



Burnaby Municipal Hall

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/archivephoto86860>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Date:	1989
Collection/Fonds:	Richard Hardy family fonds
Description Level:	Item
Item No.:	570-030
Accession Number:	2014-16
Storage Location:	A/V Storage
Physical Description:	1 photograph : col. ; 9.5 x 15 cm
Media Type:	Photograph
Access Restriction:	No restrictions
Reproduction Restriction:	May be restricted by third party rights
Scope and Content:	Photograph of the second Burnaby Municipal Hall and the New Municipal Hall in the background on the left.
Subjects:	Public Services - Municipal Services
Names:	Burnaby City Hall
Notes:	Title based on contents of photograph Note in blue marker on recto reads: "1989"
Geographic Access:	Burnaby
Historic Neighbourhood:	Burnaby Lake (Historic Neighbourhood)
Planning Study Area:	Douglas-Gilpin Area

Images



Interview with Dr Blythe Eagles and Dr Violet Eagles 10-Jun-75 - Track 6

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory46>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview pertains to Dr Blythe Alfred Eagles and Dr Violet Evelyn (Dunbar) Eagles' thoughts on the distinct areas of Burnaby, municipal planning decisions and the municipal politics of the time.
Date Range:	1912-1933
Photo Info:	Mrs. Dunbar, Dr. Blythe Eagles and Dr. Violet (Dunbar) Eagles, June 1967. Item no. 404-002
Length:	0:07:49

Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services Planning](#)

Interviewer: [Bradbury, Dr. Bettina](#)

Interview Date: 10-Jun-75

Scope and Content: Recording is a taped interview with Dr Blythe Eagles and his wife Dr Violet Eagles by SFU (Simon Fraser University) graduate student Bettina Bradbury (and Ross S. McLeod) June 10, 1975. Major themes discussed are: the Depression, the War Years and Burnaby Lake District. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".

Biographical Notes: Blythe's paternal grandparents, Charles and Maude Eagles immigrated to New Westminster in 1887. Their son Jack married Amelia Jane Johnston, and Blythe Eagles was born in New Westminster in 1902. In 1918 Blythe enrolled at the University of British Columbia, and took a Physiology class with eight other top students - his future wife, Violet Dunbar was the lone woman in the class. Blythe graduated in 1922, winning the Governor General's Gold Medal as top student. He received his MA in 1924 and his PhD in 1926 from the University of Toronto. He then completed his post-doctoral study at the National Institute for Medical Research in London, England. In 1933 Dr. Eagles became head of the Department of Dairying (1936-1955), Chairman of the Division of Animal Science (1955-1967), and Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture (in 1949 until his retirement in 1967). In 1968 he received an Honourary Doctor of Science Award from UBC Blythe was also one of the first appointments to the Burnaby Town Planning Commission. Violet Evelyn Dunbar was born September 29, 1899 in Ontario, the eldest child of John and Mary (Tompson) Dunbar. Violet attained her BA in 1921 and MA in 1922 from the University of British Columbia. In 1922 she attended the Provincial Normal School and within six months had a teaching certificate and taught at Lord Hudson School in 1923. In September 1923 she was awarded a two-year scholarship to the University of Toronto, where she joined Blythe in the Bio-Chemistry Department. She received a second MA and a PhD in 1929. Her graduate studies entailed research in pure proteins and enzymes related to the commercial production of cheese. Through this work she was recognized as one of the leading enzyme chemists in the country, being a senior lab instructor of biochemistry. Violet was one of the founders of the Burnaby Council of Women and active member of the International Council of Women. Blythe and Violet Eagles purchased property at Deer Lake in 1929 and began construction of their home shortly before their marriage on June 25, 1930. The Drs. Blythe and Violet Eagles Estate is a unique expression of the talents and tastes of both the Eagles and Frank Ebenezer Buck (1875-1970) who was head of the Horticultural Department and the Campus Landscape Architect at U.B.C. and established the plan for the Eagles garden while Blythe selected many of the plantings. The Eagles themselves designed the house as a romantic cottage inspired by the British Arts and Crafts style. Violet was an enthusiastic amateur gardener, maintaining and continually developing the garden. The Eagles were active volunteers in the local community as well as at UBC. When Simon Fraser University opened in Burnaby, they became well-known for entertaining dignitaries and special guests of the university in their lavish garden. After Violet's death in 1993, the estate was sold to the City of Burnaby. The funds were used to establish a Chair in Agriculture at the University of British Columbia in their memory.

Total Tracks: 11

Total Length: 1:24:01

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Eagles, Dr. Blythe](#)
[Eagles, Dr. Violet](#)

Interviewer Bio: Bettina Bradbury teaches history and women's studies at York University. She is the author of *Wife to Widow. Lives, Laws and Politics in Nineteenth-century Montreal*. (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, June 2011), 520p; *Working Families. Age, Gender and Daily Survival in Industrializing Montreal*. (Toronto: Canadian Social History Series, McClelland and Stewart, 1993); (Republished Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1996) (3rd edition, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007). These interviews were undertaken after she completed her MA at Simon Fraser University in 1975 with the support of an LIP grant.

Collection/Fonds: [Burnaby Historical Society Community Archives collection](#)

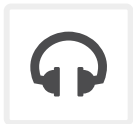
Series: [Oral History series](#)

Item No.: 100-13-08_Track_6
Media Type: Sound Recording
Web Notes: Interview was digitized in 2010 allowing it to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council and the BC History Digitization Program of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, University of British Columbia. It was recognized by the Heritage Society of BC with an award in 2012.

Audio Tracks

[Track six of interview with Dr Blythe Eagles and Dr Violet Eagles](#)

Images



Interview with Alekxos Sarter by Kathy Bossort October 16, 2015 - Track 8

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory584>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)
Summary: This portion of the interview is about Alekxos Sarter's explanation of the City of Burnaby's Official Community Planning process and its application to development of SFU's UniverCity.
Date Range: 1995-2015
Length: 0:12:25
Name: [Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)
[Simon Fraser University](#)
[UniverCity](#)
[Burnaby Planning and Building Department](#)
Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services](#)
[Planning](#)
Geographic Access: [Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain](#)
Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)
Interview Date: [October 16, 2015](#)

Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Alekxos Sarter conducted by Kathy Bossort. Alekxos Sarter was one of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland on Burnaby Mountain from Alekxos Sarter's perspective and experience as employee in the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. The interview provides an excellent explanation of the history and function of kinds of park dedications used by the City of Burnaby; an overview of issues around including the Trans Mountain tank farm in the conservation area; and the background to the land use and ownership disagreement between the City of Burnaby and Simon Fraser University, its resolution, and the subsequent development of SFU's UniverCity. Alekxos Sarter talks about Richard Bolton, Burnaby's Acting-Commissioner who was responsible for dedicating the first park on Burnaby Mountain in 1942, and the creation of a park named after him in UniverCity.
Biographical Notes:	Alekxos Sarter was born in Vancouver in 1961, to Daine and Kasandra Sarter. She grew up in North Vancouver and since 1994 has lived on a sailboat in False Creek. After attending UBC where she studied landscape architecture, she was hired by the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in 1986. Working first in parks design, Alekxos quickly moved into parks planning, her preferred career. As Research Officer she covers research, planning, public consultation, parks and facility inventory, parkland acquisition, among other duties.
Total Tracks:	9
Total Length:	2:20:47
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Sarter, Alekxos T.
Interview Location:	City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services meeting room
Interviewer Bio:	Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.
Collection/Fonds:	Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds
Series:	Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series
Item No.:	MSS196-005_Track_8
Media Type:	Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track eight of interview with Alekxos Sarter](#)



Interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse by Kathy Bossort November 24, 2015 - Track 8

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory634>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse talking about the 1991 Burnaby/Simon Fraser University Liaison Committee, its mandate and issues discussed in the committee; the factors that lead to the resolution of the dispute between the City and SFU; and the current dispute with Kinder Morgan and assessment of risk of Trans Mountain pipeline and Westbridge Terminal operations in Burnaby.
Date Range:	1990-2015
Length:	0:17:59

Name: [Simon Fraser Liaison Committee.](#)
[Simon Fraser University](#)
[Blaney, Jack](#)
[Drummond, Douglas P "Doug"](#)
[Stevenson, Michael.](#)
[Trans Mountain Oil Pipeline Company](#)

Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services](#)
[Planning](#)

Geographic Access: [Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain](#)

Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)

Interview Date: November 24, 2015

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse conducted by Kathy Bossort. Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse were two of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland by dedication on Burnaby Mountain, the 1974/76 delineation of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain, and the dispute between Burnaby and Simon Fraser University over land ownership and control on Burnaby Mountain, as discussed by two retired participants in these events from the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department, Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. They also talk about their interaction with the public in developing policies, particularly for the 1974 report "The Public Meetings - Phase One", and the importance of a strong policy base for long range planning and the patience needed to assemble land for large parks. They talk as well about their careers, their close working relationship in the department, and the cooperation between City and SFU staff in the development of UniverCity.

Biographical Notes: Basil Luksun was born and educated in South Africa, immigrating to Canada and Burnaby in 1972 to escape the harmful effects of apartheid. He holds a BSc degree from the University of Cape Town and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Town Planning from the University of Witwatersrand. He joined the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department in 1973, working his way up through the organization to Director of the department before retiring after 39 years in 2012. When he started work in the 1970s, the City of Burnaby was focusing on green space planning projects and he takes great pride in these projects as well as the city's focus on long-term planning. Basil lived in the Capital Hill area from 1972 to 1990. He currently resides in Vancouver and has two sons, Warren and Derek. Jack Belhouse was born in 1946 in Vancouver and attended UBC, York University and SFU (1965-1972), majoring in urban geography. He began working in Burnaby's planning department as a summer student in 1968, and was offered a full-time position when he graduated from university. He became Director of the Planning and Building Department before retiring after 38 years with the city in 2006. He and Basil Luksun worked closely together in long range planning in the department. Jack lives in Coquitlam with his wife Linda and has two children, Brad and Lori.

Total Tracks: 8

Total Length: 1:58:23

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Luksun, Basil](#)
[Belhouse, Jack](#)

Interview Location: [Basil Luksun's home in Vancouver](#)

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-012_Track_8

Media Type: Sound Recording

**Interview with Edward Apps by Rod Fowler February 22, 1990 - Track 4**<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory458>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Ed Apps' views about the political development in north and south Burnaby, the difference in trade union activity and provision of community services between the two areas, and the belief that moving Municipal Hall to a more central position has lessened antagonism
Date Range:	1946-1990
Length:	00:05:37
Subject:	Public Services - Municipal Services Organizations - Unions
Interviewer:	Fowler, Rod
Interview Date:	February 22, 1990
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Edward Apps, conducted by Rod Fowler. Ed Apps was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is mainly about Ed Apps involvement in community groups, particularly his work in seniors organizations lobbying for seniors' housing since his retirement, and views about the role of Rate Payer groups, unions and politics in the development of North and South Burnaby. He also talks about his origin in England, his war service, arrival with his wife Margaret in Burnaby in 1946, his work with the Burnaby School Board and for the local union, the location of some of the older schools, the history of his house, and briefly about his wife and children. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".
Biographical Notes:	Edward Apps was born in 1918 in London, England, and grew up in Kent and Essex. In WWII he flew the third glider to land in Normandy on June 6th, 1944. He and his wife Margaret Hope (1915-1985) immigrated to British Columbia in 1946, joining his wife's parents, who had immigrated earlier in 1939, in Burnaby Heights in North Burnaby. He worked for the Burnaby School Board as Foreman Painter, and served on CUPE Local 379 Executive, until his retirement in 1982. In 1948 Ed Apps bought his first lot, for \$150.00, in the 4700 block on Georgia Street, building houses there and in the 4100 block before buying his present home, a ca.1900 farm building, in the same area in 1954. North Burnaby was "bush country and orchards" in the 1950s; his two sons played in the ravines; and the family used the tram system on Hastings and Boundary Road for transportation. Development of municipal services seemed slower in North than South Burnaby, and Ed Apps remembers the strong role Rate Payers groups had in creating local services and lobbying Municipal Council for provide services. After retirement Ed Apps became involved in several local and provincial seniors organizations, advocating for better housing, including serving on the Executives of the Network of Burnaby Seniors and the Council of Senior Citizens Organization, and was active in the provincial Seniors Research and Resource and CMHC Housing Committee. He also served on the Centennial Committee of Burnaby.
Total Tracks:	8
Total Length:	0:56:50
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Apps, Ed

Interviewer Bio: Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.

Collection/Fonds: [SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds](#)

Series: [Centennial Oral History project series](#)

Item No.: MSS187-015_Track_4

Transcript Available: Transcript available

Media Type: Sound Recording

Web Notes: Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track four of interview with Ed Apps](#)



Interview with Edward Apps by Rod Fowler February 22, 1990 - Track 5

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory459>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview is about Ed Apps' views about the role Ratepayer Associations played in neighbourhood development, their diminished role as their functions have been taken over by Council, the Parks Board and political party slates, and the pros and cons for the change

Date Range: 1960-1990

Length: 00:14:36

Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services Organizations](#)
[Persons - Volunteers](#)

Interviewer: [Fowler, Rod](#)

Interview Date: February 22, 1990

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Edward Apps, conducted by Rod Fowler. Ed Apps was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is mainly about Ed Apps involvement in community groups, particularly his work in seniors organizations lobbying for seniors' housing since his retirement, and views about the role of Rate Payer groups, unions and politics in the development of North and South Burnaby. He also talks about his origin in England, his war service, arrival with his wife Margaret in Burnaby in 1946, his work with the Burnaby School Board and for the local union, the location of some of the older schools, the history of his house, and briefly about his wife and children. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".

