

Resources

For further information or advice, contact:

Roy Thomassen, Director of Building & Planning at (250) 598-2042, or by email at rthomassen@oakbay.ca.

You can also contact the Oak Bay Heritage Commission by email at

oakbayheritage@oakbay.ca

Other Useful Links

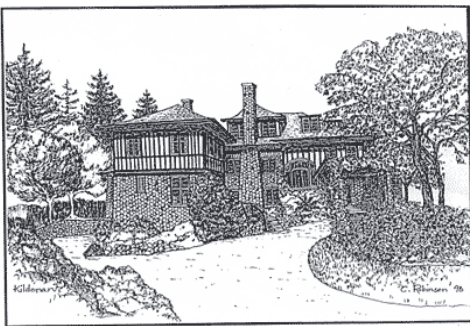
Heritage Canada Foundation
www.heritagecanada.org

Heritage Society of BC
www.heritagebc.ca

Heritage Victoria
www.heritage.vic.gov.au

The Land Conservancy of BC
www.conservancy.bc.ca

Heritage Legacy Fund
www.heritagelegacyfund.ca



Kildonan House located at 931 Foul Bay Road. Designated heritage since 1987.



Corporation of the District of Oak Bay

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Alteration & Demolition Permits for Older Homes



Heritage Oak Bay



Working to preserve architectural, cultural
and natural heritage in the district of Oak Bay

Background Information

The Oak Bay Heritage Commission is an appointed volunteer commission, mandated to advise the Oak Bay Municipal Council and Oak Bay homeowners about heritage issues.

As a group of volunteers, who are also Oak Bay residents, we are all conscious of the changes that are happening to the character and streetscapes of our community.

If you are considering applying for an alteration, demolition or building permit on an older home, the following questions and answers may be of value.

What are “Heritage Revitalization Agreements”?

These are heritage tools which are being used more frequently by municipalities. They are essentially legal contracts between the homeowner and the municipality empowering the municipality to change use and siting in order to legally protect a home. This tool benefits both the municipality that saves a building; and the homeowner who is granted a beneficial bonus. There are currently two HRA’s in Oak Bay—one allowing a higher density of occupancy and the other relaxing certain conditions that came about from a subdivision. In both cases, the homes were saved.

After careful consideration, I have decided to demolish my home. Why should I consider moving the building?

The Commission would like to see buildings with heritage value saved or renovated. The Commission recognizes that in some cases such

buildings will be demolished because they no longer meet the needs of the property owner. In those instances, to move a building is a better option than to demolish it. The house can still survive in another location and the demolished materials will be kept out of the landfill. For structures with heritage value and a demolition permit, the committee will ask the owner if it can photographically document the building for the Oak Bay Archives.

Alteration Permits

Where should I start looking for information regarding the original appearance of my home?

An informational brochure entitled “Researching Your Oak Bay Home” is available at the Municipal Hall.

The brochure details resources that will aid in the search for the history and/or photographs of your house.

Who should I contact for advice regarding alterations to my older home?

The Commission meetings are held once a month and are open to the public. The public is welcome and, with advance notice, can ask for advice from the Commission. The Commission can provide you with information regarding age appropriate materials and resources for restoration.

Demolition Permits

Who should I contact for advice regarding alternatives to demolition?

The Commission can provide information about heritage tools, such as Heritage Revitalization Agreements, and adaptive re-use of buildings that might provide alternative solutions to demolition.

I have an Oak Bay home that I feel may be worthy of heritage designation. What advantage is this for the homeowner?

There are currently 19 homes in Oak Bay which are officially recognized through a municipal bylaw as being “designated”. Owners of these “designated” homes can apply for grants from the Oak Bay Heritage Foundation to assist with renovation projects such as painting and re-roofing. These homes are also subject to certain restrictions when applying for a building permit. The Commission is involved in advising the Oak Bay Municipal Council regarding the appropriateness of those alterations, through a Heritage Alteration Permit.

