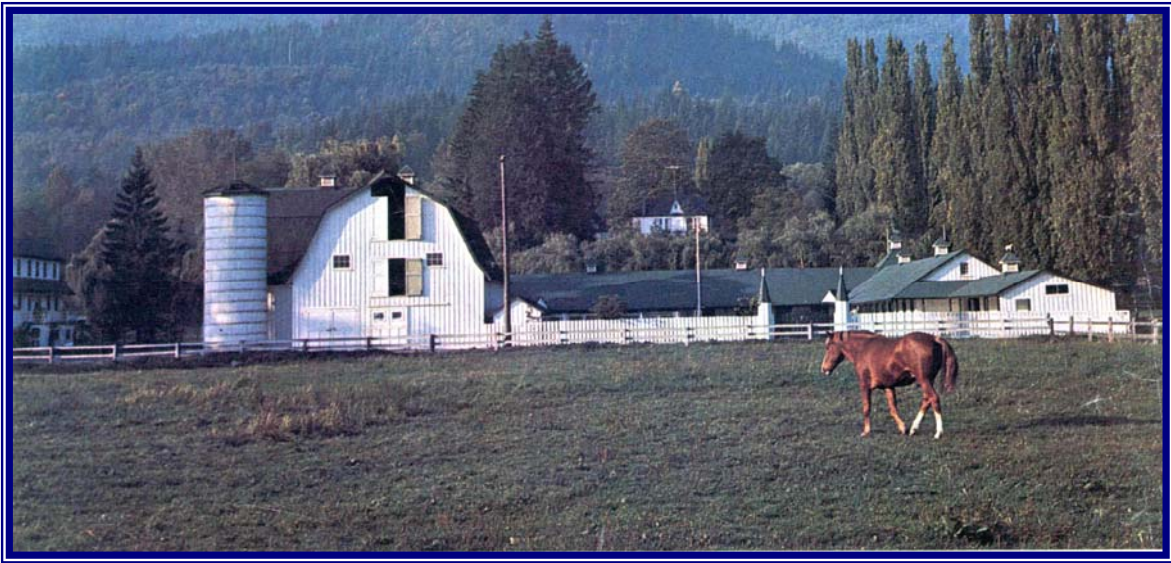


The History of Minnekhada Farm



Minnekhada Regional Park
Coquitlam, British Columbia

September 2000
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Greater
Vancouver
Regional
District

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Minnekhada Park Association

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Introduction

Minnekhada Farm is a unique heritage site that incorporates architectural skill and down-to-earth functionality. The Farm has significant cultural, social and historical value compared to other similar sites in the Lower Mainland. It has witnessed disasters, successes and many owners since it was first granted to George Alderson in 1895.



Entrance on Oliver Drive ca. 1985

Minnekhada Farm is located within the Greater Vancouver Regional District's Minnekhada Regional Park, which is located in northeast Coquitlam beside Addington Point on the west bank of the Pitt River (See Map 1). The Farm encompasses 46 hectares (115 acres) of the 211 hectare (642 acre) park site. At the present time the Farm site is closed to the public for renovations.

Objectives

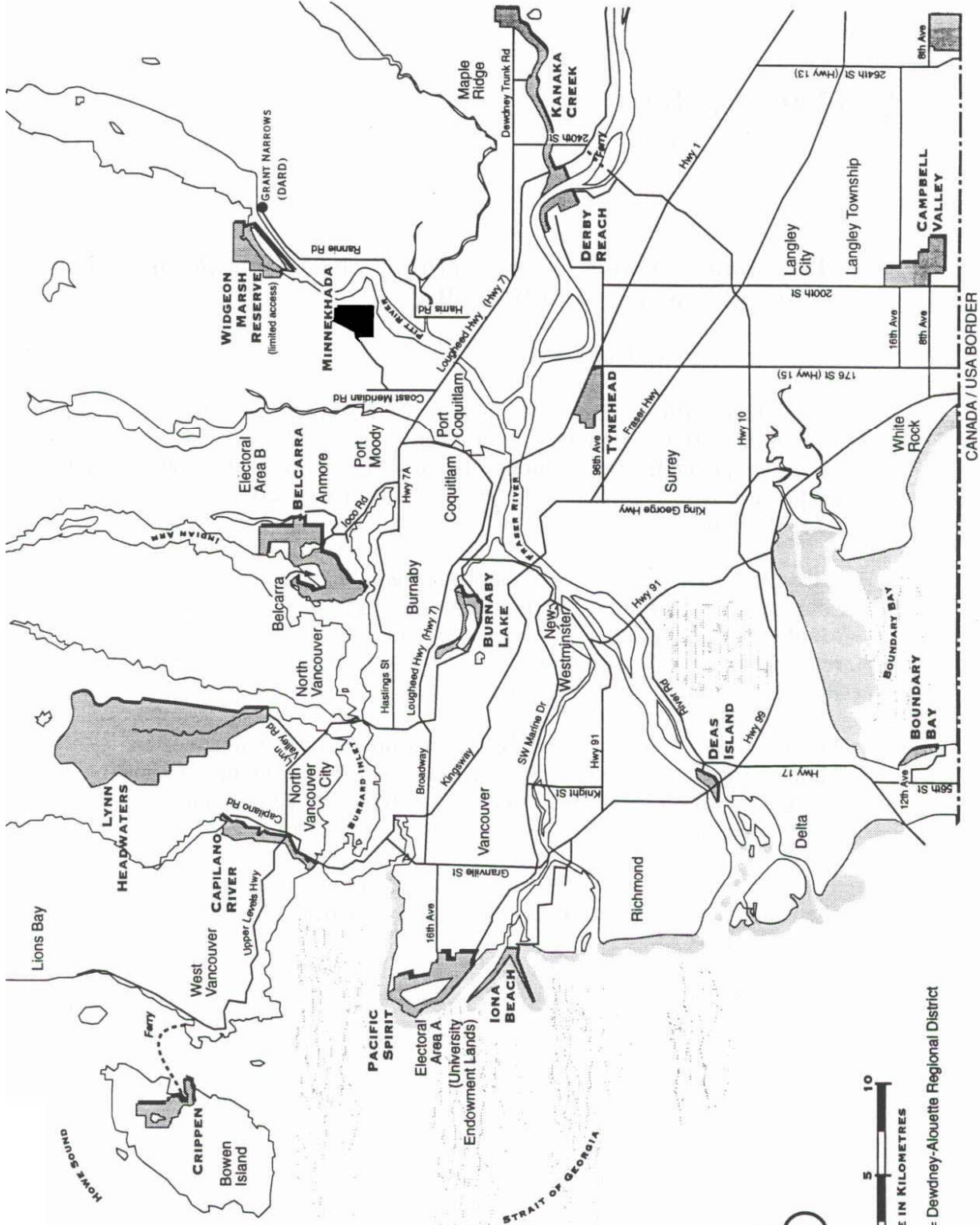
1. To provide a comprehensive history of the Farm.
2. To provide an understanding of what activities took place at the Farm.
3. To detail the Farm's infrastructure (i.e., buildings) between 1932 and 1975.
4. To provide information to formulate an interpretive program.

Context

The Farm offers an intriguing insight into the life of two of British Columbia's most influential citizens. Eric Hamber and Colonel Clarence Wallace both became Lieutenant Governors of B.C. and Freeman of the City of Vancouver. They were also involved in important segments of BC's economic history as the heads of large corporations in timber and shipping respectively. Wallace owned Burrard DryDocks and Hamber was the president of BC Mills, Timber and Trading. They also had several friends in the upper echelons of society, with many of whom they maintained regular contact. Such people included Presidents, Governor-Generals, royalty, lawyers, doctors and other men of industry.

Minnekhada also documents the progression of agriculture in BC. The Farm was the site of many agricultural enterprises ranging from beef cattle and sheep to dairy and vegetables. It was one of the first sites to incorporate state-of-the-art farming practices. For example, the Farm was possibly the first to use a Caterpillar tractor on its fields back in 1912. At the time, the technological innovations adopted at Minnekhada were heralded as making farming 100% efficient.

Map 1



Part One: The History of the Farm

Section One:

1895 to 1932 George Alderson to the Duck Island Ranch Company Limited

The original grant for the Farm property was given on the 28th of November 1895 to George Alderson. The original grant contained 160 acres of land. Around 1907 Alderson leased the farmland to a wealthy German entrepreneur named Constantine Alvo von Alvensleben. The funds for farming were probably supplied by Constantine's friend Count Brockhauser-Mittlefelde. It is said that Constantine expected his employees to tip their hats to him each time he rode by on his horse. Needless to say, the employees did not think highly of Constantine's attempt to instill disingenuous respect.¹

In 1912 the Farm was sold to Harry Leroy Jenkins, a recent widower and wealthy lumberman from Minnesota. Jenkins registered the Farm's ownership under the title of Anna S. Jenkins Estate Incorporated Limited. The company Jenkins founded there was The Minnekhada Dairy and Stock Farm Company. Jenkins is believed to be the first person who named the Farm 'Minnekhada.'² This name 'Minnekhada' is derived from the Sioux Indian language and means 'rattling water' ('Mini' means 'water' and 'kahda' signifies 'to rattle'). He hoped to benefit his three children by setting up a profitable farming operation. Jenkins also acquired additional land to increase the total size of the Farm to 1,600 acres. The area this covered falls between what are today Cedar and Quarry Roads, De Boville Slough, the Pitt River and Addington Point Marsh.

