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# ARCHIVES

news

## In This Issue...

**Kids in the Archives  
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*Right: Girl Guide leader Peggy Ogloff (in glasses) shows her troupe the scrapbook Katherine Preston-Jones kept between 1938 and 1941.*

*Below: This 1938 photo of Katherine Preston-Jones is the one being examined in the scene to the right by the Guides of the new century.*



## 'Time Travellers' and Girl Guides Visit Archives

"Children" and "Archives" are words that are not often used in the same sentence. The Archives Reference Room is usually thought of as a refuge for the serious - and older - student of history or genealogy, a place of quiet and sedentary study. Last year the City of Richmond Archives hosted several lively groups of children including the group of Richmond Girls Guides whose pictures are seen on this page. The girls were working on their Provincial Heritage Badge.

Guides and leaders looked at a scrapbook kept by Katherine Preston-Jones between 1938 and 1941. Mrs. Katherine Reaville (nee Preston-Jones) donated the book to the Archives in 1979. It now forms part of our community records. The Archives is also the repository for the Fraser Delta Area Girl Guides fonds. Guides first formed in Richmond in 1938. Continued on next page.



Miss K Preston Jones  
Point Grey East,  
(Richmond)



*Intent on their work with white gloves 'at the ready' three young Guides prepare material for a Provincial Heritage Badge. From their perspective the 1950's photographs behind the girls are from the 'olden days.'*

### Next Issue

- Archives Tea
- Help celebrate Archives Week in British Columbia
- New books
- Volunteer projects

### 'Pardon Our Dust' in May - Renovations at the Archives

We are running out of room to store valuable archival records. New shelving will solve our declining capacity problems. However, the installation of compact shelving in the storage area will result in some interruptions in service during the month of May.

Due to the fragile and valuable nature of the material in the stacks, we will be using the Reference Room for temporary storage while the cleaning, painting and installation of higher capacity shelving takes place. The Archives will be closed beginning May 1, re-opening June 3rd.

Limited reference service will be available by phoning the Archivist at 604-231-6430, emailing the Archivist at [archives@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:archives@city.richmond.bc.ca) or making use of finding aids and materials on the Archives web pages at [www.city.richmond.bc.ca/archives](http://www.city.richmond.bc.ca/archives).



*Time Travellers, almost all wearing white gloves, pose with Museum volunteers and City Archivist Lynne Waller (back row, centre).*

Continued from Front Page...

The Archives Reference Room was host last year to groups of youngsters adventuring through time in a program created by the Richmond Museum. As part of their "Time Travel" adventures youngsters donned white gloves for a tour through the City Archives to look at old and historic documents - including a 1967 photograph of Richmond's first McDonalds.



Volunteer Esther Rabinovitch takes a few minutes to review events of years past during a project to complete an inventory and rehouse the Archives newspaper collection.

## Old Newspapers Reviewed by Volunteers

The Richmond Archives has an extensive collection of the Marpole-Richmond Review which has been consolidated by volunteers Esther Rabinovitch and Jack Lowe. Once a week for almost six months the pair made inventory lists and weeded duplicates, which were sent for use in the Richmond Museum's programs and exhibits. Some of the more fragile issues were rehoused. The collection begins with a 1935 copy of the paper containing lead stories about a whist tournament, and drainage problems caused by a dam at the Rice Mill.

## UBC Students Make Richmond Connection

The City of Richmond Archives has cooperated with the University of British Columbia Masters of Archival Studies Program for many years to provide practical experience projects for students. It is one thing to sit in the classroom and absorb Archival Theory, and quite another to be faced with a seemingly chaotic assembly of papers and have to make decisions about their care and handling.

Last winter the City Archives was pleased to have MAS students Reto Schwann and Karen Langley work on community records such as those from the Richmond 'Kigoos' Swim Club to provide them with "hands-on" experience.

