

120 year old granite stone walls  
on York Place — still lookin' good!

# The Prospect

Your Historic Neighbourhood Newsletter

York Place, Prospect Place, San Carlos Avenue, Broom Road, and part of Beach Drive and Oak Bay Avenue



## CELEBRATING OUR JANE'S WALK

**On Friday,** May 11th and **Saturday,** May 12th, approximately forty people participated in a guided walk through the proposed Prospect Heritage Conservation Area (HCA). It was advertised through the Jane's Walks announcements by the Community Association of Oak Bay (thank you, Rick Marshall) and on our website.

The weather on both days was sunny and warm, with Mt. Baker making a spectacular and apparently obliging appearance since tour guide Sharman announced that properties in this early subdivision of Oak Bay were marketed as "having views of Mt. Baker."

Our wranglers, Bob and Keith on Friday, and Barb and Jill on Saturday, kept everyone safe. Jill provided fruit, cookies and much needed water when we arrived at her gate. Everyone enjoyed learning more about the area, and the comments were wholly inspiring.

lechinahl (*pronounced softly, Eye-a-chineel*), 1701 Beach Drive, was built by F.M. Rattenbury in 1898.



Enthusiastic participants appreciated the traditional style of all the homes from the 1890s to the 1990s and the beautiful gardens, mature trees, stone walls, iron gates, and rocky terrain that rises from Rattenbury's Beach to York Place. Equally, people talked about the ambience of the HCA: the peace, the rural feel, the wildlife they have seen over the years, the views of the sea, and the homeowners who have lived here. Put together — everyone agrees — these aspects produce a special place, like none other in Oak Bay, with its own "personality."

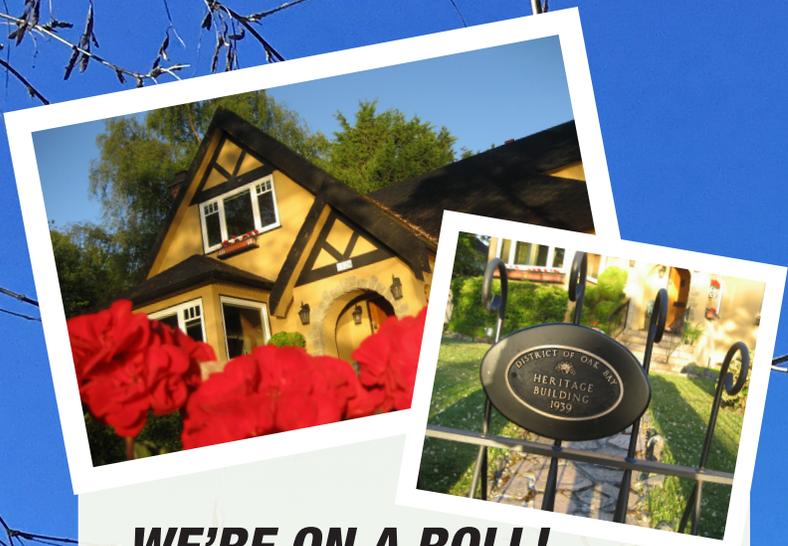
### FROM THE OAK BAY ARCHIVES

Marjorie and Kathleen Haynes on Beach Drive near the Haynes home at 1512 Beach Drive, Rattenbury boat house in the background (upper left at shoreline), ca.1910



Cairine Green, Chair of the Oak Bay Heritage Commission, says: "The HCA is about a set of possibilities."

DO YOU HAVE MOSSY ROCK  
OUTCROPPINGS IN YOUR YARD?  
As you walk the streets of Oak Bay,  
be sure to notice these iconic features  
of the landscape.



## WE'RE ON A ROLL!

**NEWLY DESIGNATED BY PROUD OWNER**  
Teresa Kambites, 1526 Beach Drive brings the total number of heritage designated buildings in the proposed HCA to **15** (of the 34 designations in Oak Bay), **with five more on the heritage registry. Kudos!**

This lovely storybook-style home was built for Matilda Haynes in 1939 after the passing of her husband, Arthur, a successful businessman and accountant. In earlier years, the couple owned the house next door, *Sandhurst*, still standing at 1512 Beach Drive.

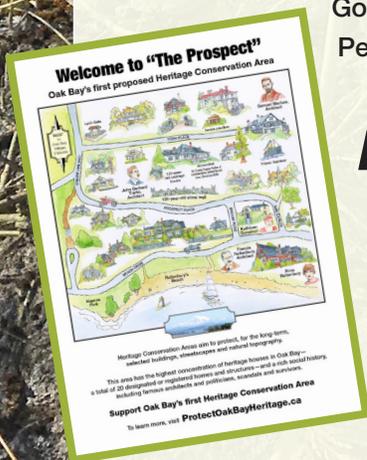
The Haynes family is important for its association with the early social history of Oak Bay. Their neighbours included the Maclure, Rattenbury, Phipps, J.D. Helmcken, Goward, Goodacres, Schwengers, Virtue, Peters and Tupper families.

## FLYERS FLYING

*into people's hands.*

**SO FAR, 1,000 HCA  
INFORMATION FLYERS**  
have been taken from the  
map/poster distribution  
boxes in our neighbour-

hood. Learning about the HCA initiative, people are responding favourably, giving our neighbourhood their smiling approval and support.



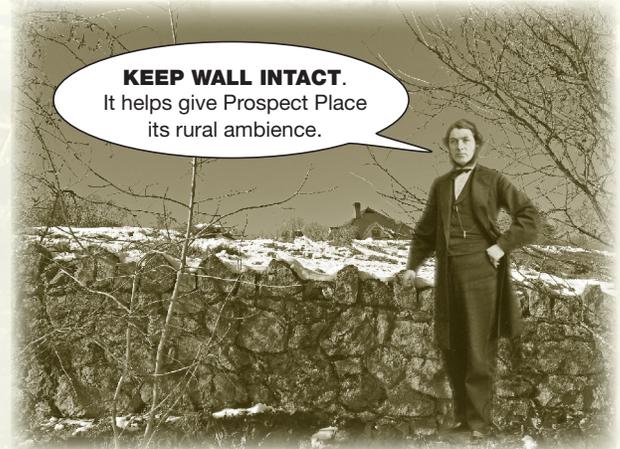
## THOSE FAMILIAR ROCK OUTCROPPINGS— 200 MILLION YEARS OLD— talk about heritage!

*But they need protection.*

**BLASTING** and other forms of excavation put the natural topography at risk. Fortunately the Statement of Significance for the proposed HCA identifies the bedrock and natural rock outcroppings as character-defining elements of the neighbourhood, thus special and worthy of consideration.

## SAVE THE STONE WALLS

In many cultures, the older you are the more honoured and respected you are. We have one of Oak Bay's longest, original stone walls in our neighbourhood. And it's **120 years old.**



**SIR CHARLES TUPPER, A FATHER OF CONFEDERATION,** may well have driven his carriage by this Prospect Place stone wall when visiting his son, who built historic Annandale. Notice its roof and chimney, just behind Sir Charles, off York Place.

PHOTO CREDITS  
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For more information, visit [ProtectOakBayHeritage.ca](http://ProtectOakBayHeritage.ca)

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PLEASE NOTE: Funding for neighbourhood newsletters, posters and flyers comes from enthusiastic neighbours.