

REPORT TO COUNCIL



Date: January 19, 2012
File: 1240-20
To: City Manager
From: Planner, Policy and Planning
Subject: Amendment to the Statement of Significance at 815 Bernard Avenue
Report Prepared by: L. Sanbrooks, Planner

Recommendation:

THAT Council approve an amendment to the Statement of Significance at 815 Bernard Avenue, as noted in the January 19, 2012 report from the Policy and Planning Department.

Purpose: To receive Council's approval to amend the Statement of Significance at 815 Bernard Avenue.

Background:

The Winter House is valued for its association with a long-standing member of the community and for its architecture. It also has value for being one of many notable heritage buildings along the Bernard Avenue corridor east of the downtown core area (Kelowna Heritage Register).

On September 30th, 2011 staff received an email from Loanne Athans, the granddaughter of Ernie and Sally Winter and current homeowner of 815 Bernard Avenue (Winter House), requesting that the Statement of Significance on the home be amended to remove references to personal information with no heritage significance.

At the November 3rd, 2011 CHC meeting, the Commission recommended that staff amend the Statement of Significance at 815 Bernard Avenue as requested.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

As noted in the "Guidelines for Writing Effective Statements of Significance" by the BC Heritage Branch:

Under the Local Government Act (Part 27), local governments in B.C. have the authority to establish Community Heritage Registers (CHRs). A CHR formally lists heritage resources that the community identifies as having heritage value or heritage character. A CHR must indicate the reasons why a property is considered to have heritage value or heritage character.

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Contained within the register, a Statement of Significance (SOS) is the portion of each record that identify[es] the description, heritage value and character-defining elements of each historic place. The SOS reflects modern values concerning history and historic places, illustrating how today's society recognizes the significance of the places which embody its heritage character. The SOS serves to identify these values in order to ensure the conservation, preservation, and appreciation of these places which represent the historic foundation of a community (See Appendix A for the complete version of "Guidelines for Writing Effective Statements of Significance.")

Internal Circulation:

Director, Land Use Management

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:



Lauren Sanbrooks, Planner, Policy and Planning

Approved for inclusion:



Signe Bagh, Director, Policy and Planning

cc: Director, Land Use Management

Attachments: Appendix A, Guidelines for Writing Effective Statements of Significance, Ministry of
British Columbia - Heritage Branch
Appendix B, 815 Bernard Avenue



UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (Part 27), local governments in B.C. have the authority to establish Community Heritage Registers (CHRs). A CHR formally lists heritage resources that the community identifies as having heritage value or heritage character. A CHR must indicate the reasons why a property is considered to have heritage value or heritage character. Contained within the register, a Statement of Significance is the portion of each record that identifies the description, heritage value, and character-defining elements of a historic place.

In many communities, a Statement of Significance (SoS) is used to summarize the description, heritage value and character-defining elements of each historic place. The SoS is a vital part of these community and provincial register records. The purpose of the SoS is to identify what part of history a historic place represents, and how and why that is of value and importance today. The SoS reflects modern values concerning history and historic places, illustrating how today's society recognizes the significance of the places which embody its heritage character. Writing a Statement of Significance about a historic place does not establish its heritage value. The SoS simply records the heritage values that community members already associate with the place. The SoS also shows how a particular historic place represents broader community heritage values that, ideally, have been identified in advance through extensive research and community consultation as part of the local government's heritage conservation program.

The heritage values identified within a Statement of Significance extend beyond the physical aspects of the historic place. A community's historic places are the physical manifestation of the aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual heritage values which form the heritage character of the community. The Statement of Significance serves to identify these values in order to ensure the conservation, preservation, and appreciation of these places which represent the historic foundation of a community.

This document outlines a step-by-step set of guidelines for researching, writing, and editing Statements of Significance. It is intended to promote a suggested standard for the preparation of accurate, effective, and well-written statements throughout British Columbia. For information about creating or updating heritage registers, see *Guidelines for Creating Records for Community Heritage Registers* or contact the Heritage Branch.

