

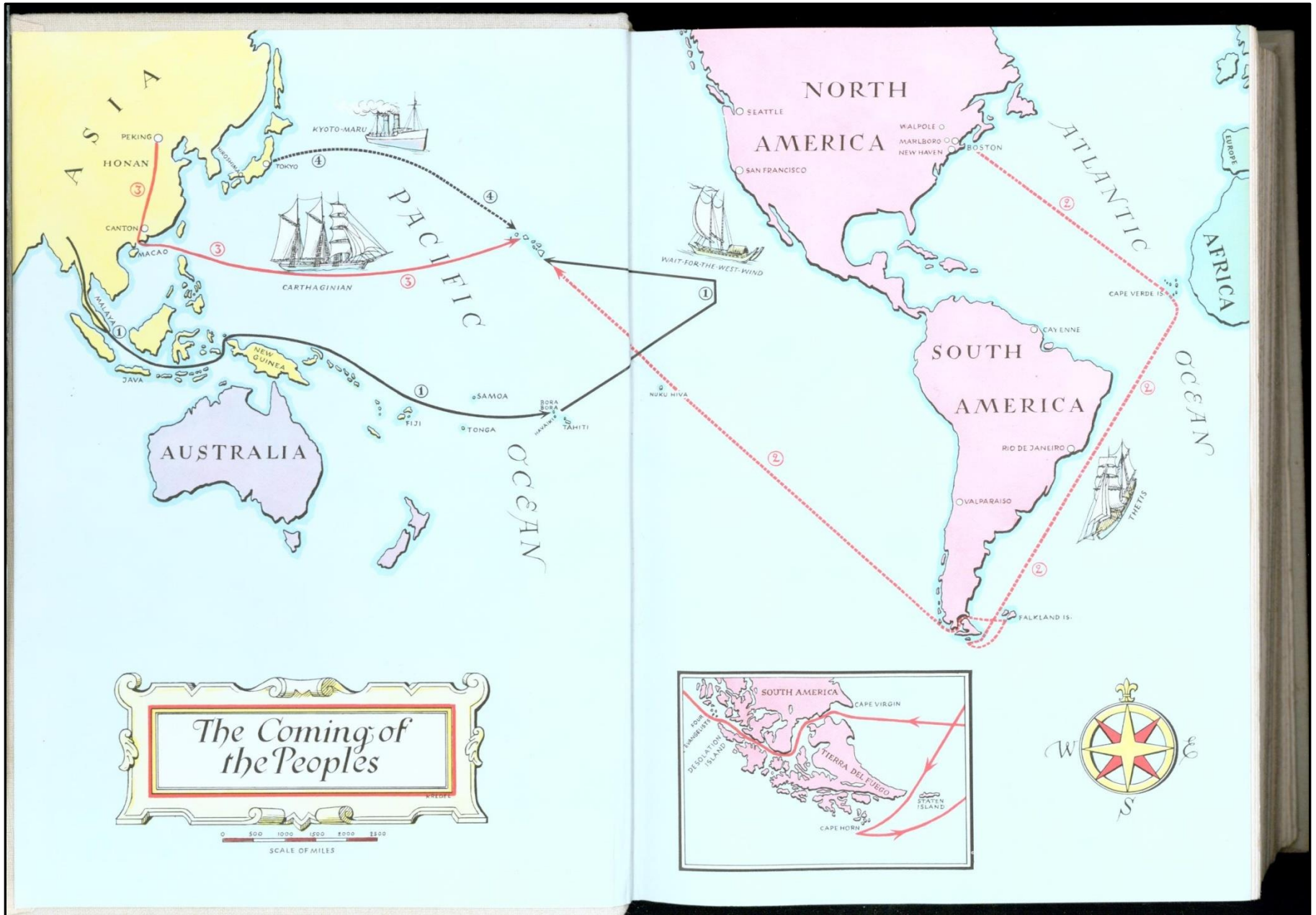
Re:Locating the orchards of Victoria, BC Engaging with the past to impact the future



Contents

- **Why?**
- **What? / How?**
- **Lessons learned / limitations of data**
- **Future**

