



HISTORIC SITES IN DELTA

VOLUME II

Historic Sunbury & Annieville

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Delta Heritage Advisory Commission is pleased to present the second in a series of "passports" that highlight and celebrate many of the Historic Sites of Delta.

You are invited to join Delta in celebrating the rich and varied history of our community, a history reaching back to the earliest days of British Columbia and one we share with our neighbours, the Tsawwassen First Nation.

The second edition of the passport focuses on two of Delta's special communities, Sunbury and Annieville which are located in North Delta. More information on these sites can be found at the Delta Museum and Archives.



River Road, ca. 1906



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- *Fishing boats at Annieville ca.1900*
- *Annieville Cannery ca.1905*
- *Annieville Park and 112th Street, 1952*
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Sunbury Landing

1



Wharves and net sheds along the shore in Sunbury, ca. 1939



8655 River Road

The fishing and farming families of Sunbury travelled mainly by river in the early days, even after River Road was built in 1904.

Steamboats like the "SS Transfer" landed at the public wharf at this site in Lower Sunbury. A saltery on the wharf was used to

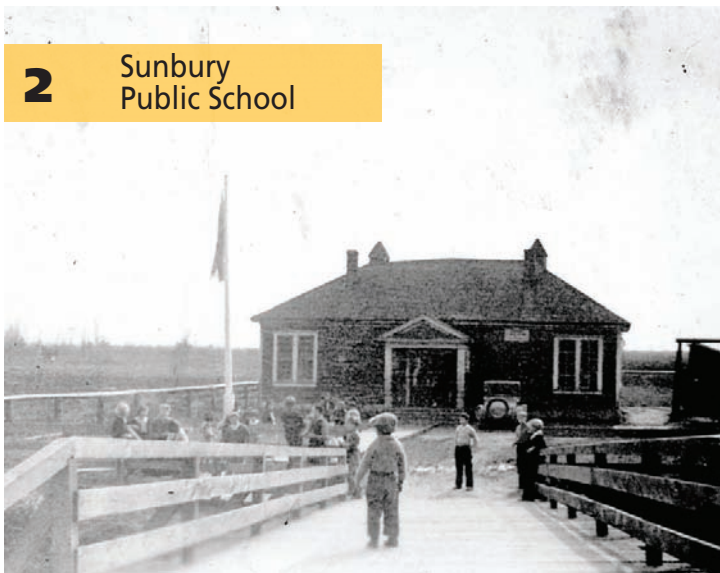
prepare salmon for the Japanese markets in the 1930s.



Two Japanese Canadian boys in front of the saltery, ca. 1939

2

Sunbury Public School



Sunbury Public School ca. 1935

Sunbury Public School was built in 1902 for a growing community of fishers and farmers living along the Fraser River from Tilbury Island (Lower Sunbury) to the North Delta highlands (Upper Sunbury). Most of the children registered at the school were of Scandinavian, Japanese and Finnish origin.



9036 River Road



Teacher Edward Capill and students in front of Sunbury School, 1934.



