

Notes and Comments

Research Bulletin; Ontario's Early Court Houses; Calgary's Growth: Boon or Bane?; Recent Publications of the Centre for Urban and Community Studies; Facsimiles of Early Canadian City Plans; Ninth Annual Preservation Conference, Charlottesville, Virginia; Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park, A Classical Chinese Garden in Vancouver

Notes et commentaires

Volume 10, Number 3, February 1982

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1019082ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019082ar>

[See table of contents](#)

Publisher(s)

Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine

ISSN

0703-0428 (print)

1918-5138 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this document

(1982). Notes and Comments: Research Bulletin; Ontario's Early Court Houses; Calgary's Growth: Boon or Bane?; Recent Publications of the Centre for Urban and Community Studies; Facsimiles of Early Canadian City Plans; Ninth Annual Preservation Conference, Charlottesville, Virginia; Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park, A Classical Chinese Garden in Vancouver. *Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine*, 10(3), 57–66. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019082ar>

Contributors/Collaborateurs

Heather A. MacDougall is a Ph.D. student at the University of Toronto. She is currently completing her doctoral thesis on "Health is Wealth": The Evolution of Public Health Services in the City of Toronto, 1832-1890." [Ms. H.A. MacDougall, Innis College, University of Toronto, Two Sussex Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1J5.]

Charles N. Forward is a Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria. His article is part of a continuing project on the functional characteristics of Canadian ports. [Professor C.N. Forward, Department of Geography, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2.]

Gunter Baureiss is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba. He has done extensive research on the Chinese in Calgary and Winnipeg. [Professor G. Baureiss, Department of Sociology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2.]

Leo Driedger is Professor of Sociology at the University of Manitoba. He is the editor of *The Canadian Ethnic Mosaic: A Quest for Identity*. His research and publications deal with ethnic identity, urban minorities, prejudice and discrimination. [Professor L. Driedger, Department of Sociology, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2.]

Darrell A. Norris is a member of the Department of Geography at the State University of New York at Geneseo. Until recently, he was a full-time research associate with the *Historical Atlas of Canada*. [Professor D.A. Norris, Department of Geography, College of Arts and Science, State University of New York, Geneseo, New York, 14454, U.S.A.]

Harry T. Holman, noted Island historian and broadcaster, was formerly Assistant Archivist of the Public Archives of Prince Edward Island and is currently studying law at Queen's University. [Mr. Harry T. Holman, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6.]

Notes and Comments/Notes et commentaires

Research Bulletin

The Historical Research Division, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Ottawa, has recently published *Research Bulletin*, No. 166 (July 1981). It is Claudette Lacelle, "Employers and Domestic Servants in Urban Centres: The 1871 Census." The bulletin follows a project completed in March 1980 on domestic servants in urban centres at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It is also the first stage of a large study currently examining the same question for the second half of the century.

Bulletin No. 166 is an analysis of the 1871 census of the cities of Toronto, Quebec, and Halifax, and of the wealthiest district of Montreal (the Saint-Antoine District) which alone had more live-in servants than any of the other cities.

Copies of this *Bulletin* are available on request. It is published in both English and French.

Ontario's Early Court Houses

An exhibition sponsored by the Ontario Heritage

Foundation and the Osgoode Society celebrates the function of Ontario court houses for nearly two centuries as "outposts of justice, symbols of order, centres of activity." After a month at Toronto's Market Gallery, the exhibition travels from November 1981 to various cities in south-western Ontario – Chatham, Guelph, Windsor, Woodstock, St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake, London, Simcoe, St. Thomas, Brantford and Brampton – all centres with historic court houses.

The nineteenth century is emphasized, between the construction of the first four district court houses of the 1790s and the final provision of courts in Northern Ontario districts in the 1920s. The exhibition covers most aspects, such as the original territorial divisions and subdivisions, the symbolic significance and the role of the court house as social centre and scene of high human drama, the rivalry between urban centres to secure the court house function, site and morphological aspects, architectural design and decorative detail. Views and plans of about three-quarters of Ontario court houses are used to illustrate the various themes.

The exhibition is fascinating for its focus on court house architecture. From the simplicity of the first functional structures, nineteenth-century court houses became

"grand in conception, elegant in form." Classical styles were favoured as appropriate to the dignity of the law, but with some eclectic designs from the 1880s. Richly elaborate decoration inside and outside reinforced the prestige of most court houses as the most imposing structures in their communities. The original architects' plans for Osgoode Hall and the court houses in Cobourg, Whitby and Lindsay are presented.

