

Delta's **RURAL HERITAGE**

**A DRIVING TOUR FEATURING A SELECTION
OF DELTA'S HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT RURAL
BUILDINGS AND SITES**

Delta's Heritage Advisory Commission invites you to embark on a tour of Delta's rural heritage and discover the memory of its agricultural roots. We also invite you to take a walk through the Historic Ladner Village at the beginning or end of your driving tour. While in the heart of the village, why not enjoy a bite to eat at one of Ladner's many fine restaurants, pubs or coffee shops.

Adapted from Delta's Rural Heritage brochure produced by the City of Delta, Delta Chamber of Commerce, the former BC Heritage Trust and members of Delta's Heritage Advisory Commission.

Unless specifically noted, the buildings on this driving tour are not open to the public. Please respect the privacy of these properties.

Delta



1. Chillukthan Slough

Aboriginal people originally used this slough to move between the Fraser River and Boundary Bay, thus avoiding the rougher waters around Westham Island. It also enabled them to avoid the government gun boats stationed at the mouth of the Fraser in the 1880s.

It later carried small coastal steamers to move farmers' produce to market. Sloughs in Delta often provided the only

transportation route to the Fraser River. Arthur Drive was once referred to as Slough Road, and acquired its name from the meandering route along the waterway that once ran from the Tsawwassen First Nations lands to the Fraser River at Ladner.



2. Kirkland House ("Hawthorne Grove")

4140 Arthur Drive

Built in 1910-11, the seven-bedroom Edwardian-style Kirkland residence was the centre of community social life in Ladner. It is a two and a half storey gable house with two hip dormers and round projecting bay to the north, built by John Elliott for the William Attenborough

Kirkland family. Decorative features include turned columns on the full, open-front verandah. A grove of wild hawthorne trees, after which the house was named, continues to grow behind the house.



3. Jubilee Farm (later St. Augustine Mission)

3900 Arthur Drive

The original house was built in 1893 for Thomas and Annie McNeely for their Jubilee farm. In the 1880s the large property was a nursery and remnants of an orchard can still be seen. The McNeelys were prominent Ladner citizens with large land holdings who ran several commercial establishments. The house is distinguished

by symmetrical, semi-octagonal hip bays on the front and sides, and an entry porch with round columns. The property was bequeathed to the Catholic Church in 1929 and became known as Monastery Farm. Sympathetic additions were added in 1942 and later to form a chapel and bell tower.

4. Walter Pybus Residence

5300 34B Avenue

Walter Chadwick Pybus the son of local pioneer William Pybus, lived and farmed here from 1903 until his death in 1951. The 1913 house is a well-maintained foursquare style with open-front verandah supported by square columns, and surrounded by mature planting, orchard remnants and holly trees. A gable barn, originally constructed in 1910, a granary, milk house and other outbuildings form part of this farm compound.



5. "Tip-Tree-All" The Parmiter/Berney Residence

5331 34B Avenue

This house was originally built in the late 1880s by Thomas and Mary Parmiter and moved to this location in 1918. It has a cross-gable roof connecting to a front facing wall dormer, a Gothic Revival influence, and a full-open verandah with original balustrade and front door. It is part

of a large farm compound with several outbuildings and barns, including one large barn with gable roof, a modern monitor-type barn, and bunker silo for storage of cattle feed. The homestead name comes from the original owners' family farm in England.

