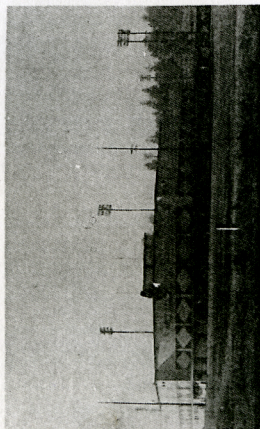


SADLER
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PHONE NUMBER, 872 0208

AN EXTENSION PROJECT OF THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY

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HISTORY

IN JANUARY, 1970 THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY BEGAN A THREE MONTH EXPERIMENTAL EXTENSION PROJECT IN THE JOCKEY CLUB AT THE P.N.E. THIS PROJECT, NAMED THE RACETRACK GALLERY, WAS FUNDED BY THE CANADA COUNCIL AND THE VANCOUVER FOUNDATION. THE SUCCESS OF THE RACETRACK LED TO THE SATELLITE GALLERY IN THE OLD ST. SAVIOR'S CHURCH AT 151 AND SEMLIN IN THE FALL OF 1970. THIS PROJECT WAS FOLLOWED IN THE SPRING OF 1971 WITH THE VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL TURNING THE OPERATION OF CAPILANO STADIUM OVER TO THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY FOR TWELVE MONTHS. WITH FUNDS FROM THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, THE CANADA COUNCIL AND THE VANCOUVER FOUNDATION, THE STADIUM GALLERY WAS BORN.

APRIL TO JUNE WAS SPENT ENTIRELY IN REVAMPING OF THE ACTUAL BUILDING. AT THE TIME OF TRANSFERENCE OF RESPONSIBILITY CAPILANO STADIUM WAS FILTHY, DARK, DAMP AND COLD. EVERY ROOM WAS CLUTTERED WITH THINGS LEFT FROM THE TIME OF THE MOUNTIES AND SINCE. AT THIS TIME A PRELIMINARY CHECK OF THE CITY INVENTORY WAS UNDERTAKEN AND GENERAL CLEAN-UP AND REARRANGEMENT TOOK PLACE. DURING THIS TIME THERE WAS SOME CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC AS PEOPLE EITHER READ ABOUT THE CHANGE IN THE PRESS OR SAW THAT THE BUILDING WAS OPEN. A SMALL GROUP OF LOCAL CHILDREN WERE CONSTANT COMPANIONS AS THE STAFF WORKED. PROFESSIONAL CLEANERS WERE HIRED TO UNDERTAKE THE MASSIVE CLEAN-UP INVOLVED IN A BUILDING WHICH HAS LAIN UNUSED WITH TWO GUARD DOGS RUNNING AROUND FOR SEVEN MONTHS. THE BUILDING WAS THEN READY TO BE PAINTED. PAINTING CONTINUED WELL INTO JUNE AND INVOLVED ABOUT 1500 GALLONS OF PAINT. THE MAIN FOYER AND ALL SMALL ROOMS HAVE NOW BEEN PAINTED ALTHOUGH SOME REQUIRE A THIRD COAT.

JUNE BROUGHT THE SMALL STAFF OF SIX THE HELP OF FIFTEEN STUDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH GRANT TO WORK FOR THE SUMMER. THEY JOINED IN THE LARGE PAINTING PROGRAM. JUNE ALSO MARKED THE OPENING OF THE STADIUM GALLERY. WORKSHOPS DID NOT GET UNDERWAY UNTIL LATER IN THE MONTH IN ANY LARGE NUMBERS BUT THERE WERE SEVERAL SCHOOL CLASSES WHICH VISITED AND THE LOCAL CHILDREN WERE COMING IN LARGER NUMBERS.

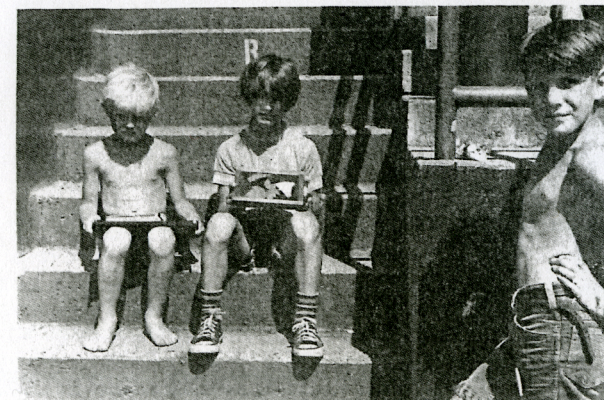
IN JULY WE CONTINUED TO WORK ON THE BUILDING AND CONDUCT WORKSHOPS. THE BUILDING ITSELF PROVED TO BE A PROBLEM IN TERMS OF UPKEEP AND REPAIR AS MUCH OF IT IS OLD AND DECREPIT. PLUMBING IS ANTIQUATED AND POSED SEVERAL SMALL CRISES, THE LOCKS ARE OLD, THE FENCE SEEMED TO CRUMBLE BEFORE OUR EYES, AND THE PAINTING SEEMED ENDLESS. IN ADDITION WE WERE HAVING A VANDALISM PROBLEM WITH MANY OF THE LOCAL YOUTH. DOORS WERE KICKED IN NEARLY EVERY DAY WITH ENTIRE FRAMES BEING RIPPED OFF THE WALL. THERE WAS NEED FOR CONSTANT POLICING OF THE BUILDING. THE TWO MAIN OFFENDING GROUPS SEEMED TO BE THE GLUE SNIFFERS AND THE 10 TO 13 YEAR OLDS. THE RILEY PARK GANG WAS ALSO AROUND AND CAUSING SOME PROBLEMS. SOME OF THE STAFF UNDERTOOK (THROUGH OBVIOUS NECESSITY) TO TALK AND

