimo where this type of heavily ornamented house has generally undergone such substantial renovation that the original style elements are barely discernible. The Harris Residence's value lies in its location on a highly visible corner lot as part of a continuous line of substantially intact historic buildings on the south side of this city block.

Morgan Harris was a miner, and had previously lived on Fry Street. The land that this house was built on was originally owned by Arthur Bullock, and was not subdivided until 1892. This would have been one of the earliest residences in the area.



Name: McCourt Residence
Location: 750 Franklyn Street
Date: Circa 1901

Tall and imposing, the vertical massing of this residence is typical of the Late Victorian era. The projecting front bay has a sloped roof, with paired brackets at the cornice. The house survives in intact condition, except for the enclosure of the corner entry porch, and the addition of a concrete block chimney on the east façade. By 1901 the property had been acquired from Donald McLellan by Joseph McCourt, a miner who lived on Victoria Road. This house appears to have been built as a rental property. By 1906 it had been acquired by David Taylor, listed in directories as retired. By 1908 it was occupied by A.B. Snider, who bought the house by 1910.



Name: Globe Hotel
Location: 25 Front Street
Date: 1887 (rear addition 1913)
(side addition 1936)

Built in 1887, the Globe Hotel is a very good example of the stylistic evolution of a building over time. The original portion of the hotel was predominantly Italianate in style with Second Empire influences evident in the mansard roof and arched dormers. The 1916 addition at the rear was fairly plain in detailing and did not actively impact the overall appearance. The 1936 north side addition echoed the building's original detailing, including a new datestone and extending its decorative cornice line. A new dimension was added with the application of multi-coloured Art Deco tilework across the front of the ground floor. Although some of the building's character was compromised by the replacement of the original windows, it retains much of its original character.

The Globe Hotel is significant because of its association with two prominent Nanaimo architects. Alexander Forrester, a local contractor and designer, drew the plans for the 1916 workmanlike addition. Typical of many men of his time, Forrester, in addition to his construction business, was very active in civic affairs, serving both as alderman and school trustee for many years. Thomas McArravy, Nanaimo's most prominent mid-20th century architect, designed the 1936 addition. Although most of the addition mirrors the architecture of the older building, it was typical of modernist McArravy, to apply a more contemporary element, in this case the decorative tilework that runs across the entire bottom front of the building.

The Globe Hotel has been an important part of Nanaimo's social history for over a century. Like other hotels built during this period, the Globe provided an affordable housing option for the many single men that came to the City to work in the coalmines.



Name: Tom Brown's Auto Body
Location: 28 Front Street
Date: 1937

Tom Brown's Autobody is significant as an example of the type of building that once formed the main automotive sales and service district in Nanaimo. From the mid-1920s to the early 1960s, this section of downtown included numerous service stations, automotive parts businesses and car showrooms. In the early 1960s, automobile-related businesses were among the first to relocate to areas outside the downtown core. This exodus was part of a broader trend of commercial relocation away from the city centre and to outlying suburban areas. The building continues to house an automobile-related business.

Built in 1937, Tom Brown's Autobody building is an excellent and rare example of Streamline Modern style in Nanaimo. This modest structure shows the influence of the new discipline of Industrial Design at a time when the automobile was becoming increasingly important in North America. The horizontal lines and detailing of this building echo the streamlining bands found on most manufactured objects during the 1930s. The building's setback from the street provides an important function by allowing ample parking space in the front. Except for a few minor changes to the storefront, the building is very intact.

Tom Brown's Autobody building is also significant for its association with Thomas McArravy, Nanaimo's most prominent mid-century architect. McArravy was responsible for a number of important Modern buildings, most notably City Hall.

Tom Brown's Autobody building is part of a grouping of historic buildings located on the only downtown thoroughfare that runs parallel to the waterfront. The rear of the building faces the waterfront and is a highly visible landmark from both the water and from the harbour walkway below.



Name: Nanaimo Court House
Location: 31-35 Front Street
Date: 1895-1896

Grand and imposing in its rugged monumentality, this structure serves as the symbol of justice in Nanaimo. Around the turn of the century, the rapidly expanding population had necessitated a reorganization of the provincial court system, and a number of new regional court houses were constructed.

Built from 1895 to 1896, the Nanaimo Court House is a very striking and superior example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture, which was favoured for major public buildings of this period. The building features the rough-dressed masonry and prominent round arched openings typical of this style. The picturesque roofline is highlighted with a slate covering and intricate copper ornamentation. A plain 1957 addition at the rear of the building does not actively infringe on the original building's character. This exceptional building marks the height of the architectural grandeur of the Late Victorian era.

The Nanaimo Court House is significant because of its association with Francis Mawson Rattenbury, British Columbia's premier institutional architect of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Rattenbury also designed the Nanaimo and Nelson Court Houses, the provincial Parliament Buildings and numerous other residential and institutional buildings. This building, and the Nelson Court House, represented a continuation of Rattenbury's interest in the picturesque eclecticism of the Late Victorian era.

The Courthouse's location on a major street facing the waterfront and its height and substantial mass also make it a very prominent landmark.

The Nanaimo Court House is the premier symbol of early provincial government presence in Nanaimo. Replacing an earlier wooden Court House, this expensive and sophisticated building projected provincial authority and power and, at the same time, signalled Nanaimo's nascent function as a regional centre.

The Nanaimo Court House is also significant because of its siting on the lot. The mid-block location was an unusual choice, as most courthouses were given a prominent corner location. To increase the formality of the design and the presence of the building, the building is set to the rear of the sloping site. This position allowed for a gracious landscaped plaza at the front.



Name: Nanaimo Post Office & Federal Building
Location: 54-66 Front Street
Date: 1954

Built in 1954, the Nanaimo Post Office and Federal Building is a very strong, pure example of the International style. The historic International style symbolized modernity and progress and as such was an appropriate style for government buildings. Designed by the Department of Public Works' Chief Architect E.A. Gardner, the Nanaimo Post Office and Federal Building features an asymmetrical tower, balanced by a series of interlocking geometrical forms. The stone cladding and the windows follow a regular modular grid that is repeated across the main facades. Some modern additions and alterations have detracted from the overall purity of the original style but the building retains its strong International character.

The Nanaimo Post Office and Federal Building is significant as the premier symbol of the federal government's presence in the Nanaimo district. As early as the 1870s, a federal building has been located at this site. This lengthy occupation has demonstrated, symbolically and tangibly, federal presence and interest in the area.

Located on the only downtown thoroughfare that parallels the waterfront and adjacent to a grouping of historic buildings, the Nanaimo Post Office and Federal Building is a prominent downtown landmark.



Name: Bastion
Location: 94 Front Street
Date: 1853 - 1855

Nanaimo's oldest building and the sole reminder of the Hudson's Bay Company's singular coal mining venture, the Bastion is the physical evidence of the community's earliest European social and economic development.

The Bastion, built between 1853-1855, is the only known remaining freestanding tower structure built by the Hudson's Bay Company. As such, it is a unique example of a defense fortification built by a company that played a major role in Canadian history. The Bastion's unusual octagonal shape and high visibility from both land and sea make it Nanaimo's premier landmark.

The Bastion represents British Columbia's earliest case of historic preservation and is an important example of the changing approaches to heritage conservation. It originally stood on the other side of Front Street, and was moved in 1891 after its original site was sold. In 1974, it was moved to its present location in another preservation effort. The building's environmental context, overlooking the harbour, has never changed.

During the settlement's early history, the Bastion represented a beacon of civilization in the wilderness, and provided the focus for social and economic growth in the new community. Now used as a museum, it has been a continuous part of Nanaimo's history, and remains a source of pride to the city. The Bastion is a municipally designated heritage site, and is listed on the Canadian Register of Heritage Properties.

Behind the Bastion a flight of steps leads down to the spot where the "Princess Royal Pioneers" landed in 1854 after a six month's voyage around Cape Horn. The site is marked by a cairn and plaque on Pioneer Rock.



Name: Young Residence
Location: 102 Fry Street
Date: Circa 1890

Built around 1890, the Young Residence is an excellent and rare local example of the carpenter ornamentation typical of the era. The highly decorative gable screens are among the best-preserved examples of carpenter ornamentation in the city.

The Young Residence is a rare, tangible reminder of the original, elegant nature of this neighbourhood. By the late 19th century, this area, overlooking the harbour, housed Nanaimo's commercial and professional classes. Over time, as the harbour developed and the area became increasingly industrial, the elite moved to areas north and west of the original city. Today, the Young Residence stands out as the sole remaining residence of its type in the neighbourhood.

James Young owned a local general store. Early in the history of the city he was active in the fledgling labour movement. The Calvin Ewing Knights of Labour, Local Assembly 3017 was the first Knights of Labour local in British Columbia, and the focus of union activity north of Victoria; Young signed the notice for their first meeting at the Foresters' Hall in January of 1884. Young later served on Nanaimo City Council in 1910 and 1912-1916, and 1919. Young acquired this property by 1888 from the Vancouver Coal Company, and is listed as resident by 1891; the house may have been built at that time or slightly later.



Name: Girvin Avenue Residence
Location: 797 Girvin Avenue
Date: Circa 1912

The Girvin Avenue Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings in a neighbourhood just north of the downtown core. Although the area was surveyed before the end of the 19th century, it remained sparsely settled until after the end of the Second World War. Until that time, most of the properties in this area were small-scale farms that supplied local markets. Today, surrounded predominantly by post war tract housing, the residence is a rare reminder of the neighbourhood's original character and function.

Building in 1912, the Girvin Avenue Residence is a very good example of an Edwardian bungalow. The building displays many of the features typical of the style and era including a simple, square plan, an inset full open front verandah supported on square columns and a hip roof with hipped dormers.



Name: Jones/Bevilockway Residence
Location: 55 Haliburton Street
Date: Circa 1875

This simple worker's house was built on land acquired from the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company. Assessment records indicate that a "house fenced and cultivated" existed on this site as early as 1875, the first year that assessment records were kept. The first owner was Nicholas Jones. By 1877, Joseph Bevilockway is listed as the owner. Joseph and his wife Ann, both of Staffordshire, England, came to Nanaimo in 1854 aboard the barque "Princess Royal." Joseph built numerous buildings for the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company and at least two residences for his own family. The family later moved to Newcastle Townsite.

Although the house has been renovated and now features a new roof, modern siding and a small porch at the rear, it remains a good example of early, vernacular worker's housing typical of this Nanaimo neighbourhood.



Name: Haliburton Street
Miners' Cottage
Location: 111 Haliburton Street
Date: Circa 1875

A house existed on this site as early as 1875, although it is unclear whether this is the house. According to the assessment records John Caulfield and Thomas Zealand were the original owners of this property. The property was later owned in the 1880's by John Hilbert, an undertaker and furniture maker who was also mayor in 1891. However, it does not appear that Hilbert lived at this address.

This building is one of the earliest surviving examples of a vernacular workers cottage (or miners' cottage) located in Nanaimo. This residence retains the basic form of a miner's cottage with a side gable roof, extended back addition and front porch typical of the housing form.

Located prominently to Haliburton Street this is a relatively intact reminder of the type of housing that once dotted this area of Nanaimo and provided housing for the miners' and their families.



Name: Rowe Residence
Location: 545 Haliburton Street
Date: Circa 1906

Built around 1906, the Rowe Residence is a very good example of an Edwardian era residence. This elegant, symmetrical building demonstrates the stylistic shift from the picturesque asymmetry of the Late Victorian era to the rigid formality that was favoured in the Edwardian era.

The Rowe Residence is significant for its association with the Malpass family. This house was built for Mary Ann Malpass Blundell Rowe, the daughter of John and Lavinia Malpass. The Malpass' arrived in Nanaimo in 1854 after a lengthy voyage from England aboard the barque Princess Royal. Although there were settlers here before the arrival of the Princess Royal families, the latter are typically celebrated in an annual public ceremony that marks their historic arrival. Mary Ann eventually sold the business to her nephew James Malpass, who renamed it Malpass & Wilson, thus reinforcing the association with the original Malpass family.

The Rowe Residence is located on the main thoroughfare of one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Nanaimo within a grouping of heritage buildings.



Name: Haliburton Street Methodist Church

Location: 602 Haliburton Street

Date: 1891 (expanded 1894)

'Built in 1891 as a branch of the Wallace Street Methodist Sunday School, it owes its origins to the enterprise and foresight of a former pastor of the Wallace Street Church, Rev. W.W. Bauer...As a preaching appointment it first appears on the Wallace Street Plan of January 1892. In 1893 it was separated from the Wallace Street circuit and organized as a separate circuit with a minister of its own. It was a bold stroke to take, when it was considered that only about 20 members and these transfers from the Wallace Street circuit. The first Board of Trustees consisted of James Lister, H. Streighthorst, E. Devlin, E. Rogers, T. Miles, T. Bryant. These assumed responsibility for a debt of \$1,000 which rested on the building; this was, however, soon liquidated.'

'The first pastor was a young ordained man, Rev. E.V. Smith, who left at the end of his first year to attend McGill University. In the year 1894 it was found necessary owing to the large congregation, to enlarge the church to its present capacity. This was done at an outlay of about \$1,800, and made provision for the seating of a choir, an enlarged auditorium, and two large classrooms in the rear. The acoustic properties are excellent and the present pastor, Rev. Wm. R. Welch, is now completing the first year of his pastorate, preaching every Sabbath to eager congregations. His ministry is full of promise for the spiritual needs of the large population of the locality.' (Nanaimo Free Press, Golden Jubilee Edition, 1874-1924).

In an 1894 enlargement, the width of the church was extended about ten feet on each side, and an altar added. The first parsonage for the church was on Victoria Road. In 1898 Samuel Robins, General Manager of the Vancouver Coal Company, advised the Trustees to buy the property adjacent to the church, and in 1912 a new manse was built. In 1935, when the Wallace Street Church was being dismantled, the stones were purchased, and a stone wall erected around the Haliburton Street property; the \$400 cost was raised by the Ladies' Circle. In 1903, continuing labour difficulties cause the Federal Department of Labour to send the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, then Minister of Labour, to Nanaimo to investigate working conditions, and settle a labour dispute. He delivered a sermon at the Haliburton Methodist Church entitled 'The Young Man of Nazareth'.

The building is a very good example of late Victorian Eclectic architecture and is one of the oldest surviving church buildings in Nanaimo. The picturesque massing typical of this style is demonstrated in the asymmetrical, gable roofed towers. Although there have been some changes to the original building, its essential form is still intact.

The Haliburton Street Methodist Church's tall towers, large mass and location on a main street, in a predominantly residential area, make it a highly prominent neighbourhood landmark.

The Church is an excellent example of the adaptive re-use of a building. When the congregation dwindled and the building was no longer viable as a church, it was successfully converted to accommodate a variety of community uses including a first nation's health and wellness centre.



Name: Krall Residence

Location: 644 Haliburton Street

Date: Circa 1936

Built for Mike Krall in 1936, this modest residence is a very good example of a late Craftsman bungalow, with many of the features typical of this style including long and low proportions, gable roof, triangular eave brackets, and narrow course wooden siding. More unique is the jerkin-headed (clipped gable) roof. The building is substantially intact.

The residence is a very good example of the type of housing that was built in an overwhelmingly working-class neighbourhood. While most the adjacent houses are extremely modest, the Krall Residence is relatively more ornate and testifies to the neighbourhood's housing and population diversity. The residence also speaks to the continuing residential development of this area in the interwar period.

