

CITY OF BURNABY

COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS:

Subject: Deer Lake Park Heritage Walking Tour Brochure

Recommendations:

1. THAT approval be given for the design, content and budget of the Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure.
2. THAT Council approve the expenditure of up to \$2,100 for the final design work and printing of the Deer Lake Park Heritage Walking Tour Brochure as outlined in this report.
3. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for its information.
4. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to the Finance and Economic Development Committee for consideration of joining together for the purpose of distributing the brochure as an insert to the Burnaby Visitors Guide.

REPORT

The Community Heritage Commission, at its meeting held on 2000 June 01 received the *attached* report providing the proposed text and cost estimates for the production of the Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure.

Copy: City Manager Director Planning and Building Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Finance
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The Commission advises that the proposed brochure will provide an interesting and informative way to experience part of Burnaby's history, highlighting some of the City's most significant heritage buildings and providing some of the stories behind the buildings. Also, the brochure will be of interest for residents and visitors to Burnaby and forms another component of a comprehensive interpretation program for heritage resources in Deer Lake Park as recommended in the Deer Lake Park Management Plan.

As a result of the Commission's discussion of this report, it was recommended that the cost of \$1,800 (\$.45 per copy) for the final design work and printing of 4,000 brochures be increased to \$2,100 (\$.42 per copy) to accommodate the printing of an additional 1,000 copies for distribution to Burnaby Schools.

It was further agreed that a copy of this report be forwarded to the Finance and Economic Development Committee for consideration of joining together for the purpose of distributing the brochure as an insert to the Burnaby Visitors Guide.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Celest Redman
Chair

Councillor Dan Johnston
Vice Chair

TO: COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

2000 May 25

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: DEER LAKE PARK HERITAGE WALKING TOUR BROCHURE

PURPOSE: To provide the text and cost estimates for the production of the Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** approval be given for the design, content and budget of the Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure.
2. **THAT** the Community Heritage Commission request Council to approve the expenditure of up to \$1,800 for the final design work and printing of the Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure as outlined in this report.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for their information.

REPORT

1.0 Background

One of the objectives of the Community Heritage Commission's program is to improve awareness in the community about heritage resources. The history of Deer Lake Park is one of the city's most interesting. An entire neighbourhood of Edwardian homes and landscapes, with an idealized view of the English countryside, was developed during the early 1900's in what is now Deer Lake Park. These gracious old homes convey a special sense of history to the park visitor, constituting Burnaby's most intact, unique and valuable heritage precinct.

A preliminary walking tour brochure featuring more than 12 prominent heritage structures in Deer Lake Park was previously prepared by Mr. Jim Lowe on a volunteer basis. Mr. Lowe has recently been contacted and was asked to provide a quote for the graphic design fee to complete the brochure for distribution this summer.

2.0 Heritage Walking Tour Brochure

The proposed heritage walking tour brochure will be a two-colour, two-sided 11" x 17" sheet that will be folded in an accordion map style. The text highlights some of the heritage features within Deer Lake Park, and is **attached** to this report.

3.0 Estimated Costs

The estimated fee for graphic design work to complete the brochure is \$600. The brochure would be printed at the City of Burnaby's Print Shop for an estimated \$850 for 2,000 copies or \$1,200 for 4,000 copies. The estimated cost, including the design fee, printing and taxes would be \$1,450 for 2,000 copies (.73 per brochure) or \$1,800 for 4,000 copies (.45 per brochure). As the brochure is not date sensitive, it is proposed for economy that the larger number of brochures be printed. Funding for this brochure would be from the City's operating contingency fund.

4.0 Distribution


The Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure will be distributed free of charge to Burnaby residents and visitors through the following locations:

- Burnaby Public Libraries
- City of Burnaby Community and Recreation Centres
- Tourist Info Centre at Metrotown
- City Hall
- Deer Lake Park
 - Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
 - Gallery at Ceperley House
 - Burnaby Village Museum
 - Hart House
 - The brochure would also be distributed during special events in the park such as Discovery Days (2000 July 22).