BEFORE YOU START

Consider the following steps before beginning to research and write the Statements of Significance. When complete, the SoS will provide certain key information to support the community's heritage conservation program. It is therefore essential that the person preparing Statements of Significance has a solid understanding of the heritage conservation goals, principles, and policies established by the community within which they are working.

Obtain background information on, and build an understanding of the community's heritage values, and the types of places which embody those values, for reference purposes. Any documentation available from the local government or local heritage conservation organizations should be kept on hand throughout the research, writing, and editing process.

BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE COMMUNITY'S:

- community heritage values and context, if available
- heritage evaluation criteria
- heritage management and commemoration needs
- heritage resources (i.e. people, programs, heritage inventories, registers, heritage conservation areas, historic districts, etc.)

Understand the historic context of the historic places for which Statements of Significance will be written. If a historic context study has not been done for a community's historic places, it is important to *undertake such a study in order to understand how those historic places embody established heritage values and represent the elements of the community's history which have been deemed historically significant.* If no such study has yet been conducted, the writer should still consider the larger historic and geographic context of the historic place and potential community heritage values in writing the SoS.

For each historic place determine:

- the formal recognition status (Statements of Significance may be written for historic places which are already formally recognized and protected, or for places which are scheduled to be recognized in the future.)
- the precise physical extent in terms of boundaries and contributing elements
- whether it is located within an established historic district. (If so, the SoS should support the identified heritage values of the district)
- whether it is subject to alteration, rehabilitation, or under threat

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE WRITING AND REVIEW PROCESS

STEP 1

Research and collect background information on the historic place. Information may be found in local government files, municipal archives, and other sources. Record the source(s) of historical information used to prepare the SoS. Utilizing the internet and local government and local heritage organizations' promotional materials on historic places in the community will often provide useful information on the social value of these places. Solicit input on the historic place through the local government website, local newspapers, stakeholder groups, Heritage Advisory Committee, historical societies, etc. Keep a reference file for each historic place, containing all information collected about the place during the research stage. This file will form part of the Community Heritage Register paper file for the historic place at the local government office. Include notes on community input and heritage values statements.

STEP 2

Visit the historic place. Take notes on the description, layout, physical features, and other information which may only be collected onsite. Take photographs for future reference.

STEP 3

Review all research materials, site visit notes, notes on community input and photographs and write the first draft of the Statement of Significance.

STEP 4

Review the first draft with another person, or persons, experienced in the Statements of Significance writing and review process, and make necessary revisions.

STEP 5

Submit the revised draft to all members of the Steering Committee.

STEP 6

Review and analyze the Statement of Significance in person with the local government Steering Committee.

STEP 7

Edit the Statement as advised and submit the revised Statement to all members of the Steering Committee.

STEP 8

Conduct a final, brief, 'approval' review at the next meeting with the Steering Committee.

STEP 9

If necessary make any last revisions suggested by the Steering Committee in order to complete the Statement of Significance for addition to the register record and submission to the Community Heritage Register and the B.C. Register of Historic Places (BCRHP). This document is the one which will be forwarded as a deliverable.

STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE COMPONENTS

SECTION 1

DESCRIPTION – THE “WHAT”

THE DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC PLACE SHOULD PAINT A PICTURE OF THE HISTORIC PLACE IN TWO OR THREE SENTENCES.

Tips for writing the description of a historic place:

- ❖ The description is meant to be general. How can the place be effectively described in as few words as possible?
- ❖ All three parts of the Statement of Significance work as a whole, and it is not necessary to include in the description information and details which will be included in the sections on heritage value and character-defining elements.
- ❖ For historic places which are scheduled for formal recognition, only describe elements of the place which will be protected by the formal recognition enactment.
- ❖ For historic places which have already been formally recognized, only the aspects of the place that have been formally recognized should be described. A definition of a historic place may be found within existing register records, or within a local government resolution, such as a heritage designation by-law, if one exists.
- ❖ Refer to modern photographs, taken during site visits, to write a description of the historic place as it exists now.