Second Sunbury School

3



Sunbury Elementary School, ca. 1960



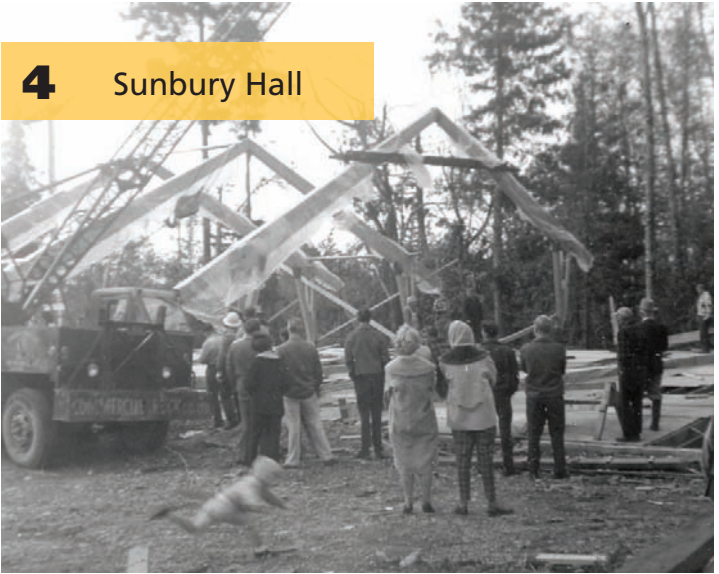
9570 River Road

Gregory Residence, built ca. 1905, one of the last surviving riverside houses which were clustered along the river bank and River Road.

Students attended the school at this site from 1950 to 1978. Near here in this area of Upper Sunbury was Silda's General Store (9829 River Rd.) and Valhalla Café (9889 River Rd), and across the road is "Gregory House", built ca. 1905.



4 Sunbury Hall



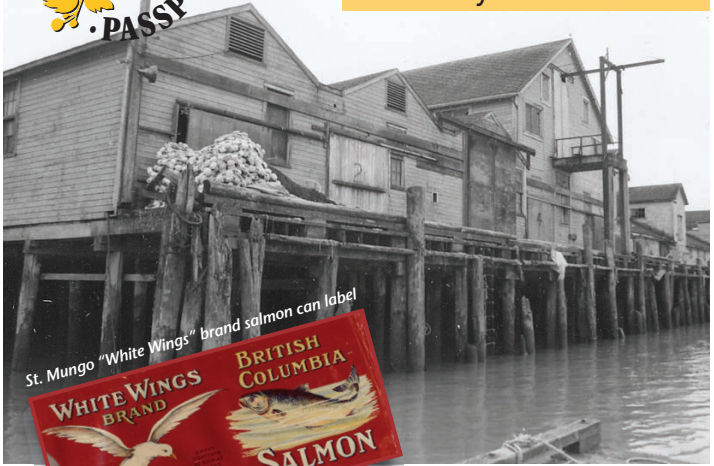
Raising the rafters at the new Sunbury Hall, 1962.

Volunteers built Sunbury Hall in 1962/63. This is Sunbury's second community hall, which replaced the earlier Bayview Hall on River Road. The community hall was where people raised funds for community activities, voiced political protests and held social gatherings.

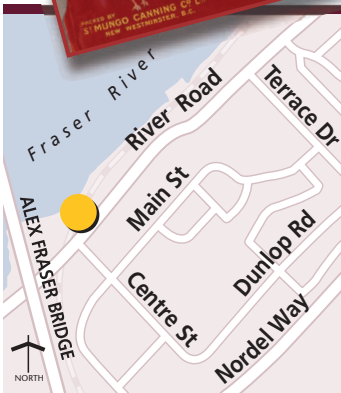


10409 Dunlop Road

Clifford Iverson and David Johnson in front of Sunbury's Bayview Hall, built in 1919.



St. Mungo Cannery, 1979



10215 River Road

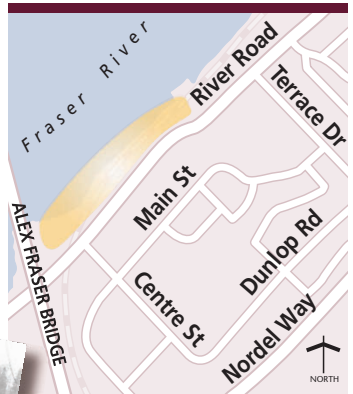
St. Mungo Cannery opened in 1899. The cannery, built and owned by St. Mungo Fish Processing Company of Glasgow, Scotland, was named after Glasgow's patron saint. The plant operated under several different owners until 1957 when the cannery section was moved to Steveston. The buildings were then used as a net loft by B.C. Packers. In 1981 the site was acquired for construction of the Alex Fraser Bridge and the buildings demolished.

