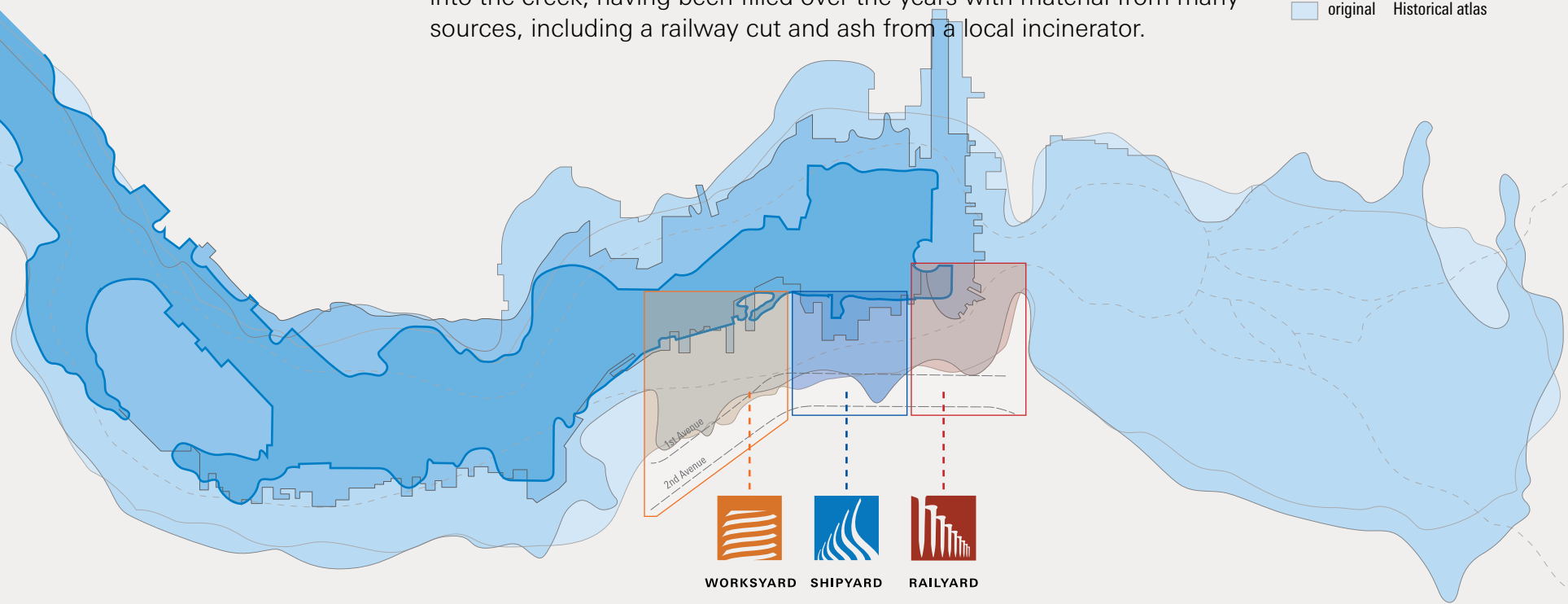


Historical Changes to False Creek's Shoreline

The original shoreline of Southeast False Creek was close to First Avenue. Today's shoreline extends several hundred meters from First Avenue into the creek, having been filled over the years with material from many sources, including a railway cut and ash from a local incinerator.

- 2008 Google maps
- 1939 City of Vancouver
- 1906 Atlas of Canada
- original Historical atlas



The SEFC site is divided into three distinct districts, derived from the industrial activities that once flourished on its shores: Worksyard, Shipyard and Railyard. Letterbox Design Group, a Vancouver-based graphic design firm, developed a brand identity for this new community that simply, yet dramatically, defines the neighbourhood's character. The symbols are derived from the history of each place and the physical elements associated with it: bolts, screws and threaded pipes; the ribs of a ship's hull; and railway spikes.

Highlights

SHIPYARD

The Millennium Water Olympic Village lies at the centre of the SEFC site on the site of the historic shipyard. During the First World War the shipyard was Vancouver's largest employer, with a 2,000-strong workforce. Called Coughlan's Shipyard, the site saw the construction of the largest tonnage of steel ships in the British Empire.

In 1935, a steel fabrication plant was built on the shipyard site. This three-acre plant came to be known as the Canron Building and was the site of the production of steel that was used to construct some of the region's major transportation routes, including the First Avenue Viaduct, the Pattullo Bridge and the towers of the Lions Gate Bridge.

With the advent of the Second World War, the shipbuilding industry re-emerged, employing another 2,000 steelworkers in the fabrication of large sections of 10,000 freighters to replace the ships sunk by German U-boats in the North Atlantic. Following the two wars, the shipyard site remained operational, employing up to 5,000 workers. During this

period, the industry produced steel for iconic structures such as the Alex Fraser Bridge, Canada Place and the largest free-standing building in the world, the Boeing plant in Everett, Washington. Operations ceased at the Canron Building in 1990, and the building was demolished in 1998.

THE SALT BUILDING

The location of the historic Salt Building marks the original shoreline of False Creek. The 16,000 square foot building was erected in 1930 on exposed timber piles along the water's edge. Inside the Salt Building, elaborate roof trusses that support the structure are visible within a large, open space. One of the last industrial buildings at SEFC

that remains intact, the Salt Building has heritage designation. The building was originally used as a salt refinery, storage facility and distribution centre. Salt arrived by ship from San Francisco, where it had been roughly processed, and would be cleansed, ground and packaged for use in the fishing industry for canning and

refrigeration. Once the salt industry moved out, in the 1980s, the building was adapted for use as a paper recycling plant. Recently, under city ownership, the foundation and a portion of the structure of the Salt Building were upgraded in preparation for a rehabilitation project. A consortium of companies called The Vancouver

Salt Company is working to give the building new life. The Salt Building will be used as a social gathering place during the 2010 Games and following the Olympics it will continue to be a public amenity, housing a restaurant and brew pub.

"Built form in SEFC, including building height, character, massing and views, should create identifiable neighbourhoods which accommodate a wide range of land uses and a diversity of residents."

SEFC Policy Statement, 1999



Vancouver Salt Company, 1933