

the TOWNSITE HERITAGE DIGESTER



Published by the Townsite Heritage Society of Powell River

FALL/WINTER 2017

Restoration Project:

Vinyl-sided house returned to Arts and Crafts beauty

This story begins with Alexander (Alex) Young and his wife Georgina (Ina) and their 5 children coming from Scotland in 1964. According to Robert Young (their oldest son) his parents bought their 5771 Maple home in 1964 from the Christiansons and paid a mortgage of \$100 per month (WOW!!!)

During the 1970s/80s, vinyl siding was a new low maintenance item on the market and becoming a popular trend, so when a salesman from Kelowna came by, Alex and Ina made the decision to side the house in a light yellow vinyl.

Robert has fond memories of growing up on Maple Avenue and living in the house with his parents and four siblings. Time passed and the children left the nest but Mom and Dad remained in their Maple Avenue home for the rest of their lives. After Alex and Ina passed away, the family home of over 50 years was sold to Mike Franklin and Joan Shacklock; that is where the next chapter begins.

Enter Mike Franklin and Joan Shacklock...

On Canada Day 2016 Mike Franklin flew to Powell River from the Lower Mainland to look at real estate.

This was the place in BC where he and Joan wanted to live. Mike grew up by the sea, and they both liked the feel of the Townsite with its character homes, warm sense of family and community, and wealth of heritage beauty. The little yellow vinyl house had good energy and they could see great potential for their future home. Mike and Joan didn't need to sleep on it, the decision came without hesitation and they purchased 5771 Maple in August of that year. Shortly thereafter the restoration project began!

At first Mike had not really considered removing the vinyl siding but a neighbour (John Wegner) suggested that the original wood siding was probably underneath. With some trepidation, Mike pulled off a



bit of the vinyl to take a peak and... John was right! The buried Arts and Crafts treasure behind the wall turned Mike's caution into motivation, and the vinyl would most definitely be coming off.

Mike used a hand grinder (with a cutting blade) to cut and remove six-foot strips of vinyl at a time; a week after starting he had revealed the original arts and craft wood siding. It was in good shape but needed a few repairs. The windows, however, were another story. All the original wood windows had been replaced with aluminum at the same time the vinyl siding was installed and they needed to be changed back to wood.

The two tiny aluminum windows at the front of the house were a great deal smaller than the original

See Restoration, p 2



All the vinyl had to be removed and the belly board replaced.



The original siding was stripped with a heat gun and scraper.

TOWNSITE TIDBIT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2018

EVERYONE WELCOME

The Townsite Heritage Society wishes to welcome **EVERYONE** to its Annual General Meeting at **7:30 pm**. The meeting will be held at Henderson House, 6211 Walnut St and is open to the public — please join us!

AGM

traditionally-proportioned scaled wood framed windows had been, and the framework had been made smaller to fit them into. Undaunted by the task, Mike rebuilt the larger window casing (the original frame opening was evident in the wall) to fit the original window sizes and then he made the wooden windows by hand. Fortunately the rest of the aluminum windows had been installed in the original framed openings which means that Mike will only need to build the windows and not the framed openings for them.

The belly board had also been removed when the vinyl siding was installed, so Mike had to recreate and install this Arts and Crafts component. What is a belly board, you may ask? Not to be confused with a barge-board or bandboard, a belly board is the wide board between the upper horizontal siding and the, usually,



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vertical lower siding that runs around the house. It serves as a visual dividing line, problem solver to enable the use of shorter vertical siding, and is flashed to take water away from lower siding.

This summer Mike and Joan shared the joy of painting the exterior of their rejuvenated home—the eye candy—the reward for their patience. Mike’s advice to anyone faced with a heritage restoration project is to enjoy the experience, and don’t be discouraged by the size of the task. Take on one bit at a time to keep it manageable. Do it yourself where possible and you will save tons of money. Make a plan, take your time, do some research, look at examples of other heritage homes in the neighbourhood, ask questions, lots of questions—there is usually someone nearby who can share insight or learned experience. In fact Mike welcomes anyone needing encouragement to drop by 5771 Maple to see what can be accomplished with a little elbow grease, patience and determination.

