

# Pre-WWII History of Japanese Pioneers in the Clearing and Development of Land in Bellevue

By Asaichi Tsushima 1952



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## **TRANSLATORS' PREFACE**

Mr. Asaichi Tsushima came to America via Vancouver, Canada, in 1907. In 1908 at the age of thirty he moved to Bellevue, Washington, and settled in Hunts Point. He was older than most of the Japanese immigrants who had arrived earlier.

Mr. Tsushima was recognized as an accomplished speaker and admired and respected as a scholar, humanitarian and historian. Public speaking was one his greatest pleasures so he assisted and participated in many projects involving the people of the community. As the years passed, his historian inclination urged him on to write this book to leave with the Bellevue Nisei (second generation) and their descendants. He wrote about his fellow Issei (first generation) pioneers who came to work and subsequently settle in the Bellevue area during the years from 1897 through 1940.

He describes where, how and who lived in the Bellevue area and the tremendous changes that occurred. He recorded a history of some of the many hardships and disappointments as well as the accomplishments and encouragement from some good, friendly neighbors. He emphasized the enormous challenges of learning a new foreign language and customs. He also stressed the desire of the parents to instill good American citizenship in their Nisei children as well as the importance of good education while at the same time retaining their own Japanese language and culture by organizing Japanese language classes.

(I)

Most of his data was accumulated prior to World War II. Completion of the book was interrupted during the war when he was interned at Missoula, Montana, and in New Mexico. Upon his return to Bellevue in 1946, he resumed writing and finally finished the book, a remarkable undertaking, in 1952.

He returned to Japan and lived his last 15 years in his birthplace of Okayama. He died at the age of 91 in 1969. His wife Nami died in 1978 in the United States.

His daughter, Michi (Tsushima) Nishimura, lives in Kirkland, Washington.

Some details have been omitted for various reasons and the text condensed. As requested by Mr. Tsushima, an insignificant number of corrections and additions have been made in the interest of clarity and accuracy. After many, many months, a modest attempt at rendering a translation was completed in February 1991 by Harriet (Yamagishi) Mihara, Alan Hideo and Chiye (Ito) Yabuki and Rose (Yabuki) Matsushita. We, the American children of these Japanese pioneers, are grateful to Mr. Tsushima for leaving with us a written accounting of the lives of our parents and their undeniable and considerable involvement in the development and growth of Bellevue.

Mr. Tsushima specifically requested that this book not be sold.

(II)



**Photo of Asaichi Tsushima 1878-1968**

## INTRODUCTION

I am writing this book to leave it with the Bellevue Nisei children of the Japanese pioneers who came to this area.

I will make an effort to relate some of the hardships and heartaches suffered by these courageous people, as well as their joys and accomplishments.

I will try also to mention events of interest up to the time of World War II and our internment.

I hope that my humble attempt at writing this history will be of interest and appreciated by the descendants of the Bellevue Issei pioneers, documenting our participation in the development and growth of the Bellevue area. There may be some incorrect information as well as omissions regarding names, dates and some events because my original manuscript was lost during the period of evacuation and internment. This is my second endeavor and I have attempted to recollect the information solely by memory.

January 1952

(III)

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Note: The numbers in parentheses in the right margin correspond to the beginning pages in the Japanese text.

(IV)

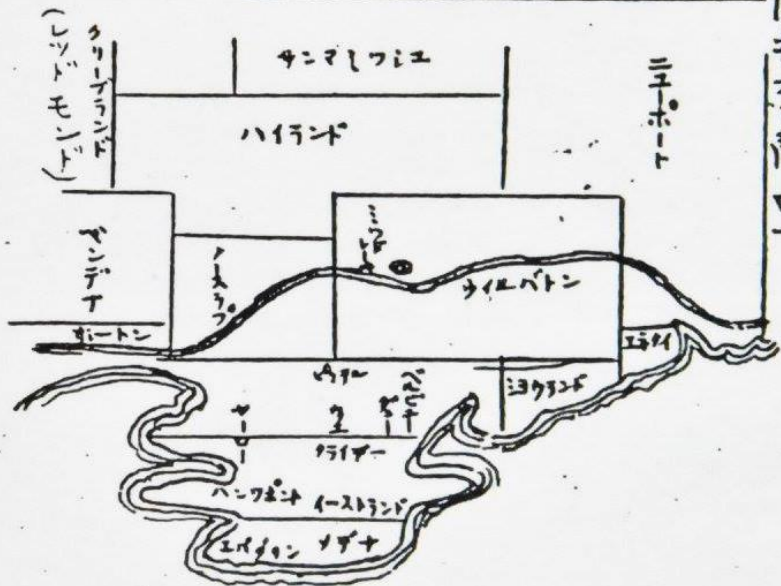
***(Digital Version Note: This Table of contents refers to the original print version; pages are in the same order but the page numbers differ - JHR)***

FOREWORD, ORIGINAL TEXT (JAPANESE)

記者津島朝一印刷  
 戦前在留同胞ベルギー開拓奮闘史  
 一九五二年月(非賣品)

第二次戦前ベルギー在留日本人  
 が如何に開拓努力奮闘して巧  
 頭一たかを調査して知る限りと  
 率直に飾らず装はず正直に  
 事實を記して後世道徳の  
 參考に供せんとす

先前以て位置廣く義名録等  
 を知って戴く必要ありと思ひ地  
 方区域名録大略を下に因に現  
 はし大体を知つて頂く事を希望  
 して各説明をなすは日本  
 人最初入居時一九〇〇年頃現在  
 未開地の状態を推察出来る  
 と思ひます



(V)



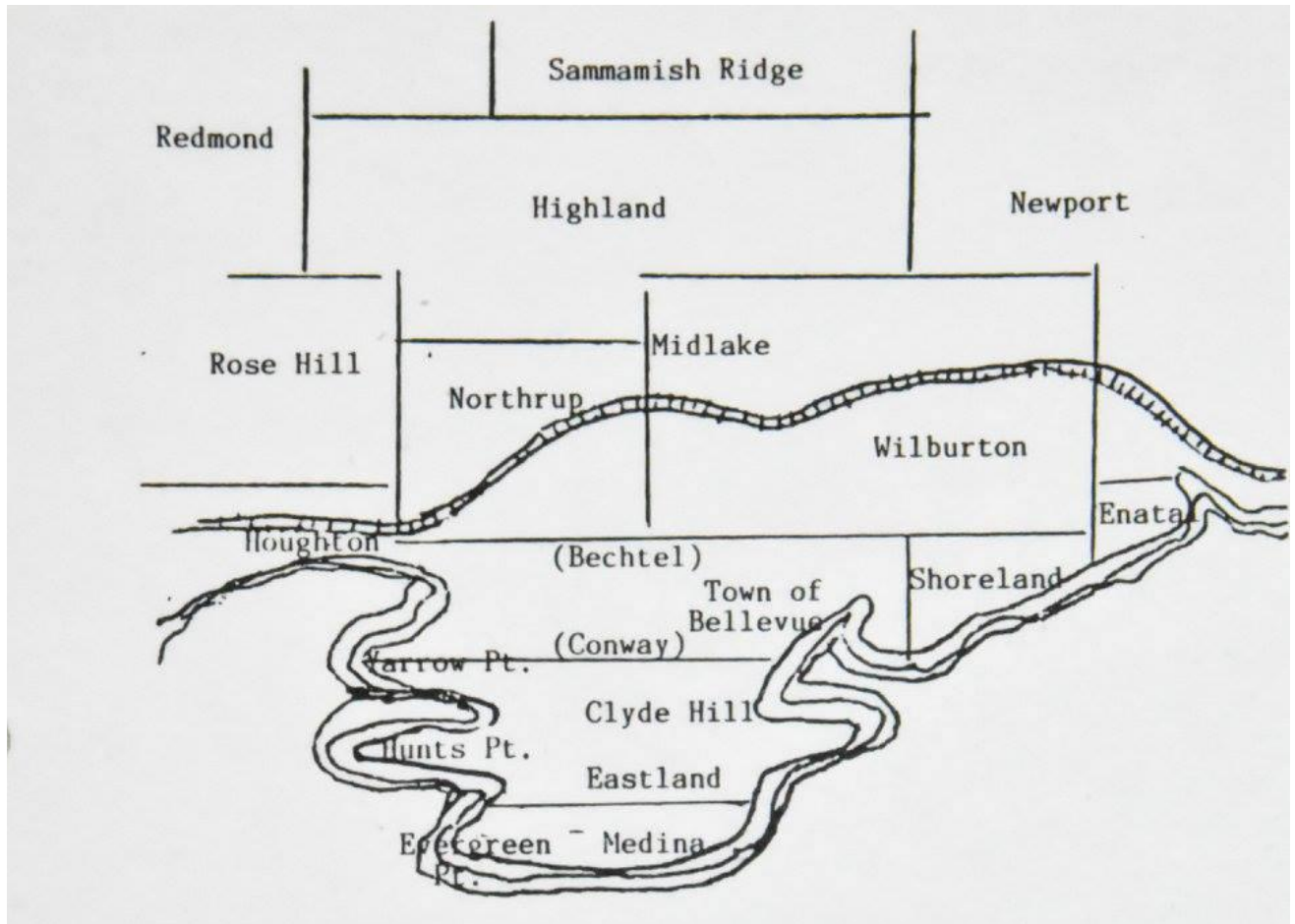
## FOREWORD

I wish to present and leave with you Bellevue Nisei (second generation) a true picture of the part played by the Japanese in developing Bellevue from virgin forests into a thriving community during the 45 years prior to World War II. The Japanese immigrants, your parents, courageously and tenaciously struggled and persevered against horrendous odds, clearing the acres and acres of virgin forest land for agricultural and residential use, and I believe the Isseis (first generation) made significant contributions to the community's rapid growth. The true, unembellished facts gathered from our experiences and my research are presented to preserve the history of our lives for future generations.

The map I have drawn below shows the area as it was in the early 1900s when the Japanese first arrived in Bellevue. It should help you recognize the locations I will be discussing as I try to explain the course of our lives and the conditions under which we survived. We endured much hardship and expended great effort over a long period of time to transform this undeveloped land into the farming community it had become prior to World War II.

This book is not to be sold. Written and dittoed by Asaichi Tsushima.  
(VI)

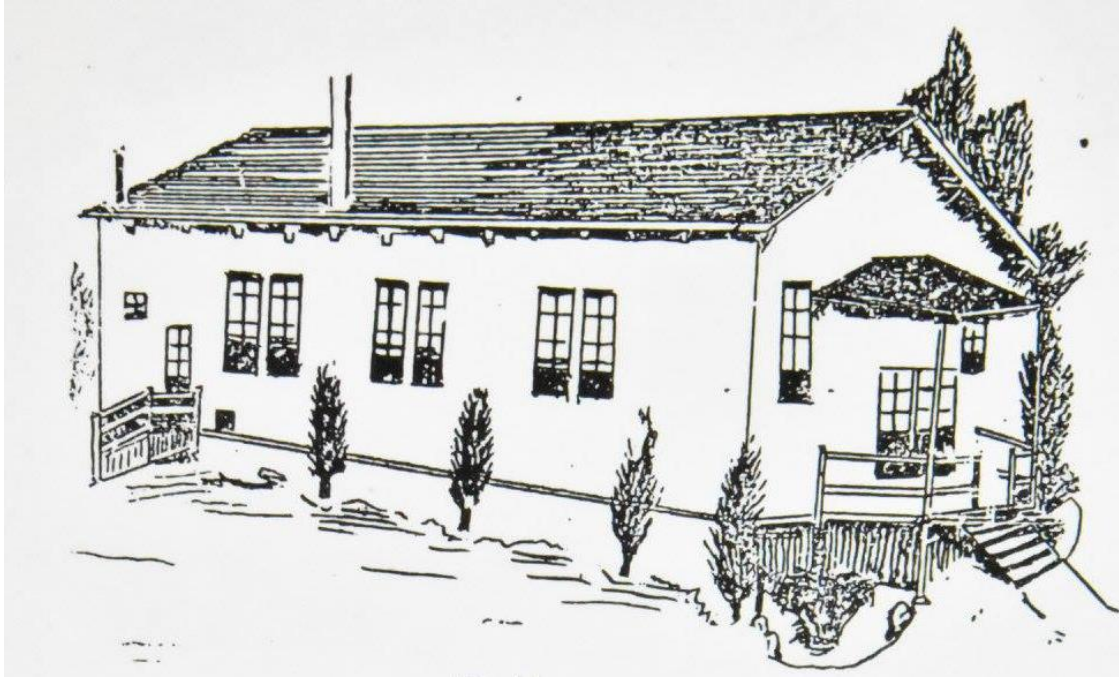
## FOREWORD MAP IN ENGLISH



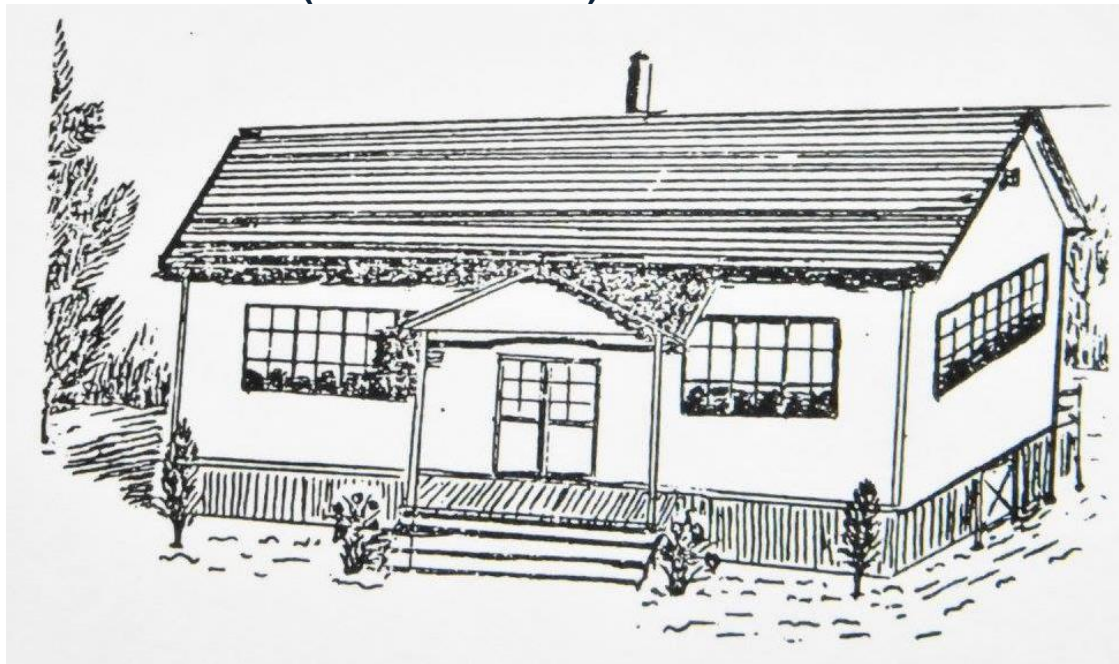
(VII)



