



SUBMISSION REPORT - PLACE

TITLE: SAINT PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, ESQUIMALT, BRITISH COLUMBIA

AUTHOR: Ian Doull, Historical Services Branch, Parks Canada

1. IDENTIFICATION OF PLACE:

a) Proposed Name of Place:
Saint Paul's Anglican Church

b) Also known as:
Saint Paul's Naval and Garrison Church

c) Significant date(s):
Constructed 1866; enlarged 1879, 1928;
moved and enlarged 1904. Period of
direct naval/military associations: 1866-
1940.

d) Address/Location:
1379 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, British Columbia
V9A 3R4

e) Category of Property:
Church

f) Components of Property:
Church building, parish hall and associated landscaping

g) Boundaries & Area of Site Proposed for Designation:
The boundaries of the proposed area for designation correspond to the lot lines of the church property.

Area (m²): 1,045

h) Designer/Builder:
Thomas Trounce, architect (1866); John Teague, architect (alterations, 1879); Thomas Woodgate, engineer (move and alterations, 1904).

i) Previous Documentation on File:
None

j) Theme(s)/Priorities:
Building Social and Community Life: Religious Institutions
Governing Canada: Military and Defence

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2. PARTIES INVOLVED

a) Owner(s):

Anglican Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia
900 Vancouver Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 3V7

b) Place Submitted By/Purpose:

The Rev. Canon Andrew Gates, Rector of Saint Paul's, in anticipation of the 150th anniversary of the congregation (founded in 1856).

3. DESCRIPTION

a) Setting and Site Resources:

Saint Paul's Anglican Church stands behind a narrow, treed setback on the west side of Esquimalt Road between Foster and Grafton streets in sub-urban Esquimalt (Figures 1-3). The church is immediately surrounded on its site by simple landscaping, consisting of lawn, hedges, trees, flower beds, and a memorial walkway and rose garden (Figure 4). The parish hall, a raised, one-storey, gable-roofed building with clapboard siding, stands on the property a few paces northwest of the church (Figure 5). A parking lot, beginning at the rear (north) wall of the church, extends north and northwest on the property. The site is situated near the north end of Esquimalt Road, the city's main thoroughfare, a short distance before it terminates at the gates of HMC Dockyard, Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt.

Constructed in 1866, the church has evolved through a series of expansions to serve the needs of its civilian congregation and the naval and garrison personnel stationed nearby. In both its original and evolved configurations the church clearly expresses the principles of Anglican church design as advocated by the Ecclesiological reform movement of the mid 19th century.¹ Built on the shoreline at the southern edge of Esquimalt Village, on a site now within the boundaries of HMC Dockyard, the church was moved in 1904 to protect it from damage from coastal defence batteries.

Saint Paul's is a one-and-one-half storey, gable-roofed, generally rectangular building, designed in the Gothic-Revival tradition of British-Columbia frame churches of the period. The building is sited with the long side facing the street. It consists of a five-bay nave, transepts, chancel, and a side-entry porch. The chancel terminates in a shallow, three-sided apse. Gothic-Revival detailing on the exterior is found mainly on the tower and in the finely proportioned, pointed-arch windows with hood mouldings: single windows in the chancel, paired on the nave elevations, and tripled on the apse and transepts (Figure 6). The rear wall features a grouping of four windows. The entry porch displays a double-leaf door set between twin engaged columns (Figure 7), a trefoil pattern repeated on the window and bargeboards, and arched windows on each of the side walls.

¹ For a discussion of these principles as applied to British Columbia Anglican churches of the period see Janet Wright, "Christ Church, Hope British Columbia," Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC), Agenda Paper 1994-32.

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The simple but dignified interior features plaster walls above a dark-stained wooden wainscot in the nave, and a higher, lighter-coloured wainscot in the chancel and apse (Figure 8). The chancel arch is elaborated by double wooden ribs. The dark, wood-panelled ceiling follows the angle of the gable roof, and is supported by wooden, Gothic-arched ribs set on corbels which spring from the walls at mid-level.

The interior of Saint Paul's is described as containing "... some of the finest glass windows and oak carvings in the province" (Figure 9).² The choir stalls occupy both transepts, and are separated from the nave by elaborately carved railings. Both the choir stalls and railings feature Gothic-Revival motifs. The organ is situated behind the choir stall in the east (left) transept. The intricately carved pine casing supports an attractive display of front pipes. The instrument was manufactured in England in 1891 by Peter Conacher and Company, and was first installed in St. John's Church, Victoria. It was relocated to Saint Paul's in 1913.³ The pulpit, situated at the head of the nave below the organ, was donated to the church in 1930 and complements the church's other carved wooden fixtures.

The stained glass windows, a component of the church's commemorative program, are dedicated to various individuals of importance to the history of the church or to the naval and military history of Esquimalt (Figure 10). The earliest stained glass windows, situated in the apse, were fabricated in England and were installed in the church (originally in the chancel) as part of alterations performed in 1879. These two single windows, each flanking the altar, display images of David and Goliath (left, dedicated to Commander Douglas Lascelles, Royal Navy, died 1869) and Joshua and Solomon (right, dedicated to B.C. Governor Frederick Seymour, died 1869). The triple window behind the altar depicts the lives of Jesus and Mary, and commemorates the life of Alice Wright (died 1879), daughter of rector H.P. Wright.⁴ Five other stained glass windows grace the church, dating from the late 19th century to 1960.⁵

b) Determination of Historic Place Boundaries:

The legal description of the church property is Lot A, Suburban Lot 27, Plan 5092 (Figure 11). The proposed boundaries encompass the church, its associated landscape and ancillary building. The property is bounded on the west (rear) side by a modern, three-storey brick apartment block. The immediate streetscape is characterised by single-family homes and low-rise, multi-unit apartments, set on landscaped lots and with semi-uniform, modest setbacks.

4. JUSTIFICATION

a) Applicable HSMBC Criteria/Guidelines:

The church may be considered primarily under Criterion 1 b): to

Illustrate or symbolise in whole or in part a cultural tradition, a way of life, or ideas important in the development of Canada.

² Barry Downs, *Sacred Places: British Columbia's Early Churches* (Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1980), p. 63.

³ Letter, Peter Conacher & Co., Ltd., to Grant Smalley, Victoria, B.C., 12 September 1984, supplied courtesy of Canon Andrew Gates, Saint Paul's.

⁴ Sharon Blady, "The Stained Glass Windows of Saint Paul's Anglican Church," 1992, report courtesy of Canon Andrew Gates, Saint Paul's.

⁵ Ada Barnes, "St. Paul's: 1 Century and 10 Years," privately published, n.d. p. 28 (courtesy Saint Paul's Anglican Church).

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It may also have value under Criterion 1 a): to

Illustrate an exceptional creative achievement in concept and design, technology, and/or planning, or a significant stage in the development of Canada.

b) Historic Values of the Place:

Associative Values

Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, is directly associated with the development of the naval station at Esquimalt under the Royal and Royal Canadian navies, and with the Victoria-Esquimalt coastal-defence garrison under Canadian administration. The church functioned as the *de facto* parish church of the British naval establishment. Saint Paul's also became the official church of the defence-garrison headquarters, located at Work Point Barracks in Esquimalt. Subsidized by the British Admiralty through annual payments and special grants from 1866 to 1905, and subsequently by Canadian defence departments until 1940, and still a venue for important military memorial services, Saint Paul's embodies social, ceremonial and commemorative aspects of the long naval and garrison presence on Canada's west coast. The surviving components of the naval station, whose civilian staff and naval personnel were served by Saint Paul's, have been commemorated collectively as an historic district on HSMBC recommendations. The Victoria-Esquimalt defences have also been designated, and are commemorated at Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site of Canada.⁶ Persons and events of significance to Canadian west-coast naval and garrison history, many having direct association with Saint Paul's, are memorialized within the church, and a number of naval and military colours have been deposited in the church for safekeeping.