Thanks to the Franklin/Shacklocks for what they have accomplished and for their ongoing dedication to reviving heritage. Another fine feather in our Heritage Townsite hat.



These windows were handmade by Mike to replace the tiny aluminum ones at the front of the house; they also needed new framing to the larger original size.

Tribute to a Townsite Friend

By Gerry Brach

I was delighted when one of my Wildwood neighbors recently told me that they would be willing to part with some old tools from the local Mill’s blacksmith shop. Although it has been close to 40 years since I last worked in the Mill, these blacksmith tools still have special significance for me.

I grew up in the Townsite on Laburnum Avenue and worked in the Mill for seven summers as a university student. Though I never worked in the blacksmith shop, I have a good friend who did. His name is Bob Grantham



At left, Gerry Brach and his friend, Robert Grantham with the commemorative display of blacksmithing tools.

See Tribute, p 4

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TOWNSITE TIDBIT

FALL & WINTER HOURS

**Henderson House Museum &
Townsite Heritage Society Office**

OPEN

Tuesday–Friday ∞ 11 am–3 pm

Effective Nov 5 to Feb 24, 2018

Returning home to stay after 80 years away!

Local treasures come home to Henderson House

Henderson House Living Museum will soon be welcoming home some old friends who have been away for over 80 years!

We received a jaw-dropping offer from Ken MacMillan, who happens to be the great grandson of Dr Andrew and Edith Henderson. During the time the Hendersons resided at 6211 Walnut, they slept in a sleigh bed, which Ken is currently enjoying, however, he has decided to donate the bed among other items to the Henderson House Museum. We are going to receive the piano that belonged to Dr and Mrs Henderson's daughter, Marjorie (Ken's grandmother), their grandfather clock, a mantle clock that belonged to their son Richard (aka Tobe) and a wooden fireplace screen (actually used to prevent fireplace heat from melting women's wax based makeup that was used in the old days).

These items hold great sentiment for Ken, and rightly so, but he feels that it's time for them to come home.

We wish to thank Ken for these very precious and meaningful artifacts for Henderson House Living Museum. WOW!!!



Tribute from p 3

and we became friends in 1960 while attending Kindergarten in the old St John's United Church basement on Ash Street. Following Kindergarten, our friendship continued through local Elementary and High Schools and later at university. Since graduating from UBC as a Mechanical Engineer in 1978, Bob has worked in the pulp and paper industry in many different countries around the world.

Bob Grantham spent the summers of 1975 and 1976 assisting the long serving blacksmith, Hector Davis. To this day, Bob still speaks fondly of the time he spent working for MacMillan Bloedel, Powell River Division's blacksmith shop and is grateful for the experience.

This display of original blacksmith tools is a tribute to Bob Grantham, Hector Davis and other former MacMillan Bloedel employees who worked with their hands to craft objects out of iron and steel. The blacksmith tools in the display were used to make forged items like chains, special bolts or anything else that needed to be extra strong for different areas of the Mill. Blacksmithing is a unique and cherished art that never should be forgotten.

Credit goes to Craig McCahon from Impact Signs for creating the display.

MacMillan Bloedel Blacksmith Tools

Hand tools from the Powell River Division's blacksmith shop (circa 1930s–1960s) used by long-term blacksmith, Hector Davis and summer student, Robert S Grantham, MBA PEng in 1975 and 1976. This display is also a tribute to those individuals who use their hands to create attractive and functional objects from iron and steel.

Text from the top of the tool display photo on page 3

TOWNSITE TIDBIT

GUIDED TOWNSITE TOURS

Although our scheduled summer tours have ended, we can still arrange group bookings. It is still only \$5 per person and it's a great way to entertain your guests.

Give us a call at 604.483.3901 or email thetownsite@shaw.ca to book a time. Want to take a self-guided tour instead? Just pick up a self-guided tour brochure at Henderson House, The Visitors Centre, the Powell River Historical Museum or at the Patricia and off you go!