A May 8th 1912 Coquitlam Star article and a 1911 agricultural report describes the Minnekhada farming operation under Jenkins. The Farm's soil was heralded as being ideal for farming. The soil was a deep loam that descended four to six feet deep. Of the Farm's 1,600 acres only 1,000 was used for cultivation, 500 of this for oats, 60 of this for potatoes and the rest of this for hay, cabbages, carrots, onions, berries and cucumbers. The fields yielded 125 bushels of oats per acre, 1 ½ tons of Timothy hay per acre and ten tons of potatoes per acre. The deep soil was plowed by one of the first Caterpillar tractors to be used in British Columbia. The Caterpillar, along with other modern farm machinery, was heralded at the time as making farm work 100% efficient. A dyke built in 1909 by the government along the Pitt River facilitated these high yields by keeping the fields relatively dry and safe from spring freshets.



Harvesting oats at the Jenkins Farm ca. 1912

The Jenkins farm also raised livestock and poultry. Three-hundred Holstein-Guernsey cows were housed in a large dairy barn. The barn had the dimensions of 250 feet long by 60 feet wide. The cows were milked by an 80 horsepower gas powered compressed air milking machine. Some of the milk was made into condensed milk and cream. Harry's

son Master Fred Jenkins oversaw a large poultry department. Fred had a fully equipped chicken house installed that held 300 Springton and White Leghorn chickens. The chicken house used an oil-fueled incubator to hatch chicks. Fred also looked after 125 ducks and 80 geese. The dairy products were then shipped to Vancouver every morning on a truck. Another barn similar in dimensions to the dairy barn was used to store farm equipment and 15 teams of heavy draught horses.

On top of a hill overlooking the two barns was Jenkins' home. The house was two storeys and had a large verandah on its southern and eastern sides. Water for the house and Farm was supplied by a dammed reservoir located about a quarter mile north of the Farm. The Farm also had a telephone, which was extremely rare during the early 1900's. Many of the dozen farm workers stayed at a bunkhouse located beside the dairy barn. Jenkins leased some of his land to Jessie McKay, who had established a homestead to the northeast of the Farm. Jessie was also part owner in the Minnekhada Farm operation.



Unfortunately during the First World War Harry Jenkins' health and finances declined. Jenkins withdrew from the Farm back to his house in Vancouver. His son Fred moved to California

The Jenkins Farm in 1920
With permission of Margaret Pollard McLaren

where he later committed suicide. In 1920, the Farm reverted back to the District of Coquitlam and was sold to Couzen Spencer at a Coquitlam District Tax sale in 1921.

Couzen Spencer was a millionaire who owned many theatres in Australia. He purchased the Farm for \$30,000 with the hope of raising cattle. Two years later, in 1923, he sold Minnekhada to Matthew Logan and bought the Chilco ranch in the Cariboo. Over the next nine years the Farm would change hands many times. In 1923 Logan sold the Farm to Henry Vasey, who in 1928 sold the Farm to Eugene de Paola.

Eugene de Paola was a Vancouver City Police Italian interpreter and a notary public. He hoped to sell off parcels of the Farm to recent Italian immigrants. The company he founded to accomplish this was the Coquitlam Land and Colonization Company Limited. A year later Eugene changed his company's name to 'Minnekhada Stock Farm Limited'. This suggests that his real estate scheme had no success and he decided to take up farming to recuperate his investment. Sadly, in 1929, a devastating fire broke out at Minnekhada and destroyed many of the farm buildings. Irvin Pollard Huber, the dyke superintendent at the time, lamented the fact that the barns burnt down killing many farm animals. The fire also destroyed the Jenkins' home, the Smokehouse and a hay barn on Oliver Road.

In 1930 the broken Farm was sold to Ewen and Bertha Cameron, who later sold the Farm to the Duck Island Ranch Company Limited in 1930. It appears from later photographic evidence that many of the destroyed buildings were replaced during this period. However, one notable exception was the Jenkins house that once occupied the knoll behind the barns. It appears that this ideal location was left bare, scarred only by the house's charred foundations.

Section Two: 1932 to 1958 Eric Hamber

In June of 1932 Eric Werge Hamber purchased the Farm under the title of 'Minnekhada Stock Farm Limited' for \$8,700, a much depreciated price from the \$30,000 paid for it ten years earlier. When Hamber purchased the Farm its infrastructure was meager at best. Hamber envisioned the Farm as a location where he could move his racehorse company. In 1930 Hamber purchased the O'Connell Stables and amalgamated it with his other horseracing venture, Greencroft Stables Limited. Incidentally, Hamber's residence in Vancouver was also named 'Greencroft' (3838 Cypress Street, now called 'Hamber House').

While at Minnekhada he stayed in a modest four-room cottage with his wife Aldyen and their two servants. The cottage was located in the northern portion of the Farm, possibly where the workers' cottages are now located. The Hambers came out only during the weekends and holidays. At Christmas the cottage's interior was decorated with hemlock swags and holly branches, giving the cottage an air of rustic elegance.



The Hambers
original cottage
ca. 1932

Another influence on the development of the Farm came soon after Hamber bought Minnekhada. Hamber had been a member of the Vancouver Polo Club throughout his life in Vancouver. He sat as the president of the club from 1926 to 1931. The Polo Club's home field was Brighthouse Park

in Richmond. In 1929 he won the BC Polo Championship with HRH Prince Henry, A.E. Austin, Col. R.S. Chaplin and Col. Clarence Wallace. During the tournament Prince Henry fell off his

pony and broke his collarbone.³ When the Depression began the Vancouver Polo Club disbanded due to financial reasons.

Many of Hamber's friends tried to convince him to move the polo operation to Minnekhada. They argued that it would not be too difficult since Minnekhada was as "level as a tennis court."⁴ Hamber agreed and purchased or acquired much of the club's equipment and brought it to Minnekhada around 1934. Jim Robbins, one of the farm workers, remembers using the Brighthouse lawn cutter on the polo field at Minnekhada. He said that it was treacherous because forgotten polo balls and sheep manure would get thrown by the mower's blades in all directions. One must remember that this was all in the day before they wore hard hats! Polo was only played at the Farm until about 1943.⁵



Polo players at Minnekhada. Eric Hamber, third from the left is on his pony 'Justice'
Vancouver Public Library, Special Collections, VPL 10305

The Farm would have remained solely a polo and horse breeding operation if it was not

for his wife Aldyen. Mrs. Hamber loved animals and convinced Eric to make Minnekhada into a real farm. Livestock was brought in and crops were diversified. Prior to Aldyen's influence, Eric had envisioned the Farm to be strictly horses, hay and oats. The only buildings Eric had worried about upgrading were the stables, which he combined into one large stable with an adjoining hay barn. Under the new direction set by Aldyen, more workers were hired to construct additional buildings and install a drainage system. Prior to the installation of the drainage

system many fields were too damp to successfully grow crops. This brought more fields under cultivation, allowing the Farm to become relatively self-sufficient in terms of animal feed.

Jack Hillier, who replaced Jim Lucas as the Farm's second manager in 1935, was placed in charge of the farm building construction. One of the first buildings to be finished was the Manager's House located on the knoll where the old Jenkins house had once stood. The Hillier house was approximately 1,000 square feet in size, just perfect for Jack and his wife Mae. During his years at Minnehada Jack supervised the construction of several other buildings including the Sheep Barn, the Dairy Barn, and the Creamery. Eric Hamber gave him a free hand



to get the Farm up and running. Jack was aided by two building contractors, A.N. MacDonald and Albert Osborne, and their crew of about 30 men. The supplies for the buildings were purchased from Port Coquitlam Transfers Company Limited, which is still owned and operated by the same family.

The original Manager's House
1960

Courtesy of David Wallace

The livestock at the Farm included 20 purebred Shorthorn Guernsey cattle, four purebred Ayrshire dairy cows and about 75 sheep. The Farm also kept a sizeable poultry department that was tended to by Ellis Jones, the Farm Foreman under Hillier. Ellis Jones also looked after the cattle. There were also many Indian Runner ducks and geese at the Farm. Jim Robbins, who

Minnehada Farm prior to its renovations in 1933

worked at the Farm from 1934 to 1941, suspected that many of them forgot how to fly because they were fed extremely well and had no inclination to leave. The ducks



and geese were one of Mrs. Hamber's favourite farm animals, often being referred to as her 'pets.' In 1937 Eric Hamber had several Welsh ponies imported from England as a gift for Aldyen's personal secretary Mary Rice.⁶

Farm animals at Minnekhada
1932-1940



Many of the unmarried farm workers lived in an old Bunkhouse to the west of the stables. The Bunkhouse was deteriorating and infested with cockroaches. The workers tried to kill the cockroaches by blowing Borax between the shiplap wallboards with tubes. Unfortunately this did not seem to have any effect on the cockroach population in the Bunkhouse. Thankfully, in 1937, the old Bunkhouse was torn down and a new one built. The new Bunkhouse had both coal heating and electricity.⁷



The new Bunkhouse
in 1937

An average workweek at the Farm was seven days a week and ten hours a day. The workers got one day off a month with which they could do anything. On weekends the workday ended earlier. Jim Robbins said that the workers usually drove to New Westminster on Saturdays to watch movies. They also went to an old community hall located by Victoria Park. Here they danced and played badminton.