## CLUBHOUSE (ILLUSTRATION)



## SCHOOL BUILDING (ILLUSTRATION)



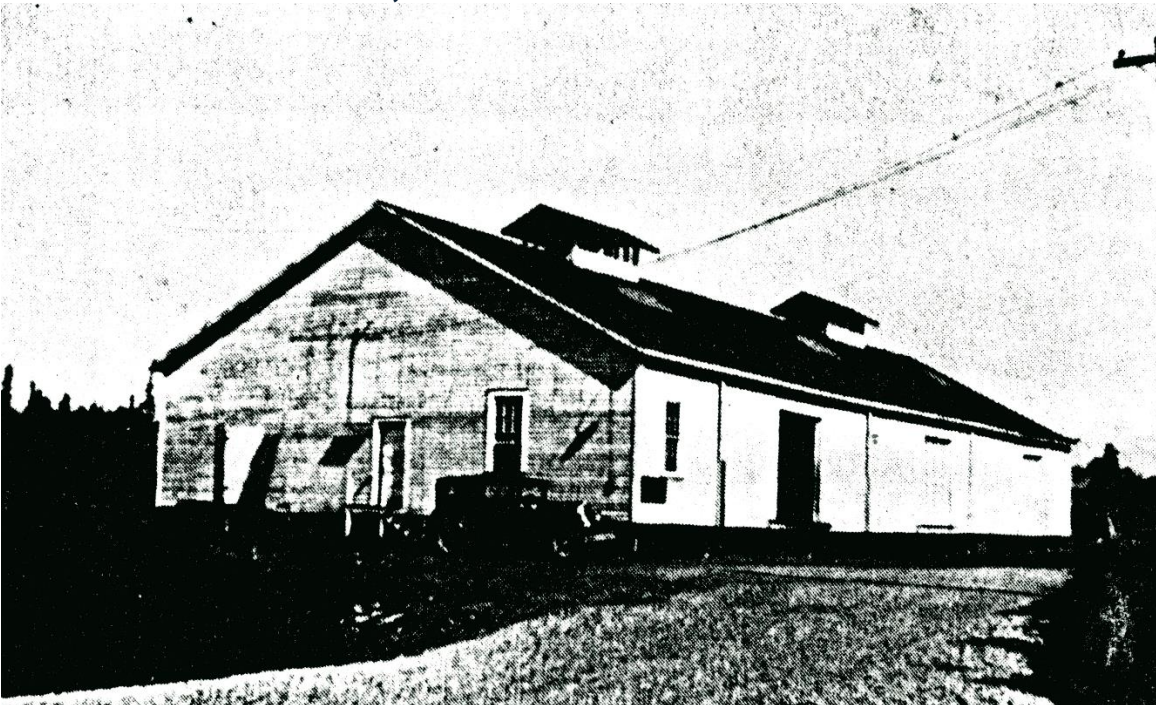
Bellevue Japanese Community Association  
102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue N.E. and N.E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
(IX)



**BUSINESS MANAGER TOM MATSUOKA WITH SONS (PHOTO)**



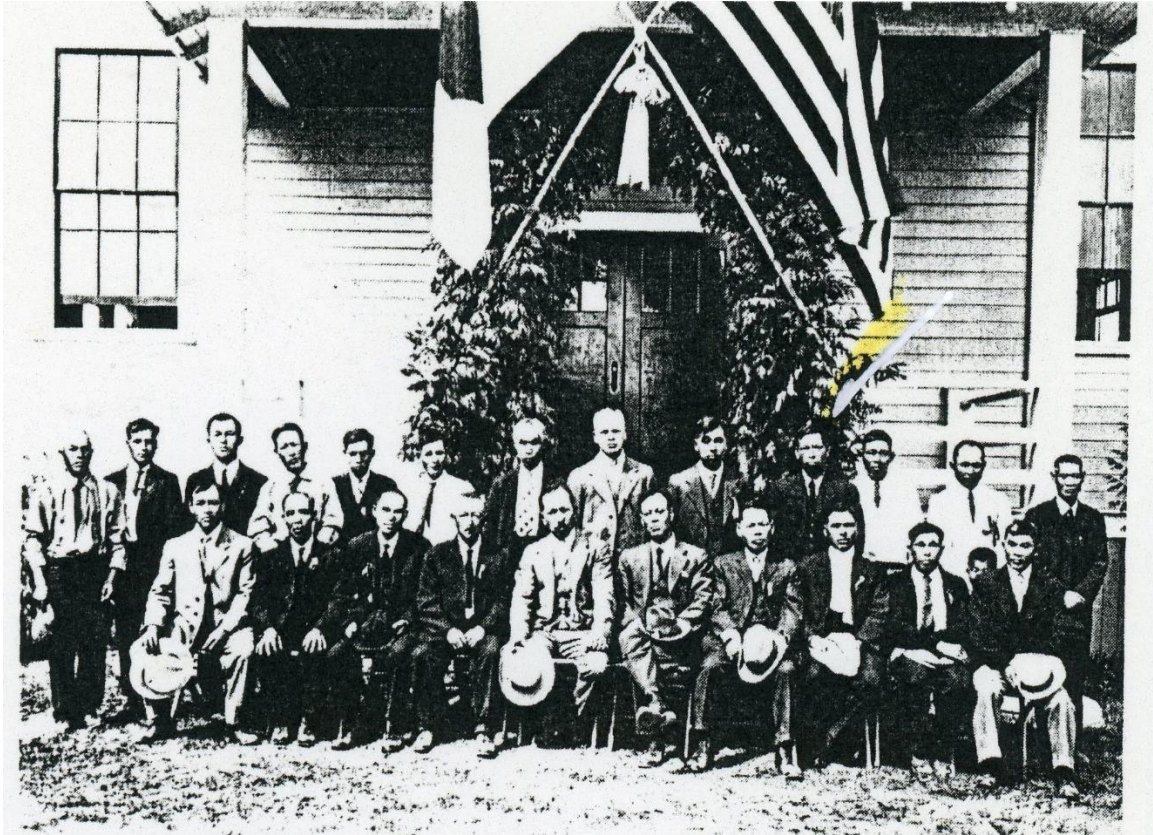
**SHIPPING WAREHOUSE, BELLEVUE GROWER'S ASSOCIATION**



118<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. and N.E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street; 1933 (photo)  
(X)



## BUILDING COMMITTEE - BELLEVUE JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION DEDICATION DAY 1930



Building Committee  
Bellevue Japanese Community Association Dedication Day, 1930  
(XI)

Front Row, L to R:

1. I. Baba
2. T. Suguro
3. H. Matsuzawa
4. H. Aramaki
5. W. Kumagai
6. K. Yamagiwa
7. H. Kayano \*\*
8. I. Enomoto
9. N. Mizokawa
10. \_ Sakuma

Back Row, L to R:

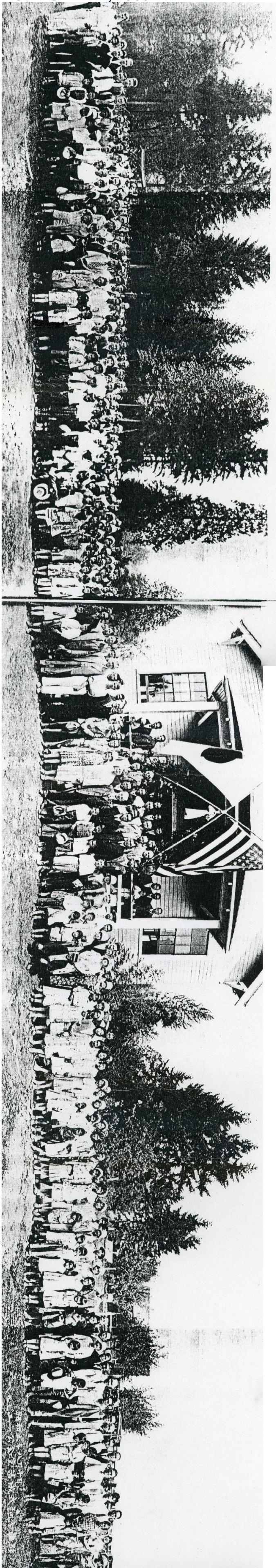
1. I. Yoshimoto
2. T. Yabuki
3. K. Takano
4. T. Yoshino
5. E. Tamaye
6. T. Kamihara
7. A. Tsushima
8. K. Saito
9. T. Kusumi
10. K. Matsushita
11. G. Nomura
12. Y. Sakaguchi
13. Y. Sakaguchi

\*\* An identification error in the original text was discovered after printing. On Page 81 Mr. Hitoshi Kayano was mistakenly identified as Hitoshi Kashiwano. Please make corrections of Pages 36 and 81



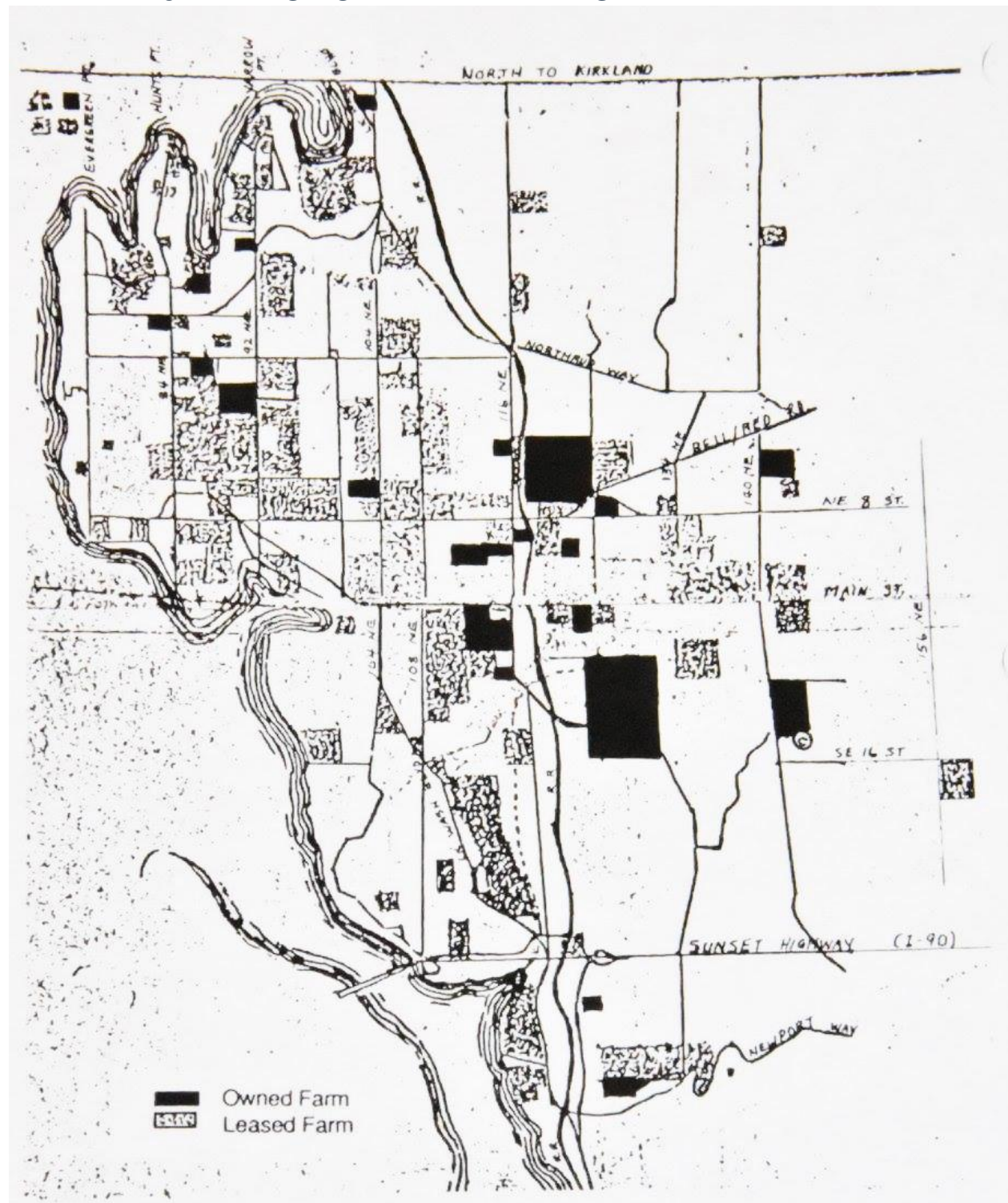
### CLUBHOUSE DEDICATION DAY, 1930

(XII)





## PRE-WWII JAPANESE OPERATED FARMS



## **EARLY BELLEVUE**

### **GEOGRAPHY**

The map (Pgs. VII, VIII) shows the general boundaries of the Bellevue area (1940 Postal Delivery area), beginning from the east shore of Lake Washington, 80 blocks east to Lake Sammamish, south from NE 40<sup>th</sup> to SE 45<sup>th</sup> and north from the Newport shoreline to the Yarrow Bay shoreline.

Beginning from Medina, about 1850, a few Indian families inhabited the Eastside area. A Mr. Bridge began clearing land, built a home and started a sawmill business. A ferry landing to Seattle is located here (76<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 8<sup>th</sup>).

North of NE 24<sup>th</sup> on 76<sup>th</sup> NE is Evergreen Point. A Mr. McKenzie lived at the end of Evergreen Point in a 20-year-old house; he moved away in 1925. At one time there was a park here where the local grade school would hold picnics, but now homes occupy the whole area.

North of NE 28<sup>th</sup> on 84<sup>th</sup> NE is Hunts Point. Around the year 1880 Mr. Hunt built a home on Hunts Point (84<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 32<sup>nd</sup>) and this area was named for him. Mr. Hung came to Hunts Point because he found the area so pristine and tranquil. Around 1880 the Boddy brothers, during a period of extensive logging, operated a sawmill, shipping logs from a doc landing at Fairweather Bay. They also started a greenhouse business (84<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 28<sup>th</sup>).

The area from the south shoreline of 84<sup>th</sup> NE north to NE 24<sup>th</sup> was known as Eastland. Many of the Japanese pioneers got their start in clearing land and subsequently farming in this area.

In early 1900-1902 the area north of NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street along both sides of 92<sup>nd</sup> NE to NE 28<sup>th</sup> (the Clyde Hill area) was being cleared. This area was named after a Mr. Clyde who was believed to be part Indian. There were three large Indian log cabins located here. The view from here is one of the best on the Eastside.

Mr. Downey owned property on Clyde Hill. He employed Japanese immigrants who helped clear his acreage and developed it into very fertile agricultural land. Mr. Dagwood (sp.?) was another person who employed the Japanese to help clear the trees and to develop farm land.

Further north on 92<sup>nd</sup> NE to the northern shoreline lies the Yarrow Point and Yarrow Bay areas. The Japanese helped clear this area for both residential and agricultural use. The Three Points had many dock landings from where paddlewheel-type boats would ferry passengers to and from Seattle. A dock named Stevens Landing was one of the stops on Yarrow Point.

A Mr. Meecham was one of the earlier settlers on Yarrow Point. He deeded some land to the Town of Yarrow for a park.

Yarrow Point had a colony of Indian people inhabiting the area and many Indian legends were heard, one of which was that the Indians had ceremonial ground there, and during the process of clearing and developing the land some of these sacred grounds were disturbed. Because of this, it was believed that a curse was placed on the settlers as they suffered so much sickness, death and difficult experiences. Due to these incidents, Yarrow Bay was referred to as Hell Valley.

The Bellevue area between 110<sup>th</sup> NE and 116<sup>th</sup> NE and from Main Street north to NE 24<sup>th</sup>: The early business district was on Main Street, between 100<sup>th</sup> NE and 104<sup>th</sup> NE. The area along 100<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 12<sup>th</sup> was known as the Conway Place. The area between 104<sup>th</sup> NE and 116<sup>th</sup> NE and between NE 15<sup>th</sup> and NE 24<sup>th</sup> was known as the Bechtel Place.

The first Post Office was built in 1905.

South of Main Street and 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE is Meydenbauer Bay. A ferry landing was located here as well as a mooring dock for a cannery and whaling company doing business in Alaska.

South of Meydenbauer Bay along the shoreline is Shoreland Drive. South of that is Enatai and then the Newport area. Newport had a ferry landing which was used as a shipping dock for lumber and coal.

East and a few blocks north from SE 32<sup>nd</sup> to SE 4<sup>th</sup> is the area of Wilburton. A large sawmill was in operation here where a few Japanese made their livelihoods, producing lumber from the logs that were harvested in clearing the land. A railroad line passes through this area. Wilburton was also known as an Indian burial ground. In the course of clearing this land, human bones were uncovered and, again, the Japanese experienced very trying times while living here. In one incident a woman hanged herself. One person was known to have become mentally ill and returned to Japan. In another case, parent and child died.

Southeast of Wilburton is Newcastle. This area was known for its coal and there is a possibility that a few Japanese had been employed at the mines.

East of Wilburton from Main Street and 116<sup>th</sup> NE to 156<sup>th</sup> NE is the area of Highland with spectacular views from the higher elevations. As the land was cleared and cultivated it became good farm land. There were a few Japanese operating their own farms here (Peterson Hill).

South of Wilburton and Highland is Renton. Further to the east of Highland is Lake Sammamish and Issaquah.

On the northern end of Lake Sammamish is the area known as Redmond where a sawmill was also located.

North of Wilburton is Midlake and Northrup [sic] There is a small lake in Midlake and its water was used for irrigation on the nearby farms. During severe winters the lake would freeze over at which time ice skating was enjoyed there.

In the Midlake area there was a Bellevue community cemetery where some Japanese were buried. The cemetery was later abandoned when the land was purchased for business development, and a new cemetery (Sunset Hills) is now located in the Highland area. A plot was established here as a memorial to those who had been buried earlier at the old cemetery.

