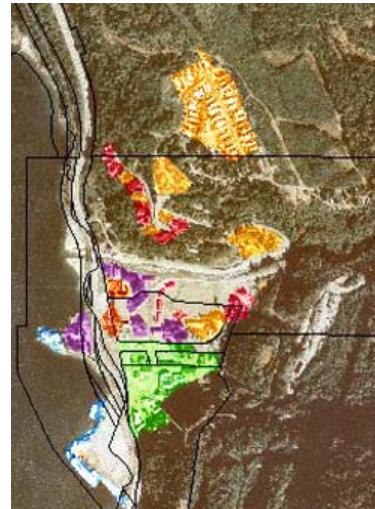


C.1 ARCHITECTURAL TYPES, HISTORIC AND EMERGING

Heather Scott

VARIOUS ARCHITECTURAL TYPES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND THEIR APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED HERE.

BELOW ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS ABOUT EACH TYPE, A DIAGRAM OF HOW THEY RELATE TO THE LAND, AND AN EXAMPLE OF EACH



LEGEND



- MODULAR HOMES
- MINER'S HOMES
- OUTBUILDINGS
- MINE BUILDINGS
- COMMUNITY BUILDINGS
- MARINE ARCHITECTURE

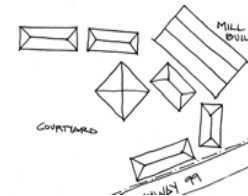


HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL TYPES

TRADITIONAL MINE BUILDINGS

Form: Clustered around the mill building, without clear site boundaries
Clapboard style, colourfully painted
Purpose-built structures

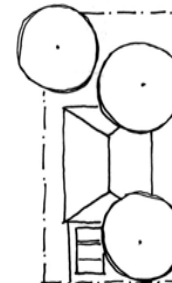
Analysis: Ordering system arose out of need associated with mine
Give a sense of history to Britannia Beach
Most date from after 1921 when a flood destroyed half of the structures on the beach
Mill No. 3 was built in 1922 (replacing a similar building that burnt down)



MINERS HOUSING

Form: Uniform rectangular structures with repeated floor plan;
Entrance and parking in front, seeming interaction with the street
Clapboard style houses have been altered over the years

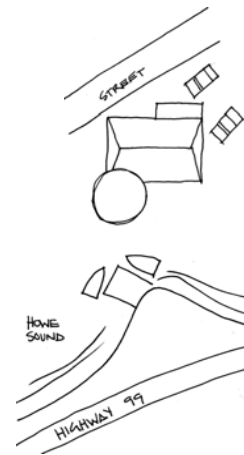
Analysis: Miners houses were built for the workers in the 1920's, and the location was probably a response to the 1921 flood
These are interspersed with new homes, changing the original linear layout



COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

Form: Includes community hall, school, post office and churches
 Purpose built clapboard structures

Analysis: Structures seem to float on concrete pads
 Parking generally loosely defined in front of building
 Connection with street ill-defined (see diagram)



MARINE

Form: Dilapidated wharfs, docks and boats remaining at the waters edge along the beach and further south

Analysis: Like mine buildings, marine architecture adds a sense of history to Britannia Beach
 Access is difficult because of barrier created by Hwy 99 (see diagram)

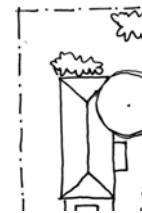


EMERGING ARCHITECTURAL TYPES

MODULAR/ TRAILER HOMES

Form: Long, narrow rectangular shape
 Usually aluminium siding
 Generally associated with some gardening or landscaping
 Entrances usually to the side and parking is located in the front yard

Analysis: Predominant housing type, slowly replacing miners' housing
 This architectural type is found at the beach and on the mountain side
 Arising in the 1960's and 70's, this inexpensive housing that sits on a rented concrete pad
 Seems temporary but is in fact permanent
 Less interaction with street than traditional housing



OUTBUILDINGS

Small, independent structures with various uses including commercial buildings, bus shelter and fire hall

Form: Generally mimic clapboard style or "mining town" style, but also cinder block construction and several creative designs

Analysis: In the 1980's and 1990's several shops and cafes emerged along the highway within the town limits
 Main collection lies in a row with informal gravel parking in front



C.2 MASS VOID ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AND THE PUBLIC REALM

A mass void analysis study is necessary in understanding the larger spatial structure that create the site experience. The following study, diagrams the existing geography and patterns of development and vegetation in and around Britannia.