SECTION 2

HERITAGE VALUE – THE “WHY”

HERITAGE VALUE MAY BE DEFINED AS: THE AESTHETIC, HISTORIC, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL, SOCIAL OR SPIRITUAL IMPORTANCE OR SIGNIFICANCE FOR PAST, PRESENT OR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Historic places may have heritage value because they:

- illustrate achievement in concept and design, technology, and/or planning, or a significant stage in the development of a community, province, territory or the nation
- are associated with events that have contributed to patterns of history at the local, provincial, territorial or national levels
- are associated with the lives of persons of historical importance at the local, provincial territorial or national level
- illustrate or symbolize in whole or in part a cultural tradition, way of life, or ideas important in the development of a community, province territory or the nation.

Assess the aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual importance or significance of the:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> location |
| <input type="radio"/> concept | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> materials |
| <input type="radio"/> design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> planning |
| <input type="radio"/> form | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> quality |
| <input type="radio"/> style | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> technology |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> character | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> use |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> historical context | |

Does the historic place have associations with:

- a notable architect?
- events which have contributed to patterns of history?
- the lives of persons of historical importance?

Is the historic place a notable representation of:

- a way of life?
- a significant stage in the development of a community?
- achievement?
- cultural tradition?
- ideas important in the development of a community, province territory or the nation?

Tips for writing heritage value statements:

- ❖ Focus on the question "Why is this place significant?"
- ❖ Keep the value statement as clear and concise as possible, ensuring that the values are identified in language that can be understood by a wide range of people.
- ❖ Facts should only be included in the heritage value statement if they have a direct correlation to the heritage value; facts are only relevant if they help to identify, define, or support the value of the historic place.
- ❖ Interesting or historic facts do not necessarily constitute value.
- ❖ Include facts in the value statement by linking them to statements of value. For example: "Built by local farmers in 1862, this historic place is valued as a representation of the earliest settlement of this area."
- ❖ Present the key heritage value(s) in the first few sentences of the heritage value statement. This will ensure that the statement addresses the main focus of why the place is important in a direct and obvious manner.
- ❖ Focus the heritage value statement on the historic place as identified in the 'description of historic place'. It is not necessary to provide a contextual statement or extensive historical background information in the value statement.
- ❖ A historic place will often have more than one heritage value. Consider all elements of a place when identifying heritage value.
- ❖ The heritage value of a historic place is not always encompassed by its architecture. Heritage value is often intangible.
- ❖ The Statement of Significance refers to the historic place as it is now. It should be written to reflect the heritage value of a place within a modern context. Use the present tense when writing the value statement.
- ❖ The Statement of Significance reflects how a historic place represents a part, or parts of history, and why that is important today.
- ❖ Only include associated events, persons, organizations, architects and builders if they are integral to the value of the historic place. Historic associations do not always constitute heritage value.

SUGGESTED VOCABULARY AND PHRASES FOR VALUE STATEMENTS:

The following list outlines a selection of useful phrases and terms for creating effective heritage value statements.