Northrup [sic] is the area north of Midlake between 104<sup>th</sup> NE and 140<sup>th</sup> NE. Further north are Houghton and Kirkland. On the hills of Northrup [sic], I recall having found matsutake (a type of mushroom) in the early years.

## **BELLEVUE IN THE EARLY 1900S**

Several Japanese families lived in Bellevue in the late 1890s and early 1900s. I have drawn a map of the area (Pg. XII) indicating the parcels of land farmed by the Japanese during that period. When I came to this area in 1908 there was a dense growth of trees throughout the region, so when viewed from my house the garden and lawn appeared like miniatures, dwarfed by the surrounding forest. Summer homes were scattered along the waterfront. A few homes were also built along the railroad line. There were farms surrounded by forests in the Clyde Hill and Highland areas.

It is amazing to see such tremendous growth and prosperity in Bellevue during the last 50 years. I firmly believe that the determination and painstaking efforts of the Japanese have substantially contributed to this growth.

## **EARLY TRANSPORTATION**

I learned from the earlier settlers that the Indians used dugouts and canoes on the waters. The white settlers had crossed from Seattle to Bellevue and the east side of Lake Washington using rowboats and barges, then later riding ferries large enough to carry wagons and cars. Around 1892 a steam-powered side-wheeler was in operation from Kirkland-to-Houghton-to-Bellevue-to-Seattle. This was a 97-ton ferry with a seating capacity of 24 and cargo space of 6 square feet. There were many landing docks along the shoreline from Kirkland to Newport.

On the Eastside there was a shipyard located in Houghton where construction of two 100-ton ships for the Yukon Exposition was begun in 1909. The ships, McQuale and Urania, were completed and began their runs in 1911.

About 1913 the ferry Leschi began a regularly scheduled run from Medina to Leschi Park (Seattle). This was a ferry built to carry cars as well as passengers.

As the area became more populated the suggestion of streetcar transportation was brought up but nothing ever materialized.

In 1917 the Lake Washington Ship Canal was completed at which time Lake Washington's water level dropped 10 feet causing many changes and problems. It created more useable land; however, it also made useless many of the ferry docks. In one case a property owner gained 20 acres of additional ground. Plans for a proposed produce center were abandoned when the site lost its water access. The lowering of the lake also delayed the completion of Lake Washington Boulevard because the new shoreline was too soft and marshy requiring pilings to be driven very deep into the ground for surface support. But by 1921 the road from Newport over the Mercer Slough to Enatai was completed, making Lake Washington Boulevard (scenic route) a through highway from Renton to Kirkland.

In 1940, with the completion of the Lake Washington Floating Bridge from Mercer Island to Seattle, the Medina-to-Leschi ferry service was discontinued.

Railroad service came to Bellevue in 1900. The first track built running along Newport and Wilburton was too spongy and unstable so it had to be relocated further inland to firmer ground. By 1903 the railroad ran from Renton-to-Bellevue-to-Kirkland-to-Woodinville. Several Japanese men worked for the railroad company.

## ROAD SYSTEM BEGINNING IN 1900

There were no public roads before 1900, so residents would walk along the shoreline to visit their neighbors. Many of the roads were merely paths running along various properties. It was believed during those early years that if the public used a private road for 5 years it would become a public road. For this reason, some property owners forbade use of their roads to anyone.

A 30-foot right-of-way with a road surface of 8-12 feet wide became the new legal dimensions for all public roads. Some of the early roads constructed were as follows:

<b>1900</b>	Bellevue to Wilburton to Newport
<b>1900</b>	Bellevue to Medina
<b>1901-02</b>	Bellevue to Enatai
<b>1905</b>	92 <sup>nd</sup> NE (Clyde Hill) from Lake Washington north to Yarrow Point
<b>1906</b>	100 <sup>th</sup> NE from Lake Washington north to NE 24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>1907</b>	108 <sup>th</sup> NE from NE 24 <sup>th</sup> south to SE 34 <sup>th</sup>
<b>1908</b>	Midlake (116 <sup>th</sup> NE) south to Newport
<b>1909</b>	76 <sup>th</sup> NE, Medina, south shoreline north to Evergreen Point
<b>1910</b>	84 <sup>th</sup> NE, Medina, south shore north to Hunts Point
<b>1911</b>	104 <sup>th</sup> NE, Main Street south to Newport and Renton
<b>1912</b>	140 <sup>th</sup> NE from NE 24 <sup>th</sup> south through Highland to Phantom Lake to Factoria
<b>1913</b>	Main Street east from 108 <sup>th</sup> NE to 116 <sup>th</sup> NE
<b>1914</b>	From 120 <sup>th</sup> NE, Bellevue to Redmond
<b>1932-33</b>	Lake Washington Boulevard paved from Kirkland to Renton
<b>1940</b>	Completion of the Lake Washington Floating Bridge. Ferry service from Medina to Seattle discontinued.
<b>1947</b>	New four-lane, north-south freeway (I-405) built between 112 <sup>th</sup> NE and 116 <sup>th</sup> NE



## ROUTES TO BELLEVUE

I hope I have left you with a good description of the Bellevue area in the early 1900s. I will now proceed to the main subject - how the Japanese Issei lived and struggled to survive in a foreign country. They came to Bellevue by the following routes:

### 1. Direct from Seattle

Mr. Jusaburo Fujii, widely known as the owner of Gyokko Ken Cafe in Seattle, was one of the earliest Japanese to come to Bellevue (1898). He worked as a cook for Mr. B. J. C. Dagwood (sp.?), owner of an Alaskan cannery business. Since the cannery season lasted only during the autumn months, Mr. Fujii also helped him manage his strawberry farm in Bellevue, becoming the 'field boss' who hired Japanese laborers. They also worked at Mr. Dagwood's cannery and at the local sawmills. Mr. Dagwood owned several acres of land in the Clyde Hill area and he encouraged the Japanese to grow strawberries. A few of those who initially tried were Mr. Furukawa, Mr. Yamauchi and Mr. Yamano, but before any berries could be grown they first had the formidable task of clearing the land.

Another early arrival around 1898 was Mr. Kiichi Setsuda who worked as a houseboy at Mr. Hunt's residence in Hunts Point. Mr. Tsujimoto was also an early pioneer, and he grew potatoes.

### 2. From the sawmills

The sawmills located in Wilburton, Medina and Redmond employed several Japanese. A few remained in Bellevue when the sawmills closed, but many left the area.

### 3. From the railroad work crews

Railroad work attracted many Japanese men. Mr. Yoshiya Kubota was employed as a foreman and timekeeper for the Woodinville Railroad in the early 1900s. He also moonlighted as foreman of a group of Japanese who helped clear forest in the Northrup area. Some railroad workers stayed in the Bellevue area and tried farming but many moved away.



## **LIFE OF THE FARMERS**

### **CLEARING THE FOREST**

The process of clearing the thick virgin forest without machinery was very slow, arduous and dangerous work since all of the labor was done manually with the use of only horses and dynamite. By the time trees were cut down, logs removed, stumps blasted out and cleared away and the ground readied for farming many years would elapse. Many trees were 4-5 feet in diameter often requiring four or five men working laboriously for a month to completely remove a single tree. Some areas would have 10-50 enormous trees per acre. The dynamiting was the most dangerous work involved. Serious, often fatal, injuries occurred from flying rocks, tree splinters or delayed dynamite explosions. Another time-consuming task was the burning of the stumps. Clearing land was a 24-hours-a-day job with burning continuing throughout the night. Mr. Uchida (an older man) was one person who worked as a fire-tender; he told me that since he was unable to sleep well at night, the work suited him. Night watch could last from two weeks to a month at a stretch.

Occasional domestic problems arose because some wives would complain of husbands being away from home too long when clearing land. Many wives, on the other hand, also helped in the strenuous work. There were a few cases of women becoming ill, as well as some deaths caused by exhaustion.

In 1917 the Lake Washington Ship Canal was completed. The canal lowered the level of Lake Washington almost 10 feet. It created many more acres of useful land; however, many of the docks along the shore consequently became useless.

Logging still continued along the waterfront but it was very difficult because of the marshy soil condition. Some of the settlers used a machine known as a donkey engine to do the work. But because the equipment was unaffordable, the Japanese used horses, block and tackles and winches. A horse would cost about \$70 at that time. Occasionally, horses drowned in the peat bogs.

As the clearings became rich farmland, the Ford tractor came into use. The Japanese who did not have a horse or a tractor would hire contractors to plow their land. Some charged \$10 per acre or \$1.50 per hour. Over the years the cost increased to \$2-3 per hour until about the time of evacuation in 1942 it had risen to \$5 per hour. Some of the well-known plowmen were Mr. Daniel, Mr. Boddy, Mr. Bechtel, Mr. Anderson and Mr. McKomas.

Many more Japanese started farming from 1910 to 1930. By that time several farmers were using tractors. Mr. Goichi Ishida of Yarrow Bay was one of the first to use a crawler type tractor which was much more suitable for the marshland soil. His tractor made clearing land much less laborious. After observing how well Mr. Ishida's crawler tractor worked, others also began using crawlers. With his tractor Mr. Ishida once uprooted a huge tree that produced 20 cords of wood. Mrs. Ishida was known also to take turns operating the tractor.

## **LAND ACQUISITION AND THE ALIEN LAND LAW**

During the early 1900s a few Japanese immigrants purchased land, but as increasing numbers of Japanese acquired property in Washington, Caucasian opposition increased until on March 2, 1921, the Washington State Alien Land Law was passed and the Japanese were denied the right to purchase land.

Mr. Kinpachi Furukawa and Mr. Tokuo Numoto were two of the Isseis to own land in Bellevue prior to the new law. Despite the new restriction, however, and because the Japanese were denied the right of naturalization but desired land ownership, one method employed was through trustee and guardians. The Japanese families who had American-born children would engage a legal U. S. citizen to act as the child's guardian or trustee and purchase the land. When the child reached legal age, the guardian would then deed over the property.

Many of the farmers arranged long term leases. Some made agreements by exchanging use of the land for clearing the trees. Those who leased land would usually contract for at least five years with options for extensions because strawberries require three years to begin producing profitably.

In 1911 the Furuya Bank and Real Estate Development Company opened for business. Many Japanese purchased property with loans from this bank. During the Depression many of the farmers lost their properties by default, unable to continue their loan payments, which in turn resulted in Furuya Bank's bankruptcy, a catastrophe for many who lost their entire life's savings.

California's Alien Land Law was in effect in 1913, where sharecropping was also prohibited. Mr. Ototaka Yamaoka worked diligently trying unsuccessfully to halt the adoption of the discriminatory Washington State Alien Land Law.

## BELLEVUE ISSEI LANDOWNERS

Name, Address	Year
1. Kinpachi Furukawa: Clyde Hill, 92nd NE & NE 21st	1905
2. Tokuo Numoto: Bechtel Place, 104th NE & NE 15th	1907
3. Ototaro Shimogaki: Wilburton, 116th SE & SE 1st	1909
4. Tsuruichi Numoto: Yarrow Point, Stevens Landing	1909
5. Munesaku Suzuki: Wilburton, Greenhouse, 114th SE & SE 2nd	1909
6. Tokuo Numoto: Conway Place, 104th NE & NE 21st	1910
7. Ryutan Kurita: Conway Place, 104th NE & NE 13th	1910
8. Shichiro Matsuzawa: Wilburton, 116th SE & SE 2nd	1912
9. Akinari Ushiyama: Boddy Hill, 85th NE & NE 24th	1916
10. Terumatsu Yabuki: Boddy Greenhouse, 84th NE & NE 28th	1919
11. Rihachi Takeshita: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 15th	1919
12. Haruji Takeshita: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 15th	1919
13. Fujigoro Katsuro: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 14th	1919
14. Hikotaro Aramaki: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 13th	1919
15. Rukizo Fuwa: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 12th	1919
16. Keigo Yamagiwa: Midlake, 117th NE & NE 11th	1919
17. Eizo Masuyama: Midlake, 110th NE & NE 12th	1919
18. Tatsunosuke Hirota: Wilburton, 116th NE & NE 8th	1920
19. Takesaburo Kusumi: Midlake, Greenhouse, 116th NE & NE 8th	1920
20. Itarolto: Midlake, 118th NE & NE 10th	1920
21. Mr. Harada: Newport, 128th SE & SE 43rd	1920
22. Yotaro Sakaguchi: Wilburton, 108th NE & NE 4th	1925
23. Nansaburo Mizokawa: Evergreen Point, 80th NE & NE 31st	1927
24. Gonzaburo Muromoto: Evergreen Point, 80th NE & NE 30th	1927

25. Asaichi Tsushima: Hunts Point, 84th NE & NE 30th	1929
26. Clubhouse Site: Bellevue, 102nd NE & NE 10th	1930
27. Shipping Warehouse: Bellevue Growers Assoc. Midlake, 118th NE & NE 10th	1933
28. Mangoro Furuya: Wilburton, 118th SE & SE 4th	1934
29. Mitsumasa Tanino: Highland, 140th NE & NE 11th	1935
30. Yoshiemon Kawakami: Newport, 120th SE & SE 12th	1936
31. Masami Inatsu (Nisei): Newport, 118th SE & SE 38th	1937
32. Kameji Yabuki: Houghton, Greenhouse, Lake Washington Blvd. NE 57th	1938

## **EARLY LIVING CONDITIONS**

The early Japanese settlers lived in the old, dilapidated shacks once occupied by the Indians. They also cleaned up some of the existing animal shelters for living quarters. The beds were cushioned with mattresses made of straw and leaves. Before coming to Bellevue, I lived in Vancouver, Canada, where I remember finding lice infestation in the straw mattresses.

Purchasing the essential necessities such as food and clothing did not pose a problem as there were a few local stores, and Seattle was also nearby. With the lack of money, however, the furniture consisted mostly of boxes. Some of us constructed cooking stoves by reassembling old, broken or discarded stoves. Many, especially those working on the railroads, developed night blindness resulting from poor nutrition. After improvement in their diet, they fortunately regained their vision.

## **FAMILY GROWTH**

The original goal for many of those who came to America was to work, prosper and return to Japan. The dream was no different for those coming to Bellevue. The men would begin farming and then were joined by their wives and brides from Japan. But prosperity was elusive. Then as their families increased one by one and the years passed without achieving their goals, their stays lengthened. As time slipped by they came to realize that America after all was a good place to live, so many of us remained and worked our farms and reared our families.

Nevertheless, living in a foreign country with a different culture and language was extremely difficult, especially for the women. Mr. Matsuura, Mr. Haraguchi and Mr. Shimazaki had Caucasian wives who were especially helpful in introducing the Japanese wives to some of the American customs, and some new friendships developed.

As the ages of the population increased, social problems became more apparent. Although the children were accepted into the public schools, the Japanese, both immigrants and American citizens, were not generally accepted socially and, therefore, felt isolated. Consequently, the Japanese Community Association was organized in order to provide various language classes, adult programs, and a youth club for social and sports activities. In the year 1930 a community clubhouse (Kokaido) was built on property that had been purchased earlier for that purpose (located at 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE and NE 11<sup>th</sup> Street).

## **RETURN TO BELLEVUE**

Again, I must reiterate that my memory has dimmed and I am unable to recollect some of the exact dates, names and all of the incidents of the early years. I often thought of abandoning this lengthy project, but as I talked to old friends who encouraged me to continue, and as I gathered additional data, I decided to resume my writing and complete this book.

After the end of World War II and a small number of us returned to Bellevue, there were a few changes which occurred that saddened and disappointed me. One was the extremely deteriorated condition of the cemetery where some of the Japanese had been buried. Another was the sale of the Japanese Community Clubhouse and property where so much of our lives had been centered. Also disappointing was that so few of the former Japanese families chose to return to Bellevue. (Those who did return were property owners.)

