

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNA BY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MARCH 20, 1970

MR. H. W. BALFOUR,
MUNICIPAL MANAGER.

Dear Sir:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SENIOR CITIZENS' RECREATION CENTRE
KINGSWAY AT EDMONDS

As you know, the original sketch plans for the Senior Citizens' Housing Project at Edmonds and Kingsway included an auditorium and related facilities for the use of Senior Citizens residing in this general area of the Municipality.

This was based upon one of the recommendations contained in the May 1968 Feasibility Study prepared by the Planning Department, which stated that:

"Related facilities be provided as part of the Senior Citizens' Housing Development, including an auditorium, meeting room facility and a recreation centre of sufficient size to serve a dual function as a meeting place, indoor recreation facility and "drop-in" centre for Senior Citizens in the surrounding area, as well as for the occupants of the project".

However, on July 17, 1969, in order to meet the requirements of Section 35A of the National Housing Act, and to further the approval of the housing project by the B. C. Housing Management Commission, the Burnaby Housing Committee agreed to delete the proposed auditorium from the present project.

Now that the Senior Citizens' Housing has been approved and is underway, Mayor Prittie has requested that the Municipal Council now consider whether to proceed with the Recreation Centre as a Municipal project, with funds earlier set aside for Senior Citizens' purposes, and with whatever grants can be obtained from the Provincial Government.

The Mayor is aware that the Parks Commission has not provided for such a Centre in its own Capital Programme, and that the staff have stated that it has a fairly low priority as space is available elsewhere. It is the opinion of the Municipal Recreation Director that to be successful, the Centre should include the following accommodation:

- (1) Auditorium to seat 300 persons, with stage, changing rooms, etc.
- (2) A smaller meeting room
- (3) Games Rooms
- (4) Hobby Rooms
- (5) Storage
- (6) Office space and Committee Room area

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 19, 1970
Item 9

MR. H. W. BALFOUR

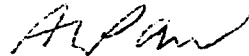
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MARCH 20, 1970

Although no detailed analysis or cost estimates have been obtained, it appears that the site can accommodate such a building, and that it could cost in the order of \$200,000 to construct.

If this report provides you with sufficient information on the subject, would you please place the matter before Council for a decision as to whether they wish to proceed with such a building. Depending upon their decision, we can prepare a detailed programme, investigate available grants, and, I would suggest, employ Harrison and Kiss, who prepared the original sketch plans, to prepare revised sketch plans for the consideration of Council.

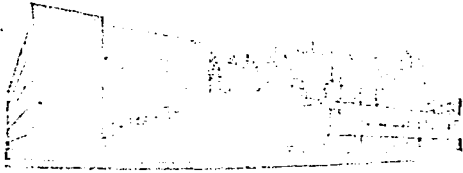
Respectfully submitted,



A. L. Parr,
Planning Director.

ALP/has

c.c. Mayor Robert W. Prittie
Recreation Director



THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL HALL
4949 CANADA WAY,
BURNABY 2, B.C.

TELEPHONE 299-7211

February 27, 1970

Mr. H. W. Balfour
Municipal Manager
Corporation of Burnaby

Dear Sir:

Subject: Old Municipal Hall - 1930 Kingsway

I cannot raise much enthusiasm toward attempting to preserve for historical significance any bits, pieces, or parts of the Old Hall building. Completely intact the building could have some small, local significance, but once the parts are separated from the whole I would foresee them becoming nothing but a burden and a charge, with no-one paying them any attention or showing any further interest in them.

The parts around the front doorway - the two engaged columns flanking the entrance, the entablature over the columns, including the architrave and frieze (if my interpretation of copy of classical Greek architecture is anywhere close) are of wood veneer, badly deteriorated due to age. The front doors themselves were installed new in 1956 when the building was rehabilitated for the Police detachment. Hence they do not form part of the original building and have no call to any significance. The front stairs are of concrete, now 59 years old, and showing most visibly their age. In my opinion the stairs have no justification to preservation either on the basis of their design or their construction.

In short, my view is that the parts mentioned have no intrinsic value to justify their preservation. Beyond this unless the parts were restored, at substantial cost, and then taken immediately and put in a suitable architectural setting, their preservation for the sake of local history would be difficult to justify.

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Mr. H. W. Balfour
Municipal Manager

Building Department
February 27, 1970

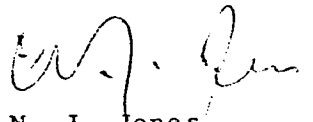
Much the same comment I would offer for the dome. This dome is actually a sheet metal roof covering over a ventilator. The ventilator is of wood construction decayed and deteriorated. It might be recalled that the first old Municipal Hall building (since removed to make way for the headquarters library) was topped by a domed ventilator similar to that on the subject building. That ventilator was saved from the building wreckers with the idea of being preserved for historical significance. It lay about the grounds, next to the former dog pound and the civil defence building, receiving absolutely no attention or interest until it had to be removed as garbage.

A similar fate would surely befall this present ventilator unless it were given immediate and permanent re-establishment - but where? It is a most unwieldy object to cart about, \$\$\$, and it should logically be perched upon a rooftop.

Against all this negative comment might I make the observation that there is a sizeable quantity of fine granite stone around the ground storey of the building. All window headers are formed by one large stone slab and there is a fine stone plinth completely around the building at the main floor line. This stone could surely find a place on the site when the senior citizens' building takes place. There could be a use for low stone fencing around parts of the property, or stone retaining walls to effect grade changes, or even the use of some of the stone in or around the base of the new building. If this idea is amenable to Council I would suggest that the Architects, Harrison & Kiss, be asked to make appropriate provision in building and site design for the use of the stone of the old building.

As to the brick of the old building I would think that its salvage and re-use would become expensive, and I am inclined to think that it might be a more difficult element to make compatible in the design of the new building. However, I would suggest that Harrison & Kiss be asked whether they could utilize the brick in the new building design without extravagant costs.

Yours very truly



M. J. Jones
CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR

MJJ/dm

cc: Secretary, Housing Committee
Municipal Engineer
Planning Director