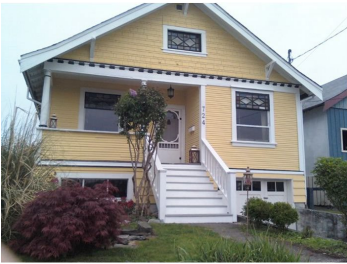
The Krall Residence is located on the main thoroughfare of one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Nanaimo.



Name: Hayes Residence
Location: 703 Haliburton Street
Date: Circa 1920

Built around 1920 for Jack Hayes, the residence is a superior example of the type of simple bungalow that proliferated in Nanaimo's working-class neighbourhoods. The form is reduced to the essentials; a hipped roof caps a rectangular plan, relieved by an inset entry porch with square chamfered columns. Otherwise minimally embellished, the coloured art glass panels used in the upper window sash provide some relief from austerity.

The building's corner location on the main thoroughfare of this neighbourhood makes it a prominent landmark in one of the city's oldest neighbourhoods.



Name: Haliburton Street Residence
Location: 724 Haliburton Street
Date: 1912

Built in 1912, this building is a very good example of a Craftsman bungalow, with many of the features typical of this style including long and low proportions, gable roof, narrow course siding, twin course shingles in the gable ends, and a small inset porch with rounded columns. Modest in scale, this house also has some special decorative touches. Most notable is the extensive use of coloured art glass in the sash of the street facing windows.

The residence is also a very good example of the type of housing that was built in an overwhelmingly working-class neighbourhood. While most of the adjacent houses are simple in design, the Haliburton Street Residence is relatively more ornate and testifies to the neighbourhood's housing and population diversity.

The Haliburton Street Residence is located prominently on the main thoroughfare of one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Nanaimo.



Name: Pacific Biological Station Residence
Location: 3190 Hammond Bay Road
Date: 1928

The Residence and Picnic Shelter, parts of a large complex of institutional buildings, speak to the evolution of one of the world's foremost fisheries research stations. Established in 1908, the Pacific Biological Station is the principal centre for fisheries research on the Canadian West Coast, investigating domestic and international fisheries problems. In 1929, the Residence was opened to provide living quarters for visiting scientists and some of the junior scientific staff. The Residence was later converted to offices and laboratories for the use of the new Pacific Oceanographic Group. In the mid-1920's, the Biological Board of Canada (later to be known as the Fisheries Research Board of Canada) became directly involved in fisheries research. Year-round permanent scientific staff was hired and the facilities were improved. The end of World War II brought about major changes; staff and research programs grew steadily and rapidly. Over the years, additional buildings have been constructed to meet the expanding research needs of staff.

Built in 1928, the Pacific Biological Station Residence is an unusual, very good example of a vernacular institutional building with Craftsman style influences. A tall, rambling structure set into a hill, the building has a large wraparound verandah on the main floor that faces the water view. Triangular eave brackets provide a decorative note to an otherwise plain and functional structure. Also on the site is a small structure, probably built as a picnic shelter and now used as a bicycle shelter. It was designed in a rustic style with a concrete base clad with rounded stones and a peeled log superstructure.



Name: York Residence
Location: 908-912 Hecate Street
Date: 1948

Built in 1948, the York Residence is a very good example of a vernacular Streamline Modern style building. The York Residence's sleek, streamlined appearance, its horizontal orientation, smooth surfaces and curved corners and balcony are hallmarks of this modernistic style.

The York Residence is a rare remaining building located on the site of Nanaimo's historic Chinatown. Other remaining buildings are from a much earlier era. The York Residence, with its modern styling and landscaped yard, provides evidence that Chinatown was more than the collection of haphazardly arranged, boomtown style buildings that popular local histories often suggest.

This was the residence of prominent local merchant, Charlie York who emigrated from Canton, southern China in 1916. After working briefly as a logger, he setup a tailor shop on Haliburton Street and by 1917 had moved the shop to 123 Commercial Street. The business would later evolve into a successful clothing store which was operated continuously until his death in 1978. The store was demolished in 1987 and replaced by the new building currently occupied by Charlie's Restaurant.



Name: Lewis Residence
Location: 130 Howard Avenue
Date: Circa 1911

Built around 1911, this residence is a good example of an Edwardian era bungalow, with many of the features typical of this style including a simple, rectangular form, cedar shingle siding, and restrained ornamentation. Originally constructed as a one storey building, the overall original building form is substantially intact, although the residence's original wood frame windows have been replaced and the front entrance significantly altered.

The Lewis Residence is significant because it speaks to the direct role local coal companies played in shaping the physical and social development of the Nanaimo area. In 1884, Samuel Robins, The Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, purchased Harewood Estates, a large parcel of land between Nanaimo and the base of Mount Benson. Robins subdivided the area in "Five Acre" farms and made them available to mining families at affordable prices. Robins envisioned farming as a way for miners to provide for themselves whenever coal markets were depressed. The experience of Thomas Lewis, who built this home, illustrates Robins' concept in application. Thomas Lewis was a miner who later took work as a nurseryman.

Located near the Bowen Road Cemetery, the residential property forms part of the historical Fairview neighbourhood, and is believed to be one of the oldest residences in this area. The residence forms part of a grouping of similar era housing with mature landscaping along this portion of Howard Avenue, distinctly contrasting with the post-modern era housing stock located directly across the street.



Name: Smith/Wilson Residence
Location: 12 Irwin Street
Date: Circa 1889

Built around 1889, the Smith/ Wilson Residence is a very good example of a vernacular, late Victorian cottage. The simple, front-gable rectangle form has been embellished with Italianate style bays at the front and north side. Although there have been changes to the building over time, most notably the application of modern reproduction fish scale shingles and wood siding over the original shingles, the essential character of the building is intact.

The Smith/Wilson Residence is a good example of the type of housing that was built by the commercial class in an overwhelmingly working-class neighbourhood. While most of the adjacent houses are extremely modest, the Smith/Wilson Residence is relatively more ornate and testifies to the neighbourhood's housing and population diversity.



Name: Smith/Tait Residence
Location: 16 Irwin Street
Date: Circa 1888

Built around 1888, the Smith/Tait Residence is a very good example of a vernacular, late-Victorian cottage. The two storey, front gable design is comparable in form to the Smith/Wilson Residence located next door (both residences were constructed by miner, Alex Smith). However, the residence is distinct with its twin-course shingle siding and open front verandah, supported by square, chamfered columns. While some changes have been made to the building over time including upgraded windows, the essential character of the building remains intact.

Owned by the Andrew Tait family (local shoemaker) for over 50 years, the Smith/Tait Residence is a good example of the type of housing that was built by the commercial class in an overwhelmingly working-class neighbourhood. While most of the adjacent houses are extremely modest, this residence is relatively more ornate and testifies to the neighbourhood's housing and population diversity.

Located within one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods and prominent to the street, this residence forms part of a grouping of historic residential buildings.



Name: "Fernville"
(The Land Residence)
Location: 167 Irwin Street
Date: Circa 1890

Built around 1890, Fernville is a very good example of a picturesque Late Victorian building. Tall and imposing in massing, the house features a cross-gabled roof. The ground floor is clad in drop siding; the second floor in bellcast shingling. The corner entry porch is supported on a single, turned column. Coloured glass insets exist in the corners of some of the windows.

The Land Residence is an excellent example of a private conservation project. When built, the house was part of a group of superior residences in what was then Nanaimo's most elegant neighbourhood. By 2007 the area was overwhelmingly industrial and most of the original homes had been demolished. Fernville was owned by a local construction firm and because the firm wished to expand its storage yard was offered to anyone willing to move it. Interest was expressed by a number of organizations but eventually a local family moved the building to its current site, only a few blocks away but in a much less industrial area and adjacent to a public park. Since the move, both the new owners, with the help of neighbours and community association members, have worked to restore the building. Although some changes have been made as a result of the relocation, the building remains substantially intact. The move and subsequent restoration of Fernville speaks to the community's acknowledgement of the value of heritage buildings in their neighbourhood.

The property at 84 Esplanade on which the building was originally located was acquired from Angus McKenzie by Captain Peter M. Land in 1888. Land, a master mariner, is listed as living here the following year; the house was either built at this time, or at a slightly later point during Land's ownership.

By 1905 the house was acquired by Mrs. C. E. Barton of Vancouver, and by 1908 was owned by the E.G. Cavalsky family. Edward George Cavalsky was born in Denmark, and came to Victoria in 1880, where he lived for six years, employed on the coast boats. In 1886 he moved to Nanaimo, and opened a grocery business, and after a varied career, went into insurance and accounting. Cavalsky served on Nanaimo City Council for 17 different terms, starting in 1908; he also joined the fire department in 1888, becoming the secretary in 1895. Cavalsky married Laura Gilbert in 1887 – she had arrived in Nanaimo with her family in 1874. By the time of their Golden Anniversary in 1937, they were considered "one of Nanaimo's best known and most beloved pioneer couples".



Name: Brick Cottage
Location: 1904 Jingle Pot Road
Date: Circa 1910-1912

The Brick Cottage is an excellent example of a community preservation project. Built around 1910 as an office or storage building for a minor local coal company, the small rectangular building and grounds were converted into a residence and small farmstead in the 1920s by the Specogna Family. Over time, a frame addition and concrete milk house were added to the rear. In 1999, as part of a community preservation project, the original modest, brick building, minus the addition and milk house, was relocated to its current location to accommodate road construction. The building is currently owned by the municipality and used as an environmental and historical interpretation centre for the adjoining park.

The grounds surrounding the Brick Cottage are an integral part of the site and are an excellent example of a recreated landscape that reflects the building's original context. The original site featured several agricultural out buildings, extensive flower and vegetable gardens and an orchard. Many of these elements were recreated on the new site, including a grape arbour and other appropriate plantings and hard landscape features.

The Cottage's primary value resides in its location adjacent to a popular park, readily accessible to the public as an educational and interpretive venue.



Name: Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church
Location: 4334 Jingle Pot Road
Date: 1938

Built in 1938, the Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church building is a very good example of Gothic Revival architecture, a popular style for churches in this period and typified by its overall vertical emphasis and pointed arch windows. The building's modest proportions and minimal ornamentation reflect its construction during the Depression.

The Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church building is an excellent example of a community project. Built by volunteer labour, under the supervision and to the plans of parishioner Joseph Myette, the building typifies the once common methods and means of construction of public buildings in smaller communities where funding was not available for either professional plans or paid labour.

The Church building is significant as an example of building preservation. Originally located in Lantzville, just north of Nanaimo, the building was moved to its current location and maintained in mostly original condition, including much of the interior.



Name: Cowman Residence
Location: 150 Kennedy Street
Date: Circa 1918

Built around 1918, this residence is a very good example of an Edwardian era bungalow, with many of the features typical of this style including a simple, square form, restrained ornamentation, and an open front verandah inset under a projecting second storey front gable, supported by square chamfered columns.

The Cowman Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the beginning of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods. During the 1920s and 1930s, the residence served as the Manager's House for Shelly Brothers/Canadian Bakeries Ltd. and was the home of the Percy Cowman family. Percy was the company's Bread and Cakes manager.

Located opposite Gyro Park, the building is part of a significant concentration of heritage buildings located in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Cunningham Residence
Location: 190 Kennedy Street
Date: Circa 1961

Designed by the architectural firm of McArravy and Barley, this house is, to date, their only identified residential building and an excellent example of the suburban rancher style. McArravy also designed City Hall, Nanaimo District Senior Secondary School, the renovation to the Salvation Army Citadel, Tom Brown's Auto Body and the 1936 extension to the Globe Hotel.

The suburban ranch style is characterized by its single storey, "to the ground" character. Typically, ranchers had low pitched roofs which emphasized the form's horizontality, broad central chimneys without ornamentation, corner windows and large "picture" windows that were the centrepieces of the main rooms of the house. The suburban ranch style was the favored design in suburban tract developments from the late 1940s into the 1970s. For this reason, this house's downtown, old city location is unusual.

The building is prominently oriented to Kennedy Street and forms a unique part of a larger grouping of residential buildings in the city's old city quarter.



Name: Freethy Residence
Location: 304 Kennedy Street
Date: 1911

Built in 1911 for John W. and Edith Freethy, the residence is a very good example of a finely-detailed Craftsman Bungalow. The horizontal massing, full front verandah, tapered columns and scroll-cut vergeboards are typical features of this style.

Located within a grouping of superior historic buildings, the Freethy Residence speaks to the development of this area, after the turn of the 20th century, as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance away from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

John Freethy was a clerk at Spencer's Store.



Name: Wilkinson Residence
Location: 305 Kennedy Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Wilkinson Residence is Nanaimo's premiere example of the eclectic design trends of the Edwardian era. The Craftsman-influenced river rock foundation, Classical style porch columns and Edwardian era vertical proportions of the building are evidence of this trend. The building is further distinguished by a two-storey high rounded turret on the front façade, stained glass window panels and sidelights and a roofed second floor balcony.

The Wilkinson Residence's corner location and height and mass make it a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.

The residence speaks to the area's growth, after the turn of the 20th century, as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.



Name: Woodman Residence
Location: 307 Kennedy Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Woodman Residence is an exceptional, richly detailed example of Edwardian era eclectic trends in housing forms. The symmetrical façade and vertical proportions are typically Edwardian while the pattern of sinuous curves in the leaded glass in the upper window sash speaks to an Arts and Crafts influence. The overall impression is of a finely crafted custom-built house, relatively rare in a city composed predominantly of modest working-class housing.

The Woodman Residence is significant for its association with May Woodman who lived in the building from 1913 – 1971. A teacher for forty-three years, Woodman was a well-known and respected member of the community.

The residence is part of a grouping of superior houses that exemplifies the neighbourhood's early identity as a prestigious residential area.



Name: Pargeter Residence
Location: 536 Kennedy Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Pargeter Residence is a very good example of a World War 1 era Craftsman bungalow, a style exceptionally popular in Nanaimo during this period. Long and low and with the front gable typical of the earliest versions of this style, the building is embellished with exceptional art glass transoms in the ground floor windows and the half-timbering in the gable ends.

The Pargeter Residence is significant as the site of two of Nanaimo's largest Chilean Pines, also known as Monkey Puzzle trees. Popular from the late 19th to early 20th centuries, Monkey Puzzle trees were typically used as specimen trees in front yards. The use of specimen trees marks a transition from earlier domestic landscapes that were characterized by their emphasis on vegetable gardens and other practicalities to landscapes that were characterized by their aesthetic qualities.

The residence is part of a grouping of heritage buildings in this section of one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods, adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Adams Residence
Location: 547 Kennedy Street
Date: 1908

This is an excellent example of a modest Edwardian cottage. It appears to have been built for William J. and May Adams; William was a miner. Symmetrical in massing, it features one projecting front semi-octagonal bay. It is square in plan, surmounted by a pyramidal roof. Clad with drop siding, there is little ornamentation other than the use of diagonal siding in the framed insets on the front bay. The projecting entry porch has been partially rebuilt; the original square chamfered columns at the front have been replaced, but the half-columns still attached to the house are original.



This tall and boxy structure features a two storey projecting front bay and a generous front verandah with square chamfered columns. Set on a large lot, the landscaping includes mature shrubs and rhododendrons. It was most likely built around 1904 by Joseph Dykes, a miner; by 1909 Dykes was listed as a 'bratticeman', responsible for timber bracing at the mines. The house is substantially intact, except for the recent application of vinyl siding over the original cladding.

