

1) 28 Bastion Square

2) St. Charles Street Speed Limit

Presentation to City of Victoria council by Dr. Kelly Black
25 July 2024

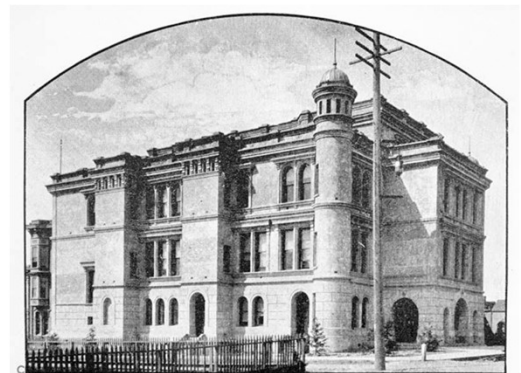
1

28 Bastion Square

AKA The Courthouse, AKA Victoria Law Courts

- 1888/89: Constructed: "The Provincial Courthouse is a significant and formidable landmark in Bastion Square."
- 1960s: Centrepiece of "urban renewal" (see also Centennial Sq)
- 1965 to 2014: Home to the Maritime Museum of BC
- 1977: City transferred ownership to province with understanding it would continue as a museum.
- **2014 to 2024: 10 years CLOSED**

This building is owned by the Province of British Columbia



City of Victoria Archives, M06579. "Law Courts, 28 Bastion Square"

2

What actions has the City taken on 28 Bastion Square?

Have you:

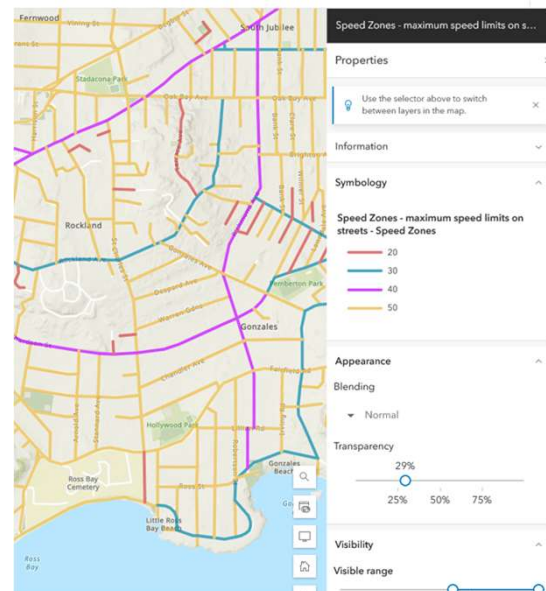
- Written a letter to the province? Spoken to the Minister of Citizens Services (responsible for the building)? Spoken to Victoria's MLAs?
- Requested the building be returned to the city?
- Followed up on 2019's arts hub proposal?
- Considered a heritage designation for the building? (it is only on the heritage register! Not protected)

Why is a major heritage building at the centre of a once bustling downtown square allowed to be shuttered by government for a decade?

3

St Charles Speed Limit

- What is the current speed limit on St. Charles Street?
 - ◆ There is not 1 speed limit sign posted on the street
 - ◆ **Why is there no posted speed limit?**
- According to the City's website and VicMap, St. Charles is a "major road" and the speed limit is 50km/h.
- It appears there are no plans to change this as most neighbourhoods are converted to 30km/h and 40km/h streets by 2025.



4

Is St. Charles the Same as Blanshard Street?

- According to the City's 30km/h streets map St. Charles is to remain a "major road" at 50km/h
 - ◆ **How can a street with no businesses, multiple speed humps, multiple 4 ways stops, and parking on both sides be 50km/h?**
- City website: "Local streets are usually in residential areas, do not have a centre line, and are used by fewer than 1,000 vehicles per day. This change will not affect speed limits on major roads like Blanshard Street, Hillside Avenue, Bay Street, Shelbourne Street and Cook Street."
- City website: "[According to statistics](#), pedestrians hit by a vehicle going 50 km/h have an 80 per cent chance of being killed. This drops to only 10 per cent if hit by a vehicle going 30 km/h."