

From: [John O'Reilly](#)
To: [John O'Reilly](#)
Subject: FW: Request to designate a residence in Victoria
Date: November 3, 2020 1:43:14 PM

From: sheena bellingham
Sent: October 18, 2020 8:43 PM
To: Community Planning email inquiries <CommunityPlanning@victoria.ca>
Subject: Request to designate a residence in Victoria

Hello,

My partner and I purchased our house at 2536 Richmond Road in the fall of 2012.

Our real estate agent had suggested that the house, built in 1906 was a "tear-down", a ridiculous amount of work and not worth saving. For us this was an opportunity to own our home (our first). Fortunately, we were able to convince all of those concerned that she could and should be saved from the landfill. Our offer was accepted over those from developers who were only interested in the corner lot on which she stood. I might add that the surrounding neighbours, and surprisingly those from many other neighbourhoods, were quite relieved and thrilled with the news that this icon of North Jubilee would be saved.

I am a wooden boat builder by trade and together we have rebuilt and restored this house over the past years with our labour, hearts and souls.

We believe strongly that old places matter giving members of the community a sense of permanence, stability and calm; a sense of where we've been, a connection to the past which grounds us in the present and helps with decisions regarding the future.

We have met and talked with Mike and Shirley Walker regarding the history of our house. Mike Walker is the grandson of John Hector Garfield Vye. He was the original owner and builder of the house and the second son of Alexander and Margaret Vye, one of the first European families to farm in the Jubilee area. Garfield Vye died of a severe asthma attack in 1920 at the age of 37 while working the fall harvest in the Calgary area, leaving his wife to raise six young children in the two-bedroom home.

As a child Mike would often visit his grandmother in this house and was thrilled so many years later to have a chance to walk through the house once again. The stories and memories that he has shared with us are alive today because this house still stands. The stories of our lives.

Your consideration regarding the designation of this house, our home, as an historic building is much appreciated. Please see attached documents.

Sincerely,

Don Hutton & Sheena Bellingham