Name: Dykes Residence
Location: 639 Kennedy Street
Date: 1904



Built in 1913, the Layer-Hall Residence is an excellent example of an Edwardian building with Foursquare and Craftsman influences. The Four square's box plan made it economical and practical to build and the simple design typifies restrained, Edwardian elegance. The Layer-Hall Residence's basic box plan is embellished with Craftsman details including large eave brackets and leaded and stained glass wooden sash casement windows. Although a rear addition alters the original square configuration, the building is substantially intact.

Name: Layer-Hall Residence
Location: 115 Machleary Street
Date: 1913

The Layer-Hall Residence is significant for its association with Dr. G.A.B. Hall who lived here during the 1930s and early 1940s. The long-time physician and surgeon to the Western Fuel Company miners, Hall had a lengthy history of community service, including a term as Mayor from 1930-31. Hall represents the intrinsic connections between doctors, coal companies and the coal mining population. In a city with exceptionally high accident and death rates, these connections were especially significant.

Originally built for the Layer family, it later became the home of Dr. Hall. Born in Ontario, Hall graduated in dentistry from the Philadelphia Dental College and operated an office in Nanaimo from 1980-1893. He then went to Stanford University and received a diploma in medicine. For 13 years, he practiced medicine in Nelson, B.C. In Nelson, Hall served nine years as the president of the school board, one year on the City council, and three years as an MLA. Returning to the coast, Hall was hired as the physician and surgeon to the Western Fuel Company miners. Sited in the middle of a street lined with lower buildings, the two-storey Layer-Hall Residence is a prominent neighbourhood landmark, overlooking a municipal park.



Name: Rowbottom Residence
Location: 320 Machleary Street
Date: 1913

Built in 1913, the Rowbottom Residence is a superior example of an Edwardian bungalow. This symmetrical building has many Craftsman features including triangular eave brackets, exposed rafter ends on the front dormer and a large, finely detailed wrap-around verandah. The rock wall with stone gateposts and elaborate wrought iron gate, in addition to the mature landscaping, add to the estate-like ambience of this property.

The Rowbottom Residence, part of a grouping of superior heritage buildings, speaks to the neighbourhoods' early status as a prestigious residential area. By the turn of the 20th century, Nanaimo's entrepreneurial and professional classes were moving to areas west and north of the original town site. This movement was largely spurred by the development of the huge No. 1 Coal Mine in what was once a predominantly residential area on the southern waterfront but it also reflects a general trend towards single-use neighbourhoods that were increasingly defined by social class and their distance from industrial activity. This neighbourhood, near the brow of a long, gentle hill that rises from the waterfront, was one of a few select areas that emerged as exclusively residential after 1900.

The house was built for Francis (Frank) Rowbottom Jr. The Rowbottoms emigrated from their native England in the mid-1880s. Francis Sr. initially worked as a miner but eventually purchased the Union Bakery on Bastion Street. Later, the business moved to the Northwest corner of Fitzwilliam and Milton Streets. As a young man, Frank Jr. was a live-in apprentice baker at Smith & Hague's Excelsior Bakery. After his father's death in 1897, Frank Jr. worked with his mother and brothers at the family bakery. The bakery was sold to the Shelley Brothers Bakery in 1918.



Name: Hitchen Residence
Location: 395 Machleary Street
Date: 1952

Built in 1952, the Hitchen Residence is a very good example of early ranch house design and displays many elements typical of the style including a long and low profile, rock trim on the exterior, a low-pitched roof, large picture windows and deeply overhanging eaves. The street-facing porch, so popular in earlier bungalows, is replaced here by a discreet entryway and street facing garage, another typical Ranch style element. Inside, the original highly coloured bathroom tiles and fixtures, airy living areas and intact kitchen are delightful reminders of the “modern” decade.

Arthur Hitchen Jr. built this house in 1952 for his widowed mother, Ethel. Born in Nanaimo in 1896, Ethel was the granddaughter of merchant John Hirst and the daughter of merchants Frank and Louisa Hirst Rogers. Ethel married Arthur Hitchen, also a merchant. Arthur died in 1938 and Ethel appears to have lived with her son’s family until this house was built. Ethel was a schoolteacher for many years and an active member of St. Andrew’s United Church and the Business and Professional Women’s Club. She died in 1970.

The Hitchen Residence is part of a grouping of superior heritage buildings, located in one of the city’s oldest neighbourhoods adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: John Johnston Residence
Location: 407 Machleary Street
Date: Circa 1912

Built around 1912 for John Johnston, the residence is a very good example of a vernacular, Edwardian era bungalow. Common elements include an open front verandah inset under a projecting second storey front gable, supported by square chamfered columns. Other common features of this housing style are the simple, square building form, and gable roof. Unusual features include the arches located on the front porch. The building is substantially intact.

The Johnston Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction that typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood located a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

The original owner was John Johnston, a local blacksmith. Johnston’s two daughters, Lillian and Isabelle, were teachers in the community for many years. The house was lived in continuously by members of the Johnston family until 2006.

The Johnston Residence is part of a grouping of heritage buildings in one of the City’s oldest neighbourhoods, adjacent to the downtown core. The residence is located on a sloping lot with sympathetic modern planting and an excellent view of Harewood.



Name: Parrot Residence
Location: 411 Machleary Street
Date: 1916

Built in 1916, the Parrot Residence is a very good example of an Edwardian era bungalow and displays many elements typical of the style including a simple, square form, restrained ornamentation, an open front verandah with square chamfered columns and a cross-gabled roof.

The Parrot Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th Century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

Located on a sloping lot with sympathetic modern plantings and an excellent view of Harewood, the residence is part of a grouping of heritage buildings in one of the City’s oldest neighbourhoods, adjacent to the downtown core.



This tall Late Victorian house displays the influence of the Italianate style. Scroll-cut eave brackets decorate the broad cornice under the roofline. A two storey projecting front semi-octagonal bay features star-shaped cut-outs, and a steeply-sloped skirting that extends to form a roof over the front entry. Slender turned columns frame the front door. The front door and the balustrade have been replaced, and a deck added to the rear of the house, otherwise it remains in very good condition. Joseph Rowley, the first owner, was a blacksmith.

Name: Rowley Residence
Location: 426 Machleary Street
Date: 1893



The Meredith Road Residence is significant as one of the few remaining early buildings in an area that, until amalgamation with the City of Nanaimo in 1975, was a distinct community. Originally developed as a coalmining town in the late 19th century, Northfield enjoyed a brief resurgence in the late 1930s. In addition to coal mining, small-scale farming, dynamite manufacturing and other businesses were developed. Amalgamation and development between separate coal towns eventually blurred the distinctions among them. The Meredith Road Residence serves as a physical reminder of the area's original development as a distinct community.

Name: Meredith Road Residence
Location: 2126 Meredith Road
Date: Circa 1900

A very good example of an early vernacular worker's cottage, the Meredith Road Residence, built around 1900, represents the Nanaimo area's predominant housing form from around 1900 to 1920. Inexpensive to build, the typical worker's cottage features a simple square plan, pyramidal roof and lack of ornamentation. As finances allowed and tastes dictated, improvements such as front verandahs and more elaborate wood trim were often added. The verandah on this building appears to be original and the building, with its original rubble stone foundation, is substantially intact.



Built around 1912, the Millstone Avenue Residence is a very good example of an Edwardian bungalow. Square in plan with a cross gabled roof that maximizes second storey space, the Millstone Road Residence is substantial in appearance and features the restrained ornamentation that exemplifies Edwardian era style.

Name: Millstone Avenue Residence
Location: 408 Millstone Avenue
Date: Circa 1912

The Millstone Avenue Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings in a neighbourhood just north of the downtown core. Although the area was surveyed before the end of the 19th century, it remained sparsely settled until the 1920s. Until that time, most of the properties in this area were small-scale farms that supplied local markets. Today, the area features a mix of commercial, institutional and residential buildings from diverse eras. The Millstone Avenue Residence remains as a tangible reminder of the neighbourhood's earliest development.

The mature landscaping provides an appropriate setting, and features a large Walnut tree.



Name: Beevor-Potts Residence
Location: 627 Millstone Avenue
Date: Circa 1930

Built around 1930, the Beevor-Potts Residence is a very good example of the English Cottage Style that was very popular in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Design features representative of this style include the asymmetric floor plan, jerkin headed and steeply pitched gable roofs and the early use of stucco siding. The building is substantially intact.

The residence was the home of Lionel Beevor-Potts, who was Nanaimo's Police Magistrate between 1945 and 1964.

The Beevor-Potts Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings in a neighbourhood just north of the downtown core. Although the area was surveyed before the end of the 19th century, it remained sparsely settled until the 1920s. Until that time, most of the properties in this area were small-scale farms that supplied local markets. Today, the area features a mix of commercial, institutional and residential buildings from diverse eras. The residence remains a tangible reminder of the neighbourhood's continuing development.

Prominently located on the corner of Millstone Avenue and Eberts Street, the residence is a highly visible landmark. The building is located in an established neighbourhood surrounded by mature, sympathetic landscaping within a larger grouping of housing from a similar era.



Name: Newbury Residence
Location: 39 Milton Street
Date: 1910

Built in 1910, the Newbury Residence is a very good example of a Craftsman bungalow building. Its long and low proportions, oversized gable screen, prominent bargeboards, double-hung windows, and narrow horizontal wood siding are typical elements of this style. The Newbury Residence represents an architectural style that was extremely popular with Nanaimo's middle class during this period.

The Newbury Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th Century, this area was established as a middle to upper class residential neighbourhood, located a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

Arthur Newbury first appears in local records in 1909 as a miner for the Western Fuel Company. In 1921, he received his 1st Class Certificate of Competency, a requirement to become a coal mine official. From 1921 – 1926, he managed the Harewood Mine and from 1927-1935, he was the manager of the No.1 Mine. Around 1937, he moved to 103 Milton Street where he lived until his death in 1952 at the age of 67.



Name: Young/Pargeter Residence
Location: 45 Milton Street
Date: 1911

Built in 1911, the Young-Pargeter Residence is an excellent example of a Craftsman bungalow. The building's long and low profile, oversized triangular eave brackets and gable screen, square bays and double-hung windows are all hallmarks of this style. This charming house has been recently rehabilitated and is very well maintained.

Built by local contractor Levi Chester Young, the Young-Pargeter Residence was acquired in 1913 by James T. Pargeter, an auto mechanic and later, engineer for the Canadian Western Fuel Company. Born in England in 1862, James arrived in British Columbia in 1876. He married Sarah Lee in 1893. James did not live in this house and it is likely it was built as an investment property. James appears to have lived in Five Acres (now Harewood) for most of his life.

The building is part of a significant concentration of heritage buildings located in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Wilton/Welch Residence
Location: 129 Milton Street
Date: 1903

Built in 1903 and expanded in 1916, the Wilton-Welch Residence is a very good example of a vernacular, Edwardian era building. The simple, L-shaped plan has an overall restrained appearance that is enriched by carpenter ornamentation including scroll-cut eave brackets and contrasting tongue-and-groove in detailing in the front gable and along the eave lines. A major rear addition in the 1970s does not significantly impact the overall appearance of the house.

The Wilton-Welch Residence is significant as the site of Nanaimo's largest identified Catalpa Tree, commonly referred to as an Indian Bean Tree after its prominent seed pods. The tree's great height and mass and its location at the front property line make this site a very prominent neighbourhood landmark. The residence is part of a grouping of significant heritage buildings in this section of one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods.

Sarah and Alfred Wilton acquired this property in 1902, and the house is believed to have been built in 1903. Albert and Isabella Welch and their children arrived in Nanaimo in 1908. Albert purchased a farm in the Wellington area, raised animals for the fur trade and opened a feed business in Nanaimo, originally sited opposite the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway station. This site was later exchanged by the Railway Company for another lot further down Selby Street located near the Railway tracks. Around 1912, the Brackman-Kerr Milling Company bought out his feed business. Albert and his youngest son Lance opened the Welch & Welch Confectionery at the corner of Bastion and Skinner Streets. Later, they moved the business a few feet East on Bastion Street into one of the storefronts of a more modern brick building by the Commercial Hotel. Lance died in 1921 and Albert sold the business shortly after. Albert continued to raise animals for the fur trade at the Wellington farm but lived in the City at 129 Milton Street. The fur trade failed in the Depression years and Albert decided to retire. During the late 1920s, he served on the City Council and was the Police Commissioner for a time. After Isabella's death in 1939, Albert moved to Lethbridge, Alberta and lived with his son Albert V.E. Welch. The house remained in the family. Albert returned home to Nanaimo in 1947 and lived with his daughter Jaunita and her family until his death in 1953.



Name: Wood Residence
Location: 133 Milton Street
Date: 1896

For many years this was the residence of the Wood family. Sarah Ann Wilcox was widowed on May 22, 1891, when her husband John, the co-owner of the Commercial Hotel, died. She later married William A. Wood, Nanaimo Station Master. Wood had come to British Columbia in 1882 to represent the Dominion Government when it loaned equipment to build the C.P.R. William Wood died in 1934; Sarah lived in the house until her death at the age of 90 in 1954. The exact date of construction of this house is unknown, as early Assessment Records record only land value, not the amount of improvements. It is known, however, that John Wilcox lived at this address at the corner of Milton and Wentworth Streets before he died. The charming Late Victorian cottage appears to date from approximately 1896. This was the era when steam-driven band saws allowed for the extensive use of scroll-cut carpenter ornamentation, of which this house is a splendid example. In addition to intricate eave brackets, there is an elaborate balustrade with shaped handrails, carved newel posts, and turned columns.



Name: Ledingham Residence
Location: 347 Milton Street
Date: 1902

Built around 1902, the Ledingham Residence is a very good example of vernacular, transitional style – from Late Victorian carpenter ornamentation to Edwardian symmetry and boxiness. The building displays some unusual features. The symmetrical massing is emphasized by twin projecting front bays on the ground floor that are joined by a continuous hip roof to form a covered porch over the central front entry. Decorative fish-scale shingling is used in the front gable.

The Ledingham Residence is significant as one of a few surviving historic buildings in this immediate area that recalls its early identity as a prestigious residential neighbourhood. Over time, other single-family residences in the area were replaced with apartment blocks, multiple-family housing and institutional buildings.

The residence's height and strong and unusual façade design make it a neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Rogers/Violette Residence
Location: 368 Milton Street
Date: 1931

Built in 1931, the residence is a very good example of a vernacular, late Craftsman style bungalow. Although updated, the building features many design elements typical of this style including long and low proportions, gable roof, narrow course siding, and gable shingle treatments.

Owned by John Hirst Rogers and his wife Constance Violette, the Hirst and Rogers families are significant as early merchant families who played prominent roles in the social and economic life of Nanaimo. The residence is also significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the beginning of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

This residence is part of a significant concentration of heritage buildings located in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Leynard Residence
Location: 442 Milton Street
Date: Circa 1932

Built for the Leynard family around 1932, the residence is a very good example of the English Cottage Style that was very popular in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Design features representative of this style include the asymmetrical floor plan, steeply pitched gable and hip roofs and the early use of stucco siding. The building is substantially intact.

Art Leynard was a long-time City Engineer and author of "The Coal Mines of Nanaimo", a popular publication.

The Leynard Residence is significant as one of the few surviving historic buildings in this immediate area that recalls its early identity as a prestigious residential neighbourhood. Over time, other single family residences in the area were replaced with apartment blocks, multiple family housing and institutional buildings.

The building is very prominent on the street and surrounded by sympathetic landscaping.