On one occasion Eric Hamber was upset with the amount of electricity that was being used at the Farm. He talked with Jack Hillier and told him to be more frugal with the electricity. It just so happened that some of the workers at the Bunkhouse had purchased an electric iron to press their Sunday bests. Mrs. Hamber was in the habit of inspecting the Bunkhouse every weekend to make sure it was being taken care of. It was on one of her visits that she noticed the workers had purchased the iron. The next day Eric came down to the Farm and told the workers they were not allowed to use the iron. Aldyen probably mentioned the iron to Eric not knowing his concern over his electric bill.

The Hambers each had their own protocol when dealing with the farm workers. Eric Hamber hardly ever stopped to converse with the workers. Most of the communication was one way and came in the form of orders.⁸ Eric seems to have stopped to converse only with his Farm Manager, but this was primarily worked related. On the other hand, Aldyen Hamber was generous and approachable. She seemed to genuinely care about what happened to the workers. At Christmas and Easter she gave gifts to each of the workers and their families.⁹

Left to right: Aldyen with her mother Mrs. Hendry and Eric ca.1940



Eric Hamber was not always unsympathetic towards his workers. Upon returning from Victoria after a long absence, Eric asked Jack Hillier how the men (i.e., workers) were doing. Jack reported that Jim Robbins had just married. Eric then inquired where Jim and his wife were staying, since the Bunkhouse was not suitable for a married couple. Jack explained that Jim and his wife were staying at Al Hagar's Dykehouse located at Addington Point marsh. Hamber then exclaimed "that no employee of mine stays at Hagar's!" It was known that Hamber did not care very much for Al Hagar, and the reverse was also true. As a result of this discussion Hamber built a house for Jim and his wife near the Farm's entrance on Oliver Drive.¹⁰



In 1934 Minnehada Lodge was just being built.

Minnehada Lodge after its
completion in 1937

Eric Hamber had first approached the Vancouver architect Ross A. Lort to design the Lodge. Lort had previously designed Greencroft for the Hambers. Regrettably Lort and Hamber had an apparent falling out and Lort either quit or was fired.¹¹ Hamber's second choice was Bernard Palmer. Palmer was the protege of Samuel MacLure and would later go on to design the northern entrance and tollbooth to the Lions Gate Bridge with his partner William Bow. It is rumoured that Hamber was able to pay for the Lodge's construction as a result of a stock tip-off that netted him \$50,000, which turned out to be the approximate cost of the Lodge.¹² The Lodge replaced the modest house that the Hambers stayed at during their first years at the Farm. The construction of the Lodge denotes a significant change in how Eric Hamber viewed Minnehada.

Minnehada became more a place of entertainment where weekend guests were wined and dined. Whether this was Hamber's original intention is not certain. Hamber entertained many famous people while he owned the Farm. In 1939 Governor General Tweedsmuir visited Minnehada. Lord Tweedsmuir was not really liked by the farm workers who had to spit and polish everything for miles around before his arrival.¹³

Another guest at the Lodge was the notorious British actress Grassy Fields. Jim Robbins recalls that when she visited the Lodge she asked to be served duck for dinner. Unfortunately the only ducks to be found at that time were pinfeathers. So Jim and Stuart McLaren, another farm worker, plucked the pinfeathers until their fingers were raw. After this they singed the ducks hoping to remove the small quills, but to no avail. Finally they grabbed a tub of water and soap and proceeded to scrub the ducks for several hours. They knew that their jobs were on the line. Finally they handed the ducks to the cook at the Lodge and hoped for the best. The following week they heard back from the Hambers that Grassy Fields had enjoyed the ducks immensely.



Mallards at Minnehada
ca.1935

The Hambers also entertained many of their affluent friends at Minnehada. These included doctors, lawyers and other men of industry. Other notable guests the Hambers entertained at Minnehada included Governor General the Earl of Athlone and his wife Princess Alice. It is also rumoured that Queen Elizabeth and King George VI stayed at Minnehada in 1939.¹⁴ To make sure such dignitaries enjoyed a safe and clean trip to Minnehada, Eric Hamber had Cedar Drive and Oliver Drive black-topped, paying for this out of his own pocket.

For Eric Hamber, the centerpiece of the Farm was the stable. The stable was home for his horse breeding company Greencroft Stables. The heart of Greencroft Stables was a horse named Papworth. Papworth was born a twin in 1923 to English Derby winner Papyrus and St. Leger winner Keysoe. Although Papworth never attained the same racing glory as his parents, he did turn out to be a perfect stud horse.¹⁵ Hamber also imported several expensive

broodmares from California to mate with Papworth. Among these were Orangery and Gold Streak II. Hamber established the famous Greencroft lineage that was renowned to be consistent winners. Among the horses Papworth sired were Franworth, Bestworth, Goldstreworth and Cislworth to name a few. Those who bought Hamber's horses included well-known Vancouverites Dave and Jack Diamond.¹⁶



Eric Hamber raced his horses at Brighthouse, Lansdowne and Hastings Parks. The Papworth with his groom Bob Innis in 1951. Papworth was 23 at the time
City of Vancouver Archives, photo by Croton Studio, CVA 703-5.5.36

The Greencroft racing colours were black and gold with stars. Hamber hired well-known horse trainers to condition his horses. George Addison trained the horses for one year until 1939 and George "Scotty" Garthwaite looked after the horses from 1939 to 1941. In 1941 Hamber put Greencroft Stables on the back burner and sold many of his ablest horses to support the war effort. After the war he resumed his operation and by 1946 he was again racing his horses. In 1951 he hired Sandy Gilmour, a respected Vancouver jockey, to train his horses at Brighthouse Park. The Farm also had the services of a veterinarian. Once a week Dr. Lorne Swenerton¹⁷ or Doc McKeon¹⁸ would visit the Farm to check the horses.

The stables had a separate group of workers from the Farm. These included the horse trainer and grooms. There was about one groom for every five horses.¹⁹ The other farm workers visited the stable only once a week to clean out the manure and restock the haylofts.²⁰ Three teams of Percheron work horses were kept in the hay barn that adjoined the horse stable.²¹

One of the Greencroft Horses at Lansdowne Park
ca. 1930

City of Vancouver Archives, CVA 703-15.33.



The Farm produced some products for commercial sale. Field-grown products included peas and potatoes for a local cannery. Livestock included approximately 500 pigs a year for a local slaughterhouse, lamb, and beef cattle. A portion of what was produced was kept for consumption on the Farm. Also, the wool from the Dorset sheep was brought to Vancouver every year to sell.²² Products that were not sold commercially were eggs and milk. The Farm was equipped with its own Dairy Barn, Creamery, Slaughterhouse and Smokehouse. After the war Hamber had a small steam-heated hothouse installed beside the bunkhouse to grow vegetables for the Farm. Some of what was produced for the Farm was sent to Hamber's yacht *Vencedor* (L. Conqueror) and shipped to Government House when he was Lieutenant Governor (1936 to 1941).

Hamber would also use Minnekhada for hunting and horse riding. The southern portion of Minnekhada marsh was sown with buckwheat to attract ducks during hunting season. During the off-season the lower marsh was drained to create additional pastures for the cattle.²³ When Hamber went to hunt around Minnekhada marsh he set up a headquarters in a small shack beside the marsh. This shack became known as 'Jones' Shack.' Hamber would often go there alone to get away from it all. For hunting season Hamber would purchase a large amount of

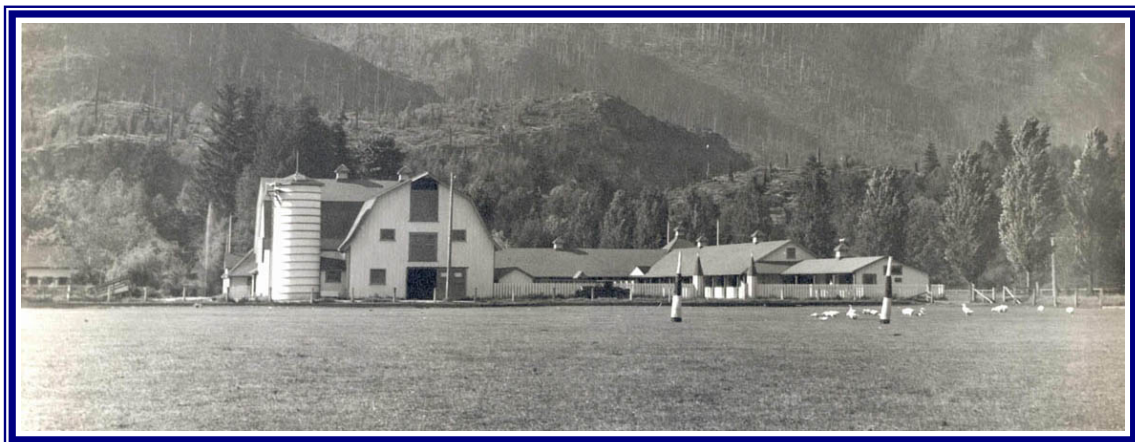
pheasants which he kept in a pen near the back of the Bunkhouse.²⁴ A few weeks before hunting season he would release them into the marsh to make them better sport.