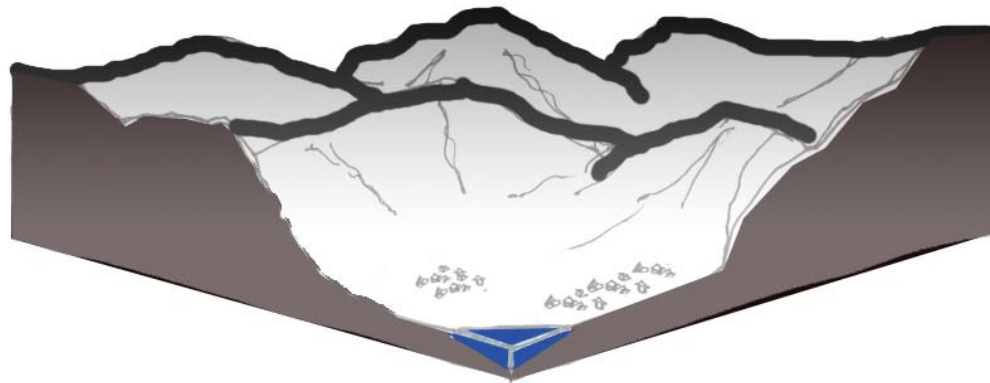


Figure 1 *Geomorphic Form; the Bowl*

The geomorphic form of the site is quite unique. Its dramatic topography creates a distinct bowl form. The high slopes above that descend into the flat basin below characterize the site.

The adjacent Howe Sound forms an important open or void space. The low, flat surface of the water accentuate the views beyond and contribute to the sense of geographic expansiveness felt on site.

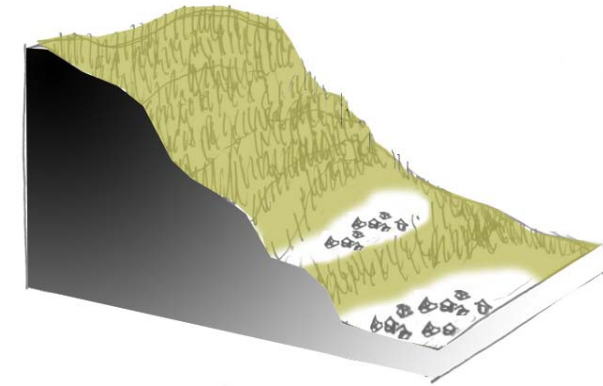


Figure 2 *Relationship between Vegetation and Developed Areas*

This diagram demonstrates the way the clusters of development exist on shelves or large flat areas with little or no vegetation. The lack of vegetation and dusty quality of both the residential and commercial areas attributes to their void nature. They are treated as entities separate to the surrounding forest landscape and likewise feel separate.

C.2 MASS VOID ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AND THE PUBLIC REALM



Emerging Patterns

In this figure, more specific patterns of development and vegetation emerge.

built

For example, the pattern of residential development on the west side of the side suggest a suburban cul-de-sac model.

vegetative

When on site, the forest feels like it covers more of the landscape, but the map reveals many places where the forest cover is broken by different infrastructure including: power lines, roads, logging cuts, etc. Highway 99 is another major break in forest cover. It becomes a void space that physically disconnects the shoreline and the community.

Figure 2 Built and Vegetative Structure of Britannia Beach

C.3 MAJOR SHARED VISUAL AND EXPERIENTIAL LANDSCAPE RESOURCES

Josie Wiens



From the road

The view of Britannia Beach the passer-by receives is a highly imagable one. The natural landscape and the built structures of the town serve to establish it as a place that stands out. The mine is the overwhelming feature, dominating the mountainside on one slope. The buildings in view from the highway are mostly older, well-maintained ones with a small town charm geared to attract tourists. Even the decrepit dock building has a romantic ruin appeal. The natural landscape also provides glimpses of the town that form lasting images- the little white church tucked into the forested mountainside overlooking the town is one such image. The peninsula jutting into the sound with the ramshackle building at the end of it creates another scenic vista that adds to the creation of Britannia Beach as a good and memorable place. The landscape helps to shape the town into a structure that can be remembered. Driving along the highway one descends to near sea level and the space opens up as one reaches the community. The coastline forms one distinct edge while the mountains enclose the other three sides in a bowl shape. This structure is significant because it allows for a physical shape of the town to be formed.





From the town

It is more difficult to speculate what residents feel makes their town a place. Documenting an insider's view of a place includes the social interactions with place which may not be immediately apparent. The creek, the forested slopes, the water's edge, the glacial terrace have come to shape the town into what it is and have much more significance to the residents than the passers-by. Altering these features would have a huge affect on the qualities of the town since they make up its form and structure. Looking into these features further one sees the shoreline of Howe Sound has allowed for a series of docks, one in particular being the community dock. The dock house provides an opportunity for activities at the waterfront. The playing field is likely a spot that at certain times draws the community together. The church provides a gathering place, which is also an imagable building. The mine no doubt shapes the community as its presence is overwhelming, yet in daily life it is not clear how much it plays a role. It is likely too, that the buildings along the main strip are not used by the community and play only a small role in the resident's view of Britannia Beach. People create a sense of place, as well, by expressing themselves through their environment, such as the painted happy face rocks. The experiential qualities can also be seen through the textures and materials of the site, such as the soil, rock and industrial material of the mine.

