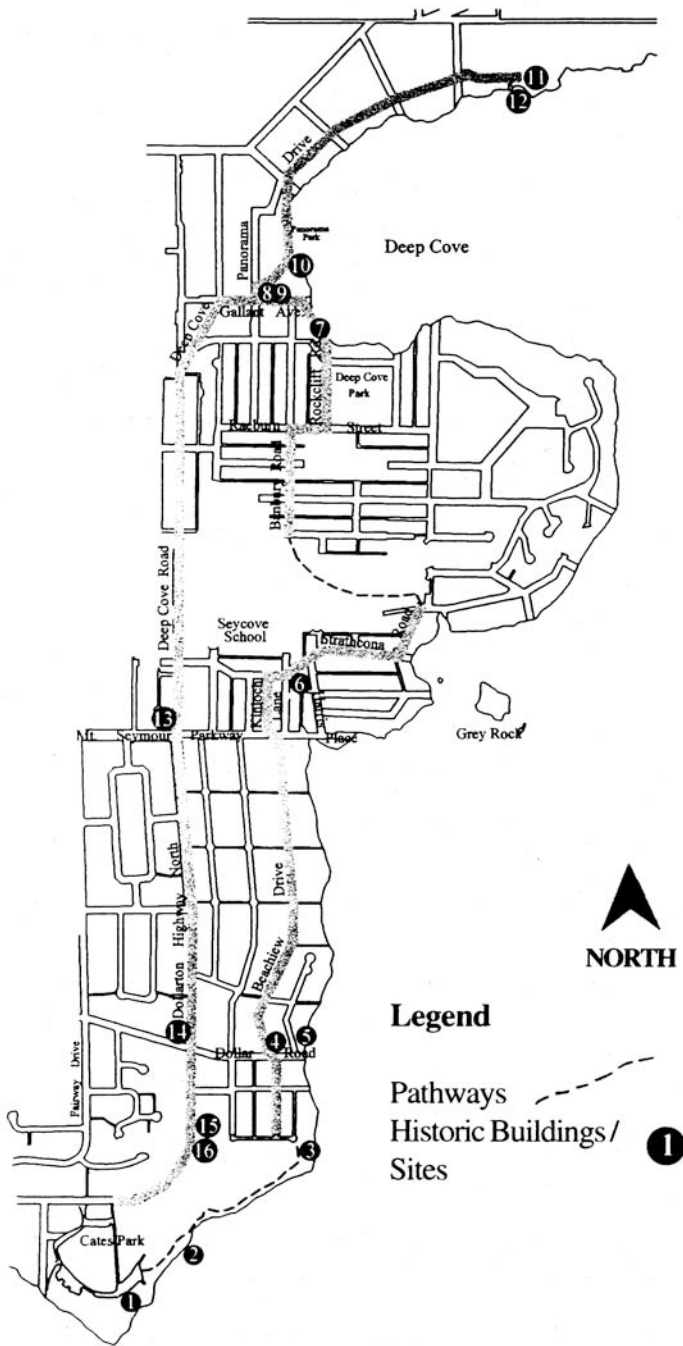


Heritage Walking Tour

Walking Tour

Deep Cove



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The Walking Tour of Historic Deep Cove and its Neighbourhoods

in North Vancouver

1. War canoe, Tsleil-Waututh (Burrard Inlet Band)*
 2. Malcolm Lowry plaque, approximate location of his squatter's shack*
 3. Vancouver Cedarside Mill burner base*
 4. Dollar Mill office, 518 Beachview*
 5. Dollar Mill approximate location
 6. Log cabin of the Gillis family and first Strathcona store
 7. Corfield's dance hall
 8. Moore's original homestead and store, 1919*
 9. Deep Cove Cultural Centre (Moore homestead)*
 10. Deep Cove Yacht Club*
 11. Quarries Lodge
 12. Seycove Marina*
 13. Moore family second homestead and store
 14. Roche Point one room school, 1917
 15. Stirrat store site
 16. Cummins store site
- * symbol means site existing

We invite you to take a self-guided tour of our beautiful and interesting area. You can start at either Cates Park or Deep Cove. There are washrooms in Cates Park, Myrtle Park and Panorama Park. The round trip will take you about one and a half hours, and is approximately 7km (4.5 miles). A shorter 2km. (1-1/4 mile) route is available by starting in Deep Cove to Myrtle Park, loop through Myrtle Park to hook up with Banbury and follow the map back to the Cultural Centre.

1. Tsleil-Waututh translates to "People of the Inlet." Galiano was the first white man to travel Indian Arm in 1792 and wrote in his journals about seeing natives in the area. First Nations people traveled up and down the Arm hunting and fishing. One of the most famous members of the Burrard Band was Chief Dan George who gained fame as an humanitarian promoting Indian rights. He also became a film star in his role as a Cheyenne Chief in the movie Little Big Man.

Take a Walk Through Yesterday ~ historic Deep Cove and its neighbourhood

2. Poet and novelist Malcolm Lowry and his wife Margerie lived on and off in a squatters' shack from 1940 to 1954. During that time Lowry became friends with Earle Birney, Canadian poet, novelist and academic who owned a shack three doors east of Lowry. Both men won Governor General's Awards: Lowry, for his novel Under the Volcano, and Birney twice, for his poetry. Birney also won the Stephen Leacock Medal for humour for his novel Turvey. Squatters' shacks were first evident in the 1930s along the beaches of Roche Point, housing the Dollar Mill workers and people left destitute by The Depression. The last of the 25 shacks were demolished in 1958 by the District of North Vancouver.