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- 1898** Earliest Japanese pioneers to Bellevue, Mr. Fujii and Mr. Setsuda.
- 1900** Clearing land for farming began.
- 1904** First strawberry grower, Mr. S. Takami.
- 1905** First community cooperative organized with Mr. Kinpachi Furukawa as president. Lord Hosokawa of Higo Province, Kumamoto-ken, came to Bellevue to observe and purchased land to be used by future Kumamoto-ken immigrants
- 1906** Food co-op formed.
- 1907** Food co-op expanded to include farm supplies.
- 1908** First Japanese naval training ship to Seattle; Bellevue Japanese participated in entertaining the sailors.
- 1909** Year of the Yukon Exposition. That year Bellevue strawberry growers were unable to sell all their berries because of an unusually high yield resulting in large financial losses.
- 1910** Community co-op was divided into separate groups – farmers and community.
- 1910** The Eastland Co-op changed its name to "Chawakai" (Social Club).
- 1911** Second visit of the Japanese naval training ship to Seattle. Some trainees stayed at Bellevue homes.
- 1912** Strawberry growers try to combat the root weevil problem. Extensive research was conducted.
- 1913** Record crop of tomatoes -10,000 crates.
- 1914** Nihonjinkai (Japanese Community Association) was organized.
- 1915** Experimentation in growing peas supported by poles and string, which now is common practice.
- 1916** Vegetable growing and marketing study done by the growers.
- 1917** Lake Washington Ship Canal was opened.
- 1918** Mr. Matsumura had a freight business and transported strawberries and other vegetables to the Seattle produce markets.
- 1918** Record snowfall with extensive damage.
- 1919** Japanese language school started. Wilburton sawmill closed.

- 1920** Sharecropping is prohibited.
- 1921** Washington Alien Land Law is enacted.
- 1921** Japanese language school was temporarily closed when acts of discrimination and prejudice were encountered.
- 1922** Mr. Kurita's land was confiscated by the State government.
- 1922** Evening English language classes and homemaking classes for the benefit of the Japanese were begun at Hunts Point.
- 1923** The Bellevue Japanese Community Association was formally dedicated by the Japanese Consulate.
- 1923** Eastland's Women's Club was formed.
- 1924** Mr. Baba started his freight business.
- 1924** Hunts Point evening classes changed to Sunday School.
- 1925** Japanese language school reopened at Downey Hill.
- 1925** Suda family's tragic drowning accident on the Medina ferry (only two children survived).
- 1926** First Nisei marriage - Takeo Matsuoka and Kazue Hirotaka who were given a bible by the church
- 1927** The Seinenkai (youth club) was organized.
- 1927** First athletic event at Newport playfield.
- 1927** A Japanese play was presented at the Bellevue Congregational Church.
- 1928** Third visit of a Japanese naval training ship, with a picnic held for them at the local park.
- 1928** First discussion to build a community clubhouse.
- 1929** Purchased property for future clubhouse.
- 1929** Constructed the Japanese Language School building at 88<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 18<sup>th</sup> (Eastland). Mr. Tsushima was the first teacher until a regular instructor could be hired.
- 1930** The Kokaido (Japanese Community Clubhouse) was completed and dedicated.
- 1930** Bellevue Growers Association was formally organized.
- 1930** Athletic competition with the local Caucasian club.
- 1931** Japanese language schools consolidated at the new clubhouse.

- 1931** Japanese youth sports teams formed.
- 1932** Furuya Bank declared bankruptcy and many Issei lost their land and lifetime savings.
- 1932** Clubhouse basement was remodeled to accommodate Japanese language and judo classes. First judo tournament held.
- 1933** Packing/shipping warehouse built at Midlake and started shipping produce (tomatoes, peas, lettuce).
- 1935** Constructed separate language school building when enrollment increased. Began ikebana classes at the Clubhouse.
- 1936** Mr. Yamagiwa and Mr. Aramaki, longtime members of the community, died.
- 1938** The dual citizenship issue arose. Many Nisei who had been registered with the Japanese consulate by their parents requested that their names be stricken from their records.
- 1939** Nisei girls for the first time were participants in the annual Bellevue Strawberry Festival.
- 1940** Joe Takeoka was the first Nisei from Bellevue to volunteer for the U. S. Army.
- 1941** December 7, Pearl Harbor bombed; World War II declared.
- 1941** Mr. Tsushima, Mr. Matsuoka and Mr. T. Yabuki, current community leaders, interned.
- 1942** The Japanese Community Association temporarily disbanded.
- 1942** May 18, evacuation of all Bellevue area Japanese both Issei and Nisei U.S. citizens, to Pinedale Assembly Center near Fresno, California.



## **CROPS PRODUCED**

### **Strawberries**

**1897** Mr. Dagwood introduced strawberry farming to the Japanese.

**1909** During the Yukon Exposition year strawberry production had increased to the point of glutting the market.

**1910** Strawberry growers had to confront the weevil infestation problem.

**1924** The Strawberry Growers Association was organized.

**1926** Until this time the Marshall variety of strawberries was the most popular. Then the Everberry variety which produced later in the year was introduced and planted on farms with peat type soil. The Marshall variety had the best flavor for eating fresh and for canning but spoiled quickly after picking. Now there are newer varieties that keep much better. At the time of evacuation in 1942 there were approximately 150 acres of strawberries under cultivation.

### **Tomatoes**

Growing tomatoes started around 1912 when overproduction of strawberries necessitated an alternative, and tomatoes became another major crop. In 1933 when the Bellevue Growers Association constructed their packing and shipping warehouse tomatoes were one of several vegetables shipped in large quantities to many parts of the United States.

(Note: The packing shed was built in 1933 at 117<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> [Midlake area] with a membership of 60 families. There were three year-round full-time employees consisting of the business manager, bookkeeper and floor manager, as well as 20 seasonal workers.)

### **Peas**

After many experimental attempts, peas became another profitable crop for the farmers and for the packing shed.

### **Lettuce**

This was another vegetable that grew well in Bellevue and many crates of lettuce were shipped out by railroad carloads from the packing shed.

### **Other Crops**

Some of the other vegetables produced were pole beans, cucumbers, celery, cabbage, cauliflower and hothouse rhubarb.

### **Greenhouse Crops**

Immediately prior to World War II there were approximately seven families operating greenhouses.

Their primary crops were cucumbers, tomatoes, chrysanthemums, Easter lilies and geraniums.

## **EDUCATION AND RELIGION**

### **JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

- 1915** Mr. Nakatani proposed a Japanese language school for the increasing number of children.
- 1918** The steering committee consisting of Mr. Matsuzawa, Mr. Suda and Mr. Yamagiwa started the first school on Downey Hill (98<sup>th</sup> NE and NE 9<sup>th</sup>) with Mr. Kurokawa and Mrs. Mizuno as instructors.
- 1921** Language school was discontinued because of discrimination problems.
- 1925** Japanese language school resumed.
- 1928** Another Japanese language school building was built in the Eastland area (84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>). The teachers were Mrs. Okamura and Mr. Tsushima.
- 1930** The Japanese Community Clubhouse was completed and the two schools were consolidated at this new building.
- 1935** When enrollment increased a separate building was constructed on the same site for the language school. (Some of the teachers between 1918 and 1941 were Mr. Kurokawa, Mr. Iseri, Miss Sakuma, Mr. Yamamoto, Mrs. Mizuno, Mrs. Okamura, Mr. Tsushima, Mr. Aritomi, Mr. Koito, Mrs. Tajitsu and Mrs. Takekawa.)
- 1942** World War II; school closed; evacuation.

### **BUDDHIST CHURCH**

Those who wished to attend services in Seattle since activities locally were limited in the early 1900s. In 1930 when the Japanese Community Clubhouse was built, Buddhist services were held regularly in Bellevue.

### **CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

In 1921 Miss Florence Rumsey and Mrs. Topping of Seattle, Baptist missionaries who spoke the Japanese language, and Mrs. Martin of Hunts Point visited me and suggested the idea of teaching the Issei the English language with a religious approach. The missionary ladies thought that learning English would be more beneficial to the Isseis rather than teaching the Japanese language to the youngsters. Miss Rumsey had engaged in missionary work in Japan for 7 years. After discussion among the Japanese community, the first meeting was held with 16 families in attendance, a total of 30 people. Mrs. Martin, Miss Rumsey, Rev. Osawa, Rev. Okazaki, Mr. Tashiro (representing Seattle Japanese Baptist Church) and Mr. Parry of the Bellevue Baptist Church attended the gathering.

In 1923 Miss Rumsey and her mother started home visitations (Katei Kai) during which time Miss Rumsey and her mother stayed with the Tsushimas. Miss Rumsey visited many Japanese

homes in the Bellevue area. Others making visitations were Mr. & Mrs. Endo (Seattle Salvation Army), Rev. Hirayama and Rev. Hashimoto of the Japanese Baptist Church.

In the 1920s as the Nisei population grew, the Japanese Baptist Church started Sunday School classes with Mr. Tsushima as the superintendent. On opening day 20 children were in attendance at the Hunts Point Grade School. In 1930, when the Japanese Community Clubhouse was built, the Sunday School moved to the new building. The teachers were Miss Rumsey, Miss Esther McCullough and Rev. Emery Andrews. Also assisting were Kimi Taguchi, Mrs. Kashiwagi, the Suzuki sisters, Eugene Hayashi and Mr. Amano. When the children became older and attendance decreased, Rev. Andrews conducted evening fellowship meetings at homes and later at the Bellevue Baptist Church at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

- 1907** Organized a community co-op to purchase household and farming supplies.
- 1914** The Bellevue Japanese Community Association was organized.
- 1921** Eastland area mothers formed the Haha-No-Kai (Mothers' Club) and homemaking classes were held. Mrs. Harry Boddy taught hat making. Mr. & Mrs. Hachiya taught cooking and sewing. The club was later disbanded because of poor attendance.
- 1923** The Bellevue Community Association was formally dedicated by the Japanese consul.
- 1927** Formed the Bellevue Fujinkai (Women's Club). In 1932 during the Depression the club disbanded.
- 1927** The Bellevue Seinenkai (Youth Club) was organized with approximately 25 members.
- 1929-30** Land was purchased for the Japanese Community Clubhouse site. The clubhouse was completed and dedicated in 1930. The building served many purposes such as community business meetings, Buddhist and Christian church services, flower arranging classes, movies, shibai's (plays) and various indoor activities such as girls and boys basketball, judo and kendo. Football and baseball teams were also organized and annual community picnics were held on the site.

## **THE DEPARTED**

There were a few Japanese buried at the Bellevue community cemetery (Pioneer Memorial Park) at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. Some of the grave markers placed there were: Numoto 1906, Morimoto 1907, Teruo Kato 1907, Zengoro Kitahara 1928, Waichiro Tanino 1931, Hichiro Matsuzawa 1932, Hatsuzo Miyamoto 1934, Keigo Yamagiwa 1936 and Hikotaro Aramaki 1936. Later the cemetery property was purchased for business development. A new cemetery (Sunset Hills Memorial Park) is now located at 140<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 16<sup>th</sup> where a plot with marker was established in honor and memory of the deceased pioneers.

## BELLEVUE PIONEERS

### BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES

*(Digital Version Note: This has been alphabetized using the English alphabet -this is not the same order as the original version - JHR)*

#### **AMBO, TOKUEMON from Hiroshima-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 109<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup> (Shimogaki place). 1913 to Wilburton area at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 4<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. In 1913 his wife died leaving two children. 1918 returned to Japan with children. He returned to the same address with his second wife. A short time later Mr. Ambo died. Mrs. Ambo moved to Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### **AOYAMA, EICHI from Shizuoka-ken**

1906 came to the U.S. as a student and worked on Mr. Hirayama's farm and helped clear 3 acres of Mr. Rose's land at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup>. 1908 lived with Mr. Tsushima in Mr. Hirayama's barn. 1909 moved into a tent at Mr. Rose's farm and helped grow turnips and peas but changed crops to strawberries for better income. In his spare time, he cleared land at Swing's place. He also did gardening work for the Hutchisons and Smiths. In 1910 he grew strawberries and tomatoes on Cumming's place. In 1916 he returned to Japan. He later came back to Seattle with his wife.

#### **AOYAMA, TATSUTARO from Shimane-ken**

1909 to Seattle and then to California. 1919 returned to Japan. 1920 to Bellevue with Mrs. Aoyama to the Bechtel Place. 1930 moved to the Downey Hill area (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>) on to 10 acres and grew strawberries, peas and tomatoes. Mr. Aoyama had an interest in the cultural arts and he taught flower arranging and cooking. He also liked to direct plays. Mr. & Mrs. Aoyama had one son.  
1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulalake. They later relocated to Spokane, Washington.

#### **ARAMAKI, HIKOTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1900 to Seattle via Hawaii and operated a restaurant on Main Street in Seattle. 1904 to Bellevue at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>, helping to clear 5 acres and grew strawberries. 1909 to Clyde Hill area (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>) and farmed on land cleared by Mr. Furukawa. Experimented with Alaska peas but found they were too small to market, so he dried and ground them into powder form producing 5 sacks. 1910 Mrs. Aramaki arrived from Japan. 1911 moved to 108<sup>th</sup> SE & Main, helping clear 5 acres on which he grew strawberries and tomatoes. 1918 after a visit to Japan moved to the Midlake area (120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup>) purchasing and farming on 10 acres, raising strawberries, tomatoes, peas and lettuce. Mr. Aramaki was a civic minded, active and well-respected member of the Japanese community. He died after an illness in 1936, leaving his wife, four daughters and two sons. The family continued farming.  
1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulalake and Minidoka.  
1946 - Mrs. Aramaki and her family returned to Bellevue at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ARAMAKI, SANJIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 5<sup>th</sup>, growing strawberries and tomatoes for 6 years. Brother of Shigetaro. 1915 moved further out of town and cleared 5 acres which he farmed. He became ill and died. Mrs. Aramaki and family returned to Japan.

**ARAMAKI, SHIGETARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1910 to Bellevue. Joined brother Sanjiro at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & Main Street and helped clear land. Wife and son came from Japan shortly thereafter. 1919 moved to the Midlake area at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>, clearing and farming 10 acres. 1927 deeded property to son Shigeto and returned to Japan with wife and two daughters.

**ARIMA, SHIGETO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1922 to Bellevue at McCallum Place in Hunts Point. 1924 farmed 3 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> (Eastland). 1934 moved to Auburn, Washington, with their two daughters and two sons.

**BABA, ISABURO from Shiga-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area); worked at the sawmill and also farmed. 1926 at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> (Eastland); farmed and also started a transfer business. 1928, with Mr. Yamagishi, the Baba family of two daughters and a son farmed at Yarrow Bay (100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup>); he also continued the transfer business. He was an active member of the Japanese community. In 1935 Mr. Baba died of a stroke. 1942 - WWII; evacuation.

**DOI, TAKEJIRO from Hiroshima-ken**

1906 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 24<sup>th</sup>. Cleared 20 acres and grew potatoes. 1910 in the Wilburton area, 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup>, raised vegetables on 20 acres. 1915 moved to South Park, Seattle.

**ENOMOTO, ITARO from Ishikawa-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres and also worked at the Wilburton sawmill. 1923 to Yarrow Bay area at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 35<sup>th</sup>. They had one son.

**FUJII, JUSABURO from Tokushima-ken**

1898 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 16<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area). Married in 1908. Worked as a cook for Mr. Dagwood who was the owner of an Alaskan cannery business and also owned acreage in Bellevue on which he grew strawberries. Mr. Fujii was the supervisor of the Japanese employed on the strawberry farm. After a few years he moved to Seattle and opened the Gyokko Ken Cafe.

**FUJIKAWA, KIKUMATSU from Fukuoka-ken**

Around 1910 he was working at a sawmill. 1912 to Bellevue at 140<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup> (Highland area); cleared 5 acres with Mr. Tamaye. 1917 to 106<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Bechtel Place); cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1923 gave up farming and soon thereafter died after an illness. They had two sons and a daughter. One son became a priest.

**FUJIKAWA, MR. from Fukuoka-ken**

1930s in Bellevue at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>. A single parent, he died in the late 1930s leaving a son Byron and daughter Fusaye.

**FUJIMORI, AKIRA from Hyogo-ken**

1905 to Bellevue and worked for the railroad company as a "bookman" (timekeeper). 1911 during the Depression he was one of the railroad workers laid off and so he stayed with Mr. Tsushima. Soon after that he helped clear 5 acres at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup> (Bechtel area) and farmed for 4-5 years. 1916 moved to Seattle.

**FUJIMOTO, TORATARO from Hiroshima-ken**

1911 to Bellevue (Wilburton area) at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 5<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1915 returned to Japan. He came back to Bellevue but did not stay long.

**FUKUDA, MR.**

Yarrow Point (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 43<sup>rd</sup>). Helped Mr. Meecham clear 10 acres and then moved away.

**FUKUNAGA, NICHINAN from Nagasaki-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> (Medina area); farmed land cleared by Mr. Kizu. They had a son and a daughter. 1920 they returned to Japan after fire destroyed their home.

