

Butterfield Gardens

Inventory and Assessment

FOREWORD

The *Butterfield Gardens Inventory & Assessment* attached has been a collaborative effort of Landscape Architect, Elisabeth Whitelaw, the Central Saanich Heritage Commission and Central Saanich Staff.

Documentation of site conditions, archival research and writing of a substantial portion of this report is credited to Ms. Whitelaw. The District would also like to acknowledge and extend thanks to members of the Central Saanich Heritage Commission for their guidance and assistance in preparing the final version the *Butterfield Gardens Inventory & Assessment*.

BUTTERFIELD GARDENS

INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

**FOR
THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT
OF CENTRAL SAANICH**

**ELISABETH WHITELAW
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**

NOVEMBER 2002

BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT REPORT SUMMARY

Background

The District of Central Saanich owns a 13 acre parcel of land off Mount Newton Cross Road which has been made into a park called Butterfield Park. The property includes a house which has been restored and rented, and extensive gardens and outbuildings. The restoration of the house was awarded a Hallmark Society 'Louis Award' for heritage preservation in 1996. Local Period Landscape Consultant, Cyril Hume noted: "The Butterfield Property is one of the most valuable historic residential landscapes that I have ever seen anywhere in BC."

The municipality has a keen interest in continuing the development of the park and to this end commissioned a study by landscape architect, Elisabeth Whitelaw, to inventory and evaluate the gardens. This report is the result of that study.

Major Findings

The property is historically important and definitely should be restored. The value of the property comes from its natural landscape which is spectacular with views of the inlet and the Mount Newton Valley and secondly from the way in which the gardens were developed to take advantage of that natural setting. Mrs. Butterfield used woodland plants and bulbs in profusion. These plants flourished and many have naturalized. Unfortunately the gardens were untended for many years leaving us with a jewel waiting to be uncovered.

From the report:

"In the future, Butterfield Park will be noteworthy for the preservation and interpretation of a pioneer landscape, for its role in the community as a resource for education and for its outstanding collections of wildflowers and naturalized bulbs."

Method of Study

Ms Whitelaw researched the history of the Butterfields and the property. Then she prepared a site plan of current conditions and also one as it might have been when Mrs. Butterfield was looking after it. Using her own professional experience and information on standards for restoration from US and Canadian sources, she developed a phased plan for restoration of the gardens.

Sources of Information

- documents in the Municipal and Provincial Archives
- letters from people who knew the Butterfields
- interviews with people who knew the Butterfields
- site visits
- US National Park Service Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes
- US Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
- Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society
- The Nature Conservancy
- National Botanical Services

Plan for Restoration

Phase 1: Remove invasive species

Phase 2: Manage light levels by judiciously limbing of trees

Phase 3: Develop bulb and native plant policies and procedures

Phase 4: Clear out orchard and paddock areas

Phase 5: Re-establish formal garden areas near the house

Phase 6: Develop an interpretive program of brochures, signage, etc.

BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	3
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW	5
CURRENT CONDITIONS	10
LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PLAN	16
APPENDIX	34
Arborists Report	35
Historical Account of Joan Hodgson (1988)	42
Historical overview by Lisa Butchart (1996)	46
Correspondence from Wolfgang Haus (undated)	53
Excerpt from District Archives	54
Request for Information (Feb. 2002)	55
Invitation to Garden Walk (April 2002)	56
Request for Information from Commission	57
Commission Reply to E. Whitelaw	58
BIBLIOGRAPHY	61

PLANS	see attached
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COVER PHOTOGRAPH
*Lower driveway adjacent to
 Mt. Newton Cross Road;
 c. 1920's*
 Courtesy of James Croll

Site Context Plan	
Butterfield Park -South Hill Farm	1913 – 1987
Butterfield Park – Current Conditions	2002

INTRODUCTION



Butterfield House
c. 1918. Note the lack
of dormer.
Photograph courtesy of
James Croll

INTRODUCTION

Butterfield Gardens Inventory and Assessment provides an historic overview of the development of the Butterfield family property on Mount Newton Cross Road, as well as detailing current conditions. These two steps are essential for making recommendations for the preservation and restoration of the site.

Based on principles developed by the U.S. National Park Service, especially *The Secretary of the Interior's Standard for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* and *Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*, the Landscape Restoration Plan outlines a holistic approach to Landscape Preservation/Restoration which strengthens advocacy for this historic property.

As an important cultural landscape Butterfield Gardens is a rare survivor of an early settlement, which combined traditional British based farming and gardening methods with a respect and love of this particular piece of property with its spectacular views and rich and varied native vegetation. The survival and integration of the component parts, - the house, outbuildings, garden, meadow and woodland, the total landscape context, give it its significance in history. Butterfield Park will provide a unique and authentic experience of early 20th century settlement in southern Vancouver Island as well as an appreciation of the West Coast flora that the Butterfields loved and that is indigenous to this particular part of the world.

The Landscape Restoration Plan outlines steps to be taken in order to preserve and restore the integrity of the site's historic character while allowing for current and future uses.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW



View to Hagan Bight

Note Limbed Up Trees

Photograph: Provincial Archives

BUTTERFIELD FAMILY

“Apparently, Evelyn Flewin was a girl in her teens and Jack Butterfield, a seasoned sea captain in his 30’s when they married.”

Liz Butchart, 1996.

John Claude Butterfield left his native Yorkshire in 1890 to join his uncle Edward Gawlor Prior in Victoria, British Columbia. As a master mariner, Captain Butterfield was soon working up and down the B.C. coast. In 1906, he married a young woman from the northern coastal community of Port Simpson, Gertrude Evelyn Flewin, the eldest daughter of John Flewin the Government agent in Port Simpson. On September 7, 1907 the Butterfields had a baby daughter in Prince Rupert, Hilda Dorothy Mary. Six years later the family settled in Saanich where John, or Jack Butterfield as he was known, worked as the captain of the Brentwood Bay ferry until his death in 1930.

SOUTH HILL FARM

William Thomson was an early settler and former slave of natives who rescued him from a shipwreck off the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Saanich Pioneers’ Society
Museum and Archives.

In 1913 the Butterfields purchased 13 acres of sloping wooded land on Mount Newton Cross Road from pioneer William Thomson. The house, attributed to Victoria architect John Keith, was carefully situated near the top of the slope to take advantage of views over the valley and the waters of Hagan Bight. A looped drive from the southeast corner of the property created a sense of arrival. Flowering trees were located at key axis points to enhance the drama and interest of the entry. As shown in the photograph on page 3, taken several years after the house was built, the site had been cleared, leaving only trees that framed the view, adding scale and interest to the entry drive and creating a sense of scale in relation to the house. The driveway terminated at the garages on the east property line, ‘one for each car’ in the 1920’s and 30’s.

THE CHICKEN HOUSE/STABLE AND PADDOCK

“We tediously recorded the eggs that each chicken laid each day...”

Marion Jones, nee
Kenneth, Hilda’s roommate
at St. Margaret’s School.

To augment the salary of a ferry boat captain and to fill a demand in the local economy, the Butterfields established a white leghorn poultry business. Accounts of the property from the 1920’s tell of two long chicken houses. A stable was created in the entry of the present chicken house some time after 1930 to house Hilda’s horse Blue, and later to board neighbours’ horses. A horse paddock was enclosed with a wire and wood fence in the area to the south of the barn.

THE ORCHARD AND CUTTING GARDEN

“There were hundreds of delicious yellow plums and lots and lots of blackberries.”

Jeanne Bradley, cousin of Hilda.

The orchard and cutting garden were also fenced. An allee of apple trees led from the garage area toward the woodland at the north of the property and the eventual site of the tennis court and games building. A pair of yellow plum trees was planted on either side of the gate into the poultry barn and stable. In between these paths was a large vegetable and cutting garden. On the rocky site with many large outcroppings, care was taken to site the gardens in pockets of fertile soil in close proximity to the house. Possibly the fruit trees were obtained locally from the Experimental Station. Seeds for the garden vegetables would have been available locally, from Victoria and from abroad, as there was a great exchange and sharing of seed in early days of settlement.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN

Close to the north door of the house, in an area built up to form a small plateau, was the kitchen garden where easily accessible greens and small vegetables were grown. A photograph, taken after Hilda's death in 1987, from the south side of the house looking north, shows an open wooden trellis with roses. Perennial herbs were grown in the triangular bed at the north entry to the house.

THE FLOWER GARDENS

“One day when I was digging alone in the garden I dug up an old child's shovel, the metal kind, like a beach shovel As I bent down to pick it up, a small voice called out ‘Daddy’”.
Shane Rogers, Caretaker and Resident of Butterfield Park.

From a path on the east side of the house the flower garden radiates to the east and south. The garden was structured but did not have a classic formality, paths intersect at odd angles and the hierarchy of steps and path widths was not consistent throughout. The layout of the garden was carefully considered in the field but it did not follow a formal pre-conceived plan. As it is a rocky site, all garden beds were bordered with rocks; rocks were also used for paths and for low retaining walls. In the small rock pond at the north east corner of the house, Mrs. Butterfield kept goldfish, to the delight of visiting children. Stepping down from the pond, the Primrose Garden was surrounded by a tiny paved courtyard. A yew tree and a lilac separated the house from the garden. On the main path from the house east to the drive was a magnificent Iris Garden. Eve

“Aunty Eve was mad about irises and was always looking for new ones. She had over 40 different species.”

Jeanne Bradley, Hilda’s cousin

“The aviary had an entry into the basement.”

Alix Sutton, cousin of Hilda.

“Mrs. Butterfield and Hilda sometimes went down to the cemetery in the evening. Over a bottle of beer, Mrs. B. would smoke and Hilda would cough and they would quietly talk while sitting close to Mr. Butterfield’s grave.”

Wendy Leslie, neighbour who boarded her horse at South Hill Farm

THE WOODLAND GARDEN

“They talked about the old days when you could see the war canoes and hear the drumming over the water.”

Wendy Leslie

Butterfield treasured her iris collection and would drive into Victoria to see and obtain new varieties. Trailing plants, such as aubrieta, clothed the low rock walls in front of the irises. Along the main path, through the Iris Garden and just before the drive, the garden was subdivided into rock garden beds with evenly spaced rocks within the beds, with azaleas, bulbs and other rock garden plantings. Along the driveway tall, airy shrubs such as viburnums, lilac and spirea defined and softened the edge of the drive. An outcropping of natural rock was developed as a site feature with stepping stones fanning out on either side and a prostrate juniper to clothe the big rock. At the front of the house was a large, storey-high aviary, intended for budgies and canaries but in the 1940’s and 50’s it was also inhabited by wild birds. The structure of the aviary supported a large, fragrant purple wisteria.