SPEND TIME WITH THESE LOCAL KIDS IN AN ATTEMPT TO STOP THE VERY DAMAGING ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS. IT WAS A LONG AND SOMETIMES TIRING JOB BUT WE FEEL THAT THE PROBLEM IS NOW FULLY UNDER CONTROL. THERE HAS BEEN NO VANDALISM FOR THE PAST MONTH. THE KIDS ARE NOW OUR FRIENDS. MANY OF THEM, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE GANG, HAVE BEEN OF IMMEASURABLE HELP TO US IN GETTING THE STADIUM CLEANED UP AND PRESENTABLE. WE CAN QUITE HONESTLY SAY THAT WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THERE HELP. IN TERMS OF THE EARLY PROBLEMS POSED BY THE LOCAL YOUTH (WHICH AT THE TIME SEEMED ALMOST INSURMOUNTABLE) WE SEEM TO HAVE MANAGED THE DIFFICULT TASK OF TURNING THERE DESTRUCTIVE ENERGIES INTO MORE POSITIVE CHANNELS, MAKING ALL OF US SOMEWHAT HAPPIER.

AUGUST, ESPECIALLY THE SECOND HALF AFTER OUR VERY SUCCESSFUL PICNIC / OPENHOUSE WHICH APPROXIMATELY 2000 PEOPLE ATTENDED, HAS BROUGHT A LARGER ATTENDANCE, NEW PEOPLE FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE CITY, AND MANY MORE OLDER PEOPLE, PRIMARILY PARENTS WITH THEIR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS. WORKSHOPS HAVE INCREASED TO THE POINT WHERE THERE ARE ALWAYS SEVERAL GOING ON - OR AT LEAST SEVERAL DIFFERENT THINGS TO DO. PEOPLE HAVE BEGUN TO REQUEST SPECIFIC WORKSHOPS AND THE QUALITY OF THINGS BEING PRODUCED HAS IMPROVED.

WE SEE THE SUMMER AS HAVING BEEN A TIME OF GETTING THE BUILDING IN SHAPE, WORKING WITH THE LOCAL KIDS AND SETTING UP A PROGRAM WHICH IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE STAFF, THE BUILDING, THE COMMUNITY AND THE CITY AT LARGE. WE NOW HAVE A CLEARER IDEA OF WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO DO FOR THE FALL AND WINTER BOTH IN TERMS OF WORKSHOPS AND OF THE BUILDING WHICH IS NOW BEGINNING TO BE ADAPTED TO OUR NEEDS. MORE WILL BE HAPPENING IN THE STADIUM DURING THE FALL AND WINTER WHEN THE CITY IS READY FOR THIS KIND OF PROGRAM, AND NEEDING IT MORE THAN IN THE SUMMER MONTHS AND WITH THIS INCREASED ACTIVITY WILL BE INCREASED ATTENDANCE. DESPITE THIS FACT, THE ATTENDANCE FOR THE SUMMER WAS APPROXIMATELY 20,000.

THIS SUMMER, BESIDES THE WORKSHOPS, THERE HAVE BEEN SPECIAL EVENTS WHICH INCLUDED ROCK BANDS, ETHNIC BANDS, FOLK SINGERS, MOVIES. IN ADDITION THERE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE USE MADE OF THE BASEBALL DIAMOND BOTH BY THE TWO LEAGUES OF ORGANIZED HARBALL AND MANY SOFTBALL GAMES BY VARIOUS GROUPS OF PEOPLE. OUR OWN WORKSHOPS INCLUDED PAINTING, LIFE DRAWING, BATIK AND TYE-DYE, MACRAME, WEAVING, COLLAGE, ETCHING, PHOTOGRAPHY, CANDLE-MAKING, LEATHERWORK ETC. WE HAVE A LIBRARY, AN EXHIBITION SPACE, A DARKROOM, A WORKSHOP COMPLETE WITH POWER TOOLS, A TRAMPOLINE, A THEATRE. A KITCHEN, TEEN DROP-IN ROOM AND ACCOUSTICALLY GOOD AREAS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS ARE BEING ADDED. WORKSHOPS WILL BE EXTENDED IN THE FALL TO INCLUDE MORE SPECIALIZED AREAS SUCH AS POTTERY, SILKSCREEN, AND GRAPHICS. THE FALL PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE TIMES FOR SCHOOL TOURS, A PROGRAM FOR MOTHERS AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN, SCHEDULED WORKSHOPS ON A CONTINUING BASIS BOTH DURING THE DAY AND IN THE EVENINGS, AN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM, AND AN EXPANDED SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.



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