6

St. Mungo and Glenrose
Archaeological Sites

Four zoomorphic objects; carved antler ornaments

Archaeological deposits stretch over 1000 metres along the Fraser River bank between St. Mungo and Glenrose cannery sites. The middens at these sites contain a record of more than 5,000 years of salmon fishing and habitation by ancestors of the Coast Salish.



Public tour of the archaeological dig at St. Mungo, 1983



Riverview Market 1979

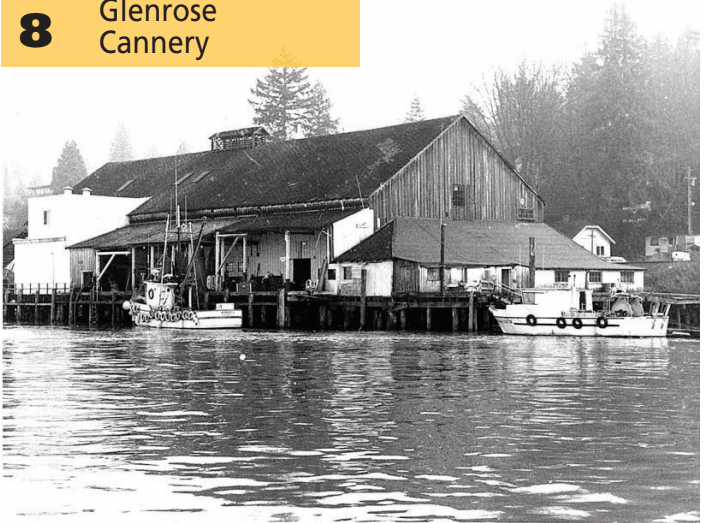


10276 River Road

The Riverview Market store, gas station and garden market was owned and operated by the Wikjord family from approximately 1949 to 1959. The Wikjord family lived behind the store in the Johnson Residence built in 1929. William and Irene May operated the store from 1960 to 1975. The store was later used as a gift shop.

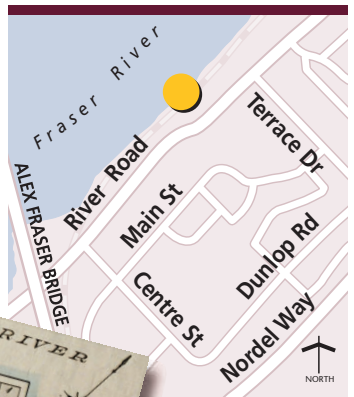
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Glenrose Cannery

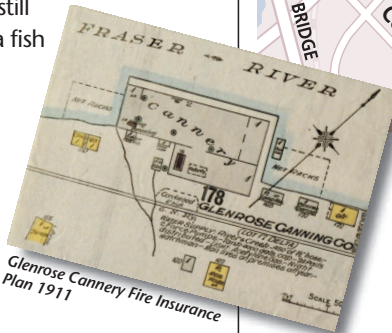


Glenrose Cannery 1983

Cannery operations began at this site as a fishermen's co-operative in 1896 under the name Fraser River Industrial Cannery. It closed in 1901 and reopened as Glenrose Cannery in 1909. Currently owned and operated by Johnston Packing Co., the plant still serves as a fish handling depot.



10453 River Road



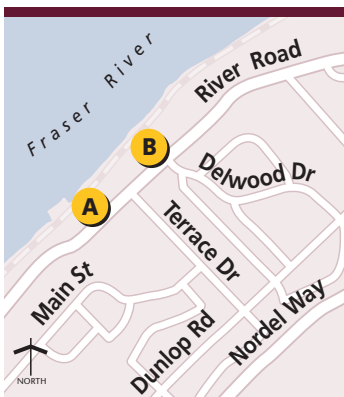
Glenrose Cannery Fire Insurance Plan 1911



Nesbitt Residence



Johnson Residence



A. 10455 River Road

B. 10525 River Road

Nesbitt & Johnson Residences 9

(A) The Nesbitt Residence was built by the Glenrose Cannery in 1939 for their bookkeeper Richard Nesbitt. The house which sits outside the cannery complex on the opposite side of the railway tracks, remained the property of the cannery until 1946 when Johnston Fishing and Packing (the successor of Glenrose) subdivided the land and sold it to Nesbitt and his wife Phyllis.