Biographical Notes: Edward Apps was born in 1918 in London, England, and grew up in Kent and Essex. In WWII he flew the third glider to land in Normandy on June 6th, 1944. He and his wife Margaret Hope (1915-1985) immigrated to British Columbia in 1946, joining his wife's parents, who had immigrated earlier in 1939, in Burnaby Heights in North Burnaby. He worked for the Burnaby School Board as Foreman Painter, and served on CUPE Local 379 Executive, until his retirement in 1982. In 1948 Ed Apps bought his first lot, for \$150.00, in the 4700 block on Georgia Street, building houses there and in the 4100 block before buying his present home, a ca.1900 farm building, in the same area in 1954. North Burnaby was "bush country and orchards" in the 1950s; his two sons played in the ravines; and the family used the tram system on Hastings and Boundary Road for transportation. Development of municipal services seemed slower in North than South Burnaby, and Ed Apps remembers the strong role Rate Payers groups had in creating local services and lobbying Municipal Council for provide services. After retirement Ed Apps became involved in several local and provincial seniors organizations, advocating for better housing, including serving on the Executives of the Network of Burnaby Seniors and the Council of Senior Citizens Organization, and was active in the provincial Seniors Research and Resource and CMHC Housing Committee. He also served on the Centennial Committee of Burnaby.

Total Tracks: 8

Total Length: 0:56:50

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Apps, Ed](#)

Interviewer Bio: Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.

Collection/Fonds: [SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds](#)

Series: [Centennial Oral History project series](#)

Item No.: MSS187-015_Track_5

Transcript Available: Transcript available

Media Type: Sound Recording

Web Notes: Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track five of interview with Ed Apps](#)



Interview with John Kirbyson by Kathy Bossort September 28, 2015 - Track 2

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory557>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview is about John Kirbyson's career with City of Burnaby Parks and Recreation Dept. 1978-2005. He talks about returning to SFU for his Masters degree in the new Natural Resource Management program; trail management on Burnaby Mountain; and relationship between SFU and Parks staff managing trails on the mountain.

Date Range: 1978-2005

Length: 0:14:04

Name: [Simon Fraser University](#)
[City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services](#)

Subject:	Education Public Services - Municipal Services Recreational Activities
Geographic Access:	Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Park
Interviewer:	Bossort, Kathy
Interview Date:	September 28, 2015
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with John Kirbyson conducted by Kathy Bossort. John Kirbyson was one of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about John Kirbyson's education and career as parks planner for the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, and the development of the 1999 Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area Management Plan. The interview explores how parks management balances environmental and recreational values and safety, and the importance of good guidelines and public input in the parks planning process. John Kirbyson also talks about recreational activities and various developments on Burnaby Mountain in the 1990s, such as the Kamui Mintara sculptures.
Biographical Notes:	John Kirbyson was born in Vancouver in 1954, to Arnold and Winnifred Kirbyson. After several years spent in Winnipeg and Calgary, the Kirbyson family moved to Hunter Street in Burnaby in 1969 where John remembers living near the City's nursery. John earned his BSc degree at SFU in Physical Geography (1973-1978) and then worked for the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services between 1978 and 2005, where he moved from labourer to management positions. Supported by the City, he returned to SFU to earn his Masters degree in the School of Resource and Environment Management in 1991, his thesis being on restoration of Deer Lake. He was Manager of Parks Planning, Design and Development in the 1990s at the time that land on Burnaby Mountain was transferred from SFU to the City of Burnaby, and had the opportunity to direct the development of the first management plan for the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area. From 2005 to 2010 John was Manager of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Dept. in Penticton, after which he has worked as an environmental consultant for Lees & Associates Landscape Architects and Planners. He is married to wife Linda and has three children: Linnaea, Jeremy and Colin.
Total Tracks:	7
Total Length:	1:33:43
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Kirbyson, John W.
Interview Location:	John Kirbyson's son's home in Langley
Interviewer Bio:	Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.
Collection/Fonds:	Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds
Series:	Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series
Item No.:	MSS196-002_Track_2
Media Type:	Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track two of interview with John Kirbyson](#)

[Interview with Merrill M. Gordon by Rod Fowler March 19, 1990 - Track 8](#)

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory479>



Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Merrill Gordon's founding and operation of the youth soccer exchange with Washington State, and the importance of soccer to the community. He discusses the problem of isolation between north and south Burnaby, planned development in Burnaby, and the contributions of Ratepayer groups and volunteers
Date Range:	1956-1990
Photo Info:	Burnaby Alderman Merrill Gordon (second from right) following a candidates' meeting, 1973. Item no. 480-263
Length:	00:10:17
Subject:	Persons - Volunteers Sports - Soccer Public Services - Municipal Services Planning
Interviewer:	Fowler, Rod
Interview Date:	March 19, 1990
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Merrill Gordon, conducted by Rod Fowler. Gordon Merrill was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is about Merrill Gordon's childhood in the Depression, including his story about the family's difficult trek to Burnaby from Alberta; his education, teachers and first volunteer activities at Grandview High School; his career at Fleck Brothers and the start of his own company Blaze Industries and later work in India; and his many volunteer activities in Burnaby. He describes how he started the Cliff Avenue United Football Club, the soccer club's subsequent growth and development, some of the people involved, and the founding of the youth soccer exchange. He also describes his work on the Parks Board and in the arts community, including the 1987 arts centre referendum, and involvement with the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society (1988-), and mentions his work for other groups including the New Vista Society, library board, and Burnaby Mental Health Committee. He also talks about his political career with the Better Burnaby Committee and Burnaby Voters Association, resulting in his 1972 election to Burnaby's 1973 council. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".
Biographical Notes:	Merrill M. Gordon was born in Saskatchewan in 1929 to parents farming north of North Battleford. After a fifth year of crop failure the family of four left the farm in 1934 to join relatives living near the corner of Union and Sperling in Burnaby. With little resources the family adapted as well as possible in the Depression years, moving often in the East Vancouver/North Burnaby area in an attempt to better their situation. Merrill's father obtained work at sawmills including Kapoor's Sawmill at Barnet, walking to work over Burnaby Mountain. After attending numerous public schools, Merrill Gordon eventually spent three years at Templeton School and then completed his education at Grandview High School of Commerce, majoring in accounting and commercial law. He worked a few years at Canadian Industries Ltd., then joined Fleck Brothers. In 1965 Merrill Gordon and his wife started their own company Blaze Industries of Canada that manufactured wood burning fireplaces, selling the company to AB Electrolux in 1980. After a short retirement, Merrill Gordon went back to work in 1981 for a company manufacturing solar panels, one project taking him and his wife intermittently to India over a four year period. Merrill Gordon helped found the political group Better Burnaby Committee, later the Burnaby Voters Association, with Alan Emmott and Bill Lewarne, ran for Burnaby Municipal Council and served one year as councillor in 1973. Merrill Gordon is well known for his over 40 years of volunteer work in Burnaby, particularly as founder in 1956 and director of the Cliff Avenue United Football Club, one of the largest soccer clubs in BC. He was also the founder of Burnaby Youth Soccer and the first youth soccer exchange with Washington State. His other volunteer work includes library trustee, Parks Commissioner (1987-1992), Director of New Vista Home for Seniors, Chair of campaign raising funds for building Shadbolt Arts Centre, and Chair of the Burnaby Mental Health Committee. In 1988 Merrill Gordon, Betty Gordon, Dean Lamont and several others formed the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society, which advocated for the return of unused land to Burnaby from SFU and the subsequent creation of Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area. Merrill Gordon and Elizabeth Balfour (nee Leitch) (1926-2012) married in 1953 and had two children.