Name: Milton Street Bungalow
Location: 469 Milton Street
Date: Circa 1892

Built around 1892, this residence is a good example of an Italianate bungalow. Although updated over time, common elements of this architectural style still evident include twin bay windows and early examples of mass-produced exterior trim.

The Milton Street Bungalow is significant as one of the oldest, surviving historic buildings in this immediate area that recalls its early identity as a prestigious residential neighbourhood. The building forms part of the ambience of Milton Street, which still maintains much of its Victorian and Edwardian era housing stock.

The Milton Street Bungalow is located on a half-lot within a grouping of heritage buildings in of the City's oldest neighbourhood. While rare in other parts of the City, half-lots are a defining feature of this block of Milton Street. The building is part of a significant concentration of heritage buildings located in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Galbraith Residence
Location: 164 Mount Benson Street
Date: 1923

Built in 1923 for James and Arleen Galbraith (James Galbraith was the Manager of the Bank of Montreal), the Galbraith Residence is a very good example of a Late Craftsman bungalow, a popular style among Nanaimo's entrepreneurial and professional class during the 1920s. By that time, Newcastle Townsite was firmly established as an exclusive residential suburb. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, condominium and apartment complexes and single-family dwellings, but surviving earlier residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.

The Galbraith Residence is part of a significant grouping of heritage buildings in this neighbourhood.



Name: Van Houten Residence
Location: 184 Mount Benson Street
Date: 1924

Built in 1924 for A.C. and Mary Van Houten (A.C. Van Houten was a druggist and the U.S. Consular Agent), the residence a very good example of a Late Craftsman Bungalow, a popular style among Nanaimo's entrepreneurial and professional class during the 1920s. By that time, Newcastle Townsite was firmly established as an exclusive residential suburb. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, condominium and apartment complexes and single-family dwellings, but surviving earlier residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.

The Van Houten Residence is part of a significant grouping of heritage buildings in this neighbourhood.



Name: Westwood / Giovando Residence
Location: 225 Newcastle Avenue
Date: Circa 1940

The design of this modernistic house is balanced through the use of single storey wings to each side of a two storey block with a hip roof. A curved second floor balcony with pipe railings covers the inset front entry. The living room window is inset with curved reveals. The site has been beautifully landscaped to complement the house, including planted flower beds, a gracious front lawn, and a large mature cedar tree.

The Giovando/Westwood Residence is associated with two prominent Nanaimoites. The Earle Westwood family lived in the building in the 1950s and 1960s. Descended from one of the area's pioneer families, Westwood was mayor and Nanaimo's representative in the provincial legislature in the late 1950s. The building is also associated with Dr. Larry Giovando who resided here during the 1970s and early 1980s. Giovando was a highly regarded doctor and community leader and twice Nanaimo's representative in the provincial legislature from 1952-1956.

The Residence's waterfront location, exceptional condition and its unusual style make it a highly prominent landmark.



Name: Nanaimo Firehall #2
Location: 34 Nicol Street
Date: 1893

Built in 1893, the Nanaimo Fire Hall No. 2 is a very good example of Victorian Italianate architecture, one of the most popular 19th century styles. The fortress-like crenellated roofline is particularly appropriate on the fire hall, a widely recognized symbol of protection. The large doors at the front lower level were designed for easy access for the fire company's horses and equipment. Similarly functional, the concrete hose tower, added to the rear of the building in 1914, allowed for the efficient drying of fire hoses.

The Nanaimo Fire Hall No. 2 speaks to the continuing growth and maturity of the City. Although a volunteer fire brigade existed before the construction of the Fire Hall, this substantial and expensive building, whose construction costs were raised through subscription, indicates community commitment to efficient, modern service and faith in the City's future.

Located on a narrow triangular lot between two main thoroughfares and at a major intersection, the Fire Hall is an important downtown gateway building and a highly visible landmark.



Name: Northfield School
Location: 2249 Northfield Road
Date: Early 1920s

The Northfield School building is significant as one of few remaining early buildings in an area that, until amalgamation with the City of Nanaimo in 1975, was a distinct community. Originally developed as a coal mining town in the late 19th century, Northfield enjoyed a brief resurgence as such in the late 1930s. In addition to coal mining, small-scale farming, dynamite manufacturing and other businesses were developed. Amalgamation and development between separate coal towns eventually blurred the distinctions among them. Northfield School serves as a physical reminder of the area's original development as a distinct community.

Built around 1920, the Northfield School is a very good example of Department of Public Works school designs of this era. Typical elements of this style include a central front entry, ground level first floor and banks of windows in the upstairs classrooms. Minor alterations over time have not altered the essential form or overall appearance of the building.

The Northfield School's height, mass and location on a main thoroughfare make it an important neighbourhood landmark.



Name: McCannel Residence
Location: 757 Northumberland Avenue
Date: Circa 1950

Built around 1950, the McCannel Residence is a very good, early example of the popular post-WWII Suburban Ranch style. The influence of architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Japanese architecture is very apparent in the design. The building displays many elements typical of this style including low pitched roofs which emphasize the form's horizontality, broad central chimneys without ornamentation, asymmetrical façade, exposed trusses, attached garage, linear window rows, and brick exterior. The Suburban Ranch style was the favored design in suburban tract developments from the late 1940s into the 1970s.

The residence represents the continuing suburban development of this area north of the downtown core and a move towards a modern design aesthetic. The residence is also significant as the childhood home of internationally known jazz singer Diana Krall.



Name: Park Avenue Residence
Location: 465 Park Avenue
Date: Circa 1913

This striking house is very similar to 746 Railway Avenue, and to 648 and 650 Haliburton Street; these four houses were most likely built by the same builder. The sophisticated design has highly unusual features, including the battered foundation skirting, and the scalloped inset arch over the second floor front and rear balconies. The ornamentation includes scroll-cut vergeboards, and brackets under the projecting side bay. There are inset corner porches at the front and rear, with square chamfered columns. This house was built on a lot subdivided as part of the 'Brookside' subdivision in 1912.



Name: Pine Street Bungalow
Location: 20 Pine Street
Date: Circa 1918

Built around 1918, this residence is a very good example of a Craftsman bungalow, with many of the features typical of this style including long and low proportions, gable roof, narrow course siding, twin course shingles in the gable ends, and a small inset porch.

The Pine Street Bungalow is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the beginning of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

The building is located on a busy thoroughfare in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core, and surrounded by mature, sympathetic landscaping.



Name: Pine Street Residence
Location: 259 Pine Street
Date: Circa 1913

Built around 1913, the Pine Street Residence is a very good example of a large Craftsman Bungalow, this neighbourhood's predominate architectural style. The extensive use of dressed stone is unusual. In the 1940s, the building was divided into suites as part of the National Housing Administration's Housing Conversion Plan but the exterior remains largely original. The low, dressed stone wall at the front property line has a historical and aesthetic connection to the residence and, as such, is an important part of the historic place.

The Pine Street Residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the beginning of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-used neighbourhoods.

Set in a gracious landscape, mature trees provide a complementary setting at the crest of a hill that slopes away to the west.



Name: Clements Residence
Location: 420 Pine Street
Date: 1929

Built in 1929, the Clements Residence is a good example of an unusual, vernacular late-Craftsman style building. While the simple form, steeply pitched roof and shed dormer are typical Craftsman elements, the extensive use of rock is an idiosyncratic and unusual surface treatment.

The house was built by its original owner, Walter Clements. Based on information available, it appears that Clements has no specific historical significance, nor does the building represent any particular historical trend. The residence is located on sloping topography forming the dividing line between two significant older City neighbourhoods – the Old City Neighbourhood to the east and the Harewood neighbourhood to the west. The residence is part of a concentration of heritage buildings in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Harrison Residence
Location: 546 Prideaux Street
Date: 1892

Built around 1892, the Harrison Residence is a very good example of Late Victorian Eclectic architecture. The picturesque massing of the building reflects the Late Victorian enthusiasm for complex roof lines and decorated surfaces. Although some of the ornate chimneys have been removed and the front entry replaced, the building remains essentially intact.

The Harrison Residence is a rare surviving example of the type of prestigious housing that predominated in this area, known as Nob Hill, from its first development around 1870 until around 1910. Here, the city's commercial and professional elite built substantial homes, many of which featured excellent harbour views. By the early 20th century, Nanaimo's middle class were relocating to areas further north and west, away from the city centre. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of apartment buildings, boarding houses and single family houses and has lost much of its upscale character, but surviving early residences, such as this building, testify to the original nature of the area.

The residence is associated with a succession of prominent Nanaimo citizens. Built for Judge Eli Harrison, the house was subsequently owned by the Honourable Dr. R.E. McKechnie (Member of the Provincial Parliament, President of the Provincial Executive Council and doctor for the Coal Company), Dr. James Hogle who operated a ladies hospital from the house and much later, by Shelby Saunders, a prominent businessman and real estate developer, who opened the Pygmy Pavilion as a dance hall. The hall was popular with soldiers stationed here during W.W.II, and Saunders broke his house up into suites for some of the soldiers' wives. Between the wars, this house became a boy's residential and day school, known as St. George's On-The-Hill. It was modelled on an English style boys' school, with a number of boarders whose families were travelling; for some, it was an alternative to jail.

The residence's height, mass and its location on a high rocky outcropping make it a highly visible landmark.



Name: Jones Residence
Location: 639-41 Prideaux Street
Date: 1907

Built around 1907 and renovated around 1913, the Jones Residence is a superior, sophisticated example of Craftsman style architecture and ornamentation. The house appears to be the result of the renovation of an earlier house on the site. The original part of the house, now clad in twin-coursed shingles, has an open front verandah, with tapered columns and an arched opening. The addition to the north has a projecting semi-octagonal bay at the front. Throughout the ground floor bevelled glass transoms have been used in the casement windows. Pointed verge boards and exposed rafter ends are also hallmarks of the Craftsman style. The house has now been duplexed but its essential form remains intact.

The Jones Residence is a rare surviving example of the type of superior housing that predominated in this area, known as Nob Hill, from its first development around 1870 until around 1910. Here, the city's commercial and professional elite built substantial homes. By the early 19th century, Nanaimo's middle-classes were relocating to areas further north and west, away from the city centre. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of apartment buildings, boarding houses and single-family houses and has lost much of its upscale character but surviving early residences such as this building testify to the original nature of the area.



This prominent house, one of the few early surviving farm houses in the area, was built by Victor and Emma Oikari and is located at the intersection of Cranberry Avenue, Island Highway South and Quinn Lane. It was originally in the Cranberry District, on property subdivided in 1911. The plan is square, with a cross gable roof structure for maximum utilization of the top floor. There is a graceful bellcast to the roof edges. Typical of the Edwardian era, an inset front corner porch is supported on square columns. The plantings provide a sympathetic setting, including large mature holly bushes. The house has been very well maintained.

Name: Oikari Residence
Location: 1343 Quinn Lane
Date: Circa 1912



Built around 1912 for Lucy Spence, the Spence House is a very good example of an eclectic Edwardian design. The sophisticated design has unusual features, most notably the distinctive scalloped inset arch over the second floor balcony and the tapered base.

The building's height, mass and location among much smaller, newer and more modest homes make it a distinctive neighbourhood landmark.

Name: Spence House
Location: 746 Railway Avenue
Date: Circa 1912



Built between 1900-1910, the Rosehill Street Residence is a very good example of an early vernacular worker's cottage, which represented the Nanaimo area's predominant housing form from around 1900 to 1920. Inexpensive to build, the typical worker's cottage features a simple square plan, pyramidal roof and lack of ornamentation. A feature unique to this building is its recessed entrance alcove.

The Rosehill Street Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings in a neighbourhood just north of the downtown core. Although the area was surveyed before the end of the 19th century, it remained sparsely settled until the 1920s. Until that time, most of the properties in this area were small-scale farms that supplied local markets. Today, the area features a mix of commercial, institutional and residential buildings from diverse eras. The residence remains as a tangible reminder of the neighbourhood's earliest development.

The residence is prominently located to Rosehill Street and forms a unique part of a larger grouping of residential buildings from different eras comprising this part of the Townsite neighbourhood.

Name: Rosehill Street Residence
Location: 508 Rosehill Street
Date: Circa 1900-1910



The Newbury Farm House is significant because it speaks to the direct role local coal companies played in shaping the physical and social development of the Nanaimo area. In 1884, Samuel Robins, the Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, purchased Harewood Estates, a large parcel of land between Nanaimo and the base of Mount Benson. Robins subdivided the area into "Five Acre" farms and made them available to mining families at affordable prices. Robins envisioned farming as a way for miners to provide for themselves whenever coal markets were depressed. The experience of William Newbury, who built this home, illustrates Robins' concept in application. William Newbury and his son were alternately miners and nurserymen, at one time operating a florist shop in downtown Nanaimo.

Built around 1909, the Newbury Farm House is a substantially intact, very good example of a Craftsman bungalow. The house has many of the features typical of this style including the front gable roof, dormers, inset corner porch and wooden siding.

William Newbury, a miner, lived here as early as 1909. In 1912 he and his son William Jr. are also listed as florists and nurserymen, with a shop on Commercial Street. By 1925, William was again listed as a miner, and his son as a rancher.

Name: Newbury Farm House
Location: 678 Second Street
Date: Circa 1909



Name: Brackman-Ker Milling Building
Location: 241 Selby Street
Date: 1911

Originally built as the Brackman-Ker feedmill, this building is one of the few remaining pre-W.W.I. industrial structures in the City. Built in a utilitarian style, this is a good example of an early industrial building. The form of the structure is unchanged although upgrades have been made to the building exterior, with the most notable change being replacement of the building's original corrugated iron siding with vinyl siding.

Due to its mass, this building forms a prominent part of the Selby Street streetscape and is a visual reminder of an area abutting the railway that formed one of Nanaimo's earliest industrial zones.



Name: Gilbert Residence
Location: 279 Selby Street
Date: 1893

John King Gilbert, a native of Cornwall, England, died in Nanaimo on October 25, 1876. After his death, Gilbert's widow Mary Jane, also from Cornwall, became the Proprietor of the Temperance House, a boarding house at the corner of Bastion and Skinner Streets. Mary Jane built this charming Victorian cottage, and lived here until her death in 1898 at the age of 60. Her son John King Gilbert, originally a trader on the Naas River and later a machinist, continued to live here, later moving to Vancouver, where he died in 1926 at the age of 64. Her daughter, Laura, married E.G. Cavalsky and was Nanaimo's first telephone operator. In 1904 the house was acquired by A.E. Mainwaring.

This Late Victorian cottage survives mostly in its original configuration (a second floor was removed), and is one of the best surviving examples of this type of house in Nanaimo. Square and symmetrical in design, with a central front entry, it is covered with a pyramidal roof that extends over the paired front bays to form a small porch. The front bays display decorative carved brackets at the eave line. The front door is original, with arched top panels, and retains its sidelights and transoms. The Gilbert Residence still sits on its original large property, with many mature shrubs and landscape features typical of the period, including variegated hollies. One of the most remarkable features is the unique wrought iron front gate and gateposts, manufactured by the Stewart Company of Cincinnati, Ohio; decorative cast metal was generally removed from older houses during the Second World War as a result of 'scrap metal drives'.



Name: Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Station
Location: 321 Selby Street
Date: 1920

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Station is significant because of its association with the British Columbia confederation controversy. The railway was completed as a "consolation prize" from the federal government after it broke its promise to make Victoria the western terminus of the transcontinental railway. This breach led to threats of British Columbia's secession from Canada. Further controversy was fuelled when money and land for the railway were given to Nanaimo coal baron Robert Dunsmuir, already one of the province's richest men. In 1886, the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway opened with the local station being built at this site.