To the urban historian, the exhibits are interesting also for their evidence of the rivalries stirred up between communities by the prospect of county town status and for the role of the court house in urban morphology. In the mid-nineteenth century, rival communities eagerly sought designation as county towns for the sake of the prestige and increased commercial activity and higher land values the new judicial and administrative functions would bring. Within most county towns, the court house was usually granted an imposing site, on rising ground or facing a public square. It became a civic focus, conferring dignity on the surrounding quarter, influencing land values and the quality of nearby buildings.

The exhibition ends with an appeal for the conservation and adaptive re-use of court houses made redundant by Ontario's spacial re-organization of its judicial system. The Niagara court house has been preserved as the Shaw Theatre, while the structures in Simcoe, Cobourg, Guelph and London are being restored for administrative or other community services.

Calgary's Growth: Boon or Bane?

The Calgary Institute for the Humanities has recently published *Calgary's Growth: Boon or Bane?* The publication follows the first community seminar of the Institute held in May 1981. The aim of these seminars is to bring together scholars and community participants for the discussion of important problems.

The seminar on "Calgary's Growth" included three well-known urban specialists: John Sewell, former Mayor of Toronto; Alan Artibise of the University of Victoria; and Richard Meier of the University of California at Berkeley. Each scholar presented a formal paper and led a seminar discussion on Calgary's problems. The publication includes the formal papers and a summary of the seminars.

Copies of *Calgary's Growth: Boon or Bane?* are available for \$4.00 from:

Bookstore,
University of Calgary,
2500 University Drive N.W.,

Calgary, Alberta.
T2N 1N4.

Recent Publications

Centre for Urban and Community Studies
University of Toronto
150 St. George Street
TORONTO, Ontario
M5A 1A1

RESEARCH PAPER SERIES

Warren E. Kalbach, *Ethnic Residential Segregation and Its Significance for the Individual in an Urban Setting* (July 1981), 69 pp., \$3.00. Paper No. 124.

Wsevolod W. Isajiw, *Ethnic Identity Retention* (July 1981), 90 pp., \$4.00. Paper No. 125.

James W. Simmons, *The Impact of Government on the Canadian Urban System: Income Taxes, Transfer Payments and Employment* (July 1981), 90 pp., \$4.00. Paper No. 126.

John N.H. Britton, *Innovation, Industrial Strategy, and the Urban Economy: Toronto's Development Options* (September 1981), 45 pp., \$2.75. Paper No. 127.

CHILD IN THE CITIES SERIES

Suzanne Ziegler and Merrijoy Kelner, *Mothers' Preventive Beliefs and Practices: Some Variations* (August 1981), 21 pp., \$2.00. Report No. 12.

Howard F. Andrews, *Managing Urban Space for Children* (September 1981), 29 pp., \$2.50. Report No. 13.

Facsimiles of Early Canadian City Plans

In the October 1979 and February 1980 issues of *UHR*, we announced the printing of facsimiles of eight early Canadian city plans (Quebec, Halifax, Toronto [2 plans], Ottawa, Montreal, Edmonton, and Vancouver).

The following additional facsimiles are now available:

1. *A Plan of the City & Fortifications of Louisburg* ..., from *The Universal Magazine*, May, 1758.

2. *Map of the City of London and Suburbs, Ont.*, from Miles & Co., *New Topographical Atlas of the Province of Ontario, Canada*, 1879.

3. *Plan of Township No. 24, Range 1, West of Fifth Meridian* (present-day Calgary), Department of Interior, Canada, 1895.

4. *Parish Montreal*, from H.W. Hopkins, *Atlas of the City and Island of Montreal*, 1879.

5. *Plan of the City of Winnipeg ...* John D. Parr, 1874.

6. *Québec, Ville de l'Amérique Septentrionale ...*, N. de Fer, 1694.

7. *A Map of the Great River St. John & Waters ... being little known by White People, until 1783 ...* Robert Campbell, 1788. (Includes inset of "A Plan of the City of St. John.")

8. *Plan of Banff, Rocky Mountains Park, Alberta*, Department of the Interior, Canada [ca. 1917-1920].

9. *A Chart of St. John's Harbour ...*, by Francis Owen, 1799.