The Farm had occasional problems with wild animals, most of which were caused by coyotes. On one occasion Mr. Hamber had to hire a trapper that lived near De Boville Slough to catch a tricky coyote. The coyote was nabbing young lambs from the Farm but could not be caught despite the workers' best efforts. The coyote was caught the following morning by the trapper.²⁵ On another occasion a bear attacked the sows in the pig sties and was shot by the Foreman.²⁶

When Jack Hillier left Minnekhada in 1943 the livestock population had changed somewhat. The horse and cattle population was about the same; however, the number of sheep had swelled to about 900 heads while the broodsows had increased to 25.

During the late 1950s Eric Hamber's health began to deteriorate. It is believed that he suffered from arthritis and bad knees that made it difficult for him to ride and walk around the Farm.²⁷ Hamber still enjoyed Minnekhada immensely; it was where he spent some of the happiest days of his life. At the same time Colonel Clarence Wallace, a long time friend of Hamber, tried to persuade him to sell Minnekhada. The Farm had begun to deteriorate as Hamber's ability to enjoy it waned. Hamber finally agreed to sell Minnekhada to Wallace in 1958 for an undisclosed amount of money. In return, Wallace allowed Hamber to visit Minnekhada whenever he wanted.²⁸

Prior to selling Minnekhada to Clarence Wallace, Hamber had built a house at Victoria Drive and Gilleys Trail in Coquitlam. The house was situated on a five-acre lot and was called 'The Panabode.' After Minnekhada was sold, the Hambers moved into the Panabode, but due to Eric's failing health he spent most of his time at Greencroft in Vancouver. After Eric Hamber's death in 1960, Aldyen spent several months a year at the Panabode before she sold it in 1965.



Minnekhada Farm
ca. 1940

Section Three: 1958 to 1981 Clarence Wallace

The story of how Minnehada was sold to Colonel Clarence Wallace actually starts in 1917. After Wallace returned from duty in World War I he started a gun club with several of his army buddies. They founded the Silver Valley Gun Club for the purpose of hunting. The club was located a few kilometers north of Minnehada where Widgeon Marsh Regional Park Reserve is now. Eventually Wallace became the sole owner of Silver Valley as the other members died or sold their shares.²⁹

Silver Valley Gun Club had a spacious lodge with four upstairs bedrooms, a kitchen, caretaker suite and a large living room. The only way to reach Silver Valley was by boat. The lodge had no utilities whatsoever. When Wallace went to the Silver Valley he drove to Addington Point where he parked his car and took his 30-foot boat, 'the Cerluw', up the Pitt River. The slough between Siwash Island and Silver Valley was dredged by Wallace to allow boats access to the lodge. When driving to the Addington Point boat launch Wallace would have driven through Minnehada using Oliver Drive. Occasionally Wallace would take the Cerluw down to the Wild Duck Inn, back when it was still located on the bank of the Pitt River.

Throughout the marsh, boardwalks were constructed using rejected lumber planks from Wallace's ship building company, Burrard DryDocks, but everyone still walked around in hip boots. On several occasions Governor General Earl Alexander of Tunis visited Clarence Wallace at Silver Valley. On one visit Alexander's son fell off the stern of the Cerluw into the Pitt River during a storm. One of Wallace's workers from Silver Valley jumped after him and managed to save him. The amazing thing was that he did not know how to swim!



Earl Alexander of
Tunis on one of his
visits to Silver
Valley

In 1937 Clarence Wallace found two bear cubs while returning from a hunt. Wallace grabbed one of them and placed it under his arm. When he reached the lodge he asked George Saxton, his caretaker, to package the cub up and load it on the Cerluw. Saxton took the cub and put it in

an apple box. The cub was then brought to the Cerluw in a wheelbarrow and stowed for the voyage to Addington Point. Once at Addington it was loaded into Wallace's car and brought back to his house in Vancouver, 'Devonia,' on 54th Street and Hudson.

The cub was kept in a pen in the backyard of Devonia for over a year. The cub, now an adult, had grown quite large and unmanageable. Clarence's son, David Wallace, had a friend who once brought over two large Alsatian wolfhounds to 'play' with the bear. The dogs chased the bear up a tree where it stayed until it got tired. The bear then climbed back down the tree and swatted the dogs "head over heels." David remembers how he was amazed that such a small bear could have so much power as to knock over two large dogs without any effort.

Soon afterwards the Wallaces had a guest from England. The young chap's parents controlled most of the sugar trade in Great Britain. It just so happened that the guest's father had been having troubles with poachers on his large country estate. He then offered to take the bear back to England where it could be released on his father's estate. Within the hour the bear was boxed up and ready to be taken to his ship docked in Vancouver Harbor.

The bear arrived safe and sound in England and was released onto the estate. In a few weeks the majority of the poachers had been scared away by the bear. Eventually the bear became a nuisance. It was then captured and sent to Edinburgh zoo. There the bear was named 'Silver Valley Sheila' and lived for another 26 years in captivity. After the Second World War Clarence Wallace visited Sheila in Edinburgh.

During the 1940s, Silver Valley was visited almost exclusively by the Wallace family. It was a quiet place to unwind away from the noise of the city. David Wallace remembers canoeing the snaking Widgeon Creek during the summer months. At the time, the river was full of spawning fish, so full that you could almost walk across the river without touching the water. Hunting was still the major pastime at Silver Valley. During the hunting season hundreds of duck would be shot in one weekend.

Eventually, due to business reasons, Clarence Wallace could no longer visit the secluded Silver Valley. In 1948 he purchased Addington Point marsh from Al Hagar, thus becoming Eric Hamber's neighbour. Two years later Wallace sold Silver Valley to the McLellan brothers for logging. Over the following years, while Wallace was Lieutenant Governor, he tried to persuade Hamber to sell him Minnekhada. Wallace had his eye on Minnekhada for a long time and wanted to add it to his Addington Point property. Eventually Wallace persuaded Hamber to let him pay for Minnekhada in advance. Wallace in return would allow Hamber to live there until he was 80 years old and later visit it whenever he wanted.

For Wallace the Farm was exclusively ornamental. Clarence Wallace knew absolutely nothing about farming. David Wallace remarked jokingly that his father probably did not know the front end of a sheep from its back end! When Wallace bought the Farm there were approximately 600 sheep, around 12 Shetland ponies, ten retired racehorses, two gigantic sows, around eight milk cows, 17 cattle and many chickens. All the horses and ponies were kept in pasture throughout the year. They were stabled only during the winter to get out of the cold. One day Clarence Wallace came into the lunchroom at Burrard DryDocks and announced he had sold the entire flock of sheep.



Minnekhada Farm
ca. 1971

The Farm was kept in immaculate condition. When Wallace purchased the Farm from Hamber he replaced the majority of the foundation and all the roofs of the buildings. Nine workers were employed on the Farm to maintain it.³⁰ Many of them also helped at the lodge and at the Dykehouse in Addington Point. On one occasion Wallace invited several children from a Vancouver school to visit the Farm.

