

DRAFT



Driving pilings for the fish trap off the southeast shore of Johns Island. Shallow water at Johns allowed fixed traps to be used rather than floating ones.



Fixed fish trap at Johns Island. Traps were banned in 1934.



The lead to the fish trap on Johns Island tied into the shore to direct fish into the trap.



Reef netters off the south shore of Johns Island.

DRAFT

CADBOROSAURUS

Cadborosaurus willsi is an alleged sea serpent reported to live on the Pacific Coast of North America. It is said by witnesses to resemble a serpent with a horse-like head on a long neck. There are over a dozen strandings and captures of Caddies detailed in the book *Cadborosaurus*. One of them was on Johns Island in July 1991. Phyllis Harsh claims that she found a small (less than two feet) baby Caddy and returned it to the sea. The baby had become beached and using a tree branch, Mrs. Harsh lifted the animal back into the sea where it was able to make its way back into deeper water. Mrs. Harsh has also stated for the record that she found what appeared to be a "dinosaur" skeleton beneath an eagle's nest also on John's Island as well as having seen a full-size Caddy specimen in John's Island Passage in 1990.

Navy Vet, Who Cared For Child, Drowns in Rescue Try

A Seattle mother revealed today that it was a bond of affection between her 2-year-old son and a 38-year-old Navy veteran—a bond built during the past year—that sent the veteran to his death in a treacherous tide rip yesterday forenoon in a valiant attempt to rescue the boy.

Dead was John Hankin, former school bus driver on Mercer Island, who plunged into the waters of a San Juan Island pass when the boy, Gerald Chase, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Chase, 1205 Stewart St., tumbled from his power boat.

Falling into the tide rip between Johns and Stuart Islands, the boy was carried away from the craft and floated unconscious to within a few feet of shore where he was pulled to safety by a woman.

Hankin, who with his wife had cared for Gerry as though he were their own for more than a year, was pulled beneath the surface while Mrs. Hankin looked helplessly on. Attracted by the screams, Mrs. E. A. Chevalier waded into the water and saved Gerry.

While administering artificial respiration, the Chevaliers saw a passing Airway's aircraft flown by Walter Paull and managed to hail him to bring the boy here for medical attention.

Clasping her boy in her arms this forenoon in Virginia Mason Hospital, Mrs. Chase wept first with joy and then with sadness.

Smiling brightly, Gerry threw his arms around his mother's neck and kissed her.

"I—I just don't know how to



JOHN HANKIN

feel," Mrs. Chase said. "Gerry was just crazy about John."

Mrs. Chase said the Hankines had cared for Gerry for about a year while she and her husband worked and that the boy vacationed in the San Juans last year with the family. Both families had planned to have him stay in the Islands this summer.

Coast Guard headquarters said here this forenoon that Hankin's body had not been recovered.

Friends said he owned a major portion of Johns Island and had planned to operate a small water freight service in the San Juans and to make his permanent home there.

Surviving, in addition to the widow, are his widowed mother, Mrs. Emmeline Hankin, Tacoma; two sisters, Mrs. William Cosgrove of Olympia and Mrs. Rex Moulton of Michigan, and a brother, Tom Hankin of Tacoma.

JOHN T. HANKIN

Funeral services for John T. Hankin, 38 years old, Navy veteran who drowned near the San Juan Islands a month ago, were scheduled for today in the chapel of the Home Undertaking Company. Mr. Hankin's body was recovered Tuesday.

Born in England Mr. Hankin was brought to the United States as a child. He had lived in the Puget Sound area 20 years.

Surviving are his widow, Nell, Mercer Island; his mother, Mrs. Emmeline Hankin, Tacoma; two sisters, Mrs. William Cosgrove, Olympia, and Mrs. R. Moulton, Lynn, Mass., and a brother, Thomas Hankin, Wellesley, Mass.

Seattle Times - July 31, 1947



MRS. FLOYD B. CHASE and SON GERALD

Her joy was mixed with sadness

Seattle Times - July 1, 1947

Nell E. Robinson

Nell E. Robinson, 87, who first lived on Mercer in the 1930s, died here on Feb. 6. She was born June 17, 1909, in Cheasaw, Wash., to John Byrd Jones and Laura Madsen Jones. She graduated from Okanogan High School.

She and her first husband, John Hankin, designed and built their home on Mercer Island in the 1930s.

She volunteered at the local nursery school while John drove the first school bus on the Island. Being foster parents was a very important part of their lives. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed creating her "English" gardens.

They moved to John's Island in the San Juan Islands in the 1940s. After John Hankin's death, she moved back to Mercer Island, and also kept her residence on John's Island.

In the early 1960s she married Ray Robinson. They lived on Mercer Island and in Pasco for a short time until his sudden death. Mrs. Robinson returned to Mercer Island, but traveled back and forth to John's Island to care for her animals, especially her sheep.

In the late 1960s she moved permanently to John's Island, an outer island where she lived without electricity and only a wood-burning stove. She and her neighbors had walkie-talkies that they communicated with every day.

She loved beach combing and she loved her herd of sheep, along with her dogs, cats, geese, and other animals. She was a member of the Mercer Island Garden Club. Mrs. Robinson had returned to live on Mercer Island in the past few years.

She is survived by Phyllis Harsh of Mercer Island; Patsy Marie Vance of Cottonwood, Calif.; John Harsh of Port Angeles; and Terri Harsh of Mercer Island.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13, at Green's Bellevue Funeral Home in Bellevue. A memorial service will also be held this summer in the San Juan Islands.