These facsimiles, measuring 43 x 56 centimetres, may be purchased for \$3.00 each from the Association of Canadian Map Libraries, c/o National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, K1A 0N3.



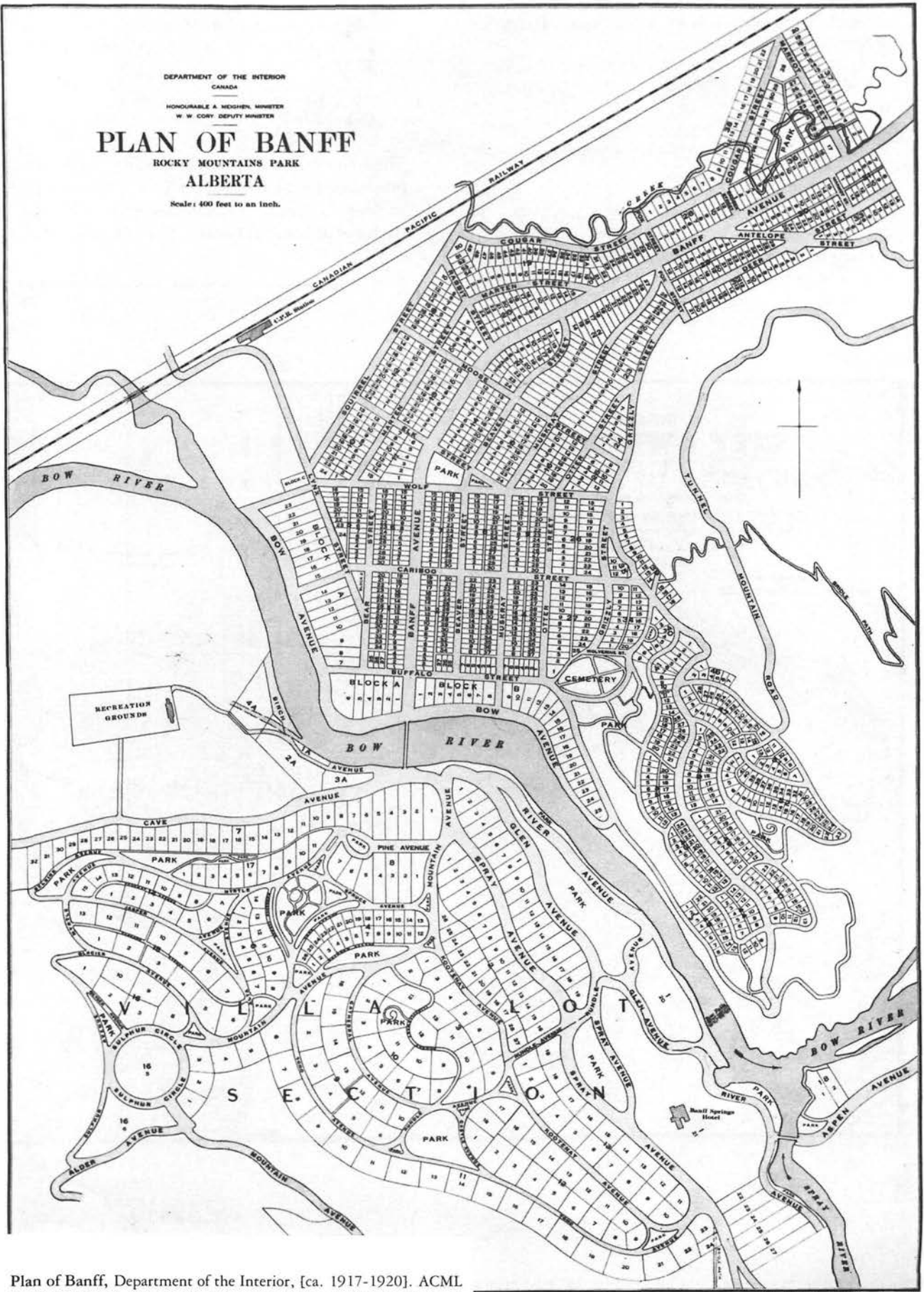
Plan of the City of Winnipeg ..., by John D. Parr, 1874. ACML Facsimile No. 65, from an original lithograph in the National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
CANADA
HONOURABLE A. MCGHEEN, MINISTER
W. W. CORY, DEPUTY MINISTER

