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## **APPENDIX TO PART 2:**

### **Britannia Shipyard National Historic Site Completion,**

#### **1. Phoenix Gillnet Loft, Maritime Arts Centre and Market**

Bud Sakamoto has provided an excellent description of the role the Chinese, First Nations, Japanese and Europeans played in developing a unique culture in Steveston. This excellent description could be used to request funding from senior governments now.

The attached sketches provide an alternative proposal that would see more of the building used to this end, depending upon the results of the public consultation. The top floor of the building would only be reconstructed in the north half of the building, leaving a tall area in the south section for indoor display of fishing boats. This is a similar concept to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax Nova Scotia. The open area around the boats at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic provides open space for the arts. (The boats could also be accommodated in the Phoenix Seine Loft in a similar way)

To make up for the lost space, the lean-to along the west side of the Phoenix Gillnet Loft would extend along the entire west side of the building, similar to the lean-to on the original Phoenix Cannery building. A cafe, moorage office and showers for visiting boaters could be located along the inside of the Phoenix floating dock to the east. The Estuarium would have to be located elsewhere..

**PHOENIX RECONSTRUCTION**

**Date 22 09 20**

**Bud Sakamoto**

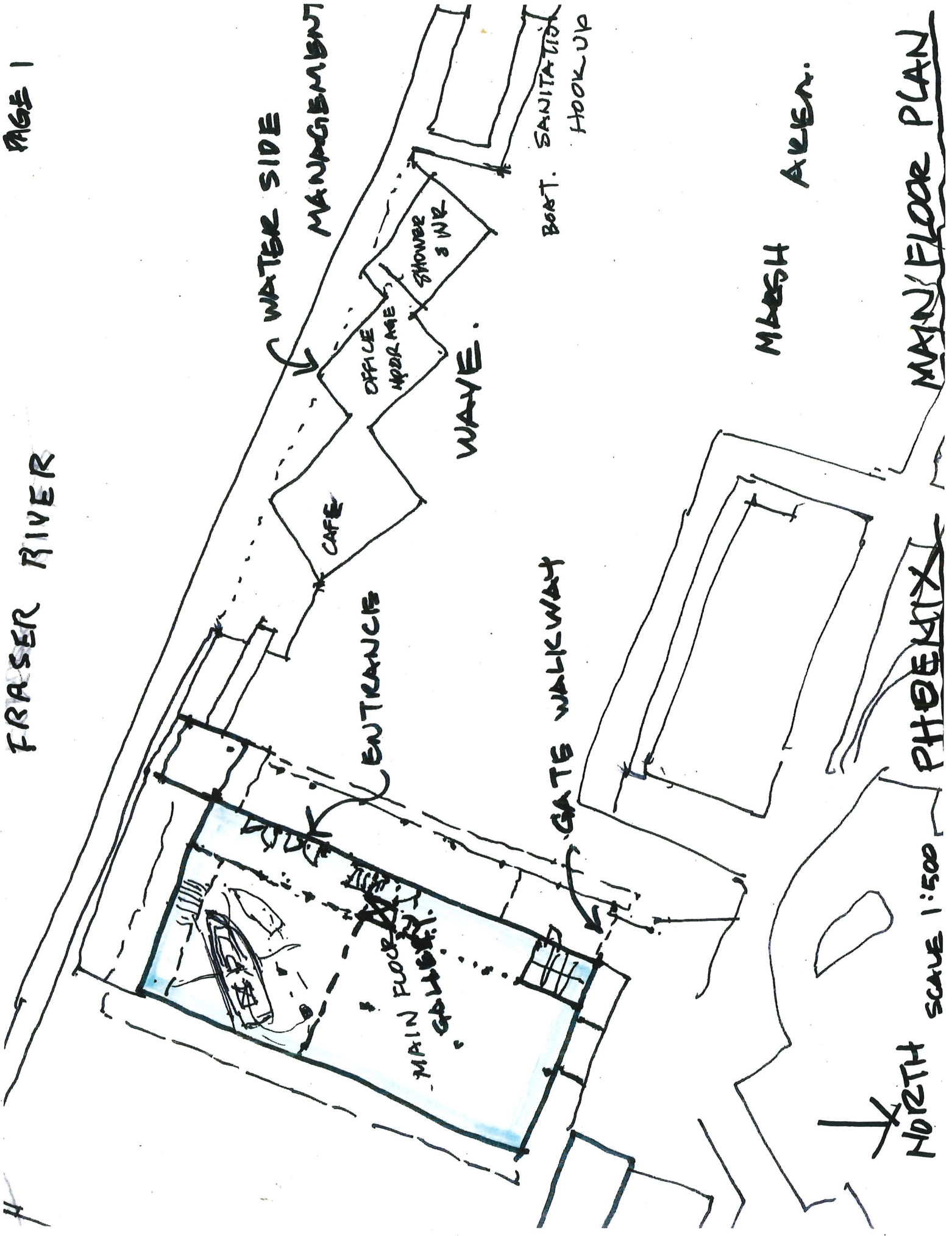
The Phoenix Site Development will be the fourth building at this location. All of the buildings reflected the use and the changing technology of the fishing industry of the times. The new rebuild should fit the industrial character of the waterfront of Steveston, with the interior being designed and developed to honour the pioneers of the fishing industry and of the Steveston community. The interior should have key permanent displays to set the tone and character for the Steveston waterfront, as well as spaces for changing displays to tell the stories of all ethnic pioneer fishermen and workers on the waterfront.