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2017 GARDEN AWARDS



Best Garden Overall (ABOVE)

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Best Commercial

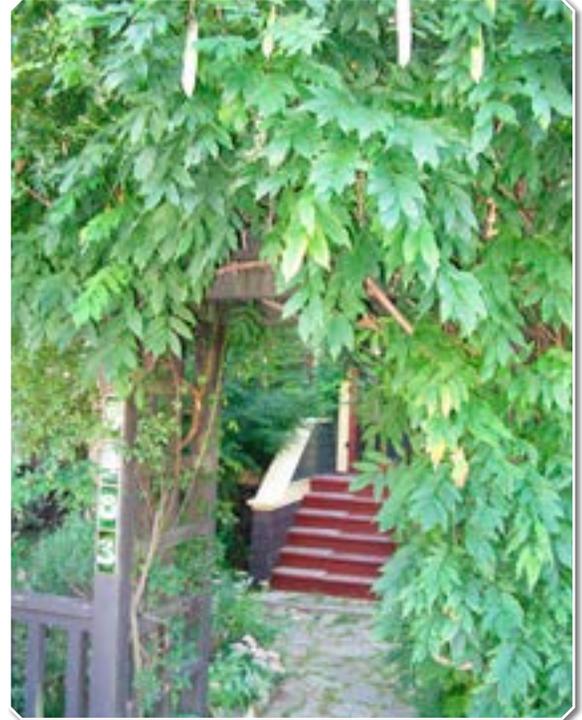
MARIKA VARRO • 5830 ASH ST

Best Kitchen Garden (BELOW LEFT)

DAVID SEPKOWSKI & LINDA SHABEN • 6354 CEDAR ST

Best Mixed Border (BELOW CENTER)

GEOFFREY & KLUANE KOCH • 6281 POPLAR ST



Best Structure (ABOVE)

KEN PALFREY & LYNN PRICE • 5483 MAPLE AVE.

Best Containers

KATHY PIECHOTTA • 6341 OAK ST

Most Improved Mixed Border (BELOW)

RON MAIER • 5484 MARINE AVE



We thank our partners who help make the **Home & Garden Awards** possible. Thank you to **RONA**, **Mother Nature** and **Springtime Garden Centre**.

2017 HOME AWARDS

Grand Heritage (TOP RIGHT)

JOHN & NIA WEGNER • 5761 MAPLE AVE

Grand General (MIDDLE)

KRISTA BANGHAM • 6276 POPLAR ST

Most Improved Home (BOTTOM)

JOAN SHACKLOCK & MIKE FRANKLIN • 5771 MAPLE AVE

Honourable Mentions in recognition of Home Improvements

PIETA & MARTYN WOOLLEY • 5835 ASPEN ST

HEATHER & JOE KANE • 5822 MARINE AVE

JUDY E. CORSER • 5518 MARINE AVE

GABRIELLA PRAGER & HEINZ PYSZCZYK • 5592 MAPLE AVE

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50 litres of whipping cream, First Credit Union for the use of their tent, our steadfast kitchen, booth and whipped cream volunteers,

and of course all the shortcake lovers who ate \$2700 worth of delicious blackberry shortcake. Thank you all!

Windows Workshop

Restoration workshop provided A Window of Opportunity

Our window restoration workshop was a full day packed with expert advice, interaction, and fun thanks to volunteer instructor Jim Stiven (Director, Vintage Woodworks) who came all the way up to Powell River from Saanichton to share his incredible wealth of knowledge. The group went on a short Townsite walk to identify various types of windows, their modifications if changed, and their history. He also brought with him a number of sample tear down window sashes and parts to demonstrate their structure and assembly, and walked the participants through a hands on step by step

repair of a needy old window sash. We wish to extend our gratitude to Jim for making this workshop possible, and we thank the participants for their interest, enthusiasm and support!



Left to right: Grant Thomas, Mike Franklin, Jim Stiven (instructor), Will Van Delft, Mike Nguyen, Ken Palfrey, John Wegner, and Lynn Paris, during a Window Restoration Workshop hosted by Townsite Heritage Society. Items in the foreground are sample window components and sashes.

