

Walking Tour Four

Memorial & Highrock Parks

1. Esquimalt Municipal Hall, designed by architect Vic Davies, opened in 2003. The Esquimalt Branch of the Greater Victoria Public library is located on the first floor.

2. Memorial Park was created through the efforts of the Esquimalt Chapter of Independent Order of the Daughters of the Empire (IODE) and the Wardens of St. Paul's Church under the direction of Rev. Canon Harry Stocken. Dedication of this most significant and important historical landmark designed by architect Hubert Savage, took place September 27, 1927.

- The Esquimalt Millennium time capsule was buried beneath Legion Way on July 1, 2001. In 1995 Memorial Park became the first parcel of public land to receive heritage designation.
- World War One German field guns were received as war prize in 1921. The guns were declared part of the Memorial by municipal bylaw in 1941, saving them from becoming scrap metal. Both guns were captured by the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles: one at Vimy in 1917, and one at Cambrai in 1918.
- The Children's Memorial Playground, begun in 1924 under the direction of the Municipal Engineer Herbert Bourne, CE, officially opened July 1, 1927.
- HMCS *Esquimalt* Memorial is dedicated to the memory of sailors who lost their lives when *Esquimalt* was torpedoed and sunk in the approaches to Halifax Harbour April 16, 1945. She was the last Canadian warship lost during the Second World War.
- In 1858, west of the park, the first mission church in BC, St. Joseph's Mission, was built by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI), later known as St. Charles Mission after Father Charles Pandosy. The civic address today is 1230 Esquimalt Rd.
- The small cement survey post marks the boundary line between the suburban lots, Viewfield Farm and Constance Cove Farm. Joseph Despard Pemberton, surveyor for the Hudson's Bay Company, began surveying Esquimalt in 1851.
- Hudson's Bay Company plaque located at 1230 Esquimalt Rd., was unveiled November 14, 1996 by Adele Matte, a member of the pioneer Sinnott family and manager of the HBC store, Victoria.

3. Historic Old Esquimalt Rd., the oldest planned road in the west, see #5, was designated heritage in 2014.

- 1214, 1218, 1221 Old Esquimalt Rd., designed in the 1940s by Arthur H.F. Stelck, a well known hardware merchant whose stores were located at 1237 Esquimalt Rd. and 2680 Quadra St. 1221, a one-storey, seven room dwelling was built in 1945 at a cost of \$4950. It was designated heritage in 1994.
- "Longstone," 1211 Old Esquimalt Rd., a half-timbered Tudor Revival style home, was built about 1909 for Colonel John A. Hall, a chemist by profession and a founding partner in the Victoria Chemical Company. Architect Samuel Maclure may have designed the house. No plans exist. Col. Hall began his military career in the 5th (BC) Field Artillery Regiment and was in command when the British Army left in 1906. In 1908 he helped organize the 88th Fusiliers. In 1913, in command of the Civil Aid Forces, he took troops to Nanaimo to control striking coal miners at the Dunsmuir Mines.
- "Lyndhurst," 706 Warder Pl., designed by architect Thomas Hooper was built for Percival Redout Brown in 1913. Robert Pooley, conservative MLA for Esquimalt (1912-1937), Attorney General (1928-1933), purchased the house in 1928. The house has changed hands many times but is still called "Pooley House" by Esquimalt residents. It was designated heritage in 1985.
- 1165 Old Esquimalt Rd., begun in 1911 and completed in 1912 when the permit to build was taken out. Owner Ralph Stephens was a Master Machinist with Yarrows Shipyard who came from the USA in 1893 to work in the Bullen Shipyards and stayed on when Sir Alfred Yarrow purchased the yard in 1914. Construction cost of this Arts and Craft Chalet style house was \$7,000, \$1000 of which paid for the hot water heating system. The house is similar in design to 1010 Arcadia St. (see Tour #6).

4. Cairn Park, at 232 feet, the highest point in Esquimalt, has a 360 degree view. The stone cairn and directional dais was designed by municipal engineer, John Graeme, CE, and dedicated in 1962 during the Township's



1165 Esquimalt Road

Golden Jubilee year. The path along the old HBC survey line was the original border between Puget Sound Agricultural Farm, Viewfield and Constance Cove.

5. Constructed in 1903, Lampson Street School began as a four-room brick building. Architect William Ridgeway Wilson was hired to supervise construction. In 1909, the building was over crowded and plans were put in place to add a second story. Architect Maxwell Muir was hired to prepare the design. When the 1903 walls proved unsafe, the building was torn down. The contract to build a new eight-room school was awarded to Thomas Ashe.

- 1913 plans of architect W. Ridgeway Wilson were selected for two new wings and an addition. The school reopened April 9, 1914. It closed in 1976, received heritage designation in 1990 and reopened in 1993 after being completely restored by the Greater Victoria School District. Architect and Engineer Paul Smith, UE, CE, supervised the work. It closed again as a public school in 2007 and since 2012 has been used by L'ecole Victor-Brodeur.
- 6.** Phil Ross Park honours United Church Minister Rev. Philip Ross (1917-1991), Esquimalt Councillor from 1983 to 1990.
- 7.** Fernhill Road is named after "Fernhill," the home of pioneers Charles and Elizabeth Fisher Pooley, located on 26 acres in the area now known as Norma Court.



Lampson Street School

- 615 Fernhill Rd. was the home of Gervais and Amy Wake. Their daughter, Nursing Sister Gladys Wake, CAMC, joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force in England in 1914. She served in Salonica and France. At Etapes, France, her hospital was levelled after a two-hour German bombing raid. Gladys sustained multiple wounds, dying from her injuries on May 21, 1918. In 1998 the BC Geographical Names Office named a mountain in the Coast Mountains northwest of Pemberton, BC, Mount Gladys Maude Mary Wake, in her honour.

