

Links being lined up

Trails network envisioned for Salt Spring

People come to Salt Spring for the wilderness and tranquility — and the easy access to amenities such as restaurants and craft sales, says local Woodland Association president Ken Renaud.

Renaud, who trained as an architect, has become involved in mapping a network of trails and rural roads throughout Salt Spring Island. Development and promotion of this network could, Renaud believes, help the island accommodate visitors without producing congestion on the main roads and eventually prove economically beneficial to the area.

The idea behind the trail network is to provide safe public footpaths independent of major road systems, and to connect several of the island's parks. The network would consist of long-distance and round-trip trails for recreational hiking and riding, scenic nature appreciation and viewpoint walks.

Since 1985, Renaud has been collecting "bits and pieces" of scattered records and information — gradually acquiring a host of maps and pamphlets that crowd his work room. His maps outline island park and ecological reserves, and lands owned by forest companies.

On a master map, the areas blocked off in one colour show a wealth of reserves at the south end of the island, less frequent parkland at the north end, and big chunks of land, blocked off in yellow, joining all of the parcels.

The yellow areas indicate former MacMillan-Bloedel lands which, during Island Trust and MB negotiations, were plotted by Renaud to outline possible trail connections then under consideration.

"There was a potential with the MacMillan-Bloedel lands to

create quite a network," Renaud said.

Plotting trails on the MB lands gives those properties added value to the Trust. The Trust used the trails plan as a bargaining chip when it negotiated with the forestry company for ownership of those lands.

The recent sale of the MB lands to individual owners — through a local real estate company — creates several problems for Renaud and his trail network scheme. Links and easement accesses must be negotiated with a number of different owners,

"For the community to get what it wants, it should be willing to give up something."

rather than one. Furthermore, potential clear-cutting of those areas will not provide for aesthetically pleasing trails.

In other ways, Renaud's project is gaining momentum. When the Chamber of Commerce launched the community Job-Trac program last year, it contacted Renaud for copies of the trail network plans, and subsequent work has seen several of those trails opened up. Renaud also has a Job-Trac employee, Roy Moysey, working with him in the mapping process.

Together, Renaud and the Chamber intend to publish pamphlets showing the public where the trails and rural road links are. Towards that end,

Renaud has separated his maps of the island into seven zones.

The network itself is broken into four island regions: the Channel Ridge and Sunset Drive area; the Mount Maxwell and Roberts Lake area; the Cusheon Creek and Beaver Point area; and the Bruce Peak and Mount Tuam area.

Renaud's network map shows existing and proposed trails and rural road linkages, plus small boat access and small craft anchorage.

The Chamber maps will show significant geographic features along each trail route, and grade the difficulty of the walks.

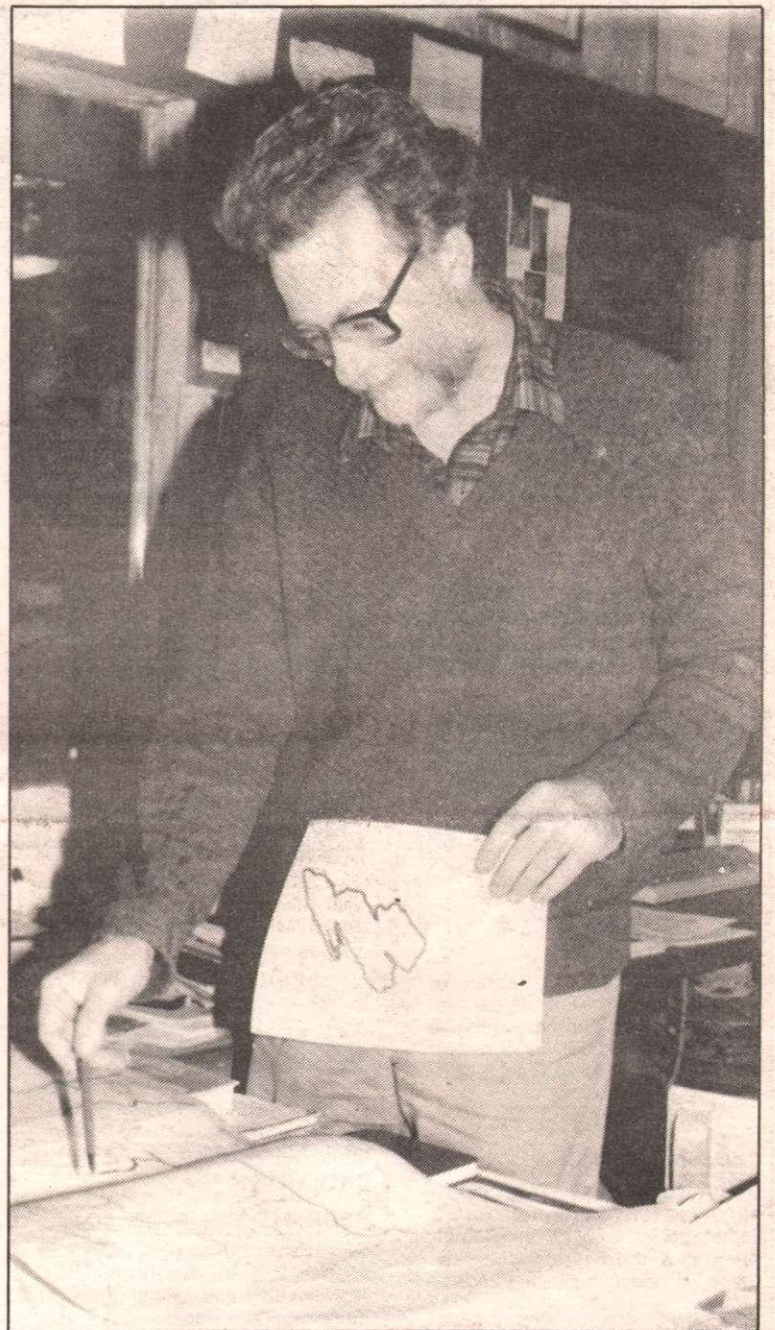
In several areas, easements must still be negotiated with property owners. According to Renaud, a recreational feature like easy access to trails increases the value of adjoining lands. In eastern Canada, for example, there is a well-developed market for homes bordering ski trails.

