

MRS. F. W. HALL - (Richmond Presbyterian Church - Sea Island)

INTERVIEWED: February 6, 1975

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Mrs. Hall, as Isabella Gordon, came as a child to Richmond with her family in November 1888, settling in Terra Nova, on the western tip of Lulu Island.

As a child, she attended the Presbyterian Church on Sea Island, the first Minister she recalls being Reverend J. A. Jaffrey. He gave her a shorter catechism printed in 1880, the year of her birth. Travel to the church from Terra Nova was by boat, perhaps Mr. & Mrs. Miller's

Church: -Long pews - long platform outside for stepping up to from buggys (mud roads - conditions poor...platform kept feet less muddy).

Earlier Anglican Church

Miss Gordon married in 1908 - house purchased before marriage burnt 1907 by sparks from Grauer shingle mill (northern tip of Lulu Island on River Road) also Anglican Church where Miss Gordon attended a wedding of a nurse, Miss Grouse, to Mr. Lee from Stevenston.

Presbyterian Church

- Had Mission Band
- C.G.I.T.
- Glee Club

McBinns, MacDonald, Millers - neighbours and friends of Miss Gordon. Attended picnics. Mrs. Miller would hold some parties, charades and dances. Mr. Hall played piano for these dances.

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After marriage, continued going to Presbyterian Church. Older son baptised there by Rev. Logan, but younger son baptised by Rev. White. Sons started Sunday School at the Richmond Methodist Church, Cambie & River Roads, built in 1891. Mrs. Hall had attended opening ceremony with her mother on the invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Thompson. Drove in Thompson's "democrat".

Richmond Methodist Church nearer and accessible by walking. First minister recalled was Reverend A. E. Green. Others were:-

- Rev. Baer
- Rev. S.I. Green (in office in time of her marriage)
- Rev. Manuel
- Rev. J. Wesley Miller (1924-1928) - took service of funeral for Mrs. Hall's son
- Rev. Nixon (1919-1924) - had invited the Hall's to belong to the Methodist Church in 1924.

Union of Church

No congregationalists in Richmond then, but Presbyterians & Methodists united in 1925 to form Richmond United Church. Congregation of earlier-mentioned Presbyterian Church had moved to Marpole then, but those Richmond residents wishing to save the journey came to Richmond United Church, burnt down in 1933. Mr. Hall bought the organ from the old church for \$50.00 and Mrs. Hall still has possession of the four-legged stool (at Campbell River with son).

New Building in Richmond United

Mrs. Hall & Mrs. Cooney attended sod-turning ceremony.