

Mrs. Rhoda (Henry) Buckingham,
Apt. 308, 8610 Montcalm,
Vancouver, B.C.

Interviewed: April 9, 1973.

Born April 28, 1885 at Collingwood Township, Grey County, Ontario,
married Christmas 1912.

1913 - came to Richmond in a sleigh and cutter with husband from
Vancouver . . . to a farm rented from Mrs. Reed (formerly Mrs.
Kilgour) . . . on middle arm of Fraser River, west of present
Dinsmore Bridge . . . 140 acres with buildings on it.

All neighborly on the Island then . . . knew farmers:
Haywards, Hoggards, Wileys, Arbutnots . . . all helped each other
threshing . . . hand dykes around the farms each kept up . . .
fall of 1913 flood - lasted all winter . . . lost all hay in
barn . . . had 40 head of dairy cattle but sold half when took
farm . . . fighting sea - nailed wood across kitchen door to
keep water out . . . men came up from the barn in a boat . . .
barn built upon split logs . . . Kilgour (first owner) originally
cleared the land . . . 21 year old Irishman helped run farm
during World War 1, exempted from war service . . . extra man
helped summers.

Grew mangels for cows, hay and oats for horses - Clydesdales
. . . no tractor at first . . . Pete, driving horse, took their
milk to No. 13 Road, later named Miller Road . . . milk picked
up from stand on Miller Road, taken into Vancouver . . .
Buckingham's were one of first shareholders of Fraser Valley Milk
Producers . . . they had 6 cans of milk out daily.

Big water tank of rain water when first on farm . . . another tank in woodshed for washing. c1914 Municipality brought water in on No. 12 Road, then on Mackie Lane, then down the dyke.

1923 - they bought the farm . . . no electricity . . . helped milking to pay off farm . . . offered \$28,000 for farm.

World War 2 almost over when Government gave them 10 days to move . . . cut off water, electricity . . . moved house and barn one-half mile to municipal line . . . then Municipality brought water in from No. 13 Road . . . then telephone in . . . Buckingham Road came down to the farm . . . her husband Henry's father had been on the farm 10 years earlier. c1935 City bought airport.

When Government bought Buckingham land to enlarge the runways, Government took 72 acres.

1935 - moved buildings, sold cows . . . seeded fields to grass, sold to Buckerfields for pabulum . . . then grew peas for Canadian Cannery . . . recalls cooking for pea threshers . . . for 10 men for 10 days then 20 men for next 10 days . . . had own horses . . . did all the cooking . . . sold peas \$45 to \$60 a ton . . . peas first for Broders, New Westminster, then Dominion Cannery - grew peas for 9 years . . . when Government bought their land for the airport (they left July 29th) they got no money from the Government until November of that year . . . during this time other farm selling was investigated . . . Buckingham moved to Kerrisdale . . . Henry later became ill and died.