In 1860 the first Anglican bishop, George Hills, arrived in Victoria to administer the existing Anglican churches in both the island and mainland colonies and to expand the role of the Anglican church in the colonies.⁷ His task was facilitated by the work of the Columbia Mission Society, created in London in 1858, which launched the Diocese of British Columbia with a donation of £15,000 and which became Hills' principal sponsor.⁸ Society funds were also provided for the acquisition of land, the building of new churches and colleges, and the hiring of clergy.⁹ Bishop Hills provided £100 from the Church Mission Fund to the financial drive for the building of Saint Paul's.¹⁰ By 1866, fourteen Anglican churches had been constructed in British Columbia. Two of the six survivors are located on Vancouver Island: Saint Stephen's, in West Saanich, constructed in 1862, and Saint Paul's, Esquimalt. One of the surviving mainland churches, Christ Church, in Hope, built in 1861, was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1994.¹¹

⁶ The sites are HMC Dockyard, the former Royal Navy Hospital complex at Naden, Veterans' Cemetery, and Cole Island. See HSMBC, Minutes, November 1995, p. 36. For the Victoria-Esquimalt defences, see HSMBC, Minutes, November 1958, p. 51

⁷ *Sacred Places*, pp. 51-54.

⁸ *Sacred Places*, p. 52.

⁹ "Christ Church, Hope, British Columbia," p. 3.

¹⁰ Ada Barnes, "St. Paul's Church, 125 Years," unpublished report, n.p., n.d. (ca. 1991), p. 3. Courtesy Canon Andrew Gates, Saint Paul's.

¹¹ The Board recommended designation on the grounds that Christ Church was a fine example of an Anglican parish church architecture in the Ecclesiological Gothic Revival style; that it was one of the best preserved churches in Western Canada and the oldest church in British Columbia on its original foundation; and that it was representative of the response of the British church and state to the social and political conditions created by the Fraser River and Cariboo gold rushes in colonial British Columbia. HSMBC, Minutes, November 1994, pp. 10-11.

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The main impetus for the construction of Saint Paul's Anglican Church was provided by the formal creation of the Royal Navy's shore establishment at Esquimalt in 1865. Simultaneous with its creation, the establishment became the headquarters of the Royal Navy's Pacific Station, formerly based at Valparaiso, Chile. The Pacific Station became the largest in area of the several British overseas naval stations, stretching at one point from Cape Horn to Alaska and westward to the Samoan Islands.¹² While the permanent station workforce grew slowly, the naval yard immediately became the home base for the ships' crews of the Pacific squadron. By long-standing tradition, Royal Navy warships typically carried chaplains permanently on board.¹³ However, the arrival in Esquimalt of naval vessels without dedicated chaplains taxed the capacity of the small Anglican congregation then meeting in a small, rented schoolhouse situated adjacent to the naval yard. In 1865, under the direction of Sidney J. Spark, church warden and naval-yard paymaster, a campaign was initiated to secure support and funding for the construction of a permanent church which would serve the needs of naval personnel, civilian naval-yard employees and the population of Esquimalt Village. The initiative was supported by both Bishop Hills and the Pacific Station commander, Rear-Admiral Joseph Denman, who personally donated £30 to the building fund and whose wife would lay the ceremonial cornerstone.¹⁴ The Admiralty donated a further £100 in exchange for guaranteed seating and also for the spiritual services of the rector on board naval vessels without permanent chaplains. A free seat in Saint Paul's was provided to the Admiral of the Pacific Station, five additional rental seats were reserved for senior naval officers, and accommodation was to be provided for those ships' companies which lacked on-board chaplains.¹⁵ Priority seating was also to be given to civilian employees of the naval yard and its associated sites. The seat originally allocated to the Pacific Station Admiral, situated at the front of the church below the pulpit, is marked by a plaque and remains reserved today for the senior officer of the Canadian forces, Maritime Command Pacific.

Saint Paul's was consecrated on 12 December 1866 as the parish church of Esquimalt. The parish boundaries encompassed Esquimalt Village, in which the church was situated, the naval establishment, and the several villages surrounding Esquimalt Harbour.¹⁶ Church records reveal the direct involvement of naval and Dockyard personnel in the ongoing management and administration of Saint Paul's. Members of the Dockyard civilian staff served as church wardens or in other capacities in the administration of the congregation, and the names of senior British naval officers appear regularly in baptismal and marriage registries. In the initial years the church experienced difficulties in providing sufficient seating to the navy. The minute books record terse exchanges between the wardens and Dockyard managers, particularly concerning the lack of priority accommodation for Dockyard personnel, which had been guaranteed under the terms of the original Admiralty grant.¹⁷ Beginning in December 1873 the Admiralty paid the rector an annual sum of £ 50 for his duties on behalf of the navy, which included conducting services on board naval

¹² "The Records of the Royal Navy's Pacific Station," *Journal of Pacific History*, Vol. 4 (1969), pp. 146-47.

¹³ Jonathan G. Coad, *The Royal Dockyards 1690-1850. Architecture and Engineering Works of the Sailing Navy* (Brookfield, Vermont: Press/Gower Publishing Company, 1989), p. 69.

¹⁴ "St. Paul's: 1 Century and 10 years," p. 4.

¹⁵ Anglican Diocese of British Columbia (ADBC), Archives, Box 9: Minute Book 1B, St. Paul's Esquimalt, 1877-1914, ref. letter of 2 November 1866; Minute Book 1A, Letter, S.J. Sparks to Rear-Admiral Hastings, 22 July 1867.

¹⁶ "St. Paul's. 1 century and 10 Years," p. 30.

¹⁷ ADBC, Box 9, Minute Book 1A, letter, James Innis, Naval Storekeeper, to church wardens, 16 June 1873.

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vessels in port.¹⁸ In 1898 this amount was increased to £ 75, in exchange for the rector's attendance at the Royal Navy Prison and the Hospital.¹⁹

In 1876 the Admiralty contributed £50 toward repairs to the church following damage incurred in a heavy gale. Work was delayed until 1879, and was combined with the first expansion of the structure. As part of the renovations a new organ was acquired in England for the church, and was transported free of charge to Esquimalt by the Royal Navy.²⁰

In 1893 negotiations were concluded for an Anglo-Canadian coastal defence agreement, providing for the defence of the naval station and the adjacent communities of Victoria and Esquimalt.²¹ One of the principal installations planned under the agreement was a twin, 9.2-inch battery to be situated on Signal Hill in close proximity to the church. In 1903, on behalf of the Imperial War Department, the Dominion government expropriated the church rectory for the negotiated sum of \$5,233, due to concerns that the building would be damaged by the concussion from gunnery practice. The congregation applied the funds to the purchase of a new property approximately one-half kilometre from the original site. The following year the land on which the church stood was also expropriated. The church building was moved to the newly acquired property (its current location) under the supervision of the Dockyard Works Department and facilitated by government-funded expropriation payments, and was once again extended with the assistance of an Admiralty grant. The church was rededicated on its new site on 30 October 1904.²²

The closure of the Royal Navy's Pacific Station in March 1905 deprived Saint Paul's of special grants and most of the annual funding from the Admiralty, both of which had provided a significant source of revenue to the church. Saint Paul's continued to serve the small Dockyard caretaker staff, and in 1910 welcomed the personnel and staff of the newly created Royal Canadian Navy. In 1911 Saint Paul's became the garrison church for the Militia District no. 11 headquarters based at Work Point Barracks, also the headquarters of the Victoria-Esquimalt coastal defences. A permanent seat, situated opposite of that of the Admiral, was reserved for the Militia District Commander. During the First World War Saint Paul's held regular services for naval and military personnel in barracks and on board ship, in addition to the usual congregational services. Weekly prayer services were held at the church, conducted by the military chaplain or senior naval officer.²³

The Department of National Defence provided financial support to Saint Paul's in accordance with its continuing role as naval and garrison church until a change in government policy during the Second World War. In 1940 the department announced that chaplains would be appointed both to the naval station and the military barracks, and that the Dominion government grant would therefore be terminated.²⁴

¹⁸ Diamond Jubilee Historical Sketch, 1866-1926. St Paul's Royal Naval Station and Garrison Church, Esquimalt, Vancouver Island (n.p.: privately published, n.d.), p. 6.

