

## THE BRITANNIA CANNERY

This building was constructed in 1889 as a cannery, and was later converted into a shipyard due to salmon depletion from the Hell's Gate Landslide in 1912.

In July 1889, Britannia's first salmon pack was loaded into the 200' tea clipper Titania. This was the first direct shipment of salmon to Europe, and it proved that Steveston was a port capable of handling large vessels.



## BRITANNIA SHIPYARD

The ABC Packing Company converted the Britannia Cannery into the Britannia Shipyard and Maritime Repair Shop in 1918. The company brought their fleet here every winter for repairs. The shipyard was the only one of its kind where men could work undercover. Its boat cradles can hold up to two 80' boats.

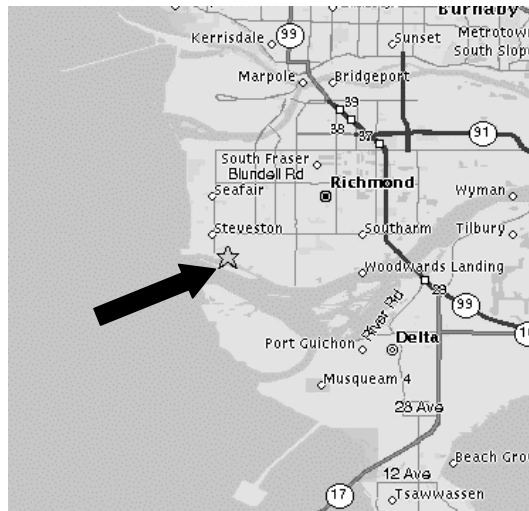
## HOURS OF OPERATION

### Summer (May to September)

Tuesday to Sunday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Closed Mondays

### Winter (October to April)

Saturdays 10:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Sundays 12 noon – 4:00 pm



## Britannia Heritage Shipyard

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**RICHMOND**

*Island City, by Nature*



**BRITANNIA SHIPYARD NATIONAL  
HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA**

## WALKING TOUR



Britannia is owned and operated by the City of Richmond. It is a National Historic Site dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Shipyard and surrounding buildings as an active wooden boat centre and waterfront park.

## **MURAKAMI HOUSE AND BOATWORKS**

The house was built in 1885 on piles over the marsh. The Murakami family lived there from 1929 to 1942. The restored home opened in 1998 as the official Murakami Visitor Centre with the assistance of the Murakami family.

Otokichi Murakami built the boatworks building next to his home in 1929 and produced two boats every winter.



## **RICHMOND BOATWORKS**

Saeji Kishi and his employees constructed this building on piles above the marsh in 1932 for the ABC Packing Company. The boatworks was designed to accommodate up to four 30' fishing boats at one time. Gillnet fishing boats, 24' and 26' in length, with drums and Easthope engines were the main product of this shop.

## **CANNERY OFFICE**

In 1890 this building was known as the cannery office. This building has no internal framework. A temporary frame was used during construction and then removed leaving the roof supported by the walls.

## **STILT HOUSES**

These homes were built in the 1800's as fisherman's dwellings. John Murchison, Steveston's first police chief and customs officer, purchased the Murchison Houses in 1895.

## **CHINESE BUNKHOUSE**

This is the last surviving Chinese Bunkhouse on the coast. The building was originally located in Knight Inlet, and was relocated here by BC Packers.



## **THE ENVIRONMENT**

The intertidal zone marsh is an important fish habitat. It is a

protected area for migratory birds and our family of swans. Shady Island across the channel was once just a small sandbar that provided only minimal protection from storms. The wooden bulkhead (vertical planks) was built in the 1930's to protect the dyke from storm wave erosion. Part of the original dyke can be seen in front of the Britannia shipyard building. Look for large stones in the marshes. Some of these are ballast stones from early schooners and clippers.



## **THE BOARDWALK**

The original boardwalk served as a main street for the Steveston waterfront. The boardwalk ran to the front doors of all the buildings on the waterfront. The narrow boardwalk was three or four planks wide and built on piles above the marsh.