PLAN OF BANFF

ROCKY MOUNTAINS PARK
ALBERTA

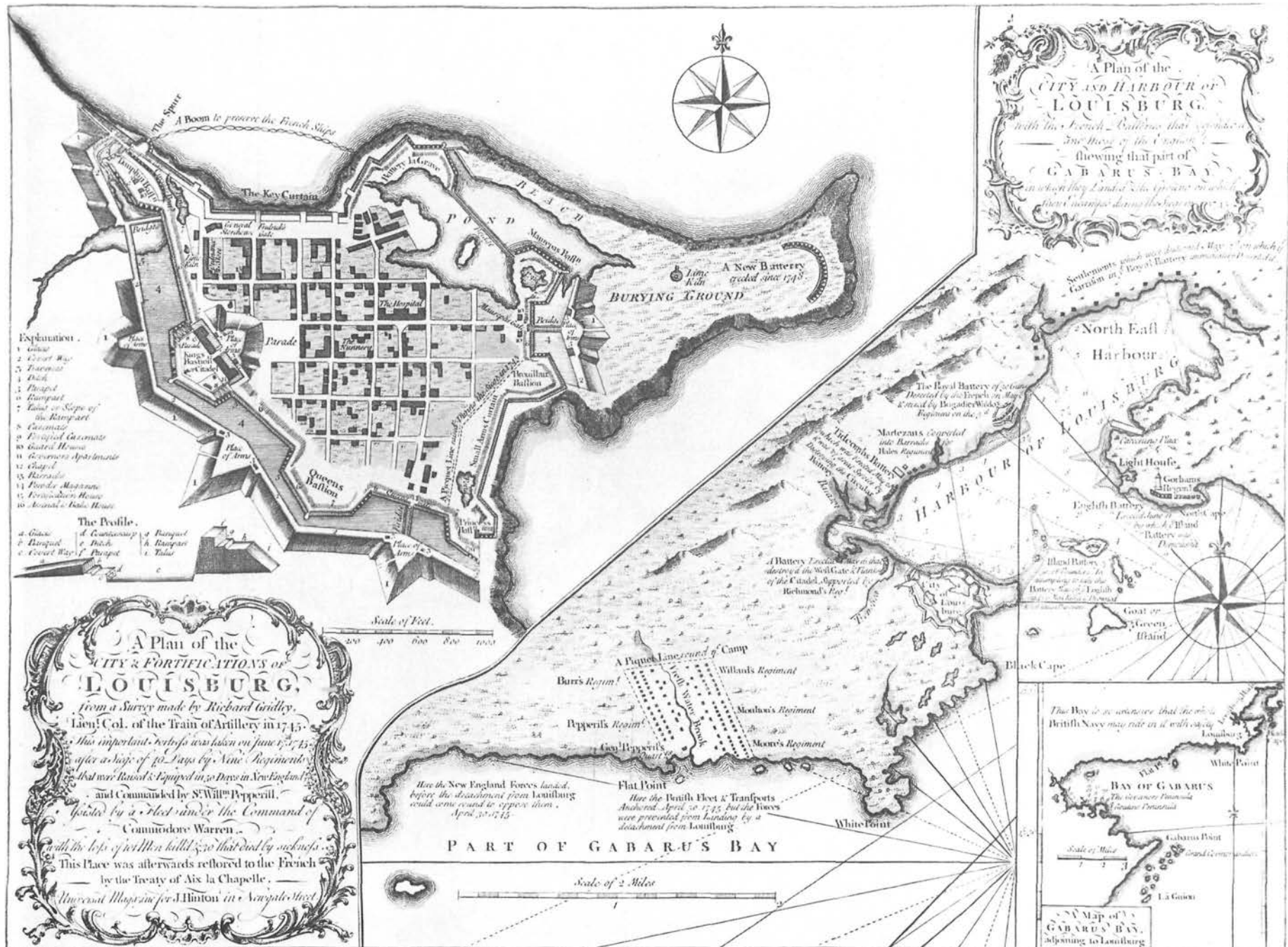
Scale: 400 feet to an inch.