**FURUKAWA, KINPACHIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1899 to Bellevue. With an introduction from Mr. Fujii, he worked for Mr. Dagwood as a supervisor on his strawberry farm. Later he cleared acreage at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 21<sup>st</sup> (Clyde Hill area) and started his own berry farm. In 1905 Lord Hosokawa of Kumamoto-ken came to visit and observe his farm. In 1912 Mr. Furukawa (related to Kenji Matsushita) left word he was going bear hunting, leaving his friend Mr. Kajiya in charge of his farm, and never returned. It was later learned that he was in California.

**FUWA, RIKIZO from Fukuoka-ken**

1917 to Bellevue at 124<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area).

1919 moved to 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>, farming 7 acres.

1938 Mr. Fuwa died, leaving Mrs. Fuwa and a son.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. They relocated to Sacramento, California.

**GO, MANNOSUKE from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. In 1915 he moved from Bellevue.

**GO, SEINOSUKE from Yamaguchi-ken**

Around 1912 to Bellevue at 110<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1924 moved from Bellevue.

**GONDO, SOKICHI (MUNEKICHI?) from Fukuoka-ken**

1910 to Bellevue and farmed at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>. Around 1916 he moved to Seattle. By chance, I later met him at Minidoka; he was the produce purchaser there.

**GOSHI, MATSUTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue and started to clear 10 acres on Downey Hill (94<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>). Joined by his wife and son Matahei from Japan and grew strawberries. In 1913 he moved to 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>, cleared the land and grew tomatoes. In 1918 he moved to 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>, cleared 3 acres and grew strawberries. In 1923 they moved to 89<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Sorenson's) on 5 acres that had been cleared by Mr. Takano where he raised strawberries. His son Matahei started farming in Puyallup, Washington. In 1929 they moved to 89<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> (Saal's place). He became ill, quit farming and moved to Seattle to recuperate. He died a short time later. Mrs. Goshi returned to Downey Hill and passed away a few years later.

**HARA, WATARU from Nagano-ken**

1913 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>. Cleared 5 acres and raised strawberries. Moved to Seattle in 1918 and started a variety store.



**HARADA, MR.**

1906 to Bellevue at 106<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 34<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1917 at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 42<sup>nd</sup>; cleared 15 acres with Mr. Shiraishi and Mr. Ite. 1918 at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 40<sup>th</sup>; cleared 10 acres next to Mr. Ite's land. He later moved from Bellevue.

**HARAGUCHI, SAKUZO from Hiroshima-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 90<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area). Cleared 5 acres at 93<sup>rd</sup> NE & NE 22<sup>nd</sup>. Married a widowed Caucasian woman with two children. One child drowned at Clyde Beach. Mr. Haraguchi had an accident while operating a wagon and lost an eye. In 1915 he moved to California to join his wife who had moved there earlier.

**HASHIMOTO, MR from Hiroshima-ken**

1921 to Bellevue with his wife and two children. He grew strawberries on 5 acres at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 7<sup>th</sup>. 1924 moved to Seattle.

**HATTORI, KINTARO from Okayama-ken**

1914 to Bellevue and took over Mr. Horiuchi's farm at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> where he farmed and also built a greenhouse. 1919 moved to Seattle.

**HAYASHI, KANJI O. from Kanagawa-ken**

1906 to Seattle as a student. 1911 to Bellevue and worked as a houseboy. 1915 returned to Japan. 1918 to Seattle and was employed at Furuya Bank. 1920 to Bellevue at Downey Hill area and farmed. 1921-22 went to Japan and returned to U.S. with Mrs. Hayashi. They moved several times around Bellevue and in 1932 farmed in the Midlake area at 118<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup>. They had three sons and three daughters. He was very active in the Japanese community. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Weiser, Idaho. Returned to Seattle after WWII.

**HAYASHIDA, KAMAJI from Hiroshima-ken**

1903 to Bellevue and lived in an old log cabin on the Takami place, 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>. Helped clear 5 acres at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries. In 1908 he moved to Winslow, Washington.

**HAYASHIDA, TSUNETARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1926 to Bellevue (Midlake area) at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>; farmed on 10 acres. He was active in the Bellevue Japanese community. They had two sons and two daughters. In 1940 Mr. Hayashida died.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocation to Nampa, Idaho.

**HIRAI, WASAICHI**

1920s he and his wife came to Bellevue at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area). They had one son.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. 1946 - Returned to Seattle.

**HIRANO, MANZO from Kumamoto-ken**

1914 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1920 moved to Auburn, Washington, with his wife.

**HIRAOKA, MR. from Kumamoto-ken**

1935 from Seattle to Bellevue at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill) and farmed.

**HIRAYAMA, GUMPEI from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue (Stevens Place) at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 32<sup>nd</sup>. Cleared 10 acres and raised strawberries. In 1909, the year of the Yukon Exposition, those growing strawberries experienced an over-supply resulting in financial losses. This caused him to give up farming and he moved to Seattle.

**HIROTAKA, TATSUNOSUKE from Hiroshima-ken**

1902 to Bellevue and helped clear 10 acres at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup>. His wife was one of the first women to arrive here. Their first daughter was born in 1907. After his 6-year lease expired they moved to the Clyde Hill area and grew strawberries on the Takami-cleared land. Mr. Hirotaka was a big, strong man and he cleared 10 acres in the Clyde Hill area, 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup> in 1911. In 1914 they moved to the Conway Place area, 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>, and helped clear an additional 10 acres. Later bought 5 acres of cleared land at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area) and built a house for his family where they farmed. In 1923 he became ill and died, leaving his wife, two sons and three daughters. Daughter Kazue, who married Takeo Matsuoka, was the first Bellevue Nisei to wed.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California. With son Tokio, Mrs. Hirotaka relocated to Chinook, Montana.

1946 Returned to Bellevue with son Tokio; she died in 1949 after an illness.

**HONDA, TADAE from Kumamoto-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 110<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton area); farmed land cleared earlier by Mr. Togami. 1923 moved to Auburn, Washington.

**HORIUCHI, EIJI**

1909 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> and farmed on 5 acres. 1914 left his farm to Mr. Hattori and moved away.

**HOSHI, KATSUJI from Kumamoto-ken**

About 1910 to Bellevue (Bechtel place) at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 2<sup>nd</sup>; grew strawberries on 5 acres. 1912 moved to Winslow, Washington.

**IKEDA, GENTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue, farming at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area) as well as at 102<sup>nd</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup>. 1920 moved to the White River Valley area.

**INATSU, YOSHIO from Kumamoto-ken**

1914 to Bellevue at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 4<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton); cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1918 at Noda's place in the Eastland area. 1919 at Stricker place in the Clyde Hill area; was joined by Mrs. Inatsu and cleared and farmed 5 acres. They had two daughters and a son. Son Masami was one of the first Nisei to hold legal title to land in Bellevue. He was also the only Nisei soldier from Bellevue to die in action in World War II. 1920 Mr. Inatsu died and subsequently Mrs. Inatsu married Mr. Fujikawa. 1923 the Fujikawa's moved to the Newport area at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 38<sup>th</sup>.

**INO, MR. from Hiroshima-ken**

1908 to Bellevue; worked at the sawmill and also at Mr. Tsutsu's greenhouse at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1915 at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries. 1920 farmed at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup> on land cleared by Mr. Hirotaka. In 1924 he returned to Japan.



**INOASHI, MATSUTARO from Hiroshima-ken**

1918 to Bellevue in the Hunts Point area; worked as a gardener and also worked on Mr. Tsushima's farm. 1920 to Bothell and operated a dairy farm. 1922 returned to Bellevue and farmed the Meecham Place on Yarrow Point. 1926 built a house at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 24<sup>th</sup>. 1927 to the Wilburton area where Mr. Kyomoto had cleared land (116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 20<sup>th</sup>). 1929 to Newport area at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 40<sup>th</sup> on land cleared by Mr. Harada. 1931 farmed at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup>. 1933 they returned to Japan with their two sons and a daughter.

**INOUE, KITARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1912 to Bellevue and helped clear 5 acres at 96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>, Downey Hill area. With his wife they grew strawberries. Later moved on to land cleared by Mr. Kizu and raised strawberries. He was a master of acupuncture medicine. Because of his asthmatic condition they left Bellevue and returned to Japan.

**ISHIDA, CHUJIRO from Shiga-ken**

1924 to Bellevue (Clyde Hill area) at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup>, farming on 10 acres. They adopted one of his brother's daughters.

1942 - WWII; evacuation.

**ISHIDA, GOICHI from Shiga-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>; cleared 5 acres and tried raising chickens which he discontinued and subsequently worked at a sawmill. 1914 at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> (Desenger Place) he again tried raising chickens as well as farming. 1916 went to Japan, got married and returned to Bellevue with his wife. 1917 at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton) he cleared land and farmed. Some of the trees he had to remove from the forest were 6 feet in diameter. 1922 moved to Yarrow Bay area (100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup>); cleared and farmed 10 acres. In 1924 two children died during the flu epidemic. Mr. & Mrs. Ishida had four daughters.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulalake, returning to Seattle after restrictions were lifted.

**ISHIKAWA, MR from Kumamoto-ken**

1918 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> (White Place). Moved away in 1920.

**ITE, YUZO from Kumamoto-ken**

1907 to Bellevue (Enatai area) at 110<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 34<sup>th</sup>; cleared 10 acres and grew strawberries. He later helped the landowner plant holly trees on the property. 1910 his wife joined him at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 42<sup>nd</sup> (Newport area) where, with Mr. Harada and Mr. Shiraishi, they cleared 15 acres. 1918 at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 38<sup>th</sup>, cleared 20 acres where he built a home and farmed. 1927 moved to Seattle.

**ITO, ITARO from Fukuoka-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>. Cleared 5 acres and grew strawberries and tomatoes. Mrs. Ito came to Bellevue in 1910. In 1915 cleared 5 acres at 96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> (Downey Hill area) and raised berries. In 1916 cleared 5 acres at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>. 1918 moved to the Highland area at 132<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup> to NE 8<sup>th</sup>, clearing and farming 15 acres. 1924 purchased 3 acres at 122<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>, growing strawberries, tomatoes, peas and lettuce. Mr. Ito was a sumo wrestler and was known for his tremendous strength. They had four daughters and three sons, one of whom died in an auto accident.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulalake, and Minidoka, relocating to Montana.

1946 Returned to Bellevue at 122<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>.

**ITO, TATSUJIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue (Enatai area) at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 26<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 10 acres. 1911 cleared 10 acres at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 48<sup>th</sup>. 1920 moved out of Bellevue.

**KAJIYA, YUJI from Ehime-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 21<sup>st</sup>. Worked as a laborer and also managed Mr. Furukawa's farm. In 1912 he moved to Juanita.

**KAKUDA, SUMITA (or Tsunoda?) from Shiga-ken**

1907 to Bellevue and worked for Mr. Matsuura. Cleared and grew strawberries on 3 acres. Farmed for two years and then moved to Seattle.

**KAMEI, MR.**

1911 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 7<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1915 moved to 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 5<sup>th</sup> and built a greenhouse. He moved from Bellevue soon thereafter.

**KAMIHARA, TOMIHACHI from Okayama-ken**

1905 to San Francisco and from there to Wyoming and Utah where he worked on the railroad. 1921 to Bellevue and worked for Mr. Yamada on Clyde Hill. In 1922 farmed on land cleared by Mr. I. Ito on Peterson Hill (134<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup>). They had three daughters and two sons. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka. Returned to Seattle after WWII.

**KANO, MR.**

Date unknown; at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>.

**KASAHARA, TEIJI; Greenhouse Operator from Nagano-ken**

1924 to Bellevue at 86<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 24<sup>th</sup> (Eastland). He was a carpenter. He operated greenhouses built by Mr. Ushiyama. 1931, because of extensive damage caused by a windstorm, changed to outdoor farming. 1938 farmed land formerly farmed by Mr. Mizokawa and Mr. Muromoto at Fairweather Bay. They had two daughters (one of whom died) and a son. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Denver, Colorado.

**KASHIWANO, HITOSHI from Okayama-ken**

1917 to Bellevue (Eastland area) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>; farmed on 10 acres. 1921 farmed at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton). He was a very active member of the Bellevue Japanese community and was presented with an appreciation gift when he returned to Japan in 1934.

**KATO, MR from Kumamoto-ken**

1908 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> (White Place). Moved away shortly thereafter.

**KAWAKAMI, YOSHIEMON**

1927 to Bellevue (Ite's place) 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 38<sup>th</sup> with wife and two children. 1937 farmed at 124<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 10<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton area). He had grown celery while living in South Park and decided to try it here and found that it grew very well.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to California

**KAWATA, TATSUSUKE from Oita-ken**

1900 to Bellevue in the Medina area. He was one of the first Japanese to live in this area, working as a gardener. 1917 worked for Mr. Kashiwano at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. 1924 to the Midlake area at 116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 4<sup>th</sup> and resumed gardening work. 1925 Mrs. Kawata arrived from Japan. He had a hobby of collecting antiques. They had one son.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. After WWII returned to Seattle.

**KINOSHITA, MR. from Fukuoka-ken**

1917 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & Main Street. 1920 moved to Seattle.

**KISO, KOGENTA**

1909 to Bellevue (Downey Hill area) at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>. Leased 10 acres, cleared and farmed some of the land for two years. He turned the lease over to Keigo Yamagiwa and moved to Seattle.

**KITAHARA, SANJIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1912 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres. In 1917 he moved away.

**KITAHARA, TOKUE from Nagano-ken**

1923 to Bellevue (Wilburton area) at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 24<sup>th</sup>. 1928 married Mrs. Kiyokawa who had a son and farmed at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>. A short time later they moved and farmed at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka. They relocated to Portland, Oregon.

**KITAHARA, ZENGO from Kumamoto-ken**

1915 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area); farmed 10 acres. In the 1930s Mr. Kitahara died after a stroke and Mrs. Kitahara and children returned to Japan.

**KIZU, BANZABURO from Oita-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>; cleared 5 acres. Together with Mr. J. Sakauye, they cleared additional land at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries and tomatoes. They experimented by staking tomatoes and peas and found that they could grow better quality, higher yielding crops by this method. In 1910 moved to 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup> on Clyde Hill; cleared 10 acres. In 1916 moved on to Mr. White's land, clearing and farming 10 acres. In 1919 moved to Kirkland, staying for 3 years, then lived in the Redmond area for 6 years. In 1928 moved back to Bellevue on Downey Hill. He later gave the farm to Mr. Kofukada.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California.

1946 - Returned to Bellevue and later returned to Japan.

**KODAMA, KINOSUKE; Greenhouse Operator from Fukushima-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tsutsu's greenhouse). 1925 moved to Auburn, Washington

**KODAMA, TOKUJIRO from Shiga-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 90<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> and farmed 3 acres. He built a greenhouse in Wilburton. 1932 returned to Japan.

**KODANI, MANGORO from Okayama-ken**

1932 to Bellevue (Enatai area) at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 26<sup>th</sup> from Snoqualmie sawmill. 1934 farmed on 10 acres at 124<sup>th</sup> NE & Main Street (Wilburton area). He was very active in the Japanese community. He assisted in organizing a kendo club. Family of two daughters and three sons.

1942 – WWII: evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Sacramento, California.

**KOFUKADA, MINORU from Oita-ken**

1939 to Bellevue at 98<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> (Downey Hill) where Mr. Kizu had farmed earlier. Raised strawberries.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake.

**KONDO, SEITARO from Fukuoka-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 5<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton area). 1930 at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area); contracted plowing and cultivating work.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulalake. Returned to Bellevue after WWII and later died.

**KUBOTA, MR.**

1906 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> (Eastland) where he cleared 5 acres. Before his lease expired, he moved out of Bellevue.

**KUBOTA, YOSHIYA**

Came to Bellevue (Northrup area) before 1900. Employed by the railroad company as a timekeeper. In the early 1900s, with the aid of the Japanese railroad section crew, cleared land at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 40<sup>th</sup>. 1906 at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup> helped clear 10 acres. Soon thereafter he returned to Japan.

**KUMAGAI, WATARU from Yamaguchi-ken**

1909 to Bellevue in the Medina area and worked as a houseboy for a doctor. 1912 farmed at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Eastland). 1934 family of three sons and two daughters moved to Auburn, Washington, at which time he was honored with an appreciation gift for his active community participation.