Please contact us if you have suggestions for other workshops. We are open to your ideas, so please let us know what you have in mind, and we'll see if we can arrange it. Contact Linda (Coordinator) at 604.483.3901 or email thetownsite@shaw.ca. She's looking forward to organizing another workshop! (And a bonus: Members of the Townsite Heritage Society receive discounts on workshops.)

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Paint Up 2017

A look at this year's winner

Now that you have read our cover story about 5771 Maple Avenue making a 'comeback from vinyl' to her original Arts and Crafts exterior, it's time for another chapter.

Mike Franklin and Joan Shacklock of 5771 Maple were the most delighted winners in the 2017 paint up campaign! As you can see from the before and after photos this house has

come a long way and during the summer she made her second debut in the most lovely heritage colours. Congratulations to you both for your hard work and just reward. 5771 is a grand old girl!



The 'before' photo...

Mike and Joan received a package including 20 gallons of Sico exterior paint donated by PPG Paints. RONA Powell River provided all of the application products needed to do the job, along with offering professional advice



The 'after' photo of 2017's winner of the Paint-Up award, but you really should see it in person; it really isn't painted all grey and white!

and support. For homeowners interested in applying for this annual program, watch for our announcement in the Spring 2018 Digester newsletter.

We sincerely thank Powell River RONA for their generous and continuing long-term sponsorship of our Townsite beautification program, as well as the knowledgeable, friendly staff in the paint department. We also wish to thank PPG Paints for generously providing their quality paint for this program.

The Townsite homes continue to grow more beautiful every day...one patient brush stroke at a time.

Powell River Living
congratulates the soon-to-be-open
Townsite Market
and its tenants, including the
Powell River Climbing Co-op,
on the renovations to
the old Powell Stores.

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See the Membership form on page 11.

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SIZE	AREA	PRICE
Business Card: 2" x 3.5"	7.0 in	\$30
Double Business Card	14.0 in	\$45
¼-page: 3.5" x 4.875"	17.0 in	\$60
½-page: 7.5" x 4.875"	36.5 in	\$95
Full page: 7.5" x 10"	75.0 in	\$170
Full page—Back Cover	75.0 in	\$200

Ads larger than ¼-page, other than specified sizes, are \$2.60 per square inch. Reserve your ad space by contacting the THS Office by telephone (604 483-3901), in person, or by email (thetownsite@shaw.ca).

*Everything you would like to know about
Powell River's Historic Townsite is
available* online at*

www.PowellRiverTownsite.com

**Okay, we may need to look it up for you, but it is a good place to start!*

The Townsite Heritage Digester

The Digester is published by the Townsite Heritage Society of Powell River. It is distributed to every household and business in the Historic Townsite, current members of the Society who reside outside the Townsite, and to selected locations around Powell River. Submissions and suggestions should be sent to the attention of THS Coordinator.

Townsite Heritage Society

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We're here to help you!

Drop by the THS Office at 6211 Walnut Street, or get in touch with us at 604 483-3901 or thetownsite@shaw.ca. We have photo albums, reference books, maps, paint chips, suggestions, and a wealth of stories to share.

Winter Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 11 am – 3 pm



Membership & Volunteer Form

Please complete and mail or drop off this form to the Townsite Heritage Society office at 6211 Walnut St, Powell River, BC V8A 4K2

E-mail us at <thetownsite@shaw.ca>  townsiteheritagesocietyofpowellriver



Yes, I would like to be a member for 2018 \$5 MEMBERSHIP

Your donation of time as a volunteer, or a cash donation, both go far in helping us to engage in projects in support of our Townsite.

CASH DONATION \$10 \$20 \$30 \$40 \$50 Other \$ _____

Yes, I am willing to assist in volunteer efforts for the Townsite Heritage Society.

Please, sign me up to help with:

- Office Volunteer Digester Newsletter Delivery Blackberry Street Party
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 Or I can: _____

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