

Learn more about the history and ecology of Vancouver's oldest and largest park. Thirty-six colourful graphic panels located throughout the park tell the stories of the natural and human forces that have shaped this world-renowned urban green space.

vancouver museum



Look beyond the familiar and discover dozens of intriguing stories about Vancouver's favourite park.

### HISTORY

## [01] From Coal Seams to Park: Devonian Park

West of Sculpture, Solo

Devonian Harbour Park has a wealth of history from early settlement to industrial waterfront.

#### **HISTORY**

## [02, 02d\*] Evolution of Stanley Park: How the Park Came to Be

Chilco Plaza above Nature House at Lost Lagoon / Prospect Pt. Plaza

Over millions of years, Stanley Park has evolved from an ocean floor to the largest urban park in Canada

### **ECOLOGY**

## [03, 03d\*] Vancouver's Green Treasure:

### Stanley Park, an Urban Forest

Chilco Plaza above Nature House at Lost Lagoon / Prospect Pt. Plaza

Stanley Park provides a rare opportunity to experience a wealth of nature in the city.

### HISTORY

## [04] Before the Lagoon was Lost: Archaeology of Lost Lagoon

Chilco Plaza above Nature House at Lost Lagoon

Lost Lagoon was linked to the ocean until building of the causeway in 1916. The local Coast Salish people used the site as a seasonal fishing spot.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [05] Wildlife in the City

Stanley Park Pavilion Bus Stop (off Pipeline Road)

In Stanley Park some animals such as bald eagles, coyotes, Canada geese and racoons have found ways to coexist with humans.

#### HISTORY

## [06] Vancouver's First Entertainment Hub: Stanley Park Pavilion

## **Stanley Park Pavilion**

The city's first social hub, the Pavilion and Malkin Bowl entertained thousands with music and theatre events.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [07] Wildlife Past and Present

Stanley Park Bus Loop (right off Pipeline Road, near Stanley Park Train Parking Lot)

As Vancouver developed in the late 1800's, large mammals that once inhabited the Stanley Park pennisula left for larger territories. Today small mammals coexist with humans in this urban environment.

#### HISTORY

## [08] Bringing Nature and Culture Together

Information Booth (left off Park Drive, past Rowing Club)

Stanley Park's attractions extend beyond its natural beauty. Both natural forces and people have created the park you see today.

### **HISTORY**

## [09] Clearing the Way for Sports: Brockton Oval

North of Brockton Oval Clubhouse (off Park Drive)

Located at the site of Stanley Park's first clear-cut, Vancouver's first athletic fields entertained many with various sporting events. HISTORY

### [10] Hallelujah Point

Hallelujah Point (right off Park Drive, past Brockton Visitor Centre)

Hallelujah Point was used as a settlement by the Coast Salish for millennia and later by new immigrants from Europe and Asia.

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#### HISTORY

## [11] Beacon of Maritime Safety: Brockton Lighthouse

### **Brockton Point Lighthouse Plaza**

As shipping activities increased at the turn of century the Brockton Lighthouse played an important role in guiding ships safely in and out of the harbour.

#### HISTORY

## [12] Creating a Vancouver Icon: Lions Gate Bridge

### **Brockton Point Lighthouse Plaza**

Originally built to access the North Shore, the Lions Gate Bridge is now one of the city's busiest thoroughfares with over 60,000 vehicles driving across each day.

#### **ECOLOGY**

## [13, 13d\*] Survivors along the Shore: Intertidal Life

East of Variety Kid's Water Park (off Park Drive) / 500m north of Second BeachPool along Seawall

A rich diversity of species have evolved amazing adaptations to thrive in an ever-changing intertidal habitat.

### HISTORY

### [14] Lumbermen's Arch

## Lumbermen's Arch (off Park Drive)

Called "Place of the Mask", the Coast Salish originally used this site as a seasonal fishing village.

### **ECOLOGY**

### [15] A Jungle below your Feet: Soil

### South Creek Path (pick up the path at the Rose Garden)

Soil contains more organisms than any other ecosystem on earth and provides vital support for the park's forest. ECOLOGY

## [16, 16d\*] Catching Sunbeams, Giving Life: Understory

### South Creek Path at Wren Trail / Tatlow Trail at Lee's Trail

When plants of the forest floor find enough sunshine between the trees, they thrive and create important forest habitat.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [17] Riparian Life

### **Beaver Lake**

Riparian areas have moisture-rich and organic soils, which in turn provide shelter and food for a variety of species such as beavers, racoons, sparrows, ducks, frogs and turtles.