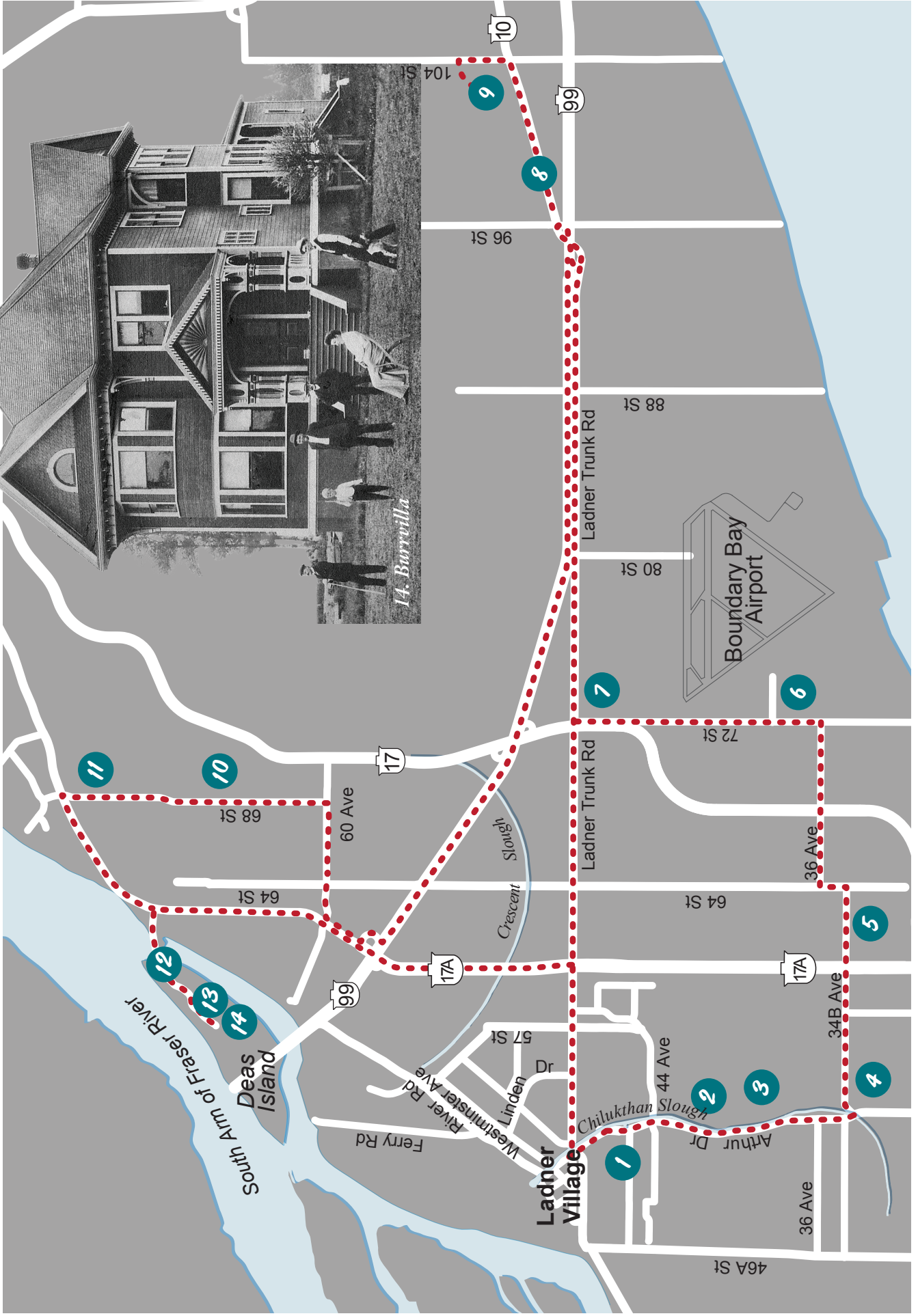
6. Benson Residence

3610 72 Street

Henry Dean Benson was 27 years old when he arrived in Delta in 1869. He acquired 640 acres east of 72nd Street and north of Boundary Bay. He built the original house in 1874. In 1889, the two-storey addition was completed. Likely the oldest surviving structure in Delta, the original part of this house was the two-storey section to the north, with its gable roof and projecting floor bay. It now shows as largely modernized.