5.0 Conclusion

The Deer Lake Park heritage walking tour brochure will provide an interesting and informative way to experience part of Burnaby's history, highlighting some of our most significant heritage buildings, and providing some of the stories behind the buildings. This brochure will be of interest for residents and visitors to Burnaby, and forms another component of a comprehensive interpretation program for heritage resources in Deer Lake Park as recommended in the Deer Lake Park Management Plan. The brochure is proposed to be funded from the City's operating contingency fund.

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D. G. Stenson
Director Planning and Building

HIB:hr

Attach.

cc: City Clerk

Director Finance

Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

(Cover)

DEER LAKE PARK

Heritage Walking Tour - North Shore of Deer Lake

Approximately 40 to 50 minutes

2 Km

City of Burnaby

Community Heritage Commission

Deer Lake Park

Deer Lake, an ancient glacial lake, was once hidden by dense Pacific Coast temperate rainforest. First Nations people set up temporary shelters and fish smoking camps along the shores of Deer Lake, using the lands for hunting, fishing and gathering food plants such as cranberries. The lake was a source of native legends, particularly a story of a hidden tunnel between False Creek and Deer Lake as recounted by Pauline Johnson in her book, Legends of Vancouver.

In 1861 the first European settlers moved to the area, built log cabins and started clearing the land for cultivation. The European settlers were intent upon transforming this primeval land by creating a landscape that was familiar to them, based on the ideals of the English countryside. Later, the wealthy men and women of Vancouver and New Westminster, during the Edwardian era, spurred the development of the ultimate country estate in the style of the English Countryside.

The question of public access to the lake and the acquisition of parkland has been ongoing since 1911. The creation of Deer Lake Beach Park in 1949 and the relocation of City Hall to Deer Lake in 1956 began the process of acquiring the lake and adjacent lands for the enjoyment of the entire community. The City has acquired many of the area's finest buildings and landscapes. The importance of heritage resources was recognized, and numerous sites within the park have been designated as protected heritage sites. These protected buildings and their landscapes constitute Burnaby's most intact, unique and valuable heritage precinct. **(Inside)**

Deer Lake Park, in addition to being one of the finest urban parks in the Lower Mainland, contains a variety of natural environments and Burnaby's most complete and best preserved heritage district. The combination of the natural and cultural landscapes, as well as the heritage buildings, makes this park a unique place in B.C. The diligence and effort of successive City Councils and citizens since 1967 have succeeded in acquiring and preserving an entire neighbourhood of Edwardian homes and landscapes which are now maintained as one of the most interesting aspects of Deer Lake Park.

This tour is a sampling of seven of the surviving significant pre-1930's homes which are located along

the north shore of Deer Lake. These homes were developed with an idealized view of the English countryside in mind by their owners. The landscapes designed as a part of many of these gracious old homes remains integral to the experience of the lakeshore setting, and convey a special sense of history to the park visitor.

The beauty of the Deer Lake District had a tremendous impact on its development during the real-estate boom prior to World War I. This, combined with opening of the nearby Burnaby Lake Tramline in 1911, sparked a wave of development which created an exclusive residential district. "Where two or three years ago large farms occupied the best of the property, today splendid mansions surrounded by spacious lawns and grounds soon tell the visitor that this district is one of the choice country residential sections for the wealthy of Vancouver and New Westminister", reported one paper in 1912.

(Other Side)

We begin our walk in the parking lot of the Gallery at Ceperley House, 6344 Deer Lake Avenue.