The Chinese, First Nations, Japanese and Europeans all brought their unique skills and culture to create a unique fishing community and to develop the primary industry of B C at the turn of the twentieth century. There was much hardship and challenges, but through legal justice, hard work, resilience and dedication all came together to create homes and places of work. It is the people that made Steveston and its primary resource development.

The new Phoenix can be a major attraction for Steveston and the community with the stories of the resilience of the early peoples. Through the right choice of medium for interpretation, and honour to the pioneers of the fishing industry, the Phoenix will be the place to visit in Richmond.

# FRASER RIVER

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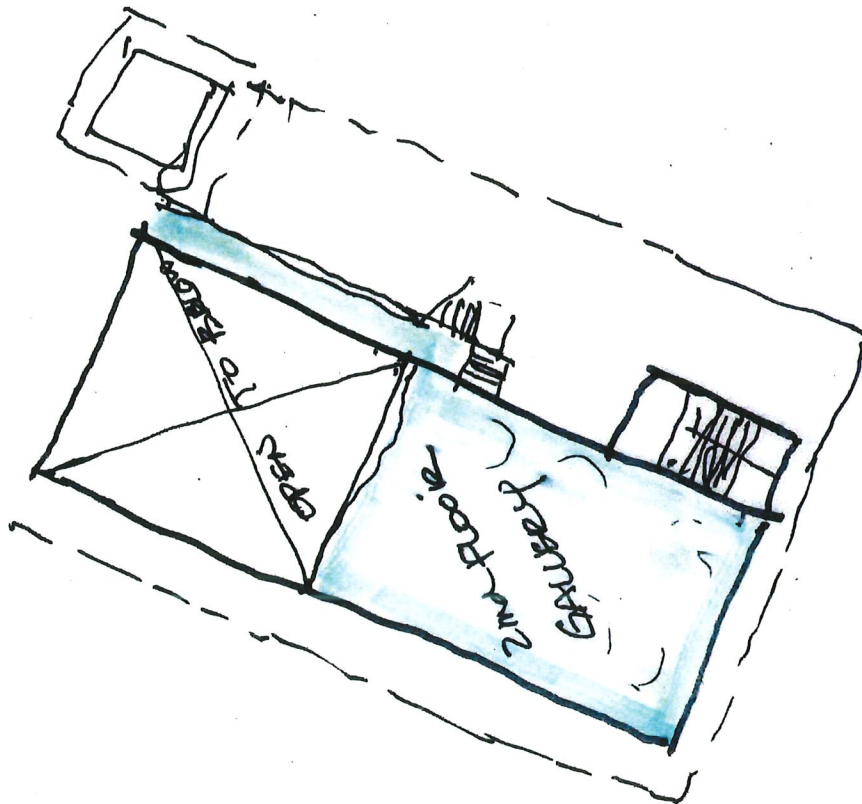