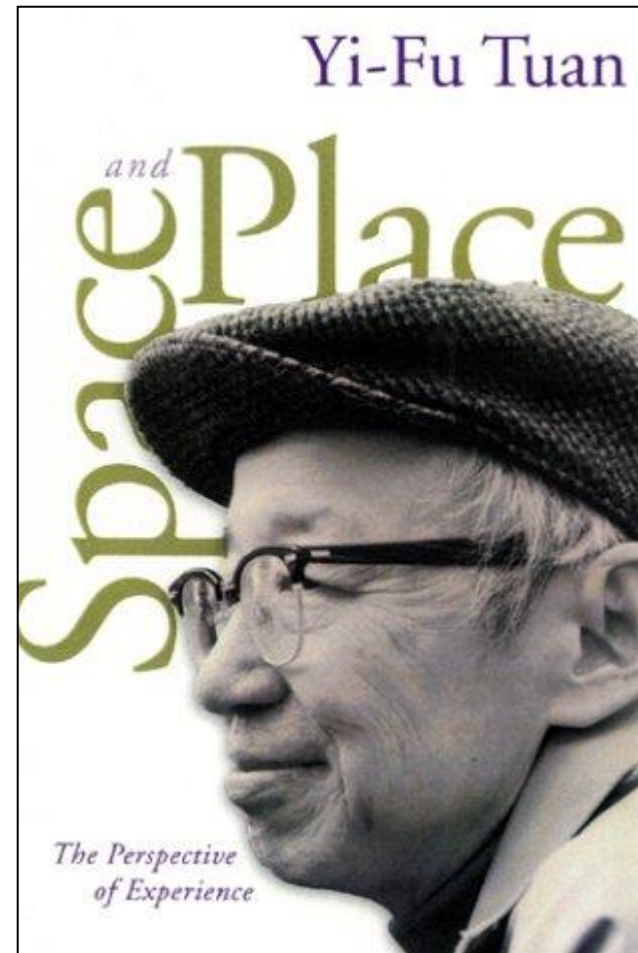
Hawaii



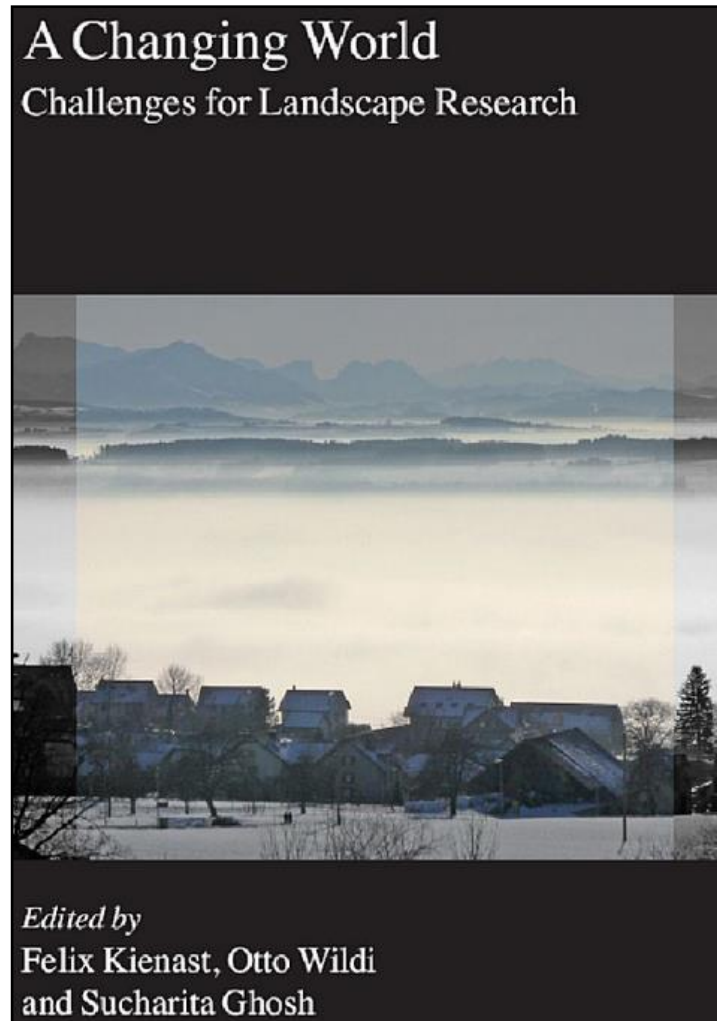
framework

**“To know a place is also to know the past.
Place...is the past and the present...Every row of trees...”**

Yi-Fu Tan, 1975. Place: An Experiential Perspective. *Geographical Review* 65(2)



“...the general public, planners, politicians, land managers, ecological modelers, and restoration ecologists are just some of the potential users of landscape history.”



2007



**“...landscapes, and their attendant agricultural and food systems,
are a common heritage to us all.”**

Jules Pretty (2002)

framework (con't)

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

George Santayana, *The Life of Reason*, Volume 1, 1905

framework (con't)

But...

If we insist that “...the history of geography must be explored in order to throw light upon the contemporary...[this] is a way of avoiding looking in the most obvious places.

The best place to start is...here and now.”

Barnett, C. (1995). Awakening the dead: who needs the history of geography? *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 20(4), 417-419.

framework (con't)

“...previous experience suffuses all present perception.

We need to be sure that we are dealing with the actual past, not with a modern simulacrum.

All the lineaments of the present are historical, yet they are continuously reborn in the minds of every culture and of every generation.”

Lowenthal, D. (1975). Past time, present place: landscape and memory. *Geographical Review*, 1-36.

The past I have re-constructed is through my eyes.

some have written about Vancouver Island's **native vegetation landscape**

Bjorkman, A. D. (2008). *Changes in the landscape and vegetation of southeastern Vancouver Island and Saltspring Island, Canada since European settlement* (MA, UBC).

Bjorkman, A. D., & Vellend, M. (2010). Defining historical baselines for conservation: ecological changes since European settlement on Vancouver Island, Canada. *Conservation Biology*, 24(6), 1559-1568.

Gedalof, Z. E., Pellatt, M., & Smith, D. J. (2006). From prairie to forest: three centuries of environmental change at Rocky Point, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. *Northwest Science*, 80(1), 34-46.

McCune, J. L. (2013). *The long-term history of plant communities on southeastern Vancouver Island based on vegetation resurveys and phytolith analysis*. PhD diss, UBC.

some have written about Vancouver Island's **native food plants**

Turner, N. C., & Bell, M. A. (1971). The ethnobotany of the coast Salish Indians of Vancouver Island. *Economic Botany*, 25(1), 63-99.

Turner, N. J., & Kuhnlein, H. V. (1983). Camas (*Camassia* spp.) and riceroot (*Fritillaria* spp.): two liliaceous “root” foods of the Northwest Coast Indians. *Ecology of Food and Nutrition*, 13(4), 199-219.

Turner, N. J. (1995). *Food plants of coastal First Peoples*. UBC Press.

some have written about Victoria's **native vegetation**

McMinn et al. (1973). Native vegetation. In Stanley-Jones & Benson, Eds. *An Inventory of land resources and resource potentials in the Capital Regional District*. Canadian Forestry Service.

Senyk, J.P. (1973). Tree cover types. In Stanley-Jones & Benson, Eds. *An Inventory of land resources and resource potentials in the Capital Regional District*. Canadian Forestry Service.