During the 1880s, the completion of the railway and the simultaneous expansion of the huge No. 1 Coal Mine precipitated an economic boom that almost doubled Nanaimo's population and created a consequent demand for more housing and commercial services. The Station represents the commercial and residential development of a hitherto undeveloped area as a direct result of the siting of the station on Selby Street.

Built by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in 1920, the Nanaimo Station, which replaced the earlier building, exemplifies the form of station built in mid-sized communities across Canada in the early 20th century and can be seen as an early example of corporate branding that visually tied Nanaimo to the rest of the CPR empire. The Nanaimo station appears to be a more elaborate version of CPR Standard Plan No. 9, a "combination station" that included living quarters and commercial space. The station house's most distinctive feature is its central square tower. In addition to providing an attractive visual element, the tower's projecting bay served a useful function by giving an unobstructed view of the track. Although there have been some changes to the building over time, including a comprehensive rehabilitation and roof reconstruction in 2012, it remains substantially intact.



Name: Manson Residence
Location: 471 Selby Street
Date: 1885-1887

This building is significant because of its association with Michael Manson, who came to Nanaimo from his native Scotland in the 1870s. Initially, he worked as a brakeman on a coal train, then clerked in and subsequently owned a dry goods and grocery store. From time to time, Manson left Nanaimo to trade with First Nation peoples along the coast and he eventually established a trading post on Cortez Island. In later years, Manson served as Nanaimo City Clerk, Secretary of the School Board and, from 1909 to 1932, as a member of the British Columbia Legislature. The family spent most summers on Cortez Island and eventually moved there permanently.

The Manson Residence is a very good example of the stylistic evolution of a building over time. The original part of the house was a typical, modest Nanaimo worker's cottage, built between 1885 and 1887. The worker's cottage form is still clearly visible at both sides of the house. Subsequent renovations include the addition of a full front verandah with front gable and late-Victorian posts and a large rear addition. Although modern metal windows and doors have been introduced, the essential character of the building remains intact and the building is well maintained.



Name: Beck Residence
Location: 610 Selby Street
Date: 1921

This Craftsman bungalow was built for John Beck, a blacksmith for the Western Fuel Company. By 1921 the lot was subdivided from a larger property owned by William M. Langton, in the Nob Hill area. Typical of the Craftsman style, the house has scroll-cut vergeboards, pointed and exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, and tapered porch piers. Twin-coursed shingles clad the gable ends and the foundation skirting, while the main floor is clad with lapped horizontal wood siding. Stained glass panels have been used in the window transoms, and a prominent tapered chimney provides a strong vertical element. The lot has mature shrubs and fruit trees, and an early concrete perimeter wall with concrete driveway posts.



Name: Sullivan Residence
Location: 673 Selby Street
Date: Circa 1892

Built around 1892 for Daniel Sullivan, a blacksmith for the Vancouver Coal Company, the Sullivan Residence is a rare surviving and excellent example of a Queen Anne Vernacular style building. This picturesque and exuberant style featured asymmetrical shapes, ornate ornamentation, bays and prominent, varied rooflines. The ornamental excess made possible by new power tools and mass-produced decorative trim work. In Nanaimo, very few of these buildings survive in their original condition. Over the years, the fragile ornamentation was either removed or obscured by later renovations.

The Sullivan Residence is part of a significant grouping of heritage buildings in an area that, in the late 19th century, was one of Nanaimo's most prestigious.

The ornate and unusual Sullivan Residence, located on a gently sloping site, is a neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Reid Residence
Location: 151 Skinner Street
Date: 1921

The Reid House, one of only three remaining single-family houses in the downtown core, is a tangible reminder of the historic presence of this housing form in the downtown area. From the 1850s until the 1930s, Nanaimo's downtown included an eclectic mix of commercial, industrial and residential buildings, including single-family homes. By the 1930s, residential neighbourhoods adjacent to the downtown core were firmly established. Although the upper stories of commercial buildings and hotels continued to provide living accommodation, no new single-family housing was built downtown after 1930.

Perched at the top of a steep cliff, the highly visible Reid House is an important neighbourhood landmark.

Built in 1921, the Reid House is a very good example of the late Craftsman style. The Reid House has many of the features typical of this style including finely crafted wood detailing.



Name: Palace Hotel
Location: 275 Skinner Street
Date: 1889

Built in 1889, the Palace Hotel is a very good example of the Italianate style, one of the most popular nineteenth century architectural styles in North America. The Palace Hotel was one of the earliest of the new type of hotels that was built during this era. It marks the beginning of a transition from the City's early rough, pioneer type architecture to a more refined and elegant style. Although there have been numerous renovations over the years, the building retains much of its original character.

The Palace Hotel represents the economic boom that was generated by the completion of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway and the expansion of the No. 1 Coal Mine in the 1880s. This handsome, ornate brick building speaks to the mood of prosperity and possibility prevalent at the time.

The Palace Hotel represents the social importance of hotels in Nanaimo history. Like most mining communities, early Nanaimo had a large population of single, often transient, men. As affordable housing alternatives, hotels functioned as living quarters and, in the saloons and restaurants typically located on the ground floor, as social centres. The value of the Palace Hotel lies in location at the bend of a curvilinear, narrow lane that intersects with the main downtown thoroughfare. The view to the Palace Hotel is framed by landmark historic structures on the main street. The hotel itself partially closes the vista from the main street and acts to create a feeling of intimacy and seclusion.



Name: Johnston Residence
Location: 36 Stewart Avenue
Date: 1912

The Johnston Residence is a superior example of Craftsman style architecture. Built in 1912, the house displays many sophisticated features. The complex gable roof covers a bungalow form, with a corner entry, projecting bays and an unusual round projecting bay at the southwest corner. Stained glass panels and straight-led glass are used as decorative features. Half-timbering in the gable ends, triangular eave brackets, and exposed rafter ends are other hallmarks of the Craftsman style. The Johnston Residence is substantially intact.

The Johnston Residence is a rare surviving example of the type of prestigious housing that predominated in Newcastle Townsite from its first development just after 1900 until the 1940s. Separated from the rest of the Nanaimo by the Millstone River, Newcastle Townsite quickly became an exclusive residential suburb for the city's commercial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, apartment buildings and single-family houses but surviving early residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.

Located on a narrow lot bounded by a main thoroughfare and the waterfront, the Johnston Residence is a highly visible neighbourhood landmark. The house was built for Zillah Johnston, the widow of Angus R. Johnston, a pioneer grocer in Nanaimo. A.L. Johnston, the manager of the A.R. Johnston Co. Ltd. at the time, also lived here.



Name: Daniel Galbraith Residence
Location: 185 Stewart Avenue
Date: Circa 1890

Original built around 1890 and extensively remodelled in a vernacular English Cottage style in the 1930s, the Daniel Galbraith Residence is a good example of the stylistic evolution of a building over time. The English Cottage Style was very popular in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Design features representative of this style include asymmetric building forms, rolled eaves (designed to simulate the appearance of thatch), multi-gabled and mixed-materials facades, dormers and jerkin-headed and steeply pitched gable roofs. Most importantly, English Cottage style buildings were intended to exude "coziness" and old world charm. The Galbraith Residence's cottage makeover made the building more compatible with many of its newly built English Cottage style neighbours.

The residence is the earliest known surviving residence in the Newcastle Townsite neighbourhood. Records indicate that Daniel Galbraith, the foreman at the Nanaimo (Haslam's) Sawmill, lived at this site in the early 1890s. Within a few decades, Newcastle Townsite had developed into Nanaimo's most exclusive residential neighbourhood, home to many of the City's commercial, managerial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, apartment buildings and single family housing. Surviving early residences such as this building provide important evidence of the original genteel character of the area. Located on a corner lot on a major thoroughfare, the residence is a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Sloan/Isaacson Residence
Location: 255 Stewart Avenue
Date: 1931

After making the second largest recorded fortune of the Klondike Gold Rush, William Sloan returned to Nanaimo in 1900, purchased Block 5 and built "Eldovilla", an elaborate late-Victorian mansion. After his death, the house was demolished. Sloan's widow, Catherine, built this house in 1931 as a replacement, but eventually moved to Vancouver. The Scales acquired the property in 1933, but later moved to Port Alberni in the 1940s. The next occupant was S.V. Isaacson who moved to Nanaimo in 1943. Isaacson was the Secretary-Treasurer of Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd.

The Sloan/Isaacson Residence is an excellent example of the English Cottage Style that was very popular in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Design features representative of this style include the asymmetric floor plans and rolled eave roof treatments, designed to simulate the appearance of thatch. Other notable design features include jerkin-headed and steeply pitched gable roofs and early use of rough stucco siding.

The residence is a tangible reminder of the type of housing that predominated in this neighbourhood from its earliest development in the early 1900s to around 1940. Initially developed as an exclusive residential neighbourhood for the city's middle and upper classes, the neighbourhood is now a mix of commercial buildings, condominium and apartment complexes and single-family dwellings. Surviving earlier residences such as this building are important evidence of the original genteel character of the area. The low stone and concrete fence and cut stone gatepost, the latter a remnant "Eldovilla", further reinforce the genteel character of an earlier era.

Prominently located at the corner of Stewart Avenue and Mt. Benson Street, this residence formed part of a larger concentration of heritage buildings comprising the Newcastle Townsite and is a highly visible neighbourhood landmark. The building is surrounded by mature, sympathetic landscaping which features a row of mature Copper Beech trees located on the adjoining Mt. Benson Street right-of-way.



Name: Hoggan's Store
Location: 404 Stewart Avenue
Date: 1914

Built in 1914, Hoggan's Store is a very good example of a vernacular Edwardian Commercial style building. This restrained, symmetrical style was very popular after the exuberant eclecticism of the Victorian era. The building is substantially intact.

Hoggan's Store is significant because it was, for many years, the only commercial building in Newcastle Townsite. Its presence is a tangible reminder that this area was, from its initial development in the early 1900s to the 1960s, a prestigious, almost exclusively residential neighbourhood. Today, although the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, apartment buildings and single-family houses, the surviving early residences and this building are evidence of the original character of the area.

Due to its corner lot location, Hoggan's Store has a prominent street presence and is a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Stephens' Residence
Location: 505 Stewart Avenue
Date: Circa 1921

Built around 1921, the Stephens' Residence is an excellent example of a late Craftsman-style residence. The house features typical Craftsman-style elements such as triangular eave brackets, tapered porch piers, exposed rafter ends and twin-coursed shingles.

Although the house was built earlier, the first known residents were John "Jack" and Sophia Stephens who moved here in the mid-1930s. Born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1893, Jack came to Canada in 1913. For many years, Jack worked as an accountant at Nanaimo Motors and at Canadian Collieries (CCD) Ltd. A founding member of the Nanaimo Yacht Club and a Past Commodore, Jack was also a member of the Ashlar Lodge. The Stephens lived here until the 1970s. Jack died in 1971, Sophia in 1980.

The Stephen's Residence is part of a group of historic buildings in one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods, just north of the downtown core. The building's location on a major thoroughfare makes it's a well known neighbourhood landmark.



The Galloway Building is a significant example of an early commercial building located outside the downtown core. Home to many different businesses over the years, the building's location on one of the city's major thoroughfares took early advantage of the city's northward expansion.

Built around 1920, the Galloway Building is an excellent example of a simple, vernacular, interwar commercial structure. Boxy in form, the building's second storey square projecting bays on the east and south elevations provide some visual interest. Although the building has undergone several renovations, its basic form and character are intact.

Name: Galloway Building
Location: 405 Terminal Avenue N.
Date: Circa 1920

The Galloway Building's large mass and corner location on a major road make it a prominent city landmark.



Daniel Bowden Egdell was an early Nanaimo building contractor and designer. Among the surviving examples of his work are the Christian Science Building on Chapel Street, and the Parkin Block on Commercial Street. This was Egdell's and his wife Agnes' own home, built in 1924. It displays a whimsical storybook design, with fanciful details, such as shutters with decorative cut-outs, multi-paned casement windows, and a projecting oriel bay. The scale of the building is manipulated through a number of devices, including wide wooden siding and clipped eaves played off against small-paned windows, giving the appearance of a miniature cottage to what is in fact a substantial building. Daniel Egdell died in Vancouver June 6, 1967 at the age of 83.

Name: Egdell Residence
Location: 725 Terminal Avenue N.
Date: 1924



Built around 1945, the Wardill Residence is one of the best provincial examples of the Streamline Moderne style. This historic style shows the influence of the new discipline of Industrial Design. The horizontal lines and detailing of this building echo the streamlining bands found on most manufactured objects during the 1930s, including radio cabinets, cars, trains and ocean liners.

The building's height and mass, unusual architecture, and its location on a curve on a major thoroughfare, make it one of the city's most recognizable landmarks,

The residence is a tangible reminder of this neighbourhood's earlier character as an upscale, semi-rural, residential neighbourhood. When built, the house was part of a grouping of prestigious homes that lined this section of the road. By the late 1960s, the neighbourhood was becoming increasingly commercial and the area lost much of its previous exclusive residential status.

Name: Wardill Residence
Location: 755 Terminal Avenue N.
Date: Circa 1945



Built around 1938, the Williams Residence is a very good example of rustic vernacular architecture. Inspired by rustic park lodges, this style, with its emphasis on simplicity, use of natural materials and sympathy with the landscape was particularly suitable for a building that was, at the time of construction, built on nine acres of land far from the city centre. Although the area has since become densely populated, the rustic Williams Residence and surrounding mature landscaping testify to the area's earlier remoteness and country character.

The Williams Residence is significant for its association with Nanaimo native Dr. Seriol Williams. Active in the Nanaimo Historical Society, the Boy Scouts organization, the Nanaimo Horticultural Society and the Nanaimo Field Naturalists, Williams is best remembered for helping to establish Beach Estates park, a municipal wildflower sanctuary built partly on the site of Williams' property.

Name: Williams Residence
Location: 40 Thetis Place
Date: Circa 1938



Name: Schetky Residence
Location: 225 Vancouver Avenue
Date: 1898

Built around 1898 for G.L. Schetky, an insurance agent and U.S. Consul, the Schetky Residence is an excellent example of a transitional Late Victoria/Edwardian style bungalow. The square-plan house has a central front entry with square chamfered columns, and a bellcast pyramidal roof. The long, low proportions mark the change in style at the end of the Victorian era, when tall, asymmetrical houses with highly decorated surfaces and complex roof lines went out of fashion. The ornamentation is limited to scroll-cut eave brackets, banded and corbelled chimneys, and a rear window flashed with coloured glass.

The Schetky Residence, the oldest known building in this neighbourhood, is a rare surviving example of the type of prestigious housing that predominated in Newcastle Townsite from its first development just after 1900 until the 1940s. Separated from the rest of Nanaimo by the Millstone River, Newcastle Townsite quickly became an exclusive residential suburb for the city's commercial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, apartment buildings and single-family houses, but surviving early residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.