Minnekhada, under the Wallaces, could best be described as a hobby farm. It did produce certain goods, most of which were dairy products that were used only on the Farm and sold to local residents. Even Aldyen Hamber purchased some products from Minnekhada while she stayed at her Panabode.³¹

Clarence
Wallace's
grandchildren
watching a
cow being milked
1959
Courtesy of
David Wallace



The lack of farming knowledge on the part of Clarence Wallace can be excused by way of how he viewed Minnekhada. In his opinion Minnekhada was strictly for hunting. The lodge was a weekend retreat. An average weekend at Minnekhada started

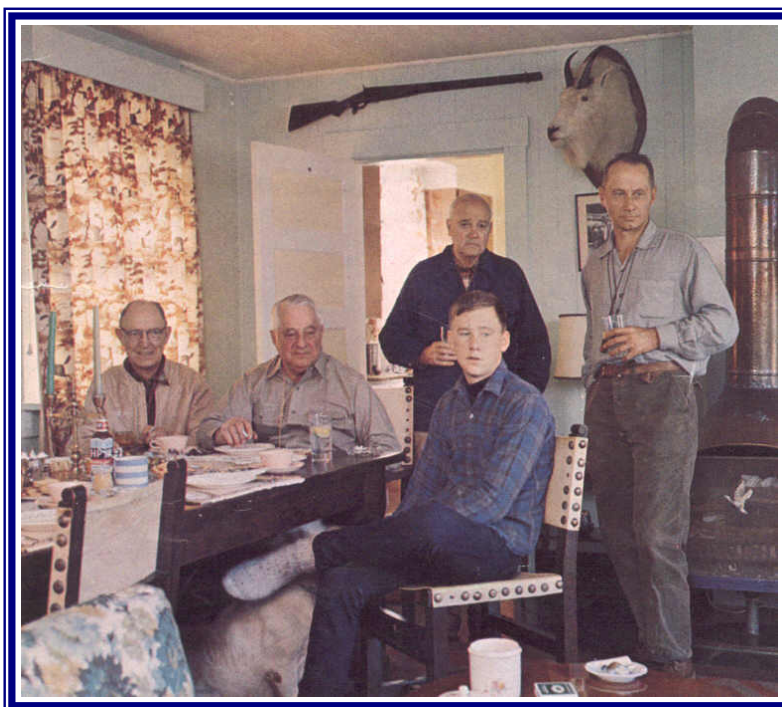
with the guests arriving Friday afternoon and unpacking all their personals. The husbands slept in the basement of the lodge while their wives slept on the second floor. The only exception to this was Clarence Wallace, who also slept on the second floor of the lodge. The men stayed up late on Friday night playing poker, while the women played cards in the bridgeroom.

The next morning Clarence Wallace would wake up the men at about five o'clock to get ready for hunting. They ate a light breakfast of toast and Bloody Marys. The wives had the luxury of sleeping in and having breakfast in bed. Their breakfasts were brought to them by Mrs. Charlotte Wallace's maid.



Clarence Wallace posing in front of his converted Land Rover. The Land Rover was converted to hold more passengers including their hunting equipment ca. 1960

When the husbands had finished their light breakfast, they loaded into Wallace's converted Land Rover for a trip down to the Dykehouse. They then drew straws to see who would hunt in which section of the marsh. The husbands were dropped off in their respective hunting areas with a motorboat piloted by George Saxton, the Dykehouse caretaker. At about ten o'clock in the morning they were all picked up again and brought back to the Dykehouse. There they were served a large breakfast including eggs, hash browns, sausages, bacon, ham, toast and pancakes.³² After their breakfast they sat down and watched the football game on the television and then relaxed afterwards for a few hours more.



Wallace (second from left) watches the World Series at the Dykehouse with family and friends 1971

After lunch the men headed to the fields south of Oliver Drive to shoot pheasants. Before the hunting season, Clarence Wallace would buy around 800 pheasants from Victor McLean's pheasant farm on Hornby Island. Many of the young pheasants were killed before the hunting season by coyotes and foxes.³³ After hunting pheasants many of the husbands returned to the lodge to relax. However some guests that felt energetic enough stayed around for the night flight with

David Wallace and his brothers. At the end of the day the birds were divided evenly between the number of guns. This was done because some guests were very poor shots.

After hunting, the husbands returned to the lodge and cleaned themselves up. A grand spread of appetizers was laid out for the guests by the lodge's servants. Dinner was served when all the guests had had some time to relax. After dinner the guests proceeded to the bridgeroom to play cards. Some of the husbands stayed to play cards with their wives, but the majority went downstairs to play poker. After cards, Mrs. Wallace would invite the wives up to her room for a nightcap before they retired.

Tragedy struck the Wallaces after just such an evening on New Years Eve 1973. The next morning Mrs. Wallace was found dead in her bed. She had passed away quietly during her sleep.³⁴

Ducks and pheasants were not Clarence Wallace's sole quarry. He also liked to hunt deer. One drawback to his deer hunting was Mrs. Wallace's objections, who did not particularly like hunting. To get around Mrs. Wallace's objection, Clarence relied on a rouse that he developed back at Devonia. There he used to sprinkle oats in Mrs. Wallace's cutting garden to attract pheasants. Mrs. Wallace believed that the pheasants were eating her plants and bulbs and thus condoned Clarence shooting them. At Minnehada, Clarence would hide saltlicks throughout Mrs. Wallace's flower gardens to attract deer. This allowed him to shoot the deer without too much protest from Mrs. Wallace.

Poaching was a problem at Addington Point Marsh. Since most of the hunting took place in the southern half of the marsh, poachers could easily sneak into the northern half undetected. Whenever Clarence Wallace tried to catch the poachers, they always seemed to get away. He then decided to set up 'Trailer Row.' This was a trailer that he built in the northern section of the marsh. It was a simple accommodation with a few cots and a heater. This was rented to some of Wallace's good friends. His friends included the likes of Air Vice Marshall Stevenson, Sir Steven Leonard, Fred Sweet and Jack Hall. Wallace charged one case of champagne a year



Wallace's guests
at Minnehada
ca. 1970

for them to stay there. In return Wallace gave them free reign of the northern half of the marsh. This strategy successfully reduced the incidents of poaching in the marsh.

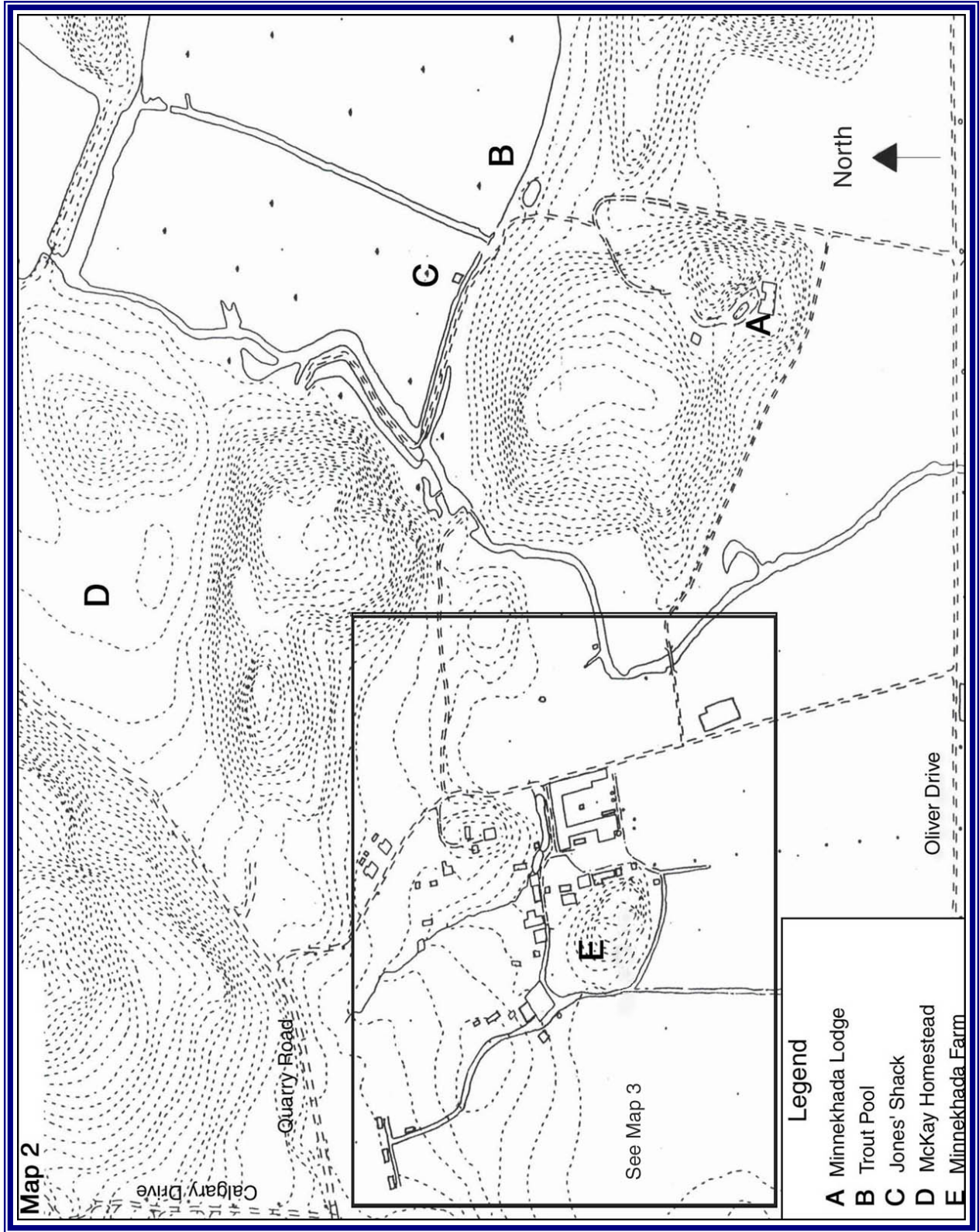
Around 1974 Clarence Wallace's health began to deteriorate due to strokes. The Farm began to suffer neglect, although it was still relatively well maintained. Wallace also started to lose interest in hunting.³⁵ David Wallace attempted to convince his father to lease the Farm to a riding club. Clarence Wallace thought this was not a good idea because it would compromise his privacy while he stayed at the lodge. In 1975 he was contacted by DAON Development Corporation to purchase