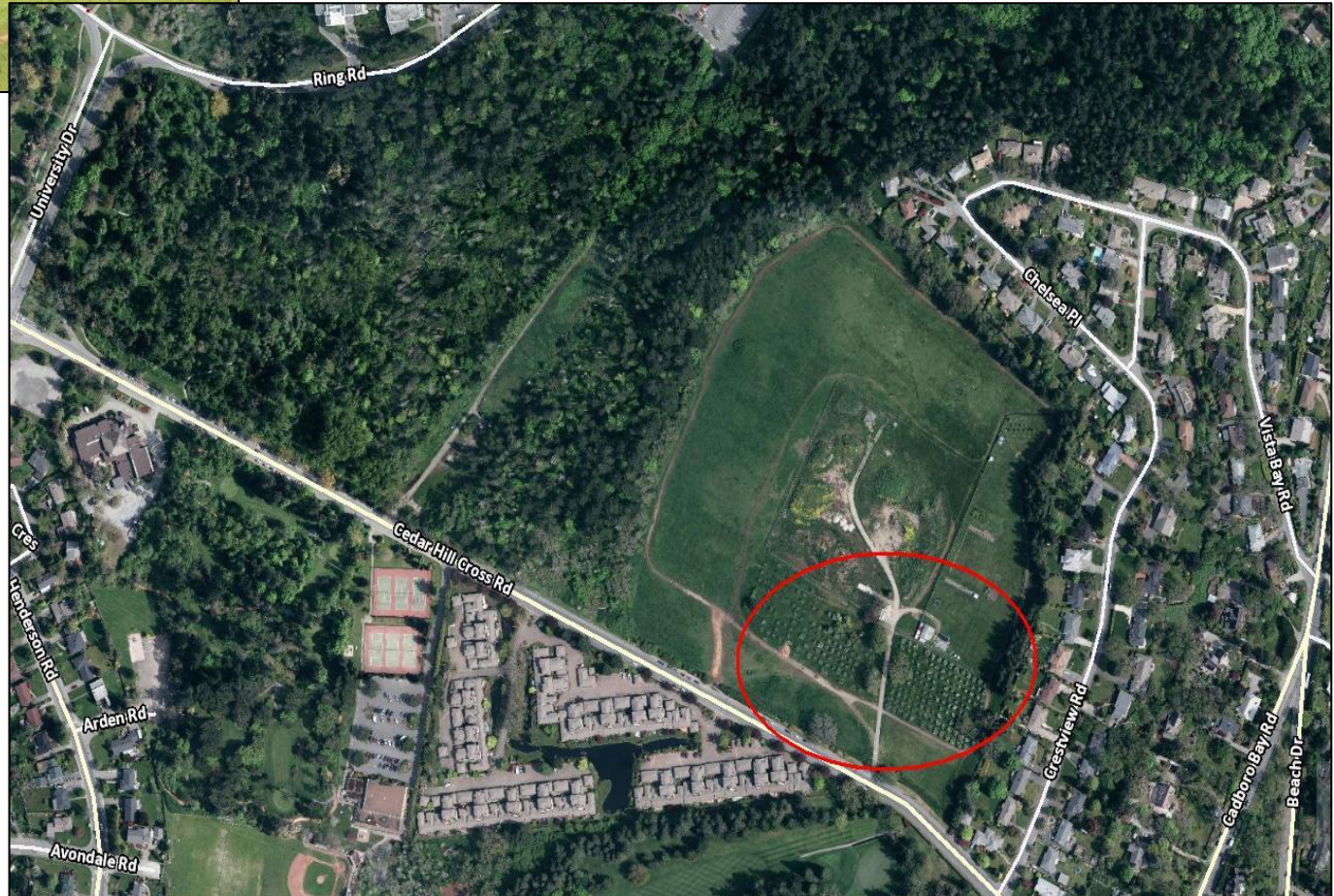
McMinn et al. (1976). *Native vegetation in British Columbia's Capital Regional District*. Environment Canada, Forestry Service.

Schaefer, V. Ed. *Biodiversity in Greater Victoria*, 1993

Why? Curiosity...



UVic CJNI lands (dog park)



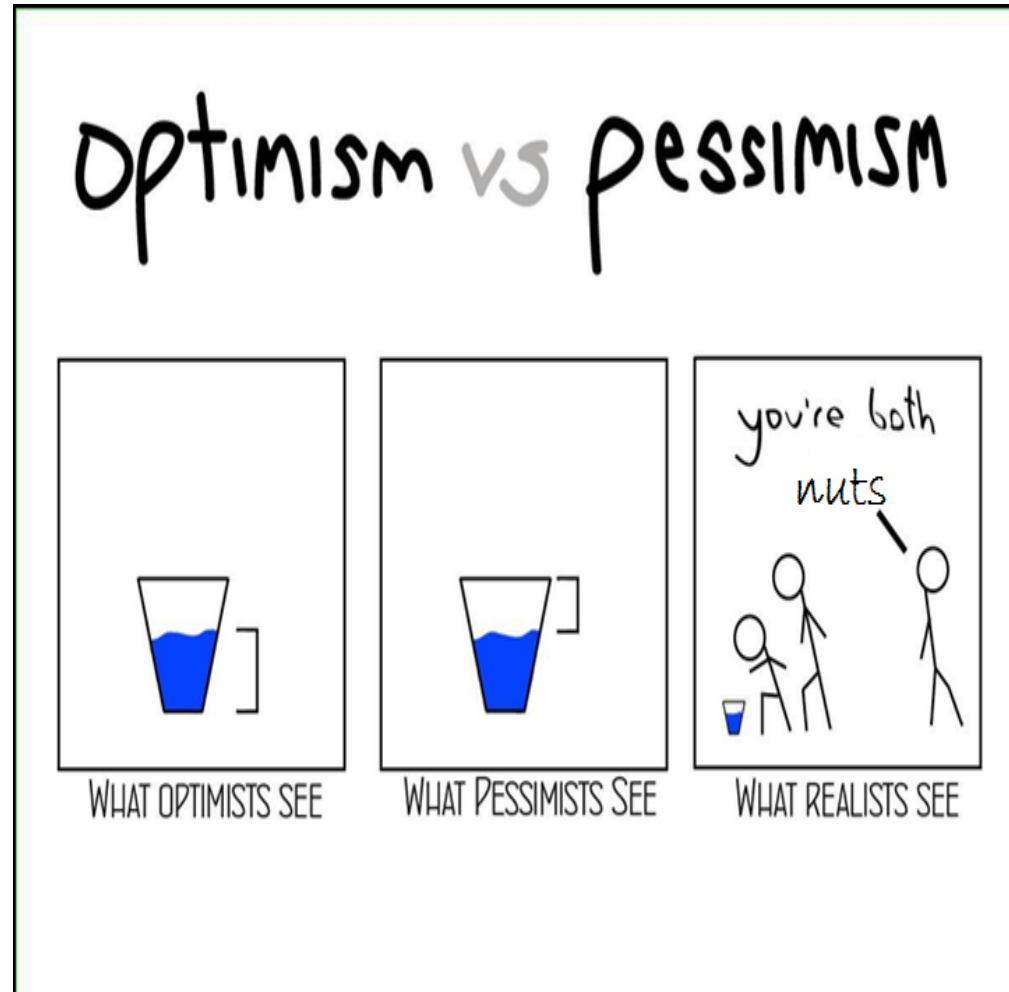


Why?

- provide sense of past
- community engagement
- 20 yards local food
- food bank
- tree pruners

- loss of trees and forests

- planting new fruit trees
- **Fruit Tree Project**



"regular spacing and alignment of trees..."



