

Mrs. Kay Owens, 81
407 No. 4 Road.

Interview March 12, 1978

Born in London, January 23, 1891.

Left at 18 to come to Montreal, United States - to Winnipeg to get work -
married George Byron Owens - on dairy farm outside - oldest daughter
feeding bull hay when she found her.

-Came to B.C. 1916 New Years - winter underwear from prairies too hot -
went to old Gordon Drysdale store for thinner

-Dr. Hepworth only doctor on Lulu Island - one store at Brighthouse
Station, Mr. Dear, post office and grocery - Steveston Pat Burns store had
butter, eggs, shoemaker, drugstore, doctor's office over, drygoods store.

-rented at The Cottages - all farms - no electricity - had candles -
no glimmer of light on road outside, carried a lantern - husband working
at Steel Mill, Bridgeport, distance too far, more water on island - so
moved to Cambie Road, one house next to Mrs. McBurney, lived there 2
years, bought house on corner Cambie and No. 4 Road, 2 acres to cultivate
Lived there 42 years - no houses around - husband died 1957 - was
offered \$10,000 - lost money to MacDonald, lawyer - thought Chinamen
used to set bog on fire - lots of people picked blueberries - Chinese
made fires, made tea on bog.

No. 4 Road not a road, just path - No. 5 Road just a plank road, no
way to pass except on turn off.

- fogs much worse - had horse and buggy - sold berries to Chinaman,
Main St. (grocer) made dye of them.

recalls John Kacer rounded up German spies for R.C.M.P. arrested bunch -
East hope Boat Builders - son used to work in Steveston.

no money for weeks - grew lots of vegetables.

- had 50 apple trees - sold 1100 lbs. of apples to C.C. Dan, Pender St. for \$9.60 - begrudges buying apples now except to make church apple pie.
- grew Transparents, Spy Kings, Fameux (Snow Apple) Grimes Golden, 1 Russet for husband - 500 black currant bushes - picked 13 hours at time - sold at door, made jam, sold some to Morie commercially.
- strawberries, raspberries - sold to Empress Jam factory.
- grew blackberries (Himalaya Giants) - whole ditch full for 40 - 50 years till sprayed - went down ditch on punt with daughter - sold to another jam factory on Kitchener and Commercial (called Nonsuch)
- no bridges then.
- Marpole doctors used to give conductors on trams drugs for Lulu Island bank and post office smaller than her house.
- re bog: brother of Lockhart, Charlie, Odlin Road had wife picking blueberries in bog, as walked fire sprang up behind them - fires used to burn all summer, didn't fight them at first.
- must have picked 1/4 ton blackberries for cannery - eventually bought canner - dug parsnips in her garden - punches down bread she's making.
- Children: oldest - Ruth, Mrs. Baldwin, widow, Vancouver
 - 2nd daughter - Marian, Mrs. Cornforth
 - son, John Aubrey, Winnipeg; and one Marie died in 1947, All born St. Paul's hospital - built high school on Cambie - Bridgeport was everything before - dealt with Grauers grocery, Marpole for 50 yrs. (Tooneville?)
- tuna trolley between Marpole and The Vancouver Providence, Marine Drive, Oak, Cambie, Broadway - rocked back and forth.
- worked for Capt. French (undertaken premises now)
- anecdote about cow that didn't like women (used to men in overalls)
- another about Mrs. Owens pulled from ditch - sold some lots - sold corner property to B.A. for service station.

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Mrs. Kay Owens

No water for 3 weeks - In 1920 storm at Britannia Mines, people drowned
- went to Marpole for water all the way from Steveston. (Mrs. R. Fisher)
brought us 10 gals. water - Another time Sept. to Apr. rain every day
no threshing - Chinamen cut, stoked,

TAPE 9 - SIDE 1 and 2