MAIN FLOOR PLAN

PHOENIX

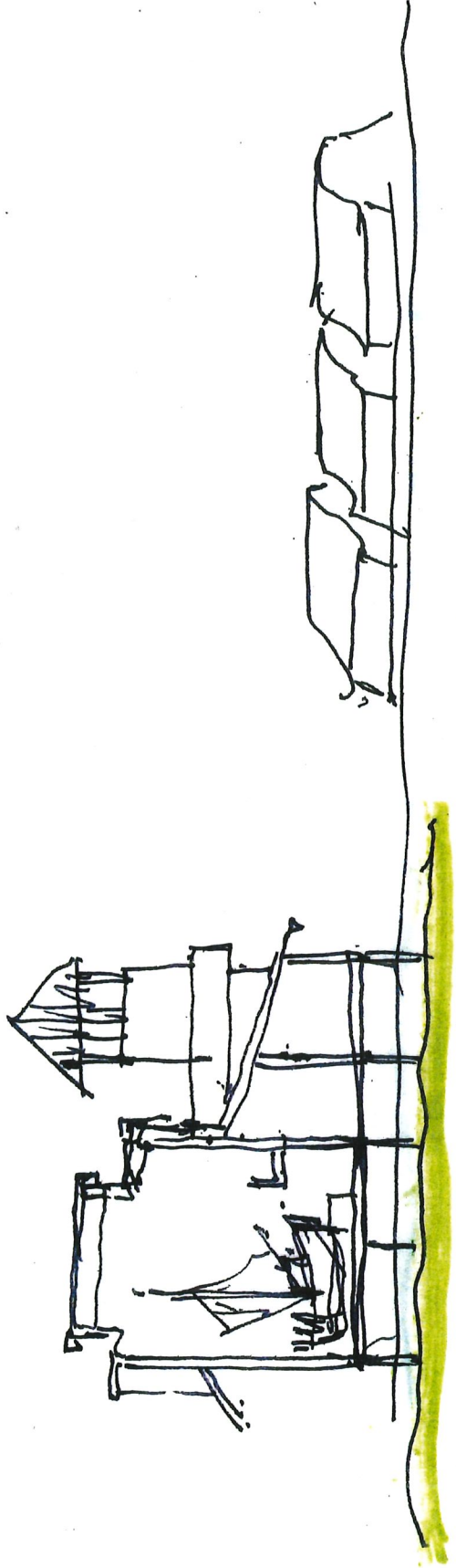
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NORTH