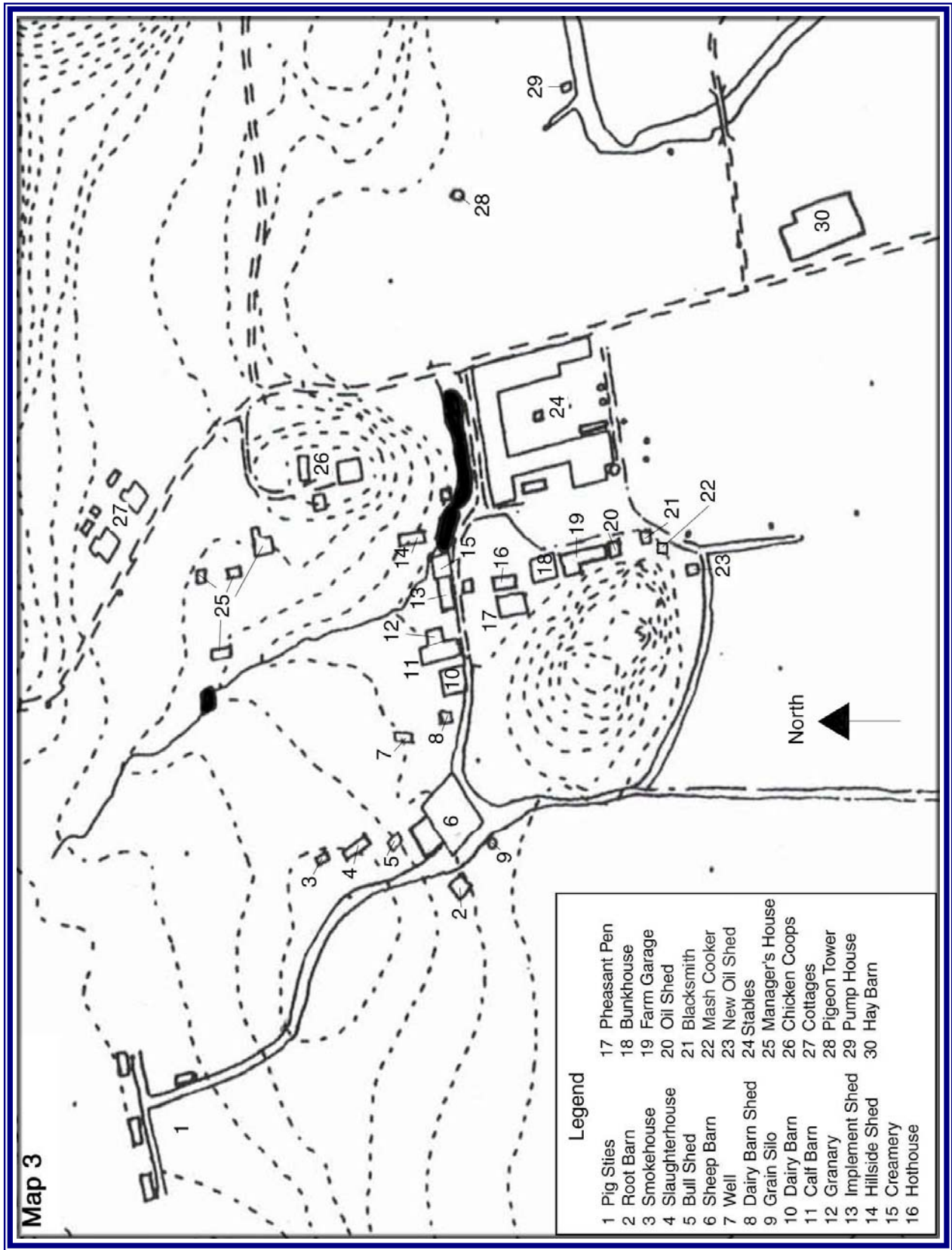
Minnekhada. DAON offered Wallace one million dollars and one week to reply. David and his brother, who were contacted because they had liens on the property, advised their father to contact his lawyer. In their opinion the amount offered was woefully inadequate.

The next offer the Wallaces received was 2.3 million dollars and permission for Clarence to use the lodge as long as he liked. At the same time the majority of Minnekhada was placed into the Agricultural Land Reserve, thus limiting its development possibilities. Wallace, feeling pressured, agreed to DAON's terms. Over the next few months Minnekhada was sold by DAON to the Canada Trust Company who turned around and sold it to Dunhill Development Corporation. Dunhill was the Provincial government's development agency, who was involved in the northeast Coquitlam development plan. This plan, created by Dave Barrett's NDP government, would have seen the area's population swell to 80,000 residents. When the Social Credit party defeated the NDP government in late 1975, Minnekhada reverted back to the Crown and was all but forgotten.³⁶

In 1977 Wallace sold Addington Point marsh to the Second Century Fund. The marsh would be used as a nature reserve and managed by the Provincial Department of Fish and Wildlife. In 1981 Clarence Wallace moved out of Minnekhada due to health reasons and died one year later at his California residence.³⁷

The provincial government in turn leased the majority of Minnekhada to farmers. The Farm itself was eventually leased to the Bouvier family who operated a horse breeding operation. During this time the Farm fell into disrepair and some of the buildings were removed for safety reasons. A racetrack was installed to train the horses. The Farm was finally acquired by the GVRD from the Crown in 1995 as an addition to the Minnekhada Regional Park.





Part Two:

The Farm Buildings 1932 to 1975

The following section will enumerate the farm buildings that existed during the Hamber and Wallace eras at Minnehada and includes a brief description detailing what activities took place at each building. Refer to Maps 2 and 3 on the previous pages to situate the buildings at the Farm site.

1. Pig Sties



The pigs were kept farthest away from the main Farm area. Mrs. Hamber did not like the pigs around the main area of the Farm because they smelled awful. This was done out of consideration of her guests.

Looking southeast
towards the Pig Sties
ca. 1935

2. Root Barn

The Root Barn, now demolished, was where the potatoes and other root crops were kept. The Root Barn resembled a miniature version of the Dairy Barn. The Barn was demolished and only its foundation remains.

3. Smokehouse

Ham and bacon were the primary products of the Smokehouse.

4. Slaughterhouse

Pigs, cattle, chicken, and lambs were brought to the Slaughterhouse to be butchered. A trap door located at the side of the building would flip the larger livestock onto the ground where they would be euthanised. A headband that held a bullet was attached to their head and struck with a hammer. The animal would be killed instantly. The animals were bled by hanging them from hooks on the ceiling. The blood would drain through sluice grates on the floor and into a nearby creek. A small room that housed a stove was attached to the Slaughterhouse. Water would be boiled on the stove to scald pigs. The butchered animal would then be brought either to the Smokehouse or to the Creamery for storage.

5. Bull Shed

This was where the bull was housed when his services were not needed.

6. Sheep Barn

The Sheep Barn housed all the sheep on the Farm. It is built on a slope to allow easy drainage during the rainy seasons. As the flock grew, two wings were added to the side of the Barn. The upstairs portion of the Sheep Barn is an expansive loft where hay and feed were stored. The loft had many hatches so that the workers could drop the hay and feed to the hungry sheep below.

Looking northwest towards the Sheep Barn
1959

Courtesy of David Wallace



The loft was also home to hundreds of mice. If a bag of feed was left alone, it would be entirely consumed in less than fifteen minutes.

7. Well

The Well was used to supply water to the Dairy Barn, Sheep Barn and the livestock in the adjoining field.

8. Dairy Barn Shed

This shed was used by the workers to store manure. Whenever guests visited Minnekhada, Mrs. Hamber would ask the workers to clean up the Farm. This entailed that all the roads, buildings and paths be free from animal droppings.

9. Grain Silo

The Grain Silo was constructed after the Hay Barn (#29) was torn down.

10. Dairy Barn

The Dairy Barn was where the Ayrshire dairy cows were kept. It also housed the milking machines as well as milk jugs.

Looking northeast to
the Dairy Barn
ca. 1935



11. Calf Barn



Looking south
towards the
Calf Barn 1959
Courtesy of David
Wallace

The Calf Barn was where calves and lambs were kept until they could be released into their respective herd or flock. This was done primarily to protect them from coyotes. The young animals were hand-fed using milk bottles.

12. Granary

Bags of feed were mixed and stored in this building until they were needed.



Looking northwest towards the Granary
1959

Courtesy of David Wallace

13. Implement Shed

This shed was where the majority of farming and gardening tools were kept. It was centrally located to allow easy access from anywhere on the Farm. The Shed was torn down around 1945.