The Schetky Residence's grounds represent the type of landscaping that was favoured for Nanaimo's upscale neighbourhoods in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The mature Chilean Pine (Monkey Puzzle Tree) on the site is listed on the City's register of heritage trees. These trees were a popular fad before World War 1 and were often brought in by ship's crews as souvenirs when they stopped to refuel in South America. Often given as gifts, they were planted singly or in pairs in front yards. Other landscape features include mature holly trees, lilac bushes, rose bushes along the walk and a Japanese Plum. The grounds have a historical and physical relationship to the building and, as such, are an important component of the site's value. The residence's location at a busy intersection and the massive Chilean Pine in the front yard make it a neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Sharp Residence
Location: 261 Vancouver Avenue
Date: 1923

Built in 1923, the Sharp Residence is a very good example of a Late Craftsman style bungalow and a rare example of brick residential construction. Long and low in form, the Sharp Residence has many typical Late Craftsman features including an open front veranda and triangular eave brackets. The building is also notable for its brick construction as brick was rarely used for residential buildings in Nanaimo.

The Sharp Residence exemplifies the type of prestigious housing that predominated in Newcastle Townsite from its first development just after 1900 until the 1940s. Separated from the rest of the Nanaimo by the Millstone River, Newcastle Townsite quickly became an exclusive residential suburb for the city's commercial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, condominiums, apartment buildings and single-family houses. Surviving early residences such as this building are important reminders of the original character of the area.

The residence appears to have been built for Hannah Lowe, but it is unknown if she ever lived here. It was acquired the following year by Hazel G. Fawcett. In 1925 Frank M. Sharp, the City Engineer, and Marjorie Susannah Sharp became the first known resident owners.



Name: Ekins Residence
Location: 441 Vancouver Avenue
Date: 1927

Built in 1927, the Ekins Residence is a very good example of the English Arts and Crafts style, a romantic form that recalls an idealized medieval past. The Ekins Residence has many elements of the style including a very steeply-pitched, bell-cast hip roof, dormers, stucco cladding, tall brick chimney and tall multi-paned wooden-sash casement windows.

The Ekins Residence is an excellent example of the type of prestigious housing that predominated in Newcastle Townsite from its first development just after 1900 until the 1940s. Separated from the rest of the Nanaimo by the Millstone River, Newcastle Townsite quickly became an exclusive residential suburb for the city's commercial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, condominiums, apartment buildings and single-family houses, but surviving residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.

This house was built for Dr. William Edward James Ekins, and has been very well maintained by the present owners. The beautifully landscaped garden provides an appropriate setting for the house.



Name: Bird House
Location: 461 Vancouver Avenue
Date: 1914

Built in 1914, the Bird House is a good example of a Craftsman style home. The house features many design elements typical of this style including half timbering in the gable ends, triangular eave brackets and an open front verandah supported by flared piers. Although the original wood siding has been covered by stucco and most of the original windows replaced or modified, the building is otherwise substantially intact. Of particular note, many of the home's original interior features are intact including the wainscoting, dramatic staircase, art glass windows, built-in sideboard in the dining room, built-in bookcases in the den, cast iron radiators (still in use) and the inlaid oak floors.

The Bird House is significant as a residence for a succession of Bank of Commerce managers until at least the late 1940s. Ernest Bird, Fred Grant and Harold Eakin were all active in the community, each serving a term as President of the Rotary Club.

The Bird House is a rare surviving example of the type of prestigious housing that predominated in Newcastle Townsite from its first development just after 1900 until the 1940s. Separated from the rest of Nanaimo by the Millstone River, Newcastle Townsite quickly became an exclusive residential suburb for the city's commercial and professional elite. Today, the neighbourhood is a mix of commercial buildings, apartment buildings and single-family housing but surviving early residences such as this building are important evidence of the original character of the area.



Name: Granby Mine Residence
Location: 523 Vancouver Avenue
Date: Circa 1918
(relocated circa 1935)

Built around 1918, the Granby Mine Residence is an interesting example of the stylistic evolution of a building precipitated by its relocation. Originally a Craftsman Bungalow, some English Cottage style elements, including the front dormer, jerkin-headed gable ends and mock-timbering on the front façade, were added when the building was relocated around 1936, when the English Cottage style was very popular in this neighbourhood.

The Granby Mine Residence symbolizes the once common local practice of moving buildings to different locations. As new coalmines were developed or as old ones failed, buildings were moved to new sites, at first by train and later by truck. The relocation of the majority of buildings from Wellington to Ladysmith in the early 1900s is the best-known instance of building relocation but there are numerous other examples. The Granby Mine Residence was moved from Granby, a model community south of Nanaimo, after the mine closed in the early 1930s. The relocation of buildings underlines the fragile and variable nature of coal mining economies and, as such, is a significant symbol of the area's socio-economic history.

The Granby Mine Residence is significant for its association with Alfred J.T. Taylor, a prominent engineering contractor and entrepreneur. Taylor Engineering had interests in Granby Mine and designed and built the original buildings. Taylor's firm was also responsible for building the Lion's Gate Bridge in Vancouver, and the British Properties and Capilano Estates in North Vancouver.

The Granby Mine residence is also associated with two well-known local figures. Dr. Larry Giovando, a highly regarded doctor and community leader and twice Nanaimo's representative in the provincial legislature from 1952-1956. By the 1970s, the Stupich family owned the residence. Dave Stupich was a prominent local politician who served multiple terms as a NDP MLA and MP from the 1960s to the early 1990s. Prominently sited on the lot and surrounded by mature landscaping, the residence is part of a significant grouping of heritage buildings in one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods.



Name: Victoria Crescent Commercial Building
Location: 33-35 Victoria Crescent
Date: Circa 1892 or earlier

Although the information regarding the date of construction of this building is unclear, it was built for William E. Webb, who also owned the adjacent lot. This front gabled structure has a 'boomtown' false front, a common device at the time, used to increase the apparent size of the building, and also providing an opportunity for more signage. By 1895 the building appears to have housed the Crescent Pharmacy. Later it was the site of McKenzie Candy Store, which exported hand-made candy to the United States. They were also known for their Christmas display, which included a four foot candy cane. This, and the adjacent building that houses Johnson's Hardware, are among the oldest surviving wooden buildings in Downtown Nanaimo.



Name: Davidson Block
(later the Queen's Hotel)
Location: 34 Victoria Crescent
Date: 1892

Built in 1892, the Queen's Hotel is a good, rare surviving example of the Italianate style, one of the most popular architectural styles of the nineteenth century. Although the hotel was substantially renovated in the 1980s and many of the original architectural elements were lost, the essential form and mass of the building are intact.

The Queen's Hotel is a tangible reminder of the historic importance of hotels in Nanaimo history. Early Nanaimo, subject to the boom and bust economic cycles typical of mining towns, had a large population of single, often transient, men. As affordable housing alternatives, hotels functioned as living quarters and, in the saloons and restaurants typically located on the ground floor, as social centres.

The Queen's Hotel is significant as a reminder of the importance of Victoria Crescent as an early commercial strip. Most of Nanaimo's oldest surviving commercial buildings are located on this street. The Queen's Hotel has been in continuous use as a drinking establishment for over 100 years.

Located mid-block, Queen's Hotel is prominent on the street and is part of a grouping of historic buildings in this area.



Name: Nanaimo Pioneer Bakery/Johnson's Hardware
Location: 39-45 Victoria Crescent
Date: Circa 1870s

Believed to have been built in the 1870s, the Nanaimo Pioneer Bakery building is significant as a very rare surviving example of the predominant form of commercial architecture in Nanaimo until the turn of the 20th century. Until the erection of more sophisticated buildings later in the 19th century, commercial buildings in Nanaimo were carpenter or owner built, wood framed and clad and false-fronted. These boomtown fronts made buildings appear more substantial and provided a convenient area for signage. Although there have been alterations to the building over time, its essential frontier character is very much intact.

This property was owned by William E. Webb, an early Nanaimo settler, and City Councillor in 1887. There is some indication that this structure was originally Peck's Hotel, catering to the crews of sailing ships that docked across the street; it was located on the waterfront at a time when the other side of Victoria Crescent had not yet been filled in. If so, the building may date from as early as the 1870s. Webb owned this property as early as 1887, and appears to have established a bakery in the eastern half of the site as early as 1889. By 1895 the eastern half was occupied by Smart & Thorne's Nanaimo Bakery, and the adjacent storefront by George Whitfield, Boots & Shoes.

The Nanaimo Pioneer Bakery building illustrates the very early importance of Victoria Crescent as a commercial district. The building has been in continuous use as a commercial building for over 125 years, the longest known continuous business use of any building in the downtown area. The Nanaimo Pioneer Bakery building, which follows the curve of the street, is part of a significant grouping of historic buildings in this area.



Name: Eagle Hotel
(later the Terminal Hotel)
Location: 63 Victoria Crescent
Date: 1912-1914

The Terminal Hotel, built in 1912, is a handsome, very good example of vernacular Edwardian Commercial style. This restrained and symmetrical style was a reaction to the exuberant eclecticism of the Victoria architecture that preceded it. The building's storefront has been modified over time, most extensively in 1951, but the upper story and essential form remains intact.

The Terminal Hotel is a tangible reminder of the social and economic importance of hotels in Nanaimo history. Like most mining communities, early Nanaimo had a large population of single, often transient, men. The City's many hotels functioned as affordable living quarters and, in the saloons and restaurants typically located on the ground floor, as social centres. The Terminal Hotel has been in continuous use as a hotel or similar function for almost 100 years.

This hotel was built to replace two earlier structures on the site, the Oriental and the Identical. It was built for Mrs. Busby by the contractor J. Henry Walker, originally from Ontario, who also built the Rogers Block. The elaborate design provided by Toronto architect Harvey in 1912 does not seem to have been executed; the building was constructed as a relatively plain structure, brick faced, with simple corbelled detailing and segmental arched window openings. In 1951 the hotel was reconstructed to the plans of Thomas B. McArravy, and re-opened as the Terminal, named for its close proximity to the Canadian Pacific Railways Terminal. The three-storey Terminal Hotel is very prominent on the street and is part of a continuous line of historic buildings on one of Nanaimo's oldest commercial strips.



This charming home was built by carpenter Malcolm McRae. McRae and his wife Annie Quennell lived here for many years; their daughter Mildred Couture lived in the house, sleeping in the same room she was born in, until her death in 1996. Situated at the corner of Victoria Road and Selby Street, the house was built on a lot subdivided from property owned by William M. Langton. It displays tall, vertical massing, with a two storey verandah built into the corner of its L-shaped plan. It remains as one of the earlier intact homes in the area.

Name: McRae Residence
Location: 98 Victoria Road
Date: 1901



Built around 1913 for James Booth, a blacksmith for the Western Fuel Company, the residence is a good example the type of Edwardian era architecture popular during this period. Typical characteristics of this style include an asymmetrical facade, vertical proportions, full open-front verandah with square columns, and cross-gabled roofline. The building's solid, symmetrical and substantial appearance and minimal decoration reflects the era's move away from the ornamental excesses of the Victorian era.

Prominently located on a busy thoroughfare at the corner of Victoria Road and Farquhar Street the residence is a highly visible landmark. The building is located in an established neighbourhood surrounded by mature, sympathetic landscaping.

Name: Booth Residence
Location: 302 Victoria Road
Date: Circa 1913



An extremely rare, early example of company housing, the Victoria Road Residence is a direct link with Nanaimo's coal mining history. In Nanaimo, unlike most coal communities, coal companies built very little employee housing, preferring instead to sell workers raw land. This situation afforded many miners some degree of financial and psychological independence. This building, although an exception to the rule, represents the complex, socio-economic relationships between local coal companies and their workers.

Built around 1892, the Victoria Road Residence is a very good example of a Late Victorian cottage with superior carpenter ornamentation, including turned columns, jig-cut detailing and decorative diagonal planking. Sympathetic modern plantings provide an appropriate setting.

Name: Victoria Road Residence
Location: 413 Victoria Road
Date: Circa 1892



This Craftsman bungalow was built for Richard Isherwood, a carpenter, who may have been responsible for its construction; he is listed as resident elsewhere the following year. The house features art glass panels in the upper window sash, twin-coursed shingles in the gable ends, and an inset front corner porch with a square column. Set close to the streetline, the setting of this well-maintained house is enhanced by the mature arbutus trees in the front yard.

Name: Isherwood Residence
Location: 421 Victoria Road
Date: 1912



Frederick Crewe, a miner, is listed as living at this site in Five Acres as early as 1900, and it is likely that this house dates from approximately that time. This simple rectangular structure has an inset corner porch, and a full open front verandah that faces the rear lane. This is possibly the oldest surviving house in the Five Acres area, and has been maintained in good condition. A concrete milk house remains on the Wakesiah Avenue side of the property, and the concrete foundations of a barn exist on the adjacent lot to the south, recalling the agricultural legacy of the area.

Name: Crewe Residence
Location: 624 Wakesiah Avenue
Date: 1900



Built in 1937, the Gulliford Residence is an excellent example of the vernacular English Cottage style that flourished in Nanaimo in the interwar years. Simple in form, the building is embellished by leaded glass windows, dormers, and an arched front, projecting entry-way rendered in stucco. The building is also significant as an example of the development of in-house garages during this period. The building's prominent corner location at a busy intersection makes it a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.

Name: Gulliford Residence
Location: 285 Wall Street
Date: 1937



Built around 1910, the Willard Service Station Building is a very good example of the type of small scale, vernacular commercial building that predominated in Nanaimo until World War II. A unique element of the building is the multiple storefronts, two of which include false front storefronts. Although the building has been altered over the years, its essential form remains intact and it continues to be used for commercial purposes.

The building is also significant for its contemporary function as an outdoor art gallery. Lined with framed paintings, the exterior west wall of the building, adjacent to a narrow alley, has been used to showcase local art since the mid-1990s.

Located on a major intersection that marks the eastern entrance to the "Old City" mixed commercial and residential district and within a grouping of heritage buildings, the Willard Service Station Building is an important neighbourhood landmark.

Name: Willard Service Station
Location: 291 Wallace Street
Date: Circa 1910

Since its construction, this building has been home to a succession of businesses including the Willard Service Station, a fish and chips restaurant and a tire and battery shop. In the 1950s, the building also featured apartments behind the Fitzwilliam Street storefront. In recent years, numerous restaurants have located at the Wallace Street storefront while the Fitzwilliam Street storefronts have hosted craft and service shops. The building is noteworthy for housing Nanaimo's first radio station, CFDC, in 1922.



Name: Nanaimo City Hall
Location: 455 Wallace Street
Date: 1950-1951

From incorporation in 1874 to the completion of this building in 1951, civic business was conducted from a succession of inferior buildings inherited from other organizations. The purpose-built City Hall represents the maturation and modernization of the municipal government and, by extension, the City as a whole.

Built in 1951, City Hall is an excellent example of and Nanaimo's first venture into the International style. Designed to project progress and modernity, the International style was the appropriate choice for a municipality striving to overcome its image as a dirty, depressed coal town and present itself as a forward looking city. A sympathetic 1970 addition on the north side respects the original building's architectural integrity. The exterior and interior are largely intact.

City Hall is significant because of its association with architect Thomas B. McArravy. One of the pioneers of the use of modernism on Vancouver Island, McArravy was Nanaimo's most prominent architect for many years. City Hall has survived in near pristine condition, a testament to the integrity of the original design and McArravy's skill.

Architect McArravy was born in Glasgow in 1900; after moving to Canada he served four years at the Wallace Shipyards in North Vancouver, first as a loftsmen and later in the drawing office. Starting in 1921 he started work as an indentured student in the offices of Gardiner & Mercer in Vancouver. He later moved to Nanaimo, although he was in Vancouver during the war years. As early as 1940 McArravy was preparing plans for this building; these first schemes bear a remarkable similarity to what was actually built after the war.