Total Tracks: 11
Total Length: 1:31:44
Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)
Interviewee Name: [Gordon, Merrill](#)
Interview Location: [unknown](#)
Interviewer Bio: Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.
Collection/Fonds: [SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds](#)
Series: [Centennial Oral History project series](#)
Item No.: MSS187-020_Track_8
Transcript Available: Transcript available
Media Type: Sound Recording
Web Notes: Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[Track eight of interview with Merrill Gordon](#)

Images



[Interview with Merrill M. Gordon by Rod Fowler March 19, 1990 - Track 9](#)

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory480>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)
Summary: This portion of the interview is about Merrill Gordon's work on the Parks Board and involvement in the arts community. He talks about developing an art policy for Burnaby, the conflicting views about building a theatre at Metrotown, and the establishment of the Arts Centre at Deer Lake
Date Range: 1987-1990
Photo Info: Burnaby Alderman Merrill Gordon (second from right) following a candidates' meeting, 1973. Item no. 480-263
Length: 00:07:57
Name: [Burnaby Arts Centre](#)
Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services](#)
[Arts](#)
[Recreational Activities - Theatre](#)
Interviewer: [Fowler, Rod](#)

Interview Date:	March 19, 1990
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Merrill Gordon, conducted by Rod Fowler. Gordon Merrill was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is about Merrill Gordon's childhood in the Depression, including his story about the family's difficult trek to Burnaby from Alberta; his education, teachers and first volunteer activities at Grandview High School; his career at Fleck Brothers and the start of his own company Blaze Industries and later work in India; and his many volunteer activities in Burnaby. He describes how he started the Cliff Avenue United Football Club, the soccer club's subsequent growth and development, some of the people involved, and the founding of the youth soccer exchange. He also describes his work on the Parks Board and in the arts community, including the 1987 arts centre referendum, and involvement with the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society (1988-), and mentions his work for other groups including the New Vista Society, library board, and Burnaby Mental Health Committee. He also talks about his political career with the Better Burnaby Committee and Burnaby Voters Association, resulting in his 1972 election to Burnaby's 1973 council. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".
Biographical Notes:	Merrill M. Gordon was born in Saskatchewan in 1929 to parents farming north of North Battleford. After a fifth year of crop failure the family of four left the farm in 1934 to join relatives living near the corner of Union and Sperling in Burnaby. With little resources the family adapted as well as possible in the Depression years, moving often in the East Vancouver/North Burnaby area in an attempt to better their situation. Merrill's father obtained work at sawmills including Kapoor's Sawmill at Barnet, walking to work over Burnaby Mountain. After attending numerous public schools, Merrill Gordon eventually spent three years at Templeton School and then completed his education at Grandview High School of Commerce, majoring in accounting and commercial law. He worked a few years at Canadian Industries Ltd., then joined Fleck Brothers. In 1965 Merrill Gordon and his wife started their own company Blaze Industries of Canada that manufactured wood burning fireplaces, selling the company to AB Electrolux in 1980. After a short retirement, Merrill Gordon went back to work in 1981 for a company manufacturing solar panels, one project taking him and his wife intermittently to India over a four year period. Merrill Gordon helped found the political group Better Burnaby Committee, later the Burnaby Voters Association, with Alan Emmott and Bill Lewarne, ran for Burnaby Municipal Council and served one year as councillor in 1973. Merrill Gordon is well known for his over 40 years of volunteer work in Burnaby, particularly as founder in 1956 and director of the Cliff Avenue United Football Club, one of the largest soccer clubs in BC. He was also the founder of Burnaby Youth Soccer and the first youth soccer exchange with Washington State. His other volunteer work includes library trustee, Parks Commissioner (1987-1992), Director of New Vista Home for Seniors, Chair of campaign raising funds for building Shadbolt Arts Centre, and Chair of the Burnaby Mental Health Committee. In 1988 Merrill Gordon, Betty Gordon, Dean Lamont and several others formed the Burnaby Mountain Preservation Society, which advocated for the return of unused land to Burnaby from SFU and the subsequent creation of Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area. Merrill Gordon and Elizabeth Balfour (nee Leitch) (1926-2012) married in 1953 and had two children.
Total Tracks:	11
Total Length:	1:31:44
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Gordon, Merrill
Interview Location:	unknown
Interviewer Bio:	Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.
Collection/Fonds:	SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds
Series:	Centennial Oral History project series

Item No.: MSS187-020_Track_9
Transcript Available: Transcript available
Media Type: Sound Recording
Web Notes: Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[Track nine of interview with Merrill Gordon](#)

Images



Interview with Kay Zimmerman by Rod Fowler [February] 1990 - Track 2

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory528>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview continues Kay Zimmerman's description of the BVA and the election of councillors and then mayors from the party, Dave Mercier 1979-1981 and Bill Lewarne 1981-1987. She talks about resistance to paying for the road to SFU as a "local improvement", Heritage Village as a Centennial Project, differing BVA support in north and south Burnaby, and Alan Emmott's political career.

Date Range: 1960-1987

Photo Info: Kay Zimmerman, [1973]. Item no. 231-021

Length: 00:07:50

Name: [Lewarne, William A. "Bill"](#)
[Emmott, Alan H](#)
[Mercier, David M "Dave"](#)
[Burnaby Voters Association](#)
[Simon Fraser University](#)
[Burnaby Village Museum](#)

Subject: [Officials - Mayors and Reeves](#)
[Public Services - Municipal Services](#)

Interviewer: [Fowler, Rod](#)

Interview Date: [February] 1990

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Kay Zimmerman, conducted by Rod Fowler. Kay Zimmerman was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is mainly about Kay Zimmerman's political activities in Burnaby and her description of her Lochdale neighbourhood in the 1960s. She provides an excellent overview of the municipal political groups and important political issues in Burnaby from 1960 to 1980. She tells the story about an early and successful political action that convinced her that an individual can make a difference. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".