Mrs. Butterfield and Hilda were passionate about their country life, raising prize flowers and vegetables for the local agricultural fair and taking an active role in St. Stephen’s Church, including maintaining Jack Butterfield’s grave in the churchyard after his death in 1930. Until very old age Hilda participated in the annual Animal Sunday Blessing with her horse.

To help with the heavy work in the garden, including edging all of the beds with rock, they had a helper by the name of Dong who had his own quarters in the lean-to of the present garage.

The area within the loop of the driveway became a high canopy woodland with trillium and ferns. An old photograph on page 5 shows how the Douglas Fir were limbed up to allow for framed views of the fields of Mount Newton Valley and the ocean beyond. A rock retaining wall extends along the northerly inside edge of the Woodland Garden in order to maintain the grade of the driveway. At the bottom of the property adjacent to Mount Newton Cross Road there is another small retaining wall on the south side of the entry drive, again to build up the grade of the drive.

“I remember bulbs of every kind and lots and lots of ferns. Mostly a wild garden.”

**Effie Cunningham
remembering South Hill
Farm 1947 - 1953**

Toward the west of the house along the drive was an informal Rose Garden with many varieties of shrub roses. Early photographs show the charming quality of the property with the dappled light of the semi-enclosed space in contrast to the open farmland and ocean beyond. Daffodils and narcissus edged the drive as well as tall stemmed native marsh violets.

TO THE NORTH OF THE PROPERTY

The well was located on the property to the north of the barn. However this area seems to have been used informally and not developed by the family who very much valued the native wildflowers – violets, bluebells, camas, calypso orchids, trillium and fawn lilies – that grew in abundance.

CURRENT CONDITIONS



*Unidentified women on path
with big tree.*

Photograph: Provincial Archives

CURRENT CONDITIONS

In order to develop a meaningful Landscape Restoration Plan, a thorough documentation of existing conditions sets a baseline from which informed decisions can be made. As much detailed information as possible will guide management of the philosophy of the property as well as all of the component parts, for example the vegetation on the site in different seasons of the year.

At the time this report is being written in June 2002, Butterfield Park still holds the memory of the Butterfield family in the serenity of the old farm and in the ever present west coast forest. This spring, in amongst the confusion of brambles, apple blossoms opened on lichen covered branches; under a tangle of brush a single exuberant primrose flowered in the area of the old kitchen garden; and the old rock garden was sparsely dotted with the bright lights of long ago planted tulips whose flower heads were no bigger than the size of baby new potatoes. Everywhere there are signs of the care that was taken to create a beautiful garden on an exquisitely beautiful piece of property. The siting of the house, the layout of the driveway, the relationship of the buildings one to another and to the site, the stone-edged beds and walls; these, within the context of the sloping forested land, are the strong bones of the property. All of the main components are easily recognizable and give pleasure to the visitor who can ‘read’ the landscape, understanding, in part, rural early 20th Century life on Vancouver Island.

SOUTH HILL FARM

“To use Miss Butterfield’s words, the land to the east, west and south of the homestead contains ‘a woodlot waiting to be harvested.’”

Wolfgang Haus, former caretaker of the Butterfield property

“Sometimes we smell a strong wave of cigarette smoke in the house and then it is gone.”

Shane Rogers, Caretaker (Mrs. Butterfield was a constant smoker and used long, thin cigarette holders)

THE CHICKEN HOUSE/STABLE AND PADDOCK

A restoration and stabilization of the house, barn and garage in 1993 attests to the value and respect for the property by the community, and ensures that the whole landscape, with all of the important aspects, will remain to tell the story of the Butterfields in the future.

As Hilda Butterfield reached old age, she was able to do less and less maintenance of her beloved house and garden. She hired Wolfgang Haus to help with the garden, but it had been many years since proper pruning and thinning of the trees and shrubs had been done. The views had closed in and garden was overgrown.

Hilda Butterfield died in April 1987 with the instructions that the property be given to the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association. In turn, the nature sanctuary turned the property over to the District of Central Saanich for public parkland in 1988. In 1992 the house, garage and barn were designated as a municipal heritage site.

In the years when no one was living at South Hill Farm, the house and garden were vandalized and objects were taken. Unfortunately, photographs were destroyed and prized plants were removed but integrity of the site remains with some collections of plant material more robust than in early times. The Rogers family has lived in the Butterfield house for eight years. With their two young daughters, Shane and Bev Rogers have propagated and planted an apple tree from a seed of the old apples, they have learned the names of the wildflowers and treasured successive flowering of spring bulbs.

The chicken house, or barn as it is now referred to, stands in a thicket of brambles. It requires imagination to picture this area as an open space with the sounds and smells of a horse paddock, or earlier, with the activity of a chicken house. Today it is a quiet, enclosed area under the canopy of an old arbutus. To the north is a huge, relatively flat and open mossy outcropping that suggests a warm and sunny picnic site. To the south of the barn, the brush is so dense it is difficult to see the topography or if there are fragments of any remaining features, such as fence posts or corner posts.

THE ORCHARD AND CUTTING GARDEN

The path leading from the ‘new’ Thomson Place entry (established when Thomson Place road was built) and the informal parking spot through to the orchard is one of the most charming areas in the park in early April. White Fawn Lily/*Erythronium oregonum* lines both sides of the path in profusion leading to the misty-looking soft white apple blossoms on white lichen covered branches. Tucked between the old trees is the new seeding apple tree in its wire protective cage. The whole understorey of the orchard and cutting garden is shoulder high in brambles, possibly because the soil was enriched in this area for the garden. Tiny blue short stemmed violets bloom in the area of the farm gate, near the beloved yellow plums which struggle to put on a showing of bloom.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN

The site of the Kitchen Garden is distinguished only with the slight change of grade where the soil was built up to form the garden. A clothesline once stretched north from the door of the house up and across the paths. An old concrete footing possibly held the pole for the line. To the west of this area and along the upper ‘driveway/path’ Common Camas/*Camassia quamash* blooms with bluebells in late April. Attempts are made to keep non-native grasses and *Vinca major* from choking out the camas but every year the situation is renewed with the vigour of the invasive species.

The rich occurrence of native wildflowers is partly a result of the variety of open and canopied spaces on the property. The open Garry Oak/*Quercus garryana* meadow on shallow well drained soils supports the growth of camas. When the property was less forested and therefore more moist, Marsh Violet grew in abundance at the bottom of the slope.

THE FLOWER GARDENS

Throughout the winter and spring the flower gardens are in constant transition with waves of flowering following each other. In winter there are green flowers on sturdy clumps of Stinking Hellebores/*Helleborus foetidus*. In late January the site is a carpet of snowdrops, to the north of the site along the pathways and into the gardens. They vigourously push their heads above the *Vinca major* (planted at the time of the house restoration) and in the dense Woodland Garden. Early primula bloom in the Primrose Garden and in the bottom of

the dry stone fishpond. By April, Lenten Roses/*Hellaborus orientalis* are nodding their heads along the main path in the garden. Mexican Mock Orange/*Choysia ternata* and a sweet smelling Viburnum bloom near the rock outcropping. Where daphne has been removed from the flower beds, old perennials spring up. In July there is a clump of old iris at the foot of the stairs to the front door and near the fishpond a profusion of colourful Chilean Lilies/*Alstroemeria var.*

All over the gardens and paths are carpets of native bulbs and naturalized bulbs that Evelyn and Hilda planted. When I first visited the site in November 2001, I was shocked by the carpets of cyclamen which spilled from the garden beds and on to the paths. We were walking on cyclamen. I have visited centuries old gardens in England where dense plantings of cyclamen make a dense understorey planting for a special magnolia, but I have never seen the rich resource I saw at Butterfield Park. English gardening journals speak of 50 year old cyclamen corms, or bulbs, growing as big as pudding bowls. It will be interesting to see how big these are when they are gently transplanted from the paths into the gardens.

THE WOODLAND GARDEN

Unfortunately, it is not just treasured bulbs that have multiplied. Invasive weed species have also taken hold. The Woodland Garden is so choked with daphne and has such a low light level with its dense canopy, it is impossible to see if there are any structures in this area other than a simple wooden trellis opposite the house. Snowdrops struggle to bloom above the invasive understorey.

EAST WOODLAND

Between the property line to the east and the eastern part of the driveway, English Ivy/*Hedera helix* has formed a complete understorey and is growing into the Douglas Firs/*Psuedosuga menziesii*. Fortunately the driveway has restricted the ivy, although it is now also in the woodland garden. At the lowest part of the driveway near the original entry there are still a few Marsh Violets/*Viola palustris*

THE FOREST TO THE NORTH

Not Recommended
“Undertaking project work that will have an impact on character-defining built features without undertaking a survey of conditions, materials, surroundings and interrelationships.”
Standards and Guidelines for Conservation of Historic Places in Canada

“Wood was brought down from the top of the mountain. Hilda and I stacked it to fill the woodpile.”
Marion Jones, nee Kenneth remembering visits in 1922

In the early 1990's the fence was removed from around the tennis court as it was twisted and broken and laying on the ground where it was a hazard to park visitors. The site of the tennis court is easily visible on the east side of the path leading to the north of the property from the orchard. The north and east sides of the court were excavated, probably to establish a level grade. The cut is still perceptible.

On the opposite side of the path from the tennis court was a small games building which was dismantled at the same time the tennis court was removed. Unfortunately, detailed photographs were not taken before the demolition. The little structure was apparently used to store tennis equipment as well as chairs and a table for the on-lookers to take tea.

At the rear of the property is a second growth high canopy Douglas Fir forest. Because this area is relatively flat and therefore is not as quick draining as the front property, there are also some Western Red Cedar/*Thuja plicata*. Tiny pockets of rare wildflowers are found in the open understorey. Fairyslippers/*Calypso bulbosa* probably enchanted the Butterfields as much as lucky visitors today who happen upon a beautiful, fragrant specimen.

Shane Rogers, in working around the property over the last number of years, has discovered some of the Butterfields' waste sites in the area of the back property line. This forested area would have been quite remote in the early days before Thomson Place was put through for development further to the north.

LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PLAN



Daffodils at old entry driveway
Photograph: Provincial Archives

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF BUTTERFIELD PARK

“The Butterfield property is one of the most valuable historic residential landscapes that I have seen anywhere in B.C.” Cyril Hume, Period Landscape Consultant, letter to Central Saanich Municipality May 24, 1992

In the future, Butterfield Park will be noteworthy for the preservation and interpretation of a pioneer landscape, its role in the community as a resource for education and for its outstanding collections of wildflowers and naturalized bulbs.