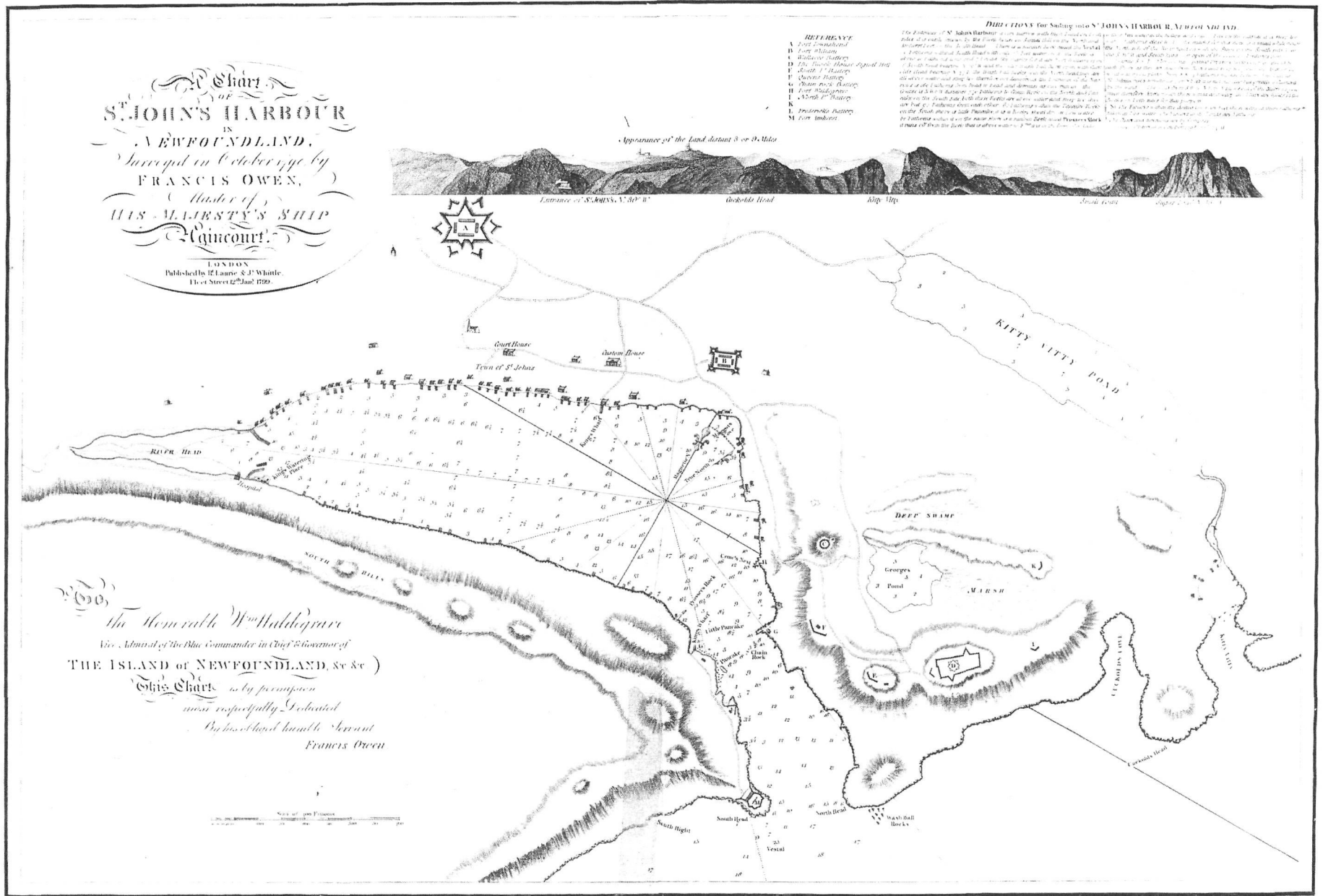
Plan of Banff, Department of the Interior, [ca. 1917-1920]. ACML Facsimile No. 79, from an original coloured lithograph in the National Map Collection.



Quebec ..., by N. de Fer, 1694. ACML Facsimile No. 69, from an original copper engraving in the National Map Collection.



A Plan of the City & Fortifications of Louisburg ..., from *The Universal Magazine*, 1758. ACML Facsimile No. 53, from an original copper engraving in the National Map Collection.



A Chart of St. John's Harbour ..., by Francis Owen, 1799. ACML Facsimile No. 35, from an original copper engraving in the National Map Collection.

**Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park
A Classical Chinese Garden,
Vancouver**

*INNER CITY
GARDEN/PARK*

The garden project is an approximate 1 hectare (2.5 acres) civic park interlocked with the new Chinese Cultural Centre, located at the original centre of Vancouver's historic Chinatown district. It is in close proximity to the Downtown, Gastown and Strathcona areas, as well being immediately adjacent to the East False Creek area, which will be the focus of major Civic-Provincial projects of the 1980s including the Downtown Stadium, Transpo '86 World Fair, and the extensive B.C. Place redevelopment proposals. The park project is seen as the initial catalyst in the redevelopment of the area to provide needed recreational amenities, and eventually may form a major park focus for the surrounding inner city neighbourhoods. The Chinese garden – as the only project of its kind in North America – is likely also to become a major tourist attraction for the city and province.

*CLASSICAL CHINESE
GARDEN*

As an art form, the Chinese garden has been in existence for over 2500 years, and has influenced both European and Japanese landscape garden forms.

The garden is seen as a philosophical statement of the evolved refinement of Chinese culture. In contrast to the strongly axial geometry of traditional Chinese architecture, the garden is a seemingly unending organic composition of natural and man-made elements. These include "false mountains," water areas, open and enclosed pavilions, terraces, bridges, and a profusion of natural plant materials and trees. Landscape design features allow multi-faceted views, seasonal emphasis and special fragrances to be perceived. Sequentially juxtaposed in accordance with the 'yin/'yang' philosophy of 'sympathetic opposites,' the various garden design elements gradually unfold and envelope the beholder.

An authentic classical garden – of the Ming Dynasty vintage – will be included in the park development. An area of roughly 1400 square metres (1/3 of an acre) is to be designed with the co-operation of the Suzhou Garden Construction Group of the Peoples' Republic of China.

Plans for the garden are being designed to relate to the overall development scheme approved by the City for the adjacent Chinese Cultural Centre.

Public display and presentation of preliminary design plans will be held in the community as the project progresses. It is hoped that the garden project will be able to

incorporate special features, ideas and contributions of the local community which exemplify the heritage and culture of the Chinese Canadian citizens of Vancouver.

MUSEUM COMPONENT

Associated with the garden and Chinese Cultural Centre projects, it is hoped eventually to include a complementary museum component. This would provide a needed facility for the public display of both the cultural heritage and works of art created by the local community as well as from other sources.

It would seem appropriate if this museum could be completed in conjunction with the garden to commemorate the first one hundred years of the Chinese Canadian community's existence in British Columbia and their contribution to the multi-cultural fabric of Canada.

*PROJECT PHASING/
SCHEDULE*

The anticipated schedule for the park development is as follows:

| Phase | Construction Period |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Pender Street Paving | April-June, '81 |
| 2. Interior Courtyard Areas | Sept.-Dec., '81 |
| 3. Main Garden/Park | Sept. '81-June '82 |
| 4. Suzhou Garden Precinct | May '82-June '83 |
| 5. South Extension Area (Keefer Street Relocation) | May '83-Sept. '83 |

PROJECT FUNDING

The major capital funding for the project has been provided by the Federal Government in the form of a \$1.5 million grant allocated in May, 1978, from the former Urban Demonstration Projects Programme. Civic assistance to date has consisted of a contribution of an equivalent value of city-owned land to provide the major portion of the overall development site.

*CHINESE GARDEN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(C.G.A.C.)*

The City of Vancouver appointed the C.G.A.C. in March, 1980, to oversee the planning, design and implementation of the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park (Chung Shan Garden).

