

MRS. MUNROE
MRS. B. ARCHIBALD
MR. CARR
MR. C. NEELEY
MRS. MANSELL
MR. AINSLIE
MRS. DYCK

- (Richmond Pentecostal Tabernacle)

INTERVIEWED:

April 28, 1975

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Mr. Munroe

Mr. Munroe came to Richmond in 1927. There was no Pentecostal Tabernacle Church at the time. The Minister he had known on the Prairies came to Vancouver and contacted them and others to form a congregation. This was Pastor Matheson, who came out 1943. He stayed for a while with the Munroe's at 753 Heather Street.

Mrs. B. Archibald (Nee Price)

Mrs. Archibald's parents invited Pastor Matheson to their home and opened her front room for meetings at 942 Ferndale Road. The Interurban Railway had a stop at the end of Ferndale Road. The meetings were held in the Price home for about a year. There were about six families meeting. Shortly after starting, they introduced a short meeting for young people before the adults.

Mr. Carr (Age 87)

Mr. Carr joined the early group. His wife played the organ in the living room as well as Mr. Matheson's wife. They used Gospel Song Books.

The group later moved into a building on Ferndale Road, affectionately called the "Hen House" as it had been used for hens. They were there for a few months until taking a lot on Westminster Highway and clearing it.

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Mr. C. Neeley

Frame construction on cement blocks. There were 5 families with Pastor Matheson. They started in 1944 on a 1/2 acre purchased from Mrs. Broadhead (of the congregation) for \$400.- \$500. at 930 Westminster Highway. The first meetings were held in the fall of 1944. The lumber was purchased from Eburne Saw Mills. The funding for the building was started as a donation fund while they were on Ferndale Road and was paid for on completion.

Mrs. Mansell (Age 86)

Mrs. Mansell joined the church in 1944 and was a Sunday School teacher of the youngest children. There were from 7 - 8 children in her class. One of her Sunday School children, Danny Peters, age 3 fell into the ditch in 1946 and drowned.

Mr. Ainslie

The church was about 20 feet by 40 feet exclusive of the living quarters for the minister. There was a living room, kitchen and bedrooms at the back of the church. There was a tower at the front. There were benches for the congregation. Heating was from an oil stove and a separate stove in the living quarters. There were 8 windows and a duroid roof. Entry was through double doors up wooden steps.

Mrs. Muriel Dyck (Nee Munroe)

Mrs. Dyck was a Sunday School teacher and recalls in 1946 that there was an earth tremor which caused the building to move about a foot...aggravated by the building being on blocks and peat land. She recalls the effect on one of the children of this tremor, and describes the incident.

Mrs. Dyck was the sister-in-law of Pastor Frank Dyck who was with the congregation in 1947 until 1949. Mrs. Dyck was with the church until 1949 and recalls how the Sunday School classes collected money for doors for the interior, having plaques put on them identifying the class.