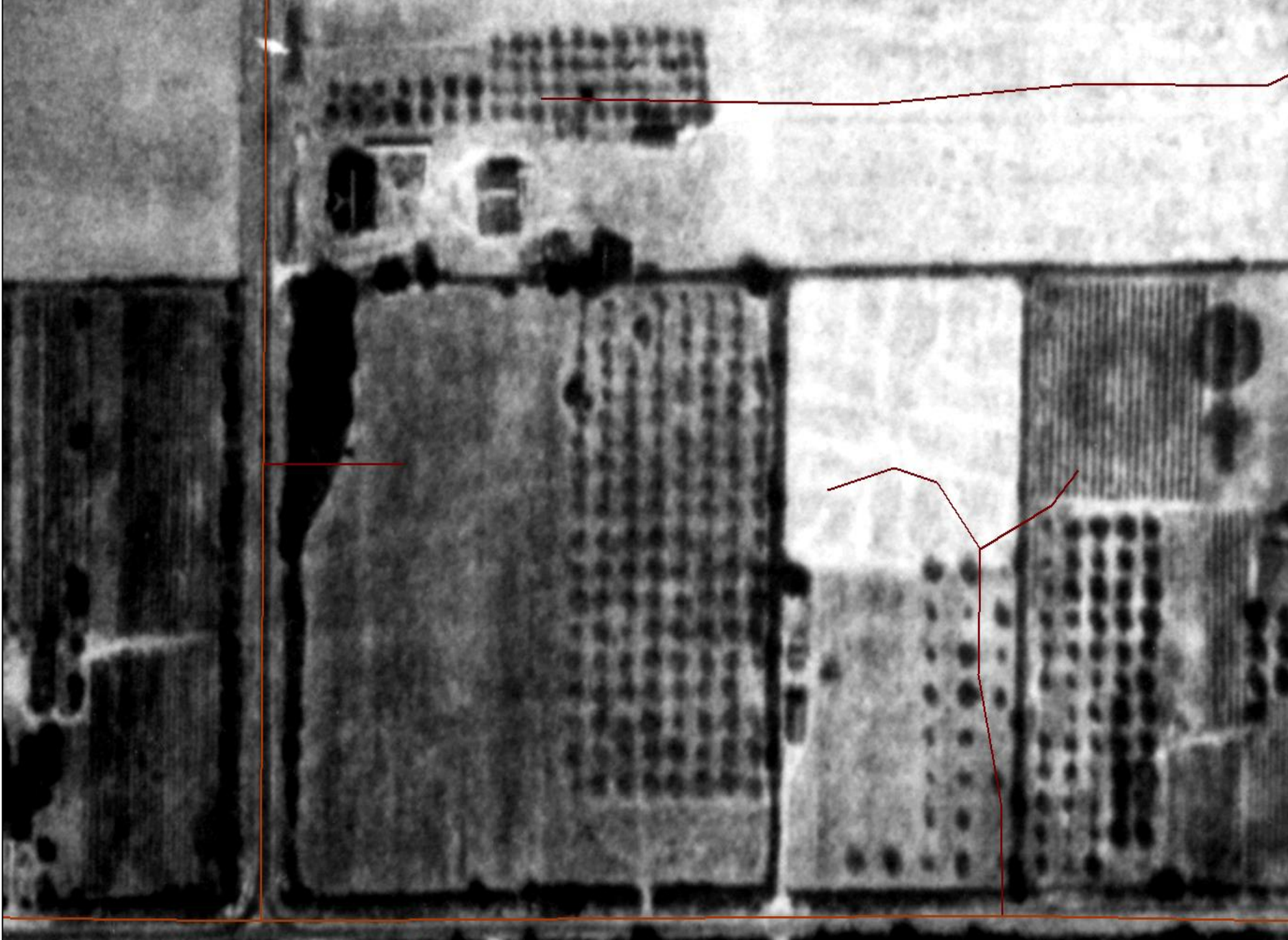
Shelbourne Valley from Mt.Tolmie (1908)
Saanich Archives Photo 1989-008-175



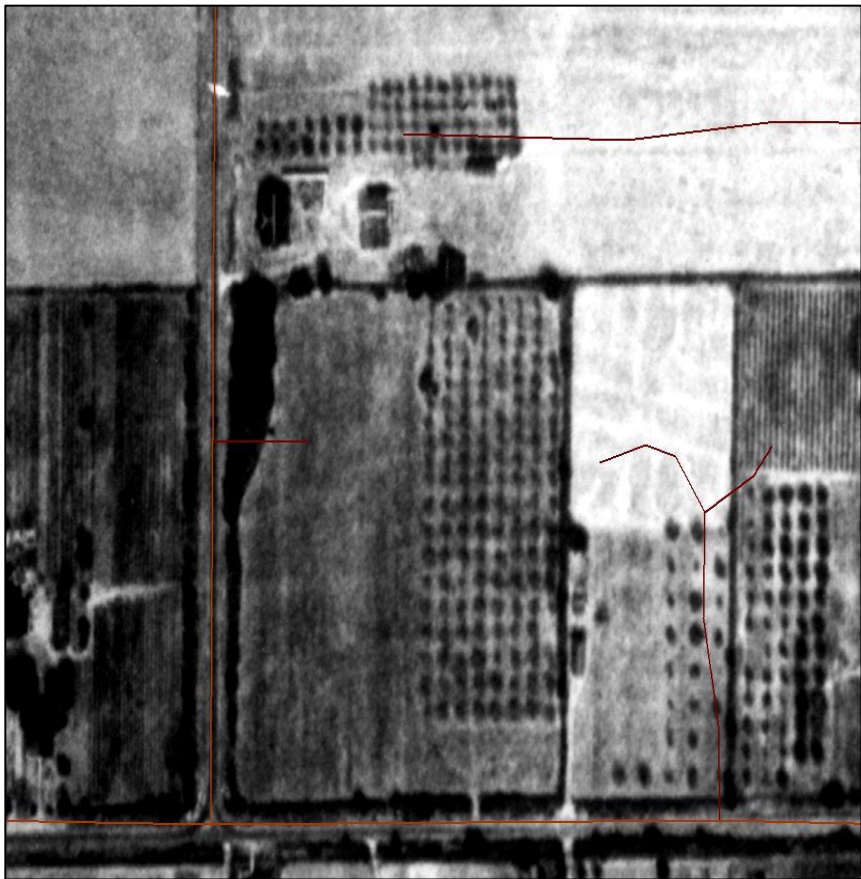
Mt. Tolmie

A227-70 (1928)

"...near human occupancy..."
Aerial Photography and Image Interpretation
(Paine & Kiser, 2012)

