

Alex Eyton

Interviewed April 24, 1972

1181 No. 1 Road - Subjects - Reduction Plant  
Early transportation Ladner - Vancouver  
through Richmond.

Born August 21, 1902, Ladner.

- trips to Salmon Reduction Plant, Williamson Is. Reduction: Waste from salmon to oil, and meal (guano) now used as fertilizer, pet food, water fertilizer 1887 outbreak typhoid fever attributed to water dumped around canneries, offal.

-2 steam tugs, open pot scows transported waste from canneries to plant - describes hopper system of loading waste.

Hell's Gate described - gulls flew into hoppers, died eating fish livers

-helped cut supply to Reduction Plant, costs killed - 1920 International Salmon Commission in force - helped salmon runs.

Early Transportation: His family going from Ladner to Vancouver came by ferry S.S. Seonoma to landing foot No. 1 Road Steveston also end of old B.C. Electric Tram - got on tram for Vancouver -

-Seonoma was 40 ft. long, made 2 return trips daily 1911 or 1912 replaced by larger steamboat SS New Delta - both boats operated by Mr. Brewster, former manager of old Deas Island Cannery - 2 sons Clive and Glen are sea captains and B.C. Coast Pilots - both boats stopped at wharfs of canneries, and government wharf close to Old Currie McWilliam Cannery, Westham Island, when signaled - 2 other canneries: Harlock Cannery, Albian Cannery, on small island separated from slough from Rifle Island.

Foot of No. 1 Road: Municipality landed gravel scows there for Island roads - from Gillies Quarry, Pitt Lake - gravel unloaded by hand on to horse-drawn wagons - farmer got \$5 daily for team and wagon - wagon handled up to 1½ yds. gravel per load - 1914 auto, trucks service in Ladner demanded new service, result No. 5 Rd., Fraser St. bridge into Vancouver - route daily milk, freight service ferry from Woodward's

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Landing - No. 5 Road on peat plank road.

1917 incident re - Employer at White Store, Ladner in new overland auto got ticket for speeding on plank road en route to Vancouver Exhibition - fined \$10.00 - 1913 last year of Big Salmon Run - help scarce old Wathams Cannery, Ladner - across from his home - as boy of 11 years got job 12¢ hour.

1918 worked as retort man old Brunswick Cannery at mouth of River, Canoe Pass - 600 cases canned father foreman - 1920 started fishing sockeye, Smith's Inlet - never missed salmon season since - off season 1921 as crew man for Reduction Plant on tug C.F.P. Capt. Dennett skipper, later Capt. Ladner-Woodwards ferry - father a steam engineer, worked ferried off season - Fisherman's Union member since 1922, officer, board of trustees - 1940's 1950's 1960' s.

Fisherman's Co-Operative member 1930 (which went broke in 2 yrs.)

1944-45 member Fisherman's Co-op Assn. director 5 years - represented on Co-op Federation (all fishing co-ops on Coast and Seattle Halibut Fisherman's Co-Op) - 3 years director Gulf and Fraser Fisherman's Credit Union - earlier in Surrey, 3 yrs. on Surrey School Board - lately active pollution groups - Chairman Steveston local Fisherman's Union, Pollution Committee and Richmond Anti-Pollution Assoc. - still fish - 2 months with boat on Barkley Sound relaxing after May 15.

Wife: Natalie Richardson, married 1927, Children: Don, South Burnaby  
Raymond, Steveston, fishing  
Gladys, Mrs. Slotylak, Port Moody.