#### **ECOLOGY**

### [18] Lake Succession

### **Beaver Lake**

Forest lakes have short life spans, and Beaver Lake is on its way to becoming a forest.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [19] Insects Shape Our World

### Beaver Lake

The health of Stanley Park's forest depends on many insect species from dragonflies to bees to mosquitoes.

### HISTORY

## [20] Cedar as Chief Provider:

### **Culturally Modified Tree**

North Creek Path at Reservoir Trail The versatile western redcedar has played a central role in supporting the traditional Coast Salish way of life.

### HISTORY

## [21] Helping Ships Find Harbour: Prospect Pt. Signal Station

### **Prospect Point Plaza**

A two-storey signal station once stood atop Prospect Point to alert approaching vessels of strong tides, winds and maritime traffic at the turn of the century.

### HISTORY

## [22] Disasters and Narrow Escapes: Prospect Pt. Lighthouse

### East of Prospect Pt. Lighthouse along Seawall

As ships navigated the Narrows' powerful tidal flows, they relied on warnings from the Prospect Point Lighthouse to stay clear of its rocky hazards.

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#### HISTORY

## [23] Fish Traps

### 300m north of Siwash Rock along Seawall

At low tide you will get a rare look at the remnants of stone fish traps created by the local Coast Salish people.

### GEOLOGY

## [24] Shaping the Landscape:Stanley Park Geology

### 300m north of Siwash Rock along Seawall

Stanley Park's rocky mosaic is the result of millions of years of landscaping by ancient rivers, tectonic uplift, volcanic activity and glaciers.

#### **HISTORY**

## [25] Defending the Harbour: Military History in Stanley Park

### **Across from Picnic Mound on Siwash Trail**

Stanley Park Peninsula was made a military reserve in 1860 to protect Burrard Inlet from seaborne attack. Russia and the United States were considered the principal threats to this part of the British Empire.

### **GEOLOGY**

### [26] A Rare Rock: Siwash Rock

### **Across from Picnic Mound on Siwash Trail**

Siwash Rock is Vancouver's only sea stack and site for the local Squamish First Nation's legend.

### HISTORY

### [27] Arrival of the First Europeans

### Foot of Siwash Trail (overlooking English Bay)

Spanish explorer, José Narváez, first mapped the coastline off Point Grey in 1791. One year later, Captain George Vancouver and his crew from Britan were also welcomed by the local Coast Salish.

#### **ECOLOGY**

## [28, 28d\*] Log Homes under Construction: Coarse Woody Debris

### Merilees Trail / Cathedral Trail

Fallen trees and dead wood may look messy, but they provide an important habitat for many forest animals.

#### **ECOLOGY**

## [29] Dynamic Forest Landscape

### Merilees Trail

Forest succession is part of a healthy and natural cycle. The forest is constantly living, growing, dying and regenrating.

### HISTORY

## [30] Etchings of Early Logging

#### Merilees Trail

You will find many remnants in the park of the legacy from logging activities that took place over a century ago.

### **ECOLOGY**

### [31] Recovering from the Storm

## Small Picnic Mound off Park Drive across from Prospect Point Picnic Grounds

After the windstorm in 2006, 15,000 young trees were replanted to foster conditions that promote the regrowth of a resilient forest.

## **ECOLOGY**

### [32] Our Trees Love Rain: Three Trees

## Foot of Third Beach Trail (near juncture with Merilees Trail)

Western hemlock, western redcedar and Douglas fir are three dominant types of trees found in the park, each with distinct features.

### ECOLOGY

### [33] Long Lasting Cedars: Tree Growth

### Squirrel Trail (near juncture with Lover's Walk)

This western redcedar was over 600 years old when it fell victim to the storm of 2006. Long-lasting cedars are vital to the health of coastal rainforests in life and death.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [34] Attracting a Feathery Crowd: Ocean Birds

### 500m north of Second Beach Pool along Seawall

The park's shorelines provide a vital habitat and feeding ground for a variety of ocean birds.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [35] Forest Birds

### Cathedral Trail

The combination of new growth and established forest provides varied food and nesting sites for different birds.

### **ECOLOGY**

## [36] Forest Wetland

### Cathedral Trail

Forest wetland supports a wide range of plants and animals such as skunk cabbage, ferns, salmonberry, salamanders, frogs and shrews.

