

Silch Community

Normal: research

- close "aunt": 6 houses away - hip operation -
- 60 years old - may be able to come into Vancouver
- works in hospital at Lake Courchau

* Mrs. Delay - sons are millworkers - mill accident?
- over 65 -

* Mrs. Sahode -

* Mrs. epal - Musachi Lake - moved to Duncan -
Paldi

- Paldi:

* Mrs. Mann: - Summit - 4 miles from Lake Courchau -
~~Atlebard~~ has mill Salt Spring
- 55-60 years old -

- concerns around community + race + union
- photos -

- role of mother + aunt in pumping other \$ -

* Mrs. Bungha - husband involved in Kamgata Meru -
long history

- personal issues + support -
Musasachu Lake - closed down - tight community -
scattered

Riverside Inn - Lake Courchau

- need to talk Sept. 1st or 2nd (Thurs. or Fri.)

- SEPT. 7th -

- food: sandwiches } we need to cater -
fruit }
vegetables }

* Mrs. Bawha

* Mrs. Duht

* Mrs. Sall

* Mheto Sill

Celebrations

- Independence Day - August 15th - 1960s - Hillcrest
- uncles weightlifting - (millworker) - 1960s
- after ceremonies S.I.D. weightlifting
shotput
- school in Lake Cowichan -
- socialized w/ neighbours - over for beer, neighbours
supper
- friendlier between the 2 communities
- didn't perceive racism - had people "newcomers" -
until 19

who came INTO E.I. comty + called them "hurdies"
- hadn't seen diff. as kid
- small # E.I. kids in school

- Macdonald Id. } alot of E.I. families + kids
Grant Lake tree } (concentration)

(trend) of wearing E.I. clothes: new : new - N.A.
5
When grew up in 1960s wore N.A. clothes

- now must wear traditional pantsaloons, etc.
to ceremonies at temple -
- resurgence of tradition and new immigrants
- family attitudes towards tradition -
- dualism and culture - fear of meeting the "Other"
- parental control -
- tortured existence -
- escapism -
- good liar - sneak out windows -

* What happened during the I.W.A strike in 1946 or forming of the union.

- what you remember about the I.W.A. union
- what your roll was in your husband's work
- your roll as an individual
- your roll in the women's Auxiliary or the community.
- you as an individual - your life & past.
- storjes you can remember
- any pictures and newspaper clippings during this time

PARKASH MANN - 746-6002 - 221-Third St. Duncan.

Pritam ^{Dley} ~~Dley~~ - 749-3491 - 7448 Neva Rd. Lake Cowichan, B.C.

Jito Gill - 748-1045 5823 Carmel, DUNCAN, B.C.

MRS Bawa - 748-8350 - 3169 Sherman Road, DUNCAN, B.C.

RAJINDER K. Bangha -

Amar Kaur Dhut -

Mrs. Kabul Singh Sall - 748-8375 - ~~3242~~ 3242 Moorefield Rd, Duncan, B.C.

Vancouver contacts

Bunty Sihota c/o Nacchattar Sihota 7112 Vivian Drive - 438-6198

Gurdial Kaur Uppal c/o TARI Uppal

Ranjit Kaur Gill - Giddy Gill - Ladner →

LOUISE 299-4595

either G.S. Gill 5455-44th Ave. Ladner
Phone 946-6805

or
Gursewak Sing Gill
5152-57A^{street} Ladner
946-2539

MRS Godfrey 749-6726
746-4362

Women's Labour History Project

- non profit organization
- studies working women around unions as well as women at home.
- Founded by Sarah Diamond who is well learned about labor and unions around B.C. and knows about many different unions and their issues.
- Women in Labour also includes women who are housewives because it is a job.
- This will attempt to piece together a history as we remember it. The Post War era in Lake Cowichan
- When this is finished, it will be distributed to Public Schools, Universities, Libraries etc. as a social studies material.
- This is not a political issue. We just want people to tell it like it was.

Sarah ~~Diamond~~ Diamond

- is a Labour Historian
 - teaches labour history at Kapilano College
 - teaches video at Emily Carr.
 - teaches Seminars all over Canada in video.
 - Went to 3 universities in B.C.
- If you wish to view the video after its finished it can be arranged by Sarah.

Phone 254-5210

Filming Sept 7/88

individual interviews Sept 9/88

This is 3rd part of a Series.

* What is it all about?

- who is doing this
- why are we doing this
- where it goes from there.
- what is good about this

* How to best approach the women.

- to phone or to visit
- how to put the subject in a way they understand.
- is there any thing that could harm them such as what kind of questions are they going to be asked.

* Preparation

- what they should think about,
- Just how personal do you want them to get
- is it such a good idea to get them all in one place?

HAVE CONTACTED:

Mrs. Pritam Delay: approximately 1939 arrival date. Widowed. Raised her 2nd son in lake Cowichan by selling fresh cow's milk. The woman knows very little English and seem reluctant to talk in fear of her lack of English and seems suspicious and defensive.