During the winter semester, students from the second year of the graduate program, under the direction of their teacher Dr. Laura Millar, visited the Richmond Archives to tour the facility and learn about the role and expectations for a community archives. City Archivist Lynne Waller, and Mary Keen, president of the Friends of the Richmond Archives, were on hand to answer questions. The class was studying the different types of archival facilities - university, business, government, private and so on.

In February, Mary Keen presented a colloquium at the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at UBC on the role of volunteers in Archives. And in March, Professor Heather McNeill brought a class of first year students to City Hall to study how the City of Richmond manages its current records. Dovel Buie, an MAS grad, was among City staff leading the program.

The cooperation between the University and the City Archives has been beneficial in several respects. Students are able to experience a working archives first hand. And on the City side, we receive information about the latest in theoretical and technological research as students tackle classroom assignments at the Archives. Karen Langley has chosen the Richmond Archives as the site to work on a preservation management project which will result in the updating of the Archives' disaster preparedness plan.



*Reto Schwann, left, and Karen Langley place their first completed arrangement and description project on the shelves in the Richmond Archives. This is a significant first event in the career of every archivist.*

## Friends of the Richmond Archives Make News

The Friends of the Richmond Archives held their Annual General Meeting March 19, 2002. They are already beginning to make plans for the sixth annual Archives Tea, to be held October 18, 2002. This year the focus will be on a book on Ward 1 (Sea Island), part of a series on Richmond's neighbourhoods by Mary Keen, and a new project already started on the history of Lacrosse in Richmond.

The executive for 2002 is: Mary Keen, President; Mike Corrigan, Vice-President; Don Gordon, Treasurer; Barbara Kinahan, Secretary; Joan Smythe, Membership; and Dody Wray, Director-At-Large.

The Friends of the Archives have given a \$300 prize to Michelle Underwood, second prize winner in the Richmond Public Library's Young Adult Writing Contest. Last winter the Richmond Public Library gave a recognition award to the Friends for outstanding contribution to the Library and the community.



*Bernice Anderson, left, receives a bouquet of flowers from Mary Keen.*

## Bernice Anderson Retires - Again!

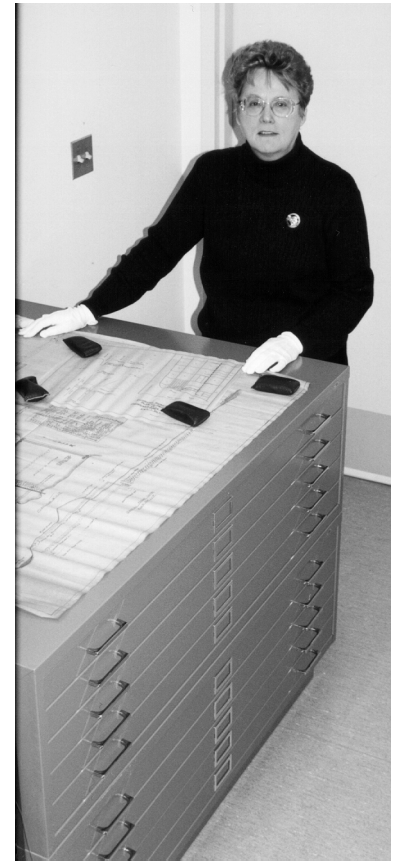
While she still plans to come to meetings, Bernice Anderson has retired as secretary to the Friends of the Archives. Bernice started working for the City in 1941, the "only girl" in a three person office consisting of the Municipal Clerk, a cashier and Bernice. About the time Bernice retired from the City in 1981 she began her volunteer career with the Friends at the urging of Ted Youngberg. She is one of the longest serving members of the Society. Bernice was treated to lunch at the Richmond Inn by the Friends and members of City Hall staff.