This outstanding piece of the natural environment, with its views and rare indigenous plants, is layered with a rich patina of cultural history. The results of one family's dreams and hard work for a period of seventy years is found in the landscape; the layout of driveways and paths, the placement of buildings, the development of work areas and garden areas for visual pleasure. All of these components inter-relate to form a unique remnant of a pioneer settlement, and it is the richness of having all of the parts that gives special value to this property. The Butterfield's love and respect for this special place is evidenced in their desire to share it as a legacy with the community

LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION PHILOSOPHY (Based on the National Park Service *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*)

In order to preserve the integrity of the site's historic character while allowing for new educational uses and increasing numbers of visitors, intervention must be carried out in order to bring about necessary changes. All management and maintenance of Butterfield Park should respect the following:

1. The property will be given new uses that will maximize the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
2. The historic character of the property will be retained and preserved. The replacement or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize the property will be avoided.
3. The property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.

4. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize the property will be preserved.
5. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration necessitates repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, colour and texture.

Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

CONSIDERATIONS

(Taken from: The Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes)

In order to approach management of the property in a consistent and holistic manner the following factors should be considered:

Change and continuity: Change in the natural setting and in human activities is inherent in cultural landscapes. At Butterfield Park the Douglas Fir forest has re-grown in the last thirty years. This change is balanced by the continuity of pattern of buildings and landscape that have been retained over time. For in spite of a landscape's constant change, a property can still exhibit continuity of form, order, features and materials. Preservation treatments seek to secure and emphasize continuity while acknowledging change.

Relative Significance in History: Butterfield Park is a significant resource as a rare survivor of a pioneer combined agricultural and garden landscape within the larger landscape of the Pacific West Coast.

Integrity and Existing Physical Condition: Integrity is the authenticity of a cultural landscape's historic identity – the relationship of the buildings to each other and to the land, the stone edge beds, etc. The existing conditions are the poor current physical state of the landscape due to deferred maintenance.

Geographical context: The land surrounding Butterfield Park has a direct impact on the park; the views to the farms and the sea, the mountains behind, the division of property on Thomson Place, and the traffic on Mount Newton Cross Road. Current and proposed uses can have an affect on the integrity and conditions of the park.

Natural Systems: Natural systems are an integral part of the cultural landscape to be considered when managing and maintaining the park.

Management and Maintenance: Management strategies are long-term and a comprehensive means for implementing positive change toward a set of goals. Maintenance tasks are on-going daily and/or seasonal work performed as determined by the Landscape Preservation Plan. Although routine gardening tasks can in time change the character of the landscape, well-conceived management and maintenance activities can sustain character and integrity over an extended period.

Interpretation: Interpretation can help in understanding the landscape. Guided walks, self-guided brochures, interpretative signage give the visitor additional knowledge about the site.

Environmental Responsibility: All practices used on the park must demonstrate the highest standards of environmental responsibility.

THE LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION PLAN

Evelyn Butterfield and her daughter Hilda were self taught horticulturists who received recognition in the local community for their exceptional garden and for prize vegetables and flowers at regional agricultural fairs, in which they both played a large part.

THE BUTTERFIELDS’ APPROACH TO THE LANDSCAPE AT SOUTH HILL FARM

In laying out the garden Mrs. Butterfield chose to have the planting beds at the base of, and in line with, the house. This approach gave the house a domestic and decorative setting. Enjoyment of seasonal displays of colour were immediate upon exiting the house. Most importantly the garden did not dominate or even compete with the natural landscape as seen from the main rooms at the front of the house, the views through and under the native forest to the fields and sea in the distance.

The service aspect of the landscape was all to the north of the house: the garage, the barn, and the vegetable gardens. These were all accessed from the behind the house and did not interfere with the tranquil beauty of the views from the living room.

It is impossible to know if the spatial arrangement is a result of a natural feeling for the land by the Butterfields or whether they were assisted in this regard by their architect. The result however is a beautiful, harmonious and very workable landscape.

THE WOODLAND

View ‘windows’ from the house should be reinstated by selective removal of trees, judicious pruning for views and limbing up as practiced by the Butterfields and as seen in the photograph on page 5. Clearing the southern property line to the degree it was during the Butterfields time on the property, would add noise and remove the intimate private character of the site. View corridors can be established to give glimpses of the view and yet retain the private, old world nature of the property. The understorey of ferns and trillium may regenerate once the daphne has been removed and light levels are increased. Care should be taken to replant any snowdrops that are unearthed in the daphne removal process.

THE FLOWER GARDENS

Many plants in the flower gardens have re-emerged with the removal of the daphne. These will undoubtedly keep multiplying and growing but they need some organization. The cyclamen and erythronium that carpet the paths need to be carefully moved into beds. Primula can be increased by division or from collection of seed. Only plants that have been completely lost to the site should be replaced with new plants, and only after careful research. Mrs. Butterfield's beloved iris require high levels of light and significant amounts of maintenance. Investigations might be carried out into other species of iris that require less care and light, and that were available in Victoria in the 1940's and 1950's. Light levels in the flower gardens must also be increased to provide a high semi-open canopy.

EAST WOODLAND

It is unlikely that the whole of the East Woodland was covered in periwinkle, as the native groundcover would have been primarily Sword Fern. However, because we can propagate the Butterfields' own variety of periwinkle and because it will be fairly vigorous in forming a complete mat to eventually keep out the ivy, it is recommended that sufficient periwinkle be propagated to cover this site. If Sword Fern and other natives colonize the area they can be encouraged.

WEST WOODLAND

At the time the Butterfields were living at South Hill Farm the West Woodland must have been one of the sunniest areas of the southern part of the site. Mrs. Butterfield grew a wide range of shrub roses and other varieties along the drive. Roses need a minimum of 6 hours of sunlight a day for optimum flowering. For this reason it is recommended that the forest be opened up in this area and roses known to be available on Vancouver Island during the 1940's and '50's be planted. The rose at the Thomson Place entry can also be propagated.

CAMAS MEADOW

With the assistance of the Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society, it is recommended that the camas meadow be freed of non-native grasses and tall periwinkle. When given the right conditions camas blooms prolifically in this valley and with respect for the Butterfields' love of local wildflowers, and with the rapid disappearance of camas meadows from the Saanich Peninsula, the camas meadow at Butterfield Park could be a show piece.

PADDOCK AND BARN VEGETABLE & CUTTING GARDEN

*"At one time they also raised
chinchilla rabbits."*

Jeanne Bradley, cousin of
Hilda

In order for the park to have the historic integrity of the old farm, the open area must be reclaimed. This is where the heart of the property was in the work of raising poultry and vegetables, caring for and boarding horses, bringing in water and wood, growing flowers for cutting and herbs to season food. It is recommended that the fences be rebuilt from photographic records and the land kept free of invasive plants, possibly planted with a slow growing grass that is mowed once a year. Another possibility is to keep an animal, such as a horse, on the property to add authenticity and to keep the meadows mown.

ORCHARD

The Rogers family have already germinated and planted a seedling from one of the apple trees on site. The old neglected trees should be retained until new trees, inter-planted between the old ones, grow to a sizeable height and form. The same process can be used to replace the old plums.

THE FOREST

Hazard trees and branches in the forest should be considered one of the highest priorities in work to be done. However, cosmetic work in cleaning up dead branches and removing weed species from the forest is of lowest priority, as this area is in somewhat of a holding pattern, unlike other areas where the invasive plants are constantly gaining ground. Some of the rarest native plants are found in this forest – Western Coral root/*Corollorhiza maculata* and Failslipper/*Calypso bulbosa*, as well as Western Trillium/*Trillium ovatum* and White Fawn Lily/*Erythronium oregonum*. Care must be taken not to trample these delicate plants and the public must be educated not to remove them.

BULBS

One of the most charming and special features of the property is the wonderful profusion of successive flowerings of spring bulbs. Today the waves of flowering might be even more glorious than in the early days because the introduced species of bulbs, such as the snowdrops and cyclamen that the Butterfields planted, have been reproducing for fifty or sixty years. This feature is one of the most remarkable, not only to the site but also to the region as a whole. It is an irreplaceable resource and with careful management and attention, it can flourish to even greater glory. Many of the bulbs must be carefully replanted into appropriate places and the light levels must be monitored to ensure continued growth.

THE DRIVE & PATHS

The old driveway is a very important element in the landscape. It provides a link between the different areas at a scale that was intended when the garden was laid out. It is critical that the driveway remain with the existing width and surface. At one time, the drive might have had an early asphalt-like surface applied. This has uniformly broken down into a compact but porous surface, which is in excellent condition, as are the retaining walls that maintain the even grade around 'the loop'. Vehicles should be restricted wherever possible from entering the site in order to keep the 'driveway' in its present condition. If repairs have to be done in the future, local crushed stone should be used.

Path width and surfaces are also critically important to the 'reading' of the site. At the present time, the path to the orchard has been topped with bark mulch. This is a practical solution as it is available and makes a cushioned walking surface. However, it is not a material that would have been used by the Butterfields. Research must be done to determine treatment of paths in the park so standards can be set and maintained.

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN

At Butterfield Park invasive plants are posing an ever-increasing threat to native ecosystems as well as compromising the aesthetic integrity of the old farm site. Daphne has completely taken over the understory of the Woodland where ferns and trillium once grew. Douglas firs are being girdled by English ivy. Tall periwinkle and non-native grasses are choking out the camas meadows, and the old orchard and paddock are lost under a tangle of brambles.

Before selecting control methods, it is important to determine what will replace the invasive species, as the purpose of the work is to preserve native and historic plants. From historic photographs and memories of the site we have some knowledge about plant material during the time the Butterfields cared for South Hill Farm. Plants such as the *Vinca minor* that can be identified in photographs, grows on the East Woodland. In order to stay true to the original variety, this vinca can be re-grown from cuttings or by tissue culture. Once the daphne is removed from The Woodland, native and moderate light levels restored, it is possible that native ferns and trillium will regenerate. Otherwise both Sword Fern *Polystichum munitum* associated with Douglas Fir ecosystems, and Western Trillium *Trillium ovatum* are widely available commercially.

Management decisions regarding the use of the paddock, orchard and cutting garden will determine what will replace the brambles. When the house was restored in 1992, tall periwinkle *Vinca major* was planted as a groundcover over a septic tank, installed at that time. Unfortunately, the periwinkle is too tall to allow the snowdrops to bloom above the level of the evergreen planting and this plant is aggressively moving into the camas meadow. This confirms the need for precise documentation and research before introducing a new plant into an historic landscape.