(Photo Fairacres)

"Fairacres" - now the Gallery at Ceperley House - was built by Henry and Grace Ceperley, wealthy and prominent residents of Vancouver. Henry owned the largest real estate and insurance business in B.C. by the time he retired in 1908. In purchasing the strawberry farm owned by George Clayton in 1909 and building this retirement home in 1912, they developed a country estate which was unmatched in Greater Vancouver for its scale and opulence. Designed by talented English architect R.P.S. Twizell, the house is an excellent example of the Arts and Crafts movement. The large cobblestone chimneys and foundations, a half-timbered upper story, the leaded and stained glass windows, and a massive front door are typical features of this style. For more information about the history and architecture Fairacres, have a look at the interpretive sign on the north side of the house.

The parking lot sits on what used to be a tennis court, where lawn tennis parties were held in the Ceperley's time throughout the summer. The two buildings on your right as you walk or drive into the gallery's parking lot, are the Ceperley's combined garage and stables building and the chauffeur's cottage, which has been restored with its original paint colours and new roof. An interpretive sign is located outside the chauffeur's cottage.

Behind the trees at the south end of the parking lot stand the agricultural buildings, which also incorporates Arts and Crafts styling. The small building with a roof vent is the old root house. A large greenhouse with hot water pipes running through it was once located on this site attached to the steam plant, enabling the production of large quantities of hot house fruits, vegetables, and flowers. An interpretive sign describing the history of the steam plant and root house is located in front of the steam plant.

Walk along the path around the south edge of the house to enter the lovely Century Gardens, a 1967 Centennial project, to the east.

As you walk along the path toward the Shadbolt Centre, look back toward Fairacres to experience the public face of the house, beautifully delineated with a huge front verandah across the whole facade.

panoramic view of the sweeping lawns, gardens and Deer Lake in the distance.

Continue through Century Gardens to the front plaza of the Shadbolt Centre, which overlooks the lake.

The architects of the Shadbolt Centre, which opened in 1995, made an effort to respond to the architecture of this heritage precinct by incorporating the wood shingle exterior and massive wood beam and rock work seen on many of the houses in the area, helping to blend this modern building into its historic setting.

Walk into the West entrance of the Shadbolt Centre, directly through and out the doors of the east entrance. Turn left and continue to walk to the end of the pergola walkway; cross the road and take the stone path to your right around the front of the large stucco mansion known as the Mathers House.

The Ceperleys created a sensation by building Fairacres, providing a real stamp of approval to the area and signaling its potential to other property owners. When New Westminister Realtor, Frederick J. Hart bought the old Hill farm, Brookfield, he subdivided the land into the Deer lake Crescent Estates and sold lots to two of his friends, who built the two mansions that you now see before you.

(Photo Altnadene)

‘Altnadene’ was built by William J. Mathers in 1912 at a cost of \$13,000. Altnadene was designed by F.W. Macey, an English-trained architect. The house is a rare example of the Romanesque style, with features such as the pyramid form of the roof line and the now-altered, crenellated tower with its arched windows. Compare the historic photograph to the existing building to spot the many changes.

Turn from the front porch to look down the lawn toward Canada Way, where Altnadene’s original entrance gates remain. Arriving at the gates, guests would drive up to the porte cochere which covered the concrete pad to the left of the porch.

Altnadene was purchased in 1970 by the City and renovated for use as part of the Burnaby Arts Centre. The oak floors with walnut inlay are still intact, and the original fireplace mantels and doors rest in storage awaiting future restoration of the house. An interpretive sign is located on the north east corner of the house.

Turn right as you leave the building and walk past the kiln shed to the gray house next door.

(Photo Anderson House)

Robert F. Anderson’s house, built in 1912, now serves as the Burnaby Arts Centre office. It is a well-preserved example of architect F.W. Macey’s style, incorporating half timbering and stucco in the upper eaves, and Tudor arches on the front porch. The interior boasts preserved Douglas Fir paneling, original fireplaces, and staircase with its magnificent leaded windows. The tennis lawn terrace and rhododendrons of the original garden remain today. An interpretive sign is located on the west side of the house.

Walk away from the front of the house to the base of the lawn, and turn right on Deer Lake Avenue.