Mrs. Karm Sihota: Was born in Canada and went to India until 1950. Was very nervous and giggles a lot and doesn't like the idea of being on film and doesn't want to talk. Husband is a millworker in Youbou.

Parkash K. Mann.

Was enthusiastic about it and quite willing when I talked to her. She arrived about ~~1950~~¹⁹⁴⁵. lived in Summit and then moved to ~~Summit~~^{Duncan}. Her Husband now owns and operates a mill on Salt spring Island.

Jito Gill - Born in Canada approx 60 yrs old, lived in Victoria from 1945-50 but was raised around lake Cowichan and lived here after 1950. Her English is very good and has been helpful in helping me contact others. Has 4 children - 3 Boys 1 girl. Her husband at the time had a trucking company. She said that she had no involvement in the community other than PTA meetings. will be in hospital for a hip operation from this Monday Aug 29 for ^{one} week

MRS BAWA - Arrived before 1945. (according to what my mother tells me). What I know is that she is a widow and that she would perhaps be more willing to talk with us. Was perhaps in Mesachie lake. Have not made ^{contact,}

RAJINDER K. Bungla - Her family has an extensive history and there is a book ~~out~~ written about her husband's father. She has been here before 1945. Have not made contact.

Amar Kaur Dhut. - Do not know when she arrived here, but Mother said it has been quite a while. She is widowed and has worked in the Duncan Hospital

MRS KABUL SINGH SALL -

1945 Mesachie lake.

1 Gordon Store grocery store

Phils.

Everyone had cars.

1933 North Vancouver Gardave Kaur Dley.

1950 went to College (3 UBC)

~~to~~ Laboratory worked in Essendale.

went to Ottawa to work → 1963

Married 1964 married ~~now in~~

after marriage → India → her Ottawa

Husband in San Francisco → Together in

^{6 months} Regina - G.S. Astoria → Calgary.

Gurcharan S.

Kids all in Calgary ^{23 yrs}

Pamela ^{Attended} Indiana 5 yrs. University - 122 yrs girl.

Luekin

121 yrs Boy

hucky 1949 - Millworker Gracte 12

Married 1981 -

member of Fore Dept.

Deb 1951: - 1970 approx 8 yrs UVIC Lawyer.

Lake Cowichan ^{at} School Trustee approx 1975-77

1981 - July 11

1956 Hari Singh Dley Passed away.

1. Mesachie Lake. Stroke

1 yr later moved to Lake Cowichan

No widow pension - no welfare.

1957 - 3 cows. sell milk for support.

by foot.

33 \rightarrow yrs no electricity

Lion's Gate Bridge

5 Duncan Hillcrest

17 Hillcrest

30 in Lake Courcham

Thyrsolot

~~1975~~
73

Parkash Kaur Mann.

Oct 16, 1930 birthdate

Sept.

1951 Feb 10, ~~1951~~

Married 1948.

Came to Paldi 7 years. went to Summit about
1 year. ~~to~~ Mrs Mann at Summit Hill

3 during Paldi at Kinsey Daughter Hospital

Kulvinder (Kelly) Mann Dec 14 / 51 (Boy)

Kuldeep Dec 19 / 52 (Girl)

Jerry (Kulvinder) May 16 / 53 (Boy)

Shella Oct 17 / 60 (Girl)

Kelly Freeman Duke Point Nanciamo.
Married ~~to~~. 1 girl one Boy.

1958 Sister died in plane accident
adopted Mohinder who was her niece.

The roads were dusty weren't

Electricity off at 11:00

1 telephone at The Mayo house.

1963 the telephone lines came through
in Paldi

✓ Was a teacher at Paldi school at Gurdwara
Punjabi school. 1953 - 55

✓ Was a teacher in India - Social Service
was involved in Health / Domestic Service,
and welfare of the poor & uneducated. for the
government.

Grade 10 - 3 years Training
- Teaching
- Bachelor of Arts.

1947 in Lohar college when there was war.

was a teacher in her home village
wanted work with government.

- 1947 was an outbreak of war.

- Very Articulate -

lots of help for fellow man.

~~to~~ Our people as well as the white community
old fashion as far as dating etc...

- Everyone had their own cows.

-

P

July 1 - Canada Day. Paldi

Aug 15 Independence Day Lake Cowichan.

April 14 Indian New Year. Victoria

Bubrah the
jorel mela
December 1st Paying tribute to the men
who fought for. - The ones who were
executed. Van Courten.

1 year VICTORIA Lumber yard Mayo

25 years Nanose. Forman.

8 years own Mill Sultspring

Pritam Holding company owns 2 years.

- Mrs Parkash Kaur Mann
- Born October 16, 1930
- Married Pritam Singh Mann Sept 1948
- Arrived in Canada Feb 10, 1951
- Came to live in Paldi for 7 years and then moved to Summit for approximately 1 year and then to Duncan where they now reside.
- Four Children:

* Kulvinder Singh Mann Born Dec 14, 1951 is now married living in Duncan B.C and is a foreman at Duke Point - has 1 boy 1 girl

Dec 19/52 * Kuldeep (Girl) now married and living in Victoria (inter racial marriage - sensitive subject)

* Jerry Mann May 16/55 Married - 2 kids

* Sheila Mann Oct 17/60 Married, 2 kids married man of her own choice even though he was sikh there was trouble, but now are accepted.