(B) The Johnson Residence is a well maintained, circa 1929, gable-roofed house, influenced by the Craftsman style. It has saddlebag shed dormers, triangular eave brackets, and a gabled front entry porch. It has a view from the crest of a steep hill, over the river. Set in a mature landscape, it was built by Nels Johnson, one of the early Norwegian settlers.

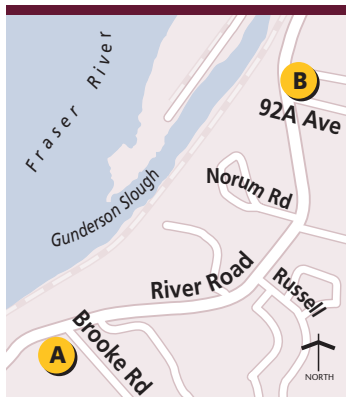
10

Stegavik & Iverson Residences

(A) The Stegavik Residence is a modest but intact early Craftsman bungalow, set back on its lot at the rise of the hill. Typical features include triangular eave brackets, the shed dormer and the mixture of shingles with horizontal lapped siding with corner boards. An additional feature is the decorative muntins in the wood frame windows.



(B) The Iverson Residence is a Craftsman style residence circa 1913, featuring a front verandah, side entry porch and leaded feature windows. It is clad in wide lapped siding like the Trinity Lutheran Church nearby and is part of a visual ensemble with the adjacent property.



A. 10670 River Road

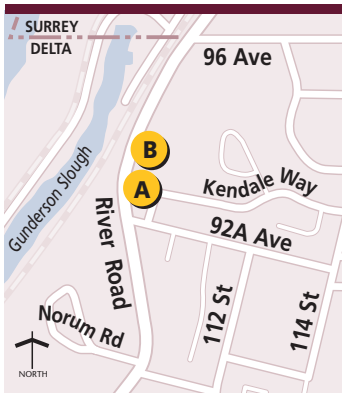
B. 11090 River Road



Stokkeland Residence



Larsen Residence



- A. 11096 River Road
- B. 11102 River Road

Stokkeland & Larsen Residences **11**

(A) The Stokkeland Residence dates from 1913 and was built for Olaf Pedersen Stokkeland. Norwegian-born Stokkeland immigrated to British Columbia in 1907 where he took up employment as a shipwright. The residence is significant for its architecture, which reflects the style of other houses in the area from this time period.

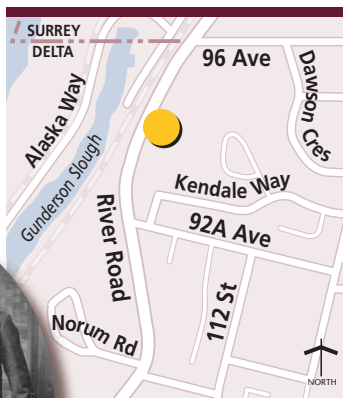


(B) The Larsen Residence, circa 1905, was built a few years after the Gunderson Residence which was one of the earliest homes in the area. It was built by Pete Peterson, a Norwegian builder, for Knute Larsen. The lumber for the house came from one large tree cut down on the site, which was then shipped to New Westminster to be sawn. It features a commanding view of the river from its location at the rise of the hill.