¹⁹ "Historical Sketch," p. 7.

²⁰ "Historical Sketch," p. 7.

²¹ Ronald Lovatt, "A History of the Defence of Victoria and Esquimalt: Royal Marine Artillery Period, 1893-1899," Parks Canada, Microfiche Report Series no. 88, 1982, p. 20-21.

²² ADBC, St. Paul's, Esquimalt, Box 9, Book 2, Church Committee meetings, 21 August 1903, 8 July 1904; City of Esquimalt Archives, Diary of Frank I. Gelsthorpe, 28 February 1904 to 11 August, 1909, copy on file, n.d., n.p.

²³ Historical Sketch," p. 11.

²⁴ Victoria *Colonist*, 26 January 1940, clipping courtesy City of Esquimalt Archives.

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The direct associations of Saint Paul's with naval and military history are embodied in the extensive commemorative program displayed within the church. Numerous plaques and markers have been placed over time by the British Admiralty, the Royal Canadian Navy, various ships' companies, and by family members honouring lost relatives (Figures 8, 12). As with the grave-marker inscriptions in the nearby Veterans' Cemetery,²⁵ these plaques contribute to an understanding of the social history of the naval and military presence at Esquimalt, and of the hazards faced by those on active duty in the services. Some of the earliest markers record the deaths of seamen on Royal Navy duty in the Pacific in the 1880s and 1890s (Figure 13). Others commemorate entire ships' companies lost in action during the world wars or on peacetime duty, both in Canadian and international waters. The most poignant example of the latter is the *Condor* memorial, consisting of a ship's life ring and a commemorative plaque placed by the Royal Navy's Pacific Squadron. The ring, recovered from the Pacific Ocean, is one of the few remnants of *HMS Condor*, lost at sea with all hands in December 1901 (Figure 14). Admiral Walter Hose, first Chief of the Canadian naval staff, who is considered the father of the Royal Canadian Navy and founder of the Canadian naval reserves, has been commemorated by a plaque placed by the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve.

The practice of placing retired military colours in churches for safekeeping is common and widespread. It is estimated that well over one hundred such flags are displayed in several dozen churches across the country, while many more are preserved in museums.²⁶ Six naval and military flags are on view in Saint Paul's, having been deposited in the 1960s and 1970s (Figure 15). They represent the Royal Canadian Navy, the Work Point Barracks garrison, and veterans' associations from the First World War onward. The flag of the Royal Canadian Navy Western Command is considered to be of particular historical value, having been presented to the navy by King George VI in 1939. "... (T)he site... for the laying up (of the King George VI colours) seems most fitting, for St. Paul's has been closely associated with all the ships and sailors who have come and gone at Esquimalt for over a hundred years."²⁷

Architectural Values

In its current form Saint Paul's is an evolved structure, the product of four building campaigns (Figure 16). The original church, as completed in 1866, was a simple rectangular building consisting of a four-bay nave with entry porches appended to both side (long) elevations, and with a chancel visually distinct from the main structure (Figures 17, 18). In 1879 the transepts were added (Figures 19, 20), thus lengthening the church by one bay and providing additional interior space for the choir and an organ. In 1904 the church was moved approximately one-half kilometre south to its current location on Esquimalt Road. The nave was again extended at this time. The most recent expansion occurred in 1928, with the addition of the apse and a vestry which was appended to the side of the west transept on the rear elevation. Despite these modifications the church remains well-proportioned and well-detailed, and there is unity of detail in the window profiles and surrounds, rooflines, cladding, and other decorative elements. The same unity of design and material is evident in the interior.

²⁵ One of four components of the Naval Stations National Historic Site of Canada. See HSMBC, Minutes, November 1995, p. 36.

²⁶ Francis J. Dunbar and Joseph J. Harper, *Old Colours Never Die: A Record of Colours and Military Flags in Canada* (Toronto: J.F. Dunbar and Associates, 1992).

²⁷ *Old Colours Never Die*, p. 8.

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In both its original and current configurations, Saint Paul's clearly displays the principles of "high-church" design, as promoted by the conservative Ecclesiological reform movement of the mid 19th century and as executed in the Gothic-Revival style.²⁸ This movement was promoted by two organizations known as the Oxford Movement and the Cambridge Camden Society (later the Ecclesiological Society), both of which argued against the increasing secularization of the Church of England by emphasising continuity with the medieval church. This philosophy placed a renewed emphasis on the sacraments, and the restoration of the symbolism, ceremony and sacred imagery associated with the pre-Reformation Catholic Church. These reforms required the development of appropriate architectural forms to emphasise the centrality of the altar and sacraments. The intent was to move away from an increasingly explicitly Protestant meeting-house plan which employed galleries and a focus on the pulpit. According to the Ecclesiological reformers the chancel with its altar and choir stalls should be clearly distinguishable from the nave: on the exterior forming a distinct volume with its own roof, and on the interior being separated from the nave by a chancel arch and rood screen or at least by a chancel rail. The chancel floor was also to be raised above that of the nave by three steps, to symbolise the Trinity. Thus the emphasis would be focused on the altar and sacraments, rather than on the priest and pulpit. The use of a projecting entrance porch, commonly located on the side of the church, was also recommended.

Despite the evolution of the building, Saint Paul's continues to reflect these principles, on which the church was originally designed in 1866. The chancel area is clearly legible as a separate exterior volume, and its original form and roofline remain despite the later addition of the apse (Figure 4). Inside, it features the requisite three steps and prominent arch (Figure 7, top left, and Figure 21). Originally built with a rood screen, the chancel is now delineated by a railing situated between the nave and the choir stalls. The original entry porch remains on the eastern side of the church (Figures 7, 17). The same principles are reflected in Christ Church at Hope, B.C. (NHS, Figures 22, 23) and in St. Stephen's, West Saanich, and were also exhibited by the other B.C. churches of this period as developed under Bishop Hills. They are also found to varying degrees in several imposing stone churches and cathedrals built in eastern and central Canada in the 1840s and 1850s, and in numerous Anglican parish churches throughout Canada built in wood, brick or stone.

The architects responsible for the church's initial design and principal alterations were some of Victoria's most prominent designers of their respective periods. All were directly linked with the administration and development of the naval shore establishment. The architect of the 1866 church, Thomas Trounce, was regarded as a favourite of both Admiral Hastings and naval-yard paymaster Spark. Beginning in 1866, Trounce was retained to prepare the estimates for all naval construction work, and subsequently designed most of the naval-station projects. Saint Paul's is considered to be his best-known building, although he also designed numerous substantial houses and industrial buildings.²⁹ The 1879 modifications, consisting of the repair of storm damage and the addition of the transepts, were designed by John Teague,³⁰ one of Trounce's

²⁸ The following is summarized from "Christ Church, Hope, British Columbia," pp. 5-10, citing James Stevens Curl, *Victorian Architecture* (London: David and Charles, 1990), pp. 15-17; and Roger Dixon and Stephan Muthesius, *Victorian Architecture* (New York & Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1978), pp. 192-95. See also Nathalie Clerk, "Église St. John the Evangelist, Montréal, Quebec," Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Submission 2002-01.

