



Photo by Deborah Turpin

Joan Smith



Photo by Deborah Turpin

Ross Penhall



Photo by Deborah Turpin

Damian George

Through his investigations, George realized that this area was a gathering place for many types of wildlife that were vital to the survival of his ancestors. George views the park as part of his ancestral home, a distinct component of his heritage, and uses depictions of the deer to translate the site's importance for him.

The twelve artists have each endeavoured to define a sense of place through art and the medium of printmaking. In defining a sense of place, they have personified their vision of the uniqueness and cultural importance of each site. For them, these places signify many things, including memory, creation, serenity, adventure, and life. Their work, which has been influenced by the historical, social, and cultural importance of their subject matter, is a testament to the value of these sites and what they represent to each community. By looking into the past and translating those histories, through art, these

artists have, for the moment, defined what the North Shore means to them and for this time. As part of the Visions of The North Shore quest, the next stage of the project is to challenge residents of and visitors to the North Shore to view these images and visit each of these culturally significant sites. If successful, each person will re-examine his or her surrounding environments and their vibrant histories, redefining what the North Shore means to each and what it could mean to future generations.

In trying to define and synthesize what "place" is for the North Shore, perhaps the best word to use is "home": a space that respects its past, that is alive, grows, changes, and evolves. The North Shore is home.

The first venue for the exhibition of the prints will be at the West Vancouver Museum & Archives as part of a show titled Reflections of Place: North Shore Inspirations. This exhibition will

be on display from July 1 to December 16, 2000.

For more information on the Visions of the North Shore Project, please contact the Visions sponsoring agency, the North Vancouver Community Arts Council, at 988-6224 or 988-6844 or e-mail visions@telus.net

Visions of the North Shore is a major tri-municipal art and heritage program presented in partnership with the Canada Millennium Partnership Program and the British Columbia Community Spirit Program. A dozen selected artists have interpreted 12 historical sites chosen for their natural and cultural significance to the City of North Vancouver and the districts of West and North Vancouver. The project strives to encompass the past through site research, the present through the imagination of how the chosen artists view the communities today, and the future through children's educational programs.

LEFT: Historical photo of the foot of 17th St., now John Lason Park. c1947

Photo courtesy of West Vancouver Museum & Archives RAH 447
RIGHT: Portion of print by Ross Penhall