Also in consideration of the trail network, Renaud is waiting on the Trust and the community to reach a decision on how to deal with logging on private lands. Renaud strongly feels property owners must be offered a bonus for not taking all the timber off their lands.

"For the community to get what it wants, it should be willing to give up something," he said.

Renaud feels that development of the wilderness angle on Salt Spring has great economic potential for the island. He envisions hinterland development such as a youth hostel and privately-run campsites.

Other possibilities include wilderness camps or a junior warden program.



Ken Renaud's Booth Canal office is repository for comprehensive trails data collected in bits and pieces over the past few years. It is now taking shape as a comprehensive

blueprint for a series of looped trails connecting all parts of the island. The Chamber of Commerce has since become involved in the work.

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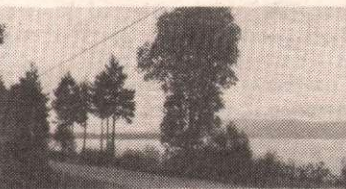
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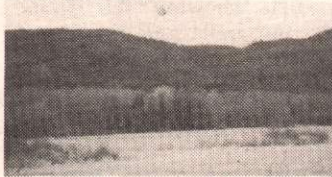
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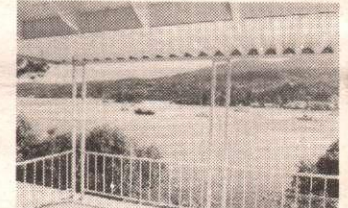
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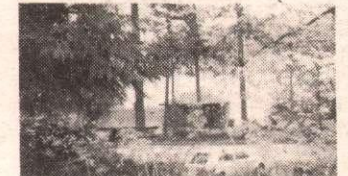
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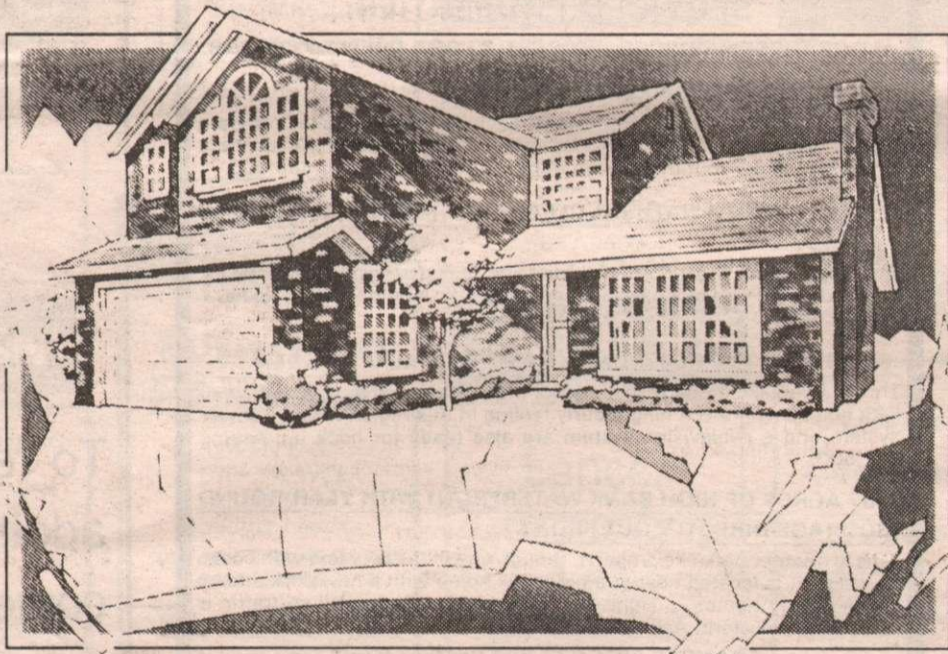
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South end hideaway. 2 1/4 acres and 2 bdrm. log cabin in the woods. \$65,000 MLS.