- ❖ **“evident in”** – Use when the heritage value of a place is manifested in its character-defining elements. For example: “The cultural value of this historic place is evident in its continuous use as a place of worship for over a century”.
- ❖ **“is valued as”** – Use to convey how a historic place is considered to be important or significant (i.e. this historic place is valued as...).
- ❖ **“notably”, or “it is interesting to note...” or “it is notable that...”** – Use when introducing a historic fact or association which is supplemental to the heritage value of the historic place. For example: “It is notable that this place has an interesting historic association with J. Doe, who worked and lived here for many years”.
- ❖ **“value lies in”** – Use to articulate the primary aspects of the historic place which possess heritage value. For example: “The value of this historic place lies in the integral role it has played in the social development of the community” – or – “The value of this place lies in its unparalleled architectural design”.
- ❖ **because** – The use of ‘because’ provides reasoning behind the heritage value. It ensures that a reason is given for why the historic place has value, and changes factual statements such as “this historic place is the oldest of its kind in the city” into statements of value such as “this historic place is valued because it is the oldest of its kind in the city”.
- ❖ **continuity** – Use when a historic place contributes to the uninterrupted and unchanged functionality of its surroundings. “This historic place is important because it contributes to the continuity of the historic streetscape”.
- ❖ **continuum** – Use when a historic place represents an element of a continuous sequence in which the elements next to each other are very similar, but the first and last are different. For example: “this historic place represents an important moment in the continuum of the economic development of this community”.
- ❖ **contributes** – Use when a historic place (or its character-defining elements) helps to achieve a sense of place, or adds to the quality of its surroundings. For example: “the surrounding natural landscape contributes significantly to the heritage character of this historic place”.
- ❖ **distinctive** – Use to identify elements of the historic place which distinguish it from other historic places.
- ❖ **epitome/epitomize** – Use when a historic place is a perfect example of elements such as type, idea, or style etc. “This historic place is the epitome of the architect’s trademark use of formal exterior design combined with intimate interior elements”. Or, “this historic place epitomizes Late Victorian wealth and extravagance”.
- ❖ **evoke/evokes** – Use when a historic place brings to mind a sense of another time, place, culture, mindset, etc.
- ❖ **example/exemplify** – An example is a representation of a type. Use when indicating that a historic place, or an element such as architectural detail or form, is representative of its type. For instance: “this historic place is the finest example of the architecture of Francis Mawson Rattenbury”, or “this historic place exemplifies nineteenth-century stonemasonry”.

- ❖ **express** – Use when a historic place conveys a particular thought, feeling, or sense of history (etc.). For example: “the value of this historic place lies in its ability to express the way of life on a mid-nineteenth-century farm to a modern audience”.
- ❖ **expression** – Use when the elements of a historic place represent historic ideas, thoughts, or actions. For example: “this historic place is valued as an expression of the spiritual beliefs of its creators”.
- ❖ **illustrate/s** – Use when the historic place acts as an example of a particular heritage value or values or element of history. For example: “this historic place illustrates the simple construction methods which became popular during the Gold Rush”.
- ❖ **is** – Keeps the value statement in the present tense. Use as much as possible in place of ‘was’; the Statement of Significance refers to a historic place as it is today, and the value that it has as it exists now.
- ❖ **manifest/ed or manifestation** – Use to indicate how the significance of a historic place is shown or displayed through its character-defining elements; or when a historic place is the embodiment of a historic ideal, idiom, etc. For example: “This historic place is a manifestation of the presence of the federal government in the city”.
- ❖ **monument** – Use when a historic place is a particularly notable or lasting example of its historic value(s). For example: “This historic place is a monument to the architectural vernacular which established this community”.
- ❖ **outstanding** – Use to identify a historic place, or an element thereof, which is exceptional.
- ❖ **reflects** – Use when a historic places makes apparent, expresses, or manifests a heritage value or an element of history. For example: “This historic place reflects the segregation found within the early social system of this community”.
- ❖ **representation** – Use when a historic place is an depiction, or example of a heritage value or part of history.
- ❖ **significant** – Use to describe the importance of a quality, aspect, or element of a historic place in the context of heritage value.
- ❖ **symbol** – Use when a historic place is a representation of a heritage value or element of history. For example: “this historic place is a symbol of the reverence felt by this community toward its early spiritual leaders”.
- ❖ **testament** – Use when a historic place provides evidence or proof of a fact, event, or quality: “this historic place is a testament to the perseverance of its builders”.
- ❖ **unique** – Use when a historic place is in itself, or possesses features which are, one of a kind: “this historic place is valued because it is unique within the city” or “the level of architectural detail found in this historic place is unique for a structure of this type”.
- ❖ **valuable** – Use to describe historic places, or their qualities, aspects, or elements, which are of particular importance.

SECTION 3

CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS – THE “HOW”

CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS IDENTIFY THE PRINCIPAL FEATURES OF THE HISTORIC PLACE THAT CONTRIBUTE TO ITS HERITAGE VALUE.

