



LINGERWOOD RANCH

by Winnie Uttke.



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The living room was a lovely large room the full length of the house on the west side. A large fireplace on the north end and a built in window seat also on the north and west corner of the room in a sort of bay window off the extreme south end of the house in that bedroom. This room was later divided into two rooms. There were also large windows across the south end of the living room.

Off the living room through French doors there was a full length covered verandah - also on the south end was a verandah which was later closed in with screening where we enjoyed sleeping out in summer.

Steps from the south end went down onto rock steps from the entrance. Back steps from a back porch went out to the orchard, where a row of Lombardy Poplars had been planted running behind the house south to north.

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When we built our home there was no electricity but we knew it was coming so wired the house in readiness. And it was a great joy when we were able to get lights and a new electric stove. There were no fridges in those days and we had what we called a dumb waiter which was worked on a cable from the kitchen down to the basement and cupboard below.

The second year we were there a cousin of mine, Eric Baldwin, came from England and lived with us for a year. He was very helpful in building rock walls etc. and really loved Oyama too. And each year has made a yearly visit here and only passed away last year, 1984.

Both my parents were great workers in the Anglican church and Dad helped in raising money for building a church which is the present St. Mary's Church. My Mother was a great worker in the Women's Auxiliary and held all offices, also taught Sunday School during her lifetime.

Unfortunately she was not a strong woman having heart trouble and died in July 1930.

I myself went in training for a nurse at the Vernon Jubilee Hospital which was then a training school. I have had a varied and changing life but 20 years ago in 1965, I retired from my last 17 years of working as afternoon and night supervisor in the Vernon Hospital- my husband Arthur came with me. In 1931 my father married again to Constance May, and she lived a good life in Oyama. My father died in 1959 and C. May was a widow for 25 years, dying in January 1985 in a nursing home.

The ranch was sold in 1958 to Fritz Jackel and his wife Gabriel who have lived there since and very happy to be in the Okanagan Valley.

In the first place the house was a very well constructed and comfortable home. Now since they have been there, some changes have been made and more modern features added. Jackels have 2 children, a boy and a girl and the upstairs part has been made into a sleeping area for them. And an outside attractive fire exit added on the south end of the house.

New aluminium roof has also been put on because of snow removal problems and latterly aluminum cream siding has added to the attractiveness of the old home.

After the ranch was sold we bought the old Shaw McLaren house on Trask Road. It is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. D. Harris. Dad and May lived there till he died.

When I retired I had this house all remodelled and redone all over, and made into a very nice comfortable home, the work being done by Mr. Neville Sproule.

I enjoyed living there by the lake very much until after 18 years had passed and I had been left a widow, I found it was too much work for me, so I sold it in September of 1981. But I am still living in Oyama in a rented house at the south end of Kalamalka Lake and still enjoying living there.

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Heating for the house was provided by a coal furnace in the basement & a central heating unit went up into the main hall. In later years this was converted to an oil furnace. The basement was in three sections, one also for storing apples & one for utilities.

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