GENERAL REMARKS REGARDING REMOVAL OF INVASIVES

Manual techniques such as pulling and cutting may be used to control some invasive plants, particularly as at Butterfield Park where the populations are relatively small. These techniques can be extremely specific, minimizing damage to desirable plants, but they are generally labour and time intensive. Treatments must typically be administered several times to prevent the invasive from re-establishing. In the process, labourers severely trample vegetation and disturb soil, providing prime conditions for re-invasion by the same or other invasive species. Manual techniques are often used in combination with other techniques, for example, when shrubs are pulled and cut, and re-sprouts and seedlings are treated with herbicides or fire several weeks or months later.

To minimize soil disturbance, invasive plants must be pulled out slowly and carefully, and soil replaced in the disturbed areas with soil from the site to prevent new weeds being introduced. Trampled and disturbed areas can provide optimal germination sites for many weeds. Minimize trampling by limiting the number of people in the site and the amount of time spent there.

The advantages of pulling include its small ecological impact, minimal damage to neighbouring plants, and low (or no) cost for equipment or supplies. Pulling is extremely labour intensive, however, and is effective only for relatively small areas, even when abundant volunteer labour is available.

The following variables must be considered before removal of invasive species is undertaken: season, weather conditions, proximity of native species, species of plant for removal, environmentally sensitive treatments, and waste disposal from the site.

When the invasive plants have been removed, monitor and assess the impacts of management actions in terms of their effectiveness in moving conditions toward the goals and objectives of the Landscape Restoration Plan and re-evaluate, modify, and start the cycle again.

INVASIVE SPECIES

ENGLISH IVY/*HEDERA HELIX*

- Using good environmental principles, compost¹ ivy on-site to retain nutrients and build soil for on-going garden maintenance. Construct a temporary composting station on the site of the old tennis court.
- Remove ivy from the trees first. At shoulder height and ankle height make cuts with loppers, not pruning saws, through ivy, being careful not to damage tree bark. Leave portion above shoulder cut to wither and die. Remove cut portion and check to make sure all ivy is pulled away from the base of the tree. Remove a 6 foot diameter circle from the base of the tree. Shred and compost ivy at old tennis court location.
- Remove ivy from ground plane. Shred ivy and leave as mulch layer on forest floor.
- Return to site and pull sprouting plants at beginning of next growth period.
- If herbicide is used on emerging shoots, read literature on pros and con as well as safety, prior to purchasing or using herbicides.
- Careful attention must be paid to the hidden resource of bulbs and native plant seed in the soil if herbicides are used.

BROOM/*CYTISUS SCOPARIA*

- At the present time, there is only a small amount of broom in Butterfield Park due to aggressive removal of this species by the District between 1992 and 1994. (However, there is a large mass opposite the property at the south end on Thomson Place that should be removed to ensure the seed is not carried into the park.) The Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society has experience and information available for broom eradication.

¹ Composting of invasive species within the park is contrary to the Central Saanich Parks Maintenance practice.

- In mid-summer before seeds are dispersed, cut off the top of the plant through the main stem and remove from site.
- From late October to the end of January, pull out by the roots. In dry conditions cut below the first lateral root if possible.
- If herbicide is used on emerging shoots, read literature on pros and con as well as safety, prior to purchasing or using herbicides.

SPURGE LAUREL/DAPHNE LAUREOLA

- The park caretaker has been successful in carefully pulling out daphne in the garden beds. Walking on the beds compresses the soil, so care is taken to trample the growing area as little as possible. Also, many bulbs, old garden perennial seed and wildflower seed in the soil will germinate when the daphne is removed without disturbance. The northern section of The Woodland is a mass of snowdrops that struggle to bloom above the understorey. Once the daphne is removed and a filtered light restored, some native plants will re-colonize this area.

TALL PERIWINKLE/VINCA MAJOR

- Treat as for English Ivy

NON-NATIVE GRASSES

- Garry oak ecosystems were traditionally maintained by fire, but since we have suppressed the practice of burning, the ecosystems are changing. At Butterfield Park, Douglas fir is shading out the complex pattern of native meadow flowers and introduced grasses are choking out the camas. Mr. Hans Rhomer of the Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society is an expert in regaining a balance in this delicate environment.

BLACKBERRY

We know that the Butterfield family enjoyed the native blackberries they had on their property, so some canes in the area of the Cutting and Vegetable Garden should be retained and pruned to encourage fruit production. Because

the areas of the Paddock, Cutting and Vegetable Garden as well as the Orchard were cultivated, removal of brambles could be done mechanically as these are not native plant preserves.

ILEX SPECIES

- Remove all volunteer holly trees. These trees were started from seeds dropped by birds and were not part of the original landscape plan.

INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT GARDEN PRESERVATION

“I remember the violets which I picked to take home. They were magnificent with six to eight inch stems and fantastic blooms. In those days a bunch of violets was worn on the right shoulder of every outfit.” Effie Cunningham remembering South Hill Farm 1947 – 1953.

IRRIGATION

The hydrology of a natural ecosystem, the system of surface and subsurface water, is always in a fine balance and it is always changing and adapting. Given the indication of some plants, for example the Marsh Violet/ *Viola palustris*, the site is drier now than it was when the Butterfields were living on the property. There are accounts of the marsh violet being very plentiful around the entry. Now there are one or two plants. As the name suggests, this is a moisture loving wildflower.

Reasons for a drier site are both man-made and natural. Development of residential properties above Butterfield Park has interrupted the natural drainage of the slope down Mount Newton and resulted in a decrease in groundwater. Climate change, as well as forest conditions, have also resulted in a drier site. As the forest on the north side of the property has grown and filled in, the trees take up greater amounts of water and at the same time, allow less rain to reach the soil level. A judicious reduction and pruning of these trees will be beneficial but previous groundwater levels will not be achieved naturally.

Because we are endeavouring to preserve an historic vernacular landscape – “a landscape that evolved through use by the people whose activities shaped it” – and a special piece of local landscape which includes a significant collection of native and cultivated plants, we must adapt to today’s conditions on the site with planning and treatment. The introduction of irrigation would disrupt the natural systems on the site as well as being environmentally irresponsible. The present conditions have produced a stunning display of bulbs, and with management, the integrity of the old landscape of South Hill Farm can be renewed. After the ivy has been successfully removed, and new material planted, hand

watering will be required in times of drought. Availability of water in the first year of the establishment of new plants is a necessity in most landscapes. In subsequent years drought tolerant plants will root deeply and need additional water only in conditions of extreme drought.

To treat Butterfield Park as a suburban property, and begin by planting and irrigating the perennial beds, would compromise the historic landscape. Lacking adequate light, the perennials would struggle to exist and because the property has no water of its own, irrigation would have to be trucked onto the site; hardly an environmentally responsible solution to a garden that has never been irrigated. The introduction of water down slope of the perennial garden would result in increased growth in both the invasive species and the regenerating forest, both outcomes that should be avoided at all cost.

MAINTENANCE

See Next Steps

TOOL/EQUIPMENT

See Next Steps

ANCILLARY STRUCTURES

Work Shed

A covered space is required for volunteers and maintenance crews to store their packs, eat their lunch, lock up their tools, and post notices. Without altering the garage, possibly a portion of this building could serve this function. There is also a need for a covered meeting place for groups of visitors to the site.

The Aviary

It is recommended that this missing feature be recreated based on physical, documentary and oral evidence.

The Fences

The fences and trellises that were part of the working landscape are important in defining the overall character of the site. It is recommended that they be reinstalled with information from photographs and oral evidence.

FUTURE NEEDS

Removing, altering or adding buildings diminishes the historic relationship between the landscape and these features. As future need arises, existing buildings should be adapted for use without altering the character or structure of the buildings. A study must be made in the future to handle issues of parking, restrooms, etc. Alterations to the site must not radically change, obscure or destroy the character-defining spatial organization of the old South Hill Farm.

PHASING OF WORK

In order to facilitate long term planning for Butterfield Park, the phasing² of the Landscape Preservation Plan will assist in:

1. planning for the allocation of funds
2. setting a project timetable
3. outlining the scope of the work

Phase 1

Remove invasive species and replace with appropriate plants possibly grown by tissue culture or cuttings from park plants. (In tissue culture plan propagators use plant tissue for rapid multiplication of plants, especially when seed is not available.)

Cost Estimate for removal of invasive species only:

East Woodland - labour of 5 people for 10 days \$10,500.00

The Woodland - labour of 5 people for 7 days \$ 7,350.00

The Rose Area - labour of 5 people for 5 days \$ 5,250.00

Phase 2

Manage light levels by judiciously reducing tree canopy, also re-establish views to water.

Cost Estimate:

Arbourist – see arbourist report

Landscape Architect –1 day at \$750 plus traveling expenses

Phase 3

Develop bulb and native plant policies and procedures to strengthen plant communities.

Cost Estimate:

Landscape Architect: 3 days at \$1,350

Phase 4

Clear out brush from orchard and paddock areas to make property read again as a farm. Consider acquiring animal/animals to keep area open.

Cost Estimate for the removal from the site of invasive

² Alternative phasing may be considered subject to available resources, and particularly with respect to initiatives which generate public interest in the site.

species only

Labour of 1 person, machine & haulage for 2 days

\$ 4,000.00

Phase 5

Re-establish formal garden beds in area of house.

Cost Estimate for the removal of invasive species only

Labour of 5 people for 2 days

\$ 2,100.00

Phase 6

Develop an interpretive program of brochures, signage, etc.

Each phase to be completed and evaluated before the next phase is initiated. Possibly because of economic circumstances or interest within the community, work would be maintained at say Phase 3 for a number of years until a new initiative took it to the next phase.

NEXT STEPS

Before any maintenance work takes place on the site, a set of maintenance specifications must be written to ensure work is done in a responsible manner that will not jeopardize the integrity of the site. This is a critical measure to ensure that work is done to the best standards and that it will be done to the best standards for years to come. The specifications would show details, for example of planting methods, give plant lists of quantities, specify soil nutrient requirements, and show path composition with section detail and include forest management.

Cost Estimate:

Landscape Architect - 8 days - \$3,600.00 plus 1 trip

Develop an outreach to the community to build partnerships:

- for volunteer work in the park.;
- for the community to take ownership of the park which will reduce vandalism;
- for education and pride of place in the community.

A weekly or monthly article in the local newspaper reporting on the development of park preservation will inform the community and pique interest.