12 Gunderson Residence



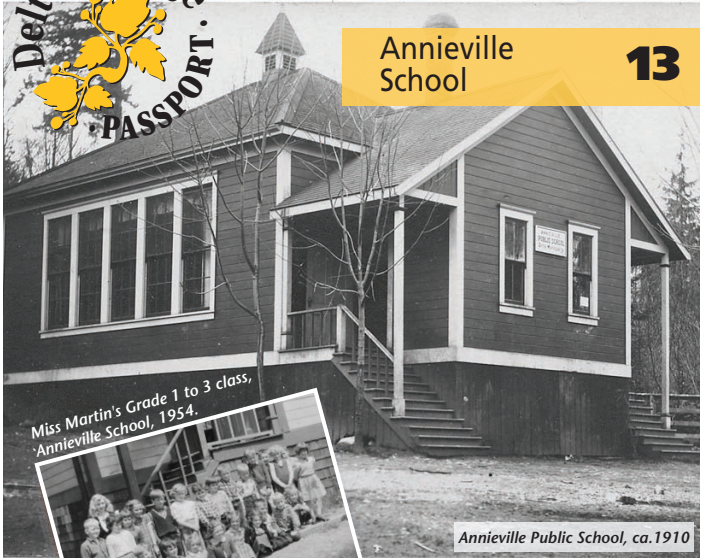
The Gunderson Residence, built in 1902, is set on the rise of the hill and enjoys a river view. It was built by Jacob Gunderson five years after he arrived from Norway, and was one of the first permanent homes to be built in North Delta.



11128 River Road

Annieville
School

13



Annieville Public School, ca.1910

Miss Martin's Grade 1 to 3 class,
Annieville School, 1954.

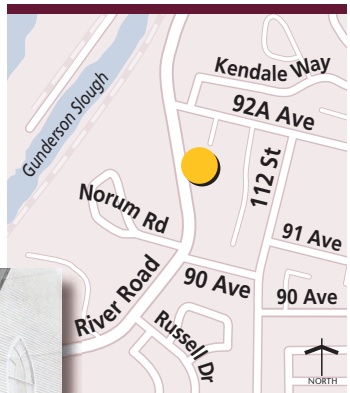


11040 River Road

In 1906 the people of Annieville petitioned the Delta School Board for a school in their community. Miss Ella Hoffard, the first teacher, lived in New Westminster and rowed across the river (or walked across the ice) to work each day. Annieville School, located on the same site as the current Trinity Lutheran Church, was the last one room school in Delta, closing in 1956. The building was demolished in 1963.

14**Trinity Lutheran Church***Trinity Lutheran Church, ca. 1935*

The second Trinity Lutheran Church building in Annieville was dedicated May 22, 1910. The church served a congregation that lived in New Westminster, Brownsville, Annieville and Sunbury. A cemetery once bordered the south side of the church, but it was relocated to Brooke Road in the 1970s.

*Sunday School, ca. 1955***11040 River Road**



Annieville ca.1908/09 after the building of the CN railway and relocation of River Road past Annieville Cannery.



Annieville, BC

Community members made their own fun. Christiansen family in Starheim gully, 1930s.



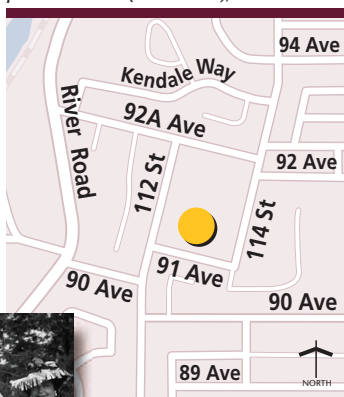
The community of Annieville began with the establishment of Finlayson and Birrell's salmon canneries in 1878. In the 1890s immigrants from Norway settled here and made Annieville their home. Fishing and work in the canneries set the pattern of life until the 1940s. Annieville was also the site of other early industries, such as farming, brick making and mink ranching. Annieville's close ties with its past can still be seen in the homes, institutions, and traditions of the community today.

16 Annieville Park



Volunteers take a break from work at the side of the park access road (112th Street), 1952.

Annieville Park, the first park in North Delta, was created by Annieville fishermen who wanted to provide recreational facilities for their families. An 8 acre parcel of forested land was purchased in 1949 by the Annieville and District Playground Association.



Annieville Park



Women's Auxiliary garden party (and silly hat contest), raising funds for the park, ca.1952.



