

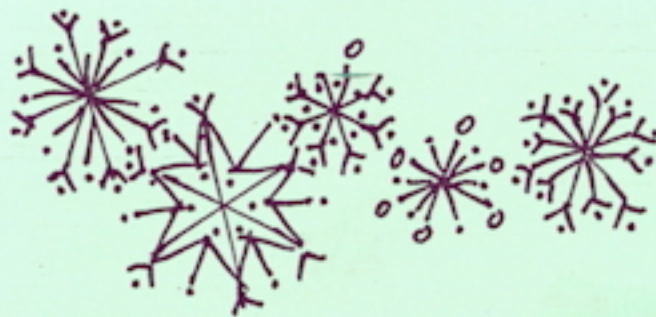
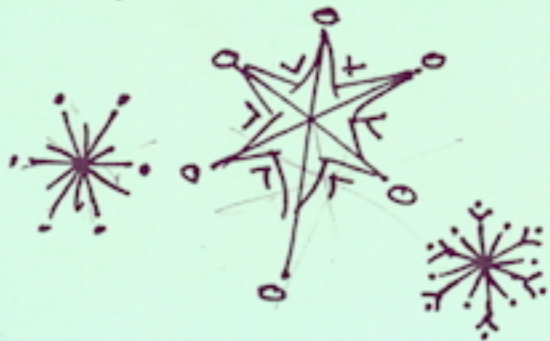


In the next year a new day lodge will be built in the nordic parking lot, taking some of the pressure off Hollyburn Lodge's role as the only nordic food service facility.

It is planned to restore and retain the Hollyburn site in its original and present-day role as a ski school meeting place, warming hut and a centre for social gatherings. The building will be completely rebuilt using original salvageable materials.

Some of the small cabins will be restored or rebuilt as part of the site restoration.

It is envisioned that the "Ski Camp" will become a local museum, full of memorabilia and rich in the history of Hollyburn, Black and Strachan Mountains.



To assist with the museum component, the West Vancouver Historical Society will be coordinating the efforts of their sub-committee (HSCHP) to gather historic artifacts, pictures and stories.

Anything you wish to donate or have copied may be submitted to:

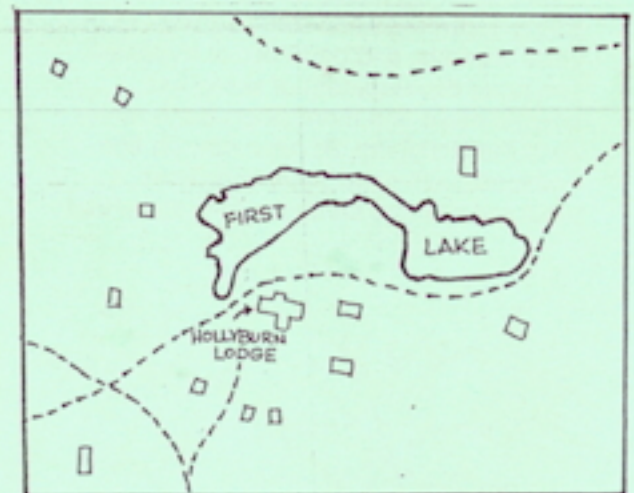
Lawson House
17th Street
West Vancouver
c/o Bob Tapp
Hollyburn Ski Camp
Heritage Committee

For information, phone (604) 926-3748.

Hollyburn Ski Camp Heritage Project



BC Parks and Cypress Bowl Recreations in the CRA 1996 Masterplan identified that the First Lake site be retained to perpetuate the heritage values of this specific area. The existing site layout will be mapped to provide a basis for future site restoration. Site restoration or development plans will be consistent with historic or traditional use of the area and will be submitted for BC Parks approval relative to the scope and timing of construction.



The sketch above shows the historic park area within the Cypress Park nordic area.

The following article appeared in the December 30th, 1938 issue of "Hiker And Skier"

Hollyburn as a Skiing Ground

Twelve years ago on Hollyburn Ridge the pioneer ski club of the whole Pacific Coast was casually organized by a few hikers who had been initiated into the mysteries of skiing and had learned some of its magic, at Rudolf Verne's ski-camp. The next winter, before a single ski club had been formed in Washington, Oregon or California, the Hollyburn club held a combined racing and jumping competition, the first held anywhere on the Pacific slope.

So Hollyburn Ridge was committed to skiing long ago. In those early days there were only a few shacks built of lumber on the big hill; you slept cold on snapping winter nights with only an inch-thick hemlock board between your hard bunk and the mountain frost. You slept in your mackinaw coat then, on a bed of fir boughs.

Since those far-off times skiers have built comfortable log houses, equipped with spring mattresses and sleeping bags or point blankets, and go to bed in pyjamas. The rapid development of skiing has brought more and more skiers each winter up to the Hollyburn ski runs; now on fine weekends with good snow conditions, a thousand or more climb the long steep trail

to the 3000-foot level where the skiing country begins.

The skiers have taken possession of Hollyburn by building a remarkable forest village of two hundred log houses in the big timber. One hundred and seventy-three of these are located on areas owned by the Municipality of West Vancouver, which collects rent from the builders for the ground they occupy. Almost all these mountain chalets are substantial dwellings, built and furnished at no small cost.

Hollyburn is an orderly place. The Municipality maintains a ranger station, in charge of Police Constable Russell, a competent ranger and police officer. A modern first-aid station is also under his supervision.

As a skiing ground, Hollyburn has the limitations of all sub-alpine hills. It lacks the immense snow slopes of high mountains. For beginners and mediocre skiers it is a relatively safe skiing country, free from precipitous descents and perils such as snowslides and avalanches. The weather in winter is on an average good from a skier's point of view. There are few days when it is uncomfortable to be outdoors. Tempestuous weather is rare. There is a good deal of winter sunshine. There are spells of mild weather with rain during the winter. This is in a general sense of wet-snow wax country. A little more powder snow would be a betterment.

But the important thing to skiers is that they can rely on having plenty of snow and a long season.

Hollyburn's man-made facilities for competitive and recreational skiing are two long ski runs each four rods wide, cut through the forest. The shorter of the two drops downhill from First Lake to the new West Lake Ski Lodge. The other starts at the Vancouver Ski Club big Lodge at First Lake and heads north over sidehills and across mountain meadows, and climbs to the summit of Hollyburn, elevation 4700 feet. There are downhill and slalom courses, with timing facilities, but no big jumping hill. The ski trails, runs and race courses are policed by ski guards appointed by the Hollyburn Ski Promotion Committee.

Two ski clubs with large memberships, the Hollyburn and Vancouver, are domiciled on the mountain in neat clubhouses, log-built but furnished with the overstuffed chesterfields and other comforts of an effeminate civilization.

The ski centre on Hollyburn is the First Lake area, where ski runs leading to the peak begin. The West Lake ski country is connected with First Lake by a ski trail cut through the timber.

Mount Strachan, which joins Hollyburn on the northerly side, is a part of the Hollyburn skiing country. The elevation of Strachan is said to be about 5000 feet..

