



## Newsletter May 2016

### WHARFINGER PAINT PROJECT

It has been several years since the Wharfingers office building on the Port Haney wharf received some significant TLC. We had a break-in and some damage done in the Fall. Weather has been building up its effects on the exterior. Volunteers could do most of the needed repairs and maintenance.

I would like to collect the names and contact information of those who would volunteer for a weekend of scraping and painting the exterior. The session could be the weekend of July 23-24. If a number of volunteers are interested in a weekday session, the week before, that could be arranged also.

Contact: Dick Sutcliffe | [ras1@uniserve.com](mailto:ras1@uniserve.com)  
Board Member, Maple Ridge Historical Society



*Above:* The wharfinger office sitting on the museum grounds awaiting restoration in 1991.

*Right:* The office newly installed on the wharf in 1992.

The building strated its life around 1926 on 224th Street as a real estate and insurance office.

### HISTORY GOES TO MARKET SATURDAY, MAY 28

Join us on the Bandstand in Memorial Peace Park on Saturday, May 28 during the Farmer's Market – 10am to 2pm. We'll have a historical display called "Travelling Through Time" which will look at how our ancestors got around during the early days.

We will also have some partners joining us. Our Haney House caretakers are providing information on the current plight of the Monarch butterfly and on plants that appeal to them.

We will also have the Ridge Meadows Quilters join us with their beautiful yellow and green raffle quilt that will make you think of a whole field of daffodils. See you there!



## LOOKING AFTER THE CEMETERY

The previous articles introduced the Maple Ridge Cemetery, how the cemetery came to be where it is, and its growth during the early years. The articles have discussed the connections of some of the families with their lives in the community and its neighbourhoods. This cemetery is the second oldest in the lower mainland and although it is well maintained, damage, weathering and subsidence has occurred over time. There was a rash of vandalism in a number of Lower Mainland cemeteries in the mid 1980s and Maple Ridge did not escape. The focus of this last article in the series is on potential remediation projects to restore the cemetery to where it should be as well as forestalling marker collapse.

① This small flat marker, David Blaney, is in danger of disappearing under a cover of grass, compared to Mary Ann's where the grass was trimmed back last fall. Participating in Historical Society cleaning days helps to keep these markers visible.

② The centre section of this Japanese marker was broken and repaired. However when the post was reinstalled it was accidentally inverted. Repair is a simple case of taking the sections apart and turning the post back the right way up.

③ The ground under the John Hammond marker has weakened so much that instead of standing clear on a double base, like a number of the nearby markers, the marker has subsided to the point that the HAMMOND name cannot be seen. The marker will need to be completely lifted out of the ground and the hole filled with packed with gravel before replacing the marker.

④ A number of tall markers, such as the Laity marker, are starting to tilt and it is a matter of time before they become unbalanced and fall over. Again these should be lifted and replaced on a packed gravel base

⑤ The Nelson "tree trunk" marker was knocked off its base during the vandalism

①

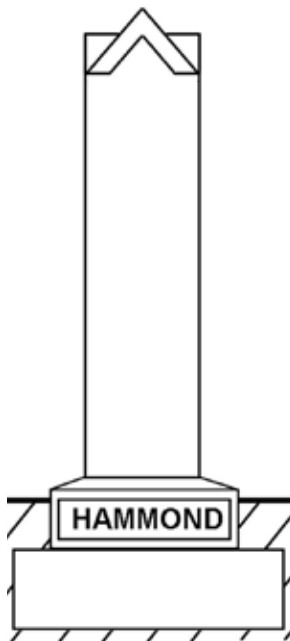


②





③



and just stuck back into the ground. The “tree trunk” is tilting and needs to be lifted out of the ground and the bottom squared off. The base should be levelled and the centre steel pin connecting the trunk to the base should be extended and the two sections cemented together. This would create a very rare sandstone “tree trunk” marker that would be almost two metres tall.

⑥



④



⑤

⑥ The Holdsworth marker is a rare wooden marker that is more than 100 years old. Compared to my first photographs of 2009 the rate of decay of this cedar marker is increasing rapidly. The marker is also unusual in that Andrew Holdsworth died in Westminster Junction, which at that time was the north-eastern railway settlement in Coquitlam before Port Coquitlam became a separate municipality in 1914.