George Watkins and his bulldozer clearing brush 1952.

In 1950 the work of clearing the property began. A Women's Auxiliary was formed to raise funds by holding garden parties, raffles and bingo games. By 1952 a park access road (112th Street) had been cleared and graded. Gradually the area became useable as an open air kitchen, ball diamond, wading pool, and new trees were added. Annieville Park was turned over to the Municipality of Delta in June 1958 in an impressive ceremony held in the park. The Association continued to raise funds for landscaping and equipment until it disbanded in 1970.



Photographs and article are from the Annieville and District Playground Association scrapbook.

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Gunderson Slough

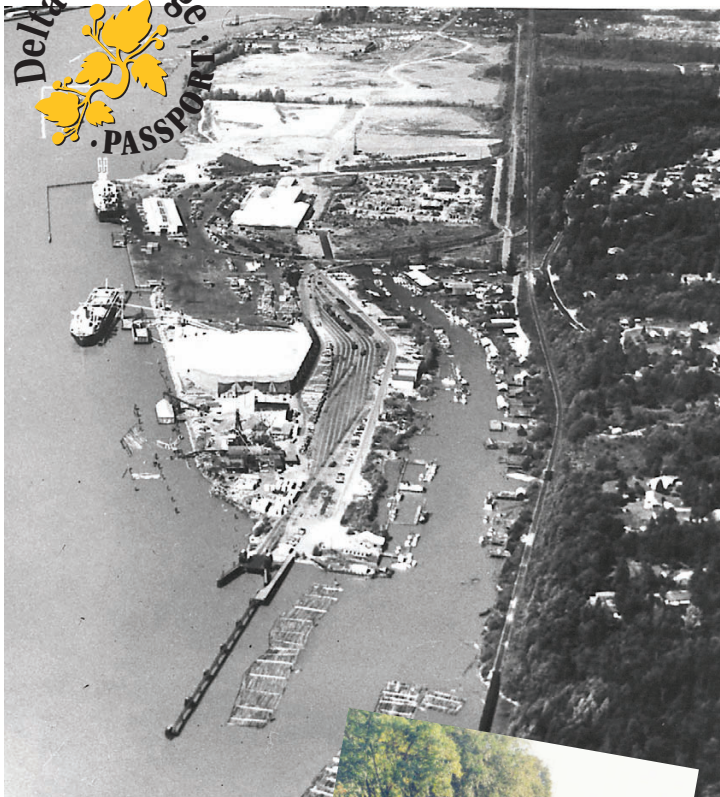
The dredge King Edward VII moves into Gunderson Slough. The river in front of Annieville was first dredged in the mid 1930s.



The sand spit in front of Annieville Cannery was not present when the cannery was first built in 1878. The natural action of the river, together with man-made structures built north of Annieville, slowly changed the shoreline and created Gunderson Slough. The local fishing fleet found shelter and moorage in the slough. Fishing boats, net sheds, and boat building and other marine supply operations still line either side of Gunderson Slough.



Gunderson Slough



Aerial view of Gunderson Slough 1964

The spit was industrialized in the 1960s; a site for sawmills and the Delta Alaska Terminal. The road "Alaska Way" follows the old rail lines built to the terminal, which carried trains to and from Whittier, Alaska. A parking area and sandy beach are located at the south end of "Alaska Way" and Gunderson spit.



Net rafts dating from the 1930's

Notes



Postcard of Annieville marked by Annieville Post Office 1912.



Using this Passport

The **Delta Heritage Advisory Commission** invites you to explore these historically significant sites in Delta.