²⁹ Stuart Stark, "Thomas Trounce, 1813-1900," in Donald Luxton, comp. & ed., *Building the West: The Early Architects of British Columbia* (Vancouver: Talonbooks, 2003), pp. 44-45.

³⁰ ADBC, St. Paul's Church, Box 9, Book 1B: St. Paul's Esquimalt, Minute Book, 1877-1914, meeting, 24 June 1879.

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successors as principal contractor and architect for the naval station. Teague also designed the naval storekeeper's house, now the Admiral's House, situated in HMC Dockyard, and the former Royal Naval Hospital complex nearby at CFB Esquimalt-Naden. These buildings are situated within the designated historic district. Many other Teague-designed buildings still stand in Victoria, including the Victoria City Hall (NHS 1977).³¹ The moving of the church and its extension in 1904 were supervised by Thomas Woodgate,³² who at that time was Clerk of Works at the naval yard. Trained in the Royal Engineers, Woodgate designed a number of prominent buildings which still stand in the Dockyard, also within the designated district.

In summary, Saint Paul's is closely associated with west-coast British and Canadian naval history, having functioned as the parish church of the British Admiralty's Pacific Station headquarters at Esquimalt. It served a similar role for the Royal Canadian Navy. The church also served the garrison headquarters of the Victoria-Esquimalt coastal defence system. In both its original and evolved forms, Saint Paul's expresses the architectural principles of the Ecclesiological reform movement of the 19th century, through its clearly delineated volumes and spaces, and its Gothic-Revival style.

c) Integrity:

As noted above, the church has been expanded and moved since its construction in 1866.

The lengthening of the nave, and the addition of transepts, apse and vestry, were executed to increase the church's capacity. While these interventions altered the original footprint and proportions of the building, Saint Paul's remains a well-proportioned structure. The architectural detailing of the original building has been replicated in the additions, and there is a unity of design and material on both the interior and exterior. The original design philosophy of the Ecclesiological reform movement is still reflected in the evolved building.

At least two churches which have been designated of national historic significance were extensively modified prior to designation. St. Paul's Church in Halifax, Nova Scotia (NHS 1981), constructed in 1750, was altered successively between 1812 and 1873, through the lengthening of the nave, widening of the building through the addition of side aisles, removal of a rear porch to accommodate a chancel, and replacement of an original Venetian window with a round-arched window.³³ St. John's Anglican Church in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia (NHS 1994), underwent a similar structural evolution. Constructed in 1753 in a variant of the New-England Meeting-House tradition, the church was expanded and extensively Gothicised in the 19th century.³⁴

Saint Paul's was moved from its original site in 1904 to protect it from potential damage by the firing of coastal-defence guns. The Board has recently considered the issue of the designation of buildings which have been relocated to new sites, in context of the Veregin Doukhobor Village in Saskatchewan. In response to the submission of this site in 2003, the Board requested an issues-analysis paper which would examine

³¹ HSMBC, Minutes, November 1977, p. 39.

³² "Historical Sketch, 1866-1926," p. 11.

³³ St. Paul's Church (Halifax) National Historic Site Commemorative Integrity Statement, approved 24 February 2000, pp. 5-7.

³⁴ Allan Duffus et al., *Thy Dwellings Fair: Churches of Nova Scotia, 1750-1830* (Hantsport, N.S.: Lancelot Press, 1982), pp. 55-56.

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the question of moved buildings from both Parks Canada and international policy perspectives. In its consideration of the paper, the Board opted not to revise or enhance existing guidelines on the matter, but indicated that the analysis it presented “provided sufficient guidance in framing any future assessment of candidate sites which may contain moved buildings.”³⁵ Drawing upon past and present HSMBC criteria and guidelines, the Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy, and the newly developed *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*, the paper urges a values-based approach to the issue of moved buildings, where the degree to which the original site is a character-defining element of a building should be a determinant in an assessment of integrity. The setting should be considered relevant insofar as it affects those historic values identified as significant to the structure.³⁶

As described above, Saint Paul's derives its values from its historical associations with the naval and military presence in Victoria-Esquimalt, and from its intrinsic architectural values. Both the associative and architectural values originated with the construction of the church in 1866 and continued forward in time, uninterrupted and unimpaired by the moving of the building. The aesthetic values of the church were not dependent upon, nor enhanced by, the original location or setting; indeed, both the original and current settings are “sub-urban,” low-density residential in nature, and situated in close proximity to the naval Dockyard. The church's sitings were similar in each location: situated close to Esquimalt Road, with the long elevation facing the road across a narrow setback and with modest landscaping. The church remained readily accessible to its naval constituents in its new location, and by placing it closer to Work Point Barracks facilitated its use by the coastal-defence garrison from 1911 onward.

d) Selection of Name:

The church's official name is Saint Paul's Anglican Church.

e) Comparative Context

Many Canadian churches, a number of which have been designated as National Historic Sites, have had past military associations as “garrison churches.” The level of association varies widely, ranging from those churches which accommodated local militia units or garrisons for a comparatively short period, to those with direct and long-standing associations with active garrisons, regiments, or other military/naval establishments of potential provincial or national significance. For example, St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Chamby, Quebec (NHS 1970), was constructed in 1820 in part to serve the garrison at Fort Chamby, and continued to do so until the military departed in 1869.³⁷ St. Luke's Anglican Church, Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia (opened 1822, not submitted for HSMBC consideration), served the Fort Anne garrison until its withdrawal in 1854.³⁸ Churches with garrison connections which received negative recommendations from the HSMBC (on historical and/or architectural grounds) include St. Paul's Anglican Church, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland (considered 1985, not NHS), St. Thomas' Anglican Church, St. John's, Newfoundland (considered 1985, not NHS), and St. George's Anglican Church, Sydney, Nova Scotia (considered 1979, not NHS). Churches directly associated with more significant garrisons include Holy Trinity Anglican

³⁵ Historical Services Branch, “Moved Buildings: Survey and Clarification,” HSMBC Submission Report 2004-65, pp. 465-71; HSMBC, Minutes, December 2004, pp. 6-7.

³⁶ “Moved Buildings,” Submission 2004-65, p. 7/471.

³⁷ Nathalie Clerk, *St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Chamby, Quebec* (Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services /Environment Canada Parks, 1987).

³⁸ *Thy Dwellings Fair*, p. 135.

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Cathedral in Québec (NHS 1989), which served as the church of the large Québec City garrison until its withdrawal in 1871. Its garrison role is symbolized by the regimental colours preserved within the church, and by the memorial windows and wall plaques.³⁹ St. Paul's Anglican Church, Halifax (built 1750, NHS 1981) provides a direct historical comparison with Saint Paul's Esquimalt. For a period of 96 years the Halifax church served as the official church for both the international Royal Naval station based in Halifax, and the army regiments stationed at the Citadel and the various barracks complexes within the town.⁴⁰ By comparison, Saint Paul's Esquimalt fulfilled a similar west-coast naval role for 74 years and garrison role for 29 years. The Halifax church also contains numerous memorial tablets in commemoration of military and naval persons and events. On its centenary in 1966, Saint Paul's Esquimalt received a congratulatory message from St. Paul's Halifax, noting the similar close associations of the respective churches with Imperial and Canadian naval history.⁴¹

The architectural values of Saint Paul's Esquimalt may be compared with other similarly scaled Gothic-Revival frame churches of the period which have been previously considered by the Board. Christ Church in Hope, B.C., another Ecclesiological Gothic-Revival church constructed in 1861 under the direction of Bishop Hills, was designated NHS in 1994 (Figures 22, 23). The reasons for designation describe the church as a fine example of an Anglican parish church in the Ecclesiological Gothic Revival style, one of the best-preserved churches in Western Canada, and the oldest B.C. church on its original foundation.⁴² Although well proportioned and competently constructed, this church displays a minimum of Gothic-Revival detailing either on the exterior or interior. In contrast, Saint Paul's exhibits superior Gothic-Revival elements and a more refined interior. Christ Church Anglican, in Maugerville, New Brunswick, constructed 1856, was designated NHS in 1990 as a fine representative example of a particular trend in the Gothic Revival (Figure 24).⁴³ Christ Church shares similar functional qualities with Saint Paul's, including the separate chancel and the side entry porch. However, it presents heavier volumes, a comparatively truncated nave and less elaborate window profiles. Trinity Anglican Church in Digby, Nova Scotia, a larger church built in a more urban setting, was designated NHS in 1990, in part as "...a fine example...of a church built in the tradition of American Ecclesiological Gothic Revival (Figure 25)."⁴⁴ The Church of Our Lord, in Victoria, constructed in 1874, also in a more urban setting, is a larger building designed in the Carpenter-Gothic variant of the Gothic Revival, and was recommended for designation (NHS 1990) for that reason.⁴⁵

5. CURRENT STATUS

a) *Threat(s):*

There are no current threats to this site.