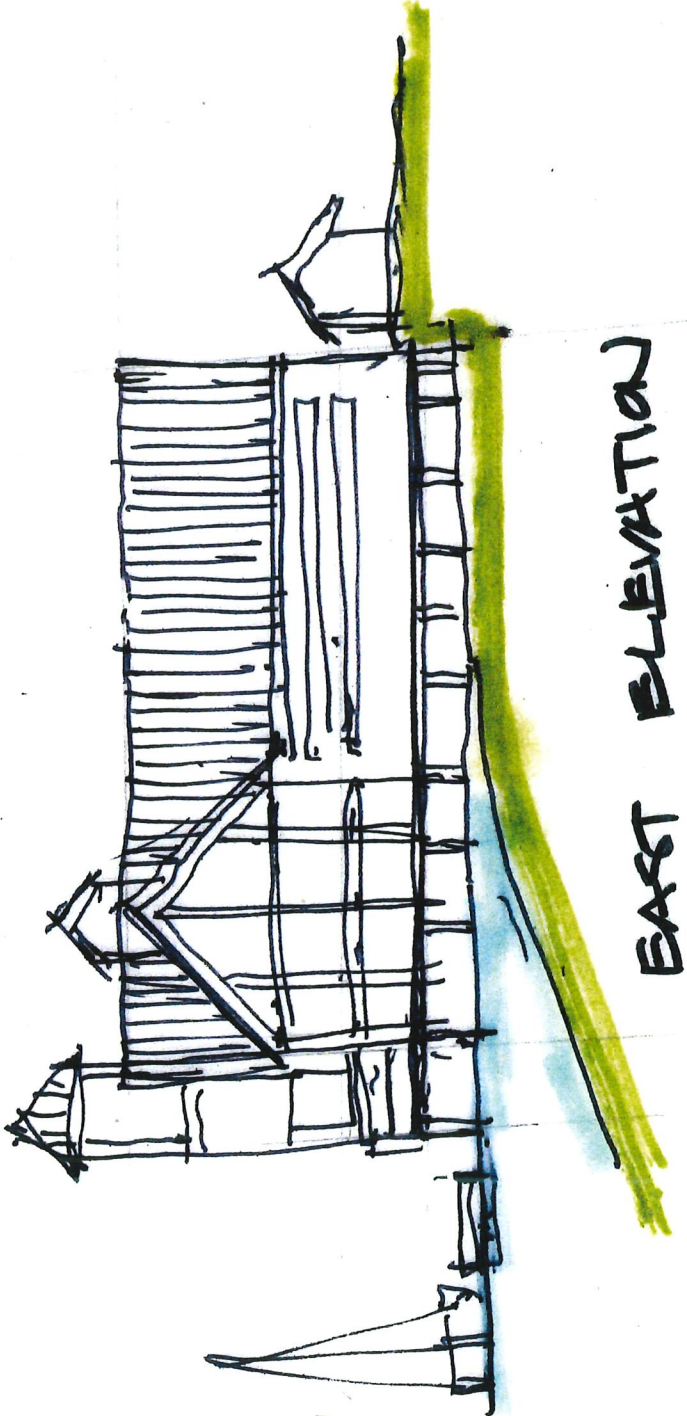


2ND FLOOR

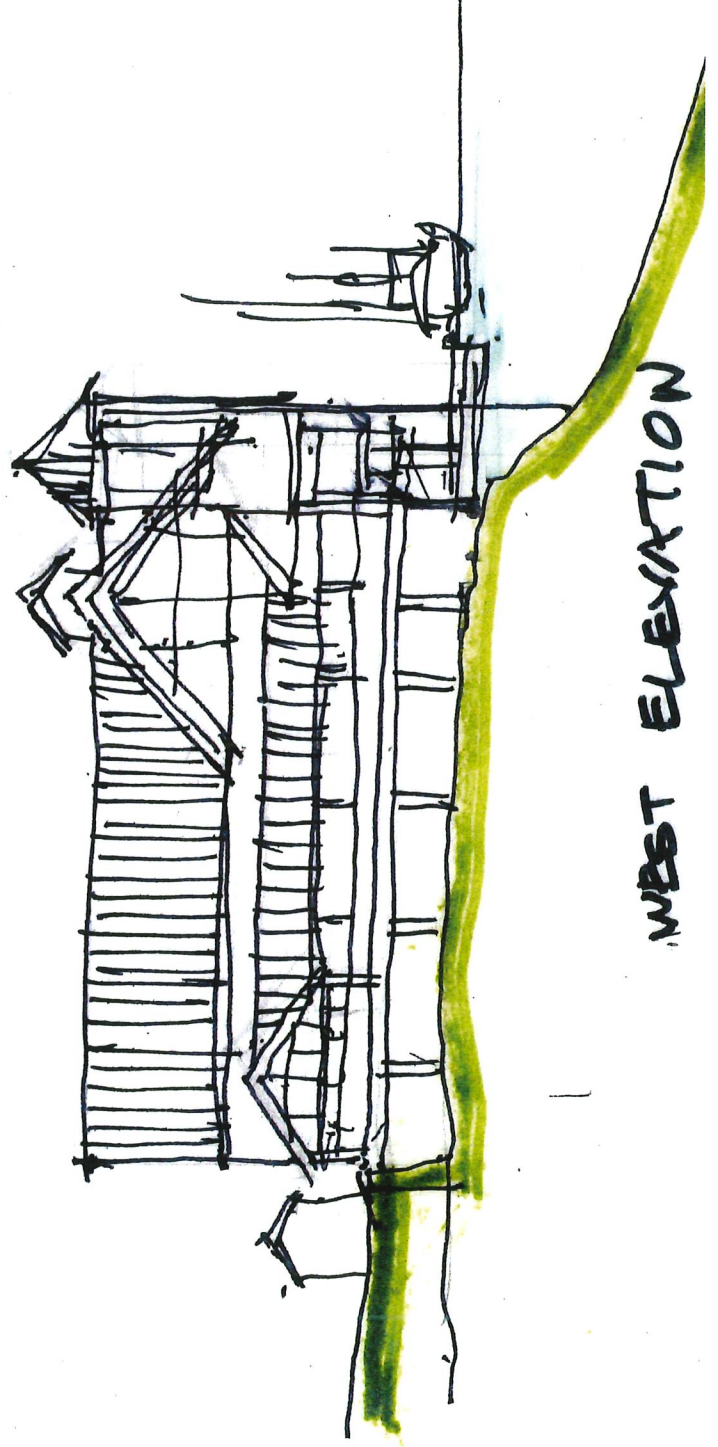
SCALE 1" = 5'-0"



ATRIUM CROSS SECTION



EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION

Steveston is on the southwest corner of Lulu Island at the mouth of the Fraser River. The first settlers on the island were farmers attracted by the fertile soil and flat, treeless land. The prolific runs of sockeye salmon on the Fraser River soon caught the attention of enterprising businessmen hoping to make a fortune on the riches of the sea.

This history attempts to describe and explain the subsequent changes in Steveston's cannery row with its canneries, boat works and fishing craft over the years. It also tells about the living conditions of Native, Chinese, Japanese and Caucasian workers, their homes, schools and health facilities.

Steveston grew from a fishing camp in the late 1870s to the largest fishing town on the British Columbia coast with the largest cannery in the British Empire. Fifteen operating canneries on the waterfront produced 375,000 cases of canned salmon in 1901, and fast clipper ships visited from around the world. Steveston was indeed "the

salmon capital of the world".

In "From the Great Lakes to the Wide West" B. McEvoy recalled his visit to the town during the height of the 1901 salmon season. Numerous sailing skiffs waited beside the cannery to unload salmon. Fishermen were paid 12.5 cents per fish. One fisherman gave the landlord of a local hotel \$250 for safekeeping, his earnings for the previous week. In the cannery 10,000 to 15,000 fish were stored for processing in a pile 40 feet long by 10 feet wide. Often the canneries could not process such a huge catch, and large quantities of salmon were thrown back into the river.

After a visit in 1910 J. B. Cowen called Steveston "The Queerest Town in Canada" in a magazine article. He described the canneries and fishermen's shacks as derelicts and driftwood washed up from the Gulf of Georgia, and made similar derogatory comments about the inhabitants. The most prominent were Japanese fishermen and Chinese cannery workers. There were lesser

*English's (Phoenix) Cannery with Fraser River skiffs and the 'post office' building on the extreme left. (ca. 1890)(VPL)*