**KURITA, RYUTAN from Shiga-ken**

1903 to Seattle and 1906 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> where he worked as a houseboy for Mr. Smith. In 1909 he grew strawberries on 5 acres at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 3<sup>rd</sup>. In 1909 his wife came from Japan. In 1911 he purchased the property at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> but before he was able to complete clearing the land, the property was confiscated by the government when the Alien Land Law was enacted. He was a president of the Farmer's Association and was always helpful to his fellow farmers. He worked very hard in vain against passage of the Alien Land Law. He returned to Japan in 1928.

**KUSUMI, FUKUNOSUKE from Hiroshima-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 1<sup>st</sup>; cleared and farmed 5 acres growing strawberries. 1912 moved to Auburn, Washington, with his wife and children.

**KUSUMI, RYUZABURO from Hiroshima-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 115<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 3<sup>rd</sup> where, with younger brother Takesaburo, cleared and farmed 10 acres. Mrs. Kusumi joined him soon thereafter. 1914 moved to the Greenlake area in Seattle.

**KUSUMI, TAKESABURO from Hiroshima-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup> (Conway Place). 1915-16 purchased 3-4 acres at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> and built a greenhouse. His wife died and he remarried soon thereafter. 1928 leased the greenhouse to K. Saito and returned to Japan with his wife and three children.

**KUSUMI, TAKESABURO; Greenhouse Operator from Hiroshima-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>. Built greenhouses and grew cucumbers. 1928 leased the property to Mr. K. Saito. See earlier data.



**KYOMOTO, TOTARO from Fukuoka-ken**

1907 to Bellevue to Mr. Kizu's farm on Downey Hill. In 1908 cleared 5 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> (Eastland) and grew strawberries. Sent for his wife from Japan and in 1910 took over Mr. Hattori's farm, farming an additional 5 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup>. In 1916 the Nishida family took over the farm. In 1917 with his wife, a son and two daughters he moved to the Wilburton area around 116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 20<sup>th</sup>, clearing 20 acres. Subsequently Mrs. Kyomoto became ill and died. A few years later he also died and the children left the farm and moved to Seattle.

**MASHIYAMA, EIZO from Hokkaido**

1920 to Bellevue with his brother at 124<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area); cleared and farmed 10 acres. 1926 was involved in an auto accident. In 1928 he sold his property to Takeo Matsuoka and returned to Japan.

**MASUNAGA, SHIGEO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Hawaii, then to Seattle. 1915 to Bellevue at the Tominaga place, 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 44<sup>th</sup>. 1921 at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 45<sup>th</sup> and was joined by Mrs. Masunaga; here he cleared and farmed 10 acres. 1924 farmed at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup>. 1930 at 142<sup>nd</sup> SE & SE 7<sup>th</sup>; cleared 10 acres. 1932 at 156<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 16<sup>th</sup> (Phantom Lake area); farmed 10 acres previously farmed by Mr. Tsuji. The Masunagas had two daughters and one son.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Returned to Seattle soon after the end of the war.

**MATSUI, WASUKE from Wakayama-ken**

1920s to Bellevue at 120<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 34<sup>th</sup> (Newport area); cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1925 moved away.

**MATSUMOTO, TOJIRO from Hiroshima-ken**

1902 to Bellevue, helping Mr. Takami clear land at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>. Later cleared land at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries. Sent for his wife from Japan; she died during childbirth shortly after joining her husband. Because it was the first death among the early Japanese pioneers, Mr. Matsumoto encountered much difficulty in arranging for a funeral service. With the community's assistance a service was held; that was a very sad occasion. In 1908 he moved to South Park (Seattle).

**MATSUOKA, TAKEO Hawaii born. Parents from Kumamoto-ken**

1926 to Bellevue and married Kazue Hirotaka; they were the first Bellevue Nisei to wed. Takeo farmed with his brother-in-law Tokio Hirotaka at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup>. 1934 farmed at 122<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area). He was very active in the Japanese community and was instrumental in the formation and leadership of the Bellevue Seinenkai, an organization for youth activities. He was very helpful in the Bellevue Vegetable Growers Association, becoming business manager of the shipping warehouse. A highly respected, invaluable member of the community, he helped to organize and carry out the various athletic and social programs for the Seinenkai. They had two daughters and three sons.

- WWII. Takeo was interned in Montana and later joined his family at Tulelake.

- WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Chinook, Montana.

**MATSUSHITA, KENJI from Kumamoto-Ken**

1902 to Bellevue (Clyde Hill area) at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup> on Mr. Furukawa's farm to whom he was related. His brother Mankichi Matsushita who worked at a sawmill helped him clear land at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup>. After helping start up the berry farm, his brother returned to Japan in 1907. That year Mrs. Matsushita came to join Kenji. In 1910 they moved on to 10 acres of land at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup> growing strawberries, tomatoes and peas. The Matsushitas had six daughters and one son. He served a term as president of the first Farmer's Association and was active in community affairs. They were a hard-working couple who also suffered the tragedy of a fire that completely destroyed their home. With community effort a new house was built. 1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California, and Heart Mountain, Wyoming. Relocated to Chicago. 1946 Returned to Seattle and later to Bellevue.

**MATSUURA, KOREYUKI from Kanagawa-ken**

1907 to Bellevue at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup>. He was an attorney who married a Caucasian woman in Japan. In 1915 moved to 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 16<sup>th</sup> and farmed. In 1916 his oldest son drowned at Smith Cove while fishing from a boat which capsized. Mr. Matsuura was well respected in the Japanese community. As a lawyer who was also fluent in English, he was invaluable to the Japanese as well as to the Caucasians. He grew strawberries but also tried other vegetables in search of profitable crops. In 1920 he moved to Seattle where he started a vegetable market. He became ill and died a few years later.

**MATSUZAWA, HICHIRO from Niigata-ken**

1906 to Seattle. He then worked on a dairy farm at Snoqualmie, Washington, where he was gored by a bull and seriously injured. Leaving Mrs. Matsuzawa here he returned to Japan to recuperate. In 1909 returned to Seattle, then to Bellevue (Yarrow Point) at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup> where they worked for the Rosenburgs as domestic and gardener. In 1912 he grew strawberries at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 40<sup>th</sup>. In 1915 he helped Mr. Hibbs clear his 10 acres at 93<sup>rd</sup> NE & NE 33<sup>rd</sup>. In 1920 moved to the Wilburton area (116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 3<sup>rd</sup>) farming 7 acres. Mr. Matsuzawa was a civic minded person and was very influential in the Japanese community's growth. He was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for all his contributions. He died in 1932, survived by his wife, two daughters and four sons who continued farming the land until 1940 when they moved to Redmond at 196<sup>th</sup> & Redmond-Fall City Road 1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California. They relocated to Chinook, Montana. 1946 Returned to Woodinville, Washington. In 1948 returned to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>.

**MIYAMOTO, HATSUJI from Kumamoto-ken**

1911 to Bellevue at Yarrow Point area (Stevens Place) and stayed with Mr. Yamamoto. 1913 at 98<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 30<sup>th</sup> (Foster Place); helped clear 5 acres. 1922 helped clear 5 acres at 126<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>. 1928 moved to South Park (Seattle). 1934 returned to the Newport area where he died in a logging accident.

**MIYAMOTO, TATSUICHI from Hiroshima-ken**

1928 to Bellevue (Downey Hill area) at 96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>; farmed on land cleared by Mr. Inouye. He was considered an expert in growing tomatoes. Mrs. Miyamoto joined him soon thereafter. They had a daughter and a son. Mr. Miyamoto was primarily a gardener and farmed to supplement his income. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka. Returned to Bellevue soon after the end of WWII.

**MIZOKAWA, NAOSABURO from Okayama-ken**

He was schooled in carpentry. In 1905 went to the Philippines to observe the boat building industry. 1906 to Hawaii, from there to Victoria, Canada, to San Pedro, California, and then to Bellevue in 1917 at Fairweather Bay (between Hunts Point and Evergreen Point). With Mr. Tsushima and Mr. Muromoto, they cleared and farmed 10 acres of Commissioner Ramsey's land. In 1918 went to Japan, got married and returned with Mrs. Mizokawa to Fairweather Bay and resumed farming. Also cleared an additional 2 acres with Mr. Muromoto. They grew strawberries, tomatoes and peas. In 1933 moved to the Highland area (140<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>) and grew strawberries, tomatoes and peas on 10 acres. In 1937 purchased the land on Clyde Hill (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>) cleared earlier by Mr. Furukawa and grew strawberries, lettuce, tomatoes and peas. They had a son and a daughter.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California, and Minidoka, Idaho.

1946 Returned to Bellevue and reactivated their farm at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Mizokawa died in 1947.

**MORIKAWA, ENJIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1904 to Hawaii. 1913 to Bellevue working at a sawmill. 1916 Mrs. Morikawa joined him. 1917 moved to the Medina area at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>; farmed 5 acres. They had a daughter and two sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake.

**MORIMOTO, MR. from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue and lived with the Hayashidas and helped clear 5 acres at 96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>. Grew strawberries, but after one year moved out of Bellevue

**MORIOKA, KAKUSABURO from Okayama-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 106<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Bechtel area). Grew strawberries on 5 acres. 1916 moved to Kirkland, returning to Bellevue in 1928 at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 26<sup>th</sup> (Enatai area). Later farmed at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 32<sup>nd</sup> and at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 40<sup>th</sup>. They had three sons and three daughters.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Detroit, Michigan.

**MUKUMOTO, TOTARO from Fukuoka-ken**

1902 to Bellevue, working as a laborer and bookkeeper for Great Northern Railroad. He also farmed for 27 years. 1925 Mrs. Mukumoto died leaving three sons and a daughter. Mr. Mukumoto returned to Japan with three children. 1935 returned to America and settled in Wapato, Washington.

1944 - He died at the Heart Mountain, Wyoming, relocation camp.

**MURAKAMI, MR. from Okayama-ken**

1918 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 18<sup>th</sup> and farmed. He was more interested in classical entertainment so moved to Seattle in 1925.

**MURATA, MR. from Hiroshima-ken**

1902 to Bellevue at 112<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 10 acres. In 1904 Mrs. Murata arrived from Japan; she was one of the earliest wives to join their husbands. 1914 moved away from Bellevue.

**MURAYAMA, MR.**

1909 to Bellevue (area unknown). His wife was a barber. They moved from Bellevue in 1912.

**MUROMOTO, GONZABURO from Okayama-ken**

1908 to San Francisco, Pasadena, Salt Lake City, Denver and then arrived in Seattle in 1915. In 1917 Mrs. Muromoto joined him from Japan and they came to Bellevue to Fairweather Bay, clearing land and farming with Mr. Tsushima and Mr. Mizokawa. Later cleared an additional 2 acres with Mr. Mizokawa. In 1926 tried the variety store business in Seattle with Mr. Tsuboi but decided country life was better for the children and resumed farming. In 1933 moved to the Highland area at 140<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup> and farmed 10 acres on which they grew strawberries, tomatoes, peas and lettuce. In 1937 they purchased 10 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup>, growing berries, lettuce, tomatoes and peas. They had a daughter and two sons.  
1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California, and Minidoka, Idaho.  
1946 Returned to Bellevue and resumed farming at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup>.

**NAGAOKA, SHUNTARO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 112<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 3<sup>rd</sup>; cleared 5 acres. 1916 moved out of Bellevue.

**NAKABAYASHI, MR.**

1907 to Yarrow Point (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup>) and worked for the Rosenburgs. In 1909 moved to South Park, Seattle.

**NAKAOKA, SHINTARO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1916 to Bellevue (Eastland area) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>; farmed 3 acres. 1920 moved away.

**NAKATA, IKICHI from Wakayama-ken**

1909 to Bellevue (Medina area) at 76<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>; farmed on 5 acres. 1911 moved to the Sakauye-cleared land at 86<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> and farmed. They had three sons. 1928 returned to Japan.

**NAKATANI, NOBUZO from Osaka**

1910 to Bellevue, staying with Mr. Yamada. In 1911 he moved to a two-acre farm at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>. He later took over the Kajiya farm. In addition to his strawberry farm, he raised pigs and chickens. He served a term as president of the Japanese Growers Association. He was always a helpful, civic-minded person. In 1918, the year of the terrible flu epidemic, both Mr. and Mrs. Nakatani died. They were survived by a son who was at the time enroute from Japan to join them.

**NAKAYAMA, JINTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 86<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>; lived and farmed with Mr. Yamauchi. 1917 to 124<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area) with Mr. Ikeda; cleared and farmed 10 acres. Mr. Nakayama's son Hiroshi also farmed with him. In the 1920s Mr. Nakayama returned to Japan. In 1934 his son Hiroshi and family moved to Algonia, Washington.

**NISHINAKA, TOMOKICHI from Wakayama-ken**

1907 to Bellevue and helped clear 5 acres at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>, Downey Hill area, and grew strawberries. In 1912 he moved to Winslow, Washington.

**NODA, YOSHITARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1907 to Bellevue. He was a Buddhist priest who lived next door to Mr. Uchida, picking strawberries for him. In 1912 he cleared 5 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> and grew tomatoes. He sent for a picture bride from Japan, but upon her arrival he found her unsuitable and sent her back. Later he leased land at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>, clearing 5 acres. A cedar tree on the property, one of the largest in the area, measured 6 feet in diameter. It took an entire month to remove the tree and stump, requiring two boxes of dynamite (all exploded simultaneously) to blast out the stump. He married again, this time to a woman who had a daughter. In 1928 he left Bellevue, leaving the property with the Sorakubo family.

**NOMURA, GITARO from Fukuoka-ken**

1904 to San Francisco; then to Wyoming. 1928 to Bellevue via South Park (Seattle) at 134<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup> (Highland area) and farmed. 1929 Mrs. Nomura died survived by a family of three daughters and two sons. Mr. Nomura continued farming until 1942.

1942 - WWII; chose to relocate to Thermopolis, Wyoming.

**NUMOTO, CANO Greenhouse Operator Nisei, U.S. born**

Managed farm started by father at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup>. 1932 expanded farming by building two large greenhouses and grew cucumbers. As one of the older Nisei his fluency in both Japanese and English was of great value to the Japanese Community Association.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulalake and Minidoka. In 1945 his wife died in internment camp and he later remarried. The family consists of a daughter and two sons. He relocated to Spokane, returning to Bellevue in 1946.

**NUMOTO, TOKUO from Okayama-ken**

1900 to Seattle and in 1904 to Bellevue at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 2<sup>nd</sup> working for Mr. Smith as a gardener. After observing Mr. Furukawa's strawberry farm, in 1905 he negotiated a 6-year lease with Mr. Pettier at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 31<sup>st</sup> and grew strawberries. In 1906 he helped clear 10 acres belonging to Mr. Tremper at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup> (Yarrow Point) where strawberries were grown here also. In 1909 Mr. Tremper decided to go into the holly business and, with Tokuo's help, planted holly trees in the strawberry field. Numoto grew strawberries until the lease expired. In 1906 Tokuo purchased 5 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup>, giving this land to his brother Tsuruichi. Tokuo also purchased 10 acres at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Streets from Mr. Mooney. Through financing by Furuya Investment Company, he purchased and cleared 10 acres at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> (Conway Place). In 1908 he called his younger brother Minoru to America, sending him to school at the U. of W., W.S.U. and Yale U.; he returned to Japan after graduation. In 1918 Mr. Numoto died, a victim of the flu epidemic. Soon thereafter the Conway Place property was repossessed by the Furuya Investment Company. Mrs. Numoto later married Mr. Yukawa.



**NUMOTO, TSURUICHI from Okayama-ken**

1909 to Bellevue, settling on property given to them by his brother Tokuo at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries. Also rented Tsushima land and successfully grew lettuce, celery and cabbage. Later, with his son Cano, they worked only their own land growing strawberries, tomatoes, peas, beans and lettuce. In the early 1930s they built greenhouses and grew cucumbers. Mr. Numoto also worked on Tremper's holly ranch cultivating and training the trees. In 1920 when the trees were mature enough production of Christmas wreaths and sprays began. Mr. Numoto was the supervisor of the cutting crew. Later, son Cano became production manager. Many Japanese Issei and Nisei worked at Tremper's. Since the holly season came after the regular farming season, this work gave them an opportunity to earn some extra income. After son Cano married in 1940, Mr. & Mrs. Numoto retired and returned to Japan.

**ODA, MR. from Hiroshima-ken**

1928 to Bellevue's Downey Hill area, staying at Mr. Kizu's former home. They, with a son, left shortly thereafter.