THE RURAL ROUTE



7. “Inverholme” AD Paterson House, *Designated Heritage Site*
7234 Ladner Trunk Road

This large, imposing farmhouse was built in 1913 by local contractor J.B. Elliot for the original owner of the property. T.W. Paterson, who never resided here because of his duties in Victoria as Lieutenant-Governor of B.C. His nephew A.D. Paterson long-time reeve of Delta, his wife Lola Paterson, and their five children lived here. They named it “Inverholme” after the ancestral home in Scotland. Features are a multi-gabled roof, entry porch, and wrap-around verandah with square tapered columns. The restoration of this historically and architecturally significant house earned the first heritage award from the Delta Heritage Advisory Committee.



Donald Laxton

8. St. Stephen’s United Church
9696 Ladner Trunk Road

The first St. Stephen’s Church was built in the summer of 1881 on this site, on land donated by the McKee family, but burned to the ground two years later. In 1890, the contract to rebuild the church was let to J.B. Elliot. This simple rectangular-plan church with a central projecting entry, gable roof and drop siding, features double-hung, multi-paned wooden sash windows with Gothic pointed arch tops, and a tripartite stained glass window above the entry. There is a two-storey addition at the rear.



9. East Delta Hall
10379 Ladner Trunk Road



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This community hall had its grand opening as the new McKee Athletic Hall in East Delta on January 29, 1931. The corner location on a busy road places it as one of the most prominent buildings in the area. Land for the hall, 2 1/2 acres, was donated by McKee. The building’s most striking characteristic is its round arch truss roof similar to that of the well known Oliver Barn. There is also a round arch entry porch, and a large interior with mezzanine, held up by a heavy timber structure.

10. McDonald Residence 6466 68th Street

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This foursquare house with wrap-around verandah, was built in 1920 by local contractor Fred Land for Alex McDonald, the original name for 68th Street. The house was built at the centre of the family's 160 acres and was acquired by the Reynolds family in 1944. In 1984, it was restored by the Embree family and a modern extension was built in the rear. It has been renovated with the doors and windows being replaced.

11. Smith Residence and Barn 7156-7184 68th Street

At the time this house was built for George Smith and his family in 1920, it formed part of a 90 acre parcel located on Crescent Island. The contractor was Mr. McNeil of Vancouver. It is a Craftsman-influenced house with a full-open verandah and a dual pitch gable roof. The second floor features an inset balcony with a projecting front gable. There are mature conifers to the south and an abundance of holly. This house and barn at 7184 68th Street was originally part of a farm compound.

Donald Laxton



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12. Inverholme School, *Designated Heritage Site*

6090 Deas Island Road, Deas Island Park



When built in 1909, the school stood next to the Paterson farm on Ladner Trunk Road (#7), from whence came the name Inverholme. It remained in operation as a school until 1926 and was subsequently moved to Deas Island Park. It represents a standard Provincial Department of Public Works school design, with hip roof and bank of double-hung, six-over-six windows to let in natural air and light.

13. Burrville, *Designated Heritage Site*

5960 Deas Island Road, Deas Island Park

This elegant Queen Ann-style house reflects the economic expansion of Delta's farming industry at the time, and symbolizes the wealth and stature attained by the Burr family. Architect David Price designed the house in 1905/06 for Harry Burr, prominent Ladner



resident, and son of W.H. Burr, who had arrived in the 1870s and was involved in the municipal incorporation of Delta.

The house stayed in the family until 1974 when the farm was sold to a development corporation. This beautifully ornamented mansion was moved from the corner of 62B Street and River Road, the location of a steamer landing and Crescent Island's only post office, to this park in 1982 and restored.

14. Agricultural Exhibition Building

5950 Deas Island Road, Deas Island Park



The original location of this neat, substantial, two-storey frame building was about a mile from Ladner Wharf at the lower end of a 17 acre field. It provided ample accommodation for agricultural and home economics fairs. This barn-like structure was built in 1899, at the cost of \$600, by the Delta Agricultural Society, which was formed in 1888 to encourage the best methods of raising stock and crops. The building was moved to Deas Island in 1988 and restored there.