Biographical Notes:	Kathleen "Kay" Zimmerman, her husband Gordon and their young son Rick moved to Burnaby from Vancouver in 1960 to a house on Curtis Avenue near Duthie Street (a second son Bruce was born in Burnaby). Kay Zimmerman worked 12 years at Royal Columbian Hospital in the admitting office, then 4 years (1974-1979) as special assistant to Senator Ray Perrault, followed by work as a judge on the Citizenship Court before retiring. Gordon Zimmerman worked at the Shell Refinery. A member of the Liberal Party and political activist before arriving in Burnaby, Kay Zimmerman continued her involvement in national and local politics. She campaigned for Ray Perrault during the Trudeau years, and was a founder and active member of the Burnaby Voters Association (BVA). Her political activities encompassed 30 years that saw major changes in Burnaby, including the building of SFU, creation of Heritage Village, an awakening environmental sensibility, and a dramatic increase in population and development in Burnaby.
Total Tracks:	10
Total Length:	01:04:36
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Zimmerman, Kay
Interviewer Bio:	Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.
Collection/Fonds:	SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds
Series:	Centennial Oral History project series
Item No.:	MSS187-018_Track_2
Transcript Available:	Transcript available
Media Type:	Sound Recording
Web Notes:	Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track two of interview with Kay Zimmerman](#)

Images



Interview with Kay Zimmerman by Rod Fowler [February] 1990 - Track 5

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory531>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Kay Zimmerman's discussion about the pros and cons of volunteer organizations operating public services for the municipality, in particular the Parks and Recreation Commission taking control of Heritage Village, a volunteer initiated Centennial Project
Date Range:	1967-1990
Photo Info:	Kay Zimmerman, [1973]. Item no. 231-021
Length:	00:04:42
Subject:	Public Services - Municipal Services Organizations - Historical Societies Persons - Volunteers
Interviewer:	Fowler, Rod
Interview Date:	[February] 1990
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Kay Zimmerman, conducted by Rod Fowler. Kay Zimmerman was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is mainly about Kay Zimmerman's political activities in Burnaby and her description of her Lochdale neighbourhood in the 1960s. She provides an excellent overview of the municipal political groups and important political issues in Burnaby from 1960 to 1980. She tells the story about an early and successful political action that convinced her that an individual can make a difference. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".

Biographical Notes:	Kathleen "Kay" Zimmerman, her husband Gordon and their young son Rick moved to Burnaby from Vancouver in 1960 to a house on Curtis Avenue near Duthie Street (a second son Bruce was born in Burnaby). Kay Zimmerman worked 12 years at Royal Columbian Hospital in the admitting office, then 4 years (1974-1979) as special assistant to Senator Ray Perrault, followed by work as a judge on the Citizenship Court before retiring. Gordon Zimmerman worked at the Shell Refinery. A member of the Liberal Party and political activist before arriving in Burnaby, Kay Zimmerman continued her involvement in national and local politics. She campaigned for Ray Perrault during the Trudeau years, and was a founder and active member of the Burnaby Voters Association (BVA). Her political activities encompassed 30 years that saw major changes in Burnaby, including the building of SFU, creation of Heritage Village, an awakening environmental sensibility, and a dramatic increase in population and development in Burnaby.
Total Tracks:	10
Total Length:	01:04:36
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Zimmerman, Kay
Interviewer Bio:	Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.
Collection/Fonds:	SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds
Series:	Centennial Oral History project series
Item No.:	MSS187-018_Track_5
Transcript Available:	Transcript available
Media Type:	Sound Recording
Web Notes:	Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[🔊 Track five of interview with Kay Zimmerman](#)

Images



Interview with Alekxos Sarter by Kathy Bossort October 16, 2015 - Track 9

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory585>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Alekxos Sarter's story about the naming, planning and development of Richard Bolton Park at SFU's UniverCity.
Date Range:	2000-2015
Length:	0:14:42
Name:	Bolton, Richard Simon Fraser University UniverCity Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department
Subject:	Public Services - Municipal Services Geographic Features - Parks Planning
Geographic Access:	Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Burnaby - Richard Bolton Park
Interviewer:	Bossort, Kathy
Interview Date:	October 16, 2015
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Alekxos Sarter conducted by Kathy Bossort. Alekxos Sarter was one of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland on Burnaby Mountain from Alekxos Sarter's perspective and experience as employee in the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. The interview provides an excellent explanation of the history and function of kinds of park dedications used by the City of Burnaby; an overview of issues around including the Trans Mountain tank farm in the conservation area; and the background to the land use and ownership disagreement between the City of Burnaby and Simon Fraser University, its resolution, and the subsequent development of SFU's UniverCity. Alekxos Sarter talks about Richard Bolton, Burnaby's Acting-Commissioner who was responsible for dedicating the first park on Burnaby Mountain in 1942, and the creation of a park named after him in UniverCity.

Biographical Notes: Alekxos Sarter was born in Vancouver in 1961, to Daine and Kasandra Sarter. She grew up in North Vancouver and since 1994 has lived on a sailboat in False Creek. After attending UBC where she studied landscape architecture, she was hired by the City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services in 1986. Working first in parks design, Alekxos quickly moved into parks planning, her preferred career. As Research Officer she covers research, planning, public consultation, parks and facility inventory, parkland acquisition, among other duties.

Total Tracks: 9

Total Length: 2:20:47

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Sarter, Alekxos T.](#)

Interview Location: [City of Burnaby Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services meeting room](#)

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-005_Track_9

Media Type: Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track nine of interview with Alekxos Sarter](#)



[Interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse by Kathy Bossort November 24, 2015 - Track 1](#)

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory627>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview is about introducing the two interviewees Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. They talk about their education, how they became interested in their career paths as urban planners and what kept them interested in their work, how they were hired by the City of Burnaby, and their working relationship in the Planning Department.

Date Range: 1965-2015

Length: 0:09:54

Name: [Burnaby Planning and Building Department](#)
[Parr, Anthony L.](#)

Subject: [Education](#)
[Occupations - Civic Workers](#)
[Public Services - Municipal Services](#)

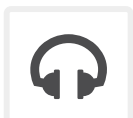
Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)

Interview Date: November 24, 2015

Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse conducted by Kathy Bossort. Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse were two of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland by dedication on Burnaby Mountain, the 1974/76 delineation of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain, and the dispute between Burnaby and Simon Fraser University over land ownership and control on Burnaby Mountain, as discussed by two retired participants in these events from the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department, Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. They also talk about their interaction with the public in developing policies, particularly for the 1974 report "The Public Meetings - Phase One", and the importance of a strong policy base for long range planning and the patience needed to assemble land for large parks. They talk as well about their careers, their close working relationship in the department, and the cooperation between City and SFU staff in the development of UniverCity.
Biographical Notes:	Basil Luksun was born and educated in South Africa, immigrating to Canada and Burnaby in 1972 to escape the harmful effects of apartheid. He holds a BSc degree from the University of Cape Town and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Town Planning from the University of Witwatersrand. He joined the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department in 1973, working his way up through the organization to Director of the department before retiring after 39 years in 2012. When he started work in the 1970s, the City of Burnaby was focusing on green space planning projects and he takes great pride in these projects as well as the city's focus on long-term planning. Basil lived in the Capital Hill area from 1972 to 1990. He currently resides in Vancouver and has two sons, Warren and Derek. Jack Belhouse was born in 1946 in Vancouver and attended UBC, York University and SFU (1965-1972), majoring in urban geography. He began working in Burnaby's planning department as a summer student in 1968, and was offered a full-time position when he graduated from university. He became Director of the Planning and Building Department before retiring after 38 years with the city in 2006. He and Basil Luksun worked closely together in long range planning in the department. Jack lives in Coquitlam with his wife Linda and has two children, Brad and Lori.
Total Tracks:	8
Total Length:	1:58:23
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Luksun, Basil Belhouse, Jack
Interview Location:	Basil Luksun's home in Vancouver
Interviewer Bio:	Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.
Collection/Fonds:	Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds
Series:	Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series
Item No.:	MSS196-012_Track_1
Media Type:	Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track one of interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse](#)



Interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse by Kathy Bossort November 24, 2015 - Track 3

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory629>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse talking about the background to the creation of their 1974 report "The Public Meetings - Phase One" which made recommendations for long range planning policies for the City of Burnaby, including the creation of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain. They talk about meeting with the public as a strategy for refreshing policy, the shift in public attitudes for saving green spaces, and the City's strong policy base for making decisions.
Date Range:	1970-1990
Length:	0:15:10
Name:	Burnaby Planning and Building Department Lawson, Doreen A. Atchison, Jennifer Gunn, Brian M.
Subject:	Public Services - Municipal Services Geographic Features - Parks Planning
Geographic Access:	Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Park Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area
Interviewer:	Bossort, Kathy
Interview Date:	November 24, 2015
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse conducted by Kathy Bossort. Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse were two of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland by dedication on Burnaby Mountain, the 1974/76 delineation of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain, and the dispute between Burnaby and Simon Fraser University over land ownership and control on Burnaby Mountain, as discussed by two retired participants in these events from the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department, Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. They also talk about their interaction with the public in developing policies, particularly for the 1974 report "The Public Meetings - Phase One", and the importance of a strong policy base for long range planning and the patience needed to assemble land for large parks. They talk as well about their careers, their close working relationship in the department, and the cooperation between City and SFU staff in the development of UniverCity.
Biographical Notes:	Basil Luksun was born and educated in South Africa, immigrating to Canada and Burnaby in 1972 to escape the harmful effects of apartheid. He holds a BSc degree from the University of Cape Town and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Town Planning from the University of Witwatersrand. He joined the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department in 1973, working his way up through the organization to Director of the department before retiring after 39 years in 2012. When he started work in the 1970s, the City of Burnaby was focusing on green space planning projects and he takes great pride in these projects as well as the city's focus on long-term planning. Basil lived in the Capital Hill area from 1972 to 1990. He currently resides in Vancouver and has two sons, Warren and Derek. Jack Belhouse was born in 1946 in Vancouver and attended UBC, York University and SFU (1965-1972), majoring in urban geography. He began working in Burnaby's planning department as a summer student in 1968, and was offered a full-time position when he graduated from university. He became Director of the Planning and Building Department before retiring after 38 years with the city in 2006. He and Basil Luksun worked closely together in long range planning in the department. Jack lives in Coquitlam with his wife Linda and has two children, Brad and Lori.
Total Tracks:	8
Total Length:	1:58:23
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Luksun, Basil Belhouse, Jack
Interview Location:	Basil Luksun's home in Vancouver

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

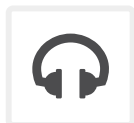
Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-012_Track_3

Media Type: Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[🔗 Track three of interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse](#)



Interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse by Kathy Bossort November 24, 2015 - Track 6

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory632>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview is about Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse talking about Simon Fraser University and problems created by its isolated site on Burnaby Mountain. They talk about the building of the Burnaby Mountain Parkway, and tell stories about the cooperative planning between City and SFU staff for UniverCity.

Date Range: 1963-2015

Length: 0:16:58

Name: [Simon Fraser University](#)
[UniverCity](#)
[Burnaby Mountain Parkway](#)

Subject: [Buildings - Schools - Universities and Colleges](#)
[Transportation](#)
[Public Services - Municipal Services](#)

Geographic Access: [Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Park](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Parkway](#)

Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)

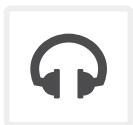
Interview Date: November 24, 2015

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse conducted by Kathy Bossort. Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse were two of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history of setting aside parkland by dedication on Burnaby Mountain, the 1974/76 delineation of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain, and the dispute between Burnaby and Simon Fraser University over land ownership and control on Burnaby Mountain, as discussed by two retired participants in these events from the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department, Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. They also talk about their interaction with the public in developing policies, particularly for the 1974 report "The Public Meetings - Phase One", and the importance of a strong policy base for long range planning and the patience needed to assemble land for large parks. They talk as well about their careers, their close working relationship in the department, and the cooperation between City and SFU staff in the development of UniverCity.

Biographical Notes:	Basil Luksun was born and educated in South Africa, immigrating to Canada and Burnaby in 1972 to escape the harmful effects of apartheid. He holds a BSc degree from the University of Cape Town and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Town Planning from the University of Witwatersrand. He joined the City of Burnaby's Planning and Building Department in 1973, working his way up through the organization to Director of the department before retiring after 39 years in 2012. When he started work in the 1970s, the City of Burnaby was focusing on green space planning projects and he takes great pride in these projects as well as the city's focus on long-term planning. Basil lived in the Capital Hill area from 1972 to 1990. He currently resides in Vancouver and has two sons, Warren and Derek. Jack Belhouse was born in 1946 in Vancouver and attended UBC, York University and SFU (1965-1972), majoring in urban geography. He began working in Burnaby's planning department as a summer student in 1968, and was offered a full-time position when he graduated from university. He became Director of the Planning and Building Department before retiring after 38 years with the city in 2006. He and Basil Luksun worked closely together in long range planning in the department. Jack lives in Coquitlam with his wife Linda and has two children, Brad and Lori.
Total Tracks:	8
Total Length:	1:58:23
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Luksun, Basil Belhouse, Jack
Interview Location:	Basil Luksun's home in Vancouver
Interviewer Bio:	Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.
Collection/Fonds:	Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds
Series:	Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series
Item No.:	MSS196-012_Track_6
Media Type:	Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track six of interview with Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse](#)



Interview with Lee Rankin by Kathy Bossort December 2, 2015 - Track 4

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory645>

Repository:	City of Burnaby Archives
Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Lee Rankin's belief that the time was right to get the land back from SFU and protect it as a park. He goes through the steps that lead to productive negotiations between the City and SFU, including the creation of the Simon Fraser Liaison Committee which he chaired, his key meeting with the newly appointed Chair of the SFU Board of Governors, Yvonne Cocke, and the creative work of City Planners Basil Luksun and Jack Belhouse. He describes the main points in the 1995 agreement between SFU and the City.
Date Range:	1983-1996
Length:	0:18:39