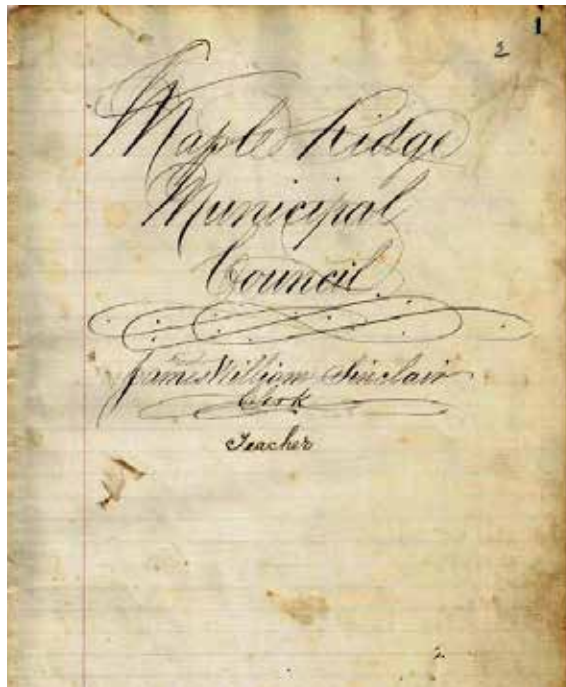
To maintain the record I would suggest that the existing marker be removed, decontaminated and stored in the museum. It should have a replacement wooden marker created and mounted on steel bars set in a concrete base as is done in Barkerville -->).



⑦ The McKenney and Sinclair marble tablets were broken off near the base and are now lying flat and need constant trimming to keep the grass from encroaching. The Sinclair marker still has the original base. The McKenney does not appear to have the original base unless it is still there but hidden under the grass or the marker and would need a new section of marble added underneath to lift it to its approximate original position. They could be restored to their original vertical position in a number of ways, such as steel bars at the back or steel U-channel along the sides. This would not only ensure a longer life but also enhance the visual landscape of this section of the cemetery.

The ideas presented in this article are intended to bring awareness to the need to repair in ways that will maintain and continue the record, as well as enhance the experience of visitors to our main cemetery. We are very fortunate that in the past we have produced very little acid rain compared to the industrial belt of southern Ontario. In St. James old cemetery in Toronto the marble and sandstone markers are illegible and can never be repaired. If you are interested in learning more come on one of our regular cemetery tours.

ew



Left: an image of the first page of the 1874 Council Minutes book, James William Sinclair, Clerk.

The following surviving minute books have been digitized and links to the files are now on the "Meet Your Council" page of the Maple Ridge Web site. Maple Ridge Museum has printed versions for review.

Council Minutes First Book 1874

Council Minutes 1874 - 1891

Council Minutes 1893 - 1899

Council Minutes 1900 - 1905

Council Minutes 1905 - 1910

Council Minutes 1910 - 1914

Council Minutes 1914 - 1920

Council Minutes 1920 - 1931

Bylaws 1876 - 1913





This year's Heritage BC Conference – "Place-Making: Where Arts and Heritage Collide" took place on Granville Island in Vancouver, May 5-7, and was an intersection of arts and heritage speakers.

Over 250 delegates from Arts BC's diverse membership of galleries, theatre and dance companies, arts service organizations and individual artists, together with Heritage BC's network of heritage commissions and societies, museum professionals, planners, archivists, consultants, government employees, First Nations organizations, tourism professionals, educators, students, politicians, architects, realtors, and arts and heritage enthusiasts and advocates came together for this three-day meeting of arts and heritage minds.

Granville Island provided a brilliant backdrop for the discussions, opening with a keynote speech from architect, Norman Hotson who led the redevelopment on of the island on behalf of the Government of Canada in the late 1970s. He gave the history of the space before development, and reinforced the balance between maintaining economic sustainability and protecting arts, heritage and not-for-profits.

This thread of not diminishing the heritage building in the design of a new construct was referenced many times over the weekend – from capital to residential projects. A hot topic given the climate of the housing/land prices in the lower mainland.

There was a discussion on how to use the history (space) to tell your community story: how ground level monuments that are interactive make the community part of the narrative, which we have used effectively in Maple Ridge through our signage in the downtown core, to the street mosaics and power box wraps with archival photos.

Perhaps the best workshop of the weekend was on community engagement and "mapping intangibles". It started with a simple exercise: map out the important places to you from your childhood. Second, add in the cultural institutions and recreational facilities. Do they overlap? What's missing?