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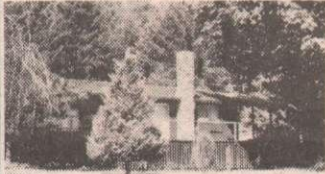


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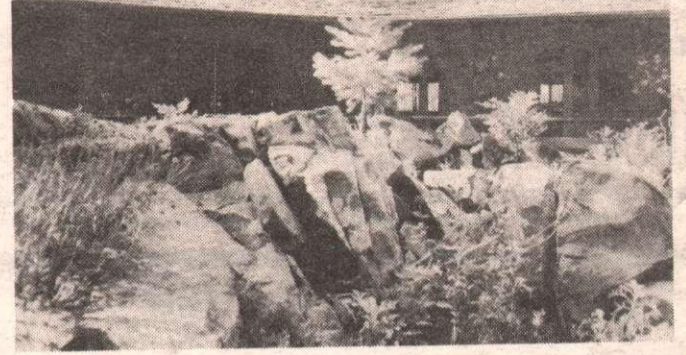
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PEACE AND QUIET COMFORT AND QUALITY

Are some of the features this fine home has to offer. As well as built-in dishwasher, garburator, compactor, vacuum system, oversized bath in master ensuite. Brass fixtures throughout and photo-cell lighting lining the paved drive. This home is situated in Maracaibo Freehold Estates where concern for the environment is evident. \$168,000.

CALL & ASK FOR HENRI.



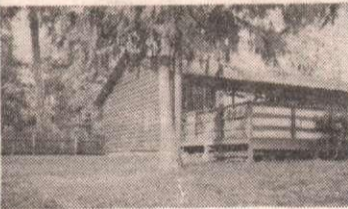
So the owner claims! With this excellent exposure, how can I doubt him? The old world charm of this country cottage will enchant those weary of the megalopolis. Bask in the sunshine on the front porch and watch the grapes grow. Offers to \$49,500 MLS.

3.01 ACRES ON CLAM BAY RD.

This property offers a variety of terrain not often found on a small parcel. An easily accessible rocky outcropping for a homesite, good garden potential, sunny & close to picturesque Port Washington. Offers to \$36,500 MLS.

If you like details, please call HENRI, 537-5577.

NEW TO THE MARKETPLACE



This level 2 bedroom home is well maintained, energy efficient and easy to care for. It is situated near the village on a sunny, parklike 1/2 acre. Great starter or retirement home. Asking \$73,500 MLS.

For further information, please call & ask for HENRI, 537-4273.

SUPER VIEW HOME— \$74,900 MLS



Not often is one afforded the opportunity to own a unique 2 BR home that offers such super view in a sunny area, fully serviced, redecorated and ready to move in. Many other features. For more info. call SANTY G. FUOCO, 537-2773.

SOUTHWEST FACING OCEANFRONT LOTS



3 waterfront lots with interesting beach, arbutus trees in abundance and super views down Sansum Narrows. Each lot 3 acres plus and frontage 220' to 249'. Prices reduced — now \$135,000 to \$150,000.

VESUVIUS BEACH? YES!



\$85,000 MLS - A stone's throw from warmest beach on the island, this property is one lot removed from beachfront, with 850 sq. ft. cottage, small orchard and .48 ac. to plan your full time residence on.

COUNTRY ESTATE?

YES, AND ONLY \$120,000 mls.



Situated on 1.30 ac. with pond, overlooking pastoral scene. House is of unique design over 2000 sq. ft. featuring large (23' x 19') living room with high ceiling, 3 BRs and many other features. For more info. or appointment to view, call SANTY G. FUOCO - 537-2773.