ELEMENTS OF THE HISTORIC PLACE TO CONSIDER WHEN WRITING CDEs:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> concept<input type="checkbox"/> design<input type="checkbox"/> form<input type="checkbox"/> style | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> materials |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> character | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> historic context | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> location | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> technology |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> use |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> patina/ historic evidence of use |

TIPS FOR WRITING THE CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS (CDEs):

- ❖ The CDEs should be a point form list.
- ❖ The CDEs are not meant to be an exhaustive list of every detail of a historic place. Phrase CDEs in such a way that will cover all existing significant elements of the place. Often, broader statements are more effective than highly specific ones. For example: “The late nineteenth-century character of the architectural detailing of the street front façade of the building, as seen in such elements as the fenestration pattern and brickwork.”, or, “All historic materials dating to the time of construction, such as the granite foundation and timber frame.”
- ❖ CDEs must support the heritage value of the historic place as identified in the “heritage value” section of the Statement of Significance. If a CDE is integral to the significance of a historic place, but does not correspond to the value statement, the value statement should be reviewed and adjusted accordingly.
- ❖ CDEs are not limited to physical, or architectural, elements of a historic place. Refer to all aspects of the identified heritage value of a historic place to determine its CDEs: use, evidence of use, social or spiritual qualities, representation of ideas, technology, innovation of design etc.
- ❖ When using terms such as “form, scale and massing”, be sure to provide qualification to ensure that these terms refer to specific qualities of the historic place which should be protected. For example: “the asymmetrical form”, “the castle-like massing”, “the modest two-storey scale” etc.

Once the SoS is drafted:

Review the draft with another person, or persons (such as heritage conservation consultants, community heritage organization members etc.), experienced in the Statements of Significance writing and review process, and make necessary revisions.

Encourage feedback which will ensure that:

- the description of historic place corresponds with the formal recognition enactment for the place.
- the value statement refers to the historic place as referred to in the description.
- the heritage value statement is not a statement of facts.
- the character-defining elements support the heritage value.
- all significant elements of the historic place have been addressed.

Review and analyze the draft Statement of Significance in person with local government and/or community representatives familiar with the community's heritage mandate, and the Statement of Significance writing and review process.

Does the statement:

- reflect and support the community's heritage values?
- meet the community's heritage evaluation criteria?
- support the community's stewardship goals, in particular for historic places which may be under threat, or which may be in need of rehabilitation or development?

Edit the Statement as advised and resubmit it to the local government representative(s). Once the statement receives approval, submit the final Statement of Significance to the local government for inclusion in the Community Heritage Register and the British Columbia Register of Historic Places.

SAMPLE STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE: BEFORE AND AFTER

Sample 1A

Barkerville Historic Town Statement of Significance – Draft: July 26, 2002

DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORIC PLACE

Barkerville is a historic town situated in a narrow river valley along the west bank of Williams Creek. It is principally built along a main street that extends from Saint Saviour's Church in the north to the end of Chinatown in the south. There is also a back street. The place is bounded on one side by the valley wall and on the other it includes Williams Creek to its far bank and Conklin Gulch. The place also includes the Barkerville cemetery to the north of the townsite, the Cariboo Wagon Road to the south as far as Richfield, and the Richfield court house.

HERITAGE VALUES

Barkerville Historic Town commemorates the importance of the Gold Rush in the settlement of British Columbia. The 1860's saw a rush of gold seekers from all over the world pushing north into the interior of British Columbia, causing roads and settlements to be built and the establishment of government, laws and other social infrastructure to serve the miners. Barkerville was established in 1862 with the gold strike of English miner Billy Barker and remains today as a restored Gold Rush town, symbolic of the impact of the Cariboo Gold Rush on the settlement of British Columbia.

The town was built contiguously to the placer mining operations and illustrates the symbiotic nature of gravel, gold, water, mining operations and habitation. It burnt to the ground in 1868 but was rebuilt. A number of buildings from the second town survive and illustrate the nature of the community and gold mining as it evolved from the end of the Cariboo Gold Rush to the 1958 Centennial of BC when the Province began acquiring lots in the townsite and developing Barkerville as a historic park.