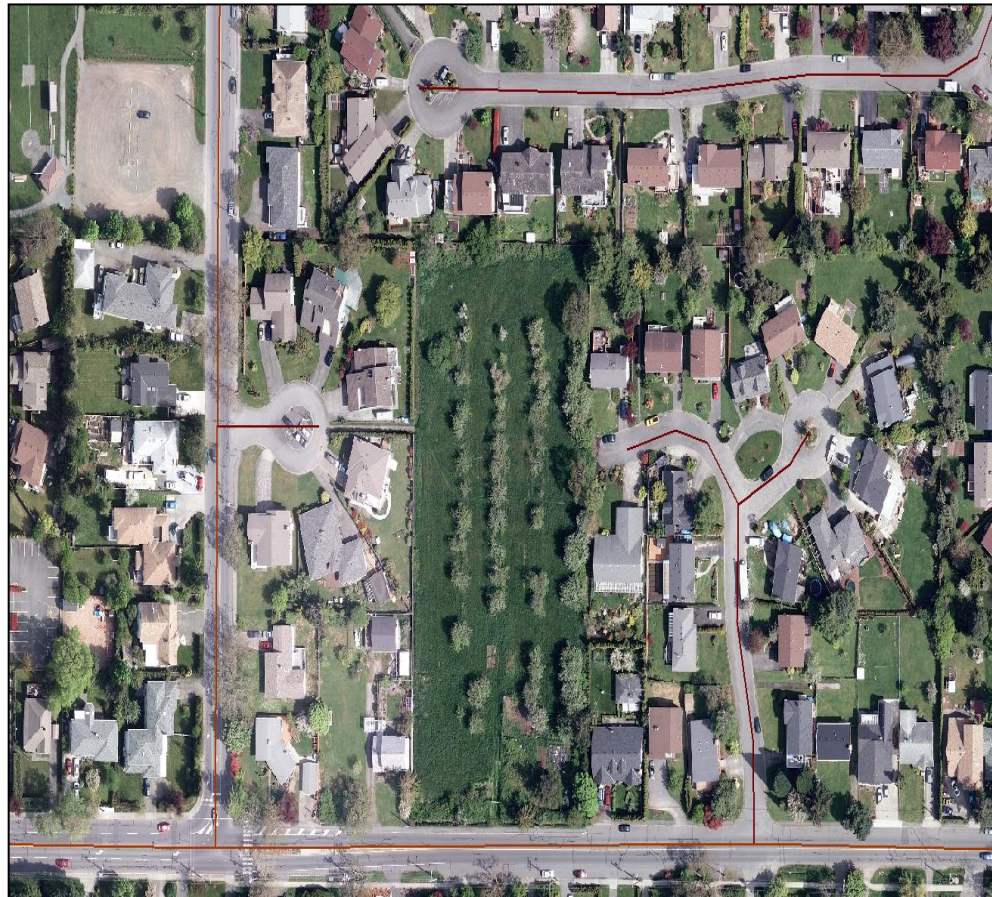




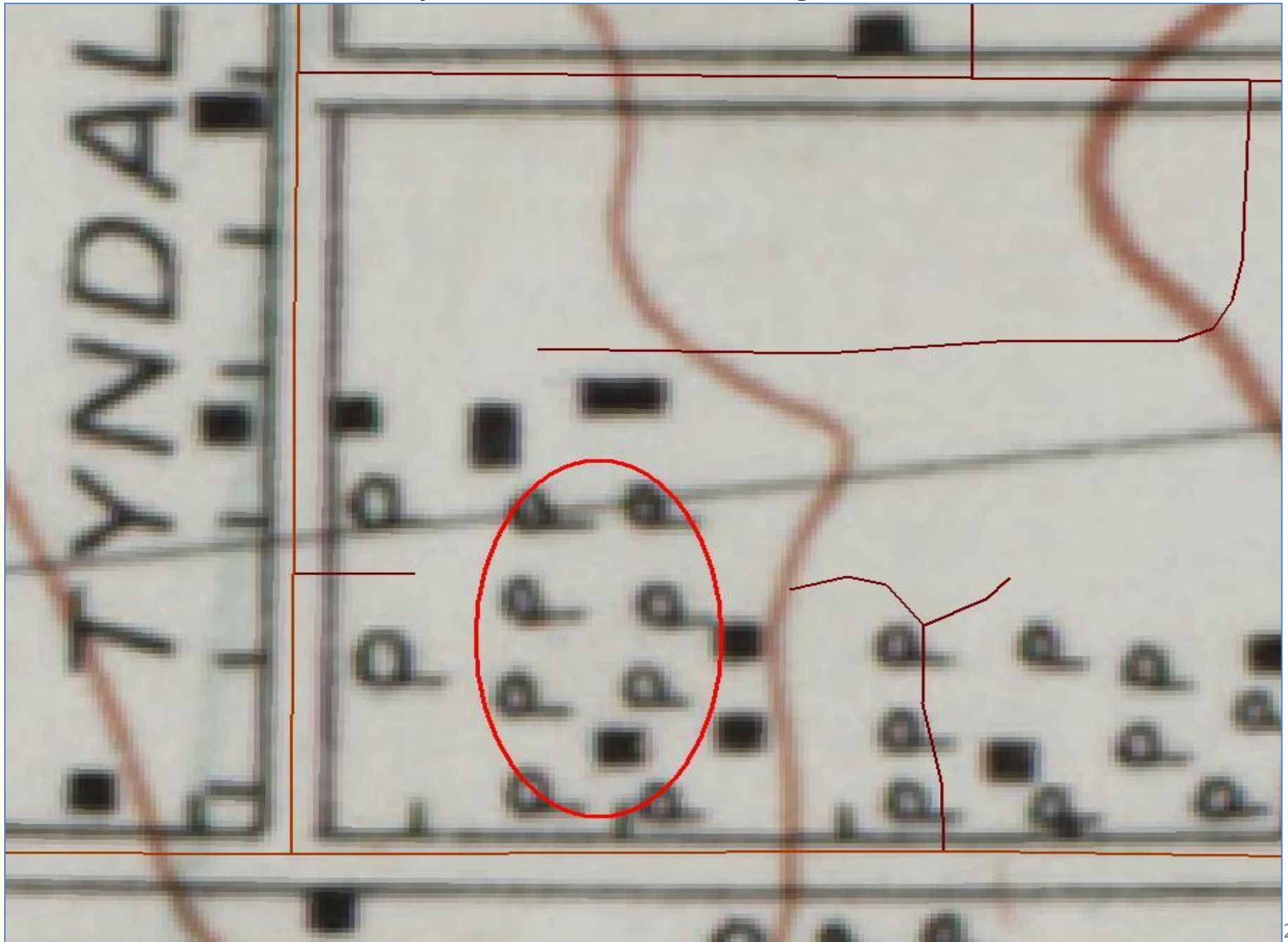


BA24-37

Gordonhead, Saanich neighbourhood



1934 map Gordonhead, Saanich neighbourhood

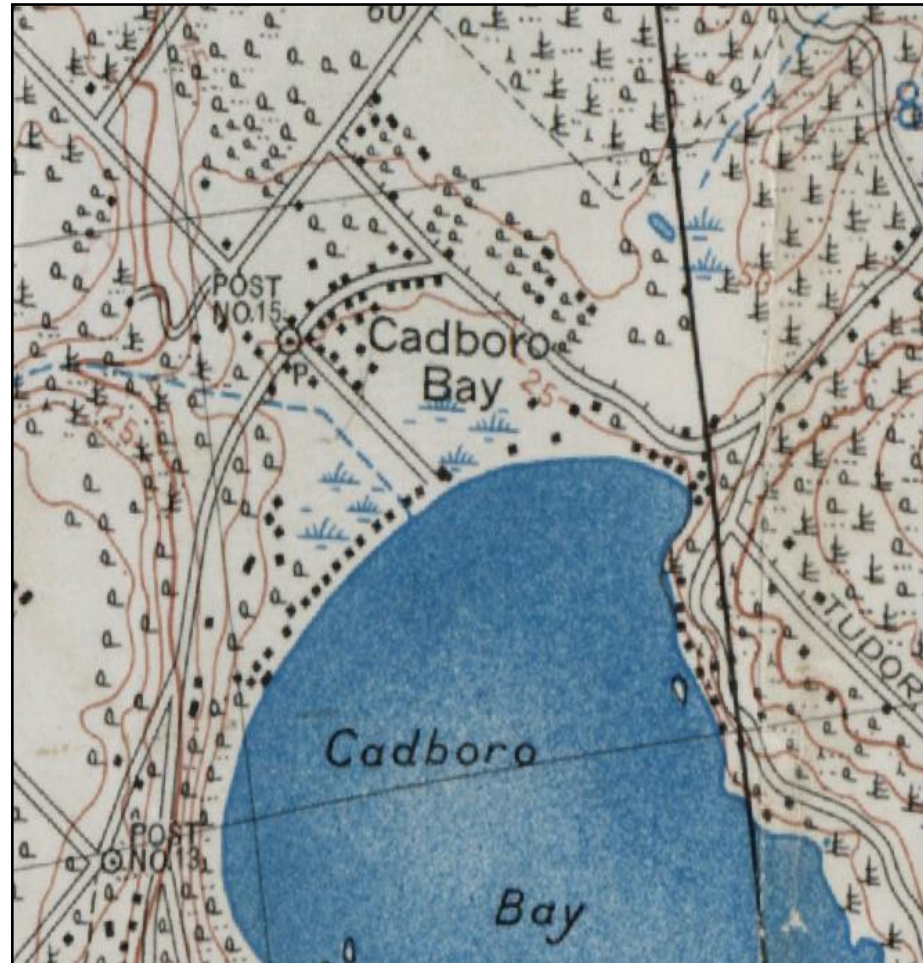


How? Hundreds of aerial photos: 1926 and 1928



A227-65 1928

1934 map





BA25-48 1926

1934 map



some fieldwork



A229-24, 1928



Canada Census of Agriculture

1881: Victoria (also included Esquimalt & Metchosin)

Gardens & Orchards: 484 acres; 13148 bushels of apples

344 acres in Okanagan; 1711 bushels of apples

1891: Victoria (also included Esquimalt & Metchosin)

Gardens & Orchards: 999 acres; 13257 bushels of apples

334 acres in Okanagan; 8728 bushels of apples

Canada Census of Agriculture

(“It is not possible to make an accurate comparison of the...area of land occupied in 1891 and 1901 for agricultural purposes...” 1901 Census of Canada)

1901: Victoria (also included Esquimalt & Metchosin)

Orchards: 424 acres; 12,806 Apple bearing trees;

2136 acres; 46,413 trees in Yale-Cariboo (included Okanagan)

1911: Victoria & Saanich (Saanich part of Nanaimo Electoral District)

Orchard and Nursery: 1357 acres

12,262 acres

Canada Census of Agriculture

1921: Victoria & Saanich

Orchards: 757 acres (no vineyards)

15,692 acres in Okanagan

1931: Esquimalt, Saanich & unorganised areas (North Saanich?)

Orchards and vineyards: 1350 acres

22,444 acres in Okanagan-Similkameen

1941: Saanich & unorganised areas (North Saanich?)

Orchards and vineyards: 378 acres: 72% decrease from 1931

26,297 acres in Okanagan-Similkameen

A226-62 Fernwood, 1928



Canada Census of Agriculture

**2001: Capital Region District (CRD): apples, apricots, cherries, peaches, plums
120 acres (producing and non-producing)**

**2011: Capital Region District (CRD): apples, apricots, cherries, peaches, plums
346 acres (producing and non-producing)
65% increase from 2001**

Make public?

At minimum,

want users to be able to click on / off layers of the:

- **historic air photos**
- **1934 Victoria map**
- **current roads / streets**

Remember UVic lands...



UVic CJVI lands (dog park)



