

HIRAM "HARRY" RALEIGH

Interview August 13, 1973 at the home of Mrs. Hunchak,  
974 Granville Avenue.

Born October 4, 1870, Brighton, Ontario, near Lake Ontario.  
Lived on family farm until 12 years old...mainly produced  
apples: Snow, Northern Spy, Russet, Tolman Sweets, Kings and  
vegetables...farm bordered the Lake...recalls steamboats  
were on the Mary Canal which connected Trenton to Brighton.  
The "Alexander" and old "Noisemer".

At 12 years of age: moved to Morris, Manitoba...farm was  
690 acres...lived there 10 years...sale prices then:  
oats 18¢ a bushel, wheat 35¢ a bushel. Moved to Lac Du  
Bonnet, Man for two years...sold out.

Moved to Winnipeg to J.A. McCurchie, wholesale-retail  
grocer, Main St. between Alexander and Logan.

Joined Rat Portage Lumber Company at St. Boniface, trans-  
ferred.

1906...to Vancouver branch of Rat Portage lumber mill at  
foot of Granville St...there 2 years...recalls seeing  
one three masted sailing boat.

1908-10 back in Winnipeg 2 years...returned to Rat Portage  
Mill, Vancouver...was teamster boss hauling lumber...

Marine Drive then a rock road through the forest, New West-  
minster to Vancouver...remembers clearing all of Shaughnessy  
...worked 2 years, then a strike...joined in 1914 Hanbury's  
Mill across road...did finishing work on sash and doors,  
delivering lumber.

1917 joined Cascade Laundry, foot of Howe and Marine by old  
bridge...there until 1928...worked for Merchant Cartage...  
Vancouver Cartage.

1943...went to Langley 1½ years ranching...

1945...came to Richmond living at 1134 Westminster Highway..  
did carpentry, plumbing, threshing with Grauer's for 11  
seasons...partnership with Bill Freshwater on 4 acres of  
blueberries...sold after 2 years.

Harry Raleigh p.2

c.1948...settled at 1053 Granville, Richmond...built a house...30 acres blueberries there...property owned by Hamilton, Grant and Zemmerson...Raleigh took care of 10 acres of blueberries...getting enough help only problem... had some root weevil but spraying didn't help...sold blueberries: \$7 a crate at beginning of season then went down to 20 cents a pound.

Blueberry varieties grown: Rubel, Concord, Jersey, Pemberton, Weymouth, Stanley...stock came from U.S....then raised own... pruning, working in wet peat in spring crippled him... land was cleared of jackpine before bought.

1962...moved to present address 974 Granville...with garden he puts in...out nearly every day...picks and cans yellow beans he grows...his wife was Lilas Annis Raleigh...one son died at age of 14 years...present property rented from William Smith. Raleigh would like to see all kinds of plants growing in the garden...recently it's been vegetables and blueberries...has a pure white cat.

Continued off tape: recalls seeing the old Ladner Ferry at Woodward's Landing.

At Winnipeg: Raleigh hauled first load of lumber to build shed at Eatons store from Rat Portage Mill...remembers old Merchants Bank, Winnipeg, and City Market at Main and Williams.

His cat keeps the birds off the ripening blueberries... drove rats away from the house.

Dellis Cleland