³⁹ "Mid-Nineteenth Century Cathedrals," Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, February 1989, pp. 11-12.

⁴⁰ St. Paul's Church Commemorative Integrity Statement, p.9, 11; Mike Parker, *Fortress Halifax: Portrait of a Garrison Town* (Halifax: Nimbus Publishing, 2004), pp. 146-49.

⁴¹ "St. Paul's: 1 Century and 10 Years," pp. 87-88.

⁴² See footnote 11 for full text.

⁴³ MSMBC, Minutes, February 1990, pp. 24-25.

⁴⁴ MSMBC, Minutes, June 1990, pp. 27-28.

⁴⁵ HSMBC, Minutes, June 1990, p. 27.

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b) Other Designations:

Saint Paul's was designated a heritage building by the municipality of Esquimalt in 1992, on the recommendation of the Esquimalt Heritage Advisory Committee. The designation includes the church building and three metres of land surrounding it.

c) Community Value:

Saint Paul's continues to be valued for its historic naval and military associations. A number of ex-service and related organizations, in particular the Merchant Navy association, have indicated that they intend to lay up their colours in Saint Paul's when they eventually disband.⁴⁶ Ceremonies honouring organizations and events in Canadian naval and military history continue to be held at Saint Paul's.⁴⁷

In addition, the submission of Saint Paul's to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada has been supported by the following: D. Bendall, President, Chief and Petty Officers' Association, Esquimalt; Right Reverend R. Barry Jenks, Bishop of British Columbia, Victoria; J.P.G. McLuckie, Corporate Administrator, Township of Esquimalt; Darwin A. Robinson, Mayor, and Council, Township of Esquimalt; J.D. Fraser, Rear-Admiral, Commander, Maritime Forces Pacific, CFB Esquimalt; Rick Goodacre, Executive Director, Heritage Society of British Columbia; Margaret Leggett, parishioner, Saint Paul's, Esquimalt. In particular, Rear-Admiral Fraser notes that:

Since its inception in 1866, St. Paul's has been an integral part of the spiritual heritage of the Navy, both Royal and Royal Canadian. The church has a direct association with the sailors, their families and the Fleets that have helped shape Victoria and Vancouver Island. This association is clearly captured in the many artefacts that are found throughout the interior. The church and Naval Cemetery were cornerstones of the naval community and, as such, represent both a cultural tradition and a way of life for the early military personnel stationed in Lower Vancouver Island.⁴⁸

d) Proposed Plaque Location:

In consultation with the proponent, it is proposed that the plaque be placed on the east side of the church, facing Esquimalt Road.

⁴⁶ Canon Andrew Gates, Saint Paul's, in conversation with the author, 25 July 2005. The role of the Merchant Navy in the Second World War was designated as an event of national significance in 1992. See HSMBC, Minutes, June 2001, pp. 8-9.

⁴⁷ For example, the Memorial Service for HMCS *Venture's* 50th anniversary, held at Saint Paul's, 10 September 2004, attended by the Rear-Admiral, Maritime Command Pacific and by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia; also Canadian Merchant Navy Veterans' Association, Vancouver Island Branch, annual church parade, 31 August 2003, attended by the Lieutenant Governor, Rear-Admiral, and Mayor of Esquimalt. See www.ltgov.bc.ca.

⁴⁸ Letter, J.D. Fraser, Rear-Admiral, Commander, Maritime Forces Pacific, CFB Esquimalt, to Rev. Canon Andrew Gates, 21 May 2002.

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6. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, is of historical significance because:

- it embodies aspects of the long naval and military presence on Canada's west coast, through its direct association with the Esquimalt naval station and coastal-defence garrison;
- its extensive memorial program illustrates its social, ceremonial and commemorative role as the *de facto* parish church of the Royal Navy's Pacific Station, the largest in area of the several British overseas stations, a role it subsequently served for the Royal Canadian Navy;
- in its evolved form, Saint Paul's is a good example of the Ecclesiological Gothic Revival style of British Columbia churches of the second half of the 19th century, and displays fine detailing, particularly in the execution of the stained-glass windows and interior carvings.



Figure 1. Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, B.C., rear (north) and side (west) elevations. (*British Columbia Archives, NA-39847, n.d.*)



Figure 2. Saint Paul's Church, side (east) elevation. (*Ian Doull, Historical Services Branch, Parks Canada, 2005*)

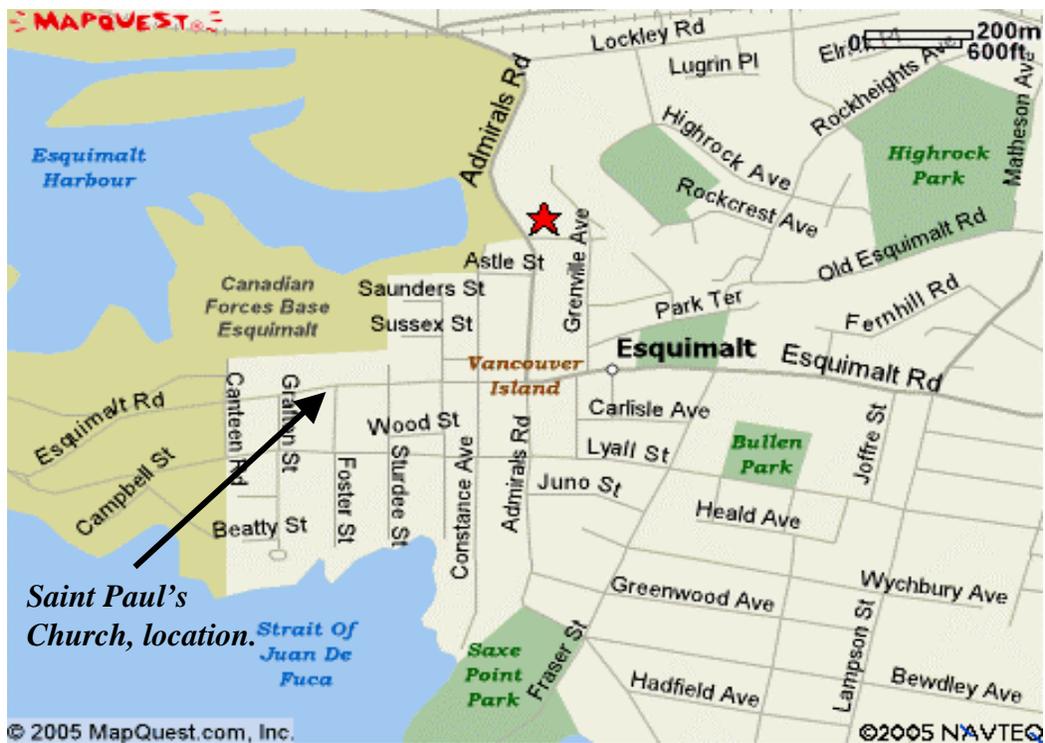


Figure 3. Saint Paul's Church, location. (www.mapquest.com, 2005)