The primary presentation period of Barkerville is from c.1860 to 1885 and heritage places and material remains both above and below ground from this period are the most highly valued. The secondary presentation period is from 1885 to 1958 and while places and cultural remains from this period are valued, they are not as highly valued as resources from the primary presentation period.

CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

The character of the historic place is defined by:

- the containment of the place by the Williams Creek Valley, its forested slopes and the gentle rise of the valley from north to south.
- the meandering nature of Williams Creek and its close proximity to the townsite
- the hard and harsh physical environment of the historic place
- the unimpeded views to the Cariboo Mountains surrounding the place
- the careful and appropriate screening of modern intrusions into the historic place
- the unfinished nature of the earth and gravel main street, its rise from north to south along Williams Creek, and its slight bends
- the historic natures of above ground heritage resources including all the buildings from the historic period of 1860 to 1958, both restored and unrestored.
- the intactness and nature of the Barkerville cemetery and the rustic nature of the headboards and grave cribs which symbolize the passing of time.

- the unfinished and rough nature of the Cariboo Wagon Road from Barkerville to Richfield, the signs of mining scars from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries on the hillsides along this route, and the undeveloped nature of the valley which expresses a powerful sense of place.
- the restored Richfield Courthouse and the undeveloped nature around the place which helps to illustrate the transient nature of the mining camps and towns.

Sample 1B

Barkerville Statement of Significance – April 14, 2004

DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORIC PLACE

Barkerville – located in central British Columbia, ninety kilometers east of Quesnel at the edge of the Cariboo Mountains – is a heritage district that includes a historic town situated in a narrow valley along the west bank of Williams Creek, and a cemetery north of the townsite. The district includes all surveyed lots, buildings, roads, and physical remnants of historic mining activity.

HERITAGE VALUES

The heritage values of Barkerville lie in its importance in the Cariboo Gold Rush of the 1860s and its impact on patterns of economic development and the re-settlement of British Columbia, and in its role as the province's primary project for the 1958 British Columbia Centennial.

Originating in 1862 around English miner Billy Barker's strike, Barkerville is valued primarily as the most intact example of the types of communities and buildings that were constructed during the Cariboo Gold Rush. The British Columbia gold rushes, which started in 1858, are important to the history of BC because they brought gold seekers from around the world and directly led to the creation of the British colony which set the foundation for the future province (1871).

Once the Cariboo region's largest and most important town, it is significant that Barkerville survived and prospered in the extreme conditions of the natural environment high in a remote mountainous region of British Columbia's snowbelt. Although burnt to the ground in 1868, Barkerville was quickly rebuilt; this 'second town' – which included a large Chinatown – is a testament to the symbiotic nature of gravel, gold, water, and habitation in the Gold Rush boom town. It is significant that Barkerville's wooden architecture, layout of streets, historic cemetery, and authentic mining equipment remained largely intact to illustrate the evolution of the community and gold mining up to 1958, when the Province began acquiring lots in the townsite and developing Barkerville as a historic park.

Barkerville's secondary heritage value resides in its importance as a British Columbia Centennial project, which has become the province's most noted museum town and one of its foremost heritage resources. Barkerville is an icon of the Cariboo Gold Rush and possesses significant social value as a place that effectively presents aspects of British Columbia's multi-cultural settlement, and its economic and developmental history to a broad audience.

CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS

- the containment of the place by the Williams Creek valley and the gentle rise of the valley from north to south.
- the meandering nature of Williams Creek and its close proximity to the townsite.

- the harsh climate and challenging physical environment of the historic place.
- the careful and appropriate screening of modern intrusions into the historic place.
- the unfinished nature of the earth and gravel main street, its rise from north to south along Williams Creek, and its slight bends.
- the historic natures of all resources (such as wooden boardwalks, flumes, and piping systems) and buildings dating from the period of 1860 to 1958, both restored and unrestored.
- a variety of building styles and construction types, such as balloon-framing, log construction, post-and beam construction, and wood framing.
- historic exterior and interior features such as finishes, patinas, fixtures and fittings of all pre-1958 structures.
- the evidence of multi-culturalism, seen in such physical elements of the town as the varied building designs, the large number of buildings in Chinatown in relation to the rest of the town, and the Chinese terraced gardens.
- the historic mining equipment, paraphernalia, and remains within the surrounding landscape, including slag heaps and monitor pits.
- the intactness and nature of the pre-1958 section of the Barkerville cemetery and the rustic nature of the headboards and grave cribs which symbolize the passing of time.

