



NEW WESTMINSTER MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Observe the vibrant history of New Westminster, once British Columbia's Capital city, in our unique exhibits. Learn about the historic traditions such as May Day, chart The Royal City's devastation and rebuilding after the Great Fire of 1898 or imagine a journey through BC in 1876 in Lord and Lady Dufferin's coach. Admission by donation.

ARCHIVES

Trace your family tree or research the history of your home and city through an extensive collection of photographs, maps, newspaper clippings and more. For research assistance, please call 604.527.4640 or email museum@newwestcity.ca.

IRVING HOUSE

Enter the 1800s! *Irving House* is the oldest intact house in BC's Lower Mainland, built in 1865 by riverboat captain William Irving. Beautifully preserved original features such as 1880s wallpaper, small and large parlours, original kitchen wood stove and thousands of unique furnishings give you a real sense of what New Westminster life was like in the Victorian era. Admission by donation.

NEW EXHIBITS - COMING SOON!

Throughout 2010 the NWMA will be overhauling our exhibits with new stories, images and artifacts. Watch the City Page & Word of Mouse for information.

GUIDED GROUP TOURS

Groups of 10 - 25 will be delighted with a guided tour of *Irving House*, available Wednesday through Friday for only \$2.25 per person (minimum group charge of \$30.00). Book now at 604.527.4640 or email us at museum@newwestcity.ca.

www.nwpr.bc.ca

GIFT SHOP

The Museum features a unique and affordable gift shop featuring local history books (i.e. British Columbia: Spirit of the People, I am Sto:lo!, The Letters and Journals of Simon Fraser, Slumach's Gold and Salish Elders), old fashioned tin and wood toy replicas, teddy bears & dolls and modern educational toys. Round off your visit with a peek at our collection of English Bone China, Tea accessories and other Victoriana. Each holiday brings new surprises such as Christmas decorations, stockings, mini wood sleds tin and wood signs, all with an antique look. You are supporting your local museum by shopping in our gift shop!



TIME TRAVELER

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THEN

New Westminster boasts a city plan reflecting back to the times of the Royal Engineers. In 1859 Colonel Moody was charged with the task of designating, surveying and planning a site for British Columbia's capital. His final design included a series of broad streets entering the city from the north and continuing down to the Fraser. The widest of which was Fifth Street; then called St. George's. The street did not continue to the water, rather it ended at St. George's Square behind a large space designated to hold the colony's government buildings. When our 'capital status' was lost to Victoria, in 1868, St George's Square was all but forgotten until the mid 1880s. City Council then sold it to raise money for a branch line from New Westminster to the CPR terminus in Port Moody. The streets of Lancaster, St. George and Liverpool all cross through the space which was once St. George's Square. City Hall now resides in the space designated for the colonial government buildings.

During the second decade of the 20th century, New Westminster's City Engineer John Blackman, redesigned Fifth Street. He placed a broad boulevard up the middle and imported trees from England to plant along its length. Today this design remains and many of the trees planted along Fifth Street have grown tall creating one of New Westminster's most tranquil and beautiful streets.



Figure 1: Fifth Street looking North at Blackford ca. 1915, notice the direction the cars are facing NWMA IHP1803-05

NOW



Figure 2: fifth Street looking north at Blackford 2009