Figure 4. Saint Paul's Church, showing transept, chancel, apse, landscaping. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)



Figure 5. Saint Paul's Church, west transept and parish hall. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)



Figure 6. Saint Paul's Church, west elevation, showing window detail, nave and transept. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)



Figure 7. Saint Paul's Church, entry porch, detail. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)



Figure 8. Saint Paul's Church, interior, looking toward rear (left), front (chancel and apse, right). (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)

Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, British Columbia

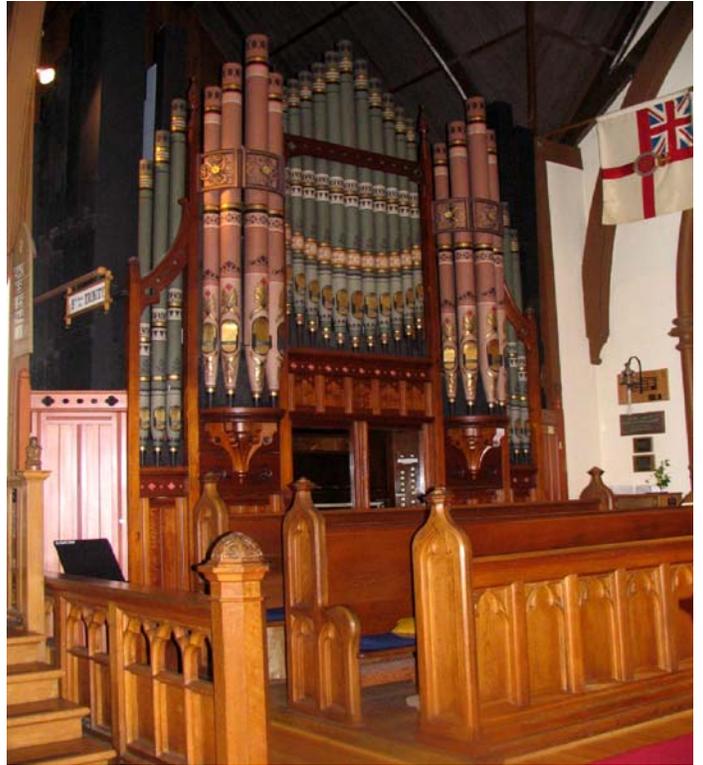


Figure 9. Saint Paul's Church, interior furnishings: choir stalls, organ, pulpit. (I.Doull, Parks Canada, 2005)



Figure 10. Saint Paul's Church, stained glass windows in the apse: end (top) and side walls (right).
(I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005)

Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, British Columbia

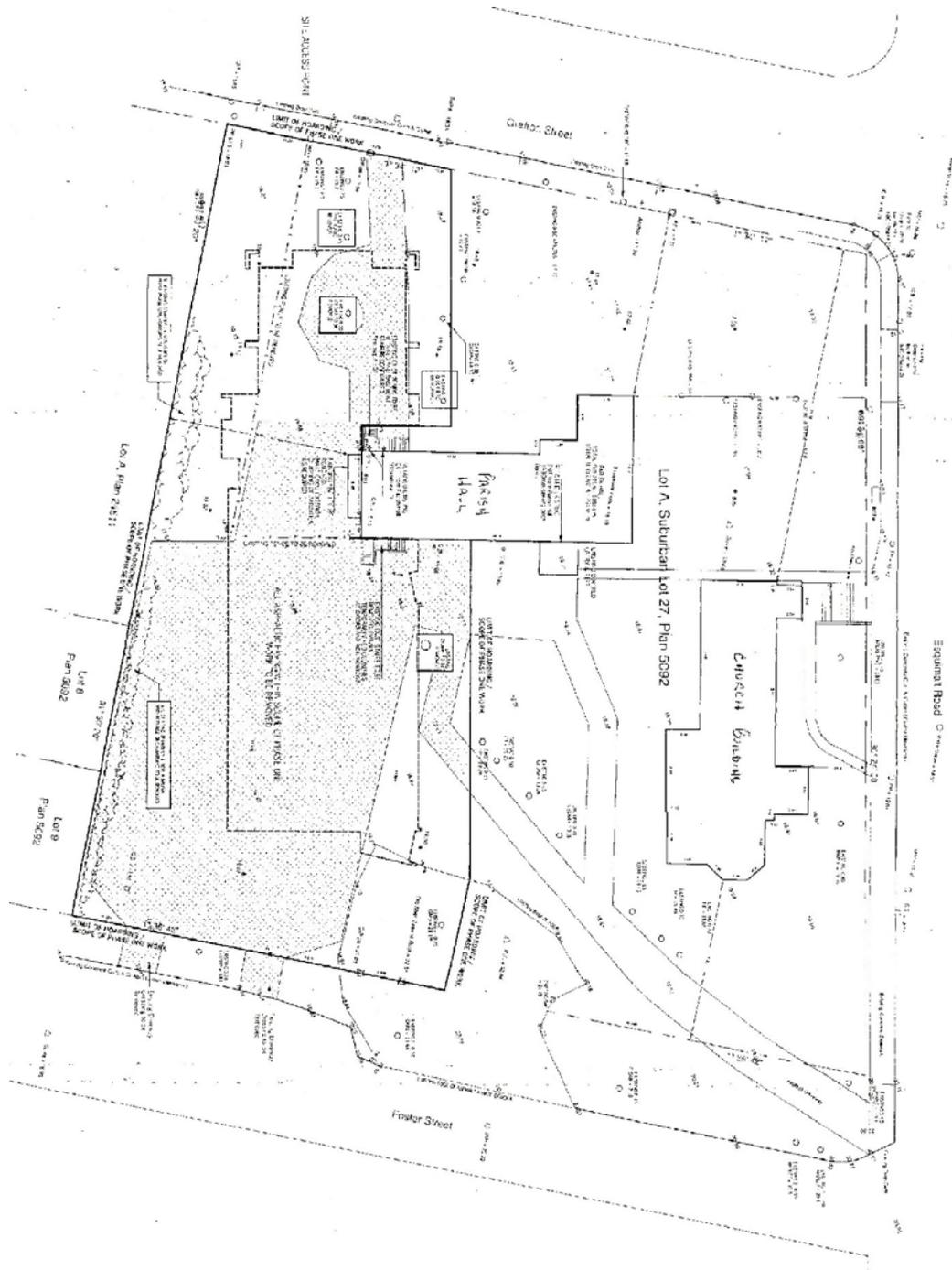


Figure 11. Saint Paul's Church, site plan 5092, Suburban Lot 27, Lot A. (Courtesy Saint Paul's Anglican Church)



Figure 12. Saint Paul's Church: a portion of the naval memorials in the nave. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)