Sample 2A

Craigflower Schoolhouse Statement of Significance – Draft: January 2004

DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORIC PLACE

Craigflower Schoolhouse is a two-story, gable-roofed building on Admirals Road, just north of the Craigflower Bridge in Victoria, BC. The land on which the schoolhouse sits is on the shore of the Gorge Waterway.

HERITAGE VALUES

Craigflower Schoolhouse represents the earliest beginnings of British Columbia's educational system, based on the principals of free non-sectarian education for all. The school was built in 1854 by employees of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company (a subsidiary of the Hudson's Bay Company), who wanted to provide basic education for their children. This building remains as one of British Columbia's few structures surviving from colonial times.

Craigflower remains as the oldest school in British Columbia, and is a rare example of a nineteenth century schoolhouse. Unlike most of its contemporary schoolhouses in North America, Craigflower is not a typical one-room school building. The upper story was constructed as private living quarters where teachers and their families lived until the school ceased operation in 1911.

CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

- Situation of the schoolhouse on its original site.
- Exterior features including the simple gable roof, horizontal clapboard siding and 5 windows (with original imported glass) on each floor.
- The historic materials and craftsmanship (dating from 1854-1911) as evident in the building style, form, and features such as the large brick fireplace in the schoolroom, the tongue and groove woodwork in the fireplace wall, the ten-inch-wide floorboards, and the white plaster walls.

- The patina, and evidence of use, examples of which can be seen in the floor, the stair treads, and the angle of the building.
- The spatial configuration of the school room.
- The steep stairwell.
- The layout of the rooms of the upper story.

Sample 2B

Craigflower Schoolhouse Statement of Significance – February 2004

DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORIC PLACE

Craigflower Schoolhouse is a two-storey, gable-roofed building on Admirals Road, just north of the Craigflower Bridge in Victoria, BC. The land on which the schoolhouse sits is on the shore of the Gorge Waterway, and includes an ancient archaeological site.

HERITAGE VALUES

Craigflower remains as the oldest school in British Columbia, and is a rare example of a nineteenth century schoolhouse in western Canada. Constructed in 1854 by the Colony of Vancouver Island for the children of nearby Craigflower Farm and the surrounding area, this school is a significant monument to the early educational system in British Columbia, which was based on the principle of free non-sectarian education for all.

Craigflower Schoolhouse is valued as the oldest surviving public building in British Columbia. As one of British Columbia's few surviving structures which predates the 1858 gold rush, this school is an excellent example of early vernacular building construction in the province. Architecturally, its value lies in its utilitarian form, large massing, simple construction, and understated detailing, which provide insight into the functional nature of the province's earliest public works.

CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

- The archaeological site on which the school sits.
- Situation of the schoolhouse on its original site.
- Exterior features such as the simple gable roof, horizontal clapboard siding and windows with original imported glass.
- The historic materials and construction (dating from 1854-1911) as evident in the building style, form, and features such as the wood framing, the large brick fireplace in the schoolroom, the tongue and groove woodwork in the fireplace wall, the ten-inch-wide floorboards, and the white plaster walls.
- The patina, and evidence of use, examples of which can be seen in the floor, the stair treads, and the angle of the building.
- The spatial configuration of the school room and the rooms of the upper storey.
- The steep stairwell.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BEST PRACTICES

- ❖ Make sure the Steering Committee has time to review every Statement of Significance with the consultant(s) at least once.
- ❖ Refer to the Statement of Significance guidelines within the Documentation Standards during the writing, review, and editing processes.
- ❖ Ensure that each person involved with the Statement of Significance research, writing, review, and analysis process has a copy of the Documentation Standards and the Data Dictionary to ensure full understanding of each field in each record.
- ❖ Schedule project review sessions and Statement of Significance review meetings every 2-3 weeks.