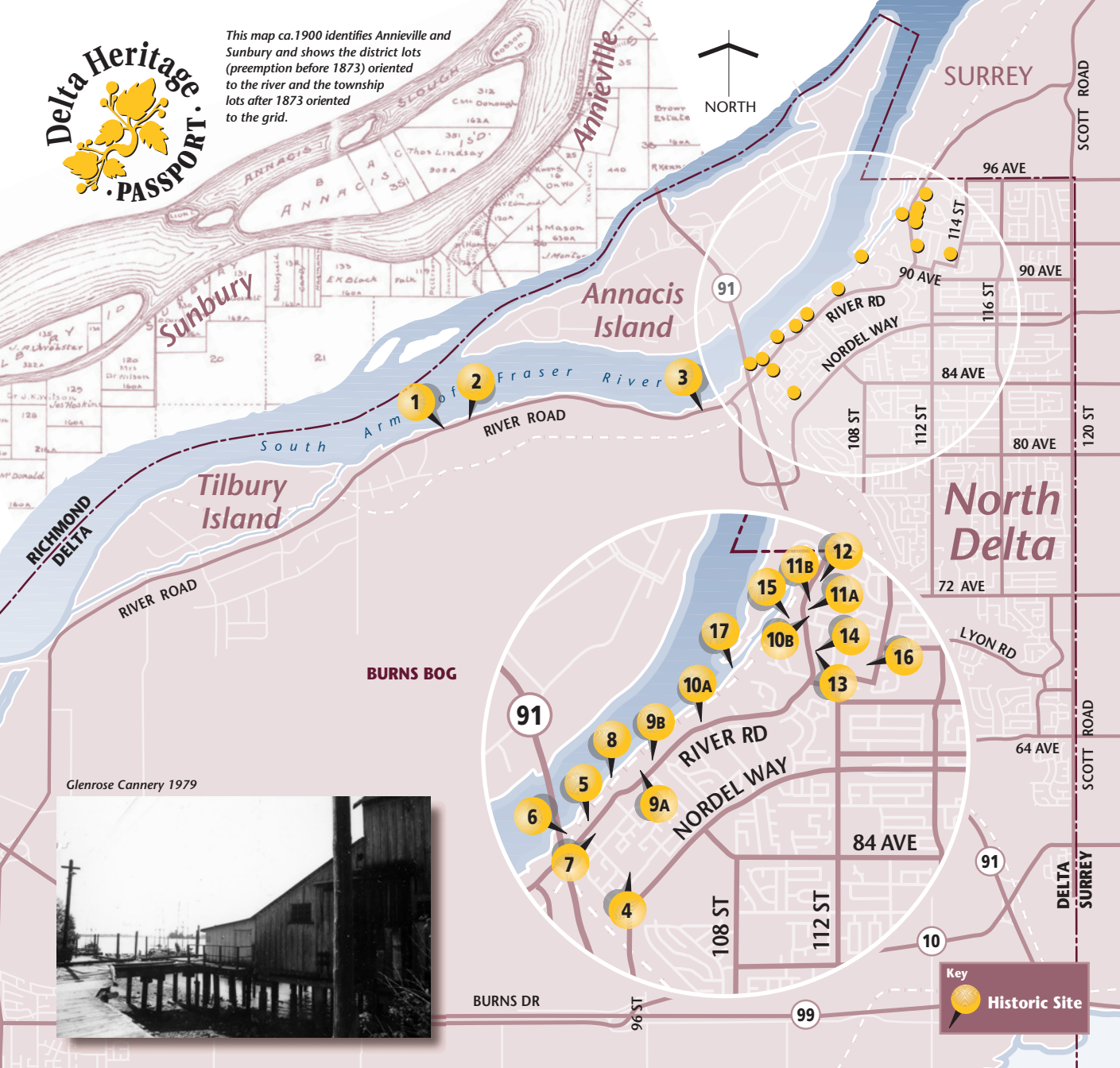
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*River Road, Sunbury
ca. 1938*



This map ca.1900 identifies Annieville and Sunbury and shows the district lots (preemption before 1873) oriented to the river and the township lots after 1873 oriented to the grid.



Glenrose Cannery 1979



Key

Historic Site



For further information
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*Delta Municipal Hall
(Delta Museum and Archives after 1969)
ca. 1914*

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*Photos courtesy of the
Delta Museum & Archives*