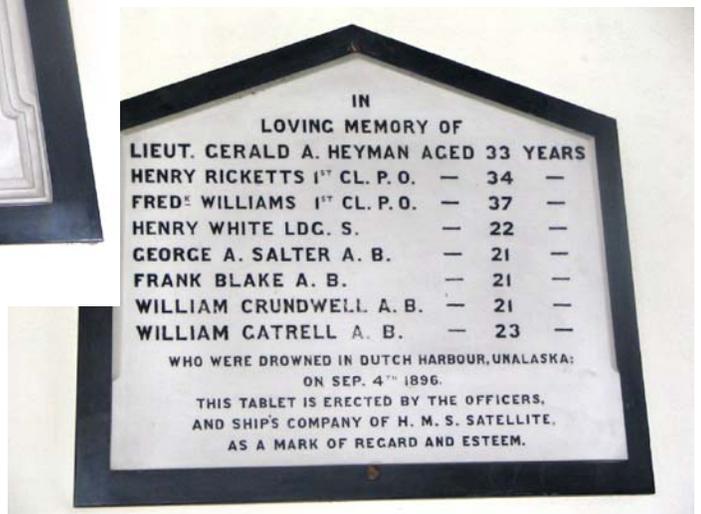
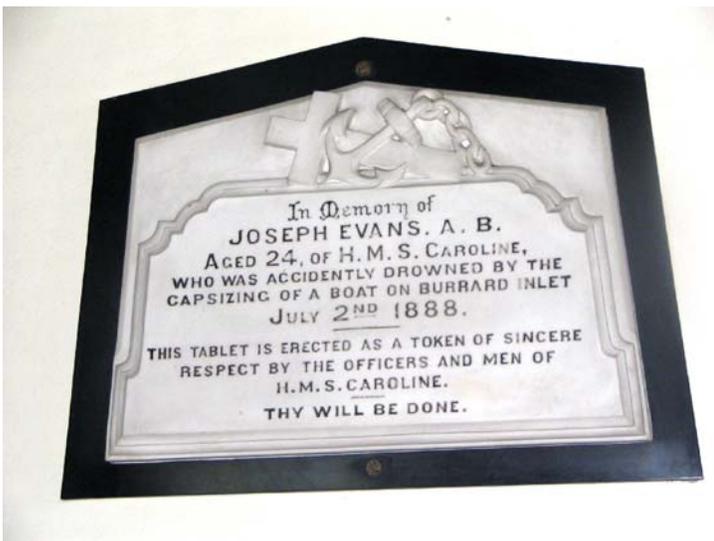


Figure 13. Saint Paul's Church, naval memorials. (*I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005*)



Figure 14. HMS *Condor* memorial. (I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005)

Figure 15. Naval/military flags laid up in Saint Paul's for safekeeping. (I. Doull, Parks Canada, 2005)



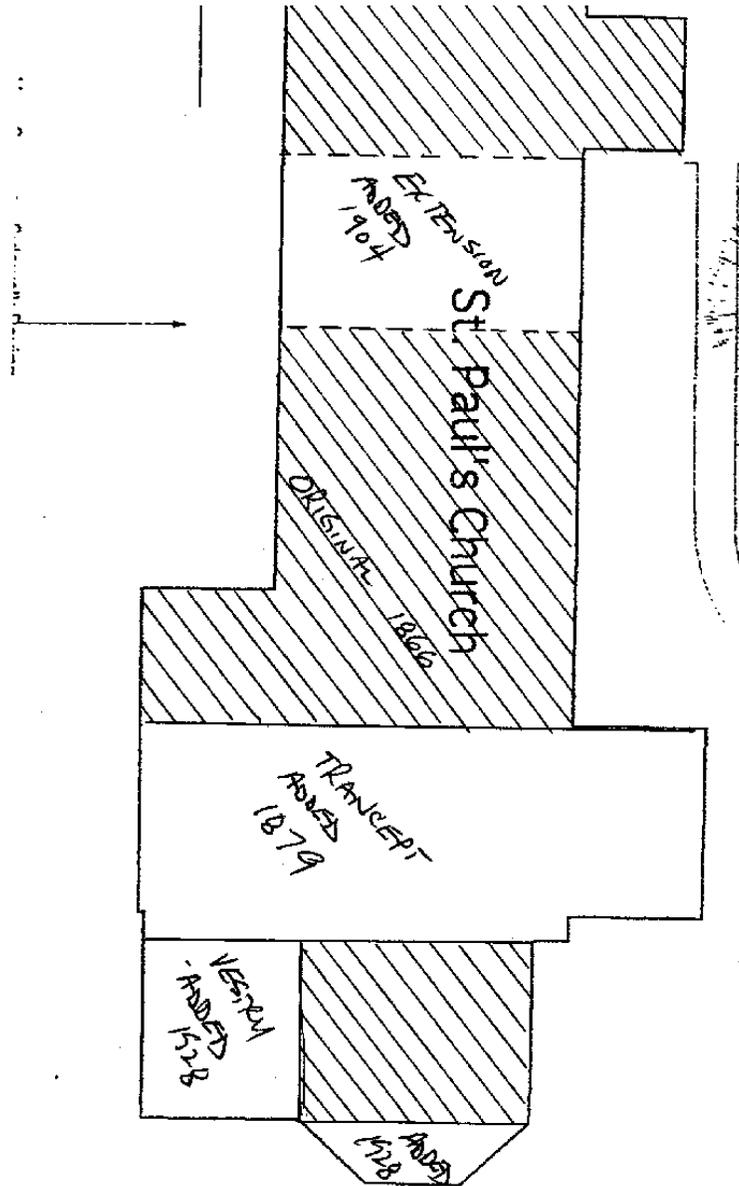


Figure 16. Saint Paul's Church, evolution of church structure. (Courtesy of Saint Paul's Anglican Church)



Figure 17. Saint Paul's Church, as built, pre 1879. (*Courtesy of the Esquimalt Municipal Archives, n.d.*)



Figure 18. Saint Paul's Church, as built, on its original site in Esquimalt Village. (*British Columbia Archives, A-03085, n.d.*)

Saint Paul's Anglican Church, Esquimalt, British Columbia



Figure 19. Saint Paul's Church, following the addition of the transepts in 1879. (*British Columbia Archives, A-00731, n.d.*)



Figure 20. Military parade passing Saint Paul's, 1879-1904. (*British Columbia Archives, A-03088, n.d.*)



Figure 21. Saint Paul's interior, current configuration, facing the altar. Note: chancel arch, chancel steps and rail, stained glass windows in the apse. (*British Columbia Archives, NA-39844, n.d.*)



Figure 22. Christ Church, Hope, British Columbia, constructed 1861, looking toward the chancel end. (*Janet Wright, Parks Canada, 1994*)



Figure 23. Christ Church, Hope, B.C., north and west elevations. (*J. Wright, Parks, 1994*)



Figure 24. Christ Church Anglican, Maugerville, New Brunswick, constructed 1856. (*Claude de Grace, Canadian Parks Service, 1988*)

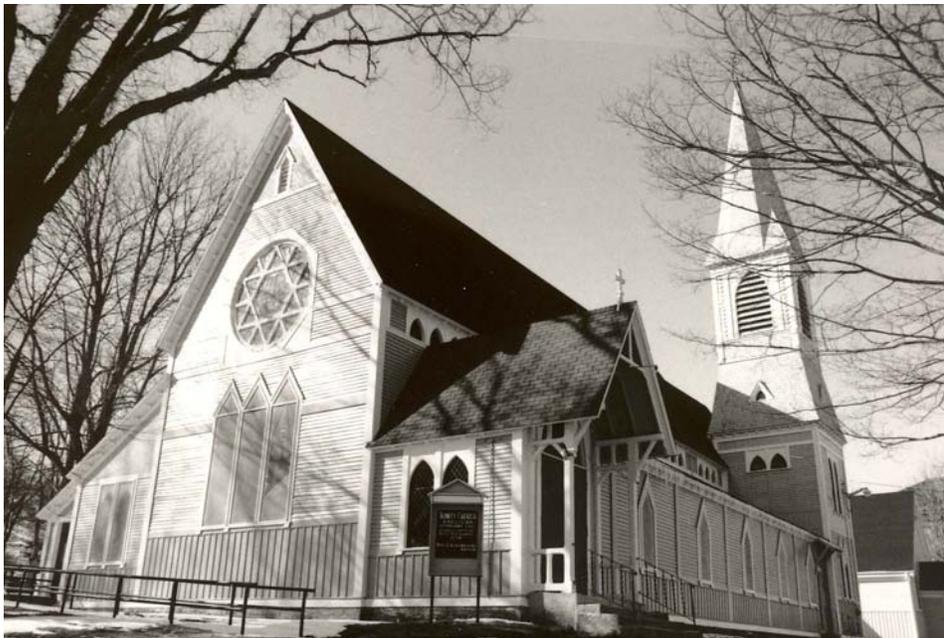


Figure 25. Trinity Anglican Church, Digby, Nova Scotia, constructed 1878. (*William D. Naftel, Canadian Parks Service, 1990*)