Partner with local organizations to assist in fundraising, volunteer support and to promote enjoyment of the park.

One such organization would be Green Legacies (www.stewardshipcentre.bc.ca/greenlegacies) which supports giving to the environment through a personal legacy.

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion , it is hoped that this resource will provide both historical information and a ‘snap shot’ of the property in 2002, but also that the recommendations in the landscape restoration plan will encourage and assist the Municipality of Central Saanich in the on-going care of Butterfield Park.

With the detailed information of this report, it is hoped that an understanding of a systematic approach to the long-term care and restoration of the landscape will grow and be valued in the community. It will require patience and hard work before there will be an abundance of iris and roses growing again, as in memories of long- time neighbours and in old photographs. To treat Butterfield Park as a suburban property, and begin by planting and irrigating the perennial beds, would compromise the historic landscape. By systematically removing the invasive plants, native plants will again colonize the site. In order to re-establish the Butterfield’s beautiful and well-remembered garden, light levels will need also to be re-established to those levels that existed when the garden was flourishing, by thinning and pruning the trees. This approach of methodically working to reach a final goal will be respected by those who choose to give resources to this project – their time and their money, together with the community in general who will slowly see the rebirth of the garden.

Enthusiasm, together with respect and knowledge of sound preservation practices, will enable a charming remnant of the past to become a one-of-a-kind destination for individuals and families interested in the magic of nature and the story of local history.

Stewardship: The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.

Merriam-Webster

It is recommended that the District of Central Saanich purchase copies of both the new *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* and *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standard for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* as reference material for members of the Heritage Commission. These documents, together with the Butterfield Gardens Inventory and Assessment, will assist the commissioners in being effective advocates for this site and other important historic properties in the community

REFERENCES

Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society
A-954 Queens Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 1M6
Tel (250) 475-2024
Email info@garryoak.bc.ca
Mr. Hans Rhomer, 1770 Woodsand, Victoria, BC
Tel (250) 479-6470

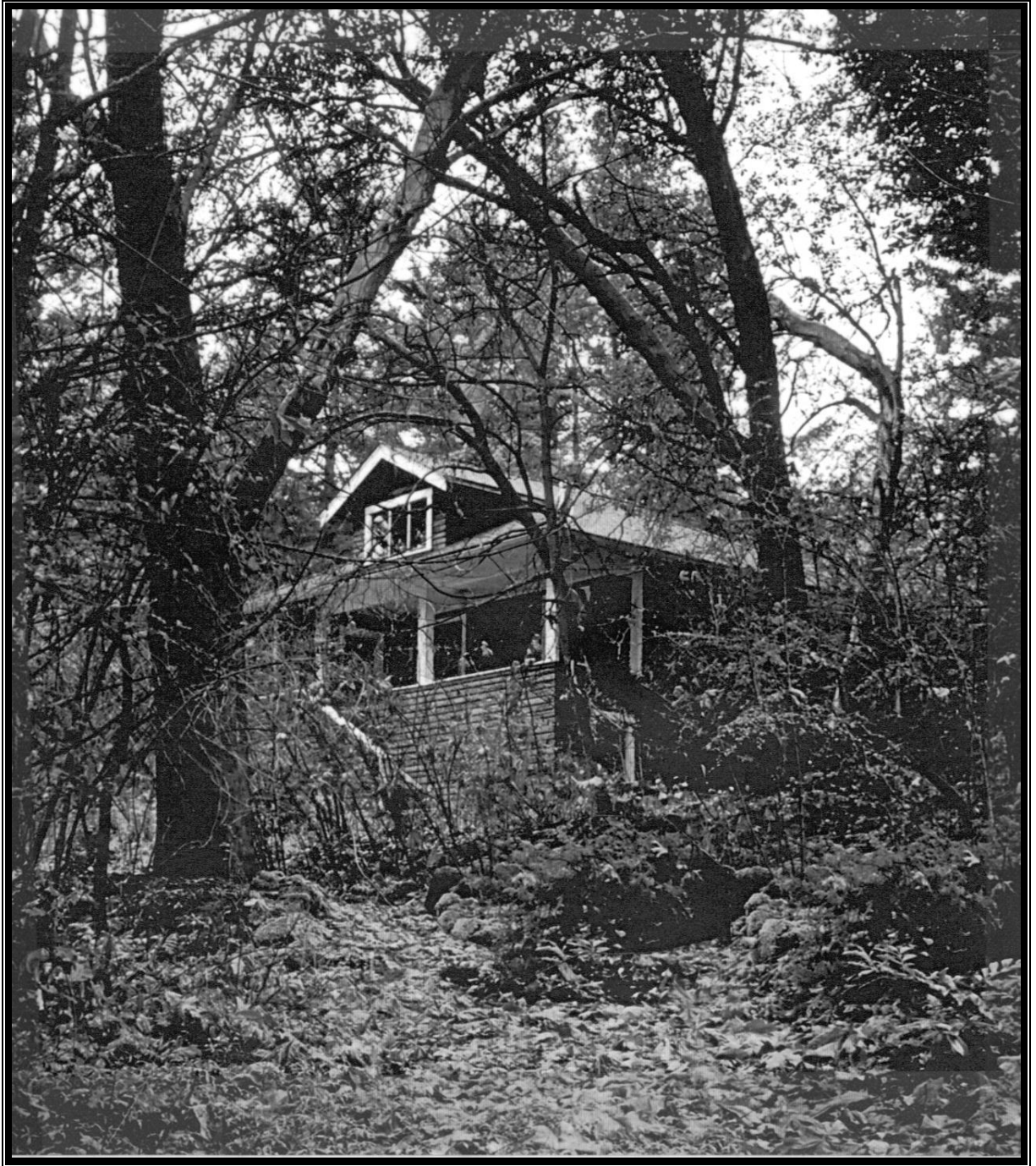
National Botanical Services. *Invasive Plants of Canada:
Guide to Species and Methods of Control, V. Invasive Plant
Management.*
Web <http://infowed/magi.com>

The Nature Conservancy
Tu, Mandy, Callie Hurd and John M. Randall. *Weed
Control Methods Handbook: Tools and Techniques for Use
in Natural Areas.* Version 4 April 2001

November 2002

Elisabeth Whitelaw

APPENDIX



The Butterfield House 2001
Photograph: Elisabeth Whitelaw



MT. VIEW TREE SERVICE LTD

Greenleaves Tree Preservation Company

Established in 1962

July 19, 2002

Elisabeth Whitelaw Landscape Architect
1192 Foundry Quay
Vancouver BC V6H 3P3

Summary of tree inventory for Butterfield Park, Central Saanich, BC.

The following information was compiled during a site visit and while compiling the tree inventory on July 12, 2002.

1. The majority of the native trees on site are young Douglas-firs estimated to be less than 50 years old. Interspersed amongst this grove are Arbutus, Grand Firs, Garry Oaks, and Big Leaf Maples. There are also several mature Douglas-firs, and the remnants and seedlings of the original exotic trees planted on the site. The large native trees in this forest setting now suppress many of these exotic trees.
2. The forest now serves as a windbreak and a wildlife habitat, and provides shelter and protection for the native under-story plants. This relatively dense grove contains trees of similar age that have grown as a single unit, and offer shelter and protection for each other. Caution would have to be exercised when considering the removal of any of these trees. I recommend that no more than one third of the conifers be removed from any of the woodland areas. Light filtration, and the establishment of view corridors, could be accomplished by selected removal of limbs, limited removal of conifers, and removal of the deciduous trees.
3. Previous topping and removal of the central leaders from their crowns have impacted many of the conifers in the garden area around the house and buildings. If these trees are retained they will be high maintenance, and will require frequent pruning and monitoring to reduce the risk of failure. It is my opinion that, it will be possible to remove these compromised trees to afford more light to the garden area, without increasing the wind exposure excessively.
4. Many of the exotic and orchard trees have poor structure and health. These trees can be pruned and maintained in the short-term. However, to retain the lineage of these trees I suggest cuttings be taken for propagation, which could include grafting.

4370 Interurban Road, R.R. #3

Victoria, BC V9E 2C4

Phone: (250) 4793873

Fax: (250) 479 2715

Please call me at 479-3873 should you have any questions. Thank you.

Yours truly,
MT. VIEW TREE SERVICE LTD.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Talbot".

Tom Talbot
ISA Certified, & Consulting Arborist

BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY

July 19, 2002

Tree Tag No.	d.b.h.	Species	Health	Structure	Remarks	Recommendations
9	1.6	Douglas-fir	good	good	large deadwood, ivy growing up trunk	deadwood/hazard prune, remove ivy.
10	1.7	Douglas-fir	good	good	large deadwood, ivy growing up trunk	deadwood/hazard prune, remove ivy.
11	1.7	Douglas-fir	fair	good	large deadwood, broken limbs, ivy	deadwood/hazard prune, remove ivy
12	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops, deadwood.	must be maintained if retained
13	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops, deadwood.	high maintenance if retained
14	1.0	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops, deadwood.	must be maintained if retained
15	1.3 *	Arbutus	fair	poor	previous limb failure, deadwood, incl bark at main unions, basal wound.	deadwood prune, cable brace.
16	1.2	Douglas-fir	fair	fair	previously topped, deadwood, lean	deadwood prune, resistograph recommended.
40	0.8	Arbutus	good	poor	major cavity on back side of lean, deadwood, heavy lean, included bark in main union.	closer examination recommended if retained.
42	1.2	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, one sided form, included bark in large limb,	deadwood prune, check topping wounds, lighten or remove compromised stem.
43	1.0	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, included bark in main union	deadwood/hazard prune check tops if retained.
44	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, one sided, pitching from trunk.	closer examination recommended.
45	0.7	Douglas-fir	good	poor	large stem growing from old topping wound, hazardous.	remove
46	1.3	Douglas-fir	good	good	large deadwood, ivy growing up trunk.	deadwood/hazard prune, remove ivy
47	1.1	Douglas-fir			removed	
48	0.5	Arbutus	good	poor	co-dominant removed, decay in wound, deadwood.	deadwood/hazard prune
49	0.7	Arbutus	fair	poor	decay in main trunk, deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune.
50	0.5, 0.4, & 0.4	Arbutus	fair	fair	deadwood, previously stems removed, some visible decay, canker.	deadwood prune

d.b.h. = diameter at breast height measured in metres.