# Mapping Project Nears Completion

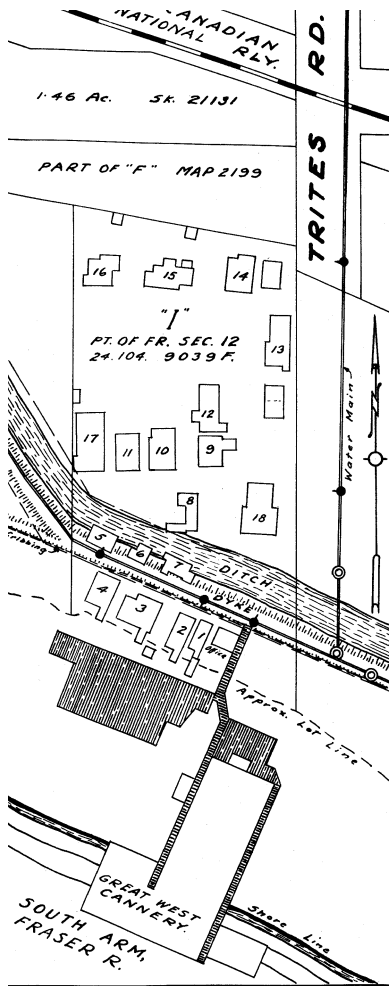
For several years now web surfers have been able to review more than 4,000 photographs on the Archives pages of the City of Richmond web site. We are in the closing stages of a grant funded project to do the same for historic City maps and plans.

With financial assistance from the Government of Canada through the National Archives and the Canadian Council of Archives, we have been able to put some resources into updating the computer programming, adding to the number of processed maps, and having a selection of them microfilmed and scanned.

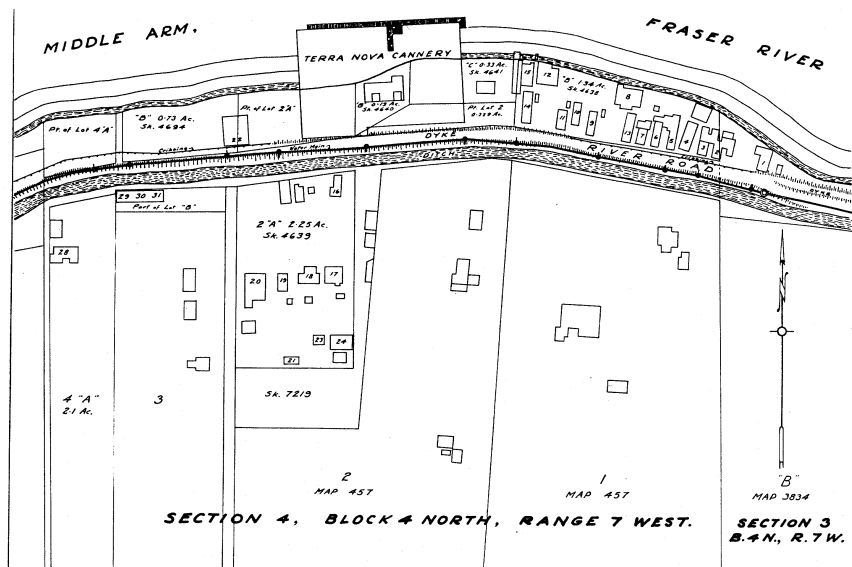
The Friends of the Archives donated \$4,000 towards the purchase of map cabinets with another \$1,000 earmarked for additional scanning and computer programming. It is expected that by the end of June approximately 1,000 maps and plans will be published on the Archives web pages.



Mary Keen with the Map Cabinets donated to the Richmond Archives as part of the Mapping Project.



This City map of Great West Cannery at the foot of Trites Road shows waterworks details such as ditches and water mains. Date is uncertain and probably near to 1930. This is one of approximately 1,000 maps and plans that will soon be available for viewing on the Archives web pages.



In the 1930's the Terra Nova land use was a mix of farming and fishing. This map, India ink on tracing paper, was found in the City's old Engineering Department records.



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Public Reference Room Hours  
Monday - Thursday  
9:30-11:30 and 1:00-4:00