14. Hillside Shed

The true function of the Hillside Shed is not certain. It is possible that it was used to house equipment used in the garden located to the west of the Manager's House.

15. Creamery

The Creamery was where dairy products and meats were kept. The building was kept cool by a refrigeration unit that held the temperature at about 4 to 5°C. Meat could be kept good for up to a month in the Creamery.

The Creamery was also where milk was churned into butter and separated into cream.

Looking northwest
towards the Creamery
1959

Courtesy of David Wallace



16. Hothouse

The Hothouse was installed during the 1940s by Eric Hamber. It was used to grow vegetables for the farm workers. It was steam heated. The building was later demolished and only the foundation exists.

17. Pheasant Pen

Eric Hamber would house approximately 500 pheasants in this pen for hunting. The pen no longer exists.

18. Bunkhouse



Looking
northwest
towards the
new
Bunkhouse
1959

Courtesy of David
Wallace

The original Bunkhouse was a two-storey building that housed more cockroaches than workers. It was demolished in 1937 and replaced by a much nicer

and cleaner Bunkhouse. The Bunkhouse housed between six and ten workers. Not all the farm workers lived in the Bunkhouse. Some lived off the Farm while others occupied some of the cottages on the Farm. The Bunkhouse had electricity and a coal furnace. Each day the Bunkhouse was visited by a cleaning lady who prepared the workers' meals and made sure everything was tidy.



During the Wallace era, chicken coups were erected in the field to the north of the Bunkhouse.

The old Bunkhouse
ca. 1934

19. The Farm Garage

Located to the west of the Stable, the vehicle Garage was where all the farm vehicles were kept. These included tractors and grass cutters. The original Garage collapsed in the winter of 1935 when a heavy snowfall, followed by rain, crushed the

Looking east
towards the
collapsed
Farm Garage
1935



Garage under its weight. The Garage was rebuilt but collapsed again in 1996. There was an extension off the back of the Garage where firewood was kept.

20. Oil Shed

The Oil Shed was where the fuel was kept for the farm vehicles. It also supplied the fuel for all the buildings that required either coal or heating oil. It was located for easy access next to the

Garage. The Oil Shed was later emptied of its inflammables and moved farther away (see New Oil Shed #23).

21. Blacksmith

The Blacksmith was one of the buildings that existed on the Farm when Hamber bought it in 1932. This is where all the horseshoes were made. It also supplied and repaired various items that made farm life easier. Jack Hillier, the Farm Manager under Hamber, shod the horses at the Blacksmith. The Blacksmith was later converted into a storage shed.

22. Mash Cooker

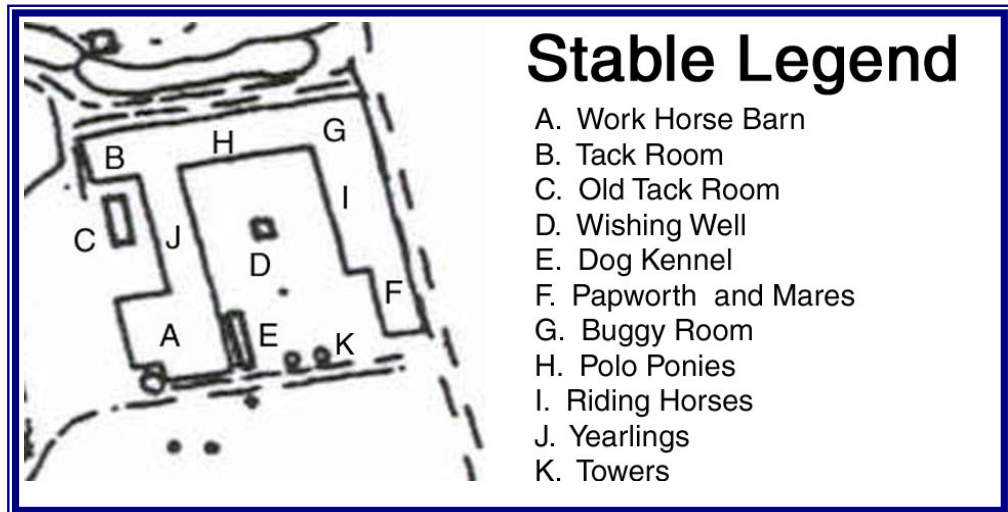
The Mash Cooker was a later addition to the Farm. From photographic evidence it appears that it was built after the Second World War when Hamber resumed his horseracing enterprise. The building holds a large oven with a built-in concrete bowl above it. In the bowl grains would have been cooked with water and molasses and served warm to the horses. The grain would have been brought from the hammer mill located in the Work Horse Barn or from the Granary.

23. New Oil Shed

The New Oil Shed was built after the Farm Garage collapsed in 1935. It replaced the older Oil Shed (see # 20).

24. Stables

The Stables can be broken into two distinct areas. These areas are the Work Horse Barn and the Horse Stable.



The Work Horse Barn was where, as the name implies, the work horses were kept. The stalls in the Barn were larger than normal horse stalls to accommodate the Percherons. Also, a hammer mill was kept in the Barn to grind grain for storage or use in the Mash Cooker (building 4). The grain for the mill was stored in the silo in front of the Work Horse Barn.

Looking south
towards the Stables
1934



Looking northeast towards the Work Horse Barn
1959

Courtesy of David Wallace

Hay was brought to the Work Horse Barn from the Farm's fields. The hay was then hoisted up to the Barn's loft. To hoist the hay into the loft, a system of pulleys was used to grab the hay load with large forks. If the load was not built correctly then it would tumble down onto the heads of the workers below. The Percherons were used to lift the hay load. Once the load

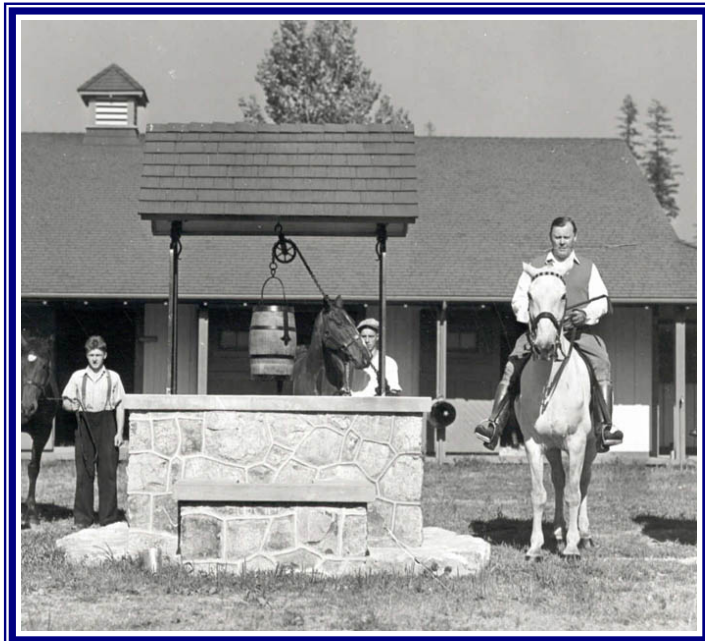
was lifted it was transferred onto a rail that ran along the ceiling. When the load was in the desired place a latch was triggered to release the load. The hay was then carried in a wheelbarrow to be used in various parts of the Horse Stable. This was done once a week.

The Horse Stable was where Eric Hamber kept his race horses, polo ponies, and riding horses. The Stable also housed the 'Tack Room' and the 'Buggy Room.' Wallace would later add a veterinary room to the Stable. The Tack Room was where the polo players

Looking north towards the Tack Room. The old Tack Room can still be seen in front of it.
ca. 1935



would pick up their equipment and relax. Along the walls were pictures of retired race horses that Hamber owned or had once owned. Corner cabinets held trophies and ribbons that the Greencroft lineage had won. The Buggy Room was where Mrs. Hamber kept her pony buggies in which she used to ride around the Farm.



Under Hamber, the ponies, of which there were 15, were kept in the northern section of the Stable. Papworth and his 'harem,' as one racetrack reporter described the mares, were kept in the southeast section. The eastern wing was where the riding horses were kept. The western portion housed the yearlings.

The Wishing Well in the centre of the Stables.

Eric Hamber (right) is on his riding horse 'Major'.
1935

The Kennel housed Eric Hamber's numerous hunting dogs. They would be kept at Minnekhada year round. Later Clarence Wallace would house his dogs in the Kennel. It was removed after Wallace sold the Farm to the government in 1975.



The Dog Kennels to the east of the Work Horse Barn
ca. 1935

25. Manager's House, Garage and Carport.

The knoll overlooking the Stable is where the Manager's House now stands. This is also the same location where the old Jenkins House once stood. The original Manager's House was replaced in the 1960s by Clarence Wallace. The previous one built for Jack Hillier by Eric Hamber burnt down. Eric Hamber built two other buildings on the knoll for Hillier, both of which still exist. These

The Manager's House in 1935. The Garage and Carport were not yet built.



buildings are the Manager's Carport and Garage, both of which were built in the same style as the original Manager's House. The knoll was chosen for the Manager's House because it has a clear view of almost every location on the Farm. A large garden existed to the west of the Manager's House. The vegetables were for consumption only on the Farm.