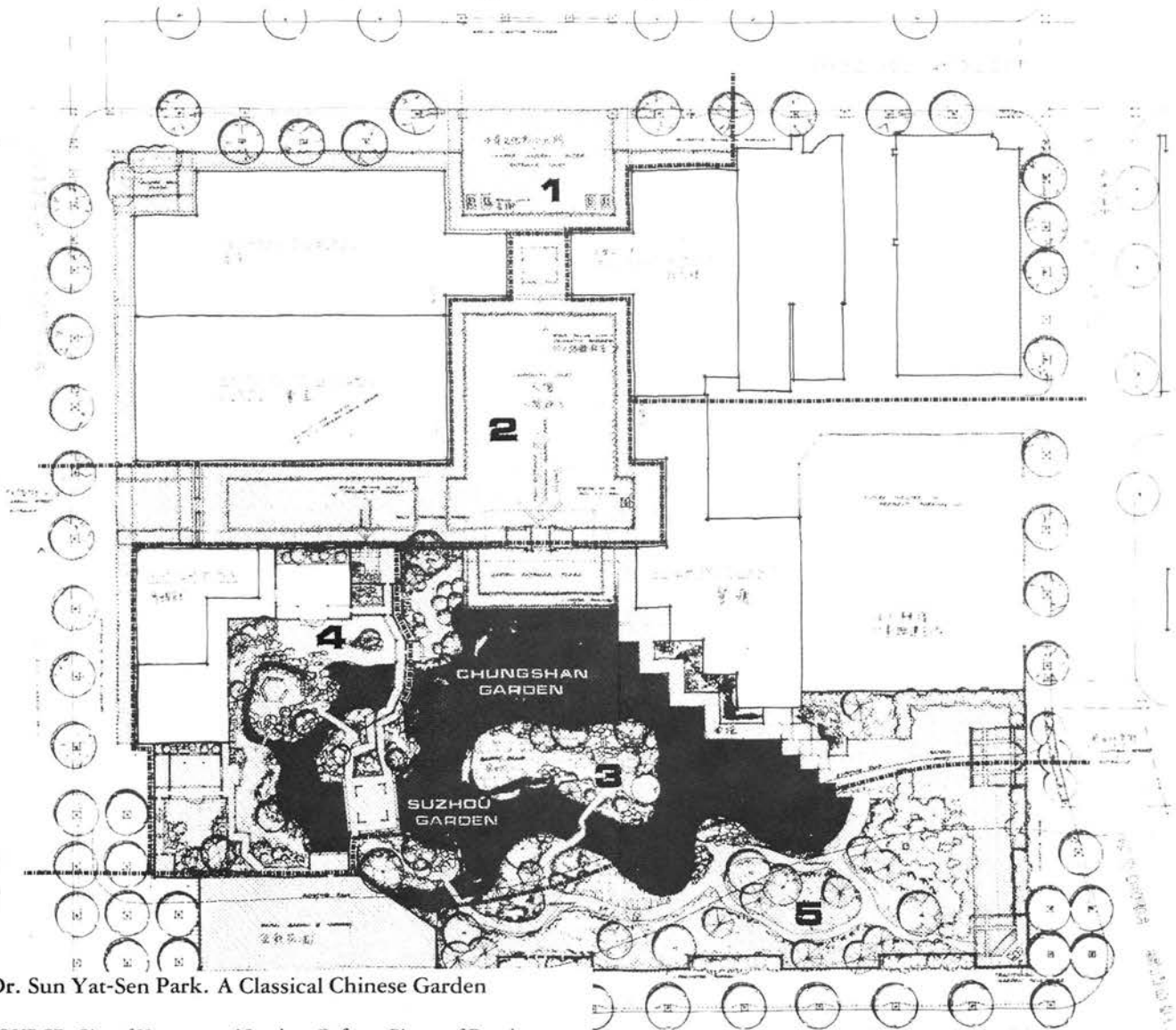
Members of the Committee are:
Mr. Thomas Mah (Chairman)
Mr. Henry Chung
Dr. Marwyn Samuels

City Advisory staff:
 Mr. Michael Kemble,
 City Planning Department
 Mr. Stephen Cripps,
 Vancouver Park Board

DR. SUN YAT-SEN

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (or Sun Chung Shan) is acknowledged

as the founder of the first Republic of China in 1911 – the “Father of Modern China.” While campaigning overseas for the cause of revolution of 1911, Dr. Sun actually stayed briefly at the historic Chinese Freemasons Building in Vancouver’s Chinatown, located immediately adjacent to the park site. In naming the garden/park in honour of Dr. Sun, the City of Vancouver further emphasizes the important contributions of its Chinese-Canadian citizens – past, present and future.



Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Park. A Classical Chinese Garden

SOURCE: City of Vancouver. Numbers Refer to Phases of Development.

**Ninth Annual Preservation Conference,
 Charlottesville, Va.**

Issues in urban design versus urban growth will be among the topics discussed at the University of Virginia architecture school’s ninth annual preservation conference February 26 and 27, 1982.

Jaquelin T. Robertson, dean of the architecture school,

will give the keynote address on “Historic Preservation: The New Force in Urban Design.”

The conference will focus on case studies of the development of the Georgetown waterfront in Washington, D.C., and Richmond’s Shockoe Slip. There will be presentations from architects, planners and citizen groups involved in those projects, as well as panel discussions on recent changes in federal law, court rulings and the economic factors influencing historic preservation.



66

Parish Montreal, by H.W. Hopkins, 1879. ACML Facsimile No. 59, from an original coloured lithograph in the National Map Collection.