

SHELTER POINT
(also known as HARWOOD POINT)

In the mid 1870's much of the foreshore on the west side of Texada was in the possession of an absentee owner with the surname Hogan. In 1915 Hogan's estate was divided between his many relatives. Most of the relatives never paid taxes on the land they inherited and it reverted back to the province. Both Gillies Bay and Shelter Point/Harwood Point were part of the Hogan estate that returned to the province.

As industry took hold on the Island, Shelter Point was used as a log dump, and at one point there were three separate log dumps at this location. A log dump is a area of shore used by an individual logging operation. The logs are made up into rafts for tugs to pull to market.

During the "Hungry '30s" men worked off their taxes building roads and it was during this time that the road from Shelter Point to Gillies Bay was completed.

There was a fuel distributor at Shelter Point. Stories are told of customers, commercial logging trucks and civilian cars, filling their vehicles. The proper cash was always left in a box next to the pump.

Between the wars a six hundred foot wharf was constructed at Shelter Point (some of the pilings may still be seen). The wharf was not extensively used and fell into disrepair during the second world.

Shelter Point, also known as Harwood Point, was always recognized as a special place – a place of beauty. The Heritage Society has photographs of families using the area for picnics from the 1930's. It has been a popular camping and swimming spot for at least seven decades and is presently a regional park.

The area has always been known as Shelter Point. The Park's name was changed from Harwood to Shelter Point in 1986.

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