...limitations of using earliest air photos



UVic CJVI farm land: *BC2042-55*, 1956

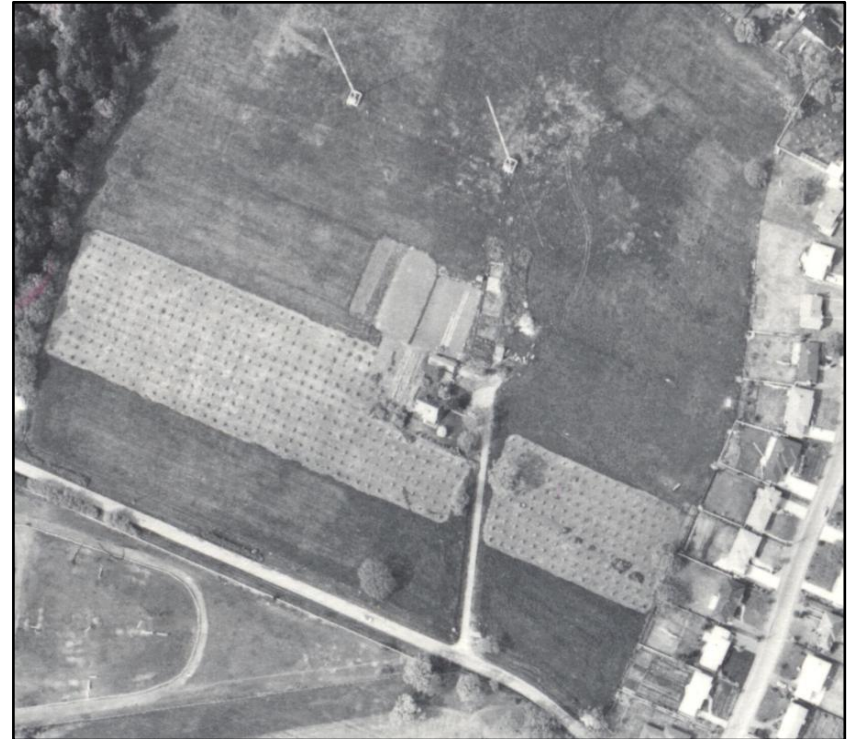


no orchard yet in 1956

UVic CJNI farm land: BC5091-266, 1964

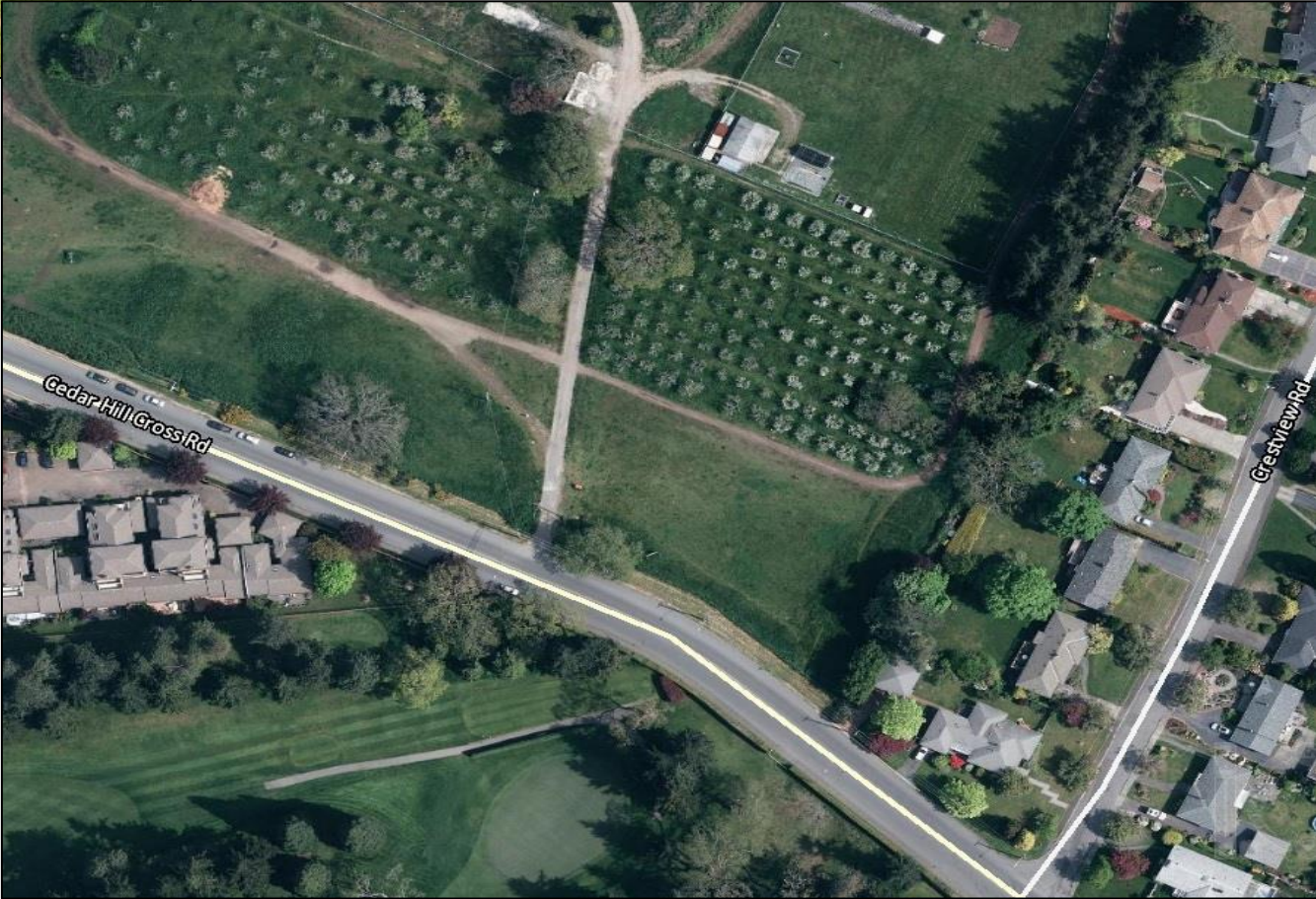


orchard planted between 1956 & 1964





UVic CJVI lands (dog park)





Plant-a-Fruit-Tree-Day
 (a celebration of National Tree Day)

Free to attend!

- Mini How-to Workshops
- Fruit & Nut Tree Sales
- Planting of Fernwood Orchard
- Live Music + Food Trucks

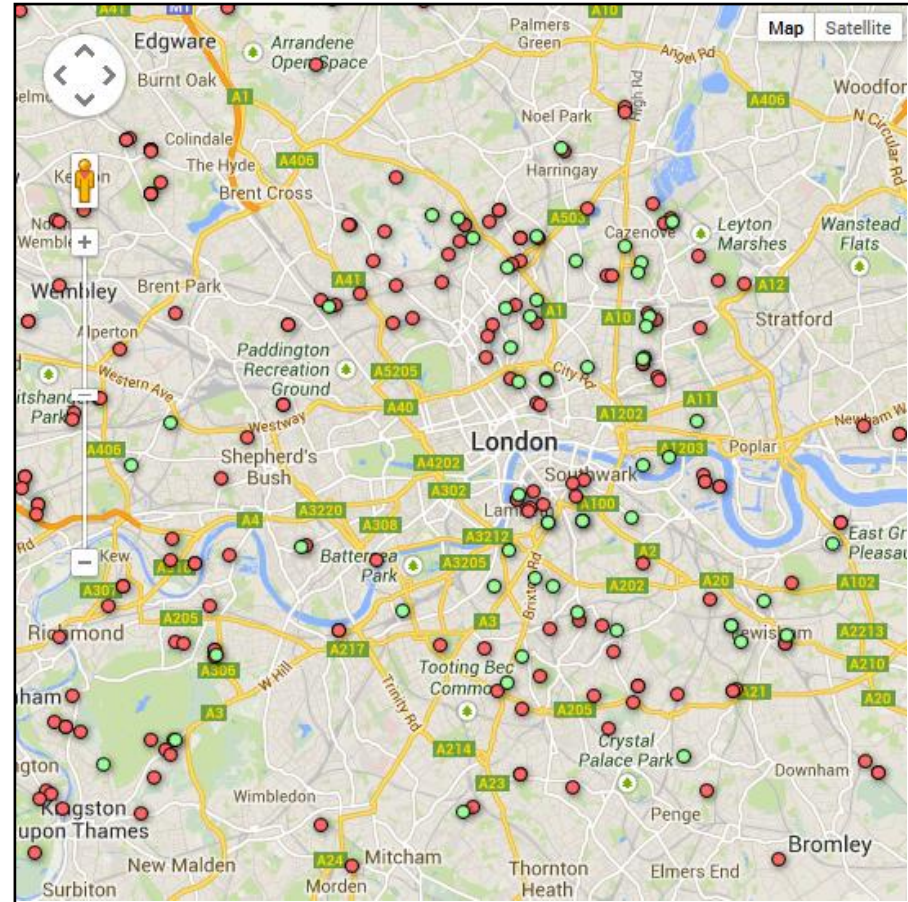
at the
Fernwood Community Centre

Followed with a talk by Seann Dony of
 Sole Food Farms - Vancouver | Tickets \$20