Cross the street to view the gray and yellow house with the large verandah visible through the Burnaby Village Museum fence across the street.

(Photo Elworth)

Built by Edwin Bateman in 1922, 'Elworth' was one of the last of the significant large estates to be developed in the Deer Lake District. The house, designed by architect Enoch Evans, can only be described architecturally as a combination of Craftsman and Classic Revival styles. The sloping roof line and overhanging eaves indicate Craftsman styling, while the symmetrical front facade, pillars, windows and shutters are typical Classic Revival features. Elworth has been completely restored and is now part of Burnaby Village Museum, established in 1971.

(If you wish to visit the Museum, the entrance is through the Carousel building to your left, or the main entrance is off Sperling Avenue).

Continuing along Deer Lake Avenue, you will see a small house built in 1925 at number 6570, visible through a drive lined with tall cedar trees. It was built for Claude and Annie Hill, who pioneered this site. Their original farmhouse, Brookfield, built in 1891, was located across the street until it was demolished in 1970. Claude Hill was a member of Burnaby's first Council, and retired to this home after a lifetime of farming and real-estate development. Although now stuccoed, the building remains as a good example of a Craftsman Bungalow which was a popular building style throughout B.C.

Continue on Deer Lake Avenue. Cross over Deer Lake Brook, and turn right on the access road, walking towards the Hart House. Walk in the direction of the large weeping willow at the far side of the large lawn area overlooking the lake.

(Photo Avalon)

You are now standing on the grounds of the F.J. Hart estate Avalon, visible to the left. Hart, a wealthy New Westminster real estate man, purchased this land in 1906 and decided to make Deer Lake his family's permanent home in 1912. The house, designed by F.W. Macy, is an excellent example of the Tudor Revival style, as evidenced by the half-timbered and rough-cast exterior finish, the massive chimney, and medieval tower with mock battlements. Throughout the house, many of the original features, such as the huge sandstone hearth in the front reception hall, remain as elegant reminders of the Edwardian era. Mr. Hart's vision of grandeur on Deer lake is now a restaurant, aptly named "The Hart House."

Retrace your steps back over the Deer Lake Brook bridge; just at the end of the bridge, take the trail leading through the woods to your left. When you come to a "T" take the path on the left down to the water. Walk along the lakeshore for approximately five minutes, continuing on the trail as it heads inland.

(Photo Townley House)

As you walk along the Lake, an imposing white mansion with green shutters and awnings soon looms into view on the left. Colonel T.O. Townley, a former mayor of Vancouver, built this house in 1913 and

named it Deerholme. Designed by his architect son, Fred Laughton, the house is based on Georgian lines and is arranged symmetrically with a porte cochere in the centre and roofed patios atop each end of the lower floor. The style of the house differs dramatically from the typically Craftsman-styled homes built around the lake. This house was purchased by the City of Burnaby in 1979 and has been used extensively for filming movies and television shows, while it remains rented as a private residence. We request that you respect the privacy of the residents in these homes.

Continue up the path leaving the Townley house behind to your left.

Another beautiful Classic Revival house is visible on the right side of the path. This 1913 home, once a miniature version of the main house, was originally built as a guest cottage for the Townley estate. The central gable is original, but the house has been extensively enlarged. The garden surrounding the house has been maintained by the current owners in period style.

When the path ends, turn right on the paved road.

The large green shed building to the right at the top of the trail formerly served as the old Deerholme estate stables; visitors entered the estate on this road, which was built as the driveway to the Townley mansion. You will pass the back of the Townley guest house on your right as you continue on what is now Price Street.

Turn left on Rowan Avenue. Continue to the intersection of Deer lake Avenue and return to your starting point by turning right and walking up the hill to the Gallery at Ceperley House.

(Back)

Map

Community Heritage Commission

Further Reading: Deer Lake Park
"Heritage Resource Inventory"
City of Burnaby, 1998
Available at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts (\$8.00) and
at the Burnaby Public Library

