

Gabriola placenames

The following is a partial list of place names, other than those of roads, creeks, wetlands, and coastal features. The names were at one time being collected for publication in *SHALE*.

Look here for [names of roads](#), including notes on subdivisions.

Look here for names associated with [parks and trails](#) and [here](#) for my personal notes on trails in the 707CP.

Look here for [names of coastal features](#) on Gabriola and nearby islands.

Look here for [names of creeks](#) and all kinds of wetlands on Gabriola.

Look here for [Snunéymux^w placenames](#) on Gabriola.

Place names in the book by Aula Bell and Neil Aitken, *Gabriola Island Place Names*, published in 1996 are listed here, but without the detail contained in the book. Names not in this book are in **red**.

Some of the links marked [notes](#) are from a local contemporary historian/blogger (gabriolore) and are replacement links for his site that has been unavailable, but is now [archived](#) here. Opinions expressed in those notes are those of the original poster and author.

ALPACA FARM

BEACON HILL

—old name from the 1930s. Back then it was a magnificent stand of old-growth hemlock. It is in the 707 Community Park.

BELVEDERE FARM

BLUE HERON COMMUNITY PARK

One of the Whalebone Drive set.

BLUEWHALE COMMUNITY PARK

One of the Whalebone Drive set.

BRICKYARD

—[notes](#).

BUDDHA CAVE

BURREN'S ACRES NATURE RESERVE

—the old diatomaceous earth mine drying area. [Notes](#).

CENTENNIAL PARK

—see Gabriola Centennial Park

CHATTERBOX CORNER

—Like Gossip Corner, a spot where people would gather while waiting for their mail. It was at the foot of Norwich Hill at the junction with Berry Point Road.

CROFTER'S GLEANN

—Coats family farm near Hoggan Lake.

DECOURCEY...

A common 'alternative' spelling of DeCourcy.

DEGNAN...

A common 'alternative' spelling of Degnen. Over the years there have been several of these. One old surveying map has "Digman".

DESCANSO BAY

—[notes](#).

DRUMBEG PARK

EGERIA ROCK

—[notes](#).

ELDER CEDAR

—[notes](#).

FERRY LANDING

FIDDLEHEAD FARM

FOLKLIFE VILLAGE

—[notes](#).

FREEDOM FARM

GABRIOLA CENTENNIAL PARK

Land off Degnen Road that was once leased to the Rate Payers Association by the Province, but was returned to the Province when the organization was unable to maintain the payments and vandalism of the bandstand became endemic. It is no longer a park. See map *right*.

GABRIOLA ISLAND

—[notes](#).

GABRIOLA SANDS PARK

GALIANO GALLERY

—see also Malaspina Galleries

GOOD EARTH FARM

GOSSIP CORNER

—[notes](#).

GOVERNMENT LANDS

Officialdom's name for the Kensington Lands.

GRANDE HOTEL

—[notes](#).

HALVERSON'S STORE

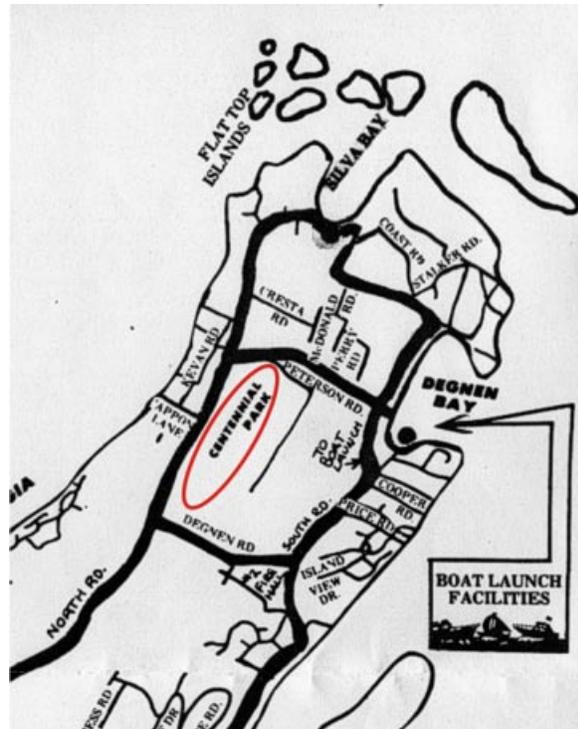
In Silva Bay where the Silva Bay Inn is now. It was owned at one time by Henry Halverson (a Norwegian name) and his wife Jaunite (Anita).