Name: [Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)
[Simon Fraser University](#)
[Cocke, Yvonne D.](#)
[Luksun, Basil](#)
[Belhouse, Jack](#)
[Simon Fraser Liaison Committee.](#)
[Drummond, Douglas P "Doug"](#)

Subject: [Intergovernmental Relations](#)
[Land](#)
[Geographic Features - Parks](#)
[Public Services - Municipal Services](#)

Geographic Access: [Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Park](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)

Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)

Interview Date: December 2, 2015

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Lee Rankin conducted by Kathy Bossort. Lee Rankin was one of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about Lee Rankin's involvement in finding a resolution to the dispute between the City of Burnaby and Simon Fraser University over land ownership and control on Burnaby Mountain. He talks about the origin of the dispute, the positions taken by the two sides, the key people who brought about a resolution, and the main features of the agreement between the City, SFU and the province of BC. He talks about how the agreement met SFU's goals, fostered trust between the City and university, and removed uncertainty from protecting parkland on Burnaby Mountain.

Biographical Notes: Lee Rankin was born in 1953 in Vancouver. He attended SFU 1973-78, completing his BA degree in 1985. He earned his law degree at UBC in 1988, was called to the Bar in 1989, and practiced in immigration and refugee law. Lee has lived in Burnaby since 1976 and was a member of Burnaby Council for 22 years, from 1983-1999 and 2002-2008. His particular interests as a Councillor were in community planning, housing and environment. Among other duties and accomplishments as Councillor, Lee served as chair of the Simon Fraser Liaison Committee and was involved in the negotiations with the province and SFU that resulted in the university returning more than 800 acres of land to the City, which was dedicated as part of the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area. He has also served on the GVRD, volunteers as a coach for team sports in Burnaby, and has served on numerous community and business associations and committees. Lee is married to Ragini Venkat Rankin and has one son Henry.

Total Tracks: 8

Total Length: 1:50:35

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Rankin, Lee A.](#)

Interview Location: [Lee Rankin's home in Burnaby](#)

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-014_Track_4

Media Type: Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track four of interview with Lee Rankin](#)



Interview with Sev Morin by Rod Fowler April 4, 1990 - Track 10

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory546>

- Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)
- Summary: This portion of the interview is about Sev Morin's views about Burnaby's identity and the irrelevance of municipal boundary lines for many functions; his identification of Burnaby's heritage, ecological and educational "gems"; and musings about the next development phases for Burnaby
- Date Range: 1950-1990
- Photo Info: Sev Morin (left) of Severin's in Burnaby (formerly the Gai Paree) hosting a gala New Year's celebration, 1979. Item no. 480-712
- Length: 00:09:22
- Name: [Lawson, Doreen A.](#)
[Emmott, Alan H](#)
[Swangard Stadium](#)
- Subject: [Public Services - Municipal Services](#)
[Planning](#)
[Industries](#)
[Geographic Features - Parks](#)
[Buildings - Recreational](#)
- Interviewer: [Fowler, Rod](#)
- Interview Date: April 4, 1990
- Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with Severin "Sev" Morin, conducted by Rod Fowler. Sev Morin was one of eleven participants interviewed as part of the SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee's oral history series titled, "Voices of Burnaby". The interview is mainly about Sev Morin's banquet hall, restaurant and night club business on Kingsway, originally named the "Gai Paree Supper Club" (1947-1976) and later "Severin's" (1976-1985) and "Diego's" (1985-1994), its function as a Burnaby landmark, and the entertainment and political people he met through his business. He also describes his many volunteer activities in Burnaby, including member of the SFU Senate, Rotary Club, Variety Club and Telethon, fund raising for Burnaby Hospital, and tourism related groups, and his political work for the federal Liberal party. He talks about his parents' origins, the lives of his brothers Rudy and Rene, and the family's involvement in establishing the "Gai Paree". He also shares his views about the business and cultural development of Burnaby. To view "Narrow By" terms for each track expand this description and see "Notes".

Biographical Notes:	Severin "Sev" Rene Morin was born September 21, 1927, in Bonneville, Alberta, to Rene Pierre Morin (1878-1963) and Anne Marie (nee Lachiver) Morin (1886-1956). Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Morin and their son Rene Francois (1905-1954) immigrated to Edmonton, Alberta, from France in 1913, where Rene Pierre Morin worked for the C.N.R. and a second son Adolphe "Rudy" Ferdinand (1922-1969) was born, followed by their third son Severin. In 1943, after R.P. Morin retired, the family moved to Burnaby to a house on Sperling Avenue. Sometime earlier the two older Morin brothers found work in Trail at the smelter and developed musical careers. In 1946/47 the Morin family purchased property on Kingsway and built a banquet hall, the "Gai Paree Supper Club". Sev and Rudy Morin managed the club and Rene F. Morin moved to Burnaby to join them with his band. The supper club, with its live music and dance floor, became a popular meeting place and wedding venue, eventually expanding into a restaurant and nightclub in the 1970s. The "Gai Paree" was renamed "Severin's" in 1976 and "Diego's" in 1985, closing finally in 1994. Sev Morin's business life included three record stores which he owned with his friend Jack Cullen. Through these businesses Sev Morin was well known in the entertainment and hospitality industry. He and his restaurant also hosted political and social events that made the restaurant a community landmark. Sev Morin contributed many volunteer hours to community and charitable organizations, including an appointment to the SFU Senate, fundraising for the Burnaby Hospital, Director of the Variety Club and Rotary Club, and consultant for a variety of tourism related ventures. He also was active in the federal Liberal Party. Sev Morin and his wife Pauline married in 1950 and had three children. Sev Morin died at age 86 on March 28, 2014.
Total Tracks:	10
Total Length:	00:56:44
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Morin, Severin "Sev"
Interviewer Bio:	Rod Fowler returned to university as a mature student in the 1980s after working about twenty years in the field of economics and computerization in business in England, Europe and Western Canada. He graduated with a BA from SFU in both History and Sociology in 1987, his MA degree in Geography in 1989, and his PhD in Cultural Geography at SFU. He taught courses in Geography, Sociology, History and Canadian Studies at several Lower Mainland colleges, before becoming a full time member of the Geography Department at Kwantlen University College.
Collection/Fonds:	SFU/Burnaby Centennial Committee fonds
Series:	Centennial Oral History project series
Item No.:	MSS187-021_Track_10
Transcript Available:	Transcript available
Media Type:	Sound Recording
Web Notes:	Interviews were digitized in 2015 allowing them to be accessible on Heritage Burnaby. The digitization project was initiated by the Community Heritage Commission with support from City of Burnaby Council.

Audio Tracks

[Track ten of interview with Sev Morin](#)

Images



Interview with John Templeton, Alan James and Christine Leston by Kathy Bossort October 26, 2015 - Track 7

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory593>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary: This portion of the interview is about the Stoney Creek Environment Committee members' description of the history, structure and operation of the Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group (SCEWG), and examples of how the group brings stakeholders together and support one another. They also talk about working with various City of Burnaby departments and the management of the conservation area on Burnaby Mountain.