HERITAGE CONSULTANTS' BEST PRACTICES

- ❖ Avoid creating separate records and writing separate Statements of Significance for multiple contributing resources protected by one enactment unless specified by the local government Steering Committee.
- ❖ Avoid writing the Statements of Significance subjectively. Remember that it is up to the local government to determine what their community heritage values are, and the Statement of Significance must fit within *their* heritage conservation mandate.
- ❖ Ensure that each person involved with the Statement of Significance research, writing, review, and analysis process has a copy of the Documentation Standards and the Data Dictionary to ensure full understanding of each field in each record.
- ❖ Refer to the Statement of Significance guidelines within the Documentation Standards during the writing, review, and editing processes.
- ❖ Review Statements of Significance with another person, or persons, experienced in the Statements of Significance writing and review process before review with the local government's Steering Committee.
- ❖ Encourage review by email with local government staff before in-person review, in order to streamline project time. Local government staff can offer initial feedback using the "comment" feature in word processing programs.
- ❖ Make sure you have time to review each Statement of Significance with the local government Steering Committee at least once. Remember this step ensures the Statement of Significance reflects community heritage values.
- ❖ Schedule review sessions with the local government Steering Committee every 2-3 weeks.

- ❖ Remember that the three parts of a Statement of Significance will ultimately become part of a larger register record, and it is not necessary to include information in the Statement of Significance which will be included in other fields of this record.
- ❖ Refer to the CRHP website www.historicplaces.ca to become familiar with how these records will ultimately be presented on the web. This website is also a useful tool for understanding how Statements of Significance are being written across the country.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information on Writing Statements of Significance and updating Community Heritage Registers refer to The Canadian Register of Historic Places: Documentation Standards Handbook and The Data Dictionary for the British Columbia Register of Historic Places (BCRHP) and the Canadian Register of Historic Place (CRHP), and/or contact:

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GLOSSARY

Aesthetic

Concerned with beauty or the appreciation of beauty; or the set of principles behind the work of a particular artist or artistic movement.

British Columbia Register of Historic Places (BCRHP)

The British Columbia Register of Historic Places is the official provincial listing of historic places that have been formally recognized for their heritage value by the provincial or a local government.

Canadian Register of Historic Places (CRHP)

The Canadian Register of Historic Places is a national listing of historic places across Canada. The CRHP is essentially a register of registers and includes nominations from local, provincial, territorial, and federal government heritage registers.

Cultural

Relating to the arts, customs, and institutions of a nation, people, or group.

Documentation Standards

The Canadian Register of Historic Places: Documentation Standards Handbook. This handbook sets out the Canadian Register Documentation Standards. It describes the procedures for nominating historic places to the Canadian Register, and the procedures for listing, updating, and de-listing. It also describes the roles and responsibilities of the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Registrars.

Historic

To be famous or important in history, or likely to be seen as such in the future.

Historic Place

A historic place is a structure, building, group of buildings, district, landscape, archaeological site or other place in Canada that has been formally recognized for its heritage value by an appropriate authority within a jurisdiction.

Local Government Registrar

The local government staff person responsible for maintaining the Community Heritage Register and for reporting heritage enactments to the Province. Often this will be the planner responsible for the heritage program, but this will depend on local arrangements.

Record

A complete set of required data compiled for each historic place. Each record includes identification, location, and formal recognition information, description information (which includes the Statement of Significance), image(s), documentation, and administrative information.

Scientific

Relating to or based on the systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.

Social

Having to do with society and its organization.

Spiritual

Having to do with religion or religious belief.

Steering Committee

Collectively the members of the committee represent the heritage values of the community at large. A group of approximately six persons who will meet regularly with heritage consultant(s) to review and analyze Statements of Significance. It is preferable that the committee be a sub-committee of the Community Heritage Commission as this will ensure a multi-level review. Ideal candidates for this group are heritage planners, members of Community Heritage Commissions, historic place owners, or persons involved with local heritage conservation organizations.