3. Two big lumber mills existed in the vicinity by 1919. The cement formation ("the Fort") is the burner base from the Vancouver Cedarside Mill, whose parent company was in False Creek, Vancouver. The mill existed until 1929.

4. Little remains of the once thriving lumber industry in our neighbourhoods. This private residence which was the Dollar Mill office is one of our best visual memories of those days. Scattered along the streets beside Little Cates Park are some small cottages that housed the millworkers.



Photo 519

5. The Dollar Mill existed from 1917 to 1943. It was a very modern mill and shipped lumber all over the world. Robert Dollar built a small community around the mill site, complete with a school, post office, community hall and store. The site became known as Dollar's Town, or Dollarton, by which it is still known today.



Photo 629

6. In the late 1920s, Jack and Christina Gillis bought four lots on Harris Avenue for \$20.00 each. They felled the trees from Keith Hill (now Mount Seymour Parkway) and Jack built their log house "The Homestead." With the increase in summer visitors in the 1920s, Mrs. Gillis began selling bread and milk from the front room. Across the street she later started the Strathcona store which remained until it was torn down in 2005.



Photo 041

7. The dance hall was built in the late 1920s by Mr. and Mrs. Corfield. The surrounding gardens were beautifully landscaped with a terraced lawn to the beach, fish pools and an aviary. A teahouse was on the top floor of the building and rowboat rentals on the bottom floor. The hall boasted a dance floor comparable to that of the Commodore Ballroom in Vancouver. On Saturday nights at 9 p.m. the roads and paths came alive with everyone making their way to the dance, and from the water came the sounds of oarlocks and canoe paddles as the whole of Indian Arm made its way to Corfield's to dance and listen to the big band music of professional orchestras.



8. The first permanent residents in Deep Cove were John and Rhoda Moore and their five children. In 1919 they bought two lots for \$15.00 each, cleared the land themselves and survived the first year on wild berries, fish caught in Deep Cove and clams from Roche Point. Then with nine children, they built their 14 room, 2 storey house/store when the eldest son, John Jr., secured a job at the Dollar Mill for 25 cents an hour. They opened the first store in the area for business in 1927 at the corner of Burns Avenue and Second Street, what is now Panorama Drive and Gallant Avenue.

9. The Deep Cove Cultural Centre opened on March 31, 1992, on the site of the Moore family's house/store. The Centre



houses the Deep Cove Heritage Society, Seymour Art Gallery and the Deep Cove Shaw Theatre with resident theatre groups Deep Cove Stage Society and First Impressions Theatre. It has a 130-seat theatre and an outdoor amphitheatre for summer concerts. The building is run and maintained entirely by volunteers.

10. The Deep Cove Yacht Club registered as a society in 1936 and took over the running of the summer regattas in 1938. During WWII, the club doubled as a school and home to the Ladies Air Raid Patrol and the Red Cross Auxiliary. In 1984 a new clubhouse was built. The notice board on the side of the front door is made from the floorboards of the original club.



Photo 627

11. Granite Quarries Limited 1908–1924, was located at the northeast of Deep Cove just below where Quarry Rock lookout is on the Baden-Powell trail. It was considered a "big operation" with all the high tech equipment of the day. In the summer of 1930 the renovated Granite Quarries bunkhouse and cookhouse opened as the Quarries Lodge serving afternoon teas and dinners and with rooms to let. The guesthouse was operated by Margaret George and her sons Art and David. They gained a good reputation for Art's chicken dinners and Margaret's delicious desserts.



Photo 282

12. When the Quarries Lodge closed in 1942, Art George turned his attention to the water taxi business and developing a marina, first known as the Deep Cove Marina, later as Seycove Marina. He has since sold it and a marina continues to operate at this site.

13. In the late 1930s, Mr. Moore after losing his home on Gallant Avenue, purchased some lots at the northwest corner of Mount Seymour Parkway and Deep Cove Road and once again the family



Photo 100

cleared the land and built a house and grocery store! This time he was very successful and lived there for years.

14. The one-room Roche Point school was built in 1917. Its students were the children of the millworkers at the Dollar Mill. A few families living in Deep Cove sent their children to it as well. The kids would row over and tie their boats at the Dollar Mill wharf or walk the 2-mile trail from Deep Cove to Dollarton. In 1926, due to a population increase, a second school was built beside it. Both schools were replaced by the Burrard View School in 1946.



Photo 137

15. In 1935, Robert Stirrat Jr. opened a grocery store across from the Dollar Mill called the Stirrat General Store. Robert Stirrat Jr., his wife Reta and children Robert and Marion lived in the back of the store. Robert Stirrat Sr. operated the grocery while Robert Jr. worked in downtown Vancouver. In 1949, Robert Jr. relocated the general store to Dollarton Highway not far from the Cummins' store where there was enough business for both stores to prosper.



Photo 576

16. One of the earliest Roche Point pioneers was Percy Cummins who lived in the area for 46 years working at the Dollar Mill, then running a dairy supplying milk to local businesses and later opening a grocery store which became the main stop for the first bus service in the area, Deep Cove Stages Limited. Percy was elected to council and was appointed to a special committee to help find employment for local men during The Depression. His idea (supported by Reeve Julius Martin Fromme) was to build a road to connect Dollarton to North Vancouver and Vancouver. This road became known as the Dollarton Highway.



Photo 215