

# The Prospect

Your Historic Neighbourhood Newsletter

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

Historic wall and hillside on Prospect contribute to the rural-like streetscape



## Jan. 1916,

Victoria experienced a huge snow-storm. Mrs. Elizabeth Scott, who, with her family, owned *Annandale* from 1911–1955, is pictured in front of the Annandale Carriage House (still in situ at 1561 York Place). Behind the carriage house you can see *Garrison House* (destroyed in the 1930s), *Annandale's* identical twin. Note the Queen Anne style fretwork on the peak of the Carriage House roof and beneath the balcony. With this photo reference, these elements, missing today, can be restored.



Along with your delightful HCA, please preserve my carriage house and stone walls, intact, as important pieces of Oak Bay history.

**A newly discovered photo of the 1897 Annandale Carriage House**

Mrs. Elizabeth Scott

## Our Heritage Conservation Area CORE VALUES:

**Rural-like streetscapes, natural topography, stone walls, mature tree canopy, historic houses; ocean views, social history.**

Famous architect, Francis Rattenbury, who, with friends, developed The Prospect neighbourhood, said: "Oak Bay District is one of the most lovely residential areas I have ever seen, and it is my desire to retain this beauty as far as possible."

Wouldn't Rattenbury be thrilled to learn that our neighbourhood has embarked on the process of becoming a Heritage Conservation Area? HCAs offer neighbourhoods tools for safeguarding core values within a context of change.

## **WELCOME TO "THE PROSPECT": Oak Bay's first HCA**

By Michael J. Prince

Adapted from the "Heritage Oak Bay" Fall 2018 Newsletter

A group of about 100 local residents are eagerly poised to see the establishment of Oak Bay's initial Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) for their neighbourhood. It is likely to happen before the end of the year.

A strong sense of community defines us. We share a clear sense of stewardship and responsibility to sustain these community resources. These values motivated neighbours to take action to conserve and protect this special character and to manage thoughtfully this community heritage for years to come.

(continued)



Margaret Scott  
and her brother, Walter  
ca. 1911

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

## Historic Gates and Stone Walls of *Annandale*

Original gates and walls, of fine craftsmanship, lend beauty and interest to the neighbourhood. An HCA is for the benefit of everyone: walkers, cyclists, residents—anyone who enjoys fine architecture and historic streetscapes.

## WELCOME TO “THE PROSPECT”: Oak Bay’s first HCA

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We have embarked on this process over the last two years; yes, important change often takes considerable time and commitment. Throughout we have gotten to know each other; we have learned a great deal about the area and discovered fascinating details about the characters who lived here before us; we have attended and participated in council meetings; we have met staff, and the mayor and councillors on several occasions.

During this period, other residents in the municipality have expressed support for what we are doing. They are interested in how an HCA might be a way forward for their streets to conserve the character of clusters of heritage buildings and their associated landscapes.

## THIS YEAR’S BLOCK PARTY— A BIG SUCCESS!

**THANKS TO ALL** for another successful block party! It was even better than last year—if that’s possible. A total of 61 people attended: 53 who RSVP’d, and another eight who came anyway (so glad you did). There were 26 households from our HCA, with lots of good food, chatter and laughter. We also enjoyed the company of Mayor Nils Jensen, councillors Kevin Murdoch and Hazel Braithwaite, and candidate for council, Esther Patterson, plus police and firefighters. Thanks to everyone who contributed delicious starters, salads, mains and desserts. Someone was overheard to quip: “This is better food than any wedding I’ve ever gone to!”  
**Looking forward to seeing you next year.**

**PHOTO CREDITS:** Oak Bay Archives, and thanks to Brian Crane  
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