Résumé

Église Anglicane St. Paul's, Esquimalt, Colombie-Britannique

L'église anglicane St. Paul's est construite sur un étroit terrain boisé situé du côté ouest de la route Esquimalt, entre les rues Foster et Grafton, dans la banlieue d'Esquimalt (fig 1-3). Tout autour de l'église, on retrouve un aménagement paysager fort simple formé de pelouses, de haies, d'arbres, de massifs floraux et d'un jardin de roses, ainsi qu'une allée commémorative (fig.4). La salle paroissiale, qui est un bâtiment d'un étage à parement à clin et dont le toit est à deux versants, se trouve située à quelques pas au nord-ouest de St. Paul's. Le stationnement s'étend du mur arrière (nord) de l'église jusqu'aux limites nord et nord-ouest de la propriété. Le site de l'église est situé près de l'extrémité nord de la route Esquimalt, l'artère principale de la ville, qui s'arrête non loin de là, aux portes de l'arsenal canadien de Sa Majesté, à la base des Forces canadiennes d'Esquimalt.

Construite en 1866, l'église a été agrandie à quelques reprises pour répondre aux besoins de ses paroissiens et du personnel naval et de garnison en poste à la base. Tant dans sa structure d'origine et que dans ses ajouts, l'église reflète clairement les canons architecturaux propres aux églises anglicanes, établis lors de la réforme religieuse du milieu du XIX^e siècle. À l'origine érigée sur la côte, à l'extrémité sud du village d'Esquimalt, sur un terrain maintenant intégré à l'arsenal canadien de SM, l'église a été déplacée en 1904, pour la protéger de toute attaque contre les batteries de défense côtière.

St. Paul's est un bâtiment d'un étage et demi au toit à deux versants, de forme plutôt rectangulaire, conçu dans le style néo-gothique des églises à charpente de bois construites en Colombie-Britannique à la fin du XIX^e siècle. L'église présente son long côté à la route. L'église possède une nef à cinq travées, des transepts, un chœur et un porche d'entrée latéral. Le chœur se termine par une abside à trois côtés. Extérieurement, le style néo-gothique est principalement utilisé dans le détail du clocher et des fenêtres en arc à tiers-point, bien proportionnées, et possédant des moulures extérieures : fenêtres simples dans le chœur, doubles dans la nef et triples dans l'abside et les transepts (fig. 6). Le mur arrière comporte quatre ouvertures regroupées, tandis que le porche se distingue par une porte à deux vantaux flanquée de colonnes engagées jumelées (fig.7), un motif trilobé repris sur la fenêtre et les bordures de rive, et des fenêtres cintrées sur les façades latérales.

L'intérieur, simple mais rempli de dignité, est orné d'un lambris de bois foncé dans la nef, et d'un lambris plus clair dans le chœur et l'abside, surmontés de murs de plâtre. La voûte du chœur est formée de nervures de bois doubles. Le plafond, lambrissé de bois foncé, suit l'angle du toit à deux versants, et est soutenu par des nervures de bois cintrées, de style gothique, qui reposent sur des consoles en saillie placées à mi-hauteur.

L'église St. Paul's recèle des vitraux et des sculptures en chêne qui comptent parmi les plus remarquables de la province (fig. 9). Les stalles du chœur occupent les deux transepts et sont séparées de la nef par une balustrade aux sculptures élaborées. Les stalles du chœur et la balustrade arborent des motifs néo-gothiques. L'orgue se trouve derrière la stalle chorale, dans le transept gauche (est). Le buffet en pin, très ciselé, supporte les tuyaux avant, absolument magnifiques. Cet instrument, fabriqué en Angleterre en 1891 par Peter Conacher and Company, a d'abord été installé dans l'église St. John's, à Victoria. Il a été déménagé

dans l'église St. Paul's en 1913. La chaire, placée à l'entrée de la nef, près de l'orgue, a été donnée à l'église en 1930. Elle s'harmonise aux autres éléments de bois sculpté de l'église.

Les vitraux, un élément du programme de commémoration de l'église anglicane St. Paul's, sont dédiés à des personnes qui ont occupé une place importante dans l'histoire de l'église ou l'histoire militaire et navale d'Esquimalt (fig. 10). Les vitraux les plus anciens, situés dans l'abside, ont été fabriqués en Angleterre, puis installés dans l'église (au départ dans le chœur) dans le cadre de rénovations effectuées en 1879. Ces deux vitraux flanquant l'autel représentent à gauche, David et Goliath (dédiée au commandant Douglas Lascelles de la Royal Navy, décédé en 1869) et à droite, Josué et Salomon (dédiée à Frederick Seymour, gouverneur de la Colombie-Britannique, décédé en 1869). La fenêtre triple derrière l'autel dépeint la vie de Jésus et Marie et commémore Alice Wright (décédée en 1879), fille du recteur H. P. Wright. L'église est agrémentée de cinq autres vitraux datant de la fin du XIX^e siècle à 1960.

L'église St. Paul's est directement associée à la Royal Navy et la Marine royale du Canada qui ont établi la station navale d'Esquimalt, ainsi qu'à la garnison canadienne qui a assuré la défense côtière entre Victoria et Esquimalt. St. Paul's, l'église paroissiale *de facto* de l'effectif naval britannique, devient l'église officielle du quartier général de la garnison du casernement Work Point à Esquimalt. Financée par l'Amirauté britannique (versements annuels et subventions spéciales) de 1866 à 1905, puis par le ministère canadien de la Défense jusqu'en 1940, elle demeure encore de nos jours un lieu où se déroulent d'importants services commémoratifs militaires. St. Paul's est indissociable de la vie sociale, des cérémonies et du programme de commémoration des forces navales et de la garnison longtemps présentes sur la côte ouest du Canada. Sur recommandation de la CLMHC, les composantes qui subsistent de la station navale ont été commémorées collectivement en tant qu'arrondissement historique. Le personnel civil et militaire de la station vient se recueillir à St. Paul's. Les ouvrages défensifs entre Victoria et Esquimalt ont également été désignés et sont commémorés au lieu historique national du Canada Fort Rodd Hill. Les personnes et les événements qui ont joué un rôle important dans l'histoire des forces navales et de la garnison de la côte ouest du Canada ont de nombreux liens directs avec St. Paul's et y sont commémorés. On a déposé un certain nombre de drapeaux navals et militaires dans l'église afin d'en assurer la sauvegarde.

IMPORTANCE HISTORIQUE EN RÉSUMÉ

L'église Anglicane St. Paul's d'Esquimalt est historiquement importante car :

- elle témoigne de la présence pendant très longtemps des forces navales et militaires sur la côte ouest du Canada parce qu'elle est directement associée à la station navale d'Esquimalt et à la garnison de défense côtière;
- son vaste programme de commémoration illustre son rôle social, cérémonial et commémoratif en tant qu'église paroissiale *de facto* de la station pacifique de la Royal Navy, la plus grande de plusieurs stations britanniques outre-mer, rôle qu'elle a ensuite joué ce rôle pour la Marine royale du Canada;
- en raison de sa forme remaniée, St. Paul's est un bon exemple pour illustrer le style néo-gothique religieux des églises de la Colombie-Britannique bâties pendant la seconde moitié du XIX^e siècle. On y trouve une ornementation remarquable, notamment des vitraux et des éléments sculptés d'une grande qualité d'exécution.