* Also adopted a niece (sister's child) when her sister died in a plane crash. (1958)

Was a teacher in Paldi at the temple where she taught the children Punjabi. (Paldi was pretty well 'cut off' from telephone services etc. except one phone) She taught from 1953-55 and then was taken over by _____ Mauhas.

Living Conditions were: Electricity off at 11:00, telephone at the Mayo home. Roads were unpaved and dusty still to this day.

* Parkash Mann was a teacher in India for a while after she was married. Her husband had been here for a while and went back to Canada a month after they were married. She worked to keep herself occupied.

* She ~~can~~ also worked for the government as a social worker of sorts. She advised women on health care and ^{safe} environment.

* Completed Grade 12 and then 3 years which could be called a B.A. They learned about healthcare, teaching, Agriculture etc..

* ~~was~~ Was travelling around India with her work which upset her parents so she kept her sister with her. Still very old fashioned in some ideas.

* Some harsh attitudes about marriage and the way things are done today.

Mr Pritam Mann.

Worked - 1 year in Victoria at a lumber yard for Jindi Mayo.

- 25 years Nancose as foreman.

- 8 years own Mill at Salt Spring

- Now Pritam Holding company last 2 years.

- Mrs Rattan Kaur Atwal - Village hargari
- Age 65
- Came to Canada in 1952 and lived in Paloli for seven years. Then moved to present address in Duncan.
- They have 6 children 3 Boys 3 Girls
1 Boy died in accident
 - Mohinder Atwal is a Mechanic at BCFP Cayce 47 years old
 - Harinder Pal Atwal works in Chemours at the Doman Mill 37 years old
 - Rajinder Kaur Atwal - Registered Nurse now teaches at the Correction's centre in Abbotsford and is not married - 35 years old.
 - Davinder Kaur Atwal - is a homemaker in Duncan B.C. and is very outgoing and independent and does not want to be married doesn't like it pushed on her. 32.
 - Kuljeet Atwal lives in Vancouver and Studies in "Computers"

Mr Gurdial Singh Atwal

1912 at Vancouver Sikh Temple (Birth)

Book written on his father who was one of the first Sikhs to Arrive ~~and~~ in Canada and fought for the right to be here and bring families here.

Book written by Reesar Singh called
Sri Singh Sahib Di Shadachit

Author lives in Vancouver.

Also Documentary to be on TV on Mr Gurdial Atwal Sept 12 7:00 - Channel 2 or 6

Largari

Name: Rattan Kaur Atwal. Husband: Gurdial Singh
1912
Age: 65 in Vancouver Garbawana

Date of Arrival in Canada: 1952

How many children 3 Boys 3 Girls

1952 - Lived in Paldi ^{Husband} worked in Summit mill
mostly East Indian.

Boy ⁴¹ Mohinder Atwal Mechanic Cayuse BCFP.
37 ~~77~~ Harinderpal Atwal. Chemunus Doman's Mill
35 Rajinder Kaur Atwal. Registered Nurse - Teaching
at Correction's centre Abbotsford
32. Davinder K. Atwal Homemaker.
28 Kuljeet K Atwal. in Vancouver.

People were much more helpful.
Lots of single men in bunkhouses.

Houses had no toilets inside added after 3 years -
no running hot water
Paldi lived 7 years. - then to Duncan. 1959
Lived here 28 years

up wash board - after 7 years got a washing machine

no phones in Paldi
moved to Duncan and got phone. - Party Lines.
Phone rang.

Keesar Singh in Vancouver

" 1911

Lahore Executed

Sept 12 7:00 Channel ~~B~~ 2, or 6.

Daljit Kaur
Patchi Jito Gill

Aug 11, 1928 in Victoria til 1950
1945 married to Victor Gill
1950 → LK Cowichan

- wood stoves - inside & out toilets
- Lake Cowichan no electricity no running water
had to get from mountain stream.

Chan 42 - Mechanic 2 Boys 1 girl
~~Sharon~~ Sharon 41 - Secretary Victoria 3 boys.
Gary 38 - Parts manager 1 Boy 1 girl
Kelvin 33 - Salesman 1 girl

~~Victor~~ Victor had a wood truck
1950 LK Cowichan Chipper trucks (own.)
1969 (approx) moved to Duncan went into
Financial Business - later into Texaco -
then Valley Motor Salesman owned. Then
Retired.

4 sisters 2 brothers.

Mrs. Chanan Gill - 749-3254

Arrived 1953 5 1 Boy 4 Girls

Marrried Shirley School teacher van.

Gurbax Port Al Nurse.

Sharon Van Teacher

Pindo - Marrried + Kids

Barry Gill Stock broker.

Never worked anywhere but at home
house wife.

Will be willing to talk if called.

(HUSBAND TALKED TO ME)

MRS. BAWA - Not really all that well.

Please call first - will go see her on Tuesday.