The core questions being: what do people care about? Places have a significant impact on your future life. There are layers of existence from before, and that scale of space we feel to our relationships changes over time, but the fundamentals are laid early. This exercise can be adapted on many levels, and something we plan to incorporate into the school programming.

It would be my hope that a future Heritage BC conference is again intertwined with Arts BC – as it provides a different perspective which is so important when we are talking about community engagement and place making. *aw*

### MUSIC ON THE WHARF LINEUP

We had a record 55 applicants for our Music on the Wharf concert series this summer. The selections are as follows so save the dates:

July 11 – Lonesome Sinners [7:30pm]

July 25 – Siobhan Walsh Group [7:30pm]

August 8 – Ban Klick [7:30pm]

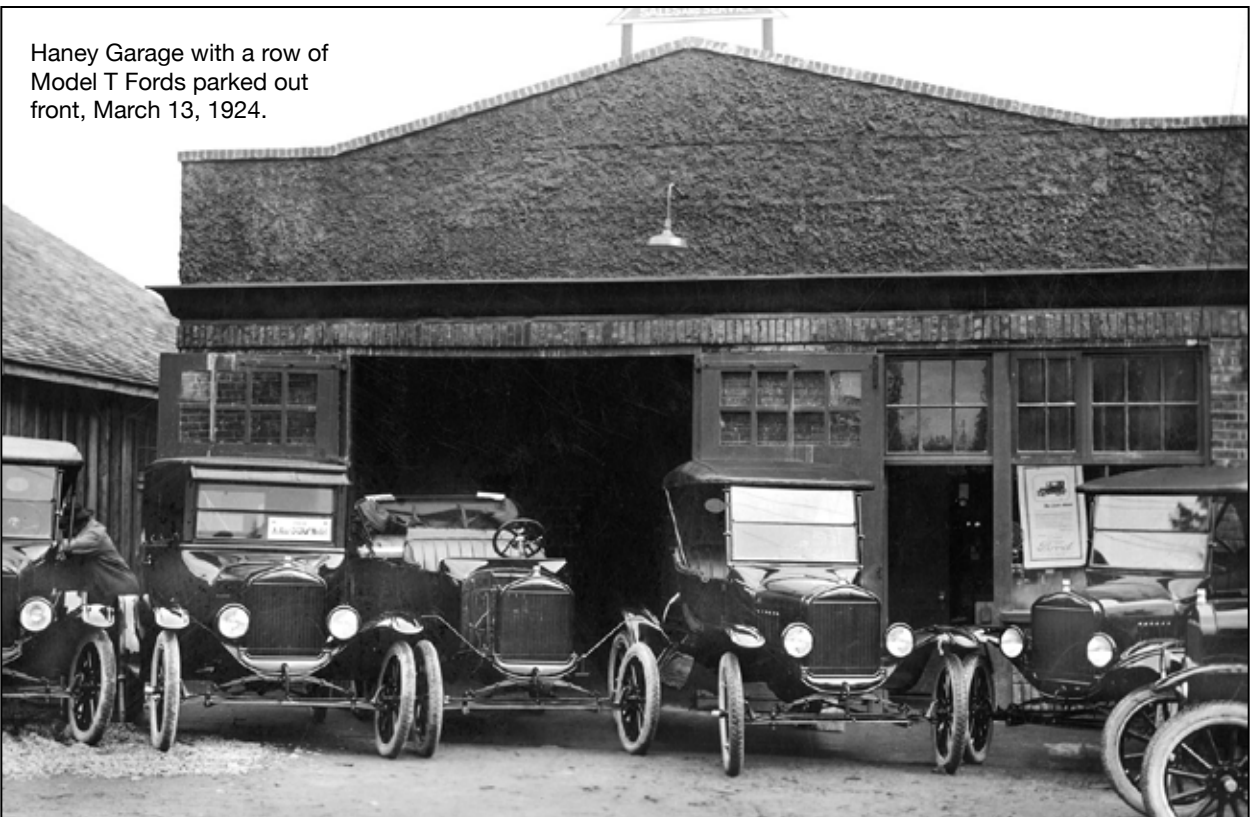
August 22 – Wichita Trip [7:00pm]



The original Yennadon School north of 132nd Avenue on 224th Street.



Haney Garage with a row of Model T Fords parked out front, March 13, 1924.



DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



**Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.**

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: [ras1@uniserve.com](mailto:ras1@uniserve.com)