The gardens at the side and front of City Hall were designed at the same time as the building and are integral parts of the site's value. Situated on a high rocky outcropping, the extensively landscaped grounds soften the rigid formality of the building's architecture. The winding roadway that leads to the front entry provides a welcoming entrance, appropriate to a public building.



Name: Brumpton Block
Location: 481-489 Wallace Street
Date: 1912

Designed and built by local contractor James Green in 1912, this horizontally proportioned block is a very good example of a vernacular Edwardian Commercial style building. The second floor retains its original appearance. The ground floor originally had four separate storefronts and a central entry to the top floor but was later converted to use as a single restaurant. The alterations, which included using mosaic tile as cladding on the exterior, were designed by the Nanaimo firm of McArravy & Barley in 1956 and are a good expression of the building's aesthetic evolution over time and the trend towards stylistic modernization prevalent at the time.

The Brumpton Block is significant because of its association with the Wong family and the Diner's Rendezvous Restaurant. For several decades, starting in the mid-1950s, the Diner's Rendezvous was one of the most popular restaurants in Nanaimo. The Wong family were exceptionally active in community life.

The Brumpton Block is significant because of its association with two well known and prolific Nanaimo builder-architects. Green was active in Nanaimo in the 1920s and 1930s and is best remembered for Beban House. McArravy, a formally trained architect, designed many notable buildings including City Hall and the Fitzwilliam Street Library building.

A neighbourhood landmark, the Brumpton Block's long facade is very prominent to the street.



Name: Merchant's Bank of Canada
Location: 499 Wallace Street
Date: 1912

Built in 1912, the Merchant's Bank is Nanaimo's sole example of the eclectic, elegant Free Renaissance style, inspired by Italian churches and palaces, and popular in North America from the late 19th to early 20th centuries. The exterior was faced with a combination of a banded brick base and quoining that framed the edges and structural openings. A later coat of stucco obscured these features but some of the facade details, including the prominent cornices typical of this style, are still discernible. The elaborately detailed, round-arched windows, featuring radiating mullions and brick keystones, angled corner entry and ornate cast plaster ceiling are also substantially intact.

The Merchant's Bank is significant for its association with Francis Mawson Rattenbury, British Columbia's premier architect of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Rattenbury also designed the Nanaimo and Nelson Court Houses, the provincial Parliament Buildings and numerous other residential and institutional buildings.

The building's prominent corner location and exceptional windows make it a highly visible landmark.



Name: Aldred House
Location: 529 Wentworth Street
Date: Circa 1890

Built around 1890, Aldred House is a good example of a modest, vernacular, Italianate influenced residence. Characteristics of this style include a tall appearance, asymmetrical massing, rectangular shape, tall, narrow windows, side bay windows and segmented arches above windows and doors. Over the years, the building deteriorated and it was not until 1987 that a systematic rehabilitation took place. Aldred House was likely built by Murdoch Morrison, a house builder and contractor. In 1922, the residence was purchased by John and Jane Aldred. The house was owned by the Aldred family until 1975. Based on information available, it appears that no specific historical significance is associated with either Morrison or Aldred.

Aldred House is one of the earliest known buildings in this neighbourhood, just north of the downtown core. Additionally, it is one of few surviving Victorian era buildings of this size and style in Nanaimo. The house is located within a larger grouper of significant heritage buildings and is prominent to the street.



Name: Jenkins Residence
Location: 674 Wentworth Street
Date: 1924

Built in 1924 for David Jenkins, proprietor of D.J. Jenkins Ltd., Funeral Directors and Embalmers, the Jenkins Residence is a superior example of a late Craftsman bungalow. Its long and low form is typically Craftsman but it also features many distinct design elements including carved vergeboards with unusual upswept ends and a treatment in the gable ends and verandah piers in which random sized pieces of granite were pressed into wet mortar. These elements, and the immaculate condition of the building, combine to make the Jenkins Residence an exceptional example.

Renovated in the early 1990s when sympathetically detailed dormers were added to make the upstairs space more usable, the Jenkins Residence speaks to contemporary concerns about heritage building renovation and to ever evolving trends in historic interpretation.

Located at an intersection within a grouping of significant heritage buildings, the Jenkins Building is a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Wilson Residence
Location: 697 Wentworth Street
Date: 1926

The Wilson Residence is significant for its association with Charles Wilson. During the 1930s and 1940s, Wilson was a prolific local contractor and designer. Wilson exemplifies early Nanaimo builders. Self-taught builders like Wilson, who had no formal architectural training, designed the majority of Nanaimo's early building stock. Among Wilson's credits are this residence, the design and construction of the Hall Block on Commercial Street, the construction of the Eagle's Hall on Bastion Street and the Hudson-Essex garage (now offices) at 30 Front Street.

Built in 1926, the Wilson Residence is an excellent example of a late Craftsman style building. The building is finely detailed and has a notable wrap-around verandah that takes advantage of its corner location.

Located at a prominent intersection, the Wilson Residence is highly visible and part of a grouping of superior heritage buildings in this neighbourhood.



Name: Crossan Residence
Location: 718 Wentworth Street
Date: 1912

Built in 1912 by Janet and James William Crossan, the Crossan Residence is a very good example of a Craftsman Bungalow. Although updated, the building still features many of the hallmarks of this style including long and low proportions and stained glass windows. More unusual locally is the decorative shingling in the front gable.

Located within a grouping of superior historic buildings, the Crossan Residence speaks to the development of this area, after the turn of the 20th century, as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance away from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

James Crossan was Chief of Police from 1894 to 1912, Secretary for the Pilot Board, and an Alderman for the North Ward; James Crossan died in 1915 at the age of 60, and Janet died just a few months later at the age of 59. James William Crossan, Jr., their son, then took possession; he was a blacksmith, then a landing waiter for H.M. Customs, and later a Post Office clerk.



Name: Connaught Barracks Stable
Location: 850 Wentworth Street
Date: Circa 1915

In 1911 work started on the Agricultural Hall. It was opened the following year. In 1913 there were sheds to accommodate horses, cows, pigs and sheep on the grounds. By October of 1913 the hall had been turned over to the military to house the Civil Aid Force during the big (miners) strike of 1912-1914. Detachments of troops were still stationed on the site in August, 1914 when World War One started. At this time, the Agricultural Hall was renamed the Connaught Barracks. In 1915, the animal sheds were demolished to build stables for the horses of elements of the Canadian Mounted Rifles stationed at the barracks. By 1917, agricultural shows were once again being held at the site, however this could not be sustained. In 1921 the City acquired the site and in 1922, the barracks was converted into the Nanaimo High School (later renamed Thomas Hodgson High School in 1931).

In 1936, two of the former stable buildings were repaired and converted into a space for use by the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training School. The school offered courses in general building construction and automotive engineering. The program ended in 1942, when it was taken over by the military for training purposes. From 1946 until they moved to property at the former military camp in 1948, civilian vocational training resumed on the site. The legacy of the school lived on however, eventually forming part of what is now Vancouver Island University. In 1957, the school and most of the ancillary buildings were demolished and playing fields created by the Gyro Club under the administration of the City of Nanaimo's Parks and Recreation Department. The only building to survive this period and be adapted for recreational purposes was the single stable building.

The building is located within a popular park at the intersection of Machleary and Wentworth Streets.



Name: Wells Residence
Location: 904 Wentworth Street
Date: 1911

Built in 1911, the Wells Residence is a good example of an Edwardian era, Craftsman style bungalow. The solid and substantial appearance, front verandah, oversize triangular eave brackets, and scroll-cut verge boards are typical features of this style. The glassed in porch on the building's east side, with its row of large mullioned windows, takes full advantage of the view toward Nanaimo's downtown core and harbour.

Located within a grouping of superior historic buildings, the Wells Residence speaks to the development of this area, after the turn of the 20th century, as a middle to upper income residential neighbourhood, a comfortable distance away from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods.

Charles S. Wells was an accountant for the Western Fuel Company. The company, successor to the Hudson's Bay and Vancouver Coal Mining and Land companies, was Nanaimo's single largest employer from 1903 to the end of the 1930s. During the Western Fuel Company period, miners experienced tremendous change including mine mechanization, bitter labour conflicts, including the infamous 1912-14 strike and, eventually, the decline of the industry and the loss of their livelihoods.

The property contains mature landscaping and is located on a prominent corner in close proximity to a municipal park.



Name: Ivers/Honey Residence
Location: 911 Wentworth Street
Date: Circa 1939

Built around 1939, the Ivers/Honey Residence is a very good example of a vernacular, English-Cottage style building. Although there have been some changes to the exterior over time, most notably the stucco cladding and replacement windows and doors, the basic form and integrity of the building remains intact.

Originally constructed for Francis Clifford Ivers, who may have been associated with the Kelly Douglas Company (local food wholesalers), the property was originally owned by the Western Fuel Company. The property was later owned in the 1940s by the Honey family who are reputed to have been the first Coca Cola distributors in Nanaimo.

Located on a corner lot within one of Nanaimo's oldest neighbourhoods and prominent to the street with mature landscaping, this residence forms part of a grouping of historic residential buildings adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: Tuck Residence
Location: 959 Wentworth Street
Date: Circa 1936

Built around 1936, this residence is a very good example of the English Cottage Style that was very popular in Nanaimo during the interwar period. Design features representative of this style include the asymmetric floor plan, as well as jerkin headed and steeply pitched gable roofs. Another common feature of this style was the early use of stucco siding. In this case, it appears the residence's original exterior was clad in stucco, but later replaced with wood siding.

Built for Harry and Eleanor Tuck (Harry was an auto painter), the residence is significant as an example of the type of superior housing, both in design and construction, which typifies this neighbourhood. By the turn of the 20th century, this area was established as a middle to upper class residential neighbourhood, located a comfortable distance from the busy commercial core and adjacent mixed-use neighbourhoods

Surrounded by mature, sympathetic landscaping, the residence is part of a significant concentration of heritage buildings located in one of the City's oldest neighbourhoods, immediately adjacent to the downtown core.



Name: 105th Street Residence
Location: 2896 105th Street
Date: 1910

Built in 1910, the 105th Street Residence is one of the oldest residential buildings in this area. Although updated, the residence is a good example of simple dormer bungalow style which typically features long and low proportions, a broad front porch and roof dormers.

The 105th Street Residence is significant as one of the oldest buildings still in existence from the post-Wellington Townsite development of the area. Few buildings remain from this era and no sites are listed on the City's Heritage Register other than the Wellington Cemetery.

Located on a corner lot, the residence is prominently located to 105th Street amongst mature landscaping, and forms a unique part of a larger grouping of residential buildings from different eras comprising this part of the historical Wellington Townsite area.



Name: Nanaimo Public Cemetery

Location: 555 Bowen Road

Date: 1877 to present

Established in 1877 when the city's first cemetery became full, the Nanaimo Public Cemetery is important as a highly visible, tangible link with Nanaimo's past. The modest early grave markers reflect Nanaimo's predominantly working-class population while more elaborate monuments provide the names and tastes of the city's wealthier citizens. Most representative of Nanaimo's history are the many inscriptions about mine accidents, testimony to the over 600 mine-related deaths that occurred in the area from the 1860s to the 1950s. Still in active use, the Nanaimo Public Cemetery functions as a fully accessible outdoor history museum.

The Nanaimo Public Cemetery exemplifies the role the local coal company played in the development of the City. In addition to numerous park, school and church sites, the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company also donated the land for this cemetery. Because the company owned all the land in the area, the community was highly dependent on company largesse for the acquisition of public land. The company was, in turn, dependant on community goodwill to ensure economic stability. As such, the site testifies to the long-standing symbiotic relationship between the coal company and the community.

Sited on a large acreage at the crest of a hill and on a main thoroughfare, the Nanaimo Public Cemetery is a highly visible landmark.



Name: Piper Park

Location: 100 Cameron Road

Date: 1980

Nanaimo's highest concentration of outdoor historic artefacts and exhibits is located in Piper Park. Until recently, the park served as an external extension of the old Centennial Museum Building, and is still used by the new Museum for historical interpretive purposes and programming.

Once called Table Rock, this small park of 1.13 acres is located adjacent to what was once the Central Sports Ground in the downtown area. The park was named for former athlete and alderman Phil Piper, who was born in Nanaimo, the son of Joseph E. Piper of Piper's Lagoon. Since 1909 he had worked as a funeral director with D.J. Jenkins. He served over three years in France during the First World War. He was a city alderman and parks director and was known as an avid baseball player. The park was home to the Nanaimo Lawn Bowling Club before it moved to Bowen Park.

Known informally as Piper Park for many years, the site was not officially designated a park and named Piper Park until 1980. By this time, the Nanaimo Centennial Museum had been built and historical buildings and artefacts (such as the No. 19 Steam Locomotive) moved to the site. Piper Park is located on a prominent rock outcrop within the City's downtown core. The Park is composed of mature vegetation and a series of buildings and artefacts including the old Centennial Museum building, the Miner's Cottage, a Steam Locomotive, and numerous other smaller pieces.



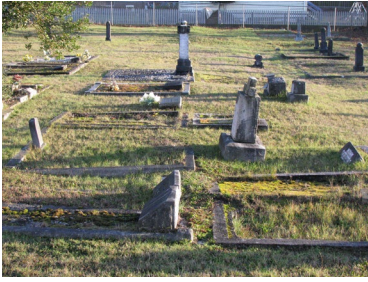
Name: Wellington Cemetery

Location: 4700 Ledgerwood Road

Date: 1890s or earlier

The Wellington Cemetery is one of very few tangible links to the town of Wellington, a formerly distinct community that was subsequently absorbed into the City of Nanaimo. Developed in the 1870s as a coal town by Robert Dunsmuir, who became one of the province's wealthiest men, Wellington rivalled Nanaimo in population and industrial output until its demise in 1900 when coal operations were moved south of Nanaimo to Extension and Ladysmith. At that time, many of the buildings were moved by railcar to the new communities. Combined with a few remaining 19th century buildings that are scattered throughout the area, the Wellington Cemetery is an important example of the ephemeral nature of single-industry resource towns.

The physical remains of the Wellington Cemetery reveal much about the early social and economic history of the area. The original division of the cemetery into quadrants by religious denomination reflects the importance of those distinctions. In addition, the headstones provide evidence of the community's population composition. Unlike Nanaimo, which was developed predominantly by English and Scottish settlers, the headstones at Wellington Cemetery indicate an ethnically diverse population that included significant numbers of Italians, Fins and Belgians. Other headstones tell of deaths due to mining accidents, a common occurrence in Wellington's history. As a whole, the cemetery functions as an outdoor classroom of Wellington history.



St. Peter's Cemetery is a rare, tangible link with Nanaimo's Roman Catholic heritage and speaks to the earliest ecclesiastic, social and spiritual history of Nanaimo. The first recorded burial took place in 1876, although the church was established in Nanaimo at least 15 years earlier. The cemetery is the only surviving single denomination graveyard in Nanaimo. Still in active use, the cemetery is important as a communal, spiritual space, and as a publicly accessible, outdoor history museum.

St. Peter's Cemetery is also an important green space in a dense residential neighbourhood. This peaceful oasis offers excellent views of the Western section of the city.