**OGATA, MANZO from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue. Helped clear 5 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>, Clyde Hill area. He was fairly fluent in the English language so was able to communicate with the Caucasian people which made it much easier to conduct business. He was very civic minded and was extremely helpful to the Japanese community. In 1910 he left Bellevue.

**OHMAE, KITARO from Hiroshima-ken**

1908 to Bellevue at 93<sup>rd</sup> NE & NE 21<sup>st</sup> where he cleared and farmed 5 acres. In 1912 he moved to South Park (Seattle).

**OHSHTA, MR. from Fukuoka-ken**

1923 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & Main. 1925 moved near Issaquah, Washington.

**OKAMURA, USHIGUMA from Kagoshima-ken**

1920 to Bellevue and worked at the Wilburton sawmill. 1924 farmed at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup>. 1926 at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> (Eastland), farming on 5 acres. Mrs. Okamura was the principal of the Eastland Japanese Language School and later taught at the consolidated school. They had three daughters and a son who died. In February of 1942 Mr. Okamura died and the family moved to Seattle.

**OKUBO, RIICHI from Fukuoka-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup> (Eastland) and helped on Mr. Kyomoto's farm. 1916 worked with Mr. Kizu in Redmond. 1929 back to Bellevue in the Clyde Hill area and tried raising chickens but changed to vegetable farming. 1930s returned to Japan.

**SAIKI, NAOTO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1912 to Bellevue. He was in banking and in 1912 arrived in New York via Shanghai, Manila and Italy. Lived with Wataru Kumagai (a brother) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup> and helped clear 5 acres. In 1923 moved to 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup> and cleared 5 acres where he grew strawberries, tomatoes and peas. In 1927 moved to 90<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 31<sup>st</sup> (Wetherill Place) working for the Wetherills and farming the land. He raised strawberries, tomatoes and peas. The Saikis had two sons and two daughters.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California.

1946 Returned to Seattle.

**SAITO, ICHIEMON; Greenhouse Operator from Fukushima-ken**

1916 came from Seattle to the Houghton Greenhouses at Lake Washington Boulevard and NE 57th, growing flowers. In 1918 operated the Boddy Greenhouses. 1919 the family with two sons and three daughters moved away, later returning to Japan.

**SAITO, KUMAKICHI; Greenhouse Operator from Fukushima-ken**

1919 to Bellevue (Eastland) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>; operated Mr. Saal's greenhouses, growing cucumbers, tomatoes, chrysanthemums and Easter lilies. They also raised pansies and calla lilies outdoors. 1928 operated Mr. Kusumi's greenhouses at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>.  
1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. After WWII returned to Seattle and later returned to Japan.

**SAKAGUCHI, YOTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1920 to Bellevue (Medina area) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>; farmed on land vacated by Mr. Fukunaga. 1924 moved to 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup> and farmed. 1928 moved to 10 acres at 110<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup> and raised strawberries, peas, lettuce and tomatoes. They had four daughters and three sons. Mr. Sakaguchi died in 1948.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka.

1946 - Returned to Bellevue with eldest son Takeshi and family at 110<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup>.

**SAKAUYE, JIROKICHI from Wakayama-ken**

1905 to Bellevue and with brother Yoshimatsu cleared 3 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> and farmed the land. In 1906 moved to 90<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup> and helped clear 10 acres and grew strawberries. Mrs. Sakauye arrived in 1906. Brother moved to California. A few years later a fire destroyed their home. Mrs. Sakauye became ill and died in 1923. They had five children, two sons and three daughters. In the mid-1920s he moved to Woodinville. Mr. Sakauye worked hard and bravely kept the family together and in 1929 moved his family to California near his brother. One of his sons became a minister.

**SAKUMA, MR. from Fukushima-ken**

1929 to Bellevue at 105<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup> (Carter Place). Took over operation of greenhouses managed by Mr. Suzuki. They had no children. 1934 moved away.

**SHIMADA, MOMOKI from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue and helped clear 5 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>, Clyde Hill area, and grew strawberries. Later moved to the Northrup area, 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 30<sup>th</sup>, and helped clear 10 acres. In 1915 he moved his family to the White River Valley area.

**SHIMOGAKI, KAMEKICHI from Hiroshima-ken**

1913 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup> and farmed. Around 1918 moved to 134<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup> (Highland area) where he farmed 10 acres. He was one of the first to grow hothouse rhubarb. Mr. Shimogaki was very active in the Japanese community and the farming business. They had a daughter and four sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Worland, Wyoming.

**SHIMOGAKI, OTOJIRO from Hiroshima-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup>; cleared 5 acres. Shortly thereafter his wife and daughter arrived from Japan. He cleared an additional 10 acres at 109<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup> and another 5 acres with Mr. Ambo. Purchased 20 acres at 116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Shimogaki died in 1912. He deeded the land to son Kamekichi and returned to Japan in 1913.

**SHIRAISHI, EITARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1902 to Hawaii; 1904 to San Francisco; 1907 to Seattle to assist in arranging a funeral service for his brother. After the funeral he decided to stay in Seattle (Bryn Mawr). A short time later Mrs. Shiraishi joined him from Japan. He operated a fruit market for a few years. 1916 he worked on Mr. Ite's farm at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 42<sup>nd</sup> (Newport area). In 1917, together with Mr. Ite and Mr. Harada, they cleared 15 acres at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 42<sup>nd</sup> - 44<sup>th</sup> and divided the land among them. 1924 Mr. & Mrs. Shiraishi and their daughter farmed 7 acres at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 44<sup>th</sup>.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake and then to Minidoka, Idaho.

1946 Returned to Bellevue.

**SORAKUBO, TORAKICHI**

1928 to Bellevue at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup>; farmed land previously cleared by Mr. Noda. Family of two sons and a daughter.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocation to San Jose, California.

**SUDA, TEIKICHI from Hiroshima-ken**

Around 1920 to Bellevue (Wilburton area) at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 7<sup>th</sup>. Then to 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. Then to 94<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup>, Downey Hill area. In 1925 Mr. & Mrs. Suda, two of their children and Mr. & Mrs. Takizaki's two children died in a drowning accident when their Ford automobile rolled off a ferry. The two Suda children who survived were raised at the Maryknoll Convent in Seattle.

**SUGURO, FRANK TAKAYOSHI from Shizuoka-ken**

1915 to Bellevue area from Vashon Island, Washington. In 1919 helped clear land and farmed with father Togoro at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> (Midlake). In 1933 when his family returned to Japan Frank and his wife remained and continued farming the land. They had four daughters and two sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake.

1946 Returned to Bellevue at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>.

**SUGURO, TOGORO from Shizuoka-ken**

1902 to Redmond and worked at a poultry ranch and at a lumber yard. 1907 moved to Vashon Island. 1913 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup>. 1919 to Midlake area; purchased and cleared 10 acres at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries and tomatoes. 1933 left the property with son Frank T. Suguro and returned to Japan with his wife, two daughters and two sons.

**SUMI, TADATAKA from Tottori-ken**

1911 to Bellevue with Mr. Fujimori and stayed with the Tsushimas until moving to Mr. Yamada's at Bechtel Place where he helped Mr. Fujimori clear land. 1914 tried the fish and meat market business. 1916 his wife joined him at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 16<sup>th</sup> where they cleared the land and grew strawberries. 1917 at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 1<sup>st</sup> they farmed 5 acres. Later in the Lake Sammamish area he worked at a lettuce ranch as a field foreman. The lettuce farm failed and shortly thereafter they, with their three children, moved to California.

**SUMI, YONEZO from Fukuoka-ken**

1915 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup>. Cleared 5 acres. In 1918 he moved from Bellevue.

**SUZUKI, MUNESUKE from Shizuoka-ken**

1915 to Bellevue with his wife at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 14<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed 7 acres. 1925 operated the greenhouse built by Mr. Tsutsu and Mr. Kodama at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1925 at 105<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup> managed a second greenhouse but sold that to Mr. Sakuma. In the early 1930s Mrs. Suzuki returned to Japan when she became seriously ill. They had four daughters. In the late 1930s Mr. Suzuki and one of his daughters returned to Japan.

**SUZUKI, MUNESUKE Greenhouse Operator**

See earlier data. In 1925 managed greenhouse at 105<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 5<sup>th</sup> which he later sold to Mr. Sakuma.

**TAHARA, MINEICHI from Hiroshima-ken**

1906 to Bellevue at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area); cleared and grew strawberries on 5 acres. In 1910, together with Mr. Matsuura and Mr. Kizu, they cleared 10 acres at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> and experimented growing peas and tomatoes. After his 6-year lease expired he moved to Seattle and started a produce market.

**TAKAI, TETSUTARO from Shiga-ken**

1917 to Bellevue at 86<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> (Saal Place); farmed the land cleared by Mr. K. Matsushita. 1922 at Yarrow Bay area, cleared and farmed 20 acres with Mr. Yokota. Mrs. Takai was a midwife. They had two sons and a daughter. In 1927 moved to Algona, Washington.

**TAKAMI, SAKUTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1900 to Bellevue at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area). He developed 20 acres and, with helpful advice from Mr. Furukawa, grew strawberries and was very successful. In 1907 he quit his farm and moved to Seattle.

**TAKAMORI, MR.**

1914 to Bellevue and farmed at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. 1917 moved away.

**TAKANO, KOMAJ from Ehime-ken**

1916 to Bellevue and worked at the White residence at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>, soon joined by Mrs. Takano. In 1921 they moved to the 5 acres of land cleared by his father at 89<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> (Sorenson's) where he cleared an additional 3 acres. He was a very successful farmer, growing a variety of vegetables - strawberries, lettuce, cauliflower, tomatoes and peas. He also built a greenhouse. Being a journeyman carpenter, he was appointed as construction supervisor when the Japanese Community Clubhouse and the school building were built. He was a popular, energetic man and a respected leader in the community. He served terms as treasurer of the community association and director of the language school. The Takanos had four sons and two daughters.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California.

1946 Returned to Seattle.

**TAKANO, MR. Greenhouse Operator from Shizuoka-ken**

1940 to Bellevue at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 2<sup>nd</sup>, one of the Suzuki greenhouses. WWII terminated the greenhouse operation.

**TAKANO, UHEI from Ehime-ken**

1910 approximately, to Bellevue. He cleared 5 acres on the Sorenson Place (89<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>) and grew strawberries. In 1916 he returned to Japan, coming back to Bellevue with his son Komaji and settling at the White's residence. Soon thereafter he returned to Japan.

**TAKEOKA, YOSHITSUGU from Nagano-ken**

1907 to Seattle. To Bellevue in 1910. Helped Mr. Ushiyama clear his land and additional land at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 19<sup>th</sup>. Moved to Seattle and started a restaurant but quit that business and returned to Bellevue in 1913. He helped clear 4 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 39<sup>th</sup> (Caton Place on Yarrow Point) and grew tomatoes as well as doing garden maintenance work. In the mid-1930s he farmed 10 acres at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 18<sup>th</sup>. The Takeokas had two daughters and four sons. Oldest son (Joe) was the first Nisei from Bellevue to volunteer for the U. S. Army before WWII.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California.

1947 Returned to Seattle.

**TAKESHITA, HARUJI from Okayama-ken**

1901 from Seattle to Montana, working for the railroad company as a timekeeper and foreman.

1915 returned to Japan, got married and came to Bellevue in 1916 with his wife and his brother Rihachi and his wife. Together they cleared 5 acres at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & Main and farmed the land.

1919 moved to the Midlake area at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> and, again with his brother Rihachi, purchased and cleared 10 acres on which they raised strawberries and tomatoes. They had four daughters and two sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake.

1946 Returned to Bellevue at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>.

**TAKESHITA, RIHACHI from Okayama-ken**

1916 to Bellevue with wife at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & Main; cleared and farmed 5 acres with brother Haruji.

1919 to Midlake area at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup>; together with his brother purchased, cleared and farmed 10 acres. 1928 Mr. Takeshita died after an auto accident leaving his wife, two sons and two daughters. In 1931 Mrs. Takeshita and her family moved to California.

**TAKESHITA, TEIGORO from Hiroshima-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>; farmed with son. 1915 moved to O'Brien, Washington.

**TAKIZAKI, TAMOTSU from Nagano-ken**

1914 to Bellevue. Worked with Mr. Yamagiwa at Downey Hill area. In 1920 cleared land and grew strawberries at 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 24<sup>th</sup>. He was renowned as a kendo expert and was an instructor in Seattle and Bellevue. In 1922 he moved to Seattle and went into the grocery business.

**TAMATE, DENJIRO from Kagoshima-ken**

1920 to Bellevue (Midlake area) at 126<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup> and cleared 5 acres. They then moved to the Highland area at 134<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> where they farmed land cleared by Mr. I. Ito. The Tamates had two daughters. In 1939 the family returned to Japan.

**TAMAYE, ENJI from Fukuoka-ken**

1910 to Bellevue at 140<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup>; with Mr. Fujikawa cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1916 to 124<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup> (Peterson Hill) where Mrs. Tamaye joined him from Japan. They had two daughters. 1932 to 150<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 26<sup>th</sup>; operated a greenhouse and outdoor farm. He was a very active member of the community.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Mrs. Tamaye died in 1943.

1946 Returned to Seattle.

**TAMAYE, ENJI Greenhouse Operator**

1932 operated greenhouses as well as outdoor farming at 150<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 26<sup>th</sup>. See earlier data.



**TAMURA, ICHIJIRO from Wakayama-ken**

1903 to Bellevue at 98<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 14<sup>th</sup>, potato farming with Mr. Tatsunosuke Tamura and Mr. Tsujimoto. 1905 moved to South Park, Seattle. 1916 Mrs. Tamura arrived from Japan and they returned to Bellevue at 128<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 42<sup>nd</sup>. In 1931 they moved back to South Park. 1938 returned to Bellevue at 118<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 6<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton area). Mr. Tamura died in 1941, survived by his wife, five daughters and four sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, relocating to Montana and Colorado.

1946 Returned to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 20<sup>th</sup>.

**TAMURA, TATSUNOSUKE from Wakayama-ken**

1903 to Bellevue with brother Ichijuro. In 1905 moved to South Park.

**TANAKA, DAISUKE from Yamaguchi-ken**

1916 to Bellevue (Clyde Hill area) at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 13<sup>th</sup> where he farmed on 5 acres. 1918 moved away.

**TANIGAWA, MINE from Hiroshima-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at 88<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> and farmed. 1920 moved away.

**TANINO, WAAICHIRO AND MITSUMASA from Okayama-ken**

1905 to Seattle where he started a vegetable market. Soon thereafter Mrs. Tanino and their son Mitsumasa with his wife arrived from Japan and they moved to Snoqualmie where he worked as a "bookman" (timekeeper). 1927 came to Bellevue and lived temporarily with the Mizokawas, then moved and farmed in the Downey Hill area where Mr. Inouye had earlier cleared 5 acres. He cleared an additional 5 acres and grew tomatoes. 1931 moved to the Highland area (140<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 2<sup>nd</sup>) with son Mitsumasa and his family where they farmed 10 acres. A short time later they purchased and farmed 20 acres at 140<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. In the late 1930s Waichiro died. The Mitsumasa Taninos had two daughters and three sons.

1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. In

1943 Mrs. Mitsumasa Tanino died. After WWII they returned to Seattle.

**TANIZAKI, MR. from Kumamoto-ken**

1900 to Bellevue, helping Furukawa clear land. In 1905 moved to the Stevens Landing area (Yarrow Point) and made his living cutting firewood. He married one of Mr. Peltier's daughters who died a few years later. He then moved to 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>. In 1925 he returned to Japan and shortly thereafter I heard that he had died.

**TERADA, UMEKICHI from Yamaguchi-ken**

1911 to Bellevue (Eastland) at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries. He had a wife and children. 1916 moved to Kent, Washington.

**TESHIMA, MR. from Fukuoka-ken**

1920 to Bellevue at 116<sup>th</sup> NE & Main. 1922 moved away.

**TOGAMI, UTARO from Kumamoto-ken**

1912 to Bellevue from Hawaii with wife and son at 110<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 8<sup>th</sup> (Wilburton area); cleared and farmed 10 acres. Later their son married and moved to 100<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 7<sup>th</sup>. 1917 Mr. Togami died and Mrs. Togami returned to Japan. 1918 the son moved to California.