September 28, 2013
 10am-4pm

Fernwood NRG
 Your Neighbourhood Resource Group

London Community Education Centre



Feb. 22, 2014
Fruit tree pruning clinic
Royal Roads University

**“...You always said people don’t do what they believe in,
they just do what’s most convenient,
then they repent...”**

Brownsville Girl

Bob Dylan, Sam Shepard



community partnership



Home	Initiatives	Resources	Get Involved	About Us	Contact Us
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[Home](#) - [Initiatives](#) - [Fruit Tree Project](#)

LifeCycles Fruit Tree Project

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and a couple of ladders, the Fruit Tree Project harvests apples, cherries, pears, and other fruit from privately owned trees that would otherwise go to waste. We then share the harvest among homeowners, volunteers, food banks, and community organizations within Victoria. A unique aspect of this project is that a portion of the harvest is set aside to make value-added products that help defray our costs.

Last season our fantastic volunteers and tree owners made it possible for us to collect and redistribute over 39,000 lbs of fruit that would have otherwise gone to waste.

Another season is upon us! Please join us again



NewsLetter Signup

Subscribe



Register
Your Trees

If you are a **TREE OWNER** with fruit to share, please use our [online form](#) to register your fruit tree(s) for picking from July 1 until October 31.

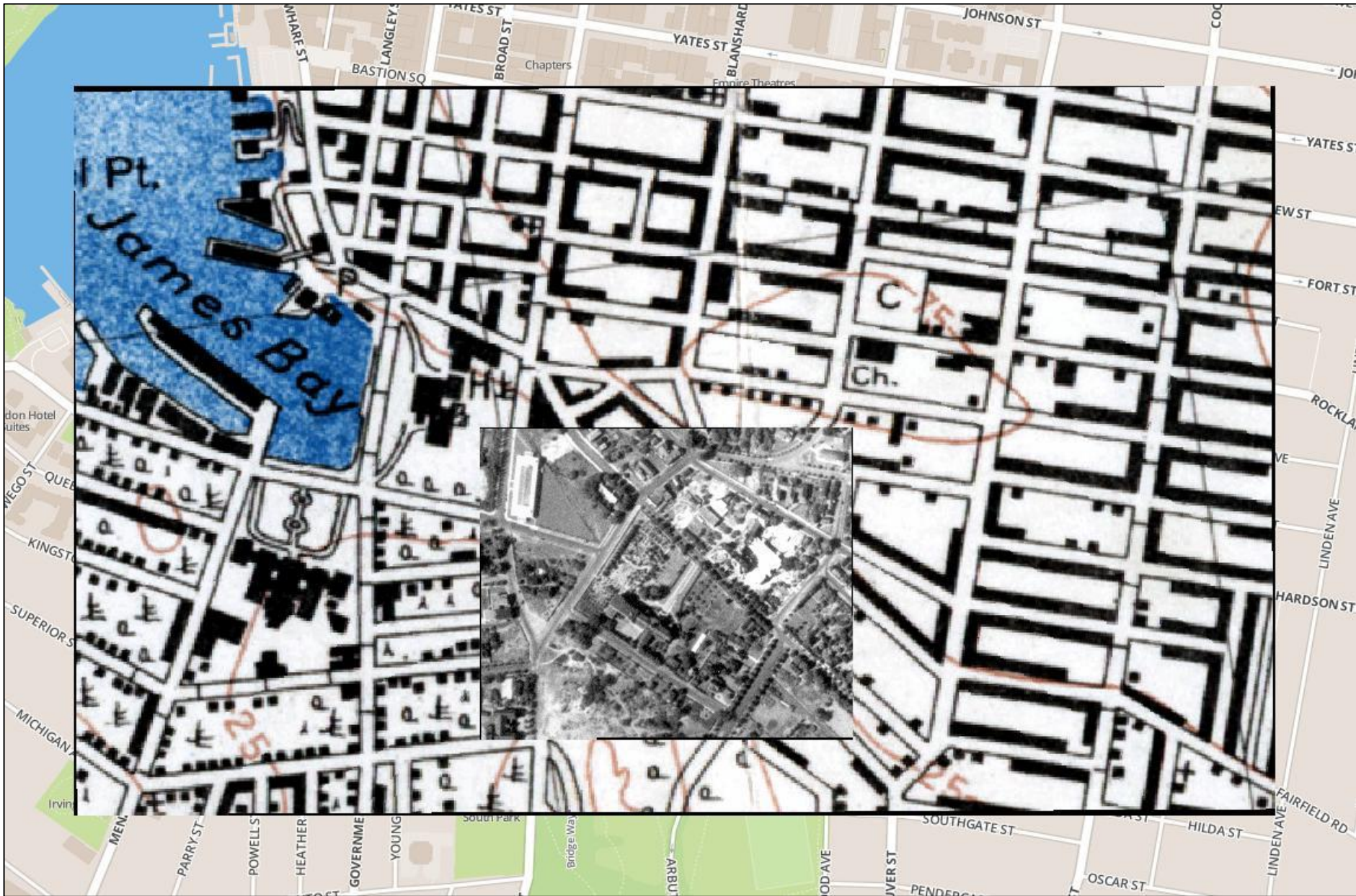
PLEASE NOTE: We do our very best to accommodate and meet everyone's needs but are not always able to pick every single tree. We will call homeowners to confirm our arrival time if and when a picking team has been arranged to pick your fruit. Thank you for your patience and support for this important and innovative project!

Volunteer
For Picks

If you are a **VOLUNTEER** with a few hours a week to spare between July and the end of October, we will need Fruit Pickers (lots) , Tree Assessors, and Office Volunteers (4 max.).

New volunteers: Use our [online form](#) to sign up.
Registered volunteers: [Sign up](#) for Picks





must use these browsers: Firefox, GoogleChrome, IE10+, Opera, Safari

“Place...is sustained...by the quality of human awareness.”



Yi-Fu Tan, 1975. Place: An Experiential Perspective. *Geographical Review* 65(2)

Selected References

Barnett, C. 1995. Awakening the dead: who needs the history of geography? *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 20 (4).

Census of Canada: Agriculture. 1881 – 2011. Ottawa.

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Paine, D.P. & Kiser, J.D. 2012. *Aerial photography and image interpretation*, 3rd ed. Wiley: Hoboken, NJ.

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Winter, M. 2003. Geographies of food: Agro-food geographies—making reconstructions. *Progress in Human Geography* 27(4).

Yi-Fu Tan. 1975. Place: An Experiential Perspective. *Geographical Review* 65(2).