

POWER HOUSE

In 1891 the Westminster and Vancouver Tramway Company which was building a tramline along the route now used for the BC Parkway and SkyTrain built the first power house on this site. Utilizing water from Power House Creek, coal and cordwood fired the electric plant housed in the large corrugated iron clad building which doubled as a car barn. The plant's steam engines turned Edison electric generators that powered the entire tramline and streetcar system in New Westminster.

Adjacent to the power house, a small company town of cottages and a large boarding house was built for those working on the tramline. This was the site for political gatherings of local residents and property owners. After successfully petitioning the Provincial Government, a municipal charter was granted on September 22, 1892, and Burnaby's citizens elected the first mayor and Council at a meeting held in the Power House.

CITY OF BURNABY
HERITAGE SITE

