



# Harris Pond / Rock Bay Watershed Awareness Program

Fernwood's early claim to fame was its spring ridge that served as Fort Victoria's water supply.

A creek, which is now culverted ~10' underground, drains the Harris Pond basin at Vining and Stanley into Rock Bay. The route passes through three parks, a community garden and the heart of two communities. The problem of flooding and swampiness was solved by ingenious engineering that has hidden this natural feature from our awareness. There is a rising interest in natural storm water management to replenish groundwater. We propose to "daylight" parts of the creek by planting Rain Gardens\* and installing educational way-markers to remind us of this forgotten resource.

**Legend** - Proposed for discussion, based on a preliminary look at the creek route

**G1** A possible site for a rain garden along existing green space. An orange letter suggests a primary/priority site such as a park. A white letter signifies a secondary/future, e.g. site along a street.

**G** A possible site for an educational way-marker or street mandala. Also consider secondary sites wherever the creek route crosses a street.

**M**

*\*A Rain Garden is an area graded and planted to capture and naturally process storm water and surface flow. Educational way-finding markers could include historical photos and stories...e.g. duck hunting from the back porch, and famous floods.*

*Hill shade and street base map by Steve Ford  
Overlay scaling and info by Dan Doherty, 2015-02-29 (v3d)  
--Fernwood Community Mapping Project, in collaboration with Carolyn Knight and members of the Hillside-Quadra community.*



Rock Bay before infill, from *A Plan of the Town of Victoria Showing Proposed Improvements*, by J.D.Pemberton, 1852.

(Creek was not represented so a blue line is added to approximate)