not valid unless signed 

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 Fax: (250) 479 2715

BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY

July 19, 2002

Tree Tag No.	d.b.h.	Species	Health	Structure	Remarks	Recommendations
51	0.6	Arbutus	fair	fair	co-dominant stem removed, deadwood, leans into forest	deadwood/hazard prune.
52	1.2	Douglas-fir	fair	poor	fungus at base, schwentzii	closer examination recommended
53	1.0, & 1.0	Douglas-fir	fair	fair	twin stems, may be joined, ivy growing up trunks.	deadwood/hazard prune, remove ivy
54	1.4	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood, hangers	deadwood/hazard prune
55	0.5, 0.4, 0.4, Maple & 0.5		poor	poor	previous stem removal, decay in union, internal cracks.	remove
56	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	good	one-sided pitching from base.	deadwood/hazard prune
57	0.6	Douglas-fir	good	good	young tree, one-sided	deadwood/hazard prune
58	0.7	Douglas-fir	good	good	young tree, one-sided	deadwood/hazard prune
59	1.8	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood, hangers.	deadwood/hazard prune
60	1.5	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood, hangers	deadwood/hazard prune
61	1.2	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood, hangers	deadwood/hazard prune
62	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	good	small deadwood	no work needed at this time.
63	1.0, & 0.8	Douglas-fir	good	good	twin stems grown together, deadwood.	no work needed at this time
64	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	good	some deadwood	no work needed at this time
65	76.6 *	Maple	good	good	hydro pruned high crown.	no work needed at this time
66	1.0	Oak	poor	poor	basal decay and cavity, tearouts, deadwood.	closer examination recommended
69	1.0	Douglas-fir	good	good	some deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
70	0.8	Douglas-fir	good	good	some deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
71	1.0	Douglas-fir	good	good	some deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
72	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
73	0.8	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood, pitching at base.	deadwood/hazard prune
84	1.1 *	Douglas-fir	fair	poor	tri-dominant narrow unions, pini at base, poorly formed tops	closer exam if retained.
90	0.9	Douglas-fir	good	good	one-sided form, small deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
91	0.8	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
92	0.3	Oak	fair	fair	epicormic growth, deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
93	0.2, & 0.2	Oak	good	good	co-dominant, good union	deadwood/hazard prune.
94	0.6	Douglas-fir	fair	good	deadwood, epicormic growth	deadwood/hazard prune
95	0.6	Arbutus	fair	good	deadwood	deadwood/hazard prune
96	0.5	Walnut	good	good	deadwood	deadwood prune
97	0.4	Oak	good	good	some epicormic growth	deadwood/hazard prune

d.b.h. = diameter at breast height measured in metres.

not valid unless signed

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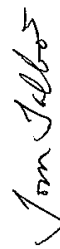
BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY

July 19, 2002

Tree Tag No.	d.b.h.	Species	Health	Structure	Remarks	Recommendations
98	0.4	Plum	poor	poor	deadwood, decay in trunk and stem	deadwood/hazard prune if retained
99	0.4	Oak	poor	fair	epicormic growth, deadwood, tip dieback, growing from rock	deadwood/hazard prune if retained
100	0.3	Oak	fair	fair	epicormic growth, deadwood, growing from rock	deadwood/hazard prune if retained
101	0.2	Oak	fair	fair	epicormic growth, deadwood, growing from rock	deadwood/hazard prune if retained
102	0.2	Oak	good	poor	partially uprooted, stabilized, pruned hard.	no work needed at this time
103	0.5	Douglas-fir	good	poor	growing from old stump, adventitious root, corrected lean.	deadwood prune if retained
104	0.3	Oak	good	fair	suppressed by fir	deadwood prune
105	0.2	Oak	good	good	young tree	no work needed at this time
106	0.2, & 0.1	Oak	good	poor	included bark in main union	deadwood prune
107	0.3	Oak	good	good	some epicormic growth	no work needed at this time
108	0.2	Oak	good	poor	previously topped	no work needed at this time
109	0.2	Oak	good	good	young tree close to house, galls	no work needed at this time
110	0.2	Oak	good	good	young tree, gall infested	no work needed at this time
111	0.2	Oak	good	fair	old topping cut, galls	no work needed at this time
112	0.2	Oak	good	good		
113	0.7	Douglas-fir	good	good	deadwood	deadwood prune
114	0.2	Oak	good	good		no work needed at this time
115	0.2	Oak	good	good		no work needed at this time
116	0.2	Oak	good	fair	large dead limb	deadwood prune
117	0.6	Douglas-fir	good	good	some low deadwood	deadwood prune
118	0.1 avg	4 Oak grove	good	good	small deadwood	deadwood prune
119	0.2	Oak	good	good	suppressed by fir	deadwood prune
120	multi-stem	Maple	good	poor	sucker from old stump	remove
121	0.5	Arbutus	good	good	deadwood	deadwood prune
122	0.2, & 0.2	Twin stem Douglas-fir	good	good	suppressed, deadwood	remove to give room
123	0.3	Oak	good	good		deadwood prune
124	0.3	Oak	good	fair	deadwood, girdling wire at 2.5 m	deadwood prune remove wire
125	0.2	Oak	good	fair	deadwood, girdling wire	deadwood prune remove wire
126	0.3	Oak	good	good	deadwood	deadwood prune
127	0.2, & 0.1	Flowering plum	good	fair	included bark	prune to restructure
128	0.3	Douglas-fir	good	good	young tree	

d.b.h. = diameter at breast height measured in metres.

not valid unless signed



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BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY

July 19, 2002

Tree Tag No.	d.b.h.	Species	Health	Structure	Remarks	Recommendations
129	0.1	Laburnum	good	good		
130	0.3	Oak	good	good	previously topped, unusual	maintain as a small tree
131	0.3	Flowering plum	good	poor	previous limb stem failure, deadwood, cracks	prune to restructure
132	0.3	Maple	good	good	growing through arbutus	could be removed
133	multi-stem	Yew	good	good	non-native	
134	0.2	Oak	good	poor	previously topped	
135	0.2	Oak	good	fair	basal pruning wound	
136	0.3	Oak	good	fair	suppressed by firs, girdled by wire	
137	0.2	Oak	good	fair	suppressed by firs	
138	0.4	Douglas-fir	fair	fair	previously topped, one-sided form	
139	0.7	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops	deadwood/hazard prune, inspect tops
140	0.7	Douglas-fir	fair	poor	previously topped, multiple tops, suppressed	remove
141	>0.1, & >0.1	Holly	fair	fair		
142	1.0	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops	deadwood prune/hazard prune inspect tops
143	0.2	Yew	fair	good	native	
144	0.7	Grand fir	fair	poor	previously topped	deadwood/hazard prune inspect tops
145	0.5	Flowering plum	good	fair	large stem removed	prune to restructure
146	0.2	Maple	good	good		
147	0.2	Maple	good	good		
148	0.6	Douglas-fir	good	poor	previously topped, multiple tops	deadwood/hazard prune, inspect tops
149	0.6	Douglas-fir	good	good		
150	0.2	Cherry	good	good		prune to restructure
151	0.1	Plum sucker	good	good		prune to restructure
152	0.15, 0.15, & 0.15	Pear	good	fair		prune
153	0.2	Apple	poor	poor		
154	0.2	Apple	fair	good		
155	0.2	Apple	poor	poor		
156	0.2, & 0.2	Apple	poor	poor		
157	0.2	Cherry	good	good		prune to restructure
158	0.4	Douglas-fir	good	good		
159	0.5	Douglas-fir	good	good		

d.b.h. = diameter at breast height measured in metres.

not valid unless signed *Tom Talbot*

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BUTTERFIELD GARDENS INVENTORY

July 19, 2002

Tree Tag No.	d.b.h.	Species	Health	Structure	Remarks	Recommendations
160	0.3	Douglas-fir	good	good		
161	0.7, & 0.5	Arbutus	good	fair	decay in main union	
162	0.2	Horse chestnut	good	fair	tall, growing to light	
163	0.4	Horse chestnut	good	good		
164	0.3	Douglas-fir	good	good		
165	0.2	Oak	good	good	small deadwood	
166	0.5	Douglas-fir	good	fair	growing from rock	
167	0.2, 0.1, & 0.1	Maple	good	poor	poor structure	
168	0.2	Oak	good	good		
169	0.2	Oak	good	good		
170	0.3	Oak	fair	good	epicormic growth, deadwood	deadwood prune
171	0.2	Oak	good	fair	small dead stem	
172	0.2	Douglas-fir	good	fair	previously topped	
PLEASE NOTE: dbh measurements identified with a * were measured below breast height due to irregularities at 1.5 metres.						
EAST WOODLAND						
approx.	72	Mainly young native trees				
	14	Douglas-firs				
	2	Big leaf maples.				
	5	Garry oaks				
	1	Arbutus				
		Chamaecyparis - exotic				
THE WOODLAND						
	55	Douglas-firs				
	4	Garry oaks				
	5	Arbutus				
	1	Big leaf maples.				
	1	Flowering plum - exotic				

d.b.h. = diameter at breast height measured in metres.

not valid unless signed



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Hilda:

File 2463:
Page 1 of 1

Hilda Butterfield, was born on Sept. 7, 1907, in Prince Rupert, where her father was a master mariner. In 1913 the Butterfields moved to Vancouver Island. They bought a 13 acre property on Mt. Newton X Road which they operated as a poultry farm.

Hilda attended St. Margaret's School in Victoria. After graduation she went into training at the Jubilee Hospital.

She nursed there until her father's death in 1930, where she came home to live with her mother.

Mrs. Butterfield and Hilda lived an active country life. They worked hard on the place (no poultry!), and had a beautiful garden, assisted by a chinaman called Sing who lived on the property. Hilda had

a horse called Blue, and I first remember seeing her riding on
Int. Newton X Road,

Mrs. Butterfield and Hilda were active in St. Stephens church where Mrs Butterfield played the organ.. They belonged to the Agricultural Society, and it was they who started the horse show at the Fair, you will still see Mrs. Butterfield's photograph on the stage in the main building at fair time,

Every September Hilda and her mother ~~went~~ went on a holiday in their car. In 1937 they travelled to England for a year, leaving Sue in charge, and were in London for the Coronation,

During World War II Hilda joined the army, and was stationed at St Anne de Bellevue in Quebec. After the war Hilda returned home, and took up her life as before until Mrs. Butterfield's death in 1961.

Hilda was competent to take over the property. She could fence and plumb, and until the last few years she did the gutters herself on her high roof. Blue being long gone, Hilda bought a chunky bay horse called Max, more as a lawnmower than a saddle horse, though she rode him once a year to the horseman's service at St. Stephen's.