HAVEN WOODS

Area accessed from the end of King Road. Named by the owner after the not-for-profit charitable organization called "The Haven" where attendance at one of their workshops was the occasion of the first of her many visits to Gabriola.

HIGH POINT MEADOWS

The high ground south of where Chernoff Drive, Coats Drive, and Hess Road meet, bounded by



the bluff overlooking Lockwood Drive. One of the properties there is High Point Farms.

HIPPY HOLLOW

—[notes](#).

HUCKLEBERRY PARK

—[notes](#).

HUMMINGBIRD COMMUNITY PARK

One of the Whalebone Drive set.

HUXLEY PARK

Formerly (and still) known as Huckleberry Park. —[notes](#).

JIMMY'S RIDGE

—high point in the 707 park linking with Stoney Ridge. Jimmy was James C. Rowan.

JOINT POINT

—[notes](#).

JOYCE LOCKWOOD COMMUNITY PARK

One of the Whalebone Drive set.

KENSINGTON LANDS

These are part of the former holdings of Weldwood, an international forest company that owned almost 3000 acres on Gabriola Island from the 1960s to the mid-1990s.

Following the failure of Weldwood to negotiate a deal with the Gabriola governance and community as to the future of their land in the 1990s, the forest company sold the land to Kensington Capital. Kensington then promptly sold off 2000 acres to a Gabriola logger, Mike Jenks, while retaining the 800 acres for future development. This retained land was ultimately sold to the Federal and Provincial governments to be set aside for treaty negotiation with First Nations. Another portion was purchased by developers. The lands still owned by governments are known as the Kensington or Treaty Lands, the status of which remains in limbo. A portion of the land logged by Mike Jenks now forms a substantial part of the 707 Community Park on Gabriola. The land is known officially as the “Government Lands”.

MALASPINA GALLERIES

—[notes](#).

MAPLES DOCK

—[notes](#).

MOON ROCK

NORTH END POST OFFICE

ORELEBAR POINT

—[notes](#).

POST OFFICE

QUEEQUEG COMMUNITY PARK

One of the Whalebone Drive set.

RETIREMENT VILLAGE

—[notes](#).

ROCKY HILL FARM

ROCKWOOD

—[notes](#).

SILVA BAY

—[notes](#).

SOMERSET FARM

STICKY DICK’S CORNER

On North Road at the junction with Horseshoe Road.

STONEY RIDGE

An old name no longer in general usage. It referred to the high ground above the False Narrows Bluffs running east and southeast down towards Thompson Point. I don’t know if the ridge is so named because it lacks soil that could be used for farming, or, less likely, if it is a reference to the quartzite-rich conglomerate of the Geoffrey Formation.

STUMP FARM

S’UL-HWEEN X’PEY

—also known as ELDER CEDAR Nature Reserve [note](#).

T & T TEXACO

—[notes](#).

THREE GATES FARM

TWIN BEACHES

—Gabriola Sands Park. The Snunéymux^w name was *x^wcumi:lucun* meaning ‘close together’.

WELDWOOD LANDS

The former holdings of Weldwood, an international forest company that owned almost 3000 acres on Gabriola Island from the 1960s to the mid-1990s. Most was sold to Kensington Capital.

Weldwood had bought the land from the Western Fuel Corporation of California who had in turn acquired it in 1902 from the New Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, a successor to the old Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company of Nanaimo. The parcel of then-unclaimed land was assembled back in the days when speculation that there was coal in the Gulf Islands was rife.

—see [page 4 for a map](#).

YERBA BUENA FARM

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