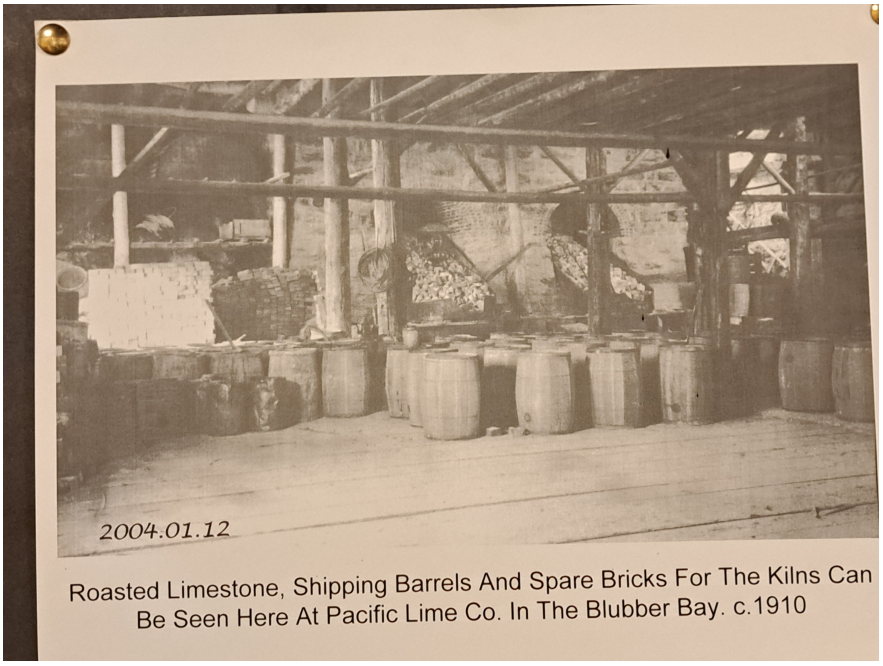
EVEN MORE TEXADA HISTORICAL FUN FACTS

DID YOU KNOW ….

…..Texada's limestone was originally stored and shipped out in dry, sealed barrels. Large barrel factories (called cooperages) were located in Sturt (Marble) Bay (1898) and Blubber Bay (see photo).
To construct the barrels coopers used over 20 different tools specific to the trade. Workers were kept busy as it was reported that by 1907 Sturt Bay was producing 300 barrels of lime a day and 150 at Blubber Bay
(1916).



Roasted Limestone, Shipping Barrels And Spare Bricks For The Kilns Can Be Seen Here At Pacific Lime Co. In The Blubber Bay. c.1910

….. house to house electrical service commenced in 1953 when Al Waters bought the Little Billy Mine's diesel generator and power lines. His Van Anda Light and Power Company offered service from 6am to 8pm daily.
Due to limited power supply only house lighting was permitted (no appliances). Al was known to patrol Van Anda nightly looking for violators.
Texada was finally connected to the BC Electric power grid by undersea cable in December, 1956.

….. the settlement around Paxton Road intersection (now familiarly known as "the Oasis") was once a real happening place! Workers at local mines lived there in the 1890's and nearby farm families added to the little community. By 1912 there were enough children living nearby to open the Marshall School (commemorated by the rock monument there today).
The opening of Texada Mines in 1952 caused a small population boom with a Marshall Wells hardware store, a restaurant, gas station, body shop, car dealership and, in more recent times, a government liquor store. A busy community indeed!

….. picking brush (salad, huck) was once a thriving industry on Texada. Florists in Vancouver and Toronto appreciated the greenery for wreaths and floral arrangements. *PR News* reported in 1949 that the new industry generated $30,000 a year.
A brush pickers' community settled in Davie Bay. They supplied brush to a sorting shed in Van Anda which eventually employed 25 pickers and 5 "bunchers."
The *PR News* reported in 1966 the competition amongst several buyers was "lively."
This "industry" is less today, overshadowed in publicity through the 1970's by another "green industry."

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