**TOKUNAGA, TORAHIKO from Ehime-ken**

1910 to Bellevue. Leased and cleared 5 acres at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 16<sup>th</sup> (Clyde Hill area) and grew strawberries. Moved to Juanita in 1912.

**TOMINAGA, TOYOKICHI from Kumamoto-ken**

1916 to Bellevue (Newport area) at 114<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 44<sup>th</sup>; cleared and farmed on 20 acres. 1934 returned to Japan with his wife and three children, leaving their oldest son here.

**TOSHI, ETSUJIRO from Hiroshima-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at 100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> (Conway Place). Cleared 5 acres and then moved away.

**TSUJIMOTO, KAZU from Wakayama-ken**

1900s to Bellevue at 98<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 14<sup>th</sup>, growing potatoes for a few years. He then moved out of Bellevue.

**TSUSHIMA, ASAICHI from Okayama-ken**

1907 to Vancouver, Canada. 1908 to Bellevue living with Mr. Aoyama in Mr. Hirayama's barn at 92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 32<sup>nd</sup>. Worked at Mr. Hopkins' apple orchard and did gardening work for some of the Caucasians in the area. 1911 lived in a tent with Mr. Katayama at Mr. Rose's Place (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup>). In 1912 Mrs. Tsushima joined him from Japan and they moved to the Hunts Point area where she worked as a domestic and he as a gardener. Went to Japan in 1917 to visit his parents and upon returning to the U.S. leased 2 acres at Hunts Point and grew strawberries. In 1917 the Tsushima, Mizokawa and Muromoto families farmed together at Fairweather Bay (between Hunts Point and Evergreen Point), on property owned by land commissioner Claude Ramsey. In 1929 bought 4 acres at Cozy Cove (between Hunts Point and Yarrow Point, 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup>). Built a house and farmed, growing strawberries, tomatoes, peas and many other vegetables. The neighbors in the area kept them very busy filling vegetable orders. Mr. Tsushima was a very active, respected member of the Bellevue Japanese community. They had one daughter.

1941 WWII declared. Mr. Tsushima was interned in Montana and New Mexico.

1942 Evacuation of Mrs. Tsushima and daughter to Pinedale and Tulelake, California, and Minidoka, Idaho.

1946 - Returned to Bellevue.

**TSUTSU, DENZO; Greenhouse Operator. from Okayama-ken**

1905 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>; grew flowers and vegetables in Mr. Carter's greenhouse. Later moved to 112<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 2<sup>nd</sup> where he cleared the land and in 1908 built a greenhouse and was joined by Mrs. Tsutsu. Mr. Ino worked with Mr. Tsutsu and later operated his own greenhouse. In 1918 upon his return from a visit to Japan, Mr. Tsutsu learned that his wife and oldest son had died during the flu epidemic. 1920 he left the greenhouse with Mr. Kodama and returned to Japan.

**UCHIDA, ZENJU from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue (Stevens Landing area). Leased and cleared 10 acres of Pottier's land (92<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 30<sup>th</sup>). Cleared additional 2 acres adjoining the Pottier land and tried to grow strawberries but the weevil infestation discouraged him and he gave up his lease to Mr. Noda. He moved to the Downey Hill area and cleared 5 acres which he later left for the Yoshimotos. Mr. Uchida came to Bellevue as an older man, and age and the strenuous work caught up with him, and in 1912 at the age of 73 he returned to Japan.

**UENO, KATSUJI from Hiroshima-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at Downey Hill area. Operated a chicken farm. They had two sons and a daughter. 1925 returned to Japan.

**USHIYAMA, AKINARI from Nagano-ken**

1909 married the daughter of the Fujimotos of South Park and came to Bellevue. He bought and cleared 5 acres at 85<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 24<sup>th</sup> and built a house. Two years later his wife and baby died from complications during childbirth. He remarried and they had two daughters and a son. In addition to farming, he tried raising goldfish which was not a profitable venture. He also purchased a small sawing machine to produce lumber and firewood which was also unprofitable. He then built a greenhouse and started greenhouse farming. In 1924 he died after complications from a tooth infection. In 1926 Mrs. Ushiyama gave the greenhouse and farm to Mr. Kasahara (a relative who helped her after her husband's death) and returned to Japan with her children.

**UYEDA, SHUICHI from Wakayama-ken**

1926 to Bellevue at Ide Place (Newport area). In 1927 to Hunts Point at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 32<sup>nd</sup>; cleared 4 acres of peat ground and grew strawberries. In 1927 Mrs. Uyeda came from Japan. They had two sons and two daughters. Moved to Renton in 1929 and to Issaquah, Washington, in 1933.

**YABUKI, KAMEJI; Greenhouse Operator from Fukushima-ken**

1907 to Seattle. Older brother of Terumatsu, he first worked on a railroad crew in Montana and then at several restaurants in Seattle. 1918 to Houghton at Lake Washington Boulevard and NE 57<sup>th</sup> operating the greenhouses vacated by Mr. I. Saito, later purchasing the property. Raised cucumbers, tomatoes, chrysanthemums, geraniums and lilies as well as vegetables and pansies outdoors. In 1920 his wife and two children died. Remarried in 1921 and had a family of four daughters and two sons. 1932 windstorm did extensive damage to the greenhouses but continued operations after repairs. He was a very active member of the community. (His youngest brother, Frank Toranosuke, earned his chemical engineering degree from the U. of W. with financial support from his two brothers in Bellevue. Frank returned to Japan after graduation.)

1942- WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake. Relocated to Weiser, Idaho, and later to Portland, Oregon.

**YABUKI, TERUMATSU; Greenhouse Operator from Fukushima-ken**

1911 to Seattle. (Younger brother of Kameji). 1916 went back to Japan, got married and returned to Seattle with his wife. 1918 to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 15<sup>th</sup> (Saal's greenhouse). 1919 purchased property at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 28<sup>th</sup> (Boddy Greenhouses); grew cucumbers, tomatoes, geraniums and chrysanthemums. He was very active in the Japanese community. They had a daughter and three sons, one of whom died in an auto accident.

1942 - WWII; he was interned in Montana, North Dakota and New Mexico while his family was evacuated to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka. They relocated to Spokane, Washington.

1946 - Returned to Bellevue at 84<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 28<sup>th</sup>.

**YAMADA, MATSUJIRO from Kumamoto-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sander Place); cleared and farmed 10 acres. 1915 cleared and farmed 5 acres at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup>. 1917 rented a home at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 17<sup>th</sup> and soon thereafter died of a stroke. Mrs. Yamada returned to Japan.

**YAMADA, MR. from Kumamoto-ken**

1905 to Bellevue and grew strawberries on 5 acres next to Mr. Kizu's farm. With a 6-year unexpired lease on the land, he passed the farm over to Mr. Terada and moved away.

**YAMAGISHI, TOMOJI from Fukushima-ken**

1915 to Mexico. 1917 to Utah. In 1918 Mrs. Yamagishi (sister of Kameji and Terumatsu Yabuki) arrived from Japan. 1923 to Bellevue; stayed with T. Yabuki at Hunts Point. 1926 to Seattle and tried the second-hand store business. 1927 to Medina and then to Phantom Lake areas. In 1928 to Yarrow Bay (96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 38<sup>th</sup>) and farmed with Mr. Baba. They later farmed separately next door to Baba's. 1931 had an auto accident and he subsequently died. 1932 Mrs. Yamagishi returned to Japan with her three daughters and a son.

**YAMAGIWA, KEIGO from Nagano-ken**

1913 to Bellevue (Downey Hill area). Took over Mr. Kiso's lease, clearing the remaining wooded acres and farming this land. In 1918 moved to the Highland area (132<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup>) and began clearing 10 acres, but in 1919 he turned the land over to Mr. Kurita. They moved to the Midlake area (120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup>) where they cleared 7 acres and raised strawberries and tomatoes. After Mrs. Yamagiwa died, Mr. Yamagiwa went to Japan, remarried and returned to Bellevue with his second wife. In 1934 fire destroyed the family home. With the help of the Japanese community members a new house was built. Mr. Yamagiwa was a very influential leader, so his death in 1936 leaving Mrs. Yamagiwa with four daughters and three sons was also a great loss to the community. Mrs. Yamagiwa and family continued living on the farm. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake with subsequent relocation to Chicago, Illinois.

**YAMAGIWA, SHINSAKU from Nagano-ken**

Around 1907 to Bellevue at 98<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 15<sup>th</sup>. Operated a greenhouse. In 1908 he died after an illness. His decomposed body was found by neighbors who notified son, Nobusaku, who was farming at Greenlake, Seattle

**YAMAGUCHI, JITSUZO from Fukuoka-ken**

1921 to Bellevue from Seattle at 120<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup> (Midlake area). He and his family moved in succession to 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 11<sup>th</sup>, 116<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 3<sup>rd</sup>, 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup> and 116<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 14<sup>th</sup>. Produced strawberries, tomatoes, peas and lettuce. They had three daughters and a son. 1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale, Tulelake and Minidoka. 1946 - Returned to Seattle.

**YAMAGUCHI, YAICHI from Hiroshima-ken**

1898 to Hawaii. 1910 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 4<sup>th</sup>; farmed with his wife and son. 1918 to Highland area at 132<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 7<sup>th</sup>; helped clear 10 acres on which they farmed, raising strawberries, tomatoes and peas. In 1937 the oldest son moved with his family to Spokane, Washington. 1941 moved to Seattle. Mr. & Mrs. Yamaguchi had four daughters and three sons. 1942 WWII; relocated directly to Spokane. 1946 Returned to Seattle.

**YAMANO, KYUHACHI from Kumamoto-ken**

1900 to Bellevue, working for Mr. Smith as a houseboy. He then worked for Mr. Furukawa. In 1905 left Furukawa's and together with Mr. Takizaki they helped the Boddys clear 5 acres. Then he rented Mr. Pettibone's house and worked picking strawberries and sawing firewood. In 1920 worked as a houseboy at Mr. Meecham's. With Yamanouchi he also grew tomatoes on 10 acres of Meecham's land. In 1928 he left for Seattle.

**YAMANOUCHI, YONEZO from Fukuoka-ken**

1900 to Bellevue; went to Furukawa's and helped clear land. Also, with Furukawa and Yamano, they cleared 10 acres at 95<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup>. In 1905 he operated his own farm at 88<sup>th</sup> NE

& NE 6<sup>th</sup>. Later with Mr. Yamano they grew tomatoes on 10 acres of Mr. Meecham's land at Yarrow Point. In 1928 he left Bellevue with his wife and two children.

**YAMASAKI, TORANOSUKE from Wakayama-ken**

1916 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup> and farmed 5 acres. He was fatally injured in a dynamite explosion while helping Mr. Yamashita clear land in the Midlake area.

**YAMASHITA, TOKUZO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1909 to Bellevue at 112<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>th</sup>; cleared 10 acres. 1919 to Midlake area at 123<sup>rd</sup> NE & NE 9<sup>th</sup>; purchased and cleared 2 acres and deeded the property to Rihachi Takeshita. 1921 moved to Winslow, Washington.

**YOKOTA, KYONOSUKE from Okayama-ken**

1931 to Bellevue at Downey Hill area and farmed. 1935 moved away with wife and two children.

**YOKOTA, KYOSUKE from Shiga-ken**

1922 to Bellevue at 98<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup> (Yarrow Bay). Cleared and farmed 20 acres with Mr. Takai. In 1925 Mr. & Mrs. Yokota returned to Japan.

**YOSHIMOTO, ITSUGORO from Yamaguchi-ken**

1914 to Bellevue, staying at the Matsumoto ranch. Mrs. Yoshimoto came shortly thereafter. In 1916 they farmed on the Smith land at 96<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> for 5 years. In 1921 they farmed on Smith land at 144<sup>th</sup> NE & Main Street. From 1928 they farmed at 112<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 10<sup>th</sup> for 12 years. They grew strawberries, tomatoes and peas with the help of their three daughters. A familiar sight was their oldest daughter Hana driving the truck loaded with produce.

1942 - WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, California.

1946 - Returned to Seattle.

**YOSHINO, TOYOJI from Tokyo**

1910 to Bellevue at 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 24<sup>th</sup> (Bechtel Place); worked with Mr. Morioka and Mr. Namba clearing 10 acres and farming. 1918 to Highland's Peterson Hill area at 132<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup>; Mrs. Yoshino joined him here and they farmed 10 acres. 1930 to 122<sup>nd</sup> NE & NE 4<sup>th</sup> and grew strawberries, peas and tomatoes on 5 acres. Mr. Yoshino was a judo and kendo instructor and was active in civic affairs of the Japanese community. They had a daughter and three sons. 1942 WWII; evacuation to Pinedale and Tulelake, Relocated to Chicago.

**YUKAWA, YUJIRO from Wakayama-ken**

1914 to Bellevue at 108<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 12<sup>th</sup> (Desenger Place); cleared and farmed 5 acres. 1922 moved to Yarrow Bay area (100<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 34<sup>th</sup>) and produced strawberries, tomatoes and peas. 1934 Mr. Yukawa died and in 1935 Mrs. Yukawa moved to Seattle.



## GREENHOUSE OPERATORS

*(Digital Version Note: The Biographies in this section have been combined with the biographies in the previous section and highlighted in gray. This has been alphabetized using the English alphabet and is not the same order as the original version - JHR)*

Kasahara, Teiji  
Kodama, Kinnosuke  
Kusumi, Takesaburo  
Numoto, Cano  
Saito, Ichiemon  
Saito, Kumakichi  
Sakuma, Mr.  
Suzuki, Munesuki  
Takano, Mr.  
Tamaye, Enji  
Tsutsu, Denzo  
Yabuki, Kameji  
Yabuki, Terumatsu

**KUSUMI FARM AND GREENHOUSE 116<sup>TH</sup> NE & NE 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
(ADDED IN THE DIGITAL VERSION 2021)



## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to comment briefly on observations made upon my return to Bellevue after five years' absence, how the appearance of the pre-World War II Bellevue was rapidly changing, leaving hardly a trace of the once tranquil, rural landscape. Bellevue had already begun to show growth in 1940 soon after the completion of the Mercer Island bridge.

Upon returning home to Bellevue after our evacuation and internment during World War II, I was surprised to see that the business district was moving north along 104<sup>th</sup> NE from Main Street. A huge Frederick & Nelson branch store and parking lot is situated on the very site where my fellow comrades and I had earlier struggled so hard in a desperate attempt to establish ourselves (against the overwhelming adversities of prejudice and discrimination, language and cultural differences, loneliness and the harshest of economic and living conditions), where we cleared the wilderness by laboriously cutting the acres and acres of timber, dynamiting the stumps and developing the land for farming.

Across the now 60-foot-wide street there stands a large grocery store, hardware store, drug store and various other shops. So many buildings had sprung up lining both sides of the street that they appeared to me like teeth on a comb. The area around 104<sup>th</sup> NE & NE 8<sup>th</sup> has become the new business center, extending from Main Street north to NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street. North of the NE 8<sup>th</sup> intersection there is a large lumber and homemaking center, a cold storage business, restaurants and gas stations. Also, east next to Frederick & Nelson there is now a theater, a medical clinic and a restaurant. East across a new street from the Japanese Community Clubhouse there stands a new, large telephone company building.

The residential areas are also growing at a rapid pace resulting in the disappearance of farmlands. There are a substantial number of new homes along the waterfront. Where the Japanese families once had farmed on Downey Hill before evacuation, a developer has built 300 homes (more likely 200). There are a number of new school buildings to accommodate the increasing number of children. With the population explosion, bus service has improved considerably, running on the hour, with the addition of more bus stops.

Bellevue addresses no longer have rural route box numbers but now in 1951 require house numbers with avenues and streets. With the new Interstate 90 Highway the area east of Newport has developed into a large residential area. There are now shopping facilities at 148<sup>th</sup> SE & SE 32<sup>nd</sup> and a new shopping center at Factoria (Newport area) is in the planning stage.

I believe there will likely be many more changes as the years pass. With unrelenting progress historic places and events of early Bellevue will soon be only nostalgic memories.

Once again, the possibility of errors and omissions exists, so please make any necessary corrections.

**2021 ADDITIONAL NOTES (JHR):** Thank you to Raymond Kusumi for loaning me his family copy of "Pre-WWII History of Japanese Pioneers in Clearing and Development of Land in Bellevue." I have transcribed the text as presented but have made some changes in the formatting and alphabetizing for sorting purposes. Thank you also to Linda Corets for her proofreading assistance. Jana Hawes Robertson