4.

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Hilda's interests broadened out into the community. She joined the Pioneer Society and the Hospital Auxiliary. She also joined the Pentax camera club, and became an ardent photographer. The greater part of her time she continued to devote to St Stephen's Church, which she served in many capacities, and which became her life.

While in the army, Hilda had developed some ailment of a respiratory nature. This became an increasing problem as she grew older. In 1976 she was in and out of the Eastern Peninsula Hospital. In September she was moved to the Edeney Personal Care Home, and died there on April 17, 1987.

Joan Hodgson

30 October 1988

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7 pages

Butterfield Park
Louis Award Winner
The Hallmark Society
1996

by Lisa Butterfield
June 1996

Butterfield Park is situated in Central Saanich on a section of land once owned by William Thomson, an earlier settler of the area. The property is one of a number which tie into the history of the initial settlement of the Saanich Peninsula. The potential for heritage preservation along Mt Newton X Road and surrounding area is great.

Butterfield Park covers 13 acres and includes a residence, a farm building and a garage with attached shed. It also includes the remains of a clay tennis court and extensive terraced rock gardens. At present much of the grounds have returned to nature and are covered with the wildflowers the owners loved.

In 1890, John Claude Butterfield left Leeds in England and arrived in Victoria. Perhaps he came on the invitation of his uncle, Edward Gawlor Prior, for his first residence in Victoria was his uncle's home, The Priory, at 729 Pemberton. The following year however, Jack Butterfield had taken rooms at 91 Herald Street.

After that, Jack left Victoria and became involved in the shipping business along the northern coast of BC as master mariner.

He probably spent some time in Port Simpson and made at least one new friend there, for on October 17, 1906, he married Gertrude Evelyn Flewin, the eldest daughter of John Flewin, the government agent based in Port Simpson. This union was not blessed by all parties concerned. Apparently, Evelyn Flewin was a girl in her teens and Jack Butterfield, a seasoned sea captain in his 30s. This did not sit well with the Flewins, who were prominent members of Port Simpson society.

Mrs. Flewin's obituary written 19 years later may hint at some lasting resentment. The last line of the obit reads, "Leaves two sons, William and Bert, in Port Simpson and 2 sons and 2 daughters elsewhere." Evelyn may not have been the only child to disappoint.

However - undeterred, Jack and Evelyn's union was blessed in another way by the arrival on September 7th, the following year, of a baby daughter, Hilda Dorothy May.

Whether the Butterfields remained in Port Simpson, or not, for the next 6 years is not known. But in 1913, Jack retired from the sea and the family arrived in Victoria and purchased the 5.3 hectares of land on Mount Newton X Road for \$1300.

They may have lived for a short time in James Bay until the residence was ready for them.

They dubbed the property "South Hill" and began operating a poultry farm. The area had been logged a little while before, and at that time, there would have been open views from the front verandah of the valley below and the Malahat in the distance. The family were avid gardeners and terraced the sloping front yard, down to the road and filled it with rock gardens, stone steps and paths.

It is likely that the architect, John Charles Malcolm Keith, had a hand in the design of the house. Mr. Keith, born and trained in Scotland, began practicing architecture in Victoria in March of 1891, with the design of the present Christ Church Cathedral. A look at other residences of this period which were designed by him, reinforces this notion.

For example, the Dodds House at 1241 Monterey Ave (1912) and 1601 Wilmot Place (1911).

John Keith is also responsible for the former Saanich Municipal hall, 4512 West Saanich Road (1911) and Sir James Douglas School (1915).

(The following info is taken from *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890 - 1930* by Alan Gowans.)

The house is in the style of a "small foursquare", alternately known as an "Edwardian builder" or a "workingman's foursquare". This type of house is distinguished by "its squarish plan capped by a pyramidal roof, a tendency to cut verandah or porch space out of the basic square of the house and, frequently, a basement raised high enough for the house proper to be approached by a steep flight of wooden stairs."

Jack Butterfield lived and worked on the farm until his death on June 14, 1930. His funeral took place at Hayward's BC Funeral Chapel with a service following at St Stephen's Church where he was buried. Pallbearers included representatives of some of the better known families: A. Buckle, GB Williams, HG Kennaird, TE Lampman, Judge PS Lampman and Colonel the Honourable FG Hood.

After her husband's death, Evelyn, together with Hilda and a Chinese gardener and handyman named, Sing, continued to work on the garden which contained both native and domesticated plants and flowers.

The garage containing 2 rooms at the rear, along with the adjoining shed structure, is believed to have been Sing's quarters.

Evelyn was also very involved in the community. She is credited with organizing the local Red Cross during the first world war and founding the horse show at the Annual Fall Fair in Saanichton. Her photograph hung for years on the stage of the Agricultural Hall on the fairgrounds. She was also an

active parishioner of St Stephen's Church and, among other things, played the organ for church services.

Evelyn passed away in 1961.

Hilda Butterfield continued to be, after her mother's death, just as actively involved in the life of the community as Evelyn had been.

Hilda had attended St Margaret's School as a child and received medical training at the Jubilee Hospital where she worked as a nurse until her father's death.

During World War II, she joined the army and was stationed at Ste Anne de Bellevue in Quebec. She returned to Victoria when the war ended.

It was customary for Hilda and her mother to take a vacation every September by car. However, in 1937, they travelled to England and brought back souvenirs of Edward's abdication.

Hilda was active in many groups in the area: the Pioneer Log Cabin Society, the Hospital Auxiliary, the North and South Saanich Agricultural Society and St. Stephen's Church. She was also a dedicated photography buff and member of the Pentax Camera Club. Sharing Evelyn's interest in wildflowers, she too, was a member of the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association.

Hilda had two horses, one called Blue and then, later, after Blue's death, a chunky bay horse named Max, who was considered more of a lawn mower than a saddle horse. The horses were also used to give Hilda the extra height she needed in order to clear the gutters of the house every year.

The farm building on the property was primarily devoted to housing poultry but it also contains 3 horse stalls and room for hay storage.

By 1986, Hilda's health became increasingly unreliable. She had developed a respiratory ailment in the army and that recurred. She was in and out of the Saanich Peninsula Hospital and in September, moved into the Sidney Personal Care Home, where she died on April 17, 1987.

In her last will and testament, Hilda, also echoing the sentiments of her mother, bequeathed the property of 1184 Mount Newton X Road to the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association. It was her wish that the native wildflowers and plants which she and Evelyn had encouraged and protected, should be safeguarded after her death.

The Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association was not in a position to take on the responsibility of caretaking the property but, wishing to honour Hilda's wishes, sought an interested party which would be able to do so.

The district of Central Saanich indicated their willingness and in February of 1988, a by-law was passed which changed the 13 acres of private land into municipally owned parkland. The land was now "reserved for the pleasure and recreational use of the public, including the preservation of wildflowers". The fate of the buildings on the property was yet to be decided.

The residence received inspection by a building and licensing inspector and his report of April, 1988, outlined the many changes and updates that were necessary.

For a while it looked as though the buildings would be demolished and the property returned to the state from whence it came. In fact the buildings were frequently vandalized over the next three years. It was feared that someone might inadvertently set fire to the residence and subsequently the surrounding area. The roof leaked and despite being boarded over, some window glass was

broken. The outbuildings were quickly deteriorating as well.

However, a few dedicated and committed souls kept a protective eye on the place and continued to put pressure on the powers that be, hoping to prevent the loss of this valuable setting.

One of those passionate protectors of the site was Cyril Hume, period landscape consultant, who in a letter to Mayor and council of Central Saanich in May 1992, emphasized the importance of preserving the whole as, in his opinion, it was one of the most valuable historic residential landscapes anywhere in BC. He went on to say that the "heritage value and significance of this property is the survival and integration of all its component parts - house, outbuildings, garden, tennis court, meadow and woodland - into its total landscape context".

A Feasibility and Assessment Study was conducted in July of 1992 by Bawlf Cooper Associates and architect, John Keay. The study recommended heritage designation and found the buildings in reasonable condition, requiring a reasonable amount of work, to restore and stabilize considering their heritage value.

Finally, after much discussion and many delays, Central Saanich Council designated the Butterfield house, barn, garage and shed as a municipal heritage site on Sept 8, 1992. BC Heritage Trust was applied to for funding and in June 93, word was received that a grant for \$20,400 was available from the Trust for exterior restoration, building stabilization and security.

Shortly after, a contract was awarded to Cedar Construction to undertake the restoration of the bldgs under the direction of architect Jonathan Yardley.

Restoration began in Nov 1993 and the project was completed in March 1994. Tenant/Caretaker was selected. A public reception was held on April 27, 1994, and the park was officially opened to the public.

The Louis Award is presented for outstanding heritage building restoration, unusual attention to authenticity and structural integrity, serious financial commitment and exemplary impact on a neighbourhood or region.

We are very pleased this evening to present the Louis Award to the District of Central Saanich for its work with Butterfield Park.

Lisa Butchart
Hallmark Society

-2-

need for safety maintenance presently being carried out by the Municipality, I feel that the homestead itself could be treated as a separate entity within the Park.

I would define "homestead" as the area of the property that is comprised of the house, outbuildings, garden and orchard and the formerly landscaped now overgrown rock gardens around the house.

The land to the east west and south of the homestead contains, to use Miss Butterfield's words, "a woodlot waiting to be harvested." The garden, orchard, shrubs and wildflowers, as well as the buildings, would all greatly benefit from a thorough thinning. The vast amount of marketable timber in that area could generate funds for the maintenance of the entire property, and at the same time greatly enhance the park-like appearance by affording the magnificent views that are now hidden.

I have in my possession photographs of the beginnings of this homestead and the land around it, and I can say that recreating and maintaining that style and appearance would truly be in accordance with the Butterfield family's wishes.

Miss Butterfield passed away with the assurance that the homestead was in good hands.

In order to fulfill my commitments to her and because it would suit my own needs, as I very much identify with this family's approach to the homesteading principle, I would like to submit the following proposal for your consideration.

Heritage Significance

The Butterfield residence was built in 1913 as a family home for John and (Gertrude) Evelyn Butterfield and their daughter Hilda. Located on 13 acres (5.3 ha) of parkland (formerly a poultry farm) on the south slopes of Mount Newton in rural Central Saanich, this residence remained in the Butterfield family for some 74 years!

The residence, outbuildings and the overall site are of special significance to the community of Central Saanich particularly due to the age of the residence, prominent role the Butterfield Family played in local community affairs; impressive garden display; and the nearly unaltered state of the residence and garage.