TOWNHOUSE LIVING \$79,900 MLS



Not often is one offered the opportunity to enjoy living in a well-appointed 1500 sq. ft., 3 BR duplex unit close to shopping, doctors, hospital and a view of Ganges Harbour as a bonus.

LOG HOME NEAR ST. MARY LAKE - \$89,000



This well-built log home has loads of room, including a room that could be used as a craft room, studio or large extra BR. (20' x 16'), plus 3 BR., large living room. For more info. or appointment to view, call SANTY G. FUOCO - 537-2773.

ARE YOU IN THE MARKET FOR A QUALITY NEW HOME AT A BUDGET PRICE?



A perfect start for the newly retired or newly wed. 1100 sq. ft. of well designed, usable living space. This well built home is just being completed and boasts a large bathroom complete with Jacuzzi and skylight, 2 bedrooms, sunken living room with open beam, tongue & groove cedar with skylights. A large private lot gives privacy. This home is one-level living at its best. \$89,900.

For a private viewing or to discuss listing your home or property, please call Gary Greico: 537-5577, off. or 537-2086, home.



IMMACULATE FAMILY HOME



Beautifully kept inside and out, this home is a joy to show. 2200 sq. ft. of quality construction on two levels plus crawl space. 3 bdrms., separate laundry room, huge family kitchen with Franklin stove, double garage with doors and loft, greenhouse. Above-ground swimming pool. Level arable .64 acre with established garden and mature shrubs overlooking a lovely pastoral view of one of the island's largest family farms. All just yards away from Gr. K-7 school. A super package offered at just \$129,000.

PARK DRIVE GUEST HOME

This is a very special property and would serve our community well. Most islanders are aware of this facility's excellent reputation in the long term care field. It offers various options. The property is in pristine condition. The grounds are lovely and the village a short walk away. Approx. 4700 sq. ft. including 1300 sq. ft. private owner's suite. Depending on use, 11 or more guests could be accommodated in comfort. Furnished ready for operation. PRICED AT \$229,000 MLS.

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You'll enjoy the sunny quiet setting of this delightful island home. 2 or 3 BRs., large studio, separate workshop, large decks and plenty of covered storage. \$85,000.



EXCLUSIVE - You could share this pad with someone - or you could simply luxuriate alone. But the bedroom soaking tub should be shared with someone!
- and so should the small inground pool;
- and the view decks;
- and the brick fireplace;
- and the rec. room;
The price you can manage alone. (\$95,000!)

STEP OFF YOUR LAWN ONTO THE BEACH



Lowbank oceanfront with a brand new 2 BR rancher with all living areas oriented to the water. \$148,000. CALL TONI.

CALL TONI.

SECRET ISLAND BOATERS HOLIDAY HIDEAWAY

This near new 3 BR vacation home on the sunny south side of the island enjoys superb views & has a lovely white shell beach facing directly into the sunsets. \$59,000 MLS.

PERFECT PENDER RETREAT



This well built 21' x 28' arched A-frame cabin is set in the trees, has sundecks on 2 sides and some sea glimpses. It comes with propane stove, 3-way fridge and all the plumbing fixtures to use when hooked up to the available sewer. PLUS your very own "beater" truck to the ferry and back. All this for only \$32,500 MLS.

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Backing on the 4th hole, you could keep your golf cart at home! This 2 BR home features self-contained in-law suite (or rec room) and is ideally situated on a sunny level arable 1/2 acre with over 14 fruit & nut trees, mature landscaping. \$112,000.

INFO & FREE CATALOGUE—CALL JAN 537-9894.

THIS ONE'S DIFFERENT



It's a unique underground home with sweeping sea, island and mountain views from its highbank oceanfront location in prestigious and private Maracaibo Estates. Required membership provides use of docks, swimming lagoon, guest cottage, tennis courts, trails, parks and beaches. You enter this striking home across a moat and through massive double entry doors. Beyond is a huge sunfilled atrium, a spacious living room and an ultra modern kitchen, both with spectacular views. Priced at \$227,000 MLS. NOW REDUCED TO \$185,000.

PRIVATE, SUNNY ACREAGE

This attractive 3.36 ac. parcel slopes up from the road to a very private building site at the back of the property. A driveway is roughed in to the home site which has an excellent southern exposure and distant sea views. \$49,500 MLS.

THIS HAS TO BE ONE OF THE ISLAND'S BEST BUYS — AND IT'S IN VESUVIUS TOO!

It's a convenient .85 ac. building lot close to all those extra features which make Vesuvius popular! Driveway is roughed in to level building site and there are some lovely trees to base your landscaping around. \$16,800 MLS.

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