The Garden to the west of the
Manager's House 1959
Courtesy of David Wallace

26. Chicken, Goose and Duck Coops and Pens



The Coops were a collection of buildings located to the north of the Manager's House. The geese were normally herded around to various fields where they could graze. The geese would then be rounded up every night and returned to their pen. The eggs would be stored in the Creamery.

Looking south to the chicken coops
1959

Courtesy of David Wallace



Looking north
towards the
Chicken Coops
ca. 1935

27. Workers' Cottages

Workers who had wives and families would stay at the Workers' Cottages. The Bunkhouse was unsuitable because of its lack of space and privacy. Eric Hamber's original cottage was most probably located here before the Workers' Cottages were built.

Looking north towards the
Workers' Cottages 1959
Courtesy of David Wallace



28. Pigeon Tower



Looking northwest at the Pigeon Tower
ca. 1935

The Pigeon Tower was one of the structures on the Farm when Hamber bought it in 1932. It was still present during the 1950s, but was demolished soon afterwards. The farm workers referred to the pigeons as 'hangers-on'.

Looking northeast at the Pigeon Tower
ca. 1935



29. Pumphouse

Water was supplied to Minnekhada Lodge via the Pumphouse. The water originated at a spring located $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the Farm. From there it flowed through wire-wrapped wooden pipes to the Farm and then was pumped up to the Lodge. The original pump could move 15,000 gallons per minute. Jack Hillier later replaced this with a pump that could move 30,000 gallons per minute. The Pumphouse has since been demolished.

30. Hay Barn

The Hay Barn was built before Hamber purchased the Farm. During the 1940s it was demolished. The Stables and Dairy Barn proved capable of storing the hay grown on the Farm in its entirety. It may have been used to shelter the sheep flock before the Sheep Barn was built.

Looking west to the Hay Barn
ca. 1935
City of Vancouver Archives,
CVA 703-5.2.2.



Part Three: Conclusion

One problem that arose while compiling this report concerns the architectural fluidity of the Farm buildings. In the past it was thought that Bernard Palmer, the architect of the Lodge, designed them. The facts, however, do not support this assertion. The Stables, arguably the centerpiece of the Farm, were under construction before Palmer was hired. Also, some of the buildings were constructed before Hamber bought the Farm (e.g. the Oil Shed and the Blacksmith). Additional buildings were built after Palmer's unexpected death in 1936. Furthermore, creating a functional farm structure may have been outside the realm of Palmer's expertise. Hamber may have employed a local farm architect, given that many other farms (e.g. Blakeburn and Colony Farm) were located in the area at the time.

One segment of Minnekhada Farm's history has been largely ignored. This period lies between 1975 and 1995. During this period the Farm's future was uncertain. No one at the time could have anticipated that it would later become part of the GVRD Regional Parks system. Unfortunately, untangling the issues that surrounded this period of the Farm's life is beyond the scope of this paper. To unravel this question, one would have to delve into the realms of provincial and community politics at the time.

From its inception in 1895, Minnekhada Farm never seemed to live up to great expectations lauded on it during the early twentieth century. Drainage was always a problem in the years before Hamber purchased the Farm. The fields were continually damp and occasionally flooded. This inevitably reduced the Farm's agricultural potential. The Farm also suffered from its share of fires that ended the hopes of at least one of its owners; the First World War and the Depression ended the hopes of a few more of its owners.

While agriculture seems not to have lived up to its potential, other activities came to the fore. Eric Hamber established a first-rate horse breeding operation. His operation, Greencroft Stables, produced a proven race winner. The legacy of Greencroft Stables became known as the 'Greencroft Lineage.' This was possible due to Hamber's uncanny ability to recognise great pedigree among racehorse mares, which he then bred with Papworth. The result was a lineage that enriched the racing industry in British Columbia.

The Farm underwent a significant change when Colonel Clarence Wallace acquired it in 1958. No serious farming operation was undertaken, nor was any considered. However, with this being said, the Farm was better maintained under Wallace than under any of its other owners. The Farm became a showplace, solely for enjoyment and relaxation. Wallace cared greatly for Minnekhada and left it, as Hamber did before him, with great reluctance.

The years following the sale of Minnekhada to the Provincial government were characterised by neglect. Building foundations rotted and roofs sagged. The once beautiful site was reduced from "a show place to a no place." Several of the unique farm buildings were removed because they were no longer properly maintained or deemed useful. The once beautiful Minnekhada was reduced to a shadow of its former self.

Minnekhada Farm was finally acquired by the GVRD in 1995, eight years after it acquired Minnekhada Lodge. The Farm is currently undergoing a revitalisation program to adapt it for public use. Many of the buildings are proposed to be upgraded to accommodate various park-themed activities. The future appears bright for Minnekhada Farm under the GVRD. It is without doubt that one day the Farm will be returned to its former glory for all to enjoy.

Part Four: Recommendations

The projected demographic growth of northeast Coquitlam over the following ten years will create a great demand for nearby recreational activities. Minnekhada Farm has the potential to become one of the most frequented parks in the Lower Mainland. With this said, a comprehensive interpretive plan needs to be formulated for Minnekhada that will appeal to the public while protecting its historical and environmental integrity. The following are a few suggestions that could be implemented at the Farm site.

1. Animals

Housing animals at Minnekhada Farm is probably the most obvious way to recreate a historical farm environment. Farm animals offer a perfect opportunity for people who have no contact with farm animals to learn more about them. While it is preferable that the animals housed at Minnekhada be the same type that Hamber and Wallace housed, it is not always practical. Consequently, safe and 'low maintenance' animals should be considered in lieu of animals that are unpredictable, require a large amount of space and constant supervision. Perfect animals include goats, ponies, and donkeys. Sheep are another consideration, but would have to be sheared yearly. Domesticated ducks and geese are also a possibility. Larger animals, such as cows and horses, are high maintenance and would require costly veterinary attention.

2. Building Use

The buildings at the Farm have great educational and recreational potential. The Sheep Barn, because of its sloping floor, could easily be converted into a theatre or lecture area. Seating could be arranged so that an audience could easily see a performance take place at the lower portion of the Barn. The acoustics are very good in this building. The Dairy Barn could be converted into a two-floor educational/interpretive centre. The lower floor could be used as a 'hands-on' area where people could experience and learn about the more scientific aspects of Minnekhada's ecology. The upper floor could be used as an area for more permanent displays. The displays could range from the Farm's history to understanding bat and bear behaviour.

The Stables, while being the centerpiece of the Farm, should be reserved primarily for a horse-based enterprise, whether this is a riding club or a breeding operation. If a private enterprise becomes involved with the Stable, then it might be necessary to restrict public access to this building. This means that tours of the Stables could be conducted only with a Park Interpreter. This would ensure that whoever leases the Stables would have both privacy and security for their horses. Furthermore, the Stables should retain its original character as created by Eric Hamber. This would entail that the various sections of the Stables be restored and tastefully adapted. For example, the Tack Room could be adapted into an office for the Stables where people could inquire about riding lessons and so forth.

The Manager's Knoll would be best used as an office for the Park's staff. It allows the staff to see all sections of the Farm. This use is both practical and it retains the historical integrity of the site.

3. Historical Character

The greatest asset Minnekhada Farm has at its disposal is its historical character. It is without doubt that people will be attracted to the site out of curiosity for its history. Also, a strong historical character creates many spin-off benefits. For example, a unique historical character has always proven to be a strong attraction for movie and television production. Maintaining historical character includes the judicious placement of anachronistic elements so that they do not destroy the ambience of a given location. One concern is the view from Oliver Drive towards the Stables. This sight line should remain unblemished by additional structures or parking lots. Such structures would be better placed nearer to Quarry Road.

Since Mrs. Hamber and Wallace were fond of beautiful gardens, including a garden, whether vegetable or flower, would be another consideration. This could be communal or tended to solely by the Park's staff.

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Further Information on Minnekhada

- Elizabeth Lochhead’s 1986 report on Minnekhada Lodge provides an excellent source for further historical information on Minnekhada Regional Park. Please contact the GVRD Parks Department for information on how to find this report.

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- 26 “Bear killer at Hamber farm.” CVA microfiche AM0054.013.01963
- 27 David Wallace interview.
- 28 Ibid.
- 29 All the information on Silver Valley is from the David Wallace interview.
- 30 David Wallace interview.
- 31 The Hamber Family Fonds. CVA Add. MSS. 1036.
- 32 “The Wallace Way.” Vancouver Life About Town. December 1965.
- 33 David Wallace interview
- 34 Ibid.
- 35 Ibid.

36

Eleanor Ward interview.

37

“Ex-lieutenant-governor dies at 88.” Vancouver Sun. November 15, 1982. A6.