Both Mrs. Butterfield and Hilda were active in the rural community. Evelyn is credited with organizing the local Red Cross group during the first World War and founding the horse show at the Annual Fall Fair. Both women were members of the North & South Saanich Agricultural Society, and were active parishioners of St. Stephen's Church for many years.

Together with Chinese gardener/handyman, Dong, they created a beautiful garden containing both native and domesticated plants and flowers. It is believed the rear section of the garage and the adjoining shed were Dong's living quarters.

The barn was used as a shelter for both poultry and horses.

Architectural Merit

Of foursquare, or "Edwardian Builder" style, this house shows strong evidence of being a J.C.M Keith design. Its hipped bell cast roof, six-lite living and dining room windows, and off-centre front porch are identical to another home designed by Keith (Louise M.B. Dodds House, 1241 Monterey Avenue, built in 1912). Further, the proportion of rooms, overall layout and detailing of features throughout offer additional support to this claim.

As found drawings by N. Bawlf, July 1992, are attached for reference.

ELISABETH WHITELAW LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

February 15, 2002

Dear Friends of Butterfield Park

In January I was hired by the Municipality of Central Saanich to do an inventory and assessment of the gardens. As well as physically recording the plants that exist on the property at the present time, I will endeavor to make a plan of the gardens as they were when the Butterfield family was alive. This will provide information for the Municipality as they plan to restore the gardens. Your memories could help this research.

If you have stories about the gardens I would very much like to hear them, to learn about the way things were. Information from your reminiscences will become part of the historic documents of the park. And if you have any photographs, please share them and they will be returned to you.

Possibly you can help me answer some questions that have already arisen:

1. I understand that a man by the name of Wolfgang Haus worked in the gardens for Hilda Butterfield in the early 1980's. He has photographs and information that would be extremely helpful. Do you know where I could contact him or where he may have moved?
2. Another man helped the Butterfields at an earlier date, a Chinese helper by the name of Dong or Sing. Do you remember hearing stories about him? Possibly he helped arrange the large stones around all of the garden beds.

Please write or telephone me if you have information or if you are interested in the project. (I will be out of town Feb 22 to Mar 1.) We hope to have a 'garden walk' on Saturday April 13th when the Easter Lilies are in bloom and I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you then.

Sincerely

Elisabeth Whitelaw

1192 Foundry Quay
Telephone 604 732-8562

Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3P3
Email albertine@telus.net



You are invited, on Saturday April 13th, 2002
to attend a Garden Walk at Butterfield Park from 1 to 3 pm

To enjoy the lilies
To share your memories and photographs of the garden
To remember and to dream of the future...

We will have a canopy, table and chairs
We look forward to meeting you, rain or shine

Elisabeth Whitelaw, Landscape Architect 604-732-8562

ELISABETH WHITELAW LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

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Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3P3

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To Bonnie McKenzie and Heritage Commissioners

Butterfield Gardens

June 3, 2002

The following points illustrate my concept of future management of the gardens. Prior to incorporating these ideas into the final plan I would appreciate your input as to their feasibility.

1. MANAGEMENT.

Management of the gardens would be most effective if undertaken by a paid administrator who would fundraise, manage restoration, organize teams of volunteers to do on going work, report to the Municipality and the Heritage Commission.

- How do you see the management of the restoration being handled?
- Where would the money come from for the administration?
- Who would that person be?

2. VOLUNTEERS

The restoration would proceed well with a core group of volunteers involved in on-going work at the property. Ivy and daphne removal people, bulb replanting people, garden maintenance people (especially for planting and maintaining species to replace invasive plants). These groups would have to be led by knowledge people with energy and vision. Some covered area would need to be offered, such as part of the garage to keep tools, eat lunch out of the rain and make tea. Most local residents seem to have large properties of their own to maintain.

- What will entice them to give hours of their time to Butterfield Park?
- What local initiatives are there for co-sponsored work for some of the grunt work?
- Who would oversee this?

3. PHASING

Phase 1 remove invasive species and replace with appropriate plants possibly grown by tissue culture or cuttings from park plants.

Phase 2 develop bulb and native plant policies and procedures to strengthen plant communities.

Phase 3 manage light levels by judiciously reducing tree canopy, also re-establish views to water.

Phase 4 clear out brush from orchard and paddock areas to make property read again as a farm. Acquire animal/animals to keep area open.

Phase 5 Re-establish formal garden beds in area of house.

Each phase to be completed and evaluated before the next phase is initiated. Possibly because of economic circumstances or interest within the community, work would be maintained at say Phase 3 for a number years until a new initiative took it to the next phase.

4. PARK USE

The property could be used as a destination for walking, enjoying seasonal flora, discovering local history, a site for picnics, a stop on a tour of local points of interest, ie including St. Stephens, Ravenhill Farm, etc.

- How do you see it being used?
- By whom?

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) **Butterfield Gardens Inventory & Assessment - discussion**

A memorandum from Bonnie McKenzie, Manager of Community Services, attached correspondence from Elisabeth Whitelaw, Landscape Architect, with regard to progress on the *Butterfield Garden Inventory and Assessment Review*. Ms. McKenzie noted that most of the site work has now been completed by Ms. Whitelaw, and a (incomplete) Draft report, received June 24, 2002, was circulated to the Heritage Commission. To assist in this regard, Ms. Whitelaw requested input and direction from the Commission and where appropriate, District Staff, on a number of points.

Discussion took place with regard to the points set out in Ms. Whitelaw's correspondence dated June 3, 2002, with regard to the concept of future management of the gardens, and the following comments (noted in bold) were made in response to questions:

1. *MANAGEMENT*

Management of the gardens would be most effective if undertaken by a paid administrator who would fundraise, manage restoration, organize teams of volunteers to do on going work, report to the Municipality and the Heritage Commission.

- *How do you see the management of the restoration being handled?*

The Heritage Commission agreed that management of the gardens would be most effectively undertaken by hiring an Administrator, possibly under contract on a part-time basis.

- *Where would the money come from for the administration?*

It was noted that with the lack of funds available through B.C. Heritage Trust grants, and Municipal tax restraints, possibly funds could be raised for the administration by holding events at venues such as "Dunmora" (as noted in item a) above under New Business), support from local service clubs and potentially application of rental revenue (from Caretaker's residences) in the future.

- *Who would that person be?*

It was noted that there are many knowledgeable, local people who may be interested in this project. Trevor May offered to obtain names of people who may be interested in working on this project. Knowledge of historical landscapes and horticultural expertise would be required.

2. VOLUNTEERS

The restoration would proceed well with a core group of volunteers involved in on-going work at the property. Ivy and daphne removal people, bulb replanting people, garden maintenance people (especially for planting and maintaining species to replace invasive plants). These groups would have to be led by knowledgeable people with energy and vision. Some covered area would need to be offered, such as part of the garage to keep tools, eat lunch out of the rain and make tea. Most local residents seem to have large properties of their own to maintain.

- *What will entice them to give hours of their time to Butterfield Park?*

It was noted that many people just enjoy being part of a group (i.e. *Friends of Butterfield Park*) and enjoy the camaraderie. It was also noted that some volunteers may live in apartments/townhouse complexes, and wish to do some gardening. Bonnie McKenzie noted that some tools are available for use by volunteers and could be left on-site in a storage shed. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to send out letters to groups such as the Sidney/North Saanich Garden Club, the University Women's Club, the Horticultural Society of the Pacific, and local service clubs such as the Brentwood Bay Lions Club, Central Saanich Lions Club, Brentwood Bay Rotary Club and Knights of Columbus.

Volunteer/Donor recognition on a sign, benches, stepping stones, a central cairn, or possibly even adopting a tree may be helpful incentives.

- *What local initiatives are there for co-sponsored work for some of the grunt work?*

Further develop existing community participation for the removal and control of invasive species. Seek both corporate and service club support for specific projects.

- *Who would oversee this?*

It was suggested that possibly a Volunteer Coordinator could be assigned, (someone from the Community), with training from Staff on techniques for ivy and daphne removal.

3. PHASING

- ❖ *Phase 1 remove invasive species and replace with appropriate plants possibly grown by tissue culture or cuttings from park plants.*
- ❖ *Phase 2 develop bulb and native plant policies and procedures to strengthen plant communities.*
- ❖ *Phase 3 manage light levels by judiciously reducing tree canopy, also re-establish views to water.*
- ❖ *Phase 4 clear out brush from orchard and paddock areas to make property read again as a farm. Acquire animal/animals to keep area open.*
- ❖ *Phase 5 re-establish formal garden beds in area of house.*

Each phase to be completed and evaluated before the next phase is initiated. Possibly because of economic circumstances or interest within the community work would be maintained at say Phase 3 for a number of years until a new initiative took it to the next phase. Would you agree with the above?

- **The Commission was generally supportive of a phased project, and that each phase should be completed and evaluated before the next phase is initiated.**
- **The Commission suggested that possibly local Nurseries could be approached to assist with plantings.**
- **The Commission felt that the Consultant should advise further in this regard, as per the Terms of Reference with regard to the priorities for removal of invasive species (i.e. by species, by area, or other manner?)**
- **The Commission suggested that the Parks Foreman may be able to provide feedback regarding methods to remove invasive species (i.e. controlled application of a pesticide).**
- **The Commission expressed concern with regard to water supply on the property. Possible suggested options included activating an existing well (presently capped) for irrigation purposes only; contacting adjacent property owners regarding use of their reservoir, use of delivered water – stored in some manner on site. A drip irrigation system was suggested, noting that this method is very effective and uses little water. It was noted that infrastructure to support garden restoration, including irrigation, was identified in the Project Terms of Reference for discussion by the Consultant within the Report.**
- **The Heritage Commission noted that it looks forward to receiving the tree inventory and plans.**

4. PARK USE

The property could be used as a destination for walking, enjoying seasonal flora, discovering local history, a site for picnics, a stop on a tour of local points of interest, i.e. including St. Stephen's Church, Ravenhill Farm, etc.

- *How do you see it being used?*
- *By whom?*

The Commission felt that while they do not want to overwhelm the park with use, they would encourage groups such as school programs to visit the park. It was noted that designating a picnic spot, possibly in the meadow, would be desirable, and that visitors should be encouraged to keep to the trails.

Bonnie McKenzie requested members of the Commission to review the draft document and provide any comments to Staff as soon as possible in order that this information can be forwarded to Elisabeth Whitelaw in a timely manner. The Commission noted that it looks forward to receiving the tree inventory and plans.

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White Fawn Lily
Erythronium oregonum
Photograph: Elisabeth Whitelaw

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