

ATTACHMENT E



Hallmark Heritage Society
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October 23, 2017

Merinda Conley, MRAIC, MAAA(IA), CET
Senior Planner - Heritage
Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC V8W 1P6

Re: Proposed Demolition of 1525 Shasta Place:

Dear Merinda:

The Board of the Hallmark Heritage Society is generally against the demolition of the historic homes of Victoria. We feel that each one of these contributes to our understanding of what the city was and is today.

The Society has followed with interest the question of the demolition of 1525 Shasta Place. The question of demolition has been placed before the Board and, although the existing building has a very interesting story, the Board will not contest the pending demolition. In viewing the existing documentation, it would appear there is little left of the original construction. What has been added represents many styles and many periods without a holistic central theme.

It is vital however, that the story of the building be preserved. To go from a common stable and to evolve into a building with an estimated assessed value of over \$400,000, not including the land values, is a tribute to all of the building's owners and to the principle of adaptive reuse. This is the story that must be preserved.

The Hallmark Heritage Society would like to volunteer its services to conduct a current photographic survey of the exterior of the building and, if possible, any interesting features to be found in the interior. This information, coupled with the architectural drawings prepared by Architect Peter Cotton during the major renovations of the late 1960's, would be added to the Society's "Demolished Building Database".


The architectural drawings are within the BC Archives and we would need to seek a small amount of funding to provide for a researcher to collect and transfer the information to a digital

format. Photographic documentation would be carried out by Hallmark Heritage Society volunteers.

I wish to reiterate that we do not condone the demolition of historic buildings. But, when demolition is inevitable, we strongly urge proper documentation of what was there so as to preserve for future generations as much information as possible about the structure.

In the past, the City of Victoria has lost many of its heritage buildings. In all too many cases, these have been demolished without documentation (at times even when such documentation has been recommended by the Heritage Advisory Panel). We hope that this case will provide a firmer basis for recording our history as we go forward.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ken Johnson", is written over a horizontal line.

Ken Johnson, Diploma, Cultural Resource Management
Pres., Hallmark Heritage Society.