

MR. HARRY MAY - (East Richmond Anglican Church)

INTERVIEWED:

February 18, 1975

T.38.1

Building - 1925

Cambie - 1/4 mile east No. 5 Rd.

Need for church in that area started by Reverend Holmes, Vancouver-born minister at St. Luke's, Vancouver. The Synod at New Westminster on behalf of congregation. He became minister of St. Anne's, Richmond.

Price of land donated by Mr. Ben Thomas - \$300.00. Total cost around \$4,000.00. Built by contractor, Mr. Beckwith, with volunteer labour (of Beckwith Road).

Outside - Cement foundation

- Approximately 30' x 90'.

Interior - Contained main entrance to hallway, with wash-rooms off main hall. Kitchen one side of this, Board Room other side. Built with community in mind so not built as a church - hoping to build bigger church on the site.

Heating - One large heater - wood and/or coal.

Lighting - Coal-oil lamps.

Then replaced heating & lighting with small generator

.../2

.../2

Floors - First grade tongue & groove.

- No communion table - just a wooden table covered.
- No fixed pews - seats made by congregation.

Community used it for social activities - floor good for dancing.

Groups

- Strong Woman's Auxiliary
- Good youth groups
- Sunday School at 10:00 am. - whether regular services.
- Always evening service, sometimes taken by students from Theological College at New Westminster, or Communion once a month.
- Dances, whist drives, strawberry teas.
- Description of Richmond at the time.

Changes

Around 1933 church passed out. Congregation unable to continue financially. Informed Synod. Other religious groups continued, renting it from Synod. Also political groups. Most of property went to St. Anne's. Congregation went to other churches, some to Marpole. Industry moving in changed area from rural to industrial.

Building well constructed, still there. Eventually sold to Municipality of Richmond and used at moment as Community Hall. Mr. May remarks on big change of attitude of people towards religion - church cherished but cars, T.V., sports have changed this.

M. NOBLE