Name: St. Peter's Cemetery
Location: 301 Machleary Street
Date: 1880s or earlier



Robins' Gardens are named after Samuel Robins, the Vancouver Coal Company Mine Superintendent from 1884 to 1903. Robins revitalized the Vancouver Coal Company after years of decline and developed good relationships with labour. Robins was also an avid gardener who collected plant specimens from around the world. In addition to the varied and exotic plantings on this site, Robins planted poplars and holly trees throughout the Harewood area. His 18 room home and grounds, complete with gazebo, fishpond and rose garden, have long since disappeared. In addition to Robins, John Bryden, Mine Manager and son-in-law of Robert Dunsmuir, and Dr. Daniel Cluness, Colliery Surgeon, also built homes here. Before 1900, this area was the "upscale" part of town and featured most of Nanaimo's elegant homes. By 1930, the Western Fuel Corporation owned the entire property and no buildings remained. During WWII, at least 6 auto courts were built in Nanaimo in response to the rising popularity of automobile vacations. The Evergreen Auto Court was built on this site by Ole Andrew Buck.

The site is significant for the many exotic plant species originally planted here by Samuel M. Robins. The site is also located directly across Milton Street from the old Number One Mine site.

Name: Robins' Gardens
Location: 104 Esplanade Street
Date: Circa 1890



Robins' Park, originally known as the Cricket Field, was constructed in 1903-1904. The park was the site of many soccer and cricket championship matches, and also featured a horse race track. Its name was later changed to honor Samuel Robins, the Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Company from 1884-1903. Robins revitalized the Vancouver Coal Company after years of decline and developed good relationships with labour.

The Cricket Field was described as having "magnificent turf". It was created when businessman John Hilbert and G. Crutchley met with Robins on June 5, 1889, and negotiated permission for the Cricket Club to use a cleared area for their matches. The land lay in the Daisy Field area, between the E&N Railway tracks and Chinatown at Needham Street. The Cricket Club held its first important match in 1892. Horse racing was also held on the oval track on the grounds. The field was suitable for cricket or soccer. Empire Day celebrations were held here, a community event that usually climaxed with an afternoon of horse racing. Future plans for the park included a half-mile track, four tennis courts, a bowling field, and a five thousand seat grandstand. These plans were shelved in favour of Bowen Park.

One of Nanaimo's older parks, the site is located on the border between two of Nanaimo's oldest historical neighbourhoods, Harewood and the South End, in a lowland area straddling the Catstream.

Name: Robins' Park
Location: 620 Park Avenue
Date: 1903-1904



Name: Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers
Location: 105 St. George Street
Date: Circa 1890

The Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers speaks directly to Nanaimo's Chinese heritage. Around 1890, this small plot was donated by the New Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company for use as a Chinese burial ground. At that time, the site was just beyond the city's official boundaries. Bodies were interred here, but it was always intended that the bones of the deceased would be returned to China. The site was in use until 1924, when the new burial grounds on Townsite Road were established. This site served as an essential communal space for the original Chinese community and, later, as an important commemorative space for their descendants.

The Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers is a significant example of a community commemorative project. In 1976, the site was presented to the City by the Nanaimo Chinese community. This was the first garden in Canada to commemorate the contribution made by the Chinese and their Canadian children to this country.

Although small, the Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers is a significant public green space. The site, with its mature shrubs and trees and gracious lawns, functions as a peaceful oasis within a dense and noisy mixed-use neighbourhood.

The Garden Memorial to Chinese Pioneers is a very good example of an ethnic cultural landscape. The brightly painted, stylized Pagoda structure, inscribed standing stone found on the site, stylized altar for burning joss sticks and other materials, concrete patio with Chinese-style perimeter fencing and graceful arched staircase all give the park a distinct Chinese character.



Name: Chinese Cemetery
Location: 1598 Townsite Road
Date: 1924

The Chinese Cemetery is a rare, tangible link with Nanaimo's Chinese heritage. The Chinese, almost wholly single men, came to Nanaimo as early as the 1860s to work in the mines or to open businesses. Perceived as unfair competition because of their willingness to work for lower wages than white employees, the Chinese were the source of much labour conflict during the 19th century. Initially, the Chinese settled in what is now downtown Nanaimo but in the 1880s, they were removed, by the coal company, to the outskirts of town in an effort to reduce tensions. By 1908, a new Chinatown, one of the largest in North America at that time, was established near the western edge of the city. This last Chinatown was destroyed by fire in 1960, although much of its population had already dispersed. Because there is so little other tangible evidence of Nanaimo's Chinese heritage, the Chinese Cemetery is especially significant.

Built in 1924, the Chinese Cemetery is a very good example of an ethnic cultural landscape. In addition to grave markers with Chinese inscriptions, the cemetery features traditional Chinese elements including ornate, brightly painted entry gates, a pagoda structure, an altar and a shrine. Although the cemetery is no longer exclusively Chinese, it retains, through the presence of these elements, a distinct Chinese character. The Cemeteries' striking entrance gates and its location on a main thoroughfare make it a highly visible neighbourhood landmark.



Name: Pioneer Cemetery Park
Location: 10 Wallace Street
Date: circa 1853

Pioneer Cemetery Park speaks to the community's earliest development and is a valuable record of the lives of Nanaimo's first European settlers. The park is the third oldest cemetery in British Columbia after Fort Langley and Victoria. From the first known burial in 1853 to the final burial in 1895, this cemetery served as an essential communal space, both practically and spiritually.

Pioneer Cemetery Park is an important example of an early preservation project and the development of community heritage consciousness. In 1953, concerned by the overall dilapidation of the site, the newly formed Nanaimo Branch of the British Columbia Historical Association (BCHF) made a record of all the stones still standing and a sketch of their original positions. In 1958, as their British Columbia Centennial Project, the Hub City Kiwanis Club cleaned the site, set the remaining headstones in a curving rock wall and planted grass and flowers. In 1960, the project was completed and the site was officially converted into a memorial park by the municipality.

Pioneer Cemetery Park is significant green space. When first created, this site was a considerable distance from the town core. Today, surrounded by a busy commercial district, the site, with its massive maple trees, functions as a relatively quiet, secluded and peaceful urban oasis.



Name: Dallas Square Cenotaph
Location: 85 Front Street

The Dallas Square Cenotaph, built in 1921 to commemorate local men who died during World War I, represents deeply felt community sensibilities about memory, war and loss. The Cenotaph is still used as a memorial site and bears witness to annual Remembrance Day ceremonies, giving the community an important opportunity to gather and remember together.

The Cenotaph is the focal point of a small municipal park bordered by trees and St. Paul's Anglican Church yard on three sides. Facing a busy downtown street and the harbour, the Cenotaph and adjacent grounds are highly visible and provide a calm and restful green space in the downtown core.

The Cenotaph is a very good example of a simple, graceful monument. Minimally ornamented, the Cenotaph's design, created and executed by local monument works owner E. Millins, was based on an ancient Egyptian model.



Name: Welsbach Gas Lamp
Location: 85 Front Street

This Welsbach Gas Lamp, which illuminated the streets of Baltimore around 1880, was presented during the British Columbia centennial year, 1958, to the City of Nanaimo by the Vancouver Island Gas Company Ltd., to serve as a constant reminder that Nanaimo's streets were once illuminated by gas light.

In the Victorian era most cities were illuminated by gas light. In 1817, Baltimore became the first city in North America to have gas street lights installed, but it was a number of decades before the technology improved sufficiently to become inexpensive and reliable. One of the great advances was a gas mantle invented in Heidelberg in 1885 by Carl Auer von Welsbach, a pupil of Professor Robert von Bunsen. Welsbach made a hood of finely woven long-staple cotton, saturated in rare earth oxides, that, when ignited over an upright Bunsen burner, provided illumination without a flame, and doubled the light level with half the amount of gas. The Welsbach mantle proved to be popular, and provided stiff competition to electrical illumination.



Name: Dugout Canoe
Location: 6 Front Street

This dugout canoe, which is 12 metres long and weighs 200 kilograms, was carved from a single giant red cedar in 1920 by the Squamish band, who gave it to the Nanaimo band in 1922. Unfortunately the canoe was bent and could not be used, so it was given to Thomas Higgs, who kept it near his Gabriola Island ferry dock during the 1930s. He donated it to the city in 1937, and it was later placed in Georgia Park, suspended under a sheltering structure. The original shelter was replaced by this new structure in 1997.



Name: EJ Hughes Mural
Location: 100 Gordon Street
Date: 1938 (restored in 2009)

The EJ Hughes Mural is an excellent example of a community-driven historic conservation project. From the summer of 1996 when the mural was first salvaged from the old Malaspina Hotel (38 Front Street) until the spring of 2009 when it was fully rehabilitated and installed in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, numerous community groups, individuals and all three levels of government, most notably the City of Nanaimo, worked together to ensure project completion. The Hughes Mural restoration exemplifies Nanaimoites' patient determination and commitment to its heritage and public art.

The mural is exceptionally significant for its association with E.J. Hughes. Edward John Hughes was the eldest of the four children of Edward Samuel Hughes and Katherine Mary McLean, both long-time Nanaimo residents. Born in North Vancouver in 1913 at the home of his maternal grandparents, Hughes spent his first decade in Nanaimo. His father was a clerk for the local coal company and an accomplished trombonist who played in the Bijou Theatre orchestra and the Silver Cornet Band. The McLean family operated a large farm in the Extension area and the Hughes children spent many holidays there even after they moved to Vancouver in 1923. In 1929, through the generosity of his McLean uncles, Hughes started classes at the Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Arts (now the Emily Carr University of Art and Design). There, Hughes studied under Frederic Varley, Charles H. Scott and Jock MacDonald.

After graduation, Hughes formed a commercial art partnership with Paul Goranson and Orville Fisher. Times were tough and the trio, who dubbed themselves the Western Canada Brotherhood, scrambled for work. They secured several commissions including panels for the mission church in East Vancouver (1935), images for a cabaret in Vancouver's Chinatown (1937) and murals of Spanish exploration in British Columbia for the Malaspina Hotel in Nanaimo (1938). Their last and largest project involved a series of twelve murals commissioned by the B.C. government for the provincial pavilion at the 1939 Golden Gate Exposition in San Francisco.

During the Second World War, Hughes served as an official war artist, creating as many as 1600 drawings and paintings during his service. After the war, Hughes and wife Fern moved to Victoria and then Shawnigan Lake, a quiet environment that allowed Hughes to concentrate on painting. In 1951, Hughes signed a contract with Montreal's Dominion Gallery that allowed him to paint full-time. Hughes' distinctive paintings of B.C. landscapes have helped to define the province and have given him national recognition. Hughes was named to the Royal Canadian Academy of the Arts, the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia. He also received honorary degrees from the University of Victoria, Emily Carr University of Art and Design and Vancouver Island University. Author and collector Jacques Barbeau eloquently sums up Hughes' significance in [A Journey with E.J. Hughes: Hughes' Work in British Columbia](#), "The raw strength of his coastal scenes, the silent majesty of his ferries, the vigorous representations of the fishing and forest industries and the tender rendering of his inland scenes provide a virtual encyclopaedia of this magnificent province." Hughes died in Duncan in 2007.



Name: Pioneer Square/Little Bastion
Location: 28 Nicol Street

The cairn in Pioneer Square marks the location of the Park Head Slope, one of the initial mine workings in this area. To this day, the foundations of the city are criss-crossed by the remains of many of these early mine tunnels.

The cairn was built in 1938. The small metal bastion that once capped the cairn is now missing.



The stone wall and gateposts that front onto Stewart Avenue were part of the estate of early Nanaimo merchant William Sloan. He left Nanaimo for the Klondike gold fields, where he made the second largest fortune of the Gold Rush on Eldorado Creek. When he returned to Nanaimo he built a grand mansion, which he named 'Eldo Villa'. Sloan later served as the provincial Minister of Mines; he died in 1923 and his mansion was demolished in 1930. The stone fence serves as a tangible reminder of this imposing estate.

Name: Sloan Estate
Gateposts and Stone Wall
Location: 201 - 255 Stewart Avenue



Manufactured in the 1940s and installed when the motel was built in 1956, the Castaway Motel neon sign is the only remaining original signage on what was Nanaimo's first motel "strip". Developed in response to the post-war enthusiasm for automobile vacations, Nanaimo's motel strip included motels and auto courts which, unlike earlier hotels, were specifically designed to provide ample automobile parking. Although the "strip" still includes a number of motels, only the Castaway Motel retained its original signage.

Name: Castaway Motel Neon Sign
Location: 205 Terminal Avenue N.
Date: Circa 1940s



Name: Italian Centennial Fountain
Location: 626 Terminal Avenue
Date: 1959-1961

The Italian Centennial Fountain is an important example of a project built to celebrate B.C.'s 100th year anniversary by the local Italian community. The community wished to contribute to the centennial with a legacy project featuring the skills of a number of local masons. Over 150 volunteers worked on the fountain and were primarily drawn from the Italian community. Expert masonry skills were provided by Fred Rossetto and David Denbigh. The carved granite fish were crafted by George Norris and Albert Venuti. Jack Acroyd and Ray Cagna were responsible for the overall construction of the fountain.

In 1957 a fountain committee was created with the following members from the City's two Italian Lodges: Jules Magnano, chairman; Tony Blasutig, secretary; Ray Capra, construction head, Albert Venuti, E. Niccli and Andy Ercolini.

The committee consulted Gino Sedola, local artist and high school teacher on design, and Mr. Sedola in turn enlisted the voluntary aid of local Nanaimo artists David Denbigh and George Norris. A design was put together that would create an oasis in a commercial desert; a place where old people might sit, children play, friends meet. The design team wanted to identify the fountain with Nanaimo on the sea, so they chose the spawning salmon theme. In 1958 the design concept was presented to the Fountain Committee and Nanaimo's mayor and council. The fountain design was to reflect the type of fountains commonly found in Italy, and to be constructed of local granite from nearby Yellowpoint, with two giant salmon leaping in the central sprays. The water would flow from the pool down a ramp, over a brilliant mosaic of fish swimming upstream. Within the pool, a band of mosaic at the waterline would gleam in contrast to the sombre granite.

Upon approval, carving began on the two granite salmons by George Norris and Albert Venuti. David Denbigh designed the mosaic and structural draughtsman Jack Ackroyd prepared structural drawings. By late spring 1959 Ray Cagna and his construction crew began their work.

Throughout the whole project the Italian community voluntarily worked toward its completion. They raised money through donations, fund-raising picnics, and solicitation of building materials from local businesses. They approached the Water Board and the Department of Highways for cooperation, they quarried their own granite for the walls of the fountain from great glacial boulders near Yellow Point, they poured concrete, built walls and laid stone walks and maintained a high standard of craftsmanship in their construction and stonework.

The Italian Centennial Fountain was dedicated by the Italian Centennial Fountain Committee to the City of Nanaimo on June 24th, 1961. The Italian Centennial Fountain is a landmark structure surrounded by mature landscaping sited on a highly visible property along the Island Highway at the southern entrance point into Nanaimo's downtown core.



Name: Harewood Colliery Dam
Location: 645 Wakesiah Avenue
Date: 1910-1911

The Harewood Colliery Dam is a rare, tangible link with Nanaimo's industrial heritage. Built in 1910-11 by the Western Fuel Company to supply water for coal washing and for use by miners, mules and horses in the mines, the water system quickly developed an important secondary use. Homes near the pipeline were allowed to tap the line for domestic uses and eventually this water was carried to most of the homes in South Harewood. The Harewood Colliery Dam symbolizes the important role the coal company played in the everyday lives of local residents.

The Harewood Colliery Dam's primary value resides in its location in a municipal park, readily accessible to the public as a recreational and interpretive venue. The lake created by the dam provides a well-used outdoor swimming facility for the general public.