

Bas's Place

Bas Collins, the West Vancouver Police and Fire Archivist, is a collector of West Van oral history and memorabilia. He loaned the Historical Society many important items for our recent exhibition



at the West Van Museum. In the last two issues we highlighted some of his archival material. In this issue we add two more. Photos are by John Moir.

Top Photo:

A brass tail light fueled by coal oil from a 1909 Everitt, a touring car belonging to **Herbert Murray** who lived at 2451 Palmerston in a house he built in 1920. His daughter Marjorie lived there until her death at the age of 90 in 2001.

The green lens indicated that it was safe to pass on the right side. In 1922, when the driving changed from the left to the right side, these lights could no longer be used.

Lower Photo:

Frank Payson Colpitts owned the tools in this picture. He moved to the West Van portion (a community of barely 12 homes) of North Van in 1910. He joined the newly formed Board of Works. He used these tools to help construct the first ferry wharf at Dunderave and later the second one at Ambleside. He also used these tools to help construct the West Van Ferry Building and the commemorative arch at Marine Drive entrance to West Van at the Capilano River.

He and his wife Janet had 6 daughters and 2 sons. He worked for the Municipality and the School Board. He retired from the school board post in 1954 but worked for it part time until 1955. He died in 1961 at age 81.

