

The News

Parksville Qualicum News

Hall signs will be saved

By COLLEEN DANE

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Local historians may be able to save the very face of the deconstructed Island Hall - a symbol of it anyway .

Museum manager for the Parksville and District Historical Society, Hans Boerger, says they were very happy when the property's developers allowed representatives to go inside the 88-year old Oceanside resort to document items and take photographs .

When developers mentioned that they might be able to donate items from the hall to the society, Boerger says they had one major item in mind

"In part, we're interested in getting one of the two blue signs beside the street," says Boerger.

Brad McAdams, a developer with Sandcastle Holdings Ltd. says they were happy to get the historical society involved .

"They asked us and we thought it was a good idea - it's a part of the history," says McAdams .

Deconstruction is now under way in the newest wing of the building - the beer and wine store. That's is expected to be complete in between four to six weeks .

While Demxx Deconstruction, who is doing the demolition, holds the rights to materials from the current site, McAdams says the signs in question are in another phase, which hasn't been farmed out yet .

"What they're interested in isn't what Demxx is taking away," says McAdams .

Boerger says because the part with the signs isn't yet being taken down, the historical society does realize there's still some time until they get the sign .

If they get it though, Boerger says it will be the perfect complement to the Island Hall historical items they already have .

"We feel quite blessed as far as the Island Hall," says Boerger.

The new Beach Club resort, on the Island Hall's site, is anticipated to be complete in June 2007. No construction permit has been granted yet, but city council has voiced approval for the project.