Date Range: 1995-2015

Length: 0:18:22

Name: [Stoney Creek Environment Committee](#)
[Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group](#)
[Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)
[Simon Fraser University](#)
[Trans Mountain Oil Pipeline Company](#)

Subject: [Geographic Features - Streams](#)
[Geographic Features - Parks](#)
[Persons - Volunteers](#)
[Public Services - Municipal Services](#)

Geographic Access: [Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain](#)
[Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area](#)
[Burnaby - Stoney Creek](#)

Interviewer: [Bossort, Kathy](#)

Interview Date: October 26, 2015

Scope and Content: Recording is of an interview with John Templeton, Alan James & Christine Leston, members of the Stoney Creek Environment Committee, conducted by Kathy Bossort. The three members of SCEC were among 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about the history and work of the stream keeper group Stoney Creek Environment Committee (SCEC) and the Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group, and about SCEC's founder Jennifer Atkinson. The interview is made richer by the complementary views of the three interviewees, John Templeton (SCEC Chair), Alan James (Member-at-Large - Education), and Christine Leston (Treasurer).

Biographical Notes: The Stoney Creek Environment Committee is a streamkeeper group and registered non-profit society dedicated to protecting and restoring viable salmon-bearing streams within the Stoney Creek Watershed. (Stoney Creek originates on Burnaby Mountain and is part of the Brunette watershed which empties into the Fraser River.) The volunteer group, formed in 1995, was guided by the tireless efforts of Jennifer Atchison (1938-2010) after whom the Jennifer Atchison Environmental Centre in North Burnaby is named. The volunteer members of SCEC monitor water quality, generate inventories and reports on the biophysical assets and health of the watershed, provide educational opportunities, enhance stream and stream bank habitat, and speak on behalf of the Stoney Creek watershed. One of its key events is The Great Salmon Send-Off, the release of young salmon into Stoney Creek in May, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015. The Stoney Creek Environmental Working Group (1999-present), managed by the City of Burnaby, undertakes to coordinate the actions of all stakeholders in the Stoney Creek watershed. It is comprised of representatives from community groups, such as SCEC, governmental and institutional agencies, and industries who are committed to sustaining and improving the quality of the Stoney Creek watershed's water, wildlife and environment. John Templeton, currently SCEC Chair, joined SCEC in 2004. He was born in Coleraine, County Londonderry, Northern Ireland, in 1957, and after immigrating to Canada, came to live in Burnaby in 1992, first in Forest Grove (1992-2014) and then in Forest Hills. He works as a millwright. Alan James, Member-at-large - Education, joined SCEC in 2003. He was born in 1939 in Berkeley, California, and came to live in Burnaby in about 2000. He is a retired geophysicist and computer consultant. Christine Leston joined SCEC in 1997, serving first as Secretary and then as Treasurer. She was born in 1943 in Cheshire, England, and came to live in Burnaby in 1974, first in Greentree Village, then Simon Fraser Village (1974-2004) and now the Edmonds area. She is a retired technical writer.

Total Tracks: 9

Total Length: 2:08:27

Other Tracks: [View All Tracks](#)

Interviewee Name: [Templeton, John R.](#)
[James, Alan C.](#)
[Leston, Christine](#)

Interview Location: [Jennifer Atchison Environmental Centre, Burnaby](#)

Interviewer Bio: Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.

Collection/Fonds: [Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds](#)

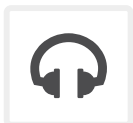
Series: [Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series](#)

Item No.: MSS196-006_Track_7

Media Type: Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track seven of interview with John Templeton, Alan James & Christine Leston](#)



Interview with Mary Lumby by Kathy Bossort January 8, 2016 - Track 3

<https://search.heritageburnaby.ca/permalink/oralhistory673>

Repository: [City of Burnaby Archives](#)

Summary:	This portion of the interview is about Mary Lumby talking about the link between the communities of Forest Hills and Forest Grove, about Forest Grove Elementary School, and about how residents advocated for community services, particularly parks for children. She talks about how neighbourhood design balances protecting the natural environment with needed community services, and the problem of isolation for the communities.
Date Range:	1983-2003
Length:	0:11:05
Name:	Forest Grove Elementary School Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area
Subject:	Public Services - Municipal Services Geographic Features - Neighbourhoods Geographic Features - Parks Persons - Volunteers
Geographic Access:	Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Burnaby - Forest Hills Burnaby - Forest Grove Burnaby - Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area
Planning Study Area:	Lake City Area
Interviewer:	Bossort, Kathy
Interview Date:	January 8, 2016
Scope and Content:	Recording is of an interview with Mary Lumby conducted by Kathy Bossort. Mary Lumby was one of 23 participants interviewed as part of the Community Heritage Commission's Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project. The interview is mainly about Mary Lumby's experience living in Forest Hills, raising her children there, and her involvement in community groups and advocating for improved community services in the Forest Hills and Forest Grove neighbourhoods, and her later move to UniverCity. She talks about the history of the Forest Hills subdivision and what she liked about living there, its links with Forest Grove, and challenges facing both communities as a result of their isolation. Her description of living in UniverCity provides an interesting comparison in how community is created. Mary Lumby also talks about her teaching career, her volunteer activities especially related to the environment, the relationship Trans Mountain tank farm had with adjacent neighbourhoods when she lived in Forest Hills, and what the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area means to her.
Biographical Notes:	Mary Lumby was born in Vancouver B.C. She moved to Burnaby and the Parkcrest area in 1977, and then to the new Forest Hills subdivision. Later she moved into another developing community, UniverCity, at the top of Burnaby Mountain and adjacent to the Simon Fraser University campus. Mary has been an active community member, volunteer and community advocate. She has been particularly interested in environmental issues, as a teacher, volunteer coordinator for civic events, and citizen representative on Burnaby's Environment Committee. She continues to be active in community affairs and enjoys living on Burnaby Mountain.
Total Tracks:	7
Total Length:	1:31:47
Other Tracks:	View All Tracks
Interviewee Name:	Lumby, Mary M.
Interview Location:	Mary Lumby's home in Burnaby
Interviewer Bio:	Kathy Bossort is a retired archivist living in Ladner, BC. She worked at the Delta Museum and Archives after graduating from SLAIS (UBC) in 2001 with Masters degrees in library science and archival studies. Kathy grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and, prior to this career change, she lived in the West Kootenays, earning her living as a cook for BC tourist lodges and work camps. She continues to be interested in oral histories as a way to fill the gaps in the written record and bring richer meaning to history.
Collection/Fonds:	Community Heritage Commission Special Projects fonds
Series:	Burnaby Mountain Oral History Project series
Item No.:	MSS196-016_Track_3
Media Type:	Sound Recording

Audio Tracks

[Track three of interview with Mary Lumby](#)